

PNMC Board Meeting

February 12 & 13, 2016

Friday, February 12, 1 p.m.

Present: Katherine Jameson-Pitts, Jennifer Delanty, Matt Yoder, Brett Tieszen, Kathleen Aeschliman, Sarah Hooley, Jack Swaim, Todd Lehman, Barb Buxman, Tom Brenneman, Nelly Moran-Ascencio (Saturday)

Absent: Nelly Moran-Ascencio (Friday)

Welcome and Prayer

-Jennifer opened our meeting with a Franciscan prayer.

Opening Ice Breaker

-Jack read I Corinthians 13. In what ways has our perspective on love had to mature and change?

Dwelling in the Word

-Jennifer led us in reading Luke 9: 27-36 three times with discussion questions for each reading.

Executive Conference Minister Report—Katherine

-Has met with several congregations since our meeting in January.

-Service Adventure unit in Albany has been closed.

-Lebanon is assessing their needs after a pastoral resignation.

-Katherine is hearing the stress of the need to transition from family system type church to a church who meets together around Anabaptist beliefs.

-Warden and Spring Valley have raised questions about their survival due to small size.

-Several churches are in pastoral searches.

-Three churches have expressed concern about their connection with PNMC.

-Pastoral Leadership Team meets next week.

-NW Mexico team met in January—Congregations in Mexico are questioning their relationship with PNMC due to beliefs/conceived beliefs about homosexuality.

-Iglesia Pentecostés Menonita (IPW) in Woodburn—Katherine met with Victor Vargas and several leaders. IPW is planning to leave the conference and are considering joining Lancaster Conference. How can we separate in a healthy way is a question being considered in a future meeting. Victor was a district pastor so Katherine is meeting with Wendell Amstutz to discuss replacing Victor.

-CLC has a March meeting.

-Everence has money available to help persons with student loans. Matt found that the program is geared more toward helping pastors manage finances and only helps with loans when the person is having much difficulty financially.

-Everence has hired Martin Navarro to relate to Hispanic congregations.

-Things congregations are asking help for: resources for conflict resolution, visioning, spiritual direction, youth ministry, aging, congregational conversations on difficult topics, outreach

-Many of our congregations have some type of ministry to homeless persons.

Treasurer's Report—Brett (see Brett's reports)

-Congregational giving ended up within 3% of budget.

-The stock market went down in 2015, so our investments went down.

-The Peace Mennonite property has been added to our balance sheet (assessed value of the land only).

-A sizable gift was given to the conference. We may ask the family to share about the background of the gift with Evangel or at our Annual Meeting.

Discussion of the Sanctuary/Peace Property Arrangement

Updates by Todd: (see the Draft of Sanctuary Memo of Understanding)

-We looked at the Rental Agreements/Leases with Anawim, Bethel, Iglesia Casa de Dios, and Trinity Christian Church, all users of the property. These leases will be on a month-to-month basis.

-The Memo of Understanding has gone through several drafts, bringing us to the present draft of Sanctuary Memo of Understanding.

-Several revisions and corrections were made to the draft of the Memo of Understanding. Todd has these changes and will present them to Simon, Lucy, and Steve.

Report from Brett regarding potential options for the property:

-A woman from PMC is very interested in making affordable housing on the property. However, Brett can't see the zoning board voting to allow this without much of a plan, and there isn't much of a plan. It's been a difficult process.

Much discussion was done on the Memo of Understanding, the leases, and other ideas pertaining to the property. We also discussed what to do about 2 persons (Travis and Nancy) who have been living on the property on and off for at least a year according to Steve Kimes. This is addressed in the memo of understanding.

