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# The Ministry Development Council

Providing  
vocational  
resources to  
strengthen  
leaders in  
ministry  
since 1969

Centers located in Arlington, Atlanta,  
Boston, Charlotte, Chicago, Columbus,  
Kansas City, Lancaster, Oakland,  
Princeton, St. Paul, and St. Petersburg.

For information about the accredited  
center nearest you, check the Web site

[www.ministrydevelopment.org](http://www.ministrydevelopment.org)



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## exploring

Developing a calling can be a rich, fulfilling  
experience. It takes self-awareness, insight,  
and a willingness to explore the possibilities  
of an ever-changing world.

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## discerning

Vocation is a dynamic process.  
Our situations change.  
We enter and pass through different  
stages of life.

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## supporting

We grow as individuals—with new needs,  
goals, and dreams. We want community.  
As our lives change, so do our careers.

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## serving

The mission of the Ministry Development  
Council is to provide vocational resources to  
strengthen leaders in ministry.

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# The Ministry Development Council

The Ministry Development Council is . . .

A network of twelve Centers supporting leadership for ministry;

A resource for vocational discernment for professional church leaders;

A catalyst for discussion of leadership needs for the church now and in the future.

The Ministry Development Council (MDC), originally organized as the Church Career Development Council (CCDC) in 1969, is an ecumenical network bringing together over twenty sponsoring denominations with accredited vocational service providers to assist church leaders in making vocational decisions.

MDC supports and empowers healthy and effective leadership for individuals, staffs, and groups in the church.



## A Network of Centers

Centers accredited by the Ministry Development Council offer the following services:

### *Help individual church leaders*

- discern a call to ministry
- evaluate whether to stay in or leave a position
- deal with burnout or conflict
- reassess a sense of vocational call and commitment
- explore options for ministry at new stages of life
- plan for sabbaticals or retirement

### *Help church governing bodies*

- assess candidates for lay and ordained ministry
- evaluate professional church leaders in transition or crisis
- offer resources for multiple staff relationships
- provide vocational counseling for those leaving professional ministry
- evaluate candidates for specific positions
- design new programs to meet emerging needs

Confidentiality and professional ethical standards are scrupulously followed in all accredited MDC centers. Costs vary with services.

For more information about how the Ministry Development Council centers can assist you with your need for vocational discernment or for leadership assessment and development, please contact the accredited center nearest you.

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