

**ADMINISTRATIVE COUNCIL
MEETING #4**

September 15-16, 2008
Christian Ministry Center – Findlay, OH

MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 15, 2008

ROLL CALL

D. Hamsher, D. Nolt, D. Green, E. Rosenberry, R. Eatherton, L. Kline, K. Richardson, S. Stillman, J. Everett, E. Guerrier, M. Lehman, T. Lucas, L. Metzler, J. Monticue, K. Raderstorf, P. Scott, P. Wilson. Advisory: D. Dennison, L. Finley, R. Foreman, R. Stephenson. ABSENT: J. Burns, T. Rosenberry

DEVOTIONS

Keith Raderstorf presented the opening devotions based on Psalm 27:23-24. He commented on how we heal past hurts. He spoke of Joseph and his particular difficulties and how he never let go of his dreams. God will remind us that He is the one who set us free to minister. He led in prayer.

CALL TO ORDER

President Dennis Hamsher called the meeting to order. He asked the Council members to introduce themselves.

IT WAS VOTED to accept the printed agenda with the ability to move around as needed.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Ed Rosenberry reviewed the Mission/Core Values/Strategic Issues. He called attention to the SWOT Analysis summary of the March meeting. He called attention to John Winebrenner's life verse John 3:7, "Ye must be born again." He presented the CGGC mission as, "As witnesses of the Lord Jesus Christ, we commit ourselves to make more and better disciples by establishing churches on the New Testament plan and proclaiming the gospel around the world." He presented our vision as, "To establish and network healthy, reproducing churches."

He commented on his written report to the Administrative Council. He spoke of now having the track record to understand better the nature of his job. Relationship building is critical to the process.

He discussed the process of selecting a new Development person and how the search ended with no person being selected. He introduced the "Gathering" symposium scheduled for October 20-21 with George Bullard and Glenn Smith as resource persons. A Leadership Retreat is scheduled for October 27-28 at Camp Otyokwah in Ohio.

He directed attention to the Quarterly reports and visionary items contained in his report.

He introduced the Proposal for the Church Development Strategic Design as developed by the Wellness Search Committee. The idea is to move the Church Development initiative from the General Conference level to the grass roots level.

A grant process is projected as the means of distributing the funds from the General Conference level for persons to assume positions of Planting and Wellness within the Regions. The General Conference Executive Director would be the overseer of the program with direct supervision coming from the Regional Directors.

Several questions provided discussion concerning the proposal.

IT WAS VOTED that the Strategic Design for Church Development, the Field Director Job Description and the Guidelines for Application for Funds be endorsed as working plans to employ field directors across the CGGC to facilitate church planting and church wellness at the regional and congregational levels.

Ed Rosenberry thanked the Administrative Council for their prayers on behalf of their family during recent illnesses, etc. He asked for continued prayer on behalf of their son and asked for prayer for the Moore Church in Oklahoma. Steve Stillman presented more information on the congregation there that has decided to leave the Churches of God. Ed commented on the brothers and sisters in Haiti and their need following the hurricanes. Joey Everett asked for prayer for the Mid-South Conference. Don Dennison asked for prayer for Donna Binkley's family in the event of her mother's passing. Bob Stephenson offered a praise concerning contributions to the General Conference. The Council broke into small groups for prayer.

YOUTH AND FAMILY MINISTRIES

Lance Finley gave the report of Youth and Family Ministries. He reported his pleasure with the IMPACT week, although cited a lower attendance. He reported a total attendance of 358 with a loss of \$16,000. He asked the question, "What impact does IMPACT really have on the Churches of God?" He reported on successful ACTS teams to Haiti, the Southwest and to Pittsburgh. He announced 2009 ACTS teams to Chicago, Pittsburgh, Sweden and the Southwest. He told of a successful Youth and Family Ministry Symposium held in April. He spoke of the revision of the AIM discipleship course and the exploration of AIM 2 and possibly AIM 3. Several questions prompted discussion concerning the continuation of the IMPACT event.

IT WAS VOTED that the Youth and Family Commission begin to develop several IMPACT alternatives to present to the Administrative Council in March, 2009 for implementation in 2010.

IT WAS VOTED to receive the minutes of Meeting #2, April 3, 2008 for the Youth and Family Commission.

CONTINUATION OF EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Ex. Dir Rosenberg continued with his report to the Administrative Council. He made several recommendations to the Council.

IT WAS VOTED to designate the following persons as delegates to the International Church Leader's Fellowship in Haiti: Don Dennison, Dennis Hamsher, William Prime, Ed Rosenberg, and Linda Rosenberg.
Alternates: Kim Shifler and Ben Tobias.

COMMITTEE MEETINGS

The Council spent the remainder of the afternoon in committee assignments as follows:

Church Development – Ed Rosenberg, John Burns, Lawrence Metzler, Keith Raderstorf, Steve Stillman

Communications – Rachel Foreman, David Green, Tom Lucas, Phil Wilson

Cross Cultural Ministries – Don Dennison, Evenson Guerrier, Doug Nolt, Kevin Richardson, Trevor Rosenberg

Discipleship – Lance Finley, Joey Everett, Dennis Hamsher, Lee Kline, Phil Scott

Business Affairs – Bob Stephenson, Kris Cupp, Bob Eatherton, Mary Lehman, Jim Monticue

Following dinner at the Red Pig Inn, the Council met for evening worship and prayer. Doug Nolt led in worship and Dave Green assisted.

