

1 **The Pacific Southwest District**  
2 **addendum to the Church of the Brethren**  
3 **“Ministerial Leadership”**  
4 **paper adopted by Annual Conference in 2014**

5 *(This document updates the addendum passed by the District Board of Administration, 4/28/2002. Update approved 7/6/2015)*

6 *The purpose of this addendum is to note places related to the Ministerial Leadership Polity of the Church*  
7 *of the Brethren where the Pacific Southwest District wishes to spell out additional requirements or provide*  
8 *clarification as to how the polity will be implemented in the Pacific Southwest District. This addendum will*  
9 *not repeat sections of the 2014 Ministerial Leadership polity, and so that document should be read together*  
10 *with this addendum.*

11 The District Ministry Commission delegates the duties of oversight of licensing, commissioning, and  
12 ordaining to its Nurturing and Credentialing Committee (NACC). The district ministry commission receives  
13 the recommendation of its Nurturing and Credentialing Committee with the duty to act upon its  
14 recommendation. The Ministry Commission may invite the chair of the interview committee to its meeting  
15 along with other relevant persons.

16 **Nurturing and Credentialing Committee (NACC)**

17 The Ministry Commission appoints and supervises the work of the NACC which is charged with overseeing  
18 the process of credentialing individuals for set apart ministry, including licensing, commissioning, and  
19 ordaining. They are responsible for meeting the responsibilities of the Church of the Brethren Ministerial  
20 Leadership 2014 polity and the additional expectations and procedures noted in the PSWD Addendum to  
21 the Ministerial Leadership 2014 polity. This includes receiving the pre-interview guides, naming interview  
22 committees, making recommendations to the Ministry Commission, and overseeing any further training or  
23 counseling that they might recommend for a ministry candidate.

24 The NACC shall consist of five members appointed by the Ministry Commission, each serving a five year  
25 term, with eligibility to serve two consecutive terms. One new member shall be appointed each year. The  
26 NACC shall call out from its membership a chairperson. Additionally, the Ministry Commission Chair, the  
27 District Moderator, the District Board Chair, and the District Executive Minister are Ex-Officio members  
28 of the committee.

29 **The Calling Cohort**

30 (addition to Ministerial Leadership Polity 2014, section IV.B.1)

31 Calling cohorts will include at least three persons in addition to the discerner:  
32 an ordained mentor appointed by the District; a congregational companion from the discerner’s home  
33 congregation; and a spiritual friend, trusted peer, or teacher. Additional persons can be named to the cohort,  
34 but the cohort should not have more than five additional persons.

35 Should the discerner and the calling cohort, upon completion of at least four meetings for Bible study,  
36 prayer, reflection, and discernment, sense the desire for continued exploration and training for ministry,  
37 they will:

- 38 ● notify the District Executive Minister who will send the discerner the Pre-Licensing Interview Guide,  
39 additional denominational documents the candidate needs to be familiar with, and information on  
40 completing the *Ministry Readiness Evaluation*;
- 41 ● begin work on the Covenant of Accountability (section IV.B.3) that would guide their work if they are  
42 licensed.

1 The following conditions are established as additional prerequisites for licensing:

- 2 ● The candidate is to be a member of the Church of the Brethren, and an active participant in a local  
3 congregation for at least one year.
- 4 ● Candidates serving a District approved Church Plant are immediately eligible for the licensing process  
5 and shall fill out an interview guide.
- 6 ● There is reasonable expectation that required preparation for ordination can be completed within  
7 five years.
- 8 ● If the candidate is not an U.S. citizen, she/he shall provide evidence of permanent alien resident status.

## 9 **The Process of Licensing**

### 10 ***The District Office***

11 Connects the candidate with the Pre-Licensing Interview Guide and a copy of the "Pacific Southwest  
12 District Addendum to the Ministerial Leadership Polity 2014" and a copy of the Church of the Brethren  
13 Code of Ethics for Ministers.

14 Notifies the candidate that the chair of Nurturing and Credentialing Committee (NACC) will contact him  
15 or her with the interview date within one month after the Pre-Licensing Interview Guide is completed and  
16 returned.

