

Metropolitan District Ordination and Consecration Process

Over the past several months the District Leadership Team, DEXCOM, and the LO&CC have been working to improve the Ordination/Consecration Track for the Metropolitan District. We are excited to walk with you over the next two years as you journey through Ordination or Consecration. During this journey, we desire that you sharpen your ministry skills, deepen your character, and grow as a Christ-like leader through intentional mentoring. In addition, we hope that you discover and embrace the deep theological and missional values of The Alliance through the discipline of personal study. It is our sincere intent to help make this journey meaningful and not merely 'jumping through hoops'. Let us outline the two components of the process: Spiritual and Ministry Formation, and Alliance and Theological Development. If there are any questions, please feel free to connect with the District Office.

Spiritual and Ministry Formation through Mentoring

- A. Identify mentor[s] and report to the district office. A mentor is someone who you respect and who can speak into your life to help develop you into a Godly leader. If you have difficulty identifying possible mentors, please contact the district office; we will assist you.

Please report to the District Office who your mentor is; provide their name, email, phone number and other contact information. This can be emailed to Eileen Olivo, administrative assistant at: eolivo@metrocm.org.

- B. Attend a Coaching workshop with your mentor, if your mentor has never attended a workshop before. Check out <http://metrocm.org/calendar/> for the dates and more details.
- C. Develop a mentoring plan that will help develop you as a leader. This must include the following:
 - o Formulate a five-year learning plan to serve as a basis for lifelong learning. Identify the areas and delivery systems in which the learning will take place. Here are some suggested topics for lifelong learners:

Devotional/Spiritual Disciplines, Lifelong Learning Models, Preaching, Leadership: Master Planning, Vision Casting, Interpersonal Relationship Skills, Creating Effective Change, Pastoral Care/Shepherding, Evangelism, Missions, Church Planting, Growing Healthy Churches, Stewardship
 - o Prepare an analysis of your self-understanding, using assessment tools such as GHC IV, IDAK, DISC, Ministry Competency Profile Guidelines, or a Gifts Inventory. Identify strengths, weaknesses, spiritual gifts, natural leadership style, work preferences, and related issues. Outline a strategy to bring strength and adequacy to your person and ministry.

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- Develop the discipline of preparation and delivery of sermons and/or Biblical teaching. Each year, present at least one audio or videotape of a full-length sermon, preached at a regular church service, for the mentor's review of both content and delivery of Biblical material. The consecration candidate shall present to her mentor at least one full-length audio or videotape of her teaching at the church for the mentor's review of both content and delivery of Biblical material.
- D. Please submit your 5-Year Learning Plan, Personal Assessment and Development plan to your mentor. Your mentor will submit to the District Office a summary page highlighting the progress of your plans and teaching and preaching ministry.
- E. Your mentor is responsible for helping you journey through the Ordination or Consecration process. He/she will assist in sharpening your ministry skills, deepening your character, and growing you as a Christ-like leader through intentional mentoring.
- F. Your LO&CC Sponsor is responsible for reading your theological position papers and making sure you are ready for the written and oral exams. Please contact Eileen Olivo (eolivo@metroccma.org) to determine your assigned LO&CC Advisor.

Alliance and Theological Development through Personal Study

- A. Bible Reading
Read through the entire Bible twice, using two different translations where available.
- B. Other Reading
These books deal with Alliance distinctives and are meant to reinforce the candidate in the areas of personal values, theology, and vision. These books have been approved by the District Leadership Forum and ratified by the Board of Directors to better acquaint the candidate with The Christian and Missionary Alliance, and may not be substituted.
 - The Fourfold Gospel – A. B. Simpson
 - Wholly Sanctified – A. B. Simpson
 - Children's Bread – Keith Bailey
 - Essays on Premillennialism – CPI, edited by Neill Foster
 - **Perspectives on the World Christian Movement** – edited by **Ralph Winter (course material can be obtained through the School of World Mission in Pasadena or you can complete the course online at <http://www.perspectives.org/>)**

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- The Pursuit of God – A. W. Tozer
- All for Jesus – Robert L. Niklaus, John S. Sawin, and Samuel J. Stoesz
- Manual of the C&MA (esp. Sections A2 and E8) and Section B12 of the C&MA Policy and Procedure Manual.

