

DRAFT

APPENDIX A

Our History

In 1953 Dr Norman Trott, District Superintendent of the Baltimore South District of the Baltimore Annual Conference of the Methodist Church was exploring Howard County looking for church sites. He met with Reverend Arthur Hunter and Ralph Smith who offered two and one-half acres located on the corner of Glen Mar Road and Route 175. Several meetings were held in the home of Mr. Smith during which persons discuss starting a church and the procedures for its organization.

The group met in Howard County Senior High School on July 6, 1953 with Dr. Trott who informed them that if they could stick together and have services conducted by lay people until fall, he was sure he could arrange for a chapel to be built which would seat about seventy people. At this point Mrs. Ruth Braun, who had arranged for the use of the high school, announced that the group wanted to get started immediately. Fifty-six persons attended the first service of Glen Mar on July 18, 1954 in the Ellicott City Junior High School, thus Glen Mar was formed as a mission church of the United Methodist Church, with Reverend Alvin Perkins as the first pastor. Following meetings in the home of Morris and Mildred Smith and the junior high school, the congregation finished its first building constructed of brown Indiana limestone at a total cost of \$60,000 including land. The efforts of a small group of people interested in building a church were realized on Sunday, January 23, 1955 when the Glen Mar held its first service with seventy persons in attendance. Only three months later, on March 20, 1955 at the service of Consecration and Corner Stone Laying 500 persons attended.

Late in 1955, a proposal was accepted that the Reverend Harry Stewart be hired to serve on a part-time basis with Reverend Perkins. Both men were past seventy years of age. At the annual conference of 1957 the Reverend W. B. Hoffhines was appointed to Glen Mar. He was the first minister to occupy the new parsonage, which had been purchased in March 1957 for \$17,500.

The congregation grew steadily through the early 1960's under the leadership of Reverend Jack Dawson. The Sunday school soon outgrew its basement quarters, so that in 1964, the congregation erected a two-story brick addition containing more than a dozen multi-purpose rooms. The Educational building was long awaited and required several years of fund raising, the most memorable of which was the annual auction held on a Saturday in September or October. Charles Hobbs and later Allen Hill served as auctioneer. Items from all over the area, including whole houses of furniture were auctioned and all of the profits were for the church. On one occasion a player piano was dismantled and moved to the church for the auction. Jams and jellies, cakes, and pies were made and sold. Finally Ruth Legal became the "kitchen queen" on the night before the auction with apple pies and special pudding dumplings for the workers. The auction was an event that brought all the church members together to work for Glen Mar. The new facility enabled community activities to be held at Glen Mar as well. A Cub Scout Pack was formed and , a preschool (including kindergarten) was started. Head Start, Bible Study Fellowship, and the Speech and Hearing Agency all used the building.

The choir was originally a group of volunteers simply joining their voices on Sunday morning without any actual preparation, but as the church grew, a more formal choir was formed and Betty Rising became the volunteer choir director. Betty also played the

Wurlitzer spinet organ during choir practice. Originally, the choir was exclusively composed of women, who were soon joined by Bill Eklof, and then several other men joined and a full choir was formed. Following Betty Rising as choir director, was Bettie Grund, who served in that position for 14 years. Following Betty Rising as choir director, was Bettie Grund, who served in that position for 14 years. Following Betty was a succession of laity serving as musical directors, including Karen Canfield, Nancy Taylor, Estelle King, Marian Sanders, Belva Krauss, Sandra Adkins, Lois Hunter and now Carrie Grams.

During the late 1960's, the building of a new planned community was begun in Howard County. Persons moving into the new town of Columbia began to attend Glen Mar, and while their presence was enriching, it changed the congregation dramatically. Several pastors served the church in this time period, including Reverend Harry Bennett, Reverend George Blankner and the Reverend Darrell Jett. Serious illness struck Reverend Jett soon after he arrived at the church and he was unable to provide the necessary leadership for a growing congregation. As the pastor's health declined, so did the health of the congregation. By the time of his death in 1978, worship attendance was below 100. During the 1970's, there was active participation by retired pastors Charles E. Subock, Arthur Hunter and Charles Niner.

