

January 2007

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 Christian Effectiveness arm of the FGBC. 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 four statements:

1. Through training youth and adults.
2. Through youth and adult ministry experiences.
3. Through providing ministry resources.
4. Through networking with church leaders.

See [www.cenational.org](http://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 year is no exception. Plans are for three domestic teams on the East coast doing training at Lititz, Pennsylvania, and an Operation Barnabas International team that will be going to Mexico.
- 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 effective.
- C. BNYC always has an emphasis on helping young people be equipped to share their faith with non-believers. We are changing the name to Momentum. The Blitz is always a highlight. This year Momentum will be held in Hattiesburg, Mississippi, and a strong emphasis will be challenging youth to reach out for Katrina recovery.
- D. Urban Hope Training Center in Philadelphia is not only a place where there is an emphasis on children and youth and growing up leaders for a potential 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 for over 50 people and

each of these people has the opportunity to learn how to build friendships and how to reach out to the lost. Jason Holt is interim director and will be joined by another director. A team of 13 people lead house churches and reach out to the families and youth of the area.

- E. All of our ministries have some component of ministry and evangelism; that is a Core Value of ours.
- F. We put together a “poster” that emphasizes a version of the GrowGoLead initiative and sent it to all the churches.

## II. **Go on Mission**

- A. There are various volunteer cabinets that meet together two to three times a year in order to be a catalyst for equipping people to move out of their comfort zones in order to help them be involved in God’s mission.
  - i. The Children’s Cabinet is very active. New NexGen days are planned for the year. (One-day rallies for children, parents and children’s workers.)
  - ii. YouthNet plans youth events annually to encourage youth workers to reach the lost for Christ. YouthNet also is involved in training youth workers.
  - iii. North of 55 are a group of people who are equipping those in retirement years to be “on the move” in ministry. If they are to be effective they must leave a legacy and be mentoring younger people. There are 6 one-day events planned in 2007 that are called Day Away—North of 55. Each of these “Days Away” is designed to be a catalyst to encourage retired people to be involved in ministry. Over 600 attended the events last year.
  - iv. Halftime Cabinet is a group of people who especially focuses in on those in their 40’s and 50’s, realizing that if we do not teach ministry at this age they will buy into materialistic and hedonistic philosophies of life. There are training sessions as well as annual experience/training available on weekend for middle adults. A Third Quarter Event is planned for April and we encourage churches to send their middle adults to plan for the second half of their lives.
  - v. Program Planning Committee is a cabinet that especially focuses in on details of Momentum to make it most effective in seeing that our mission is accomplished. We are launching out to non-FGBC groups as well.
  - vi. A new developing initiative is for young adults. In addition to the Post-High Division that we have at Youth Conference (Fusion), another young adult forum was held recently.

vii. NAC and Bible Quizzing are being established to strengthen the roles of ministry skills and Bible memorization to see that students are involved in serving the Lord.

B. The new Russell Center will feature a new ministry of taping resources. It is called Fireside Dialogues and features speakers on topics of theology, church issues and practical helps.

### III. **Lead**

- A. One of our strong initiatives, being endorsed by various organizations, is the one-year program based on 1 Timothy called "The 4:12 Commission." This is for high school graduates. The program is designed to help those graduating from high school to have an understanding of the scriptures, servanthood and character development. This is so needed since many students are not prepared for college or the experiences of life. Due to the need for financial aid the accreditory school is being changed from Moody to Liberty University.
- 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.
- C. "Purpose-Driven Church"-- initiatives to help churches strengthen their congregation through small groups and intentional strategies for growth. We want churches to be missional.
- D. Church Vision Weekends is a new initiative to offer assistance to churches that want to get "unstuck" and develop greater vision for church growth.
- E. 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.
- F. 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.
- G. The Philemon Center is designed to be a place of spiritual renewal for pastors and church elders and church leaders.

If there are any questions please feel free to contact me at [edlewis@cenational.org](mailto:edlewis@cenational.org).

In His Work,

Ed Lewis  
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