

## Request for Member in Discernment Status in the Living Waters Association, Nebraska Conference UCC

### Candidate's Information

Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
Telephone: \_\_\_\_\_  
Email: \_\_\_\_\_

### Congregation's Information

Congregation's Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
Congregation's Telephone: \_\_\_\_\_  
Pastor's Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
Pastor's Email: \_\_\_\_\_  
Local Church Discernment Committee Chair's Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
Chairperson's Email: \_\_\_\_\_

The candidate named above has stated their desire to prepare for authorized ministry in the United Church of Christ. They have met faithfully for the work of discernment their pastor and their Local Church Discernment Committee. The Local Church Discernment Committee and the leadership of the local church affirm that this candidate has a discernible call to ministry, has skills in multiple areas of Marks of Faithful and Effective Authorized Ministers, and is ready to enter into the Member in Discernment process.

This congregation hereby requests that the committee for Church and Ministry accept the candidate as a Member in Discernment. We affirm that they are a member in good standing of this church and that the statements made in this Request are true and complete to the best of our knowledge.

The following documents are enclosed with this Request:

- Letter of recommendation from the Local Church governing body requesting the person be received as a Member in Discernment. The letter should include a description of the person's process with the Local Church Discernment Committee, reflection on specific skills and gifts for ministry that exemplify Marks for Faithful and Effective Authorized Ministers, and clarity about which Marks the Discernment Committee had identified as areas for development and growth.
- Candidate's file from their work with their Local Church Discernment Committee including their
  - Spiritual Autobiography and Statement of Faith
  - Reflections on the questions:
    - Describe your theological understanding of ordination and the role of the Church in discerning call.
    - Describe in particular your call to the vocation of ministry and the setting to which you currently feel most called.
    - Expanding on the understanding of ordination, why are you interested in ordination and ministry specifically in and on behalf of the United Church of Christ?
  - Documentation of formal education, including theological education
  - Statement of Consent and Release Form (Appendix B)
  - Background Disclosure (Appendix C)
  - Report from the Completed Background Check (generated from Appendix G)

Signature of the Candidate: \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

Signature of the Discernment Committee Chair: \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

Signature of the Local Church Pastor: \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

Submit this form and documentation to [ministerialstanding@ucctcm.org](mailto:ministerialstanding@ucctcm.org) and [lwaregistrar@gmail.com](mailto:lwaregistrar@gmail.com),  
or mail to: Nebraska Conference UCC, 5609 Douglas Avenue, Des Moines, IA 50310.

## Statement of Consent and Release Form for Persons Seeking Member in Discernment Status in Living Waters Association, Nebraska Conference UCC

The United Church of Christ Constitution recognizes that God calls the whole church and every member to participate in and extend the ministry of Jesus Christ. God also calls certain of the church's members to various forms of authorized ministry in and on behalf of the church.

I am seeking Member-in-Discernment status through the Nebraska Conference's Living Waters Association Church and Ministry (C&M) Committee. I acknowledge that the integrity of the Member-in-Discernment process in the Conference depends upon supportive cooperation and considerate and appropriate sharing of information among the Conference and its staff, the C&M, and the other persons involved in the Member-in-Discernment process.

We are called to speak the truth in love. Our primary goal is, in all circumstances, to build up the body of Christ. Relationships between the C&M, the candidate, and the other persons involved in the Member-in-Discernment process require honesty, integrity, and truthfulness for the health of the church. In that spirit:

I attest that the information I have provided and will, in the future, provide to the C&M is true and complete to the best of my knowledge. I understand that any misrepresentation or omission may be grounds for rejection of consideration for, or termination of, Member-in-Discernment status.

An open exchange of relevant information builds the foundation for continuing and healthy relationships between authorizing bodies and persons seeking a ministry position. In that spirit:

I authorize the C&M and its members and agents, including the staff of the Conference to make inquiries regarding all statements I have made or will make and information I have provided and will provide. I also authorize all persons, entities, former employers, committees on the ministry and their agents, courts, and law enforcement and other public agencies to respond to inquiries concerning me, and to supply verification of the information provided or to be provided by me. I understand that such persons may comment on and state their opinions regarding my background and character to those relating to the authorization process. To encourage such persons to speak openly and responsibly, I hereby release them from all liability arising from their responses and comments made in good faith and without malice.

