



NAD Church Planting Report


November 2, 2018
Columbia, Maryland

“When they had preached the gospel to that city and had many disciples, they returned to Lystra and to Iconium and to Antioch, strengthening the souls of the disciples, encouraging them to continue in the faith... And when they had appointed elders for them in every church, with prayer and fasting they committed them to the Lord in whom they had believed.”

Acts 14:21-23



**Why plant more?
Don't we have enough churches already?**



1. People in cities, towns, and islands of North America, who do not have access to the Gospel through an Adventist Church

Total Population in North America
Over 364 Million

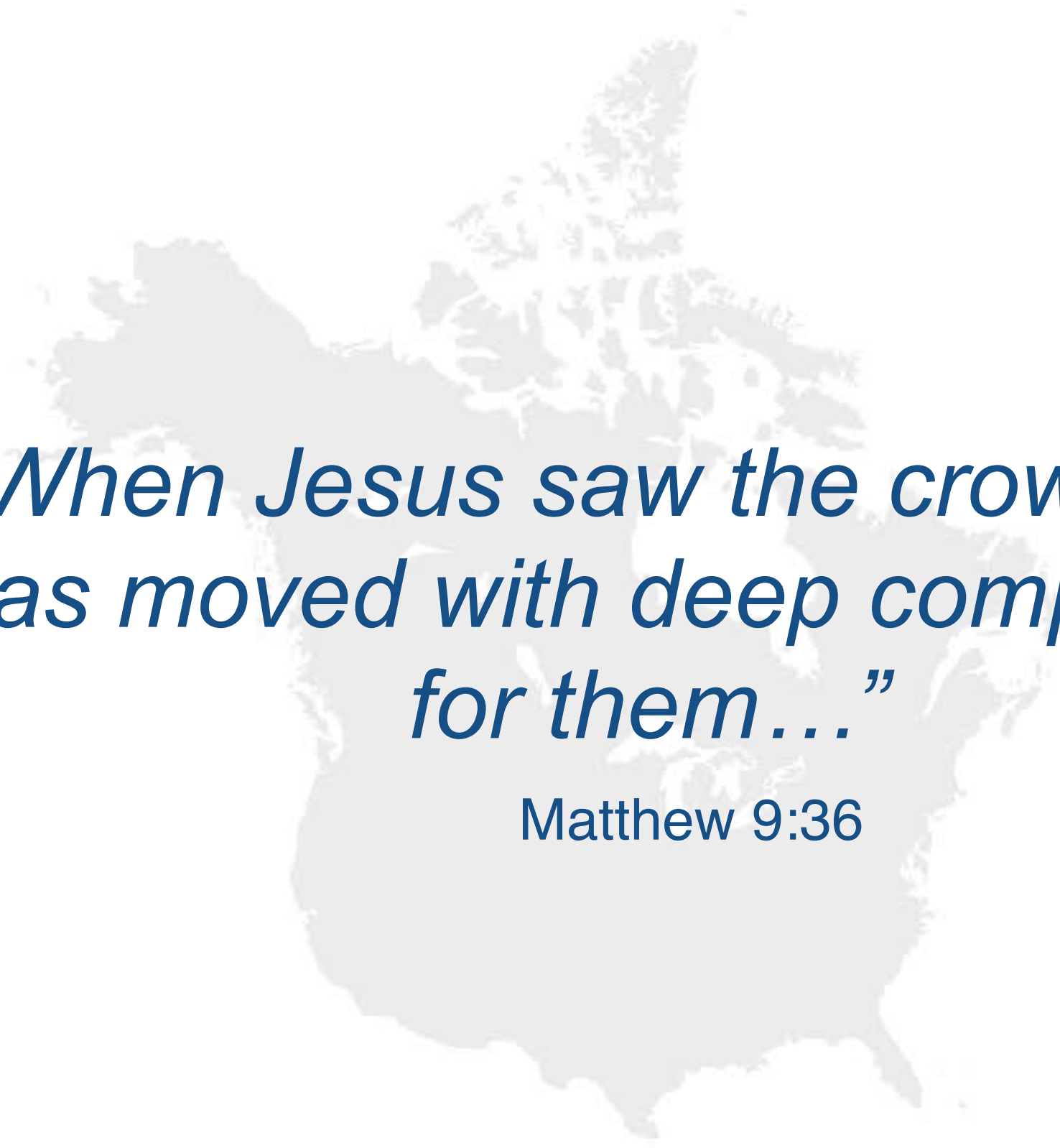
There should be a minimum of
ONE church for every **25,000** people

