

The Methodist Church of New Zealand

Te Hāhi Weteriana O Aotearoa

Administration Division

P O Box 931

CHRISTCHURCH

Information Leaflet No. 11

May 2003

DEACONS' & PRESBYTERS' ORDINATION PROCESS

This process is intended to assess whether a person has the gifts and graces to fulfil a ministry of service, leadership and pastoral care.

The assessment of readiness for ordination must be the responsibility of the whole Church under the guidance of the Holy Spirit. The process outlined is a Connexional one, in which Parishes and Districts play an important part.

This leaflet sets out the assessment process towards ordination.

DEACONS' & PRESBYTERS' ASSESSMENT PROCESS FOR ORDINATION

- March:** District Recruitment Convener meets with candidate to finalise interim report to Synod.
Candidate meets with District Ministerial Synod who will report on:
- how effectively the Criteria for Ordination are being met in the ministry of the candidate,
 - whether there are any areas in the ministry where further work is seen as necessary to reach readiness for ordination,
 - any specific information regarding the candidate of which the National Assessment Team should be aware.
- April:** Supported candidate conducts trial service.
- District Recruitment Convener meets with Parish.
District Recruitment Convener meets with Candidate.
District Recruitment Convener prepares a report on the basis of the Synod meeting, trial service and meetings with parish and candidate. This report is forwarded to the Residential Assessment Convener.
- May:** Residential Assessment Event
- June:** Reports and recommendations are forwarded through the Co-ordinating Committee to District Superintendents and District Recruitment Convener.

	Candidates Recommended for Ordination	Connexional Committee	Candidates not Recommended for Ordination
July			Work with Field-worker Ordained Ministry and District personnel. Opportunity to meet with Ministerial Synod.
August	Invited to speak to Ministerial Synod		
October		Receives all reports. Makes final recommendations to Conference. Interviews any Candidate wishing to contest a negative recommendation.	
November	Proceed to Ordinands' Retreat and Ordination Service.		

RESIDENTIAL ASSESSMENT EVENT

This event will be held mid year.

A team of National Assessors will:

- receive reports from District Assessors of Probationers and from the Fieldworker Ordained Ministry,
- assess candidates on the basis of the agreed criteria,
- prepare reports and recommendations which will be discussed with each candidate at the event.

Information Leaflet No. 12 sets out the agreed ordination criteria.