



# **EFSM      EPMC**

**Education For Shared Ministry (EFSM)  
Educación para un Ministerio Compartido (EPMC)**

## **Entry Materials 2021**

**EFSM Orientation:**

**July 27-29, 2021 (Tuesday – Thursday)**

**Bethany Theological Seminary**

**Student Application due June 1, 2021**

Contact: Carrie Eikler, Coordinator of  
English-Language Ministry Training Programs  
[eikleca@bethanyseminary.edu](mailto:eikleca@bethanyseminary.edu); 765-983-1810

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**EPMC Orientation:**

**As scheduled with local congregation**

**Applications received year round**

Contact: Aida Sánchez, Coordinator of  
Spanish-Language Ministry Training Programs  
[sanchai@bethanyseminary.edu](mailto:sanchai@bethanyseminary.edu); 765-983-1821

# **PROGRAM OVERVIEW**

## **Education For Shared Ministry (EFSM) Educación para un Ministerio Compartido (EPMC)**

Graduation from EFSM or EPMC meets the educational requirements for commissioning in the Church of the Brethren.

### **What is EFSM/EPMC?**

Education for a Shared Ministry (EFSM) and its Spanish-language counterpart (EPMC) are ministry training programs designed to address the challenges and celebrate the strengths of both small churches and specialized ministries. By providing training within the local congregation, both churches and their leadership develop new vision and purpose. This program is designed to be completed in 3 years.

The objectives of the program are as follows:

- To provide churches with a model that affirms the congregation as an effective base for training in ministry, through the education of its pastor and the equipping of its lay leaders
- To enable small churches to engage in redefining and living out their mission with greater sense of vitality, purpose and connection
- To equip persons in specialized ministries with a solid grounding in biblical, theological and historical studies, while tailoring a ministry skills program which addresses their specific calling and enhances their knowledge of other aspects of ministry.
- To train ministry teams by developing ministry skills, increasing biblical knowledge and theological reflection, and exploring the challenges and opportunities of functioning as a team

### **Who offers the EFSM/EPCM Program?**

The Brethren Academy for Ministerial Leadership (BAML) administers the program for three Church of the Brethren partners:

- Bethany Theological Seminary
- Church of the Brethren, Inc.
- The 24 districts of the Church of the Brethren

Representatives of these partners meet as a denominational Ministry Advisory Council to review several special training programs, including EFSM and EPMC. Direct funding for EFSM/EPMC comes from the Church of the Brethren and Bethany Theological Seminary.

## **Who Can Participate in EFSM/EPMC?**

EFSM/EPMC is for small congregations that lack the financial resources to call a full-time, seminary-trained pastor. Some of these congregations face additional challenges such as geographic isolation or language barriers. In order to thrive, these families of faith need support and their leaders need accessible training.

EFSM/EPMC is for large congregations with lay leaders serving in specialized areas, like music, visitation or Christian education. Often these leaders have talent and heart but lack formal education in ministry.

EFSM/EPMC is for congregations exploring the option of “team ministry”, calling out several members to serve together to meet the needs of the congregation. These are teams of enthusiastic, gifted people who need training to help them work together effectively for the sake of the whole church.

EFSM/EPMC is for congregations, both English-speaking and Spanish-speaking, who seek to train ministers and grow together in ways that deepen their Biblical understanding, invite them into theological reflection and develop their skills for shared ministry.

## **What Does EFSM/EPMC Cost?**

The total cost of the EFSM/EPMC program will depend on the progress of the congregation through the program (i.e. how many Learning Units the congregation chooses to complete each year).

Below are the various costs involved in the program.