17 Pre-Licensing interviews occur two times a year. The NACC may schedule additional interviews at its  
18 discretion.

19 Candidates who submit materials in a language other than English must allow an additional three weeks so  
20 that the district can arrange for translation of the materials. A translation fee will accompany all such  
21 applications. Churches are encouraged to help applicants cover this cost.

22 Sends copies of the Pre-Licensing Interview Guides to the PSWD Executive Minister, Nurturing and  
23 Credentialing Committee, and interview committee. All documents should not be reproduced and must be  
24 returned to the district office.

25 Creates a confidential file on the candidate. Contents of this file should not be reproduced without the  
26 written consent of the candidate and authorization of the District Executive Board.

27 Will inform the candidate about being processed through a professional psychological assessment for  
28 *Ministry Readiness Evaluation*\*. The District Ministry Commission will evaluate and approve the tools  
29 being used for this assessment on a regular basis. Persons who have had their license terminated or lapsed  
30 will need to be processed through this policy to activate their license. The district is responsible for paying  
31 2/3rd of the cost and the individual or local congregation will cover 1/3rd of cost for this service.

32 *(\*This is in light of National Readiness for Ministry Program guidelines recommended by Church  
33 of the Brethren, National Ministry Office and Council of District Executives.)*

34 Following the interview sends to district ministry commission and the chair of Nurturing & Credentialing  
35 Committee copies of recommendations from the interview committee.

### 36 ***Interview Process***

37 The NACC shall meet prior to the District Board of Administration's meetings to interview candidates and  
38 prepare recommendations to the Ministry Commission.

39 Shall in consultation with the district Executive Minister contact candidates to be licensed with the date,  
40 place and time of examination.

41 Shall establish an interview committee to consist of at least five members drawn from the NACC and the  
42 Ministry Commission. The committee should include a representative of the candidate's congregation. The  
43 interview committee should include both men and women. The District Executive Minister, the chair of the

1 District Ministry Commission and the chair of District Board of Administration are ex-officio and are  
2 welcome at all interviews.

3 The interview committee shall meet prior to the interview to review procedure and note possible themes;  
4 (If the NACC chair is unable to conduct the interview, the committee will appoint a chairperson. )

5 The established committee shall conduct the interview. The interviewers will be open to review any written  
6 material as well as asking additional oral questions.

7 The interview should include these subject areas about the candidate:

- 8 ● his or her aims for the ministry
- 9 ● natural ability
- 10 ● moral and spiritual fitness
- 11 ● willingness to prepare for the duties of ministry

12 The interview shall include the following ethics questions:

- 13 ● from the Church of the Brethren Code of Ethics for Ministers, are there any parts you wish to discuss  
14 with the interview committee?
- 15 ● Do you agree to abide by this Code?
- 16 ● Have you ever been involved with or charged with ethical misconduct at any time, or if charged, have  
17 you been cleared of such charges or achieved reconciliation?

18 The interview should include questions about Church of the Brethren Core Values.

19 The interview time will begin with a 15-20 minute devotional time to be prepared and led by the candidate  
20 on a text or theme of their choosing.

21 Shall, following the interview, excuse the candidate so that the committee can deliberate and make its  
22 recommendation(s).

23 Shall inform the candidate of the recommendation by letter within seven days. The chair may verbally  
24 inform the candidate prior to writing the letter.

25 Shall send the signed original interview guide and recommendations to the district office to be sent to the  
26 district ministry commission for action.

## 27 **Support Systems for Licensed Ministers**

### 28 ***The congregation***

29 The congregation, through its executive committee or commission charged with ministerial concerns, in  
30 consultation with the pastor, can be helpful in the following ways:

31 Continue to provide a calling cohort member for the licensee from the local congregation.

32 Provide ample opportunity for the licensed minister to participate in a wide variety of meaningful  
33 congregational and other ministerial activities beyond the congregation under the guidance of the pastor.