The authorization process in the United Church of Christ further rests on the sharing of information in considerate and appropriate ways with those involved in the process. In that spirit:

I authorize the C&M and its members and agents, including the staff of the Conference to circulate, distribute, and otherwise share information gathered in connection with my request. I understand that those gathering information about me concerning my request are encouraged to share such information with me if requested by me to do so.

I affirm that I have not been an in-care student or a Member in Discernment, or an authorized minister in any other Association/conference/denomination.

Candidate's Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Candidate's Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

Provide this completed form to the Local Church Discernment Committee. This form should be kept in the candidate's file assembled by the Local Church Discernment Committee. At the time the Local Church makes the Request for Member in Discernment Status (Appendix A), submit this form and the rest of the candidate's file alongside the request.

## Background Disclosure for Persons Seeking Member in Discernment Status in the Living Waters Association, Nebraska Conference UCC

Candidate's Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
Candidate's Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
Candidate's Home Phone: \_\_\_\_\_  
Candidate's Cell Phone: \_\_\_\_\_  
Candidate's Email: \_\_\_\_\_

For all items below, initial the line of your response. Write additional commentary in as needed.

I affirm that the position, power, and authority associated with a ministry authorized by the United Church of Christ extends and participates in the ministry of Jesus Christ and is intended to be of benefit to all served by this ministry.

\_\_\_\_\_ True

\_\_\_\_\_ False

Commentary:

Include only matters subject to official disciplinary review by a conference or association of the United Church of Christ:

\_\_\_\_\_ I have not been the subject of official disciplinary review that resulted in growth program and/or counseling.

\_\_\_\_\_ I have not been the subject of official disciplinary review that resulted in censure.

\_\_\_\_\_ I have not been the subject of official disciplinary review that resulted in suspension of standing

\_\_\_\_\_ I have not been the subject of official disciplinary review that resulted in termination of standing.

\_\_\_\_\_ Official disciplinary review is not pending regarding me at the present time.

Commentary:

Include only matters subject to official disciplinary review within another denomination:

\_\_\_\_\_ I have not been the subject of official disciplinary proceedings that resulted in disciplinary action.

\_\_\_\_\_ Official disciplinary proceedings are not pending regarding me at the present time.

Commentary:

Appendix C

Include only matters subject to official disciplinary proceedings by a professional organization, credentialing body or guild:

\_\_\_\_\_ I have not been the subject of official disciplinary proceedings that resulted in disciplinary action.

\_\_\_\_\_ Official disciplinary proceedings are not pending regarding me at the present time.

\_\_\_\_\_ No civil law suit alleging that I attempted or actually engaged in sexual discrimination, harassment, exploitation, or misconduct; physical abuse; child abuse; or financial misconduct has ever resulted in a judgment being entered against me, settled out of court, or dismissed because the statute of limitations had expired.

Commentary:

With respect to driving record include matters of reckless driving, driving while intoxicated and/or under the influence of a controlled substance; with respect to criminal charges do not include acts of civil disobedience:

\_\_\_\_\_ I have not had my driving license suspended or revoked within the last five years.

\_\_\_\_\_ I have not been found guilty or pleaded guilty or no contest to criminal charges.

Commentary:

*Initial all responses that are accurate for each question.*

My employment has not been terminated because I attempted or actually engaged in:

\_\_\_\_\_ sexual discrimination, harassment, exploitation, or misconduct

\_\_\_\_\_ physical abuse

\_\_\_\_\_ child abuse

\_\_\_\_\_ financial misconduct

Commentary:

I have not terminated my employment or professional credentials in order to avoid facing or to avoid being terminated because of charges of actual or attempted:

\_\_\_\_\_ sexual discrimination, harassment, exploitation, or misconduct

\_\_\_\_\_ physical abuse

\_\_\_\_\_ child abuse

\_\_\_\_\_ financial misconduct

Space for commentary is on the next page

Appendix C

Commentary (regarding termination or avoidance of termination for sexual discrimination, harassment, exploitation, or misconduct; physical abuse; child abuse; and/or financial misconduct)

In my judgment, there are no facts or circumstances involving me or my background that would warrant further review before my being entrusted with the responsibilities of ministry on behalf of a calling body of the United Church of Christ.

True

False

Commentary:

Candidate's Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Candidate's Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

Provide this completed form to the Local Church Discernment Committee. This form should be kept in the candidate's file assembled by the Local Church Discernment Committee. At the time the Local Church makes the Request for Member in Discernment Status (Appendix A), submit this form and the rest of the candidate's file alongside the request.

