

How to Enter Your Goals

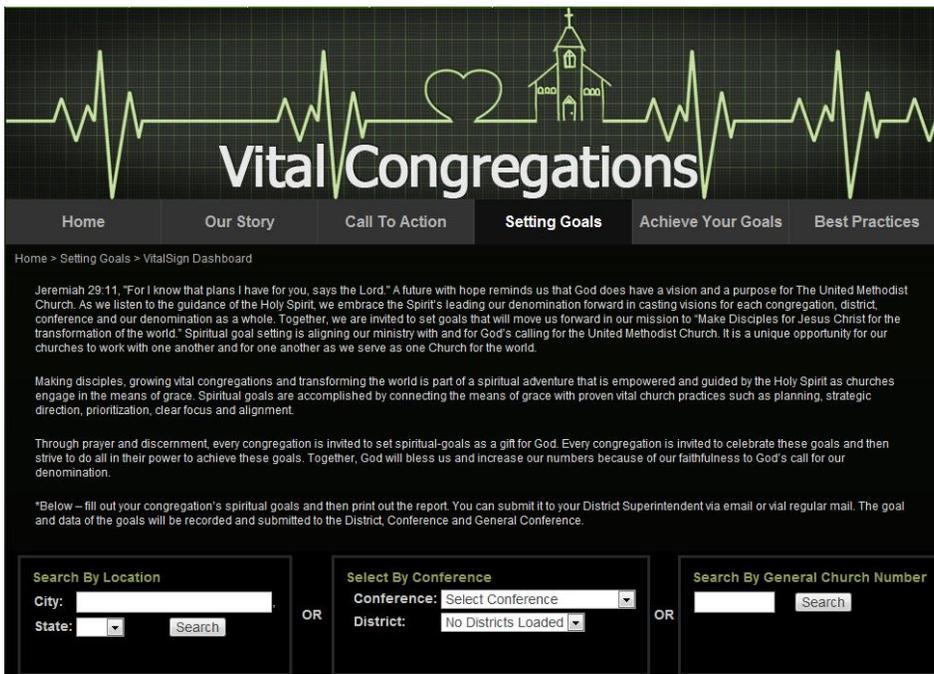
1) Go to UMvitalcongregations.org and click on the "Setting Goals Tab"



2) Click "Congregations: Click here to set your Goals"



3) That brings up a new page that looks like this.



4) At the top of the page you'll find an explanation and instruction on setting goals.

The screenshot shows the top of a website with a dark background and a light green grid. At the top, there is a graphic of a heartbeat line with a church icon and a heart. Below this, the text "Vital Congregations" is written in a large, white, sans-serif font. Underneath the title is a navigation bar with six tabs: "Home", "Our Story", "Call To Action", "Setting Goals" (which is highlighted), "Achieve Your Goals", and "Best Practices". Below the navigation bar, there are three paragraphs of text in a light green font. The first paragraph is a quote from Jeremiah 29:11. The second paragraph discusses making disciples and growing vital congregations. The third paragraph talks about prayer and discernment. At the bottom of the text area, there is a small asterisked note about submitting goals.

Jeremiah 29:11, "For I know that plans I have for you, says the Lord." A future with hope reminds us that God does have a vision and a purpose for The United Methodist Church. As we listen to the guidance of the Holy Spirit, we embrace the Spirit's leading our denomination forward in casting visions for each congregation, district, conference and our denomination as a whole. Together, we are invited to set goals that will move us forward in our mission to "Make Disciples for Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world." Spiritual goal setting is aligning our ministry with and for God's calling for the United Methodist Church. It is a unique opportunity for our churches to work with one another and for one another as we serve as one Church for the world.

Making disciples, growing vital congregations and transforming the world is part of a spiritual adventure that is empowered and guided by the Holy Spirit as churches engage in the means of grace. Spiritual goals are accomplished by connecting the means of grace with proven vital church practices such as planning, strategic direction, prioritization, clear focus and alignment.

Through prayer and discernment, every congregation is invited to set spiritual-goals as a gift for God. Every congregation is invited to celebrate these goals and then strive to do all in their power to achieve these goals. Together, God will bless us and increase our numbers because of our faithfulness to God's call for our denomination.

*Below – fill out your congregation's spiritual goals and then print out the report. You can submit it to your District Superintendent via email or vial regular mail. The goal and data of the goals will be recorded and submitted to the District, Conference and General Conference.

5) Below the instructions are three boxes that allow you to search for your church by location, conference, or general church number.

