

**ADMINISTRATIVE COUNCIL
MEETING #6**

September 15-16, 2009
Christian Ministry Center – Findlay, OH

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 15, 2009

ROLL CALL

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

DEVOTIONS

Phil Wilson presented the opening devotions from Prov. 16:32. "Attitude equals Altitude." We need to have an attitude of submission to God. The self-centered person is stubborn and argumentative.

CALL TO ORDER

President Dennis Hamsher called the meeting to order. He introduced Earl Mills and Max Normil as a new members to the Council and presented the agenda for approval.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT

The Executive Director, Ed Rosenberry, reviewed his written report to the Administrative Council. He spoke of a potential Biblical Theology course to be offered to CGGC people in order to make mature disciples. He commented on key staff positions and the need to provide for back-up in the case of inability to fill the position. He reviewed changes in the CGGC Core Values and sought the approval of the Council to use the revisions in place of the original list of values.

IT WAS VOTED to affirm the revision of CGGC Core Values as presented.

He addressed the revision of We Believe and presented a Draft Copy of the changes to the document. The plan is to take the rewrite to the churches/conferences to ask for input in order to continue to process the revised edition. The new draft copy will be ready for the Administrative Council to review at the March, 2010 meeting. Final approval will be sought from the 2010 General Conference in session. A second document dealing with practices of the CGGC (Here We Stand) is slated for completion during the next triennium. He also addressed proposed changes in the Standards for Ministerial Credentials.

Ed reported on the financial situation that exists in the Western Region. The Region is not financially able to continue to employ their director. Ed is working with the Region about the possibility of employing a part-time director with assistance from the CGGC.

MINISTRY STAFF REPORTS:

BUSINESS AFFAIRS AND TREASURER'S REPORT

Bob Stephenson presented the report of the Conference Treasurer. He called attention to the 2008 Audit report from Thomas and Ridge and Associates. The report shows a clean audit.

Bob Stephenson presented the 2010 housing allowance requests:

IT WAS VOTED that an annual housing allowance will be paid to the following clergy on staff for the calendar year 2010 and all future years until amended:

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

IT WAS VOTED that the declaration of housing allowances for eligible missionary staff will continue to be delegated to the Cross-Cultural ministries department for establishment and administration through the annual contract provided missionary staff.

Bob Stephenson presented the 2010 budget for consideration:

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

The following amendments were made to the 2009 budget in view of the deficit balance:

IT WAS VOTED not to transfer \$7,655 from the Investment Earnings Fund to the Administrative Council's operations fund to provide for the annual audit as budgeted.

IT WAS VOTED not to transfer \$50,000 from the Investment Earnings Fund to the Conference Administration operations fund to partially fund the operating expenses for 2009 as budgeted.

IT WAS VOTED to transfer \$22,773.60 from the Christian Ministries Growth Fund to Cross-Cultural ministries for the Brazilian Church Planting Fund.

IT WAS VOTED to transfer the Yates Scholarship Fund balance at December 31 to IMPACT Operations Fund because the purpose of the Scholarship Fund no longer exists (providing scholarships for youth to attend IMPACT) and the balance in the fund is comprised of unused investment earnings.

IT WAS VOTED to transfer from Youth and Family Operations Fund whatever amount is required to eliminate the IMPACT operations deficit remaining at December 31.

IT WAS VOTED to delay implementation of the new Investment Earnings Distribution Policy approved at the September 15-16, 2008 meeting and scheduled for implementation on January 1, 2009. The effective date for the new policy will commence when future net total return investment earnings, on invested funds historically administered under total return spending, exceed the December 31, 2008 net total return loss.

2010 Budget: An overall decrease of 3.4% was proposed, reflecting a Cooperative decrease of 5.0% and a Designated decrease of 1.7%, equaling a total 2010 budget of \$2,639,144.

IT WAS VOTED to adopt the 2010 Budget as presented

Bob reported that August contributions were down a total of 5.9%.

Policy Reviews and Actions: Bob presented policy revisions to the Eligibility and Participation Schedule of the Pension Plan for 2010.

IT WAS VOTED to adopt the Eligibility and Participation Schedule of the Pension Plan for 2009 and 2010 as presented.

After a break, Earl Mills and Bob Stephenson gave an update of the lawsuit brought against the CGGC by Tammy Ovalee of Oregon. The suit was dismissed by the judge after Bob and Earl were present in court for a hearing.

