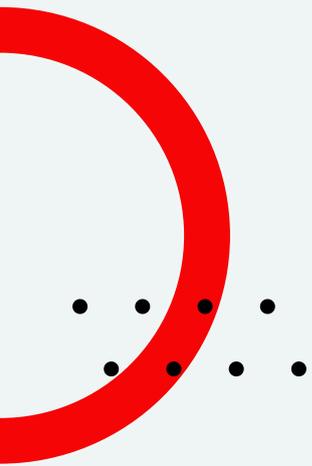




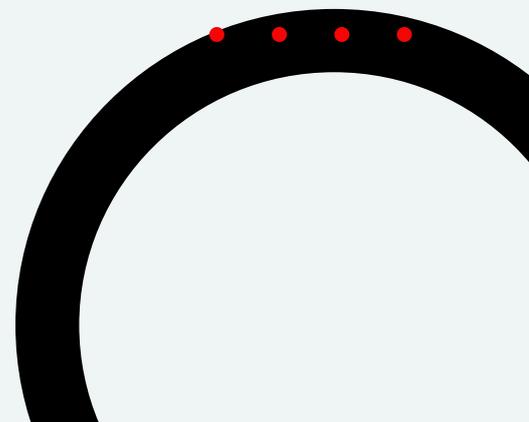
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The
Methodist Church
EMMU
of Southern Africa
Education for Healing and Transformation

INTERNSHIP...

HANDBOOK



DIRECTOR'S MESSAGE

On behalf of Education for Ministry and Mission Unit (EMMU), we extend a warm welcome to all our probationers in the year 2025. A season of **“Awakening Prophetic Agency and Urgency: Becoming an Alternative Community”**. EMMU’s objectives generally, is to equip all Methodist people to proclaim the Gospel of Jesus Christ for healing and transformation. EMMU is responsible for the formation and training of Ordained Ministers and Deacons. This Projects handbook outlines the expectations, the process of, and the procedure for marking your projects. In the main, the projects are to facilitate your academic, spiritual, vocational growth and formation. The EMMU, is responsible for ministerial formation, making disciples, and equipping all Methodists for mission and ministry of healing and transformation.

The Conference 2023 mandated all Units, Circuits, Districts and Organization within the MCSA to integrate the “Prophetic Focus Areas” as outlined and endorsed by the Conference. Accordingly, EMMU is committed to implement “Prophetic Focus Areas,” through the In Service Training program and Laity Training.

The purpose of this handbook is to:

1. Familiarise you with EMMU projects.
2. To provide a comprehensive understanding of your responsibilities.
3. Outline the performance expectations and evaluation criteria.

Our Commitment:

We are committed to supporting your ministerial development, theological and spiritual formation during this critical period of your formation. Our experienced team of District Supervisor of Studies and IST Conveners is dedicated to providing guidance, mentorship and constructive feedback to ensure your growth.

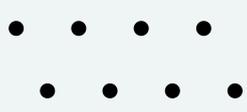
Your role:

- As a probationer, you play a critical role in contributing to your growth and success; we encourage you to engage to:
1. Actively engage with your peers/ colleagues and supervisors.
 2. Seek feedback and opportunities for growth.
 3. Embrace our values and culture of excellence.
 4. Strive for growth in your formation.

We hope this project serves as valuable resource during your probation period.

Welcome to EMMU IST year, we looking forward to your journey of formation post Seminary

Rev. Dr. M Molale
EMMU Director



PURPOSE:

To provide student ministers and deacons with an opportunity to continue theological reflection on their academic studies, ministerial and spiritual formation, research and pastoral work, in the context of the vision and mission of the Methodist Church of Southern Africa.

SPECIFIC OBJECTIVES:

To this end, student ministers and deacons should:

1. Engage with the prescribed written material and resources;
2. Contextualise the materials from their own perspectives;
3. Reflect on and process issues and experiences encountered as a student minister and deacon in their daily life. (e.g. HIV and Aids, ecology, transformation etc.)
4. Prepare research papers and projects on given topics;
5. Identify and reflect on incidences and challenges encountered in their pastoral work.



2023 — 2025 — 2026





PROJECT REQUIREMENTS FOR 2025

DEACONS:

- First Year in circuit Deacons must do Projects 1, 2, 4 + Deacon Project 1.
- Second Year in circuit Deacons must do Projects 4, 6 + Deacon Project 2
- Third Year in circuit Deacons must do Projects 4, 7 + Deacon Project 3
- Fourth Year in circuit must do Projects 3, 4 + Deacon Project 4.

STUDENT MINISTERS:

- First Year in circuit Student Ministers must do Projects 1, 2, 3 and 4.
- Second Year in circuit Student Ministers must do Projects 4, 5 and 6.
- Third Year in circuit Student Ministers must do Projects 4, and 7.
- Fourth and Fifth Year in circuit Student Ministers must do Projects 4, and 8.