If you need to add additional commentary on any of the above, please do so below:

## Discernment Covenant for a Member in Discernment in the Living Waters Association, Nebraska Conference UCC

This Covenant of Discernment and Formation is entered into by the following covenanted partners:

The Association: Living Waters Association's Church and Ministry (C&M) Committee

The Congregation: \_\_\_\_\_

The Member in Discernment: \_\_\_\_\_

### Covenant of the Church

We, the members of the Church, promise to support and nurture the Member in Discernment in the MID's period of discernment and formation as the MID explores a call to authorized ministry; to openly and honestly share with the MID and the C&M our assessment of the MID's fitness for authorized ministry; and to celebrate the MID's discerned strengths and to openly, honestly and sensitively name matters which limit the MID's effectiveness in ministry. We covenant with the MID and C&M as a sign of our mutual ministry.

Signature of the Representative of the Church: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

### Covenant of C&M

We the members of the C&M, covenant with the members of the Church and with the Member in Discernment to explore a call to authorized ministry in the United of Christ. We will develop an educational and formational plan with the MID and accompany them as they engage in a path of preparation and formation. We will provide counsel and support and will meet with the MID at appropriate intervals to discern readiness for the authorized ministry sought. When, in our judgment, we determine the time is right, we will determine whether to authorize the MID for ministry according to the faith and order of the United Church of Christ. We covenant with the MID and the Church as a sign of our mutual ministry.

Signature of the Chair of C&M: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

### Covenant of the Member in Discernment—Education and Formation

I, the Member in Discernment, promise to continue to faithfully discern with my covenantal partners my call to ministry, including exploration regarding which form of authorized ministry, if any, may be the most appropriate response to my call. I will engage in the educational and formational plan and formative practices developed with C&M that will prepare me for this calling. During this time I will continue to participate with the Church, contributing to its life and witness as possible and appropriate. I will continue to meet with my Local Church Discernment Committee at least once every two months. I will meet with my MID Advisor monthly. I will maintain contact with the C&M and provide materials as requested that reflect my progress. I understand that entering into this Covenant is not an assurance that I will be authorized for ministry in the UCC. I covenant with C&M and the Church as a sign of our mutual ministry.

Signature of the Member in Discernment: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

### Covenant of the Member in Discernment—Required Reporting

To the C&M: I will meet with and submit reports and other documents requested by C&M. To the Church: I will meet with and submit reports and other documents as necessary and agreed upon to my Discernment Committee or other appropriate body of the Church.

Signature of the Member in Discernment: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Submit this form and documentation to [ministerialstanding@ucctcm.org](mailto:ministerialstanding@ucctcm.org) and [lwaregistrar@gmail.com](mailto:lwaregistrar@gmail.com), or mail to: Nebraska Conference UCC, 5609 Douglas Avenue, Des Moines, IA 50310.

## The Member in Discernment Advisor's Role and Responsibilities Living Waters Association, Nebraska Conference UCC

The Member in Discernment (MID) Advisor, assigned by the Living Waters Association Church and Ministry (C&M) Committee, is a UCC member (lay or ordained) whose familiarity with the polity of and commitment to the ministry of the United Church of Christ position them to offer spiritual and practical accompaniment to the MID along their journey.

The MID Advisor meets with the Member in Discernment between the person's annual reviews with the Committee as a checkpoint on the Member in Discernment's process, adherence to formation and preparation plans, and as a partner for growth and discernment around the Marks for Faithful and Effective Authorized Ministers.

Responsibilities of the MID Advisor include:

- Prayer for the MID
- Conversations with the MID monthly, with an intentional focus on how the MID is experiencing God in the midst of their formation; the MID's understanding of call; the joys and challenges of the MID's spiritual life and practice; and reflection upon the Marks of Faithful and Effective Authorized Ministry. Face to face conversations is recommended but video conferencing is also acceptable.
- Availability for the MID to raise and explore questions about faith, the church, and Christian ministry
- Contributing to the MID Annual Review process by filing out Advisor's Annual Review Sheet one month prior to their reviews
- Advising the MID on the drafting of the Marks Portfolio before submission to C&M.
- Accompanying the MID to annual reviews and authorization interview(s) with C&M and actively engaging in the conversation, as invited.
- Providing written references on behalf of the MID when requested, as appropriate.

