

Pilgrims Mennonite Church  
Committee on LMC Issues  
Meeting Minutes November 24, 2008

Present: Barry Kreider, Jan Landes, Ed Martin, Tina Mast Burnett, Rebecca Pereverzoff

### **Covenant revision to reflect gender equality more specifically**

A sub-point was added to goal #1 – “to work for gender equality in the congregation and conference.” It appears as the tenth point.

The 2<sup>nd</sup> goal was re-written as follows, “The fellowship is committed to discern and provide the opportunity for the use of talents and gifts of all members, not reserving any position for persons of a certain race or gender, and calls on its conference to do the same.”

Jan will take these revisions to LT, who will then take to the next congregational meeting in January.

### **Governance/Structure Task Force update**

Barry will repeat his request for a written copy of the report from the June 7 focus group meeting.

### **Report on Mellingers District bishop search**

Tina reported that the team of representatives from each district church met and she is the only woman. The search committee was instructed that the new bishop must be an ordained male. Our committee asked her to advocate for the selection of a bishop who will work actively toward the goal of full participation of women in all conference leadership positions.

Barry will send a letter to the Mellinger district pastors informing them of this request from our committee prior to the search committee’s next meeting.

### **Continued conversations on women in LMC leadership**

As a follow-up to the original listening meeting between Ron Byler (MCUSA) and the women of LMC, another meeting is scheduled for December 15. Tina will attend and Rebecca will consider attending as well. The conversation will be between this same group of women and Keith Weaver and several LMC bishops. Iris DeLeon-Harsthorn (MCUSA) and David Brubaker of EMU will facilitate it.

It is uncertain where the Soup Supper conversations stand.

### **Updating “Our Voice” web page**

Rebecca will add a copy of our church’s letter, drafted by Barry, to the bishop board following their decision to allow women to be ordained as pastors in the conference, as well as the letter he plans to send to the Mellinger Bishop’s search committee.

When the covenant revisions are approved, we will add those statements that reflect our commitment to gender equality to the web page.

Rebecca will also add the section affirming women’s gifts from the Mennonite Confession of Faith.

**Next meeting: Monday, January 12, 2009 at the Meeting Place at 7:30 pm**

All are welcome!