

January 2010

Dear Fellowship Council:

Thank you for the opportunity to allow our organizations to share how we cooperatively desire to advance the objectives of the FGBC. CE National is the Church Effectiveness arm of the FGBC. Although we are a separate corporate organization we voluntarily submit this information to the Fellowship Council because of our desire to cooperate fully with FGBC vision and growth. Naturally, we work to assist local churches to be healthy. Our purpose is *to impact the church by serving as a catalyst for biblically accurate and culturally relevant ministries to children, youth and adults*. Our objectives are the following seven statements:

1. Through training youth and adults
2. Through youth and adult ministry experiences
3. Through networking with church leaders
4. Through Recruiting and Training CE National Staff, Cabinets and Board Relations
5. Through Effective and Efficient Administration of CE National
6. Through providing ministry resources
7. Through networking with church leaders

See www.cenational.org for a list of our core values.

The following is a list of some of the things that coincide with the FGBC goals.

I. Grow by Conversion

- A. All of the Operation Barnabas teams are trained in evangelism and are equipped to build relationships in order to share their faith with other people. This past year was no exception. We had three domestic teams ministering in the East and Midwest doing their initial training at Powell, Ohio. All of the teams visited both Grace Brethren Churches and non-FGBC churches and participated in Momentum, Equip and inner-city ministries. This year the domestic teams will travel in the East and the training will happen in Lititz, PA. We have a large group of OB alumni who will travel to the Philippines this next summer.
- B. Tag-You're It! is a special program available to any church from CE National. This is especially designed to equip churches not only to minister to children but through children. This material, which is put together by the children's cabinet and others, is a great opportunity to revolutionize the children's ministries of our churches. Please pray for its effectiveness. The cabinet has completed a shortened version of the Tag-You're It program.

New videos included liability videos for churches and a four-part series of videos called "Got It!" for follow-up of children who received Christ.

- C. Momentum always has an emphasis on helping young people be equipped to share their faith with non-believers. This year we had a tremendous week at Robert Morris University outside Pittsburgh, PA. We were involved in hundreds of lives in the Pittsburgh area during the week of conference and we had a huge impact on the community. It was one of our larger conferences in recent years. In addition, the students gave a large offering for the physical needs in Pittsburgh and we began a year-long program of help called "iCare." This next summer we will be at Cedarville, Ohio, and will work with Tom Hocking who has agreed to head up the "We Care—Dayton" program---an overlap with the Adult Celebration.
- D. The Urban Hope Training Center in Philadelphia celebrated its 11th Anniversary this October. It is not only a place where there is an emphasis on children, youth and growing up leaders for the church plant, but also there are hundreds of people being trained in evangelism. Every month during the year there are weekend training opportunities available. There are also other times throughout the year when individual churches and groups use the sleeping accommodations

available for over 50 people for longer periods of time. Each group has the opportunity to learn how to build friendships and how to reach out to the lost. It has been personally gratifying for me to spend a number of months in Philly to assist the leadership development of Urban Hope. There are strategies of outreach, community development, leadership, discipleship and service. Brent Saba is the Director of Training working with Jason Holt, Director of Church Planting. The Urban Hope Community Church has regular Sunday services. They are also offering the BILD program and the Antioch School twice a week.

- E. All of our ministries have some component of ministry and evangelism; that is a Core Value of ours. We are an office that provides ministry training in whatever we do.

II. Go (on Mission)

- A. The Cabinets of CE National are taking on a new look this year. We are aiming to serve the small to mid-sized churches through the help of those from larger churches. This will enable those churches who do not have the time, financial ability, or talent to draw help from those who have been blessed with these.
 - i. We will have a once-a-year meeting for those who are willing to share their knowledge with others on an ongoing basis. These meetings are called CELS (CE Leadership Summit). We have offered training in Adult Bible Fellowships, Youth Ministry, Small Groups, College-age Ministries and Senior adult ministries.
 - ii. We will provide cutting-edge information, idea sharing and speakers in a discussion format. In return we would ask that participants go back home and share the information with churches (FGBC and non-FGBC) in their area.
- B. Momentum
 - i. Program Planning Committees especially focus on details of Momentum to make it most effective in seeing that our mission is accomplished. We are reaching out to non-FGBC groups as well. We plan to reach out to Dayton, Ohio, at this year's conference. The overwhelming desire of youth to help others in need is something that we want to tap into and use to open doors for sharing our faith.
 - ii. A new developing initiative is for young adults. At the Post-High Division that we have at Youth Conference (Fusion), we not only train young adults in how to have effective local church ministries but we use them during the week to help disciple young people.
 - iii. NAC and Bible Quizzing have been established to strengthen the roles of ministry skills, Bible memorization, and to see that students are involved in serving the Lord. A Bible Quiz Invitational took place in 2009 and a new Bible Quiz Alpha program is beginning in order to encourage more local church teams.
 - iv. A new Scripture memory program was designed for churches.
- C. The Russell Center continues to be used for The National Institute classes as well as continued expansion of the Fireside Dialogue Collection. These Dialogues are recorded session on different topics of interest to the local church and individuals.
- D. A new aspect of our ministry has been with the role of CE Ambassadors. The ministry is to encourage local churches and those who have been on Operation Barnabas and at Momentum. Two young women, Sarah Knepper and Stacie Fay, are on the road three weeks of each month. They will travel to both FGBC and non-FGBC churches encouraging discipleship, giving accountability to those who have been part of CE National programs and offering outreach opportunities in the community. A young man who is a recent graduate of Moody Bible Institute will join the role in 2010.

III. Lead

- A. We are endorsing the Antioch School that is being presented in several of our local Grace Brethren Churches as well as at Urban Hope. It is a leadership development program as well as an in depth Bible study with projects and practical requirements.
- B. The National Institute is the Youth Ministry program at Grace College, which helps to develop leadership. Each of the students who major in the program will do an internship. It is growing and impacting students greatly.
- C. Resumes for those seeking associate pastors are available from CE National. We offer this free service and have given churches many names to consider.
- D. Young adults are trained by serving as Operation Barnabas leaders. There are over 20 young adults that are trained each summer through serving as leaders on Operation Barnabas teams.
- E. The CE National Lending Library is especially designed to help churches to have resources and materials that can help them in their growth and leadership development. We have over \$60,000 worth of great materials for churches and individuals to borrow.
- F. The Philemon Center is designed to be a place of spiritual renewal for pastors, church elders, and church leaders.

This list is by no means exhaustive. We have a Masterplan that we follow each year and we are always assessing the needs of our churches and how we can serve as a catalyst to help them. We are all about serving the local churches. If there are any questions please feel free to contact me at edlewis@cenational.org. I look forward to having the opportunity to share with you at the Fellowship Council meetings in just a few weeks.

In His Work,

Ed Lewis
Executive Director