



# Great Plans for the Great Plains: A Vision

*"For I know the plans I have for you," declares the LORD, "plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future."*

**-Jeremiah 29:11**

## **GUIDELINES/PARAMETERS FOR THE TECHNICAL AND DREAM TEAMS**

- Realize that the task of the dream team is to dream, envision, explore and brainstorm . . . not to make decisions regarding the future.
- Be mindful that the task of the Church is to make disciples, so in your dream team category imagine new ways in which this ministry area can be more effective in disciple-making, equipping and empowering people for the transformation of the world.
- Remain true to the defined area of ministry of your dream team and do not "wander" into the other ministry areas; if the team comes up with thoughts outside their specific area, share it with the appropriate Dream Team Leader.
- Recognize that within the team structure there are members with gifts and graces, experience and expertise, and all voices are important.
- Think both inside and outside the "box" – let your dreams flow and don't limit the Spirit.
- Be aware and informed of the past, but don't be restrictive in your thinking for the future. Just because it didn't work then doesn't mean it cannot work now.
- Experience the "wilderness," realizing that while some journeys may lead to a dead end, others will open new vistas and possibilities.
- Honor and celebrate the ministries in each conference, taking the best practices from each to make recommendations for the future.
- Identify key areas of common life within the three annual conferences, but be open to discussion around the opportunities and barriers so the dream team can re-imagine ministry in new and creative ways.
- Know that it is OK to acknowledge what may not be working or what may need to be moved aside if it is getting in the way of the preferred future.
- Consider recommendations for policies and procedures where applicable, but don't get bogged down in the details. This is the time for dreaming, not creating.
- Remember that all dream team reports will be brought back to the Transition Team who will then bring them together in a composite document for consideration and review.
- Be bold in your dreams, but kind in your words. Don't bring baggage or personal issues to the "table." The only baggage you bring should be Scripture and Wesleyan traditions.
- Discuss when, where and how often you will meet, whether by conference call or in person, rotating meetings for the convenience of all. Electronic media is encouraged when appropriate. (Travel vouchers for mileage and meals are available through the Dream Team Leader. Kansans may turn their vouchers into the Episcopal office in Wichita; Nebraskans to the Episcopal office in Lincoln.)