



Ministry Inquiry Goal Sheet

The Ministry Inquiry Goal Sheet is an invaluable tool for your Ministry Inquiry experience. It will help you articulate your own personal goals, serve as a communication piece between you and your host site mentor and function as the foundation for the reflection report that will be submitted at the end of your inquiry experience.

The goal sheet will help you thoughtfully and intentionally set goals, making this experience a meaningful one, but you should not feel bound by it. In other words, it is very likely that your overarching goals may change once functioning in the placement, or you might discover that some goals take more time than others. Again, the point of this is to aid in intentional reflection before, during and after the Ministry Inquiry experience.

The goal sheet should include three-five overarching goals, as well as two-three ways you anticipate working towards the achievement of each goal (see example on the following page). As the goal sheet is formulated, it is good to consider a balance of skill development, personal and faith growth, vocational inquiry and exploration of a ministry issue. The ministry issue is simply one idea/notion/subject that the student wishes to explore, read about, engage people in conversation, and/or reflect on throughout your summer.

This goal sheet will undergo several revisions. The following is a suggested guideline of its development.

Inquiry Goal Sheet

1. Compose a draft of a goal sheet (preferably before the MIP experience begins)
 - a. Three-five overarching goals, a balance of skills, personal growth, vocational inquiry.
 - b. Name two-three ways you plan to work at each goal
2. Send draft to college supervisor for feedback
3. When placement begins, student consults with mentoring host to review and take their suggestions.
4. Then, submit a final version of goals to college supervisor. This will become the point of discussion and reflection for the Inquiry Program experience.

One example:

Goals for Ministry Inquiry Program at Second Mennonite Church

1. Vocational inquiry in pastorate role
 - a. Worship—help lead and plan music and worship in morning church service
 - b. Pastoral care—home and hospital visits, spiritual direction/discussion?
 - c. Exploring preaching—preach once
 - d. Youth work—accompany youth to Mennonite Church USA convention. Help lead group times and other activities there.
 - e. Christian Education—teach Sunday school classes perhaps in a younger-aged classroom
 - f. “Life of a pastor” extras—attend meetings, administrative duties...
2. Personal spiritual growth
 - a. Explore journaling
 - b. Spend time in scriptures, prayer, and meditation on a regular basis
3. See and understand more about a pressing local need and the church’s role with it.
 - a. Volunteer at immigration clinic (example of a local need).
 - b. Talk to congregational members and participate in any kind of involvement this church has with this.
 - c. Pay attention to both state and federal legislation and political change/information/news on immigration issue.
4. Experience broader Mennonite church—in different cultural and demographic location
 - a. Spend time with conference minister, assist with conference work when possible.
 - b. Attend Regional Conference meetings
 - c. Convention—involvement with conference