

Resources:

- Pastoral Search Handbook: Mission Possible—downloadable free @ ohchog.org
- Current Church Law and Tax Report on Pastoral Compensation Information
- Resumes for Pastors
- Guidance in securing Supply Pastors and/or Interim Pastor
- Devotional book for the Search Committee (one complimentary copy is given per church. Cost is \$10 per book thereafter.)
- Church Surveys
- Helps in establishing an online relationship with the National Church of God Registry
- Conditional Deeding and Incorporation Information—while your church is in transition is a good time to make sure that all legal paper work is done and in order.

All these resources are available at Ohio Ministries upon request.

Helps for Pastoral Search Committees

**Ohio Ministries of
the Church of God**

*“Changing the
World through
changed pastors
and congregations”*

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Searching for a new pastor is an adventure in the life of your congregation. There may be many opinions and emotions within the congregation, within the search committee and even within you as you begin the process of finding a pastor. Whatever your opinions or your feelings are, your responsibility is to seek out a new pastor for your congregation who can lead your congregation in fulfilling the Great Commission and Great Commandment of our Lord. It is an awesome task.

As you embark on this journey Ohio Ministries wants you to know that we are eager to walk with you, to encourage you, to give assistance and to celebrate the path God leads you on. Because this journey is so important and will make a difference in the life of the church for many years we have developed two paths by which we can offer assistance.

"I will instruct you and teach you in the way you should go; I will counsel you and watch over you."

Psalm 32:8

Path One: The Traditional Path

On this path Ohio Ministries will

- Provide you with the resources listed in this brochure upon your initiative and request.
- Commit to pray for you and your congregation in this time of transition.
- Allow you to work at your own pace throughout the process.
- Inform you of persons who are not in good standing with their ministerial credentials. This is contingent upon you informing us of the names of persons you are communicating, interviewing, or considering.
- Celebrate with you when you call a pastor.

Path Two: Coaching Path

The Coaching Path is a new route designed for congregations desiring to embrace this moment in their history to make changes and move their congregation to the next level of growth and disciple making.

On this path Ohio Ministries will

- Enter into a covenant relationship to see the best pastor-leader for this congregation.
- Serve as a coach to the congregation by working closely with the Search Committee;
- Using our team of trained coaches, perform an intense weekend consultation to discern the God-given vision for the congregation;
- Work with the congregational leadership to discern a plan of action to reach the vision.
- Serve as an accountability partner in growth and change.
- Provide all the resources of the second path.

Questions & Answers about the Coaching Path:

Will Ohio Ministries assign us a pastor?

NO! Each Church of God congregation is autonomous in structure and therefore responsible for calling its own leadership. We will be very intentional in bringing you very carefully chosen names of persons whose gift mix and abilities seem to match your vision and needs.

Who pays for this extra service?

Ohio Ministries is a servant of the church. Through the generous support of congregations such as yours we operate. We will not charge for these services though we do expect that you will value this ministry through planned, percentage given from your church budget.

Why are we offering this new path?

Ohio Ministries has discovered that most of our congregations have plateaued in growth or declined for many years. We simply are not living out the Great Commission to make disciples. Ohio Ministries longs to see the Church of God in Ohio be mission-driven. We believe that churches like yours are ready to become growing, healthy example of the Body of Christ in your next chapter in the life of your church.

As your state office we are committed to serving you in the ways that are most helpful. If is your responsibility as the appointed lay leaders of your congregation to choose the route most appropriate for your congregation.