

Southeastern District's Ministry Education SCHOOL OF SPIRITUAL LEADERSHIP

CRITERIA 1: SPIRITUAL PLAN

Scriptures:

2 Timothy 2:15

“Study to shew thyself approved unto God, a workman that needeth not to be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth.” KJV

1 Peter 3:15

“But sanctify the Lord God in your hearts: and be ready always to give an answer to every man that asketh you a reason of the hope that is in you with meekness and fear:

Ephesians 4:12

“For the perfecting of the saints, for the work of the ministry, for the edifying of the body of Christ.”

Prayer and Discipline Support:

We will seek through prayer to establish spiritual growth by seeking the power of God; letting His power guide and shape the program. This time of seeking through prayer will minister and give praise to God out of an intimate personal relationship. It will bring the reality of His rulership (the Kingdom) to earth, *“on earth as it is in heaven.”*

Southeastern District churches have always been very supportive of the Ministry Commissions goals and visions. The district uses a District-Wide Prayer Calendar. Through use of this, as well as by e-mails and district newsletters, communications will be maintained involving the ministerial trainee, the sponsoring church, the ministry commission, leaders of the training program, and churches throughout the district, seeking their prayers and support for those students participating in the School of Spiritual Leadership.

Through prayer and support within the district this will encourage the churches to call out spirit-filled potential leaders for the Kingdom. Acts 13:2-3 *“As they ministered to the Lord and fasted, the Holy Ghost said, separate me Barnabas and Saul for the work whereunto I have called them. And when they fasted and prayed and laid their hands on them they sent them away.”* The churches and district leadership will be actively involved with prayer and holding the School of Spiritual Leadership Trustees accountable for spiritual leadership and training.

Trainees will be asked to pray for their teachers, program leadership, and their own spiritual growth. Leaders will pray for students and sponsoring churches, as well as for insights from the Holy Spirit that will guide them in leadership. All churches will be challenged to take seriously their role in prayer support at specific dates such as when all classes begin, or new students enroll. A specific Sunday will be set aside annually for churches and individuals throughout the district to pray for the program.

In addition, we will remind all involved that Scripture is our key foundation. Most of the goals within the modern church can be accomplished without God. But success is not necessarily a sign that the goal is spiritually empowered by the Holy Spirit. We have to have the Holy Spirit involved in discipline and prayer. Returning to the ministry of Jesus and the “mind of Christ” is the only insurance we have of accomplishing such a goal.

Personal devotional reading of the Scripture is essential. The established discipline of prayer and devotional reading of Scripture on all levels including participating students, actively involved churches, spiritual supporting churches, program instructors, program leaders, and district leadership will open the door to the discernment of the Holy Spirit and the leading and guiding of the program.

In the first year of the program, a consecration service will be held at District Conference. Each year thereafter, a time for celebration and prayer should be held whether during the Ministry Commission report or with a separate report at District Conference.

Spiritual Accountability:

The Ministry Commission will provide accountability to the School of Spiritual Leadership Trustees for spiritual health. The two will collaborate with one another in establishing specific prayer dates, in communicating specific prayer concerns to the district, and in sharing spiritual insights. The Ministry Commission will update the District Board on prayer needs at regularly scheduled board meetings, as well as through e-mails when special occasions arise. The School of Spiritual Leadership Trustees will regularly keep in contact with the District Executive(s) in order to facilitate communication to the district at large concerning specific prayer requests.

Will there be room in the design for the Holy Spirit to speak:

The Educational Program and leadership must be open to the leading of the Holy Spirit. As the instructor and students study and search out the Scriptures they will gain new insights of God’s Word as the Holy Spirit speaks through the Word of God. Scripture tells us in Galatians 5:25 “*Since we live by the Spirit, let us keep in step with the Spirit.*” Listening to the Holy Spirit Scripture will be the final authority for the development and maintaining of the program.

CRITERIA 2: MISSIONAL PLAN

Mission Statement:

The School of Spiritual Leadership will provide a training program for the purpose of developing ministerial leadership, instilling sound Biblical principals, and teaching Brethren doctrines for those called into ministry.

Objectives:

- Provide training for those who have been called to ministerial leadership.
- Train ministers to effectively communicate the Gospel of Jesus Christ and its message of redemption and salvation
- Gracefully continue to disciple Christians in the Brethren traditions of service, peacemaking, and simple lifestyle.
- Prepare ministers who can wisely administer the body of Christ within a local congregation
- Train prospective ministers to provide leadership for worship, Biblical studies, and ministry to the basic spiritual needs of a local congregation.
- In addition, this program will be available to ministers who are already licensed or ordained, in order that they may earn CEU credits and further their education.

