

TO: Persons seeking Ordained Ministerial Partner Standing in the Metropolitan Boston Association

FR: The Committee on Ministerial Standing

RE: Process for Ordained Ministerial Partner Standing

According to the Constitution of the United Church of Christ, "Each member of the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) who holds ordained ministerial standing in the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) is an Ordained Ministerial Partner of the United Church of Christ." It further clarifies that "Ordained ministerial partner standing is authorization granted to an Ordained Minister with ordained ministerial standing in the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) who has a call to perform the duties and exercise the prerogatives of ordained ministry in the United Church of Christ."

To begin this process, you will meet with the Associate Conference Minister to explore the process for obtaining Ordained Ministerial Partner Standing in the United Church of Christ (UCC).

After this meeting, and the completion of a United Church of Christ Polity course, an appointment can be made to meet with the COMS. The goals for the meeting are:

- to become acquainted and hear about your spiritual call and ministerial journey
- to see demonstrated the prerequisite knowledge of, and appreciation for, the history, polity and practices of the United Church of Christ
- to celebrate this new beginning in ministry for both clergy and congregation,
- to listen attentively to your expectations of each other and reflect back to you what we are hearing,
- to serve as a resource for you later if you want a third party with whom to talk over issues,

You will need to have the following items sent to the MBA office at least two weeks prior to your meeting:

1. A copy of the signed call and financial contract with your new congregation.
2. A letter from your denomination stating that you are a minister in good standing.
3. A completed and signed Background Self Disclosure form (attached).
4. The names and phone numbers of three lay leaders of the church who will be able to accompany you when you meet with the COMS. We suggest such people as the Moderator, Search Committee Chair/member, Trustee/Stewardship Committee member or Deacon.

After you have arranged to have the four aforementioned items sent to the MBA office, you will then prepare and mail the following items to each member of the committee:

1. Resume.
2. Statement of Christian Beliefs along with your understanding of UCC Polity.
3. A brief personal narrative.

If you have any questions please contact Colin A. Loggins at (781) 369-1396 or email at MBA-NE@macucc.org