



Evangelical
Congregational
Church

The CIT News is published by the CIT Team of the Evangelical Congregational Church so the members of National Conference can know about our progress in discovering the Lord's leading.



Volume 1 Issue 4

February 2, 2015

Structural Design (Part 2)

When the National Conference adopted the Covenant, including the first point which stated "we will move to a regional shared ministry and leadership model," we realized that many facets of denominational life would be impacted. As a

result, we felt it was vital to clarify the structural identity of the denomination into its basic functions. By grouping similar positions, committees, and commissions we were able to re-arrange everything into four quadrants based upon their function

in relation to the mission—

1. Activating the mission
2. Directing the mission
3. Supporting the mission
4. Celebrating the mission.

Directing the Mission:

Currently, three bodies direct the EC Church: the **National Conference (NC)**—delegates meeting annually at Messiah College, the **National Ministry Team (NMT)**—district representatives meeting twice a year, and the **National Executive Committee (NEC)**—the bishop, conference secretary, treasurer and vice chairman, who make many just-in-time decisions. Out of necessity, our denomination has been gradually placing the greater bulk and weight of decisions upon the NMT and the NEC. Our *Discipline* allows for a shift of decision-making toward the NMT and NEC, with appropriate reporting to and veto power by the NC. This rec-

The mission of the Evangelical Congregational Church is

"To know Christ and to make Him known."

As a church we receive God's blessing and bless the world around us in the name of Jesus and in the power of his Holy Spirit.

We will activate this mission by preparing men and women and resourcing churches in order to accomplish the mission on the various fields where God is sending us throughout the world.

We will direct this mission by deciding our standard practices, collaborating with our leaders, and continually evaluating our ministries.

We will celebrate this mission by embracing our directives, motivating our delegates, and helping them to engage the world for mission.

We will support this mission by supervising our operations—stewarding assets and providing the necessary services to accomplish the mission across the network.



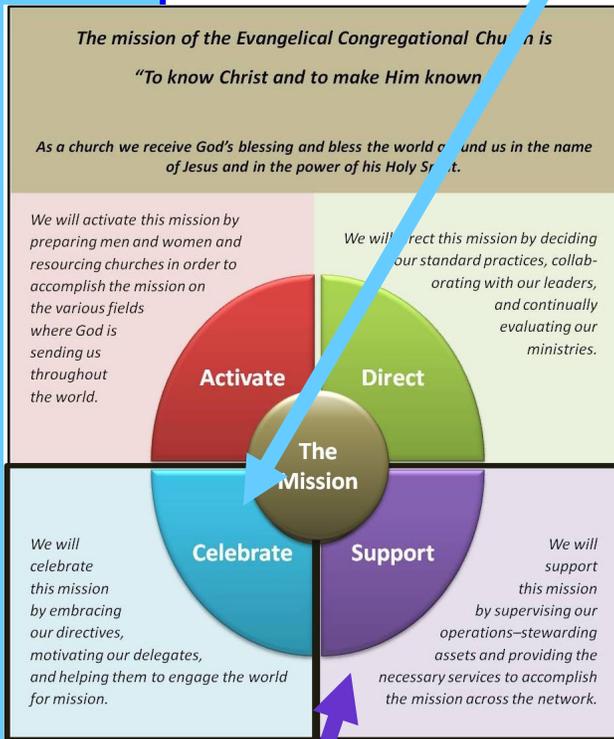
Structural Design (Part 2 continued)

ommendation will also provide a practical purpose of allowing us to move from a predominantly business focused National Conference to one that is more celebratory, worshipful, and resource oriented.

sponsibilities are necessary, such as with legal matters for the corporation.

ence approval. We would commission new ministerial candidates for ministry. We would gather to hear one another's stories, encourage one another, and make new friendships. Lastly, we would provide more quality time for a regionally or nationally-known speaker to engage us for God's mission to the world. Our hope is that when our delegates return home they would feel empowered to engage their communities more effectively with the power of the Gospel.

Celebrating the Mission: The **National Conference** would take on a celebrative feeling, where we would embrace our directives, motivate our delegates, and engage the world for mission. The Bishop would provide the "marching orders" for the church with an Episcopal Address. A short business session would follow and provide information to the delegates about the actions of the NMT and ask for National Confer-



Supporting the Mission: All administrative and financial functions of committees would be relocated under the **Conference Support Team**, who will be managed by the **Executive Director**. Functions based in legal, administrative, business, or financial matters will be handled by a qualified team at church center. The Bishop would be relieved of the daily tasks of management and only become involved when significant re-

