

MissionNorthwest

Resourcing and developing churches that connect people with Jesus Christ

Region Vision and Ministry Overview

(Previous 12 to 18 months)

Charles Revis, Executive Minister

Our Regional family of churches includes the geographic area composed of WA, ID, MT & northern UT. Additionally, we have one church each in NV, CA and AZ. New churches are welcome to join our association at any time. Geography does not define us. Our mission, culture and relationships are far more important. The Region's ministries are supported solely through the faithful missions giving of its member churches (Region Offering and/or United Missions). Without you we would not exist!

The stated mission of Mission Northwest (ABC-NW) is **“Resourcing and developing churches that connect people to Jesus Christ.”** This mission is based on the biblical belief that Jesus is the head of His body and He directs it to “go and make disciples of all nations” (Matt 28:18-20, Acts 1:8). Jesus birthed the church and builds it up, in order to bring more people into a life-changing relationship with the Living God through faith in Christ (Eph 4:16).

We also believe that churches are stronger together than apart. Again, Scripture is our guide. Throughout the book of Acts and the various Epistles, the early churches were devoted to one another, prayed for one another, challenged each other and resourced each other. This is why we associate together as a family of churches. We contribute to this family and receive from this family just as each person does within their own nuclear family. Every church has something to contribute. We learn from each other as we reach out to our communities through creative ministries. Every church at one time or the other will be on the receiving end of what our association provides. We desire health for our entire tribe and each church that comprises it. Through working together and learning together our participating churches grow stronger and healthier. This translates into increased effectiveness in reaching the Northwest, and beyond, with the Good News of Jesus Christ.

We focus our primary ministries in four major areas, or strategic clusters: Leadership, Church Transformation, Connection and Church Planting. Admittedly, some of our work doesn't fall neatly into any one of these four buckets. But for the most part these landmarks represent the majority of our efforts as we seek to grow healthy churches and develop church leaders.

The following is a **summary overview** of the work we have accomplished, or are presently doing, listed by category, over the last twelve to eighteen months. This work is possible because of your church's mission support, and the support of individuals who believe that our work together is important.

Leadership

- **Interim Ministers and Transitional Pastors—recruiting, screening and placing**
 - Paul Burnham, Belgrade Community Church, MT
 - Gary Cooper, FBC Twin Falls, ID
 - Dick Sipe, Chinese Baptist Church, Seattle, WA
 - Glen Douglas, Park Heights Baptist Church, Spokane, WA
 - Terry Oliver, FBC Sunnyside, MT
 - Gary Shirbish, FBC Hoquim, WA
 - David Griewe, New Life Bible Fellowship, Caldwell, ID
 - Alan Felts, FBC Midvale Community Church, ID
 - Jim Weddle, FBC Kelso, WA
 - Mike Ghilgia, Mud Lake Community Church, Terreton, ID
 - Gary Cook, FBC Livingston, MT (recently completed)
 - Barbara Ulrich, FBC Hardin, MT (recently completed)
- **Guiding Church Search Teams through the search process using trained Search Consultants.**
 - FBC Livingston, MT (completed in 2017)
 - Clearfield Community Church, UT (completed in 2017)
 - New Community Church, Union, WA (completed in 2017)
 - FBC Jerome, ID (completed in 2017)
 - FBC Castleford, ID (in progress)
 - FBC Raymond, WA (in progress)
 - FBC Kelso, WA (in progress)
- **Recruiting and screening Pastors for placement in open churches**
- **Ongoing development of Pastors through fourteen Leadership Learning Communities (LLCs)**
 - Fourteen “Region Pastors” leading LLCs, receiving stipends from Mission Northwest and reporting to Dr. Charles Revis.
 - Two “Region Pastor” coordination meetings each year.
 - Grants to cover books and travel expenses for pastors attending LLCs.
- **Annual Leadership Tune-Up at Ross Point Camp**
 - 2017 record attendance with 166 attending
 - Excellent speakers: Dr. Tod Bolsinger, Dr. Lee Spitzer, Dr. Mark Wilks & Rev. Corey Laughary.
 - Multiple workshops, dynamic worship and warm fellowship.
- **Ministry Ethics Conference—August 2017**
 - Led by Patti Duckworth and hosted by Manette Community Church, Bremerton, WA

- **Coaching pastors and church leaders on a per need basis.**
 - Region staff and Mentor Pastors receive numerous coaching calls throughout the year.
- **Guiding the ordination and licensing process**
 - Three Departments of Ministerial Concerns & Standards
- **Occasional Local Church or Area Training events**
 - Organic Outreach Conference, FBC Everett, 2016
 - Leadership Summit, FBC Anacortes, 2016. This year's event takes place November 17-18 with local M/NW churches.
 - Evangelism Training, FBC Billings, 2016
 - Big Sky Area Meeting with David Olson, Federated Church, Hamilton, MT 2016. This year's event takes place at FBC Hardin, MT, October 27-28.
 - Planning is in the works for local area events for 2018.

