

Young Clergy Academy Intern Program

Application for Ministry Interns 2015-2016

Introduction

Thank you for your interest in the Young Clergy Academy Intern Program sponsored by the South Georgia Conference of the United Methodist Church and the St Marys United Methodist Church Foundation for those interested in exploring a call to ordained ministry in the South Georgia Annual Conference during 2015-2016. This 9 month paid internship-August 3, 2015 through April 30, 2016, will allow selected interns to be immersed in a vocational ministry setting with intentional opportunities to deeply discern their call to clergy as a vocation with their specifically assigned mentor. Each ministry intern will develop leadership skills for effective ministry as they partner with clergy and laity in a local church.

Expectations and Qualifications:

In order to provide the most beneficial ministry experience for our interns, it is expected that each intern applicant meet the following qualifications:

- Exploring a call to ordained ministry in the United Methodist Church
- A member of a South Georgia United Methodist Church or Wesley Foundation
- Willing to be challenged in areas of leadership, spiritual disciplines, self-awareness, and understanding of ordained ministry
- Desire to represent Christ in daily life
- Experienced in Christian leadership
- Grant authorization to release information for a personal history evaluation
- Submit all application documents including reference checks on or before the established deadline

Overview

Our Young Clergy Academy Intern program is designed to be nine months:

- 15 days of Paid Time Off for the term of the Internship
- 25 hours per week working in the host church or other ministry setting
- Internship Program Orientation with Mentor Introductions
- Mid-Year overnight Retreat at Epworth By The Sea
- Internship Program Debriefing at Epworth By The Sea

Stipend

- The 9 month stipend will be \$9,000
- Housing will be provided, as necessary, by the host church

To Apply

Interested candidates should submit a completed application, including all essay questions on-line no later than midnight, June 15, 2015 by email to jonathan.smith5@gmail.com.

Please note applications received after midnight, June 15, 2015 will not be considered.

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Section 1: Basic Data

Full Name: _____

Gender: Male Female Date of Birth: _____

Ethnicity: African American Asian/Pacific Islander Caucasian/European
 Multi Cultural/Global Native American Spanish/Hispanic/Latino

Contact Information

Present Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

The present address is effective until the following date: _____

Permanent Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Email Address: _____

Primary Phone Number: _____ Home Cell Work

Have you ever been convicted of or pled guilty to a felony? Yes No

If yes, please explain:

Emergency Contact Information

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Email Address: _____

Primary Phone Number: _____ Home Cell Work

Church Membership

Church Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Name of Pastor: _____ Phone: _____

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Formal Education

High School	Program	Degree Received
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College/University	Program	Degree Received
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Certifications/Awards/Continuing Education

Dates	School/Organization	Location	Type
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Activities

Dates	Organization	Location	Type
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Section 2: Narrative Section

Please answer the following questions:

1. How did you learn about the Young Clergy Academy?

2. Do you meet the following qualifications and expectations:

- Completed or are currently enrolled in final 30 hours of undergraduate coursework and continuing education in the fall of 2015
- Exploring a call to ordained ministry in the South Georgia Conference of the United Methodist Church
- A member of a South Georgia United Methodist church or Wesley Foundation
- Willing to be challenged in areas of leadership, spiritual disciplines, self-awareness and understanding of ordained ministry
- A desire to represent Christ in daily life and experience in Christian leadership?

Please explain:

3. How do you intend on making this internship your primary occupational commitment and an overall priority during the 9 months of the program in order to receive the most benefit from this opportunity?

4. Describe how others perceive your work ethic. Provide an example.

5. What special strengths, skills, spiritual gifts, and talents will you bring to this internship?

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Section 3: Essay Questions

Please answer each of the following questions in 500 words or less.

- 1. Explain how the Young Clergy Academy Internship will assist you in discerning your calling to a life of ordained ministry.**

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2. Describe your relationship with Jesus Christ.

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3. What is God's mission for the church? In your experience, how is the church fulfilling and/or falling short of God's mission?

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4. Name an issue or current event that concerns you most in the world today. Where do you see God at work surrounding the issue? How are you responding to this issue?

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5. In the last year, what have you learned about yourself that surprised you?

