



UPDATE ON NEW BEGINNINGS CHURCHES for the FALL 2008 Regional Board meeting

In the last year and two months since the Board authorized Entering into partnership with Church Extension to offer the New Beginnings ministry of our regional churches we have moved a long, long. Ways! Cost of this program has been born by the participating churches and Church Extension. Very little regional time has been required. Rebecca has been serving as the regional liaison for All Pilgrims, Coeur d'Alene, Findlay, Lacey, Queen Anne and Prosser. Marvin has been working with Chelan, Longview, Olympia, Othello and Walla Walla.

ALL PILGRIMS has completed their Cottage Meetings, done a bible study and are interviewing possible consultants to hire the right person to work with them in their next steps of strategic planning.

CHELAN held one meeting to review their Consultant's Report. They have not continued with the internal study process and it is not sure what their future decisions will be.

COEUR d'Alene completed their study of the NB Consultant's Report. After some discussion and study have determined to restart their Search and Call process to secure a minister.

FINDLAY held their Cottage Meetings and has begun folding in the insights to their ongoing discernment process about possible relocation sites and strategic development.

LACEY continuing a slower process of discernment after Cottage Meetings to study their Consultant's Report and Recommendation to relocate.

LONGVIEW completed their Cottage Meetings and had an overwhelmingly favorable vote to proceed with the Consultant's recommendation to morph. Rick Morse and Rick Reisinger from Church Extension met with leaders in September to explore their decision, look at their financial resources and determine next steps.

OLYMPIA held Cottage Meetings with attendance equal to their average worship attendance. Developed a comprehensive program to kept the congregation informed and had almost total congregational approval to begin a parallel start. Rick Reisinger and Rick Morse met with their leadership in September and will report on a finance plan and next steps.

OTHELLO had good participation in their Cottage Meetings and after looking at the demographics of their community accepted the Consultant's recommendation to all a Hispanic pastor and begin a new Hispanic Disciple church in their building, as well as continue ministry to the existing congregation. They are seeking a trained new church pastor.

QUEEN ANNE had almost 100% participation in their Cottage Meetings. They have been doing some intentional bible study around their mission and purpose to the neighboring community.

PROSSER has leased their facilities (except for an office and worship space) to the adjoining high school and are looking ahead with the recommendation of closing their ministry in the future.

WALLA WALLA completed their Cottage Meetings the board and congregation gave more than 80% approval to begin exploring a morph or parallel start. A follow-up consultation will be held with Rick More in October to explore next steps and look at financial resourcing.

Marvin Eckfeldt, Coordinator