**Hartford Circuit Pastor by Committee**

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In 2010 the voting members of the Hartford Circuit agreed to the concept of one circuit being served by two pastors. We proposed to one elected circuit pastor who was given the approval to appoint another brother from the circuit as his assisting circuit pastor. In the interest of clarity and good order this document means to lay out some brotherly guidelines for those two men, whoever they may be now and into the future. It also will serve as a communication of the Circuit Pastor Office to all the brothers in the circuit.

**Visitation of Brothers**

A proactive plan to visit personally with all the brothers is a desirable thing for the Circuit Pastor Office. Both pastors of the office will work toward a manageable rotation among the brothers, preferably each year. One way it could be done is for each to take one half of the visits and then switch the names in the next year.

**Visitation of Congregations**

It is also desirable for the Circuit Pastor Office to visibly be represented among the congregations (guest preaching, church leadership meetings, etc.)This work also will best be served if the two men develop a system that serves each congregation equally and that does not duplicate efforts. A similar rotation of congregations could be developed.

**Information to Congregations**

Much information gets channeled through the Circuit Pastor Office (synod materials, prayer requests, congregational notices, requests of the District President, etc.) For now it would most naturally come through the office of the elected pastor. He will make certain that this information is sent to the pastors and the congregations in a timely way. He can certainly ask for help from the assistant pastor when needed.

**Circuit Meetings: Agenda and Study Plans**

There is a monthly need to set the agenda for our circuit meetings. The administrative work will likely be done by the elected pastor. As a committee the two circuit pastors will work to maintain a balanced diet of studies and circuit work. The two will plan the content of our meetings in advance, and in consultation with the rest of the group, so that we do our best to use that time well.

**Social Networking among the Circuit**

Strengthening our ties in fellowship is also a valuable part of our circuit unity (seasonal gatherings, personal contacts, special worship services and events.) Here the Circuit Pastor Office will support those types of plans as they are made among the brothers. They may not need to plan them all, but will help facilitate the necessary information to the entire circuit.

**Arm of the District President in Special Cases (doctrine, practice, & other brotherly concerns)**

The Circuit Pastor Office most importantly serves as an extension of the District President’s office. When called workers and leaders among our congregations and schools are in need of spiritual guidance, pastoral advice, placement of calls, or discipline in matters of doctrine and practice, the Circuit Pastor Office is called to serve.

Here it will be vitally important that both pastors remain objective and united in each situation. All cases of concern will be brought to the attention of both pastors, though one or the other may be primarily asked to visibly serve in one particular case. Here a spirit of trust, unity and confidentiality must be maintained by all the souls involved.

“***How good and pleasant it is when brothers live together in unity***!” (**Psalm 133: 1**)