

## District Superintendent Report 2009 - 2010 Conference Year

“...offer your bodies as living sacrifices, holy and pleasing to God — this is your spiritual act of worship. <sup>2</sup> Do not conform any longer to the pattern of this world, **but be transformed by the renewing of your mind.** Then you will be able to test and approve what God’s will is — his good, pleasing and perfect will.”

Romans 12:1-2, NIV

“Now the Lord is the Spirit, and where the Spirit of the Lord is, there is freedom. <sup>18</sup> And we, who with unveiled faces all reflect the Lord’s glory, **are being transformed into his likeness with ever-increasing glory,** which comes from the Lord, who is the Spirit.”

II Corinthians 3:17-18, NIV

### Michigan District Theme: *Transformed!*

Last year in the context of developing our new vision with its strong emphasis upon winning and making disciples of Christ, we called our people to “drop their nets,” which are symbols of selfishness, independence and the old way of sinful living. All followers of Christ whether at the beginning of their walk or long into it, need to renew the radical nature of their devotion by renouncing low level, casual commitment.

Those of us wanting to live the devoted life for Jesus, sooner or later, realize that there are parts of our inner souls that we can’t fix on our own. Many believers struggle for years, even life-long, with character and behavior flaws untouched by the power of God.

**Transformed.** So, as the years go by, many followers of Jesus give up and trust in the devil’s cultural lies when it comes to believing it is possible to change their stubborn ways, defects and sinful behaviors. The Bible, texts printed above, give us the truth and offer great hope for victory in the struggles for inner transformation and the change our hearts desire.

“...be transformed by the renewing of your mind.”

“...we...are being transformed into his likeness...”

The word “transformed” is the same one used to picture the caterpillar to butterfly “metamorphosis,” which **refers to deep change** in the very essence of something, not just surface appearance. The Holy Spirit is not “into” make-up and masks. He’s the real transformer.

We also learn here that **we can’t fix ourselves.** This kind of change is from God. We help Him by creating the atmosphere for change through surrender and humble brokenness of heart. We are responsible for the conditions, but the action comes from Him.

And while we are “into” do-it-yourself quick fixes, the Scriptures teach that the Holy Spirit’s work of **transformation is a continuing, dynamic process** that never ends. And, finally, we understand the purpose for it all – that we may do God’s good and perfect will in service to Him.

“It is one thing to be able to tweak and control external behaviors; it is another thing to experience those internal seismic shifts that change the way I exist in this world—from a worm crawling on my belly to a butterfly winging its way to the sky. That kind of change is something only God can do.”

R.H. Barton, “Sacred Rhythms” pg 12

## ☐ **Proclamation of the Missionary Church Call to Prayer and Fasting\*** (May 2010)

The Missionary Church Ministry Leadership Council and the General Oversight Council have, unanimously and enthusiastically, signed a Pledge of Brotherly Commitment to faithfully practice the discipline of prayer and fasting.

With this pledge in mind they personally affirm the biblical mandate to fast and pray and passionately call everyone in our fellowship to intentional prayer and fasting\*.

In obedience to our Lord, the massive challenges of our times, and the effective expansion of His Kingdom through the ministries of His church, let us commit to at least one day of prayer and fasting each month over the next twelve months. While you may choose any day you wish, we invite you to join us on the 5<sup>th</sup> day of each month.

Let our primary focus be:

- 1) Prayer for corporate and individual repentance;
- 2) Listening to His voice through His Word and His Spirit;
- 3) Prayer for a renewed passion for God;
- 4) Prayer for the revival and renewal of your local church as well as our Missionary Church ministries worldwide;
- 5) Prayer for the accomplishment of the Vision of the Missionary Church focused upon, <sup>1</sup>perpetual intercessory prayer, <sup>2</sup>evangelizing the lost and making disciples, <sup>3</sup>strengthening local churches, <sup>4</sup>planting new churches and districts of churches, and <sup>5</sup>intentional recruitment and development of catalytic, passionate leaders.

Let us personally embrace His promise:

*“If my people, who are called by my name will humble themselves and pray, and seek my face, and turn from their wicked ways, then I will hear from heaven, and I will forgive their sin and will heal their land.”*

2 Chronicles 7:14

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\*We welcome and encourage individual participants to consider a variety of different kinds of fasting, especially when there are medical issues involved (i.e. one meal, fruits and vegetables only – “Daniel fasting,” fasting of entertainment or recreational activity, etc.). The purpose of fasting is giving up a routine or everyday activity in order to devote oneself to prayer and seeking God.

