

Report of the General Synod Council on Church Multiplication

But I tell you, look around you, and see how the fields are ripe for harvesting. The reaper is already receiving wages and is gathering fruit for eternal life, so that the sower and reaper may rejoice together (John 4:35-36).

Appreciating the effectiveness of church planting and its biblical precedent in the book of Acts, the Reformed Church in America has committed itself to church multiplication. And the heart of church multiplication is a passion for changed lives.

God's people across the RCA are imagining new ways to show and tell the good news of life in Christ. In renewing their commitment to the Great Commission (Matthew 28:19-20), many congregations and church leaders are discovering new life and energy—and plenty of challenges—as they plant new churches in their neighborhoods and communities.

New churches reach new people. In fact, the most effective way to reach spiritually lost people is by starting a new church. The ministry of a new church looks and feels different from that of an established church. A new church naturally attracts people across cultural boundaries and in rural, urban, and suburban settings.

Church Planter Reaches Out to Immigrants

“I have a vision and burden to establish Reformed churches among immigrants from Southeast Asia in major North American cities,” says Ram Nepal, who came from Nepal to live in the U.S. just a few years ago.

Ram Nepal's new partnership with RCA Church Multiplication is the beginning of an exciting outreach to Southeast Asian people right here in North America.

Ram currently lives in Dallas. “One look around stores and businesses reveals the explosion of Asian immigrants into North Texas,” he says. “A great number of these people are from India, Nepal, Pakistan, Bangladesh, Burma, Sri Lanka, and Bhutan. The vast majority are from Hindu, Muslim, and Buddhist backgrounds.”

If all goes as planned, the churches Ram plants throughout North America eventually will partner with churches in Nepal and other Asian countries to extend their mission outreach overseas. “When we reach Asians here, they will in turn influence their extended families back in their own countries,” he says. “It takes fellow Asians who have been saved out of pagan religions to bridge the gaps between eastern and western worldviews.”

Ram Nepal received Christ as a high school student in 1975. “Due to my Hindu background, I knew that persecution lay ahead in my new life as Jesus' disciple,” he says. “Four years later I answered God's call to full-time Christian ministry, and ever since I have devoted my life to reaching non-believers with the message of salvation through a personal relationship with Christ and bringing them together for growth and fellowship in Bible-believing churches.” In the early days of his ministry, Ram was often arrested; once he was imprisoned and beaten for two weeks.

By 1990, when prison terms for Christians were finally abolished, the underground church in Nepal had grown to 15,000 believers. Today half a million Nepalese say they are Christian—1.7 percent of Nepal's population of 29 million. But people who become Christians are still persecuted and lose their social standing. “I had to leave about four years ago due to serious threats against my life and my family,” says Ram.

However, his zeal to plant churches that will reach Nepalese and other Southeast Asian people burns as brightly as ever. “It is our Christian duty to make sure that these people have a chance to hear about Jesus when they are right at our doorstep,” he says.

GSC MULTIPLICATION ENDS MONITORING REPORT

Each spring the RCA’s general secretary is required to report to the General Synod Council (GSC) on progress on the various ends policies established by the GSC. The monitoring report for church multiplication follows.

Church Multiplication Ends Policy

The RCA will foster a sustainable movement of church multiplication through starting new congregations.

General Secretary’s Interpretation

Goal: To begin four hundred new congregations by 2013 with one-third of these churches to be multicultural plants or racial/ethnic congregations different than the Anglo majority culture. This represents a tenfold increase in church planting from 2003, when approximately ten new congregations were birthed each year in the RCA, as witnessed by our ‘98 by ‘98 decade challenge. In 2013, we seek to start ninety-eight new congregations in one year; thus creating a sustainable movement of church multiplication.

Strategies

Previous monitoring reports have identified five key strategies employed in the church multiplication effort to build four hundred new and reproducing congregations. They are described at length in the two previous monitoring reports; they are briefly listed here as background for our work.

- Exponential funding: creative exponential funding vehicles that can take us into the next decade.
- Exponential leadership: a dynamic reproduction of new leadership must occur to reach the quality and quantity needed to supply the increasing number of new congregations.
- Doubling the number of parenting churches (primary initiating and directive partners) in the RCA every two years.
- Every church plant is born with an intentional plan and accountability to reproduce.
- Having three times the number of emerging planting leaders in the “pipeline” (identified and nurtured) as the number of plants the RCA is starting each year.

