

Statistical Update on Quadrennial Goals – April 2015

Goals for the Denomination 2013–2016

The United Methodist Church established the following goals for the most recent quadrennium related to new church development worldwide by the end of 2016:

Path 1 New Church Starts Goal for planting new churches inside the US – 1,000 new churches

Equip 2,000 new church planters within the U.S.

General Board of Global Ministries Goal for Mission Initiatives outside the US – 600 new mission initiatives outside The U.S.

How Many New Churches?

United States: 504

Jurisdictional Snapshot of Church Planting Activity (Verified by 2015 Annual Conference reports)

	NCJ	NEJ	SCJ	SEJ	WJ	Total
2013	35	36	32	62	23	188
2014	28	32	33	55	24	172
2015	33	22	16	59	14	144*
Totals	96	90	81	176	61	504

We also equipped over 2,300 new church planters through Path 1 training opportunities surpassing our goal of 2,000.

Last Quadrennium

	NCJ	NEJ	SCJ	SEJ	WJ	Total
2008	20	12	31	53	12	128
2009	35	17	30	38	25	145
2010	38	20	37	55	15	165
2011	31	25	22	50	8	136
2012	24	18	26	36	6	110
Total	148	92	146	232	66	684

Last quadrennium we set a goal planting 650 new churches within the U.S. We surpassed that goal by planting 684.

We also set a goal to assess 1,000 potential new church planters in the U.S. We more than tripled that goal with over 3,561 people assessed through an online assessment.

Church Planting Strategies for 2013-15

Planting Strategy	Number of New Faith Communities	Percentage of Overall Plants
Multi-site	133	26%
Church within a Church	68	13%
Non-traditional	61	12%
Parachute Drop	47	9%
Partnered Start	43	9%
Conference Start	41	8%
Restart	36	7%
Vital Merger	27	5%
Elijah/Elisha	6	1%
Part-Time	5	1%
Lay Led	4	1%
Surprise Birth	1	Less than 1%
Unidentified	32	6%

Church Planting Strategies for 2008-12

Planting Strategy	Number of New Faith Communities	Percentage of Overall Plants
Multi-site	131	19%
Partnered Start	103	15%
Parachute Drop	79	12%
Conference Start	59	9%
Non-traditional	53	8%
Church within a Church	52	8%
Part-Time Planter	36	5%
Lay Led	31	5%
Elijah/Elisha	26	4%
Vital Merger	18	3%
Surprise Birth	10	1%
Unidentified	86	13%

Unidentified	113	22%
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Racial-Ethnic Makeup of 2013-15 Plants

Racial-ethnic Audience	Number of New Faith Communities	Percentage of Overall Plants
African American	25	5%
Asian	27	5%
Hispanic/Latino	75	15%
Multi-ethnic	88	17%
Native American	3	1%
Pacific Islander	9	2%
Total Non-white	227	45%
White	164	33%

Racial-Ethnic Makeup of 2008-2012 Plants

Racial-ethnic Audience	Number of New Faith Communities	Percentage of Overall Plants
African American	59	9%
Asian	47	6%
Hispanic/Latino	131	19%
Multi-ethnic	44	6%
Native American	10	1%
Pacific Islander	2	Less than 1%
Total Non-white	293	43%
White	161	23%
Unidentified	230	33%

For additional information about this report, please contact the Rev. Dr. Candace M. Lewis (clewis@umcdiscipleship.org) or the Rev. Dr. Douglas Ruffle (druffle@umcdiscipleship.org).