\*We encourage local churches to organize 24 hour as well as 24/7 prayer vigils that include the call to prayer and fasting. For details of 24/7 go to [www.mcgpn.org](http://www.mcgpn.org).

☐ **Vision and Mission Statement!** After some further revision this is the summary of our five year vision statement presented in harmony with our Denominational statement. Five different committees are working on a Denominational level to help with many suggestions and plans for implementation.

**Our Vision** (The Dream)

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*“Every Church mobilizing believers to intentionally reach and disciple those without Christ.”*  
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## **Our Mission** (Our Calling)

“To strengthen churches and districts that reproduce and multiply devoted followers of Jesus Christ.”

## **Our Values** (Our Heart & Motivation)

*The Michigan District exists to encourage, equip and empower the local church:*

- Modeling life and leadership by the Spirit.  
(Matthew 3:11; Romans 8, 12:1-2; Galatians 5)
- Winning and training disciples of Christ who make disciples.  
(Matthew 28:19)
- Developing effective leaders with servant, Christ-like hearts.  
(Romans 12:8, John 13:12-17)
- Coaching for culturally relevant ministries to families and emerging generations.
- Cultivating church health as a foundation for growth and multiplication.
- Partnering for church and district multiplication.
- Mobilizing outreach to all cultures – from home to the ends of the earth.  
(Matthew 27:18-20; Acts 1:8)

## **Steps of Action** to see the Vision come true: (Our Priorities)

1. Build a strong base of prayer
2. Evangelize the lost and make disciples
3. Strengthen our established churches
4. Plant new churches and groups of churches
5. Recruit and develop dynamic leaders for accelerated multiplication

□ **Michigan District Staff.** I am very grateful for a fine District office staff that works together in good harmony and efficient skill. Support staff members are Kim Yerke, (Administrative Assistant), Janet McLavy (Financial Bookkeeper), Janet Bartholomew (Clerical Secretary), and Matthew Yerke (I.T. – Information Technical Support).

**District Directors.** Much appreciation for each of these leaders! – see their separate reports.

- ❖ **Director of District Ministries, Dr. Alan Yerke** has been the District Ministries Director for our District since 1994. Al represents our District well in many local church services, helps the D.S. with recruitment, manages our credential process, and skillfully administrates a variety of other ministries including all the training events, conferences and the C.E. ministries.
- ❖ **Church Multiplication Team Director, Rev. Tom Blaylock** now works full-time in the M.C. serving the Michigan, Central and North Central Districts.
- ❖ **Healthy Church Team Director, Rev. Stan Liechty** works two days a week for the District with the balance of his ministry as an Associate for Colonial Woods M.C., Port Huron. Stan coordinates several ministries, such as coaching, training and leadership development all with the goal of strengthening the local church.
- ❖ **Hispanic Ministries Director, Rev. Martin Roman** has served as an assistant to the D.S over our Hispanic churches since 1997. *Our many thanks for Pastor Roman’s service to our District*

for the past 13 years. He has resigned from his local church (farewell event on June 5) and District position as of July 31, 2010. He and his family will move to Texas this summer to lead a church plant in San Antonio.

- ❖ **Children's Ministries Director, Rev. Christine Crocker** serves our District by leading the Family and Children Team (FACT), and managing the Healthy Home Initiative.
- ❖ **Youth Director, Rev. Tim Patch** directs our Youth Ministry Team, which facilitates a wide variety of ministries that assist our local churches in outreach and discipleship to junior and senior high students.

## ❑ **JWK Personal & Vocational Objectives for 2010.**

- Monitor progress to live by our mission & values.
- Lead District to 10% + conversion growth.
- Spend 80% of my time on the top 20% of the most important priorities, and at least 50% of my time facilitating church growth, leadership training, and church multiplication.
- Lead District through process of considering change from a District to a Region.
- Commitment to one day per month fasting and prayer.
- Commitment to more intentional alertness for evangelism/discipleship opportunities.
- Maintain discipleship relationship with PLI student.
- Maintain my accountability prayer partnership.

