

## MIDLANDS MISSION CENTER CONFERENCE MINUTES

Chihowa Conference & Retreat Center, April 12, 2008

Approved by the November 15, 2008 Conference

The morning session opened with a hymn (I Love You, Lord – NS#18) and prayer. Those gathered then dispersed to classes and meetings. Those in attendance met for classes (Registered Youth Workers or Social Responsibility and Consumption of Resources) and meetings (Pastors, CFOs and Outreach Ministers) from 10:00am until 11:30am. Lunch was served by The Place and Heart Ministries from 11:30am - 1:00pm.

The afternoon session began with a welcome from Midlands Mission Center President, Sue Phipps, the congregation singing *All Creatures of Our God and King*, HS #72 and invocation from Stan Troeh. The congregation gathered enjoyed ministry from the *Good News Quartet* from Topeka, Kansas. The presentation included upbeat music interspersed with scripture for a wonderful worship experience.

Official business meeting was called to order at approximately 1:12pm.

Becki Huggins, the new resident manger of Chihowa Retreat Center, was introduced. Becki announced an open house to see the caretaker's home this afternoon.

The minutes from the November 17, 2007 conference were presented. Motion to approve the minutes as written was given by Stan Troeh and seconded by Gary Collins. Minutes were approved by a show of hands.

Mikal Shedd, Midlands Mission Center Financial Officer, presented the 2007 audits. Betty Campbell moved to approve the audits after discussion of each one with several seconds. Each audit was viewed and discussed individually: Midlands Mission Center, Central Avenue Center of Hope, Chihowa Retreat Center, and Center Place Campground Inc. All audits were accepted as printed.

Mikal Shedd, then presented a review of the Highlights of the 2007 year, at the mission center level, and presentation of the 2009 Proposed Program for Ministry.

For recognitions, the floor was returned to Sue Phipps. The first recognition was of the 2008 Midlands Mission Center Peace Award. This year's recipient is Bart Branyon of the Olathe Congregation. Bart has worked for years, through both the Olathe Police Department and his work for the US Justice Department in the training of law enforcement. Appreciation for Bart's work and accomplishments was shown by applause. Don McLaughlin was also recognized for his completion of the church's MEADS (Ministerial Education And Development Studies). MEADS is a three year, twelve class commitment and a great accomplishment.

Sue introduced the new Youth Ministers for the mission center: Clint Reine (Mission Road and Shawnee Drive), Melanie Baker (Bethel and Norton Heights), Emily Marolf (Webb Road, Wichita Central, El Dorado, Hutchinson and New Life Celebration), and, Kyle Joyce (Highlands, Liberty and Excelsior Springs). The mission center is still looking for another minister to assist with the I-70 corridor: Topeka, Lawrence, University, Leavenworth, Tonganoxie, Bonner Springs, Holton, Salina and Manhattan congregations.

Congregational hymn NS #21 led the group into a time of offering and receiving of gifts. Offering message and prayer was given by Greg Stollsteimer.

Following collection of offering, the conference continued with the resolutions as printed in the conference bulletin beginning with a resolution Regarding Jarboe View Property and the Mission Road Congregation. After the reading of the resolution, Gary Collins moved to approve, Del Bagley seconded the motion. Mikal Shedd, spoke to the motion and opened the floor to questions. Questions were addressed. The resolution passed by show of hands (Attachment A).

Resolution Regarding the Winfield Church Sale Distribution of Funds was read by Sue Phipps. Betty Campbell moved to accept the resolution, Doug and Diane Albro seconded. Various questions were raised and answered. Amendment to add the word 'net' between 'the' and 'proceeds' to sections II, III and IV of the resolution, was moved by Richard Rupe and Aaron Laughlin seconded. The amendment was approved. By show of hands, the resolution was passed as amended (Attachment B).

The Resolution Regarding Social Responsibility and Consumption of Resources was the next resolution addressed. The resolution was read by Sue Phipps. Nancy Van Hoose moved the motion and there were several seconds. John Chatburn, Midlands Mission Center Young Adult Minister, spoke in support of this resolution. Pat Cole moved to amend the first resolve to read:

*Resolved*, that the congregations of the Midlands Mission Center and the campgrounds used by the Midlands Mission Center are encouraged to examine and adjust their ministries and operation of their church facilities so that they more fully express the aspects of economic fairness, ecological sustainability and social justice embodied in the Gospel of Jesus Christ: and be it further

Aaron Laughlin moved the previous question on the amendment and it was seconded. Conference then voted that they were ready to vote on the amendment. Sue reread the amendment to the first resolve. The amendment passed by show of hands from the conference. The vote was then taken on the amended resolution and it carried. (Attachment C).

