

## GOVERNING BOARD MEETING

**October 16, 2012 – 5:00 to 6:30 PM EDT**

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### VISION GOALS FOR 2012:

- ❖ Build leadership development into all we do, particularly with young adults.
- ❖ Communicate to the world with passion and clarity who we are -- and that “we want to know you!”
- ❖ Give priority to churches that demonstrate signs of health and growth.

### VISION GOALS FOR 2013:

- ❖ Build sustainability and capacity into all we do.
- ❖ Communicate to the world with passion and clarity that we are stronger together.
- ❖ Give priority to churches and new ministries that demonstrate signs of health and growth.
- ❖ Continue to build leadership development into all we do, particularly with Young Adults.

### OPEN QUESTIONS FOR 2012:

- ❖ What is our vision for funding ministry?
- ❖ How can our young adults help us to imagine and articulate a future for MCC? (Joel 2: 28 - "And that's just the beginning: After that— "I will pour out my Spirit on every kind of people: Your sons will prophesy, also your daughters. Your old men will dream, your young men will see visions. I'll even pour out my Spirit on the servants, men and women both...)
- ❖ What is needed to enhance our global ministry and structure?

### ATTENDEES:

Rev. Elder Dr. Nancy Wilson, Moderator; Raquel Benítez, Vice Chair; Kareem Murphy, Secretary; Liz Bisordi, Treasurer;

Rev. Onetta Brooks, Rev. Dr. Robert Griffin, Bryan Parker, Rev. Dr. Candace Shultis, Barbara Crabtree, Director of Operations, Linda Beckstead, Staff Support.

ABSENT: Rev. Tony Freeman

### **The meeting began at 5:01pm**

Rev. Nancy welcomed everyone to the meeting and welcomed back Tony from his leave of absence.

Liz Bisordi led in a short opening prayer

### **A. Consent Agenda**

- **Minutes of Sept. 18, 2012 meeting (Kareem)**
- **Director of Operations financial reports (Barb)**
  - **August P & L**
  - **August 31 Balance Sheet**

- **Budget Summary at August 31**
- **Branding/Marketing Update (Barb)**
- **Moderator's Report (Nancy)**
- **GOVERNING BOARD Disclosure Forms: VISIONS, EDS for Robert and Garner Institute for Raquel**

**GOVERNING BOARD MOTION 121610.1: Motion to approve the consent agenda made by Onetta, seconded by Candace. MOTION PASSES UNANIMOUSLY.**

## **B. Financial Plan Recovery Update Finance Team**

Liz led the discussion, noting that the report from the Finance Committee is based on the Recovery Plan Goals to offset significant budget deficits. She said that we are 97% of the \$225,000 revenue raising goal. Moderator's Circle is performing at 159% of the target. Non-Compliant Churches performing at 143% of the target. Programming is yielding profit. We received \$7,500 in targeted offerings. We had the original list of churches that we wanted to talk and engage with, and we've added to that. Nancy is in process of launching a key donor program. For total Income we have \$218,000 in the bank.

Robert, regarding the monthly donor program, asked what was the convert between old program and new people?

Barb answered that we started with \$3,995 a month and about 58 people. We added 209 giving units, representing 362 people, for \$10, 021. We also received a lump sum almost totaling \$10,000.

Liz reviewed the Finance Team's lessons learned. They including a focus on all levels of the organization. Combined activity (SLT, GB, Staff), is required for success. There is a need for consistent talking points for working with churches. We need a protocol for early engagement with churches to alert for potential concerns. Local Churches are using the programs we've developed for local growth including the stewardship summit. When churches are in pastoral transition, this can be a defining moment to reposition our relationships but must be done so without blaming or shaming. Pastors are a strong influence in whether there is a discussion around tithes.

Kareem asked about the initial draft talking points the Board received, around issues when we step in and talk with pastors about talking to Boards of Directors, noting that we have to take into account internal conversations about congregational finances and be sensitive to them.

Onetta noted that she has talked to two churches and set up appointments to talk to a third. This is not shame, blame, and guilt. It's about keeping in the Fellowship.

Liz noted that the next steps include talking with the next tier of non-compliant churches. Generous in Faith will require follow-up.

Nancy note that we are challenged with determining how to engage churches about late or low tithes because we don't know what they will provide until it comes in. Some churches forget to tell us when

their circumstances change. WE won't see the result of our new ways until the New Year. Also, she is moving forward with the year end appeal.

Liz asked if the Young Adult Donor Program was up and working. She noted that many corporations do their annual contribution campaign. It might be good to remind MCCers about our Global Justice Institute.

Nancy responded that we may not have the staff capacity to do that.

Robert asked if we have considered a working with companies for a matching donations.

Nancy said that we will have a staff capacity issue there but that if anyone has names of companies or other ideas to send them her way.

General discussion around when to engage churches when they lower tithe donations, are late, or stop paying ensued. Nancy noted that a call from the Moderator is probably not the first step.

Bryan said that we need to tell the story of how the plan is working, noting the successes with the monthly donor program, churches getting caught up on back and current payments, and the branding materials being launched. He said we need a way to link that to the local church and show how results are tangible.

General discussion around language establishing a covenant with churches ensued. Raquel said that one proposal coming from the ITF is a covenant. She asked if that has a relationship to what we are doing at General Conference.

Nancy responded that we going to bring to GC a Strategic Plan to take us 2016 (note it will take us through 2017). She added that she was examining the language in Article IX of the Bylaws. Is there covenantal language in there? She wants to have an informal conversation with Darlene, and then with the Governing Board to see if there is a way to strengthen our Bylaws in this area. She noted that any bylaw can be defeated by 1/3 of either house.

