

2026 General Board Report

NORTH AMERICAN PACIFIC/ASIAN DISCIPLES MINISTRIES

by Chung Seong Kim, Executive Pastor

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The NAPAD community upholds the cultures and heritages of Pacific/Asian peoples within the Christian faith. Our mission and purpose encompass the following objectives:

- Participating in God's mission through various expressions of the Christian Church in the United States and Canada
- Contributing to the wholeness and unity of the Christian Church in the United States and Canada
- Advocating for Pacific/Asian Disciples within and outside the Christian Church in the United States and Canada
- Sharing the gifts and traditions of Pacific/Asian Disciples with the wider church

A Milestone of Radical Inclusiveness

A defining accomplishment of 2025 is the continued expansion of our multicultural witness. NAPAD now faithfully serves **121 churches** across **20 distinct ethnic groups**, including Burmese, Chuukese, Karen, Montagnard, Samoan, and Korean communities. We have moved beyond mere representation by expanding **anti-racism training** into multiple languages, ensuring our commitment to being a pro-reconciling church is felt in the native tongues of our diverse members.

Our Vision for 2026

We are looking toward the future with a focus on both our seasoned leaders and our rising stars:

- **The Young Pastor's Cohort:** In 2026, we are launching a new **NAPAD Young Pastor's Cohort group**, supported in part by a grant from the **Oreon Scott Foundation**.
- **Young Adult Retreat:** We are planning a **NAPAD young adult retreat** for 2026 to provide a sacred space for the next generation to connect and lead.
- **Structural Renewal:** The Executive Committee is preparing **updated organizational bylaws** to align with evolving ministry needs and the General Assembly schedule.

Challenges: Adapting to New Realities

As we grow, we face the challenge of a shifting landscape in **theological education**. We are seeing a decreased demand for traditional M.Div. tracks and a significant rise in the need for **non-degree educational support**. We are currently revising our scholarship policies to ensure our financial resources effectively support these evolving leadership trends.

A Story of Collaborative Spirit

Our ministry thrives through the power of partnership across the General Ministries of the Church:

- **National Benevolent Association (NBA):** We are collaborating on a **Peer Learning and Wellness group** for API young adults, supported by newly appointed staff member Yunkyong Lee Hill.
- **Pension Fund:** We are grateful for our partnership with the **Pension Fund**, which includes Rev. KJ Kim serving as a part-time staff member supporting NAPAD.
- **New Church & Regional Ministries:** Through close work with Regional Ministers and New Church Ministry, we have successfully established **five new congregations** since 2022, including vital outreach to Chuukese and Samoan communities.

A Message for Your Local Congregation

NAPAD is your partner in transformation. As you return to your local contexts, please share that our ministry provides tangible support for congregational growth through:

- **The Harold Johnson Legacy Fund:** Bolstering local churches as they expand their children, youth, and women's ministries.
- **The Geunhee Yu Covenant Fund:** Supporting the birth and health of new church plants.

Together, we advance our mission with evangelical passion, radical inclusiveness, and a shared responsibility to the world

Rev. Chung Seong Kim

Executive Pastor of NAPAD