

# ELT Minutes

## Minutes July 24, 2017

On July 24, 2017, the following was sent by email to the ELT voting members:

Dear Friends,

The Executive Leadership Team consists of 12 members. Four (4) clergy and four (4) laypersons are elected by the National Conference. Per US Discipline, paragraph 602.1.c, the remainder of the team constituency is appointed, "Two clergy and two laypersons nominated by the bishop and appointed by the Executive Leadership Team." Furthermore, of the four nominees, each of the four regions are to be represented. Two must be clergy. Two nominees must be laypersons.

I reached out to four individuals last week about being nominated to serve on the 2017-2019 Executive Leadership Team - Ms. Tomra Cardin, Mrs. Janis Creason, Rev. Andy Sikora, and Rev. Mark Wilson. Each one was nominated by me two years ago and appointed to serve on the 2015-2017 team. Given our agenda for the next two years, these four individuals will serve the UBIC well and are familiar with the "strengthen and start" vision.

Therefore, I recommend that Janis Creason (East region layperson), Tomra Cardin (West region layperson), Andy Sikora, (Central region clergy), and Mark Wilson (North region clergy) be appointed to the 2017-2019 Executive Leadership Team.

The voting deadline will be set for Wednesday, July 26 at 2:30PM. In the meantime, please feel free to post your questions and I'll be happy to answer any questions that you have.

Let the Wind Blow!  
Todd H. Fetters

Responses: Randy Carpenter – July 25  
Kevin Smith – July 25  
Sherwood Cook – July 25  
Greg Voight – July 25  
Gary Dilley – July 26  
Tyler Bates – July 26  
Matt McConnell – July 26  
Denny Sites – July 26

On July 26, 2017, Todd Fetters posted the following:

Friends, The eight elected members of the 2017-2019 Executive Leadership Team have voted unanimously to appoint Janis Creason, Tomi Cardin, Mark Wilson, and Andy Sikora to the 2017-2019 Executive Leadership Team.

Thank you for voting. Todd

*Respectfully submitted, Cathy Reich, Recorder*  
*Signed, Tomra Cardin, secretary*  
*Approved by the ELT: October 24, 2017*

*Let's Pray!*



# Minutes August 25, 2017

On August 25, 2017 at 4:37 pm, the following was sent by email to the ELT voting members.

This email is a request for an online vote.

## Rationale

There are two teams that the ELT needs to appoint as required by US Discipline - the Pastoral Ministries Leadership Team (PMLT) and the Higher Education Leadership Team (HELT). While the US Discipline does not stipulate how those "nominees" get to the ELT, it has been the custom that the Bishop nominates members and presents them to the ELT for approval and appointment. I see no reason to deviate from this traditional pattern. After consultation with Gary Dilley, 2015-2017 ELT vice chair, I recommend the following:

Two (2) Recommendations for Nominations to UBIC Leadership Teams

1. **Motion:** To approve the following individuals to serve on the 2017-2020 Higher Education Leadership Team: Rev. Brooks L. Fetters, Mrs. Kristi McConnell, Mr. Brian Nofzinger, Rev. Marty Pennington, and Dr. Dalton Jenkins.

Note: All individuals except Marty have served prior and can serve at least one or two more terms. Two additional members will be nominated and approved at a later time. At least one of these additional members will need to be a lay person.

2. **Motion:** To approve the following individuals to serve on the 2017-2019 Pastoral Ministries Leadership Team. West Region: Bob Bruce, Craig Burkholder; Central Region: Terry Smith, Mike Brown; North Region: Randy Carpenter, Lee Rhodes. East Region members: Greg Helman and Stuart Johns.

Note: The individuals from the west, central, and north regions all served on the 2015-2017 PMLT. Both east region nominees would be new members.

Please reply to all so that Cathy Reich can record your vote. Cast your vote accordingly:

1. HELT - Yes or No
2. PMLT - Yes or No

If you have any questions, please contact me. Voting will end on Monday, August 28 at 12:00pm.

