

## The Privilege of Call Advisor's Role and Responsibilities in the South Dakota Conference

The Privilege of Call (POC) Advisor, assigned by the Committee on Ministry (COM), is a UCC member (lay or ordained) whose familiarity with the polity of and commitment to the ministry of the United Church of Christ position them to offer spiritual and practical accompaniment to the Privilege of Call candidate along their journey.

The POC Advisor meets with the Privilege of Call candidate between the person's annual reviews with the Committee as a checkpoint on the candidate's process, adherence to formation and preparation plans, and as a partner for growth and discernment around the Marks for Faithful and Effective Authorized Ministers.

Responsibilities of the POC Advisor include:

- Prayer for the candidate
- Conversations with the candidate monthly, with an intentional focus on how the candidate is experiencing God in the midst of their formation; the candidate's understanding of call; the joys and challenges of the candidate's spiritual life and practice; and reflection upon the Marks of Faithful and Effective Authorized Ministry. Face to face conversations is recommended but video conferencing is also acceptable.
- Availability for the candidate to explore questions about faith, the church, and Christian ministry.
- Contributing to the POC Annual Review process by filing out POC Advisor's Annual Review Sheet one month prior to their reviews.
- Advising the candidate on the drafting of the Marks Portfolio before submission to the COM.
- Accompanying the candidate to annual reviews and authorization interview(s) with the COM and actively engaging in the conversation, as invited.
- Providing written references on behalf of the candidate when requested, as appropriate.

In addition, the Discernment Advisor will have the following structural responsibilities:

- Familiarity with the steps and covenantal partners involved with the POC experience and process.
- Communicating with the COM if concerns arise regarding the candidate.
- Encouraging the candidate to take an active part in the various settings of the UCC.
- Providing the candidate with recommendations for further development, including reading, formal and informal opportunities for learning or growth, and mentors.
- As invited, providing preparation support and attending the candidate's recognition of authorized ministry, including, as appropriate, the ecclesiastical council and authorization service.

As a covenantal partner in this process, the COM will, upon receipt of suitable documentation and receipts, reimburse POC Advisors for reasonable expenses incurred in the fulfillment of their role.

Resources for POC Advisors are available on Conference's website. The resources include an overview of the POC process, conversation prompts for various areas of the Marks, discernment tools, and detailed information about helping the candidate create their Marks Portfolio.

Having read the role and responsibilities for POC Advisor's, I commit to serving as the POC Advisor.

Advisor's Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Advisor's Name: \_\_\_\_\_

POC Candidate's Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Submit this form and documentation to [info@ucctcm.org](mailto:info@ucctcm.org) or mail to:  
South Dakota Conference UCC, 5609 Douglas Avenue, Des Moines, IA 50310.