

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF OCTOBER 16, 2011

of the

WORLD OUTREACH COMMITTEE

of the

EPC PRESBYTERY OF THE WEST



IN ATTENDANCE: Gene Kissinger, chair, Kelli Hayes, Al Johnson, Don Kearby, Bob Kuseski, Cecil Matthews, Pete Menconi, Jim Murphy, Paul Neu, Kim Nitchals, Chris Smith, and David Van Valkenberg

1. Kelli Hayes - Update on GlobalFest:

- The event was postponed due to bad weather

2. Jim Murphy – Update on his member care ministry:

- His personal funding is at 100%
- His travel and ministry expenses are raised through EPC Benevolence Fund
- He has a member care visit scheduled to visit EPC workers in the Middle East

3. Where do we go from here:

- We need to be asking the right questions.
- How can we facilitate grass roots movements in our churches?
- We need to stimulate churches to think more missionally
 - Approach mission through Acts 1:8
 - Present ministry options in Jerusalem, Judea, Samaria and the ends of the earth
 - Help build “on-ramps” for people.
 - **SEE APPENDIX 1: SUMMARY OF IDEAS FROM PETE MENCONI**

4. Kim Nitchals – Update on Covenant Pres Omaha’s Sudan Medical Mission

- Covenant has helped establish a medical clinic in South Sudan.
- In the process of shipping a container of supplies.
- Wondering how to let the other churches in the presbytery know about this project. Possibilities include:
 - Putting information on the web site.
 - Invite them to have a presence at the February Presbytery meeting.

- Encourage them to make direct contact with other churches in the Presbytery.
- **SEE APPENDIX 2: SUMMARY FROM KIM**

6. NEXT MEETING: December 14, 2011 (no November meeting)
 Cherry Hills Community Church
 3900 Grace Boulevard
 Highlands Ranch, Colorado 80126

APPENDIX 1: SUMMARY OF IDEAS FROM PETE MENCONI

Discussion Points for EPC/WOC-POW: Vision and Mission

Problem: Most EPC churches are having difficulty generating and engaging more congregation members and church staff in missions. Often, the work of missions is delegated to a relatively small group of mission “true believers,” but rarely does “missions” become a church-wide emphasis.

Question: How do we increase the engagement of our congregations in reaching and ministering to unbelieving people- both locally and globally?

Discussion points:

- How do we build upon the EPC’s emphasis on “missional ministry”? Can we fold the traditional view of missions (held by mission true believers) into a broader definition of missional ministry? That is, can we re-brand missions as missional ministry?
- Would it be helpful to our churches if we more clearly defined “missional ministry” and developed guidelines for our churches and people to become more missional? This may include producing some resource material for large and small groups.
- If we were to gather data on the current mission activities and partnerships of EPC/POW churches, can we use some of these partnerships as “on-ramps” to ministry for more of our people? That is, perhaps we can create more opportunities for missional involvement with lower thresholds of entry. Some of these involvements would be intra-church (within one church), extra-church (outside the church) and some would be trans-church (with several churches working together).
- Perhaps the POW can jumpstart a new emphasis, such as “Go Missional”, that would emphasize ministry in our “Jerusalem, Judea, Samaria, and to the ends of the earth.”

That is, there would be specified ministry partners and activities that are community-based (Jerusalem), some that are city or metro-based (Judea), some that are regionally or nationally-based (Samaria), and some that are internationally-based (ends of the earth). Again, the barriers to involvement would be lowered through the type of ministry expected (read: make it easy), through helping to provide resources (including financial), providing both pre-ministry training, in-the-midst of discipling, and post-ministry debriefing.

- The overall goal is to create a missional culture in our EPC churches. And the missional activities should spread from our doorsteps to the far reaches of our world

APPENDIX 2: SUMMARY FROM KIM

SOUTH SUDAN PROJECT

- Imagine being at war for over 50 years...generations of people living and dying without ever knowing peace and security in their homes. This image only intensifies when one also envisions the damage to villages, churches, and hospitals. This is the reality of the 500,000 people living in Kajo Keji, South Sudan. Covenant Presbyterian Church in Omaha, NE, in partnership with The Healing Kadi Foundation, is working to bring hope and healing to a community devastated by civil war.
- The first phase of our project is delivery of a “Clinic in a Can” containing a surgical suite, exam rooms, X-ray, lab, and a pharmacy. The clinic will be shipped in November 2011 for arrival in Kajo Keji in March 2012. This clinic will serve as a base of operations for medical mission trips until a permanent hospital is built. The clinic will cost approximately \$150,000 per year to operate. This clinic (and the future hospital) will bring much needed hope and physical healing to people of Kajo Keji. After meeting their physical needs, we can share the message of spiritual healing that is only available through Jesus Christ.
- The ultimate goal is a 65-bed hospital with surgical suites, maternity ward, and emergency room. The cost of building this facility is approximately \$2 million dollars with an annual operating expense of \$500,000 per year.
- There are a variety of ways to become involved. First, join us in prayer for this project! We will regularly update our website (www.healingkadi.org) with our current needs. Next, please consider if your church or individuals within your church would be willing to help us financially. The Healing Kadi Foundation is a 501(c)3 charity. We can provide a detailed project plan to those who are interested. Finally, if your church has been called to medical mission work, please contact us regarding sending a medical team to serve in Kajo Keji. Kevin McDonald, Executive Pastor of CPC, can be reached at 402-498-9000 or 15002 Blondo St, Omaha, NE 68116.