God's purpose for this District is to continue to reach out and share His Word with the unsaved of this district. God has blessed this district with His Word in the past. He is now continuing that ministry through the implementing of this program. Through this program ministers will be trained to carry out God's purpose of reaching with His Word those who are not saved. *"Now it is God who has made us for this very purpose and has given us the Spirit as a deposit, guaranteeing what is to come."* 1 Cor. 5:5 NIV

Southeastern District's need for a Ministerial Training Program:

The Southeastern District covers a distance of nearly six hundred miles. It is made up of mostly small congregations with part time pastors. Many of those congregations are struggling and need effective leadership if they are to survive. Many of those called to lead local congregations work full time jobs and are supporting families. They are unable to take time off for travel for classes that meet during the weekdays. Yet they need training so that they can effectively lead. Without trained leadership, some churches will close their doors. Some have drifted off due to ministerial leadership which has not followed the Brethren traditions. They have been forced by necessity to use non-Brethren pastors or to be served by ill-equipped leadership. Over time this leads to a slow drift away from basic Brethren principals that make us a unique group. We must provide training opportunities within the district for those preparing for ministry who have no other access to training opportunities due to job and family constraints.

In addition, our churches, and current pastoral leadership are sometimes isolated from the total mission of the whole church. Our program will incorporate

learning opportunities that challenge developing church leaders to go beyond mere parochial mission to understanding the opportunities for local congregations to be energized by involvement in the global mission of the church.

One of the areas where this becomes reality in our district is in cross cultural mission. We have several areas with emerging Hispanic populations, and currently have one new church plant and another project underway in Hispanic ministries. All churches can be a part of this new ministry through at least financial and spiritual support if we have effectively trained ministers. Those currently involved in such ministries can provide training opportunities within this program to ministerial candidates, and hopefully to active ministers that would not otherwise be available.

Such training will make use of existing resources within the district such as college or seminary classes available to the community, retreats at the Billy Graham Training Center, classes designed and led by qualified leadership within the district, local opportunities such as workshops on dealing with loss of loved ones, sessions related to counseling offered by local mental health institutions, independent Biblical and church history studies under supervision of a mentor.

The program will be tailored to meet the needs of a part time pastor who is working a regular full time job, yet must be structured to provide intensive training that will prepare those who are called to be effective spiritual leaders. The needs of churches for effective leadership must intersect with the needs of ministerial candidates for a flexible and creative training program. We will continue to encourage those who are able to attend Bethany Seminary or to participate in other Annual Conference approved training programs such as TRIM & EFSM.

Our District has perhaps five seminary trained ministers. Few active ministers were able to attend seminary. Many do not have college backgrounds, and even those with that background entered the ministry at a point when they had families, and were required to hold a full time job for support of their family. Few churches in our district, possibly six, offer full time employment, as most are small congregations of about 50 active members. Thus seminary training is an option for few in our district, though it is one we will actively encourage whenever possible.

EFSM works with ministerial candidates training them within their own congregation which they will serve. We have ministers who have successfully completed this program; however, we have many currently wanting to study for ministry who will not be serving the congregations in which they are members.

TRIM works within the framework of those who have college backgrounds or are able to take time to attend college classes. Again, we have one or two who have successfully completed this program. However, many who are currently seeking training do not have the opportunity to take time out for college courses. They

have expressed to district leaders the desire for further study but are frustrated at their inability to take large chunks of time from their jobs, or to travel long distances. For many, financial restrictions are large factors. TRIM will remain a program of high emphasis for ministerial training within our district. This program is designed to meet needs for those for whom these other programs are not an option, not as a substitute for these other options.

Our goal is to design a program that will allow those who have family responsibilities and are unable to take time off for college or seminary classes, or who will be serving outside their own congregations to get a high level of training. This will focus upon Biblical studies, understanding who we are as Brethren historically and in contemporary culture, tapping into the total ministry of the national as well as global church, in addition to meeting the spiritual needs of those in the local church.

We have had a three year reading program in the past, that was helpful, but we sense a need for a more structured program that provides higher levels of learning, and provides for interaction between learners, rather than the basic advisor/advisee relationship of the three year reading program. It should provide more district-wide involvement, and provide training opportunities for others in addition to ministerial candidates.