In the fall of 1978, William Apsley, a retired pastor, was sent to Glen Mar to "keep the doors open". Pastor Apsley seemed to take the assignment a bit more seriously than that and began to visit door-to-door, encouraging people to come back to church. By the time a permanent pastor was found, Rev Apsley had so endeared himself to the congregation that they asked if he could stay on. He remained until 1983 when he was named Pastor Emeritus.

The Reverend Anders Lunt was assigned to the congregation beginning January 1, 1979. He and his family moved into a new parsonage in the Thunder Hill community of Columbia. In the following years the congregation made strong, successful attempts to develop an image as a church that could meet both the needs of the new people in the community as well as the "old timers". Youth ministry became a priority; a church newspaper was established and the Pastor began producing a weekly radio program heard throughout the Baltimore region.

As worship attendance grew, it became necessary in 1981 to establish a second worship service. In 1982 additional staff members were associate pastor, Sandra Thomas and Ken Brown, a married couple who each served halftime. In the 1980's the church became known for Bible study and outreach ministries. By 1990, the church was offering the Bethel Bible series and the Disciple Bible Study as well as a variety of other short term courses. In 1987 the congregation voted to establish a policy of giving a full ten per cent of its operating budget to outreach. The outreach money stemming from that policy made possible major cash grants to various United Methodist mission projects, major support of overseas missionaries, and local support of such programs as Christian Women's Thrift Shop and Habitat for Humanity.

In 1989, a new sanctuary seating 350 persons was built to accommodate the growing congregation. Three worship services were held on Sunday morning with a contemporary service held on Sunday evening.

A mission emphasis that began in the early 1990's by Pastor Willie Armstrong with a mission trip to Jamaica has continued to expand. Today, various members have participated in service in Haiti, Russia, Uganda, Mexico, Bahamas, and the United

States. This emphasis on mission is a strong pillar of the service opportunities available at Glen Mar.

In 1991, Glen Mar was joined with Alberta Gary Memorial United Methodist Church located on Guilford Road. Alberta Gary was in need of pastoral leadership, but had no parsonage and could not pay for full-time leadership. With financial help from the Baltimore-Washington Conference and the support of a group of 18 Glen Mar members who agreed to participate at Alberta Gary for one year, work began at that site. Early efforts included a vacation church school purchase of land for parking, and renovations such as paved parking and new carpeting. By 1994, the congregations were blended into one, and this relationship lasted until a special team was formed from members of both congregations and a determination was made to terminate the formal relationship in 1996. This brief relationship enabled both churches to grow in their understanding of the life and role of churches of various sizes.

Also, during the early 1990's, the church became increasingly known for its pastoral care ministries. The leadership of Glen Mar inspired the beginning of Stephen Ministry, Rainbows, the hiring Ruth Bell as a parish nurse, a partnership with a pastoral counseling agency, sponsoring a variety of support groups, and the establishment of a Pastoral Care Center supported by Pastor Tom Green in 1994.. Ruth Bell and Sandra Thomas were instrumental in assisting other churches in developing Parish Nurse Programs through their leadership at various conferences on the subject.

The original strategic plan (A VISION FOR THE FUTURE) was completed in the fall of 1995 by a core team of 7-12 members with assistance from hundreds of other Glen Mar worshippers (some were members and some were not) and was accepted by the majority of persons attending Glen Mar. The original plan altered the basic operating structure of Glen Mar from a committee based organization to a smaller structure composed of teams of leaders for the core ministries and the several committees required by the Methodist Discipline. This new structure was presented at the annual charge conference to the Conference Bishop and he accepted the plan with few questions.

The administrative structure was illustrated in structure to resemble a honeycomb, symbolizing a virtual beehive of activity – a very true representation of the myriad of spiritual and physical activities indicative of the laity-led congregation of Glen Mar. The premise for ministry was changed from ideas presented by the various committees to encouragement of all members to discern their spiritual gifts, determine their passion, recruit others with the same passions, and as a team develop a plan and implement it. . Ministry opportunities could be a one time effort, a limited time effort or ongoing – depending on the success of the endeavor and the continued passion of the team.