6. React to Luke 18:18-30 (NRSV)

¹⁸ A certain ruler asked him, “Good Teacher, what must I do to inherit eternal life?” ¹⁹ Jesus said to him, “Why do you call me good? No one is good but God alone. ²⁰ You know the commandments: “You shall not commit adultery; You shall not murder; You shall not steal; You shall not bear false witness; Honor your father and mother.” ²¹ He replied, “I have kept all these since my youth.” ²² When Jesus heard this, he said to him, “There is still one thing lacking. Sell all that you own and distribute the money to the poor, and you will have treasure in heaven; then come, follow me.” ²³ But when he heard this, he became sad; for he was very rich. ²⁴ Jesus looked at him and said, “How hard it is for those who have wealth to enter the kingdom of God! ²⁵ Indeed, it is easier for a camel to go through the eye of a needle than for someone who is rich to enter the kingdom of God.” ²⁶ Those who heard it said, “Then who can be saved?” ²⁷ He replied, “What is impossible for mortals is possible for God.” ²⁸ Then Peter said, “Look, we have left our homes and followed you.” ²⁹ And he said to them, “Truly I tell you, there is no one who has left house or wife or brothers or parents or children, for the sake of the kingdom of God, ³⁰ who will not get back very much more in this age, and in the age to come eternal life.”

Section 4: Placement Preferences

Context Setting & Demographics:

Please indicate where you would like to serve, if selected:

- Rural Church Setting
- Suburban Church Setting
- Urban/inner-city Church Setting
- Willing to serve where needed

Many of the host churches provide housing for interns during the internship. This allows for flexibility when matching an intern with a host site. Are you willing to be placed in a host site away from your permanent residence and stay in accommodations provided by the host church?

Note: interns are responsible for their own transportation.

- Yes
- No, I am only interested in a placement within approximately _____ miles of _____ (city of residence).

Age demographics you would most like to work with:

- Children Adults
- Youth Combination

Skill Set:

Which of the following would you be most interested in learning or using at your placement site? (mark all that apply)

- Planning worship
- Leading worship
- Leading group discussions
- Working w/ community service groups
- Organizing and guiding committees
- Preaching/Public Speaking
- Children's and Youth Ministry
- Campus Ministry
- Other _____
- Other _____

Section 5: References

Please provide contact information for the four references you have provided with the appropriate reference form. The letters must be submitted in individual envelopes, signed along the seal by your reference or in an email directly from your reference. The application is not complete until all letters are submitted. This list should include a pastor who knows you well, an employer, a teacher/professor or academic advisor and one other person.

A. Pastoral Reference

Name: _____
Address: _____
City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____
Email Address: _____
Phone Number: _____ Home Cell Work
Relationship to you: _____

B. Work-Related Reference (an employer, manager, shift supervisor)

Name: _____
Address: _____
City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____
Email Address: _____
Phone Number: _____ Home Cell Work
Relationship to you: _____

C. Academic Reference (a teacher, professor, or academic advisor)

Name: _____
Address: _____
City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____
Email Address: _____
Phone Number: _____ Home Cell Work
Relationship to you: _____

D. Personal Reference (a friend, colleague, mentor, etc.)

Name: _____
Address: _____
City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____
Email Address: _____
Phone Number: _____ Home Cell Work
Relationship to you: _____

Section 6: Affidavits & Signatures

Please read carefully before signing or typing your name:

I agree that any claim of any kind related to my service with the Conference, the host church, other ministry setting, my assigned mentor(s) or any of their related entities or personnel must be filed no more than six (6) months after the date of the employment action that is the subject of the claim.

By signing below (for a paper version of this application) or by entering my name below (for an e-mail attachment version of this application), I certify that I understand that my employment is at will and that I am free to resign at any time. Similarly, the Conference, host church or other ministry setting may terminate or change the conditions of my employment at any time for any reason or no reason. Further, I certify that the information I have supplied in this application is true and complete and that omissions or false or misleading statements are grounds for rejecting my application or terminating my employment, if employed.

Applicant's Signature

Date

Please refer to the Young Clergy Academy website (www.sgaumc.org/youngclergyacademy) for intern eligibility requirements and further information about the South Georgia Conference Young Clergy Academy Intern Program.

