

ORDINATION APPLICATION QUESTIONNAIRE



U.S. Conference of Mennonite Brethren Churches

PLEASE SEND TO THE DISTRICT TO WHICH YOU ARE APPLYING:

United States Conference of Mennonite Brethren Churches

7348 W. 21st Suite 115, Wichita, KS 67205

offices@usmb.org

National Director: Don Morris

1433 NW 150th St. Edmond, OK 73013

don@usmb.org

DISTRICT MINISTERS:

Central District Conference: Rick Eshbaugh

1106 N. Garfield Ave. Dell Rapids, SD 57022

reshbaugh@msn.com

Latin America District Conference: Aaron Hernandez

PO Box 52, La Grulla, TX 78548

aronmasale@yahoo.com

Eastern District Conference: Terry Hunt

PO Box 2697, Lenoir, NC 28645

pastortwh@gmail.com

Pacific District Conference: Jordan Ringhofer

1717 S. Chestnut Ave. Fresno, CA 93702-4709

jordan.ringhofer@fresno.edu

Southern District Conference: Tim Sullivan

7348 W. 21st St., Suite 115, Wichita, KS 67205-1765

tsully@sdcmb.org



U.S. Conference of Mennonite Brethren Churches

ORDINATION QUESTIONNAIRE

Instructions: This questionnaire is for completion by candidates for ordination to the ministry in the U.S. Conference of Mennonite Brethren Churches. It is assumed that the candidate is familiar with the **Confession of Faith of the Mennonite Brethren Churches** and with the **Constitution** of the Conference.

Please give your own convictions and views on all questions. The guide has been designed for brief answers. **A more lengthy answer is desirable where you are asked to express your views more fully. Give scriptural support for views stated.**

1. Spiritual Life

- A. Give a testimony of your conversion experience.
- B. Relate briefly your experiences in the life of the church.
- C. What are you doing to see that others come to know Jesus Christ?
- D. Relate your "call to the ministry."
- E. How do you nurture your own spiritual life?
- F. Which people and books have influenced you most?

2. Doctrinal Stance

- A. Doctrine of the Scriptures
 1. Relate briefly how you view the Bible as the final authority in all questions regarding faith and practice.
 2. Discuss briefly your views on the scriptures with reference to "inspiration" and "revelation."
- B. Doctrine of God. Provide a brief resume of your views regarding:
 1. The nature of God.
 2. God in creation.
 3. God in redemption.
- C. Doctrine of Christ. Discuss briefly:
 1. His incarnation.
 2. His deity.
 3. His death and resurrection.
 4. His present lordship and final triumph.

D. Doctrine of the Holy Spirit. Discuss the Holy Spirit in terms of:

1. His part in the Trinity.
2. His work in relation to the unbeliever.
3. His work in the life of the believer.
4. The place of the gifts of the Holy Spirit in the church.
5. The place of the fruit of the Holy Spirit in the church.
6. State your view of the charismatic movement.

E. Doctrine of man and sin. Explain your view regarding:

1. The state and the condition of the first man created by God.
2. The nature of the fall of man and the consequences of that fall.
3. The meaning of original sin.
4. The meaning of sin in relationship to God.
5. The penalty of sin.

F. Doctrine of salvation. Write briefly on:

1. The meaning of redemption.
2. The meaning of conversion.
3. The relationship of justification to sanctification.
4. God's grace and human responsibility.

G. Doctrine of the church. Explain your view regarding:

1. The nature and mission of the church.
2. The significance of the local church.
3. The church ordinances.
4. Church membership.
5. Church discipline.

H. Doctrine of love and nonresistance. Give your view of biblical nonresistance.

I. Doctrine of Spirit beings. Define:

1. Angels.
2. Satan and the occult.

J. Doctrine of last things. Write briefly on:

1. The second coming of Christ.
2. Resurrection and judgment.
3. The eternal state.

K. Social and spiritual issues. Give your view of:

1. Marriage of believers with non-believers.
2. Divorce and remarriage.
3. Sexuality – pre-marital sex, extra-marital sex, homosexuality.
4. Observance of the Lord's Day.
5. Swearing of the oath, and secret orders.
6. Social drinking, the use of tobacco and non-prescription drugs.
7. Abortion.

3. Church Polity

- A. What is your view of the organizational structure of the local church?
- B. What is a pastor's role in the local church?
- C. How do you visualize the implementation of a ministry of evangelism and social action through the local church?
- D. What is your view as to how mutual accountability ought to be practiced in the church?
- E. What is your view regarding the ministry of women in the church?
- F. What is your view as to how the local church ought to relate to the Conference?

4. Denominational Relationship

- A. Why have you chosen a Mennonite Brethren church as your place of fellowship and ministry?
- B. Which aspects of the Mennonite Brethren structure and polity impress you most?
- C. Do you have any reservations regarding the Confession of Faith of the Conference of Mennonite Brethren Churches? If so, please explain what these reservations are and the Biblical basis for your views.
- D. In which ways are you willing to give active support to the program of the conference of Mennonite Brethren Churches and to serve in a brotherly manner with your fellow workers?

5. Reading List

Confession of Faith of the Mennonite Brethren Church, 1999

Confession of Faith: Commentary and Pastoral Application. Winnipeg and Hillsboro: Kindred Productions, 2000

Toews, John E. and Nickel, Gordon. **The Power of the Lamb.** Winnipeg and Hillsboro: Kindred Press, 1986

Jost, Lynn and Faber, Connie. **Family Matters: Discovering the Mennonite Brethren.** Winnipeg and Hillsboro: Kindred Productions, 2002

For the latter two books, please submit a response/evaluation (one page minimum for each book).

To obtain a copy of the reading material listed; you may contact the office of your District Minister or go to the Kindred Production website at www.kindredproductions.com