



Mission: *Resourcing and developing churches that connect people to Jesus Christ*

We organize our efforts around Four Landmarks which focus our ministry efforts:

1. Leadership

- Leadership Learning Communities (LLCs) are our primary support system for pastors in the region. The meetings are organized around L.E.A.D., which stands for learning together, encouraging one another, holding one another accountable and dreaming together. The executive minister appoints 13 Mentor Pastors to facilitate each group. Mentor Pastors receive a small stipend from the region's annual budget. A small grant provides books and offsetting travel expense funds for pastors without these resources in their budget. Engagement in the LLC not only provides support for the pastor but also connects the pastors' churches with one another. This leads to training opportunities, resourcing one another and discovering ways for churches to work together.
- NexGen monthly Zoom meeting connects younger and newer pastors to the region.
- Women in Ministry monthly Zoom support meeting.
- Search Consulting—helping churches call their next pastor. With an increasing shortage of pastors coupled with large numbers of retiring baby boomers region staff is spending significant time recruiting new pastors to the region. We also use trained search consultants assisting search teams. Recent searches include:
 - Laurel Church, WA (in process)
 - FBC Everett, WA (in process)
 - FBC Castleford, ID (in process)
 - FBC Olympia, WA (in process)
 - Park Heights Church, Spokane, WA (recently completed)
 - The Summit Church, Boise, ID (recently completed)
 - FBC Des Moines, WA (recently completed)
 - FBC Twin Falls, ID (recently completed)
 - FBC Hoquiam, WA (completed)
 - Mud Lake Community Church, Terreton, ID (completed)
 - First Baptist/Christiana Comunidad in Yakima, WA. (completed)
 - FBC Sunnyside, WA (completed)
 - Chinese Baptist Church, Seattle, WA (completed)
 - New Life Bible Fellowship, Caldwell, ID (completed)

- Placing Transitional Pastors and Interim Ministers in open churches. Recent and continuing Transitional/Interim Pastorates include:
 - UM-ABC Hamilton, MT – (in process)
 - FBC Olympia, WA – David Roberts
 - FBC Castleford, ID – Kurt Smalley
 - FBC Ogden, UT – Steve Tharp
 - FBC Everett, WA – Bill McCready
 - Midvale Community Church, ID – Clayne Beck
 - Park Heights Church, Spokane, WA – Glen Douglas
 - The Summit Church, Boise, ID – Gary Cooper
 - FBC Hoquiam – Gary Shirbish
 - FBC Twin Falls, ID – Gary Bassham
 - FBC Des Moines, WA – Melinda Jarrett
- Training opportunities for pastors, church staff and church leaders. (Annual Leadership Tune-Up, Area Meetings, Fresh Expressions Vision Days, and Ethics Training Conferences.)
- Coaching, formal and informal.
- Ordination recognition process. Revocation of ordination process and restoration process in the event of ethics violations.
- Stewardship and funding resources.
- Financial reviews for churches that cannot afford audits.

2. Church Transformation

- Church Assessments – Church assessments conducted in the last 12 months include:
 - FBC Filer, ID;
 - Laurel Church, WA;
 - FBC Eureka, MT;
 - FBC Everett, WA; and
 - Emmanuel Baptist Church, Roundup, MT.
- Church Unique – An intensive process for discerning mission, values, & strategy.
- Organic Outreach and 8to15 resourcing.
- Coaching pastors and church boards through the transformation process.
- Resources and coaching for church restructuring.

3. Connection

- Foster associational interaction between pastors and churches.
- Annual Leadership Tune-Up with over 160 in attendance.
- Area meetings and occasional geographic specific training events.
- Zoom meetings (NexGen leaders monthly meeting, Women in Ministry, Interim Ministers, etc.)
- Staff preaching in region churches, visiting churches and visiting pastors.
- Connections with other denominations and networks.

4. Church Planting

- Several successful church plants: Blessed Life Church in Bellevue, WA; New Community Church in Union, WA; The River in Eagle, ID; ReCalibrate Church in Missoula, MT; and Praise Chapel in Juneau, AK.
- Successful mergers between new church plants and struggling churches.
- Church restarts: Blackfoot Christian Fellowship; Praise Chapel in Everett; and Park Heights Church.
- Fresh Expressions partnership for developing micro-churches among people who would not normally attend church. For more information checkout www.freshexpressionsus.org.
- Beginning stages of new Fresh Expressions churches: Dinner Churches, Surf Church and Cowboy Church.

Beliefs and Policies

- Our doctrinal statement, “Common Essentials” declares our essential theological stance. This is an essential foundational statement concentrating on the majors while not addressing less major doctrines. Adopted at the 2002 Biennial.
- We hold to a traditional biblical understanding of human sexuality as expressed in our policy statement: “Resolution on Human Sexuality.” Adopted at the 2002 Biennial. This reflects the national policy statement of ABC-USA: “Homosexual practice is incompatible with New Testament teaching.”
- We affirm the ABC-USA national “Code of Ethics” for ministers.

We partner with seven camps within our region: Ross Point (ID), Cathedral Pines (ID), Camp Burton (Vashon Island, WA); Camp Bethel (WA); Cascade Meadows (WA); Temples Hills (MT); Camp Utaba (UT)

Offices: Located on the campus of Ross Point Camp, 601 S. Ross Point Rd, Post Falls, ID 83815

Web: www.missionnorthwest.org

Facebook: www.facebook.com/abcnw/

Who: A historic and vital association of churches primarily in WA, ID, MT, and UT along with one church each in AZ, CA and NV. Our oldest church is True Hope Boise, ID (formerly known as FBC) at 153 years.