The last resolution before the conference, Resolution Regarding the Midlands Mission Center Office Location was read by Sue Phipps. A motion to approve the resolution was made by Aaron Laughlin and seconded by Don Bice. Questions were fielded by Sue Phipps, Mikal Shedd and the Leadership team. The resolution carried as printed (Attachment D).

Aaron Gill was introduced as the contracted Youth Minister for Olathe, Gardner, Wellsville, Lenexa and Osawatomie congregations.

Conference then turned to address the CPCI Board of Directors' nominations. Randy Cole and Gary Libeer were voted on and approved for the board member positions.

Several reports on activities in the Midlands Mission Center over the past year were provided in the conference bulletin. These reports were from the Youth Ministries, Young Adult Ministries and Outreach Ministries. Also available to the conference was a report containing Life Events by Congregation.

Announcements were the last item on the conference agenda. Those gathered were encouraged to visit those pages of the bulletin containing the announcements.

The official business meeting closed at approximately 2:54pm.

The Good News Quartet closed the gathering with more music and scripture. Don Bice gave our benediction on the gathering and congregation dispersed.

Respectfully submitted,



Laura Weigand-Vaughan

Attachment A

**Resolution Regarding Jarboe View property and Mission Road Congregation**  
*From the Mission Road Congregation*

*Resolved*, that the Jarboe View property be combined with the Mission Road Congregation's property as one whole parcel.

Attachment B

**Resolution Regarding the Winfield Church Sale Distribution of Funds**

*From the Winfield Congregation*

*Resolved*, that the funds from the sale of the Winfield Church be allocated as designated by the Winfield Congregation, and listed below:

any costs incurred by the Midlands Mission Center in maintaining and selling the church are covered;

50% of the net proceeds of the sale are to be used for a church plant in the southern Kansas area of the Midlands Mission Center. Should a church plant not be implemented in the southern Kansas area of the Midlands Mission Center within 5 years, that these funds be available for use for any church plant in the Midlands Mission Center,

20% of the net proceeds are held for the use of the Winfield congregation membership on the roles as of December 31, 2007 to cover the registration fees of any Midlands Mission Center and Community of Christ International Headquarters functions with the intention that it encourage that community to continue to be active, and

the remaining 30% of the net proceeds and the interest earned on the entire proceeds held for the church plant and the Winfield congregation membership registrations go to the Midlands Mission Center.

Attachment C

**Resolution Regarding Social Responsibility and Consumption of Resources**

*From Young Adult Ministries*

*Resolved*, that the congregations of the Midlands Mission Center and the campgrounds used by the Midlands Mission Center are encouraged to examine and adjust their ministries and operation of their church facilities so that they more fully express the aspects of economic fairness, ecological sustainability and social justice embodied in the Gospel of Jesus Christ: and be it further

*Resolved*, that the membership of the Midlands Mission Center are encouraged to further integrate the principles of economic fairness, ecological sustainability, and social justice in their discipleship and daily living.

Attachment D

**Resolution Regarding the Midlands Mission Center Office Location**

*From the Midlands Mission Center Leadership Team*

*Resolved*, that the Mission Center not renew the lease of office space at 10015 N Ambassador Drive, Ste 200, Kansas City, MO, and be it further

*Resolved*, that a committee be formed to evaluate congregational proposals to add space to accommodate the Mission Center offices or locate office space available for purchase, and be it further

*Resolved*, that the Mission Center give the said committee the authority to make the decision regarding the future location of the office, and be it further

*Resolved*, that the Mission Center authorize said committee to proceed with the necessary steps to procure such space, authorizing not more than \$300,000 on behalf of the Mission Center if building or remodeling space is necessary, and be it further

*Resolved*, that the Mission Center Financial Officer be authorized, in consultation with the committee and the Mission Center President, to procure a loan from World Church or participate with a congregation to procure a loan from World Church to finance office space for the Mission Center.