Building a Church in Calling Lake

Norm McCallum is laying the groundwork for a new church by building relationships with First Nations people in Calling Lake, Alberta.

The First Nations people in Calling Lake are Woodland Cree—the same tribe McCallum belongs to. “I come from Saskatchewan; I grew up and became a Christian here,” he says. “I can relate to a lot of what’s going on.

“All across this land, in my experience working with aboriginals, there’s such a need for the gospel to be brought to them. There’s poor housing, poor water, high suicide and assault rates, alcohol and drugs, syncretism—there’s so much that plagues our people.

“I know that God is the only hope; he’s the only way to get them out of these third-world conditions. We no longer depend on the Creator, but on creation, on man. We no longer look to God. We have to come back to our first love, Jesus Christ. Then and only then will we get out of the mess we’re in.”

To get to know people from the reservation, McCallum and his wife, Maria, visit the local food bank and participate in Bible studies. A summer vacation Bible school program drew 63 children, and about 20 parents showed up for a special graduation ceremony at the end of the week. McCallum also leads worship services in local homes for 12 to 15 people each week.

“They’re already talking about a church,” he says. “I’m excited because I think it would be the first RCA church on aboriginal land!” While the RCA has several Native American Indian congregations on reservations in the U.S., it has none in Canada.

Mentoring Program Leads to New Church

Alas de Aguila (Eagle’s Wings), a Hispanic church plant on the north side of Holland, Michigan, has experienced dramatic growth during its short life. The church held its first formal meeting in April 2007. Since then, 41 people have made new commitments to Christ, and worship services now average 70 to 75 people each week.

Alas de Aguila’s parent church is Beechwood Reformed Church in Holland. The idea to plant a Hispanic church on the north side of Holland was born out of Beechwood’s partnership with Woodside Elementary School through Kids Hope U.S.A. Kids Hope is a national program that matches at-risk kids with Christian mentors from a local church.

“We had more than thirty mentors who were involved with kids at that school through Kids Hope,” says Jim Lankheet, Beechwood’s senior pastor. “We began to study the Kids Hope kids at the Woodside School and discovered that a large percentage were from Latino families. Eventually, we realized that there were very few churches or groups reaching the large and growing population of Spanish-speaking people on the north side of Holland. We knew then we had found the next group of people the Lord was asking us to reach.”

Alas de Aguila’s pastor, Hugo Vasquez, believes that the church’s emphasis on fellowship draws in new believers. “Our goal is to create a community of faith where we can live our Christianity throughout the week, not just on Sundays,” he says. “We get to know each other. My goal is to have the DNA of the church be reaching out.”

Korean Churches Support Atlanta Area Church Plant

Atlanta, Georgia, is home to the fastest-growing Korean community in the United States, and Korean churches in the Synod of New York have begun sponsoring church plants there.

In May 2003, about six months before he graduated from New Brunswick Theological Seminary, Kyunghoon Suh met three families in Marietta, the largest suburb of Atlanta. “They wanted to begin a new spiritual journey with a new pastor,” he says.

“Suh began commuting to Atlanta every week while still a student,” says Thomas Song, who provides pastoral care for Suh on behalf of the Synod of New York and Nassau-Suffolk Classis. After graduation, Suh moved to Marietta with his family, and he is now pastor of a church plant called New Church of Marietta.

“The New York Synod and the Classis of Nassau-Suffolk have been helping us with not only financial support but also with communication and prayers,” says Suh. “And the New Church of New York, which is my mother church, has helped us with prayers and materials. Many Korean pastors in New York and New Jersey are also a great supporting group to our ministry.

“There are now about ten families with twenty-five adult members and fifteen youth and children. The adult members are all first generation Korean immigrants, and most of the children are Korean Americans.” Suh says they use the church facilities of a local Baptist church that is located in a suburban neighborhood, and most members live near the church, although one person drives more than two hours to attend.

