

One-to-Three Month Renewal Leave Scholarship Application

Kentucky Annual Conference

United Methodist Church

Board of Ordained Ministry

Purpose

A renewal leave provides energizing renewal for clergy, staff, and congregation. It is an important part of maintaining a focus, commitment, passion, and skill for ministry. A time apart encourages a person to step off the treadmill long enough to rest, renew, and clarify vision for life and work. In the biblical tradition keeping Sabbath is essential to maintaining one's relationship with God. We believe that the renewal leave program of the Kentucky Annual Conference will deepen the spiritual lives of our pastors and result in building up strong spiritual leaders to serve the Church.

Eligibility

A clergyperson who has been a member of the Kentucky Annual Conference for six years and serving in a full-time appointment will be eligible to apply for a renewal grant. It is expected that the pastor will return to the current appointment following the renewal leave for the following year. Clergy is defined by the 2004 Book of Discipline (§602) as consisting “of deacons and elders in full connection, probationary members, associate members, affiliate members, and local pastors under full-time appointment and part-time appointment to a pastoral charge.”

Administration

The Board of Ordained Ministry, Spiritual Formation Team, shall administer this program. Each applicant must receive written approval from his District Superintendent and from his/her Staff Parish Relations Committee (or for those in special appointment by his/her immediate superior).

Financial Support

- Each pastor/clergy will receive his/her regular salary from the local church or employing institution during the leave.
- Some funding may be available to the church to cover the cost of supplying the pulpit during the renewal leave through funds budgeted for this program. Finding a pulpit supply shall be the responsibility of the Pastor and the Staff Parish Relations Committee with the approval of the Cabinet (or the immediate ecclesiastical superior for those in special appointment).
- Some funding may be available to the clergy/pastor on leave for such items as books, travel costs, etc.
- Regular employment of any kind during the study will not be permitted unless it is directly related to the goal of the applicant's renewal leave program.

GENERAL INFORMATION

Application date _____ Renewal Leave Date: _____

Last Name First Name Phone#

Church Address, City, State, Zip

Conference Appointment

RENEWAL LEAVE PLANS

What are your goals while on Renewal Leave?

1. Personal/Relational Goal:

2. Spiritual Goal:

3. Professional Goal:

What tasks must be done while I am on leave?

Task	Responsible Person(s)
1.	
2.	
3.	
4.	
5.	
6.	

Under what conditions am I to be contacted while on leave?

FUNDING

NOTE: Funding will be sent 2 weeks prior to the beginning of your Renewal Leave.

I am asking for the congregational funding: Yes No

Congregational funding will be used for (this information should be given to Finance/Treasurer): _____

I am asking for the clergy funding (can be used to purchase books, pay for retreats, travel expenses, etc.): Yes No

AGREEMENT

I, the undersigned minister serving the Kentucky Annual Conference of the United Methodist Church request a Renewal Leave on the dates listed above along with the indicated financial assistance. I plan to return to my current congregation and agree to submit a written Summary of my Renewal Leave and its benefits to the Ministerial Services office within 14 days of completion of my Leave.

Name (printed): _____
Address: _____
Church: _____
Date: _____
Signature: _____

**The Staff Parish Relations Committee of the _____
Church approves this participation of its minister in the Renewal Leave Program:**

Signed SPRC Chairperson: _____ Date: _____

Approval is hereby given for this applicant:

Signed District Superintendent: _____ Date: _____