Note:



1. It is important to acknowledge all your sources and to include your bibliography in all your written work.
2. **IT IS ESSENTIAL TO ALWAYS REFLECT THEOLOGICALLY BEFORE YOU CONCLUDE YOUR WRITTEN PROJECTS EVEN IF THE QUESTION DOES NOT SPECIFY THE REQUIREMENT AS THIS IS THE TOOL YOU NEED TO BECOME ACQUAINTED WITH BEFORE YOU EXIT TO ORDINATION.**

PLEASE MAKE SUFFICIENT COPIES OF THE ENCLOSED PROJECT / ASSIGNMENT COVER

Internship 2025 Assignment / Project Cover sheet



Name:

Project No.: Topic: Date:

District (Name & Number):

C = Competent **NYC** = Not Yet Competent **NC** = Not Competent

		C	NYC	NC
1	Was the reading material and/or context understood			
2	Presentation – written and oral: Does the learner communicate clearly and appropriately? Was enough effort put into the preparation?			
3	Content of the written theological reflection: Are the theological issues identified and deeply reflected upon? Is Scripture, tradition, reason and experience critically engaged?			
4	How adequately can the learner describe his or her own growth through the project? Did the project give the learner new insights? Can she/he articulate them?			
5	Ability to interact meaningfully with the rest of the group, and graciously receive feedback.			
PLEASE COMPLETE ALL 5 CATEGORIES OF MARKING				

Names Signatures:

DSS / Convener:

Group Members:

DSS / Convener's Comments:

REFLECTIVE LEARNING

The foci of this Project / Assignment are pastoral skills, pulpit skills and management/administration. The intention of the journal is for you to improve on your performance in these areas through reflection and consultation.

INSTRUCTIONS

Keep a “Reflection Journal” for the next six months of your ministry (February to July), written or recorded on mp3/voice note. You must write a one-page (450-500 word) entry or record a 3-5 minute mp3/voice note every week (25 weeks). It is best to make this decision in consultation with your IST convenor.

Reflect specifically on:

1. Services (sacramental ministry, preaching & worship, funerals).
2. Pastoral visitations and counselling
3. Administrative/management functions (leading meetings; handling finances; tasks of coordinating various church activities; managing staff; etc.)
4. The use of technology (how has technology helped or hindered your ministry)
5. PMC’s (in your experience of your PMC, how do you envisage the PMC enabling your development as a minister)
6. At the conclusion of your reflection, you are required to respond to the 22 questions that everyone who belonged to John Wesley’s Holy Club answered for themselves at the end of every day. Your responses to these questions are to be an overview of your experience of ministry over the six-month period under review. (You will find the questions at <https://www.umcdiscipleship.org/resources/everyday-disciples-john-wesleys-22-questions>)

Reflection: Guiding questions (Do not answer each question! They are here to give you ideas on how to reflect).

- What has the experience revealed about my strengths and weaknesses?
- What have I learned about myself as a result of the experiences?
- What new information have I learned about the tasks and my abilities to perform them well?
- What could I have done differently/better? How?
- What caused my greatest joys and feelings of accomplishment? What were my greatest challenges?
- What strong feelings – positive or negative – were elicited by my experiences?
- How has my understanding of my ministry or calling been impacted by my experiences?

Although personal reflection is the emphasis of the journal, you must show at least one example of applying/integrating the knowledge you gained during your academic studies in each entry. For example:

- Cite a specific worship style taught to you and reflect on how it was received and how you felt going outside of your comfort zone.
- Describe how you used a counselling skill during a pastoral visit and reflect of how successful you were and how comfortable you were doing it.
- Mention a leadership technique you applied in a meeting and reflect on whether you could improve on using it.



DESIGNING AND IMPLEMENTING A CAMPAIGN

WESLEY(AN)'S MODELS OF ECONOMY: USING JOHN WESLEY'S SERMON ON THE USE OF MONEY.

The MCSA 2024 Conference has directed through the platform of work for all Methodist People within the Connexion that the following should be done:

Each Circuit and District to prioritise financial literacy by ensuring that theological teaching on the Wesleyan theology of money and practical workshops on financial literacy are offered in 2025. This work is to be reported on at CQMs, Synods and Conference 2025.

The above conference directive recognises that whilst many people continue to struggle financially because of the economic conditions in the member states of our connexion, there is also a need for empowering people in financial literacy so that they can become good stewards of the resources God has entrusted to them. In this project you will need to use the Bible and John Wesley's sermon on the use of Money as a tool for teaching, empowering and mobilising your community/circuit to be more financially literate and how to resource for mission.

Therefore, this project invites you to create a campaign responding to a specific issue of concern pertaining to the use of money. Furthermore, it seeks to challenge you to establish resources, both for your use and training others in advocacy and lobbying for the right usage of money in your circuits, society and the wider communities you serve.

