Mission Area Structure

**Canon 223.1: Number of Mission Areas.** The Council will set up at least six but not more than nine mission areas in the Episcopal Church in Minnesota, encompassing geographical and mission areas determined by Council and ratified by Convention. The structure and composition of Mission Areas are determined by the Council, but no change on these subjects may be made without approval of the Convention of the Episcopal Church in Minnesota.
Canon 223.2: (Reserved)

Canon 223.3: Preparation of Convention Delegates. A fundamental objective of every Mission Area is to establish a process to help prepare informed and effective delegates to participate in the annual Convention of the Episcopal Church in Minnesota.

CANON 224
Mission Area Boards: In General

Canon 224.1: Mission Area Boards Required. Each Mission Area must have a Mission Area Board responsible for planning, development, administration and evaluation of the Church’s work in the Mission Area. Mission Area Boards are responsible to the Council.

Canon 224.2: Membership of Mission Area Boards. Mission Area Boards consist of the Clergy of each Congregation located within the Mission Area and elected Lay delegates and alternates to Convention of the Episcopal Church in Minnesota from each Congregation located within the Mission Area. Membership of other Clergy canonically resident in the Episcopal Church in Minnesota and actually residing in the Mission Area is, however, at the discretion of each Mission Area Board.

Canon 224.3: (Reserved).

Canon 224.4: (Reserved).

Canon 224.5: Duties of Mission Area Boards. The responsibilities of Mission Area Boards are prescribed by the Council, and include the establishing, assisting, and guiding Mission Congregations; special forms of ministry conducted within the Mission Area; and any other matter affecting the total impact and effectiveness of the Church in the Mission Area.

Canon 224.6: (Reserved)

Canon 224.7: (Reserved)

Canon 224.8: Meetings. Each Mission Area shall meet at least three times a year. One meeting shall be held before March 1. Another meeting shall be held within sixty days before the annual Convention. Meetings shall be open to all Clergy canonically resident in the Episcopal Church in Minnesota and residing in the Mission Area, and to all communicants in good standing registered in a congregation in the Mission Area. All such persons shall be entitled to a seat and voice at the meeting, but no vote.

CANON 225
Mission Area Boards: Committees

Canon 225.1: Executive Committee. Each Mission Area Board may establish an Executive Committee comprising its officers and other members as needed, such responsibilities prescribed by the Board.

Canon 225.2: Other Committees. Each Mission Area Board may establish other committees in its discretion.
CANON 226
Mission Area Teams

Canon 226.1: Mission Area Team Members. At a Mission Area Gathering, Mission Area Boards elect a Mission Area Team consisting of two members of the Clergy and two Adult Lay Communicants. Such elections will take place in the first meeting of the calendar year in the Ecclesiastical Years specified in Canon 207.1. The terms of office for the elected Mission Area Team Members shall be three years and shall begin at the next regularly scheduled meeting of the Council after their election. The terms of office for the elected team members shall continue until their successors are elected.

   a. Each Mission Area Board may in its bylaws prescribe additional qualifications of eligibility for its members on the Mission Area Team/Council.

[Advisory Committee Note (2019): Previous Canon indicated a preference that the clergy members of Mission Area Teams be one person from the Order of Priests and one person from the Order of Deacons. The removal of this preference is not intended to indicate a disfavor for either Priests or Deacons to serve on Mission Area Teams, but rather part of a larger effort to no longer include recommendations or preferences is Canon.]

Canon 226.2: Eligibility for Re-Election. No Mission Area Team Member who has served either two complete terms, or a majority of one term and one complete term, is eligible for re-election until one complete calendar year has elapsed after the end of the last of the terms.

Canon 226.3: Vacancies. Vacancies in either Clergy or Lay representations to the Council must be filled by special election of the Mission Area Board in which the vacancy occurred or by another method as the Mission Area provides in its bylaws.

Canon 226.4: Duties of Mission Area Team Members. The duties of Mission Area Team Members are defined in the Mission Area bylaws, but include at least the following:

   a. Represent the Mission Area at meetings of the Council;

   b. Co-chair the Mission Area Board;

   c. Co-chair the Executive Board of the Mission Area (if there be one);

   d. Call Mission Area Board and Executive Board meetings;

   e. Set agendas for meetings of the Mission Area;

   f. Appoint Mission Area committees as needed;

   g. Communicate to the Mission Area Boards;

   h. Preside at meetings of the Mission Area;
i. Prepare and submit budgets to the Episcopal Church in Minnesota on behalf of the Mission Area;

j. Provide annual written reports to the Episcopal Church in Minnesota on behalf of the Mission Area; and

k. Provide annual reports to Parish Congregations and Missions of the Mission Area.

Canon 226.6: Failure of Mission Area Team to Call Meetings. If the Mission Area Team fails to call Mission Area Board and Executive Board meetings, such meetings may be called by the Bishop.

Canon 226.7: Accountability of Mission Area Team. The Mission Area Team is accountable to both the Mission Area Board and to the Bishop.

**CANON 227**
(Reserved)

**CANON 228**

Authority of Mission Area Boards & Mission Area Teams

No Mission Area Board or Mission Area Team has authority in the internal affairs of a Congregation or Affiliated Organization.