



Arkansas Annual Conference Northwest District



**What does God
Expect of us?**



Growth: God wants the church to grow (Mark 4:30)

Adaptability: Communicating the Gospel in many ways (Acts 2 and 1st Corinthians 9:19f)

Outreach: The church exists for those who are not there yet (Acts 1:6-8)

Hospitality: Love one another (John 15:9-17)

Enthusiasm: The “Jay Leno Principle” (Phil. 4:8)



Ministry of Making Disciples

The Process:

- Proclaim the Gospel, seek, welcome and gather...
- Lead Persons to commit their lives
- Nurture persons in Christian living
- Send persons into the world
- Continue the mission of seeking, welcoming, and gatherings persons into the community of the body of Christ

• Paragraph 122, The Book of Discipline



It is about the Mission Field !

While the world is our parish, the Arkansas Conference will give priority attention to the mission field, which is defined as the geographic/demographic community surrounding each local congregation as the place to make disciples.

2015 614,320 (21% of the state)

Average Age 38

Single 41%

College graduate 43%

Asian 2.3%

African American 2.2%

White 77.2%

Hispanic 14.8%

Pacific Islander/American Indian/Other 3.5%

Non English Speaking 10.1%



It's not about the numbers, but it is!

The vision and mission of the Northwest District is to “call, equip, and support spiritual leaders to make disciples of Jesus Christ by growing Acts 2 congregations. Acts 2 congregations are those that bear fruit in four areas:

- Receiving people into confession or reaffirmation of faith into the faith community (Acts 2:47);
- Increasing worship attendance (Acts 2:41);
- Mission involvement which includes ministry for the transformation of the community, activating the worship community into ministry, financially supporting mission locally and worldwide including “Shared Ministry” (Acts 2:44-45);
- Demonstrating signs of God’s power and wonders (Acts 2:43)



Leadership Effectiveness:

- Working in partnership with others
- Recognizing , addressing and managing discord in a fair and positive manner
- Encouraging and empowering others to take ownership
- Inspiring passion and enthusiasm in others for spiritual development, discipleship and outreach
- Developing personal knowledge, skills and abilities to continuously improve and grow oneself
- Defining and articulate a future vision of the local church
- Inspiring confidence and trust through words and deeds
- Demonstrating effective management of the local church
- Understanding and leading in the context in which they serve
- Recognize, understand and empathize with the feelings and needs of others and respond accordingly



Leadership attitudes:

Focusing on developing, coaching and mentoring to enable lay leadership to improve performance 70%

Influencing the actions and behaviors of others to accomplish changes in the local church 79%

Propelling the local church to set and achieve significant goals through effective leadership 76%

Inspiring the congregation through preaching 81%



“Christ has no body on earth but yours, no hands but yours, no feet but yours. Yours are the eyes through which Christ’s compassion for the world is to look out; yours are the feet with which He is to go about doing good; and yours are the hands with which He is to bless us now”

Saint Teresa of Avila

“Sometimes I would like to ask God why He allows poverty, suffering, and injustice when God could do something about it.”

Well, why don’t you ask God?

“Because I am afraid that God would ask me the same question!”

anonymous



“We’ve drifted away from being fishers of men and women to
being keeps of the aquarium”

Paul Harvey

“Action springs not from thought, but from a readiness for
responsibility”

Dietrich Bonhoeffer

“Going to church doesn’t make you a Christian any more that
standing in a garage makes you a car”

Billy Sunday

“Endeavor to live so that when you die, even the undertaker
will be sorry”

anonymous



“If you think that you are too small to make a difference, try spending the night in a closed room with a mosquito”

African saying

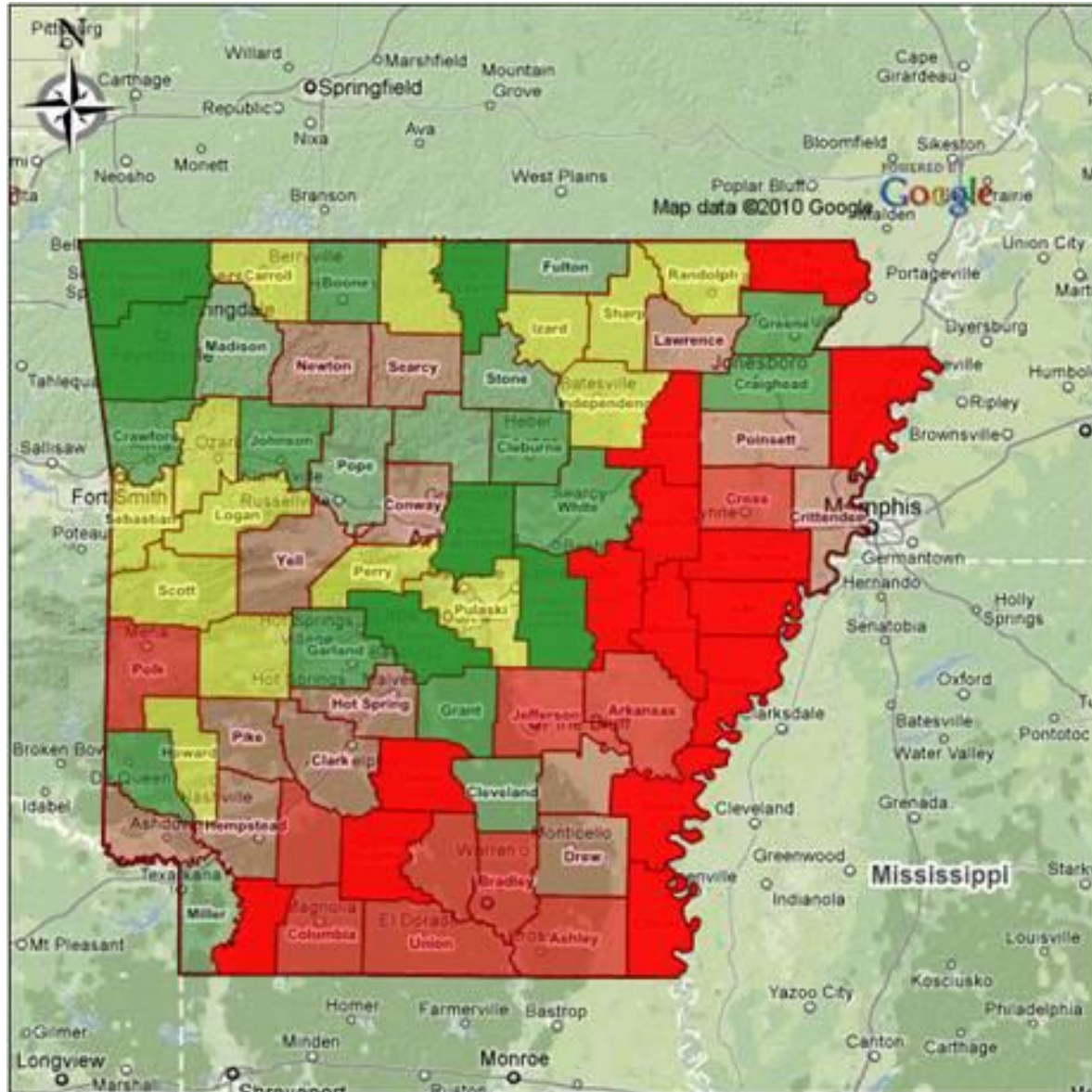
“The Kingdom of God is within you”

Jesus

“The creation waits with eager longing for the revealing of the children of God”

Romans 8:19





Population Trends 2010-2015

Geography Size: Counties



Source: US Census Bureau, Synergos Technologies Inc., Experian
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