In addition, the Discernment Advisor will have the following structural responsibilities:

- Familiarity with the steps and covenantal partners involved with the MID's experience and process.
- Communicating with C&M if concerns arise regarding the MID.
- Encouraging the MID to take an active part in the various settings of the UCC.
- Providing the MID with recommendations for further development, including reading, formal and informal opportunities for learning or growth, and mentors.
- As invited, providing preparation support and attending the MID's recognition of authorized ministry, including, as appropriate, the ecclesiastical council and authorization service.

As a covenantal partner in this process, C&M will, upon receipt of suitable documentation and receipts, reimburse MID Advisors for reasonable expenses incurred in the fulfillment of their role.

Resources for MID Advisors are available on the Conference website. The resources include an overview of the MID process, conversation prompts for various areas of the Marks, discernment tools, and detailed information about helping MIDs create their Marks Portfolio.

Having read the role and responsibilities for MID Advisor's, I commit to serving as the MID Advisor.

Advisor's Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Advisor's Name: \_\_\_\_\_

MID's Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Submit this form and documentation to [ministerialstanding@ucctcm.org](mailto:ministerialstanding@ucctcm.org) and [lwaregistrar@gmail.com](mailto:lwaregistrar@gmail.com),  
or mail to: Nebraska Conference UCC, 5609 Douglas Avenue, Des Moines, IA 50310.

## MID Advisor's Annual Review Living Waters Association, Nebraska Conference

The following should be filled out by the MID Advisor and sent directly to the Registrar and Conference office to be added to the MIDs file each year prior to their annual review.

MID's Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

**MID Advisor's Information**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Dates and length or duration of meetings with the MID since their last annual review with C&M:

Thinking over the conversations with the MID, how frequently do the following statements apply?

	Always	Frequently	Occasionally	Rarely	Never
The MID demonstrates healthy, active spiritual practices.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
The MID demonstrates having healthy relationships and relational boundaries.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
The MID appears to have healthy time boundaries regarding work/school.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
The MID understands the Marks for Faithful and Effective Authorized Ministers.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
The MID is able to accurately assess their skills, gifts, and areas of needed growth with regards to the Marks.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
The MID takes steps to gain skills and experience in areas of needed growth.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
The MID theologically reflects on how they are experiencing God in their life and ministry.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
The MID shows they are learning from challenges in their ministry.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
The MID has or is gaining clarity about their sense of call to ministry and a particular context.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>



Appendix F

	Always	Frequently	Occasionally	Rarely	Never
The MID speaks openly and seeks consultation on issues related to ministry.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
The MID embodies UCC identity and theology..	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
The MID values the UCC core values and lives out the UCC mission and vision as articulated by the denomination.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
The MID demonstrates a knowledge of UCC polity.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
The MID understands the steps involved in the MID process.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
The MID is seeking feedback as they create their Marks Portfolio.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

What is one area of focus you have worked on with the MID? What growth have you seen?

What are a few of the Marks that you identify the MID has skills and gifts in and is integrating into their current ministry, schooling, or work?

What are a few of the Marks you identify the MID needs further growth or experience?

What settings or contexts of ministry do you think the MID is best suited? Are their settings or contexts for which they are not suited or interested in?

## Appendix F

How is the MID progressing with their Preparation and Formation Plan? Please describe and assess the MID's progress with the plan as it was created by C&M.

Regarding the MID's Preparation and Formation Plan, what additional support do they need to continue with that plan? Are there changes to the plan that need to be made for the MID's growth?

Please comment on the MID's spiritual development.

What initiative has the MID shown in (a) scheduling, (b) honoring scheduled conversations, (c) openness in sharing, and (d) preparation for conversations with you?

Do you have any concerns that should be raised at the MID's annual interview?

Does the MID have physical or emotional health issues that should be tended to or addressed?

Appendix F

Does the MID trouble or perplex you in any way?

Do you have any additional comments or concerns C&M should know about?

Do you want to continue as the candidate's MID Advisor? \_\_\_\_\_

MID Advisor's Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Submit this form one month in advance of the MID's Annual Review.

Submit this form and documentation to [ministerialstanding@ucctcm.org](mailto:ministerialstanding@ucctcm.org) and [lwaregistrar@gmail.com](mailto:lwaregistrar@gmail.com),  
or mail to: Nebraska Conference UCC, 5609 Douglas Avenue, Des Moines, IA 50310.

