

MCW Frequently Asked Questions

What does MCW stand for?

MCW is the Ministerial Candidate Workshop held annually for ordination candidates in the Church of the Nazarene's Southeastern Field.

What is the purpose of the MCW?

The Center for Pastoral Health with support from the Southeast Field District Superintendents conducts a workshop for district licensed ministers and their spouses. The overarching goal of the Southeast Field's Ministerial Candidate Workshop (MCW) is to assist licensed ministers in their preparation for ministry and possible ordination. Candidates will explore their call to ministry, increase their self-awareness, focus on their spiritual growth and gain a deeper understanding of themselves. The candidates will receive insights gleaned from a battery of psychological assessments and personality inventories during a meeting with a mental health consultant and participation in a variety of equipping seminars and ministry development opportunities offered during the workshop. Candidates will receive individualized professional and personal developmental recommendations from their consultant.

What should we expect of the experience?

The weekend is not a retreat, but an intense time of learning. During the weekend you will receive a lot of information and it may take you days and weeks to process what you experienced and learned from the workshop. Come prepared to listen, participate, and grow. Try to prepare yourself to gain lots of information about yourself that you can apply in your life and ministry.

Where is it held?

Camp Garner Creek, Dickson, TN. The rooms at Camp Garner Creek will be motel style rooms with one or two double beds in the room. All linens are supplied. You can find directions and more information about the campground on the following site: <https://www.campgarnercreek.org>. The link has a map of Camp Garner Creek at the bottom of the webpage so you can begin to familiarize yourself with the grounds.

Camp Garner Creek is about 45 minutes west of Nashville, TN so if you are flying, you will need to rent a car, carpool with friends or use a ride share service to get to the campgrounds. For your return trip there are many attendees from the Nashville area who will be able to drive you to the airport after the workshop is over.

When is MCW?

March 28-30, 2025. Registration begins at 1230 CT in the Camp Garner Creek Tabernacle Foyer. Please plan to arrive no later than 1pm CT to receive the key to your room and registration materials. The first session begins at 1:30pm CT.

When does MCW end?

We should be done on Sunday before 1100 am CT.

How much does it cost?

Single candidates = \$350

Married candidates = \$400

Married, dual candidates = \$500 (\$250 each)

What does registration costs include?

Registration includes a room on the campgrounds for Friday and Saturday nights and 5 meals (Friday supper, 3 meals on Saturday and Sunday breakfast). Registration fees also contribute to the speakers and consultants with participating Districts and CPH also funding workshop costs.

Do I need to bring bedding, etc.?

No, all bedding and towels are provided.

Should my spouse come?

Yes, spouses are expected to attend the workshop with the ordination candidates. If for any reason you or your spouse are unable to attend MCW, please let MCW personnel know as soon as possible.

Is it ok if I bring my children or should I bring my children?

No, we discourage you bringing your children. Childcare is not provided and we want you to get the most from the workshop with as few distractions as possible. If you'd like to ask for an exception, please contact Jay Earles to discuss your situation.

What should we wear?

This will be a casual weekend so feel free to dress comfortably as you would for a retreat or camp type setting.

What do we do to prepare?

1. Pray for God's leading during the workshop and for His wisdom.
2. Your District MCW representative will contact you about completing the MCW assessments. Attend the District assessment and complete all the surveys and forms as honestly as possible.
3. Your MCW consultant will contact you to schedule an interview that will be conducted virtually. The consultants interviews are for the consultants to get to know you better and provide context to the assessment results.