

PRAYER, Board of

Conference Call Meeting - March 2, 2012

Members present: Don Hardesty and Rod Griffin

Rod will not be able to represent the Prayer Life Board due to being on a mission trip to Honduras. Don Hardesty has agreed to be the representative.

Discussion regarding how to get more pastors to attend the Summit was brought. Attendance should be mandatory, but it shouldn't have to be mandatory. We do not request mandatory attendance, but that it is made known that pastors be expected to attend. Superintendent Strutz has said that "if a pastor is too busy to pray, that pastor is 'too busy'."

Being "Too busy" is the number one reason for not attending. We will send letters letting them know their attendance is expected. Letters will also be sent to each local board to ask them to let their pastor(s) know that they encourage and expect their pastor to attend the Prayer Summit. If a church cannot survive the absence of their pastor for a few days, how well have we equipped the saints?

We want to help with scholarships to pastors whose churches would be in hardship financially for their pastor to attend. We also want to supplement financially those who would travel greater distances.

Discussion was given to implementing a Pastor's prayer partner ministry, and a church of the week ministry.

Discussion was given to sending out a survey to see what churches are doing effectively regarding prayer ministries. Without prayer where would we be regarding our spiritual and relational health?

In faith we are expecting greater attendance this year at the Prayer Summit. Projected increases in fuel prices are predicted. Therefore more scholarships need to be available.

WHEREAS, we value spiritually healthy pastors and churches, and **WHEREAS**, it is impossible to be spiritually healthy and significantly fruitful without a meaningful prayer life, **BE IT RESOLVED** the Prayer Life Team provide a Prayer Summit scheduled for September 23-25, 2012. A speaker will be announced at a later date.

WHEREAS, we value prayer and unity, **BE IT RESOLVED** that all pastors within the conference are expected to attend the Summit and each local church leadership board expects their pastor(s) to attend the Prayer Summit. **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that each first-year pastor and retired Itinerant Elders of the Western Conference would attend for free, and that requests for scholarships be reviewed and funds made available to those approved for such.

WHEREAS, prayer is vital to the health of the church and its ministries, **BE IT RESOLVED** that a survey be sent to each local church regarding their effective prayer ministries for the purpose of sharing ideas through networking to truly be "praying churches". **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the prayer

needs throughout the Western Conference promote and support the denominational “I-Team”. All prayer requests should be directed to the conference office (karen@faithe.org) or Prayer Board Chairman (rod@faithe.org) who will communicate the needs to the intercessors in our conference and denomination.

WHEREAS, prayer is a major factor in bringing and sustaining unity, **BE IT RESOLVED** that each pastor, Itinerant Elder, and ministerial student of the Western Conference be teamed with another pastor, Itinerant Elder, or ministerial student, to be a prayer partner for the duration of the conference year. Prayer partners are encouraged to pray for, encourage, bear each other’s burdens, and celebrate praises on a regular basis. **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the prayer partners will be announced at the time of the District Conference Meeting. **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that each week a local church will be designated as a “church of the week”. That church will be contacted to share praises and prayer requests. The information will be forwarded to each local congregation that we might be bound together in prayer and unity.

WHEREAS, we support the National Day of Prayer, **BE IT RESOLVED** that we encourage all churches to participate in the National Day of Prayer (www.ndptf.org) and See You at The Poll (www.syatp.com).

WHEREAS, there is a forecast for higher fuel costs and potential need for more scholarships, **BE IT RESOLVED** that the budget for 2013 be increased from \$5,000 to \$5,500.

Humbly Submitted,
Rod Griffin