

Michigan District, Missionary Church

Statement of Vision, Mission, Values, & Five-year Goals

(February, 2010)

Faced with a 21st-Century world, we believe the following to be true:

- **John 3:16** – “*God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son, that whosoever believes in Him shall not perish but have everlasting life.*”
There are more than 7 million non-believing people of the 9.6 million people in the Michigan District, more than 200 million non-believing people of the more than 300 million people in the USA, and more than 4 billion non-believing people of the more than 6 billion people in the world who need to believe in Jesus Christ.
- **Romans 1:16** challenges us to be unashamed of the gospel of Jesus Christ, for “*it is the power of God that brings salvation to everyone who believes...*”
- **Acts 1:8** declares we are anointed by the Holy Spirit to be witnesses for Jesus Christ “*in Jerusalem, Judea, Samaria, and to the ends of the earth.*”
- **Matthew 28:18-20** declares that all authority in heaven and on earth has been given to Jesus Christ.
With this authority, he mandates us to “*make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit, and teach them to obey everything I have commanded you.*”
- **Commitment to Missionary Church Mission Statement.**
As part of the Missionary Church USA, the Michigan District is pledged to “*obedience to Jesus Christ her Lord,*” and is committed to “*being the holy people of God in the world, and to building His church by worldwide evangelism, discipleship, and multiplication of growing churches, all to the glory of God.*”

Our Vision (the Dream)

“Every Church mobilizing believers to intentionally reach and disciple those without Christ.”

Our Mission (Our Calling)

“To strengthen churches and districts that reproduce and multiply devoted followers of Jesus Christ.”

Our Values (Our heart & motivation)

The Michigan District exists to encourage, equip and empower the local church:

- **Modeling life and leadership by the Spirit.**
(Matthew 3:11; Romans 8, 12:1-2; Galatians 5)
- **Winning and training disciples of Christ** who make disciples.
(Matthew 28:19)
- **Developing effective leaders** with a servant, Christ-like heart.
(Romans 12:8, John 13:12-17)
- **Coaching for culturally relevant ministries** to families and emerging generations.
- **Cultivating church health** as a foundation for growth and multiplication.
- **Partnering for church and district multiplication**
- **Mobilizing outreach to all cultures** from home to the ends of the earth.
(Matthew 28:18-20; Acts 1:8)

Steps of Action: (overview)

1. Build a strong prayer base.
2. Evangelize the lost and make disciples
3. Strengthen our established churches
4. Plant new churches and Districts.
5. Recruit and develop dynamic leaders for accelerated multiplication

Steps of Action: (detail)

Acting upon this vision, these truths and beliefs, and with God's guidance and help, we will diligently seek to accomplish the following, in the next five years:

1. Call and Mobilize the Michigan District to Continuous Intercessory Prayer.

- a. We will seek to engage every District leader and every local church in a "call to continual intercessory prayer" that:
 - Empowers believers to grow in personal discipleship.
 - Empowers disciples to love, interact with, and witness to lost people.
 - Opens the hearts of the lost to the Gospel of Jesus Christ.
 - Empowers them to make disciples.
 - Empowers them to intercede for the recruitment and development of more "laborers for the harvest."
 - Tears down evil strongholds.
- b. We will have achieved this five-year goal when an active intercessory prayer network has been established in **every** local church, and intercessory prayer is being offered on a regular, systematic, and continual basis for the worldwide ministries of the Missionary Church in the 21st Century.

2. Evangelize the Lost and Make Disciples.

- a. We will continually challenge our local churches to aggressively implement multiple strategies for **personal and corporate evangelism, and the making and multiplying of disciples**.

Recognizing there are many ways of pursuing evangelism and disciple making, **we will embrace and endorse any strategy, methodology, or program that is Biblically sound and results in effective evangelism and disciple making.**

- b. We will have achieved our five-year goal when:

- Our District is realizing an annual conversion growth rate of 15%, and our local churches are realizing an annual conversion growth rate of at least 10%.
- Our District has at least 15% of its people involved in the disciple making process and each local church has at least 10% of its people involved in making disciples who make disciples.
 - Disciple making is defined as intentional involvement in some aspect of helping people move from pre-Christian to devout Christian to reproducing Christian.