## Background Check Release for Persons Seeking Member in Discernment Status in the Living Waters Association, Nebraska Conference UCC

Full Name (Last, First Middle): \_\_\_\_\_

Other names used (ex. maiden name): \_\_\_\_\_

Social security number: \_\_\_\_\_ Date of birth: \_\_\_\_\_

Present Address (Street, City, State, Zip): \_\_\_\_\_

Home Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Cell Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Gender (as it is on file with the US Social Security Administration): \_\_\_\_\_

The covenants between persons seeking to become candidates for authorized ministry in the Conference require honesty, integrity and truthfulness for the health of the Conference. To that end, I attest that the information set forth in this application is true and complete. I understand that any misrepresentation or omission may be grounds for rejection of consideration for, or termination of, my process for authorized ministry. I acknowledge that it is my duty in a timely fashion to amend the responses and information I have provided if I come to know that the response or information was incorrect when given or, though accurate when given, the response or information is no longer accurate.

Beginning such relationships with an open exchange of relevant information builds the foundation for a continuing and healthy covenant between candidates, committees, staff, and volunteers and the organization they seek to serve. To that end, I authorize the Nebraska Conference and/or its agents to make inquiries regarding my character and qualifications, including all statements I have set forth above. I also authorize all entities, persons, former employers, supervisors, courts, law enforcement and other public agencies to respond to inquiries concerning me, to supply verification of the statements I have made, and to comment on and state opinions regarding my background, character, and qualifications. To encourage such persons and entities to speak openly and responsibly, I hereby release them from all liability arising from their responses, comments and statements.

I authorize The Nebraska Conference ( THE PRINCIPAL) and/or its agents to make an independent investigation of my background, references, character, past employment, education, credit history, adult criminal or police records, and motor vehicle records including those maintained by both public and private organizations and all public records for the purpose of confirming the information contained on my application and/or obtaining other information which may be material to my qualifications for service now and, if applicable, during the tenure of my service with them.

I release the United Church of Christ Insurance Board and THE PRINCIPAL and its agents and any person or entity, which provides information pursuant to this authorization, from any and all liabilities, claims or law suits in regards to the information obtained from any and all of the above referenced sources used.

Signature of the Candidate: \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

Name of the Candidate: \_\_\_\_\_

**Please follow these directions for filing this form:**

1. While working with the Local Church Discernment Committee, the candidate should complete and send this form and the information below to Nebraska Conference Office, 5609 Douglas Avenue, Des Moines, IA 50310. Include also a check made out to the “Nebraska Conference” in the amount of \$8 to cover the expense of the background check or submit the payment online. Upon receiving both, they will ensure the background check is completed. The completed report will be sent to the Local Church Discernment Committee chairperson.

Name of the Local Church: \_\_\_\_\_

Name of the Local Church Discernment Committee Chairperson: \_\_\_\_\_

Email of Local Church Discernment Committee Chairperson: \_\_\_\_\_

Local Church Pastor’s Name (if the candidate is not the Pastor): \_\_\_\_\_

Local Church Pastor’s Email (if the candidate is not the Pastor): \_\_\_\_\_

2. Also provide one copy of this completed form to the Local Church Discernment Committee. This form and the resulting report should be kept in the candidate’s file assembled by the Local Church Discernment Committee. At the time the Local Church files the Request for Member in Discernment Status (Appendix A), submit this form, the results, and the rest of the candidate’s file alongside the request.

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For conference office use only. Criminal Background check performed on: \_\_\_\_\_

Copy of the report sent to the Local Church Discernment Committee Chairperson on: \_\_\_\_\_

## Local Church Discernment Committee Annual Review Sheet Living Waters Association, Nebraska Conference UCC

The following should be filled out by the Local Church Discernment Committee’s chairperson or representative and sent directly to the Conference office to be added to the MID’s file each year prior to their annual review. This form is due one month prior to the Annual Review.

MID’s Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

### Local Church Discernment Committee Chairperson’s Information

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Dates and length or duration of meetings with the MID since their last annual review with C&M:

Thinking over conversations with the MID, please indicate how frequently the following statements apply.

