

THE EVANGELICAL COVENANT CHURCH
COVENANT MINISTER'S PROFILE FORM
THE DEPARTMENT OF THE ORDERED MINISTRY

Personal History

Last name Cosman First Joyce Middle I Date of Birth 4/6/1945
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City Huntley State/Pr. IL Postal Code 60142
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Marital Status Single Married Date of Marriage _____
Spouse Name (maiden if applicable) _____
Children's Names and Birth Dates:

Tim Cosman 6/17/75 Bob Cosman 4/20/77

Church History

Denominational Background Evangelical Covenant Years in Covenant 35
Baptism a) Date June 1945 b) Congregation and Denomination Bethlehem Lutheran, St. Charles, IL.

Ministerial Credentials

Educational History

College/University/Seminary	Major Field	Degree	Year
NorthPark Theological Seminary	Church Ministry	M. Div.	2008

Continuing Education: List the three most significant educational experiences in the last five years

Course of Study	Organization Offering Course	Year
Clinical Pastoral Education	Good Shepherd Hospital	2007
Internship at B-way Covenant	Broadway Cov. Rockford, IL	05-06
Seminary Education	NorthPark Seminary	04-08

Employment History

List up to the last seven positions of employment held.

Church/Institution/Business, Location	Position Held	From Year	To Year
Cosman Grain Farms	Owner/ Manager	1967	2002

Denominational & Community Involvement

List up to five significant ways of involvement in the last five years: Boards, Commissions, Committees, Ecumenical, Etc.

Type of Involvement	From Year	To Year
Country Covenant Church, Elgin, IL. Fellowship & Service	1984	1986
Evangelism and Enlistment	1993	1995
Stewardship and Properties	1996	1997
Church Chair	1998	2000
Christian Education	2001	2003

Spiritual Journey

Your Conversion and Spiritual Pilgrimage:

My family of origin was Lutheran so until high school I attended a Lutheran church with my family. In high school I belonged to a youth organization called the Hi Crusaders which was similar to Youth for Christ. I gave my life to Christ at a Billy Graham Crusade in 1962. After high school I became involved in the Lake in the Hills Bible Church for about two years. After my marriage in 1967 we attended a Methodist church for two or three years and then began attending the Covenant Church in rural Elgin. I struggled in an abusive marriage for several years. During this time I learned to rely heavily on God to see me through difficult times. God has proved himself to be very faithful. After a divorce in 2002 my pastor strongly encouraged me to go to seminary. It has been an exciting journey and I look forward to ministry after graduation.

Your call to Ministry:

I always enjoyed ministry at my home church and was very involved in the life of the church over several years. I had even occasionally thought it would be exciting to be in ministry, however since I lacked a degree I did not think that was possible. After my divorce I had planned to go into accounting because I have some background experience in that. However, our pastor kept encouraging me to attend seminary. He said I should at least give it a try. I kept praying about it and felt called to go. The people at my church also affirmed this calling. I took a couple classes as a visiting student and enjoyed it. I was accepted on special student status because I do not have an undergraduate degree. I have done well academically and will graduate in May of 2008.

Theological Perspective

The six Covenant Affirmations are: 1) the centrality of the Word of God, 2) the necessity of the new birth, 3) a commitment to the whole mission of the church, 4) the church as a fellowship of believers, 5) a conscious dependence on the Holy Spirit, 6) the reality of freedom in Christ. Within the provided space, reflect on ways the affirmations influence your ministry in the local church. (21 lines max.):

The Holy Scriptures, the Old and New Testaments, are the word of God and the only perfect rule for faith, doctrine, and conduct as stated in the Covenant affirmations. The scriptures have the power to cleanse us, heal us, transform us, and nurture our faith. The word of God will penetrate every area of church life if the community of faith is committed to living in its truth and instruction. John 14:6 said "I am the way, the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me." The life of faith cannot take place until one has received the Holy Spirit. Each believer must know Christ personally, and must also pursue growth through the study of scriptures which is life transforming. The mission of the church is powered by the hope of reconciliation, justice, and peace, especially for the oppressed, wounded and broken in the world. Jesus calls his followers to be his hands, feet, arms, and legs which reach out into the world with the heart of the gospel. Because of this outreach the Covenant affirmations state that membership is open to all believers, but also invites people at all stages of belief and unbelief to participate in the life of the church. Covenant fellowship means that I am flexible enough in my faith allowing others to differ with my particular faith perspective. One of the main tasks of the Holy Spirit is to illuminate God's word to render guidance to those who read it and also to aid believers in understanding God's direction and activity in their lives. Jesus said "remain in me and I will remain in you." (John 15) If I remain in the word and the Spirit then I will be more aware of the needs and concerns of those to whom I minister, since growth and prospering in faith is only directed through channels opened by God. Liberty is expressed in Christ's own life. He chose to relinquish his own life for the sake of those who had sinned against him. Freedom means that like Christ I relinquish my own rights for the well being of the church as a whole.

