



IMAGINE
WISCONSIN
ANEW

Imagine Wisconsin Anew...

Through Planting New Ministries,
in New Places, for New People!



Milwaukee: Zao MKE Church

**IN A RESPONSE TO THE MISSION OF THE
UNITED METHODIST CHURCH:**

*“To Make Disciples of Jesus Christ for
the Transformation of the World”*

**AND IN RESPONSE TO THE COMMISSION
THAT OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST HAS GIVEN
TO HIS DISCIPLES:**

*“And Jesus came and said to them,
‘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 that I have commanded
you. And remember, I am with you
always, to the end of the age.”*

Matthew 28: 18-20

What is the current reality of our Conference in regard to Planting New Ministries?

The Wisconsin Annual Conference, through the office of Congregational Development, the Conference Strategy Board and the District Strategy Teams, is committed to fostering the healthy development of new faith communities, in new places for new people, all to expand our faithful witness for Christ through evangelism, worship, fellowship and ministry.

- The Conference Strategy Board currently supports 17 new ministries.
- In the last seven years (2012-2018), we have started 25 new ministries! In 25 new places! For new people! Praise the Lord!
- We have provided leadership development:
 - 54 clergy and laity have graduated from the Institute of Congregational Development (ICD) in 2015-2017.
 - There are 20 participants in ICD, who will graduate this year.
 - Last year in September, we started the Instituto de Desarrollo Congregacional (IDC), which is the Spanish version of ICD to equip church planters in the Hispanic/Latino community. Of 45 participants, 40 are laity.
 - Deep Waters (Group of Hispanic/Latino Young Adults exploring ministry) includes four young adults who have attended the Candidacy Retreat for ordained ministry.
 - Launched Academy for Leadership Development (ALD) to equip Lay Missioners to plant Hispanic/Latino Ministries.
 - Working with ethnic caucuses in identifying new areas for new ministries.
- Our Coaching and Shepherding Committees offer support to church planters and new ministries.

The Conference Strategy Board and District Strategy Teams have developed a framework of tiers to organize the work of planting new ministries:

- **TIER 1** are new ministries that are active, or those that have completed the feasibility study to become a new faith community. They are approved projects with: funding, assigned church planter, metrics, accountability system, and timeframe. Our ministries in TIER 1 projects become our HOTSPOTS. The Conference Strategy Board oversees TIER 1.
- **TIER 2** are projects for possible sites to start new ministries, projects that have received the support of the District Strategy Team and the District Superintendent. These projects may be in a demographic research stage, with verification through windshield tours, circuit meetings, and if needed, ethnic minority caucuses. Benchmarks, a Ministry Action Plan (MAP), and a financial plan are created in this tier. The District Strategy Team is responsible for TIER 2
- **TIER 3** are places where there are possibilities of starting new ministries, ideas, dreams of places where we would like to see a new United Methodist ministry. Local churches, Circuits, and/or clergy and laity are responsible for TIER 3.

NEW MINISTRIES IN TIER 1:

NORTH EAST DISTRICT:

- Door & Kewaunee Counties: Hispanic Ministry
- Oshkosh: African Ministry
- Sheboygan: Wesley Hispanic Ministry

NORTH CENTRAL DISTRICT:

- New Lisbon: Winding Rivers UMC
- Rib Lake: Oasis Hispanic Ministry
- Sparta: Hispanic Ministry
- Wausau: Wesley Hmong Ministry

SOUTH WEST DISTRICT:

- Madison: Korean UMC
- Monroe: Aposento Alto
- Reedsburg: Casa de Oración

SOUTH EAST DISTRICT:

- Milwaukee: African Ministry
- Milwaukee: Daai Christian Fellowship
- Milwaukee: Urban Poiema UMC
- Milwaukee: Zao MKE Church
- New Berlin: Agape UMC
- Watertown: Restauración Hispanic Ministry
- Waukesha: Project 200 at FUMC

Since our last Annual Conference, six new ministries have been started:

- **MILWAUKEE: AFRICAN MINISTRY** This ministry was planted by ChristWay United Methodist Church as a parent congregation. The African Ministry currently number about 127 members, from 20 families with three new families as of 2018. Their worship attendance averages about 100 each Sunday. This ministry continues to thrive by worshipping every Sunday at 3pm at ChristWay UMC. The recent success of establishing a ministry with a dedicated church facility has spread among the Congolese community and others from surrounding cities, such as Chicago and Green Bay, who have already expressed interest in moving closer to this ministry so that they may, too, have a sense of community and belonging as they worship together in Jesus Christ.



