

## Appendix 5E – Sample Interview Questions

1. We would like to hear your life story in five to ten minutes.
2. What events led you to prepare for ministry?
3. How would you describe yourself theologically?
4. What personal traits and gifts do you have that make it possible for you to be an effective minister?
5. Describe the areas of ministry you enjoy most? Least?
6. Tell us about your leadership style? Give examples.
7. In what ways do you participate in the community beyond the church?
8. How do you prepare a sermon and what is your goal in preaching?
9. How do you care for yourself and stay healthy?
10. Share your thoughts about worship style and leading worship.
11. Describe your personal stewardship and how you would lead stewardship in a congregation.
12. Describe your personal devotional life.
13. What areas of your life would you describe as your “growing edge?”
14. What is it about this congregation that interests you and challenges you?
15. Discuss your views of the ELCA and where the church is headed.

You may want to begin the interview with a prayer or short meditation led by a member of the call committee. Be sure to introduce all the members of the call committee. Telling a bit about yourselves will help to put the candidate at ease.

After the candidate has left, it is helpful to take some time to process the interview with the entire committee. It is also helpful to conduct the interviews as close together as possible, in order that each one is equally well remembered by committee members.