

**Presbytery of Northern Kansas
Commissioned Ruling Elder/Authorized Pulpit Supply Application**

I am applying for admission in the

___ Commissioned Ruling Elder Program

___ Authorized Pulpit Supply Program

PERSONAL INFORMATION

Name:

Mailing Address:

City, Zip:

Home Phone:

Cell Phone:

E-mail Address:

EDUCATIONAL BACKGROUND

Formal Education:

(List academic institutions attended and degrees obtained, beginning with High School. Use additional paper if necessary.)

School/ Location	Yrs. Attended	Diploma/ Degree & Date	Area of Study
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CHURCH BACKGROUND

Name of Church where you are an active member:

Year you were received as active member in current local congregation:

Other churches where you have been a member:

Are you a Deacon?

If yes, year of Ordination:

Are you an Elder?

If yes, year of Ordination;

Application

revised 10/2014

Describe below your areas of involvement in the life and mission of the church in the present and the past, both as a participant and as a leader. Be sure to specify your role and indicate if you are currently involved.

EMPLOYMENT HISTORY

Occupation/Title	Location (city, state)	Dates of Employment

The following qualities are especially important in Commissioned Ruling Elders and Authorized Pulpit Supplies. Please rate your experience in these areas using a scale of 1 (eager to learn) to 5 (confident in ability). In this rating system, a 3 would indicate (limited experience) in that particular area.

- | | |
|---|--------------------------------------|
| ___ Ability to speak publicly and communicate clearly | ___ Reliability |
| ___ Well-developed listening skills | ___ Basic knowledge of Scripture |
| ___ Leadership Ability | ___ Compassion |
| ___ Commitment to the Presbyterian Church (USA) | ___ Skills in personal relationships |
| ___ Ability to relate to various age groups | ___ Ability to keep confidentiality |

REFERENCES

In addition to the minister and the Session, please list three additional persons who know you well in a variety of relationships (e.g. another church member, a colleague at work, a teacher, a friend) who will serve as Individual References. Duplicate and pass along an Individual Reference Form to each, asking that the form be completed and mailed directly to the Presbytery Office. Please list below the persons who will be your Individual References.

Name	Address	City/State/Zip	Phone

Please complete whichever statement of consent is applicable for your application.

STATEMENT OF CONSENT FOR THE AUTHORIZED PULPIT SUPPLY PROGRAM

I am applying for admission to the Authorized Pulpit Supply Program of the Presbytery of Northern Kansas. If accepted, I hereby commit myself to participate fully in the scheduled activities and assignments to the best of my ability. I understand that successful completion of the Authorized Pulpit Supply Training Program is necessary. I understand that this application does not commit the applicant to accept nor does it guarantee that the applicant will be approved as an Authorized Pulpit Supply. I understand that completion of Supplemental Questions and a Faith and Spiritual Journey statement along with a face to face interview will be required following completion of the Authorized Pulpit Supply Training Program before consideration is given to having my name placed on the Presbytery of Northern Kansas Pulpit Supply List.

Signature _____ **Date** _____

STATEMENT OF CONSENT FOR THE COMMISSIONED RULING ELDER PROGRAM

I am applying for admission to the Commissioned Ruling Elder Program of the Presbytery of Northern Kansas. If accepted, I hereby commit myself to participate fully in the scheduled activities and assignments to the best of my ability. I understand that successful completion of the Commissioned Ruling Elder Training Program through Dubuque’s Online Learning Program and The Cluster Program offered in partnership between the Presbyteries of Northern and Southern Kansas (or completion of other acceptable requirements as determined by the Authorized Lay Ministry Committee) is necessary before I may be considered for a call as a Commissioned Ruling Elder for the Presbytery. I also understand that there are additional requirements. Furthermore, this application does not commit the applicant to accept a call or guarantee that the applicant will receive a call as a Commissioned Ruling Elder.