We need at least **14,560** churches

Total Presence - **6,861**



2. We are the Heart, Eyes, Hands, and Feet of Jesus in our Communities



*“When Jesus saw the crowds, he
was moved with deep compassion
for them...”*

Matthew 9:36

Recommended Definition of a Church Plant

“A newly recognized mission group, less than five years old, that **serves** with the community and **worships regularly**, with the goal of becoming an organized church.”

Why Community Adventist Churches?

A church that does not go beyond the four walls is not really a church

We are not looking to have another church in the community, but a church for (with) the community.



3. New churches best position Adventism to reach new generations, new residents, and new people groups

Studies done through the years have confirmed:

- new churches gain 60-80% of their new members from people who are not attending any church.
- new churches generally baptize at a higher percentage than older churches (more missional)
- older churches gain 80-90% of their new members by transfers from other congregations

If the Church can only reach people who think like us, dress like us, smell like us, speak like us, and worship like us, you will never be able to reach those who are different!

Jesus came to **SAVE THEM** too!

We need to be more like Jesus!

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- **Unentered Areas & People Groups** (single moms, millennials, Generation Z)
 - **North American Born** (regardless of ethnicity)
 - **Emerging Immigrant Groups**
 - **Urban areas & smaller towns** (home churches which are directly connected to local Conference)



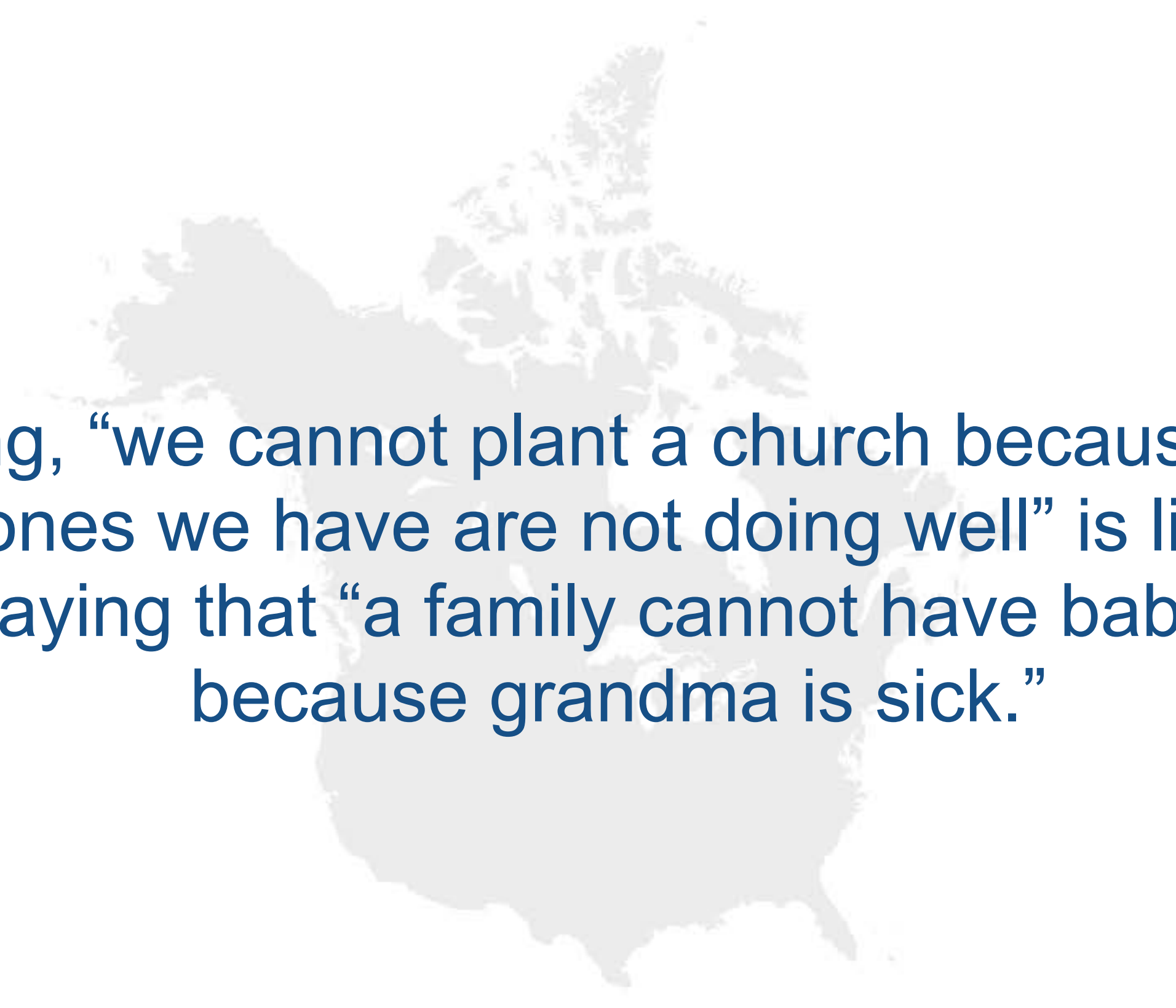
4. Church Planting helps to revitalize existing churches and provides a natural environment for discipleship.