Milwaukee: African Ministry



Milwaukee: Daai Christian Fellowship

- MILWAUKEE: DAAI CHRISTIAN FELLOWSHIP** The Daai Christian Fellowship worship in the Burmese language since many of them don't read or write in their own language. However, this is a blessing because they can attract other Burmese ethnic immigrants who understand Burmese, such as the Karen and Chin. Coincidentally, the Chin people are from Chin State in Myanmar, the same state as the Daai. Although the Daai are very few in number in the U.S. at the present time, many will still be coming to resettle in the U.S.; and with an established Daai UMC in Milwaukee, there is a great potential for many Daai to come to Milwaukee to be part of this new church start. We are so proud to have the first Burmese United Methodist Church Congregation in the Wisconsin Conference. In March 2018, the Burmese community came together to celebrate the welcoming of the Daai Christian Fellowship into the Wisconsin Conference of the United Methodist Church.
- NEW LISBON: WINDING RIVERS UMC** This new church start is the result of a vital merger of two congregations, New Lisbon UMC and Camp Douglas UMC.
- OSHKOSH FIRST: AFRICAN MINISTRY** Since 2002, there have been around 500 Congolese and 150 Sudanese refugees who have come to Oshkosh and Appleton. In the last 5 years, the group from the Congo has been the largest group coming into Oshkosh and may even be the largest resettlement from the Congo in the US during these last five years. The refugees from the Congo are fleeing war and persecution. The First United Methodist Church in Oshkosh has started this new ministry to serve the Congolese community in Oshkosh. The church allows them to come together for worship but also socially. In fact, the refugees work hard to find 'their own people' which so many now are found in the Church. The Church has great leverage, at this point in time, to welcome new refugees into a familiar community socially and then inviting them to participate into a body of believers encouraging them to deepen their faith.
- RIB LAKE: OASIS HISPANIC MINISTRY** This ministry is part of the Hispanic/Latino Pentecost Emergence initiative to reach out to the growing Hispanic/Latino population in our state with the Good News of Jesus Christ. The goal of this new ministry is to reach out to the Hispanic/Latino population of Hwy 13 corridor.
- WATERTOWN: RESTAURACIÓN HISPANIC MINISTRY** As part of the Hispanic/Latino Pentecost Emergence, this ministry's goal is to reach out the Hispanic/Latino population of Watertown and its surroundings.

These New Ministries have started and are vital because of the generosity and support of local congregations through the contribution of their apportionments. The other source of support to this effort is the Fund for Discipleship that Conference Strategy Board oversees on behalf of our Conference.



New Lisbon: Winding Rivers UMC

Where are We Going?

We are called to be in relationship with one another, and with the communities that surround our churches.

- The Office of Congregational Development will continue encouraging local congregations to develop a culture of planting, to plant new ministries that can connect people in their communities to God.
- We must shift our thinking from fixing churches to planting new ministries, and to true discipleship.
- We need to start seeing the people God calls us to reach.
- The Conference Strategy Board and the District Strategy Teams, working together, envision planting five new faith communities every year for 2018, 2019, and 2020. This means at least one new ministry in each of our districts.