- Enrollment Fee: \$360, due at the time of application. For congregations with 3 or more Ministers-in-Training (MIT), the enrollment fees are capped at \$1,000 and divided by the number of students.
- Biannual Congregation Fee: \$122.50 for congregations with 1-3 MIT; \$177.50 for congregations with 4-6 MIT, billed in January and July
- Biannual District \$122.50 for congregations with 1-3 MIT; \$177.50 for congregations with 4-6 MIT, billed in January and July
- Course fee for any TRIM courses taken: \$300 each
- Cost of books, any travel related to Experiences

Financial Assistance is available for students attending Annual Conference to meet the EFSM/EPMC requirement.

Each EFSM/EPMC congregation is eligible for two \$850.00 subsidies over the course of their studies which may be used to attend outside, required events. Each Minister-in-Training is eligible for one-time assistance with Annual Conference expenses.

Biannual fees will be billed in January and July, based on the student's date of completion. January payment is due, in full, March 1. July payment is due, in full, September 1.

A student is considered completed when they have finished, submitted and received evaluations on all their coursework, experiences and paperwork, including the exit exam. At that stage of the program, a student will receive an official letter of completion from the Brethren Academy. If that letter is issued by June 30, that student will not be billed in July. Students who complete by December 31 will not be billed in January.

**Whom do I contact about EFSM?**

**Carrie Eikler,**  
**Coordinator of English-Language Ministry Training Programs**  
[eikleca@bethanyseminary.edu](mailto:eikleca@bethanyseminary.edu) or 765-983-1810

**Whom do I contact about EPMC?**

**Aida Sánchez,**  
**Coordinator of Spanish-Language Ministry Training Programs**  
[sanchai@bethanyseminary.edu](mailto:sanchai@bethanyseminary.edu) or 765-983-1821

# ADMISSIONS PROCESS FACT SHEET

## Education For Shared Ministry (EFSM)/ Educación para un Ministerio Compartido (EPMC)

This process applies to the traditional EFSM/EPMC Track. Variations occur in the Team and Specialized Ministry tracks. Please contact the Brethren Academy for descriptions of those processes.

### The admissions process for EFSM/EPMC consists of the following steps:

1. **Recommendation:** The district determines whether to recommend a congregation for EFSM/EPMC, preferably in consultation with the district ministry commission. A high school diploma (or the equivalent) is a prerequisite for entrance into the EFSM/EPMC program.
2. **Prospective Congregation Profile:** The district executive/minister fills out and signs the *Prospective Congregation Profile* and sends it to the Brethren Academy office. The entrance process includes a background check, initiated by the district through the Church of the Brethren Office of Ministry. The profile requires the date of submission to the district office along with the initials of the district executive/minister.
3. The Brethren Academy sends two items:
  - 1) an **EFSM/EPMC application** to the prospective student, who will complete and return it to the Brethren Academy with the enrollment fee of \$360 (districts vary in their determination of who pays this enrollment fee), and
  - 2) a **congregational covenant** to the participating congregation, who will complete and return it to the Brethren Academy.

The application deadline for both is June 1. **The student application and the congregational covenant must both be submitted in order to be admitted to the program.** As an application is considered, Brethren Academy staff may interview the Minister-in-Training (MIT) by telephone or video conferencing.

4. **Orientation Attendance:** Upon acceptance into the program, the EFSM Minister-in-Training attends an orientation session at Bethany Theological Seminary that includes the beginning of an eight-week online course. The orientation registration deadline is strictly observed. The student is responsible for travel expenses to and from Richmond, Indiana and for books required for the online course. All other expenses during orientation are paid for by the Brethren Academy.  
**(EPMC Orientation is done onsite, alongside the Congregational Workshop Weekend.)**

**5. Supervising Pastor:** In consultation with the district executive, the Minister-in-Training will discern an appropriate individual to serve as his or her supervising pastor

**6. Congregational Workshop Weekend:** This is held at the participating church and is led by a Brethren Academy staff member, who provides orientation for the supervising pastor (SP), the minister(s)-in-training (MIT), the laity-in-training (LIT) and the entire church family. This weekend marks the official beginning of their work together as an EFSM/EPMC congregation.