REPORT OF CROSS CULTURAL MINISTRIES

Don Dennison, Director of Cross Cultural Ministries presented the report of the Cross Cultural Ministries

- He announced that Kara Norris was filling in for Erin Jones during her maternity leave.

- He reported on the International Church Leader's Fellowship scheduled for November 13-18, 2009.
- Bangladesh now has 103 churches.
- The Sarvers are now in Thailand, currently in language training. They are officially OMF employees until their return for furlough, at which time they become CGGC employees.
- The news of Dr. Binkley's pancreatic cancer was devastating news. He is currently undergoing treatment.
- The Commission is working toward finding one person to be Project Help Director. There is a potential candidate in the interview process.
- Two Bible Institutes are currently meeting in Brazil emphasizing the focus to provide and educate our own leadership.
- There is a couple hoping to be placed in Sweden soon.
- The Hubers have left Gamerco to return to Pennsylvania. The Shumakers are doing a great job there.
- The Thermidors are currently planting in Buffalo, NY.
- Caleb and Christina Acosta have been appointed as candidates for the position of Latino Ministries Directors.
- A Hispanic church plant in San Diego currently worships 45.

IT WAS VOTED to receive the report of the Director of Cross-Cultural Ministries and the minutes of meeting #8 held on June 8-9, 2009.

DINNER

Following dinner, the Council gathered for worship and prayer followed by dessert and Committee Meetings.

WEDNESDAY MORNING, SEPTEMBER 16, 2009

ROLL CALL

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

DEVOTIONS

Dave Green led in devotions based on Romans 12. He reminded the Council that they are strategically placed on the Council and are the right people to lead the CGGC. He admonished them to be diligent in their leadership and pointed out hopeful indications that exist in our various homes, churches and communities.

REPORT FROM UNIVERSITY TRUSTEE TASK FORCE

IT WAS VOTED to nominate Mary Lehman to fill the unexpired term of Darrell Prichard as trustee for the University of Findlay.

CORRESPONDENCE

Dave Green read correspondence from Winebrenner Theological Seminary and from The University of Findlay asking for recommendations for the 2010 Classes of Trustees. Also a letter from Dr. David Draper requested the Council to approve a change in the number of trustees on the Seminary Board. This item was referred until later on the agenda when the Seminary reports. A letter from William Reist was read that recommended Kim Stumpp as a potential University of Findlay Churches of God trustee.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

IT WAS VOTED to adopt the minutes of Administrative Council Meeting #5 held on March 16-17, 2009.

REPORT OF CHURCH DEVELOPMENT

Ed Rosenberry presented the report of the Commission on Church Development: Planting and Wellness. He announced the appointment of Field Directors for the Regions. He announced the Gathering to be held in October with Jared and Ann Roth as presenters.

IT WAS VOTED to receive the report of the Commission on Church Development and the Planting minutes of Meeting #5 and Wellness minutes of Meeting #4 held on February 23, 2009; Planting minutes of Meeting #6 and Wellness Minutes of Meeting #5 held on May 28, 2009; and Planting minutes of Meeting #7 and Wellness minutes of Meeting #6 held on September 9, 2009.

REPORT ON COMMISSION ON DISCIPLESHIP: YOUTH AND FAMILY AND LEADERSHIP

Lance Finley presented the report on the Commission on Discipleship: Youth and Family and Leadership. He announced a Missional Leadership Initiative to be offered to CGGC leaders with Reggie McNeal heading the guest faculty. Initial response to this opportunity has been exciting. IMPACT is history and Lance reported a fitting closure for the annual event. ACTS teams were active during the summer. Emphasis has been given to missional efforts from those involved on the teams. The Bible Quizzing tournament will continue in Findlay in July. ENGAGE 2010 will replace IMPACT for the youth. It will be held in July 2010 in

the Pittsburg area in partnership with Mission Encounter. Toledo in 2011 and Muncie in 2012 will be future locations.

IT WAS VOTED to receive the minutes of the Youth and Family Ministries Commission and the Leadership Task Force: Meeting #4 dated March 19, 2009; Meeting #5 dated April 1, 2009; Meeting #6 dated May 4, 2009; Meeting #7 dated May 6, 2009; Meeting #8 dated May 26, 2009; Meeting #9 dated June 9, 2009; Meeting #10 dated July 30, 2009; and Meeting #11 dated August 13, 2009.

