

Next Steps



Live
and Love Like Jesus
Transformed & TransformingSM

Step Forward



A church that lives and loves like Jesus. That's the RCA's vision in Transformed & Transforming. We have heard God call our denomination to radically follow Christ in mission together. Now we're living into it.

What's the next step for your church?

Only your church can know God's unique assignment for your congregation and your community. But we want to walk alongside you as you work to discover what that assignment is and bring it to life, or go deeper.

Transformed & Transforming is about learning from, and sharing with, other congregations. It's about equipping individuals and congregations for mission. It's about developing new ministries in your community and around the world. It's about becoming a thriving, mission-focused, culturally relevant denomination.

It's about journeying together as we explore new ways to follow God's call.

As your church moves forward in mission, transformation, or leadership development, these equipping opportunities are offered to help you take the next step.



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Volunteer Opportunities

Your short-term service can have long-term impact.

Serve alongside RCA missionaries and trusted mission partners, using your gifts in meaningful ways.

Send a mission team from your congregation over spring break. Spend a few weeks helping people put their lives back together after a disaster. Encourage a college student who's contemplating ministry to check out a summer volunteer internship.

RCA Volunteer Engagement also offers resources and training for churches and volunteers:

- Help with the planning process
- Resources for spiritual growth during a mission trip
- Support on the field
- Tools to help with debriefing and follow-through

Get started:
www.rca.org/volunteer • kvankampen@rca.org • (616) 541-0868

Learning Communities



Want to get involved but aren't sure where to start? Curious about what's been successful in other congregations? Join a learning community to learn from, and with, other pastors and church leaders. Find out what's working for them, and share what you've learned in your own ministry setting.

Cultivating transformation, equipping leaders, and doing mission are big, challenging tasks. We rely on the Holy Spirit to direct and empower our work. But we can also rely on each other. Get the support you need to help your church live and love like Jesus.

Join a learning community to explore:

Leadership Development: Take your leadership equipping to a new level when you join with other congregations that are successfully raising up new leaders. Get started: ealeman@rca.org • (616) 541-0866

Local Mission: Join with others for prayer, renewal, inspiration, and accountability as you build bridges from your church to your community. Get started: bnewhouse@rca.org • (616) 541-0849

Missional Mosaic: Discover how to do more effective missional ministry in a world that is rapidly changing. Discuss ways to increase your congregation's cultural competency serving in multicultural ministry environments or in your advocacy on behalf of people who are poor or vulnerable. Get started: sbaker@rca.org • (212) 870-2538



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Multiplication: Share your experience and insight in this learning community of church multiplication leaders. Learn from each other and help shape the future of church planting in the RCA. Get started: tvink@rca.org • (616) 541-0831

Thriving Congregations: Join established and emerging leaders as you learn from a thriving congregation in your area, or share your church's renewal experience with others. Get started: abossardet@rca.org • (616) 541-0906

Transformational Processes: Explore, design, and develop pathways for making disciples in your congregation. Create your own discipleship pathways, or explore and implement processes RCA churches have identified as transformational: Faithwalking, 3DM, VantagePoint³, Vitality Pathways, Sticky Faith, next generation faith formation, and small groups. Get started: keriks@rca.org • (616) 541-0872

Women's Transformation and Leadership: Expand your church's capacity for ministry and mission by encouraging and equipping women to fully share their gifts and influence. Join other congregations in one of two themed learning communities: explore initial steps to include women's leadership in your church, or take already-existing women's leadership opportunities to the next level. Get started: ltesta@rca.org • (646) 245-4744

Learning communities are starting soon. Sign up now.

Planting Churches



The most effective way for you to reach people for Christ is to start a new church.

If your congregation has a heart for people who are far from God, consider taking the next step by planting a church. You could be a vital part of the RCA's goal to plant 350 new churches by 2028.

New churches need parent churches—established congregations that offer support and guidance. Parents help church plants thrive. Many parent churches experience new life themselves when they take a step of faith and start a new church.

Want to go deeper with church planting? New congregations need church-planter pastors. If you sense God may be calling you to pastor a church plant, evaluation, training, and coaching are available.

A learning community for church multiplication leaders is also available (see the center pages for more information).



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tvink@rca.org • (616) 541-0831



Global Mission Equipping

Share the love of Jesus, in word and in deed, with people around the world.

That's the heart of global mission. If it's also the heart of your congregation, take the next step.

Align your mission efforts with your identity and calling as a congregation. Learn how to participate directly in the mission work you support.

Start by reflecting, with your congregation, on your current mission work and what you want it to look like. What *could* it be? What *should* it be? Through a progressive planning process, leaders in your church will develop a mission action plan and decide what *will* be—and figure out how to make it happen.

An RCA facilitator will walk with you, offering tools and other help. If you're looking for new mission opportunities, the facilitator will make suggestions that line up with your passions. Churches with similar passions will have the opportunity to connect in a network and work together to multiply their impact.

As churches live out their mission action plans, they'll pay it forward and walk with another congregation through the process.

Get started:
tcampbell@rca.org • (616) 541-0836

Explore and Engage

Not sure what next steps are the best fit for your church?

Check out Explore and Engage, a discussion guide and prayer experience that's a good starting point for congregations to dive into Transformed & Transforming. Explore and Engage materials are available in English, Spanish, and Korean: www.rca.org/resources/transform.

Ridder Church Renewal

Join Jesus in mission, no matter what it takes.

If you're ready to commit to deep change to do this, Ridder Church Renewal is for you. It's a journey of personal and congregational transformation.

During a 30-month process, pastors and others leaders from your church will invest in their own faith renewal through retreats, assignments, and accountability. As they experience transformation, so will the congregation. A second 30-month segment is also available.

Get started: abossardet@rca.org • (616) 541-0906



**Reformed Church
in America**

*Radically Following Christ
in Mission Together*

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