CRITERIA 3: ORGANIZATIONAL PLAN

Who will do what and with what authority?

The Ministry Commission along with the District Executives will appoint 5 persons to serve as Trustees for the School of Spiritual Leadership on start up of the program. Three will be ordained ministers, one will be a Ministry Commission member, and one will be a lay person active in local church leadership. The Trustees will serve a three year term, and can serve a second term before being required to take one year off. The District Executive(s) will serve in an ex-officio capacity.

During the first rotation,

- one member will serve a one year term
- two will serve a two year term
- two others will serve a three year term.

As positions become open the Ministry Commission will work with the Trustees to approve a slate to be affirmed by the District Board to fill open positions.

It will be the function of the Trustees to plan and make adjustments to the learning program and to promote the program to ministerial prospects. The initial program will be designed by the Ministry Commission. Thereafter, the Trustees, in cooperation with the Coordinator, will make adjustments to the curriculum as needed. The Trustees should meet twice a year with additional called meetings as needed. Communications should be maintained between meetings by e-mail.

In addition, the Trustees will report to District Conference through the Ministry Commission with a written report submitted in time to be published in the District Conference booklet. The report will be prepared by the Program Coordinator and submitted to the Trustees.

The Trustees shall come up with an evaluation tool for students and instructors of courses. Evaluations will be used as feedback for future planning and adjustments to the program. The Trustees shall evaluate scholarship requests which are to be submitted either by the student's advisor or pastor.

The Ministry Commission will appoint a Program Coordinator who will serve as chairperson of the Trustees. The task of the School of Spiritual Leadership Coordinator will be the Administrator of this program. The Coordinator will serve a three year term with an evaluation at the end of the three years. The Coordinator may be re-appointed by the Ministry Commission for multiple terms.

The Program Coordinator will oversee the educational program. This will include:

- Establishing timelines for classes in coordination with the Trustees.
- Working with the Trustees to choose and secure leadership for classes.

- Working with class leadership to establish a curriculum outline.
- Secure a list of resources and books to be used.
- Communicating to students the above information. This will be done in cooperation with the Board of Trustees which will be chaired by the Coordinator.
- Communicate regularly with teachers.
- The Coordinator shall attend ACTS meetings. This will be funded by the Southeastern District.
- The Coordinator shall work with the Financial Officer of the District who will serve as registrar on keeping records of grades, credits, and finances.
- With advice from District Executive(s) or the Trustees, the Coordinator shall assign an advisor for each enrolled student.
- The coordinator will oversee classes and instructors. This will include approving the class outline and list of materials proposed by the instructors, coordinate times and locations for classes, approve class requirements as proposed by instructors, report to the registrar, with instructor input, those who have successfully earned credits, attend at least part of a session for each course, and communicating to students upcoming classes and requirements.
- The Coordinator will provide an instrument for evaluation of classes by the students. This will be prepared in conjunction with the Trustees.
- The Coordinator shall be reimbursed for expenses from program finances.

Instructors will be chosen by the Trustees in conjunction with the Coordinator.

Instructors will have:

- A background in the area in which they are asked to instruct. Emphasis will be placed upon those having graduate degrees, or college degrees in the areas of instruction. Those who have demonstrated professional expertise in a particular area such as counseling may also be considered.
- They will have basic teaching skills.
- They will be soundly rooted in Biblical principals, Brethren doctrines, and adhere to the Southeastern District's mission and theological stances.
- Instructors will provide a clear course outline with a list of needed books, and requirements for satisfactory completion of the course. This list will be provided to the Coordinator for approval. The Coordinator and Trustees may have some preset requirements for courses which Instructors are to adhere to. The Trustees in conjunction with the Coordinator will have the final authority over class content and materials to be used.

The Southeastern District Financial Officer shall handle finances for the School of Spiritual Leadership, and act as registrar, keeping track of student data and progress. The Coordinator will report students enrolled as well as their grades and credits earned to the registrar. These records will be available only to the Coordinator and Trustees, and to the individual student whose record is being

kept, unless permission is otherwise granted by that student in writing. Fees and disbursement of funds shall be handled by the registrar.

Flow of Authority:

- District Conference > District Board > Ministry Commission > Board of Trustees of School of Spiritual Leadership > Program Coordinator > Instructors

Feedback for reporting to District Conference will be in the reverse order with the Chairperson of the Trustees (Program Coordinator) preparing the written report which will be submitted through the Ministry Commission to the conference. A copy should also be sent to the ACTS director.