The objectives of this assignment are:

1. To assess your ability to identify financial/economic issues of concern as well as the impact they have on the livelihood of those within your local context and Southern Africa as a whole.
2. To assess your ability to reflect theologically on these specific areas of financial literacy and economics:
 - a) To assess your ability to select and contextually read several passages that can help promote the right use of money within the context of Wesleyan Theology and Spirituality.
 - b) To assess your ability to connect the readings within the spirituality of the MCSA (i.e. how do the gleaned themes from the passages interact with the pillars and/or vision and mission of the MCSA?)
 - c) To assess your ability to determine how the Church has addressed this specific concern, using the Wesleyan tradition.
3. To assess your ability to design a campaign (which would include a manual consisting of a sermon series, a Bible Study series, series of weekly workshops or a community project) that would run for a minimum of four weeks.
4. To assess your ability to address a specific financial or economic issue through the campaign, as well as, offering possible ways in which interventions can be set in place in order to create awareness, lobbying support for financial literacy and resource mission.

There are four sections to this assignment. Please read and follow the instructions for each section carefully.



Section A:

Identify a financial/economic issue you would like to address that may be as a result of irresponsible use of money in your local setting. Discuss the details of the identified issue and how it impacts quality of life and the resourcing of mission in your local setting. Include your conversations with the wider society in your response. (300 words)

Section B:**Reflect theologically on this issue and include in your response:**

- a) Wesley's sermon on the use of money and any other passages you will be using for your campaign as well as explaining their relevance to that specific financial/economic issue in Southern Africa
- b) The connection your readings have with the spirituality of the MCSA (i.e. how do the gleaned themes from the passages interact with the pillars and/or vision and mission of the MCSA?)
- c) How has the Methodist Church addressed or not addressed this specific issue of concern?

Section C:**Design and implement a campaign addressing this specific financial/economic issue**

- a) You are required to develop a manual which will include a sermon series, a Bible study series, a series of workshops or a community project that will run for a period of a minimum four weeks.
- b) Include your sermons and notes and programmes for the Bible studies and/or workshops in your response.
- c) This engagement should not be limited only to the church but should include members of the community or the schools who are not members of the church.
- d) You will need to include feedback from at least five (5) members who attended the sermon series, the Bible studies/workshops or participated in the community project, and two (2) members of the community/school.

Section D:**Assess effectiveness of the campaign**

- a) Assess your own effectiveness in addressing the specific financial/economic issue and indicate the interventions that have been put in place as a consequence of you having run the campaign that will help in financial literacy advocacy and resourcing mission.
- b) You are also to report on how this project has changed the way in which you view ministry and the Church's response to contextual issues.



THE SPIRITUAL DISCIPLINES

INTEGRATING THE SPIRITUAL DISCIPLINES AND RELATED WESLEYAN SPIRITUALITY INTO YOUR PERSONAL LIFE AND VOCATIONAL WORK.

PURPOSE OF THIS PROJECT

The intention of this project is that the minister gains an understanding of the role of spiritual disciplines in a Christian's life. Further, the minister should understand John Wesley's own view of the spiritual disciplines (which Wesley generally referred to as 'means of grace'). The minister should then combine this understanding, systematize / thematize it, and pass it on to others. Most especially the minister should grow in their own practice and appreciation of some of the spiritual disciplines.

TASKS

1. Read MISSING JESUS? FINDING THE SHEPHERD WE LOST by John Wessels. The chapters that are pertinent to completing this project are 1,2, 3, 20, 21, although it is important to note that the entire work will guide your response.
2. Read Wesley sermon 16 "The Means of Grace", sermon 43 "The Scripture way of Salvation", sermon 12 "The witness of our own Spirit".
3. Read some online articles or other resources that may help you develop an understanding of Wesley's relationship with Spiritual Disciplines (Means of Grace). Focus here could be given to the Southern African context.
4. Your Personal Devotional Life:
 - a) Chapter 20 of Missing Jesus? Finding the Shepherd we Lost suggests a specific way of praying the Lord's Prayer. Pray the Lord's Prayer in this suggested way every day for one month.
 - b) Chapter 21 of Missing Jesus? Finding the Shepherd we Lost offers 35 other spiritual disciplines. Select any three that you are drawn to. Take time to choose your three. Which shimmer for you? Which feel interesting or exciting? Which do you feel prompted to practice?
 - c) Get an electronic version of the resource John Wessels developed as a companion to Chapter 21. This can be obtained at [Missing Jesus - Downloads \(http://missingjesus.net/frmDownload.aspx?fl=Additional%20resources.pdf\)](http://missingjesus.net/frmDownload.aspx?fl=Additional%20resources.pdf) or by requesting it by email from john@trinitylinden.org.za
 - d) Practice the three disciplines you have chosen so that you discover their power.
 - e) Write a 2 000 word reflection on your personal experiences with these Spiritual Disciplines.
5. Your vocational work:
 - a) Based on the readings of Missing Jesus? Finding the Shepherd we Lost and the sermons of John Wesley mentioned (and any other Wesleyan resources you believe may be relevant) develop and teach a six week course on the spiritual disciplines. Give a title for your course.
 - b) Write a 5 000 word summary of the content of the course. This must include the content you taught and the questions for discussion.
 - c) The course should have no less than eight participants. You must develop an evaluation form that the participants complete. The original evaluation forms from all participants must be submitted. The forms can be anonymous.



