How Would You Reimagine Foursquare?
For the past 90 years, Life Pacific College has been training influential leaders in our movement. With more than 27,000 leaders sent into nearly 140 countries worldwide, the Gospel has become alive and communities have been transformed. Partner with us and continue our mission, preparing leaders for a lifetime of ministry.

Celebrating alumni from L.I.F.E. Bible College, Mount Vernon Bible College, LIFE Bible College East, and Life Pacific College.
In recent years, digital services such as Netflix have dominated the movie rental market and reinvented the business model of brick-and-mortar stores to serve customers better.

Alongside this tale of ingenuity is a story of a business that tried too late to catch up. When Blockbuster failed to change their practices to keep pace with current market trends, this video king failed, leaving empty buildings and surrendering influence to more adept players who adjusted their delivery models to achieve their mission.

As this reality plays out, the concept of change vs. the unchanging applies to much more than businesses. With a denomination decades old and business practices the same, could The Foursquare Church be the next Blockbuster? Will your church become an empty building in your neighborhood?

Sometimes, we become so comfortable with our current behaviors that it’s difficult to imagine another way, even if it might better accomplish our God-given mission. In Mark 3, even the Pharisees discovered this as they observed the Sabbath in obedience to God’s command delivered in Exodus 20. While in the temple, they observed something new: On the Sabbath, Jesus healed a man with a withered hand.

This act repelled the Pharisees’ religiosity. Rather than marvel at such restoration, they cringed and criticized. But Jesus replied, “Is it lawful on the Sabbath to do good or to do evil, to save life or to kill?” (Mark 3:4, NKJV). With hard hearts, they sought to destroy the transformative power Jesus manifested. But the renewal Christ brought would prevail.

If we’re not careful, we can become like Pharisees. We become accustomed to the ways we have been taught and the ways we obey God’s initial direction. But Jesus may be calling us to a new approach that maintains His mission, though it may look different in its execution. In these seasons of change, seek the Holy Spirit and explore the core of God’s message, not only the methodology.

Then when we seek Him and find Him (Jer. 29:12-14), it becomes clear what we need to evaluate and realign to best serve His kingdom.

Throughout this issue, we recognize The Foursquare Church is making crucial decisions about its future through our Reimagine conversation. With our foundation in Christ, together we ask, “What will you have us do, Father?” Since August, Foursquare leaders have met across the nation in local Town Hall meetings. This coming May at Connection 2014, we will gather to determine the Reimagine conversation conclusion. In the meantime, leaders weigh possibilities.

In our cover story, “How Would You Reimagine Foursquare?” President Glenn Burris Jr. and General Supervisor Tammy Dunahoo (and Hispanic Missional Director Daniel Prieto, in our Spanish-language iteration) reveal what God has laid on their hearts for Foursquare’s future. Then, in our story “Local Leaders Reimagine Foursquare,” we invite local leaders from varied districts to also express their opinions.

In our Leadership Health section, educator Courtney Hall shares how to develop a love of learning, and in our Spanish-language accompaniment, Liderazgo Saludable, Serafín Contreras Galeano shares how to refresh our health. Last, in “Unique Foursquare Ministries Make a Big Difference,” we introduce three couples who reimagined their ministries to reach their communities.

Foursquare leaders, when change becomes necessary, what will we choose? Let’s reimagine how to best live out our core values to bring the whole gospel to the whole world. Join us as we Reimagine Foursquare.
Ministry Across the Border

**TARGETS** Broken dreams on both sides of the U.S.-Mexico border are ministry points for two Foursquare pastor couples on opposite sides of the continent. Don and Sandy Godwin pastor an English-speaking church in San Marino, Baja California, which reaches out to undocumented Mexican nationals who grew up in the United States but were deported after coming to the attention of authorities. Through their Open Hands nonprofit, David and Kathleen Green’s Hope Community Church (Donna Foursquare Church) in Donna, Texas, has distributed food valued in the millions of dollars to local below-poverty Hispanic families and to undocumented workers in difficult circumstances throughout the Rio Grande Valley.

**FMI Christmas Offering**

**TARGET** This year’s Foursquare Missions International (FMI) Children’s Christmas Offering will partner with Foursquare ministries around the world that care for orphans. “We want to put our love into action by reaching out to those whom God the Father declares He passionately loves, protects and defends,” says FMI Director Jim Scott. Visit FMIChristmas.org to learn more about how your church can participate this Christmas.

**Serving God With Purpose**

**TARGET** In 2008, Marcus McCloud was facing homelessness and had no idea what he was going to do. When his sister took him into her home and invited him to Ponca City Foursquare Church in Ponca City, Okla., a new journey began for Marcus. He found joy in his relationship with Christ, met the woman who would become his wife, and discovered purpose in serving others. Marcus and his wife now lead student retreats and are involved in keeping the community clean. They also have gone on a missions trip to El Salvador and attend regular small group Bible studies.
Big changes are taking place this school year at Life Pacific College (LPC) in San Dimas, Calif. Multiple new staff members, a new president and 120 new incoming students started this school year in a whole new way. “Dream Big” is the catchphrase posted all over the campus, encouraging students to dream bigger not just in ministry opportunities, but also in education. LPC will offer two new majors this fall to allow students to think outside the box while still preparing them for the lifetime of ministry to which God has called them.

Stable Roots

“Mother Teresa compared starving for food to starving for lack of love, saying more people are starving from the latter, because it is easier for us to give food than love. We as Christians can engage our communities when we are committed to our communities. We have roots that provide stability. The testimony we have is to be like our Teacher, who taught us that it is greater to serve than to be served or seek a place of position.”

— BRITA PINKSTON, CO-PASTOR OF PASADENA FOUR SQUARE CHURCH IN PASADENA, CALIF.

LPC Dreams Big

Big changes are taking place this school year at Life Pacific College (LPC) in San Dimas, Calif. Multiple new staff members, a new president and 120 new incoming students started this school year in a whole new way. “Dream Big” is the catchphrase posted all over the campus, encouraging students to dream bigger not just in ministry opportunities, but also in education.

