

A Job Narrative
Description of Regional Pastors
IN-MI Mennonite Conference

We seek to call as Regional Pastors men and women of diverse ethnic and ministry backgrounds with a passion for connecting Anabaptism and missional action. Because we find ourselves in a culture shift, the opportunity of this moment is to orient the staffing configuration around a missional priority.

Who should the Regional Pastor be?

A God-centered individual

The Regional Pastor (RP) lives a Christ-centered life with a commitment to spiritual activities which nourish body, soul and spirit. The RP functions out of a deep love and appreciation for the church as the Body of Christ and its call to live as ambassadors of God's reign.

A Spirit-led innovator

Through intentional engagement with congregations and their leaders, the Regional Pastor encourages cultivating a missional imagination. The RP willingly accepts risks as congregations and their leaders explore new ministry opportunities.

An approachable coach/encourager

As an encouraging coach, the Regional Pastor helps leaders function effectively in their church and community settings. The RP interprets missional trends and encourages use of ministry resources with pastors and congregational leaders. A good sense of humor and an ability to be flexible will be assets.

Adapted from work done by the IN-MI Conference Regional Conference Minister Task Force: Eldon Stoltzfus (chair), Denise Colona, Randy Detweiler, Jim Gerber, Peter Janzen, John Troyer, Ross Weber

WHAT WILL THE REGIONAL PASTOR DO?

The Regional Pastors will be a team working for missional transformation in Indiana-Michigan Mennonite Conference.

Each Regional Pastor will work with pastors and congregations in a designated geographic area.

The Regional Pastor will:

1. Maintain and encourage personal spiritual practices that nourish body, soul and spirit.
2. Engage pastors and congregations with tools and resources for change.
3. Encourage and facilitate learning communities (networks) with missional imagination.
4. Stay in touch with emerging cultural trends and willingly engage in experiments to test them with local realities.
5. Encourage leaders to engage challenges rather than avoid them.
6. Serve as a primary point of accountability for each congregation to the conference body.

Other

The Regional Pastor will be supervised by the Lead Conference Minister.

The RP will participate in regular supervision and staff meetings.

The RP will be ordained and have pastoral experience.

The RP will receive a monthly stipend of \$600, a specified travel allowance, plus a fund of \$1,000 for use as the RP deems appropriate in encouraging transformation in their area.

Implementation Goals

- Regional Pastors will be hired by Sept. 1, 2009, to begin Oct. 1, 2009. The Regional Pastor will be recommended by a search team consisting of the lead conference minister (chair), one person from the Missional Leadership Team (MLT) and one person from the Church Life commission. The MLT will nominate the individual, whose name will be sent to delegates of his/her cluster for affirmation.
- Regional Pastors will have three-year terms. Terms may be renewed.
- Regional Pastors will be trained the week of Oct. 5, 2009, in use of the "Six Challenges matrix," and focus on this work the first year.
- Supervision will occur monthly.
- Staff meetings will occur monthly.

IN-MI Mennonite Conference is in a process of transformation. This staffing model is what seems good now. We recognize adjustments will need to be continually made.

Adopted June 1, 2009, by the IN-MI Missional Leadership Team