Covenant for Sponsoring Congregation and Candidate for Ministry

Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) in Illinois & Wisconsin

Ordination is a sacred rite of the church which is conferred by a region and a local congregation in partnership. Here are the responsibilities of the local sponsoring congregation:

At the beginning of the process:

- Send a letter of support for the candidate to the regional office. The letter should come from an official governing or spiritual body of the congregation and be signed by the Chair of that body. It should acknowledge the candidate's gifts for ministry and the desire of the congregation to give support through the process.
- Pray regularly for your candidate as they complete the requirements for ordination, including seminary classes, internships, etc.
- Invite the candidate, by mutual convenience, to church activities, or to offer worship leadership. Be creative in connecting and supporting his/her leadership development
- Share 1/3 of the cost of a Psychological/Vocational Assessment for the candidate. (currently $340.) The region and the candidate are responsible for the other 2/3's cost. http://www.midwestministry.org/

As the Ordination interview approaches:

- Send a letter of support from the Pastor of the congregation.
- Send a letter from the congregation in support of ordaining the candidate. It should include that a vote was taken by a governing or spiritual body and be signed by the Chair.
- Set up a committee to work with the candidate to plan the ordination service and celebration. Coordinate dates and times with the Regional Minister. disciples.org/wp-content/uploads/.../**Ordination_Service**_Guidelines.pdf