

**EXAMINATION FOR FULL CONNECTION  
NORTH ALABAMA ANNUAL CONFERENCE**

**SECTION B: THE PRACTICE OF MINISTRY**

**GENERAL INSTRUCTIONS:**

1. **Before proceeding, read through all of the instructions for this section.** Deacon candidates, pay close attention to the special instructions on the next page.

**SERMON INSTRUCTIONS:**

1. Submit (1) copy on a DVD **OR** e-mail a YouTube link of a sermon you have recently preached. **Save the provided Background Information Sheet as a separate document using this format: last name, first initial Sbkgd [for Sermon Background] example: PatsiosCSbkgd.** If a church bulletin or order of service was used, include a copy of it. Make sure your name is on all of your material. **(Save your sermon manuscript as: last name, first initial, Ser [for Sermon] example: PatsiosCSer**
2. Record the sermon during a worship service with a congregation present. Include the entire service on the DVD or YouTube. It is important that you provide a high quality recording so that the committee can clearly see and hear the sermon and the congregation's response in a live setting. Provide **seven (1) copy** of the DVD or e-mail the YouTube link to Cindi Patsios at [cpatsios@umcna.org](mailto:cpatsios@umcna.org). **Mark your DVD with your name and the date.** Special instructions below for DVDs:
  - Before submitting your DVDs, download the VLC player at <http://www.videolan.org/vlc/index.html> and test your sermon DVD. If it will not play on the VLC player, then it will most likely not play for your presenter and readers.
  - Do not put a label on your DVD. Write your name, date of sermon and title of the sermon on the DVD with a sharpie. The printed labels cause problems with viewing the DVD.
  - Put each DVD in a case for protection.
3. **The text for your sermon can be any of this years lectionary passages for season of Pentecost.** The sermon should be new and should communicate the Word that God is expressing to your listeners through this text.
4. The sermon will be evaluated on content and delivery. Attention will be paid to scriptural exegesis, theological development, logical flow of ideas, vivid illustrations, voice quality, eye contact, animation, and grammar. The sermon should reflect your best effort and the style you are most comfortable with and normally use.