

Ordination Information Form



NAME:

DATE:

PERSONAL AND FAMILY INFORMATION

1. Street Address: _____ Home Phone: / -
City: _____ Office Phone: / -
State: Zip Code: Country: Cell Phone: / -
E-mail: _____ Fax: / -
Place of Birth: _____ Date of Birth: / /
2. Marital Status: _____ Date of Marriage: _____ Wife's Name: _____
Have you or your wife ever been divorced? Yes No
Is your wife supportive of your ministry? Yes No
What is your wife's involvement in ministry?
3. Names and birthdates of your children:
4. Describe the overall spiritual development of your children:

EDUCATION AND CREDENTIALS

5. Academic Training: List all education and special training above high school. Please include dates, schools, and degrees earned:

Dates	Schools	Degrees

Other areas of training (seminars, internships, etc.):

MINISTRY EXPERIENCE

6. List ministry responsibilities and roles that you have had either in a lay or paid staff capacity. Identify your strengths in ministry and share how your past Christian service experience has demonstrated those abilities (e.g. preaching, teaching, administration, counseling, strategic planning, evangelism, discipleship, leadership development, etc.).

7. Considering the teaching of 1 Timothy 3 and Titus 1, do you have any serious problems that the ordination council would need to know as they evaluate you as a candidate for ordination? Yes No If yes, please explain:
8. Where and in what capacity are you currently serving in Christian ministry?
9. Where do you intend to serve as an ordained minister?
10. Are you currently licensed? Yes No If so, when and where did this take place?

PRACTICAL AND PASTORAL MINISTRY ISSUES

Questions like these may be asked at the ordination council. In preparation for that, please respond to the following questions in the space provided below.

11. Concerning Scripture: Do you feel people are still “getting revelation” today?
How do you defend the closure of the canon of Scripture?
12. What is your personal practice of Scripture reading and prayer?
13. Describe your view of church government. What is the role of the pastor, lay leaders, etc? Should there be a plurality of elders in leadership or should there be a sole elder/pastor assisted by deacons?
14. To what degree and in what areas should the congregation be engaged in decision-making (e.g. accepting new members, electing leadership, revising the constitution, approving the budget and/or church discipline)?
15. Describe your view of women serving in ministries in the local church: Does the Bible give support to women serving as pastor/elders or as deacon/deaconesses?
16. What is your conviction concerning believers’ baptism and membership in the local church?

The following additional questions are often asked at an ordination council. Although you should be prepared to answer them, a written response now is not required.

17. What translations of the Bible do you prefer?

Do you recommend the use of paraphrases?

18. Concerning Christ: In what sense did Christ “empty Himself” in the incarnation?

19. Could Christ have sinned?

20. Your view of Calvinism versus Arminianism: Did Christ die for everyone or only for the elect?

21. In salvation, does faith precede regeneration?

22. To what degree can a believer be influenced by demonic control?

23. Your plan of worship services (including use and style of music).

24. Your convictions on tongues, miracles and healings. Have any of the spiritual gifts ceased to be operative today?

25. Your convictions on divorce and remarriage: Would you marry a couple where divorce is involved?

26. Your convictions on the use of alcoholic beverages.

27. Your convictions concerning the security of the believer.

28. Your practice of church discipline.

29. What course of action should you take if a member resigns during the process of church discipline?

30. Your view of creation: Does the biblical text require a recent earth and six literal days of creation?

31. What does it mean to be created in the image of God?

32. What relationship should the local church have to government and the political process?

ADDITIONAL COMMENTS:

ORDINATION PAPER

The candidate should prepare a paper that includes the following information. Please use the following outline.

PERSONAL HISTORY

State when and how you came to Christ.

State your call to the pastoral ministry and qualifying gifts.

State your understanding of ordination.

State your theological training and preparation for ministry.

CHURCH HISTORY

What are the historic Baptist distinctives with supporting Scripture references?

What are the historical roots of the Conservative Baptists?

DOCTRINAL BELIEFS

A detailed doctrinal statement affirming the positive aspects of the candidate's beliefs lessens the need for questioning. The paper should demonstrate biblical support for the candidate's doctrinal views, and show skill in biblical interpretation and practical application. The paper should avoid excessive quotations from sources other than the Bible.