**The 2021 EFSM orientation session will be July 27-29, 2021 (Tuesday – Thursday) at Bethany Theological Seminary. Registration deadline: June 1, 2021.**

# POSITION DESCRIPTIONS

## Education For Shared Ministry (EFSM)/ Educación para un Ministerio Compartido (EPMC)

These position descriptions apply to the traditional EFSM/EPMC Track. Variations occur in the Team and Specialized Ministry tracks. Please contact the Brethren Academy for those position descriptions.

EFSM/EPMC mobilizes the resources of congregations for ministry. It features educational components for a Minister-in-Training or Ministers-in-Training, 4-6 assisting laypersons, and the whole congregation. (See “The Congregations”)

1. **Minister-in-Training (MIT)** Calling a person or persons to be the Minister(s)-in-Training will follow historical patterns within the Church of the Brethren (i.e. cooperative participation involving the related district and the local congregation). Qualifications for election as a MIT include:

- Demonstrated Christian discipleship.
- Maturity and demonstrated leadership, or exceptional potential for ministry.
- Willingness to serve the congregation issuing the call and live within the community.
- A sense of personal calling.
- Eagerness to participate in the program of study.
- Agreement with the concept of a self-supported ministry.

2. **Laity-in-Training (LIT)** 4-6 additional congregational members who will share central and basic ministerial functions with the MIT.

3. **Supervising Pastor (SP):** A nearby pastor who has a seminary degree and who is willing to work in a supervisory and support role with the MIT. Such a pastor may be from the Church of the Brethren or from another denomination.

4. **District Representative (DR):** An individual appointed by the district to facilitate communication between the congregation and the district. The supervising pastor may fill this role, or a second person may be appointed.

### **Congregational Training Group (CTG):**

**All the above parties constitute the CTG** which will meet once a month to:

1. Help design and evaluate the educational experience. Specifically, the CTG is to develop, with the MIT, the learning units located within the congregation.
2. Plan, coordinate and review the shared ministry of the minister(s) and lay leaders. Coordination of study and ministry will always be sought.

# EDUCATION PROGRAMS FOR PARTICIPANTS

## Education For Shared Ministry (EFSM)/ Educación para un Ministerio Compartido (EPMC)

This educational program applies to the traditional EFSM/EPMC Track. Variations occur in the Team and Specialized Ministry tracks. Please contact the Brethren Academy for those programs.

### **Minister(s)-in-Training (MIT)**

*The program of training for the MIT consists of eight (8) learning units and six (6) experiences, equivalent to 36 semester hours of college-level work. Each learning unit and experience must be approved both by the Congregational Training Group and by the appropriate Brethren Academy staff.*

**Learning Units (8)** are independent studies most of which are carried out within the local congregation. Each of these units will include reading, research, journal writing, and related congregational projects and experiences. One to three of these units are to be completed by taking a BAML course.<sup>1</sup>

#### Bible and Theology (4 units)

1. Old Testament Survey
2. New Testament Survey
3. Basic Brethren Beliefs
4. Christian Church History

#### Ministerial Skills (4 units)

5. Administration/Leadership
6. Pastoral Care
7. Preaching and Worship
8. Teaching and Learning in the Church

#### **Experiences (6)**

1. Orientation: includes completing *Introduction to Biblical Studies*.
2. Congregational Workshop Weekend
3. Brethren Connection Experience
4. Annual Conference
5. District Conference
6. Ecumenical, Intercultural, or Interfaith Experience

### **EPMC, the Spanish-Language program, differs for the minister in one way:**

Orientation for the minister(s)-in-training is done at the local church, in conjunction with the Congregational Workshop Weekend.

