

## Crossroads District Mission Zone Plan

**Mission.** Organize churches and communities of the Crossroads District in areas, which will be named “Mission Zones” for the purpose of assessing congregational and connectional vitality; strategically plan and implement shared ministries and church configurations; and engage in shared mission within communities of the zone.

**Zone Management.** Mission Zones will be composed of 4-6 congregations located in relative close-proximity in a geographical area. Attention will also be given to churches that currently work together when mapping and organizing the zones. Zone leadership teams will consist of one clergy and one layperson from each congregation. The leadership team of each zone will meet on a regular basis in consultation with the district superintendent for planning and assessing the function of the zone. One zone member will be selected by the district superintendent to be its facilitator. All zones in the Crossroads District will function within the scope of the District Superintendent’s role as Chief Missional Strategist and the CRD Leadership Team.

**Assessment.** Churches within each zone will develop and implement a plan for assessing each of the congregations. Principally, tools likely to be used for these assessments will be chosen from ¶1213 (2016 Discipline), *Teamworks*, *MissionInsite*, and/or another tool that is deemed appropriate. The zone will work with the district superintendent, the CRD ¶1213 Team, DAC/MAC Director of Congregational Resiliency, DAC/MAC Director of New Church Development, and/or other consultants considered appropriate. The assessments will be used to address congregational and missional needs of the zone.

**Configuration Development.** Results of the congregational and connectional assessment will be used by the Mission Zone Team and district superintendent to implement appropriate approaches to vitalize congregations, share ministries, consider and put into effect mergers, discontinuations, new worship services, cooperative parishes, and new church starts. The aim is to mobilize United Methodist mission and congregational life within each zone according to the needs and opportunities of the greater community.

**The Four Focus Areas.** Since 2008, The United Methodist Church has identified four focus areas to address in fulfilling its mission of making disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world: leadership development; new places for new faces; ministry with the poor; improve global health. Each zone will develop a strategy for identifying measurable results in each of these areas, planning and implementing program ministries accordingly. Each zone and its congregations will develop, coordinate, implement, and evaluate its strategic plan consistent.

**Approach.** Crossroads District will develop its zones under the direction of the district superintendent and the CRD Leadership Team in consultation with its Mission Zone Design Team. The Design Team will develop a strategy for mapping, identifying, and implementing the zones.

Crossroads District will develop and implement its network of mission zones with an orderly approach. It will begin with the creation of its first zone: United Methodist churches within the City of Flint: Asbury, Eastwood, Bethel, Court Street, Faith, Charity, Lincoln Park, and Calvary. The initial pattern, anticipated to follow in each zone thereafter, will begin with a meeting of the churches' clergy, followed by the selection of laity and establishment of regular team meetings. Team meetings will focus on prayer, planning and evaluation. Mutual support is also expected to be enjoyed, but not dominate or replace the mission of the zone.

The pilot zone is likely to provide insight for adjustments and design. The Mission Zone Design Team will consider these revelations and consistently revise the plan. It will continue to give oversight and support to the mission zones as they develop.

**Time Line.** The Flint Mission Zone will begin by March 31, 2017. Other zones will be implemented at a pace that will result in the entire Crossroads District organized and functioning in mission zones by July 1, 2017.

**The Zones. 4/20 Revision.** The Crossroads District will be organized in 13 Mission Zones (CURRENT POINT OF CONCEPTUALIZATION; SUBJECT TO MORE CHANGES):

- **Zone 1.** Bethel, Faith, Charity, Asbury, Eastwood, Lincoln Park, Court Street, Hope and Calvary.  
(Jeremy Peters)
- **Zone 2.** Duffield, Gaines, Swartz Creek, Durand First, Byron, Lennon, Linden (Gary Glanville)
- **Zone 3.** Ortonville, Seymour Lake, Clarkston, Goodrich (Rick Dake)
- **Zone 4.** Halsey, South Mundy, Grand Blanc, Bristol, Burton Christ, Lake Fenton(Tara Sutton)
- **Zone 5.** Holly Calvary, Holly Mt Bethel, Davisburg, Fenton (Jeff Jagers)
- **Zone 6.** Pontiac Grace & Peace, Pontiac St. John, Waterford Trinity, Waterford Central, Waterford Four Towns (Jack Mannschreck)
- **Zone 7.** Grand Blanc Phoenix, Burton Atherton, Davison, Elba, Oregon (Sang Chun)
- **Zone 8.** Columbiaville, West Deerfield, Fostoria, Millington, Otisville, West Forest, Arbela (John Britt)
- **Zone 9.** Genesee, Thetford Center, Richfield, Mt. Morris First, Clio Bethany (Cathi Huvaere)
- **Zone 10.** W. Vienna, Birch Run, Burt, Montrose, Flushing (Rey Mondragon)
- **Zone 11.** Henderson, Chapin, Owosso Burton, Carland, Juddville, Chesaning Trinity (Tim Woycik)
- **Zone 12.** Owosso First, Owosso Trinity, Corunna First, Northwest Venice, New Lothrop, Vernon  
(Carman Minarik)
- **Zone 13.** Laingsburg, Pittsburg, Middlebury, Morrice, Bancroft (Brian West)