

Currently, the Transformation Team is working on a profile for such a position which will be sent by mail to the Regional Board for feedback in July before going to the Search Committee. Meanwhile, the Executive Committee has been hard at work praying over who should represent our region on the five member Search Committee, as prescribed by our Bylaws. The Executive Committee is pleased to report that the following persons have agreed to serve our regional church in this vital role:

- **Rev. Jeff Moore**, our first representative from the Executive Committee, will serve as our chair. Jeff is the pastor of the Hermitage Christian Church, regional treasurer, and former chair of a search committee for the Executive Director of the Boys and Girls Club.
- **Cora Russell**, our second representative from the Executive Committee, is a laywoman from the Charleroi Christian Church, a librarian at the University of California and President of the Southwest District.
- **Minister Rich Plocinski**, our first representative from the Transformation Team, is the licensed pastor of the Millville Christian Church, a high school teacher and former Youth Camp Coordinator for the Nordmont camp.
- **Don Allan**, our second representative from the Transformation Team, is a member of one of our new congregations, the Disciples United Community Church in Lancaster and has experienced a regional transformation process in the Northern California/ Nevada region.
- **Rev. Marsha Brown Woodard**, who is our regional representative at large, is the Instructor in Community Ministry and Academic Advisor at Palmer Seminary, member of the PAC committee in support of new churches in the Philadelphia area and former chair of the Commission on Ministry.

## TRANSFORMATION PROCESS

The Transformation Team is putting the final touches on an introductory paper which outlines a vision for our region's transformation process. Our hope is to organize district cluster meetings this fall to bring this dialogue to the local church level. As soon as the final draft is approved, it will be available on the region's website.

## FINANCIAL UPDATE

1. **Annual Fund:** You will soon receive our first annual fund appeal letter to individuals asking for contributions to our camping ministry, so that we can make up the deficit between what a camper pays and what it actually costs to go to camp – about a \$50 per camper difference. **Our goal is \$10,000.**
2. **Sale of Nordmont:** The property continues to receive much interest but so far the offers have been extremely low. We will continue working with the realtor with the hopes of selling this summer.
3. **Capital Campaign Update:** We have now received \$317,000 for the Capital Campaign. We are appreciative of all the gifts and especially for those who continue to give. We currently have over \$30,000 cash on hand towards the future projects. We are in the final stages of the analysis on prior expenditures and will be issuing a detailed report this fall upon the completion of the audit.
4. **Laurelview Project:** What a blessing, when on two successive weekends (May 31 and June 7) we had over 50 dedicated people show up and give of their time and resources to work to improve the kitchen at Laurelview. Over \$15,000 was received in memory of Dennis Odgers to install a new dishwasher and to upgrade the entire kitchen area so that our campers could enjoy a delicious meal while at camp. We also stained the Directors Cabin; tore out the old kitchen in the farmhouse; put a new roof over the kitchen to keep it dry; painted the lower end of the dining hall and did much needed landscaping. With the donated labor, donated materials and funds contributed, **these improvements to Laurelview are worth more than \$30,000. Well done, good and faithful stewards.** Watch for more information on three weekend work camps in October as we continue to improve this property for retreats and campers.
5. **Manna- Memorial Gift:** We also received word that we have been blessed by one of our saints who has gone home to be with the Lord. We have received a \$150,000 permanent gift that was established with the Christian Church Foundation. We will be receiving quarterly interest payments that will assist us in our ongoing operations of the Region.
6. **Regional office move:** In an effort to reduce our operating costs so that we can invest more in the programming of the Region, we will be moving the office in late August or September. We are grateful to the First Christian Church in Greensburg for their generous offer of two rooms for our new offices. We will finalize the move in late July.

**7. Accounting Procedures:** We are continuing to work with the Finance Team to improve our accounting procedures. We are also being supported in a large way through the work of the Board of Church Extension and are extremely grateful for their support in assisting us. We will be presenting to the Regional Board at the October meeting guidelines for implementation and an up to date report including the 2008 audit.

### **HOPE AND PRAYER**

In this brief letter it is impossible to summarize the hundreds of hours our regional leadership has spent praying and working together to meet the challenges of our regional church. We come away from every meeting profoundly hopeful for the future of our regional church and deeply grateful for our Regional Minister, Bill Allen, as well as for all who serve our regional church through the regional support staff, the Executive Committee, Regional Board, Transformation Team, Commissions, Finance Committee, Personnel Committee and now our Search Committee.

*“So faith, hope and love abide, but the greatest of these is love.”* Keep on praying saints!

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## **THE THIRD LETTER TO THE REGIONAL CHURCH July 13, 2009**

Dear brothers and sisters,

During the first weekend of June, we were privileged to lead a group of young adults in a retreat and work project at Camp Laurelview. Working with these young adults, who are one to ten years out of high school, makes us grateful for those who nurtured these young adults in the past and excited for the future as these young adults offer their gifts to our regional church. During this retreat, two young women from The New Life Deliverance Church, a new church start in Willingboro, joined us and quickly became a part of our new camping community, as campers from the east join campers from the north and west for our first summer in one unified camping program. In addition, this summer, several campers of color are being offered Reconciliation camp scholarships, thanks to your giving to the Reconciliation Offering last September. Please be in prayer for our camping ministry this summer, both for the campers and counselors, as well as for our new regional Youth Ministry Coordinator, John Owen.

### **THE SEARCH PROCESS AND COMMITTEE**

After careful discernment by the Transformation Team, Executive Committee and the Regional Board, we have decided to create a position entitled “Regional Minister for Transformation” for a two to three year interim period. Just as many congregations have found it immensely helpful to call an “intentional” interim during times of great change, so we believe that our region needs a regional minister who will make transformation the top priority in his or her ministry with us. After the two to three year period, this Regional Minister for Transformation, has the opportunity to place her or his name forward as the Regional Minister. Though called by different titles, this concept of a Regional Minister of Transformation, has been very successful in other regions who are facing critical challenges.