Church Transformation

- **Church Assessments**
 - FBC Montana, Helena, MT 2017
- **Church Unique Process (Five Trained Navigators)**
 - Significant numbers of Mission Northwest churches have been guided through a Church Unique Co::Lab and have completed a Vision Frame for their congregation.
- **Organic Outreach & Oikos Evangelism training and resources**
- **Church Board Coaching**
 - Park Heights Baptist Church, Spokane, WA
 - FBC Montana, Helena, MT
 - Murray Baptist Church, UT
 - Chinese Baptist Church, Seattle, WA
- **Crucial Conversations Training**
 - Palouse Federated Church, WA—Sept 23, 2017
- **Articles and resources for encouraging and guiding church turnarounds.**
- **Recruiting turnaround pastors for Mission Northwest churches.**
- **Providing onsite church financial assessment and best practices for improving church finances.**
 - Following churches served: Church on the Rock, Oak Harbor, WA; Florence-Carlton Community Church, MT (twice); Spokane Valley Baptist Church, WA

Connection

- **Annual Leadership Tune-Up gathering at Ross Point Camp**
- **Periodic local training events**
 - See previous list
- **Annual Big Sky Area Meeting**
- **New Generation Leaders Network**
 - Meets monthly via Zoom video conferencing with over a dozen younger leaders meeting. David Lodwig coordinates this group. Funding via a Palmer Grant administered through ABHMS.
- **Partner in Ministry**
 - In partnership with Big Sky Area and Mission Northwest, John Iverson has been visiting churches in MT.
- **Charles Revis and Patti Duckworth preaching and visiting member churches. Also attending special celebrations.**
 - FBC Everett, WA 125th celebration
 - Emmanuel Baptist Church, Roundup, MT 100th celebration
 - Installation Service, Michael Wedman, New Community Church, Union, WA
 - Installation Service, James Carlson, Clearfield Community Church, UT
- **Charles Revis completed a year of service on the General Secretary Search Committee resulting in the selection of Dr. Lee Spitzer as the new General Secretary.**
- **Charles Revis' recommendation of two new International Missionaries from Mission Northwest churches, Sarah Nash and Jae Stockton.**
- **Supporting, partnering with, and advocating for International Ministries missionaries and fund-raising.**
- **Supporting, partnering with, and advocating for Friendship House, Billings, MT**
- **Mission Northwest Email Updates and Prayer Connection Emails**
 - Sign up to receive updates by sending a request to office@abcnw.org
- **Raising and dispensing funds for disaster relief efforts.**
 - Summer 2017 MT, WA & UT fires resulting in \$10,000 OGHS gift for use by Eureka FBC.
 - Hurricanes Harvey, Irma and Maria. Coordinating these efforts with ABHMS and OGHS, Northwest churches and University Baptist Church, Houston, TX.

- **Engagement with Washington Baptist Convention**
 - Dr. Revis attends meetings advocating for church planting and church resources.
- **Communication Resources: Facebook Page, Email Updates, Prayer Connection, Web site and Newsletter**

Church Plants & Restarts

- Marshalling resources, funds and buildings, for church plants and restarts.
 - Recruiting church planters and restart pastors.
 - Supporting and resourcing churches planting other churches.
 - Active Church Restarts:
 - New Beginnings Church, Bremerton, WA
 - Blackfoot Christian Fellowship, Blackfoot, ID
 - Praise Chapel, Everett, WA
 - The Junction Church, West Seattle, WA
 - Active Recent Mission Northwest Sponsored Church Plants:
 - ReCalibrate Church, Missoula, MT
 - FBC Boise Church Planting Support:
 - Dry Creek Community Church (MissionInsite study and \$40,000 grant)
-

Leadership Learning Communities Reading List 2017

Every pastor is encouraged to connect with a local Leadership Learning Community (LLC). When the pastor is connected to the local LLC the church will be connected with the Region. Each year the Region issues a list of books and/or resources for study during monthly meetings. Additionally, the LLC provides prayer support, encouragement and learning opportunities for each participating pastors. Several of our Region Training Events have been hosted by the local LLC. LLCs have also been at the forefront in supporting church planting projects. We encourage church leaders to read the same books that our pastors read. Previous book lists are available at our web site, www.missionnorthwest.org. Here is a list of the books that have been selected for 2017:

- *Canoeing the Mountains* by Tod Bolsinger (January/February)
- *Growing Young* by Kara Powell (March/April)
- *Congregational Leadership in Anxious Times* by Peter Steinke (May /September)
- *The Grasshopper Myth: Big Churches, Small Churches and the Small Thinking that Divides Us* by Karl Vaters (October/November option)
- *Trouble I've Seen: Changing the Way the Church Views Racism* by Drew Hart (October/November option)
- *Life of the Beloved: Spiritual Living in a Secular World* by Henri Nouwen (December option)
- *Organic Outreach for Everyday People: Sharing Good News Naturally* by Kevin Harney (December option)

Online Resources

Connect with Mission Northwest through these online resources:

- Facebook: American Baptist Churches of the Northwest
- Email Updates: Sign up by sending a request to office@abcnw.org
- Web Site: www.missionnorthwest.org OR www.abcnw.org