TUESDAY MORNING, SEPTEMBER 16, 2008

ROLL CALL

D. Hamsher, D. Nolt, D. Green, E. Rosenberg, R. Eatherton, L. Kline, K. Richardson, S. Stillman, J. Burns, J. Everett, E. Guerrier, M. Lehman, T. Lucas, L. Metzler, J. Monticue, K. Raderstorf, T. Rosenberg, P. Scott, P. Wilson. Advisory: D. Dennison, L. Finley, R. Foreman, R. Stephenson. ABSENT: J. Burns, T. Rosenberg

DEVOTIONS

Lawrence Metzler presented the morning devotions around the theme of "Who's Driving." He began with a story of Billy Graham. He spoke of being driven by vision, seminars, good speakers, etc, however, 1 Cor. 2 Paul says that it is not our elegance that does it. Anything that flatters "me" makes me a traitor to the Lord Jesus Christ. God has some amazing things prepared for us which is a result of our love for Jesus

Christ. And that's when the vision comes. He challenges us to become love driven. Lawrence led in prayer for the church that it may be driven by love for the Lord.

MINUTES

IT WAS VOTED to approve the minutes of Meeting #3, dated March 10-11, 2008, as corrected.

DENOMINATIONAL COMMUNICATIONS

Rachel Foreman presented the report of the Denominational Communications. She addressed a possible change in the look, content and distribution of The Advocate. She spoke of a possible CD being prepared for churches to use to introduce churches to the work of the General Conference. She presented the minutes of meeting #2 for approval.

IT WAS VOTED to receive the minutes of Denominational Communications #2, dated July 24, 2008.

CROSS-CULTURAL MINISTRIES

Don Dennison presented the report of Cross Cultural Ministries. He announced a team going to Kenya this coming Saturday. He spoke of problems in Bangladesh and also of the new work of the Sarvers in Thailand. Kara Shifler has gone to Sweden to help the Molgaards there. The situation at Haiti is grim due to recent flooding and \$6,000 has been received at this time for relief there. There is the possibility of granting provisional status to Venezuela churches with the CGGC.

Due to increased costs in getting delegates to the International Convention in Haiti in January and due to the devastation in Haiti at this time, Don recommended that the event be postponed. Consensus of the Council was in agreement. The Here Am I weekends are receiving good response. He presented the minutes of meeting #5

IT WAS VOTED to receive the minutes of meeting #5 of the Cross-Cultural Commission, dated June 9-10, 2008.

BUSINESS AFFAIRS

Bob Stephenson presented the report of the Treasurer of the CGGC. He presented the audit as prepared by Thomas and Ridge. A clean audit was received with no problems indicated.

Giving is doing well, with percentages above last year at this point. The financial picture of the CGGC is solid.

Bob presented the 2009 Housing Allowance Report.

IT WAS VOTED that an annual housing allowance be paid to the following clergy on staff for the calendar year 2009 and all future years until amended:

Edward L. Rosenberry	\$24,000
Don Dennison	\$24,000
J. Lance Finley	\$15,000

IT WAS VOTED to transfer \$7,500 from the Investment Earnings Fund to the Administrative Council's operations fund to provide for the annual audit.

IT WAS VOTED to transfer \$50,000 from the Investment Earnings Fund to the Conference Administration operations fund to partially fund the operating expenses for 2008.

IT WAS VOTED to transfer \$20,000 from the Administrative Council operations fund to the Contingent Fund operations fund for "rainy day" protection.

IT WAS VOTED to transfer \$68,000 from the Christian Ministries Growth Fund's operations fund to the Christian Ministries Growth Fund's Board Declared L/T Investments.

IT WAS VOTED that effective January 1, 2009, the Board Declared – L/T Investments fund, a sub-account of the Christian Ministries Growth Fund, will be invested and administered under the administrative policies for endowment funds with privilege to increase or decrease the principal of this fund balance at the discretion of the Administrative Council.

IT WAS VOTED to amend the policy for travel and meeting expenses in the Operational Policies of the Churches of God, General Conference.

IT WAS VOTED to amend the policy for travel arrangements and meeting expenses in the Office and Personnel Policy Manual as presented.

IT WAS VOTED to approve the Investment Policy amendment as proposed with an effective date of January 1, 2009.

IT WAS VOTED to approve the new draft of our Investment Earnings Distribution Policy as proposed with an effective date of January 1, 2009.

Bob Stephenson presented the 2009 budget proposal. He presented a 2.7% total increase with Cooperative increasing 3% and Designated increasing 2.3%.

IT WAS VOTED to approve the 2009 budget as presented.

Bob presented a Conflict of Interest Policy for approval. Discussion revolved around the idea of the new policy.

IT WAS VOTED to adopt the new Conflict of Interest policy as presented.

Bob presented a Whistleblower/Fraud Policy for approval.