NEW FOUR SQUARE VIDEOS

Find new videos for your church at vimeo.com/foursquare, including these inspirational finds.

RESTORING SOLDIERS IN THE MILITARY


http://vimeo.com/foursquare/militarychaplain

PRAYER BRINGS MIRACULOUS HEALING

Sometimes physical healing comes from medical care. But sometimes it is a direct result of God’s touch. In Chile, Foursquare Missionaries Lee and Lisa Schnabel witnessed divine healing of one woman’s blind left eye. Watch their story of Maria’s meeting with Jesus Christ, our Healer, and see how they empower others to pray for the miraculous.

http://vimeo.com/foursquare/chile2013

FAITHFULNESS OVER CIRCUMSTANCES

Mauricio Rodriguez, licensing coordinator and Hispanic ministries liaison for the Southwest District, shares his personal story about a biological mother who abandoned him and an adoptive mother who believed in him. Through his adoptive mother’s ministry at home, Mauricio found hope despite his tragic circumstances and encourages others to do the same.

http://vimeo.com/foursquare/mrodriguez

Read more about the Five Targets, as well as stories of how The Foursquare Church is making a difference, at 4sq.ca/fivetargets.
U.S. BY THE NUMBERS

Check in on your local district and see where The Foursquare Church is growing.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>District</th>
<th>New Churches***</th>
<th>Hispanic Churches**</th>
<th>New Licensed Ministers***</th>
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<td>5</td>
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</table>

NATIONAL NUMBERS

- 1,668 U.S. Churches**
- 6,586 U.S. Credentialed Ministers**
- 211 Missional Congregations****
- $371.7 K Giving to Missions*
- 120,057 Salvations*
- 245,475 Church Attendance*

***A missional congregation is an extension or additional congregation of a local Foursquare church as well as chaplain gathering. Totals reported as of October 2013.
****December 2012-February 2013 numbers as reported by the National Church Office
**Totals reported as of September 2013
*Totals reported as of February 2013

9 HAVE GONE TO BE WITH THE LORD

Information was reported between August 2013 and October 2013.
Introducing Foursquare Disaster Relief

Responding to Disasters. Partnering With Local Churches. Carrying on the Legacy of Aimee Semple McPherson. We Are Foursquare Disaster Relief.

Foursquare Relief + Compassion and the disaster relief arm of Foursquare Chaplains International—both formed in the aftermath of Hurricane Katrina—have merged to form Foursquare Disaster Relief.

What does Foursquare Disaster Relief do?
+ We respond to global and domestic disasters.
+ We combine the strength and compassion of 200 Foursquare Chaplains with 1,200 trained disaster relief workers to provide services disaster victims need most.
+ We mobilize aid faster, reaching affected individuals in the U.S. and overseas quicker in the crucial hours and days following a disaster.
+ We leverage the global partnership of a large relief organization and the local support of a global family of churches.
+ We provide food and resource distribution, and disaster clean up.
+ We carry on the legacy of disaster relief started by Foursquare Founder Aimee Semple McPherson.

Trained Foursquare responders are ready to respond when the next disaster occurs. You can increase their impact, helping individuals affected by hurricanes, tornadoes, earthquakes and other catastrophic events, by donating to Foursquare Disaster Relief today.

Where We Serve
Foursquare has responded to 60 disasters since 2010, including Japan, Myanmar and New Orleans. Here’s where we have been serving in 2013.

+ Bangladesh  + India  + Philippines
+ Central African Republic  + Moore, Okla.  + Solomon Islands
+ Cuba  + Mississippi  + South Sudan
+ Haiti  + Pakistan  + Thailand

Donate + Learn More: foursqueredisasterrelief.com
Follow us: #foursquarerelief
Read up to the minute prayer requests and see photos of our latest efforts.
UNIQUE FOURSQUARE MINISTRIES MAKE A BIG DIFFERENCE

When people visit these three Foursquare churches, they don't enter traditional sanctuaries—they visit the beach, a skateboard outlet, a coffeehouse or a home. See how people are coming to Christ and how lives are being changed in three very different communities through innovative Foursquare churches that are following specific missional calls.

CATCHING WAVES AND SOULS IN CALIFORNIA

Though less than three years old, Santa Cruz Hope Foursquare Church in Santa Cruz, Calif., has seen hundreds join the quest to become followers of Christ. Pastors Danny and Jennifer Bennett say the ministry that has unfolded in their eclectic surfing community is truly miraculous, because fewer than 5 percent of the area’s 265,000 residents claim a church affiliation.

Meeting at an elementary school, the church regularly serves pancakes on the beach and hosts a Monday night “skate church” at an indoor skate shop. Such outreaches appeal to young people who consider church boring, irrelevant or judgmental.

“We’re here to help people learn to follow Christ,” Danny says. “As leaders, we’ve got to stop and ask: How are we coming across to a generation that’s growing up without a biblical worldview? But there’s hope. Jesus is still drawing people to Himself.”

Formerly residents of the San Francisco Bay Area, Danny and Jennifer moved to Santa Cruz in 2010 and didn’t bring a launch team. Instead, they sensed God’s leading to let Him put it together. During the ensuing 16 months, the Bennetts—who both found jobs in the community—met the 22 residents who formed their core group.

God had them take this step because it is what Santa Cruz needed, says Danny, who advises that anyone who is willing to take risks can reach others for Christ. “The Holy Spirit gave us a burden to reach people with the gospel by getting out into the community,” he explains. “God has given us a voice through service. If God can use us here, then He can use people anywhere.”

MORE MINISTRIES MAKE A DIFFERENCE ON PAGE 10.
No case is typical. You should not expect to experience these results.

“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 (NIV)

“I never felt like I was fighting my cancer alone.”

Because God helped me discover the place I needed to be.

Just a few years after my husband passed away, I was diagnosed with stage 2 breast cancer. My friend recommended Cancer Treatment Centers of America® (CTCA) because of their unique treatment approach.