### **Laity-in-Training (LIT)**

The program of training for the LIT consists of working as a team with the MIT to guide the congregation in its total ministry. In addition, the LIT will

1. Complete at least two LIT study units, coordinated with the MIT's Learning Units
2. Read one or two books with input from MIT and/or Supervising Pastor or engage in some other form of educational resource and share in CTG discussions of unit.
3. Connect with the wider church through denominational resources and organizations.
4. Take part in the meetings of the Congregational Training Group.
5. Participate in meetings and workshops.
6. Participate in at least two experiences outside the congregation over the three-year period. Possibilities include Annual Conference, District Conference, district workshops, Brethren Academy for Ministerial Leadership or Bethany Theological Seminary courses or events, etc. (Note: Cost of attending these events may be partially covered by EFSM training subsidies.)
7. Maintain an ongoing record of participation

### **Local Congregation**

The educational program for the local church focuses on congregational awareness, redefining of mission, and training for a shared ministry with a pastor or pastors. This will require regular worship, prayer and faith formation, self-study and goal setting, and participation in the wider church through representation at District and Annual Conferences.

The Congregation will:

- Call a person(s) to be the Minister(s)-in-Training.
- Call four to six (4-6) lay persons to serve as Laity-in-Training
- Participate in the Congregational Workshop Weekend
- Participate in the Brethren Connection Experience.
- Meet annually to receive the annual report of the Congregational Training Group, participate in an evaluation experience, and give approval to the CTG's plans for the next year's training focus.

## **Anticipated Results**

Upon successful completion of the EFSM/EPMC program, the MIT will have fulfilled the educational requirements needed for commissioned ministry.

The Minister(s)-in-Training will demonstrate:

- Basic knowledge in the areas of Old Testament, New Testament, Brethren beliefs and Christian church history.
- Basic performance abilities in pastoral care, teaching, preaching and administration.
- The ability to work with congregational leadership to design and carry out a significant shared ministry.

For the local congregation we anticipate:

- A new sense of self-understanding as a congregation.
- A more intentionally lived out mission and program.
- A core of 4-6 lay persons within the congregation, trained and willing to assume regular responsibilities for shared ministry.
- A clearer self-concept as a congregation.
- A deeper sense of belonging to the larger church.

For the denomination we anticipate:

- A more adequate relationship with small-membership churches.
- Appropriately trained ministers serving churches.

**EPMC Program documents are available in Spanish upon request.**

### **Frequently Used Terms**

EFSM = Education for Shared Ministry  
EPMC = Educación para un Ministerio Compartido  
MIT = Minister-in-Training  
LIT = Laity-in-Training  
CTG = Congregational Training Group  
LU = Learning Unit  
BAML = Brethren Academy for Ministerial Leadership

# **DISTRICT EXECUTIVE RESPONSIBILITIES**

## Education For Shared Ministry (EFSM)/ Educación para un Ministerio Compartido (EPMC)

### **Preliminary Responsibilities**

1. Consult with the District Ministry Commission/District Board to secure district backing for involvement in EFSM / EPMC, including budgeting of district support for program.
2. Contact the church board of congregations to determine interest in EFSM/EPMC.
3. Submit the *Prospective Congregations Profile* for each congregation wishing to enter EFSM/EPMC
4. Promote EFSM/EPMC as a potential program for ministry training and congregational renewal in selected congregations.

### **Responsibilities after Congregation is Admitted to the Program**

1. Serve as a link between congregations and the BAML Staff.
2. Assure a *Covenant of Congregational Participation/Contrato de la Congregacion Participante* is returned to the Brethren Academy from each congregation.
3. In consultation with the minister-in-training, secure a seminary-trained person to serve as a Supervising Pastor. Clarify how the district will reimburse the supervisor for expenses.
4. Secure someone at the district level to serve as the official district representative to the Congregational Training Group, preferably a member of the District Board or the District Ministry Commission. (The supervising pastor may fill this role.)
5. Contact the district representative to confirm the frequency and method by which a report will be made to the district.
6. Participate, as able, in the commissioning of the participating congregation during the Congregational Workshop Weekend.
7. Prepare an evaluation of EFSM/EPMC in each congregation at conclusion of the program.
8. Work with district officials to determine appropriate recognition of training when completed, and take part in final celebration of accomplishments

### **Cost to District**

1. Districts pay a biannual participation fee for each EFSM/EPMC congregation which is billed in January and July,
2. Reimburse EFSM/EPMC Supervisors for expenses as agreed.

