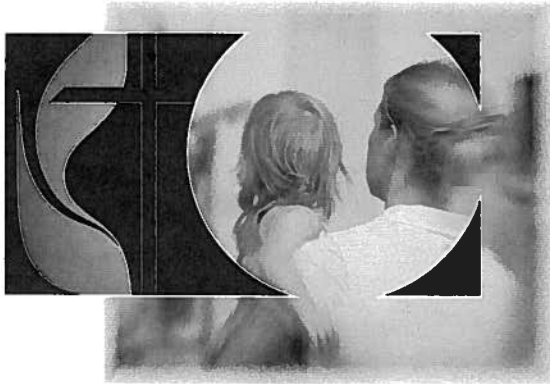


IN MISSION & MINISTRY
**United
 Methodists
 at Work
 Calling New
 Disciples**



New churches mean new opportunities to reach people for Jesus Christ. In the past three years, the Kansas East Conference has started five new congregations where more than 300 people now worship on an average Sunday.

“... they’re one of the key ways that we reach new people.”

“I think new church starts are highly needed because they’re one of the key ways that we reach new people,” said Rev. Mitch Reece, pastor at

LifeBridge, a new church start in Shawnee.

But as exciting as new church starts are, they also are very expensive. There are pastoral salaries, facility rental, equipment and storage, and general programming costs. The conference provides much of the support for these expenses through the Bridges

to the Future capital campaign for camping, campus ministry and church development and the conference budget. In addition, the conference pays for training for new church start pastors before they are even appointed.



**NEW
 NEW Churches for
 People**

“I started going through the training sessions for new church start pastors,” said Rev. Mic McGuire, pastor at Living Water, a new church start in Piper. “The lessons that I learned in those seminars and training sessions have become really prominent in what we do here at the church.”



The conference continues to provide support for the first five years as the congregation learns to support itself.

“You know how hard it is in a local church to get people to tithe,” Reece said. “You’ve got to take people who aren’t even sure they’re buying into

Jesus and convince them they need to tithe. Well, that takes time.”

“You’ve got to take people who aren’t even sure they’re buying into Jesus and convince them they need to tithe.”

A number of factors play into the decision to plant a new church, including geography, population growth and how the church is serving changing demographics. These factors have led to the planting of two Hispanic churches, one in Kansas City and another in Holton. ■



Worshippers at Living Water, a new church start in Piper.

United Methodists at Work ...

Through your gifts to your local church and your church’s tithe to the annual conference’s mission and ministry, new disciples of Jesus Christ are called to transform the world in new churches right here in Kansas.

Learn More About New Church Starts ...

www.kansaseast.org/NewChurches