34 Give encouragement to him or her for adequate educational preparation for the set-apart ministry with the  
35 completion of college, seminary, TRIM, or SEBAH, as outlined in the Covenant of Accountability.

36 Be alert to the financial needs of the licensed minister in his or her educational preparation by assistance  
37 in securing grants or loans. Congregations should consider making funds available to licensed ministers for  
38 their education.

39 Arrange for the licensed minister to attend at least one meeting annually of the executive committee or  
40 commission related to ministerial concerns for mutual sharing and dialogue.

**1 The district will**

2 Establish ongoing contact with the licensed minister by appointing a mentor for mutual sharing of activities  
3 and concerns. The mentor and licensee shall file annual progress reports with the NACC. In light of this  
4 contact and regular sharing with the NACC, judgment can be made regarding the licensed minister’s  
5 progress toward commissioning or ordination.

6 Make financial assistance available to the licensed ministers for educational preparation.

7 Be responsible for an annual consultation with the licensed ministers and make recommendations to  
8 re-license or, if necessary, to terminate the license.

9 Counsel the licensed minister concerning his or her educational program and Covenant of Accountability.

**10 The Set-Apart Ministry**

11 As a Licensed Minister nears completion of their training for set-apart ministry, and with the affirmation  
12 of the Calling Cohort, the Nurturing and Credentialing Committee (NACC) will hold an interview with the  
13 Licensed Minister utilizing either the Pre-Commissioning or Pre-Ordination Interview Guide and the Pacific  
14 Southwest District Pre-Commissioning & Pre-Ordination Exam. Following the interview, the NACC will  
15 make its recommendation to the Ministry Commission and with their approval a recommendation to the  
16 District Executive Board.

**17 Commissioned Ministers****18 Requirements for Commissioned Ministers**

19 The Licensed Minister, their Calling Cohort, and the Interviewing Committee should give prayerful  
20 consideration to scripture study on ministry found in the Ministerial Leadership Polity 2014, section III.A.

21 Other qualities the Pacific Southwest District considers in commissioning ministers include:

- 22 ● One or more spiritual gifts; i.e., preaching, service, teaching, administration, faith, love, healing and  
23 discernment;
- 24 ● Deep commitment to Christ and the Church of the Brethren;
- 25 ● Leadership ability;
- 26 ● Respect and honor for the decision-making processes within the congregation;
- 27 ● Ability and will to work in harmony with others;
- 28 ● Passion for ministry.

29 Evidence of a thorough knowledge of the history, beliefs, practices and polity of the Church of the Brethren.

30 A willingness to teach and uphold the beliefs, practices and policies of the Church of the Brethren, including  
31 the policies of ordination for the Church of the Brethren, through a verbal commitment in interviews and  
32 a public commitment at the time of ordination.

33 Licensing by the Church of the Brethren for at least one year prior to commissioning examination.

34 Completion of the professional psychological assessment approved by the District Ministry Commission  
35 for *Ministry Readiness Evaluation*.

**36 Interview Process****37 The district office shall:**

38 Send and receive the “Pre-Commissioning Interview Guide” and the “PSWD Church of the Brethren  
39 Pre-Commissioning & Pre-Ordination Exam.” Each candidate will also be sent for study a copy of the  
40 Church of the Brethren Code of Ethics for Ministers. Candidates for ordination must submit all written  
41 materials to the district office four weeks before their interview date. The district office will notify  
42 candidates of this deadline date.