Signature _____ **Date** _____

PASTOR'S STATEMENT

[to be completed by the applicant's pastor, or a pastor appointed as moderator if the applicant's church is without a pastor]

Name of applicant: _____

How long have you known the applicant?

Describe the nature of your relationship to the applicant:

Please provide brief comments on the areas listed below. Attach additional pages as necessary. Your response will be confidential, to be used only by the evaluation committee in consideration of this applicant for this program.

Christian commitment and maturity

Leadership ability

Ability to work with people

Openness to ideas and to learning

Your assessment of this person's suitability as an Authorized Pulpit Supply.

Your assessment of the applicant's understanding of Reformed theology and polity.

Other comments you wish to add

Signature _____

Date _____

NAME printed or typed

CHURCH:

ADDRESS:

EMAIL ADDRESS:

PHONE:

Home

Office

Cell

Please return completed form to the Presbytery of Northern Kansas, PO Box 3287, Salina, KS 67402-3287

SESSION ENDORSEMENT [to be given to the Clerk of Session of your own church, asking to meet with the Session before this endorsement is submitted]

**Presbytery of Northern Kansas
Confidential Session Endorsement Form**

Primary attention should be given at this time to evaluating the applicant’s natural gifts, quality of commitment, strength of motivation, and potential for growth. Please note the importance of the Session exercising good judgment in discerning whether this individual seems to be called by God to consider service as an Authorized Pulpit Supply.

Name of Applicant: _____

Please respond candidly to the following questions: (You may use additional paper as needed.)

1. Does the applicant reveal evidence of a vital faith in God through Jesus Christ and the Holy Spirit? If so, how is that faith currently being expressed through the individual’s participation in the worship, ministry and mission of the congregation?

2. Is the applicant’s physical health/stamina, emotional well-being, and maturity suitable for becoming a Authorized Pulpit Supply?

3. The following qualities are especially important in Authorized Pulpit Supply. Please rank the following qualities of the applicant using an (s) for strength, (w) for weakness or (u) for unknown.

- | | |
|---|--------------------------------------|
| ___ Ability to speak publicly and communicate clearly | ___ Reliability |
| ___ Well-developed listening skills | ___ Basic knowledge of Scripture |
| ___ Leadership Ability | ___ Compassion |
| ___ Commitment to the Presbyterian Church (USA) | ___ Skills in personal relationships |
| ___ Ability to relate to various age groups | ___ Ability to keep confidentiality |

ADDITIONAL COMMENTS

4. Are there any reservations the Session might have in endorsing this applicant? If so, please describe. (Note: A reservation does *not* disqualify an individual or indicate they are unsuitable for service. The evaluation committee, however, must rely upon honesty and candor.)

The Session of the _____ Church of _____ (city) does _____ does not _____ endorse this application for admission to the Authorized Pulpit Supply Program.

Signature of Moderator of Session _____ Date _____

Please return completed form to the Presbytery of Northern Kansas, PO Box 3287, Salina, KS 67402-3287

Presbytery Of Northern Kansas
Confidential Individual Reference Form (need 3)

The person named below has applied for consideration in the Authorized Pulpit Supply program. If the person is accepted, he or she will be educated in a number of areas, and upon successful completion of the program will be eligible to serve as worship leader and preacher in congregations on temporary assignments. Your comments will be confidential to the evaluation committee. If you need more space, you may use additional sheets of paper.

Name of Applicant: _____

Name of person completing this form: _____ Phone: _____

How long have you known the applicant?

Describe the nature of your relationship with the applicant.

Please respond candidly to the following questions:

1. Does the applicant reveal evidence of a vital faith in God through Jesus Christ and the Holy Spirit? If so, how is that faith currently being expressed through the individual's participation in the worship, ministry and mission of the congregation or community?

2. The following qualities are especially important in Authorized Pulpit Supply. How have you seen these demonstrated by the applicant? [Please rate each on a scale of 1 (weakness) to 4 (strength).]