The screenshot shows a search interface with a dark background and light green text. At the top, there is a paragraph of text with an asterisk, identical to the one in the previous screenshot. Below this, there are three search boxes arranged horizontally, separated by "OR" labels. The first box is titled "Search By Location" and contains a "City:" text input field, a "State:" dropdown menu, and a "Search" button. The second box is titled "Select By Conference" and contains a "Conference:" dropdown menu and a "District:" dropdown menu. The third box is titled "Search By General Church Number" and contains a text input field and a "Search" button.

*Below – fill out your congregation's spiritual goals and then print out the report. You can submit it to your District Superintendent via email or vial regular mail. The goal and data of the goals will be recorded and submitted to the District, Conference and General Conference.

Search By Location
City:
State: OR

Select By Conference
Conference: OR
District: OR

Search By General Church Number

6) If you select a church by location or conference, you'll be asked to select your church from a list.

The screenshot shows the same search interface as in the previous screenshot, but with the "City" field filled with "Gibbon" and the "State" dropdown set to "NE". Below the search boxes, there is a large dark box with light green text that says "Select Your Church From The List Below". Inside this box, there is a dropdown menu showing "FAITH UNITED OF GIBBON ~ P O BOX 159 GIBBON, NE 68840".

Search By Location
City: Gibbon
State: NE OR

Select By Conference
Conference: OR
District: OR

Search By General Church Number

Select Your Church From The List Below
FAITH UNITED OF GIBBON ~ P O BOX 159 GIBBON, NE 68840

- 7) That brings up several tables of information. The first shows historical data for your church on the five measures of vitality and includes boxes for entering your goals. For more information on the historical data and what to enter for your goals, head back to the starting goals page and click the link for the how-to guide in Setting Vital Congregation Goals box.

Select Your Church From The List Below
 FAITH UNITED OF GIBBON ~ P O BOX 159 GIBBON, NE 68840

Church: FAITH UNITED OF GIBBON GCNO: 826781 Charge: FAITH UNITED OF GIBBON
 District: GATEWAY Conference: NEBRASKA

Historical Data and Goals

Please only enter integer values

	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2012	2013	2014	2015
<u>Avg. Weekly Attendance</u>	105	105	106	91		<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
<u>Professions of Faith</u>	12	12	0	2		<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
<u>Small Groups</u>				16		<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
<u>Members in Mission</u>	3	0	0	0		<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
<u>Dollars Given to Mission</u>	42612	47257	44165	24950		<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>

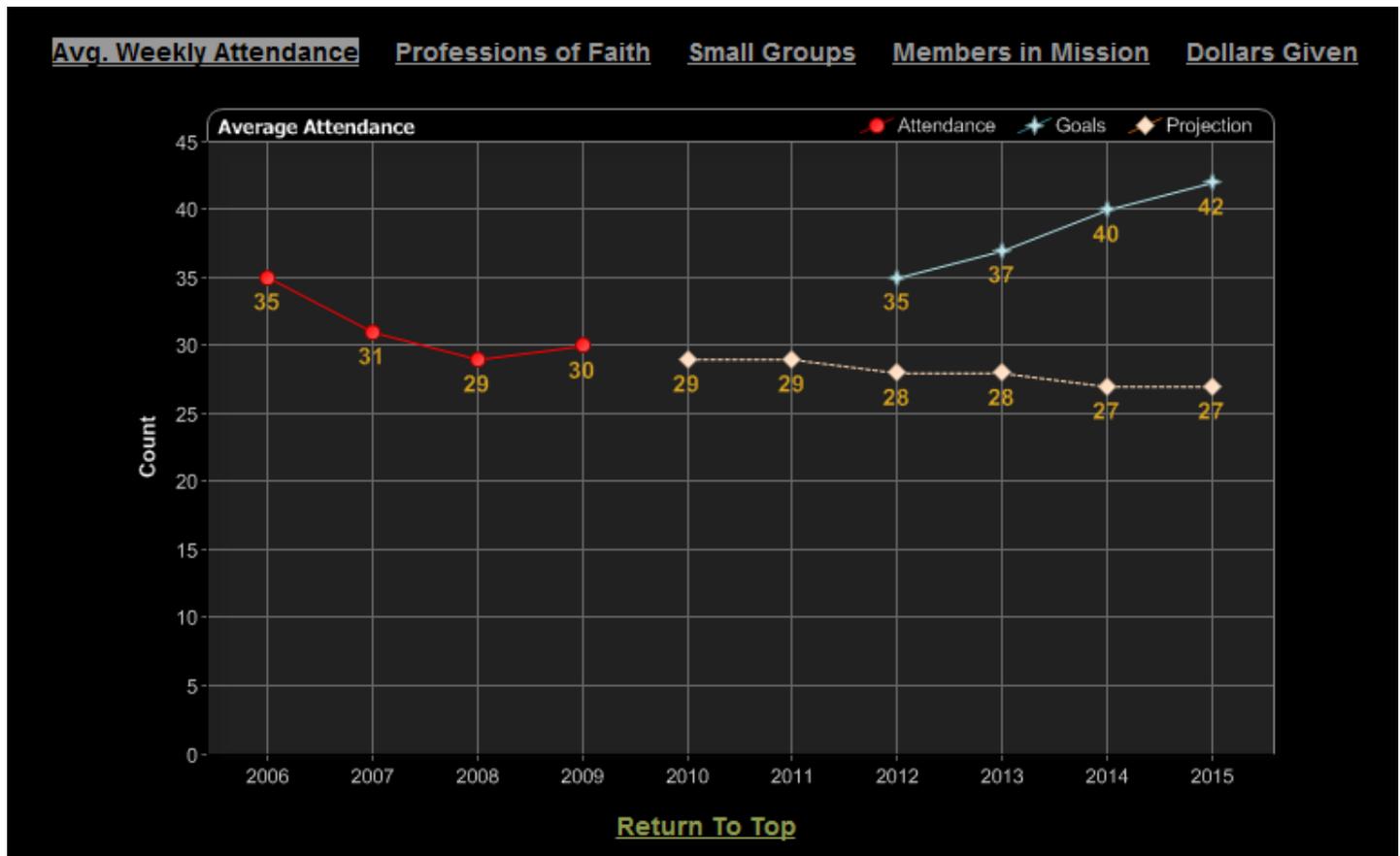
* The 2010 Statistical Data Has Not Been Verified.

