



Initial Discernment for New Faith Communities

Dear Friends,

As we begin to explore this journey together, the Southeast Conference would like to get to know you better, learn more about you, and understand your vision for a new church start. This assessment is not meant to be overwhelming, but to offer a beginning point for a new and hopeful relationship between you and the Southeast Conference.

Please fill out this form and return it to the Rev. Kim Wood, our Southeast Conference Minister. kwood@secucc.org. If you have questions, Rev. Wood can also be reached at 404-615-2492.

Grace and Peace,
The Southeast Conference Church Team

Pastor/Lay Leader Information

Full Name _____

Street Address _____

City _____ State _____ Postal Code _____

Best Phone _____ Email _____

Pastor's Information (if different from name above)

Please check this box if a pastor has not yet been identified for this new congregation. If this is the case, please provide the contact information of a second lay leader.

Full Name _____

Street Address _____

City _____ State _____ Postal Code _____

Best Phone _____ Email _____

Pastor's Ministry Authorization Information

My authorization for ministry is (check one and fill in blanks)

I hold standing in the _____ Association
of the _____ Conference
of United Church of Christ. My authorization is (ordained, licensed, ordainable pending call,
etc.) _____.

I hold standing in the (denomination) _____
in the (regional judicatory body) _____,
located in (city/state) _____.
My authorization is as a _____.

I am not currently authorized for ministry (includes Member in Discernment Status).

Your Story and Your Vision

Please answer the questions below as comprehensively as possible.

1. Share a brief biographical statement about yourself and your ministry.
2. In a couple of paragraphs, please share your initial mission and vision statements for your potential new faith community.
3. Who do you imagine being part of your launch team?
4. Where might this new faith community take root? Please describe the area in which you'd like to begin—including demographic insights and the perceived needs of the community.
5. Offer your “best guess” at a timeline for development and implementation, including a draft budget for the first and second year.
6. Is your current “home” church aware of your intentions? If so, how are they supporting this new ministry initiative?
7. What financial resources will support this new church start?
8. Why are you interested in starting a new church in the Southeast Conference?
9. Please provide the Southeast Conference access to your UCC Ministerial Profile through the UCC Profile portal. If you do not have a UCC profile, please include your denominational profile/CV and/or your resumé/

We look forward to hearing your story and discerning with you in this exciting season of exploration.