

Journey Toward Vitality

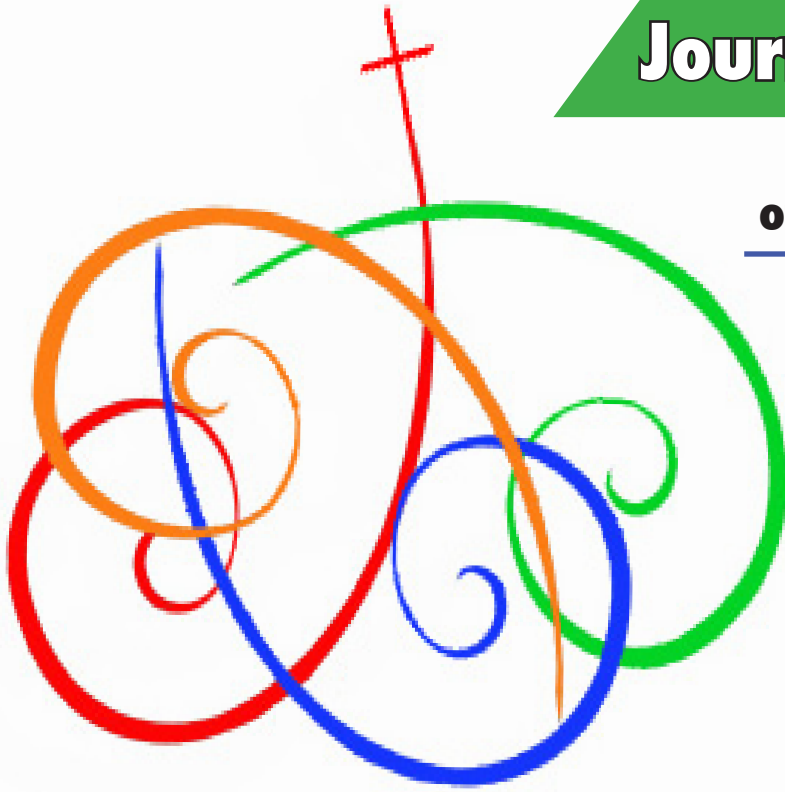
Dakotas Conference of the United Methodist Church

Mission

To make disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world.

Vision For every congregation to become a vital expression of the scriptural imperatives of: loving God and neighbor, reaching new people, and healing a broken world.

Vision Pathways To increase the capacity of all churches, clergy and laity throughout the Dakotas Conference by: developing missional leaders, equipping missional congregations, extending missional impact, and generating missional resources.



Developing Missional Leaders

- Greater supply of young clergy to reach younger people and ensure future church leadership.
- Clergy understanding of leadership & disciple-making abilities and implement a plan for continued growth.
- United Methodists who can articulate their "God stories" – God at work in their lives.
- Trained, equipped, & empowered laity serving in vital ministry.

Equipping Missional Congregations

- 10-20 congregations each year assessed and taking the next steps toward vitality.
- "New places for new people" – new churches, worship services, outreach ministries.
- Effective leadership available for new ministries and/or new life cycles of ministry.

Extending Missional Impact

- Congregations understanding their local "mission field," and positively making local impact.
- Each church in active partnership with one of these missions—Tree of Life, Spirit Lake Ministry Center, Haiti Solar Oven, Bakken Oil Rush Ministry.
- Significant impact in the Bakken area— increase of United Methodists who are following Jesus and reaching out to love their neighbors.
- Individuals and congregations engaged in new opportunities to heal a broken world through global missions.

Generating Missional Resources

- Congregations with a greater understanding of and trust in the vision of the Dakotas Conference and how their giving supports the local church through that vision.
- Individuals/Congregations growing in Christ-likeness by looking beyond themselves in the area of financial giving.
- A Conference financial capacity to support initiatives to make new disciples through starting new churches and revitalizing existing churches.