- 1 Candidates who submit materials in a language other than English must allow an additional three weeks so  
2 that the district can arrange for translation of the materials. A translation fee will accompany all such  
3 applications. Churches are encouraged to help applicants cover this cost.
- 4 Respond to the candidate, explaining the time-line and procedures and giving a copy of the Pacific  
5 Southwest District Addendum to the Ministerial Leadership Polity 2014.
- 6 Receive transcripts and recommendations; verify them; send copies to the interview chair. Candidates must  
7 have complete post-high school transcripts and three letters of recommendation sent directly from their  
8 originating source to the district office.
- 9 Copies of the Pre-Commissioning Interview Guides and Pre-Commission/Ordination written exams will  
10 be provided to the PSWD Executive Minister, Nurturing and Credentialing Committee, Ministry  
11 Commission and, upon request, to the District Executive Board. All documents are retained by the district  
12 and may not be reproduced. Interview guides and related papers are officially private information.
- 13 Following the interview, send to district Ministry Commission and the chair of Nurturing & Credentialing  
14 Committee copies of recommendations from the interview committee.
- 15 Maintain a file of all recommendations, open only to authorized persons, including the candidate.
- 16 Following action by the district Executive Board, notify the candidate, and the congregation where the  
17 candidate holds membership by letter, of the decision of the board.
- 18 Report the ordination to denominational headquarters at the time the service occurs and annually update the  
19 district ministerial list for the denominational directory.

20 ***The Nurturing and Credentialing Committee shall:***

21 Establish a Commissioning interview committee.

22 Authorize the NACC chair to name an interview chair from the members of the Commissioning Interview  
23 Committee.

24 The chair of the commissioning interview committee shall:

- 25 ● In consultation with the District Executive Minister, inform the candidate of the date, place, and time  
26 of examination.
- 27 ● Convene the Interview Committee and moderate the interview process, within the following four  
28 guidelines:

29 The Interview Committee for Commissioned minister candidates shall consist of a minimum of seven  
30 members, not to exceed ten members, from the following list of people:

- 31 ● the members of the Nurturing & Credentialing Committee,  
32 ● one representative of the congregation recommending the candidate,  
33 ● the chair, PSWD Board of Administration,  
34 ● the chair, PSWD Ministry Commission,  
35 ● the other members of the PSWD Ministry Commission,  
36 ● the PSWD Moderator,  
37 ● the PSWD Executive Minister/s.

38 The Interview Committee shall be a fair demographic representation of our district.

39 All Pre-Commissioning interviews should be conducted at the District Office and be scheduled in  
40 consultation with the meeting schedule of the District Policy Board.

41 The District Ministry Commission will take responsibility for securing a translator if one is required.

- 1 Have the committee meet prior to the interview to review procedure and note possible themes.
- 2 Conduct the examination. The interviewers will be open to review any written material as well as asking  
3 additional oral questions.
- 4 The interview time will begin with a 20-30 minute Bible study time to be prepared and led by the candidate  
5 on a text or theme of their choosing.
- 6 Excuse the candidate after the interview so that the committee can deliberate and make its  
7 recommendation(s).
- 8 Inform the candidate of the recommendation by letter within seven days. The chair may verbally inform the  
9 candidate prior to writing the letter.
- 10 Send the signed original Interview Guide and recommendations to the district office to be sent to district  
11 ministry commission and a copy to the chair of Nurturing & Credentialing Committee.
- 12 May meet with the district ministry commission if invited to do so by its chair.
- 13 When the district ministry commission has considered the recommendation of the interview committee and  
14 determined that the licensed minister has met the requirements for commissioning, the commission shall  
15 recommend to the district Executive Board that he or she be ordained upon the receipt of a call.
- 16 The Commissioning policy of PSWD is that there be a three-fourths (3/4) majority in the Ministry  
17 Commission and a three-fourths (3/4) majority vote by a qualified quorum (2/3) of the District Executive  
18 Board to commission a candidate.
- 19 If the district board approves the recommendation, within one week the District Executive Minister shall  
20 present information of the board's action to the candidate, with a copy to the congregation where the  
21 candidate holds membership.
- 22 Before commission is granted, approval by the congregational business meeting of the congregation where  
23 the candidate is a member shall require a two-thirds (2/3) majority vote. A representative of the District  
24 Ministry Commission shall be present for the congregational vote. The congregation's clerk shall notify the  
25 district office of the results of the vote.
- 26 If the congregation approves the recommendation, the person shall be commissioned to the set-apart  
27 ministry for their specific call and setting for ministry. The District Executive Minister, candidate, pastor  
28 and representative of district ministry commission shall mutually agree upon the date and arrangements for  
29 the service of commission during a congregational worship service. The initiation of planning is the  
30 responsibility of the District Executive Minister. The service shall include the laying on of hands, preferably  
31 during a Sunday morning worship service.