3. Strengthen our Established Churches.

- a. We will provide the basic District administrative services (i.e. oversee recruitment and the credentialing process, pastoral transition, helping churches in conflict and crisis, training opportunities, administration for strategic events, etc.)
- b. **We will assist our churches in the following ways:** (Through our own efforts, as well as through the help of the national office, other districts, and like-minded ministries/organizations)
 - Provide Assessment and Coaching for the health of the local church based upon following criteria: Bible-centered, Prayer Base, Loving Relationships, Discipleship, Worship, Outreach, Equipping, Leadership, Mission-Vision-Values, and Functional Structures.
 - Assist every local church to develop and implement its own five-year vision and goals strategy for evangelism and disciple making.
 - Put in place any new initiatives (programs) necessary to assist in the vision and five-year goal achievement of our local churches and the District.
 - Help every church become involved in some form of church planting strategy (both domestic and international).
 - Identify and develop spiritually passionate, apostolic leaders* (both vocational and lay leaders) for church multiplication and local church leadership.
 - Provide and/or resource for :
 - Disciple making for multiplication of disciples
 - The art of preaching and communication.
 - Pastoral recruitment and placement services.
 - Coaching for financial management and resource development
 - Leadership training for vocational and lay leaders with competency in:
 - ~ Understanding the change process
 - ~ Knowing how to work with the influencers.
 - ~ Understanding spiritual warfare.
 - ~ Knowing how to make peace and resolve conflict.
 - ~ Learning how to be a servant leader.

- ~ Understanding the church within the context of its community.
- ~ Guarding character.
- Provide effective, two-way lines of communication, understanding, and encouragement between our local churches, the District office, the national office, and international ministries.
- **Conduct a thorough and ruthless review of all District programs**, which includes a survey of their effectiveness to determine which should be continued, improved, or abandoned.

c. We will have achieved our five-year goal when:

- Spiritually passionate pastor/leaders are recruited, commissioned, and leading each church needing a pastor.
- Every church has developed and implemented a strategy that is achieving **at least 10% annual growth in conversions**.
- Every church has developed and implemented a strategy that is achieving **at least 5% annual growth in the number of people making disciples**.
- Every local church has become involved in an active church planting strategy.
- Spiritually passionate, apostolic leaders* (both vocational and lay) are being identified by local churches and are being developed for ministry.
- Serious local church problems are effectively addressed.
- The District Superintendant **is able to spend 50%** of his time helping local churches with growth strategy implementation, leadership training, and new church planting.
- Each church takes its financial responsibilities seriously by:
 - (1) contributing at a 100% level to its financial responsibilities to the District and Denomination ministries; and
 - (2) by financially supporting World Partners international missions outreach.
- Every District program is producing results so effectively that it is viewed by the majority of local churches as absolutely necessary.

4. Plant New Churches and Districts.

a. Giving evidence of a pioneering spirit, we will:

- **Plant new churches at an annual rate of 5-7%. (2-5 per year)**

- **Intentionally target major population areas** (i.e. Southeast Michigan and Greater Grand Rapids area) for the launching of evangelism/disciple-making and church multiplication movements.
 - **Create 2 new districts in Michigan.** This may take the form of a Michigan Region comprised of 3 districts.
 - Assist the national office and other districts to create new districts and disciple making movements elsewhere in the U.S.
 - Assist the national office and other districts to target and launch **evangelism/disciple-making movements at international locations**, assisting our Denominational five-year goal of evangelism/disciple-making movements in 25 new countries. **The Michigan District will adopt a minimum of 2 different evangelism/disciple-making movements in places outside the US.**
- c. We will have achieved our five-year goal when the above stated numerical benchmarks have been reached.

5. Recruit and Develop Dynamic and Spiritually Passionate Leaders...

...for accelerated multiplication of churches and districts as well as for our established churches.

- a. We will identify, recruit, train, credential, equip, and empower dynamic, spiritually passionate, “apostolic”^{*} leaders, both vocational and lay leaders, to lead, implement, and expand our vision for worldwide evangelism, disciple making, and church planting.
- b. We will have achieved our five-year goal when dynamic, spiritually passionate leaders are recruited, commissioned, and leading: 15-25 new church plants; including evangelism/disciple-making movements in 2 major population centers; 2 new districts; and anywhere else the Lord may lead.

* An “apostolic” leader is characterized as being spiritually passionate, missional, entrepreneurial, and catalytic.