

Episcopal Assessment

Prepared and provided by the
Southeastern Jurisdiction
Committee on Episcopacy

Updated January 11, 2011

Since the days of the early church certain persons have been charged with the responsibility of ordering and superintending the life of the Church. In The United Methodist Church bishops have a primary obligation to care for the spiritual and temporal needs of both the General Church as well as the Area to which they are assigned. If careful overseeing is absent, the Church will not be adequately equipped for its disciple-making ministry.

At the request of the Southeastern Jurisdiction College of Bishops, this instrument is designed to provide guidance and insight into effective Episcopal leadership. The purpose of this tool is to enhance ministry. The Conference Committee on Episcopacy is the group in the annual conference that is charged with the responsibility of working closely with and providing feedback to the various aspects of the Episcopal leaders' ministry. This information is submitted to the Committee on Episcopacy and the results shared only with the Bishop.

It is suggested that every member of the committee fill out the assessment sheet on an annual basis. The Conference chair of the committee will then summarize the findings, meet with the Bishop one on one and then lead the committee's discussion with the Bishop concerning the results. At the end of the third year the Episcopal Assessment is to be included with the profile reports and sent to the chair of the Southeastern Jurisdiction Episcopacy Committee. Hopefully, this will assist in the important ministry of Episcopal assignments. We appreciate our bishops and want to assist them in every way possible in their crucial ministries in the life of the church.

Circle the rating below that you feel is most appropriate in evaluating each statement:
Highly Effective/Effective/Needs Improvement.
If you do not know, do not circle.

I. Ongoing Formation

1. Reflects the Christian faith in lifestyle and personal disciplines:
Highly Effective/Effective/Needs Improvement

2. Enthusiastic and energetic:
Highly Effective/Effective/Needs Improvement

3. Practices good relational skills (*e.g.* caring, friendliness, ability to listen, accessibility, fairness):
Highly Effective/Effective/Needs Improvement

4. Cares for the body and mind as well as the spirit and family life:
Highly Effective/Effective/Needs Improvement

5. Takes the initiative to find and engage in ongoing learning opportunities:
Highly Effective/Effective/Needs Improvement

Comments:

II. Administrative Responsibilities in Episcopal Area

1. Supports and guides mission of the Conference:
Highly Effective/Effective/Needs Improvement

2. Chooses and enables effective leaders:
Highly Effective/Effective/Needs Improvement

3. Demonstrates commitment to inclusiveness:
Highly Effective/Effective/Needs Improvement

4. Handles sensitive issues appropriately:
Highly Effective/Effective/Needs Improvement

5. Promotes faithful stewardship and fiscal responsibility:
Highly Effective/Effective/Needs Improvement

Comments:

III. Leadership

1. Grasps cultural context:
Highly Effective/Effective/Needs Improvement

2. Visionary:
Highly Effective/Effective/Needs Improvement

2. Team Builder:
Highly Effective/Effective/Needs Improvement

3. Strategic Thinker:
Highly Effective/Effective/Needs Improvement

4. Builds trust and inspires respect:
Highly Effective/Effective/Needs Improvement

5. Presides skillfully at Annual Conference:
Highly Effective/Effective/Needs Improvement

Comments:

IV. Preaching and Teaching

1. Faithfulness to scripture and the theological traditions of The United Methodist Church:
Highly Effective/Effective/Needs Improvement

2. Preaches and teaches in strategic locations:
Highly Effective/Effective/Needs Improvement

3. Clear and effective communicator:
Highly Effective/Effective/Needs Improvement

4. Leads ordination and consecration services with excellence:
Highly Effective/Effective/Needs Improvement

4. Preaches and teaches for commitment and deepened discipleship:
Highly Effective/Effective/Needs Improvement

6. Open to new currents in preaching and teaching:
Highly Effective/Effective/Needs Improvement

Comments:

V. Appointment-Making

1. Practices and promotes consultation process (with pastors and churches):
Highly Effective/Effective/Needs Improvement

2. Maintains objectivity and consistency:
Highly Effective/Effective/Needs Improvement

3. Balances concern for pastors and churches:
Highly Effective/Effective/Needs Improvement

4. Implements open itinerancy:
Highly Effective/Effective/Needs Improvement

5. Balances the tension between itinerancy and healthy longevity in appointments:
Highly Effective/Effective/Needs Improvement

6. Encourages open and honest dialogue within the cabinet:
Highly Effective/Effective/Needs Improvement

Comments:

VI. Builds Healthy Relationships with. . .

1. Laity:
Highly Effective/Effective/Needs Improvement

2. Deacons:
Highly Effective/Effective/Needs Improvement

3. Elders:
Highly Effective/Effective/Needs Improvement

4. Local pastors:
Highly Effective/Effective/Needs Improvement

5. Clergy in extension ministries:
Highly Effective/Effective/Needs Improvement

5. Ethnic/language groups:
Highly Effective/Effective/Needs Improvement

Comments:

VII. Maintains Wide-Screen View of Mission and Ministry

1. New church launches:
Highly Effective/Effective/Needs Improvement

2. Transforming existing congregations:
Highly Effective/Effective/Needs Improvement

3. Strengthening clergy and lay leadership:
Highly Effective/Effective/Needs Improvement

4. Eliminating poverty in community with the poor:
Highly Effective/Effective/Needs Improvement

5. Advocating for improved global health:
Highly Effective/Effective/Needs Improvement

6. Teaching the Wesleyan model of making and forming disciples:
Highly Effective/Effective/Needs Improvement

7. Reaching and transforming the lives of new generations of children:
Highly Effective/Effective/Needs Improvement

8. Expanding ethnic/racial ministries:
Highly Effective/Effective/Needs Improvement

9. Building relationships in the ecumenical community:
Highly Effective/Effective/Needs Improvement

Comments:

VIII. Strengthens the Connection

1. Interprets and advocates for the mission and ministries of The United Methodist Church
Highly Effective/Effective/Needs Improvement

2. Passionately supports connectional giving:
Highly Effective/Effective/Needs Improvement

3. Reclaims the significance of covenant and connection
Highly Effective/Effective/Needs Improvement

4. Embodies and promotes the unity of the Church:
Highly Effective/Effective/Needs Improvement

5. Balances responsibilities between the Connection and the Conference:
Highly Effective/Effective/Needs Improvement

Comments: