

**RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING FUNDING FOR *BOLD MOVES*:
GPNW MISSION CENTER PLANTS, RE-PLANTS AND NEW MINISTRIES**

Whereas the Community of Christ is committed to carrying out the cause of God's peaceable kingdom in the world, including promoting community and proclaiming Jesus Christ; and

Whereas Article VI, Section 1, of the World Church Bylaws, describing the roles and responsibilities of Mission Centers, designates Mission Centers as responsible for church planting and financial resource development and support for church growth; and

Whereas the Mission Center Operating Investment Fund serves in part as a resource for church growth, specifically church planting, re-planting and new ministries (See definitions below); and

Whereas at present there is no local mechanism in place to direct applications or process proposals to access small seed grants for plants, re-plants and new ministries supported by Mission Center funds, technical assistance and oversight; and

Whereas existing congregations may benefit from financial and conceptual assistance in undertaking new ministries to answer local needs; and

Whereas a well understood, consistent process for objective evaluation of grant proposals may encourage congregations to envision new ministry and mission with the help of startup financial support from the Mission Center; and

Whereas projects needing significant financial assistance also can apply for matching funds from World Church grants and bring larger funding requests annually to the Mission Center Conference for approval; therefore,

Be it Resolved, that the Greater Pacific Northwest (USA) Mission Center (hereafter referred to as "Mission Center") clarify opportunities available for financial assistance for church planting, re-planting and new ministries within the Mission Center; and be it further

Resolved, that the Mission Center activate a process by which World Church officers or Mission Center leadership, congregations or members can submit proposals for mission within our jurisdiction and apply for funding of church plants, re-plants and new ministries; and be it further

Resolved, that the Mission Center allocate up to \$25,000 in total per calendar year from the Operating Investment Fund for the purpose of qualified church plant, re-plant and new ministries support; and be it further

Resolved, that a Greater Pacific Northwest Mission Center Grants Committee be created and empowered for the sole purpose of establishing guidelines, evaluating and granting proposals received. This committee will be composed of the Mission Center President, the Mission Center Financial Officer, the Mission Center Missionary Coordinator; and members from within the Mission Center as appointed by the Mission Center President: to include one member of the Mission Center Council, one member of the Mission Center Finance Committee, one member of the Quorum of Seventy, and one member at large; and be it further

Resolved, that this Committee report its activities annually to the Mission Center Conference; and be it further

Resolved, that this application and granting process and the granting funds be made available beginning in 2008; and be it further

Resolved, that an evaluation of the effectiveness of this process and the success of the resulting plants/re-plants/new ministries be made by the Mission Center Council within five years, with a report to the Mission Center Conference.

Working Definitions

(To be reviewed and refined by the proposed GPNW Grants Committee)

Church Plant: Establishing or beginning a genuinely new congregation to provide a full range of congregational ministries to primarily new members and/or seekers in an area within the GPNW Mission Center that does not already have an active Community of Christ congregation within it.

Church Re-plant: Profoundly redirecting or re-establishing an existing congregation within the GPNW Mission Center, of such tectonic significance that it signals a fundamental shift in practice, location or membership, indicating virtually a new congregation rising from the resources and/or membership of an earlier one.

New Ministry: Members from an existing GPNW Mission Center congregation create a new pathway for people to come into relationship with Jesus Christ and Community of Christ. This mission venture is genuinely new for the congregation, in practice, outreach to a new/different population, or services offered to its community. As a mission project, it ministers to both members and non-members and fulfills our denomination's mission statement: proclaiming Jesus Christ *and* promoting communities of joy, hope, love and peace.
