The Dakotas/Minnesota Area is seeking a strategic, innovative, experienced leader to strengthen and grow our church planting initiatives as Director of New Church Development. This person would be joining a passionate, high-capacity team of leaders who are “all in” for the mission of making disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world, and seeking to be innovative and responsive to our changing contexts and culture.

Our mission is to make disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world by raising up leaders who start new churches and lead existing churches to reach new people, grow in their love of God and neighbor and heal a broken world.

**Why Come to the Dakotas/Minnesota Area:**
- We have committed ourselves 100% to starting new faith communities. In Minnesota, we have 15 new church starts of various types under the care of congregational development, with a commitment to start 14 new churches in the next 7 years. In the Dakotas, one of the fastest growing United Methodist churches, Embrace in Sioux Falls, has started three campuses within the past five years. The Dakotas has 6 new church starts under the care of congregational development with a plan to start seven more new churches in the next 10 years.
- We are home to thousands of millennials in our vibrant metro areas: Minneapolis/St. Paul, Sioux Falls, Fargo/Moorhead. And we have one of the fastest growing areas in the United States in the Bakken Oil Fields of North Dakota. We are diverse as we are home to the largest Hmong and Liberian communities in the United States, as well as strong populations of Native Americans, Somali and Hispanics just to name a few.
- We are raising millions of dollars for our church planting initiatives.
- You won’t hear “that is not how we do it here.” We are letting go of our preconceived notions and assumptions in order to do whatever it takes to reach new people with the good news of Jesus Christ.

**What You Would Do:**
- Assess our current church planting system and staffing and improve it so that it is a robust laboratory of new church development and has a proven track record of growing new starts into churches of strength and impact.
- Strategically identify areas and audiences ripe for new churches, including multi-site ministries and cultivate partner/parent churches that can reach into those areas.
- Supervise for results our new church start projects including developing a network of coaches, setting clear benchmarks, and providing direction, resources, training and appropriate intervention so that we are effective stewards of our people and resources.
- Develop a pool of potential planters who have the heart, skills and wisdom to reach new people and lead a start-up organization to sustainability.
- Generate resources for new church development through the on-going structure of our current capital campaigns and by casting a vision of multiplication and reaching the next generation with our existing congregations.
- Project future Conference budgets for new church starts and manage current grant allocations in accord with benchmarks, covenants and long range funding cycle models.
- Bring a fresh voice and best practices to the Leadership Team of the Dakotas and Minnesota Conferences that keep us future oriented, creative and adaptable to a changing mission field.

Qualifications and Competencies
- Committed to the Christian faith; deeply Wesleyan in one’s approach to ministry, a passion for reaching new people with the good news of Jesus Christ, and a conviction that God is not done with the church.
- A proven track record in starting new churches, developing leaders and systems, and experience in judicatory processes related to new church development.
- Professional education and experience that demonstrates mastery of non-profit management skills including supervising, mentoring and motivating church planters and other direct reports, budgeting and financial management, maintaining effective administrative systems, building and empowering volunteer teams, communicating and creating alignment to the vision within a diverse constituency.
- A results-oriented leader with strong interpersonal skills and demonstrated ability in navigating complex systems in order to bring about change.
- Life-long learner and collaborator with willingness to connect inside and outside the denomination with other practitioners in the field.

Accountability and Compensation:
- Full time, exempt.
- Salary plus benefits based on experience and the compensation polices of the Dakotas/Minnesota Conferences.
- Significant travel throughout Minnesota and the Dakotas will be required. Travel expenses will be reimbursed.
- Due to the size of this mission field, there is flexibility about residence and office for this position.
- A member of the Appointive Cabinet of both the Minnesota and Dakotas Conferences, although there would not be expectation to be at all cabinet meetings.
- Accountable to the Director of Ministries of the Dakotas Conference and to the Director of Ministries of the Minnesota Conference for work performance and accomplishment of goals.

Apply:
To apply, please send a letter of interest along with a resume and salary requirements to jobs@minnesotaumc.org. Questions may be addressed to:
Rev. Cindy Gregorson
Director of Ministries
cindy.gregorson@minnesotaumc.org
612.230.6143

Or

Rev. Rebecca Trefz
Director of Ministries
rebecca.trefz@dakotsumc.org
605.996.6552

Learn More:
You can visit www.minnesotaumc.org and www.dakotsumc.org to learn more about us.
Application review will begin on August 3, 2015 and the position will remain open until filled.