Why plant more churches if the ones we have
are dying?



There should not be antagonism between church planting and church revitalization



Saying, “we cannot plant a church because the ones we have are not doing well” is like saying that “a family cannot have babies because grandma is sick.”

Churches die because:

- No community focused ministry
- Budget for members' needs keeps increasing, mission decreases
- No Evangelistic Emphasis
- Members argue more and more about their preferences
- Members don't pray together
- Do not have clarity as to why they exist and idolize another era

Autopsy of a Deceased Church - Thom Rainer

Church Planting - 2018

- **Over 120 New Church Plants**

(Reported by Conferences Presidents/Directors)

- **NAD APPROVED FUNDING** (for church plants 1 - 3 years old)

171 Church Plants

- **NAD APPROVED FUNDING**

71 New Church Plants

English - 19

Other Language Groups - 9

Spanish Speaking - 43

Church Planting by Unions - Approved Funding 2018

(for church plants 1 - 3 years old)

171 Church Plants

- Columbia Union - 55
- Atlantic Union - 31
- Southern Union - 29
- Mid-America Union - 18
- Lake Union - 17
- North Pacific Union - 11
- Canadian Union - 7
- Southwestern Union - 3

Church Planting by Unions - NEW Approved Funding - 2018

71 New Church Plants

- Atlantic Union - 26
- Columbia Union - 21
- Lake Union - 7
- North Pacific Union - 7
- Southern Union - 4
- Canadian Union - 2
- Mid-America Union - 2
- Southwestern Union - 2

Church Planting by Conferences

NEW Approved Funding - 2018

- Northeastern - 14
- Chesapeake - 11
- Greater New York - 8
- Washington - 6
- Northern New England - 4
- Allegheny East, Florida, Illinois, Ohio, Wisconsin - 3
- Allegheny West, Minnesota, Arkansas-Louisiana - 2
- Alberta, Kentucky-Tennessee, Ontario, Michigan, Oregon, Pennsylvania, Potomac - 1

Funds Invested in Church Planting - 2018

- Combined Funding - \$2, 037,107
- NAD & GC - \$855,000.00 (NAD - \$595,000.00 & GC - \$260,000.00)
- Unions - \$444,388.00
- Conferences - \$493,888.00
- Local Churches -243,831.00

