

**THE CENTRAL CONFERENCE OF THE EVANGELICAL COVENANT CHURCH PLANS FOR  
MAY 2005-MAY 2008  
BASED UPON THE CENTRAL CONFERENCE MISSION STATEMENT**

The Central Conference, empowered by God's Spirit, through shared ministries plants, strengthens, and unites churches to advance the Gospel of Jesus Christ.

**CHARTING A COURSE – PAVING THE WAY  
through churches connecting, planting, and revitalizing**

**I. Churches Connecting** – facilitate connections among pastors, staff, lay leaders and local churches to encourage partnerships and networking, in order to faithfully work toward our common mission.

**A. Communicating**

1. Pastors and staff – phone calls, visits, emails, district meetings
2. Churches – participate in local church celebrations, physical presence by visiting local church/board/committees as appropriate
3. Constituents – newsletters, visits at church activities, individual contact as desired

**B. Consulting**

1. Assist local church in pastoral search process
2. Facilitate training and resources for all aspects of church ministry
3. Direct churches to resources for conflict management

**C. Coming together**

1. Promote participation in conference annual meeting
2. Encourage gathering of district churches
3. Promote and encourage participation in camping and other common ministries, i.e. JesusStyle.

**II. Churches Planting** – encourage parenting and partnering with new and adoptive churches that are in harmony with our Covenant distinctives.

**A. Parenting/Partnering**

1. Identify churches with a vision to parent/partner
2. Encourage districts to work together to parent/partner
3. Reinforce a conference wide vision for church planting

**B. Producing ethnic/multi-ethnic church plants**

1. Identify, recruit, and train gifted ethnic church planters
2. Connect these planters to network with other plants/planters
3. Encourage existing ethnic/multi-ethnic churches to be involved in church planting

**C. Providing tools for growth**

1. Provide conference staff, with expertise dedicated to church planting
2. Provide resources to church planters from within and without for determining needs, delivering training, and developing a network
3. Provide ongoing mentoring and coaching to church planters

**III. Churches Revitalizing** – provide assistance for those churches which need to reorganize and restructure for a preferred future.

**A. Reaching out**

1. Responding to churches asking for assistance
2. Engaging churches that are open to evaluation
3. Encouraging every church toward healthy growth

**B. Refining accountability process**

1. Evaluate and improve existing conference process
2. Design and implement a mutual accountability plan for each church
3. Encourage completion of process within each church

**C. Resourcing to churches**

1. Offer appropriate diagnostic tools
2. Connect with skilled resource persons
3. Encourage affinity relationships