1. Doctrine of the Scriptures (Bibliology including revelation, inspiration, authority, illumination and canon)
2. Doctrine of God (Theology Proper including nature, attributes, trinity, and works of creation, sovereign rule, providence)
3. Doctrine of Christ (Christology including His person and work)
4. Doctrine of the Holy Spirit (Pneumatology including His personhood, deity, ministry and gifts)
5. Doctrine of Angels, Satan and Demons (Angelology)
6. Doctrine of Man (Anthropology)
7. Doctrine of Sin (Hamartiology)
8. Doctrine of Salvation (Soteriology including faith, repentance, regeneration, justification, election and predestination, and sanctification)
9. Doctrine of the Church (Ecclesiology including origin, organization, officers, ordinances, mission, membership requirements and church discipline)
10. Doctrine of Last Things (Eschatology including Christ's return, the resurrections, the judgments, millennium, tribulation and final destiny)
11. A statement on Hermeneutics and Homiletics

PRACTICAL AND PASTORAL MINISTRY ISSUES

The candidate for ordination should prepare position statements on current issues confronting the church and the pastoral ministry as guided by his Pre-ordination Committee.

Declaration of Faith

Venture Northeast



THE WORD OF GOD

We believe the Scriptures of the Old and New Testaments are the inspired Word of God, inerrant in the original writings, complete as the revelation of God's will for salvation, and the supreme and final authority in all matters to which they speak.

THE TRINITY

We believe in one God, Creator and Sustainer of all things, eternally existing in three persons, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit; that these are equal in every divine perfection and that they execute distinct but harmonious offices in the work of creation, providence, and redemption.

GOD THE FATHER

We believe in God the Father, an infinite, personal Spirit, perfect in holiness, wisdom, power, and love. We believe He concerns Himself mercifully in the affairs of humanity, that He hears and answers prayer, and that He saves from sin and death all who come to Him through Jesus Christ.

JESUS CHRIST

We believe that Jesus Christ is God's eternal Son, and has precisely the same nature, attributes and perfections as God the Father and God the Holy Spirit. We believe further that He is not only true God, but true human, conceived by the Holy Spirit and born of the virgin Mary. We also believe in His sinless life, His substitutionary atonement, His bodily resurrection from the dead, His ascension into heaven, His priestly intercession on behalf of His people, and His personal, visible return from heaven.

HOLY SPIRIT

We believe in the Holy Spirit, His personality, and His work in regeneration, sanctification, and preservation. His ministry is to glorify the Lord Jesus Christ, and implement Christ's work of redeeming the lost and empowering the believer for godly living and service.

HUMANITY

We believe God created humanity, male and female, in the image of God and free from sin. We further believe all people are sinners by nature and choice and are therefore spiritually dead. We also believe that those who repent of sin and trust Jesus Christ as Savior are regenerated by the Holy Spirit.

SALVATION

We believe in salvation by grace through faith in Jesus Christ. We further believe that this salvation is based upon the sovereign grace of God, and was purchased by Christ on the cross, and is received through faith, apart from any human merit, works, or ritual. We further believe salvation results in righteous living, good works, and proper social concern.

THE CHURCH

We believe that the Church is the spiritual body of which Christ is the head. We believe that the true Church is composed of all persons who through saving faith in Jesus Christ have been regenerated by the Holy Spirit. We believe that this body expresses itself in local assemblies whose members have been immersed upon a credible confession of faith and have associated themselves for worship, for instruction, for evangelism, and for service. We believe the ordinances of the local church are believer's baptism by immersion and the Lord's Supper. We also believe in the interdependence of local churches and the mutual submission of believers to each other in love.

SEPARATION OF CHURCH AND STATE

We believe that each local church is self governing in function, and must be free from interference by any ecclesiastical or political authority. We further believe that every human being is directly responsible to God in matters of faith and life, and that each should be free to worship God according to the dictates of his or her conscience.

CHRISTIAN CONDUCT

We believe that the supreme task of all believers is to glorify God in their lives; that their conduct should be blameless before the world; that they should be faithful stewards of their possessions; and that they should seek to realize for themselves the full stature of maturity in Christ.

LAST THINGS

We believe in the bodily resurrection of the saved and the lost, the eternal existence of both in either heaven or hell, in divine judgments, rewards, and punishments.

Signed: _____ **Date:** _____



A MINISTERIAL CODE OF ETHICS

We believe it is important in this day of questionable practices in public ministry to affirm our commitment to godliness and Christian ethics.