Perspectives on Pastoral Ministry

Your theology and practice of worship:

Worship is how I respond to God for the incomprehensible goodness that he has provided. Its not about me. People have not under any circumstances throughout history sought out God. If we were to rely on our own initiative to stay connected with God, humanity would be doomed. Worship precludes that God sent Jesus "while we were still sinners" to provide reconciliation. Worship is the intertwining of my human experience with the ongoing work of God in our world. We come to worship as a Christian community not as individuals. We come to be part of the body which supports and encourages us in time of trouble, but also who holds us accountable for our shortcomings. Worship means praising God but also immersing myself in service to the body, which is my spiritual family. Worship incorporates prayer, praise, thanksgiving, adoration, confession, serving, baptism and the Lord's Supper. God is worthy of worship.

Philosophy of leadership and team ministry:

My philosophy of leadership can be found in the verses Mark 9:35 where Jesus said, "If anyone wants to be first, he must be the very last, and the servant of all," and Mark 12:31 says "Love your neighbor as yourself." Jesus had the mental, emotional, and spiritual capacity to lord it over anyone of his day. However, Jesus gave himself over to the will of his Father. Even though he was God in the flesh he subjected his own desires to a higher authority. For the purposes of ministry, I am a servant first to God and then to the parishioners. I will have ideas that are my own, or suggestions for the success of the church as a whole, but I believe my role will be to facilitate as many ideas concerning a given situation as possible. I believe that is the best way to accomplish God's task in the church. Decisions should be made as part of the community and especially the church board or council.

Your primary spiritual gifts for pastoral leadership:

I have discerned my spiritual gifts mostly from those in my congregation, my CPE group, and from the Kolb Inventory and the People Mapping Course which I took in CPE. These inventory assessments demonstrated that I am a planner, organizer, and thinker who develops theories and implements them. I am very self motivated in putting plans into motion. My gifts lay in the area of organization, discernment, compassion, wisdom, teaching, preaching and I also have natural leadership skills. My CPE supervisors in particular affirmed these gifts in significant ways which was helpful to my discernment. By natural leadership I mean that I am older than the average seminary student and have experienced quite a bit of life. Those experiences allow me to see in a forward direction more readily, and I am able to listen and to empathize with people who struggle.

Perspectives on Pastoral Ministry (Continued)

Reflect on the different church and community cultures you have experienced:

I grew up as a Lutheran, attended a Bible Church, a Methodist Church, and the Evangelical Covenant Church. These are the cultures I have experienced in church life. I have connected very well to people of other races at the seminary and have made some very good friends there. I believe in an all inclusive and encompassing ministry perspective which welcomes all races, classes, and genders in the fellowship of God.

Comment on life circumstances that might affect the call process for you (i.e., spouse’s occupation, health, etc.):

Because of specific family dynamics I would prefer to be located in Northern Illinois or Southern Wisconsin.

Pastoral Preferences

Preference Continuum: Indicate your **preferences** on this continuum with 1 being the lowest (or least frequent/preferred) and 10 being the highest (or most frequent/preferred). You may write an explanatory note in the provided space.

	Least	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	Most
Worship Style												
	Contemporary	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
	Traditional	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	

note: I prefer a blended worship style encompassing both.

Sermon Style	Thematic	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
	Expository	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	

note:

Sermon Text	Lectionary of Christian Year	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
	Series	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	

note:

Charismatic Movement	Knowledge of	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
	Involvement In	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	

note:

Evangelism Style	Intentional Strategy/Planning	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
	Natural Outcome of Giftedness	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	

note: These two options should work together for the best results

Pastoral Preferences (Continued)

Preference Continuum: Indicate your preferences on this continuum with 1 being the lowest (or least frequent/preferred) and 10 being the highest (or most frequent/preferred). You may write an explanatory note in the provided space.

	Least	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	Most
Compassion and Justice												
Interest	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Ministries												
Involvement	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	

note: I was involved in AVA while at Broadway Covenant

Ministry Focus	Discipleship/Equipping	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Community Outreach	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

note: These also need to work together

Theology of Baptism	Believer	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Infant	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

note: I believe in the Covenant stance that equally affirms both.

Practice of Baptism	Believer	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Infant	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

note:

Note: Covenant pastors must agree to recognize the baptism of infants and adults as valid. In order to serve the entire church, pastors in the ECC are required to practice both modes of the sacrament.

Ministry Preferences

Rank the following positions from 1 to 10 (1 being highest) according to which positions you feel most suited

<u>6</u> Lead Pastor	<u>2</u> Christian Education/Christian Formation	<u> </u> Children	<u> </u> Youth
<u>2</u> Adult	<u>5</u> Administration	<u>3</u> Community Outreach/Development	<u>4</u> Worship Leader
<u> </u> Chaplain-Military	<u> </u> Chaplain-Institutional	<u>1</u> Other: <u> </u> Assc. Pastor	<u> </u> Pt/Fl time

Last Update: 12/11/2007

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