PRESCRIBED RESOURCES

Wessels, John, *Missing Jesus? Finding the Shepherd we Lost*, Porcupine Press, 2019. (This resource can be ordered from the website Missing_Jesus (missingjesus.net); info@missingjesus.net; 0722272773; copies will be brought to the January seminar)

Wesley's sermon 16 "The Means of Grace"

Wesley's sermon 43 "The Scripture way of Salvation"

Wesley's sermon 12 "The witness of our own Spirit".



CONTEXTUAL ISSUE

EVALUATION OF PREVIOUS MISSION CONGRESSES AND PREPARATION FOR THE MISSION CONGRESS 2025

The Submission date for this assignment is end of April 2025

Over the decades, the Methodist Church of Southern Africa has searched for ways in which the Church can be a catalyst for healing and transformation. This journey began with the discernment work of Obedience '81. Then there was the Journey to the New Land between 1992 and 1997 which culminated in the developing of the Mission Statement and Vision Statement of the MCSA as we know it today. This was followed by the two Mission Congresses were held in 2004 and 2016. The Mission Charter that was born out of the 2004 Mission Congress led to the Mission Pillars that define our areas of focus for our Mission work across the Connexion. 2016 marked a journey of listening and inclusion of the many voices that make up Methodism in Southern Africa.

The Church has been accused of “always dreaming and not implementing” these pragmatic milestones of our journey as a Church in order for us to live up to our ideals and vision and mission.

Section A

Organize a Mission Congress Workshop in your Circuit together with the Circuit Mission Congress Facilitator and reflect on the areas listed below. This workshop needs to be a significant gathering that includes all ages. Every area of the life of the Church in your Circuit needs to be involved in the Mission Congress, including the Mission Groups.

This workshop must be held before the District Mission Synods in April 2025. In order for marks to be allocated you need to submit the following:

- Invitation letters to the participants
- Methods and evidence of advertising of the Circuit Mission Congress
- Letters of Consent from the Gatekeepers
- Statistics of the participant demographics countersigned by the Circuit Superintendent
- Programme for the Circuit Mission Congress Workshop
- Evaluation Report from the Circuit Mission Congress Facilitator

Section B

Produce a report of the outcomes of the Mission Congress Workshop using these three areas:

1. Critically evaluate the previous two Mission Congresses by examining how your Circuit has implemented the resolutions of these Mission Congresses. (1000 words)

2. Given today's context and the challenges the Church faces in remaining an agency for healing and transformation, discuss some of the theologies your Local Church Community is giving birth to. (1000 words)

3. How do you think this work that emerged from the point above should be implemented in order for the 2025 Mission Congress to be impactful in society in general. (1000 words)

Total: 3000 words

COMPULSARY READING MATERIAL

1. <https://methodist.org.za/index.php/the-statement-from-mission-congress/>

2. <https://methodist.org.za/index.php/journey-to-the-new-land/>

3. <https://methodist.org.za/index.php/obedience-81/>

4. <https://methodist.org.za/index.php/mission-center/>

5. Kumalo, S.R., 2006. Transforming South African Methodism: the Journey to the New Land programme 1992-1997. *Missionalia: Southern African Journal of Mission Studies*, 34(Issue), pp.249-266.

LEADERSHIP IN TIMES OF SOCIAL MEDIA

IS SOCIAL MEDIA A TOOL TO BUILD OR DISTRACT?

Introduction

The paper titled “The Church and Social Media” by Sorin Bădrăgan explores the relationship between the church and social media, emphasizing the need for churches to adapt to the growing influence of social networks, where nearly half the global population is active. While social media is commonly viewed as a tool for ministry, its deeper implications, as outlined in the mediatization theory, suggest that it shapes personal and societal dynamics significantly. The church must respond not only by utilizing social media for outreach and community building but also by addressing its negative impacts, such as mental health issues stemming from social comparisons. Bădrăgan advocates for a multifaceted approach, encouraging churches to engage actively online, offering support to those affected by social media’s darker aspects, and recognizing the integrated reality of media and religion in contemporary society.

Guidelines

Assignment Length: 4700 words, bibliography, supporting documents, use size 12 font and 1.5 spacing.