	Always	Frequently	Occasionally	Rarely	Never
The MID engages in discernment.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
The MID demonstrates healthy, active spiritual practices.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
The MID demonstrates having healthy relationships and relational boundaries.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
The MID appears to have healthy time boundaries regarding work/school.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
The MID understands the Marks for Faithful and Effective Authorized Ministers.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
The MID is able to accurately assess their skills, gifts, and areas of needed growth with regards to the Marks.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
The MID takes steps to gain skills and experience in areas of needed growth.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
The MID theologically reflects on how they are experiencing God in their life and ministry.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
The MID shows they are learning from challenges in their ministry.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Appendix H

	Always	Frequently	Occasionally	Rarely	Never
The MID has or is gaining clarity about their sense of call to ministry and a particular context.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
The MID speaks openly and seeks consultation on issues related to ministry.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
The MID embodies UCC identity and theology..	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
The MID values the UCC core values and lives out the UCC mission and vision as articulated by the denomination.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
The MID demonstrates a knowledge of UCC polity.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
The MID understands the steps involved in the MID process.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
The MID is seeking feedback as they create their Marks Portfolio.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Please describe the process or style of discernment the Committee is using with the MID? In other words, what is a typical meeting like for the Committee?

How is the MID currently engaged or involved in the local church (beyond the Local Church Discernment Committee)? For example, how and how often are they attending worship, participating in small groups, volunteering with mission activities, or providing pastoral support.

What is one area of focus the Committee has worked on with the MID? What growth have you seen?

## Appendix H

What are a few of the Marks that the Committee identifies the MID has skills and gifts in and is integrating into their current ministry, schooling, or work?

What are a few of the Marks the Committee identifies the MID needs further growth or experience?

What settings or contexts of ministry do you think the MID is best suited? Are their settings or contexts for which they are not suited or interested in?

How is the MID progressing with their Preparation and Formation Plan? What additional support do they need to continue with that plan?

Please comment on the MID's spiritual development.

What initiative has the MID shown in (a) scheduling, (b) honoring scheduled conversations, (c) openness in sharing, and (d) preparation for conversations with the Committee?



Appendix H

Does the Committee have any concerns that should be raised at the MID's annual interview?

Does the MID have physical or emotional health concerns that should be tended to or addressed? Does the MID trouble or concern the Committee or congregation in any way?

Does the Committee need any help from C&M or particular resources to continue their work?

Do you have any additional comments or concerns C&M should know about?

Discernment Committee Chairperson's Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

This form should be submitted one month in advance of the MID's Annual Review directly to [ministerialstanding@ucctcm.org](mailto:ministerialstanding@ucctcm.org) and [lwaregistrar@gmail.com](mailto:lwaregistrar@gmail.com), or mail to: Nebraska Conference UCC, 5609 Douglas Avenue, Des Moines, IA 50310.

## MID's Evaluation of Their MID Advisor and Relationship Living Waters Association, Nebraska Conference

The following should be filled out by the MID and sent directly to the Registrar and Conference office to be added to the MIDs file each year prior to their annual review. This form is due one month prior to a candidate's review.

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

MID's Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Name of the MID Advisor: \_\_\_\_\_

Dates and length or duration of meetings with the MID Advisor since your last annual review with C&M:

Thinking over the conversations with your MID Advisor, how frequently do the following statements apply?

	Always	Frequently	Occasionally	Rarely	Never
Conversations with my Advisor are helpful in my discernment process.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
My Advisor and I center our conversation around the MARKS.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
My Advisor helps me theologically reflect on how I am experiencing God in my life and ministry.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
My Advisor helps me gain clarity about my sense of call.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
My Advisor helps me learn from challenges in my ministry.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
My Advisor offers questions and perspectives that assist in my discernment.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
My Advisor helps me understand UCC theology and polity.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
My Advisor understands and helps me understand the steps involved in the MID process.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

What is one area of focus you have worked on with your Discernment Advisor? What have you discerned?

Appendix I

How well have you been able to access the support you need for discernment and formation?

Are there ways you have not experienced the support you need for discernment and formation that C&M could assist you in finding?

Do you have any additional comments or concerns C&M should know about?

Do you want to continue the same MID Advisor? \_\_\_\_\_

MID Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

This form should be emailed or mailed one month in advance of the MID's Annual Review directly to ministerialstanding@ucctcm.org and lwaregistrar@gmail.com, or mail to: Nebraska Conference UCC, 5609 Douglas Avenue, Des Moines, IA 50310.

Optional space for additional comments: