

**Title: Principles for Mission Alignment and the Mission Alignment Coordinating Council**

**Origin: OGMP**

**Background Information:**

In 2005, the General Board and General Assembly gave instructions to our newly elected General Minister and President to provide whole-church leadership to mission realignment. In accepting this call, Sharon Watkins has spent the last two plus years listening to the church and seeking the voice of God. Sharon has engaged in conversation the 21<sup>st</sup> Century Vision Team; the College of Regional Ministers; the Council of General Ministries; the current and previous moderator teams; a leadership group from Disciples Home Missions, Disciples Benevolent Services, Higher Education and Leadership Ministries, and the respective leaders of the Convocation, Central Pastoral Office for Hispanic Ministries, and North American Pacific Asian Disciples; OGMP Senior Staff; and now the General Board.

All of this listening and praying has led us to the understanding that this is the moment for action. By this action, the General Board authorizes the General Minister and President and the Moderator of the General Assembly to appoint the Mission Alignment Coordinating Council to create a ministry plan for mission alignment. The Principles for Mission Alignment shall be foundational to the Mission Alignment Coordinating Council's work.

**Recommended Action:**

The 2008 General Board accepts the Principles for Mission Alignment work for a Mission Alignment Coordinating Council. Mission Alignment Coordinating Council (MACC) will be named by the General Minister and President and the Moderator of the Assembly. The Council will present a full report of their work including a plan for mission alignment and next steps in pursuing the 2020 Vision to the 2009 General Board, including required action by the 2009 Indianapolis General Assembly. OGMP will assume responsibility for funding the expenses of the council.

**Substitute - Recommended Action:**

The 2008 General Board approves:

1. that a Mission Alignment Coordinating Council (MACC) be named by the General Minister and President and the Moderator of the Assembly,
2. that the Principles for A PLAN OF Mission Alignment (LISTED BELOW) be considered as foundational for the work the Mission Alignment Coordinating Council and the Desired Outcomes be its goal ,

3. That the Council will present a full report of their work including a plan for mission alignment and next steps in pursuing the 2020 Vision to the 2009 General Board including required action by the 2009 Indianapolis General Assembly. OGMP will assume responsibility for funding the expenses of the council.

### ***Principles for a Plan of Mission Alignment***

- I. MISSION-DRIVEN AND PRIORITY-FOCUSED**  
*Our mission is:* To be and share the good news of Jesus Christ from our doorsteps to the ends of the earth.  
*Four Priorities are:* 1000 New Congregations, 1000 Transformed Congregations, Leadership Development, and to become a Pro-reconciliation/Anti-Racism church.
- II. DESIGN-GUIDED**
- III. FUTURE LEANING**, aware of a changing global context and the need to nurture new generations of disciples
- IV. PROMOTE TRUE COMMUNITY BY EMBRACING DIVERSITY**
- V. PRACTICES GOOD STEWARDSHIP**
- VI. EMPOWERS AND ENHANCES NETWORKS OF THE CHURCH**
- VII. ENCOURAGES PARTNERSHIP**

### ***Desired Outcomes of a Mission Alignment Plan***

- I. CLARITY ABOUT THE GENERAL BOARD'S RESPONSIBILITY FOR THE MISSION OF THE CHURCH**
- II. CONGREGATIONS RESOURCED FOR MISSION**
  - A focus on the mission priorities
  - Networking and Partnership
  - Streamlined General Church Administration
  - Attention to ongoing ministries
- III. ONE CHURCH EMBRACING DIVERSITY**