# **SUPERVISING PASTORS AND DISTRICT REPRESENTATIVES**

## **Education For Shared Ministry (EFSM)/ Educación para un Ministerio Compartido (EPMC)**

### **Supervising Pastor**

The Supervising Pastor plays an indispensable role in EFSM/EPMC. Because EFSM/EPMC does not have a ready-made curriculum but rather encourages each training group to develop its own learning agenda, it is important to have a skilled person on location to guide that process. The supervisor is that person. And because EFSM/EPMC is concerned not only with academic content but also with preparing trainees for ministry, it is important to have an experienced practitioner to guide that preparation. Also, EFSM/EPMC is a program for congregations who care about quality relationships, so it is important to have a supervisor who cares for the life of the people in a congregation. Coach, friend, colleague, consultant, resource person — all are applicable to the person we call the “supervisor.”

### **Qualifications for Supervisors**

1. A minimum of an MDiv level of theological training is preferable.
2. Pastoral experience in the area of focus for the MIT: small congregation, specialized ministry, team ministry, etc. Experience can be in the Church of the Brethren or another Christian communion.
3. Desire and ability to work constructively in a supervisory relationship that encourages others to grow and develop.
4. Commitment to the goals and basic vision of shared ministry as delineated in the program.
5. Freedom to devote the time required (8-10 hours per month) to the responsibilities outlined above over a three-year period, as approved by the supervisor's employing congregation where necessary.

### **Training for Supervisors**

Each person named as a supervisor is expected to take part in the Congregational Workshop Weekend for EFSM/EPMC, including the district representative, the BAML Staff, the supervising pastor, the Congregational Training Group, and all others involved in the joint program. At this event, supervisors will become familiar with the learning process of EFSM/EPMC, meet and begin working with their trainees, and explore the meaning and character of supervision in this program.

The district in which the EFSM/EPMC congregation resides will arrange for the services of an EFSM/EPMC supervising pastor. Some districts may choose to provide a small stipend for supervisors as well as cover travel expenses. Other districts may choose to negotiate with the pastoral supervisors to serve on a volunteer basis but reimburse all or part of their travel expenses.

## **Responsibilities of Supervisors**

1. Assist the MIT in developing learning unit proposals to bring to the CTG for feedback, modification and approval.
2. Negotiate and follow through with MIT on assignments, schedules, and test and review procedures for learning units, as well as prepare a supervisory assessment of each completed learning unit.
3. Consult with the MIT once a month to evaluate progress on learning units, discuss pastoral experiences of MIT, and provide feedback and support. If the MIT and supervisor live more than 25 miles from each other, consultations may be by telephone or video conference every other month.
4. Prepare the agenda for and chair the monthly meetings of the CTG during the first year of the program and assist the MIT in assuming these responsibilities for the remainder of the program.
5. Submit to the BAML Staff once a year a report on the progress of the MIT and the work of the CTG. A report form is provided for this purpose. Normally this report should be submitted during the week following a CTG meeting.
6. Notify the BAML Staff in the event of any unusual problems or circumstances related to the program.
7. Take part in special congregational events related to the program, including the two-day congregational workshop at the beginning of the program, the annual congregational business meeting at which the CTG's report and recommendations are received, and the celebration of the completion of the program at the end of the third year.
8. Serve as a consultant to the MIT and his or her congregation as they work through a congregational self-study and the process of goal setting.
9. Communicate with the District Representative the progress and needs of the MIT and the CTG, thereby allowing the District Representative to communicate with the District Executive, Ministry Commission, etc.

