“Building an Annual Conference Response to the Mission Field”

“But we have this treasure in clay pots so that the awesome power belongs to God and doesn’t come from us.” 2 Corinthians 4:7
Conclusion: We are currently living off of more and more money given by fewer and fewer people who are getting older and older.
Three Things Required:

1. An honest picture of the current reality
2. The realistic hope of a possibility for the future
3. A willingness to look at our situation anew
Mission is Global...

...but strategy is local.

You will need to figure it out for yourself because you are you; and your frontier is unique to you.
But, you are not alone: Learning from our brothers and sisters--

- **Seven Levers**: Bishop Robert Schnase

  1. A strategy for starting new churches
  2. A strategy for clergy peer learning
  3. A strategy for congregational intervention
  4. A strategy for cultivating clergy excellence
  5. A strategy for aligning budgets and resources
  6. A strategy for creating technically elegant governance systems
  7. A strategy for reconfiguring conference sessions
But, you are not alone: Learning from our brothers and sisters--

**Downsizing** – From Centralized to Decentralized

- *The number of districts reduced / halved*
- *Reconfiguration and reduction of program staff*
- *Committees, boards and agencies*
- *District offices*
- *Conference missional commitments*
But, you are not alone: Learning from our brothers and sisters--

Discovering a New Connectionalism: *Clusters, Circuits and Circuit Elders*

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The purpose of making disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world
But, you are not alone: Learning from our brothers and sisters--

Fairness, Readiness and the Tyranny of the Whole
Diffusion of Innovation, Everett Rogers

- Directing Attention to Readiness
- Speaking to Un-readiness
But, you are not alone: Learning from our brothers and sisters--

OUTCOMES OVER ACTIVITIES

| WHAT DO YOU DO? | WHAT DIFFERENCE DOES GOD CALL YOU TO MAKE? |
How then shall we talk?: The 2015 Futures Task Force

Temptation #1

- You will be tempted to talk about preferences when you need to be talking about purpose.
How then shall we talk?:
The 2015 Futures Task Force

Temptation #2

- You will be tempted to focus on the pain instead of the missional possibility.
How then shall we talk?:
The 2015 Futures Task Force

Temptation #3

- You will be tempted to stay in the safe middle.

| The dark and problematic side | The safe middle | The bright and gifted side |

- Courage and boldness as a mark of mission
“But we have this treasure in clay pots so that the awesome power belongs to God and doesn’t come from us.” 2 Corinthians 4:7