- Ability to speak publicly and communicate clearly
Well-developed listening skills
Leadership Ability
Commitment to the Presbyterian Church (USA)
Ability to relate to various age groups
Reliability
Basic knowledge of Scripture
Compassion
Skills in personal relationships
Ability to keep confidentiality

ADDITIONAL COMMENTS

3. Are there any reservations you may have in endorsing this applicant? If so, please describe. (Note: A reservation does not disqualify an individual or indicate he/she is unsuitable for service. The evaluation committee, however, must rely upon honesty and candor.)

I would recommend this applicant for admission to the Authorized Pulpit Supply Program.

Signature _____ Date _____

Please return completed form to the Presbytery of Northern Kansas, PO Box 3287, Salina, KS 67402-3287

PASTOR’S STATEMENT

[to be completed by the applicant’s pastor, or a pastor appointed as moderator if the applicant’s church is without a pastor]

Name of applicant: _____

How long have you known the applicant?

Describe the nature of your relationship to the applicant:

Please provide brief comments in the areas listed below. You may attach additional pages if necessary. Your response will be confidential, to be used only by the evaluation committee in consideration of this applicant for this program.

Christian commitment and maturity

Leadership ability

Ability to work with people

Openness to ideas and to learning

Your assessment of this person’s suitability as a Commissioned Ruling Elder.

Your assessment of the applicant’s understanding of Reformed theology and polity.

Other comments you wish to add

Signature _____ **Date** _____

NAME printed or typed

CHURCH:

ADDRESS:

PHONE: **Home** **Office** **Cell**

Please return completed form to the Presbytery of Northern Kansas, PO Box 3287, Salina, KS 67402-3287

SESSION ENDORSEMENT [to be given to the Clerk of Session of your own church, asking to meet with the Session before this endorsement is submitted]

**Presbytery Of Northern Kansas
Confidential Session Endorsement Form**

Primary attention should be given at this time to evaluating the applicant’s natural gifts, quality of commitment, strength of motivation, and potential for growth. Please note the importance of the Session exercising good judgment in discerning whether this individual seems to be called by God to consider service as a Commissioned Ruling Elder.

Name of Applicant:

Please respond candidly to the following questions: (You may use additional paper as needed.)

1. Does the applicant reveal evidence of a vital faith in God through Jesus Christ and the Holy Spirit? If so, how is that faith currently being expressed through the individual’s participation in the worship, ministry and mission of the congregation?

2. Is the applicant’s physical health/stamina, emotional well-being, and maturity suitable for becoming a Commissioned Ruling Elder?

3. The following qualities are especially important in Commissioned Ruling Elder. Please rank the following qualities of the applicant using an (s) for strength, (w) for weakness or (u) for unknown.

- | | |
|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Ability to speak publicly and communicate clearly | <input type="checkbox"/> Reliability |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Well-developed listening skills | <input type="checkbox"/> Basic knowledge of Scripture |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Leadership Ability | <input type="checkbox"/> Compassion |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Commitment to the Presbyterian Church (USA) | <input type="checkbox"/> Skills in personal relationships |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Ability to relate to various age groups | <input type="checkbox"/> Ability to keep confidentiality |

ADDITIONAL COMMENTS

4. Are there any reservations the Session might have in endorsing this applicant? If so, please describe.
(Note: A reservation does *not* disqualify an individual or indicate they are unsuitable for service. The evaluation committee, however, must rely upon honesty and candor.)

The Session of the _____ Church of _____ (city) does _____ does not _____ endorse this application for admission to the Commissioned Ruling Elder Program.

Signature of Moderator of Session

Date

Please return completed form to the Presbytery of Northern Kansas, PO Box 3287, Salina, KS 67402-3287

**Presbytery Of Northern Kansas
Confidential Individual Reference Form (need 3)**

*The person named below has applied for consideration in the Commissioned Ruling Elder program. If the person is accepted, he or she will be educated in a number of areas, and upon successful completion of the program will be eligible to serve as Pastor – as Commissioned Ruling Elder – in a Presbytery of Northern Kansas congregation. Your comments will be **confidential** to the evaluation committee. If you need more space, you may use additional sheets of paper.*

Name of Applicant: _____

Name of person completing this form:

Phone:

How long have you known the applicant?

