The WHY of Church Multiplication

Passionate Believers Conference
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The Center for US Missions

“Equipping God’s People to Multiply the Harvest”

The Center for United States Missions provides training, coaching, consultation and resources for accelerating church multiplication in the United States of America.
The Center for US Missions

“Equipping God’s People to Multiply the Harvest”

- Research & Resources
- Church Planter Assessments
- Churches Planting Churches
- Church Planting Essentials
- Planting the Missional Church
- Mentoring Church Planters
- Missional Coach Training & Certification
- Coaching for Regional Leaders & Church Planters
- Consultation for District/Regional/Church leaders
Bible Foundations

• Matthew 9:35ff – Great Compassion
• Matthew 16:18 – Great Promise
• Matthew 28:18-20 – Great Commission
• Luke 15:7,etc - Great Celebration
1. American culture is becoming more:
   - Post-Christian
   - Multi-Ethnic

- For many Christians, this causes a Fear Reaction. Instead of Fear, God desires a Joy Reaction.

- We need to model our church’s mission on the pattern of the early church’s mission to the Gentiles.
2. The Two Critical Words for Established Churches Are:

“Healthy”
- These churches ADAPT to cultural change, have a healthy family system and know how to maintain vitality as they age.

“Missional”
- These churches THINK, PLAN, and ACT in line with the Great Commission. They understand their community and are engaged with it for the sake of the Gospel.
Missional Churches are Externally Focused

“God has created a new movement of churches that equip people, according to their calling and gifts, to be salt and light in their churches, communities, family, workplace, media and government - in the whole of society.” - Kirbyjon Caldwell

- Service
- Relationships
- Community Needs
- Good Deeds & Good News (Show & Tell)
3. More well-conceived New Churches should be the #1 Mission Focus for every Denomination and Missional Church.

WHY?

• Old Testament call to kingdom-expansion
• Gospels call to kingdom-expansion
• The Acts of the Apostles
• The Epistles
• Philippians 2:10-11
• Revelation 5, 7
Why Church Multiplication?

- It is the work of Jesus
- The local church is the hope of the world
- It’s part of Jesus’ Great-Commission strategy
A church which is 0-3 years old takes 3 attendees to reach 1 person for Christ.

A church which is 3-10 years old takes 7 attendees to reach 1 person for Christ.

A church older than 10 years takes 89 attendees to reach 1 person for Christ.
Why Church Multiplication?

- The harvest demands aggressive planting. The harvest is... 
- Plentiful 
- Diverse 
- Ready
Americans who say they have no religious preference ("Nones")

1/3 of Americans under age 30 have no religious affiliation
Percentage of Population Attending a Christian Church each Weekend

- 1990: 20.4%
- 1995: 19.5%
- 2000: 18.7%
- 2005: 17.5%
- 2010: 16.5%
- 2015: 15.5%
- 2020: 14.7%

The chart shows a steady decline in the percentage of the population attending a Christian church each weekend from 20.4% in 1990 to 14.7% in 2020.
Percentage of the Population Attending a Christian Church
On any Given Weekend in 2006

- Wisconsin: 20.9%
- South Carolina: 22.5%
- Texas: 18.6%
- California: 14.4%
- New York: 13.8%
- New Jersey: 13.6%
- New Hampshire: 9.6%

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WWW.TheAmericanChurch.org
TOP TEN RELIGIOUS GROUPS IN THE TWIN CITIES
BY NUMBER OF CHURCHES/WORSHIP SITES
(AS OF JANUARY 2015)

1. 986 Non-Denominational/Independent Churches
2. 303 Witch covens
3. 286 Evangelical Lutheran Church in America (ELCA)
4. 227 Catholic (CATH)
5. 152 Assemblies of God (AOG)
6. 139 Lutheran Church Missouri Synod (LCMS)
7. 132 Muslim mosques
8. 127 United Methodist Church (UMC)
9. 126 Baptist General Conference/Converge World Wide (BGC)
10. 84 Buddhist temples/groups
TOP TWENTY RELIGIOUS GROUPS IN THE TWIN CITIES BY TOTAL NUMBER OF AVERAGE ATTENDEES

(AS OF JANUARY 2015)

