

COMPLETION

Now that the reference forms are all in and your application is complete, it is time to present your file to the Membership and Credentials Board of Review. It is much easier for them to process it if everything is clearly written in an orderly manner. They will either approve, deny or recommend that you come in at a different credentialing level with specific recommendation for continuing professional development. In such cases, there is an opportunity to apply for upgrade to the next level after you've been a member for an appropriate period and demonstrated some progress in your professional development. They may recommend further biblical and theological training and will assist you in evaluating appropriate continuing education.

FEES VERSUS DONATIONS

Application and membership fees may be deductible as a business expense. Concerning donations, the amount of your contributions which is deductible for Federal income tax purposes is limited to the excess of the amount of money you give over the value of goods provided by IMF in return. (No goods or services are provided for contributions, therefore are tax deductible in full). Contributions (over and above application and membership fees) are solicited with the understanding that the donee organization (IMF) has complete discretion and control over the use of all donated funds except in cases where an appeal is made in writing for a specific project. In said cases, donations go to the project for which they were solicited.

CERTIFICATE AND IDENTIFICATION CARD

An approval packet will be sent to you after the Credentials Board of Review is finished with their evaluation. A Covenant Agreement will be included which you should fill out, have signed and notarized on pages 4 and 5 and return with your first year's dues. Please complete this within 30 days. Again, delay causes extra time and expense for you and the Fellowship.

NOW THAT YOU'RE A MEMBER

Welcome aboard! You are now part of the IMF family with all the rights and privileges offered our members. Those rights and services are listed in our International Ministerial Fellowship brochures. In addition, those of you who are licensed or ordained ministers qualify for legal and tax consideration provided to all members of the clergy. Those privileges and opportunities are itemized in your notification packet. All our members are deeply appreciated and our office and ministry staff are here to serve you.

CONGRATULATIONS!

Coordinator of Membership Services

763-571-5967

My Calling to Fulfill...

- Charles Wesley

WHY AM I WAITING?



International
Ministerial Fellowship®

Welcome to International Ministerial Fellowship,

an association of churches, clergy, laymen, pastors, chaplains, missionaries and para-church leaders working across denominational lines to help you to fulfill your "calling" in Christian service and works of charity.

We are all called of God through the Gospel, but some of us have received a calling in a more specialized sense. St. Paul in Ephesians 4:11 instructs us there are also offices in the Church including apostles, prophets, evangelists and pastor/teachers while in I Corinthians 12-14 and Romans 12 we are taught there are many special "enablements" given to those called to serve Christ's Church.

We welcome your application for membership and credentialing with the Fellowship. We are committed to processing your professional inquiry in a timely manner. At IMF serving member needs is our first priority.

PROCESSING YOUR APPLICATION

With few exceptions, your application will be processed the day it arrives in the IMF office. This will include reviewing the application and contacting you via e-mail or letter outlining what, if anything, is missing from your application packet. Reference forms will be e-mailed, faxed, or sent to all of your references. When complete, your file will be forwarded to our Chairman of the Membership & Credentials Board of Review who will arrange a personal meeting or telephone interview with you. Upon completion of the interview process, your file will be forwarded to the Membership & Credentials Board of Review for evaluation and appropriate action.

REASONS FOR DELAYED APPLICATION PROCESSING

These are several items which must be complete before your application is ready to forward to the Membership & Credentials Board of Review:

- 1) Include your application fee with application and note your Faith Promise of monthly support.
- 2) Review the criteria for each credential and check according to your qualifications. If you know you don't qualify at the level of ordination, but check it anyway in hopes that it will be overlooked, it will only delay your review process. If you are uncertain, feel free to contact the Coordinator of Membership Services who will be happy to help advise you in order that you can make an informed decision.
- 3) Include a photo of yourself.
- 4) Answer question #24 in four separate statements and put the applicable heading at the beginning of each statement: a) Conversion Experience; b) Call to Ministry; c) Church Background; d) Current Ministry Activities
- 5) Your references must be complete with full addresses and phone numbers. E-mail addresses and fax numbers when available are most helpful in expediting the process.
- 6) Your first reference must be your pastor or a senior pastor of an established congregation who is familiar with you and your ministry activities. If you have a special situation, contact Membership Services and let them assist you. This can save you a lot of time later.
- 7) If you have been divorced, submit Statement of Divorce including dates, reasons and resulting consequences. If there was a moral

failure, indicate the person(s) involved in your restoration and spiritual healing process. If you were guilty of moral failure, there must be a clear evidence of godly sorrow, biblical and spiritual counseling and an appropriate time of healing and sabbatical before resuming ministry or entering the Christian ministry.

- 8) Add Scripture references to each of your answers on the Theological Profile. Applicants for Certified Christian Worker are not required to complete the Theological Profile, unless you want to apply for an upgrade in the future.
- 9) Your application must be signed and notarized on the back sheet. Your local bank usually is happy to provide this service free of charge.
- 10) Please select and check an appropriate Monthly Support level based on your circumstance and leading of the Holy Spirit on your Financial Responsibility sheet. The annual dues cover only about 20 percent of our operating costs. Your financial support

REFERENCE FOLLOW UP

is greatly appreciated.

- 11) Review and sign the Code of Ethics form.

You should contact your references prior to using their names and alert them that an Applicant Referral Questionnaire form will be forthcoming for them to fill out. Ask them to respond promptly. If we don't hear back in 2-4 weeks, we resend the form. If we don't hear again, we either e-mail them or contact you and ask you to call them. It is very costly and time consuming to resend reference forms. Not hearing from references causes the single greatest delay in completing the application process.