

Appendix 6

American Baptist Churches of the Rocky Mountains (ABCRM)

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Guidelines for Ordination Paper

Purpose of the Paper

The ordination paper is a major reflection on the theological and ecclesiastical ideas and how they relate to your life and ministry. This paper is not intended to be an exclusively academic paper, though it definitely requires theological reflection. This paper is a tool that will enable the Ministerial Leadership Committee understand your theological process. It is also intended as a tool to help you integrate theology and doctrine in your life and ministry, including how these inform and shape your own spiritual formation and practices. It is not, however, a restatement of your personal faith history.

Style

The paper should utilize a 12 point type that is easy to read. It should be double spaced and between 15 and 20 pages. References and footnotes should be used where appropriate. Paper should be submitted in electronic format such as a Word Document *.doc(x) or Print Ready (*.PDF).

Content

Introduction

A brief description of the ways you relate to the identity and diversity of American Baptist Churches USA.

Christian Doctrine and Practices as They Relate to Your Life and Ministry

- The Person of God and Trinity
- The Person of Jesus Christ
- The Person of the Holy Spirit
- Humanity, Sin and Redemption
- View of Use of Scriptures in Theology
- What's Next—The Christian Hope and Eschatology

The Doctrine of the Church as It Relates to Your Life and Ministry

- Mission of the Church
- Ordinances: Baptism and the Lord's Supper
- Ecumenical Aspects of the Church
- The Role of the Minister and Laity
- Theology and Practice of Worship

Conclusion

In conclusion, write a section on how the above reflections inform and shape a holistic theology for you in relation to your greater family. We recognize that "traditional nuclear family" is often not the current norm. Please reflect out of your own context what the Christian faith means to you.