

# Iowa Annual Conference Programming Agencies & Advocacy Commissions

## **Conference Connectional Ministries Council**

District representation through DCOM chairs

**Regular Meeting Schedule:** Saturdays, twice in the fall and again in the late winter (mid-February).

## **Board of Camp, Conference & Retreat Ministries**

Establish a vision, be the link between the sites and annual conference, establish standards of quality, set annual goals, & oversee the management of the sites, programs and personnel.

**Expertise desired in Board/Agency membership:** Interest in camp/ retreat ministries with a range of skills/experience in business management, education/Christian Ed, marketing, construction; including parents & participants in camp ministries. The expectation is that this board will function in ways similar to a board of a non-profit organization.

**Regular meeting schedule:** One day meetings, 6 times/year – typically at the Conference Center, Des Moines on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Saturday of every odd month (i.e. January, March, May, etc).

## **Board of Church and Society**

Witness to Jesus Christ, calling communities of faith to share in active social justice ministries

**Expertise desired:** Strong faith, active in UMC, desire to apply Social Principles to community, nation, & world.

**Regular meeting schedule:** 3<sup>rd</sup> Saturday in September (Fri eve/Sat), November, January & April

## **Board of Discipleship**

Assist the local church in making disciples for Christ, through Wesley's Means of Grace: prayer, study of scripture, fasting, celebrating the Lord's Supper, Christian conferencing, and acts of mercy.

**Regular meeting schedule:** Minimum of two times a year; traditionally on a Saturday in Oct and April

## **Board of Global Ministries**

Provide grants for local church ministries, support our institutions and community ministries, and educate for mission. Reaching unchurched children is the top priority.

**Expertise desired:** a genuine interest and enthusiasm for missions

**Regular meeting schedule:** January, April, September on a Saturday

## **BOGM Parish Development Standing Committee**

Work with new churches and churches undergoing revitalization.

**Expertise desired:** Forward thinking; willing to take risks to make disciples.

**Regular Meeting Schedule:** Fridays, four times a year, Sept, Oct, Jan, & Apr.

## **BOGM Community & Institutional Ministries Standing Committee**

Enable, encourage, & support the missional outreach of the Church in local communities.

**Expertise desired:** Interest in the mission of the church & willingness to visit & evaluate projects in your district.

**Regular meeting schedule:** Saturdays, Spring & fall to approve funding. Time to visit some projects.

## **BOGM Standing Committee on Mission Education**

Promote work of General Board of Global Ministries, Advance Specials, missionary support & Rainbow Covenant.

**Expertise desired:** Active interest in mission work; knowledge of work of GBGM and the conference mission program.

**Regular meeting schedule:** Two times a year: second Saturdays of October & March

## **BOGM Standing Committee on Hispanic/Latino Ministries**

Oversee the Hispanic Ministries of the Conference.

**Expertise desired:** Experience in Hispanic ministry; ability to speak Spanish; interest in Hispanic ministries

**Regular meeting schedule:** Quarterly - first Saturday of Jan, Apr, July, & Oct.

## **BOGM Volunteers In Mission Standing Committee (to be combined with Disaster Preparedness)**

Support, encourage, and assist in mission work through hand-on active service.

**Expertise desired:** Knowledge of VIM activity or willingness to learn. Ability to convey information to others.

## **BOGM Disaster Preparedness & Response Standing Committee**

To prepare for disasters, developing & implementing Early Response Teams, Relief Operations & Recovery Operations.

**Expertise desired:** Desire, time & ability to help in preparedness or disasters and willingness to take trainings.

Must be able to travel to give presentations.

**Meeting schedule:** as needed by phone and at least 1-2 face-to-face meetings during the year (Saturday)

### **BOGM Justice For Our Neighbors Standing Committee**

Oversees the Iowa JFON program of free legal services for low-income immigrants.

**Expertise desired:** Special interest in our immigrant and refugee neighbors.

**Regular meeting schedule:** Quarterly, usually from 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. on a Saturday in Des Moines

### **Board of Higher Education and Campus Ministry**

Nurture the partnership between the Board and the colleges and Wesley Foundations to promote the development of leaders who proclaim the gospel and transform the world.

**Expertise desired in Board/Agency membership:** Keen interest in high school/college students attending a UM College. Belief in value of UM presence at state schools & Drake University via Wesley Foundations.

**Regular meeting schedule:** Third Thursday of November, January & April

### **Board of Laity**

Inspire and validate the ministry of the laity; develop conference, district, and local leadership; train, nurture, and enable laity to make disciples for Christ.

**Regular meeting schedule:** Saturday in fall & winter/spring; program planning years -overnight retreat in the fall

### **Conference Council on Youth Ministry (currently inactive)**

Provide opportunities for youth to hear, identify, respond to, and live out God's call as strong Christian leaders; strengthen local and district youth ministries as they develop leaders and make disciples.

### **Conference Council on Older Adult Ministries (currently inactive)**

Strengthen older adult ministries in local churches and districts of the annual conference.

### **Young Adult Council (currently inactive)**

Strengthen the young adult ministry in the local churches and districts of the annual conference

### **Christian Unity and Interreligious Concerns**

Advocate, interpret, and work for the unity of the Christian church in the conference & churches; encourage dialogue and cooperation with persons of other living faiths.

**Expertise desired:** People in an ecumenical shared ministry; involved in a local, county, or area ecumenical group or ministry; knowledgeable about other living faiths; will work as a liaison between the Commission and the churches

**Regular meeting schedule:** Periodic Saturdays; sometimes as Conference phone call.

### **Religion and Race (CORR)**

Prepare congregations for ethnic pastors; serve as a liaison so problems caused by ethnicity will be reduced; monitor, sensitize, and empower ethnic pastors.

**Expertise desired:** Interest in Commission, skills in communication.

**Regular meeting schedule:** Quarterly - Saturdays in Jan, Apr, & Sept

### **Status and Role of Women (COSROW)**

Monitoring and advocacy commission: monitor the participation of women on all levels and all areas of the church and the wider society; advocate for full participation of women, educating about issues which hinder full participation.

**Expertise desired:** Interest in/concern about women's issues. Particularly in need of men who are interested in these issues, as well as persons of color of either sex.

**Regular meeting schedule:** Saturdays in February, April, September, & November

### **Ministry With Persons With Disabilities**

Emphasizing that persons with disabilities bring unique gifts to the church, we seek wholeness in Christ's church through promoting the full inclusion and participation of ALL persons free from any barriers which limit full expression of faith.

**Expertise desired:** Professional persons with knowledge, training, and/or experience in working with disabilities; persons who have disabilities or those who are or have been care givers to a person with disabilities.

**Regular meeting schedule:** Conference phone calls 4<sup>th</sup> Sat am each month; face-to-face at Annual Conference

For more detailed descriptions, feel free to email  
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