Data

The chart below details the year-by-year projections made by the Church Multiplication Team concerning the number of new congregations needed each year to reach the goal of four hundred new congregations by 2013:

2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013
12	8	11	15	20	25	33	43	55	80	98

- The RCA ended 2008 with 114 New Congregation Plans approved, which is beyond the 91 projected for the first five years of Our Call.
- Regional synods are reporting worship attendance numbers for more than 180 new congregations in the U.S. and Canada.
- The Church Multiplication Team approved 30 New Congregation Plans in 2008.
- The Parenting Church Network included 101 parent churches at the end of 2008. This number is on track to double again every two years throughout Our Call. The goal is to reach 150 reproducing churches by the end of 2009.
- Various regional and local strategies are being developed for increasing the number of potential parent churches who hear God’s call to reproduce and have the courage to overcome the challenges, with competency and coaching support.
- There are more than 123 emerging leaders in the “planter’s pipeline,” with new assessments to find qualified planters typically performed each week.
- More than one-third of new congregations are multiracial or ethnically/racially different from the RCA’s historically Anglo majority.

Congregations Organized

Grace and Peace Reformed Church, Englewood, New Jersey; Jai Hun Jung, pastor, organized May 2008

City Church Denver, Denver, Colorado; Samuel Downing, pastor, organized June 2008

Iglesia Christiana Emmanuel de Sacramento, Sacramento, California; Jose Bautista, pastor, organized October 2008.

Iglesia El Calvario, Hemet, California; Santos Gonzalez, pastor, organized October 2008.

St. Paul’s Reformed Church, Ohio City, Ohio; Chad M. Strabbing, pastor, received from UCC October 2008

Lighthouse Korean Reformed Church, Kent, Washington; John Park, pastor, organized November 2008

Highbridge Community Church, Bronx, New York; Cora Taitt, pastor, organized January 2009

Crossroads Church, Norwalk, Iowa; Glen Blumer, pastor, organized April 2009

Oak Hills Community Church, Clovis, California; Roy Pope, pastor, organized May 2009.

The Orchard Church, Brentwood, California; Steve With, pastor, organized May 2009.

New Congregation Plans Approved in 2008

Church Plant Name	Location	Parent Church	Planting Pastor
Greenville, MI; Church Plant TBD	Greenville, MI	North Grand Rapids Classis	Eric John Branch
The Urban Church	Oakland, CA	New Hope Community Church, Fremont, CA	Ron Nunez
Iglesia Nicklao	Danvers, MA	Iglesia La Senda, Corona, CA	Nuvia Chamlatte
Skyline Church	Holland, MI	Fellowship Reformed, Hudsonville, MI	Don DeVlieger
Lighthouses of Philadelphia	Philadelphia, PA	Lighthouses of Oxford Valley, Fairless Hills, PA	Heidi Butterworth/Bob Jones
City Hope	Grand Rapids, MI	South Grand Rapids Classis	Dante Venegas
Comunidad Cristiana Maranatha	Sibley, IA	First Reformed Church, Sibley, IA	Arturo Gomez
Blackberry Ridge Church	Medina, OH	Brunswick Reformed Church, Brunswick, OH	Roger Biada
North River Reformed Church	Whatcom County, WA	Faith Reformed, Lynden, WA	John Haas
Mountain View Church Plant-TBD	Denver, CO	Faith Community Church, Littleton, CO	TBD
Vanguard	Kalamazoo, MI	The River, Kalamazoo, MI	Nate Bull and Keith Platte
Great Oaks Church-TBD	Rochester Hills, MI	Kensington Community, Detroit, MI	Paul Bradford
Elevation	Grand Valley State Univ.	Rocky of Life Community Church, Jenison, MI	Troy Nanninga
Denver Metro Area Plant-TBD	Denver Metro Area	Wacky Mountain Classis	Will Forsythe
Faith Church-Valparaiso Campus	Valparaiso, IN	Faith Church, Dyer, IN	Jason DeVries
The NuCommunity	Olympia/Lacey, WA	Cascades Classis	Brandon Beebe
The Crossing	Davis Junction, IL	Elim Reformed, Kings, IL	Kurt Kruger
Church on the Ridge	Pine Ridge, CA	Tulare Community Church, Tulare, CA	Allyn Bell
Sequoia Community Church	Fresno, CA	Tulare Community Church, Tulare, CA	Nicholas Pope
Iglesia Alas de Aguila-Wyoming	Wyoming, MI	Iglesia Alas de Aguila, Holland, MI	Hugo A. Vasquez
Liberti-South Philadelphia	Philadelphia, PA	City Church of San Francisco, San Francisco, CA	Jared Ayers
The Bridge	Allegan, MI	Gun Lake Community Church, Wayland, MI	Roger Bird
International Christian Fellowship (South Asian Reformed Church)	Fairfax, VA	Third Reformed Church, Kalamazoo, MI	Ram and Meena Nepal
Incarnation	Loomis, CA	Oak Hills Community Church, Clovis, CA	Joshua E. Lickter
HRC Journey (Hopewell Reformed Church-Journey)	Union Vale, NY	Hopewell Reformed Church, Hopewell Junction, NY	Mark E. Mast
Common Ground	Poughkeepsie, NY	Hopewell Reformed Church, Hopewell Junction, NY	Mark E. Mast
Northside-Holland	Holland, MI	Christ Memorial Reformed Church, Holland, MI	Toby Gruppen
Angel Community Church	Muskegon, MI	Muskegon Classis	Jeff Hough