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Permission To Release Information For Personal History Evaluation

To: Connectional Ministries

Date: _____

I hereby give my permission for authorized agents of the South Georgia Conference of The United Methodist Church, including host churches or other ministry settings to conduct an investigation of my background, including arrest/conviction records, employment, health, credit, military, driving record, and other factors which such agents may deem proper and necessary subjects of investigation, in order to properly assess my character, reputation, and background in connection with my involvement with the South Georgia Conference of The United Methodist Church.

I give my permission for any person, business, or institution contacted in the course of such investigation to release any and all information properly requested, and copies of same if requested. I do hereby release such person, business, or institution from all liability for providing correct information. I understand that I may request a complete and accurate disclosure of the nature and scope of the background investigation, to the extent such investigation includes information bearing on my character, general reputation, or personal characteristics. I recognize the right of the South Georgia Conference of The United Methodist Church, including host churches or other ministry settings to treat at their discretion certain sources as confidential.

Applicant's Signature

Date

Print Name

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Previous Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Previous Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Date of Birth: _____ Social Security No: _____

Driver's License No: _____ State: _____

In Presence of Witness: _____

(signature)

(Print name and title)

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Photo/Video Release

I hereby grant permission to the South Georgia Conference of The United Methodist Church, including host churches or other ministry settings to use my photograph/video on their website, in printed publications and video productions without further consideration, and I acknowledge their right to crop, edit or treat the photograph/video at their discretion. I also acknowledge that the entities may choose not to use my photo/video at this time, but may do so at their own discretion at a later date.

I also understand that once my image is posted on the website, the image can be downloaded by any computer used on or off campus. Therefore, I agree to indemnify and hold harmless from any claims the following

- The Board of Trustees of the South Georgia Conference
- All employees, The South Georgia Conference
- Any host churches and other ministry settings, including mentor(s)

South Georgia Conference, including host churches or other ministry settings reserve the right to discontinue use of photos/videos without notice.

Applicant's Signature

Date

Print Name

Address: _____
City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Pastoral Reference Form

Please thoughtfully provide any information regarding: _____
as an applicant for the Young Clergy Academy Internship Program that you believe will assist the selection and placement team with our discernment process. Provide examples of their leadership potential in ministry and expressions of their call that you have witnessed in conversation with and observation of the aforementioned applicant.

Thank you for investing your time in our selection and placement process.

Signature

Name

Title: _____

Employer: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Email Address: _____ Phone: _____

Relationship to Applicant: _____

Please return this form to:

Young Clergy Academy
C/O Office of Connectional Ministries
PO Box 20408
St. Simons Island, GA 31522-0408

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Work-Related Reference Form

Please thoughtfully provide any information regarding: _____
as an applicant for the Young Clergy Academy Internship Program that you believe will assist the selection and placement team with our discernment process. Provide examples of their work ethic, reliability, understanding of authority, and professionalism that you have witnessed in conversation with and observation of the aforementioned applicant.

Thank you for investing your time in our selection and placement process.

Signature

Name

Title: _____

Employer: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Email Address: _____ Phone: _____

Relationship to Applicant: _____

Please return this form to:

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Academic Reference Form

Please thoughtfully provide any information regarding: _____
as an applicant for the Young Clergy Academy Internship Program that you believe will assist the selection and placement team with our discernment process. Provide examples of their eagerness and ability to learn and their ability to follow directions. These examples should be supported from conversation with and observation of the aforementioned applicant.

Thank you for investing your time in our selection and placement process.

Signature

Name

Title: _____
Employer: _____
Address: _____
City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____
Email Address: _____ Phone: _____
Relationship to Applicant: _____

Please return this form to:

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Academic Reference Form

Please thoughtfully provide any information regarding: _____
as an applicant for the Young Clergy Academy Internship Program that you believe will assist the selection and placement team with our discernment process. Provide examples of character traits and qualities that you have witnessed in conversation with and observation of the aforementioned applicant.

Thank you for investing your time in our selection and placement process.

Signature

Name

Title: _____

Employer: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Email Address: _____ Phone: _____

Relationship to Applicant: _____

Please return this form to:

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