

DISTRICT CONFERENCE
September 9-10, 2005

The S/C Indiana District thirty-fifth District Conference was held at the Grandview (formerly Beech Grove) Church of the Brethren on Sept. 9-10, 2005. The conference officers were: Moderator – Ed Jackson, Moderator – elect – Pam Princell, Secretary – Helen Wenger, Conference Coordinator – Sally Schrock, and Time Keeper – Paul Schrock. The theme of the conference was based on Galatians 5:13 “Through Love be servants one to another.”

Ed Jackson, the District Moderator called the business meeting to order after the evening worship service. Ron Beachley, the Annual Conference Moderator spoke during the evening worship service to 194 registered attenders. The offering collected during the worship service was \$962.52 which will be sent to Bethany Seminary for the Ministry Scholarship program.

The first order of business included the dedication of the conference delegates, reading of the rules of the conference and the approval of the agenda.

Kristen Roop, District Board chair presented the following appointments approved by the District Board for conference approval:

Auditing Committee -Joan Miller (until 2008)

Shalom Team - Janet Reed (until 2010)

Ethics Committee - Paul Schrock (until 2010)

Historical Committee - Ron Finney (until 2008)

Indiana Camp Board - Kristi Whitworth (Until 2008)

Manchester College Trustees - (until 2010) David A Haist, Steven G. Hammer, Paula Eikenberry Mendenhall, Richard D. ringeisen, Mark C Sherman, Jerry A. Royer, Cynthia Hoff Trochu.

Pam Princell presented the 2005-2006 district ballot and introduced the persons on the ballot. The ballot will be voted on tomorrow.

Three reports were presented : The Camp Mack report presented by Rex Miller and Pam Hollenberg who emphasized the partnership between the camp and the congregations of the state. David Lorenz highlighted items from the written report presented by Timbercrest. Wendi Hutchinson reported on several exciting happenings at Manchester College this Fall. There are 330 freshman who are very strong academically. Regional Youth Conference will be April 28-30, 2006, with the theme of "Come and See." Next week is the dedication of the new Science building and the Inauguration of Jo Switzer as the President of Manchester College.

Dan Riccus recognized the pastors in the District for their years of service. The group of pastors who went to Brazil made a presentation to Allen Kahler who thanked the churches of the District for their support during his first year as District Minister. The meeting was closed with announcements and prayer.

Saturday morning

The devotions were given by The Breakmakers for Ohio and through out the day testimonies of Service were shared by Jenna and Pat Maier, Phil and Louise Baldwin, the Anderson Church of the Brethren youth group and John Bunch.

The morning business meeting was called to order by Ed Jackson who announced that each church should pick up their outreach packets.

Elections were held. Then Bruce Hostettler representing the Annual Conference Standing committee gave their report and reminded us that Annual Conference next year is in Des Moines, Iowa with Belita Mitchell as the Moderator. The theme is "Seek beyond Ourselves." Bruce is the chair of the nominating committee for Annual Conference and said nomination form are on line now. In order to submit a person's name on line you must submit their e-mail address instead of their signature. The nominations must be in by Dec. 1, 2005.

Kathy Reid of the Association of Brethren Caregivers gave an overview of all the agencies since only a few will be reporting this year. ABC is talking about the uncompensated care at the retirement communities, as well as focusing on wellness issues of the mind, body, and soul. She introduced the "Lighten Up Brethren" challenge which encourages the members of each congregation to keep track of their daily exercise time.

Jay Carter reported for the General Board. He highlighted the Christmas Eve Service that was shown on TV, the Tsunami relief efforts, the visit by the Selective Service who wanted help setting up an Alternative service system, the invitation by the Sudan people to meet with the government officials and to help with peace efforts and the response to Hurricane Katrina.

Kristen Roop, chair person of the District Board gave a summary of their written report. She stated that our three areas of concentration this year: communication with the District, the changes to the constitution and the budget. In the articles and bylaws there is a Sectional Steering committee which is to plan and hold 2 meetings for the Section each year. This is a way for churches to interact with each other. Each church should have at least 1 member as a representative to attend these meetings along with members of the District Board. At this point we need to have a designated member from each church.

