

The Presbytery of Huntingdon
CERTIFIED LAY PREACHER/COMMISSIONED LAY PASTOR APPLICATION

PERSONAL INFORMATION

Name _____ Email _____

Mailing Address _____

Home Phone _____ Work Phone (If you can receive calls) _____

Occupation/Place of Employment _____

EDUCATIONAL BACKGROUND

Formal Education: List academic institutions attended and degrees obtained, beginning with High School:

School/Location	Years Attended/ Degree Date	Diploma or Degree	Major/Minor/ Area of Study

CHURCH BACKGROUND

Year of Baptism _____ Year of Confirmation/Public Profession of Faith _____

Name of Church where you are an active member _____

Date you were received as active member in current local congregation _____

Are you an Elder? [] No [] Yes Date of Ordination to Office _____

Are you a Deacon? [] No [] Yes Date of Ordination to Office _____

Other churches where you have been a member _____

List below your areas of involvement in the life and mission of the church, as a participant and as a leader.

Area of Involvement	Currently Involved ✓	Participant	Leader
	Yes _____ No _____		
	Yes _____ No _____		
	Yes _____ No _____		
	Yes _____ No _____		
	Yes _____ No _____		

Please answer the following questions. Feel free to use a separate sheet of paper if necessary.

What experiences will help you in this program? (Travel, conferences, seminars, etc.)?

Why are you interested in this program? What motivates you to apply?

What aspects of your present church life do you enjoy the most?

What aspects are the most frustrating?

What does it mean to you to be a Presbyterian?

What gifts and skills do you bring to this program?

In what areas of your life would you like to grow?

What are your current spiritual practices and disciplines?

What are some of your interests/hobbies?

In what community or volunteer service have you been involved?

FAITH STATEMENT

Please attach a brief statement of your personal faith. Describe what you believe about God, Jesus Christ and the Holy Spirit, and your relationship to them. Include a brief summary of your understanding of the role of Scripture, the Church, and the Sacraments in your life. (Suggested length: one-half to one page - single-spaced typed).

SESSION ENDORSEMENT

After you have met with the pastor/moderator, request a meeting with the Session of your particular church. They will review your application with you before filling out the endorsement form.

REFERENCES

In addition to the minister and the Session, please list three additional persons who know you well in a variety of relationships (e.g. another church member, a colleague at work, a teacher, a friend) who will serve as Individual References. Duplicate and pass along an Individual Reference Form to each, asking that the form be completed and mailed directly to the Presbytery Office. Please list below the persons who will be your Individual References.

Name	Address	City/State	Phone

STATEMENT OF CONSENT

I am applying for admission to the Certified Lay Preacher/Commissioned Lay Pastor Program of the Presbytery of Huntingdon. If accepted, I hereby commit myself to participate fully in the scheduled activities and assignments to the best of my ability. I hereby give my permission to allow the Presbytery to contact session members, references and the pastor/moderator concerning my application. I understand that successful completion of the Lay Preacher training course is necessary before I may serve as a Lay Preacher for the presbytery, or be considered for admission to the Commissioned Lay Pastor portion of the Training Program.

Signature _____ Date _____

_____ I am applying for the Certified Lay Preacher Training Program only.

_____ If I successfully complete the Certified Lay Preacher Training Program, I anticipate applying for Training as a Commissioned Lay Pastor.

The Presbytery of Huntingdon
**CERTIFIED LAY PREACHER/COMMISSIONED LAY PASTOR
SESSION ENDORSEMENT FORM**

Attention should be given to evaluating the applicant’s natural gifts, commitment, motivation and potential for growth. The SubCommittee on Preparation for Ministry must rely upon the session and the applicant to exercise good judgement in discerning whether the individual seems called by God to serve as a Certified Lay Preacher or a Commissioned Lay Pastor.

Name of Applicant _____

- 1. What personal qualities are evidence of a vital faith in God through Jesus Christ?

- 2. How is the faith of this person being expressed in the individual's participation in the life of the congregation?

- 3. The following qualities are especially important for Certified Lay Preachers/Commissioned Lay Pastors. Please check all that you have seen the applicant demonstrate in the life of your church:
 - _____ Ability to speak publicly, with a clear voice and in good English
 - _____ A demonstrated basic knowledge of the content of Scripture
 - _____ Reliability
 - _____ Leader in a church
 - _____ Compassion
 - _____ Skills in interpersonal relationships
 - _____ Well-developed listening skills
 - _____ Ability to relate to various age groups
 - _____ Able to keep confidentiality

- 4. Describe any hesitations the session might have in endorsing this candidate.

Check one: The session of the _____ Church.

- [] **DOES** endorse this application for admission to the training program.
- [] Does **NOT** endorse this application for admission to the training program.
- [] **DOES** endorse with **QUALIFICATIONS** this application for admission to the training program (List qualifications on a separate sheet of paper.).

Clerk of Session _____ Date _____

Moderator of Session _____ Date _____

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**CERTIFIED LAY PREACHER/COMMISSIONED LAY PASTOR
PERSONAL REFERENCE FORM**

FORM C

Name of Applicant _____

Your Name _____ Phone _____ Email

Your Address

Your relationship to Applicant:

(One reference should be the moderator of your session.)

___ Family ___ Friend ___ Colleague ___ Teacher ___ Member of Church ___ Moderator ___ Other

Please answer the following questions. The back of this sheet may be used.

1. What are the greatest strengths of the applicant?
2. What personal qualities are evidence of a vital faith in God through Jesus Christ?
3. How is the faith of this person being expressed in the individual's participation in the life of the congregation?
4. Everyone has ways in which they need to grow. Please comment on the applicant's growth areas.
5. Service as a Certified Lay Preacher/Commissioned Lay Pastor often involves preaching two Services of Worship on Sunday mornings, with travel over country roads. Are there any factors which would affect the applicant's ability to fulfill these requirements?
6. The following personal and professional characteristics are important for Certified Lay Preacher/Commissioned Lay Pastor. Please check all those which you believe apply to the applicant.

_____ Ability to speak publicly, with a clear voice and in good English

_____ A demonstrated basic knowledge of the content of Scripture

_____ Reliability

_____ Leader in a church

_____ Compassion

_____ Skills in interpersonal relationships

_____ Well-developed listening skills

_____ Ability to relate to various age groups

_____ Able to keep confidentiality

Signature _____ Date _____

Revised 03/10/2021