C. Position Papers

Candidates must write six position papers as listed below, including but not limited to the items listed under each theme. Each paper shall be an original, comprehensive treatment of the subject that includes the items listed under each theme, and should be no less than eight pages in length. The paper is to be a statement of the candidate's personal theological position. Position papers shall be written by the candidate on the following subjects:

- **Christ Our Savior**
 - The nature of man and his final destiny
 - The plan and purpose of the atonement
 - The means and results of justification
 - My personal experience of Christ as Savior
- **Christ Our Sanctifier**
 - The crisis and progression of sanctification
 - Identification of the believer with Christ's death, resurrection, and ascension
 - The ministry of the Holy Spirit in sanctification
 - Your personal experience of Christ as Sanctifier
- **Christ Our Healer**
 - The relationship of divine healing and the atonement
 - The significance of prayer and anointing by the elders
 - The ministry of healing in the local church
 - Your personal experience of Christ as our Healer
- **Christ Our Coming King**
 - Defense of the pre-millennial coming of Christ
 - The events surrounding the rapture of the Church
 - Relationship between the imminence of Christ's coming and world missions
 - Your personal understanding of Christ our Coming King
- **Christ's Body: the Church**
 - Mission and purpose
 - Relationship to Jesus Christ
 - Leadership and authority in the Body
 - Relationship to the Christian and Missionary Alliance
 - Relationship among the members

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- **Completing Christ's Mission**

The "lost-ness" of mankind

The Great Commission passages: Matthew 28:18-20 and Acts 1:8

Interaction with the "Growing A Healthy Church" philosophy

Demonstration of a strategy that implements this philosophy in one's personal life

The local church commitment to world missions

The leader's role in mobilizing the local church in Great Commission completion (evangelism, church multiplication, world missions)

D. The Metropolitan District will provide two options to assist you in completing the papers:

- The Metropolitan District will host two to three C&MA Theological Position Workshops per year. These workshops will assist the candidates in developing the major issues and themes needed to complete their papers. The theological position papers are due one month after the workshop. Candidates will be excused from these meetings if the paper is submitted prior to the workshop. Please email the papers to the district office, eolivo@metrocoma.org.

These sessions are mandatory. Therefore, you must receive permission to be excused unless the papers are submitted a minimum of one week prior to the meeting.

- Candidates may attend the Alliance Doctrine class offered at Alliance Theological Seminary [www.alliance.edu]. This course will provide the same material in a shorter time period.

Classes for this course will be held during the spring semester (January – May 2010); registration information, and costs may be obtained by contacting the Registrar's Office. Please contact the district office if you are interested in auditing this seminary class. Please note there will be an auditing fee.

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What's Next

1. Identify a mentor and report that to the district office via email at eolivo@metrocoma.org or call 973.412.7025 x208.
2. Make plans to attend the three Metropolitan District C&MA Theological Position Workshops
 - a. March 9, 2010 (9AM – 12 PM)
 - b. June 9, 2010 (9AM – 12 PM)
 - c. August 17, 2010 (9AM – 12 PM)

or

Mark your calendar for the Alliance Theological Workshops; you can contact the district office for auditing information at ATS.

3. If you have made significant progress toward ordination or consecration, call the district office to determine what is still needed.
4. The process culminates in both a written examination and an oral examination. After both are passed, a date for your ordination service should be chosen (coordinate with the district office). Examination dates are as follows:
 - a. Written –
February 9, May 4 or September 8, 2010 @ District Office or another location to be determined – 9AM
 - b. Oral –
February 23, May 18 or September 21, 2010 @ District Office or another location to be determined – Times TBD

All position papers will be due two weeks **PRIOR** to the written examination.