Let the Wind Blow!  
Todd

Responses:

- Gary Dilley – August 25 @ 4:37 pm
- Tomi Cardin – August 25 @ 5:58 pm
- Sherwood Cook – August 26 @ 7:07 am
- Ty Bates – August 26 @ 12:10 pm
- Denny Sites – August 26 @ 3:27 pm
- Randy Carpenter – August 28 @ 6:38 am
- Matt McConnell – August 28 @ 12:20 pm
- Greg Voight – August 29 @ 9:43 am
- Kevin Smith – August 31 @ 8:58 am
- Janis Creason – August 31 @ 12:44 pm
- Andy Sikora – August 31 @ 2:26 pm
- Mark Wilson –



Affirmative votes for Proposal #1 = 11  
 Abstaining votes for Proposal #1 = 1 (spouse on ballot)  
 Affirmative votes for Proposal #2 = 12

*Respectfully submitted, Cathy Reich, Recorder*  
*Signed, Tomra Cardin, secretary*  
*Approved by the ELT: October 24, 2017*

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## Minutes October 23-24, 2017

HU President's Home – 901 Ray Street, Huntington, IN  
 UB National Office – 302 Lake Street, Huntington, IN

### Monday – October 23, 2017

At 6:00 pm, the Executive Leadership Team gathered at the home of Dr. Sherilyn Emberton. Bishop Todd Fetters thanked Sherilyn for her hospitality and offered prayer for the meal. In attendance were Tyler Bates, Tomi Cardin, Randy Carpenter, Janis Creason, Gary Dilley, Todd Fetters, Matt McConnell, Andy Sikora, Denny Sites and Mark Wilson; Directors Jeff Bleijerveld, Steve Dennie, Mike Dittman, Sherilyn Emberton and Marci Hammel; and recorder Cathy Reich.

#### Review of Director's Activity and Q&A

*Director of Higher Education, Sherilyn Emberton.* Following the evening meal, Dr. Emberton presented her president's report and a video showcasing the Veritas Theological Institute. She challenged ELT members to invest in students from their churches to attend this institute, with their church paying half the fee. Todd added his own perception of the depth of the program, and encouraged participation, stating that "we can and must do better" than provide only 4 UB students out of 22.

Discussion followed, centered around connectedness among our UB churches. Members were asked to "let the wind blow" asking the spirit what it could look like for our churches to be connected to one another. The evening was closed with prayer at 8:00 pm.

### Tuesday – October 24, 2017

At 8:00 am, the Executive Leadership Team gathered at the UB National Office. Bishop Todd Fetters welcomed those present, thanking the UB Global team for what they are about to share. In attendance were Tyler Bates, Tomi Cardin, Randy Carpenter, Janis Creason, Gary Dilley, Todd Fetters, Matt McConnell, Andy Sikora, Denny Sites and Mark Wilson; Directors Jeff Bleijerveld, Steve Dennie, Mike Dittman, and Marci Hammel; and recorder Cathy Reich.

#### A. Prayer Experience

The UB Global Team opened the meeting by leading the group through an experience of prayer. Todd distributed the book "Transforming Prayer" to team members, reflecting on the need for prayer.

#### B. Election of Officers

- a. MSC to open nominations.
- b. MSC that Bishop Fetters serve as chairperson.
- c. MSC that Gary Dilley serve as assistant chairperson.
- d. MSC that Tomi Cardin serve as secretary.
- e. MSC that Mark Wilson serve as executive committee member at-large.

#### C. Report of the Bishop.

- a. *Highlights.* Todd emphasized two significant staff changes. Jim Bolich will be replacing Gary Gates, who



served as Director of Ministerial Licensing since 2010. He briefed the team on the history of the decline in the marketing department, which prompted its closing. Jane Seely, our Church Resources Manager, will be ending her employment with us in December. Todd expressed appreciation to both for their service.

b. *Q&A*. Regarding communication to customers and remaining inventory, Marci informed that each customer and church received letters with direct contact information for future orders. Jane Seely has fielded many phone calls to help customers transition.

c. *Strengthening and Starting*. As we look to the future, we are considering what a strong church looks like. Consultations with churches will take place based on the three commitments and their realities, Gospel—spiritually alive in Christ; Unity—relationally connected and Mission—missionally engaged. We will assist church leadership by providing a biblical portrait of the three commitments and realities and a series of questions to help them process where they are currently. Mike emphasized that local leadership is a key part of strengthening and starting. We want to help our pastors build teams that lead with this model: “follow us as we follow Christ.”

d. *Veritas*. Todd shared that he is excited and is convinced this training opportunity will be key in developing church planters and missionaries in the UBIC.

e. *Stationing*. Todd led a time of discussion of providing regional leadership to our churches. We are currently using the cluster leaders, whenever feasible, in the stationing process. The Bishop’s involvement will still be necessary at least in the initial stage. “Stationing is not a science it is an art and needs prayer.” Another issue that is evolving is that many of our longer-term pastors are entering retirement. We are finding ways to help local leadership produce a smooth transition, leaning hard on what the church needs.

