



## **ECM One-Year Review Update**

- Jennifer D.

Jennifer gathered feed back from 10 people who participate in PNMC in various capacities using a form provided by MC USA. Overall responses were positive and affirming.

The feedback stated that Katherine is approachable, has worked hard to get to know conference, is a gifted preacher, has genuine love for the church, and demonstrates good communication skills. The feedback suggested that Katherine could delegate more of the work she is doing, and communicate the PNMC vision more. In summary, Katherine worked very hard and very effectively in her first year as ECM. She brought stability and direction to the conference.

The feedback named several challenges for the ECM:

- Geographical spread is a challenge for the ECM role.  
Are there ways to use video conferencing to bring us together?  
Communication from the ECM to pastors/leader groups via email once/wk may be helpful.
- In some parts of the conference there is discomfort with having a female ECM, but In general this is not an issue for most congregations.
- It would be helpful for the ECM to have a local group to provide support and perspective since the ECM is the only full-time position in the PNMC. Katherine will talk to Nancy Kauffman about this idea. Jennifer D. will follow up with Katherine on this.
- Intentional training is needed to equip new District Pastors.

## **“Seed NW” Update**

- Katherine & Joseph

The Seed NW committee will meet in the coming year. Committee members are Katherine, Joseph Penner, Rick Troyer, and Angela Boss.

## **Constituency Leaders Council Report**

- Katherine, Jennifer D., Jennifer S

It was helpful to meet with other MC USA conference leaders to give input and learn. Some of the issues covered were handling sexual misconduct, denominational funding, and updating the polity document that was created at the time of the Old Mennonite and General Conference merger.

**Update: Financial Benchmarking with another conference** - Jennifer D.

- Jennifer shared how the Ohio Conference uses a narrative budget to communicate with its constituents.
- Katherine talked with conferences of similar size and found none of them are balancing budgeted expenses with congregational giving. Typically, 60% of their budgets are going to salaries as is the case with PNMC.
- No concrete ideas to address budget shortfalls were gained. We may need to look to other denominations or faith-based ministries for ideas.

**Our experience with Fusion Faith Center**

- The board agreed to take note of the learnings that District Pastor Dave Stutzman shared with Katherine and not to pursue further action. Katherine has sent a letter of closure.
- The board briefly reviewed the bylaws regarding termination of membership and the policy that outlines how congregations can terminate membership.

5:00 pm **Supper break**

7:00pm **Are PNMC congregations healthier?** - Jack S. & Katherine P.

In keeping with our value proposition that we nurture healthy congregations, the board discussed the question “Are PNMC congregations healthier than a year ago?”

- To inform this discussion, Katherine had asked district pastors if they feel like their congregations are healthier now than a year ago, noting that there is no objective criteria for healthy vs not healthy. She noted that healthier churches had generally gone through a process of visioning and planning for the future. Leadership fatigue is often a factor in decreasing health in churches.
- Jeryl noted that the MC USA Purposeful Plan states that one sign of a healthy church is that it brings forth new Christ centered communities. Congregations can get focused on survival (attendance and budget). How do we inspire congregations to define and accomplish their mission? We’re not here for the sake of the church. We’re here for the sake of the world.

## **Saturday, December 14, 2013**

8:30 am      **Opening sharing and prayer**

9:00 am      **FINANCIAL REPORTS AND OTHER ISSUES RELATED TO PNMC ASSETS**

### **Treasurer's Report**

Harold N.

Revenue – Total General Fund contributions were almost \$30,000 higher than budgeted, primarily due to an estate gift. Member church congregations were slightly over budget at \$95,000.

Expenses - General Fund expenses were 94% of budget.

Balance Sheet – Total assets for PNMC as of Nov 30, 2013 are \$439,989.

Harold contacted Mennonite Foundation to determine if the estate gift was designated for a certain purpose. They replied that the gift was to PNMC with no further designation by the donor.

### **2014-2015 Budget**

Harold, Katherine

- Few changes are expected for income and expense in 2014.
- A 2.9% increase in income is budgeted based on projected congregational donations.
- No significant changes in expense are planned.
- The budgeted deficit is \$17,166.

**Motion: The board adopts the proposed 2014-2015 budget as presented.**

**MSC: Jerry, Jack**

### **Finance Team**

Jeryl

The Finance Team is a standing committees of PNMC based on our governance documents, but has not existed in recent years.

Jeryl shared a proposal to update the Finance Team policy which addresses the purpose of the team, membership, expertise to be included on the team, and accountability. The board discussed the pros and cons of bringing this committee into existence.

Harold and Jack will do some more work on this proposal and bring it back to the board for further discussion.

## **Sanctuary Property**

### **1. Sanctuary Property Report**

- Joseph P.

- The committee met in September. There was conversation about the possible need for a more formal agreement with Jeff who lives there in his RV.
- The building is being maintained: New carpet was installed, and several other repairs were made.
- The payment history of the various renters was reviewed.

### **2. Our arrangement on the Sanctuary property**

The initial arrangement with Anawim and Bethel was adopted by the board in October 2010 and was a temporary arrangement for a period of 2-3 years. Three years was up in October of 2013.

Joseph, Jim Wenger and Jennifer D will do a review of the agreement on behalf of the PNMC board and make recommendations for the future. Jeryl will contact Anawim and Bethel to notify them that the three year evaluation will be taking place.

**Noon            Lunch break**

12:30 pm

### **PNMC board meeting schedule:**

February 8, 2014 Sunday afternoon

May 16 & 17 Friday afternoon, Saturday morning

### **Delegates**

- The board talked about how to best use delegate time at Annual Meeting.
- The board agreed that the sharing during roll call worked well and discussed how to do something similar to allow churches to share again.
- Jeryl could ask delegates in a January letter if there are things they would like to address at Annual Meeting. Delegates and CCC delegates could be asked what workshops would be helpful.
- A readership survey of the e-bulletin and Evangel was discussed.

Respectfully Submitted,

Wanda Dorsing, PNMC Secretary

## To Do List

1. Work on questions for CCC Sarah and Jennifer D
2. Explore the video idea Katherine, Jennifer, D, Jeryl, Jack
3. Initiate an ECM support group Katherine will talk to Nancy Kauffman
4. Work on finance team proposal Harold, Jack
5. Participate in review of arrangement on the Sanctuary property  
Joseph, Jennifer D
6. January letter - ask delegates if there are things they'd like to address at  
Annual Meeting - Jeryl
7. Readership survey of e- bulletin and Evangel -  
not sure if we decided to act on this one