In recognition of the high calling of God upon an individual to public ministry in the local church, I am firmly committed to and in agreement with the following principles of Christian ethics, and will endeavor to faithfully practice such as a minister of the Gospel and a servant of the Lord Jesus Christ and His Church:

I. MY PERSONAL LIFE

- Establish & maintain personal habits & disciplines of spiritual, mental, & physical growth & health that are consistent with Scriptural principles & with expectations I would have for members of my congregation.
- Faithfully provide for the physical, emotional & spiritual needs of my family according to Eph. 5 & I Tim. 3.
- Demonstrate personal purity & holiness in my relationships with others & in my personal habits.
- Be faithful in prayer & study of God's Word.
- Demonstrate honesty & integrity in the use of my finances & personal resources as a steward of God, & promote a healthy expectation by others in my profession.
- Cultivate a lifestyle that is honoring to Christ & presents a positive witness for the Lord Jesus Christ & His church among the unchurched and other believers.

II. MY MINISTRY

- Strive always to conduct myself in ways that are appropriate for a man of God & a minister of Christ including my relationship & actions toward the opposite sex that might be viewed as questionable or suspicious.
- Respect confidentiality as sacred trusts, careful to not disclose information that would hurt others, unless in so doing I must protect the greater good (i.e. crime, abuse, personal danger).
- Perform my duties & responsibilities as a pastor with careful diligence, not slothful or using my position to take advantage of others or to solicit special favors.
- Safeguard the pulpit from which I am privileged to speak for God, being diligent in my preparation, carefully guarding against false teaching or intemperate attitudes that may dilute truth, & giving credit to the authors of any extensive material I use in my preaching/teaching ministry.
- Guard the relationships within former ministries where I have served, seeking to remove myself from involvement, issues or concerns that may impact a former church or the ministry of its current pastor.

- Minister as a servant, not lord of the church I serve, without selfish motivation, striving for unity at all times, refraining from any word or action that would divide the church, wholly committing myself to loving & impartial leadership that will build up, nurture, equip & encourage God's people toward growth, productivity & personal ministry.
- Guard the dignity & worth of former pastors in my speech, conduct, & attitudes.
- Work to build positive, constructive ties with other Bible-believing pastors & churches in my area based upon our common faith & purpose in the work of the kingdom of God, & to avoid territorial attitudes that would hinder the Spirit of God in this purpose.
- Honor in spirit the constitutional procedures of my church, preserving the participation of the congregation in important decisions, & providing for effective systems for doing business. When changes to the constitution need to be made, I will do so within established guidelines & with sensitivity.
- Solicit input & opinions of others with a teachable spirit so I may learn & grow in my leadership of the church.
- Candidate at only ONE church at a time, dealing fairly & without deceit with that church as well as the one I presently serve.

III. MY DENOMINATION/ASSOCIATION

- Treat the Conservative Baptist Association as important in the history and preference of the church I serve, & therefore, worthy of my respect & participation.
- Encourage my church to financially support the various works & agencies of the Association.
- Offer my resignation if I am unable to affirm the doctrinal positions of the church I serve or the statement of faith of the Conservative Baptist Association.
- Submit willingly to the directives of my Board or congregation if I fall morally or ethically, & be willing to work with my CB brethren in whatever disciplinary processes they deem wise & necessary, including the possible surrender of my ordination credentials if required.

Signed: _____ **Date:** _____

RECOMMENDATION OF THE ORDAINING CHURCH



The candidate pursuing ordination must have the support of the ordaining church as he begins the process.

1. Name of the candidate for ordination:
2. Name of the church:
City: State:
3. Are you currently a church affiliated with CB Northeast? Yes No
4. How long has the candidate been part of your church?
5. In what ways has the candidate been involved in ministry at your church?
6. Based on the character qualities set forth in 1 Timothy 3 and Titus 1, do you have any serious concerns that the Preordination Committee or the Ordination Council need to know as they evaluate the candidate?
 Yes No If yes, please explain:

7. Additional Comments:

After a season of observation of the candidate, prayer, personal reflection and discussion, we the ruling board of the church recommend the candidate for ordination. We pledge to continue to work with him throughout the process, looking to the truths of God's Word, the guidance of His Spirit, and the wisdom of His people to direct our steps and our decisions.

Chairman of the Board:

Address:

City:

St:

Zip:

Phone:

Email:

Chairman of the Board's Signature: _____ **Date:** _____