National Black Nazarene Conference – July 30, 2016

Context/Assumptions/Strategies

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Context: What outside influences affect this conference and efforts to increase the presence and influence of blacks in the Church of the Nazarene?

- Barbara Kellerman – Hard Times: Leadership in America
  A checklist of the meta-context that makes leadership difficult in the 2nd decade of 21st century America

- Deteriorating race relations – NYT/CBS poll -- 69 % of Americans think that race relations are bad and getting worse.

Assumptions: What are some of the assumptions at work among us?

- The mission of the C/N is multicultural and international

  The C/N needs and wants to
  - strengthen and start black churches
  - encourage and support black pastors and leaders

- The C/N needs and wants to do better at including African Americans who make up 13% or 40 million of the population.

Strategy: How can the C/N attract and include African Americans?

- Stay on message – holiness as an inward and outward journey – the denomination as a means to an end
- Don't stereotype – black people need to know that they will be welcome in any Nazarene church
- Build strategic partnerships – leaders with cross-cultural relationships – 'patron saint' -
- Create horizontal (cultural/language/ethnic) and vertical (geographical) structures
  Study of 7th Day Adventists and Church of God Anderson
- Leadership Development
  NTS – Center for Black Leadership – Tillman/Hodgson
  Recruiting/Developing prospect
- Develop strategies for church and denominational development