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* No case is typical. You should not expect to experience these results.
THE GOSPEL WITH A SHOT OF ESPRESSO IN TEXAS

Timothy and Margie Franklin’s decision to shift from a traditional church setting to a coffeehouse ministry cost them dozens of worshipers. But, with 90 percent of prayer requests they field coming from non-Christians, they believe they have hit their target: reaching people who normally don’t attend church.

“We felt God was saying, ‘Do something completely different,’” says Timothy, co-pastor with Margie of The Connection (Texas City Foursquare Church) in Texas City, Texas, about 50 minutes south of downtown Houston.

The Connection opened in Dec. 2012 in a shopping center. With seating for 70 customers Monday through Friday, on Sundays the shop morphs into a church, complete with portable baptismal.

Despite a decline in attendance after the change, it is again on the upswing. The Franklins are especially encouraged by the spiritual seekers who have approached them, people who normally would never walk into a traditional sanctuary. One Muslim woman, for example, has discussed Scripture with Margie and even asked for prayer.

“We haven’t seen her accept Christ yet, but we believe that day is coming,” Timothy says.

MAKING DISCIPLES AT HOME IN NEVADA

Although Reno South Foursquare Church in Reno, Nev., is not located in a traditional building, founders Ben and Jessica Locke are making disciples at their home. A former assisting minister at Hillside (Reno Foursquare Church), Ben relocated his family to the opposite end of the city in 2012.

Ben and Jessica host between 10 and 15 people at a Thursday night Bible study, and between 20 and 30 people at a monthly Sunday breakfast. On Saturdays, they visit a donut shop to form relationships with staff and customers.

The couple also intentionally builds bridges to the community via their work and volunteer activities. Ben works in sales for a backstage pass company, regularly interacting with people, and both Ben and Jessica coach youth soccer. Jessica also writes a blog on mothering with creativity that receives 20,000 views per month.

The church has also established a relationship with a nearby elementary school, providing school supplies and meals for homeless children.

“We don’t know what it will look like once it outgrows our house,” says Jessica of their future plans, “but we’d rather see people we’ve discipled start meeting with others.”
ALIGNMENT WITH GOD’S CALL
INVESTING IN EVANGELISM

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103 Countries Reached
833 Projects Funded
188,858 Leaders Trained
7,394 Churches Planted
13,080 Cells Planted

OUR PURPOSE: To accelerate worldwide interdenominational evangelism.

OUR VISION: To invest in leaders who transform people, cities, and nations through the power of the Holy Spirit.

OUR MISSION: To resource fruitful evangelism which reaches and discipless people in all regions of the world to be followers of Jesus Christ.

For the Son of Man came to seek and to save the lost. Luke 19:10
www.foursquarefoundation.net
How Would You

Reimagine Foursquare?

Foursquare President Glenn Burris Jr. and more leaders talk about how the Reimagine conversation and the result of this fall’s Town Hall meetings will shape the future for The Foursquare Church.

BY ANDY BUTCHER, CONTRIBUTING WRITER

This is a “kairos moment” for Foursquare, according to President Glenn Burris Jr., as the church presses hard into the Reimagine process intended to renew and reshape it for the future.

“God has challenged us to reimagine going forward as a church that is relevant and relational; a church that has been restored to its apostolic beginnings,” Glenn says. “I am convinced that we are not to go back just to our own beginning as a church; we must go back 2,000 years and recapture the values and mission of the New Testament church.”

That divine challenge to “recapture” a New Testament vision in order to guide our future steps is, as Glenn describes it, “a journey of shared discovery.” This collaborative season has brought leaders together from across the nation to gather for Town Hall meetings. Glenn, along with the executive leadership from the central office, has had the opportunity to share with and hear from local leaders how Foursquare might best be realigned.

LEARN MORE ABOUT REIMAGINE FOURSQUARE ON PAGE 14.
“It is a time when God is saying to us to get back to the local church,” Glenn told the 60-plus leaders who attended the Aug. 19 Town Hall meeting in Ocoee, Fla., held at Deeper Life Assembly (Orlando 5 Foursquare Church), one of 21 such gatherings scheduled across the country through November. While the meeting attendance in Ocoee was representative of just one location, estimates are that over 1,500 people have been part of these Town Hall meetings since they began in Keystone, Colo., on Aug. 7.

Local supervisors, pastors and other church leaders were invited to the events. Their questions, comments and thoughts have been and will continue to be added to the research already gathered. Six committees, officially known as task groups, are commissioned to take this gathered information and to look in detail at different aspects of Foursquare organization and life. “You can’t measure ministry by buildings and money, or by its organization and history,” Glenn said in Ocoee, explaining the missional drive behind Reimagine. “You measure it by the effectiveness of lives that are transformed. The legacy we want to leave is not one of who owned property, but will be about shared mission.”

While holding onto Foursquare’s founding essentials, the Reimagine process has put pretty much everything else on the table. Among the issues being considered are how to more effectively disciple leaders, plant churches, work with every people group and take the gospel to the ends of the earth. Also on the table are conversations about property and financial questions, such as where church tithes should be channeled; legal ones, such as whether property titles should be transferred from the national office to local congregations; and organizational concerns, including how the districts and local churches can most effectively relate to and support each other.

Initiated three years ago, and due to bring recommended changes to the 2014 national convention, the scale and reach of this re-evaluation process is unparalleled in Foursquare’s 90-year history. It has included a national survey of Foursquare leaders, an in-depth study of other denominations and networks, an extensive review of trends in church organization and leadership, and broad-ranging discussion by the six aforementioned task groups. Set up to look more specifically at different aspects of the movement’s life and structure, these groups will press into discovering how Foursquare will be able to do the following:

- Reclaim spiritual vitality
- Refocus identity
- Reignite mission
- Redesign responsibilities
- Realign polity
- Reallocate resources

Embodying the “open-to-input” nature of the Reimagine process, Glenn has responded to questions and concerns raised at the meetings by being willing to make changes, as needed.

For example, after hearing the thoughts and counsel of the Town Hall meetings, two task groups were added to the original list of four, due to the need to give specific focus to those two areas: (1) “reclaim our spiritual vitality”; and (2) “re-ignite mission.” Glenn explained that, while the identity and mission deliberations cover some of the same ground, giving separate emphasis to both the need for spiritual vitality and a passion for mission underscores Foursquare’s foundations.

