

Looking for Church Planters

Central Plains Region – Ministry priorities

The [Central Plains Region of the North American Baptist Conference](#) (CPR) has three ministry priorities:

- Make more and deeper disciples
- Ministry Multiplication – Church Planting
- Leadership Development

While all three priorities are important, we believe that church planting needs to be a principal focus for the immediate future. Doing church planting well, enables us to do even better at the other two priorities. As a result, we are looking for church planters to join us as we join God in what he is doing in the CPR.

Why Plant with the Central Plains Region

If you sense God calling you to plant a church, we want to connect with you. Here are several reasons for planting a church with the Central Plains Region of the North American Baptist Conference.

- **Relationships** – church planting is done best when you are part of a team. The CPR will...
 - Connect you with partner churches and ministries
 - Give you an immediate prayer base
- **Resources** – The CPR and NAB provide various resources to help you be effective as a church Planter
 - **Networks** – The CPR and NAB partner with two church planting networks to provide excellent resources
 - [North American Baptist Conference](#)
 - [Excel Leadership Network](#)
 - [C2C Network](#)
 - **Coaching** – Each church planter will be connected with a trained church planting coach
 - **Connection Events** – Church planters will have opportunity to connect with other church planters for help, encouragement, and prayer
 - **Training** – you will be given opportunities for ongoing training as a church planter
 - **Financial Support** – While each church plant is unique, the CPR will come alongside approved church plants with \$5,000 - \$30,000. Our goal is to plant a network of churches that plant more churches. Additional support could be available for this purpose, which could easily make funding exceed \$50,000.

Church Planters Next Steps Road Map

Initial contact

Talk with the Central Plains Regional Minister (CPR RM). Have a phone conversation with the CPR RM regarding your interest in connecting and get further information about next steps.

Every church planter will go through a pre-assessment process in order to establish theological alignment with the Central Plains Region and the North American Baptist Conference. The following elements will help the candidate understand both the theological and missiological foundations of NAB/CPR church planting.

Theology

We ask each prospective planter to submit the following items to the NAB/CPR church planting team:

- Résumé
- Written testimony (including the calling to explore church planting)
- [Signed NAB Statement of Faith](#)
- [Signed NAB Code of Ethics](#)

Missiology and Ecclesiology

The CPR/NAB emphasizes the need for missional church planting. Among other things, that means we aim for our churches to follow the Holy Spirit in leading people to Christ, gathering them into a spiritual family and shaping them into disciples who will then go into their families and communities to make more disciples. Forming fruitful, faithful, Spirit-filled disciples is more important to us than drawing large crowds. Prospective planters would do well to study [Missional Essentials](#) by Brad Brisco and Lance Ford and/or [Saturate](#) by Jeff Vanderstelt for further insight into NAB missional practices. We will invite the prospective planter and spouse to participate in a series of conversations designed to explore their vision of church planting.

Discernment

- **Interview** – Meet with the CPR RM
This will discover where you are in the planting process, your target group/location and timeline, as well as any questions you have.
- **Discovery Event** - Attend a Church Planter assessment
A Discovery Event is a two-and-a-half-day to 4-day (depending on which one you attend) assessment process to help you and your spouse discover your next step in ministry and be as successful as possible. While church planting is the focus of this process, the real outcome is greater clarity for you in your own understanding of what God is calling you to do. It's also another great opportunity for you to see how the network operates.
- **Conditions** – Fulfill any conditions you received in your Discovery Event report
Following the Discovery Center, you may have conditions to fulfill before moving forward.

- **Proposal/Vision Alignment** – Submit your ministry plan for review and feedback
Write up a ministry plan to submit to a team of church planters and ministry leaders.
Tweak the proposal based on Vision Alignment Team member comments.
- **Contract** – Review contract
Review your contract for partnering with the Central Plains Region. Sign and return the documents.
- **Coaching** – Choose a coach
Planters will choose their coach and enter into a coaching contract approved by the CPR and Excel. Sign and return the contract.
- **Initial Milestones** – Meet initial milestones
Begin meeting contract milestones and receive matching funds disbursements where applicable.
- **Final Milestones** – Meet final milestones
Meet the final contract milestones, receive matching funds disbursements where applicable, and make sure individual church corporation documents are secured.