**Central Indiana Presbytery**

**Exams Committee**

# Views Form

(Revised February 2017)

The following questions will help us to become acquainted with your views on the various things asked. You may use other materials as you prepare your answers, but it is important that what you write adequately reflects what you believe personally. Please be thorough, but concise. Please email this form back to TE John F. Peoples (jpeoples@gracepca.org)

Please leave one space between the question and your answer.

## (When filling out this form please enter your answers leaving the questions on the sheet in this form)

## PERSONAL INFORMATION

Name: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Phone numbers: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Email Address: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Marital Status: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Spouse’s name: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ (how long have you been married): \_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Is your wife supportive of your ministry (if not ‘yes’ please explain):\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Children: (including ages): \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Please list

Please give us your educational background (undergrad degree & Seminary

Degree)

Please give us your ministry experience (before and after ordination as is appropriate)

Please give us your Christian Testimony

Please give us your sense of Call to Ministry

Tell us about your current Walk with Christ:

What are you studying in the Word right now?

What is the Lord teaching you from this portion of Scripture?

Give us an area in your spiritual walk with the Lord where you are being challenged to further growth:

Give us an area in your spiritual life where the Lord is bringing you comfort and encouragement:

Tell us about how you lead family devotions (if it pertains):

What are your spiritual gifts?

When was the last time you shared the Gospel with someone (tell us about this experience)

What do you believe God has and is calling you to do? (especially right now, but also a sense of future direction if it is different from your calling now)

(FOR UNDERCARE EXAMS PLEASE STOP HERE – FOR THOSE SEEKING LICENSURE OR ORDINATION PLEASE CONTINUE)

## I. Westminster Standards

(Please articulate these clearly and concisely – exceptions for Ordination and TE Transfer are sent to GA as a part of our minutes and they will be reviewed by GA)

1. What, if any, differences do you have with the Westminster Standards and why? Please make sure to list all your differences with the Standards, even if you are unsure if they constitute an allowable difference. The Presbytery will review these and determine if they are:
\* Merely semantic
\* More than semantic, but not out of accord with any fundamental of our system of doctrine.
\* Out of accord, hostile to the system or striking at the vitals of religion.

## II. Book of Church Order

1. What, if any, differences do you have with the Book of Church Order and why?

(Please list & explain).

The Presbytery will review these and determine if they are:
\* Merely semantic
\* More than semantic, but not out of accord with any fundamental of our system of doctrine.
\* Out of accord, hostile to the system or striking at the vitals of religion.

## III. Questions on Theology

1. What is your view of Scripture?
2. Briefly explain your understanding and view of the Trinity.
3. Briefly explain your view of the person and work of Christ.
4. Explain your view of justification.
5. Explain your view of sanctification.
6. Explain your view of the relationship between faith and works.
7. Explain your view of covenant theology (including your understanding of the covenant of works & covenant of grace).
8. Explain your view of dispensationalism.
9. Are you familiar with the theological perspective(s) commonly referred to as the “Federal Vision” or “Auburn Avenue Theology?” Please explain your understanding and thoughts, as well as where you find yourself agreeing with the main points of this perspective. Please also read the 2007 General Assembly Federal Vision study committee report and indicate your thoughts on the 9 “declarations” at the end of that report.
10. Explain your view of Calvinism (Do you adhere to the “5 points of Calvinism?”)
11. What is your view of the gifts of the Spirit?
12. Do you believe there is any continuing or new revelation?
13. What is your view of speaking in tongues? Are you in agreement with the PCA’s position on this issue (<http://www.pcahistory.org/documents/pastoralletter.html>)?
14. What is your view of eschatology?
15. What is your view of hell?
16. The PCA holds that some positions on creation other than a literal 6 24-hour day position may be held by officers. (Check this link to find this paper - the actual recommendation is at Page 64: <http://www.pcahistory.org/creation/report.pdf>.)

 (a) Do you believe the Westminster Confession requires a literal 6 YES

24-hour day view and all other views are exceptions? NO

 (b) Which of the following views of creation do you hold?