#### **D. Review of Director’s Activity and Q&A**

a. *Director of Global Ministries, Jeff Bleijerveld*. Jeff thanked churches who helped with funding of national leaders to attend National Conference and General Conference. Regarding Missional DNA assessments, Jeff informed that he and his staff are strategically selecting churches to participate.

b. *Director of Ministerial Licensing, Jim Bolich*. Jim’s written report was reviewed.

c. *Director of Communications, Steve Dennie*. Members affirmed Steve for his work this year helping us celebrate our 250-year anniversary. The historical signage from NC’17 will soon be available online in high resolution PDF format.

d. *Director of National Ministries, Mike Dittman*. Mike informed that he is coming alongside our cluster leaders and pastors, encouraging them to be men of prayer and seeking after Jesus. He emphasizes growing people rather than growing the church. His question for local leadership is “How are you as a team working with your pastor to shepherd the flock into a discipling community?”

e. *Director of Finance, Marci Hammel*. Marci updated her report with September partnership fees at \$694,128, or 93.5% of budget. She informed that investments are doing very well. The transition from defined benefit to the new retirement program has gone smoothly. Todd informed that cluster leaders are updated quarterly on their churches participation in the partnership fee.

#### **E. Business Session**

a. Approve Minutes

1. MSC to approve the minutes of the July 24, 2017 online meeting as presented.

2. MSC to approve the minutes of the August 25, 2017 online meeting as presented.

3. MSC to approve the minutes of the 2017 National Conference as presented.

b. MSC to approve the 2018 Budget as presented. Marci informed that there is a 1.549% increase in the budget, with only major adjustments in the area of salaries.

c. MSC to approve the housing allowance proposals as presented for the Bishop, National Ministries Director and Director of UB Global.

d. MSC to approve the standard base salary proposal as presented.

#### **F. Updates and Discussion Items**

a. *Financial Health Team – Gary Dilley*. Gary reported that a total of 21 responses have been received for the first phase of the financial health initiative. Plan 1 has 7 participant families; Plan 2 has 7 and Plan 3 has 5, with two individuals making fund requests. The team will next review the requests and by November 6, the online courses will begin. Those participating will be able to access the website on demand. Of the \$50,000



start-up fund requested, \$17,000 has been received. Every dollar donated will be matched by NAE up to \$50,000. The team was encouraged to ask their churches to participate.

b. *Supervised Field Internship for Church Planting Pastors.* Mike Dittman. Mike gave an overview of the field internship that is now available to church planters, and gave a few stories of those already involved.

#### **Lunch**

The meeting was adjourned for lunch at 12:00 noon at the Habecker Dining Commons. Staff from the UB National Office joined the team, with Bishop Todd Fetters praying for the meal. Peg DeBolt, administrative assistant to Dr. Emberton, was introduced and welcomed to the luncheon.

#### **Afternoon Session**

At 1:00 pm, the team re-convened with the following present: Tyler Bates, Tomi Cardin, Randy Carpenter, Janis Creason, Gary Dilley, Todd Fetters, Matt McConnell, Andy Sikora, Denny Sites and Mark Wilson; Directors Jeff Bleijerveld, Steve Dennie, Mike Dittman, and Marci Hammel; and recorder Cathy Reich.

c. *Discussion Item: Study Committee on Human Reproduction.* Regional meetings in May designed to promote HSTF proposals. At least two other proposals were introduced by individuals within the same section of the Discipline. However, due to the work of the task force, it was determined that 2017 would only address the task force proposals. Question was raised how other denominational leaders are dealing with this. It was agreed by the team for the Bishop to research the topic, identify the issues, and return to the team with a recommendation, if needed, at the spring meeting.

