

REGARDING PROBATIONARY MEMBERSHIP

1. This process is designed to give members of the Board of Ordained Ministry optimal understanding of your readiness for ministry. At the Probationary level the emphasis is on preparation and readiness to begin expressing your call to ordained ministry in the United Methodist Church.
2. How your papers are handled: Your papers are assigned to a reading team. Your papers will be returned to you, with comments, by the team leader by January 10, 2009. All comments by team members will be forwarded to the team leader and the registrar for discussion by the full Board. If you do not hear from your team leader, please call the Registrar.

Prior to your personal interview, the Board will spend as much time as necessary to hear from each reader regarding strengths and weaknesses and to prepare to assist the candidate in responding to areas of questions as well as points of strength.

3. The Interview Section may make one of two recommendations following review of your papers and the interview: (1) Continue your candidacy, or (2) Probationary membership and Commissioning (A two-thirds vote is required in order to recommend). In some instances the Board may place specific conditions upon the action which must be satisfied prior to the following Annual Conference or face discontinuance. In some instances the Board may make strong recommendations which should be discussed and responded to with the help of a Board Advisor.
4. Following Board action you will receive a letter of confirmation of actions from the Chair of the Board.
5. If at anytime you have a concern about the process as it applies to you, please contact the Registrar.
6. It is the candidate's responsibility to be familiar with the Discipline and to assure proper completion of all requirements.
7. The Board makes every effort to respect the confidentiality of information in its possession and to limit its dissemination. If you feel a breach of confidence has occurred, you are encouraged to report this to the Board Chairperson for investigation.