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Pastoral Placement Form

This fill-in form is for use with Microsoft Word. Fill out the entire form and answer all questions. The gray form fields will expand as you type. Remember to save the form. If you feel you need to give a more complete explanation for any question, please include a separate document noting the section and number of the question.

**Candidate Name**:

Date:

Position Desired (in order desired)

1.

2.

3.

4.

**Setting Desired:** (*Rank using a scale 1 to 3 (preferred =1*)

Rural       Small town      Medium city       large city

Suburban       Inner-City       Ethnic

Willing to consider bi-vocational setting

**Geographical area(s) desired**: (*indicate preference by 1st, 2nd, 3rd choice*)

      Venture Church Network Midwest: Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Michigan, Minnesota, Eastern

Nebraska, North & South Dakota, Ohio, Wisconsin

      Venture Church Network Northern California and Nevada: (not Clark County)

      Church Venture Northwest: Alaska, Idaho, Oregon, Washington

      Pacific Church Network: Guam, Hawaii, Southern California, Texas

      Rocky Mountain Church Network: Colorado, Eastern Kansas, Montana, Northeastern Utah,

Wyoming

      Southwest Church Connection: Arizona, New Mexico, Nevada (Clark County), Southern Utah

      Mission Northeast: Connecticut, Maine, Massachusetts, New Hampshire, New York, Rhode

Island, Vermont

      Mission Mid-Atlantic: Delaware, D.C., Florida, Maryland, New Jersey, Pennsylvania, Virginia,

West Virginia

**Personal and Family Information**

* **Name:**       **Email**:

**Street Address**:

**City/State/Zip**:

**Home phone**:       **Cell**:

* **Marital Status**:

**Wife’s name:**       **Date of Marriage**

Have you or your wife ever been divorced?  Yes  No

If yes, please explain the circumstances:

* **Names and ages of your children**:
* Current Housing:  Own  Rent  Live in church housing  Other
* Would you be willing to provide a credit report if requested?  Yes  No
* Do you have any disabilities that would prevent you from performing any of the

essential job functions without reasonable accommodation?  Yes  No

If so please explain:

* Are you and/or your spouse fluent in a language other than English?

Yes  No If so, which language(s)?

**Education and Credentials**

Academic Training: List all education and special training above high school start with most recent

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Dates Attended**  **(MM/YYYY)** | **School Name & Location** | **Degree Earned** |
| From:  To: | Name:  City, State: |  |
| From:  To: | Name:  City, State: |  |
| From:  To: | Name:  City, State: |  |
| From:  To: | Name:  City, State: |  |
| From:  To: | Name:  City, State: |  |

* Are you:      Ordained      Licensed      Neither

If so, Date:       By what body?

* Are you seeking your first pastorate with no experience in an official capacity?

Yes  No

**Church Experience**

Please list past and present ministries, beginning with the most recent:

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Church: | City & State: |
| Position: | Years: to |
| Type of community: | Setting: |
| Morning Worship Attendance: | Number of full-time staff: |
| Denomination: |  |
| Reason for leaving: |  |
| Comments on the ministry |  |

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Church: | City & State: |
| Position: | Years: to |
| Type of community: | Setting: |
| Morning Worship Attendance: | Number of full-time staff: |
| Denomination: |  |
| Reason for leaving: |  |
| Comments on the ministry |  |

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Church: | City & State: |
| Position: | Years: to |
| Type of community: | Setting: |
| Morning Worship Attendance: | Number of full-time staff: |
| Denomination: |  |
| Reason for leaving: |  |
| Comments on the ministry |  |

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Church: | City & State: |
| Position: | Years: to |
| Type of community: | Setting: |
| Morning Worship Attendance: | Number of full-time staff: |
| Denomination: |  |
| Reason for leaving: |  |
| Comments on the ministry |  |

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Church: | City & State: |
| Position: | Years: to |
| Type of community: | Setting: |
| Morning Worship Attendance: | Number of full-time staff: |
| Denomination: |  |
| Reason for leaving: |  |
| Comments on the ministry |  |

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Church: | City & State: |
| Position: | Years: to |
| Type of community: | Setting: |
| Morning Worship Attendance: | Number of full-time staff: |
| Denomination: |  |
| Reason for leaving: |  |
| Comments on the ministry |  |

**Non- Ministry Work Experience**

Please list past and present employment beginning with the most recent:

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Position** | **Dates**  **(MM/YYYY)** | **Company Name & Location** | **Responsibilities** |
|  | From:  To: | Name:  City, State |  |
|  | From:  To: | Name:  City, State |  |
|  | From:  To: | Name:  City, State |  |

