

## **INDIAN NATIONS PRESBYTERY • STRATEGY FOR TRANSFORMATION**

Indian Nations adopted the following core values and priority goals in June 2004. These recommendations go beyond reorganization and move the presbytery toward the spiritual dynamics of **Transformation and Revitalization**.

### **CORE VALUES**

1. To pursue the Great Commission, “to go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you,” in a way that affirms both justice and evangelism as essential to Christian witness.
2. To honor the Sovereignty of God in all area of our lives and our life together.
3. To be an inclusive and diverse community united by our common commitment to Jesus Christ as Lord.
4. To develop healthy congregations as the primary place where disciples are made, so that Christ’s ministry flows into the world.
5. To encourage mutual accountability between clergy and laity and between congregations and the presbytery.
6. To respond to the needs of Christ’s world by being faithful stewards of all God’s gifts.
7. To be willing to surrender some of our autonomy, in order to build a vibrant, enthusiastic community, investing ourselves so that all become stronger than any of the parts

### **PRIORITY GOALS**

1. To discover our common ground in the Gospel and to design our life and work in presbytery so that we become a community of mutual support for clergy, lay leaders and congregations through:
  - Presbytery meetings which give priority to worship, story sharing, and mutual exploration of areas for corporate spiritual growth.
  - A collaborative work environment of mutual trust and respect, in which we learn to engage in positive dialogue in areas where we differ.
  - Cluster meetings where mutual learning and support are encouraged.
2. To regain the initiative in supporting the revitalization of congregations which are committed to reversing a pattern of decline and to initiate the planting of new congregations so both might reclaim a healthy understanding and approach to evangelism.
3. To support sessions and congregational leaders who are seeking transformation both in their personal lives and in the corporate life of their congregation; i.e. those seeking to move from the membership business into the discipling business; from the “education of” to the “formation of” Christians.
4. To aggressively seek out and/or develop quality pastoral leadership for local congregations through utilization of commissioned lay pastors, tent-making pastors, intentional interim pastors, healthy inquirers and candidates, and installed pastors.
5. Where appropriate, provide resources and leadership training to congregations seeking to become multicultural, seeking to reach the younger generations, and seeking to use the Internet for communication and education.
6. To engage in ecumenical and interfaith cooperation in ministry to expand outreach to address community needs wherever possible and appropriate.