

CPM FORM 1 A

**Whitewater Valley Presbytery Commission on Preparation for Ministry Application for
Certification Program for Commissioned Ruling Elder (CRE)**

Applicant's Name: _____

Mailing Address: _____

(Street or PO Box)

(City)

(State)

(Zip)

Phone (Home): _____ Phone (Cell): _____

Email Address: _____

Date of Birth: _____

Occupation/Place of Employment: _____

Church of Membership: _____

(Name of Church)

(City, State)

What church occupation (Pastor, Youth Leader, etc.) are you interested in at this time?

Academic Background

List the academic institutions you have attended, beginning with high school, and complete the information requested:

Institution

Dates Attended

Program/Major

Diploma/Degree

Describe any previous experience in lay preaching or lay pastor training:

Occupational History

List the three most recent full-time or part-time positions in which you have been employed and attach it to this application. Provide the following information: job title, dates of employment, aspect most enjoyed, aspect most disliked.

Church History

Date and place of baptism:

Date and place of profession of faith:

Church membership:

Date joined:

Date ordained a ruling elder:

Date ordained a deacon:

List other churches where you have been a member.

List areas of involvement in your local church, both as a participant and as a leader. Indicate areas of leadership.

List areas of involvement in Presbytery, Synod, or General Assembly.

List voluntary services, civic or social organizations of which you are or have been a member. Indicate your extent of participation and your role.

List any factors that may place limits on your ability to receive training or to serve as a Commissioned Ruling Elder (CRE).

Questions for Reflection

Write a response to each of the following questions and attach to this application.

1. In one or two paragraphs, describe yourself as a person.
2. Describe briefly what it means to you to be a Commissioned Ruling Elder? What has motivated you to consider this program?
3. Write a brief statement of your personal faith (approximately 300-500 words). Your statement should describe (at minimum) what you believe about God as Father, Son, and Holy Spirit and your relationship to them.
4. What does it mean to you to be a Presbyterian?
5. Describe your current spiritual journey, spiritual practices, prayer life, and disciplines.
6. Comment on your interests, hobbies, and stress-relieving activities.

References

Please list three people who will serve as references. One should be your pastor or a pastor within Whitewater Valley Presbytery.

Name: _____
Address: _____
Phone: _____ Email: _____
Relationship: _____

Name: _____
Address: _____
Phone: _____ Email: _____
Relationship: _____

Name: _____
Address: _____
Phone: _____ Email: _____
Relationship: _____

Please ask your references to complete Reference for Commissioned Ruling Elder Applicant, including the questions for reflection, and send their responses under separate cover directly to the Commission on Preparation for Ministry at the following address:

Whitewater Valley Presbytery
Attn: CPM
1100 W 42 St
Suite 210
Indianapolis, IN 46203
OR dwest@whitewatervalley.org

I promise, in reliance upon the grace of God, to participate diligently and wholeheartedly with the Session and the Presbytery's Commission on Preparation on Ministry/Commission of Ministry in exploring my vocation.

Signature: _____ Date: _____

After completing the application, make a copy for yourself and submit the original to the Clerk of Session or Moderator of the Session of your home church.

CPM Form 1B

**Whitewater Valley Presbytery Commission on Preparation for Ministry
Reference for Commissioned Ruling Elder Applicant**

Background information for (applicant's name): _____

Reference Name: _____

Relationship to Applicant: _____

Length of time known person: _____

Date: _____

The person named above is seeking admission to the program. The Commission on Preparation for Ministry would appreciate your candid response to the following questions:

1. To what extent does the applicant adhere to Christ's teachings?
2. What is your experience of the applicant's commitment to the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.)?
3. What special gifts, talents and skills does the applicant exhibit for service as a Commissioned Pastor?
4. What is the most recent example of the applicant's service to the church?
5. If the applicant were your Commissioned Ruling Elder, in what specific areas would you wish him/her to improve?
6. If you are a Minister of Word and Sacrament and a member of Whitewater Valley Presbytery, would you be willing to serve as the applicant's mentor if asked?

Please use a separate sheet(s) for your response, attach it to this form, and send your response directly to the Commission on Preparation for Ministry at the following address:

**Whitewater Valley Presbytery
Attn: CPM
1100 W 42 St
Suite 210
Indianapolis, IN 46203
OR dwest@whitewatervalley.or**

CPM Form 2

**Whitewater Valley Presbytery Commission on Preparation for Ministry
Application for Certification Program for Commissioned Ruling Elder
Session Evaluation and Recommendation**

The Session of _____ Presbyterian Church of _____ met
with _____ on _____ and
submits the following report:

_____ The Session **endorses** the applicant to be trained by the Presbytery to become a
Commissioned Pastor.

_____ The Session **does not endorse** the applicant to be trained by the Presbytery to
become a Commissioned Pastor.

This report was prepared for the Session by the Clerk:

Name Phone Date

Attested by the Moderator of the Session:

Name Phone Date

The Session will copy and mail the completed application and attachments to the
Commission on Preparation for Ministry at the following address:

**Whitewater Valley Presbytery
Attn: CPM
1100 W 42 St
Suite 210
Indianapolis, IN 46203
OR dwest@whitewatervalley**

CPM Form 3
Whitewater Valley Presbytery Commission on Preparation for Ministry
Application for Certification Program for Commissioned Ruling Elder (CRE)
Questions for Annual
Consultation

Name: _____

Please return form by: _____ to _____

For your annual consultation at _____ AM/PM on _____

At _____

1. Attachments
 - i. Certification of Training completed, grades if applicable
2. Information Update
3. Reflect on and respond briefly in the following areas of your training?
 - Old Testament
 - New Testament
 - Church History
 - Practice of Ministry
 - Other
4. Briefly describe your spiritual disciplines, including your participation in the worship and mission of a Presbyterian congregation.
5. Describe your relationship with your peers, authority figures, family, and others who are significant to you. What are the implications of those relationships in your ministry?
6. Describe recent experiences of emotional impact, if any, and how you dealt with them.
7. Comment on areas in which you believe you are growing and identify areas in which you feel the need for progress.
8. List other areas which you wish to discuss with the Commission including financial needs, family concerns, etc.

CPM Form 4

Whitewater Valley Presbytery Commission on Preparation for Ministry

**Applicant for Certification Program for Commissioned Ruling Elder
CRE Evaluation/Recommendation**

The Commission on Preparation for Ministry of Whitewater Valley Presbytery met with _____ On _____ and submits the following report:

The Commission on Preparation for Ministry

_____ **Endorses** the applicant to be trained by the Presbytery to become a Commissioned Pastor.

_____ **Does not endorse** the applicant to be trained by the Presbytery to become a Commissioned Pastor.

Signed: _____
Moderator, CPM

Signed: _____
Applicant

CPM Form 5

**Whitewater Valley Presbytery Commission on Preparation for Ministry
Certification Notice for CRE Candidates**

The Commission on Preparation for Ministry of Whitewater Valley Presbytery met with _____

On _____ and submits the following

report: The Commission on Preparation for Ministry

_____ **Certifies** that the candidate has been properly trained and is ready to receive a commission to a validated ministry within the bounds of Whitewater Valley Presbytery.

_____ **Does not certify** the candidate as ready to receive a commission. The Commission on Preparation for Ministry believes that the candidate has the following deficiencies regarding their readiness to serve as a Commissioned Pastor. The CPM would be willing to reconsider certification once these deficiencies have been corrected.

Deficiencies that need to be corrected:

Signed: _____
Moderator, CPM

Signed: _____
Applicant

