



# NORTH AMERICAN MISSIONS

## PROCESSES FOR STARTING NEW WORKS

To create efficient and accountable processes for starting Preaching Points, Daughter Works, and Self-governing Works, these are the recommended processes of the Detroit Metro District:

### Process for Establishing a Preaching Point:

- 1) A credentialed minister (with advice and consent of his/her pastor) or pastor must contact his/her Sectional Presbyter and Sectional NAM Director to express the desire to start a preaching point in any city or town. In addition to any verbal communication, this communication must be documented through written letter or email by the requesting minister.
- 2) The Sectional Presbyter and/or Sectional NAM Director will contact the DMD North American Missions Director to notify him of the details of the proposed preaching point.
- 3) For any city or town currently without a self-governing UPC church, the DMD North American Missions Executive Committee (District Superintendent, NAM Director, and Sectional Presbyter) will consider, approve, and notify the credentialed minister of the decision regarding the preaching point.
- 4) For any city or town with a self-governing UPC church, the district board must approve the preaching point.

*\*See addendum for further information on preaching points*

### Process for Establishing a Daughter Work:

- 1) The Pastor of the mother church must contact his/her Sectional Presbyter and Sectional NAM Director to express the desire to start a daughter work in any city or town. In addition to any verbal communication, this communication must be documented through written letter or email by the requesting minister.

- 2) The Sectional Presbyter and/o will contact the DMD North American Missions Director to notify him of the details of the proposed daughter work.
- 3) For any city or town currently without a self-governing UPC church, the DMD North American Missions Executive Committee (District Superintendent, NAM Director, and Sectional Presbyter) will consider, approve, and notify the mother church pastor of the decision regarding the daughter work. The NAM Executive Committee may request that the pastor and leader of the daughter work meet with the committee prior to approval.
- 4) For any city or town with a self-governing UPC church, the district board must approve the daughter work. The district board may request a meeting with the pastor and leader of the daughter work prior to approval.

*\*See addendum for further information on daughter works*

### **Process for Establishing a Self-Governing Work:**

- 1) The Prospective Pastor or Mother Church Pastor along with Daughter Work leader, as applicable, must contact his/her Sectional Presbyter and Sectional NAM Director to express the desire to have a self-governing work in any city or town. In addition to any verbal communication, this communication must be documented through letter or email by the requesting minister.
- 2) The Sectional Presbyter and/or Sectional NAM Director will contact the DMD North American Missions Director and District Board with notification of the details of the proposed self-governing church.
- 3) The District Board must approve all self-governing churches and will consider if the proposed work is self-supporting, self-propagating, and self-governing. Self-supporting is inclusive of any supporting funds received as a result of being an affiliated NAM church.

## **Addendum**

### **Preaching Point Definition:**

A preaching point is a regular service or meeting:

- Distinct from the mother church as to location or language.
- Designed to reach people who are currently unchurched.
- The regular service or meeting is seen as a first step toward possibly starting a daughter work or church. The definition of a preaching point does not include a church having a service in a prison, nursing home, jail, on a college campus or in any other institutional setting.

The existence of a preaching point in a town/city does not preclude another church from applying to start another preaching point or daughter church. It also does not preclude someone applying to start a self-governing church in that town/city.

**Daughter Work Definition:**

A daughter congregation is a congregation which has met at least three months and is the result of the concerted efforts of an established mother church to plant a new congregation and holds at least one service per week apart from the mother church and is under the general oversight of the pastor of the mother church.

It is the desire of the Detroit Metro District that all daughter works become self-governing works. The NAM Executive Committee and/or District Board may request progress of the daughter work from time to time to establish the efficacy of the work and to provide assistance where needed.

The existence of a daughter work in a city or town may not preclude someone applying to establish a preaching point, daughter church, or self-governing church in the same city or town at the discretion of the District Board.

# THE CHURCH PLANTING PROCESS

1

## **Bible Study**

An *individual* teaches a home Bible study and wins a soul.

2

## **Home Group**

This *convert* gathers more family and friends and starts a small group.

3

## **Preaching Point**

This *group* gains momentum and begins to conduct church services.

4

## **Daughter Work**

This *work* is organized under the mother church, and a congregation is formed.

5

## **Autonomous Church**

This *church* is established and repeats the cycle.