

Presbytery of Michigan and Ontario, Church Extension Committee
Regional Home Missionary Full-Time Job Description

I. The Biblical Rationale for the Regional Home Missionary (RHM) Position

Jesus commanded: "All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you. And behold, I am with you always, to the end of the age" (Matthew 28:18-20).

All the apostles, by the power of the Spirit, obeyed the Great Commission. But, in the providence of God, the Apostle Paul became the preeminent missionary among them. Not only was Paul used in the conversion of individuals, but he gathered new believers into local, interrelated churches.

Paul's missionary work comprised the planting and nurturing of congregations in "every place". And just as believers formed a oneness as a local church, so also the local churches found oneness together in one holy, catholic, and apostolic church.

This example of Paul's missionary work and the mandate of the Great Commission join to support the concept of a regional home missionary for a distinct geographical area. Our RHM must utilize Paul's church planting foundation (proclaiming the Word of God) and his church development strategy (teaching, edifying, training the people, and training men for the offices of elder and deacon).

II. Overview and Purpose

The Regional Home Missionary shall be called by the Presbytery of Michigan and Ontario (PMO) of the Orthodox Presbyterian Church as an Evangelist to labor on behalf of the Presbytery toward the formation and development of new mission works within the boundaries of the regional church, especially through the work of identifying new fields, gathering seed groups, helping to prepare them for an organizing pastor, identifying organizing pastors, as well as becoming especially knowledgeable in the mother-daughter church planting model and working as a liaison between mother and daughter churches. Normally the RHM shall not serve as an organizing pastor of the groups which he works in developing.

III. Qualifications

- a. The RHM shall be an ordained and seasoned teaching or ruling elder of the Orthodox Presbyterian Church who has the particular gifts and calling to fulfill the Biblical office of evangelist.
- b. He must have a deep love for the gospel and a heart for the lost.

- c. He must be gifted in the office of teaching and able to communicate zeal in gathering Christ's sheep into congregations.
- d. He must be relatable and winsome in character.
- e. He must be organized and disciplined in time usage, to be able to perform his duties independent of daily supervision.
- f. He must have and maintain a working knowledge of the literature and other relevant resources that will assist in the planting of Churches (especially the booklet, Planting an Orthodox Presbyterian Church published by the Committee on Home Missions and Church Extension of the Orthodox Presbyterian Church and information pertaining to the "Seed and Sower Fund").
- g. It would be appropriate that any candidate for the RHM position attend an assessment center sponsored by the Committee on Home Missions and Church Extension to assist the Presbytery and CHEX committee in evaluating the candidate's gifts.

IV. Job Description

- a. The primary duty of the RHM is to devote his time to foster the formation and development of a nucleus for a church plant in groups with which he is working. This ministry will include:
 - i. Being constant in prayer for the guidance and development of mission work opportunities within the geographical boundaries of the presbytery.
 - ii. Identifying and coordinating with potential congregations capable of carrying out a mother/daughter church plant.
 - 1. Identify healthy churches
 - a. Spiritually
 - b. Organizationally
 - c. Financially
 - d. Statistically
 - 2. Coordinate as a liaison between mother/daughter churches
 - a. Aid mother congregation in not being too "overprotective"
 - b. Aid daughter congregation to particularization
 - iii. Determining which geographic areas are most in need and present the most promising prospects of a Presbyterian and Reformed mission work. This will entail a developing knowledge of such things as:
 - 1. Area Demographics.
 - 2. Proximity to already existing NAPARC churches.
 - 3. History of other attempts at church planting in the area.
 - iv. Strategizing and implementing the most productive means of establishing mission works within target areas, such as:
 - 1. Personal evangelism and follow-up discipling.

2. The use of social media, radio, and other means of promoting studies.
 3. Organizing and leading Bible studies.
 4. Seeking to become known by local leaders (religious and civil) of that area in order to network and build relationships.
- v. Instruction of the developing groups in biblical, Reformed, and confessional teachings, including instruction in:
 1. The doctrines of grace.
 2. The doctrine of the church.
 3. The history and distinctives of the Orthodox Presbyterian Church.
 4. Other Reformed and Presbyterian distinctives.
 - vi. Being aware that some of the ministry of the RHM may overlap into communities in which established OP churches or the congregation of other NAPARC churches are ministering. Adherence to the NAPARC Golden Rule Comity Agreement will be maintained.
 - vii. Evaluating potential Church plants by:
 1. Discussing with the CHEX committee relevant information obtained (especially points ii., iii above).
 2. Normally within 6 months to a year the RHM will recommend to the CHEX committee whether a group is ready to become a Mission Work (FOG XXIX.1).
- b. Additional Duties shall include:
- i. Seeking to bi-annually visit the congregations of the Presbytery to inform them of the work of Church extension and foster Church planting initiatives.
 - ii. Regular prayer updates to the congregations of the Presbytery and other partners in ministry on the ongoing efforts of Church planting.
 - iii. Consulting with the CHEX sub-committee overseeing the Readiness for Church Planters seminar, to ascertain any potential Church planters and organizing pastors.
 - iv. The facilitation of recruiting, training, managing, and motivating Church-planters in a manner that seeks to match the giftedness of a man with the particular requirements of a local congregation.
- c. At the Request of the CHEX committee, the RHM will:
- i. Assist pastors and/or congregations of other affiliations who desire to unite with the Orthodox Presbyterian Church.
 - ii. As time permits, give additional support to established mission works, particularly those without an organizing pastor.
 - iii. Plan and execute evangelistic outreach events in potential locations for a Church plant.

- iv. Serve as member of a provisional session of a mission work.
- v. Attend home missionary training seminars, especially the annual CHMCE Regional Church Extension Conference held on November.

V. Oversight

The RHM shall conduct his labors under the oversight of the CHEX Committee of the Presbytery of Michigan and Ontario. He shall present monthly reports to the CHEX committee and shall regularly attend the CHEX committee meetings. To help facilitate the oversight of the committee, the RHM shall actively seek to involve individual members of the committee (or presbytery) in his labors.

It is expected that he will attend all stated meetings of the Presbytery. He will give regular reports to the Presbytery of his work. Together with the CHEX committee, he will develop and annually update the Presbytery on 1-year and 5-year goals for Church planting.

VI. Administration and Evaluation

- a. The CHEX committee shall be authorized to search for a qualified RHM and initiate a call, to be approved by the Presbytery.
- b. The initial call shall be to a three-year term, with annual reviews by the CHEC committee at its August meeting. At the stated September meeting of the Presbytery, the CHEX committee will make a recommendation to continue or rescind the call of the RHM, in accordance with FOG, chapter XXIV.
- c. The congregations of the Presbytery shall be responsible for the compensation of the RHM.
- d. Compensation for this full-time position will be comparable to the average pastor's salary within our Presbytery.