## 32 **Ordained Ministers**

### 33 ***Requirements for Ordained Ministers***

- 34 The Licensed Minister, their Calling Cohort, and the Interviewing Committee should give prayerful  
35 consideration to scripture study on ministry found in the Ministerial Leadership Polity 2014, section III.A.
- 36 Other qualities the Pacific Southwest District considers in ordaining ministers include:
- 37 ● One or more spiritual gifts; i.e., preaching, service, teaching, administration, faith, love, healing and  
38 discernment;
  - 39 ● Deep commitment to Christ and the Church of the Brethren;
  - 40 ● Leadership ability;
  - 41 ● Respect and honor for the decision-making processes within the congregation;
  - 42 ● Ability and will to work in harmony with others;
  - 43 ● Passion for ministry.

- 1 Evidence of a thorough knowledge of the history, beliefs, practices and polity of the Church of the Brethren.
- 2 A willingness to teach and uphold the beliefs, practices and policies of the Church of the Brethren, including
- 3 the policies of ordination for the Church of the Brethren, through a verbal commitment in interviews and
- 4 a public commitment at the time of ordination.
- 5 Licensing by the Church of the Brethren for at least one year prior to ordination examination.
- 6 Completion of the professional psychological assessment approved by the District Ministry Commission
- 7 for *Ministry Readiness Evaluation*.

#### 8 ***Interview Process***

##### 9 ***The district office shall:***

10 Send and receive the “Pre-Ordination Interview Guide” and the “PSWD Church of the Brethren  
11 Pre-Commissioning & Pre-Ordination Exam.” Each candidate will also be sent for study a copy of the  
12 Church of the Brethren Code of Ethics for Ministers. Candidates for ordination must submit all written  
13 materials to the district office four weeks before their interview date. The district office will notify  
14 candidates of this deadline date.

15 Candidates who submit materials in a language other than English must allow an additional three weeks so  
16 that the district can arrange for translation of the materials. A translation fee will accompany all such  
17 applications. Churches are encouraged to help applicants cover this cost.

18 Respond to the candidate, explaining the time-line and procedures and giving a copy of the Pacific  
19 Southwest District Addendum to the Ministerial Leadership Polity 2014.

20 Receive transcripts and recommendations; verify them; send copies to the interview chair. Candidates must  
21 have complete post-high school transcripts and three letters of recommendation sent directly from their  
22 originating source to the district office.

23 Copies of the Pre-Ordination Interview Guides and Pre-Commission/Ordination written exams will be  
24 provided to the PSWD Executive Minister, Nurturing and Credentialing Committee, Ministry Commission  
25 and, upon request, to the District Executive Board. All documents are retained by the district and may not  
26 be reproduced. Interview guides and related papers are officially private information.

27 Following the interview, send to district Ministry Commission and the chair of Nurturing & Credentialing  
28 Committee copies of recommendations from the interview committee.

29 Maintain a file of all recommendations, open only to authorized persons, including the candidate.

30 Following action by the district Executive Board, notify the candidate, and the congregation where the  
31 candidate holds membership by letter, of the decision of the board.

32 Report the ordination to denominational headquarters at the time the service occurs and annually update the  
33 district ministerial list for the denominational directory.

##### 34 ***The Nurturing and Credentialing Committee shall:***

35 Establish an Ordination interview committee.

36 Authorize the NACC chair to name an interview chair from the members of the Ordination Interview  
37 Committee.

38 The chair of the ordination interview committee shall:

39 In consultation with the District Executive Minister, inform the candidate of the date, place, and time of  
40 examination.

