

Book of Order
Paragraph 1550
Part II Rules and Regulations

Section 11. Congregations

1. A congregation is a Christian community in which individuals can respond to the love of God in Jesus Christ by growing in their love of God, in their discipleship as followers of Jesus Christ, and in their love, and service toward others.
2. It shall be the duty of congregations to:
 - a. Actively participate with other Moravians provincially and in the Regional Conferences of Churches.
 - b. Actively serve in the community and with the wider church.
 - c. Seek to fulfill its purpose, role and responsibilities by supporting the efforts of pastors and lay leaders.
 - d. Pastors and representatives to the Regional Conference of Churches have the responsibility of fostering the active involvement of their members in the life of the Province and of the Regional Conference.
 - e. Members of congregations are called to participate actively in opportunities for worship, study and service in the congregation, region and Province supporting the ministry of the church through providing time, talent and treasure.

Section 12. Regional Conferences of Churches

1. The Regional Conferences of Churches shall enable communication, build unity and expand community throughout the Moravian Church, Southern Province in order to contribute to the growth of healthy congregations.
2. It shall be the duty of Regional Conferences of Churches to:
 - a. Facilitate better communication within the Province and among congregations.
 - b. Serve as a resource for input to the BCM on local congregation's needs and perspectives in order to enable the BCM to provide practical and professional help.
 - c. Promote ownership, interaction and participation in shared ministries as defined by Synod priorities and direction.
 - d. Promote sharing of strengths, gifts, assets and best practices of each congregation.
 - e. Identify and facilitate connection for initiatives arising across the Conference's churches.
 - f. Identify and recommend candidates for provincial appointments and assist in their recruitment.