

## **Gateway Conference Board of Administration 2025-2026 Report for Annual Conference**

The Gateway Conference Board of Administration met 10 times and had 3 email votes during the 2025-2026 Conference year under the leadership of the BOA Chair, Mike Aden. Issues of policy, property, and finance were handled as well as other conference business.

Current BOA Members: Superintendent Tyler Boyer, Mike Aden (chair), Steve Pichaske (recording secretary), David Hooks (treasurer), Ashley Alm, Ron Gines, Steve Neville, Wendy Shuffett, Mark Whitlock

**May 8, 2025:** On motion, the BOA approved the following: Decision to forward the proceeds received from the sale of the Lighthouse Church building, minus insurance costs and other previously agreed upon fees and expenses that the Conference has covered, to the MAPS congregation.

**June 15, 2025:** on motion, the BOA approved Mike Aden and Steve Pichaske to serve as Gateway BOA liaisons with MAPS leaders toward the possible purchase of the Grace Point property.

**August 4, 2025 (Zoom):** Online Vote that the Gateway Conference Board of Administration authorize Supt. Tyler Boyer to sign any documents necessary to conclude the sale of the Norfolk Apartments located at 4263 Norfolk Ave, St. Louis, MO 63110 (lots 31 & 32).

**August 15, 2025 (Zoom):** On motion, the BOA approved that the Gateway Conference allocate \$550,000 from the sale of the Lighthouse Church and the Norfolk Apartments to the MAPS congregation.

**September 3, 2026 (Zoom):** On motion, via the BOA approved the Ministerio Apostolico Platio de Senor church to purchase the church property located at 2450 Pontoon Rd., Granite City, IL 62040, for a price not to exceed \$1.4M. The deed shall include the trust clause specified in section 6400D of the Free Methodist Book of Discipline. The BOA also approved Ministerio Apostolico Platio de Senor FMC (MAPS) obtaining a loan from The Free Methodist Foundation DBA FM Financial, and of the MAPS granting to FMF a Deed of Trust (Mortgage) on the purchased property for up to \$600,000; that the Gateway Conference agrees to sign as co-maker the Promissory Note for the loan

**October 9, 2025:** On motion, the BOA approved Supt. Boyer to sign documents authorizing the transfer of the Gateway Conference Durley Camp and Retreat Center property to Durley Camp and Retreat Center.

**October 30, 2025:** On motion, the BOA approved Gateway Conference of the FMC to engage the Wabash/New South Conference in formal feasibility discussions towards forming a new conference, and that the Gateway Conference establishes a team to further explore this possibility. Approval for the conference office to reconcile the general ledger and account balances for each Conference Fund at mid and end of each calendar year at a minimum. The MAPS' property purchase negotiations for the Pontoon Rd. property has broken down, but may be revisited in the future.

**January 8, 2026:** On motion, the BOA approved communication with Peter Hough that Gateway Conference will approve, in principle, a gift of \$20,000 towards Alton Mission, with consideration of future support of up to \$100,000 over five years. The Board approved consolidating the Education Fund and Strategic Development Fund. Approval given for getting property valuations for Ferges FMC, Ministries United FMC, and the Gateway Conference Office building. Supt. Boyer given permission to offer office space to the Center for Pastoral Formation within the Gateway Conference building, if needed.

**February 10, 2026:** On motion, the BOA approved a gift of \$20,000 towards the Alton Mission with future support of up to \$100,000 over five years. The BOA authorized Mike Aden to negotiate a remediation plan with Woods Basement and/or B-Dry at a cost of up to \$22,000, with funds coming from the Conference Strategic Development Funds. Authorized Brent Shaw's Carpentry Plus to perform additional ventilation work related to the crawlspace, not to exceed \$900. Approval for LMD to transition Conference Office lighting from fluorescent to LED fixtures at a cost not to exceed \$1600; and Brent Shaw's Carpentry Plus to upgrade the conference room and emergency lighting improvements for an estimated \$1185.83. Approval of Clever FMC's request to transition to the Central Region Conference. Approved to empower Supt. Boyer and Supt. Finley to pursue a Letter of Intent committing both conferences to explore the pathway towards Gateway joining the Crossroads Conference.

**April 9, 2026:** On motion, based on the Gateway Superintendent's assessment, the Gateway BOA approved admitting Mt. Olivet FMC to Society status at the 2026 Gateway Annual Conference. Following on the Ferges FMC congregation's vote to close, the Gateway BOA approved to formally close the Ferges FMC and divest of the church property.