

KANSAS WEST CONFERENCE ETHNIC STRATEGIC PLAN

I. VISION STATEMENT

The Kansas West Conference will have ethnic/racial churches and/or communities of faith that are relevant to the ethnic/racial communities that are within her border.

II. MISSION STATEMENT

In order to do this, the Kansas West Conference will establish a partnership with existing National plans of The United Methodist Church that have been established to work with the various ethnic/racial populations within the United States.

III. PLAN OF MINISTRY

A. AFRICAN AMERICAN

The Kansas West Conference will establish a partnership with Strengthening the Black Church for the 21st Century (SBC21)), which is overseen by the General Board of Discipleship. Fortunately, the national coordinator of this program, Cheryl Stevenson, resides in Wichita, Kansas and offices at Wichita Saint Mark UMC. Saint Mark UMC is also one of 10 Congregation Resources Centers.

With this great resource in our midst, the Kansas West Conference will not reinvent the wheel but will partner with this program to work with our existing African American churches, as well as make plans for new congregations, as needed.

This plan is also a good model for partner churches working with other churches in need. It is our hope that this partnership can also provide resources in working with out ethnic/racial churches.

A plan will be developed to establish a partnership with SBC21, to begin by the Fall 2006.

B. ASIAN

The Congregational Growth & Development Committee will analyze the demographic data available for the communities of the Kansas West Annual Conference to determine where there is a significant Asian population. The committee will use this information to make recommendations for how best to serve the spiritual needs of the Asian populations in those communities in consultation with general agency experts in the field, the bishop and Cabinet and any existing local congregations.

C. NATIVE AMERICAN

The Kansas West Annual Conference will continue to be supportive of the work of the Oklahoma Indian Missionary Conference in providing for the needs of Native Americans living within the geographic bounds Kansas West Annual Conference.

D. HISPANIC (see submitted plan)