

ORDINATION/COMMISSIONING MENTOR  
OUTLINE OF RESPONSIBILITIES

The Board of the Ordered Ministry endorses a mentoring program with relationship to ordination and commissioning. This is a two year relationship with the first year focusing on giving feedback on the final paper as well as preparing the candidate for the interviews with the conference committee and denominational board. In the second year, the mentoring centers around pastoral issues in the church, developing healthy habits in order to sustain oneself in ministry, and other concerns raised by the pastor.

The Board of the Ordered Ministry has established that a mentor must be an ordained or commissioned Covenant pastor who has served for at least five years. The mentor must be approved by the Ordered Ministry. If you agree to this responsibility, suggestions for implementation include:

Year One (to take place in the year prior to ordination/commissioning):

1. Orient the candidate to ministry in and with the Evangelical Covenant Church.
2. Read and provide feedback on the final paper prior to the paper's August 15 due date.
3. Discuss the conference interview and prepare the candidate for questions that might arise.
4. Be prepared to work with the candidate if a re-write of the paper is required.
5. Converse with the candidate prior to the interview with the Board of the Ordered Ministry.
6. Discuss the appropriate lifestyle for a Covenant minister reviewing the Ethical Guidelines.
7. Help the local church celebrate the ordination or commissioning.

Year Two (to take place in the year post-ordination/commissioning):

Stay in regular conversation with the candidate and meet together quarterly, discussing the following topics or books you have chosen to read together.

*For the senior/associate pastor, topics could include:*

- a. Membership - its meaning and process in the local church
- b. Planning and implementing agendas/meetings with church boards
- c. An overview of Confirmation and its meaning
- d. Death and the celebration of the Witness to the Resurrection
- e. Passages of birth, graduation, marriage, retirement, etc.
- f. Sermon preparation

*For a staff person, topics could include:*

- a. Relationship with the pastor and other staff members
- b. Role and involvement with church board/council
- c. Opportunities for involvement in rites and sacraments of the church
- d. Teaching and preaching experiences
- e. Leading volunteers
- f. Planning and preparation including time management

The mentor will submit a report summarizing the mentoring relationship at the end of each mentoring year.