

Date: November 25, 2008

Email to: District Pastors

From: Barry Kreider,
Pilgrims Mennonite Church Pastor

District pastors,

Last evening at Pilgrims' Committee on LMC Issues meeting Tina Mast Burnett reported on the first Bishop Search Committee meeting. Among other things she shared that the bishop's job description was received as-is from the previous search.

One statement on this job description is that the potential bishop must be supportive of women in leadership. With the positive, yet still restrictive, changes that have been made this year in LMC's policy regarding women in leadership we feel the job description needs to be updated.

Tina (Mast Burnett) will be bringing a request to the next Bishop Search Committee meeting asking that this point on the job description be changed to include that the new bishop is expected to work actively toward the goal of full participation of women in all conference leadership roles. It is our hope that you will encourage your rep on the committee to support this change.

Barry Kreider