



# Christian Church (Disciples of Christ)

Resources	Overview of Ordination Process & Requirements*	Coursework required*
<p><i>General Commission on Ministry Documents:</i>  <a href="http://www.disciples.org/OrderingofMinistry/tabid/698/Default.aspx">http://www.disciples.org/OrderingofMinistry/tabid/698/Default.aspx</a></p> <p><u>Contacts:</u>            Rev. Dr. Daisy Machado            (dmachado@uts.columbia.edu)            Professor of Church History at Union Theological Seminary</p> <p>Rev. Mary Anne Glover            (magglover1@aol.com)            Regional Minister for the Northeast Region</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Membership and active participation in a local congregation for at least one year.*</li> <li>• In a letter to the Commission on Ministry of the Region, demonstrate congregation's endorsement of your ordination.</li> <li>• Meet regularly with Regional Commission on Ministry, provide a statement of faith, theological beliefs, and explanation of call to ministry/ordination.*</li> </ul> <p>*Ordination requirements may vary by congregation and Region.</p> <p><u>Candidates are evaluated on the following Areas of Competency:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Biblical Knowledge</li> <li>• Church Administration and Planning</li> <li>• Communication</li> <li>• Cross Cultural and Anti-Racism Experience</li> <li>• Ecumenism</li> <li>• Education and Leader Development</li> <li>• Ethics</li> <li>• Evangelism</li> <li>• Mission of the Church in the World</li> <li>• Pastoral Care</li> <li>• Proclamation of the Word</li> <li>• Spiritual Development</li> <li>• Stewardship</li> <li>• Theology</li> <li>• Understanding of Heritage Competency</li> <li>• Worship</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Disciples of Christ polity and history <i>at an approved institution</i></li> <li>• One Unit of Clinical Pastoral Education (CPE)*</li> <li>• Sexual Ethics Boundary Training<sup>†</sup></li> </ul> <p>* This is a requirement for the Northeast Region. Each Region's requirements may vary.</p> <p><sup>†</sup>The following one-day continuation education trainings are typically required for clergy (especially in the Northeastern Region) on a rotating annual basis:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Year 1: DOC History and Polity (basically a review)</li> <li>• Year 2: Healing and Reconciliation (Mediation)</li> <li>• Year 3: Anti-racism Pro-reconciliation Training</li> <li>• Year 4: Boundary training, including sexual, financial, etc.</li> </ul>



# Episcopal Church

Resources	Overview of Ordination Process & Requirements*	Coursework required*
<p><i>Constitution &amp; Canons</i>, “Title III: Ministry” (see Canon 8: “Of the Ordination of Priests” starting on page 79) <a href="https://extranet.generalconvention.org/staff/files/download/6994.pdf">https://extranet.generalconvention.org/staff/files/download/6994.pdf</a></p> <p>Contact: The Revd. Dr. Euan Cameron (<a href="mailto:ecameron@uts.columbia.edu">ecameron@uts.columbia.edu</a>) Henry Luce III Professor of Reformation Church History at Union Theological Seminary</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. As a baptized Episcopal member, <i>aspirant</i> starts conversation with her/his parish (usually clergy, then parish committee), who will reflect &amp; decide whether to recommend to Diocese.</li> <li>2. If recommended to Diocese by parish, the <i>aspirant's</i> file is reviewed by the Bishop, who will interview <i>aspirant</i> after s/he is interviewed and recommended by a Commission on Ministry (or equivalent body). If approved to become a <i>postulant</i>, Bishop decides a training program in conversation with <i>postulant</i>.</li> <li>3. In the course of formation, the <i>postulant's</i> file is reviewed again by the diocesan Commission on Ministry and the Bishop, who may approve progress from <i>postulant</i> to <i>candidate</i> for Holy Orders. This will typically happen between one and two years after admission as a <i>postulant</i>.</li> <li>4. General Ordination Examinations are usually taken in last year of theological study.</li> </ol> <p>*See your Diocese’s overview of the discernment process (i.e., for New York, visit <a href="http://www.diocesenyc.org/pages/301-discernment-for-ordination-as-a-priest">http://www.diocesenyc.org/pages/301-discernment-for-ordination-as-a-priest</a>) and the <i>Constitution &amp; Canons</i> for details.</p>	<p>Although required courses will vary by individual (as determined by Bishop), courses on <b>Episcopal polity and canons</b> are typically a minimum. <b>Clinical Pastoral Education (CPE)</b> is often required. It is also helpful to take classes on the <b>Episcopal church history, liturgy, and</b> in the following <b>areas tested on the General Ordination Examination (GOE)</b> (see <a href="http://www.episcopalgbec.org/">http://www.episcopalgbec.org/</a>):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Scripture</li> <li>• Church History including the Ecumenical Movement</li> <li>• Christian Theology including Theology and Missiology</li> <li>• Christian Ethics and Moral Theology</li> <li>• Studies in Contemporary Society including Racial and Minority Groups</li> <li>• Liturgics and Church Music</li> <li>• Theory &amp; Practice of Ministry</li> </ul> <p>The Diocese will also require candidates to complete its own <b>training programs in anti-racism, prevention of sexual misconduct in ministry, and the disciplinary canons</b> (“Title IV”) of the Episcopal Church.</p> <p>*Ordination requirements vary by bishop and diocese (usually based on individual needs). <b>One year at an Episcopal seminary (following Union) is not an uncommon requirement.</b></p>





