**MINISTRY REFLECTION**

***Outline for Writing Ministry Reflection:***

A ministry reflection is a written paper concerning a critical incident that invites theological reflection on the practice of ministry. It consists of a dialogue description focusing on your response as well as the response of others. The paper should be 2-3 double-spaced pages, with three pages being the maximum allowed.

1.      Choose an incident that shaped your internship or has involved a large amount of spiritual, mental, or emotional energy.

2.      Recall as many of the details of the incident including your feelings as well as the response of

others involved in the incident.

3.      Write your paper using the five areas below to guide your reflection paper:

***Contextualization:***

* Describe the demographic context of your ministry setting, e.g., membership (or similar information for non-parish internships), age, gender, ethnicity, social course, educational levels, location (e.g., urban, rural, suburban), staffing pattern.

***Orientation/Disorientation:***

* Describe the incident focusing on: What happened? Who was involved? What was your role? How did you and others respond? What was the outcome?
* How do current historical, political, social, economic, institutions and movements influence your understanding of what took place?
* In what ways did you experience vulnerability or courage? How did the other people react? How has the incident affected you personally and professionally? What are key issues of theological reflection?

***Reorientation:***

* In what ways do you see the gospel engaged in the incident you have described? Where do you see Christian faithfulness being lived out? Where might your understanding of scripture, theology or ethics conflict with the incident and its outcome you described?
* How does God reveal Godself in this situation? What brings new life, hope?
* Which of your personal beliefs and/or convictions are reflected in or challenged by the incident? Do your actions reflect your core beliefs? If so, how? If not, why not?

***Pastoral/Educational Imagination:***

* What have you learned from this incident that impacts your current or future ministry? How can its benefits be continued, or its hazards be avoided? Are there actions you need to take in response to your insights?
* During this incident or in later reflection on it, how did you draw from your knowledge and learning from other courses you have taken at UPSem?

***Questions for Peers:***  
Include at least two questions you would like to discuss with your peers.