

**A VISION**  
**FOR ASSEMBLIES OF GOD,**  
**NORTHERN CALIFORNIA AND NEVADA DISTRICT COUNCIL, INC.**  
Proverbs 29:18

What is a vision? It is to see what others only dream about or wish for. It is to make reality for what others can only hope. It is the passion to become more than you are or others think you will be. It is a holy dissatisfaction with the status quo. It is the “mark” or that high calling that calls us “higher up” and “higher in” as C. S. Lewis describes in his Chronicles of Narnia:

It is seeing what Christ sees.  
It is hearing what He says.  
It is doing what He commands.

It is the impossible made possible by and through the Spirit.

Leaders must have vision. They must know where God is leading if others are to follow. Here is my vision for Northern California Nevada District. I “paint” with broad strokes a broad vision that will be augmented by many practical and expressive details from the lives of our pastors, ministers, churches, and ministries. If we can join hearts and hands together, God will lead us as a district to fulfilling His purpose throughout Northern California and Nevada.

See my vision as Superintendent and you will  
see and hear my heart for this district.

- I. A District Striving for Unity and Intentionally Developing Growing Relationships.
  - We seek out and work hard at developing and maintaining relationships – we are not lone rangers.  
Sovereignty is not an excuse for isolation or maverick living.  
Let us leaders lead – and show the way by our own example.
  
2. We are Committed to Growing and Touching our World with the Gospel.
  - Our purpose is not to build forts to keep out the world – but we are a vanguard – an invading army of the righteous and redeemed.
  
  - ❖ Priority – Evangelism and Church planting and churches that are growing and effective.
    - We must set goals – not just numerical but broader spiritual goals.
  - ❖ Let us shed a maintenance mentality (We are and must be salt and light).
    - Let us be aggressive and eager to reach our communities and our world.
  
3. A District that is Pentecostal in Practice as well as Theology.
  - ❖ Each generation must experience a Pentecost consistent with scripture and culturally relevant.
  - ❖ The Pentecostal message and experience must be seen as fresh, practical and fitting the emerging generation.
  
4. A District Resource Center and District Leadership where Servanthood is our Practice-not just our Theme.

Leadership-

- ❖ That leads by example
- ❖ That leads by discovering and understanding then meeting real needs of the district.
- ❖ A district leadership where its shepherds are among – not just out front – leading
- ❖ District leadership that listens and responds to every member and church.

5. A District that Focuses on Training, Equipping, Releasing, and Supporting those in Ministry.

- ❖ We fulfill Eph. 4 – Our focus is not on the title but on the purpose of these gifts – the equipping or training of the saints.
  - Leadership training
  - Pastoral care/encouragement
  - Networking of ministers
  - Eldership and restorative ministries
- ❖ The DRC is not seen as a command control center but as a training and supply center.

6. Prayer is the Empowerment and Priority of all Ministry.

The ministry of prayer will be brought to the forefront of all we do. Through special days of prayer – a prayer network – and emphasis on prayer at every level – we want prayer not be ceremonial but central.

7. Develop Contemporary Methods to Proclaim a Timeless Message.

Our focus will be on changing wineskins to meet changing times. The wineskin will be secondary to the changeless “wine”.

- Our ministries-our approaches to governance must be flexible. Absolutes of God’s Word are the bedrock upon which all structures are built. Structure will change to meet changing needs.

8. Diversity will be Embraced and Celebrated.

This district must understand the growing diversity of cultures and find ways to ensure that no one is excluded from any level of ministry or leadership.

- We will provide training and environment for different culture groups to grow, plant churches, and be assimilated into a beautiful mosaic of languages and cultures that represent what heaven will be.
- Worship styles that differ yet are anchored in scriptural truths will be affirmed.

9. People are More Important than Policies.

Policies, programs, by-laws, etc. exist to serve people – not people to serve policies.

- We must constantly re-examine how our system functions so as to make sure there is flexibility.
- The DRC will be people friendly – people oriented, and people focused.

10. A District Leadership who Leads with Character, Integrity, Compassion or Concern and whose Vision for the Future is as big as God's.

There will be transparency in all we do, say, and are.

- We will create an atmosphere where every minister is important and every minister receives the full attention of leadership.
- There will be an attitude of encouragement, reconciliation and humility that pervades the DRC.

I have not given numerical goals. Those will come but always be secondary to who we are and who we are becoming. May Northern California and Nevada grow deep and wide in its relationship to God, each other, and in our outreach to our world.

Serving Him to serve you,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "James R. Braddy". The signature is written in a cursive style with a long, sweeping tail on the final letter.

James R. Braddy  
NCN District Superintendent