Report of the Reformed Church in America Church Growth Fund, Inc.

The Reformed Church in America Church Growth Fund, Inc. (CGF) supports the work and witness of the RCA by making loans to RCA churches, classes, and other agencies and affiliates so they can purchase, construct, or improve church property or facilities. The CGF (formerly known as The Reformed Church in America Building and Extension Fund) also provides funds for Church Growth Fund matching grants. Loans of up to \$25,000 are made on an unsecured basis. Larger loans (up to the current loan limit of \$2,000,000) are secured.

Detailed information regarding the CGF (such as the amounts that can be borrowed, the purposes for which funds may be borrowed, the requirements that must be satisfied in order to borrow funds, and how one may invest in the CGF) is available through the RCA's website (www.rca.org/cgf). Following this report is a list of all churches that are borrowers from the CGF (or for whom loans have been approved) as of the end of fiscal year 2008.

Funds in the CGF come from gifts and bequests from members and friends of the RCA, the sale of investment notes, and earnings on CGF assets. Investment notes are offered in fixed maturities of one, two, five, and ten years. The notes are securities, and therefore are offered for sale through an offering circular. The offering circular is also available on the RCA's website under the heading "Church Growth Fund" and subheading "How to invest in RCACGF investment notes." Presently the CGF offers investment notes for sale in nineteen states—Arizona, California, Colorado, Florida, Idaho, Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Kentucky, Michigan, Minnesota, New Jersey, New York, North Carolina, North Dakota, South Dakota, Texas, Washington, and Wisconsin. The rates of interest paid on investment notes are established periodically by a subcommittee of the CGF board and are posted on the RCA's website.

As of the end of fiscal year 2008 the total amount invested in notes with the CGF by individuals and churches was nearly \$10.3 million. This is an increase of approximately \$1 million over fiscal year 2007 and \$2 million over fiscal year 2006. These increases are the result of sales of investment notes to new investors as well as "rollovers" of maturing investment notes into newly issued investment notes. The CGF believes that this increase in investments is due to a number of factors, including the interest rates offered, the purposes for which the funds are used, the CGF's strong balance sheet, and—more generally—the overall manner in which the CGF continues to operate.

The CGF's total assets, net assets, investment notes outstanding, loans outstanding, and loan commitments issued for fiscal year 2008 (and with comparisons to fiscal year 2007) are as follows:

	FY 2008	FY 2007
Total Assets	\$45.27 million	\$43.07 million
Net Assets	\$34.85 million	\$33.60 million
Investment Notes Outstanding	\$10.30 million	\$9.28 million
Loans Outstanding or Committed	128	135
Loans Outstanding or Committed	\$36.65 million	\$37.53 million
Loan Commitments Issued	7	4
Loan Commitments Issued	\$2.13 million	\$1 million
Total Funds Disbursed	\$2.04 million	\$4.92 million

Of the seven loan commitments issued in fiscal year 2008, two were for short-term unsecured loans, and the others were for larger, secured loans. The CGF prays that the facilities that are purchased, built, or remodeled will enable the congregations to fulfill their call to ministry in their communities.

The CGF continues its efforts to attract more funds through the sale of investment notes and the receipt of charitable contributions. Ads are running in the *Church Herald* and in *RCA Today* magazine. The CGF covets your prayers as it seeks to maintain an adequate level of funds for loans to RCA churches that are renewing and expanding their ministries, and encourages each of you to consider how you and your church, classis, and regional synod may support the CGF financially through gifts or investments.

