

**Great Plains Board of Ordained Ministry Priorities
2015-2020**

The ministry of the Great Plains Board of Ordained Ministry intersects three of the four missional priorities of our annual conference.

1. Enhancing the ministry of local churches with Christ-centered excellence in: Preaching and worship

- **Policy Update:** If the Board of Ordained Ministry determines that a candidate's preaching ability does not meet expectations, then the Board may require said candidate to focus on preaching during Residency 3 or 4.
 - Budget Impact: none
 - Implementation: Call Team to write and implement policy

2. New church starts including: Hispanic congregations

- **Intentional recruitment of Hispanic clergy** to the Great Plains as a highlighted element of the Call Team's Comprehensive Recruitment strategy.
 - Budget Impact: covered by existing line items
 - Implementation: Call Team and Clergy Excellence Team

3. Leadership development for clergy and laity of the conference:

- **Annual Meeting between the Board of Ordained Ministry (BOM) Executive Team and Cabinet** to discuss ways of being mutually supportive in our distinct roles.
 - Budget Impact: Travel expenses for Exec
 - Implementation: Board Chair and Cabinet Dean.

- **Combined quadrennial training of all District Council on Ministries (DCOM) and the BOM** in order to insure that the Board's visions and values are integrated at the District level. Resources to be developed in cooperation with GP Communications, Clergy Excellence and BOM Exec.
 - Budget Impact: Funding for travel and lodging of the 51 BOM members and two members of each DCOM's plus the District Superintendent. Estimated cost: \$15,000

- **Set credentialing standards** for the work of the BOM/DCOM to ensure the credentialing of high-quality/high-capacity clergy for Great Plains.
 - Budget Impact: This is funded through the regular meetings of the Board, but should also include funds for the meeting/work of the DCOM (travel expense, hospitality/meal expense, etc.)
 - Implementation: Competency Team and Registrar
 - Implementation: BOM Exec, Competency Team and Cabinet

- **Create high-quality licensing school** (working toward offering in multiple formats) that equips new clergy with the basics to help them be more successful in their first appointment, including best pastoral behaviors, best practices as clergy and a theological framework for the work of a clergy person.
 - Budget Impact: Minimal—this is funded through Ministerial Education Fund (MEF) and a minimal registration fee.
 - Implementation: Competency Team and Clergy Excellence Team

- **Leadership Development for Board and DCOM**
 - Process Communication Model (PCM) 3 day training for BOM and (?) DCOM
 - Budget Impact: \$6-9,000
 - Implementation: Call Team
 - Assess for 12 from BOM and Exec
 - Budget Impact: \$9,000
 - Implementation: BOM Exec
 - Yearly BOM retreat in fall
 - Budget Impact: Minimal
 - Implementation: BOM Chairperson
 - Create Policy Handbook
 - Budget Impact: Minimal
 - Implementation: BOM Exec and Registrar

- **Comprehensive Recruitment Strategy**
 - **Seminary Visits**—See Clergy Excellence Team Strategic Implementation Plan
 - **Pastoral Interns**—See Clergy Excellence Team Strategic Implementation Plan
 - **Create a media campaign** developed for SPRC and other church leaders
 - Budget Impact:

- Implementation: Call Team, Clergy Excellence Team, Conference Communications Team
 - **Develop plan with the Conference Coordinator of Camping Ministry** to include opportunities for campers to consider and explore ministry
 - Budget Impact:
 - Implementation: Call Team, Coordinator of Camping Ministry and Clergy Recruitment and Development Coordinator
 - **Develop plan with the Local Church Youth Ministry Coordinator** to include opportunities for students to consider and explore ministry
 - Budget Impact:
 - Implementation: Call Team, Local Church Youth Ministry Coordinator and Clergy Recruitment and Development Coordinator
 - **Develop plan with the Campus Ministry Board** to include opportunities for students to consider and explore ministry
 - Budget Impact:
 - Implementation: Call Team, Coordinator of Young Leadership and Clergy Recruitment and Development Coordinator
- **Continuing Education of Clergy**
 - **20 contact hours per appointment year** Effective January 1, 2016. 10 for Professional Development / 10 for Christian spiritual formation
 - Implementation: Covenant Team will coordinate two continuing education events – one for professional development and one for spiritual formation in addition to the annual orders and fellowship meeting.
 - Budget implication: budget for honoraria, cost of place, etc. \$5,000-\$10,000 for each event.
 - **Create a brochure** which describes the continuing education process and requirements.
 - Budget implication: cost of creating and distributing the brochure. Electronic brochure. \$200.
 - **Establish a matching continuing education grant** program similar to the former Kansas West program to extend the dollars available for quality continuing education events.
 - Budget Implication:
- **Healthy Boundaries Training.** Add the policy approved by the 2014 Annual Conference to the policy handbook for the Board of Ordained Ministry. Communication with the clergy: why this is important, what happens at the training, and consequences if the training is not completed.

- Budget implication: we would pay the cost of the participant’s workbook for every clergy person who attends. \$15 per book X number of clergy persons. Each year cost would be approximately \$5,000
- Budget implication: we would pay the cost of the registration fee for every clergy person who attends. All other associated costs would be the responsibility of the clergyperson. Each year cost would be approximately \$5,000
- **Advocates Training for Boundary Violation.** Create a corps of advocates for victims of boundary violation and provide sufficient training each year.
 - Budget implication: Training cost - \$7,000 (Marie Fortune)
- **Create a corps of advocates for clergy offenders** and provide sufficient training each year.
 - Budget implication: \$500 for materials
- **Create Healthy Boundaries training for Staff Parish Chairpersons/Committees**
 - Budget implication: \$500 for materials
- **Response Team**—See Clergy Excellence Team report
- **Covenant Making & Covenant Keeping**
 - **Create a plan of discipleship for clergy** where the covenant is created and renewed annually. Ask specific clergy in each District of the Great Plains Conference to lead the formation of volunteer covenant groups.
 - **Create significant events for clergy renewal** i.e. mini Walk-to-Emmaus. Ask specific clergy in each District of the Great Plains Conference to lead the annual spiritual renewal opportunities. The Dodge City District is a model to be emulated.