“We don’t want to lose the distinctive of the Holy Spirit,” he said. “The challenge is to make sure that the spiritual vitality and the
These textures and layers mean that a one-size-fits-all solution is unlikely. Different options may be available, depending on the context. Some Reimagine changes will certainly come more quickly than others; implementing legal restructuring, for example, could involve several years of disentangling.

Tom DiBucci left the Ocoee Town Hall encouraged by what he heard. “We have to know what the issues are to face them,” said the South Florida divisional superintendent. “It’s really about vision: What is the vision?”

If the exact course for the future is not clear yet, the general direction is observable through changes that have already been implemented. The recent addition of the National Hispanic Council confirms the increasing importance of the Hispanic church, and administrative changes have aimed to make it easier for Foursquare leaders coming to the U.S. from other countries to get licensed and established.

Streamlining at the central office in Los Angeles has seen operations in the black for the past three years, after running a significant deficit for some time. Staffing there has been reduced significantly, and Foursquare’s church data system, Ezra, is being replaced with a more user-friendly program that reflects different metrics in church reporting, enhancing the capacity to serve the churches in areas of access and communications.

Such shifts indicate that Reimagine is not so much a reaction to a crisis as a response to an emerging reality—the need of a new wineskin. Whether people view the process from a glass-half-empty perspective or one that is glass-half-full, the unifying question is: Are you thirsty for more? Though some may disagree with the pattern that is presented for the new wineskin Foursquare needs, Glenn believes that the movement will be stronger for having engaged in Reimagine.

“This journey has the possibility to much more unify us than to divide us,” he said, clarifying and sharpening Foursquare’s unique place and part in God’s kingdom.

This is a view echoed by the members of the executive team who were involved in the Town Hall meetings. Among them is Ron Thigpenn, Foursquare’s chief financial officer, who referenced Acts 15 in commenting: “At the end of the day, we want to be able to say, ‘It seemed good to us and the Holy Spirit’ … and especially the Holy Spirit.”

Also referring to Acts 15, Glenn’s presentation at the Town Hall meetings included a PowerPoint display. On one of the slides, he pointed out a core value that is vital to in the Reimagine process—that there must be the marriage between the prophetic and the practical.

On the one hand, the New Testament church had a mandate from the Lord; on the other hand, the leaders counseled together to make decisions and to ensure that every obstacle would be removed so that the kingdom of God would advance unimpeded.

To be effective, to realize the dream, to see renewal led by the Holy Spirit released in the movement, Glenn states: “Only when both are engaged will The Foursquare Church realize its God-designed and intended future.”

Learn more about the Reimagine conversation at reimaginefoursquare.org.
Local Leaders Reimagine Foursquare

We asked eight local Foursquare leaders from different cities across the country how they see the future of The Foursquare Church as, together, we Reimagine Foursquare. Here’s what they had to say about how we can move forward as a church of spiritual vitality, missional effectiveness and organization health.

If the Reimagine issues seem a bit remote to some, they are an everyday reality for those who, like Mark, are part of multisite churches. Since 2010, Mark has pastored the first of two satellite congregations established by Grace Capital, where he was part of the leadership for more than a decade. It’s all about minimizing the challenges that can come with structure, while maximizing the strength and support that it offers. He acknowledges that this will require people to be willing to participate in difficult conversations. He says that he remains excited being part of Foursquare as it has discussions to better position itself for the future. “It all comes down to alignment,” Mark notes.

Mark Warren
Pastor
Grace Capital
(Pembroke Foursquare Church)
Pembroke, N.H.

If Reimagine ends with just the streamlining of Foursquare’s central office, as helpful as that may be, John cautions that we would be missing the main point of what God is urging us to do. He states, “My hope is that, through this, the local church will be strengthened to be more agile, to be able to respond quickly to the needs of the surrounding community.” Recognizing that Foursquare is “a 2013 church trying to function in a 1930s structural world” isn’t about throwing stones, he says. “Anything healthy changes over time. The gospel remains the same, but it’s the right time to address how we structure ourselves for the future.”

John Wiley
Lead Campus Pastor
River Christian Fellowship
(Kansas City East Foursquare Church)
Raytown, Mo.

While much of the emphasis of Reimagine is on ways of reducing the footprint of Foursquare’s central office, Huey believes that whatever results must involve some change at the local church level, too. “Pastors and churches have not always been good stewards, not been accountable to steward those things they were given,” he observes. Alongside this, he sees improved training and equipping of local leaders as paramount. From his experiences leading a multiethnic church, Huey says Foursquare’s future depends on truly embracing and making space for people from other cultures, and “being willing to put up with the frustration, the growing problems that will come about.”

Huey Hudson
Senior Pastor
Restoration
(Huntsville Foursquare Church)
Madison, Ala.

Denominational leaders’ willingness to give people room to ask hard questions and have awkward conversations could make this a watershed moment for The Foursquare Church, says Russell. He commends the time and effort put into the Town Hall meetings to try to ensure that everyone has a chance to be heard. “I appreciate that style of leadership, putting things on the table,” he says. Rather than a “one-size-fits-all” way ahead, Russell anticipates some multi-tiered solutions to issues such as property ownership that will result from “seeing the local church as the tip of the spear, the impact players who are really getting the job done.”

Russell Schlecht
Senior Pastor
Living Word Fellowship
(Oak Harbor II Foursquare Church)
Oak Harbor, Wash.

Russell Schlecht
Senior Pastor
Living Word Fellowship
(Oak Harbor II Foursquare Church)
Oak Harbor, Wash.