Who decides the content of a course, sets the schedule, monitors student progress?

Instructors will monitor the work of students within their perspective courses. Credits will be awarded on a scale of:

- Excellent (Goes beyond regular course requirements)
- Good (Student performed requirements at or above standard)
- Incomplete (Student must do additional work to meet requirements established for the course.)
- No credit.

Instructors, in consultation with the Program Coordinator will set up the content of a course, and have clearly stated requirements for satisfactory completion of the class. These will be approved by the Trustees. Class schedules will be set up by the Trustees through the Coordinator. Scheduling will take into consideration instructor availability, course needs of students, and timelines for the total program.

Channels of Communication:

The School of Spiritual Leadership Coordinator and Trustees will be responsible and accountable to the Ministry Commission. Registration and financial volunteer staff will be responsible and accountable to the School of Spiritual Leadership Coordinator. All of the above will be responsible to Southeastern District Board and District Executive(s) and the District Conference.

The Coordinator will communicate regularly with the Ministry Commission chairman as well as the District Executive(s) through e-mails and phone conversations. The Ministry Commission chairman will be responsible for communicating to the board at regularly scheduled meetings, or by e-mail or phone to the board chairman should special needs arise between scheduled board meetings. The District Executive(s) will facilitate communications of important information to the district as a whole through e-mail and newsletters. In addition,

the program coordinator will submit an annual report to the District Conference as an addition to the Ministerial Commission's report.

How is the program related to District Board, commissions, conferences, personnel?

Southeastern District Board, Ministry Commission, and pastors within the district have shared their concerns with the District Office and the District Board the need for a Ministry Education Program within our district.

The School of Spiritual Leadership shall be under the authority of the Ministry Commission, reportable to the District Board and District Conference.

The School of Spiritual Leadership, while solely funded and administered by the Southeastern District, is authorized for the training of ministerial leadership subject to the Annual Conference Guidelines for Ministerial Leadership (1999) through the certification process of the Brethren Academy for Ministerial Leadership (a ministry training partnership of the Church of the Brethren general Board and Bethany Theological Seminary). As such, the School should maintain lines of accountability by submitting copies of its reports to the Brethren Academy for Ministerial Leadership, attendance at ACTS meetings by the coordinator as required.

CRITERIA 4: LEARNING PLAN

Criteria for the Learning Plan:

Classes will be designed to be on a level that is challenging, yet achievable for a person called to ministry who is also working a regular job. They should be carefully designed and outlined by instructors who have the highest available level of expertise in the subject area, and who are good teachers. Students will enter the program with the approval of the Trustees of the School of Spiritual Leadership in conjunction with the Ministry Commission. Classes may also be used as CEU's for licensed or ordained ministers, or may be taken by laypersons. Classes may be videotaped for situations where distance of travel is an obstacle. All materials produced by instructors or the Southeastern District for such as course delivery and videotapes will be the property of the Southeastern District. Additional credits may be earned through seminars, college offerings, District or Denomination programs, classes from courses in a neighboring district's program, etc. However, these require prior approval from the Coordinator. In addition, prior courses from programs from other districts, or TRIM, or EFSM may be transferred in with approval of the Trustees upon entry into the program. Completion of the program will require successful completion of 12 units.

In general, one credit course will require two Saturday sessions each with morning and afternoon sessions. Half credit courses may be covered in one Saturday with a morning and afternoon session.

Orientation to program and closing evaluation is 1 unit. The orientation may be by video. It will earn .5 credits. The closing will be a summative paper submitted to the coordinator. Included will be:

- What I have learned from the program.
- How I see this applying to my future ministry.
- An evaluation of the over-all program.

This is worth .5 credits and will be evaluated by the Coordinator and Trustees.

Timeline- Orientation before first scheduled class; closing after needed class-work is completed for the program.

