



Field Education Litany of Beginning

Beginnings of relationships between students, supervisors, and congregations are important. One way to mark the beginning of this relationship is provided in the litany below. Feel free to use this litany, or adapt it for use.

This litany serves to:

- establish the covenantal aspect of the supervised ministry experience;
- clarify the purpose of the internship; and
- formally recognize the role of the seminarian as intern minister as opposed to summer helper or youth director.

LITANY OF BEGINNING

Supervisor: We are a people of diverse gifts come to worship the Living God.

People: We stand as witnesses to a loving God who has blessed us richly and called us to service.

Supervisor: We have different gifts, but it is the same Spirit who gives them. There are different ways of serving God, but it is the same God whose purposes are achieved through them all.

People: We are a diverse community, blessed by God and touched by God's grace and mercy.

Chair of Lay Mentoring Team: Today we celebrate a new blessing as we welcome _____, our intern minister, [and (his/her) family into our midst].

Intern: I have come to serve and learn with this church family.

Chair of Lay Mentoring Team: We have been called as a congregation to be for _____ a teaching and learning community.

People: We welcome you into our community, _____, as God's representative. Our homes, our hospitals and nursing homes, our classrooms and programs, our sanctuary, our lives, are all open to you.

Intern: With God's help I seek to learn about ministry within this congregation, to earn your trust, and to be a fellow laborer in Jesus Christ with you. I seek your support and your response to me as one who is preparing to serve as an ordained minister.

Pastor: Let us pray . . .