

# Community of Christ

August 26, 2006

Dear Friends,

The Greater Pacific NW Mission Center conference is scheduled for October 21-22, 2006 at the Portland congregation, 4837 NW Couch St., Portland, OR. The theme for our conference is *Serve Others*. The conference will begin Saturday morning with an 8:00 a.m. breakfast for pastors. Saturday evening will be a benefit concert by PHAME. Our guest ministry for the weekend will be Bishop Steve Jones and our Apostle Susan Skoor. The agenda for the conference is included in this mailing.

## **Election of Delegates to the GPNW Conference:**

In preparation for our conference, each congregation will need to elect delegates and alternates as representatives at the conference. Attached is a spreadsheet that shows the delegate formula as well as the number of delegates assigned to each congregation, based on congregational membership. Please find your congregation on the spreadsheet to determine the number of delegates allowed for the conference.

It is important that you identify a date for a business meeting to elect delegates and alternates, no later than Sunday, October 1, 2006. Soliciting members willing to serve as delegates to the conference as well as preparing a ballot for the election would assist you in tabulating the election results. Members who receive the most votes, up to the number of delegates allowed, are considered elected delegates. The remaining members will serve as alternates in descending order of votes. The list of elected delegates and alternates should be published for the congregation and submitted for certification to our Conference Manager, Shari Amos at [ssamos@verizon.net](mailto:ssamos@verizon.net) no later than Monday, October 2, 2006.

Please Note: Elected alternates may serve as delegates for other congregations in the Mission Center. A long-standing principle of Community of Christ has been that the only qualification required for election of delegates, is that they be members in good standing. Your congregation can choose to send member delegates that are not part of your congregation. The only requirement for election of delegates is that they be members in good standing of the Greater Pacific Northwest Mission Center.

## **Election of delegates to World Conference, March 24-31, 2007:**

We will be electing delegates from our mission center to World Conference, March 24-31, 2007, in Independence, MO. Please ask members of your congregation who are considering attending this important conference to allow their names to stand in nomination for delegate status to the World Conference. Names, along with congregation, should be sent to Nan Sargeant at [nsargeant@cofchrist-gpnw.org](mailto:nsargeant@cofchrist-gpnw.org). We will elect delegates from names submitted and nominations that come from the mission center conference floor. Nominees will be elected from a written

ballot and then tabulated to produce our list of delegates, which will then be submitted to World Church. Delegates and alternates will be notified in November.

### **Mission Center Conference Business**

The conference will be approving our 2007 budget. A proposed budget and associated congregational allocations are also included with this mailing.

We will also be considering two property resolutions from the Mission Center Council and Finance Committee (attached) to help the Mission Center recover from the recent World Church budget cuts. As you know, the recent World Church redeployment meant a reduction in funding for three ministers in our Mission Center. These resolutions ask the Mission Center Conference to approve the sale of investment properties held by the Mission Center as well as to authorize the use of investment earnings from the sale of congregational buildings (Bellingham and North Bend) to:

- 1) Fund positions of ministry in the Mission Center
- 2) Keep allocations as static and close to 2006 amounts as possible.

Support of these resolutions would allow the Mission Center to continue to employ Francine Inslee as a full-time minister and to continue to provide reimbursement for our Volunteer Congregational Support Ministers - without increasing congregational allocations significantly. Investment properties held by the Mission Center include:

- Vashon Island, WA
- Federal Way, WA
- Bellevue, WA (this property has shared equity and would also require approvals from the Renton Congregation and consideration from the non-operational Seattle Stake Development Association/SSDA.)
- Wasilla, AK

As a part of the Community of Christ, we are following the Presiding Bishopric's guidelines for investment using the recommended 6% spending plan to support our Operating budget.

If your congregation has specific items of business to present to the mission center conference, please forward those resolutions to Bill McFarlin at [wmcfarlin@cofchrist-gpnw.org](mailto:wmcfarlin@cofchrist-gpnw.org) by October 2, 2006 so that they can be printed and distributed prior to the conference. If you have any questions about the process of delegate election, please feel free to call Bill McFarlin at 360.574.2758.

Conferences are a time of celebration, fellowship and renewal in ministry. Please plan now to attend this important conference.

Grace and Peace,

Barbara Borkowski, President  
Greater Pacific Northwest Mission Center  
Community of Christ

Bill McFarlin  
Interim President (effective 9/1/2006)  
Financial Officer  
Greater Pacific Northwest Mission Center  
Community of Christ