

Thank you for your interest in the United Church of Christ. In this denomination, An ordained minister of another denomination who desires to enter the ordained ministry of the United Church of Christ applies for Privilege of Call to the Association within whose bounds he or she resides.

In the New Jersey Association, the first step is for you to become a member of a United Church of Christ Congregation.

The second step is for you to send to the NJ Association office the following:

- a. A letter requesting privilege of call in the United Church of Christ and a request for an interview with the Association Church and Ministry Commission.
- b. A statement of reasons for leaving the other denomination and for seeking to enter the ordained ministry of the United Church of Christ and an indication of key transitional issues to be anticipated.
- c. Certification of ordination.
- d. Verification of current ecclesiastical status, comparable to ordained ministerial standing, in the other denomination.
- e. Certification of educational attainment including:
 1. A bachelor's degree or its equivalent.
 2. A Master of Divinity degree or its equivalent from an approved theological seminary

This information will be passed on to the NJ Association Church and Ministry Commission, and someone will be in touch with you to set up an appointment when you will meet the Commission and discuss the next steps to be taken.

The guidelines the Commission uses come from the UCC Manual on Ministry. You can see the Privilege of Call steps at this link:

<http://www.ucc.org/ministers/manual/mom-2004-20privilege-2odual-1.pdf>