## **District Representative**

In EFSM/EPMC, MITs complete most of their coursework as independent and congregational studies. This can lead to a sense of disconnect from the wider church. Following are the functions and responsibilities of the District Representative.

1. Provide a connection for these students to the larger district
2. Provide a link between the Congregational Training Group (CTG) and the district.
3. Assure that courses of study meet the district's requirements for credentialing and interpret the work of the CTG to district leadership.
4. Attend, as able, the significant portions of the Congregational Workshop Weekend.
5. Meet periodically with the Supervising Pastor and the MIT to offer support and monitor progress.
6. Attend meetings of the CTG at least twice a year.
7. Report the progress of the EFSM congregation to the District (Board, Ministry Commission) as arranged in consultation with the District Executive.

# PROSPECTIVE CONGREGATION PROFILE

## Education For A Shared Ministry (EFSM)/ Educación para un Ministerio Compartido (EPMC)

*A Program of the Brethren Academy for Ministerial Leadership*

(To be completed by District Executive Minister or District Ministry Commission)

1. Name \_\_\_\_\_
2. Number of members \_\_\_\_\_
3. Average attendance \_\_\_\_\_
4. Location \_\_\_\_\_
5. Present Pastoral situation \_\_\_\_\_
6. Evidence of interest in EFSM/EPMC \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_
7. Other helpful background information \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_

### Numerical Rating of Congregation

Rate each category on a scale of 5 to 1. Check **one** for each category.

	Strong			Weak	
	5	4	3	2	1
District Leadership	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____
Loyalty	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____
Viability	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____
Urgency	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____
Leadership Prospects	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____
Vision & Resiliency	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____

**Note:** Please list the Minister(s)-in-Training on the next page

**Minister-in-Training (MIT)** \_\_\_\_\_

MIT Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Home Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Ministerial Status: \_\_\_Pre-licensed \_\_\_Licensed Other \_\_\_\_\_

The applicant \_\_\_\_\_ (name) completed Criminal Background check on \_\_\_\_\_ (date of submission). **District Executive's initials required** \_\_\_\_\_. If the applicant has not had a Criminal Background check, he/she will need to complete one before entering the training program at the Brethren Academy for Ministerial Leadership. Background checks are initiated by the district through the Church of the Brethren Office of Ministry.

**Minister-in-Training (MIT)** \_\_\_\_\_

MIT Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Home Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Ministerial Status: \_\_\_Pre-licensed \_\_\_Licensed Other \_\_\_\_\_

The applicant \_\_\_\_\_ (name) completed Criminal Background check on \_\_\_\_\_ (date of submission). **District Executive's initials required** \_\_\_\_\_. If the applicant has not had a Criminal Background check, he/she will need to complete one before entering the training program at the Brethren Academy for Ministerial Leadership. Background checks are initiated by the district through the Church of the Brethren Office of Ministry.

**Minister-in-Training (MIT)** \_\_\_\_\_

MIT Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Home Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Ministerial Status: \_\_\_Pre-licensed \_\_\_Licensed Other \_\_\_\_\_

The applicant \_\_\_\_\_ (name) completed Criminal Background check on \_\_\_\_\_ (date of submission). **District Executive's initials required** \_\_\_\_\_. If the applicant has not had a Criminal Background check, he/she will need to complete one before entering the training program at the Brethren Academy for Ministerial Leadership. Background checks are initiated by the district through the Church of the Brethren Office of Ministry.

Make additional copies as needed

District leadership has reviewed the training needs of the prospective student(s) named above and will support their application to enter EFSM or EPMC. As a part of that support, the District will, in consultation with the prospective student(s), secure a seminary-trained person to serve as a Supervising Pastor as well as pay the yearly EFSM or EPMC fee.