- 1 Convene the Interview Committee and moderate the interview process, within the following four guidelines:
- 2 The Interview Committee for Ordained minister candidates shall consist of a minimum of seven members,
- 3 not to exceed ten members, from the following list of people:
- 4 ● the members of the Nurturing & Credentialing Committee,
- 5 ● one representative of the congregation recommending the candidate,
- 6 ● the chair, PSWD Board of Administration,
- 7 ● the chair, PSWD Ministry Commission,
- 8 ● the other members of the PSWD Ministry Commission,
- 9 ● the PSWD Moderator,
- 10 ● the PSWD Executive Minister/s.
- 11 The Interview Committee shall be a fair demographic representation of our district.
- 12 All Pre-Ordination interviews should be conducted at the District Office and be scheduled in consultation
- 13 with the meeting schedule of the District Policy Board.
- 14 The District Ministry Commission will take responsibility for securing a translator if one is required.
- 15 Have the committee meet prior to the interview to review procedure and note possible themes.
- 16 Conduct the examination. The interviewers will be open to review any written material as well as asking
- 17 additional oral questions.
- 18 The interview time will begin with a 20-30 minute Bible study time to be prepared and led by the candidate
- 19 on a text or theme of their choosing.
- 20 Excuse the candidate after the interview so that the committee can deliberate and make its
- 21 recommendation(s).
- 22 Inform the candidate of the recommendation by letter within seven days. The chair may verbally inform the
- 23 candidate prior to writing the letter.
- 24 Send the signed original Interview Guide and recommendations to the district office to be sent to district
- 25 ministry commission and a copy to the chair of Nurturing & Credentialing Committee.
- 26 May meet with the district ministry commission if invited to do so by its chair.
- 27 When the district ministry commission has considered the recommendation of the interview committee and
- 28 determined that the licensed minister has met the requirements for ordination, the commission shall
- 29 recommend to the district Executive Board that he or she be ordained upon the receipt of a call.
- 30 The Ordination Policy of PSWD is that there be a three-fourths (3/4) majority in the Ministry Commission
- 31 and a three-fourths (3/4) majority vote by a qualified quorum (2/3) of the District Executive Board to ordain
- 32 a candidate.
- 33 If the district board approves the recommendation, within one week the District Executive Minister shall
- 34 present information of the board’s action to the candidate, with a copy to the congregation where the
- 35 candidate holds membership.
- 36 Before ordination is granted, approval by the congregational business meeting of the congregation where
- 37 the candidate is a member shall require a two-thirds (2/3) majority vote. A representative of the District
- 38 Ministry Commission shall be present for the congregational vote. The congregation’s clerk shall notify the
- 39 district office of the results of the vote.
- 40 If the congregation approves the recommendation, the person shall be ordained to the set-apart ministry,
- 41 following the receipt of a call. The District Executive Minister, candidate, pastor and representative of
- 42 district ministry commission shall mutually agree upon the date and arrangements for the service of

1 ordination during a congregational worship service. The initiation of planning is the responsibility of the  
2 District Executive Minister. The service shall include the laying on of hands, preferably during a Sunday  
3 morning worship service.

### 4 **Receiving Ministers from Other Denominations for** 5 **Term of Service in PSWD Congregations**

6 The Ministerial Leadership Polity 2014 addresses the question of transfer of ordination from another  
7 denomination in Section IX., which includes a paragraph on recognizing as a Commissioned Minister for  
8 term of service a minister who does not wish to transfer their credential.

9 The Pacific Southwest District through the NACC will work with the local congregation and the minister  
10 to facilitate the evaluation of the existing credential and approve for standing as a Commissioned minister  
11 in the Church of the Brethren.

12 The minister seeking recognition of credential shall provide the NACC with the following information:

- 13 ● a letter of support from the congregation they are serving;
- 14 ● a letter of ministry standing from the denomination which holds their ordination;
- 15 ● complete a background check with the District approved agency;
- 16 ● provide transcripts from their seminary or other degree program;
- 17 ● show evidence of a completed ministry ethics training that is acceptable to the Church of the Brethren  
18 or complete the denomination's ethics in ministry course.