IT WAS VOTED to adopt the new Whistleblower/Fraud Policy as presented.

Bob presented a Technology Disaster Recovery Plan.

IT WAS VOTED to adopt the Technology Disaster Recovery Plan as presented.

Bob presented a proposal concerning the deficit in the IMPACT fund.

IT WAS VOTED to transfer \$16,000 from the Youth and Family Budget to the IMPACT 2009 fund.

IT WAS VOTED to receive the minutes of the Leadership Commission.

IT WAS VOTED to accept the report of the Executive Director and staff.

SEARCH COMMITTEE

Ed Rosenberry presented the report of the Church Development Search Committee. A Field Director's Proposal was presented to the Administrative Council for their discussion

REGIONAL DIRECTORS REPORT

Kevin Richardson reported for the Eastern Region.
Lee Kline reported for the Allegheny Region.
David Green reported for the Great Lakes Conference.
Bob Eatherton reported for the Midwest Region.
Steve Stillman reported for the Western Conference.
John Burns reported via letter for the California Eldership.
Joey Everett reported for the Mid South Conference.
Evenson Guerrier reported for the Haitian Conference.

Following a break, Ed Rosenberry presented the report of the office staff structure and job descriptions.

IT WAS VOTED to receive the CGGC office staff structure and job descriptions.

REPORT OF CGWM

Linda Rosenberry presented the report of the CGGC Women's Ministry. The theme of the spring '09 Retreat is "In the Potter's Hands."

IT WAS VOTED to accept the report of the CGGC Women's Ministry.

REPORT OF CONSTITUTION COMMITTEE

Doug Nolt presented the report of the Constitution Committee.

IT WAS VOTED to receive the report of the Constitution Committee.

REPORT OF HABITAT FOR HUMANITY 2009 PROJECT

Lance Finley presented the report for the Habitat for Humanity 2009 Project.

IT WAS VOTED to receive the report for the Habitat for Humanity Project and to commit up to \$17,500 to the Findlay project, money to be taken from the Administrative Council account.

REPORT OF MINISTERIAL CREDENTIALING

Ed Rosenberry announced a meeting to consider revising the We Believe statement and to deal with credentialing to be scheduled for February, '09.

IT WAS VOTED to affirm the process of dealing with these areas.

REPORT OF WINEBRENNER THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY

Dr. David Draper, President of Winebrenner Theological Seminary presented the report of the Seminary.

- 31 2008 graduates
- Resignation of a professor and death of Dr. Lightner a shock
- New COG pastor to be hired as a mentor
- 1/3 of Board will turn over in next 5 years
- He requested names for potential trustees
- He asked the Council to recruit students for the Pastoral Leadership and Pastoral Training Institutes.
- Presented calendar of events for 2008-2009
- Budget is at level of 5 years ago, due to cutting positions, etc.
- Fiscal year finished with balanced budget
- Debt is now under \$1,000,000
- Enrollment slightly down this fall

IT WAS VOTED to accept the report of Winebrenner Theological Seminary.

REPORT OF UNIVERSITY OF FINDLAY

Dr. Debow Freed, President of the University of Findlay presented the report of the University. He provided a video showing statistics of the institution and recognized retiring and present Churches of God trustees.

IT WAS VOTED to accept the University's report.

REPORT OF CGGC PUBLICATIONS ASSESSMENT

Keith Raderstorf presented the report of the Publications Task Force. He named the members of the Task Force and commented on the survey that the committee conducted. He revealed that the results of the survey indicated that the Advocate was not being read by a majority of the recipients. There was a desire for more concise articles and more ministry tools, rather than dated news. Also, a suggestion was made for a new look for the Advocate. The Gem and Missionary Signal are popular publications. It was suggested to consolidate the Advocate and Joined Together in a publication similar to the Missionary Signal to be published on alternate months and that it receive a new name. After the distribution of initial free copies, a subscription program would be developed. The Task Force also recommends that a CD of CGGC information be produced and that free sample copies of the Gem be distributed to churches not receiving it. Bob Stephenson presented a proposed analysis of the expected cost factors in addressing the Publications Task Force proposal.

IT WAS VOTED to receive the report of the Publications Task Force.

Discussion continued concerning the viability of continuing the publication of The Advocate and Joined Together.

IT WAS VOTED to continue printing the Advocate through 2009 and to have the staff prepare recommendations for action to follow.

UNIVERSITY OF FINDLAY TRUSTEES

A letter was read from Jerold Clark, Chairman of the Committee on Trustees at the University of Findlay, requesting the following action.

IT WAS VOTED to nominate the following to serve as Churches of God Trustees on the Board of the University of Findlay for the 2009-2012 term:

Mr. Don R. Carter
Mrs. Penny Mosher
Pastor George Showers

REPORT OF THE AUDITOR

Robin Ridge from Thomas and Ridge discussed the 2007 audit with the Administrative Council. She reiterated the fact that no problems were found during the audit. She explained her suggestions for several new policies that need to be adopted.

IT WAS VOTED to accept the report of the Auditor.

The Staff was dismissed to enable the Administrative Council to go into Executive Session.