



Counting and Measuring
Vital Signs, Statistical Reports, and Charge Conference



- **Professing Members**
- **New Professing & Baptized Members**
- **Transfers in & out, Restorations, Withdrawals**
- **Deaths**
- **Removal by Charge Conference after Roll Audit (2 year Process)**
- **Constituent Members**



- **Charge Conference**
- **Statistical Tables in January (a.k.a. Check-Out Forms)**
- **All Saints, Church Homecomings, and other events and rituals**
- **Stewardship Campaigns**

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Doing the Math of Mission




**DOING THE MATH OF MISSION:
FRUITS, FAITHFULNESS AND METRICS**

Gil Rendle
Texas Methodist Foundation

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Metrics: An Ambivalent Response

Supporting Metrics	Against Metrics
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Help congregations become more missionally connected with their environment Help congregations become more vital, with an eye to fruitfulness, to intentionally making a difference in people's lives and in their communities The use of Metrics is an effort to bring a tool to bear on mission and fruitfulness measuring whether we are or are not making the desired change. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Unfairness and ineffectiveness of holding leaders accountable for the measure of variables over which they may have only limited, if any, control Concern that measureable goals, by themselves, do little to motivate or to bring change The concern is that Metrics may simply represent institutionalism in a new garb and that it is more just and faithful to trust God to bring fruit from our efforts.

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What are we really measuring?

Counting is different than measuring. And measuring is not the goal, only a sign or reflection of the goal.

Vital congregations are not an end result needed by the denomination. Rather, vital congregations are tools needed by the denomination by which mission can be accomplished. Such congregations are not the end but the necessary means to the true end of ministry, which is making disciples.

+ Counting and Measuring as Separate Tasks

Counting	Measuring
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> When counting, the question to be answered is "how many?" Conversations about "how many" are most frequently conversations about resources. Conversations about resources, in a time of limited resources, are commonly conversations about sufficiency - "do we have enough?" or, "how can we get more?" 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> When measuring, the question is not about "how many?" but rather about "how far?" Conversations about "how far" are frequently about the change that can be measured over time as in, "how far have we come, over the past year, toward our goal?" <p>"The primary dashboards for the mainline church are all about how many, how often, and how much." ~ Reggie McNeil</p>

+ Process Systems
From research by *Edwards Demings* as adapted for the church by *Gil Rendle*

INPUT	THROUGHPUT	OUTPUT/OUTCOME
Resources	Activities	The difference or change to be accomplished
Nouns	Verbs	(Describes) signs of Disciples being made
Countables		Measureables

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INPUT	THROUGHPUT	OUTPUT/OUTCOME
<p>Countables are easily quantifiable. We know how many resources we have and how many activities we pursue. We can number and report these even as we argue their importance.</p>		<p>Measureables are more dependent on descriptions of what we feel called to, and hope to be able to produce. If we can describe the change that we are called to make, then we can also have discerning conversations about whether we are moving toward that change over time.</p>
Countables		Measureables