Many, many great ideas were documented as one to three-year, four to five-year, and six to ten-year efforts. Many are still in effect, new ideas have emerged, some were implemented and completed, and some discarded. The overarching basis for supporting the ministries fell into three basic areas – Discipleship, Caring and Worship. The message is still the same as Glen Mar has continued to transition from a small rural church to a conference leadership role. Growth, due to the space and facilities limitations and the transitory nature of the population, has leveled with an anticipation that “if you build it, they will come” is an unspoken mantra of anticipation for the spiritually savvy congregation pulsing within the shadow of Glen Mar. In 1997 the church completed a Facilities Exploration Report in which it is acknowledged that the church has outgrown its current facility and must make decisions

concerning expansion or relocation. As a result, a building team was formed. HISTORY TO BE COMPLETED FROM HERE

Items to be added:

We have successfully completed a capital campaign (2002) to raise the initial funding for this project.

The purchase of a 22-acre site, which is the highest elevation in Howard County, is only 5 miles from the current facility.

Two very talented architectural firms were selected to assist in the design of a facility to meet the needs of our future ministry growth.

construction began in March of 2007.

In gratitude to God for leading us to this new site, we have committed to building a Habitat for Humanity house for a family each year for the next five years.

As we watch construction progressing, perhaps it would be helpful to be reminded of the history of this project, and what prompted Glen Mar to seek a new site. After three years of church wide Bible study, prayer, and discernment, the strategic plan adopted in 1996 concluded that more space would be needed in order for the congregation to adequately serve the needs of both members and the community. Efforts to purchase more land around our current site proved impractical. And studies determined that sufficient space could not be provided on our current site--especially because of limitations regarding parking.

As a result, the facilities study team began looking for property that might meet our growing needs. Even then, available land in eastern Howard County was scarce. After three years of searching, considering and dismissing several sites, we were led to the former Baugher farm at the intersection of Montgomery and New Cut Roads. Though Howard County wanted to claim the site for a much needed elementary school, we were able to successfully negotiate with the Baugher and family and--in March of 2000--purchased the 22-acre site for \$1.75 million. I still regard this purchase as nothing short of miraculous, and the property as a gift from God. For comparison's sake, a similar property sold just a few years later for more than \$25 million. God is, indeed, good.

In the summer of 2000, more than 100 persons, representing all the various ministry areas at Glen Mar and led by Paul Behrens, Libby Boswell, and Nancy Pirritano, met frequently--often forgoing family vacations and time away--to determine the future ministry needs of the congregation. The information they developed was then given to an architect who began to design a facility that would support the ministry needs. It is very significant that the needs for ministry guided design of the building and not--as so often happens--the other way around.

Initially, it was envisioned that we would be able to move into the new facility in 2004 or 2005. A combination ground breaking ceremony and 50th anniversary celebration of the founding of Glen Mar was held in July of 2004. But then various roadblocks developed in securing necessary approvals from Howard County and, later, in selling our current building. Eventually, though, the required permits were granted, the Glen Mar Road site was sold, and construction could begin--which it did on March 21, 2007.

From the beginning, though, it has been the mission of Glen Mar--Praising God, Growing Disciples, Serving the World--that has driven the relocation and building process. Our calling to make disciples and bring more people into a relationship with Jesus Christ and to serve the needs of hurting people has led us to relocate. While we will, indeed, have a little more "elbow room" in worship, in classrooms, and on parking lots, this is not now and never has been the primary reason for relocating. Always, we have been seeking to live out the understanding that we are "Blessed to be a Blessing."

God has blessed us richly, beyond anything we could possibly deserve. We have been blessed with gifted and committed ministers (members), with hearts for mission and ministry in our community and around the world, and now with a piece of property and facility that will enable us to touch many more hearts and lives with God's love and grace. As we move closer to being able to relocate to our new site, we can also begin to anticipate becoming even more the kind of worshipping, caring, serving community God has called us and blessed us to be.

