

# ORDINATION/CONSECRATION READING LIST AND REQUIRED PROJECTS

(Adopted by Board of Directors, 8/00, 3/03, 10/04, 2/09, 3/11)

North Central District LO&CC

4/15

*[NCD—It may not be possible for the district to provide an individual ordination mentor. There are limited openings depending on availability. The cycle of training seminars described later in this document is an acceptable alternative to individual mentoring. Every effort will be made to accommodate the needs of each ordinand/consecrand.]*

## I. Required Reading:

1. The candidate shall read through the entire Bible twice, using two different translations where available.
2. A reading course shall be part of the preparation of the candidate for ordination/consecration. The candidate shall read all of the books on the official reading list for ordination/consecration which is prepared by National Church Ministries, approved by the District Leadership Forum, and ratified by the Board of Directors of The Christian and Missionary Alliance. This reading list shall be reviewed annually.

The first tier deals with Alliance distinctives and is meant to reinforce the candidate in the areas of personal values, theology, and vision. These books have been approved by the District Leadership Forum and ratified by the Board of Directors to better acquaint the candidate with The Christian and Missionary Alliance and may not be substituted.

- *The Fourfold Gospel* – A. B. Simpson
- *Wholly Sanctified* – A. B. Simpson
- *Children’s Bread* – Keith Bailey or *The Gospel of Healing* – A.B. Simpson
- *A Basic Guide to Eschatology* – Millard Erickson
- *The Pursuit of God* – A.W. Tozer
- *All for Jesus* – Robert L. Niklaus, John S. Sawin, and Samuel J. Stoesz
- “*Statement on Sanctification*” - *Manual of The Christian and Missionary Alliance*, H8
- *The Heart of the Gospel: A.B. Simpson, the Fourfold Gospel, and Late Nineteenth-Century Evangelical Theology* – Bernie A. Van De Walle

## Other suggested books for consideration when deemed appropriate by the LO&CC:

The second tier covers significant topics relating to the church and world missions. This is an open list that a district License, Ordination and Consecration Council (LO&CC) can adjust or tailor to the needs of a worker moving through the process. The number of books to be read from this list will be decided by district LO&CC.

*The North Central District LO&CC has chosen the following books as required reading from the second tier.*

- *Power Through Prayer* – E.M. Bounds
  - *Growing a Healthy Church* – Dann Spader
- and***
- \*one choice from the following:*
- *Touch the World Through Prayer* – Duewel
  - *Spiritual Leadership* – Sanders
  - *A Concise History of the Christian World Mission* – J. Herbert Kane
  - *A Biblical Theology of Missions* – George W. Peters
  - *Missionary Voices* – CPI, edited by Cowles, Foster, and Jones
  - *The Church is Bigger Than You Think* – Patrick Johnstone
  - *Church Planting Voices* – Mickey Noel
  - *Wingspread* – A.W. Tozer
  - *Crisis of the Deeper Life* – George Pardington
  - *Sanctification: an Alliance Distinctive* – Samuel J. Stoez

*[NCD – Reading is completed on the honor system. After each book is read, please send an e-mail to the office stating the author, title, and date you completed the reading, and a statement such as “I have read the entire book”. If you read a book in connection with a graduate class at Crown College, please note that as well.]*

## **II. Verification of Education:**

A transcript of the candidate’s academic credits shall be forwarded to the District Superintendent.

## **III. Required Position Papers**

Position papers shall be written by the candidate on the following subjects:

Candidates shall submit six position papers as listed below, including but not limited to the items listed under each theme. Each paper shall be an original, comprehensive treatment of the subject that includes the items listed under each theme, and should be no less than eight pages in length. The paper is to be a statement of the candidate’s personal theological position.

- a. Christ Our Savior
  - The nature of man and his final destiny
  - The plan and purpose of the atonement
  - The means and results of justification
  - My personal experience of Christ as Savior

- b. Christ our Sanctifier
  - The crisis and progression of sanctification
  - Identification of the believer with Christ's death, resurrection, and ascension
  - The ministry of the Holy Spirit in sanctification
  - My personal experience of Christ as Sanctifier
  
- c. Christ our Healer
  - The relationship of divine healing and the atonement
  - The significance of prayer and anointing by the elders
  - The ministry of healing in the local church
  - My personal experience of Christ as our Healer
  
- d. Christ our Coming King
  - Defend the pre-millennial coming of Christ
  - Trace the events surrounding the rapture of the Church
  - Relationship between the imminence of Christ's coming and world missions
  - My personal understanding of Christ our coming King
  
- e. Christ's Body: the Church
  - Mission and Purpose
  - Relationship to Jesus Christ
  - Leadership and authority in the Body
  - Relationship to The Christian and Missionary Alliance
  - Relationship between the members

*[NCD—for all workers who did not take an Alliance Polity and Distinctives course at the undergraduate level as reported by transcript, an equivalent study must be completed. Currently, that involves viewing two DVD series—The Fourfold Gospel, and Alliance Core Values—and submitting a written summary of five pages showing understanding of and interaction with distinctives and values. Local church polity will be covered in one of the seminars in the cycle.]*

