Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you. And surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age.”

(Matthew 28:19-20)
First United Methodist Church of Reseda is one, fairly small congregation.

Every year in June, our Reseda delegates connect with other delegates from 360 other local churches.

This is what we call “Cal-Pac” Reseda is part of United Methodist Christians from Southern California, Hawaii, Guam and Saipan.

There are 55 other United Methodist Annual Conferences in the U.S. Through them, Reseda is connected to 32,147 other local churches.

Add another 76 Annual Conferences from Africa, Asia and Europe with an additional 6 million+ members.

And .. that’s just United Methodists.

Reseda belongs to a CHRISTIAN global family that is beloved of God and anointed by the Holy Spirit.

In this edition of our Circuit Rider, you will read highlights of our Annual Conference that was held from June 14-17, 2017 at Redlands, California.

Our church in Reseda is NOT as small as one might think.

“Dan Griffin shared the good news that most Cal-Pac ministries in 2016 ended with budgets in the black, or they broke even. This is a significant accomplishment for our annual conference.

We have approximately 360 churches in our conference; at the end of 2015, 207 remitted 100% of apportionments. In 2016, 213 remitted 100% of their apportionments.

Our overall giving for local churches towards the General Church is 84% percent. African University Fund, Interdenominational Fund, and Black College Fund all received 100%. Western Jurisdiction funds were paid at 86%. We strive to have a balanced budget and to continue to strengthen our stewardship, and financial transparency.”

(Source: UM Daily, 33rd Annual Session of the Cal-pac Conference)
Bishop Hagiya commissioned Rev. Andrew Lee as a missionary and offered a prayer over him and his ministry. Andrew is an ordained elder of the California-Pacific Annual Conference, where he has served pastorates in Hawaii.

Andrew’s message is the amazing love that God has for all people. He says, “God has placed in my heart a love and passion for God’s people.

The Rev. Andrew Soon Lee is a missionary with the United Methodist General Board of Global Ministries serving as a country coordinator for the Methodist Mission in Cambodia. As of early 2017, the church in Cambodia had 140 congregations and a membership of some 4,000.

”Rev. Bau Dang, former DS in our Conference, translated the entire bible into Vietnamese. When Rev. Wingfield served on the Board of Ordained Ministry with Rev. Dang, he would see him up in the dark of the early morning at his desk translating.”

“The body congratulated Rev. Dang on completing his work. Rev. Dang reported that 25,000 New Testaments and 37,500 whole Bibles have been distributed in Vietnam and to Vietnamese people in Cambodia, Laos, Russia, US, Canada, and many other countries. They are published in Vietnam with the expressed permission of the communist government there. This is a miracle in and of itself. This project can be supported through the Advance, “Bibles for Vietnam.” It costs $5 per Bible to print, and is available online at Bible.com.”

(Source: umcmission.org and UM Daily, 33rd Annual Session of the Cal-pac Conference)

(Source: UM Daily, 33rd Annual Session of the Cal-pac Conference.
www.umcmission.org/Give-to-Mission/Search-for-Projects/Projects/3021647)
There are certain metrics on which our Cal-Pac Bishop Grant Hagiya said that he is focusing.

**Local Church Goals:**
- Every local church needs to reach out to its neighborhood and bring 10 new people to Christ every year.
- Every church to increase its average worship attendance by 10%.
- Every church to make 25% of the current congregation living Disciples.
- Every church needs to give 100% of its apportionment.

**Annual Conference Goals:**
- double our vital congregations;
- start 20 new faith communities in the next 3 years;
- create comprehensive revitalization of local church programs;
- and improve our leadership, discipling, and community engagement systems.

(Source: UM Daily, 33rd Annual Session of the Cal-pac Conference)

“Bishop Hagiya introduced a period of discussion and prayer regarding The Commission on a Way Forward. He shared a model for categorizing the ways people hold beliefs about human sexuality alongside commitments to belonging together in the church …”

“Bishop Hagiya wishes for United Methodists to have more conversations in light of the tumultuous events and the divide over LGBT issues. He has become more convinced that the UMC must stay together and that there is a way forward, together. On average, the UMC has divided every 50 years in our existence - over doctrine, over slavery, and over culture. Dividing is not new to the Methodist Church. If we split apart over the issue of human sexuality, we will lose far more than we gain.”

(Source: UM Daily, 33rd Annual Session of the Cal-pac Conference)