

## Pastoral Sabbatical Guidelines

1. Sabbatical leave is both a recognition of past service and an opportunity to enrich future ministry.
2. Time of service requirements for eligibility and the amount of lead time needed to process applications shall be established by each conference.
3. After consultation with the superintendent, sabbatical leave shall be agreed upon between the pastor and the local church before applying to the MEG Board or MAC. Preparation for sabbatical leave has two parts: The agreement with the church containing arrangements for pulpit supplies, pastoral care and administrative oversight during the absence of the pastor and the sabbatical plan to be submitted to the MEG Board for approval.
4. Requests for sabbatical leave shall be filed with the superintendent and approved by the MEG Board. Such request shall include a plan for use of sabbatical time and the expected benefits from the experience.
5. At the conclusion of the sabbatical leave a report shall be filed with the MEG Board describing the activities and benefits of the sabbatical leave and a report made to the church.
6. Sabbatical leave is not to be used for personal financial advantage.

Approved by the  
Board of Bishops  
April 25, 1996