**Ministry Perspectives**

* How do your wife and family feel about the pastoral ministry?
* In what ways have you seen God working in your life this past year?
* Describe the growth of your church during your ministry.
* What particular area of your ministry seems to be most effective in bringing about response and growth in your congregation?
* What do you consider to be your strengths in your pastoral ministry?
* What area of your pastoral ministry do you feel needs the most growth?
* Define the role of a senior pastor as you interpret it to be.
* List any material you have read on Conservative Baptists or their history.
* Comment on your personal devotional life.
* What is your current denominational affiliation?
* If you desire a senior pastor, solo pastor, or church planter position, rank your three strongest areas (1 = strongest):

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | Administrator |  | Outreach |  | Worship |  | Counseling |
|  | Pastoral Care |  | Personal Evangelism |  | Motivator |  | Pulpit |

* If you desire a staff pastor position, indicate your areas of interest. Rank your three strongest areas (1=strongest):

|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | Administrator |  | Christian Education |  | Discipleship |
|  | Music Performing |  | Outreach |  | Worship |
|  | Counseling |  | Personal Evangelism |  | Music Directing |
|  | Pastoral Care |  | Youth |  | Missions |
|  | Adults |  |  |  |  |

**Philosophy of Ministry**

Briefly explain your scriptural understanding of the following:

* Your view of Scripture.
* Your plan of evangelism.
* Your view of church government (elders, line of authority, and congregational government).
* Your plan for church growth (local church growth and church planting).
* Your plan for developing leaders.
* Your preference of worship style.
* Your practice of church discipline.
* Your plan of pastoral care and visitation.
* Your plan for support to the:

1. Family
2. Senior Adults
3. Youth
4. Children

* Your convictions regarding local church engagement with world missions.
* Your convictions regarding local church engagement with the poor of the community.
* Your convictions on tongues and sign gifts.

Ceased  Open, but cautious  Normative for the church today

Explain:

* Your convictions and pastoral practice relating to divorce and remarriage.

1. Under what circumstances could a divorced person hold a leadership position?

Never  All the time  Special circumstances

Explain:

1. Under what circumstances would you perform a marriage for divorced people?

Never  All the time  Special circumstances

Explain:

* Your convictions on use of alcoholic beverages.
* Your convictions concerning eschatology.

Comments:

* Your view of the role of women in the local church.

a. Can a woman teach a mixed class of adults?  Yes  No

b. Can a woman lead worship in a service?  Yes  No

c. What office can a woman hold?

* Your understanding of God’s plan of salvation.

a. Do you hold to:  Limited atonement  Unlimited atonement?

b. Your view on the security of the believer.

* Your practice as it pertains to personal and family worship.
* Please indicate the number on the continuum that best shows your position or preference.

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  |  | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 4 | 3 | 2 | 1 |  |
| Church Music | *Traditional* |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | *Contemporary* |
| Worship Style | *Formal* |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | *Informal* |
| Sermon Style | *Expository* |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | *Topical* |
| Sermon Series | *Frequent* |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | *Infrequent* |
| Theology | *Calvinistic* |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | *Arminian* |

* Your self-evaluation of your spiritual gifts (check no more than three).

|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | Prophecy/Preaching |  | Leadership |  | Administration |
|  | Exhortation |  | Discernment |  | Teaching |
|  | Pastor |  | Evangelist |  | Service |
|  | Faith |  | Mercy |  | Giving |

**Criminal and Civil Liability**

The questions in this section are designed to help a pastoral search committee make an informed decision concerning your application for ministry. These questions assist a local church’s leadership in the effort to be responsible for the care of their church family. It is regretful that we live in a time when it is essential to ask these kinds of questions. False or incomplete answers will be grounds for immediate dismissal.

* Have you ever been accused of, engaged in, or investigated for any sexual misconduct involving a minor or adult, including but not limited to child abuse, child molestation, indecent liberties with a child, incest, adultery, sexual harassment, rape, assault, battery, murder, kidnapping, child pornography, sodomy, or sexual contact with a counselee?  Yes  No

If yes, explain fully on a separate sheet (identify when and where each accusation was made and how each accusation was resolved).

* Have you ever been convicted of, or pled guilty or “no contest” to, any criminal offense?

If yes, explain fully on a separate sheet (identify each conviction or plea of guilty, when and where each incident occurred, and the sentence received).

* Have you ever been found liable, or participated in and out -of -court settlement as a defendant, for any offense in a civil lawsuit?  Yes  No

If yes, explain fully on a separate sheet (identify each case, when and where each incident occurred, and the outcome).

* Has any employer with whom you have been employed at anytime in the past ever been sued as a result of your conduct?  Yes  No

If yes, explain fully on a separate sheet (identify each case, when and where each incident occurred, the outcome).

