

MINISTRY STAFF DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM

PURPOSE

The purpose of the Ministry Staff Development Program is to provide long-term mentored opportunities in Seventh Day Baptist churches for the development of pastoral leaders and assist churches in developing their ministry opportunities and potential.

INTENDED RESULT

It is intended that one of these permanent changes will occur.

- Establishing a new or substantially reorganized ministry that will continue in a Seventh Day Baptist church.
- Training a ministry assistant in skills that will prepare him or her for continuing service as a pastor, assistant pastor or youth pastor.

MOTIVATION

- Individuals will be seeking ways and places to develop their ministry skills and professional abilities as an assistant to an accredited senior Pastor of an SDB Church.
- Churches will be seeking to enhance their ministry program for growth and improvement.

PROGRAM BASIC COMPONENTS

Basic components include:

- Mentoring.
- Theological Education.
- Bi-vocational Training.

Churches applying can either focus on

- implementing and / or training an Assistant Pastor
- a church planting situation.

POSSIBLE EXTENSION

The program may be extended for up to three additional years. Extension requests are more likely to be approved when they focus on the development of an on-going multi-staff ministry in the calling church, or the planting of a new Seventh Day Baptist branch church.

BENEFITS TO SDBs

- Pastors with at least three years of mentored pastoral / theological education.
- Opportunities for pastors to gain education and training prior to answering a call to a single-pastor church. This may also appeal to those just out of seminary.
- Pastors better prepared for Seventh Day Baptist churches.

**THIS IS AN OVERVIEW. PLEASE
SEE THE FULL DESCRIPTION
FOR COMPLETE DETAILS.**

FINANCIAL AID

The Seventh Day Baptist Memorial Fund will provide a matching fund grant to the calling church for the salary support of the ministry assistant of up to \$10,000 per year for a period of three years. A three year extension may be possible with the following matching of up to \$10,000, \$7,500 and \$5,000 for the additional three years respectively.

WRITING THE APPLICATION

A successful application for assistance under this program will include a clear identification of such goals and indicate the intention of the church and/or ministry assistant to pursue them according to a workable plan. The mentoring of the ministry assistant is an important component of the program, and must be accomplished according to a plan that will further the goals that have been identified.

The Ministry Assistant must meet certain requirements.

The Director of Pastoral Services is available to assist churches and potential ministry assistants in thinking through the implantation of a plan that will fulfill the purposes of this program.