

January 2011

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. In consideration of our goals and vision the CE National board has adapted a new purpose statement to help us focus more on what we want to do and the direction in which we see ourselves going. *CE's purpose is to be a catalyst for all believers to be trained and mobilized to be "on-mission". This is done by:*

- *Impacting the rising generation*
- *Reaching neglected people, and*
- *Teaching Biblical truth in any culture.*

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. **Growth 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 Pennsylvania and New England doing their initial training at Lititz, Pa. All of the teams visited both Grace Brethren Churches and non-FGBC churches and participated in Momentum and inner-city ministries. This year the domestic teams will travel in the East including Maryland, Tennessee, Virginia and Florida and the training will happen in Waldorf, Maryland. This past year the OBI team was made up of all OB alumni and they had a positive impact in the Philippines. They even had opportunity to present a program in the largest high school in the world in Manila. This coming summer Operation Barnabas International will have orientation in Orange, California, and will again travel to the Philippines for ministry.
- 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 children's workers and others, is a great opportunity to revolutionize the children's ministries of our churches. Please pray for its effectiveness. There is also a shortened version of this program available online.
- C. Momentum always has an emphasis on helping young people be equipped to share their faith with non-believers. This past summer we cooperated with the FGBC and their Equip Conference to do the We Care Miami Valley project in the Dayton area. The Momentum conference was held at Cedarville University and students had opportunity to participate in tent cities and homeless experiences, and much hands-on ministry took place during the week as youth groups took opportunities to reach out. This coming summer we will be at the University of Pittsburgh, Johnstown, PA campus. They have expanded their facilities and are excited to have us back on their campus after many years. Our theme this year is ONE and is based on Col. 1:28. We want this conference to serve as a catalyst for teens to be reaching and developing one person for Christ through 2011 based on our theme verse.

- D. The Urban Hope Training Center in Philadelphia celebrated its 12th 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. We are striving to have a team come each weekend for hands-on training in ministry in the inner-city that they can take home and apply there. 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 my honor to spend a good portion of each month here and help with the church, the new believers, host daily prayer times, be involved in discipleship and to help with strategies of outreach, community development, leadership development, and service. Brent Saba resigned this past summer as the Director of Training so that he could pursue his education at Dallas Seminary. Jason Holt, Director of Church Planting, is doing a great job. I enjoy working with him in many areas. The Urban Hope Community Church has regular Sunday services. We also have house churches that meet regularly as well as prayer times each day.
- E. All of our ministries have some component of hands-on 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)**

1. We have initiated some new opportunities for church leadership.
 1. Days of Training (DOT). We offer one day, or morning to afternoon, training for ABF/SS leaders/mid-sized groups, youth and children's workers and we hope to expand this to other venues. Special guests may be involved and discussion is always a part.
 2. We are cooperating with Grace Seminary to develop "Super Mondays" that will be for seminary students and will draw in local pastors and other church staff to a one day event periodically throughout the year. Our first one will be this Spring. This fall we will focus on worship. We are pursuing a well known worship leader to come and share with us. We always want to have those who are considered experts in their field.
 3. We will provide cutting-edge information, idea sharing and speakers in a discussion format in events that we call CELS (CE Leadership Summit). These events are geared to age-level leadership—youth workers, children's workers, etc. These events include a challenge from someone in the field.
- B. Momentum
 1. 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 the Appalachian area at this year's conference for service projects. 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.
 2. An initiative for young adults at the Post High level that we have at Youth Conference (Fusion), is 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.

3. 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. With the homegoing of Ray Feather and the resignation of Scott Feather we opened up the Bible quizzing opportunities to others. Doug Courter has taken the helm as director of the Bible quizzing and Georgia Bateson has stepped up to be his assistant. They have outlined plans and seem to be taking good ownership of the program.
 4. We have developed two new Scripture Memory brochures, both containing 50 verses. One is geared for new believers and one is geared to growing believers.
 5. We have developed a strategy of KNOW, BE, DO for those who want to grow in Christ, especially for those who want to go into full time ministry. Our goal is to have, in the next five years, 100 new committed workers in ministry.
- 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. We are working to have several new topics added in the next year ranging from evangelism ideas to helps for children's workers.

III. **Lead**

- A. We endorse the Antioch School that is being presented in several of our local Grace Brethren Churches. 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 have resources and materials available that can assist them in their growth and leadership development. We have over \$70,000 worth of great materials for churches and individuals to borrow with over 19,500 items in our library.
- 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 how we can serve as a catalyst to help believers be "on-mission". 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