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(Signature of District Executive or Ministry Commission Chair)

(Date)

**Return Completed Profiles and Materials on Congregations to:**  
**Brethren Academy for Ministerial Leadership**  
615 National Road West, Richmond, IN 47374

# COVENANT OF CONGREGATIONAL PARTICIPATION

## Education For A Shared Ministry (EFSM)

*A Program of the Brethren Academy for Ministerial Leadership*

### To be completed by Participating Congregation

We the members of the \_\_\_\_\_ congregation of the Church of the Brethren, believe that God has a purpose for our life together. We affirm our desire to explore more deeply our calling as the people of God, the body of Christ, and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit. As a way of equipping ourselves to carry out more fully and more effectively the ministry God gives us, we commit ourselves to faithful participation in the program Education For a Shared Ministry.

- We have called \_\_\_\_\_ to be a Minister-in-Training, and he/she has accepted the call. We will seek to undergird his/her ministry, training, and family with the love that binds us together in Christ, and with a readiness to respond with our own lives to new opportunities for discipleship.

---OR---

- We have called

\_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_

to be Ministers-in- Training and they have accepted the call. We will seek to undergird their ministry, training, and families with the love that binds us together in Christ, and with a readiness to respond with our own lives to new opportunities to discipleship.

- We have called the following persons as Laypersons-in-Training who will share the work of ministry with the MIT(s), who have accepted this calling, and whom we also will support with our Christian love and commitment:

\_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_

- We commit ourselves to a process of defining specific goals and objectives for our congregational life through use of the planning process recommended to us and to act upon those goals and objectives.
- We commit ourselves to take advantage of the training opportunities EFSM provides for the congregation, including participation in a weekend workshop launching the program, annual congregational evaluation meetings, and the Brethren Connection Experience.

- We affirm that our congregation is part of a larger family of churches. As a way of growing in that larger relationship, we commit ourselves to sending delegates to Annual Conference and District Conference and to helping underwrite their expenses.
- We will contribute to the EFSM budget a congregational enrollment fee of \$360.00/Minister-in-Training (\$1,000 total for 3 or more Ministers-in-Training) to be submitted along with this covenant (unless the district pays this enrollment fee). We will also contribute a biannual congregation fee for each year we participate in the program. The current biannual congregation fee is \$122.50 for 1-3 Minister(s)-in-Training or \$177.50 for 4-6 Ministers-in-Training, fees to be billed in January and July. Although this is only a small part of the total expenses of the program, it will symbolize our commitment to growth and renewal and to supporting the training of ministers within the Church of the Brethren.
- We will always seek to maintain open channels of communication with all persons related to the program. If tensions and differences arise, we will endeavor to confront and resolve them in a caring manner in the Spirit of Christ.

We have made our decision to enter Education For a Shared Ministry in the light of this covenant and have approved that decision by a significant majority of members present at a congregational business meeting on

\_\_\_\_\_ (date)

Signatures:

\_\_\_\_\_ moderator or board chairperson

\_\_\_\_\_ minister-in-training

\_\_\_\_\_ church clerk

Church Name & Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone Number: \_\_\_\_\_

E-Mail: \_\_\_\_\_

**Send this form along with the \$360 Enrollment Fee. (The Team Track Enrollment Fee is \$1,000 divided by the number of students enrolling.)**

**Make Check Payable to: Brethren Academy**

**Mail to: Brethren Academy, 615 National Rd. W, Richmond, IN 47374**

# CONTRATO DE LA CONGREGACIÓN PARTICIPANTE

## Educación para un Ministerio Compartido (EPMC)

### *Un programa de la Academia de Hermanos para el Liderazgo Ministerial*

#### Para ser completado por la Congregación Participante

Nosotros los miembros de la \_\_\_\_\_ congregación de la Iglesia de Los Hermanos, creemos que Dios tiene un propósito para nuestras vidas compartidas. Nosotros, como gente de Dios, como el cuerpo de Cristo, y con nuestra comunión con el Espíritu Santo, afirmamos nuestro deseo de explorar mas profundamente nuestro llamado. Como una forma de prepararnos para llevar mas efectiva y completamente el ministerio que Dios nos ha dado, nos comprometemos a participar lealmente en el programa Educación para un Ministerio Compartido.