We asked eight local Foursquare leaders from different cities across the country how they see the future of The Foursquare Church as, together, we Reimagine Foursquare. Here’s what they had to say about how we can move forward as a church of spiritual vitality, missional effectiveness and organization health.
With one in five Foursquare churches now ethnic, the majority are Hispanic. Since that number is set to grow in the years ahead, it is crucial that Reimagine not only acknowledge but also accommodate the trend, says Mario Barahona, who also serves as senior pastor of Angelus Temple Hispanic Foursquare Church in Los Angeles. He believes that the process could help bring about an awakening in and through Foursquare, just as Nehemiah’s repairing Jerusalem’s walls helped bring about renewal in the hearts of the people. Mario notes that, without personal reformation alongside any organizational changes, “it’s like having a building and just changing the plumbing. … Unless there is a new season, nothing will really happen.”

These are “thrilling times to be a part of Foursquare,” says Farrell, “because we are aligning ourselves back to mission, and the future of the movement will be both great and fruitful for God’s glory.” He is philosophical about the need to take a hard look at how Foursquare functions: “The reality is that any organization, denomination, or local church can create structure that seems valuable, but over time that restricts mission.” Refocusing on the local church is essential because “that is where life-transforming ministry and discipleship occurs.” Just as Jesus did, Farrell says, the church should go where the people are and share His truth and power.

“Anything healthy changes over time. The gospel remains the same, but it’s the right time to address how we structure ourselves for the future.”

By John Wiley, Lead Campus Pastor, River Christian Fellowship

It is important to remember that, while the Reimagine conversation is expansive, it’s not all-inclusive, says Heidi. “We are not questioning our theology, our purpose, or our responsibility,” she asserts. “We are questioning if the way we have been doing these things could be done more successfully.” According to Heidi, answering that will help our denomination become more effective as we allow the power and person of Jesus Christ to transform us. She states, “To that end, I am very excited, because this is what and who we are called to become.”

John believes that Willow Creek Community Church Founder Bill Hybels was onto something when he said, “There is nothing quite like the local church when the local church is working right.” While it is not perfect, “it is the agency that God has chosen to work in and through.” John sees the potential for “renewed clarity and conviction” through Reimagine. “I’m excited about our family clarifying its mission and discovering again who we are and what we are doing here,” he says. “This gets me amped!”

Share your thoughts about Reimagine Foursquare! Tweet us at @wearefoursquare and use #reimaginefoursquare. You can also comment on this article online at 4sq.ca/localreimagine.
LEARNING TO LOVE LEARNING

BY COURTNEY HALL, NATIONAL CHURCH EDUCATION COORDINATOR AND FACULTY MEMBER OF PRAISE SCHOOL OF MINISTRY AT CHRISTIAN FELLOWSHIP (PRAISE L.A. FOURSQURE CHURCH) IN LOS ANGELES

rudging toward my high school classroom and the specter of a mathematics midterm I was sure to fail, I grappled with the enigmas: Why was math so hard? Why hadn’t I studied harder? Who cared about pre-calculus anyway? I couldn’t have imagined that, in only a few years, I’d thrill to a college statistics course—I discovered a sheer love of learning. Subjects once mired in irrelevance bloomed with intellectual treasures.

Of course, formal academics, while undeniably crucial, still represent only one kind of learning. But, whether in a course of prescribed study or the daily course of life, God has shaped each one of us to be true and lifelong learners.

Poet and professor Robert Frost claimed, “I am not a teacher but an awakener.” The Father’s call to us to growth (see Ps. 1) should awaken in us a love of learning. True learning comprises the following three fundamentals:

Learning is a choice.

Learning is most effective when it’s elective, but not all “learning” edifies. Paul warned Timothy against those who are “always learning but never able to come to a knowledge of the truth” (2 Tim. 3:7, NKJV). Real enlightenment requires real light, yet the pride that asserts, “I’ve already learned that,” quickly darkens our hearts. Genuine learning chooses to seek God’s truth in humility, knowing He will teach us whenever we are willing to learn.

Learning is active.

Learning should be something we do rather than something we get. The preacher of Ecclesiastes dearly prized wisdom but derided the puffed-up philosophy of endless studies as wearying to the indiscriminate student (see Eccl. 12:12). Institutional matriculation is a worthy process. But, more than simply earning a degree, a person should always aim to truly learn that degree. Inspired learning presses beyond acquisition of the transferable into interaction with the transformative.

Learning is a way of life.

Prov. 10:17 states, “Whoever heeds instruction is on the path to life” (ESV). Challenges often compound in ministry when the needs of others and our own weariness threaten to overwhelm. Yet love for godly learning invites Holy Spirit fullness into every aspect of our daily experience; even spiritual battles offer lessons en route to victories. By constantly challenging our intellect and stimulating our creativity, a love of learning imparts suppleness to our spirit and temerity to our teaching.

As a new year approaches, there’s no better time to choose the active learning lifestyle. Target new ways to learn: List books you’ll read this year; plan a weekly household reading night; take up a foreign language; or convert your commute into an audio classroom with lecture CDs from the library. Sign up for an art class or a cooking group; master that accounting software you bought; enroll in an online course; volunteer as a homework tutor; or even go back to school to complete a degree. Make learning a daily focus; challenge yourself, and have fun.

A crammed calendar may make all these seem implausible, but remember the warning of C.S. Lewis: “The only people who achieve much are those who want knowledge so badly that they seek it while the conditions are still unfavorable. Favorable conditions never come.” The truth is, God made us to be people who can’t wait to learn.

To read the full article, see more educational tips, and share with others, visit 4sq.ca/lovelearning.
February 18-20, 2014

The relationship dynamic between the lead Pastor and Worship Leader is among the most intricate and misunderstood partnerships in the Body of Christ.

This 3-day study will enhance your understanding of these God-appointed roles, and their significance to the people you serve. You will learn biblical ways to build, maintain, and model effectual unity between these two essential positions.

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• The creative artistic leader vs. the “artist”
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• Leading the congregation together
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• Discipleship; investing in your leader

[This seminar is designed for both the lead Pastor and Worship Leader. One must come with the other in order to register.]

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En los últimos 10 años el número de congregaciones hispanas ha crecido un 66% en la Iglesia Cuadrangular. Hoy más que nunca estamos comprometidos a llevar el Reino de los Cielos a los más de 50 millones de personas en las comunidades hispanas de los Estados Unidos.