## ❑ **JWK Ministry Activity in 2009.**

- Weekend Church Visits - (38)
- Pastors meetings and personal contacts (95+)
- Board meetings/church coaching appointments – Local, District & Denomination (87)
- Sermons & Speaking Engagements (20)
- Funerals officiated: Rev. Bruce W. Pearson (11/13/09), Rev. Eddie Jones (12/11/09)
- Funerals participated: Jackie Gilbert (10/10/09)
- Funerals attended: Olive Edington (2/13/09), Arlene Matteson (7/6/09)
- Baby Dedication: Caleb Isaiah Ferguson (11/29/09)
- Retirement Celebration: Rev. Jim & Becky Thompson (10/25/09)

## ❑ **Seminars – Conferences – Retreats – Camps attended:** (conference year)

- Hispanic Leadership Academy (March 2009)
- Mich. District Conference (April 2009)
- Mancelona Camp (July 2009)
- Brown City Camp (August 2009)
- Pastors' Retreat (Au Sable Institute) (October 2009)
- Strategic Pastoral Mentoring (January 2010)
- M.C. Leadership Prayer Retreat, Orlando, FL (January 2010)
- Midwest District Men's Retreat, Speaker (February 2010)
- Pastors & Spouses' Retreat, Lexington (March 2010)

## ❑ **Newly Licensed Ministers** (conference year)

- † Becky Bartle (3/30/09) Serving on staff at Fellowship Bible , Brown City
- † John Beauchamp (11/3/09) Serving on staff at Crossroads CC, China.
- † Jeff Bridell (3/30/09) Serving on staff at Royal Oak MC.
- † Ann Harrington (11/3/09) Serving on staff at Colonial Woods MC, Port Huron.
- † Sue Nellis (11/3/09) Serving on staff at Crossroads CC, China.

- ❑ **Ordinations.** (conference year)
  - ✠ Rev. Tom Blaylock (3/30/09) UBC ordination transferred and recognized by MC
  - ✠ Rev. David Engle (3/30/09) Assoc. Pastor at Walled Lake MC (ceremony – 6/14/09)
  
- ❑ **Pastor Commissioning/Installation Ceremonies:**    (conference year)
  - ✠ Rev. Charlie Green at New Hope Fellowship MC, Clare (1/10/2010)
  
- ❑ **Interim Pastor Placements:** (as of April 1, 2010)
  - Milt Davis at Marquette MC (Nov. 2007 to Nov. 2009)
  - Larry VanSlambrook at Royal Oak MC (Jan. 2008 to date)
  - Cliff Batterbee at Bates MC, Williamsburg (2006 to date)
  - Paul Melcher at Watertown MC, Sandusky (Sept. 08 to date)
  - Richard Thomas at Lamotte MC (June 09 to date)
  
- ❑ **Associate/Assistant/Placements:**
  - Steve Stump, Associate at Calvary, Livonia (Fall 2009)
  - Matt Woodburn, Church Planter for Vox Church on staff at Colonial Woods (January 2010)
  
- ❑ **Churches Currently in Search for Lead/Senior Pastor** (as of April 1, 2010)
  - Fellowship Bible Ch., Brown City
  - Mizpah MC, Cass City
  - Iglesia Evangelica Misionera de Kalamazoo
  - Lamotte MC, Marlette
  - Marquette MC
  - Midland MC
  - Royal Oak MC
  
- ❑ **Church Anniversary/Celebrations:**
  - Evident Church, Macomb - 1 year, 9/13/09
  - Bethel MC, Yale – mortgage burning , 11/09
  
- ❑ **Tracking our District’s “Conversion Growth.”**

“Conversion growth” is calculated by taking the conversion/baptism number divided by worship attendance. Ten percent is considered healthy. Are you aware of your own local church’s conversion growth rate?