- Nosotros hemos nombrado, \_\_\_\_\_ para ser ministro en entrenamiento (MeE), quien ha aceptado este llamado. Nosotros buscaremos la manera de apoyar su ministerio, su entrenamiento y su familia con el amor que nos une en Cristo, y con prontitud responderemos con nuestras propias vidas a nuevas oportunidades de discipulado.

--O--

- Nosotros hemos nombrado \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_ para ser Ministro (s) -en- Formación y han aceptado la convocatoria. Buscaremos apuntalar su ministerio, capacitación y familias con el amor que nos une en Cristo, y con una disposición para responder con nuestras propias vidas a las nuevas oportunidades de discipulado.

- Nosotros hemos llamado a las siguientes Personas Laicas en Entrenamiento para que compartan el trabajo del ministerio con el MeE (Ministro en Entrenamiento) quien ha aceptado este llamado, y al cual nosotros también apoyaremos con nuestro amor cristiano y con nuestro compromiso

\_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_

- Nosotros nos comprometemos con un proceso para definir metas y objetivos para nuestra vida congregacional a través del uso de un proceso de planeamiento que nos ha sido recomendado y a actuar por esas metas y objetivos.
- Nosotros nos comprometemos a sacar provecho de las oportunidades que el entrenamiento de EPMC (Educación para un Ministerio Compartido) provee para la congregación en su totalidad, incluyendo la participación en los talleres que inician el programa el fin de semana, en la evaluación de las juntas anuales congregacionales y en una experiencia grupal con la iglesia más amplia de los Hermanos.

- Nosotros afirmamos que nuestra iglesia es parte de la extendida familia de iglesias. Como una manera de crecer en una relación mas amplia, nos comprometemos a mandar delegados a la Conferencia Anual, a la Conferencia del Distrito y en ayudar a cubrir sus gastos.
- Nosotros contribuiremos a EMPC (Educación para un Ministerio Compartido) una tarifa de inscripción congregacional de \$ 360.00 / Ministro en Capacitación (\$ 1,000 en total para 3 o más Ministros en Capacitación) que se presentará junto con este pacto (a menos que el distrito pague esta tarifa de inscripción). También contribuiremos con una tarifa de congregación bianual por cada año que participemos en el programa. La tarifa de congregación semestral actual es de \$122.50 para 1-3 Ministros en Capacitación o \$177.5.00 para 4-6 Ministros en Capacitación, tarifas que se facturarán en enero y julio. Aunque esto es solo una pequeña parte de los gastos totales del programa, simbolizará nuestro compromiso con el crecimiento y la renovación y con el apoyo a la capacitación de ministros dentro de la Iglesia de los Hermanos.
- Nosotros buscaremos mantener todo el tiempo abiertos los canales de comunicación con todas las personas relacionadas con el programa. Si surgen tensiones y diferencias, nosotros nos esforzaremos para enfrentarlas y resolverlas de una manera cuidadosa en el Espíritu de Cristo.

Nosotros hemos hecho la decisión de participar en el programa de Educación para un Ministerio Compartido (EMPC) basada en este contrato, y aprobada esta decisión por mayoría de los miembros presentes en la junta congregacional de negocios del día.

\_\_\_\_\_ (fecha)

Firmas:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Moderador o Presidente

\_\_\_\_\_  
Pastor o Ministro

\_\_\_\_\_  
Presidente de la iglesia

La dirección de la Iglesia: \_\_\_\_\_

Número telefónica y Correo Electrónico: \_\_\_\_\_

**Envíe este formulario, junto con la tarifa de registro de \$ 360. (La tarifa de inscripción de Team Track es de \$ 1,000 dividida por la cantidad de estudiantes inscritos).**

**Cheque pagadero a: Brethren Academy.**

**Envíe por correo a: Brethren Academy, 615 National Rd. W, Richmond, IN 47374**