1. **277,919** Catholics (CATH)
2. **161,000** Muslims
3. **80,001** Non-Denominational/Independent Churches
4. **74,840** Evangelical Lutheran Church in America (ELCA)
5. **72,500** Buddhists
6. **65,431** Baptist General Conference/Converge World Wide (BGC)
7. **59,000** Jews
8. **41,500** Hindus
9. **31,630** Assemblies of God (AOG)
10. **30,000** Mormons
Wisconsin by County

Map Key

0-25% Unclaimed
26-50% Unclaimed
51-75% Unclaimed
76-100% Unclaimed

Digits = number of LCMS Churches

Statistics from
The Association of Religious Data Archives
www.thearda.com
The Harvest is Plentiful

Milwaukee County, Wisconsin

Religious Traditions, 2010

- Evangelical Protestant: 116,298
- Black Protestant: 36,583
- Mainline Protestant: 51,652
- Orthodox: 9,080
- Catholic: 199,153
- Other: 24,760
- Unclaimed: 508,209

Milwaukee County – pop 947,735 (2010 census)
Religious adherents, 46%
Unclaimed (“none”), 54%

Source: thearda.com
# The Harvest is Plentiful

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>2010 Population by Race and Ethnicity</th>
<th>Milwaukee, WI 53210</th>
<th>Wisconsin</th>
<th>United States</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Population by Race</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>White</td>
<td>6,634</td>
<td>4,902,193</td>
<td>221,809,059</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>White</td>
<td>23.00%</td>
<td>86.44%</td>
<td>71.91%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Black or African American</td>
<td>19,807</td>
<td>317,141</td>
<td>37,036,996</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Black or African American</td>
<td>68.67%</td>
<td>5.59%</td>
<td>12.01%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>American Indian and Alaska Native</td>
<td>93</td>
<td>50,866</td>
<td>3,026,418</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>American Indian and Alaska Native</td>
<td>0.32%</td>
<td>0.90%</td>
<td>0.98%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Asian</td>
<td>700</td>
<td>120,272</td>
<td>13,906,406</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Asian</td>
<td>2.43%</td>
<td>2.12%</td>
<td>4.51%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Native Hawaiian and Other Pacific Islander</td>
<td>23</td>
<td>2,677</td>
<td>662,031</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Native Hawaiian and Other Pacific Islander</td>
<td>0.08%</td>
<td>0.05%</td>
<td>0.21%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other</td>
<td>1,588</td>
<td>277,755</td>
<td>32,014,224</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other</td>
<td>5.51%</td>
<td>4.90%</td>
<td>10.38%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Population by Ethnicity</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Population Hispanic</td>
<td>1,192</td>
<td>307,414</td>
<td>49,511,501</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Population Hispanic</td>
<td>4.13%</td>
<td>5.42%</td>
<td>16.05%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Population Non Hispanic</td>
<td>27,653</td>
<td>5,363,490</td>
<td>258,943,633</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Population Non Hispanic</td>
<td>95.87%</td>
<td>94.58%</td>
<td>83.95%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: http://www.clrsearch.com/Milwaukee-Demographics/WI/53210/Population-by-Race-and-Ethnicity
The Harvest is Plentiful

Waukesha County, Wisconsin

Religious Traditions, 2010

- Evangelical Protestant: 71,237
- Black Protestant: 38,654
- Mainline Protestant: 115,008
- Orthodox: 155,152
- Catholic: 9,840
- Other: Unclaimed

Waukesha County – pop 389,891 (2010 census)
Religious adherents, 60%
Unclaimed (“none”), 40%

Source: thearda.com
The Harvest is Plentiful

- White alone - 8,361 (92.0%)
- Hispanic - 325 (3.6%)
- Asian alone - 282 (3.1%)
- Black alone - 47 (0.5%)
- American Indian alone - 38 (0.4%)
- Two or more races - 39 (0.4%)

Why Church Multiplication?

- God’s intention for all living things is to “be fruitful and multiply”
- It’s a wonderful way to leave a legacy
- It’s healthy for the LCMS
Why Start New Churches?

In the US, nearly **70** congregations die each week!

A district needs to plant at least the equivalent of 4% of our congregations each year in order to thrive

(SWD, 211 x. 04= **8**)
Why Start New Churches?

