

(CP) COMMISSIONED PASTOR

Presbytery of Sheppards and Lapsley

www.pslpcusa.org

APPLICATION PROCESS (approved 08/05/2025)

1. Complete the Personal Information Form, including Church Background and answers to the attached questions regarding your practical and spiritual experiences in the church. (*website*)
2. Prepare a written Faith 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. (*1-2 pages double spaced.*)
3. Prepare a brief (*500-1000 words*) written account of your personal Faith Journey. Writing about your faith journey is a useful exercise in self-reflection; also a way to get in touch with your personal stories and make use of them in your ministry. Feel free to use the suggestions below for remembering and writing as you tell your story as honestly as you can.
 - a. Family faith/religious heritage.
 - b. Influences of faith on your early development.
 - c. People, places, or events that have contributed to your faith growth.
 - d. Current religious interests and commitments.
 - e. Areas of maturity in your faith and religious life.
 - f. Growing areas of your faith.
4. *Session Moderator's Endorsement: Take your completed application, faith statement, and faith journey to your pastor, or if your church is without a pastor, to the moderator of the church session. The moderator will complete a reference form and take all documents to the church session for approval. No application may be considered without this and the session's endorsement.
5. *Session Endorsement: After you have met with the moderator, request a meeting with the session of your particular church. They will review your application with you before filling out their endorsement.
6. *References: In addition to the moderator and session, please list three (3) other persons who you know well, in a variety of relationships, who will serve as individual references. Give each person an Individual Reference Form to be filled out.
7. Applicant should send copies of items 1-3 to the COM at cp-cre@pslpcusa.org.
*Items 4-6 may be found on the website. These endorsements/references should be returned by those making the endorsements/references directly to the COM at cp-cre@pslpcusa.org.
8. Applicant will interview with the Commission on Ministry who will make a recommendation on the applicant's acceptance into the program.

STATEMENT OF CONSENT

I am applying for admission to the Commissioned Pastor (CP) Program of the Presbytery of Sheppards and Lapsley. 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 program does not necessarily mean that I will be assigned to a specific commission in the future. All commissions require the approval of the Presbytery of Sheppards and Lapsley upon recommendation of the Commission on Ministry.

Signature

Date