19 When these documents have been received, the minister and a congregational representative will be invited  
20 to meet with the NACC for a conversation. The conversation would include: why they are interested in  
21 serving the Church of the Brethren congregation that has called them; talk about the minister's faith journey  
22 and call to ministry; share about their ministry experiences and interests; and discuss their understanding  
23 of being a pastor. The minister will be asked to open the time with a 10-15 minute devotion on a passage  
24 of their choosing. Conversation will also include a discussion of the need to support the Church of the  
25 Brethren Polity in their leadership with the local congregation.

26 Following the conversation, the NACC will make recommendation to the Ministry Commission to  
27 Commission the minister for their term of service in the specific congregation. The Commissioning policy  
28 of PSWD is that there be a three-fourths (3/4) majority in the Ministry Commission and a three-fourths (3/4)  
29 majority vote by a qualified quorum (2/3) of the District Executive Board to commission a candidate.

30 If the district board approves the recommendation, within one week the District Executive Minister shall  
31 present information of the board's action to the candidate, with a copy to the congregation where the  
32 candidate holds membership.

33 The District Executive Minister, minister, and representative of district ministry commission shall mutually  
34 agree upon the date and arrangements for the service of commission during a congregational worship  
35 service. The initiation of planning is the responsibility of the District Executive Minister.

## Pacific Southwest District Church of the Brethren Pre-Commissioning & Pre-Ordination Exam

(This is in addition to the Interview Guide)

Please submit a typed response: Retype each question followed by your answer.\*\*

Send completed response to: Pacific Southwest District Office, P.O. Box 219, La Verne, CA 91750-0219

### A. Biblical Understanding

1. Write a brief (300-500 word) exegesis of one of the passages from each of the lists below:

List 1		List 2	
Genesis 15:1-21	Psalms 23	Matthew 5:17-30	Matthew 26:26-35
Genesis 22:1-19	Isaiah 53	Mark 6:34-44	Luke 6:17-38
Exodus 3:1-16	Micah 6:6-8	John 1:1-18	John 13:1-20, 31-35
I Kings 18:17-40		I Corinthians 1:4 – 2:5	I Corinthians 13:1-13
		Hebrews 4:14 – 5:14	Revelation 4 – 5

2. Define and discuss briefly (100 words or less), using biblical references where appropriate, what you understand by the following terms: Choose Five (5) from the Seven (7).

- |                       |                  |               |
|-----------------------|------------------|---------------|
| 1. Sin                | 4. Justice       | 6. Repentance |
| 2. New Life in Christ | 5. Justification | 7. Evangelism |
| 3. Service            |                  |               |

**B. Brethren Doctrine and Practice:** Discuss your understanding of the following areas of Brethren doctrine and practice: Choose Five (5) from the Eight (8). You are encouraged to use Biblical references, if you desire. (longer is not necessarily better)

- |                       |                             |                                |
|-----------------------|-----------------------------|--------------------------------|
| 1. Baptism            | 4. Eucharist                | 7. Love feast and feet washing |
| 2. Anointing with oil | 5. Simple life              | 8. Laying on of hands          |
| 3. Child dedication   | 6. Peace and reconciliation |                                |

**C. Christian Education:** Discuss your philosophy of Christian Education.

**D. Administration** What do you feel are the major administrative tasks for which a pastor should assume responsibility in most congregations?

**E. Polity:** The Church of the Brethren Manual of Organization and Polity states: “**Authority is held accountable within the community, which in turn diligently seeks the “mind of Christ” in study of the Scriptures, in dialogue with brothers and sisters, and in openness to the leading of the Holy Spirit.**”

This being true, briefly discuss the nature of pastoral authority.

#### \*\* Translation Requests:

Candidates who submit materials in a language other than English must allow an additional three weeks so that the district can arrange for translation of the materials. A translation fee will accompany all such applications. Churches are encouraged to help applicants cover this cost.

#### \*\* PSWD Confidentiality Policy:

Copies of the Pre-Licensing, Pre-Ordination, Reception of Ordination Interview Guides and PSWD Church of the Brethren Pre-Ordination Exam, will be provided to the PSWD Executive Minister/s. Nurturing and Credentialing Committee, Interview Committee and, upon request to the District Board. All documents are retained by the district and may not be reproduced. All of the above documents are officially private information.