

# Ordination Paper

Below are listed the general categories which are included in a paper presented for ordination or the recognition of ordination. The purpose of the paper is to allow a candidate to clearly articulate his or her beliefs and experience with Christ as it pertains to becoming a leader in the Body of Christ. It provides the basis for a discussion with the ordination council (or the Department of Ministerial Concerns and Standards, in the case of recognition of ordination).

Christian Experience – narrative of a person’s salvation experience in Christ

Call to Ministry

Theology

- Trinity
  - God, the Father
  - God, the Son
  - God, the Holy Spirit
- Human condition, including sin
- Salvation
- Scripture
- The Church
  - Purpose of and who makes up the Church
  - Visible, invisible
  - The place of the local church in The Church
  - The place of ABC churches within the wider expression of The Church (ecumenism)
  - Relationship of the local church to ABC and ABC/NW as well as other local churches
- Eschatology
- The Ordinances
- The role of the minister
- Personal commitment to ABC

While there are other areas which individuals at the council may seek an ordinand’s views about, these are the most common and are always looked for in a paper. If there are other items that are important to a person’s theology that are not in this list, the person is encouraged to include them in the paper.

Generally the length of the paper is around 15 pages (excluding cover page, etc), double spaced and with each line numbered for easy reference during the discussion.