

Men's Ministry Specialist

Candidate Application and Requirements

“Follow me, as I follow Christ.” (1 Cor. 11:1)

Welcome

Thank you for considering a call to ministry as a Men's Ministry Specialist (MMS). Please review this entire application carefully before getting started. This process is designed to help you, your spiritual mentor, your coach and the Men's Ministry Team discern if you are indeed called and equipped to be sent out as a MMS to represent the General Commission on United Methodist Men (GCUMM) to the greater United Methodist Church (UMC). In the following pages you will find an explanation and the expectations of the MMS certification.

MMS Mission, Values, Roles and Responsibilities

Mission:

The mission of every Men's Ministry Specialist (MMS) is to serve United Methodist lay and clergy leaders and their congregations in developing effective processes to make disciples of men for Jesus Christ.

Certification as a MMS:

MMS is not an elected position within the UMC. MMS is an educated and trained position that includes required classroom style training, interactive ministry and missions training, as well as commitment to Christian spiritual formation as an ongoing process. There are specified training, experience and personal growth requirements that must be completed and documented before an MMS candidate is certified to serve within the UMC. The certifying body for MMS is the GCUMM.

Core Values Demonstrated and Documented by a MMS:

1. A growing disciple of Jesus Christ
2. A person mentored by and accountable to a Christian spiritual mentor
3. A servant leader, called to serve in men's ministry
4. An individual of Godly character; faithful, trustworthy, and credible
5. A disciple of Jesus Christ who is committed to The United Methodist Church
6. A life-long learner who is continually growing with God.

Demonstrated Skill Set of a MMS Candidate:

1. Proficiency in oral and written communication
2. Basic computer skills
3. Skills in teaching, yet possessing a teachable spirit
4. Availability to serve and be faithful to God's call
5. Superior listening skills and the ability to serve as a trustworthy Mentor.

Roles and Responsibilities of a MMS:

1. Communicates effectively with lay and clergy leaders by listening and then assessing congregational needs and goals.
2. Offers effective training, resources and programs to help congregations fully engage men who are growing as disciples of Jesus Christ in the ministry of the church.
3. Assists the men's ministry teams of local churches, working as partners with clergy and other church leaders toward an all-inclusive ministry to, with, and for men.
4. Connects congregational leaders with district, conference, jurisdictional, and general church leaders and ministry resources. The MMS does not replace or displace district or conference leaders, he/she is a resource partner with and for them.
5. Equips and motivates congregation leaders to discover unique local means of ministry to, with, and for men.
6. Helps congregations create clear pathways of spiritual growth for men at all stages of spiritual maturity.
7. Serves one or several congregations, using demonstrated skills and spiritual discernment to offer ministry resources and guidance that best suit the needs of men in each local church.
8. Documents meetings and interaction with congregations as a means of reporting progress
9. Identifies and trains other men to assist him/her and perhaps serve as MMSs.
10. Represents the GCUMM to men on the local church level.

MMS Application Process

The MMS process is meant to be a time of discernment and spiritual formation that helps to determine the candidate's call and fitness to be a certified MMS. While it is understood that candidates will feel the urge to complete the certification process and start serving as quickly as possible, adequate time must be allowed to ensure appropriate discernment has taken place.

To help the candidate through the MMS process, he/she will be assigned a coach by GCUMM who will offer guidance and review all candidate documents before they are submitted. After a task has been completed and reviewed by the candidate's coach, the candidate will submit it to GCUMM's MMS Coordinator, Joe Strausbaugh (jstrausbaugh@gcummm.org), via email. GCUMM will maintain a physical file of the candidate's documents and track the candidate's progress through the MMS process. A status report will be provided to the candidate and coach upon request. If you have any questions please contact Rick Vance, Director of Men's Ministry (rvance@gcummm.org) or 615-620-7277.

Beginning the Process

To begin the MMS application process, the potential candidate should submit Application (attached) to GCUMM. After this form is received, the MMS coordinator will confirm receipt and the Director of Men's Ministry or a member of the MMS Leadership Team will conduct a brief phone interview with the potential candidate. Upon recommendation the applicant will be officially enrolled as an MMS candidate. At that point, the candidate will receive the MMS course requirements and will be assigned a coach and support team.



General Commission on United Methodist Men

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Nashville TN 37212

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www.gcumm.org

Application: Personal Contact

Name: _____
Last First/MI Nickname

Address: _____
Street

City State Zip

Telephone: _____
Home Mobile Work

E-Mail: _____

Home Church: _____

Address: _____

City State Zip

Personal Information:

Birth Year: _____ Marital Status: _____

Children:

Occupation: (*present or past*): _____