

Questions for Candidates for Certified Lay Ministry

By Church Council or Charge:

It is recommended that Wesley's historic questions be used by the church council or charge conference when considering someone for Certified Lay Ministry. These questions are:

1. *Do they know God as a pardoning God? Have they the love of God abiding in them? Do they desire nothing but God? Are they holy in all manner of conversation?*
2. *Have they gifts, as well as evidence of God's grace, for the work? Have they a clear, sound understanding; a right judgment in the things of God; a just conception of salvation by faith? Do they speak justly, readily, clearly?*
3. *Have they fruit? Have any been truly convinced of sin and converted to God, and are believers edified by their service?*

As long as these marks occur in them, we believe they are called of God to serve. These we receive as sufficient proof that they are moved by the Holy Spirit. (2012 BOD ¶ 310.1.d.)

By District Committee on Ordained Ministry

Once a person has received the recommendations from his/her pastor and church council or charge conference and his/her district superintendent, has completed the required course work, and is appearing before the District Committee on Ordained Ministry for review and approval of certification as a CLM, it is recommended that Wesley's historic questions be asked again as well as specific questions concerning the person's effectiveness in ministry. The following is a list of suggested questions and talking points to be used by dCOMs:

- Tell us about your faith journey and your understanding of the Call of God upon your life.
- How would you describe your understanding of God, Christ, and the work of the Holy Spirit?
- How have you experienced the presence of God in your ministry?
- Tell us about a leadership experience you have had in the local church within the last year.
- Share with us a conflict situation in which you have been involved and how you dealt with it.
- Tell us how your service in your local church has demonstrated your appreciation of the history, doctrine, polity, worship and liturgy of The United Methodist Church.
- What gifts, skills, and abilities do you bring to certified lay ministry?
- Describe the covenant you have developed with your Mutual Ministry Team.
- Where do you feel your ministry needs to be strengthened?
- What are you doing for personal spiritual growth?
- What are you doing to take care of yourself physically?