

# MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF JULY 21, 2010

of the

## WORLD OUTREACH COMMITTEE

of the

## EPC PRESBYTERY OF THE WEST



PRESBYTERY OF THE WEST

IN ATTENDANCE: Gene Kissinger, Mike Anderson, Kelly Downs, Greg Ehlert, Merri Helton, Marc Huebl, Al Johnson, Don Kearby, SM, Bob Kueski, Chris Smith, Scott Urquhart, and by conference call: Ken Jones.

1. Greg Ehlert of First Presbyterian Church in Greeley, CO was introduced. He started his Associate Pastor position there July 1. His major responsibilities lie in the areas of missions and discipleship.
2. UPDATE ON HOMECOMING - Don and others
  - Beautiful and restful setting - appreciated and used by participants
  - Participants taken care of - food, agenda, and kid programs successful and appreciated
  - About 120 participants, about half missionary kids - older ones helped a lot
  - Workshops generally appropriate and appreciated
  - Participant reports, not planned, but included because a program presenter had to cancel, were greatly appreciated by both the missionaries and other attendees. There would be substantial value in this being repeated in the future, perhaps some in conjunction with GA.
3. GENERAL ASSEMBLY - Marc and others
  - Needed business was transacted as appropriate, but
  - Meetings need to highlight missionary activities more. Comments such as those presented at the Homecoming have a real place at GA.
  - Ordination of Women appears to have been resolved for now. Presbyteries can do as they see fit. Congregations in a presbytery which will not call women as teaching elders can render the call through an adjacent presbytery which permits such a call.
  - How do we get our thoughts to the GA office for their consideration? Topic of discussion.
4. MISSIONARY CARE - not on the agenda, but evolved from the previous two topics.
  - Pastors/missionaries have spiritual, emotional, and logistical needs which may or may not get met. As many EPC missionaries also are supported by partner organizations, it appears to be assumed the partner organization will take care of these matters. As the EPC outreach program expands, at least

in part as the denomination grows, we need to plan for missionary care.

## 5. TEAM UPDATES

- Engage 2025 - SM reported on his recent trip to South Sumatra with additional comments from Kelly and Merri. Relative to the longer term he focused on developing support of teams. He presented a draft of a description of the SOUTH SUMATRA PARTNERSHIP, and described its utility as a funding mechanism. It is appended as Appendix 1 to these minutes. SM welcomes comments and/or suggestions. Next steps:
  - Get congregations to sign on as supporters.
  - Prepare presentation for the next presbytery meeting (Greeley, Oct 1 & 2)
  - The perspectives course will be offered this winter/spring at Faith in Loveland, Fort Collins, and Cherry Hills.
- Web Site and Database - Scott: This team has developed its charge, as directed. It is appended as Appendix 2. Comments are welcome. Direct them to Scott. The web site needs to have continuing development to serve as a communication tool to our congregations and their members. In particular it will provide an outlet for the results of the Equipping and Information Team.
- Mission Advancement Associate - Don & Al: We need to develop a budget item for this position. At present the Kearbys are very short on funds.
- Equipping and Information - Bob: This team is starting to identify and develop materials useful to congregations and their members. When available, it will be posted on the WOC web site.
- Becoming a Missional Presbytery - Gene: Deferred until another time

6. NEXT MEETING: August 18, 2010, Fireside Room (#225),  
Cherry Hills Community Church  
3900 Grace Boulevard  
Highlands Ranch, Colorado 80126

APPENDICES: Report of Engage 2025 team, and charge of Web site and data base team:

THE FOLLOWING IS A DRAFT OF JULY 21, 2010 - Direct suggestions to SM

## APPENDIX 1

### South Sumatra Partnership Description

The Presbytery of the West World Outreach Church Planting Team Partnership (hereafter called South Sumatra Partnership) has arisen out of the desire of presbytery churches to play a part in reaching every remaining Muslim people group. The South Sumatra Partnership believes that every resource needed to intentionally take a step in this direction exists, or will exist as God provides, within the churches God is calling to participate. The South Sumatra Partnership commits together to establish and support a team of cross-cultural church planters working among the unreached Muslim peoples surrounding LubukLinggau, South Sumatra, Indonesia (hereafter called the South Sumatra Team).

**Partners:** Members of the South Sumatra Partnership are churches who agree to the purpose and values of the South Sumatra Partnership and commit to supporting the Partnership in specific ways. The commitments are goals an individual church will work to accomplish in order to make the South Sumatra Partnership and South Sumatra Team successful. The goals are determined by each church's ability and burden for this project. The commitments are specified in the South Sumatra Partnership Agreement, signed by the person(s) responsible to carry them out at a particular church and should include commitments to financial support, participation in the South Sumatra Support team, and specific team development goals that will help build vision for the team and raise up team candidates.