*Required Classes

.5 credit *	2006 September	Orientation	
1 credit *	2006 September 16 & 23 rd	Church History,	Instructor Randy Griffith ¹
1 credit *	2006 November 11 & 18 th	Ethics/Administration	Instructors, Roudebush's ²

¹ Randy Griffith

Johnson City, TN

423-306-6967,

1 credit *	2007 January 13 & 20 th	Pastoral Care I
1 credit *	2007 March 24 & 31 st	Old Testament Survey, Instructor Curtis Rhudy ³
.5 credit *	2007 April 28 th	The Gospels
.5 credit	2007 June 2 nd	Philippians
.5 credit	2007 July 14 th	Apocalyptic Literature, Instructor Noel S. Naff ⁴
.5 credit	2007 August 25 th	Minor Prophets
1 credit *	2007 September 22 & 29 th	New Testament Survey
.5 credit	2007 December 1 st	Multicultural Awareness
1 credit *	2008 January 12 & 19 th	Evangelism & Church Growth
.5 credit	2008 March 1 st	Postmodern Evangelical Ecclesiology Noel S. Naff
1 credit *	2008 April 5 & 12 th	Preaching & Worship
.5 credit *	2008 June 7 th	Spiritual Formation Instructor Noel S. Naff
.5 credit *	2008 August 2 nd	Book of Acts
1 credit *	2008 September 20 & 27 th	Pastoral Care II
.5 credit	2008 November 1 st	Counseling & Guidance Instructor Mary J. Sheets
.5 credit *	2009 January 10 th	Closing Summative Paper Due

Need 12 credits

Take Home Projects is listed on the next page.

Spiritual Formation (case studies, formulas, surveys, hands-on, etc) book:

(The Great Giveaway by David E. Fitch)

1 credit will equal 10 hrs. Class setting would be 4 hr. teaching, giving study time to make the 10 hrs.

The same will apply to CEU credits.

All DVD tapes are required to be returned before Class Credit is given.

Take Home Projects

Intro to Theology

Brethren & Evangelism (articles: by various evangelical theologians, preachers, and brethren)

Marriage by God 101

Searching Issues (a search of insight to 7 most difficult and complex questions surrounding Christianity.)

² Roudebush's

Kingsport, TN

1-866-804-7199, roudebushhsd@earthlink.net

³ Curtis Rhudy

Jonesborough, TN

423-753-9141, cmjrhudy@comcast.net

⁴ Noel S. Naff

Tryon, NC

828-863-4878, nsnaff@hotmail.com

Spiritual Warfare
Generational Sin
Christian year, liturgical colors, Seasons & Symbols
How to Pray

Take Home Projects are designed to enhance reading, critical thinking, discussion and writing skills at a level of the required work for credits. This program is designed for self-disciplined men and women who are interested in a particular subject in the field of Take Home Projects. It will enable you to learn on your own pace, as well as receive credits for your ongoing participation of School of Spiritual Leadership.

Books & Worksheets will be assigned. In your independent study, we remind you that this is for your benefit. Do not just do the worksheets and turn them back in. Instead take this opportunity to learn more about the subject so that you may continue to glorify our LORD. At the end of your learning, you are required to have an interview with the program director of School of Spiritual Leadership. With the work that you turned in as well as the interview you will be assigned your grade for the Project.

How to Pray will be one of the first Take Home Projects

By February 1st 2007 half of the subjects will be available to receive
By July 1st 2007 all of the subjects will be available to receive.

Other electives may be added or substituted as needs arise. These may include specific areas of the Old and New Testament, pastoral care, church history, doctrine, etc.

By this time the Trustees shall have evaluated the program, and outlined further courses.

How will the Readiness for Ministry Program criteria be fulfilled in the Learning Plan:

Ministerial leaders need to be skilled and understand the ministry in which the church has called them. Using the Readiness for Ministry Program will help provide leadership for worship, Biblical studies and ministry to the basic spiritual needs of a local congregation. Listed below are the eleven important competencies for ministerial leaders from The Readiness for Ministry Program. For further information you will find all the statements in The Readiness for Ministry Program which is found in the Ministerial Leadership Manual, section Office of Ministry Papers. OM 230.6-9

- 1) Familiarity with the Biblical sources of the Christian community and competency in interpreting those sources:
- 2) Familiarity with and ability to reflect theologically on the history and social context of Christianity:
- 3) Awareness of the contextual character of particular Christian traditions, especially as found in the North America setting and in global settings for developing Christianity:

- 4) Familiarity with and ability to reflect theologically on the heritage of the believers' church tradition:
- 5) Ability to articulate faith in language that is theologically informed and culturally persuasive:
- 6) As understanding of the congregation informed by both theological heritage and learnings from the human sciences:
- 7) Ability to articulate a vision of ministry congruent with one's sense of vocation and appropriate to the ministry context in which that vocation will be practiced:
- 8) Ability to nurture and reflect critically on the spiritual formation of self and others, including ethics for ministry and life in community:
- 9) Skills in interpersonal relationships, in mediating conflict, and in building community:
- 10) Ability to provide effective leadership in congregational and other church-related arenas of ministry:
- 11) Ability to integrate biblical and theological understandings with the practice of ministry:

What are the Educational strengths? Potential weakness:

- The educational program is a well rounded whole health program.
- Some learning will be by trial and error and it will take some time to work through weak points in the program. This might cause some discouragement until we establish a better way. Difficulties will include securing qualified instructors, maintaining enthusiasm that will keep students on task through completion of the program, establishing proper evaluative tools, and recognizing problems with the delivery system quickly.

