

Creating New Churches

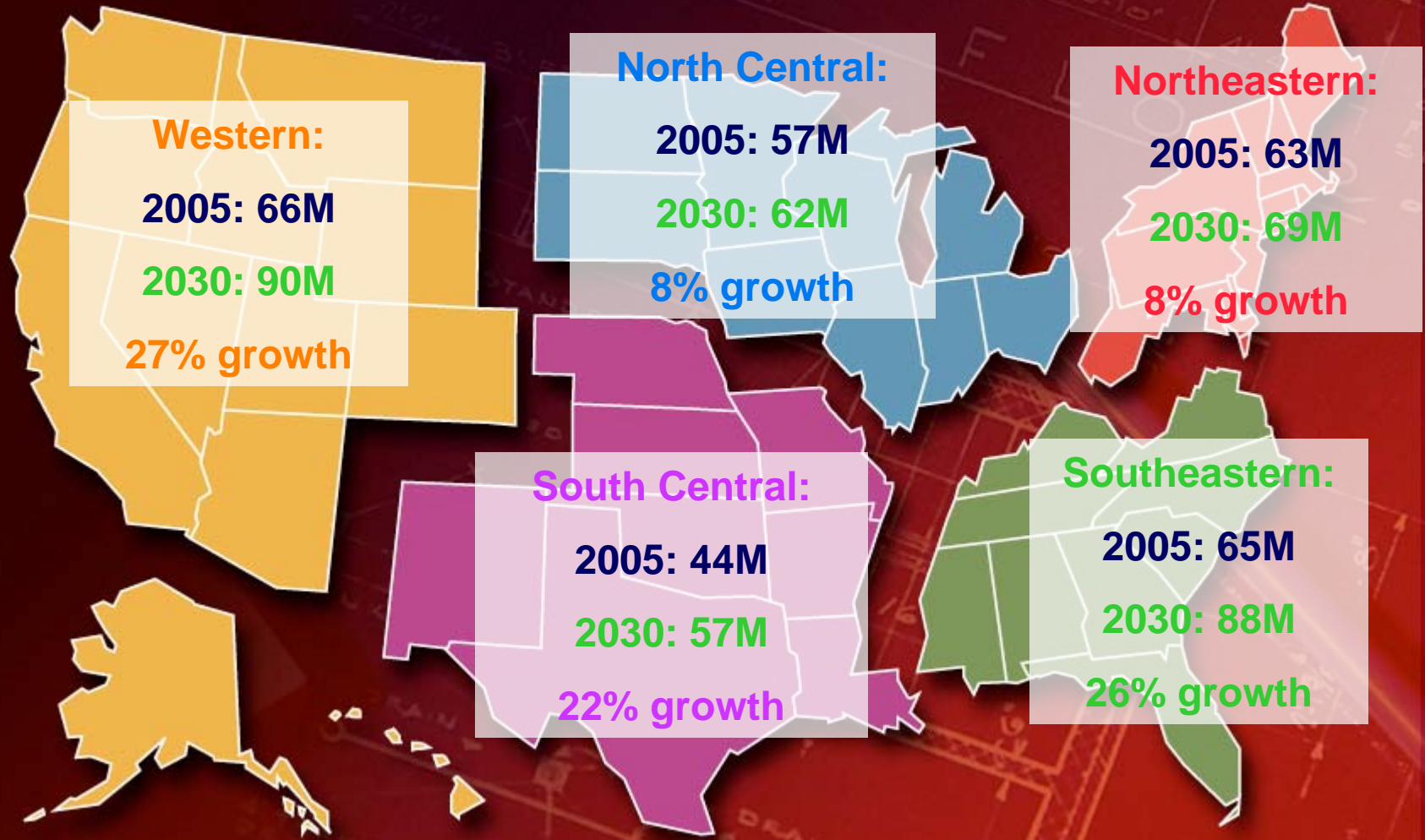
**California-Nevada
Annual Conference**



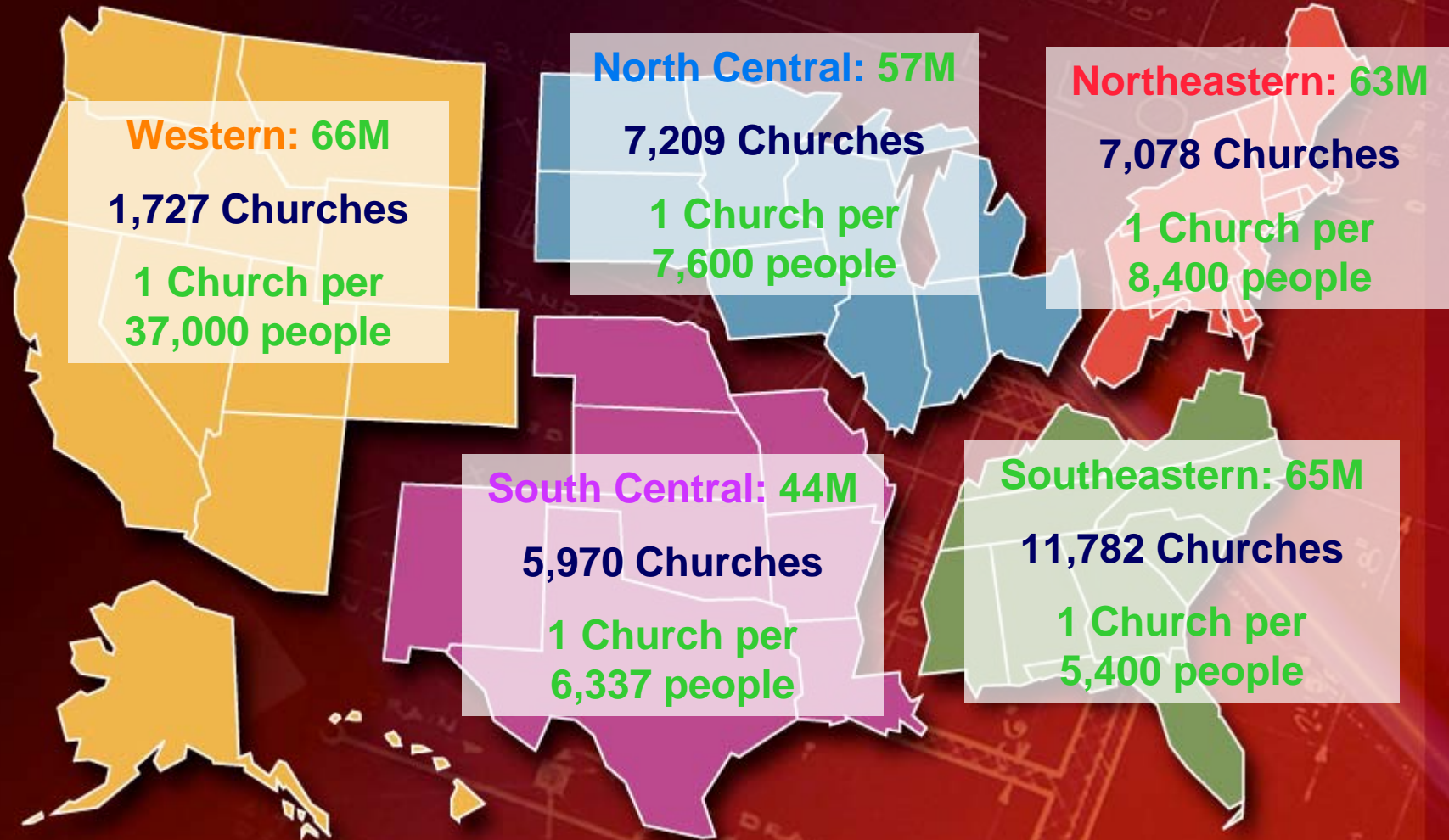
Key Questions

- Why?
 - Who?
 - Where?
 - When?
 - How?
-

There's an Urgent Need: Projected Population Growth



There's an Urgent Need: Current United Methodist Churches



Source: U.S. Census & 2005
General Minutes, Craig Kennet Miller, GBOD, 2007

Why Church Planting?

1

We are to be **Obedient** to Christ's command in Matthew 28:18-20; Acts 1:8.

2

United Methodists **Inherited** a church planting ethic.

3

We cannot rely on long-established congregations to **reach the new generations of people.**



Why Church Planting?

4

To reach people who have moved to our suburbs on the edge of town (population shifting).

5

Evangelism tends to shrink as a church ages.

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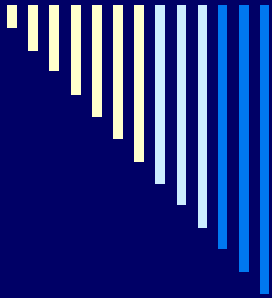
Church planting is the most cost-effective means of evangelism.



Who Can Start New Churches?



