

LCMS Council of Presidents Manual, 6.2.9
SAMPLE MULTI-POINT PARISH AGREEMENT

MULTI-POINT PARISH AGREEMENT

between
_____ **Lutheran Church of** _____
and
_____ **Lutheran Church of** _____

Preamble

_____ Lutheran Church of _____, and _____ Lutheran Church of _____, give thanks to God for their partnership in the Gospel since _____. Desiring to be good stewards of the gifts entrusted to them, we agree to continue our partnership as a multi-point parish under the following provisions:

The Pastor

A joint meeting of the Voters' Assembly of _____ Lutheran Church, and _____ Lutheran Church, will be held to call a pastor. Such action will not be delegated to a smaller group or an individual. The joint Voters' Assembly will decide whether to request a seminary graduate or to call a pastor from the field.

The pastor will spend approximately [75]% of his time serving the needs of _____ Lutheran Church and [25]% of his time serving the needs of _____ Lutheran Church.

The pastor will reside in the parsonage located at _____ Lutheran Church, _____.

Expenses Related to the Multi-Point Parish

Expenses related to the multi-point parish agreement will be based upon the annual average worship service attendance of each congregation on December 31 of each year.

For 2015, _____ Lutheran Church agrees to pay [75]% of the expenses related to the pastor and _____ Lutheran Church agrees to pay [25]% of the expenses related to the pastor. These expenses include salary and benefits (Concordia Health Plan, Concordia Retirement Plan, Concordia Disability and Survivor Plan).

_____ Lutheran Church will provide the parsonage and utilities for the pastor. The maximum utility allowance is \$_____ per year. If the utility cost exceeds this amount, the pastor will be required to pay the additional cost.

_____ will provide the pastor with a cell phone.

_____ Lutheran Church will bill _____ Lutheran Church for its share of the expenses. _____ Lutheran Church will remit this amount to _____ Lutheran Church on a monthly basis.

Mileage Reimbursement:

_____ Lutheran Church will provide the pastor with a monthly car allowance.

_____ Lutheran Church will reimburse the pastor for business miles driven on behalf of the congregation at the current IRS rate.

Professional expenses (conferences, conventions, continuing education, periodicals, etc.) will be shared by the two congregations according to the percentage formula for the year in which they are incurred.

The pastor will be granted one day off per week.

The pastor's vacation time will be established by following the District's Salary Compensation Guidelines.

Times of Worship Services

Members are encouraged to attend worship in either congregation when the times fit their schedules better.

Regular Sunday Worship Services

_____ Lutheran Church – 8:00 a.m.

_____ Lutheran Church – 9:30 a.m.

These times may be adjusted by mutual agreement.

Midweek Advent and Lenten Services

The congregations will alternate on an annual basis in hosting the Midweek Advent and Lenten Services.

In 2017 _____ will host the Midweek Advent Services

In 2018 _____ will host the Midweek Advent Services

In 2017 _____ will host the Midweek Lenten Services

In 2018 _____ will host the Midweek Lenten Services

Special Services

Special worship services (e.g., Thanksgiving, Christmas, New Year's, etc.) will be established on an annual basis by the Multi-Point Parish Committee.

Joint Meetings

Joint meetings of the voters’ assemblies of the two congregations will be held at mutually agreeable times.

When possible the two congregations will work to hold joint meetings (e.g., Junior Confirmation, Sunday School Teachers, Vacation Bible School, etc.) to conserve the pastor’s time.

Multi-Point Parish Committee

A Multi-Point Parish Committee will be formed. It shall consist of three (3) individuals chosen by the Voters’ Assembly of each congregation.

The purpose of the committee is to monitor the Multi-Point Parish Agreement and recommend needed changes.

The committee will meet twice a year.

Dissolution of the Multi-Point Parish Agreement

In the future, if the advancement of the Gospel and the Kingdom of God appears to call for the dissolution of this multi-point parish agreement, a period of negotiation shall be entered into by each congregation. During this time each congregation will be called upon to assess and communicate what is best for their congregation. In addition, due consideration must be given to the service of the pastor so as to uphold the divinity of the call. If, following the period of negotiation, at least one of the congregations thinks dissolution of the agreement is in its best interest, a [75]% majority vote at one quarterly voter's meeting, with a [75]% majority ratifying it at the next quarterly voter's meeting, is required to dissolve the multi-point parish agreement. Should such a vote pass, the partnership will be dissolved one year from the date of ratification. It can be terminated in less than one year by mutual consent of all congregations which are part of the agreement.

Signed by Representatives of the Congregations and the District President

_____ Date _____
Chairman, _____ Lutheran Church, _____

_____ Date _____
Chairman, Board of Elders, _____ Lutheran Church, _____

Chairman, _____ Lutheran Church, _____ Date _____

(Chairman, Board of Elders, _____ Lutheran Church, _____ Date _____

Ratified by the Voters Assembly of _____ Lutheran Church, _____

Secretary of the Congregation Date _____

Ratified by the Voters Assembly of _____ Lutheran Church, _____

Secretary of the Congregation Date _____

Approved by the President of the _____ District

District President Date _____

Reviewed April 2015
Reviewed April 2017