

Evaluation of a Worship Leader

You are asked to lead a service of worship at a time to be determined by the minister/presbyter of your congregation. It is important that you lead or facilitate all aspects of the service to allow a full evaluation to be made.

There will be a two 'hearers' from your congregation, and two from the Canterbury Lay Preachers' Association. We will join in worship with you and following the service will give you verbal feedback which is constructive and helpful. Hearers will then contribute to a written report, compiled by the Convenor from the inputs of team members.

These are the criteria that are considered when evaluating Worship Leaders.

1. Consider the atmosphere created by the greetings and the call to worship.

- Was the worship leader able to help all members of the congregation to feel included?
- Did he or she seem confident and well organised?
- Did your own mood or feelings change as you entered into the spirit of worship?

2. Consider the order of service

- How was it structured and did the worship leader follow it through? Were all aspects of worship addressed?
- Did anything untoward occur which disrupted the flow of the service? How did the worship leader deal with it?
- Was it an appropriate length?

3. Consider the involvement of children and young people

- Was there a rapport between the children and the worship leader? If there was a rapport how was it achieved?
- What worked well and what are the areas for improvement?
- Did the talk help build up all-age relationships in the church setting?

4. Consider the major theme(s) of the service.

- Did the structure allow the themes to be developed?
- Did the themes come through as the service progressed?
- Did it all fit together smoothly?

5. Consider the Prayers

- What kinds of prayers were given?
- Did they mirror the themes of the day?
- Did the language of the prayers relate to the members of the congregation?

6. Consider the effectiveness of the sermon.

- Was he/she well prepared for this particular Sunday in Pentecost?
- Were there helpful life examples or applications?
- Did the sermon help you feel the presence of Christ or the Spirit of God?

7. The Worship Leader

- Did the projection of personality of the worship leader enhance the service? How?
- How did the worship leaders involve adults in the service?
- Did you feel moved as the Worship Leader worshipped with you?
- Were there technical details that needed extra work, such as voice, dress, personal mannerisms, use of microphones or other equipment?

Overall assessment.

- What were the things you liked most about the worship on this occasion?
- Are any things that can be improved next time the Worship Leader takes a service?

DIRECTIONS TO THE CONVENOR

Thank you for agreeing to convene the group of “hearers” who are involved in evaluating and providing feedback to a lay preacher seeking accreditation by the New Zealand Lay Preachers Association.

The role of the “hearers” is to meet with the candidate following the service to offer verbal feedback initially and then to contribute to a written report compiled by the Convenor. Hearers are appointed, two by the congregation and two by the Lay Preachers Association.

The Convenor should meet with the “hearers” prior to the service. Key questions from the evaluation schedule should be allocated to each person to ensure that everyone has a specific focus during the service and can provide full feedback on this area.

Following the service, the Convenor should discuss the above questions with the “hearers” briefly, and then facilitate a meeting of the hearers with the candidate. The “Overall Assessment” questions may be a good basis for this initial discussion. This should be done as quickly as possible after the service so that the candidate does not have to wait too long.

When meeting with the hearers, the convenor should check to see if there are any real problems that need to be addressed. These need to be dealt with carefully and with respect at the initial discussion.

The written report should be compiled by the Convenor based on the written information received from the hearers. It should include a clear recommendation to CLPA and the Church Court as to whether the candidate should be registered as a lay worship leader at this time. The report should be sent to and should be shared with the person being assessed on the understanding that it is a recommendation, not a decision at this point.