How will we know if the Readiness for Ministry criteria is being met?

Our program is designed with accountability for everyone. The District Board will evaluate the program by hearing verbal and written reports. The Ministry Commission in conjunction with the Trustees should do a thorough evaluation every three years, but should also be continually evaluating the program as it unfolds. The evaluations will take into consideration the Readiness for Ministry criteria.

What resources do we currently have available:

- Church History will be taught by a well learned historian District Pastor.
- Spiritual Growth will be taught by an Ordained Pastor who taught some classes for Christian Growth Institute.
- ACTS program will be a resource.
- The Billy Graham Cove Center is in Asheville, NC which has many seminars that may be used as electives.
- We have a few pastors in our district who have their M. Div. and some with a Doctorate degree.

- Since this program is reaching those who are bi-vocational and for whom travel may pose problems, video, DVD and audio technology will be used as back-up resources.
- The individuals who have their professions in psychology will be used for pastoral care classes.
- We have a new Hispanic church plant within the district. We have the experienced pastors working with the multicultural experience which can be used to help bring awareness of each culture to all of us.

CRITERIA 5: FINANCIAL PLAN

The district has a designated account of \$100,000. The interest from this account is to be used for providing training to prepare individuals called to the ministry so that they can effectively answer that call. The estimated interest is \$2,500/year. \$500 from this will be paid to ACTS. The remainder will be used to set up the initial program, to cover ongoing administrative costs of the program, and provide scholarships for classes or books.

Cost per student - \$60 plus books. It is suggested that home congregations share in the costs. Audit for laypersons and CEU's will be \$30.00. Scholarships will be offered to those enrolled in the ministerial program upon recommendation of student's advisor and approval by the Trustees.

Instructional leadership at first will be compensated for mileage or cost for video taping. As we grow there can be an honorarium for the instructor.

The administrative costs will be for the materials to use for taping and mailing. The District Financial Officer will be the person responsible for registration, the fee for this responsibility is built into that salary as treasurer.

The purchase of a DVD or video camera would be necessary for taping the classes. A brochure will be prepared by the Southeastern District office.

CRITERIA 6: EVALUATIVE PLAN

What point will the educational system be evaluated? Who will participate in that evaluation process?

The program will be evaluated by the end of the third and fifth years. Input will come from student and instructor evaluations, analysis of student performances, rates of student completion of program, successful placement of graduates into ministry. Student advisors and home congregations of students should also be asked for input. Once the program is on solid ground then once every five years would be sufficient. Outside evaluation from Brotherhood leaders should also be sought.

The Trustees, in conjunction with the Ministry Commission will evaluate the program with a report to the District Board.

How will we go about obtaining the information necessary for evaluation?

It is always good to consult with someone who has experience in this field. The Virgina district already has a certified ACTS program implemented, which adjoins our district geographically. The Trustees can consult with their Board and seek advice on way of evaluating and improving our program. Also the Trustees should work with ACTS seeking their input for good evaluative tools. Information for evaluations will come from students, instructors, advisors, local congregation, trustees, and coordinator. As the program continues, graduates may be used as part of the five year evaluation process.

Once we decide there is a better way to deliver our program and that changes are needed, the Trustees and the Ministry Commission have the authority to make those changes. They will be accountable for this Education program to the District Board and District Conference which has the final authority if a decision needs to be made outside of the Board of Trustees.

CRITERIA 7: CHANGE PLAN

Who will be able to make decisions with respect to changes in the training system?

The District Ministry Commission and the Trustees will have the authority to make decisions about and implement needed changes. Proposed changes should be reported to the District Board as part of the evaluation process.

Will there be “grandfathering” for students already in the system:

This will be the first for this educational program. We will consider students from other educational programs and ministry life experiences. Trustees will evaluate prior work from other programs and life experiences and determine what credits have been met.