d. *Discussion Item: Process to Discuss Alcohol with Clusters.* At the 2015 National Conference, a proposal had come to the conference floor regarding ministers and alcohol. It was not dealt with that year. Again in 2017, a proposal with several signatures, was re-issued. However, due to the task force proposals and the 250-year celebration, Todd talked with the submitter of the proposal. He informed and gave rationale why it wouldn't be dealt with in 2017. Earlier this month, the PMLT had discussed the topic, and has developed a team (Randy Carpenter, Craig Burkholder) to develop a document to provide framework for a discussion by clusters at their spring 2018 meetings. The discussion guide will focus on scripture, UB History and current cultural trends. Randy requested team members send him input for this document, whether scripture, their own thoughts and stories or other resources.

e. *Discussion Item: Process Concerning Discipline Revision Proposals.* Todd and Steve gave an overview of the history of the process for Discipline revision proposals. In 1985, Steve was on the team that handled revisions. At that time, if a member on the team didn't agree with the proposal, it was not processed. In 1989, Steve became chair of the team, with the practice of allowing all proposals to go through for consideration. Since 2005, there has been no discipline revision committee, but the process has been handled by the bishop's office. It was agreed that Todd and Steve will compose a process for recommendation at the spring meeting.

Executive Session With the Bishop

Executive Session Without the Bishop

The meeting was adjourned at 2:30 pm.

Remaining Meetings

2018 – April 23-24, October 15-16

2019 – April 29-30

National Conference

2019 – July 17-20 in Bowling Green, Ohio

*Respectfully submitted*

*Cathy Reich, recorder*

*Signed, Tomra Cardin, secretary*

*Approved by the ELT: April 24, 2018*



## Monday – April 23, 2018

At 6:00 pm, the Executive Leadership Team met by TeleConference call, with Bishop Todd Fetters opening in prayer. In attendance were Tyler Bates, Tomi Cardin, Randy Carpenter, Sherwood Cook, Janis Creason, Gary Dilley, Todd Fetters, Matt McConnell, Andy Sikora, Denny Sites, Kevin Smith, and Mark Wilson; and recorder Cathy Reich.

### Updates

1. *Study Committee on Human Reproduction.* Bishop Fetters had nothing to forward or report on this matter at this time.
2. *Discussion of Alcohol for Ministers.* Bishop Fetters reported that the PMLT assisted in the work to provide a guided discussion for cluster spring meetings regarding this topic.
3. *Lilly “Thriving in Ministry” Initiative.* Bishop Fetters reported that the Lilly Endowment invited the UBIC to prepare a grant request designed to assist ministers. He requested their prayers as he and other staff were looking into the requirements for proposal.
4. *Recommendation for Discipline Revision Committee.* After consultation with directors, and giving the matter much thought, Bishop Fetters reported that he believes that it is appropriate and acceptable to continue with the practice of the Bishop taking the lead for the legislative agenda for the denomination. He will not be asking for action on this item as previously indicated.

### Director Reports and Q&A

Bishop Fetters referred to the director reports that had been submitted prior to the call. He asked if there were any questions that could be relayed to the directors. There were none.

### Business Session

1. *Approve Minutes – October 23-24, 2017.* A motion was made, seconded, and carried to approve the minutes from the October 23-24, 2017, meeting as distributed.

### A Prayer Experience

Bishop Fetters and other board members spent time in prayer.

### Executive Session with the Bishop

Bishop Fetters, having no items of concern, dismissed himself from the meeting.

### Executive Session without the Bishop

Vice-Chairman Gary Dilley led the executive session without the Bishop and adjourned the meeting with prayer at 6:45 pm.

*Respectfully submitted*

*Cathy Reich, recorder*

*Signed, Tomra Cardin, secretary*

*Approved by the ELT: October 16, 2018*

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## Minutes October 15-16, 2018

### Monday, October 15, 2018

At 7:00 pm, the following were present for the evening session: Bishop Todd Fetters, Mr. Tyler Bates, Ms. Tomi Cardin, Rev. Randy Carpenter, Mr. Sherwood Cook, Mrs. Janis Creason, Rev. Gary Dilley, Mr. Matt McConnell, Rev. Andy Sikora, Rev. Denny Sites, Mr. Kevin Smith and Rev. Mark Wilson; Directors Mr. Steve Den-



nie, Dr. Mike Dittman, Dr. Sherilyn Emberton and Ms. Marci Hammel; guest Rev. Mayor Brooks Fetters and recorder Mrs. Cathy Reich.

