



MWC New Team Members



Fil Nesta
Director of Hispanic
Ministries



Patty Thompson
Director of Prayer and
Leadership Mobilization



David Williams
Adjunct Director of
Connection and
Development

It is with great excitement that we welcome pastors Fil Nesta, Patty Thompson, and David Williams to the Midwest Conference staff team! These new positions are guided by our mission and reflect the intentional advancement of our 10-year vision to reach 8000 more disciples, through 140 churches, with 25% of those churches being ethnic or multi-ethnic, with increased gender diversity (30% of credentialed ministers and at least 15% of lead or co-lead pastors being female).

One of the foremost pieces of feedback we received as we met with most of our pastors and gained feedback at the Annual Ministry Celebration was that MWC staff needs to reflect what we are trying to accomplish through our vision.

Through creative planning that includes job sharing and a staff vacancy created by the departure of Dan Pietrzyk, these positions fall within the budget approved by delegates to the 2017 Annual Ministry Celebration.

Here are some of the comments we received at the Annual Ministry Celebration when we asked people what excites them most about our 10-year vision:

- “Seeing growth as a possibility is exciting and pushes us to dream big.”
- “Reflects the Kingdom; fits with the mission of the ECC; infuses and renews passion to share Jesus.”
- “Thinking BIG; ethnic/gender goals; expectations of all churches to help God reach these goals (must trust God).”
- “Just caring for our own doesn’t work. We have to get beyond ourselves into the community.”

8000

140

25%

30/15%



Rev. Fil Nesta
Director of Hispanic Ministries

Begins half time September 2017 and will transition to full time and relocate to the Midwest in June 2018

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As Director of Hispanic Ministries, Fil will provide strategic ministry leadership and oversight for growing, vitalizing, and sustaining healthy missional Hispanic Covenant congregations and developing viable new Hispanic Covenant church plants.

Rev. Fil Nesta grew up in Southern California for the early part of his life. He moved to Northern California to attend UC Berkeley where he received a BA and met his beautiful bride, Juana. It was during this time that he gave his life in service to Jesus. After discerning a clear calling from God, he began to serve the church and planted three Hispanic churches. In 2014, he graduated from Fuller Theological Seminary with a Master of Arts in Theology. He also completed work with CHET (the ECC's Hispanic seminary) and was Ordained to Word and Sacrament in the ECC in 2015. Fil has served the Hispanic community in the Pacific Southwest Conference as a church planter and a staff leader of the Hispanic ministries. He is currently bringing leadership to the ECC Hispanic Assessment Center for church planters, as well as participating in writing revisions to the training materials. Fil has invested in the mentoring and development of new Hispanic leaders and is serving as a member of MHIPE (the ECC association for Hispanic pastors). Fil has been serving and leading within the ECC for more than 10 years.

Fil and Juana have three beautiful daughters: Noemi, Hannah, and Victoriah. In his free time, Fil and his family love to travel and admire God's creation. They will relocate within the MWC in June 2018 in a city yet to be determined.

Superintendent Tammy says, "We are so excited that Fil is joining the MWC staff team. We were hoping and praying that the Lord would bring us a leader to help us fulfill our vision goals. Fil and Juana are an answer to our prayers. Fil's experience in church planting, his knowledge of CHET and ECC systems, his heart for mentoring and empowering leaders, and his work to help Hispanic churches flourish will help us to advance God's kingdom purposes across the MWC."

In accepting this position, Fil says, "I believe the Midwest Conference will not only be a home for thriving missional Hispanic churches, but will also be a major hub for developing and equipping Hispanic leaders."





Rev. Patty Thompson
Director of Prayer and Leadership Mobilization

Begins September 2017

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316-214-3267

As Director of Prayer and Leadership Mobilization, Patty will provide strategic ministry leadership and oversight to developing female pastors, growing a prayer movement, and empowering the local church to make and deepen disciples.

Rev. Patty Thompson holds a master's degree in Christian Formation from Nazarene Theological Seminary, as well as Spiritual Direction Certification from Creighton University. Patty was ordained in the ECC in 2011. Patty has served churches in Colorado, Kansas, and Nebraska in the areas of pastoral ministry and Christian formation, and served most recently as Pastor of Connections at First Covenant Church in Salina, KS. Patty also serves the conference as a Spiritual Director and Retreat Leader. In addition, Patty has served as the MWC Spiritual Director Network Leader and Committee on Ministerial Standing Chair. She currently serves as Vice President for the Association of Covenant Spiritual Directors. Patty has provided workshop and retreat experiences for churches in the MWC and has mentored many pastors in the pursuit of credentialing or simply in need of wise counsel.

Patty and Brent live in Salina, KS. They have been married for 37 years and love serving together in ministry. They are blessed with five grown sons, four daughters-in-love, and are known as Mama and Bobpop to eight grandchildren. Patty loves meeting people where they are and walking with them towards Jesus.

Superintendent Tammy says, "I am thrilled to have Brent and Patty serving as a pastoral couple on our staff team. Though Brent and Patty will be job sharing, they will each have different responsibilities. It will be great to see them model ministry as a healthy pastoral couple. I have known Patty for many years and I have admired her leadership and ability to get things done by empowering others. Her heart for discipleship and prayer makes her a natural to help us advance the MWC vision goals."



In accepting this position, Patty says, "The MWC has an inspiring and challenging vision. I am excited to be part of what God is doing to advance his Kingdom through his Church as together we prayerfully aspire to grow more disciples in healthier churches with ethnic and gender diversity in leadership."





Rev. David Williams
Adjunct Director of Connection and Development

Began June 1, 2017

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970-213-9920

As Adjunct Director of Connection and Development, Rev. Williams will provide strategic ministry leadership in church planting, church health and missional leadership development.

Rev. David Williams is the current and founding pastor of Abyssinian Christian Church in Fort Collins, CO. He completed his undergraduate study in Religion and Pre-Theology at the University of Evansville and theological study at United Theological Seminary in Dayton, OH. David was ordained in the Christian Methodist Episcopal Church and has served under a Ministry License in the ECC since 2010. David has served on numerous community boards, civic committees and service organizations and currently serves as a board member for Community Equity Initiative and Clergy for a Safe and Just Community in Fort Collins. He also serves as chaplain for the Fort Collins Police Department, Poudre Valley Hospital, and as Director of Black Campus Ministry at CSU. David and his wife, Debbie, served for two years in DR Congo as church development and special assistants to the President of the ECC in Congo. Currently, he serves on the ECC's Citizens Action Committee and Covenant Kids Congo.

David and Debbie currently live in Loveland, CO. They have two daughters and seven grandchildren. In his free time, David enjoys camping and reading novels and is an avid road biker and private pilot.

Superintendent Tammy says, "David is a gift to the MWC. We have already benefited from his wisdom and experience as he helped to guide us in some important conversations this past spring. Even though David is part time, I anticipate that he will have an indelible impact on the MWC and enhance our ability to advance the kingdom of God. I am deeply grateful that he said yes to this opportunity."

In accepting this position, David says, "I am excited for the direction the MWC is taking for new church plants and new church missions. Pockets of voices around the region and state and country are asking is there room for them at the table of Christ. I believe with a resounding yes, there is. In my new position as Adjunct Director of Connection and Development, I hope to hear and start conversations that reinforce this acclamation throughout our region. The church of the future looks brighter and fuller from where I'm standing for our common Lord.

8000

140

25%

30/15%