* Have you ever been subject to discipline by a religious body?  Yes  No

If yes, explain fully on a separate sheet (identify each case, when and where each incident occurred, the religious body involved and the outcome).

* I give permission to Venture Church Network Midwest regional office or a church interested in calling me to a staff position to complete a background check including my police record.       Yes       No

**Personal References**

Please list references below including full addresses, phone numbers, and a brief description of the relationship. These references will be contacted. Do not list any references that you are related to by marriage or birth. There should be at least one woman within the list of references**. They should include:**

* No more than two pastors who know you and your work
* An active deacon of the church where you have served
* Two additional lay persons in the church
* A Business person who knows you well
* No more than one seminary professor

1. Name:       Relationship:

Address:

City, State, Zip:

1. Name:       Relationship:

Address:

City, State, Zip:

1. Name:       Relationship:

Address:

City, State, Zip:

1. Name:       Relationship:

Address:

City, State, Zip:

1. Name:       Relationship:

Address:

City, State, Zip:

1. Name:       Relationship:

Address:

City, State, Zip:

Do you want the Search Committee to contact you before they call your references? If you check “no” your references will be contacted by the Search Committee. If you check “Yes” you will be called before your references are contacted.       Yes       No

**Venture Church Network Midwest Identity Document and Certifying Signature**

I certify that all the information and responses in this application, including the Criminal and Civil Liability form, are true and complete.

Signed\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Date\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**Please see additional documentation and instructions below.**

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**Venture Church Network Midwest Statement of Faith**

3-25-21

**The Word of God -** We believe the sixty-six canonical books of the Old and New Testaments are the divinely inspired, infallible Word of God, without error in the original manuscripts, and God's complete, written revelation to humankind. The Bible is sufficient and trustworthy for life, faith, conduct, and practice, and is the supreme and final authority in all matters to which it speaks. We further believe there is but one true interpretation of Scripture, although there may be several applications. The true meaning lies in the text and is that which the divinely-guided author willed to convey. It is recoverable through careful application of a literal (grammatical, historical, contextual) method of interpretation under the guidance of the Holy Spirit, and in the community of Christ. The Holy Spirit illumines the text, enabling the reader to embrace the significance of what God has communicated, and to see the glory of Christ in the Word of God.

**The Trinity -** We believe in one God, Creator and Sustainer of all things, eternally divine existing in three persons: Father, Son and Holy Spirit; we believe that these are equal in every distinct perfection and they execute distinct but harmonious offices in the work of creation, providence, and redemption.

**God the Father -** We believe in God the Father: an infinite, personal Spirit, perfect in holiness, wisdom, power, and love. We believe that He concerns Himself mercifully in the affairs of humanity, that He hears and answers prayer, and that He saves from sin and death all who come to Him through Jesus Christ. We believe God's knowledge is exhaustive; that He fully knows the past, present, and future independent of human decisions and actions. The Father does everything in accordance with His perfect will, though His sovereignty neither eliminates nor minimizes our personal responsibility.

**Jesus Christ -** We believe that Jesus Christ is the incarnation of God's eternal Son. God the Son has precisely the same nature, attributes, and perfections as God the Father and God the Holy Spirit. We believe further that He is not only true God, but true man, conceived by the Holy Spirit and born of the virgin Mary. We also believe in His sinless life, His substitutionary atonement, His bodily resurrection from the dead, His ascension into heaven, His priestly intercession on behalf of His people, and His personal, visible, premillennial return from heaven.

**Holy Spirit -** We believe in the Holy Spirit, His personality and His work in regeneration, sanctification, and preservation. His ministry is to glorify the Lord Jesus Christ, to implement Christ's work of redeeming the lost, and to empower the believer for godly living and service. We believe the Holy Spirit distributes spiritual gifts to believers as He wills for the common good. No gift signifies His baptism or filling, nor does any gift provide authoritative revelation beyond what has already been revealed in the Holy Scriptures. Life in the Spirit includes trials and does not guarantee physical health, material wealth, nor confirming outward signs.

**Mankind -** We believe God originally created persons, male and female, in the image of God and free from sin. We believe all people are sinners by nature and choice and are spiritually dead. We also believe that those who repent of sin and trust Jesus Christ as Savior are regenerated by the Holy Spirit. We believe God established marriage to be a lifelong covenant relationship between one man and one woman. Marriage so defined is the only permissible context for intimate sexual expression and is the foundation for human family. We further believe that human life is precious and should be protected from beginning, at fertilization, until death.

**Salvation -** We believe in salvation by grace through faith in the Lord Jesus Christ. We further believe that this salvation is based upon the sovereign grace of God, was purchased by Jesus Christ on the cross, is eternally secured by the Holy Spirit, and is received by faith, apart from any human merit, works, or ritual. We further believe salvation results in righteous living, good works, and proper social concern.

