



United Methodist Endorsing Agency

General Board of Higher Education & Ministry Division of Ordained Ministry

www.gbhem.org/chaplains • umea@gbhem.org • 615-340-7411

Why Ecclesiastical Endorsement?

- Endorsement is part of your connection with The United Methodist Church, *2012 Book of Discipline*, (¶1421.5).
- Increases accountability to the church and to those who are served.
- Provides important networking opportunities, a way to share knowledge and experience.
- Annual professional continuing education opportunities are provided. On site expenses are covered by the United Methodist Endorsing Agency (UMEA).
- Chaplains Supplemental Pension Grant Fund through the General Board of Pensions for endorsed clergy under appointment and not covered by an employer pension plan while endorsed is available.
- Endorsement is available for: deacons and elders who may be provisional, full connection, associate members, or licensed local pastors of their annual conference.
- Government agencies and some civilian agencies require endorsement.
- Endorsement may be required for certification by professional pastor care organizations, i.e. Association of Professional Chaplains (APC), American Association of Pastoral Counselors (AAPC), etc.
- Cost of the endorsement process paid by The United Methodist Church, General Board of Higher Education and Ministry (GBHEM).

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