MINISTRIES IN TIER 2:

NORTH EAST DISTRICT:

- Appleton: Hispanic Ministry
- DarBoy Area (Circuit NE 10)
- Manitowoc: Hispanic Ministry

NORTH WEST DISTRICT:

- Eau Claire: Korean Fellowship
- St. Croix Valley/Houlten
- Trempealeau County: Hispanic Ministry



Sheboygan: Wesley Hispanic Ministry



Madison: Korean UMC

MINISTRIES IN TIER 3:

NORTH WEST DISTRICT:

- Baldwin, New Centerville, Hammond Area
- Barron: Hispanic Ministry
- Eau Claire: Hispanic Ministry
- Eau Claire: Hmong Ministry
- Ono-Plum City: Hispanic Ministry
- Prescott Area

NORTH EAST DISTRICT:

- Appleton: African Ministry
- Fond du Lac: Hispanic Ministry
- Marinette: Hispanic Ministry
- Plymouth
- Sheboygan: Hmong Ministry

NORTH CENTRAL DISTRICT:

- Adams Friendship & Castle Rock/Lake Pentenwell Area
- Clark & Marathon: Hispanic Ministry
- Eagle River
- La Crosse: Hmong Ministry
- Marshfield to Colby, Southern Highway 13: Hispanic Ministry

SOUTH WEST DISTRICT:

- Cross Plains/West Madison
- Justice Church: African American (Housed out of Sherman Ave. UMC)
- Madison: Wellspring Hispanic Ministry
- Oregon: People's second site in the McFarland area
- Richland Center: Hispanic Ministry

- Spring Green Area
- Sun Prairie: Hispanic Ministry
- Verona: Sugar Rivers' second site or new church in Fitchburg
- Waunakee: Hispanic Ministry

SOUTH EAST DISTRICT:

- Burlington: Hispanic Ministry
- Cedarburg: Hispanic Ministry
- Circuit SE 11
- Genoa City: Hispanic Ministry
- Germantown Area
- Holy Hill/Richfield Area
- I-94 Corridor from Wis-Ill border North
- Johnson Creek/Sullivan/Concord Area New

This ministry of planting new congregations can happen only with your prayers and financial support.

An overview of our Wisconsin Conference Shared Ministries the 2019 proposed budget indicates that 30% support the starting of new ministries and churches, congregational revitalization, and mission churches (those vital ministries that are currently not self-sustaining). Special focus on our racial and ethnic ministries and circuits is also funded through our giving. Additionally, intensive training and consulting are provided to clergy and laity who desire to do new church planting and revitalization.

Process for Church Planting in the Wisconsin Annual Conference:

Align Path 1, the New Church Starts arm of the United Methodist Church, has identified seven seasons that new churches go through as they develop into healthy, vital churches. Our Conference has embraced this process as we continue planting churches in Wisconsin.

DISCERNING:

The discernment process begins when a prospective planter (or potential partner congregation) senses God's calling to plant a new church.

VISIONING:

A vision for starting a new church may arise from a need to reach a geographical area, cultural group or specific community of people.

GATHERING:

Church planting is never solo work. The planting team's first and most important task is to connect people to Christ, to the planter, to the vision, to each other, and to opportunities to make disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world.

DISCIPLING:

A Wesleyan model of church planting intentionally incorporates small groups for mentoring and multiplication. Spiritual growth and leadership development are the building blocks of a healthy faith community.

WORSHIPPING:

We were created to be in relationship with God and one another. As human beings, we have worship embedded in our very nature. How we begin a church's public expression of worship requires careful planning and timing.

MATURING:

As a congregation continues to develop and grow, it becomes viable, sustainable and poised for multiplication. Growing people and developing healthy systems (leadership development, financial, structure, and discipleship) will help the church grow spiritually, multiply its mission and ministries, and prepare itself for inevitable leadership transitions.

MULTIPLYING: Healthy churches multiply disciples, leaders, ministries, and congregations. Reproduction begins from day one and manifests itself throughout the various aspects and stages of church life. With multiplication in the DNA of a new church, reproduction happens more naturally.



Monroe: Aposento Alto



Milwaukee: Zao MKE Church

Join Us...In Imagining Wisconsin Anew!

Through Planting New Ministries, in New Places,
for New People!

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