



The United Methodist Church
San Francisco Area California-Nevada Conference

Warner H. Brown, Jr
Resident Bishop

Rev. Deborah Grundman
Executive Assistant to the Bishop

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Dear Brothers and Sisters in service beyond the local church,

As we prepare to gather for our Annual Conference, I want to be sure that you are aware of changes that are being made to implement greater leadership for disciple making among our congregations and pastors. I will be appointing clergy to both local churches and to circuits. Circuits are a place for ministry development, vision sharing and strategic discussion toward making of disciples and extending Christ's service through the local church into the neighborhood and the world. Circuits do not replace districts or Superintendents. Each church and each pastor are still assigned to a Superintendent.

Those whose primary appointment is not the local church have not been assigned to circuits at this time. Yet as we rethink church, I am interested in making stronger connection between the Conference and those clergy serving beyond the local church, whether as deacon or as elder. To that end, I have asked our new Conference Superintendent, Rev. Ted Virts, in cooperation with the Board of Ordained Ministry's Conference Relations Committee, to begin discussion and exploration with you in the coming year about ways that support, collaboration and resourcing can be developed in new ways.

I invite you to share your ideas with Ted (virtts@pacbell.net) and to visit the Conference web site (cnumc.org) for fuller description of this new direction.

I am calling upon our entire community of faith to engage in a passionate rededication of being church in the Wesleyan way. Ours is a connectional church, deeply rooted in shared ministry, shared responsibility and a shared hope which is ours in Jesus Christ. I invite your prayers, your ideas and your work as we live out our mission of discipleship,

Your brother in Christ,

Warner H. Brown Jr.
Resident Bishop