

What references have said...

Lendy has many strengths that are beneficial to a healthy ministry. References said they have had the opportunity to observe him in his church, in church meetings and in outreach and he can relate to all people in all backgrounds. His relationship with God is intact and full.

One reference stated that Lendy was a tremendous blessing in his son's life at a time when he was facing addictions. When his son ended his own life, he helped the reference's family in dealing with their grief. Lendy uses his own struggles to reach others and is transparent in his dealings with people.

His work ethic is one that can be quickly observed by his congregation. He is constantly in growth with reading, study and self-reflection. He strives for excellence and want to be the best that he can be. A reference described Lendy as "intense" and that he can get people fired up for God. He constantly challenges himself and others as well. Another reference states "We have been at the bedside together for sick and dying members, faced divisive behaviors from cliques in the congregation, shared Bible studies and encouraged the weak and weary side by side. Lendy is sold out to Jesus. He clearly understands that without the Grace of God he is dead spiritually, that all that he enjoys comes from the Heavenly Father of light. He is learning to live in gratitude knowing that God works best in people who are humble. He sees himself as broken and called by God to give his story of brokenness for the redemption of a lost world."

References sited that Lendy is gracious in taking criticism. He is very close with several Elders and uses them in consultation.

Lendy has the ability to work in a team and he is able to delegate needs when the need arises. There are several ministers on staff in Oxford (campus, youth) and he works well with them. He has close relationship with those he works with on staff.

One Reference said that he knows Lendy's wife and children and has been in their home. He and his wife have a relationship in which they grow and mature together. Another refernces stated that Lendy loves God wholeheartedly and loves his family wholeheartedly. They will not isolate themselves in struggles, but bring others in when they need help.

One of Lendy's passions or callings is for racial diversity, unity and equality within the church. He has a heart for the kingdom of God. He wants the church to be a reflection of Heaven, not what we have made it with cultural/ racial separations. His efforts have made the community more welcome in the church. One reference stated that although she had not attended Church of Christ church before, she continued to go in part because Lendy made her feel extremely welcome. Lendy has an ongoing, close relationship with the African American COC minister in Oxford, Mississippi. Lendy has taught classes that another reference said he himself had benefited from personally. Another reference said that Lendy is well-known in the community. He visits hospitals, jails, etc.

When asked why Lendy is the right candidate for Community Outreach Minister, references stated that that is exactly what Lendy is doing now in his own church at this time. He already has the connections to get the work going. He has already touched so many people, and any congregation would benefit in Lendy's sincerity, hard work.