- We are looking for pastors who demonstrate:

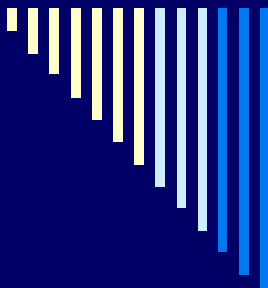


- Visioning Capacity
- Intrinsic Motivation
- Creating Ownership of Ministry
- Reaching the Unchurched
- Spousal Cooperation
- Effectively Building Relationships
- Commitment to Church Growth
- Responsiveness to Community
- Utilizing Giftedness of Others
- Flexibility & Adaptability
- Building Cohesive Groups
- Resilience
- Exercising Faith

Where can new Faith Communities be established?

- We must be good stewards of our resources both human and financial
- We must carefully select the best opportunities





When can a new faith community be launched?



- When a gifted and committed church planting pastor is prepared
 - When a ministry area has been carefully selected and prepared
 - We match these
-

How can we launch this process?

- Vision of leadership – High Priority
- Set goals
- Make plans
- Allocate funds
- Execute plans
- Modify plans as needed



Top 3 Assists:

1

Excellent Resources and Training

2

Best Practices in a Variety of Contexts: Upholding and Strengthening What's Working

3

Compelling Vision for Bishops and Annual Conferences and a Pool of Qualified Planters



What Matters Most for Successful Church Plants?





What might this look like?

- Selection & Preparation of Planters
 - Selection & Preparation of Locations
 - Support for those who are appointed
-

Selection & Preparation – Step 1 - Discovery

- Identification and Recruitment of potential church planters (Spring)
 - “Fishing Expeditions” in each district
 - Open invitations to seek information
- Application for the Academy (May)





Selection & Preparation – Step 2

Academy for Church Planters

- Application approved (June)
 - Attend School of Congregational Development (August)
 - Attend Academy Fall Session (October)
 - Attend Academy Winter Session (January)
-



Current Academy Participants

□ '06-'07

- Mark Cordes
- Bobbie Jones
- Pat Leamy
- Gary McAnally
- Brenda Vaca*
- John Song*

□ '07-'08

- Paul Cabotaje
 - Toni Hartman
 - Robin Mathews-Johnson
 - John Oda
 - Schuyler Rhodes
 - Dante Simon
 - Carolyn Talmadge
 - Lisa Warner-Carey
 - Kham Dy Yang
 - Sara Zieglar
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Selection & Preparation – Step 3 - Selection

- Assessment & Selection
(February)
- Recommendation to
Cabinet (February)





Selection & Preparation – Step 4 - Appointment

- Cabinet plans appointment (March/April)
- Planter attends Boot Camp (May)
- Appointment set (June)





Planter Preparation

Discovery

Academy

Selection

Appointment



Opportunity Identification

- Population growth areas
 - Identification of underserved areas
 - Identification of underserved groups
 - Listening for signs of vital churches who might be ready to be parent/sponsor of a new church start
 - Begin Application Worksheet (Fall)
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Location Selection

- ❑ Prioritize potential church start areas
 - ❑ Identify potential parent/sponsor churches in these areas
 - ❑ Develop profile of the kind of church planter who would be most successful in this setting
 - ❑ Identify financial resources to be provided
 - ❑ Submit Application Worksheet (January)
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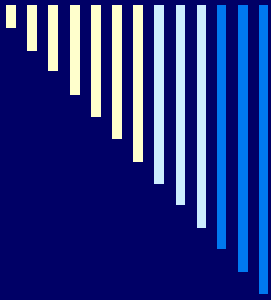
“Soil” Preparation

- Meeting of DS and all pastors in the area
 - Meetings with pastors and lay leaders in area churches
 - Begin formulating strategy
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Matching Locations & Planters

- New Church Development Committee
 - Assesses Planter Candidates
 - Vets site applications
 - Cabinet receives NCD recommendations
 - Church Planters
 - Site applications
 - Cabinet makes appointments
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Planter & Site Preparation

Discovery

Academy

Selection

Appointment

Boot Camp

**Opportunity
Identification**

**Location
Selection**

**Soil
Preparation**



Support for Planters

- ❑ Strategic Plan
- ❑ Quarterly Connection
- ❑ Coaching
- ❑ School of Congregational Development
- ❑ The Academy





Vision of New Church Development Committee

- Start up to 2 new churches in 2008
 - Include 8-10 pastors in each Academy class.
 - Ramp up to the pace of starting 5 new churches each year within two to three years
 - Sustain that level of new church starts for the foreseeable future
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Questions