The really important thing for us all is that we continue to keep our focus on our mission and on ministry, and not allow a building to obscure the fact that we have been--and continue to be--blessed to be a blessing.

APPENDIX B

Core Beliefs

God is creator **of all that is; that God created humanity out of love and in God's image, with the ability to love and be creative.**

Jesus Christ is **both fully divine and fully human. He died for our sins, and rose again that we might have eternal life.**

The Holy Spirit is **God present in our midst and in us as a part of our daily lives.**

The Bible is **the inspired word of God, through which we come to know both God and our roles as disciples of Jesus Christ.**

Salvation and forgiveness of sins is **intended by God for all persons, and is available to all by God's grace through faith in Jesus Christ.**

The Church is **Christ's body on earth, and is called and equipped by God to carry out Christ's ministry today.**

Prayer is a **powerful means by which all can be in direct communication with God, and be open to God's guidance and inspiration.**

Core Values

As members of Glen Mar United Methodist Church, we value:

Worship that praises God, touches hearts and minds, and enables all to experience God's nurturing presence through diverse forms of quality music and preaching.

Spiritual Growth through Bible study, prayer and life-long learning that challenges individuals of all ages to develop a strong relationship with God through Jesus Christ.

Participating in service that enables believers to use their God-given spiritual and material gifts to express God's love while meeting the needs of others in our community, nation and world.

Laity and Lay Leaders who are called and equipped to serve as disciples in every aspect of the church's ministry and mission.

A Caring Community that expresses the love of God for each other and provides opportunities for mutual care and open discussion.

Children and Youth as disciples and full participants in the life of the church now - not just in the future.

Diversity of faith expressions and openness to all persons, recognizing the unique sacred worth of every individual.

Community that values the unique sacred worth of every individual and provides opportunities for mutual care and open discussion.

APPENDIX C

Glen Mar UMC Church Council

The primary work of the Church Council is leadership, rather than management. Leadership is the visionary, “big picture” work that assesses critically where the congregation is at the present moment, where God is calling it to be in the future, and what resources will be required to move from the current reality into the desired reality.

Purpose

The purpose of the Church Council is to

- Envision and implement ministries that Praise God, Grow Disciples, and Serve the World,
- Align ministries with the mission of the church,
- Provide an administrative infrastructure that supports the mission of the church,
- Evaluate the effectiveness of ministries,
- Act as the administrative agency of the charge conference.

Habits of Highly Effective Church Council Members

- **Serve as Spiritual Leaders**
Leaders identify their own spiritual practices, cultivate new ones as they grow in their own faith, and model and encourage those practices among their ministry team members and the congregation.
- **Discover Current Reality**
Spend time assessing “how things are” in the life of the church. Listen to your own perceptions, other church members, and the voice of God.
- **Name Shared Vision**
Seek to discern the most faithful future you can imagine. How can we together become a faithful community that Praises God, Grows Disciples, and Serves the World? See yourselves as God’s agents of grace and love.
- **Develop Action Plans**
Discern how we get from here (the current reality) to there (the shared vision).
- **Monitor the Journey**
Keep an eye on how things are going. Be attentive to discerning the heart of the congregation and the heart of God in fulfilling the mission of the church.

APPENDIX D

OASIS

Oasis is a monthly time when the Senior Pastor meets with all people (staff and lay) who lead any kind of ministry at Glen Mar. The meetings began a few years ago in order to provide:

- a stronger "diet" of spiritual "food" for folks who are leading others. It's hard to give what we don't have.
- "face time" with the Pastors for the latest information, thinking, etc., with the idea that leaders always need to be one step ahead of the folks they lead.
- time to interact and "network" with other ministry leaders, especially those whom they might not regularly encounter;
- a chance to discuss and think through the kinds of "big picture" issues that often get overlooked in the crunch of getting tasks accomplished; and
- an opportunity for some continuing education, especially the latest trends, studies, etc. relating to church growth and development.

