



Where in the World is “Westusa” and Why is it Important?

Westusa is an English speaking country that is larger than the combined land mass of Kenya, Uganda, Philippines, Peru, Mexico, and the Ukraine. Its population is 70% of the population of Russia. It is growing faster annually than the United States. It is easy to get to and does not require a passport or visa. It is largely unchurched and is not dominated by any particular ethnic group or religion nor are religious activities restricted by the government. A large number of individuals have friends and relatives in Westusa and have themselves visited there in the past.

If you were in the international missions leadership of an evangelical Christian denomination you would be very eager to immediately reach out to such a country. Local churches would be opening up their purse strings to send long-term missionaries, short-term mission teams, and provide vision trips to this country.

Well, Westusa is not a separate country. Instead it is the western part of the United States and thus the name **WESTUSA** (**Wes-tusa**). However, that should not make it any less attractive as a mission field for a denomination such as the PCA. It is the home of 7 out of the 10 fastest growing states in the U.S. as well as 7 out of the 10 fastest growing cities. There are 210 PCA churches in **Westusa** out of a total of 1,666 PCA churches throughout the U.S. There are more PCA churches in the states of Alabama and Mississippi than there are in the 15 western states that constitute **Westusa**. That means there is one PCA church for every 468,362 people in **Westusa** versus one PCA church for every 24,903 people in the Southeast.

It is wonderful that the PCA gives so generously to overseas missions. Our challenge to our churches: ***let us join in an equal or greater commitment to this mission field right here in the United States.*** This will expand the Lord's Kingdom by reaching the lost, will be life-transforming for many in the PCA's homeland, and will add to the renewable source for future worldwide missions, since the new church plants in **Westusa** will start contributing to missions once they are organized.

If your church is not supporting church planting in **Westusa** will you please prayerfully consider including this mission field in your missions/outreach budget for next year? Your participation will build the momentum of the western churches and presbyteries in attracting church planters to **Westusa** by providing additional funding for church plants. You can do that by giving to the Western Region Church Planting Fund at Mission to North America (MNA). For more information on the exciting locations and opportunities for church planting in **Westusa** or to have someone visit your Session or Missions Committee, please contact Brad Bradley at bbradley@pcanet.org or brad@plantchurch.org or call at 214-528-9422 or 214-476-6388.