**The Church -** We believe that the Church is the spiritual body of which Christ is the head. We believe that the true Church is composed of all persons who have been regenerated by the Holy Spirit. We believe that this body expresses itself in local assemblies whose members have been immersed upon a credible confession of faith and have associated themselves for worship, for instruction, for evangelism, and for service. We believe the ordinances of the local church are believer's baptism by immersion and the Lord's Supper. We also believe in the interdependence of local churches and the mutual submission of believers to each other in love.

**Separation of Church and State -** We believe that each local church is self-governing in function and must be free from interference by any ecclesiastical or political authority. We further believe that every human being is directly responsible to God in matters of faith and life and that each one should be free to worship God according to the dictates of conscience.

**Christian Conduct -** We believe that the supreme task of believers is to glorify God in their life and that their conduct should be blameless before the world. We further believe that they should be faithful stewards of their possessions and that they should seek to realize for themselves the full stature of maturity in Christ.

**The Last Things** - We believe in the bodily resurrection of the saved and lost, the eternal existence of all people either in heaven or hell, in divine judgment, rewards, and punishments.

Signed\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Date\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

*(Please mail or email a signed copy of this form to the VCNMidwest office)*



**Venture Church Network Midwest Covenant**

\*Revised (Name Change) 3-25-21

**Rationale**:

A covenant is a statement expressing how members of a covenantal community define their reciprocal commitments and expectations. It is not the same as a contract. Contracts deal with things and services. Covenants deal with people and relationships. They are enacted by families and friends. God witnesses the terms of covenants and acts as the One who stands behind their vows and promises.

Our covenant instructs us in the nature of our unity as churches together under God’s new covenant of grace. It helps us shape our regional culture around our shared doctrine, mission, vision, and core values.

Venture Church Network Midwest (VCN Midwest) desires to become a covenantal community committed to accountable relationships consisting of mutual rights, responsibilities and privileges. Based upon our shared doctrine, mission, vision, and core values, we solemnly commit to a fellowship expressed in dependence upon, responsibility for, and accountability to each other.

**We Covenant**:

- To be a community that fully embraces our regional and national Statement of Faith and to have the Word of God as the centerpiece of our lives and churches.

- To be a Great Commission community fueled by the Great Commandment passion, seeking to reach our communities for Jesus Christ and the kingdom of God.

- To seek interdependence by working together and strategically partnering so that we will reach people for Christ and bring greater health to our churches.

- To submit to one another, to protect each other, to honor each other and avoid any communication that would malign another

- To unite the strengths of our churches in a network of services assisting the churches of VCN Midwest and the other churches that make up Venture Church Network (VCN).

- To allow others to minister to our lives if they perceive within us aloofness, independence, competitiveness, or nonparticipation.

- To encourage pastors in VCN Midwest to become involved in sub-regional cluster groups, regional gatherings and events.

- To support the ministries of VCN Midwest and VCN financially, to pray for VCN Midwest and VCN Leadership.

- To partner with other VCN ministries and evangelical agencies of like doctrine, mission, vision, and values that support our churches’ God-given vision and mission.

In recognition of God-ordained covenantal relationships, I sign my name, pledging to honor this agreement as a sacred trust before God. This document is not to be construed as an enforceable contract, with legal ties or liabilities. Rather, it is an expression of intent that you enter into voluntarily and seek to honor as God gives you the resources and opportunities.

\*Originated April 4, 2007

Signed\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

*(Please mail or email a signed copy of this form to the VCNMidwest office)*

**Thank you** for your interest in the VCNMidwest Region. We are excited that you have taken this step and we want to thank you for taking the time to complete the Pastoral Placement Form. The following are some general instructions to submit your form to the VCNMidwest office.

1. Save the Pastoral Placement Form to your computer and attach it to an email to [wendyj@vcnmidwest.org](mailto:wendyj@vcnmidwest.org). To do this go to the ‘File’ tab and use the ‘save as’ option, name your file, and save it to your desktop. Now you can add it to an email by selecting the ‘attach file’ option on your email and follow the prompts.
2. The two documents at the end; the Statement of Faith and the Covenant can be printed and signed and mailed separately or a typed signature will suffice.
3. Submit $50 processing fee by mailing a check USPS or by using the online payment option on the VCNMidwest website, [www.vcnmidwest.org](http://www.vcnmidwest.org). If you use the online method, click on the Contributions tab to use Paypal or your credit card through Paypal.
4. Mailing Address: Venture Church Network Midwest

PO Box 490441, Blaine, MN 55449

Phone: 763-205-9330

Email: [wendyj@vcnmidwest.org](mailto:wendyj@vcnmidwest.org)