



## COMMISSION ON MINISTRY EPISCOPAL DIOCESE OF ALASKA ROLE OF A MENTOR

The mentor assigned by the Commission on Ministry (COM) to a postulant or candidate shall assist with and monitor progress in the following areas. The mentor is encouraged to use the COM, diocesan clergy, and the Bishop as resources throughout this process.

- **Creating a formation plan which covers the required areas of practice**
  - Holy Scriptures
  - History of the Christian Church
  - Christian Theology
  - Christian Ethics and Moral Theology
  - Christian Worship
  - Practice of Ministry
    - Leadership in worship (including sermon writing)
    - Evangelism
    - Stewardship
    - Ecumenisms
    - Interfaith relationships
    - Experience outside one's own familiar culture
    - Environmental stewardship and care of creation
    - The historical and contemporary experience of racial and minority groups
    - Pastoral care (including working with youth and elders)
    - Congregational development
  - Other training
    - Prevention of sexual misconduct
    - Civil requirements for reporting and pastoral opportunities for responding to evidence of abuse
    - The Constitution and Canons of the TEC, particularly Titles III and IV
    - The Church's teaching on racism (including racism/bias training)
  
- **Meeting regularly with the postulant/candidate. Meetings shall include the following components**
  - Prayer
  - Pastoral care
  - Check on formation plan progress
  - Planning next steps
  
- **Assisting the postulant/candidate in locating resources, to include the following**
  - Required trainings such as Safe Church and race/bias training
  - Academic opportunities required for formation process

- Clergy and lay people with specialized knowledge who can work with postulant/candidate on specific issues
- Opportunities to participate in worship outside the postulant/candidate's sponsoring parish
- A spiritual advisor to work with postulant/candidate
  
- **Assisting in navigating the ordination process and the diocesan requirements.**
  - Where necessary the mentor shall work with the COM to answer any questions the postulant/candidate might have about the process.
  
- **Providing regular updates to the COM on the progress of the postulant/candidate.**
  - When possible, providing reports before the COM's monthly meeting is ideal.
  
- **Modeling the life of a minister, ordained or lay, by**
  - Representing Christ and the Church
  - Bearing witness to Christ according to their gifts
  - Carrying on Christ's work of reconciliation in the world
  - Taking their place in the life, worship, and governance of the Church.