APPENDIX E

Understanding and Glen Mar's adaptation of the North Point Model

Understanding:

Rev. Andy Stanley of the North Point Church in Atlanta, Ga. has adapted a guiding principle that has fueled their growth and supported the assimilation of new members into the life of their church. They have produced a video (approx. 45 min.) where Rev. Stanley explains the 3 styles or objectives of the ministries of North Point. He relates those to areas and environments of your own home: Foyer, Living Room, and Kitchen. These 3 will be summarized below as well as areas that Glen Mar wishes to adapt and areas that Glen Mar chooses not to adapt. The North Point mission is: "To build a closer relationship with God, with other Christians, and to use their influence with those outside their church." North Point believes that most Christian growth occurs within a small group, so all ministries are focused on: inviting guests with Foyer activities, quickly moving them to the Living Room where they will get to know others with similar affinities, and again quickly putting them into a small group where they can grow into the mission.

The Foyer

The Foyer ministries and events, like your foyer is where you receive and welcome guests. It is inviting to all. It greets. It welcomes. Like your own home it says something of who you are and what you value. There should be no barriers or limitations. And the focus is on ensuring guests are welcomed. These events might be scheduled expressly to invite guests or they may just need to be guest-friendly, ie. worship services. Guests should not be "put on the spot" but a certain amount of information must be gathered so that follow-up can happen. An example would be a Preschool function with invited families—Those that attend are: already connected to the church through preschool, local, have young children, may include stay-at-home mothers and grandparents, may be interested in Sunday school, after school care, child rearing, can be reached by..., etc. Any guest connection is worth a 1000 doorknob hangers.

Again, like our home, guests are not meant to stay in the foyer. They should be "escorted" to the Living Room (through a living room activity) where both you and they can get to know each other better. Guests are not committed; they are just kicking the tires. Guests in worship or other events may also never be committed unless they are escorted, personally invited, to move to the Living Room.

The Living Room

The Living Room is where we sit down together and get to know each other. We get to know names, backgrounds, likes, dislikes, joys, and maybe sorrows. What are our passions; how do we spend our time? This is a social environment and the environment says a lot about setting the mood for comfortable and open discussion. It's small groups of 6-8, not pews or tables in a row. It might be structured mill-around but not so that a single or couple could be allowed to separate themselves or get lost.

The goal of the Living Room is to get to know others that have something in common with you. The ultimate goal is to land in a small group with others that share a bond that will make them compatible together.

Living Room events can be transitional events. As small groups dissolve, Living Room events are places to re-connect to others, so these events are not only for new guests but also for new explorers. This is a way of finding that neighborhood kitchen.

The Kitchen

North Point describes the Kitchen as a completely welcoming, at-home environment. It's where you can sit across the kitchen table and discuss your deep joys, concerns, passions, hurts, trials, and temptations. The Kitchen is the small group where spiritual growth happens. It's where people care for each other. The environment is not the church, or a meeting room but probably the home. It's where food, fellowship, Bible study, prayer and Christian love are shared. Everyone needs to be in a small group like this.

North Point believes that all small groups should be dissolved every 18-24 months. Glen Mar's model is for a group to continue to exist based on the health of the group, the size, and the service areas as a better guide. It is not unhealthy to dissolve naturally or to stay together for years. The main strength of a Group is the caring and Christian growth through bible study, not just a task-oriented or service orientation. If a person is not in a small "Kitchen" group, they will not have the community to weather them through their storm, so they will drift away unnoticed.

Glen Mar's adaptation of the North Point model:

The Strategic Planning team has analyzed Glen Mar's ministry performance against the North Point model. Glen Mar needs to continue to understand Foyer opportunities and continue to improve "foyer" events. Glen Mar has not engaged in Living Room ministries and should begin to incorporate these into our processes. The active, full-spectrum small groups at Glen Mar are growing and are examples of appropriate Kitchen ministries. Knowing that it is very common to "belong before you believe", we want to invite everyone to belong, help them to get acquainted, and nurture them into small groups so that God can change their lives.

