



The United Methodist Church
San Francisco Area California-Nevada Conference

Warner H. Brown, Jr.
Resident Bishop

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Dear Colleagues in Ministry,

I am announcing today a new model by which my cabinet and I will be doing the work of superintendency in the California-Nevada Annual Conference. We have been working on this plan for several months and in recent weeks we have sought feedback in various settings.

We feel the responses we received have been very helpful. We are now ready to formally announce our new plan for superintending.

Beginning July 1, I will only appoint **five district superintendents to supervise the seven districts** of the California-Nevada Annual Conference. With them, working as a team, each superintendent's gifts will serve the whole conference. Additionally, Rev. Ted Virts, after completing six years as Delta District DS, will continue on the Cabinet in a new role. He will serve as a Conference Superintendent with focused responsibility for leadership development, new and revitalized congregations, and supervision.

The Cabinet's work will be resourced by intentional working relationships with the clergy. **The active clergy will be placed in clergy circuits.** These circuits will meet on a scheduled basis for communications, support and accountability. Each circuit will have a designated circuit leader who will convene the circuit and also meet with the DS on a scheduled basis. Circuit leaders will assist the DS in communications with circuit clergy and in other ways that optimize the work of the superintendent with clergy and congregations.

The Cabinet and I are **excited about this new plan for doing the work of superintending.** We believe it will help us work more effectively. The idea was not a response to the financial concerns facing the Conference as we were developing this plan before that came to light. Originally, I had hoped we could have two Conference Superintendents in addition to the five District Superintendents. But, in response to the current economic climate, we are reducing the Cabinet by one for now. I hope this will not become a permanent change.

For an expanded discussion of this change and other shifts in Conference plans, please see my March column in the Connection found on the Conference website www.cnumc.org.

Your Brother in Christ,

Warner H. Brown, Jr.
Resident Bishop