- f. Completing Christ's Mission
  - The lostness of mankind
  - The Great Commission passages: Matthew 28:18-20 and Acts 1:8
  - Interaction with the "Growing a Healthy Church" philosophy
  - Demonstrate a strategy that implements this philosophy in one's personal life
  - The local church commitment to world missions
  - The leader's role in mobilizing the local church in Great Commission completion (evangelism, church multiplication, world missions)

*[NCD – These papers are completed in conjunction with a cycle of ordinand preparation seminars provided by the Licensing, Ordination, and Consecration Council. The schedule is*

*available at the North Central District Office. Ordinands will enter the cycle immediately after licensure.]*

#### **IV. Missions Awareness**

Candidates may fulfill the Missions Awareness requirement in one of three ways:

1. Provide a certified transcript from an approved Christian and Missionary Alliance educational institution indicating that they have completed at least one introductory college-level course on world missions.
2. Audit (as a minimum requirement) an approved “Perspectives on the World Christian Movement” class OR complete the online Perspectives program.
3. Read the “Certificate Level” reading requirements in the textbook “Perspectives on the World Christian Movement” and complete the appropriate interactive worksheets.

#### **V. Evangelism Training:**

1. The candidate shall provide evidence of having completed training in personal evangelism or be required to attend an evangelism training seminar approved by the District Superintendent and the LO&CC.

*[It is impossible to list all the approved training possibilities. Please ask in advance and consideration will be given on a case-by-case basis.]*

2. The candidate shall complete “Growing a Healthy Church” training, either by attending a training event, or by completing the online class available at <https://www.timothysmith.com/ghc/>

*[NCD alternative—When an ordinand has completed reading the Growing a Healthy Church textbook **and** can demonstrate familiarity with the core concepts, please submit details of that familiarity in writing along with a request to waive the online course work.]*

#### **IV. Preaching/Teaching:**

During each year of preparation for ordination the candidate shall present to his mentor at least one audio or videotape of a full-length sermon, preached at a regular church service, for the mentor’s review of both content and delivery of biblical material. The candidate for consecration shall similarly present to her mentor at least one full-length audio or videotape of her teaching at the church for the mentor’s review of both content and delivery of biblical material.

*[For those ordinands who do not have an individual mentor, please submit the audio or video CD to the district office. One of the LO&CC members will review it.]*

## **VII Examinations:**

1. The candidate shall take a written exam.

*[NWD – The written exam is comprehensive in nature, covering personal spiritual life, all major areas of theology (requiring specific biblical support), Biblical knowledge, and an understanding of the mission, vision, distinctive, governance, and moral positions of the C&MA. It is taken at the district office or by arrangement with an LO&CC member who may proctor the exam. This is a closed Bible exam, so it requires thorough preparation. A three to four hour time period should be allotted to complete it. Grading is pass/fail.]*

2. The candidate shall satisfactorily complete an oral examination by the district LO&CC.

## **VIII Denominational Orientation:**

1. Candidates shall be required to attend Resonate, the New Official Workers Forum, as a requirement for ordination/consecration or for the sustaining of the candidate's ordination/consecration if with another denomination.
2. Alliance Doctrine and Polity—candidates shall orient themselves to C&MA doctrinal distinctives and church polity by one of two means:
  - a. Taking an undergraduate/graduate level course in the subject at an Alliance college or seminary.
  - b. Completing study of “C&MA DNA: The Fourfold Gospel”, a five-part video series, and the study of “C&MA DNA: Alliance Core Values”, an eight-part video series. Completion needs to be reported in writing to Linda Wiggins. Both DVD series are available at cost from the NCD office. (It is highly recommended that these materials be taught in your church setting).

## **IX Additional Recommended Projects:**

*[NWD—The following are not currently required. They are highly recommended to ordinands who have an individual mentor. This may be more widely available in the future.]*

1. Lifelong Learning

Develop a five-year learning plan to serve as a basis for lifelong learning. Identify the areas and delivery systems in which the learning will take place. Review the plan with your mentor.

Listed below are some suggested topics for lifelong learners:

- Devotional/Spiritual Disciplines
- Lifelong Learning Models
- Preaching

- Leadership: Masterplanning, Vision Casting
- Interpersonal Relationship Skills
- Creating Effective Change
- Pastoral Care/Shepherding
- Evangelism
- Missions
- Church Planting
- Growing Healthy Churches
- Stewardship

## 2. Self Understanding

Present a written analysis of your self-understanding using assessment tools such as GHC IV, IDAK, DISC, Ministry Competency Profile Guidelines, or a Gifts inventory. Identify strengths, non-strengths, spiritual gifts, natural leadership style, work preferences, and related issues. Outline a strategy to bring strength and adequacy to your person and ministry. Present your finding to an approved counselor (or superintendent) and report results to your mentor.

*[NWD—It is each ordinand's responsibility to submit written reports of completed work in a timely fashion to the district office. Phone calls or personal conversations are not sufficient. Please put it in writing. Every effort will be made to maintain complete and accurate files, and ordinands may contact the office to verify current progress.]*