Foyer Ministry Goals:

Every ministry, either singularly or combined with a like attraction, should have Foyer related events to invite those outside our walls as well as minister to those inside. The methods should be active, more than just passive communications. Every ministry should be replenishing its servants with fresh passionate new blood. Service ministries should see themselves as an avenue to bring members into the church.

Living Room goals:

Glen Mar's goal is that the church as a whole and the individual ministries develop Living Room activities to introduce guests to like-minded members and to reengage members that are transitioning from one small group/service ministry to another.

Kitchen goals:

That every one in the Glen Mar community belongs to a caring, loving small group environment that includes Bible study. We feel that every guest should be quickly escorted from Foyer, to Living Room, to the small group where they can grow as a disciple.

Exclusions / Differences of style from North Point

1. North Point believes that only ministries that lead directly to a small group should be endorsed/supported with resources. Glen Mar feels that any ministry that fits the Glen

Mar mission statement is worthy of support. It is the job of the Church Council and the CC Executive Committee to prioritize and manage resources appropriately.

2. North Point believes that all small groups should dissolve and reform anew every 18 months or so. Glen Mar feels that other factors should determine longevity other than an arbitrary time limit.

Conclusion:

Glen Mar's ministry program is not broken. It needs improvement in certain areas of Foyer and Living Room. Improvements will revitalize and fuel growth in old and new ministries, provide a tool for reaching into the community, and in growing disciples, both in number and in Christian maturity. Glen Mar has used the principle of "bubble up" ministries. We have learned that all ministries that are required of a healthy church do not automatically bubble up naturally. Glen Mar should consider initiation of strategically important ministries. Change must be targeted, with closed-loop control and concentrated on building relationships versus performing tasks. Our opportunities are endless and of eternal value.

APPENDIX F

Laity-Led Principles

Jesus Christ calls each and every one of us to serve God and man. Glen Mar has answered that call, in a way that is somewhat unique in the Protestant tradition. Ours is a congregation where we believe that every member is truly a minister. Glen Mar has a rich history, during which there have been periods of physical and spiritual growth, loss of members, renewed growth, and a period of survival. Throughout this entire history, the laity (saints) of Glen Mar have remained steadfast in their determination to worship and praise God, care for themselves and many, many others and serve the world. Much can be achieved through the leadership of strong ordained pastors and staff, but the incredible experiences we have had in spreading the Gospel of Jesus Christ would have been impossible without strong laity-led efforts. Ideas have always “bubbled up” at Glen Mar. Bright, creative lay people have always had good ideas, but under traditional church structure, members needed “permission” to participate in ministry as church members. At one time they felt compelled to go through at least the staff, if not an ordained elder--and preferably the Senior Pastor—before embarking on ministries. That same bright, creative lay member or team of lay members might still go to the staff with a new idea, but now they are reaching out on their own or with other members to share their excitement, to ask for support or information, or to request funding for their ministry.

It has become a matter of attitude. At Glen Mar, lay people have returned to a point where we feel entitled. *Entitled* is more than feeling empowered. Now we not only have permission to do things on our own, but feel that it is our *right* to go where we discern God is leading us and to involve as many people as will follow. In essence we are reclaiming our Methodist heritage, returning to the time when pastors were few and congregations were scattered along the frontier and lay people *had* to take charge of ministry and worship and anything else that needed doing. We are returning to our own roots. Glen Mar people have felt entitled to lead right from the beginning, when a group of lay people decided they needed a church, formed it, and then more or less ordered a preacher from the Baltimore Annual Conference. That’s the approach to ministry for Glen Mar.. We are blessed with a staff that includes both ordained pastors and gifted lay people, who use their education and considerable experience to resource church members to participate fully in ministry, in whatever ways they are led through prayer, through Bible study, and through other spiritual disciplines. There is great power in such a large number of people with diverse spiritual gifts and talents who do not have to wait to answer someone else’s call, or to follow the lead of an ordained elder, but are encouraged to actively initiate and participate in any ministry that fulfills the mission statement of the church, and furthers God’s kingdom. (SUGGEST WE ADD TEACHING CHURCH PIECE HERE _ I WILL TAKE A SHOT AT IT , BUT WANTED TO GET THIS OUT TONIGHT)

APPENDIX G

ACTS 2 Principles

Bishop John Schol has challenged the pastors and congregations of the Baltimore Washington Conference to develop Discipleship programs. He has centered his program on the second chapter of ACTS. In doing so he has asked all the churches in the conference to be known as ACTS 2 Churches.

