**Questionnaire for Candidates for the Ministry**

Rosedale Network of Churches

Date:\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**Name of Candidate:** \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Date of Birth: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Cell Phone: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Landline: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**Wife’s Name** (if applicable): \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Date of Birth: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Cell Phone: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Officiating Minister: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Congregation/Agency: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

This questionnaire is designed for processing candidates for ministerial ordination or licensure in Rosedale Network of Churches, and for applicants seeking transfer of ministerial membership and credentials from other church bodies to Rosedale Network. In the process of completing the questionnaire, candidates are encouraged to interact with the officiating minister when questions arise or clarification is needed. **Please provide type written responses as handwritten responses are sometimes difficult to read.** Upon completion of the questionnaire, the candidate submits a signed copy to the officiating minister who, after reviewing it, signs it and submits it to the Rosedale Network executive director for distribution to the Ministerial Committee.

**Please attach a current photo of the ministerial candidate (and his wife if applicable).** If preferred, you may send a photo separately via email to [office@rosedalenetwork.org](mailto:office@rosedalenetwork.org).

**INTRODUCTION**

Greetings in the name of Jesus from Rosedale Network of Churches. We are encouraged that you have the desire to join with us in representing Jesus in the world and being ministers of His grace through the Gospel. As we all faithfully serve Him, He will be glorified and His kingdom advanced.

This questionnaire serves several purposes. It helps you, the candidate, think about and process your understanding of the faith you have before God. While we should be confident and secure in our faith, it is always good to review our beliefs and make sure we are able to give an explanation for our understanding and practice. This questionnaire also enables Rosedale Network to have an understanding of where you as a candidate are currently in your walk of faith.

As a fellowship of believers, we have agreed with each other concerning basic core doctrines and the mission God has for us in this world. First, concerning core doctrines, it is important for us to have leaders who hold to and teach these doctrines as the truth of God. As we move beyond core doctrines, we allow more latitude in understandings of how to practice our faith on a daily basis. And yet even in these areas we believe there are boundaries. It is important to have leaders who understand these boundaries and are able to work together with us in continuing to faithfully and compassionately develop and establish our expressions of faith. Concerning the mission God has called us to, it is important to have leaders who share in the mission of maturing and multiplying churches locally and globally. We long to see individuals, families, neighborhoods, and communities all around the world transformed by the presence of God and the power of the gospel. To that end we need leaders who will encourage, inspire, and equip the churches of Rosedale Network to live out the disciple-making and church-planting mission God has given us.

Rosedale Network has developed two important documents that have served to guide us in our desire to be faithful. These are the *Conservative Mennonite Statement of Theology* (ST) and the *Conservative Mennonite Statement of Practice* (SP). **It is vital for you as a candidate to read and understand these documents before you complete this questionnaire.** If you don’t already have these documents you may access them on our website [www.rosedalenetwork.org](http://www.rosedalenetwork.org) or by contacting the Rosedale Network office at 740-857-1234 or [office@rosedalenetwork.org](mailto:office@rosedalenetwork.org). While no documents developed by any human can replace the Scriptures, these documents do serve to help us in our desire to understand and apply the Scriptures together as a body of believers.

We have attempted to keep this questionnaire as simple as possible while still allowing you to express yourself, as well as to help us get to know you. We encourage you to answer the questions prayerfully, seeking the leading of the Holy Spirit. We also encourage you to answer candidly, whether in expressing agreement or disagreement. In the end it’s of utmost importance for you to know and express what you believe, not what you think we may want to hear from you. It is encouraging to us to know the Lord Jesus Christ is continuing to lead people to serve His church in various ways. Thank you for being willing to consider His call upon your life.

“For no man can lay a foundation other than the one which is laid, which is Jesus Christ.”

1 Corinthians 3:11 (NASB)

**QUESTIONNAIRE**

1. Describe your personal conversion and spiritual pilgrimage.
2. What are you currently doing to keep your relationship with Jesus Christ fresh and vibrant?
3. What does discipleship mean to you? Are you currently being discipled by anyone or discipling someone else?
4. How do you personally build relationships with people who don’t know Christ?
5. Why are you seeking licensure/ordination or transfer of credentials?
6. What is your vision for the church and/or the ministry for which you are being licensed or ordained?
7. How do you envision the church carrying out the Great Commission (Matt. 28:19-20)?
8. What (or who) have been some influences that have brought you to the place of believing God wants you to serve the church as a licensed or ordained minister?
9. Have you thoroughly and prayerfully read the *Conservative Mennonite Statement of Theology* (ST)?
10. Below are the headings for each section of the ST. Please indicate whether you agree with the contents of each section, or if you disagree in some way. If you disagree, please give a brief description of your concerns.

