

## THE ANNUAL PLANNING SESSION

### 2023 Manual of the Church of the Nazarene J. The Local Church/Pastor Relationship

**132.** Every year, the pastor and the church board shall conduct a planning session to renew the expectations and goals of the church and the pastor. The written understanding of goals, plans and objectives between the church and the pastor shall be updated. Such written understanding shall be filed with the district superintendent. (117.2, 139.4)

**132.1.** Pastors and congregations shall endeavor to articulate a clear understanding of each other's expectations and to resolve differences by sincerely following biblical principles including those found in Matthew 18:15-20 and Galatians 6:1-5. In a spirit of cooperation and reconciliation within the church,

1. Individual or collective members of the congregation shall be encouraged to resolve differences by discussing them face-to-face with the pastor or discreetly with a church board member. Individual or collective members of the church board shall seek to resolve differences by discussing them face-to-face with the pastor.
2. If either of the foregoing face-to-face discussions fails to bring resolution, the complainant shall seek the assistance of one or two spiritually mature members of the congregation or church board in resolving the differences.
3. The persons involved in such small-group efforts shall bring the differences to the full church board only after face-to-face discussions and small-group efforts have failed. If so called upon, the church board shall work at resolving differences in a spirit of love, acceptance, and forgiveness, and in accordance with church discipline.

#### ANNUAL EVALUATION OF EXPECTATIONS AND GOALS

1. As you look at your church, what are the three most significant things to happen in the past year?
  - a.
  - b.
  - c.
2. What things failed to happen this past year that needed to happen?
3. What is the driving/motivating force of your church?

4. What mission opportunities do you see?
  - a. Inside the church:
  
  - b. Outside the church:
  
5. What are the three most significant things that need to happen in your church this next year?
  - a.
  - b.
  - c.
  
6. What are the critical issues that must be deal with to make those goals a reality?
  
  
7. What leadership goals for the pastor, related to congregational mission, would you identify for focus during the coming year?

**INITIAL ACTION STEPS FOR THE NEW YEAR:**

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.
- 4.