

THE METHODIST CHURCH OF SOUTHERN AFRICA



**EMMU CONFERENCE REPORT 2021
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UNIT DIRECTOR

Rev PPN Nzimande

Ministerial Formation: Rev PPN Nzimande

Candidature, Training of Presbyters and Deacons,
Post ordination training, Superintendents and SSS

Lay Ministries: Rev Mbatu Bosman

Order of Evangelism, Local Preachers Department, Christian Education

Administrative staff:

Ms Bongive Talapile,
Ms Lindelwa Ndlovu,
Ms Nomthandazo Nyembe

MANDATE

1. Plan and propose to Conference and CE the policy of education for all Methodists.
2. Apply the regulations of Conference and CE with regard to probationers and candidates.
3. Consider annually the record and situation of every ministerial candidate and probationer.
4. Examine and review patterns of the Church's lay and ordained ministries and to make recommendations thereon.

OBJECTIVES

1. Ensuring the uniformity and equity of the selection process of candidates for the ministry.
2. Ensuring that the candidates selected are vocationally, spiritually, mentally and psychological suitable for the Methodist Ministry.
3. Continued training and monitoring of Probationers in Circuit.
4. Completion of the In- Service –Training Projects for those under Probation.
5. Continuing Ministerial Formation and Review of Ministry

ORDAINED MINISTRIES

CANDIDATES FOR THE ORDAINED MINISTRIES

THEOLOGICAL AND VOCATIONAL READINESS OF CANDIDATES

The expected competencies for those who are accepted as candidates for the ordained ministries in the MCSA are:

1. Basic understanding of the Christian faith and the distinct Methodist doctrines.
2. Ability to give an account of personal commitment to Jesus Christ and how this has shaped her/his life.
3. Ability to give an account of call to the specific ministry and some understanding of what that ministry entails.
4. Ability to express maturing character and readiness/ willingness for further formation.

THE PROCESS OF CANDIDATURE FOR THE ORDAINED MINISTRIES

1. Discernment through a conversation with the Superintendent and attendance the school of vocation
2. Nomination of the Candidate
3. Collective discernment through the Circuit's affirmation of the call and suitability of the Candidate for the Ordained Ministry

THE PROCESS OF CANDIDATURE FOR THE ORDAINED MINISTRIES CONTINUED....

4. The testing of Academic and Theological competencies through the Annual Candidate's entrance examination
5. The testing of the Candidate's vocational readiness through the screening interview
6. Trial services
7. Collective Discernment through the Synod testimony and the reception of the Candidate by the Conference of the Methodist Church of Southern Africa

**CONTINUED ACADEMIC TRAINING
AND VOCATIONAL FORMATION OF
PROBATIONERS IN CIRCUIT**

MENTORSHIP

1. Defined as, “ A professional relationship established between two people where a more experienced person guides a less experienced through the subject, where professional development is desired”. (Zachary L.J, “ The Mentor’s Guide: Facilitating Effective Learning Relationship”.)

2. Probationers are mentored by the Superintendent, Ordained Ministers within the Circuit and the Probationer Mentoring Committees. Support on mentorship is available through the SSS and the EMMU Website.

PROBATIONERS' INTERNSHIP

1. Pastoral skills
2. Church Management and Administration.
3. Inclusive ministry
4. Theological Reflection on Contemporary Issues.
5. Spiritual disciplines
6. Exegesis , Preaching and Teaching skills
7. Theology and Spirituality Leadership
8. Moral Theology

PROBATIONERS JANUARY SEMINAR 2021

1. Spiritual Disciplines- Rev **Trevor Hudson**
2. The theology and Spirituality of leadership- **Rev Dr Vusi Vilakati**
3. Reflections on the Presiding Bishop's address: Guided by God's Mission- **Rev Mohau Senti**
4. Journaling-**Rev Brenda Timmer**
5. Corruption- **Rev Mzwandile Molo**

PROBATIONERS JANUARY SEMINAR 2021 CONTINUED...

