

## Help for the Church of Jesus

The Florida Annual Conference has adopted the following Eight Quality Characteristics as indicators of what a healthy church looks like. These have proven to be widely used by God to help in building his church!

- *Empowering Leadership*
- *Gift-oriented Ministry*
- *Passionate Spirituality*
- *Functional Structures*
- *Inspiring Worship Services*
- *Holistic Small Groups*
- *Need-oriented Evangelism*
- *Loving Relationships*

We are dedicated to helping your church grow stronger in each of these Eight Quality Characteristics.

### We can...

... help your congregation find what it needs to be strong, vital and growing, connecting with your community through relational evangelism and mission. We provide:

- training for lay and clergy leaders in skills needed to transform your church,
- access to a wide range of resources for transformation
- competent coaches to help your church through the transformation process, and
- resources for looking freshly at what it means to be the Church and claiming or re-claiming the vision and mission of making disciples.

Office of Congregational Transformation  
Florida United Methodist Conference Center  
P.O. Box 3767  
Lakeland, Florida 33802

## THE OFFICE OF CONGREGATIONAL TRANSFORMATION.

Helping You  
Do Church!



Spring 2004

## What Resources Does OCT Have?

### Presentations:

Web site: [www.flumc.org](http://www.flumc.org),  
Congregational Transformation page

### Print

- ***The Congregational Transformation Workbook***
- ***The Transformation Process in Florida***

### Power Point

- ***Why Transformation?***
- ***Categories & Health - Assessing Your Congregation's Life in Light of the Great Commission***
- ***Importance of Vision***
- ***An Introduction to Natural Church Development***
- ***How Our World May Change***
- ***Life Cycle of Congregations***

We will be glad to design a presentation for your congregation. Just ask!

**Consult the Web site (above) for links to many other resources.**

**On-line Bible Study and Sermon Series**, such as *Go! Be the Church*, help your church grapple with theological and biblical concepts of discipleship and being the Church.

**Natural Church Development Survey (NCD)** reveals which of the Eight Quality Characteristics you need to work with first (your "minimum factor"). Cost - \$150 a trained, registered NCD coach is needed to administer and interpret.

**Trained Coaches Conference-wide** are prepared to guide in creating a Strategic Action Plan designed to address your Church's minimum factor.

**Conference staff** are prepared to facilitate leadership development and training.

## From The Director

Kendall M. Taylor



We live in a time of great uncertainty and wonderful opportunity. Familiar ways of doing things seem not to produce desired results. Parallel is the companion reality that new ways with

much promise are appearing. But moving from the familiar to the new is a difficult journey.

The Office of Congregational Transformation (OCT) was created to help our Conference make this journey. Faithful congregations are having difficulty carrying out excellent and effective ministry. Decline in numbers, people and dollars, is occurring in most of our churches. We are not effective in our main task making disciples

OCT builds on biblical and spiritual foundations, re-casting the Vision Jesus first cast... that of including all people in God's Kingdom of love. We walk alongside to partner with churches in finding ways of inviting people into relationship with Jesus, making disciples who make disciples... a continuous stream.

We help you discover your neighborhood, leadership skills, understanding of the systems in which we live, and our dysfunctions. We are researching, and putting in place for every congregation that wants it, the **Natural Church Development** "process." NCD fits our 21<sup>st</sup> century world and helps us accomplish what the church has always honored as central to its life:

### Making and Nurturing Disciples

We recognize the initiative for all this lies in the hearts of the congregations. We have no "fix it" program. We offer to help change the life process of congregations who see the need. We invite you to join us in prayerful obedience to the call of God to minister to God's hurting world.



### Vision Statement

God's transforming grace in Jesus Christ calls us to become one dynamic church with diverse people in many settings, offering a new life of Christian discipleship to the world.

### Mission Statement:

The mission of the Florida Annual Conference is to be a vital connection that is part of God's transformation of the world by:

- equipping congregations for the task of making disciples of Jesus Christ;
- transforming existing congregations from a life of institutional maintenance to a life of transformational mission in their diverse communities and the world;
- reproducing vital congregations in new settings;
- calling, training and supporting lay and clergy leaders for the church; and
- engaging in shared ministries that fulfill the vision of the Kingdom of God

### How to contact OCT...

If you would like to

- talk about your next steps toward congregational vitality and health;
- enter into the Natural Church Development Process by taking the survey and connecting with a Coach;
- or receive specific resources designed to help you with congregational transformation,

contact the Rev. Kendall Taylor at:

[ktaylor@flumc.org](mailto:ktaylor@flumc.org)

Phone: 863-688-5563 or

800-282-8011 x 109

Cell: 863-512-0937

Fax: 863-680-1912