# Evangelical Lutheran Church in America (ELCA)

Resources	Overview of Ordination Process & Requirements*	Coursework required*
<p>Evangelical Lutheran Church in America Candidacy Manual: <a href="http://download.elca.org/ELCA%20Resource%20Repository/Candidacy%20Manual%202012.pdf?ga=1.137348656.1866600449.1401298335">http://download.elca.org/ELCA%20Resource%20Repository/Candidacy Manual 2012.pdf?ga=1.137348656.1866600449.1401298335</a></p> <p><u>Contact:</u>            Rev. Dr. J. Elise Brown            (pastorbrown@adventnyc.org)            Lead Pastor            at Advent Lutheran Church            2504 Broadway at 93<sup>rd</sup> Street            New York, NY 10025</p>	<p><i>While at Union:</i></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. <b>Affiliate with ELCA seminary</b> (“affiliation seminary”), if at non-ELCA seminary (like Union).</li> </ol> <p><i>After graduating with M.Div. degree from Union, complete:</i></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>2. <b>One-year internship</b>, placement and supervision <b>through affiliation seminary</b> <b>**</b></li> <li>3. <b>One year of study at affiliation seminary</b>, which provides the theological education that covers the ELCA “church’s understanding of the gospel, the ministry of this church as expressed in the historic Lutheran Confessions, and the mission of Christ’s church in today’s world...”</li> </ol> <p><b>**</b> Depending on arrangements with affiliation seminary and Union, one-year internship may be completed between the second and third (final) years of the M.Div. degree program.</p> <p><u>Additional ordination requirements:*</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Membership of ELCA church for one year.</li> <li>• Start candidacy process by completing the Congregational Registration Form with a synod. This online “entrance” form needs to be signed by both the church pastor and Congregational President.</li> <li>• See candidacy manual (see link under “Resources”) for details of process.</li> <li>• Must have “a call” (placement) to be ordained.</li> </ul> <p>*Requirements for ELCA ordination vary by synod. The above expectations are typical of the Metro NY Synod. Confirm requirements with your “home synod” (where you want to do your candidacy).</p>	<p><b>M.Div. Degree</b>, including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Greek required; Hebrew recommended</li> <li>• One unit of Supervised Clinical Ministry (or Clinical Pastoral Education, CPE)</li> <li>• Boundaries Workshop</li> </ul>



# Presbyterian Church (USA)

Resources	Overview of Ordination Process & Requirements*	Coursework Required*
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><i>Book of Order: The Constitution of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) Part II: 2013/2015. G-2.06-2.07, page 34-37.</i></li> <li><i>Advisory Handbook for Preparation for Ministry in the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.)</i>  <a href="https://www.pcusa.org/site_media/media/uploads/rep4min/pdfs/p4mah2011-13rel1-4.pdf">https://www.pcusa.org/site_media/media/uploads/rep4min/pdfs/p4mah2011-13rel1-4.pdf</a></li> </ul> <p>Contact:            Rev. Greg Horn            (greghorn@pcum.org)            Pastor &amp; Head of Staff            at The Presbyterian Church of            Upper Montclair  <i>and</i>            Advisor to Presbyterian            Students at            Union Theological Seminary/            Auburn Theological Seminary</p> <p>*Presbyterian students at            Union have added support of            Auburn, a Presbyterian            seminary at 475 Riverside            Drive, #1800, NY, NY 10115.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>First, must be a member of a church for 6+ months.               <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>To enter “<i>Inquiry</i>” phase: tell board (“session”) and pastor, who must vote to take you “<i>under care.</i>” Complete online forms and answer questions in front of the Committee on Preparation for Ministry, which refers you to Presbytery to be enrolled as an Inquirer.</li> <li>“<i>Candidacy</i>” process will be governed by Committee on Preparation for Ministry (see <i>Advisory Handbook</i>). Candidacy can be completed once service in a church, academic work (including graduation from seminary with “satisfactory grades” and Coursework Required), and ordination exams are completed.</li> </ol> </li> <li>Ordination Exams:  <i>Usually taken as “Inquirer:”</i> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Bible Content Exam</li> <li>Open Book Bible Exegesis</li> <li>Theological Competence</li> <li>Worship &amp; Sacraments</li> <li>Church Polity</li> </ol> </li> <li>Must have “a call” (placement) to be ordained.</li> </ul> <p>*Requirements vary by Presbytery, which is who ordains.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Presbyterian/Reformed theology, worship &amp; sacraments, church polity (<i>to prepare for Ordination Exam</i>)</li> <li>Hebrew and Greek</li> <li>Exegesis of the Old and New Testaments using Hebrew and Greek (<i>usually with additional Bible classes</i>)</li> <li>Clinical Pastoral Education (CPE) is often required*</li> </ul> <p>*Requirements vary by Presbytery.            The Committee on Preparation for Ministry for one’s Presbytery will determine the specific academic and church service requirements for each individual.</p>