Es la visión del Concilio Hispano y de la Oficina Nacional ver, en los próximos 10 años, más pastores y líderes hispanos involucrados activamente en la vida y ministerio de la Iglesia Cuadrangular de los Estados Unidos, ocupando posiciones de liderazgo en los niveles distritales y nacionales.

También vemos un rápido crecimiento en el movimiento hispano en toda la nación, donde la iglesia local tiene un papel central al multiplicarse a través de la formación de discípulos, líderes y congregaciones responsables y reproducibles, así como también enviando misioneros y alcanzando a otros grupos de personas dentro y fuera de esta nación.

Esta sección en español de "Foursquare Leader" llega para ser parte de esta visión de integrarnos a la Iglesia Cuadrangular y al mismo tiempo para celebrar y habilitar nuestra identidad como iglesia hispana. Cada edición vendrá con algunos páginas en español en las cuales tendremos algunos artículos traducidos del inglés, especialmente los que tienen que ver con noticias y comunicados de la oficina del presidente o de la supervisora nacional, así como aquellos temas que nos competen a todos como una sola Iglesia Cuadrangular. También tendremos artículos y secciones escritas por pastores y líderes hispanos y latinoamericanos, relevantes a la realidad del ministro y de la iglesia hispana.

Esta sección en español de Foursquare Leader es parte de nuestro compromiso y esfuerzo como Iglesia Cuadrangular de seguir avanzando, para ser la iglesia que Dios espera ver frente a su trono, una iglesia con redimidos (Apocalipsis 5:8-10), adoradores (Apocalipsis 7:9-10) y ministros (Isaías 56:2-7) de todo linaje, lengua, pueblo y nación.

—POR DANIEL PRIETO, EL DIRECTOR MISIONAL HISPANO NACIONAL DE LA IGLESIA CUADRANGULAR
¿Cómo Reimaginaría la Iglesia Cuadrangular?

El Presidente Cuadrangular Glenn Burris Jr., la Supervisora General Tammy Dunahoo y el Director Misional Hispano Nacional Daniel Prieto hablan sobre cómo la conversación Reimagina dará forma al futuro de la iglesia hispana.

ESCRITO POR ANDY BUTCHER, ESCRITOR CONTRIBUYENTE

LEA REIMAGINARÍA A LA CUADRANGULAR EN LA PÁGINA 22.
La familia Cuadrangular está teniendo una de las conversaciones más importantes en sus 96 años de historia—y es una que debe ser multilingüe.

El tema es cómo la iglesia necesita realinearse para lograr su futuro más brillante, que incluye un creciente énfasis y sabor hispano.

Con una de cada cuatro iglesias Cuadrangulares compuestas por hispanos o personas de otras culturas inmigrantes y una población que no es anglo en pleno crecimiento en los Estados Unidos, la Cuadrangular del mañana, “Será una iglesia étnica en muchos sentidos”, dice Daniel Prieto, el director misional hispano nacional de la Iglesia Cuadrangular. “Tenemos que escuchar a los líderes étnicos”.

Con eso en mente, él ha abrazado los esfuerzos para garantizar que se escuchen a las voces hispanas en el proceso Reimagina la Iglesia Cuadrangular, en el cual la Cuadrangular toma una mirada cercana a la forma en que está estructurada. Una de las 20 reuniones locales sostenidas en todo el país entre agosto y noviembre para obtener retroalimentación de los líderes se realizó en español. También se abrió un foro especial en línea en octubre para proporcionar una mayor oportunidad para escuchar a los hispanos.

La Cuadrangular “Está al borde de un precipicio”, le dijo el Presidente Glenn Burris Jr. a los supervisores, pastores y otros líderes de iglesia durante esta serie de reuniones, que él y otros miembros del equipo ejecutivo realizaron a lo largo del país para dirigir las discusiones Reimagina. “Este es un momento kairos para nosotros”, dijo Glenn. “Dios nos ha desafiado a volver a imaginarnos el futuro como una iglesia que es relevante y relacional; una iglesia que ha sido restaurada a sus inicios apostólicos”.

Manteniendo los fundamentos esenciales Cuadrangulares, el proceso Reimagina ha puesto prácticamente todo lo demás sobre la mesa. Entre los asuntos examinados están aspectos financieros, tales como dónde deben canalizarse los diezmos de las iglesias; aspectos legales, como si los títulos de propiedad deben ser transferidos de la oficina nacional a las congregaciones locales; y preocupaciones organizacionales, que incluyen cómo las iglesias del distrito pueden relacionarse y apoyarse mutuamente de forma más eficaz.

Una gran pregunta, referente a este tema, es si la oficina nacional debe continuar manteniendo todos los títulos de propiedad de iglesia en común, o entregarlos a las congregaciones locales. Para algunas iglesias grandes y crecientes esto sería un paso bienvenido, pero la responsabilidad financiera y legal podría ser un desafío para congregaciones más pequeñas.

Luego está la diversidad cultural. “Especialmente en las comunidades de inmigrantes, a menudo vienen de una cultura diferente donde se acostumbra tener un liderazgo jerárquico fuerte”, señaló la Supervisora General Tammy Dunahoo, “Mientras que en nuestra cultura en los Estados Unidos estamos pasando a un estilo de liderazgo más colaborativo”.

La escala de revisión de Reimagina es sin precedentes para la Cuadrangular. Ha incluido una encuesta nacional de líderes Cuadrangulares, un estudio profundo de otras denominaciones, un análisis extenso de las tendencias en la organización y el liderazgo de iglesias y una conversación amplia por cuatro grupos de trabajo dedicados a observar específicamente aspectos diferentes de la vida y estructura del movimiento.

Estos grupos han estado mirando detalladamente:

- Re-enfocar nuestra identidad,
- Reavivar nuestra misión,
- Rediseñar nuestras responsabilidades,
- Realinear nuestro gobierno, y
- Redistribuir nuestros recursos.

Durante el transcurso de las reuniones locales, se agregó un sexto grupo de trabajo en respuesta a las preguntas y preocupaciones planteadas en algunos de los primeros eventos— ilustrando la
naturaleza abierta del proceso Reimagina. A este grupo adicional se le ha asignado “reclamar nuestra vitalidad espiritual”.

