



Starting 12 urban churches 12 rural churches and 12 ethnic ministries by 2012

A little background

The Rocky Mountain Conference New Ministries Team introduced a special petition at the 2004 Rocky Mountain Conference that outlined the vision of establishing 36 new ministries over the next 8 years. It passed overwhelmingly – which showed that those present embraced the vision. The petition also spelled out the initial steps necessary to transform vision into a bricks and mortar reality.

What Finance is already available?



Currently, the New Ministries Team has a budget of just \$125,000 to assist with new starts throughout the Conference—a two-thirds reduction from the 2002 budget. While this amount is helpful in supplementing start-up expenses of five to seven new congregations, it won't even begin to underwrite the actual costs involved. It's obvious that if the 12x12x12 vision is to become a reality, it will require a tremendous effort on behalf of all United Methodists and congregations throughout the Rocky Mountain Conference.

What other action is planned?

Part of the effort required will be for each sub-district to identify the following no later than January 1, 2005:

1. 5 potential opportunities for developing new ministries in their area.
2. Identifying potential lay and clergy 'new ministry' leadership.

Bishop Brown will designate a person in each district and sub-district for the task of spreading the gospel of new ministry growth.

What safeguards are in place to ensure a new church succeeds?

A promise will be made to the potential members of new churches that no new church will be started without a comprehensive ten-year plan for encouraging and supporting that church. This plan will include involvement by the United Methodist Churches in the surrounding communities, district and at the Annual Conference level.

