



Diocese of Southern Ohio

Preacher Job Description

Description

A *Preacher* is a lay person authorized to preach. Persons so authorized shall only preach in congregations under the direction of the member of the clergy or other leader exercising oversight of the congregation or other community of faith.

Qualification

A [confirmed communicant in good standing](#) may be licensed by the Ecclesiastical Authority to serve as *Pastoral Leader, Worship Leader, Preacher, Eucharistic Minister, Eucharistic Visitor, Evangelist, or Catechist*.

Training Requirement

Prior to applying for a license, an applicant must have completed Safe Church certification and dismantling racism training. The bishop may require applicants to complete additional training according to the license sought. This particular license also requires Mandated Reporter and Title IV training with the Canon to the Ordinary prior to licensing. The clergy person entrusted with supervision of this position may have their own independent learning they require or they may elect to partner with the diocesan lay licensing program.

Supervision

The Episcopal Church understands these ministries to be in the care of clergy in charge of congregations, or their designees ([Title III, Canon IV in the Constitution and Canons of the Episcopal Church](#)). If a congregation is without clergy leadership, the Canon to the Ordinary will be responsible for discerning with parish leadership who may serve in that role.

Continuing Education

The expectation for all licensed ministries is that the individuals will continue to deepen their formation and craft in regular consultation with supervising clergy. Opportunities need not involve conferences or classes. However, if our diocesan relationship with the Church Divinity School of

the Pacific would benefit you, please be in touch with the [Rev. Melanie Slane](#) directly for a current list of courses available at a discounted price.

The Lay Preacher Training Program

The Lay Preacher Training Program utilizes a new curriculum by the Episcopal Preaching Foundation, offering comprehensive and in-depth training in the theory and practice of preaching to form effective, confident, and passionate licensed lay preachers for our church. The course includes regular study of scripture and theology, exegesis strategies, and practical homiletics. The cornerstone of the program is preaching feedback, both to peers within the cohort and regularly, back in your home congregation.

The specific dates and locations (Zoom or in-person) are determined according to the group's availability and needs. Participants should expect to meet about twice monthly, either in-person or on Zoom.

The cost to participate in the year-long program is \$500/person.

If you have questions about the lay preacher program, or wish to enroll in the next group, contact our coordinator, the Rev. Stephen Smith, D.Min., at revdupstephen@gmail.com or by calling 614-499-2872.

Deployment

Licenses in the Diocese of Southern Ohio are valid only for the parish where membership is located and supervision is possible. Licenses do not transfer outside of the footprint of this diocese and only to other parishes in consultation with, and by approval of, the Priest in Charge and Bishop.

Duration of License

Licenses expire on the eve of Advent 1, year A, or upon transfer of membership outside of the Diocese of Southern Ohio, or as otherwise noted above.

Eligibility for Renewal and Process

Application to renew licenses may be considered, at the discretion of the Bishop Diocesan, and provided that continuing education and formation has been documented, endorsement by the Priest in charge/Rector of the congregation, appropriate trainings have been re-certified and submitted to the diocesan office, and all proper application paperwork is received.