

Policy Goals for Rural People, Churches, and Communities

(Taken from S. Jung et al Rural Ministry, 1997)

1. Agriculture and other natural resource-based economic activities should be sustainable and renewable.
2. Rural persons/families should be able to enjoy the just fruits of their labor.
3. Rural people should be presented the good news of the Gospel and encouraged to respond by every praising Jesus Christ as Savior and as Lord.
4. Rural people should be taught about the beliefs and values of the Christian life and encouraged to apply them in their daily lives.
5. Rural people have a special calling to be stewards of the natural resources God has placed in the world.
6. Worshipping/ministering congregations of Christian faith should be available to all rural people.
7. Policies and practices of the American governments and economy have often contributed to personal and community disadvantage in rural America and these areas of neglect should be redressed through policies geared toward justice and fairness.
8. The old six-mile boundaries of community, the driving paradigm of the settlement period, are no longer functional. The 30-mile (or county) model seems to be emerging; so, we are called on to work diligently to form and model new communities.