

California-Nevada Conference Current statements of strategy

Our priority is to re-position the Conference—every aspect of its structures, human resources, financial resources and program emphases--to foster, encourage and support the work of local churches to act as agents of God's mission: making disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world.

The Conference's 'foundational goals'

- Equip congregations to develop clear paths to discipleship, with depth and relevance to their own context
- Create a culture of collaboration and innovation
- Create new places for new people, until *all* people are fully included in the life of the Church

What we hope to see

In circuits and congregations, a robust and innovative re-appropriation of a Wesleyan spirituality of personal and social holiness, resulting in measurable outcomes, including:

- New Disciples - Young and old representing the full diversity of the community who actively engage in the mission of the church
- Growing Disciples Deeper - small groups gathering for fellowship, prayer, study, care, service, and action in the world
- Disciples Engaged in Mission - engagement in local, national and international mission/ outreach/ advocacy activities toward transformation of the world
- Disciples Giving to Mission – generous and heartfelt support for shared ministries through the UMC connection and other organizations
- New Servant Leader Disciples – people taking an active servant leadership role

Outcomes by 2020

- All congregations have a clear, simple vision and strategy for making disciples in their unique context who reach their mission fields.
- Our conference culture naturally encourages innovative ways of multiplying disciple-making movements to create new places for new people.
- One-third of the congregations in our conference are starting something new that reaches new people through context-driven models of new faith communities and/or new expressions of ministry.
- A new multicultural congregation which consistently engages no fewer than 1,000 active participants each week.
- At least five existing congregations growing to no fewer than 1,000 active participants each week.
There are at least 20 faith communities with no fewer than 500 active
- participants each week.

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United Methodist Church Four Areas of Ministry Focus

Engaging in Ministry with the Poor

Christ calls us to be in ministry with the poor and marginalized. Our emphasis is on “with” – standing with those who are regarded as “the least of these,” listening to them, understanding their needs and aspirations, and working with them to achieve their goals. It also means addressing the causes of poverty and responding in ways that lift up individuals and communities. United Methodists believe working side by side with those striving to improve their situation is more effective long term than top-down charity.

Improving Global Health

Knowing that poverty and health are intertwined, The United Methodist Church has become a key player in fighting diseases such as malaria and AIDS and promoting initiatives that improve well-being. The church is nearing its goal of raising \$75 million by 2016 to provide education, infrastructure, communication and prevention measures to defeat malaria. In the space of about five years, the death rate from malaria in Africa has been cut in half, thanks to international efforts such as the denomination’s Imagine No Malaria campaign. This fight can be won.

Developing Principled Christian Leaders

The church needs leaders rooted in Christ, who have a vision for changing the world. Today’s young people have fearless hearts, vibrant ideas and a passion for ministry. Their talents should be nurtured to shape the church’s path into the future. The church must recruit young people — including women and people of color the world over — for ministry, equip them to be effective leaders and be open to where they want to lead us. We also must strengthen lay members, who are ministering at every level of the church.

Creating New and Renewed Congregations

Around the world, United Methodists are innovating with what it means to be the church, planting new congregations and revitalizing faith communities in every kind of setting. United Methodists seek to re-evangelize the world so that we can reach more people, especially the young and those from diverse backgrounds. By being relevant and vital, United Methodists will touch more lives and draw more people to Christ