As noted above, the CGF continues to provide resources to fund matching grants for new RCA ministries. Since the inception of this program in 1999 and continuing through the end of fiscal year 2008, 103 commitments for such grants (totaling \$2,481,500) have been issued. The CGF is grateful that it can provide such funding for new ministries, and prays that through them hurts may be healed, the lost may be found, the hungry may be fed, peace may heal brokenness, hope may replace despair, and lives may be transformed by the love of Jesus Christ.

As in prior years, much has been accomplished, and yet much remains to be done, all for the purpose of equipping congregations for ministry—a thousand churches in a million ways doing one thing—following Christ in mission, in a lost and broken world so loved by God.

As the CGF continues its work, the board of directors and staff ask for your continued support and prayers.

CANADA

Alberta

Christ Community Church, St. Albert, Alberta

British Columbia

Powell River Reformed Church, Powell River, British Columbia

Manitoba

Elmwood Community Reformed Church, Winnipeg, Manitoba

Ontario

Drayton Reformed Church, Drayton, Ontario

Forestview Community Church, Grimsby, Ontario

First Reformed Church, St. Catharines, Ontario

Classis of Ontario (New Life Reformed Church), Toronto, Ontario

Classis of Ontario and Christ Community Church, Welland, Ontario

UNITED STATES***Arizona***

New Hope Community Church, Gilbert, Arizona
Desert Haven Community Church, Mesa, Arizona
Hope Community Church, Scottsdale, Arizona

California

Canyon Lake Community Church, Canyon Lake, California
Cornerstone Community Church, Chowchilla, California
New Hope Community Church, Fremont, California
CrossWinds Community Church, Hesperia, California
Park Hills Community Church, Los Angeles, California
Living Faith Community Church, Modesto, California
Palm Canyon Community Church, Moreno Valley, California
Lincoln Avenue Community Church, Pomona, California
East Hills Community Church, Riverside, California
Sunrise Community Church, Tulare, California

Colorado

New Hope Community Church, Aurora, Colorado
Springs Community Church, Colorado Springs, Colorado
Christ Community Church, Denver, Colorado

Florida

West Broward Community Church, Fort Lauderdale, Florida
Classis of Florida (Korean Choong Hyun Church), Orlando, Florida
Christ Community Church, Palm Springs, Florida
First Reformed Church, Tampa, Florida
Rolling Hills Community Church, Zellwood, Florida

Georgia

North Atlanta Community Church, Roswell, Georgia

Idaho

Valley Life Community Church, Meridian, Idaho

Illinois

Christ Community Church, Lemont, Illinois
Bethel Reformed Church, Sterling, Illinois

Indiana

Christ's Community Church, Fishers, Indiana
Christ's Community Church, Fort Wayne, Indiana
Community Reformed Church, Lafayette, Indiana

Iowa

Classis of Central Iowa (Bridgeway Church), Ames, Iowa
Crossroads Community Church, Estherville, Iowa, and East Sioux Classis
Hope Reformed Church, George, Iowa
Classis of West Sioux and Rejoice! Community Church, LeMars, Iowa
Crossroads Church, Norwalk, Iowa, and Classis of Central Iowa
Good News Community Church, Okoboji, Iowa
First Reformed Church, Prairie City, Iowa
Classis of West Sioux (New Hope Community Church), Sioux City, Iowa
Hope Reformed Church, Spencer, Iowa
Westview Church, Waukee, Iowa

Kansas

Crossroads Church, Overland Park, Kansas
Harvest Community Church, Wichita, Kansas

