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Crisis and Conflict

Prevention For Congregations and Ministries

- 1. Be **Proactive** rather than **Reactive** to a possible crisis in your congregation.
- 2. Obtain and study the Michigan District Ethics Documents as part of a preventive measure within your congregation. (Do part at each council/board meeting)
- 3. Annual reviews for Pastor(s), Staff, and Volunteers.
- 4. Provide Pastor(s), Staff, and Volunteers with evaluation forms to discuss possible issues and resolve them to avert a crisis.
- 5. Develop a Personal Improvement Plan for all concerns during evaluations.
- 6. Use the district template for a "Strategic Plan for an Internal crisis in your church" and "Church Emergency Management Operations Plan" to develop a strategic plan for your congregation.
- 7. Document everything around the possible crisis, what you see, what you hear, who is involved, how they are involved.
- 8. Be sure to have leadership attend **Seasons of Change Conference** for congregations receiving a new pastor or commissioned worker.
- 9. Be sure your new workers attend the **New Worker Conference** and all required annual conferences.
- 10. Have your Circuit Visitor make the Ethics Documents part of the circuit meetings at least once a triennium.
- 11. Keep your Circuit Visitor, District Facilitator, Vice President, and District President informed of possible issues within the congregation.
- 12. At your monthly church council or board of directors meeting, review a portion of your Bylaws to be sure you are complying with them or assess if they need to be rewritten to meet the needs of your congregation.