Style: This project is more practical than theory, yet it combines the two. As you engage with this project, you should show good leadership, theological perspective, and relevant contextual examples. This project is about leadership, therefore, clear evidence of leadership exercised by you must be shown. Be as practical as possible and display good knowledge of yourself, your context, the prescribed resources, and others.

The aim of this project is to show how you reflect on theory and devise tools to display your leadership in church and especially outside church. Your theological training should enable you to think critically with achievable solutions.

Key Insights

- The significant presence of social media users necessitates that churches adapt their ministerial strategies to engage effectively with these platforms.
- Social media is not merely a tool but a transformative factor that influences personal and public life through mediatization.
- The church faces challenges in addressing the negative psychological impacts of social media, such as anxiety and depression linked to social comparisons.
- Historical perspectives on the interaction between religion and media have often overlooked the importance of technology in shaping religious practices and beliefs.
- A proactive approach is needed for churches to not only disseminate their messages but also to provide support and community for those affected by social media’s negative aspects.

Section 1

MCSA Social Media Policy.

Before starting to do the project, especially the practical parts, write your own reflection and observation on how the Church in general and the Methodist Church in particular have related to social media, whether positively or negatively or both. As a part of this reflection, reflect on the Methodist Church of Southern Africa’s Social Media Policy. This reflection should not be long and should be part of your IST Seminar discussions. (700 words)

SECTION 2

Read and discuss “The Role of Social Media in Peacebuilding and Conflict Resolution”

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Considering this, how can social media be strategically utilized to enhance peacebuilding and conflict resolution while preventing violence, promoting empathy, and combating misinformation and hate speech?

Secondly, what strategies can be developed to enhance the constructive capabilities of social media in conflict resolution while mitigating its inherent risks such as polarization and the spread of false information?

Having looked at and discussed the above, write a discussion paper from your answer. Organise a seminar for leaders in church and community where you will lead and facilitate a discussion on The Role of Social Media In Peacebuilding And Conflict Resolution, and the outcomes should be developed into a working paper that you will present as a motion to the CQM with an anticipation to go to the conference eventually. This should also be broadcast live on your church’s Facebook page, and screengrab the comments as part of your working paper. There should be clear evidence that must form part of your submission. A discussion paper (1000 words), working document (1500 words), CQM resolution, evaluation form, attendance register, and four signed testimonies should be submitted.

SECTION 3

The Effect of Social Media on Church Management

Choose any social media platform and post on the dangers of inciting conflict on the platform and what should be the best way of engaging one another on the platforms. The post can be written, or you can do a video or even add extracts of other social media posts that will be able to inspire conversation on your post.

Attach the post to your written submission together with all the comments. In your written reflection assess whether your post attracted a meaningful engagement or if people were not interested. Based on your reflection, argue whether social media platforms are helpful in meaningful interactions and if it is important for the church to invest in how it uses social media platforms to engage, inform and evangelise. Written reflection (1500 words), social media post, and at least five comments responding to or engaging your post need to be included in this section.

PRESCRIBED RESOURCES

Bădrăgan, S. (no date) 'The church and social media.'

Hesse, L.N. (2019) 'The effect of social media on church management,' *Texila International Journal of Management*, pp. 145-147. <https://doi.org/10.21522/tijar.2014.se.19.01.art016>.

James, A.B. (2024) 'The role of social media in peacebuilding and conflict resolution,' *IJCSPUB*, 14(2), pp. 770-776.

RECOMMENDED RESOURCES

Afolaranmi, A. (2021) TOWARDS A THEOLOGY OF CONFLICT TRANSFORMATION IN CHURCHES THROUGH SOCIAL MEDIA, Peace and Conflict Journal Conference.

https://nsuworks.nova.edu/pcs_conference/2020/day1/14/.

Badmos, K. (no date) 'Effects of social media on the church.'

Drescher, E. (2011) *Tweet If You Love Jesus: Practicing Church in the Digital Reformation*. Morehouse Publishing.

Madise, M. (2023) 'Adapting or Adopting Digitisation: The Methodist Church of Southern Africa (MCSA) during Covid-19 Lockdown (2019 to 2022),' *Studia Historiae Ecclesiasticae*, 49(2).

<https://doi.org/10.25159/2412-4265/12577>.

Nell, I., 2016, 'Virtual leadership? The church as a South African case in point', *HTS Teologiese Studies/ Theological Studies* 72(2), pp. 1-9.

Pimay, A. & Riyadi, A., 2023, 'Virtual Religious Conflict: From Cyberspace to Reality', *HTS Teologiese Studies/ Theological Studies* 79(1), pp. 1-6.

PROJECT 6

CHURCH PLANTING

12

This is a Practical Project that requires your direct involvement with the leadership, the congregation members as well as the community in designing a church planting model for your community.

NB***It is important that you read the Suggested Reading Material before attempting the project. It requires time to develop over a few months.

The Project consists of three sections. It is important that Sections 1 and 2 relate to each other.