**Financial Support:** The South Sumatra Partnership, through the support of its partners, will provide 50% of each South Sumatra Team member's financial support by collecting donations from church partners (and others) into the South Sumatra team account administered by the EPC World Outreach office. (The remaining 50% of team members' support will need to be raised by individual team members.)

**Support Team:** The South Sumatra Partnership will establish a South Sumatra Support Team made up of individuals from partner churches. The South Sumatra Support Team will maintain consistent communication with the South Sumatra Team and provide opportunities for partner churches and their members to support the team through prayer, visits, and other efforts. The South Sumatra Support Team will need to work together to ensure partner congregations feel connected to the field ministry and that the South Sumatra Team is cared for (good communication is key here) which will probably require regular meetings (in person and/or by phone). The South Sumatra Support Team should work to enable partner congregations to take direct involvement in field ministry through their understanding of field needs and goals.

**Field Oversight:** The South Sumatra Team Leader, in consultation with the World Outreach Field Director, will provide oversight of church planting strategy and ministry efforts, as well as day-to-day team activities. Help and suggestions from the South Sumatra Partnership will be welcomed. Team members will be subject to World Outreach and Team Leader approval and will be required to follow the approval and training process developed by the Team Leader, South Sumatra Support Team, World Outreach Field Director and EPC World Outreach Committee.

## South Sumatra Partnership Agreement

The undersigned hereby covenants and agrees to participate in the South Sumatra Partnership (see the South Sumatra Partnership Description) in the following ways, trusting the Holy Spirit to provide the resources and wisdom we will need to be effective partners:

**Support Team:** We will provide one member of the South Sumatra Support Team at all times and two members of Support Team whenever possible. We will help the Support Team members to:

1. Communicate news from the South Sumatra Team to the congregation, and news from the congregation to the South Sumatra Team
2. Help our congregation pray regularly for the items suggested by the South Sumatra Support Team.
3. Provide assistance to Support Team initiatives (examples would be planning short-term trips, providing pastoral care for the South Sumatra Team, or providing support for a ministry project).

**Financial Support:** We will contribute \$(*number*) monthly to the South Sumatra Team account beginning (*month*), (*year*), which will be used to support team members, short term trips, and team ministry projects.

**Vision Trips:** We will send (*number*) members of our community on a vision trip to South Sumatra in the next 2 years.

**Team Development:** In addition to sending appropriate people on vision trips, we will help develop the South Sumatra Team by building vision for God's kingdom in the world and inviting people with appropriate faith, gifts, and desire to become candidates for the team member positions.

**Other ways we will support the development and ministry of the South Sumatra team:**

- Provide training opportunities for the CP team.
- Provide counseling, both pre-field and on the field.
- Provide member care, both pre-field, on field and during home service, by intentionally encouraging team members and meeting needs where possible.
- Inviting specific communities in our congregation adopt CP team members. These communities may include Sunday School classes, small groups, and other communities.
- Other: \_\_\_\_\_
- Other: \_\_\_\_\_

**Annual Review:** We will review our participation in the South Sumatra Partnership in (*month*) each year to check progress on our commitments and make goals/adjustments as needed.

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[Signed by the designated person with the responsibility and authority to keep the above commitments.]

## APPENDIX 2

# WEB SITE AND DATA BASE TEAM – CHARGE

PRESBYTERY OF THE WEST  
EVANGELICAL PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH  
WORLD OUTREACH COMMITTEE  
(Draft of 7/21/2010 - nsu)

The web site and data base team is responsible for maintaining and improving the WOC subsite of the Presbytery of the West, and the database described below. Specifically that subsite currently is located at <http://www.epcwest.org/WOC/Index.html>. This subsite is intended to serve at least these purposes:

- Communicate current activities of the WOC to members of the presbytery and other interested persons;
- Provide access to learning materials about world outreach for churches in the presbytery and their outreach activities;
- Share our experience in short-term outreach opportunities in order to help other congregations find the ones that are appropriate for them, specifically,
  - Identify local agencies, both supported by the presbytery, and ones without denominational affiliation, such as rescue missions,
  - Mission trips planned by congregations in the presbytery that would encourage participation by members of other congregations of the presbytery.

In order to reach out to congregations in the presbytery on outreach matters, a database of outreach committee chairs and related persons is needed. Recent experience (Fall, 2009) showed that no such list existed, and this information was much more difficult to obtain than might be expected. Last year the denominational office began developing a list of short-term mission trips which could include people from congregations other than the one organizing it. This team will assist in updating this list on an annual basis, and include information about the list on the WOC web subsite to the extent that security concerns allow.