Business items from the District Board:

The District Board recommends the name change of the Beech Grove Church of the Brethren to the Grandview Church of the Brethren. The motion carried.

The District Board recommends the closure of the New Hope Church of the Brethren because they are no longer meeting. This passed.

The constitution is to be made more user friendly by making a few changes. The following amendments to the constitution were approved by the District Board and recommended to the District Conference for adoption:

P 2 under Conference Officers

#5. Add: Financial Secretary

Delete - The Secretary shall be elected by District Conference

Add - The Secretary shall be elected by District conference. The treasurer and financial secretary shall be appointed by the District Board.

p. 4 Added by District Board a. This is a three year term, eligible to serve a second term with no more than two terms in succession.

2. Shalom Team p. 4 & 5 of the Constitution and Bylaws (see handout)

Sections A

Persons eligible for the Shalom Team will meet the following qualifications: (i, ii)

Functions these are four functions of the Shalom Team: Consult, Assess, Educate and Mentor.

Shalom Teams may become aware of possible ethical violations at any stage of these four functions. Should this occur, an immediate referral to the ethics process will be made. Shalom Teams may be called in to focus on any conflict or brokenness resulting from an ethics process.

p. 5 Added by the District Board

3. Ethics Committee

Members will serve a term of 5 years eligible to serve a second term with no more than 2 terms in succession.

4 Historical Committee

eligible to serve a second term with no more than two terms in succession.

p. 6 Article X - delete 2/3

p. 7 Bylaws

#5 Replace Beech Grove with the Grandview congregation.

p. 8 #4 Delete - The term of office for all elected or appointed personnel shall be three (3) years unless otherwise stated in the Constitution or Bylaws.

p.10 #4 Immediate Past - Moderator shall

Board deleted b. He/she will not serve on the District Board.

p. 13 Article XI Amendments - delete words The Constitution and

p. 14 Article IV Delete - The name and address of the resident agent(s) will be Ron and or Harriet Finney.,205 River Cove Lane, North Manchester, IN 46962. Revised by District Board to read: The resident agent will be the District Minister, or acting District Executive Minister.

The revisions passed with a unanimous vote. Ed thanked Allen and Kristen for their work on the constitution.

Greg Bidgood Enders of the TRIM announced that Jay Carter graduated from the TRIM program and gave Jay his certificate.

Barry Bucher, the District Treasurer, took over this position from David Doudt. He thanked David for his hard work. He reported that during this past year the District changed accounting firms and all checks are now printed on the computer in N. Manchester. He said the District is t a critical point in their budget process.

Stan Miller, the Financial Secretary, reviewed the 2004 and 2005 budgets and expenses. Robin Wentworth Meyer asked if the District notifies churches of pledged amounts that are not paid.

The Auditing report of De Etta Balsler was given. She likes the new accounting firm. She said all reports are in good shape.

Action Items

2005 Budget was presented by Kristen Roop. This budget is implementing cost savings and deleted items from former budgets to save money. She said items sent out on paper will come through e-mail. If you would still like to receive printed information, you should pay \$6 per year. The District Conference booklet will be on a disk.

This budget represents a cut in services without cutting staff, however, we are on a rebuilding path. Allen is in the process of reconnecting us to the churches in the District. All District volunteers will not be reimbursed for their mileage. She asked the delegates to take these concerns to their churches. The Board does not want to cut staff, so she encouraged each congregation to support the District. If you know there is a problem in a congregation, let the board know there is a problem so the board can deal with it. The board recommends at least a \$27 per member payment to the District. There was a clarification on the EFSM budget - TRIM money comes from the Offering last night and District Scholarships. The 2006 Budget passed.

Pam Princell reported the results of the election:

Moderator - Elect - Gerry Longenbaugh

District Board/East Section - Mel Zumbrum

District Board/West Section - Dana Hood]

Program and Arrangements Committee - Central Section - Jane Cox

Program and Arrangements Committee - South Section - Melody Bowman

Nominating & Personnel Committee - East Section - Kevin Whitmore

Nominating & Personnel Committee - North Section - Anita Sautter

Sally Schrock thanked the churches of the District for the blankets they brought to conference to donate to Second Starts in Indianapolis.

There will be a District workday at the District Office on Sept. 24 at 8 a.m.

The conference was dismissed with prayer.