

Elisha Internship: Mentor Church Guidelines and Selection Criteria

Purpose: Prepare young ministry candidates with an opportunity to discern their call through engaging in the day to day life of a vital church community, walking alongside a pastor and participating in all aspects of the church's ministry.

1. Each year, after the interview process of our Elisha Intern Candidates is complete, the Board of Ordained Ministry Elisha Committee will match the intern with a mentor church based on the needs and calling of the individual intern. These churches have been affirmed by cabinet as healthy, vital congregations that can offer a robust and fulfilling experience for the intern. This includes having a pastor that has the time and capacity to have an intern shadow them for the 10-week summer session, which includes coaching and discussion time each week with the intern. (Note: an intern is not a substitute for any pastor or staff.)
2. The Director of Leadership Development will reach out to the mentor churches that have been recommended and share with them this opportunity to host. They can then determine their capacity to provide this experience.
3. The Conference provides the intern with a \$4000 stipend which covers 10 weeks at 40 hours per week and begins at Annual Conference. The church is responsible for providing housing and some meals.
4. The host church pastor will ensure that the intern can participate in all activities in the life of the church and have a broad learning experience. This would include, but not be limited to, experiences of:
 - Participation in Church leadership and volunteer development
 - Interaction with staff and colleagues
 - Participation in passionate worship—leading and preaching
 - Engagement in Children's and/or Youth ministry
 - Leadership of a small group/Bible study
 - Coming alongside of the pastor in the planning and/or leadership of wedding/funerals (where possible)
 - Mission and Outreach development and implementation
 - Pastoral Care ministry engagement
 - Cultivation of generous givers