# United Church of Christ

Resources	Overview of Ordination Process & Requirements*	Coursework required*
<p><i>Ministry in the United Church of Christ: A Background Document</i>, Nov 2010.  <a href="http://www.ucc.org/ministers/ministry-issues/Ministry-in-the-United-Church-of-Christ-A-Background-Document.pdf">http://www.ucc.org/ministers/ministry-issues/Ministry-in-the-United-Church-of-Christ-A-Background-Document.pdf</a></p> <p><u>Contact:</u>            Rev. David R Gaewski            (davidgaewski@uccny.org)            New York Conference Minister</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• After being a member of a local UCC church for 1-2 years (length varies), get support of local church and become “Member in Discernment” (MID). Association will vote to affirm and then review theological education, preparation, and “Marks of Faithful Ministry;” recommendations made for further preparation based on individual.* MID is given and meets with a mentor.</li> <li>• Write a paper demonstrating your “theological perspective and grasp of the historic Christian faith,” “knowledge and understanding of the history, theological roots, polity, and practice of the United Church of Christ,” and your sense of call to ordained ministry. (Presented to Ecclesiastical Counsel of the Association after oral exam.)</li> <li>• Oral Ordination Exam (usually two hours) assesses “knowledge of the history, polity, and practices of the United Church of Christ”</li> <li>• Must have “a call” (placement) to be ordained.</li> </ul> <p>*Requirements vary by regional Association.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• History and polity of UCC</li> <li>• Bible, systematic theology, church history, worship, pastoral care and counseling, administration, church education, interfaith; church finance, in some cases.</li> <li>• Clinical Pastoral Education (CPE) †</li> <li>• Boundary Training <i>is usually required</i></li> </ul> <p>* Requirements vary by regional Association.            † CPE is required by New York Metropolitan Association at least.</p>

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<p><i>The Book of Discipline of the United Methodist Church 2012</i></p> <p>General Board of Higher Education and Ministry's "Candidacy" website:  <a href="http://www.gbhem.org/clergy/candidacy">http://www.gbhem.org/clergy/candidacy</a></p> <p><u>Contacts:</u>            Rev. Dr. James (K) Karpen            (jfkpsa@aol.com)            Senior Pastor at            St. Paul and St. Andrew            United Methodist Church            263 West 86<sup>th</sup> Street            New York, NY 10024</p> <p><u>Dr. Hal Taussig</u>            (hal@haltaussig.org)            Visiting Professor of New Testament at            Union Theological Seminary</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Write letter to District Superintendent (cc pastor and DCOM chair), stating interest in ordained ministry, you have meet with your pastor to discuss <i>Christian as Minister</i>, and your call narrative.</li> <li>2. Work with assigned mentor on Candidacy Guidebook, register with General Board of Higher Education, register with Board of Ordained Ministry (BOOM).</li> <li>3. Declare call publicly before pastor and staff/parish relations committee (of local church), who will vote to recommend you to Charge Conference (local church), who will vote to recommend you to District Committee on Ordained Ministry (DCOM).</li> <li>4. Meet with DCOM, submit to them required writing, have background check, complete psychological exam, and attend UMC sexual ethics and anti-racism trainings. Gain DCOM approval.</li> <li>5. Gain (first) BOOM approval.</li> <li>6. Finish seminary with required coursework and trainings.</li> <li>7. Voted on at Clergy Session of Annual Conference.</li> <li>8. Commissioned by the Bishop of Annual Conference, thus becoming a Provisional Member of Annual Conference.</li> <li>9. Go through residency program in your annual conference (usually 2-3 years after completing seminary, although it varies) and gain (second) BOOM approval.</li> <li>10. Elected by the Clergy Session into full membership of the Annual Conference. Ordained as an Elder by a Bishop.<sup>†</sup></li> </ol> <p>* Based on summary provided by Rev. Dr. James (K) Karpen. While procedures are denomination-wide, requirements may vary slightly by conference.</p> <p><sup>†</sup> Ordination as Deacon follows a similar process.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• United Methodist doctrine, polity, and history (6 credits)</li> <li>• Evangelism and the mission of the church in the world (not necessarily "Methodist")</li> <li>• Clinical Pastoral Education (CPE)*</li> <li>• Old Testament</li> <li>• New Testament</li> <li>• Theology</li> <li>• Church history</li> <li>• Worship/liturgy</li> <li>• Sexual Ethics/Boundary training (one day, provided by UMC)</li> <li>• Anti-racism training<sup>†</sup></li> </ul> <p>* CPE is required in the New York Conference for ordination as Elder.  <sup>†</sup> Required along with completion of Masters of Divinity prior to Commissioning in New York (see steps 6-8).</p>