

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF JULY 15, 2009

of the

WORLD OUTREACH COMMITTEE

of the

EPC PRESBYTERY OF THE WEST



PRESBYTERY OF THE WEST



In attendance: Mike Anderson, Al Johnson, Marty Martin, Paula Kendrick, Scott Urquhart, Bob Kuseski, Gene Kissinger, Marc Huebl

We discussed progress with the web site; specific conversations concerned adding a list of books we think members of congregational outreach committees might find useful. It was recommended that each book should be accompanied by two or three sentences describing how it would be useful to people involved in outreach; the person making the recommendation should provide this information.

Most of the discussion focused on the committee's contributions to the October and February presbytery meetings. The current plan is this:

- The October presbytery meeting will be at Covenant Presbyterian in Omaha. Have John Bueno describe his diverse ministry among Latinos in the Omaha area. We understand that John is a member of Covenant.
- The February, 2010 meeting will be at Cherry Hills. The denomination issued a paper entitled "MISSIONAL CHURCH PRIMER" in the Fall of 2007. Extensive discussion focused on how to translate the EPC definition of "missional" into practice. More specifically, how can WOC advance the missional perspective in the congregations of the presbytery through its presentation at the February meeting? We arrived at this plan: Start with a panel discussion, then encourage comments from the floor. Also have small group discussions over a meal. Have the panelists give a taped five minute presentation on what it means to be missional in their respective congregations. Substantial discussion focused on who to ask to give those taped comments. Also on how to organize small group discussions around tables at meals. One objective of these round-table discussions would for the WOC to learn how it can help congregations become more missional.

- Marty made the point that the New Wineskins perspectives should be represented. He suggested getting Dean Weaver or Carman Fowler as a possible speaker. Marty will follow up on this. (Later Marc agreed to do this.)
- We need to get the new definition of missional that came out of the recent General Assembly.
- Possible questions for the small groups:
 - What is missional?
 - What does that look like in practice?
 - What does missional mean to the “man on the street”?
 - Give a simple, pithy phrase to characterize missional.
 - Small group discussions need to be focused ==> WOC member at each table to facilitate discussion.
- Panelist messages = what for them to address
 - What does missional mean to you?
 - How has this term helped the church? Your congregation?
 - Has it caused any problems or frustrations?
 - What has helped your congregation become missional?
 - Has the EPC helped?
- Outcomes we might hope for:
 - I am going to implement this in my church!
 - All pastors in POW get a summary of “best practices”.
 - Agree on some common simple language = saleable slogan
- We had a substantial discussion of possible panelists. Suggestions:
 - a New Wineskins leader, like Carmen Fowler - Marc H will contact
 - Dave Meserve - Urban Skye
 - Jack La Pietra - New Life in Christ
 - Steve van Diest
 - Doug Brown - Greeley - Scott U. Will contact (He did; very positive response from Doug)
 - Ted Bransma - a ruling elder
 - Dan Sweeting - Cherry Creek
 - Brain Craig - Planting Mosaic
 - Dan Weidman - Gene K will contact
 - Jim Murphy
 - Denver Seminary
 - Jim Dixon - speak to CHCC’s vision - Gene K will contact