

**Report from the Committee on Preparation for Ministry
to the Presbytery of Middle Tennessee
May 19, 2022**

The Committee on Preparation for Ministry (CPM) is responsible for guiding, caring for, and examining candidates for ministry in our denominational process. All those seeking to become teaching elders/Ministers of the Word and Sacrament must move through the steps detailed in the CPM checklist that can be found on the presbytery website. And there are a lot of steps!

Typically the full presbytery is only involved when prospective teaching elders desire to move from the inquiry phase to the candidacy phase and are “examined with respect to personal Christian faith, forms of Christian service undertaken, and motives for seeking the ministry.” The presbytery then votes to “affirm or deny the examination.”

Enrollment as an inquirer and being certified “ready to receive” a call are handled by the CPM and those actions are reported back to the presbytery.

Occasionally the CPM will consider requests to validate a ministry to which a ready-to-receive candidate may be ordained. These are usually settings that are *not* in a church but which may be considered pastoral (e.g. hospital, hospice, prison or street chaplaincy; certain positions in seminaries and divinity schools; or work at the denominational level).

Accompanying this report is a list of all those moving through our process, their status (inquirer, candidate, certified ready for call) and their CPM liaison.

ADMIT TO RECORD

February 22, 2022

- Recommended for candidacy: Delilah Jane Philips (Calvary Presbyterian Church, Crossville)

March 22, 2022

- Enrolled David Sadler (Priest Lake PC, Nashville) as an inquirer

May 10, 2022

- Voted to recommend to COM the validation of Michael Cuppett’s (Trinity PC, Nashville) call to chaplaincy at Johns Hopkins Dept. of Spiritual Care and Chaplaincy, Baltimore. We also recommend that he be ordained by, and keep his membership in, PMT and be allowed to toil outside the bounds of PMT.

RECOMMENDATION

1. The CPM recommends that Inquirer Delilah Jane Phillips (Calvary Presbyterian Church, Crossville) be examined for candidacy. A copy of her CPM paperwork is attached.