Maryland

Monocacy Valley Church, Ijamsville, Maryland

Michigan

RiverTree Community Church, Byron Center, Michigan
 Wayfarer Community Church, Caledonia, Michigan
 CrossWinds Community Church, Canton, Michigan
 Open Door Reformed Church, Dorr, Michigan
 First Reformed Church, Grand Haven, Michigan
 Classis of North Grand Rapids and Clancy Street Ministries, Grand Rapids, Michigan
 Grace Reformed Church, Holland, Michigan
 Second Reformed Church, Kalamazoo, Michigan
 Crossroad Chapel Reformed Church, Holland, Michigan, and Classis of Holland
 Twin Lakes Reformed Church, Kalamazoo, Michigan
 Within Reach Ministries, Kalamazoo, Michigan
 Martin Reformed Church, Martin, Michigan
 Calvary Reformed Church, Mattawan, Michigan
 Laketon Bethel Reformed Church, Muskegon, Michigan
 Covenant Community Church, Muskegon Heights, Michigan
 Rockford Reformed Church, Rockford, Michigan
 Classis of Northern Michigan (for New Hope Community Church), Shelby, Michigan
 Community of Joy, Traverse City, Michigan
 LifeTree Community Church, West Olive, Michigan, and Classis of Holland

Minnesota

Church of the Savior, Rochester, Minnesota

Missouri

Christ's Church, St. Peter's, Missouri

Nebraska

Hope Community Church, Lincoln, Nebraska

New Jersey

Blawenburg Reformed Church, Blawenburg, New Jersey
 Han Sung Church, Cresskill, New Jersey
 Old Bergen Church, Jersey City, New Jersey
 The Reformed Church in Kinnelon, Kinnelon, New Jersey
 First Reformed Church, Lincoln Park, New Jersey
 Ocean Community Church, Manahawkin, New Jersey
 Trinity Reformed (Dutch) Church, Newark, New Jersey
 First Reformed Church, Rocky Hill, New Jersey

New York

Fordham Manor Reformed Church, Bronx, New York
 Old First Reformed Church, Brooklyn, New York
 Clarksville Community Church, Clarksville, New York
 Community Reformed Church of Colonie, Colonie, New York
 Greenbush Reformed Church, East Greenbush, New York
 Siloam Church, Flushing, New York
 Helderberg Reformed Church, Guilderland Center, New York
 Fair Street Reformed Church, Kingston, New York
 Levittown Community Church, Levittown, New York
 Korean Philipppo Presbyterian Church, Long Island, New York
 Pitcher Hill Community Church, North Syracuse, New York
 Arlington Reformed Church, Poughkeepsie, New York
 The Reformed Church, Poughkeepsie, New York
 Pultneyville Reformed Church, Pultneyville, New York
 Queens Reformed Church, Queens Village, New York
 The New Church of Greater New York, Roslyn Heights, New York
 Niskayuna Reformed Church, Schenectady, New York
 First Reformed Church, Scotia, New York

First Reformed Church of Bethlehem, Selkirk, New York
 Grace Christian Church, Staten Island, New York
 New Hackensack Reformed Church, Wappingers Falls, New York
 New Hope Reformed Church, Yonkers, New York

North Carolina

First Reformed Church of Cary, Cary, North Carolina

North Dakota

Red River Reformed Church, West Fargo, North Dakota

Ohio

New Hope Reformed Church, Powell, Ohio

Pennsylvania

Newtown Reformed Church, Newtown, Pennsylvania

The Reformed Church, Willow Grove, Pennsylvania

South Dakota

Bethany Reformed Church, Canton, South Dakota

Valley Springs Reformed Church, Valley Springs, South Dakota

Tennessee

Franklin Fellowship Church, Franklin, Tennessee

U.S. Virgin Islands

St. Thomas Reformed Church, St. Thomas, U. S. Virgin Islands

Washington

Trinity Reformed Church, Kent, Washington

Church of the Good Shepherd, Lynnwood, Washington

East Valley Reformed Church, Yakima, Washington

Wisconsin

Bethany Reformed Church, Sheboygan, Wisconsin

Hope Community Reformed Church, West Bend, Wisconsin

Report of the General Synod Council on Revitalization and RCA Congregations

[Jesus said,] "All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you. And remember, I am with you always, to the end of the age" (Matthew 28:18-20).

That command of our risen Lord calls the Reformed Church in America to renewed obedience in a new day. It recalls us to our deep, historical commitment to constantly be reformed according to the Word of God, which is also the foundation for our deep, historic commitment to church revitalization. The Great Commission calls every congregation to re-form its ministry and mission by God's grace and with God's direction.

What is a revitalizing congregation?

A revitalizing congregation is a body of believers, responsive to God's call, developing a faithful and fruitful life through new mission, new ministries, and new members.

Each congregation brings this call to renewal to life in its unique setting as it:

- Nurtures a missional mindset resulting in externally focused ministry.