

United Church of Christ (UCC)

Resources	Overview of Ordination Process & Requirements*	Coursework Required*
<p><i>Manual on Ministry: A Guide to Authorizing Ministry in the UCC 2018</i> (see section 2, pages 19-137): https://www.uccfiles.com/pdf/ManualonMinistry-2018.pdf</p> <p><i>Marks of Faithful and Effective Ministers:</i> http://uccfiles.com/pdf/THE-MARKS-OF-FAITHFUL-AND-EFFECTIVE-MINISTERS.pdf</p> <p><i>Ministry in the UCC: A Background Document (2010):</i> http://www.ucc.org/ministers/ministry-issues/Ministry-in-the-United-Church-of-Christ-A-Background-Document.pdf</p> <p><i>UCC Constitution:</i> https://www.uccfiles.com/pdf/UCC_Constitution.pdf</p> <p><u>Contacts:</u> Rev. Dr. Renee Jackson (Jacksonr@ucc.org) Minister for Ministerial Formation, Ministerial Excellence, Support and Authorization team (MESA) (216) 736-3842</p> <p>Rev. David R. Gaewski (davidgaewski@uccny.org) New York Conference Minister</p> <p>Jane Huber, Visiting Professor and Director of Practices of Ministry & Vocational Development at Union Theological Seminary</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● After being a member of a local UCC church for 1-2 years (length varies), get the support of local church and become “Member in Discernment” (MID). Association will vote to affirm and then review theological education, preparation, and “Marks of Faithful and Effective Ministers”; recommendations made for further preparation will be based on the individual. MID is given and meets with a mentor. ● Write a paper demonstrating your “theological perspective and grasp of the historic Christian faith,” “knowledge and understanding of the history, theological roots, polity, and practice of the United Church of Christ,” and your sense of call to ordained ministry (Presented to Ecclesiastical Counsel of the Association after oral exam). ● Oral Ordination Exam (usually two hours) assesses “knowledge of the history, polity, and practices of the United Church of Christ”. ● Must have “a call” (placement) to be ordained. <p>* Requirements vary by regional Association.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● History and polity of UCC ● Bible, systematic theology, church history, worship, pastoral care and counseling, administration, church education, interfaith; church finance, in some cases. ● Clinical Pastoral Education (CPE)** ● Boundary Training <i>is usually required</i> <p>* Requirements vary by regional Association.</p> <p>** CPE is required by New York Metropolitan Association at least.</p>