Church Planters BootCamp - 2018

- February 28 - March 3, 2019
- Camp Kulaqua, Florida
- Tracks: (1) English Basic, (2) Spanish Basic, (3) English Advanced, (4) Spanish Advanced, (5) Coaching, (6) Coaching Spanish (7) Refugee, (8) Planting and Church Revitalization



Church Planters BootCamp - 2016



Church Planters BootCamp - 2017



Church Planters BootCamp - 2018

North American Division Evangelism Institute



Collaboration and Team Work



2018 Impact **10 Conferences**

8 of 9 Unions currently active

2445 in attendance, primarily laity

58 presenters from a network of practitioners

160 total hours of training & equipping

182 decisions to Join a core team

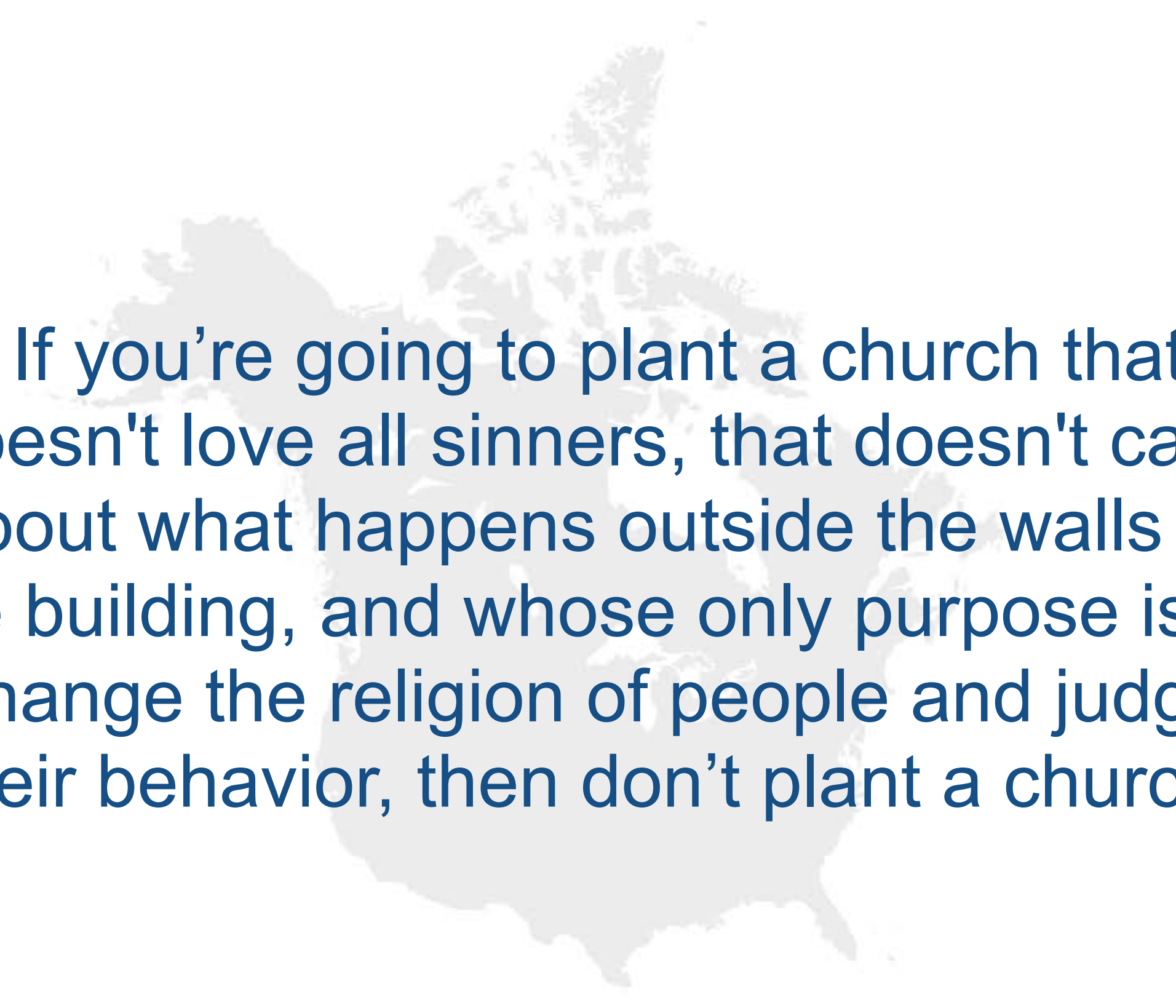
101 decisions to be a Lead Planter

12 requests for baptism

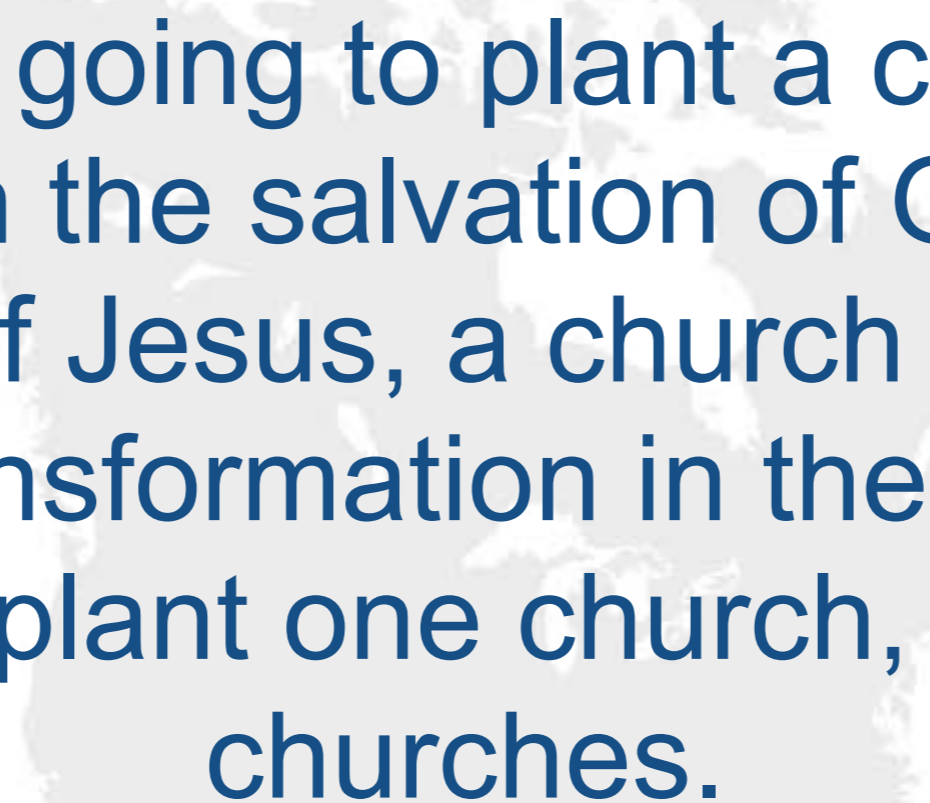
51 pastors committing by God's grace to plant a church in every district they pastor until they retire or the Lord returns

Ongoing Recommendations on Church Planting

- Officially recognize new church plants from birth (Mission Groups -eAdventist Mission Groups → Companies → Churches)
- Each Union & Conference to appoint a Church Planting Director/Coordinator
- NAD Church Planting Advisory is now active (meets once a year)
- Volunteer Lay Pastors Ministry is now official (Official Guidelines available for Conference use)



If you're going to plant a church that doesn't love all sinners, that doesn't care about what happens outside the walls of the building, and whose only purpose is to change the religion of people and judge their behavior, then don't plant a church.



But if you're going to plant a church that is centered on the salvation of God and the compassion of Jesus, a church that will be an agent of transformation in the community, then don't plant one church, plant 1000 churches.



PLANT1000

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