Describe the nature of your relationship with the applicant.

Please respond candidly to the following questions:

1. Does the applicant reveal evidence of a vital faith in God through Jesus Christ and the Holy Spirit? If so, how is that faith currently being expressed through the individual's participation in the worship, ministry and mission of the congregation or community?

2. The following qualities are especially important in Commissioned Ruling Elders. How have you seen these demonstrated by the applicant? [Please rate each on a scale of 1 (weakness) to 4 (strength).]

- ___ Ability to speak publicly and communicate clearly
- ___ Well-developed listening skills
- ___ Leadership Ability
- ___ Commitment to the Presbyterian Church (USA)
- ___ Ability to relate to various age groups

- ___ Reliability
- ___ Basic knowledge of Scripture
- ___ Compassion
- ___ Skills in personal relationships
- ___ Ability to keep confidentiality

ADDITIONAL COMMENTS

3. Are there any reservations you may have in endorsing this applicant? If so, please describe. (Note: A reservation does *not* disqualify an individual or indicate he/she is unsuitable for service. The evaluation committee, however, must rely upon honesty and candor.)

I would recommend this applicant for admission to the Commissioned Ruling Elder Program.

Signature

Date

Please return completed form to the Presbytery of Northern Kansas, PO Box 3287, Salina, KS 67402-3287

**Presbytery of Northern Kansas
Authorized Pulpit Supply
Supplemental Questions**

PERSONAL INFORMATION

Name:

Mailing Address:

City, Zip:

Home Phone:

Work Phone (if you can receive calls):

E-mail Address:

NARRATIVE QUESTIONS

Please answer the following questions and feel free to use a separate sheet of paper.

- Why are you interested in this program? What motivates you to apply?
- What aspects of your present church life do you enjoy the most?
- What aspects are the most frustrating?
- What does it mean to you to be a Presbyterian?
- What gifts and skills do you bring to this program?
- In what areas of your life would you like to grow?
- What are your current spiritual practices and disciplines?
- What are some of your interests/hobbies?
- In what community or volunteer service have you been involved?

FAITH AND SPIRITUAL JOURNEY

Please attach a 1-2 page story of your faith and spiritual journey. Discuss how your faith has influenced your life. What gifts/talents you bring to the APS program. How do you see yourself as being called to serve as an APS? What does it mean to you to be Presbyterian?

What factors may limit your ability to serve as an authorized pulpit supply?
[examples: physical disability, family situations, employment or work hours]

***Please note: After your paperwork has been received in the Presbytery Office, you will be contacted to schedule a face to face interview with members of the Authorized Lay Ministry Committee and Committee on Ministry. All written paperwork as well as the face to face interview will be considered in the final decision to place names on the Presbytery of Northern Kansas Pulpit Supply List.**

**Presbytery of Northern Kansas
Commissioned Ruling Elder
Supplemental Questions**

PERSONAL INFORMATION

Name:

Mailing Address:

City, Zip:

Home Phone:

Work Phone (if you can receive calls):

E-mail Address:

NARRATIVE QUESTIONS

Please answer the following questions and feel free to use a separate sheet of paper.

- Why are you interested in this program? What motivates you to apply?
- What aspects of your present church life do you enjoy the most?
- What aspects are the most frustrating?
- What does it mean to you to be a Presbyterian?
- What gifts and skills do you bring to this program?
- In what areas of your life would you like to grow?
- What are your current spiritual practices and disciplines?
- What are some of your interests/hobbies?
- In what community or volunteer service have you been involved?

FAITH STATEMENT

Please attach a brief statement of your personal faith. Describe what you believe about God, Jesus Christ and the Holy Spirit, and your relationship to them. Include a brief summary of your understanding of the role of Scripture, the Church, and the Sacraments in your life. (Suggested length: one to two pages – single-space typed)