

January 2008

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 year is no exception. Plans included having three domestic teams ministering on the East coast, doing training at Lititz, Pennsylvania. All of the teams visited both Grace Brethren Churches and non-FGBC churches and helped with Katrina hurricane clean up. This year the domestic teams will travel across the US. The Operation Barnabas International team will go to Africa!
- 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. Momentum always has an emphasis on helping young people be equipped to share their faith with non-believers. This year, the over

2000 in attendance helped build 11 homes, did rehabs on 34 homes and distributed thousands of bags of groceries, compliments of a partnership with Convoy of Hope. Momentum was held in Hattiesburg, Mississippi, and a strong emphasis was be challenging youth to reach out for Katrina recovery.

- D. The 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. A team of 13 people lead house churches and reach out to the families and youth of the area. Team members “pastor” one entire block of people and visit people weekly. Brent Saba is a new director there working with Jason Holt. The Urban Hope Community Church has begun regular Sunday services.
- 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.
- 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 and has a new website, “Eye on Youth.” They will be in New York City in March.
 - 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 7 one-day events planned in 2008 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. A new aspect involves "doing" ministry on that day.

- 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/hedonistic philosophies of life. A new aspect of this is getting adults helping small churches on weekends by sharing love, work and testimonies. These weekends are called AIM (Adults in Ministry).
- v. Program Planning Committees especially focuses 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. Both Momentum weeks (one in Cedarville and one in Southern California) are designed to give students more "hands-on" opportunities. We are going to 2 separate weeks in order to provide "travel" cost breaks. The west Momentum is limited to 500 participants and will include 2 days of "ministry."
- 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. We began one-week ministry experiences to follow up on Momentum. These Momentum Applied groups (MAP teams) are designed to help small churches do "ministries" during the school year. Teams are ministering in Mississippi, San Francisco, and New York.
- viii. 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. A Bible Quiz Invitational brought 80 students and adults to CE National's Russell Center for a weekend of Scripture memorization.

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 was changed from Moody to Liberty University. This is a tremendous program with wonderful

results and is being hosted by Grace Community Church I Goshen. Due to financial constraints 2008 will end this ministry after 3 years.

- 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. "Vision Weekend" is a new initiative to offer assistance to churches that want to get "unstuck" and develop greater vision for church growth. We use the Philemon Center for that ministry.
- 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. We have over \$50,000 worth of great materials for churches to borrow.
- 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. I am sorry that I cannot be at these meetings. I scheduled flights assuming the meetings would be "after" Focus, so I will just "miss" the meetings. Fortunately my friend and co-worker, TK can attend the meetings in case there are questions.

In His Work,

Ed Lewis
Executive Director