 (1) A literal 6 24-hour day view of creation? (2) An ‘age-day’ view of creation?

 (3) An ‘analogy’ view of creation?

 (4) A ‘framework’ view of creation?

1. It is the position of the PCA that only men are eligible for service as officers of the church, including as Deacons (BCO 7-2)
2. Do you believe that, in the future, the office of Elder should be YES

opened to women? NO

 (b) Do you believe that, in the future, the office of Deacon should YES

be opened to women? NO

 (c) If requested by the Session, would you be willing to work with YES

 either a separate Board of Deaconesses or with non-ordained NO

 women serving alongside Deacons?

 (d) Do you believe that each local church should have an organized YES

 ministry (such as Women In The Church) to aid women to NO

 grow spiritually and to exercise their gifts?

1. What do you believe is the role of women in the Church today?
2. Please describe your view of worship. Please include a description of the type of service you prefer/intend on using (e.g. contemporary, traditional, “blended”, hymns-only, etc).
3. Please describe how you and your family celebrate the Lord’s day. It might be helpful to read WCF 21.8 and mention how your practice interacts with this part of the Confession.
4. The PCA holds that a divorced man is eligible for office if his divorce was either prior to conversion or, if after conversion, for biblical grounds. Biblical grounds are defined as adultery by the spouse, or desertion (which is described as sometimes being without actual, physical desertion). The position is that if a divorce is on biblical grounds, the man is free to remarry. (Check this link to read the paper:

<http://www.pcahistory.org/pca/2-289.doc> .)

 (a) Are you fully in accord with this position? YES

 NO

 (b) Do you believe a divorced man is not eligible for office? YES

 NO

 (c) Do you believe a remarried man is not eligible for office? YES

 NO

 (d) Have you been divorced? If so, please provide details. YES NO

1. The PCA’s position is that the civil (judicial) laws of the Old Testament have ceased and that Christians are not obliged to obey them, other than ‘the general equity thereof may require’ (WCF 19-4, also check here for link to PCA statements: <http://www.pcahistory.org/pca/2-555.doc>)

 (a) Are you in full agreement with this position? YES

 NO

(b) If not, please describe in a separate statement those areas of

Old Testament civil (judicial) law that still have application today

and how that would work out in the church and/or world today.

1. What is your view of the use of alcohol?
2. What is your view of the use of tobacco?
3. Please describe your style of preaching. Who are the people who have most influenced your preaching style?
4. How would you describe your style of evangelism? Do you actively seek opportunities to share the Gospel with others?
5. What is your view of missions (both outside the United States & within the United States, e.g. church planting)? Include in your answer how you will communicate its importance to your congregation/ministry?
6. In your counseling ministry (or future counseling ministry), how do you handle the counseling of women? What precautions do you take?
7. What is your use of/work with the Greek & Hebrew in your sermon preparations?

(THOSE COMING FOR LICENSURE EXAMS MAY STOP HERE – WHEN YOU COME FOR ORDINATION YOU WILL BE EXPECTED TO REVIEW AND UPDATE ALL PERTINENT INFORMATION AND MAKE CORRECTIONS WHERE YOUR VIEWS HAVE CHANGED – THOSE SEEKING ORDINATION, PLEASE COMPLETE THIS FORM)

The following questions relating to your views of the sacraments need to be answered by those who are intending on a teaching elder transfer or ordination exam. For those preparing for a licensure exam, it is not necessary, at this time, to fill out this section.

## IV. Questions on the Sacraments

1. What is your view of baptism? (Include a brief explanation of covenant baptism).
2. What is your view of immersion? Will you immerse new converts? (Why or why not?).
3. What is your view of the efficacy of baptism (please include your thoughts about baptismal regeneration)?
4. What is your view of the presence of Christ in the Lord’s Supper?
5. Do you fence the table when you administer (or will administer in the future) the Lord’s Supper? Do you use the language of BCO 58-4? Why or why not? And if not, what do you do?
6. What is your view of paedo-communion? When should children be included in the participation of the Lord’s Supper & why?