Lance reported a successful Habitat on Humanity project in Findlay that was supported by the CGGC, WTS and College First.

PRAYER SESSION

Ed Rosenberry led the Council in a time of prayer, remembering various concerns of the church and those who are dealing with illness. Following the prayer, the Council was dismissed for dinner.

REGIONAL DIRECTORS REPORTS

Allegheny: Lee Kline, Director, reported on the Allegheny Region. He reported that Dennis Arndt would be employed part time as Director of Renewal for the Region. There is a Filipino church desiring to become affiliated with the Region. The Camp will be replacing 8 cabins at a cost of \$70,000 each. The New Brighton Church recently experienced their ceiling falling in. Church Mutual will not cover the \$30,000 to replace it. Allegheny churches have responded with \$6,000 thus far to assist with the costs. Ed will communicate the need to the CGGC. Allegheny Region now has a Foundation, however currently has no money. A potential donor exists.

REPORT ON DENOMINATIONAL COMMUNICATIONS

Rachel Foreman presented the report of Denominational Communications. She presented the recommendation for the new logo as prepared by her Commission. The new logo emphasizes the cross, and gives a more contemporary look to the current logo.

IT WAS VOTED to affirm the new design of the logo as an option for use.

IT WAS VOTED to receive the minutes of meeting #4 of the Denominational Communications Commission held on August 11, 2009.

IT WAS VOTED to accept the report of the Executive Director of the Churches of God, General Conference and the reports of the Directors.

CONTINUATION OF REGIONAL DIRECTORS REPORTS

Eastern: Kevin Richardson reported that the Eastern Region has moved into new office space which contains the Boldosser Conference Room. Giving continues to be strong in the Region. Currently, they have three open churches. The decision has been made to hire a Director of Finance. Living Water Community Church will have their second vote on withdrawal on September 20. A planter for the Lancaster area has been interviewed.

Great Lakes: Dave Green, Director, spoke concerning the Great Lakes Conference. He reported that Bill Shoemaker had been employed as Planting Field Director for the Region. Several planting possibilities are in process.

REPORT OF CGWM

Linda Rosenberry presented the written report of the CGGC Women's Ministry and spoke of current happenings within the group. She pled for participation from those Regions/Conferences that currently are not organized. Two Cross Cultural ministry opportunities, Children of Promise and Brigade Uniforms for Haiti, were promoted.

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

REPORT OF WINEBRENNER THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY

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

- A Long Range Listening Session will soon be held
- The MA is outperforming the MDIV in enrollment
- The MDIV has dropped 5% in the last two years in ATS schools
- Evangelical schools are donor driven as opposed to other endowment driven schools
- Average cost per year is \$44,000 for evangelical schools
- Winebrenner cost per year is \$20,000
- 109 of 180 free standing schools are in financial deficit
- Over all FTE for the fall of 2008 was 83.9
- The need for a seminary produced bachelor's degree exists
- In three out of last four years, WTS has had slight increase in budget.
- Joel Cocklin has been hired to faculty leadership position
- Nearly 50 CGGC students have enrolled for the fall of 2009; 1/2 in PTI
- Greatest concern is the finances of students
- "Thank You" for support from CGGC and individuals

IT WAS VOTED to receive the report of Winebrenner Seminary.

REPORT OF AUDITOR

Robin Ridge reviewed the 2008 report of the auditors and presented a clean audit.

IT WAS VOTED to receive the report of the Auditor.

DR. DALE BROUGHER

Dr. Dale Brougher, University of Findlay Associate Professor of Religious Studies, shared a research project in which he is currently involved. He presented his project of following up on the restructuring project that the CGGC went through several years ago in bringing together Conferences into Regions. He will do the research with Regional Administrative Councils and will interpret the results for the benefit of the church.

REPORT OF BOARD OF PENSIONS

Jim Thomas presented the report of the Board of Pensions. He reported a necessary reduction in payments to retirees amounting to 30% (pre '89) and 20% (post '89), depending on the situation of the retiree. 114 retirees are being affected by this decision.

IT WAS VOTED to receive the report of the Board of Pensions and to give permission to the CGGC to solicit contributions on behalf of the pension plan to help in addressing the overall shortfall, hopefully allowing for potential reinstatement of some benefits.

