



Dakotas Conference Connectors

ROLE 1: CONNECTOR FOR RENEWAL

The mission of the church is to Make Disciples of Jesus Christ for the Transformation of the World. Spiritual renewal of individuals and of the church happens as we recommit to the core mission of the church. In order to support that effort, the Connector for Renewal will work with leaders and churches to cultivate discipleship pathways that help persons of all ages and stages grow in discipleship and spiritual maturity. By curating resources and collaborating with congregations of all sizes and contexts, they will support the church's work of evangelism, formation, and revitalization.

Guiding values and outcomes: Discipleship Pathways and contextual faith formation models; evangelism practices grounded in Wesleyan grace and local context; intentional revitalization initiatives (especially rural and under-resourced communities); vibrant worship and authentic witness.

Ideal Candidate: You are a spiritual midwife, helping faith be born and reborn again. You are a gifted communicator, a relentless encourager, a sharer of the Jesus-story, and a coach who sees every believer as a theologian in the making. You want to help churches not just teach faith—but form it, live it, and embody it through a variety of new and renewed expressions of ministry. You are deeply rooted in your identity as a Christ-follower in the Wesleyan tradition and are committed to developing systems, strategies and relationships that form and deploy disciples. You want people to not only know about God – you long for them to know God in a deep and personal way.

ROLE 2: CONNECTOR FOR JUSTICE & ADVOCACY

This individual will resource local churches in developing ministries of mercy, justice, and advocacy through building partnerships, curating educational resources, and connecting churches in the Dakotas with the work and resources of the greater denomination. With a prophetic and pastoral spirit, this role will encourage and equip individuals and congregations in their public witness and faith in action.

Guiding values and outcomes: Justice-focused discipleship; Education and Resourcing for ministry development, faithful civic engagement, and community outreach; Partnerships with connectional, local, regional, and national justice organizations addressing poverty, public health, peace, racial equality, environmental and economic justice, etc.

Ideal Candidate: You carry both a pastoral heart and a prophetic voice. You are compelled by the Gospel's call to stand with the poor, the marginalized, and the earth itself. You love Jesus and the works of mercy. You can organize a neighborhood food drive and meet with policymakers on the same day. You believe the church is at its best when it is out in the community, building partnerships, planting seeds of equity, and lifting the voices of those long silenced. You are collaborative, hopeful, action-oriented, and spiritually grounded. You are a bridge between pulpit and public square, sanctuary and sidewalk.



ROLE 3: CONNECTOR FOR CALL & DEVELOPMENT

This individual will be committed to developing a comprehensive culture of call across all ages and demographics in the Dakotas. Through opportunities for discernment experiences, guided mentoring, and vocational exploration, this role will help individuals discover God's unique call on their lives and how that call fits into God's story and Kingdom purposes.

Guiding values and outcomes: Conference-wide culture of call grounded in Wesleyan theology; resourcing of multigenerational ministry with emphasis on innovation and inclusion; collaboration with educational institutions and campus ministries; identifying and equipping emerging leaders

Ideal Candidate: You are a spiritual talent scout and a kingdom cultivator. You believe that God calls all people - young and old, laity and clergy, rural and urban - to holy purpose, and you are passionate about helping them hear that call clearly. You are energized by mentoring, coaching, and companioning others as they discover their gifts and step into leadership. You thrive in developing online and retreat opportunities – and small group formation. Above all, you see leadership – inside the walls of the church and outside – as a calling to serve the vows made at baptism – and the affirmation of membership, licensing, or ordination. And – you are ready to help shape a new generation of Wesleyan leaders who are rooted, resilient, and ready.

ROLE 4: CONNECTOR FOR STRATEGY & SYSTEM DESIGN

This role will serve as a strategic partner in helping churches promote the stewardship of time, talent, and treasure, a foundational aspect of Wesleyan discipleship. They will help ask bold questions, build collaborative processes, and design agile systems that streamline governance and administration, empowering leaders to do their best work.

Guiding values and outcomes: Resourcing churches in asset mapping, strategic planning, flexible governance models, and effective administrative practices; cultivating generosity and innovation in administrative leadership and systems; collaboration with key partners and stakeholders to innovate models and practices for missional sustainability.

Ideal Candidate:

You are equal parts visionary and systems-thinker. You love bringing order to chaos and shaping containers for spiritual fire. You're energized by spreadsheets and Spirit-led strategic plans. You see dashboards and decision trees not as dull tasks but as discipleship tools. Stewardship as Discipleship inspires you into year-round promotion of stewarding time, talents, and treasures for mission and ministry. You are fluent in both innovation and implementation—and you believe structure can be sacred when it serves God's mission. You help the church move from idea to action, vision to impact.

For all Connector Roles:

- Each Connector will be expected to collaborate across roles, working in a matrixed model with clergy, laity, local faith communities, conference staff and teams, and connectional partners (including, but not limited to, General agencies, the *emerGE* project through Garrett-Evangelical, and Dakota Wesleyan University.)



- Guided by the Dakotas values of being Spirit-led, Service-Oriented, and Sanctified in Love, Connectors will support the collective learning and innovation goal by sharing stories, metrics, relevant content, and best practices across the Dakotas Conference in a way that aims to REACH (Resource, Equip, Align, Connect, and Herald in the Wesleyan Way.)
- These are contracted, stipend positions that will require approximately 20 hours per month. The contracts are one-year, renewable contracts that allow for the conference to remain nimble as we respond to missional needs.

Individuals who feel called to any of these roles should send a Letter of Interest with related experience to Dakotas.Connectors@dakotasumc.org by August 22, 2025.