Aim

- To develop a church planting strategy for your local church. This could be a house group or a community centre plant or even a small group meeting under a tree.
- To design and put in place the basics of church planting from your reading material ensuring that the following ingredients are definitely included:

SECTION 1

Write a 3000 word essay in which you present the rationale and importance of CHURCH PLANTING.

- A clear understanding of the ingredients of a functional and effective church plant.
- A description on how you are going to do this with your context in mind.
- Propose strategies to be employed in creating a small church plant in your society.
- Relate these strategies to the MCSA vision and mission imperatives.

SECTION 2

Design and implement a programme aimed at bringing people into a teaching on church planting with the basics in place.

Guidelines:

- Initiate a process to discover the mind set about church planting in your society/circuit. Find out where the need lies, and the gaps are in order to facilitate a church plant. This can be influenced by doing an analysis of how far people travel to church, where there are facilities that can be used for meetings and how leaderships can be effectively utilised for the church plant.
- Interview the local community to find out what they feel about the local Methodist Church and if they feel there is a need for a church plant. Do a study on the area and find out how practical and financially possible it is.
- Design a programme based on the following ingredients - research your area, motivate the need with your leaders and share teaching on this, pray, get a team together, look for potential places (community hall, house or even a shady tree!!), identify the needs (team, finances, accountability structure), look for a mentor to walk with you, be flexible, follow Jesus and put Him at the Centre.
- Describe the programme: the issues you have decided to address, and how you will address them. When? Who will be involved? Who will work with you? How will you lead the congregation in embracing the church plant? How will you help enable/empower people to participate freely?
- Describe constraints and opportunities if any, and state how you aim to overcome or enhance them.
- Indicate in your programme how you will evaluate your progress periodically.
- NB. You are required to have a mentor who will get involved in the project and will be expected to submit a short reflective report on his/her views on the project and comment on the lessons learnt by the congregation.

SECTION 3

Write a self-evaluation that addresses the following:

- Goals, reached or not in your church planting model?
- How did you overcome the constraints that you felt doing the project?
- What limitations you discovered in yourself?

Not all of us have a call to church planting but the exercise has hopefully helped you to see the importance of this going forward. What have you learned through the process?

NB: To be competent in this project, the following is needed:

- Your 3000 word essay
- Your research and investigation outcome.
- Your designed programme. You can be very creative and out the box with this.
- Your self- evaluation and report from your Mentor

PRESCRIBED RESOURCES

Please note that all reading material will be free and downloadable from the links below:

Veysie Peter: Church planting ingredients. October 2021 www.methodisttraining.co.za

Alan Hirsch: The forgotten ways excerpts.

http://www.theforgottenways.org/uploads/what-is-a-pest-sidebar_7_0_1.pdf

Lausanne conference on church planting strategy

<https://lausanne.org/content/lga/2017-11/5-truths-church-planting-today>

Methodist Church UK - handbook on “Resurrecting the Classes” A “church planting” strategy.

<https://www.methodist.org.uk/downloads/disc-new-resurrecting-the-classes-180610.pdf>

Church Planting 101 Ed Stetzer

<https://youtu.be/n5xsqrCjAMA>

CLERGY AND LAITY

AWAKENING PROPHETIC URGENCY AND AGENCY: BECOMING AN ALTERNATIVE COMMUNITY.

Aims:

The aim of this project is to help you explore the beauty of a Church that creates room for both laity and clergy to exercise their gifts and calling. Furthermore, it is to help you explore the theology of the laity, understand your relationship with the laity, and engage with the 2024 Conference theme. This project is also aimed at assisting laypeople in your context in their understanding of every member ministry, or what has theologically been termed “the priesthood of all believers.”

Activity:

Organise a lay training event in your circuit or society.

- You are to make sure that the event is well marketed and that women and the youth are well represented.
- You are also to ensure that class leaders, bible study leaders or ward leaders are also in attendance.

1. Write and present a paper:

In the light of the 2024 Conference theme, “**Awakening Prophetic Urgency and Agency: Becoming an Alternative Community,**” prepare and present a 3000-word paper on contextual engagement in the theology of the priesthood of all believers by exploring the role of laity and clergy in awakening prophetic urgency and agency, considering the socio-economic challenges that face the community you serve. Moreover, explore why and how laity and clergy should work together to revive the Church of Christ and become an alternative community.

2. Allow for a time of plenary and facilitated discussion on some of the following:

- What is your understanding of the Church and how are you experiencing the Church evolving in your context?
- What is your understanding of the “priesthood of all believers” and the role of laity and clergy in this form of ministry in our context?
- How can we better become an alternative community in our upholding our understanding of every member ministry?
- What are some of the practical things that can be done by our circuit to promote working together between clergy and laity as we seek to revive the Church of Christ?
- The Presiding Bishop, in the 2024 address, has called upon all Methodist to work toward becoming an alternative community through a number of focus areas (c.f. pg. 12-13). In what ways can our circuit respond to this call and what practical things will we do to put these focus areas at the core of our strategy to revive the Church of Christ as a circuit?
- What are some of the other ways (beyond those mentioned above) through which our Circuit might revive the Church towards becoming an alternative community in our context?

