

# Appendix A

Required For D.Min. Applicants Only

(For D.Min. Applicants Only)

## Career Assessment Profile

Please complete the following questions. Reflect on each question in terms of your overall career in ministry. Use additional sheets of paper to answer the questions.

1. Evaluate your educational history. What part of your educational pilgrimage appealed to you the most/least? What motivated you in terms of attaining grades? What type of educational setting/format is most conducive to the way in which you learn? If you had to do it over again, how would you approach your educational process?
2. Evaluate your work experiences so far. How long have you been in your current ministry setting? Please describe your roles and responsibilities. How do you feel about your career in ministry? What is your favorite part of ministry? What is your least favorite part of ministry?
3. Is your personality well suited for the career in which you now find yourself? Do you feel conflicted in your ministry, or is there a sense of confirmation that you have chosen your career well?
4. What specific competencies in ministry (preaching, pastoral care, leadership, etc.) would you like to study to improve your ministry practice? How do you see a D.Min. degree enhancing your skills in ministry?
5. Given all the options available in ministry, what do you envision as the pinnacle of your career, and what do you feel you need to do to achieve that goal?
6. What are the resources that you use to assess your ministry? How often do you involve others in that assessment? What are the standards that you have developed to assess your current ministry? Do you feel these standards give you adequate assessment? If not, why? How have these resources/standards influenced changes in your ministry?
7. Why do you wish to attain the Doctor of Ministry degree?

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## Declaration of Specialization

Students choose to study in one of eight specializations. Please declare a specialization from the list below:

**Christian Spirituality**—This specialization focuses on ministry designed to enhance spiritual formation and disciplines of prayer, and to equip congregants to develop their faith commitments through the leadership of a minister as spiritual guide. Spiritual formation focuses on the needs of congregations and individuals to continue growing in faith.

**Justice and Peacemaking**—This specialization focuses on the application of the ethical mandates of the Kingdom of God. Students will engage biblical, historical, and theological understandings of the minister as ethical guide.

**Leadership and Ministry**—Students will study how to lead congregations in transformational processes, adapt to changing community contexts and develop creative initiatives such as coaching. Students explore the principles of effective leadership and management.

**Mission and Community Transformation**—This area offers opportunities for students to develop projects that focus on the Kingdom of God as a redeeming reality. Students examine issues that affect the church's mission such as postmodernism, cultural shifts, social justice, and demographic changes. The church is viewed as the communal embodiment of Christian faith joining with others in concern for ongoing redemption, renewing social order, and promoting justice and peace.

**Pastoral Care/Chaplaincy**—Students engage in ministry projects related to pastoral counseling, chaplaincy services, and congregational care. The primary competencies of pastoral caregiving are explored through reading, clinical supervision, and ministry coaching.

**Preaching**—Students who wish to focus on preaching will explore creative ways to communicate the gospel through the spoken and written word. Effective methods of communication and research into the ways congregations and readers understand the gospel are explored. Faith communication through the arts, story, written communication, and visual and electronic means are researched as ways to enhance the minister's sharing of the word of God.

**Scripture and the Life of the Church**—Students reflect upon the importance of a biblically based ministry and are challenged to evaluate their ministry in terms of scripture. Students are introduced to the latest in scholarship, tools, and resources that will help them formulate a ministry project emphasizing biblical understanding.

**Theology/Christian Worship**—Students engaged in ministry projects related to worship focus on how congregations address differing worship traditions. Worship styles are explored to give insight to the student regarding the meaning, development, and history of various approaches. Students focus on the continuing task of theological formation in light of worship, Scripture, the Church's faith, and contemporary experience.