-Sarah suggested that we present 2 options: 1. our lease agreements and the memorandum of understanding with Anawim, Bethel, Casa, and Trinity that each agree to abide by and effective March 1, 2016—a landlord/tenant relationship, or 2. helping the 2 PNMC congregations find another place to do their ministry. This would be the other option and could lead to eviction if they haven't vacated the property by June 1. To facilitate these congregations to vacate the property if they are not agreeable to the memo of understanding and the lease agreements, PNMC would give \$12,000 to each ministry to be used to relocate to another place to do its ministry if it vacates by May 1, and then the amount of money drops \$1,500 per week to a minimum of \$4,500 if they leave by June 1, and if not out by June 1, eviction would occur without any money. If both (or either) congregations choose to stay and to abide by the memo of understanding and their lease agreement, Gerry and Todd (and the other members of the Property Management Committee) will talk to a person(s) about the possibility of being property manager (lawn care and other maintenance, garbage, supplies like toilet paper, janitorial work, etc.).

-Sarah's suggestion listed above was approved unanimously.

Zion 2016 Annual Meeting

CCC Meeting Notes

-Katherine shared a paper about Things that the CCC wants PNMC Leadership to address—See paper

Annual Meeting Planning

-Katherine shared a draft plan. Many suggestions were given and discussed.

-For speakers, it's suggested to begin with emergent leaders from CPC and to look at the emergent church.

-Singing is a suggestion for a seminar.

-Breakout sessions in which discussion occurs about ways our churches are reaching out, where the church is going, what kind of church do we want in the future

Delegate Session(s)

-Ballot

-Hearing about what congregations are doing (reports)

-Informed comments from CLC meeting later this spring and comments from the CCC meeting in January along with updates from churches

-Leadership transition from Jennifer to Jack

-Brett suggests that delegates meet together to talk and interact, and then have the delegate session as late as possible and use this time to focus the conversation on what has come out of the earlier interactions.

Saturday, February 13, 8:30 a.m.

Opening sharing and prayer

-Jennifer led us in this time.

Gift Discernment Team update—Jennifer

-We are searching for a moderator-elect and a member of the gift discernment team member and also future board members

-Sarah goes off the board and we need to replace Jack's board position as he moves to moderator-elect.

Constituency Leaders Council Meeting—Katherine and Jennifer

- Jack, Katherine, and Jennifer will attend.
- The meeting will be in Goshen, IN.

Seed NW Project

- This is a grant-giving project that was begun 3 years ago. So far, there has only been one grant awarded.
- There is a possibility of awarding a grant to Victor Estrada to share in his indigenous language.
- Joseph Penner, Rick Troyer, and Katherine make up the committee for this grant.
- There have been requests for grant money for buildings (capital improvements), but the money is for a program or for a building that will support a program.
- This program needs promotion again so that the grant can be used more.
- There is more than \$91,000 available to be awarded. Grants are available up to \$5,000 at this time. This also requires matching funds, but congregations are perceived to be very generous in finding matching funds.
- If we take off restrictions for the grant, possibly we could use delegate session time to make some decisions that would make good use of this grant money. A few starter suggestions: plant a church in Portland and support a pastor for 2 years, or support a radio station that broadcasts in an indigenous language. We want to get people to bring ideas that will go in the direction the church is headed rather than being stuck in our old ways.

CIHAN Report—Nelly

- It has been a difficult time in CIHAN. IPW has decided to leave PNMC. Two board members of CIHAN are members of IPW and are leaving.
- CIHAN is offering Ebafofom classes (pastoral training, continuing ed) for the second term. The first class took about 5 months. CIHAN wants to give the teacher (Nelly's father) \$1,000 for the term of teaching. What students pay goes for the materials.
- CIHAN will meet in May to appoint members to replace members whose terms are complete in October as well as those who are leaving. Nelly's term as moderator-elect is supposed to end this October.
- CIHAN meets tomorrow (Sunday) with the Woodburn congregation, Katherine, Wendell Amstutz, and our representative (Todd) to talk about IPW's decision.

Next Meetings

- April 29-30 in Portland (probably at Portland Mennonite) or possibly Drift Creek Camp, 1 p.m. to 8:30 p.m., 8:30 a.m. to 2 p.m.