

Mission Statement

Background

At its September 2009 meeting the Presbytery of Nevada voted to begin the process of dissolving its relationship with the Sierra Mission Partnership. In addition, the Presbytery of Nevada voted to adopt a timeline for dissolution that will complete the process in December of 2010. As part of the process for dissolution the Presbytery of Nevada voted to combine the two task forces which had been previously appointed to evaluate the relationship between the Presbytery of Nevada and the Sierra Mission Partnership (task force 1) and to visualize what the Presbytery of Nevada might look like in light of the changes happening within the Sierra Mission Partnership (task force 2). The two task forces were combined and given the task of studying and making recommendations related to vision and administrative functions flowing from the vision.

At its first, October 21st, 2009, meeting the new task force voted to divide itself in to two sub-committees; vision and structure. The attached report includes the proposed vision statement and resulting strategies recommended by the Vision Sub-Committee of the Presbytery of Nevada's Combined Task Force on Vision and Administrative Structure.

Introduction

The Vision Sub-Committee consisted of members who had previously worked on the evaluation and vision task forces. Both prior task forces had surveyed the Presbytery, its members and congregations, regarding vision and needs of the presbytery along with the work of the Sierra Mission Partnership. The evaluations revealed startlingly similar results as the Vision Sub-Committee became evident. These values and visions for the presbytery include:

- A strong desire to develop new churches and worshiping fellowships,
- A commitment to developing and working with racial ethnic fellowships,
- A commitment to the communal and collegial nature of our presbytery,
- A desire to partner with others in areas where we share vision,
- A desire to share resources with others in ministry, and
- A passion to provide pastoral care and spiritual nurture for those in our presbytery, both members and congregations.

The attached vision statement which has been informed by the research of our task forces, designed to articulate our shared values and vision for ministry, and endeavors to guide our presbytery and its ministries into the future.

The Presbytery of Nevada exists as part of the Presbyterian Church USA to support the people of God in Christ's Mission throughout our region and world.

We seek to accomplish this through:

- 1. nurturing Christian leaders and congregations within our membership,**
- 2. fostering continued mutual respect, love and friendship in our presbytery,**
- 3. launching fellowships, congregations and ministries,**
- 4. reaching across boundaries of language, culture and ethnicity with the love of Christ,**
- 5. partnering with others to accomplish our vision.**

Our strategies for our mission include but are not limited to:

- 1) Nurturing Christian leaders and congregations through;
 - a) a system of discipleship and peer support for all presbytery members including opportunities for spiritual direction and nurture,
 - b) training events for church ministry leaders and pastors,
 - c) frequent and regular congregational visits,
 - d) spiritual renewal events.
- 2) Fostering continued mutual respect, love and friendship within presbytery and among its members through;
 - a) intentional fellowship,
 - b) joint mission projects, both local and international,
 - c) regional Presbyterian events,
 - d) effective communication tools such as email, conference calls, prayer list, blogs, and website.
- 3) Launching fellowships, congregations and ministries through
 - a) organizational, grant and design support for developing ministries,
 - b) providing opportunities to develop new ministry paradigms such as, new ways to start churches and develop worshiping fellowships through shared resources,
 - c) providing financial support for staffing and matching funds,
 - d) developing a plan for launching a new ministry every three years.
- 4) Reaching across boundaries of language, culture and ethnicity with the love of Christ through;
 - a) supporting Presbyterian racial ethnic fellowships within our Presbytery,
 - b) encouraging congregational nesting/partnerships of ethnic churches,
 - c) communicating with ethnic communities,
 - d) educating ourselves to be more aware of the other in our midst; including the homeless, special needs, non-English speakers and strangers amongst us.
- 5) Partnering with others to accomplish our vision through;
 - a) continuing to share resources with one another,
 - b) continuing our partnership with Grand Canyon Presbytery and the Presbytery of Utah for the development of Valley Presbyterian Church, Mesquite,
 - c) sharing executive training, specialties and skills with other presbyteries,
 - d) creating a shared skills program, through which church leaders may share gifts among our member congregations,
 - e) partnering with other Christian traditions on shared vision and ministry opportunities.