lincolnberean

MINISTRY RESIDENCY

Development + Curriculum Overview

Updated: 10.2026

Introduction

The Ministry Residency is intended to build a foundational base for ministry leadership. We believe this base will be strong if it is built upon three legs of needed development for a ministry leader:

1. Personal Development (heart)
2. Theological Education (head)
3. Ministry Skill Development (hands)

This Residency endeavors to create leaders who are:

- Self-feeding, multiplying disciple makers *(personal development)*
- Equipped with the foundation to become lifelong biblical learners who interpret and apply the Scriptures accurately *(theological development)*
- Proficient in developing and executing strategies and tactics across the breadth of church ministries *(ministry skill development)*

Personal Development (Heart)

Ministry Residents will attend leadership development and spiritual formation modules.

The Ministry Residency Leadership Team will enlist a staff mentor who desires to invest in one resident through a personal mentoring relationship.

BOOK LIST + TOPICS: *(subject to change)*

Revolution of Character, Dallas Willard and Donald Simpson

Introduction to the Kingdom of God

Power of Narrative

Philosophy of Disciplines

Practicing Forgiveness

Practicing Silence and Solitude

Renovation of the Heart, Dallas Willard

Introduction to Scripture Meditation

Formation Through Struggle

Introduction to Practicing Lament

Soul Keeping

LEADERSHIP EDUCATION TOPICS: *(subject to change)*

Personalysis

The Skill-Development Recipe

Productivity Made Simple

The Motivation Map

Principles of Communication

The Effective Feedback Formula

Dynamic Communication

Conflict Competence

The Art of Trust

Becoming a Coaching Leader

Adaptive Leadership

Leading Change

Resilient Leadership

Theological Development (Head)

Ministry Residents will receive a master's degree from Midwestern Baptist Theological Seminary. There are 4 degree options that a Ministry Resident can choose from:

- **Master of Christian Studies** (MCS) – *(36 credit hours)*
- **Master of Theological Studies*** (MTS) – *(45 credit hours)*
- **Master of Applied Theology*** (MAT) – *(45 credit hours)*
- **Master of Divinity**** (MDiv) – *(81credit hours)*

** Note: The MTS and MAT have tracks or specializations. To see those tracks, visit mbts.edu*

***Note: A Ministry Resident will not be able to complete the MDiv during the program.*

Below is a sample seminary schedule (based upon MAT Standard degree)*

Term 1 – FALL

- First 8 Weeks – Old Testament I
- Second 8 Weeks – Old Testament II + Biblical Spirituality

Term 2 – WINTER

- 8 Weeks – Ethics

Term 3 – SPRING

- First 8 Weeks – New Testament I + Evangelism
- Second 8 Weeks – New Testament II

Term 4 – SUMMER

- First 8 Weeks – Missiology

Term 5 – FALL

- First 8 Weeks – Theology 1 + Elective
- Second 8 Weeks – Theology 2 +Elective

Term 6 – SPRING

- First 8 Weeks – Hermeneutics + Historical Theology
- Second 8 Weeks – Elective

**NOTE: If a Resident chooses to take an emphasis track their class schedule will deviate (beginning in Term 5) from the standard course sequence above*

The Ministry Residency Theology Mentoring Team will coach the Ministry Residents in their seminary studies.

The Ministry Residency Theology Mentoring Team will create a Cohort Experience for the residents (and other staff) to grow together theologically.

Ministry Skills Development (Hands)

Each Ministry Resident will serve in approximately two ministry areas per semester and assist that team with various projects and tasks. In year one, these ministry areas are assigned to the Ministry Resident by the Leadership Team. In year two, the Ministry Resident gets to partner with the Leadership Team in determining the ministry area(s) of greatest interest.