

### Church Planter Training Intensive

Leaders from six new Midwest Conference church plants attended the ECC's Church Planter Training Intensive (CPTI) May 16-20 in Chaska, MN. The CPTI helps church planters sharpen and articulate the vision and values for their new ministries, develop a strong prayer and financial base, and understand the seven essential systems that allow churches to be fruitful and sustainable over many years. Each church planted in the MWC is committed to both making disciples of Jesus and multiplying (helping start other new disciple-making churches).

**8000 DISCIPLES**  
**140 CHURCHES**  
**30/15% FEMALE LEADERSHIP**  
**25% ETHNIC/MULTI-ETHNIC**

### From the Superintendent

Friends,

Last week, I had the great privilege of joining with pastors and delegates from throughout the denomination as we celebrated 133 years of Covenant ministry at Gather, the ECC's annual meeting. This year's gathering was especially meaningful as we said farewell to President Gary Walter. We are grateful for Gary's leadership these past 10 years and wish him a wonderful transition to retirement!



This was also a time of celebration as we elected new leaders to key roles: John Wenrich as ECC President, Lance Davis as Executive Minister of Develop Leaders, and Mary Karsten Surridge as President of North Park University. We also celebrated the installation of Catherine Gilliard as Superintendent of the Southeast Conference and Glenn Peterson as Superintendent of the Canada Conference. Please join me in praying for each of these leaders as we enter

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### Called, Gifted, and Here to Stay II

God calls each of us to himself. Beyond that call, some are called to serve him and his church in vocational ministry. A group of female pastors and leaders in the MWC recently gathered together to remember and reaffirm that call at the Called, Gifted, and Here to Stay Retreat II, June 11-12, in Ashland, NE.



*I loved coming together with other pastors to celebrate the ministry, call and unique gifting of each person. It was amazing to hear the stories of how God called each person into ministry. The space created during the retreat fostered dynamic, fun and sacred conversations. I had time to reflect on God's vision for my ministry setting surrounded by fellow travelers of mind, purpose and heart. It truly was refreshment for my soul. - Chaplain Kara Larson, Children's Hospital and Medical Center, Omaha, NE*

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If you know women who are in the process of discerning God's call on their lives, we invite you to send them to the Exploring Call Retreat October 10-12. Contact [office@midwestcovenant.org](mailto:office@midwestcovenant.org) for more information.

### Sankofa

We are currently accepting registrations for the Sankofa Journey **to leave out of Kansas City on November 8-11, 2018.** Sankofa is an intentional, cross-racial prayer journey that seeks to assist disciples of Christ on their move toward a righteous response to the social ills related to racism. This interactive experience explores historic sites of importance in the Civil Rights movement and sites of oppression and inequality for people of color, while seeking to move participants toward healing the wounds and racial divide caused by years of racial injustice in the United States.

Contact [office@midwestcovenant.org](mailto:office@midwestcovenant.org) or 888-871-3020 with questions.



into a new season of ministry as a denomination.

In regards to the MWC, we had the joy of welcoming Shalom Covenant and Faith Connection Covenant into full ECC membership and honoring four MWC pastors who took ordination vows. For those who were unable to attend, be sure to check out portions of the event online.

God is doing mighty things throughout the MWC and the ECC, as a whole. I am grateful for your partnership in pursuing his Kingdom through our shared ministry!

To God be the glory!

Tammy

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