- 8) Below your historical data, in a separate table you can find projections for the coming quadrennium for average attendance and mission giving. These are based upon calculating an algorithm of your previous history. In some cases, these projections may not show up for your congregation. In order to account for incorrect or missing data, some projections were automatically thrown out so as not to provide unreasonable projections.

	Projections					2012	2013	2014	2015
	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010				
Avg. Weekly Attendance						86	84	83	82
Dollars Given to Mission						24980	24989	24999	25009

[How was this calculated?](#)

9) You can also see your data graphed for each metric and the projections. When your goals are entered, you'll see them show up on the chart as well.



The historical data is based upon your congregation's year-end statistical reports as follows:

Average Weekly Attendance: Average attendance for all services held weekly worship services.

Professions of Faith: Number of persons received into professing membership by profession of faith (does not include transfers or persons received by faith restored).

Small Groups: Number of classes and groups. *There may be other small groups not reported on this line that you want to include in these goal.*

Members in Mission: Number of persons sent out on UMVIM and other mission teams. *There are other forms of local, national, and international mission work not reported on this line that you want to include in these goal.*

Dollars Given to Mission: Total giving to apportionments and all other reported benevolences to both United Methodist and non-United Methodist causes.

This data is intended to provide you with some very basic context to help in forming your goals. In some cases, however, the statistical reports may only capture some of the ways in which your church will be reaching your goals. For instance, "Members in Mission" only includes the number of persons participating in mission teams. You may have persons engaged in other types of mission you want to include in this goal. In the coming years, the statistical reports will be changing to allow you to fully and accurately report your progress on your goals.

10) To enter your data, simply click on each box and start typing. You can easily switch from one blank to the next by hitting the tab key, or clicking each box with your mouse.

Please only enter integer values

	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2012	2013	2014	2015
<u>Avg. Weekly Attendance</u>	105	105	106	91		<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
<u>Professions of Faith</u>	12	12	0	2		<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
<u>Small Groups</u>				16		<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
<u>Members in Mission</u>	3	0	0	0		<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
<u>Dollars Given to Mission</u>	42612	47257	44165	24950		<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>

11) Once you've entered your goals, put in your first and last name and an email address to contact you. If you know your Interpreter password, you can also enter that to validate your goals.

<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="button" value="Submit"/>
Your First and Last Name	Your Email Address	Interpreter Login (optional)	

12) Once your information is entered, your DS or conference staff will go in to review your goals and validate the entries. Once goals are validated, they are locked in and cannot be changed.