6. Clergy and laity-Rev Mbatu Bosman

7. Creating a Child Centred Church- Rev Kym Bishop

8. Christian counselling presented Ms Nicky Dickson

**THE ABOVE RECORDINGS ARE OBTAINABLE FROM THE
EMMU WEBSITE (www.methodisttraining.co.za)**

ORDINANDS

PREPARATION FOR ORDINATION

1. January and September retreats
2. Pastoral Support from the Chaplains
3. Assignments and Conversations on:
 - 3.1. The identity, character and role of the ordained in the church
 - 3.2. The relationship between the ordained and the congregation
 - 3.3. Collegiality
 - 3.4. Relationship between clergy and laity
 - 3.5. Self-Care
 - 3.6. Spiritual disciplines

OPPORTUNITIES FOR CONTINUED MINISTERIAL FORMATION

CONTINUING MINISTERIAL FORMATION

Funding is available for CMF which is aimed at personal development, enhancing vocational skills and assisting ministers in acquiring the skills necessary for ministry as per contextual demands. Partnering with Centre for Faith and community of the University of Pretoria

Number of Applicants 2021: 6

BURSARY FUND FOR POSTGRADUATE STUDIES

In a form of a bursary that is paid directly to the institution upon successful registration of the student. The forms are available on the EMMU website.

Number of Applicants 2021: 9

SUPERINTENDENTS REFRESHER COURSE

This course will be virtual and will run for 10 sessions from May to July 2022

**MINISTER – IN – TRAINING IN CIRCUIT
(Probationers and Ordinands)
RUBRICS FOR SKILLS AND CHARACTER
FORMATION**

STATISTICS

CANDIDATES STATISTICS

	2020 FOR 2021 PRESBYTERS	2020 FOR 2021 DEACONS
Number Nominated (2020 for 2021)	66	0
Wrote Candidates Examination (2020 for 2021)	66	0
Failed Candidates Examination (2020 for 2021)	45	0
Passed Candidate's Examination (2020 for 2021)	21	0
Final Number after Screening for Stationing and to SMMS 2022	9 New Candidates to commence formation at SMMS 4 New Candidates stationed 8 Candidates from the reserve list stationed	0

COMPARISONS OF CANDIDATE INTAKE 2020 AND 2021

	2020	2021
Word and Sacrament	30	13
Word and Service	0	0
Transfer in	0	0
Males	22	11
Females	8	2
Youngest	22 Years	31 Years
Oldest	49 Years	48 Years

PROBATIONERS STATISTICS CONTINUED

(Presbyters, Deacons, Ordained on trial)

CATEGORY	FIGURES
Number of Females	27 of 86
Number of Males	59 of 86
Probationers between the ages 23 and 35	24 of 86
Probationers between the ages 36 and 45	25 of 86
Probationers between the ages Between 46 and 70	37 of 86

PROBATIONERS STATISTICS

CATEGORY	NUMBER
Probationers at Seminary	27 (10 Exiting in 2021)
Probationer Presbyters in Circuit	73
Probationer Deacons	11
Ordained –on-trial	2
Ordinands (Presbyters)	10
Ordinands (Deacons)	4

ORDINANDS STATISTICS

YOUNGEST	27 (Male Presbyter)
OLDEST	50 (Male Presbyter) 75 (Female Deacon)
MALE ORDINANDS	8 (Presbyters) 1 (Deacon)
FEMALE ORDINANDS	2 (Presbyters) 3 (Deacons)

CONCLUSION AND GRATITUDE

1. EMMU General Committee
2. EMMU office Staff
3. Synod EMMU committees led by Supervisors of Studies
4. Wardens of the Orders
5. Synod LPD Secretaries
6. Superintendents and Ministers
7. Fellow Methodists
8. The Seth Mokitimi Methodist Seminary
9. Methodists who continue to respond to the call of God upon their lives