



**Our Commitment:** We are dedicated “*to cultivate a community and culture of healthy disciple-making churches and ministries, faithfully joining Jesus in his mission.*” We come alongside churches and leaders to support churches in their mission of inviting people to follow Jesus who then in turn will repeat the process in others. (Matthew 28:19-20).

**What we Do:**

**Pastoral Transitions:** When a church or ministry has a pastoral/leadership vacancy, ABMB offers to come alongside the leadership to process the change. We provide a step-by-step guide so the experience can be filled with blessing and encouragement. We will often provide suggestions for trained *transitional pastors* to assist a local church in such a time.

**Theological Integrity and Credentialing:** We help churches discern pastors and leaders with their doctrinal understanding and commitment to our Confession of Faith. Using a relational approach, the requirements provide theological confidence to the local church in their pastors. A three-day Pastor’s Credentialing Orientation helps new pastors, or those from other denominations, get connected to the larger MB family, network with other pastors, and how to better navigate all the opportunities and resources of the MB Community.

**Pastoral Conduct Policy:** Every credentialed pastor is required to affirm and sign our MB Covenant and Christian Code of Conduct. This includes affirming and promoting our Confession, and agreeing to be a team player with our family of churches. To request more info, please contact us

**Ecclesiastical authority (pastoral credentialing):** When a pastor is credentialed, they are also licensed with the province of Alberta to officiate weddings. Further, a license also provides the pastor with Clergy Housing Allowance for privileges for income tax deduction purposes. We also assist out-of-province MB pastors with temporary licences to perform marriages.

**Salary grid:** ABMB offers a suggested salary grid for church boards as they navigate and negotiate salaries for their pastors. This grid is annually adjusted and typically updated from time to time based on market standards. If you have any questions, please contact us.

Ministry coaching support: Leadership is often challenging, and pastoral ministry has many unique characteristics. As a service to our churches, pastoral and ministry support is done in a variety of ways: one-on-one and peer leadership coaching, monthly online pastoral “connects”, and regular in-person “pastors clusters” for training and encouragement.

Assessment tools (AIM): Periodically, churches choose to assess, evaluate, and re-imagine their ministry. The AIM Assessment tool has been effective in breathing new life and direction for many of our congregations. This can be done any time in the life of a church, but is often best implemented during a time of pastoral transition.

Seminary at Church: In partnership with a local MB church (SunWest Calgary) and the MB Seminary, in-person graduate courses are taught locally. Courses are offered for credit or for audit; arrangements can be made to use these as credits at both undergrad and graduate levels. Course subjects are typically focused on general interest: Christian leadership, Biblical Interpretation, Contemporary Theological Issues.

Relationships & connectedness: ABMB is a kind of “hub”, a family, in which we find friendship, mutual support, and camaraderie with other like-minded churches and leaders. Pastoral ministry can be lonely sometimes, and participation in a larger community is a great encouragement!

Crisis & Conflict Management: Unfortunately, conflicts are part of life, even in the church. When this happens, ABMB is often consulted for advice and direction. Occasionally we are directly involved in mediation.

Group Licenses: When we purchase a group license, such as Plan to Protect (vulnerable groups), a local church can purchase their own policy at a discounted rate; access to training and materials may be included.

Student Scholarships: The Leadership Award Matching Program (LAMP) is an opportunity for churches to support young leaders who work at summer camps while they are also studying at a college or university. When a church participates in the *ABMB LAMP* bursary, the support of the home church will be doubled up to \$1000/year. Working at camp for the summer is a great way to gain experience while earning support for tuition!

Board training and resourcing: With new people cycling through church boards, or as organizations change, so does the need to equip church board members (elders, council, leadership team) in effective governance. Short online training or in-person resources are available.

Preaching support: Does your pastor need a break from preaching? ABMB has a team of pastors who can provide preaching/teaching support. Some churches are interesting in “pulpit sharing” as well.

Resource Networking: Every church has leadership expertise that could be helpful for other congregations. We can provide networking of professionals to assist your church or organization. If you have a specific need in your church, or perhaps you have expertise that could be helpful to other churches, ABMB is a good hub for these resources.