

## **Board of Ordained Ministry Committees and Responsibilities**

### **Suggested Parameters for Board's Structure and Work:**

- (1) All BOM Members should serve on at least one committee of the BOM.
- (2) All BOM Members should be willing to serve on an Interview Team
  - (a) Not all Board members will be needed on an interview team every year.
  - (b) Confirmation of participation in an interview team will be received by each Board Member no later than December 31 of each year.
- (3) Each committee's primary purview should be focused on essential Disciplinary responsibilities and Board determined priorities.
- (4) Task Groups should be formed to address short-term or focused needs beyond the responsibilities outlined in the Book of Discipline.
- (5) Chairpersons of Committees and Task Groups should be duly elected members of the Board of Ministry.
- (6) Committees and Task Groups are encouraged to invite laity and clergy from beyond the Board of Ministry to serve when their gifts, passions, and skills are needed or would enhance the work of the group.
- (7) All Committees and Task Groups are strongly encouraged to partner with and collaborate with other duly elected/appointed bodies of the Annual Conference or the Board of Ordained Ministry whenever possible.

### **1. CONFERENCE RELATIONS**

**Make up:** 9 people plus chair – 3 from each region of the State (N, C, S)

**Partners:** Executive Committee, Cabinet; Health & Wellness Committee

#### **Responsibilities:**

- (a) Interview persons requesting leave of absence or end to leave of absence.
- (b) Annual communication with persons on leave; including plans for leave and timeline for return (where applicable).
- (c) Work with Cabinet to insure fair process for persons on Involuntary Leave or Location.
- (d) Interview persons requesting transfer into the Mississippi Conference
- (e) Interview persons applying for professional certification
- (f) Provide for liaison to all retired clergy
- (g) Review requests for appointment to extension ministry (elder) or appointment beyond the local church (deacon).
- (h) Hear requests for involuntary changes in Conference Relations.
- (i) Make recommendation for action to Executive Committee and/or Board of Ordained Ministry for all instances outlined above.
- (j) Make clergy aware of opportunities for leave and resources for Sabbath and renewal.

## **2. HEALTH & WELLNESS**

**Make up:** 10 people

**Partners:** Ethics Response Team; Professionals Health Network; Methodist Healthcare EAP; Amazing Pace; Board of Medical Benefits; Interview Teams; **Safe Sanctuaries Coordinator; Conference Relations Committee**

### **Responsibilities:**

- (a) Plan and implement regular Ethics Training events (all clergy must be trained each quadrennial).
- (b) Review contracts with Professionals Health Network and Employee Assistance Program at least every other year.
- (c) Communicate to Annual Conference regarding PHN and EAP (contact information; purpose; availability; how to access).
- (d) Interpret psychological assessment to interview teams (as needed)
- (e) Encourage healthy lifestyle for clergy and their families.
- (f) Provide support and resources for clergy families, with particular attention to clergy couples and their families.

## **3. INTERVIEWS**

**Make up:** 6 people (representatives of Deacons and Elders)

**Partners:** District Committees on Ministry; Residents in Ministry Council

### **Responsibilities:**

- (a) Annually Review and update the materials to be submitted by persons applying for provisional and full membership.
- (b) Develop process for interviews (process should be evaluated annually and reviewed quadrennially).
- (c) Work with Office of Spiritual Leadership to set date and location for interviews.
- (d) Provide for "orientation" for persons seeking commissioning and ordination.
- (e) Provide Training for BOM members serving on Interview Teams.
- (f) Provide "companion" to persons continued as provisional members.
- (g) Communicate concerns to DCOM when recommended candidate is not approved for provisional membership (and returned to the care of the DCOM).

## **4. PASTORAL GROWTH & DEVELOPMENT**

**Make up:** 6 people (representatives of Deacons and Elders and Local Pastors); ex-officio: Center for Ministry and Chairs of Orders/Fellowship (or delegate)

**Partners:** Cabinet, Center for Ministry, Order of Elders, Order of Deacons, Fellowship of Local Pastors, District Committees on Ministry, Camps, seminaries (13 UM plus other approved seminaries where we have candidates enrolled)

**Responsibilities:**

- (a) Partner with the cabinet to help foster encouragement of pastors.
- (b) Establish a system of self-evaluation for pastors to help determine pathways for growth.
- (c) Partner with Center for Ministry in setting priorities for continuing education events.
- (d) Provide a "Resource Center" with essential information and tools for growth and development. (coaching, models of mentoring and collegial partnering for growth, LPLI, Beckman).
- (e) Develop "Resources" page on website for pastoral growth and development.

**5. RESOURCING THE CONNECTION**

**Make up:** 6-11 persons (representing each area of the Conference)  
**Partners:** District Committees on Ministry; Mentors (Candidacy and Clergy); Residents in Ministry Council; Cabinet; Pastor Parish Relations Chairs; Course of Study (Center for Ministry, Emory University)

**Responsibilities:**

- (a) Provide Trainings for District Committees on Ministry.
- (b) Provide Trainings for Mentors (candidates, local pastors, residents).
- (c) Provide Training for local church Pastor Parish Relations Committees.
- (d) Liaison to District Committees on Ministry.
- (e) Provide for Planning and Implementation of Licensing School.

**6. VOCATION CALL & NURTURE**

**Make up:** 10 people + chair of Bishops' Task Force on Ministry and Coordinator for Ministries with Young People  
**Partners:** Residents in Ministry Council, Bishops' Task Force on Ministry, District Committees on Ministry, Camps, Campus Ministries, Coordinator for Ministries with Young People, Young People's Table, CCYM, Lay Speaking School, seminaries (13 UM plus other approved seminaries where we have candidates enrolled)

**Responsibilities:**

- (a) Ministerial Education Fund.
- (b) Plan and implement Seminary visits (consider, also, visits to camp summer staffs and campus ministry units).
- (c) Plan Discernment Events bi-annually (even numbered years).
- (d) Develop relationship with Campus Ministries and Conference camps (plus other conference-related ministries that are producing candidates for ordination).
- (e) Revitalize Hannah Project.
- (f) Provide packet to all seminarians outlining resources and academic requirements for candidates seeking ordination.
- (g) Provide resources related to variety of ministry opportunities to the District Committees on Ministry.