

PRIVILEGE OF CALL CHECKLIST & INTERVIEW FACESHEET

Name: _____ Date _____

Coming from what Denomination or Church Affiliation: _____

This path uses the Marks of Faithful and Effective Authorized Ministers as the standard for assessment and appreciating diverse paths of formation and diverse ways of knowing.

Ministers seeking Privilege of Call apply to a Committee on Ministry, submitting a completed UCC Ministerial Standing application form. Additional documentation may be required by a Committee on Ministry at the outset or throughout the Privilege of Call discernment process, such as:

- statement of the person's spiritual journey;
- statement of the person's understanding of their call into the United Church of Christ.
- successful completion of an approved UCC History, Polity and Theology course.
- resume or portfolio, written with reference to the MARKS.
- letter of good standing from the ordained minister's current denomination; or explanation.
- documentation of educational and professional training (such as transcripts), recognizing multiple paths of ministerial formation and appreciating diverse ways of knowing
- Psychological Evaluation completed
- criminal background check.
- three written references of support for the person's application for ministerial standing.
- Other _____

The Committee completes an interview and an initial assessment based on the Marks, criminal background check, and psychological assessment. The Committee then determines if the minister should (1) move forward with the Privilege of Call process, (2) become a Member in Discernment, or (3) be declined for the UCC Ministerial Standing application form. Committees on Ministry that receive requests for Privilege of Call from ordained ministers from other Christian denominations who hold governmental or professional endorsements should first contact the Endorsement Office of the UCC National Setting.

Interview scheduled for: _____

Local church rep(s) at interview: _____

Action: _____

PRIVILEGE OF CALL INTERVIEW PROCESS

At times, ordained ministers from other Christian denominations seek to affiliate their lives and ministries with the United Church of Christ. The process of Privilege of Call is designed for an ordained minister who desires to leave their denomination of original authorization and become an Ordained Minister in the United Church of Christ.

There are times when it is appropriate for a Committee on Ministry to grant Member in Discernment status rather than Privilege of Call status, particularly if the person's previous ordination is granted by a non-denominational entity (e.g. local congregation or online organization) and/or if the person does not adequately demonstrate the Marks of Faithful and Effective Authorized Ministers.

There are cases in which a letter of good standing from the current denomination is not available to the Committee on Ministry. Frequently unavailability is because of the gender non-conformity, sexual ID or theology supportive of the LGBTQ+ Community of the minister. In these instances, it is incumbent upon the Committee to verify that there are no prior or ongoing ecclesiastical proceedings that would deem the minister unfit for standing in the United Church of Christ. Efforts in this regard should be well-documented and maintained in the minister's file.