

SPIRITUAL DIRECTOR POLICY

Colorado and Southern Colorado Koinonia

A Spiritual Director within our Koinonia community will be a person with a heart, mind, and spirit committed to the principles and precepts set forth by the Trinity: the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit. Using Scripture as our foundation, we seek individuals who have and are currently modeling lives reflecting the character and qualities depicted in the New Testament letters of 1 Timothy 3:1-7 and Titus 1:5-9. (See appendix.)

Either the Colorado Koinonia Continuance Board or Southern Colorado Koinonia Continuance Board (the Board) must approve all candidates for Spiritual Director. Approval by one Board will be accepted by the other board.

To be considered as a Spiritual Director for Koinonia, an individual must feel they are being **called** to be **qualified** and **approved** to serve only within the ministries of Koinonia.

Called:

We understand that being called to any ministry means that the individual is called by God, as well as called by the people of God. The first is deeply personal experience with the Holy Spirit. The second means that the calling is recognized by the community (in this case the Board) which confirms that they see not only the calling of God in the person's life, but that they see the gifts and graces necessary to serve the Koinonia community.

Qualified:

- 1) **The First step** is to apply in writing to the Board to become a **Provisional Spiritual Director** (PSD). Applications are available from the Board Spiritual Director Coordinator, and will include 3 letters of recommendation.
- 2) **The second step** is for the Board SD Coordinator to appoint 2 other SDs as a **3 person review committee**, including the Board SD. The prospective PSD's Biblical qualifications, credentials and experience will be reviewed by this committee. The committee will also interview the candidate. They may require additional training or experience prior to approval as a PSD. This is outlined in the Barnabas Mentor Program document. Once the committee approves the candidate, they will recommend him/her to the Board for approval as a PSD, which requires a $\frac{3}{4}$ majority.
 - a) Spiritual Directors do not need to be Ordained Ministers in the State of Colorado; however, they must have special training as Spiritual Directors, Ministry Leadership, and/or Theology that matches the Koinonia perspective of the Trinity; and, they must have received a calling to the ministry with qualifications and approval of the Board.
 - b) Training and/or experience:
 - i) 2 years of studies focused on ministry.
 - ii) or at least 2 years experience in chaplaincy, lead minister for their church, mission field work, as a spiritual director for their community, or 2 terms on Church leadership boards ie Deacon, Elder, or Bishop.
 - iii) Or a combination of i and ii above.
- 3) **The Third step** is to gain some **experience as a PSD** prior to becoming approved as a SD.
 - a) New Spiritual Directors must hold a servant heart and show devotion and servanthood to the Koinonia community by participating in at least 3 Koinonia **weekends** following their participation as a new Koinonian. At least 1 weekend must be in a non SD role. 2 weekends minimum must be as an approved Provisional SD. (See PSD Roles and Responsibilities)

4) The Fourth step on completion of the PSD serving 2 weekends as PSD will be for the committee to give the Board their recommendation for **final approval** as SD If they feel that the individual needs additional education, training or mentoring, the committee may recommend the individual to the Barnabus Program or ask the person to continue as a PSD.

Approved:

Candidates wishing to serve as Spiritual Directors must be recommended to the Board by the 3 person SD committee. The Board may require the candidate to interview with the Board prior to consideration. The Board will prayerfully approve the candidate by $\frac{3}{4}$ majority, being careful to consider and address any possible dissention.

Spiritual Directors approved by either the Colorado Koinonia Board, or the Southern Colorado Koinonia Board will automatically be recognized as approved for service in both organizations. Board approval does not confer any authority for ministry beyond Koinonia.

Both Boards will keep copies of the application, letters of recommendation, and any other credentials on file.

RESPONSIBILITIES: (see SD weekend responsibilities for full details)

Other than serving on team for a Koinonia weekend, Spiritual Directors may also be asked to assist in the scheduled meditation/communion for Ultreyas and team dedications.

Those taking on the role of Spiritual Director will be expected to display by action that they are committed to the mission, vision, and purpose of Koinonia. They should strive to be an active member of the Koinonia community.

Any proposed changes to this document by either the Colorado Koinonia or the Southern Colorado Koinonia Board must be presented to the other Board for comment prior to being voted on.

Please see additional Provisional SD Roles and Responsibilities and Barnabas Mentor Program policies.

Biblical Qualifications for Spiritual Director Consideration

Timothy 3:1-7

Here is a trustworthy saying: if anyone sets his heart on being an overseer, he desires a noble task. Now the overseer must be above reproach, the husband of but one wife, temperate, self-controlled, respectable, hospitable, able to teach, not given to drunkenness, not violent but gentle, not quarrelsome, not a lover of money He must manage his own family well and see that his children obey him with proper respect. For if anyone does not know how to manage his own family, how can he take care of God's church? He must not be a recent convert, or he may become conceited and fall under the same judgment as the devil. He must also have a good reputation with outsiders, so that he will not fall into disgrace and into the devil's trap.

Titus 1:5-9

The reason I left you in Crete was that you might straighten out what was left unfinished and appoint elders in every town, as I directed you. An elder must be blameless, the husband of but one wife, a man whose children believe and are not open to the charge of being wild and disobedient. Since an overseer is entrusted with God's work, he must be blameless-not overbearing, quick-tempered, not given to drunkenness, not violent, not pursuing dishonest gain. Rather he must be hospitable, one who loves what is good, and who is self-controlled, upright, holy and disciplined. He must hold firmly to the trustworthy message as it has been taught, so that he can encourage others by sound doctrine and refute those who oppose it.

Primary Biblical Categories for Consideration

Personality and Character Qualities

- a. Temperate
- b. Self-controlled
- c. Hospitable
- d. Disciplined
- e. Not violent, but gentle
- f. Not quarrelsome
- g. Not overbearing
- h. Not quick-tempered

Spiritual Qualities

- a. Not a recent convert
- b. Loves what is good
- c. Holy
- d. Upright

Reputation

- a. Good reputation with outsiders (or may fall into disgrace)
- b. Respectable
- c. Above reproach
- d. Blameless
- e. Not given to drunkenness
- f. Not a lover of money
- g. Not pursuing dishonest gain

Teaching Skills

- a. Able to teach
- b. Holds firmly to the trustworthy message (thus able to encourage others by sound doctrine and to refute those who oppose it)

Leadership Skills *(as demonstrated by his/her family - he/her must be able to manage his/her own family well if they are to take care of God's family - 1 Timothy 3:5)*

- a. Husband/wife in a monogamous relationship with their spouse
- b. Manages his/her own family well
- c. Sees that his/her children obey them with proper respect
- d. His/her children believe, and are not open to the charge of being wild and disobedient.

Biblical qualifications dictate that the Spiritual Director be a mature, experienced, spiritual individual. If having children, he/she would need to positively reflect his/her family management ability. He/she must be a reputable individual, even among outsiders, and one who clearly possesses an ability to lead the way and to effectively

teach others to do the same. All Spiritual Directors will need to continue to live a life under the leadership of the Holy Spirit, faithfully applying the admonishments of righteous living as found in 1 Timothy 3 and Titus 1. If, after being approved as a Spiritual Director, an individual's lifestyle is found to be outside of what the Bible states for righteous living, the Board has the authority to remove that person from service.