God \_\_\_\_\_ I agree \_\_\_\_\_ I disagree

Jesus Christ \_\_\_\_\_ I agree \_\_\_\_\_ I disagree

Holy Spirit \_\_\_\_\_ I agree \_\_\_\_\_ I disagree

The Bible \_\_\_\_\_ I agree \_\_\_\_\_ I disagree

Creation \_\_\_\_\_ I agree \_\_\_\_\_ I disagree

Man \_\_\_\_\_ I agree \_\_\_\_\_ I disagree

Salvation \_\_\_\_\_ I agree \_\_\_\_\_ I disagree

The Church \_\_\_\_\_ I agree \_\_\_\_\_ I disagree

The Kingdom \_\_\_\_\_ I agree \_\_\_\_\_ I disagree

Satan \_\_\_\_\_ I agree \_\_\_\_\_ I disagree

The State \_\_\_\_\_ I agree \_\_\_\_\_ I disagree

Last Things \_\_\_\_\_ I agree \_\_\_\_\_ I disagree

Comments:

1. Have you thoroughly and prayerfully read the *Conservative Mennonite Statement of Practice* (SP)?
2. Below are the headings for each section of the SP. Please indicate whether you agree with the contents of each section, or if you disagree in some way. If you disagree, please give a brief description of your concerns.

The Mission of the Church to the World \_\_\_\_\_ I agree \_\_\_\_\_ I disagree

Conference as an Association of Congregations \_\_\_\_\_ I agree \_\_\_\_\_ I disagree

Conference and Congregational Leadership \_\_\_\_\_ I agree \_\_\_\_\_ I disagree

Functions of Congregational Life \_\_\_\_\_ I agree \_\_\_\_\_ I disagree

Ceremonies and Symbols of Christian Faith \_\_\_\_\_ I agree \_\_\_\_\_ I disagree

Discipleship and Nonconformity \_\_\_\_\_ I agree \_\_\_\_\_ I disagree

Discipline within the Body of Christ \_\_\_\_\_ I agree \_\_\_\_\_ I disagree

The Roles of Men and Women \_\_\_\_\_ I agree \_\_\_\_\_ I disagree

Marriage and the Family \_\_\_\_\_ I agree \_\_\_\_\_ I disagree

The Ethics of the Kingdom \_\_\_\_\_ I agree \_\_\_\_\_ I disagree

Comments:

1. As a ministerial member of Rosedale Network, are you committed to respectful acknowledgment of and cooperation with the positions of Rosedale Network as stated in the CMST and the CMSP?
2. What gifts or strengths do you have that will enhance your ministry?
3. What weaknesses have you discovered about yourself that may detract from your ministry?
4. How has the history of Anabaptism, with its emphasis on discipleship, love and nonresistance, the church as the priesthood of all believers, and the overall desire to recapture what it means to be a New Testament church, influenced your understanding of the Christian faith?
5. Describe your relationship with your spouse and children (as applicable).
6. As a member of the ministerial body of Rosedale Network, you will be interacting not only with the ministerial body, but also with other entities such as Rosedale Bible College and Rosedale International. How would you describe your understanding of and interaction with Rosedale Network and its various entities and programs?

**Questions for the wife of the candidate:**

1. Describe your personal conversion and spiritual pilgrimage.
2. What are you currently doing to keep your relationship with Jesus Christ fresh and vibrant?
3. Are you supportive of the vision of the ministry for which your husband is being licensed or ordained?
4. How would you describe your roles in the home, church, and community as a minister’s wife?
5. What gifts or strengths do you have that you hope to be able to use in your roles?
6. What weaknesses have you discovered about yourself that may detract from your effectiveness in these roles?

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Form completed by \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Ministerial Candidate Wife

Date: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

As officiating minister of the ordination or licensure of the above named candidate, I have examined this completed questionnaire and have reviewed it with the candidate as needed for clarification and adequacy. I submit this questionnaire for processing by the CMC Ministerial Committee and Executive Board.

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Officiating Minister

Original questionnaire approved by Rosedale Network Feb. 1991; format revised Nov. 2000, revised Aug. 2005, revised Feb. 2007, revised July 2015, revised May 2023; approved by Rosedale Network Executive Board