For submission, the student must provide the marker with the following:

- An attendance register (signed by attendees)
- A copy of the presented paper
- Summary of the discussions held in groups.
- Way forward with actionable strategies to infuse Prayer and Accountability groups in the life of the Circuit

RECOMMENDED RESOURCES:

2024 Presiding Bishop's address to Conference.

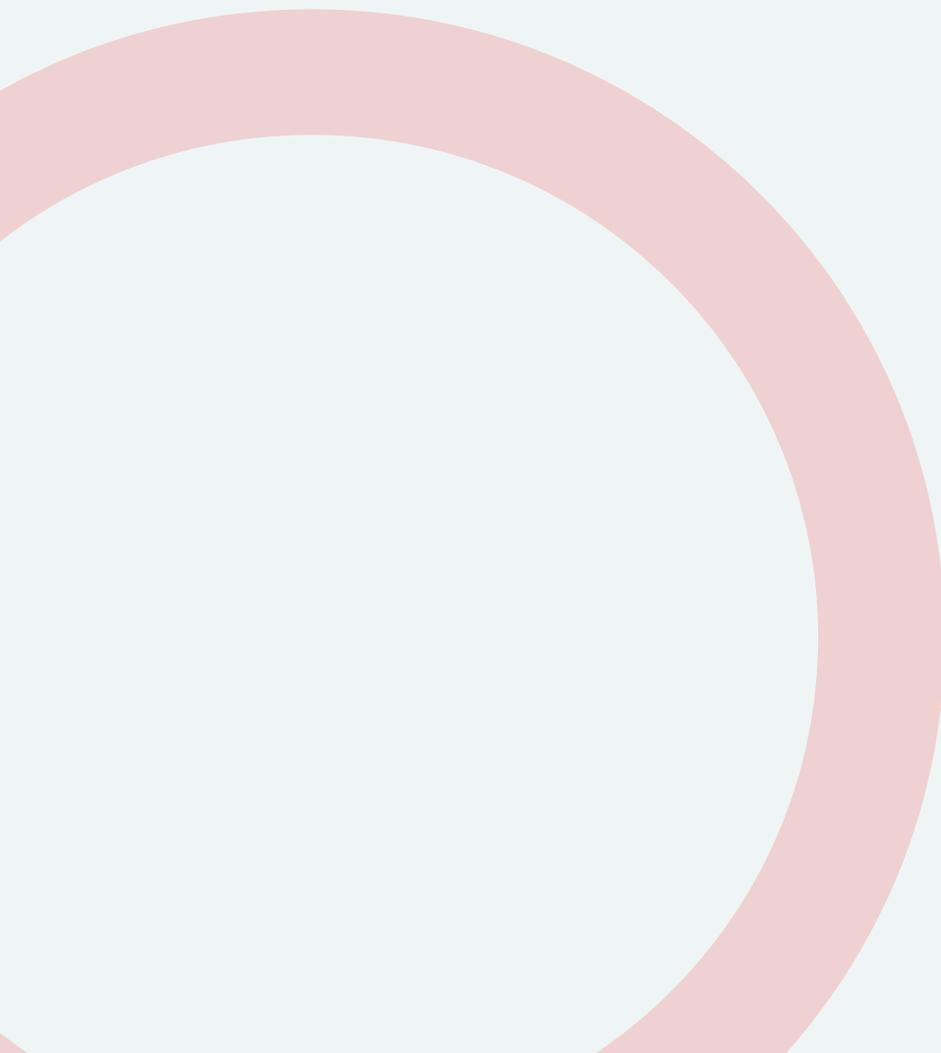
https://methodist.org.za/index.php/conference-2024/?fbclid=IwY2xjawG2AR9leHRuA2FlbQIxMQABHVlyC1PK_AtIY0PqI0-P1eJv8DSVC2pWiVzmOQGfTb9IXcDkPCOy5GCTnQ_aem_caNBoK584PqEM7KKQ9vWKg

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PRACTICAL THEOLOGY

ASSISTING CONGREGANTS TO COPE WITH MENTAL HEALTH CHALLENGES

People are often forced to overcome many challenges at the same time. This is especially true with regards to ministry. These challenges create instability and uncertainty in individuals and families, leading at times to mental health challenges.

