

Full Compilation of Partial Reports  
Committee on Emerging Ministries

Committee #3 (Gray)

First Partial Report

Committee on Emerging Ministries

RE: Report to the 2018 Synod of the Moravian Church Northern Province  
from the Emerging Ministries Task Force

Whereas, the Emerging Ministries Committee has received and reviewed the report  
from the Emerging Ministries Task Force (EMTF), and

Whereas, the Emerging Ministries Task Force (EMTF) has diligently and faithfully  
overseen new and emerging ministries in the Northern Province during the  
intersynodal period; therefore be it

Resolved: (1) The 2018 Synod of the Moravian Church Northern Province receives  
with gratitude the report of the Emerging Ministries Task Force regarding  
their work completed during the intersynodal period.

Respectfully Submitted,  
Barry Frey, chair  
Rebecca Sisley, secretary

Committee #3 (gray)

Second Partial Report  
Committee on Emerging Ministries

Re: Interprovincial Collaboration on New and Emerging Ministries

Whereas, The 2018 Synod of the Southern Province has invited strengthened collaboration between the Northern and Southern Provinces; and  
Whereas, both the Northern and Southern Provinces have identified the importance of new and emerging ministries; and  
Whereas, both the Northern and Southern Provinces have new and emerging ministries; and  
Whereas, both the Northern and Southern Provinces will benefit from the sharing of vision, insights, and experiences of their respective new and emerging ministries; therefore be it  
Resolved: (2) The 2018 Synod of the Moravian Church, Northern Province recommends that the Northern Provincial Elders' Conference explore ways in which to collaborate with the Southern Provincial Elders' Conference to identify and support new and emerging ministries.

Respectfully Submitted,  
Barry Frey, chair  
Rebecca Sisley, secretary

Committee #3 (gray)

Third Partial Report  
Committee on Emerging Ministries

- RE: Committee to Identify, Initiate, Implement, and Oversee New Ministries
- Whereas, Jesus gives the Great Commission to “Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything that I have commanded you.” (Matt. 28:19-20a, NRSV), and
- Whereas, Jesus also says, ‘Truly I tell you, just as you did it to one of the least of these who are members of my family, you did it to me.’ (Matthew 25:40, NRSV), and
- Whereas, we acknowledge that there already are District and Provincial level programs in order to help congregations implement new ministries within their current contexts (ex. Assessment Inquiry and Development Program [AID] and the Healthy Congregations Task Force), and
- Whereas, the current Emerging Ministries Task Force was established in order to provide only temporary oversight to the existing emerging ministries, therefore be it
- Resolved: (3) An “Emerging Ministry” is defined as a Moravian-led endeavor that is recognized by the Provincial Elders’ Conference, but is not directly affiliated with any one particular Moravian congregation and stands as a new endeavor, and be it further
- Resolved: (4) The 2018 Synod of the Moravian Church Northern Province directs the Northern Provincial Elders’ Conference (PEC) to establish an Emerging Ministries Committee, advisory to the PEC, to identify, initiate, implement and oversee new ministries, ranging from church plants to various need-focused ministry endeavors.

Respectfully Submitted,  
Barry Frey, chair  
Rebecca Sisley, secretary

With concurrence of Finance Committee

Committee #3 (gray)

Fourth Partial Report  
Committee on Emerging Ministries

Re: Dialogue on Definition of *Church* and Support of Emerging Ministries

- Whereas, we are currently in the discernment process of defining the distinctions and connections between Emerging Ministries, established congregations, and existing ministries, and
- Whereas, the Moravian Church (Unitas Fratrum) has been an “emerging ministry” from its inception in 1457, through its historic renewal as a global mission movement in the 1700s, and onward through reliance on the Spirit’s leading to new and creative expressions of the essentials of our faith, and
- Whereas, we recognize the value of the ministry of traditional congregations as well as new and Emerging Ministries, we affirm the varied understandings of what it means to be the Church, therefore be it
- Resolved: (5) The 2018 Synod of the Moravian Church, Northern Province calls upon the Northern Provincial Elders’ Conference (PEC-NP) to initiate dialogue on the expanding definitions of the Church and its various Moravian expressions, and
- Whereas, every ministry requires varying levels of support – both spiritual and financial – from the PEC-NP, and recognizing the fallacy of “self-sufficiency” as “*living the Christian life depends not only on our own effort but upon God our Father, who in Jesus Christ accepts us as heirs of God (Galatians 4:4-7) and strengthens and sustains us (Philippians 4:13),*” Moravian Covenant for Christian Living I. 7, and
- Whereas, the current system for funding approved “Emerging Ministries” in the Northern Province comes from the Congregational Development Fund, which typically funds these ministries on a declining scale for a period of five (5) years, be it further
- RESOLVED: (6) The 2018 Synod of the Moravian Church, Northern Province tasks the PEC-NP with determining on an individual basis the amount, kind, source, and duration of support of each respective Emerging Ministry, not necessarily limited to five years.

Respectfully Submitted,  
Barry Frey, chair  
Rebecca Sisley, secretary  
June 24, 2018

Committee #3 (gray)

Fifth Partial and Final Report  
Committee on Emerging Ministries

Re: Ordination to Emerging Ministries

Whereas, Jesus calls His disciples to feed the hungry, give water to the thirsty, clothe the naked, visit the sick and imprisoned, and

Whereas, the structure and even definition of “church” is changing, and

Whereas, Moravians have historically gone out in the world to serve and share the love of God, and

Whereas, an individual’s sense of call is a unique conversation between the individual and God and may include ministry outside of a congregational format, therefore be it

RESOLVED: (7) the Northern Provincial Elders Conference (PEC) will consider call for ordination to a new or an existing Emerging Ministry as equal to the call to congregational ministry, and be it further

RESOLVED: (8) consideration for ordination of an individual candidate to a new or existing Emerging Ministry will include the current Ordination Criteria set by the PEC, and be it further

RESOLVED: (9) the ordination candidate will have the opportunity to present an emerging ministry plan directly to the PEC and to the Emerging Ministries Committee designated to initiate and support Emerging Ministries, if the individual has a sense of call to a specific ministry plan, and be it further

RESOLVED: (10) the ordination candidate can be considered for call to a new or an existing Emerging Ministry that may be known within the Moravian Church Northern Province.

Respectfully Submitted,  
Barry Frey, chairperson  
Rebecca Sisley, secretary  
June 24, 2018