

Appendix II

A GLOSSARY OF TERMS FOR THE CENTRAL PENNSYLVANIA CONFERENCE

To avoid confusion over terminology, the following terms are defined for use within the conference.

PARISH DEVELOPMENT: A strategy for evaluating existing ministry, and helping to implement vision and outreach for the future.

COOPERATIVE PARISH MINISTRIES: A form of ministry in which several congregations share a common vision and mission.

PARISH DIRECTOR: A Pastor who is appointed to lead the COOPERATIVE PARISH MINISTRY and serves as the liaison between the cabinet, the pastors, and the laity. Depending on resources, the PARISH DIRECTOR may or may not be appointed to serve a congregation.

A COOPERATIVE: A word used to describe a group of congregations who have covenanted to work together.

PARISH REALIGNMENT: This is the prerogative of the District Superintendent and the Bishop. This may occur in order to provide for parish development in accordance with paragraph 523.10 of the *1992 Book of Discipline*.

PHASES OF COOPERATIVE PARISH DEVELOPMENT

PROBE: This is the next step — a bit more formal. Specific ways of cooperative ministry are sought out which will enhance and benefit their local ministry. It is during this phase that an agreement known as a COVENANT is written as a beginning point in ministry.

STRUCTURING: During this phase a Parish Council is elected and begins to consider ways of developing cooperative parish ministry. Here the 'guidelines' for the actual operating of the parish are developed.

OPERATION: It is during this phase that the actual plans of running the Cooperative Parish are put into motion.

EVALUATION: Done at least every three years to determine that the Cooperative Parish is keeping on track with its goals.

WAYS CONGREGATIONS ARE GROUPED TOGETHER FOR MINISTRY

LARGER PARISH: A number of congregations working together using a parish-wide Ad Council or Ad Board and Council on Ministries, and other boards and committees as may be determined by the parish council. The pastors are appointed to the staff of the LARGER PARISH and preaching and other assignments are negotiated by the staff and the Parish Director.

GROUP MINISTRY: A loosely organized group of two or more pastoral charges in which the pastors are appointed to the pastoral charges. The pastor/lay council may designate a coordinator.

MULTIPLE CHARGE PARISH: Each congregation relates to its own Charge Conference and also to a parish council. The pastors are appointed to the pastoral charges and also to the parish. A director or coordinator is appointed by the Bishop.

ENLARGED CHARGE: Two or more congregations, usually relatively the same size and on the same circuit who work together in the Ad Board and Ad Council.

EXTENDED MINISTRY: A large congregation shares its ministry with a congregation of a smaller membership.

CLUSTER GROUPS: Congregations in the same geographic area working together in a rather loosely knit organization that allows the congregations and pastoral charges to engage in cooperative programs in varying degrees.

PROBE STAFF: Composed of ministers and other staff assigned to a geographic region to explore possibilities for cooperation and developing strategy for improved ministries to persons.

ECUMENICAL PARISH: A group of United Methodist congregations and congregations of other Christian traditions joined in a common shared ministry.