Baptized Membership, LCMS, 1980-2010
In 2013, LCMS baptized membership declined by 33,090
In 2012, LCMS baptized membership declined by 35,070
In 2011, LCMS baptized membership declined by 46,728
In 2010, LCMS baptized membership declined by 33,525
In 2009, LCMS baptized membership declined by 25,238
In 2008, LCMS baptized membership declined by 45,735
In 2007, LCMS baptized membership declined by 34,913
In 2006, LCMS baptized membership declined by 22,867
In 2005, LCMS baptized membership declined by 22,883
In 2004, LCMS baptized membership declined by 25,198
Why Start New Churches?

**LCMS Child Baptisms, 1977-2010**

[Graph showing LCMS child baptism data from 1977 to 2010 with a trend line indicating a decline.]
Why Start New Churches?

**LCMS Adult Confirmations, 1977-2010**
Why Start New Churches?

### Distribution of Adult Confirmations, 2010

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Number of Adult Confirmations</th>
<th>Number of Congregations</th>
<th>Percentage of Congregations</th>
<th>Number of Adults Confirmed</th>
<th>Percentage of Adult Confirmations</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>None</td>
<td>3274</td>
<td>54%</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>668</td>
<td>11%</td>
<td>668</td>
<td>3.8%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2-3</td>
<td>796</td>
<td>13%</td>
<td>1918</td>
<td>11.0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4-10</td>
<td>915</td>
<td>15.1%</td>
<td>5513</td>
<td>31.6%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11-20</td>
<td>259</td>
<td>4.2%</td>
<td>3772</td>
<td>21.6%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>20+</td>
<td>144</td>
<td>2.4%</td>
<td>5554</td>
<td>31.9%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

9 Assumes 6,058 LCMS congregations; 17,425 Adult Confirmations.
### LCMS Congregations and Age

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Age</th>
<th>Number of Congregations</th>
<th>Average Gain/Loss</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>100+</td>
<td>2002</td>
<td>-31</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>81-100</td>
<td>709</td>
<td>-32</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>61-80</td>
<td>854</td>
<td>-36</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>41-60</td>
<td>1313</td>
<td>-32</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>21-40</td>
<td>665</td>
<td>-7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5-20</td>
<td>307</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
4. Much of the American Church has reduced the Message of Jesus to a shallow Gospel.

The Church needs to recover and share the transformational Message/Mission of Jesus.

“I have a dream,
That all the world will meet you,
And know you, Jesus, in your living power.
That someday soon all people will hear your story
And hear it in a way they understand.”

from the Caedmon Liturgy, Celtic Daily Prayer
Planting Lutheran Churches
Two Key Non-Negotiables

#1 - The truth of God’s Word is clearly and boldly preached.

#2 - The Sacraments are faithfully celebrated.
3 Types of Church Planting - LCMS

A. New Church Start
Any LCMS intentionally organized gathering of individuals who have come together on a regular basis for the purpose of worshiping and/or study of the Word and is intended to grow into an LCMS rostered congregation.
3 Types of Church Planting - LCMS

B. Satellite Site
An extension of a rostered congregation’s Word and Sacrament ministry at a separate site, under the supervision and leadership of that congregation. The site does not intend to become an independently rostered congregation of the Synod.
3 Types of Church Planting - LCMS

C. Special Outreach Ministry
This is a new ministry of one or more congregations (eg., immigrant ministry, coffee house, etc) which is not intended to be an independently rostered congregation (or does not have the capacity to become self-supporting), but is intended to be an outreach or gospel ministry of an existing congregation.
25+ Church Planting Models

- Missionary
- Send a Team Nearby
- Raise Up a Timothy
- Let My People Go
- Let My Pastor Go
- Partner Church
- Side-by-Side
- Multi-site
- House Church
- Missional Community
25+ Church Planting Models

- Launch Large
- Purpose Driven
- Cell Church
- Child Care
- Marketplace
- Traditional
- Mosaic / Multi-Ethnic
- Ethnic Immigrant
- School
- International Friendship
25+ Church Planting Models

- Eclectic or Hybridized
- Internet
- School
- Adoption or Re-Start/Re-Plant
- Cowboy, Biker, Hip-Hop etc
- Church Planting Movement
- Other…
Which?
Where do we need to be multiplying/planting new churches?
The WHY of Church Multiplication

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