Mientras que las deliberaciones de la misión y valores cubren parte del mismo terreno, dar un énfasis separado a la necesidad de unción reitera los fundamentos de la Cuadrangular, dijo Glenn.

“No queremos perder el distintivo del Espíritu Santo”, explicó. “El desafío es asegurarse de que la vitalidad espiritual de la iglesia no está siendo comprometida. Al final del día, si Dios no está moviendo montañas, sanando a la gente, todo lo que realmente se está haciendo es poner en marcha planes como los de una empresa sin ánimo de lucro con buenas intenciones”.

Por el contrario, Glenn espera que Reimagina sea como el Consejo de Jerusalén de Hechos 15. Los ancianos de la iglesia primitiva se reunieron para considerar una pregunta práctica: ¿Qué debe requerirse de los nuevos creyentes no circuncidados? La decisión de un cambio de paradigma al abrazar la propagación del Evangelio entre los gentiles causó una cosecha multiplicada.

“No podemos medir el ministerio por edificios y dinero, o por su organización y su historia”, le dijo a aquellos que asistieron a la reunión local en Deeper Life Assembly (Iglesia Cuadrangular de Orlando 5) en Ocoee, Florida, en agosto. “El ministerio se mide por la eficacia de las vidas transformadas. El legado que queremos dejar no se trata de ser los dueños de propiedades, sino de la misión”.

"Dios nos ha desafiado a volver a imaginar el futuro como una iglesia que es relevante y relacional".

_—EL PRESIDENTE CUADRANGULAR GLENN BURRIS JR._
NOTICIAS PARA LA COMUNIDAD HISPANA CUADRANGULAR

Vea las muchas maneras en que la familia de la Iglesia Cuadrangular está ayudando y facultando a la comunidad hispana en los Estados Unidos y alrededor del mundo.

Viene la Conexión 2014

El año que viene, la Conexión Cuadrangular del 2014 viene a Dallas, y el tema es “Multiplica”. En la Conexión del 2014 que se llevará a cabo del 26 al 29 de mayo del 2014, los que asistan pueden esperar crecimiento en su liderazgo y renovación espiritual a través de los conferencistas, la adoración, el regreso de nuestro centro de conexión (sala de exposiciones) y oportunidades de aprendizaje. También, los que asistan que hablan español podrán conectarse con otros líderes latinos en nuestra sesión anual de la Conexión Hispana, realizada totalmente en español. Esta incluye a conferencistas guiados por el Espíritu y un tiempo de conexión. La inscripción para la Conexión del 2014 ya está disponible en línea. Para inscribirse y recibir la tarifa de inscripción temprana, visite foursquareconnection.com.

Tenga Una Voz

“Mientras estamos reorganizando o reformando nuestra denominación, es tiempo que el hispano pase a tener un involucramiento que va más a allá de una representación pero que sinceramente tenga una voz. La diferencia entre representación y voz es cuando una persona llega y representa no tiene autoridad o el peso suficiente para ser parte de las decisiones que van a marcar el futuro de su grupo; pero cuando tiene voz, entonces hay peso, hay autoridad, hasta se le toma en cuenta en las decisiones para el futuro.”

Descubra la Agenda del Cordero

En la Conexión Hispana durante la Conexión del 2013, el Reverendo Samuel Rodríguez trajo un mensaje poderoso acerca de la Agenda del Cordero. Animó a los cristianos a recordar que la Cruz es horizontal y vertical. Para vivir de acuerdo con la Agenda del Cordero, debemos reconciliar lo vertical con lo horizontal, Juan 3:16 con Mateo 25 y la salvación espiritual con la transformación de la comunidad. El mensaje del Reverendo Rodríguez está disponible ahora en español como descarga de audio de la Iglesia Cuadrangular. Encuéntrelo en línea visitando 4sq.ca/conexionhispana2013.

El Amor De Dios

“Al hacer la tarea de la Gran Comisión debemos siempre manifestar el fruto del Espíritu Santo, es decir el amor de Dios en nosotros”.

—Daniel Prieto, el director misional hispano nacional de la Iglesia Cuadrangular

“MARIO BARAHONA, QUIEN RECENTEMENTE TRANSICIONÓ DE PASTOR EJECUTIVO A PASTOR PRINCIPAL DE ÁNGELOS TEMPLE HISPANIC EN LOS ÁNGELES

—Daniel Prieto, el director misional hispano nacional de la Iglesia Cuadrangular
Esta Navidad, únase a Misiones Cuadrangulares Internacionales para cuidar a niños huérfanos alrededor del mundo. “No hay ninguna emoción más desgarradora que preguntarse qué es lo que siente un niño sin un padre o madre que lo cuide o proteja en este mundo peligroso”, dice Ted Vail, el director asociado de Misiones Cuadrangulares Internacionales. En respuesta a esta crisis, Misiones Cuadrangulares Internacionales se asociará con ministerios cuadrangulares internacionalmente para la ofrenda de navidad anual y así traer esperanza a los huérfanos. “Queremos poner nuestro amor en acción, tratando de llegar a aquellos a quienes Dios el Padre declara que ama, protege y defiende apasionadamente”, dice el Director de Misiones Cuadrangulares Internacionales Jim Scott. Visite fmichristmas.org para ver un video informativo con subtítulos en español y para aprender más sobre cómo su iglesia puede participar esta navidad.

La Cuadrangular apareció en la revista ‘TIME’
Este año, la revista TIME destacó a la Iglesia Cuadrangular hispana, el Calvario (Iglesia Cuadrangular Hispana de Silver Spring) en Silver Spring, Maryland, en su edición de abril. Los evangélicos, como TIME identifica a los que asisten a la iglesia, están interesados en más que salvar almas. También consideran la importancia de proveer sanidad de dolencias físicas mediante la oración, alimentos para la gente con un refrigerador vacío y hogares para aquellos que necesitan un lugar seguro. Las iglesias evangélicas no tienen miedo de hablar de temas sociales y temas teológicos. Con este enfoque, los evangélicos en todo el país continuarán influyendo positivamente a los Estados Unidos y al mundo Latino.