The BISHOP describes gifts as something that God shares with us to unleash our passion and purpose for life. Gifts are different from skills and talents. A talent or skill is something we learn, or hone through practice and repetition. God's gifts are given to us and he expects us to use them and if we recognize he is giving us a gift and embrace the gift we will be passionate about the task for which he has gifted us. When we recognize the gift and use it to do the Lord's bidding, it's not work, but sheer joy. We are given gifts for only one reason: to glorify God. Gifts are meant to be used to bring glory to God, not ourselves, but God.

His Mission Possible:

Call, equip, send, and support disciples of Jesus Christ to change individuals, congregations, communities and the world.

He has embraced **Acts 2:41-47** as the scripture for us to use as a guide to connect with other believers in accountable, faith-building relationships and small groups that embody the five elements of discipleship.

Faith Celebration – we have **significance** as we experience God's presence through worship and live all of life as though it were the worship of God.

Faithful connection – we have **relationships** with God and with others and are transformed by that fellowship.

Faith development – we **grow** in our understanding of God and how to live in the world by Bible study, small group meetings, prayer and fasting;

Faithful service – we have **purpose** as we serve others through ministries of justice and mercy in the community and world.

Faith sharing – we have **meaning** as we witness to the presence of God in our lives by sharing our faith with others.

From the Conference:

Acts 2 Fruits

<u>Conference Goal</u>	<u>Glen Mar Goal</u>
1. Receive one person on profession or reaffirmation of faith for every 25 worshipers.	24
2. Grow worship attendance by 2 % of	+12

of the worshiping congregation.

3. Mission Involvement
 - a. Implement ministry in community
 - b. Activate 90% of worshiping congregation in ministry
 - c. Financially Support mission locally and pay 100% of apportionments.
4. Demonstrate signs of God's power & wonder
5. Additional Congregational Goals

Congregational Fruits – John 15:1-11 and Luke 13:6-7 (to be achieved by 2012)

Pastors within each district will be organized into peer learning groups that will meet monthly to work with strategies for organizing congregations for the discipleship journey. A staff person (superintendents and program staff) will be assigned to each peer learning group and will be accountable for the group's bearing fruit through the congregations. The anticipated fruits within the congregations are based on Acts 2:

1. Acts 2:47 - Receive people by confession or reaffirmation of faith into the faith community (specific goals will be adopted by each congregation based on the size of the congregation and community growth, although **every congregation will be expected to receive one person for every 25 worshippers**). (accountable: Pastor)
2. Acts 2:41 - Increase worship attendance (**every congregation will be expected to grow worship attendance by 2 percent of the worshipping congregation or 2 percent over the percentage growth of the community** where the congregation is located). (accountable: Pastor)
3. Acts 2: 44-45 - Mission involvement
 - a. **Implement Shalom ministry in the community** or one or more Shalom type ministries to address poverty and the holistic development of the community/world (accountable: Pastor);
 - b. **Activate 90 percent of the worshiping congregation in ministry within five years** (accountable: Pastor);
 - c. **Financially support mission through locally identified community and world mission projects and fulfill 100 percent of apportionment giving** (accountable: Pastor);
4. Acts 2:43 - **Demonstrate signs of God's power and wonder**;² (accountable: Pastor);

5. **Congregations may identify up to three additional missionally urgent fruits/goals (for a total of seven congregational fruits/goals), which relate to the congregation's context;** although, the priority will be the first four fruits/goals (accountable: Pastor).