## Opening Session

### 1. Devotions and Prayer

Brooks Fetters spoke on leadership based on the example of Moses and his dealing with the Israelites in Numbers chapter 20. He reminded that followers can be fickle and they can get frustrated. Leaders can get fed up, fatigued and full of themselves. But God expects leaders he calls to follow him in front of those they lead. He referenced a favorite epitaph, that of J. Edward Roush, “Honor God by the way you live your life.”

### 2. Office of the Bishop Report

- a. *Director of Higher Education—Dr. Sherilyn Emberton.* Sherilyn thanked the team for walking with her through the most difficult time of her leadership history. She informed and updated with the following:
- i. The graduate program has 12 Christian ministry students. Dr. Luke Fetters has been named Interim Dean for the Graduate School. One-half cost reduction is available for UB students registering for graduate classes.
  - ii. HU students can be “on loan” to UB churches when you need interns, workers, short-term respite staff or part-time workers. Ask for help when you need it so HU can plug students into our churches.
  - iii. Currently there are 94 UB students and 75 catholic students, drawn to the university because of our conservative Christian values.
  - iv. Sherilyn is determined to offer a youth event on the HU campus this summer.
  - v. Sherilyn is available to help lead difficult conversations with leadership and churches on race, gender, finding God’s calling, fundraising and setting boundaries.
  - vi. HU Board of Trustees will be setting goals at their meetings this week to include: Faith Forward 2022; maximize the athletic program; strengthen residence life in ways that honor God; expand the graduate program; begin a Physician Assistant program; expand campus-wide spiritual formation.
  - vii. Through it all, it has been good to know “my anchor holds, and grips the solid rock.”

Appreciation was expressed to Dr. Emberton. Janis Creason led in prayer.

### 3. UB Association

Todd gave a verbal update on the status of the UB Association, which has been the “vendor” for insurance coverage for pastors since 2012. Over a month ago, they were informed that a state law would not allow them to continue to offer insurance. However, in conversations with others, Todd connected with a lawyer who has been able to challenge and win that verdict. He gave glory to God for this “win” for our pastors and churches.

### 4. Discussion Item #1: Energizing Our Connections within UBC Churches—Mr. Matt McConnell.

Matt shared the process through which he has come since agreeing to be a member of the Executive Leadership Team for the denomination. He detailed the prayers that he prayed, making himself available for what God was calling him to do in his region (Michigan). Many stories were shared of he and Kristi calling pastors, visiting churches, and encouraging both pastors and congregations with their prayers, time spent on relationships, and visits. The team was challenged and responded positively to Matt’s presentation.

The evening session was closed with prayer.

## Tuesday, October 16, 2018

At 8:30 am, the following were present for the morning session: Bishop Todd Fetters, Mr. Tyler Bates, Ms. Tomi Cardin, Rev. Randy Carpenter, Mr. Sherwood Cook, Mrs. Janis Creason, Rev. Gary Dilley, Mr. Matt McConnell, Rev. Andy Sikora, Rev. Denny Sites, Mr. Kevin Smith and Rev. Mark Wilson; Directors Mr. Steve Dennie, Dr. Mike Dittman, and Ms. Marci Hammel; and recorder Mrs. Cathy Reich.

### 1. Prayer Experience.

Todd opened the meeting with an illustration from Acts 12, emphasizing that God is active and at work;



prayer is a vital part of our relationship with him. He asked 5 of the team members to share a brief testimony displaying God's power in their lives. Afterwards, all shared prayer requests and the team spent time in prayer.

## 2. Discussion Item #2: Envisioning the Future of the UBIC.

Todd and Mike shared a presentation, laying out a further developed vision that was cast at National Conference.

