

Information for PMLS

Attendance at all sessions of PMLS is expected and required. Please plan ahead for someone else to cover pastoral emergencies. Should unavoidable emergencies arise (illness, family death, etc.) students should consult with the directors and faculty regarding arrangements for work missed due to such absences. A “pass” or “fail” grade will be given for each of the sections of PMLS; each student must pass all 6 sections to be eligible for licensing.

Test of Adult Basic Education (TABE)

The Board of Ordained Ministry of the West Virginia Conference has authorized the use of the McGraw-Hill Test of Adult Basic Education (TABE) as resource for the West Virginia Conference Pastoral Ministry Licensing School. **Students who have not completed associate equivalent college level course work will be asked to complete the TABE prior to attending the PMLS week. These students will be notified individually of this requirement and may complete this assessment at their district office.**

The purpose of testing candidates for ministry prior to the licensing school includes:

- Early identification of those with weaknesses in communication skills in order to provide support where needed.
- Possible provision of remedial education prior to enrollment in Course of Study.
- Coordination of basic skills instruction in the annual conference with services provided by the Course of Study schools.
- Consistency in baseline educational competency in beginning Local Pastors.

TABE/grade equivalent scores will be reported on the student’s report form. This information will be given to the District Committee on Ordained Ministry and is required on all applications for ministerial Course of Study. **A candidate must score at least 9.9 grade level to be recommended for a license as a Local Pastor.**

Lodging Information:

PMLS will be housed at the Bishop Hodges Pastoral Center, located in the Monongahela National Forest, in Huttonsville, WV. You will be housed in single, motel-style rooms at the Pastoral Center. Linens are provided. The dress code is casual and comfortable. Be sure to bring extra layers in case of cooler weather.

The Pastoral Center is equipped with Wi-Fi internet access in public areas and in some lodging rooms, but cell phone service is limited. Prepaid long-distance phone cards are recommended for those who want to keep in touch with family at home. If you have a laptop or a tablet, please bring it with you; we will refer to online resources in class.

We will be helping each other worship together throughout the week and also simply getting to know one another. If you play a musical instrument that lends itself to worship leadership, feel free to bring it along. The Pastoral Center has a keyboard for our use.

Directions:

From the west (Huntington/Charleston): Take I-64 East to Charleston. Take I-79 North to Exit 99 (Weston/Buckhannon). Take US 33 East to Elkins exit. Follow US 250/219 South to Huttonsville. Make a right onto US 219 South at Exxon station. Follow for 4.3 miles. Property is on your right.

From the north (Wheeling/Morgantown): Take I-79 South to Exit 99 (Weston/Buckhannon). Take US 33 East to Elkins exit. Follow US 250/219 South to Huttonsville. Make a right onto US 219 South at Exxon station. Follow for 4.3 miles. Property is on your right.

From the south (Beckley/Bluefield): Take SR 19 North to I-79 North. Take Exit 99 (Weston/Buckhannon). Take US 33 East to Elkins exit. Follow US 250/219 South to Huttonsville. Make a right onto US 219 South at Exxon station. Follow for 4.3 miles. Property is on your right.

From the east (Martinsburg): Take I-81 South to Strasburg, VA. Take SR 55 to US 33 West (at Seneca Rocks) to Elkins, WV. Follow US 250/219 South to Huttonsville. Make a right onto US 219 South at Exxon station. Follow for 4.3 miles. Property is on your right.

** Note statue, gym, and brick chapel on right. Main building is located on the hill above the chapel. Use main (first) entrance. Check in counter is just inside main entrance.*

Bishop Hodges Pastoral Center

Rt. 219 South

Huttonsville, WV 26273

(304) 335-2165

www.bhpc-dwc.org