

Licensing and Ordination

Whereas all Christians are called to serve the Lord Jesus Christ, it is understood that some are called to higher levels of service to God, and leadership in the church and the world. It is also understood that both a calling and gifting by God and the process of “equipping the saints for the work of the ministry” are required for successful, life-long ministry. C3M Ministries, Inc. retains the right to recognize, certify, license or ordain individuals who have demonstrated a higher call to service and leadership according to the guidelines below:

1. **Christian Workers Certification:** A Christian Workers Certificate shall be conferred on persons meeting the following criteria:
 - a. Personal profession of faith in Jesus Christ as Lord and Savior.
 - b. Water Baptism by immersion
 - c. The Baptism of the Holy Spirit with evidence thereof (manifestation of spiritual or ministry gifts)
 - d. They shall be a member of C3M Ministries, Inc. or, if they belong to another church, they shall have the approval and support of the pastor(s) and/or Elders of their home church.
 - e. Persons desiring a Christian Workers Certificate shall demonstrate a consistent, stable Christian life, faithful Church attendance and an attitude of Christian service for a period of not less than 6 months.
 - f. A personal conviction of a call to ministry that is recognized and confirmed by the pastoral leadership of C3M Ministries.
 - g. Active participation in some ministry area for a minimum of six (6) months.
 - h. A commitment to submit to the discipleship process by coming into a close personal relationship with one or more of the spiritual leaders of C3M Ministries for the purpose of growing, spiritually, personally and in ministry skills.
 - i. Completion of a basic Christian Workers Bible study course (or equivalent) as prescribed by the Board of Directors of C3M Ministries, Inc.
 - j. Demonstrate agreement with and working knowledge of basic Bible doctrines and the statement of faith of C3M Ministries, Inc.
 - k. Any person desiring certification may submit a formal request along with a personal letter of testimony regarding their salvation experience and call to ministry to the Official C3M Presbytery and submit to an examination of the above qualifications.
 - l. 100% of the designated Presbytery must approve the candidate before a Christian Workers Certificate shall be issued by the Official Presbytery with the laying on of hands by the Presbytery.
 - m. Workers certificates are issued annually and may be renewed by request of the individual at the discretion of the Presbytery.

2. **Ministerial Licensing:** A Ministers License is granted to those individuals who have demonstrated a call and evidence of ministry. The purpose of the license is to bring the minister into a higher level of training and application of the gifts and calling on their life. A licensed minister is considered to have entered into an apprentice relationship with the C3M Ministries, Inc. for the purpose of training and discipleship, as they work toward ordination and release into their respective ministries. A Minister's License will be conferred on persons who meet the following criteria:
 - a. The candidate shall have met all the requirements for the Christian Workers Certificate (although prior certification is not required).
 - b. A personal call to specific ministry that is recognized and confirmed by the Official C3M Presbytery.
 - c. An active participation in and demonstration of that ministry for a period of not less than six (6) months.
 - d. A commitment to the ongoing process of personal discipleship and development of ministry by submission to the Official C3M Presbytery and by personal accountability to one or more of the Presbytery.
 - e. Demonstration of a practical, moral life according to the standards for Bishops and Deacons in the book of I Timothy 3:1-13
 - f. Completion of the Basic Bible Ministry Course (or equivalent) as determined by the Official C3M Presbytery.
 - g. Have plans for ongoing ministry.
 - h. If an individual is already licensed with another Christian organization, he or she may request licensing from C3M Ministries, Inc. A letter of recommendation from the current licensing organization is preferred, however a letter of recommendation from a minister currently licensed or ordained through C3m Ministries, Inc. may serve as a substitute. Individuals may be requested to drop all other credentials when receiving a license from C3M Ministries. All other criteria in this section will have to be met for transfer of license to take place.
 - i. Any person desiring a minister's license may submit a formal request along with a personal letter of testimony regarding their salvation experience and call to ministry to the Official C3M Presbytery and submit to an examination of the above qualifications. A Minister's License shall be issued by the Official Presbytery with the laying on of hands by the Presbytery.
 - j. Minister's Licenses are issued annually and may be renewed by request of the individual, at the discretion of the Official Presbytery. Ongoing Christian character and service is a requirement for annual license renewal.

3. **Ordination:** Ordination is reserved for individuals who have been called to specific, life-long service and/or leadership in the church. Ordination will be conferred on those individuals who meet the following criteria:
 - a. Ordination is conferred on those individuals who have demonstrated a calling and anointing in one or more of the following areas:

- i. An Elder in the Church (Leadership at the local level)
 - ii. An Apostle (Missionary, or one who has a ministry of establishing the church and/or other ministries)
 - iii. A Prophet (May include preaching/preaching, worship or prayer ministries)
 - iv. Evangelist (One particularly gifted to preach salvation and/or lead people to Christ.
 - v. Pastor (A shepherding ministry of discipleship aimed at maturing the body of Christ)
 - vi. Teacher (Those called and anointed to teach the Bible)
 - vii. Preacher (Those called and anointed to preach the Word of God)
- b. They have been licensed for a period of 1 year with C3M Ministries, Inc. OR have been previously licensed or ordained through another like-minded church or organization. If ordination is transferred from another organization a letter of recommendation is required from the current ordaining organization or at least one minister currently ordained with C3M Ministries, Inc.
 - c. Any person desiring Ordination may submit a formal request along with a personal letter of testimony regarding their salvation experience, a resume of ministry experience and a personal testimony of their call to ministry to the Official C3M Presbytery and submit to an examination of the above qualifications. Ordination shall be issued by the Official Presbytery with the laying on of hands by the Presbytery.
 - d. Persons being ordained shall be actively involved in an ongoing manner in some facet of ministry or leadership.
 - e. Persons being ordained agree to maintain a covenantal relationship with Rockville Community church and an ongoing relationship with the Presbytery for mutual encouragement, support and accountability in their personal lives and ministries.
 - f. Ordination is at the sole discretion of the Presbytery and will be accompanied by the laying on of hands by the Presbytery. A 100% agreement by the Presbytery is required to grant Ordination to any person.
 - g. Initially ordination shall be for a period of one year, after the first year the ordination may be renewed at the request of the person ordained, with the approval of the Presbytery. After the second year, ordination is perpetual unless:
 - i. It has been determined that a serious breach of Christian character has been committed and the Presbytery believe it is in the best interest of the individual and the church to revoke ordination for a period of time for the purpose of restoring the individual to fruitful ministry.
 - ii. The Presbytery or the individual believe it is God's will to separate the ministries, in which case a letter of intent and reason will be issued by the rescinding party and all credentials will be returned to the church.