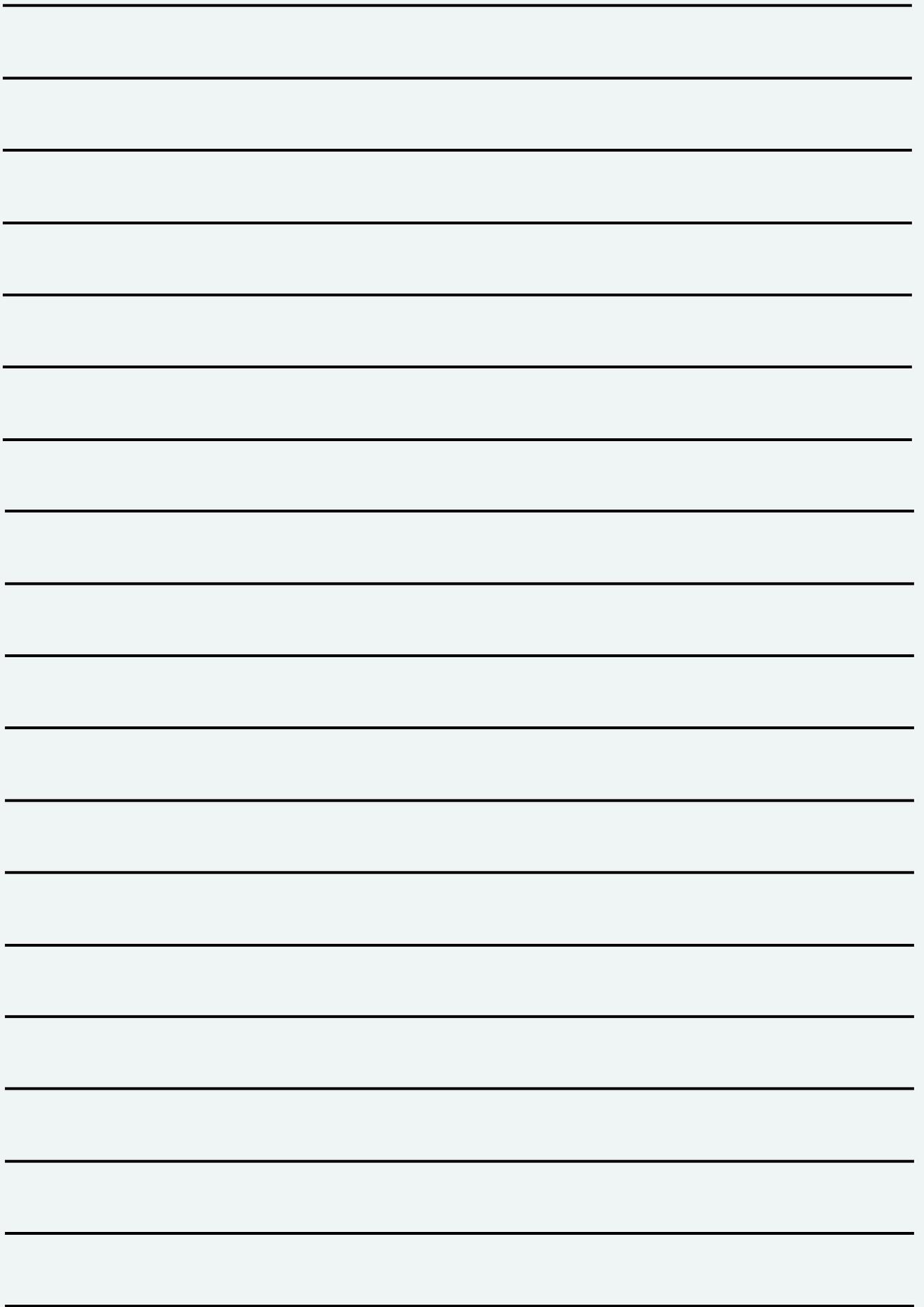
Create a model of support that you will implement in your local church to address mental health in not less than 3000, but not more than 3500 words. To achieve this, cover the following areas:

A. Research:

1. Select and describe a mental health challenge that is most prominent or common in your local community and also indicate what the triggers could be, if any. (300 words)
2. Assist the congregants to be informed about the mental health challenge you have identified from a scholarly perspective. Use proper academic referencing. (300 words)
3. Indicate how this particular mental health issue affects youth and children. (300 words)
4. In your project, demonstrate how people understand the mental health challenge of your choice, including the stereotypes (also mentioning the contributing factors to such stereotypes) that your community holds about the mental health challenge of your choice, including how youth and children understand such an issue. Include evidence of how you have collected this data. (600 words)

B. Contribution:

5. Develop a practical model indicating ways in which those who suffer from and as well as those who are affected by the mental health challenge described above may be supported, especially youth and children. Practically demonstrate how the model you have come up with will be or is being implemented and sustained. Please provide evidence of the practical steps taken to implement this strategy. (1500 words)



CONNEXIONAL LEADERSHIP



REV P NZIMANDE

PRESIDING BISHOP



REV M LOSABA

GENERAL SECRETARY



MR X MHLUBULWANA

LAY PRESIDENT



REV DR M MOLALE

EMMU DIRECTOR