- a. John 3:8. The wind blows wherever it pleases. You hear its sound, but you cannot tell where it comes from or where it is going. So it is with everyone born of the Spirit.
- b. Mission: To start and strengthen disciple-making communities.
- c. Values: Spiritually alive (gospel) Relationally connected to one another (unity) and Missionally engaged in the world (mission).
- d. Measures: Pastors who walk with God and make disciples; Teams that are built and equipped to make disciples; Disciples who are sent to plant churches.
- e. Strategy: Clusters (heart); Cohorts (head); Coaching (hands)
- f. Let the Wind Blow! Discussion centered around the presentation. It was affirmed that the coaching aspect will be utilizing laypersons and pastors who are trained to coach. Andy explained that he has been working on developing (on paper) pathways into church planting, praying and brainstorming with Mike, and plans to work together with clusters and pastors, pointing to resources to accelerate the movement. He asked the team to let him know where they see possibilities: in areas to plant churches, people called to plant churches, people called to support church planters, prayer partners, etc.

## 3. Report of the Bishop continued.

- a. *Bishop, Rev. Todd Fetters.* Todd referred to his report, highlighting a need for prayer that the current-owned properties would sell soon so that we can (1) replenish the funds used to maintain the properties, (2) add to our church multiplication funds; and (3) free up our pastors and laypersons who are currently acting as caretakers.
- b. *Director of UB Global, Rev. Jeff Bleijerveld.* There were no questions.
- c. *Director of Ministerial Licensing, Rev. Jim Bolich.* There were no questions, however the team expressed affirmation for Jim's transition into his role. Todd informed that Bob Bruce had removed himself from the team, and that Troy Green would be serving in his place.
- d. *Director of Communications, Mr. Steve Dennie.* Todd congratulated Steve on his 40 year anniversary of working at the national office. Additionally he was the recipient of this year's Distinguished Alumni Award at the HU homecoming weekend. Steve referenced Matt's presentation on serving the Michigan churches, by sharing his experience of moving from a larger church where he felt his gifts were "not needed" to helping plant a church, and serving there for the past 20 years, utilizing his many gifts and a few out of his "comfort zone." The team applauded Steve for his service to the denomination.
- e. *Director of National Ministries, Dr. Mike Dittman.* Mike shared his excitement regarding the church planting cohorts as well as the soul care retreats that he has conducted. He asked Greg and Matt to speak to their experiences with soul care retreats. He reported that he is completing a 12-day trip away from home, and shared that he and Todd work well together, trying to maintain healthy balances of work and home life.
- f. *Director of Finance, Ms. Marci Hammel.* There were no questions.

## 4. Business Session

- a. *Approve Minutes—April 23, 2018.* MSC to approve the April 23, 2018 minutes as presented.
- b. *Approve 2019 Budget.* MSC to approve the 2019 budget as presented. It was suggested to challenge churches to give above the 3.5% for items above and beyond the budget, such as church planting.
- c. *Approve Housing Allowance.* MSC to approve housing allowances for Bishop Todd Fetters: of the total cash compensation, \$18,000 as housing allowance; for Mike Dittman: of the total cash compensation, \$22,000 as housing allowance; and for Jeff Bleijerveld: of the total cash compensation, \$25,000 as housing allowance.
- d. *Approve the Recommended Standard Base Salary for Full-Time Lead or Solo Pastors.* MSC to approve the recommended standard base salary for full-time lead or solo pastors as presented: 1.0% increase \$39,523; 1.5% increase \$39,718; and 2.0% increase \$39,914.

**Lunch at 12:00 noon**





### **Executive Session without the Bishop**

At 1:00 pm, Vice-Chairman Gary Dilley led the executive session without the Bishop.

### **Executive Session with the Bishop**

Bishop Fetters joined the Executive Session. The meeting was dismissed at 2:40 pm.

*Respectfully submitted*

*Cathy Reich, recorder*

*Signed, Tomra Cardin, secretary*

*Approved by the ELT: April 30, 2019*

## Thursday, February 14, 2019

At 11:30 am, the following was sent electronically to the ELT Voting Members:

1. Read the vote request below.
2. Respond ONLY if you have a question, over the next 24 hours.
3. Cathy will field the questions, and return a response from Marci or Todd.
4. Beginning at 11:30 am on February 15, please reply with a YES or NO to the following:

### **Approval of Housing Allowance**

Motion to approve the increased housing allowance for Jeff Bleijerveld of the total cash compensation \$35,000, retroactively to January 1, 2019.