Onetta added that this element ties in to criteria for voting for churches that are in arrears. The bylaws talk about arrears, and the question that will come up is how to enforce them. Currently, those in arrears do not vote. But what is the effect on clergy? I can imagine the clergy house defeating it. However, the Governing Board can create policy to comply with this rule. That is part of what should be in the Governing Board conversation.

Kareem said that if we are looking at establishing a covenant, that there should be a clear avenue of opportunity to participate (vote) in General Conference. The Governing Board should make sure relationships are formed around mutuality. In the Revenue Recovery plan, we need to practice what we preach in terms of time, talent, and treasure. I We need to ensure that we are not reducing our relationships with our churches to a cash transaction or that their worth is based on what they pay.

Bryan said we ultimately need to figure out what the game plan is prior to GC to get churches into an agreement plan. Also to talk about the tangible things churches are giving and how to create that as

part of the plan. We also have to decide how to have the local church come to us—create the agreement.

**C. Budget Process Review Check In (Finance Team)**

Barb said that the Senior Leadership Team has already completed their goals in support of the Vision Goals from the Governing Board. They are now working on their individual office goals and will be then budgets together for the initiatives. The Finance Committee has worked with her to have an initial budget draft ready by November 1st, with a first reading at the November Governing Board meeting. Then we will have small group conversations, and then vote on budget at the December meeting.

**D. Strategic Planning Update (Candace, Kareem, Nancy)**

We are looking at Data Collection, few things we need to review. Gail will have templates for our October 24th team conference call. We had other discussions and we will update the Governing Board at the meeting. We are having an in-person meeting on this immediately prior to our March face-to-face.

**E. ITF Progress on Proposals (Robert)**

According to the Ad Hoc Committee's timeline, the next step is to send a draft proposal to the Governing Board and Senior Leadership Team. That will be sent to Nancy and Raquel, including a summary of proposals.

**F. SLT Goals based on GOVERNING BOARD Goals for 2013: Feedback (Barb)**

General discussion about meaning behind Senior Leadership Team's use of language in their overall goals to operationalize the Governing Board's Vision Goals. The questions surrounded capacity building, programming, strategic planning, culturally competent communication, and the investments necessary for these.

**G. Feedback on time with Rev. Elder Darlene Garner (Nancy)**

General feedback about Darlene's presentation, to provide the next one with greater focus and to reduce length.

**H. Governance (Onetta)**

○ **Status on Moderator Nom Committee selection process**

The Governing Board will provide a timeline to get to 2016. We need to have all candidates for 2016. We affirmed a timeline with deliverables at the August face-to-face meeting. The application process for the Moderator's Nominating Committee will go out November 16 (dates may change if). A small subcommittee (her, Raquel and one other) start interviews in January. Questions the Governing

Board would like to have asked as part of the interview process should be given to her. The goal is to bring to face-to-face in March a pool to approve.

- **Policy 18 – Gift Acceptance Policy Major Gifts Ad Hoc Committee (Raquel, Onetta, Kareem, and Nancy)**

Raquel gave an overview of the plan to have a conversation with Ken Martin and his partner Tom Cole about their proposal. Regarding Governing Board Policy 18, the Ad Hoc Committee felt an amendment is necessary to comply with the scenario raised by Ken and Tom's proposal.

Onetta reviewed the current language in Section 5 and discussed the proposed changes.

**GB MOTION 121610.3: Motion to approve the updates to Policy 18 – Gift Acceptance Policy made by Onetta, seconded by Raquel. MOTION PASSES UNANIMOUSLY.**

**I. Meeting Evaluation (Nancy)**

Review of action items and accomplishments.

**J. Closing Prayer (Kareem)**

Meeting adjourned at 6:18 PM

**2012 GOVERNING BOARD Meeting Dates**

- TUE 20 NOV 12 5:00 PM EST
- TUE 18 DEC 12 5:00 PM EST

**2013 GOVERNING BOARD Meeting Dates**

- THUR 24 JAN 13 5:00 PM EST
- THUR 28 FEB 13 5:00 PM EST
- March Face-to-Face Meeting (to be held in Florida):
  - Arrive Tuesday, March 5, 2013
  - Joint GB/SLT Strategic Planning Meeting March 6-7, 2013
  - GOVERNING BOARD Face-to-Face Meeting March 8-9, 2013
  - Return Home March 10, 2013
- THUR 25 APR 13 5:00 PM EDT
- THUR 23 MAY 13 5:00 PM EDT
- THUR 20 JUNE 13 5:00 PM EDT (date change due to GC)
- SAT 29 JUNE 13 (first meeting for GC)
- JULY – General Conference – No July Call

- 31 JULY – 3 AUG 13 (Details To Be Determined; Overlap with SLT)

#### Standing Committees

**Finance** - Liz Bisordi, Chair; Marsha Warren, Rev. Onetta Brooks; Bryan Parker

**Development** - Rev. Elder Dr. Nancy Wilson, Lead; Rev. Tony Freeman, Raquel Benítez - Rojas

**Governance** - Rev. Onetta Brooks, Chair; Bryan Parker

**Strategic Planning** - Rev. Dr. Candace Shultis, Chair; Kareem Murphy

#### Ad Hoc Committees

**Audit** - Rev. Dr. Robert Griffin; Rev. Dr. Candace Shultis; Marvin Bagwell

**International Task Force** - Rev. Dr. Robert Griffin, Chair; Raquel Benítez-Rojas, Rev. Elder Dr. Nancy Wilson, Linda Brenner-Beckstead, ITF Consultant to the GB

**Communications** - Rev. Dr. Robert Griffin, Chair; Bryan Parker, Kareem Murphy