Ministerio a Través de las Fronteras
Sueños rotos a ambos lados de la frontera entre México y Estados Unidos son puntos de ministerio para dos parejas Cuadrangulares en lados opuestos del continente. Don y Sandy Godwin pastorean una iglesia de habla anglosajona en San Marino, estado de Baja California, que busca alcanzar a mexicanos indocumentados que crecieron en los Estados Unidos pero fueron deportados por las autoridades. Por otro lado, David y Kathleen Green de Hope Community Church (Iglesia Cuadrangular de Donna) en Donna, Texas, a través de su organización sin fines de lucro llamada Manos Abiertas, distribuyen millones de dólares en alimentos a familias hispanas que viven en pobreza absoluta y a trabajadores indocumentados en circunstancias difíciles a lo largo del Río Grande Valley.

Ofrenda de Navidad de Misiones Cuadrangulares
Esta Navidad, únase a Misiones Cuadrangulares Internacionales para cuidar a niños huérfanos alrededor del mundo. “No hay ninguna emoción más desgarradora que preguntarse qué es lo que siente un niño sin un padre o madre que lo cuide o proteja en este mundo peligroso”, dice Ted Vail, el director asociado de Misiones Cuadrangulares Internacionales. En respuesta a esta crisis, Misiones Cuadrangulares Internacionales se asociará con ministerios cuadrangulares internacionalmente para la ofrenda de navidad anual y así traer esperanza a los huérfanos. “Queremos poner nuestro amor en acción, tratando de llegar a aquellos a quienes Dios el Padre declara que ama, protege y defiende apasionadamente”, dice el Director de Misiones Cuadrangulares Internacionales Jim Scott. Visite fmichristmas.org para ver un video informativo con subtítulos en español y para aprender más sobre cómo su iglesia puede participar esta navidad.
LIDERAZGO SALUDABLE

Como líder, la vida puede llenarse de ocupaciones. Pero incluso en esas épocas ocupadas, necesitamos establecer buenos hábitos para nuestros compromisos, salud y familia. Serafín Contreras Galeano ofrece consejos para liderazgo saludable y un recordatorio de nuestro Salvador.

LA SALUD DEL LÍDER

DR. SERAFÍN CONTRERAS GALEANO, MINISTERIO RENUEVO DE PLENITUD

Lleno de vitalidad aparente. Muchos planes a granvel. Proyectos interminables. Noches de insomnio ante los compromisos. Días ausentes de su hogar por la presión ministerial. Hundía a veces su rostro entre sus manos crispadas por las múltiples demandas cotidianas. Lo visité en su iglesia para unas conferencias y lo vi caminar como un autómata. Me pregunté qué le sucedía pero no me atrevía a pasar la línea de su privacidad. Fue su esposa quién se acercó y me dijo: “Por favor pastor ore y intente hablar con mi esposo. No puede dormir de noche y tiene que tomar pastillas para poder medio dormir pero no le hacen efecto en la noche y durante el día anda como un sonámbulo y ya está perdiendo las facultades básicas diarias.” Este clamor fue como un eco de miles de esposas de pastores que intentarían decir lo mismo.

El Apóstol Pablo habla de renovación en el capítulo 12 de Romanos versos 1 y 2 cuando dice: “Les ruego, les suplico, les imploro por las misericordias de Dios que presentéis vuestros cuerpos en sacrificio santo, agradable a Dios.” Un día al leer este verso me pregunté ¿Por qué Pablo habla de presentar el cuerpo y no menciona el espíritu o el alma, sino el cuerpo, como un sacrificio a Dios? Luego de pensar y repensarlo entendí que el Apóstol estaba posiblemente tratando de desmontar el pensamiento griego que había entrado en la Iglesia y que lamentablemente ha invadido a la Iglesia de hoy y al liderazgo actual. El pensamiento griego enseñaba que el cuerpo no era bueno, que lo bueno era el espíritu y el alma, y que el cuerpo era la causa de los problemas humanos. El pensamiento griego enseñaba que para estudiar un todo había que dividirlo en partes. El pensamiento hebreo muestra lo contrario. No lo puedes dividir. Necesitas presentarlo en un todo. Por eso Pablo dice: Presenten a Dios el cuerpo y conjuntamente el espíritu y el alma.

El Apóstol Juan lo expresa de esta manera: “Querido hermano, oro para que te vaya bien en todos tus asuntos y goces de buena salud, así como prosperas espiritualmente” (3 Juan 1:2).

Como líderes necesitamos recordar que somos un todo, útil en la mano de Dios. Necesitamos caminar, pensar, buscar y guardar nuestra salud integral como siervos de Dios. Sanos integralmente seremos una ofrenda de olor grato, agradable y santa ante el Señor a quien servimos. Salud física, emocional, sexual, mental y espiritual es nuestro reto que siempre trae recompensa.

No olvides el ejercicio. Eso nos nutre.

Medita, reflexiona, aprende a quedarte quieto ante el Señor.

No te tomes tan en serio creyendo que eres el salvador. Salvador sólo hay uno. Eres sólo un ayudador del Salvador.

No sacrifiques a tu familia y ese tiempo enriquecedor con ellos por gastarlo todo con las ovejas.

Modifica tu forma de comer. Elige lo natural y desecha lo procesado porque esto último te deja quemado.

Finalmente, no dejes que el ministerio se convierta en una maquinaria que termine triturándote a ti y a tu familia. Volvamos al líder por excelencia, Jesús, y aprenderemos mucho de él.

Amado líder, toma la decisión de hacer un alto y evaluar tu camino. No hay muchos salvadores del mundo. Sólo hay uno y fue a la cruz por todos. Nuestro Maestro y Señor Jesús nos dio el ejemplo. Él no vivió hasta el desgaste. Sabía cuando parar y cuando desaparecer de la multitud. La decisión es nuestra y la recompensa viene de él.

Para más pasos prácticos por el Dr. Serafín Contreras Galeano, visite www.serafincontreras.com.
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