The motion carried.

*Respectfully submitted*

*Cathy Reich, recorder*

*Signed, Tomra Cardin, secretary*

*Approved by the ELT: April 30, 2019*

## Minutes April 29-30, 2019

### **Monday, April 29, 2019**

At 7:00 pm, the following were present for the evening session: Bishop Todd Fetters, Mr. Tyler Bates, Ms. Tomi Cardin, Rev. Randy Carpenter, Mr. Sherwood Cook, Mrs. Janis Creason, Rev. Gary Dilley, Mr. Matt McConnell, Rev. Andy Sikora, Rev. Denny Sites, Mr. Kevin Smith and Rev. Mark Wilson; Directors Mr. Steve Dennie, Dr. Mike Dittman, Dr. Sherilyn Emberton and Ms. Marci Hammel; and recorder Mrs. Cathy Reich.

### **Opening Session**

#### **1. Devotions and Prayer**

Bishop Todd Fetters shared his thoughts on Ezekiel 37 where a rhetorical question was asked by the Lord. Ezekiel answered in the way that we should be accustomed to answer, "O Lord, you alone know the answer to that question." He challenged the team to watch for signs along the way that "these bones can live again" in our churches and relationships. We must be Scripture-fed, Spirit-led, and Saint-accompanied.



## 2. Office of the Bishop Report.

a. *Director of Higher Education—Dr. Sherilyn Emberton.* Sherilyn gave updates on the HU Board of Trustees meeting held the prior week. She shared that a new comprehensive spiritual development plan has received the promise of funding, and will be a foundation on which to build for the future. She informed that HU's Digital Media Arts took first place in a nationally recognized competition. Other updates included Occupational Therapy, Veritas, and a UB youth event. She informed of the hiring of a VP of Advancement and the upgrades to the student union and plex that are planned for the coming two years. She was asked to forward the spiritual development plan to members of the ELT.

b. *Director of Global Ministries—Rev. Jeffrey Bleijerveld.* Jeff enthusiastically shared that the Sierra Leone hospital is going well, and that other endeavors are seeing positive momentum. He highlighted several key components, including the missional DNA sessions held in churches and the opportunity to personally thank every church and individual donor. He also reported an increase of 18 giving churches who had never before given to missions. Sherilyn commended Jeff on the good partnership between HU and UB Global for student trips. "It has made all the difference," she said. Jeff gave much credit to his team who connects and engages with churches in a very excellent way.

c. *Prayer.* Greg Voight laid hands on Jeff and prayed for him and the UB Global team. Denny Sites laid hands on Sherilyn and prayed for her and the HU community.

## 3. Fresh Start Update: Current Church Planting Initiatives within the UBIC—Dr. Mike Dittman.

Mike reminded the team that Jesus builds the church and we are called to make disciples. It is not up to us to build the church. He shared stories of church planting that have taken place recently: Rich VanArsdalen with the Mosaic Church; and Christopher Little with Devonshire Church. Andy Sikora then shared a presentation on Pathways for Planters and Pathways to Planting for Churches. He shared a story of Matt and Naomi who have approached him about church planting. Todd updated the team on income generated from church property sales that will be earmarked for church planting. Currently at \$750,000 it is hoped to soon grow to near \$2 million. Mike informed that currently we have eight to ten churches wanting to plant churches. He challenged the team with the goal of one new plant in each cluster. Philippians 1:18 is the key to church planting: prayer and seeing the Holy Spirit move. Sherilyn encouraged the team to consider a church plant in Peoria, Arizona.

The evening session was closed with prayer.

## Tuesday, April 30, 2019

At 8:30 am, the following were present for the morning session: Bishop Todd Fetters, Mr. Tyler Bates, Ms. Tomi Cardin, Rev. Randy Carpenter, Mr. Sherwood Cook, Mrs. Janis Creason, Rev. Gary Dilley, Mr. Matt McConnell, Rev. Andy Sikora, Rev. Denny Sites, Mr. Kevin Smith and Rev. Mark Wilson; Directors Mr. Steve Dennie, Dr. Mike Dittman, and Ms. Marci Hammel; and recorder Mrs. Cathy Reich.