REPORT OF UNIVERSITY OF FINDLAY

Dr. Debow Freed, President of the University of Findlay presented the report from the University. He introduced Dave Ferguson, Vice President of Outreach. He presented a DVD depicting University activities.

- Enrollment of US students is basically the same as last year
- Enrollment of foreign students reflects a planned decrease, 400 planned
- Excellence is rewarded by enrollments
- Science programs are quite strong
- Seminary and University combination is a good situation
- He commended the Church for its work
- He reiterated his disappointment in moving IMPACT from Findlay
- A church service on campus by minorities is bringing a good dimension to the campus
- College First is cooperative in so many ways

- Northwest Ohio provides 40-50% of students; Ohio in high 70s
- A lot of out of state students come for health sciences
- In 2009, there are 1200 out of state students, including internationals
- The Churches of God scholarship has been reestablished

IT WAS VOTED to receive the report of the University of Findlay.

REPORT OF ARCHIVES/MUSEUM COMMITTEE

Jonathan Binkley presented a written report on behalf of the Committee on Archives and the Museum.

IT WAS VOTED to accept the resignation of Melanie Martin as curator of the CGGC Museum, effective September 8, 2009.

IT WAS VOTED to approve the logo depicting the 185th Anniversary of the CGGC for approval.

WINEBRENNER THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY, CONT:

IT WAS VOTED to approve, as the WTS Class of 2012, the reappointment of Milton S. Brown Jr., W. Stanley Darrah and Barbara Hochstettler and the appointment of J. Marlyn Finley and Thomas L. Lucas to the Board. Foster Berkheimer was appointed as a member of the class of 2011.

IT WAS VOTED to recommend to the 2010 General Conference a change in the CGGC Constitution to allow for a change in the Winebrenner Theological Seminary by-laws as follows:

1.C.1 Membership of the Board of Trustees

The Board of Trustees consists of members elected by the Administrative Council of the Churches of God, General Conference.

1.C.1a Members: The Board shall be composed of not more than ~~17~~-21 voting members.

1.C.1b Election and Term. Members of the board shall be elected by the Administrative Council of the Churches of God, General Conference. The director of the Churches of God, General Conference shall be a member by virtue of the office and ~~one~~-two members at large from the Administrative Council shall be elected by the Administrative Council. The other ~~15~~-18 members shall be divided

into three classes of five-six each, five-six to be elected each year. The Administrative Council shall determine matters concerning qualifications of trustees, regional representation and nominations of trustees, and shall nominate the trustees not previously designated. The terms of all trustees so elected shall begin with the next annual meeting of the board.

REQUEST FOR WITHDRAWAL

The Orlando Church request for withdrawal from the denomination was referred to the Executive Director to follow the process of withdrawal as established by the denomination.

CONTINUATION OF REGIONAL DIRECTORS REPORTS

MidWest: Bob Eatherton, Director of the MidWest Region, presented the report from the Region. He commented on the annual conference sessions. Fifteen cases of the "Why Pray?" book have been distributed across the Region as a devotional. He commented on "the new economic reality" that has affected the Region.

Western: Phil Wilson, in the absence of a Director, presented an update of the Western Region. He reported financial issues that have led to the resignation of their Director and Treasurer. A Field Director in Church Planting has been established with the cooperation of the CGGC. The Ad Council will meet soon and, hopefully, will begin a search for a part-time director. Justin Meier, Field Director, began August 1 and provided an update of his activities. Six potential planters are in process. Justin has been networking with denominational leaders and planters across the country.

California: John Burns reported for the California Eldership. The Hispanic work is exciting with great potential for more churches. Manteca church is poised for growth. Wheatland Church is going well. He requested prayers for California.

Haiti: Max Normil presented a brief oral report and indicated that he would be sending a written report in the near future.

REPORT OF THE CONSTITUTION COMMITTEE

Doug Nolt presented no report at this time, but will respond to the Council's decision to change the constitution dealing with the number of trustees on Winebrenner's Board.

REPORT OF THE GENERAL CONFERENCE PLANNING COMMITTEE

Ed Rosenberry stated that a response from Ed Stetzer to be speaker has not been received and they are still working on the details.

ADJOURNMENT

IT WAS VOTED to adjourn meeting #6 of the Administrative Council of the Churches of God, General Conference.

Keith Raderstorf dismissed with prayer.