



**Regional Minister for New and Transforming Churches
Quarterly Regional Board Update 6-22-20**

NEW & TRANSFORMING CHURCH

3rd Quarter Goals:

- Recruit new commission members and re-orient our team for success
- Evaluation of Inaugural Cohort
- Prepare to grant Stipend to 2 Cohort members

The New and Transforming Church Commission has been actively engaged in the work that we have been called to do. Coronavirus in the form of Covid-19 has challenged us all. Churches are not meeting. Families are not Gathering. Businesses are closing. This has been a very different time. In light of that reality, the New and Transforming Church Commission has been in prayer during this season. During this time, I have focused on expanding my knowledge base so that I can be better prepared to serve this region in this present age. I have completed several online courses, classes, seminars, and webinars all related to the work I foresee our commission doing in the future.

During this time, I have also supported various Ministries through webinars on digital technology for worship as a solo presenter and as a guest panelist.

We also completed the inaugural Church Planters cohort with our final meeting via Zoom. We were taught a lesson on preaching and social media Ministry led by the Reverend Doctor Casey Sigmon. The church Planters that already had groups meeting in person all transitioned to online Ministry. We continue to follow up with them and they seem to be doing well. The other two planters have not yet launched congregational Ministry. The two that have completed the cohort and have already launched their Ministry, we will begin to financially support through monthly stipend in the coming months.

As it relates to the future of the regional Commission on New and Transforming churches as well as my position of leadership within that commission, we have been praying and discerning our next steps. As local churches across the life of our region have had to adjust during this season, we thought it wise that we would explore what it would mean for us to adjust in order to be most responsive and relevant to the call of God in this

	<p>season. With that being said after much prayer and conversation, we are proposing a shift in our title in order to broaden the language and the access to the support we can give to this region. With that being said, we will submit a separate proposal at the end of this report. This proposal will outline our name change, my title change, and the rationale for it all. Please note that the portfolio will not change. We will continue to serve new and transforming churches. It is mostly our desire to remain relevant and a ready resource to the churches of the Greater Kansas City region.</p> <p>We remain in the Exploratory phase of the Affiliation process with Broadway Baptist Church. For obvious reasons, this process has been in pause but we continue to be in contact.</p>
<p>GREATER KANSAS CITY REGION</p>	<p>Regional Assembly Planning – Co-Facilitator</p> <p>Follow Up with Pastors with Sudden Changes due to COVID-19 pandemic, participated in weekly check in Zoom Calls with Pastors, and provide resources online via Facebook Group</p>
<p>GENERAL MINISTRY of CCDOC</p>	<p>New Church Ministry Check In with Pastor Terrell McTyre</p> <p>Disciples Peace Fellowship – Summer Intern Chaplain</p> <p>Accepted Invitation to Serve on the Christian Board of Publication for the Chalice Press – Also served on two sub-committees: Articles and Bylaws Team and Sustaining Team</p> <p>New Church Hacks Webinar – 30 Hacks to Manage Change Like a Champ</p>
<p>ADDITIONAL UPDATES</p>	<p>Licensed Foster Parent, Received First Placement</p> <p>Revitalize 2 day Conference</p> <p>Sanctuary Care Training</p> <p>Preventing Disruptions Training</p> <p>JusticeCON Webinar</p> <p>Poor People Campaign Online Event</p> <p>Ongoing Consultant with First Christian Church – Honolulu, HI</p>

	<p>Follow Up Consultation with New Church Planter in Indiana Region</p> <p>Meeting with PCUSA New Church Leader</p> <p>Meeting with Below the Fold KC Consultant – Design Thinking in Ministry</p> <p>Spoke for Online Women's Brunch – Ousley UMC, Atlanta, GA</p> <p>Spoke for the "Tag! You're It!" Parenting Summit</p> <p>KC Former Councilwoman – Town Hall</p> <p>Beyonce Mass</p> <p>Dismantling Racism Webinar – Southwest Texas Region</p> <p>Preaching in Pandemic – Columbia Theological Seminary</p> <p>Instagram Live Interview with H&Co [formerly Hatchery LA] Executive Director, Maria French</p>
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The Proposal

The purpose of the New and Transforming Church Commission is to help a New or Transforming Church: *To be a faithful, growing church that demonstrates true community, deep Christian spirituality and a passion for justice.* – Micah 6:8

We are submitting the following proposal in order to position ourselves to be an invaluable resource to the churches in this region. At this time of self-evaluation and discerning conversation, we acknowledge that the language that is in the title of our commission is proving to be more restrictive to the options that our gifts can provide to this region, as well as limiting to how the churches in the region understand as their options to get the support that they need. In other words, during this time of pandemic we have taken the time to think through how we might better serve our region.

We Believe that just as churches are re-evaluating their mission and vision and strategy in this season of staying at home and sheltering in place, it is also necessary for the region to do the same. As it specifically relates to this commission, we are proposing that the name of the commission be changed in order to embrace a broader sense of how we can best support the region without isolating churches into categories so specific that they self-select not to get support that can be advantageous to their overall Ministry.

With this being said, the New and Transforming Church commission is proposing to change its name to the Commission on Ministry Innovation. Innovation is a hopeful word and a term that implies a look toward the future. We want to be known as the commission that will help

churches new, transforming, or otherwise to look to the Future in a very strategic and empathetic and inspiring way. We do plan to continue the church Planters cohort program which will launch a new cohort in the 2021 calendar year. We will continue to provide transformation support in the traditional sense as churches understand it. However, we hope that broadening this language helps Churches to know that we don't just want them to think of themselves as being in a bad place so now we have to call the Region to help. But we want churches at whatever stage in their Church life cycle to know that before sunsetting is their final option, we would love to have a conversation about what's next as it specifically relates to Ministry Innovation that might be helpful for the church and the community that the church serves.

Therefore, the new and transforming Church commission would like to submit this proposal to change its name to the Commission on Ministry innovation. We are proposing a name change that captures our present reality and vision for future prosperity in Ministry, locally, regionally, and beyond. We would like to change our name to the Commission on Ministry innovation. And in submitting this proposal we would also like to change the title of the staff person leading this commission from Regional Minister for New and Transforming Churches to the Regional Minister for Ministry Innovation. Furthermore, we are also proposing to expand our use of the word "new" to also mean "innovate" or "innovative" so that we might also utilize the resources of the Bacon Fund to provide grants to support churches as they innovate in their local ministry.

Again, we will continue the work of new and transforming Church; however, we now understand that work in the life of this region is not just for new churches and just for transforming churches, but it is for churches who have a vision for the future and we want to support them in their process of innovating to that end. Churches do not have to see themselves in one or two categories. But they can now see that this is a resource in the Greater Kansas City region that is available to help them to dream about what's next.