

Full Compilation of Partial Reports
Committee on Lay Leadership

Committee #8 (Teal)

FIRST PARTIAL REPORT

Committee on Lay Leadership Development

Re: Licensed Ministers

Whereas, The Book of Order, 2014 (209 a) regarding Licensed Ministers states, “The Provincial Elders’ Conference may grant license to a person for the purpose of ministry within a specific congregation. Such license shall be issued after satisfactory completion of a course of study and fulfillment of guidelines as determined by the Provincial Elders’ Conference. Such a license may, upon the discretion of the Provincial Elders’ Conference, include the privilege of administering the Sacraments”; and

Whereas, the two-year “Crossroads” courses at Moravian Theological Seminary prepares laity for service in local congregations and has become a source of accreditation for licensing lay pastors for other denominations; and

Whereas, there is an increased need for pastoral leadership in local congregations specifically in smaller and/or struggling congregations; and

Whereas, according to the Moravian Church Northern Province Portal document “Ministers with Call,” 17 clergy out of 77 are age 60 and above and 17 clergy are ages 55-59; and

Whereas, as of Spring 2018 there are only two approved candidates in the Northern Province Ordination Review Process, underscoring a future shortage of ordained Moravian clergy for Moravian Churches; therefore be it

RESOLVED: (1) The 2018 Synod of the Moravian Church Northern Province directs the Provincial Elders Conference (PEC) to consider the position of Licensed Minister as an opportunity to address the challenge of staffing congregations for a specific length of service; and be it further

RESOLVED: (2) The 2018 Synod of the Moravian Church Northern Province directs the Provincial Elders' Conference (PEC) to accept the two-year "Crossroads" program as a "satisfactory completion of a course of study" (see Book of Order #209 a) for serving as a Licensed Minister; and be it further

RESOLVED: (3) The 2018 Synod of the Moravian Church Northern Province directs the PEC to accept individuals who complete "Crossroads" at Moravian Theological Seminary as potential candidates for Licensed Minister, with additional guidelines to be determined by the Provincial Elders' Conference; and be it further

RESOLVED: (4) The 2018 Northern Province Synod of the Moravian Church directs the PEC to amend the Book of Order to reflect the changes to paragraph 209 a. to read as follows:

The Provincial Elders' Conference may grant license to a person for the purpose of ministry within a specific congregation or emerging ministry. Such license shall be issued after satisfactory completion of a course of study and fulfillment of guidelines as determined by the Provincial Elders' Conference. Such a license shall include the privilege of administering the Sacraments.

Winston Peart, Chairperson
Holly Heffernan, Secretary

June 23, 2018

Committee #8 (Teal)

Second Partial Report
Committee on Lay Leadership Development

Re: Crossroads Program for Laity

- Whereas, “Crossroads,” of the Moravian Theological Seminary, is a program for laity interested in strengthening their knowledge and skills for service in local congregations, communities and the world; and
- Whereas, participants in the Moravian Theological Seminary “Crossroads” have proven to return to their congregations equipped, empowered and excited to continue in their congregation’s ministry; and
- Whereas, courses in the Moravian Theological Seminary “Crossroads” are offered on-site at Moravian Theological Seminary as well as on-line; and
- Whereas, each of the 16 courses offered in the Moravian Theological Seminary “Crossroads” cost \$240 USD per course as of June 2018, therefore be it
- RESOLVED: (5) The 2018 Synod of the Moravian Church Northern Province encourages each district and congregation to place a line-item in their local budget or identify other funding to encourage and financially assist their members to participate in the “Crossroads” program.

Winston Peart, Chairperson
Holly Heffernan, Secretary

June 23, 2018

Committee #8 (Teal)

THIRD PARTIAL AND FINAL REPORT
Committee on Lay Leadership Development

RE: Lay Leadership Training Team

- Whereas, lay leaders provide valuable and essential support and encouragement to pastors and congregations; and
- Whereas, it has become evident that Lay Leadership training is desired throughout the entire Northern Province; and
- Whereas, there exists a need for qualified Lay Leadership trainers and teachers; and
- Whereas, The Eastern District presently has a number of successful Lay Leadership training workshops developed through the Director of Christian Education of the Eastern District; and the Western District is holding a Lay Leadership conference in November; and
- Whereas, the Northern Province is in need of a method for sharing this training with all interested congregations; and
- Whereas, due to geography of the Northern Province and the costs of transportation, meals and lodging, it would be beneficial to have multiple volunteer regional trainers to meet the needs of congregations in each of the three districts; and
- Whereas, volunteer regional trainers could encourage and foster relational ties between congregations in one given area, therefore be it

RESOLVED: (6) The 2018 Synod of the Moravian Church Northern Province directs the Provincial Elders' Conference to create and develop a Provincial Lay Leadership Training Team of 6 people, two from each district, to be trained annually by the Director of Christian Education of the Eastern District and/or other qualified instructors in a variety of Lay Leadership Skills. The Lay Leadership skills could include,

but not be limited to, Joint Board Training, Conflict Resolution and Identification of Spiritual Gifts; and be it further

RESOLVED: (7) Trained members of the Lay Leadership Team should be available to serve a congregation upon invitation or by the direction of the District or Provincial Board.

Winston Peart, Chairperson
Holly Heffernan, Secretary
June 22, 2018

Financial Impact:

Annual Cost: approximately \$8,400 per year.

There is concurrence for this resolution by the Finance Committee.