

May 30, 2009  
Naperville Church of the Brethren

Present: Apostle Lynda DeVore, Chair Paul Kohler, Jack Flores, Vernon Showalter, Lois Snyder, Kay Weller

Absent: Dawn Blackman

The minutes for the April meeting were approved.

The treasurer's report was approved.

Paul and Lynda reported that a district task force has been named for the Douglas Park Church. Members include Orlando Redekopp, Anna Lee Hisey Pierson, Ed Garrison, Kevin Kessler, and Fletcher Farrar.

Lynda DeVore, Kevin Kessler, Jack Flores, Anna Lee Hisey Pierson, Shirley Petracek, one member of her congregation, Herman Ware and one member of his fellowship will form a steering committee.

Next, Lynda gave her activity report.

### *Activity Report May 30<sup>th</sup>, 2009*

#### *Advertising*

*Mary Jo Flory-Steury has had our ad removed from the Market Place section of the Brethren .org website. Her reasons had to do with our ad not fitting in with the way jobs are normally advertised in districts. We are talking about alternative ways for NCDT to advertise for Church Planters within the denomination.*

#### *Web Sites*

*The May issue of Harvest Happenings and the Minutes of the April meeting were added to the NCDT web site.*

#### *NCD Committee*

*I attend an NCD conference call on May 27<sup>th</sup>. Discussion centered on the upcoming conference in 2010 and on plans to meet with Praxis Center to develop a COB assessment center. A date has been set for that meeting to take place in August. The minutes of that meeting have not been made available yet. I will pass them along when they become available.*

### *Planter up Dates*

*Rockford –I met with Samuel on April 29<sup>th</sup>, May 8<sup>th</sup>, May 18<sup>th</sup> and on May 24<sup>th</sup>. Samuel is making good progress in developing relationships in the community. He has joined the Chamber of Commerce, the Rockford Pastor's Association, and has volunteered to serve as a Chaplain for the local police department. He and his family have moved from the apartment to a house that has been vacant for 3 years and is owned by someone that is associated with the Rockford 1<sup>st</sup> church. The house has a large yard which is good for the children and is closer to Anna's school. Samuel knows all of the people in this new neighborhood.*

*The new direction of the Rockford 1<sup>st</sup> church congregation was a bit of a stumbling block for Samuel at first, but he and Gretchen are seeing that this is actually a blessing. Samuel is looking for space in the heart of town and feels this will be a much better fit for his ministry.*

*Samuel and I visited York Center COB on Sunday the 24<sup>th</sup> and shared his vision with the Adult Sunday School. His vision was very well received. I sensed a lot of excitement after his presentation.*

*Samuel is making very good progress in building relationships with sojourners (spiritually disoriented God seekers) in the community.*

*He has read the two books I gave him on Brethren history and theology and has viewed the Journey in Jesus Way video twice.*

*West side Chicago-I met with Herman on May 6<sup>th</sup> and by phone on May 22<sup>nd</sup>. The May 6<sup>th</sup> meeting was held at the Douglas Park COB with Shirley Petracek. I felt we made good progress with Shirley in this meeting.*

*Herman and I spent a good deal of time discussing possibilities regarding the end of the lease on the apartment. I had several conversations with the landlord and we are currently on a month to month arrangement.*

*Herman has 8 solid participates in his Thursday evening group.*

*Herman will be going with me to Virden on the 31<sup>st</sup> to share his vision for the work in Chicago.*

### *Follow-up with Potential Planters*

*Benjamin Amankwaa's application for US visa has been accepted and he is moving along in the process. His current issue is the need for a co-sponsor. Please keep this issue in your prayers. Dawn has been extremely ill, although I spoke to her and she is now on the mend.*

*I had a nice conversation with Scott Mandernack from Kenosha and a meeting has been set for July 25<sup>th</sup> to discuss the formation of a group in the Racine area.*

### *Inquiries*

*I attended a meeting of the Congregational Life Team of Mt. Morris Church of the Brethren on May 16th. They are exploring possibilities for further ministry to the community they are attracting with the food pantry housed in their church. The food pantry is an Ecumenical effort. One possibility they are exploring is a new church start out of the Mt. Morris Church.*

*I did hear again from the Boshart's who are still exploring moving to Madison area.*

### *Executive Committee*

*Kevin set over revisions to the mission point to congregation document he had started. I responded with some thoughts and we agreed to make it available to our respective teams for further discussion. A copy is attached along with this report.*

### *Church Planting Support Tour*

*I will be at Canton on June 7<sup>th</sup>.*

### *Support Committee*

*The May 2<sup>nd</sup> meeting was not well attended and rather disappointing in terms of outcomes. The next meeting of the committee has been scheduled for June 13<sup>th</sup>. Paul, Dawn and I have not had an opportunity to meet to discuss this next meet to date.*

### *Other*

*I started my coach certification training. In addition to rereading the Coaching 101 book by Bob Logan, I participated in three sessions with a coach mentor prior to my classroom portion of the training which was May 19<sup>th</sup> -21<sup>st</sup> at Church Smart. The training was excellent. I will be coaching two individuals for the next six months with the mentoring of Laura Jedlick my coach mentor. In conjunction with this training, I am reading a book entitled TransforMissional Coaching which I picked up at the Exponential Conference.*

*I have made my travel arrangements for Annual Conference.*

We continue to need to add church directories and lists of leaders and potential donors to our collection of resources.

A lovely meal was served by members of the Naperville Church .

After lunch a joint meeting of the NCDT and LT was convened with Gil Crosby District Moderator facilitating. The follow action was agreed to by consensus of both groups

The Leadership Team task force in dialogue with the New Church Development team decided to proceed with a 6 month to 1 year time of working collaboratively on ministry in the Douglas Park Community. They will be working toward uniting as one body of faith. Leadership Team mandates that Douglas Park Church and New Church Development Team planters work in conjunction with the newly created steering committee. This steering committee is reportable to Leadership Team as the official acting board for Douglas Park Church.. Members of that steering committee are the District Executive, New Church Development Team Executive, Douglas Park Pastor, the New Church Planter, a Leadership Team member, a New Church Development Team Member, a Douglas Park Church member and a Church Plant Member.

We returned to our regular meeting. Lynda is in conversations with Bob Logan about the appropriateness of her being a coach for our planters. Is this a conflict? Does our structure address this?

Jonathan Shively from the denominational New Church Development group has proposed 6 measures of whether a church is a Church of the Brethren. In the future, our prospective church planters will write a document including their future plan and how these 6 points would align with their vision. The Leadership Team would review the plan for each planter

Our next meeting will be a conference call on June 10, 2009