### 1. Scripture and Prayer Experience

Mike read Philippians 1:19, then led the team in praying "Lord, through our prayers and by the power of the Holy Spirit I pray that..."

### 2. Report of the Bishop continued.

a. *Director of Ministerial Licensing, Rev. Jim Bolich.* Appreciation was expressed for the work being done by Jim and the PMLT, assisting ministers through the licensing process. Todd shared that a Masters in Pastoral Leadership at Huntington University is now less than \$5,000. In online format it is half-price to UB with an additional scholarship available. Jim has begun reaching out to those who are needing this educational requirement. Dr. Luke Fetters has recently been named Dean of Graduate and Professional Programs and works closely with Jim Bolich as our representative.

b. *Director of Communications, Mr. Steve Dennie.* Todd commended Steve on the collaborative effort in developing a Let's Pray logo from submissions by the cluster leaders.

c. *Director of National Ministries, Dr. Mike Dittman.* Mike emphasized that at the core, he wants to help our pastors and our leaders walk with God. In the coming year the focus for senior pastors is to become team leaders, effectively moving from a "me" to a "we" mindset. He stated that clusters continue to be the center-



piece of how we start and strengthen churches.

d. *Director of Finance, Ms. Marci Hammel.* Cluster leaders get a quarterly report informing them of church giving, based on yes or no, not the amount given. She leaves it to the cluster leader and the bishop to follow up with churches who are not sending in their partnership fee. The transition to a new retirement program went well. For those in the old system, a \$40,000 death benefit was added. Marci informed that this is the last time reporting UB Global to this board as they have their own board. UB Global director is evaluated by US Bishop, Canada bishop and chair of UB Global Board.

e. *Financial Health.* Rev. Gary Dilley gave updates on the clergy financial health initiative made available through a Lilly grant and NAE. He reported that for an additional \$45,000 raided over the next 3 years, NAE will match it. Additionally, the requirements are now easier for churches to accomplish. Through a mailing to church leadership and announcement at National Conference, we will encourage every church to do a “Bless Your Pastor” campaign. Any funds the church raises through a Bless Your Pastor offering, can be reported as part of the \$45,000 matching funds. Todd thanked Gary and his team for their work on this 4-year process with NAE and Lilly.

Break at 9:50 to 10:00 am.

### 3. Business and Information Session

a. *Approve Minutes—October 15-16, 2018 and February 15, 2019.* MSC to approve the minutes as presented.

b. *US Discipline and Church Planting Procedures.* Todd distributed a plan regarding Mosaic, a church plant from outside the denomination. Led by Rich VanArsdalen, they are interested in becoming UB. Todd raised the question of viewing them as a church plant that began January 2019, with the desire/plan to receive them in January 2020. The team expressed agreement.

c. *NC'19 | Review ELT Ballot from Nominating Committee.* The ballot was presented and reviewed, along with the committee's detailed work. There was discussion regarding the need for promoting serving as an ELT member. Several expressed their surprise at how much they enjoyed serving and saw it as an honor. Todd offered to share discussion items with the chair, Rocky Spear.

d. *NC'19 | Review Discipline Revisions.* The six proposals were reviewed. Todd informed that cluster leaders have been leading discussions on the proposals. Additionally, the proposals will be presented and discussed at regional meetings in May. Todd thanked Steve for his preparation of the revision document. He also informed that he will be grouping the editorial changes into one motion and will communicate that at regional meetings. Following the regional meetings, a mailing will be sent to each ministerial and lay delegate.

e. *NC'19 | Regional Meeting Dates were announced as:*

- i. East Region – Monday, May 6
- ii. Central Region – Wednesday, May 8
- iii. North Region – Monday, May 13
- iv. Video Technology – Wednesday, May 15

### 4. Around the Table. Q&A Open Forum.

a. Mrs. Janis Creason expressed appreciation for serving on the ELT.

b. Mr. Kevin Smith, longtime UB member, expressed his admiration for ELT's spirit-led approach.

c. Mr. Matt McConnell expressed concern regarding the property issues that consume much of Todd and Marci's time. He suggested involving others where appropriate and possible.

Executive Session With the Bishop

Lunch at 12:00 noon

Executive Session Without the Bishop

*Respectfully submitted*

*Cathy Reich, recorder*

*Signed, Tomra Cardin, secretary*