**CONVERSION GROWTH CHART**

	AM Worship Attendance	Conversions Reported	Baptisms	Conversion Growth by baptisms	Conversion Growth by reported conversions
2000	6438	525	277	4.3%	
2001	6725	503	320	4.7%	7.4%
2002	6612	429	269	4.0%	6.4%
2003	6700	559	260	3.8%	8.3%
2004	6900	655	425	6.1%	9.5%
2005	7001	542	278	4.0%	7.7%
2006	6945	577	268	3.8%	8.3%
2007	6770	597	250	3.6%	8.8%
2008	6759	718	256	3.9%	11.0%
2009	6723	734	271	4.0%	10.9%

- 52 churches reporting for the 2009 numbers

**☐ Percent of Apportionments Received “District Ministries Investment”**

A local church’s apportionment (fair-share investment in District ministries) is determined by the District Conference at 4% “...of the total church receipts, minus bequests and non-receipted liquidation of church owned assets, averaged over the three preceding years...increases in apportionments...will be capped at 20% per year for up to three consecutive years.” (District Bylaw Article VIII, D.)

	4% Apportionments due	Received	% received
2002	323,166	312,956	97%
2003	344,307	321,365	93%
2004	344,620	337,380	98%
2005	354,585	330,228	93%
2006	365,003	342,385	94%
2007	382,269	350,868	92%
2008	398,151	342,470	86%
<b>2009</b>	<b>388,129</b>	<b>*338,815</b>	<b>87%</b>

\*The actual amount received was \$362,279. However \$23,464 was payment received in 2009 for prior years.

**Analysis of giving to District ministries.** 28 churches gave 100%, 8 churches gave between 60-99%, 2 churches between 20-59%, and 12 churches gave between 0 – 19% with 8 of those giving 0%. About half of those churches communicated with the DEB regarding their special circumstances.

**Maintain Generous, Proportionate Giving.** In light of the financial stress that many churches are facing, I have noticed a trend for churches to cut support to missions, the District, and the Denomination, rather than maintaining proportionate giving to these ministries. At one point late in 2009, ten churches had given nothing to the District.

First, I would exhort every church to maintain generosity and proportionate giving beyond and outside its own nest. It is a principle of the Kingdom. When we have less, the amount may change, but we don’t quit giving.

Second, as a team of churches we are in an interdependent, mutual family relationship. It is all connected proportionately, based upon each local church’s fair share of the Conference budget approved by the District Conference. It is neither right nor just for

some churches to simply ignore their relationship to the whole, while others carry the load.

Third, Each District pastor, church leader, District and Denominational leader must set the example in his/her own personal finances. This too is a principle of the Kingdom. God blesses His people, beginning with the church leaders, when they faithfully, generously and proportionately give to advance the cause of Christ.

☐ **Denominational 2% Received from our District.** “U.S. Ministries Support”

	Total MD 2% Support	Received	% Received
2007	195,000	171,413	88%
2008	180,941	157,932	87%
<b>2009</b>	<b>181,665</b>	<b>152,810</b>	<b>84%</b>

☐ **Rate of Increase /(Decrease) – M. District Budget**

	Budget to be Apportioned	% Increase (Decrease)
2000	297,040	(.003%)
2001	301,926	1.6%
2002	323,497	7.1%
2003	337,307	4.2%
2004	344,620	2.1%
2005	354,585	2.8 %
2006	364,935	2.9%
2007	375,005	2.7%
2008	377,204	1.0%
2009	351,279	(6.0%)
<b>2010</b>	<b>352,379</b>	<b>0.3%</b>

**DISTRICT SUPERINTENDENT SUPPLEMENTAL REPORT  
PRESENTED AT DISTRICT CONFERENCE**

**1. Two Property Assets - Land Contracts still in process:**

- A. Oakley Park Church Building: The church building sold for \$175,000 in July of 2006. A land contract is in effect for \$140,000 @ \$923.00/mon for 5 years at 7% with 5 year balloon due August 6, 2011. The house on this property sold separately on a cash sale November of '06. The net amount of that cash transaction was \$113,665.
- B. Westland Property Rent to Purchase Agreement (all inclusive of house and church building): Total sale price = \$399,900 @ 24 months of \$2,300 payments, which do not apply to the purchase purchase. This rent to purchase agreement expired April 1, 2010. We just signed a six month extension at the same terms pending the sale.

**2. Why I Signed the “Manhattan Declaration.”** The following is a very concise summary of the The Manhattan Declaration, which many renowned Christian leaders over a broad spectrum of affiliation, have signed in support. In turn they have invited all of like mind and heart to sign, numbering to date at nearly 440,000 signatories. I would encourage you to do the same.

A fragment of the Declaration says this, “Because the **sanctity of human life, the dignity of marriage as a union of husband and wife, and the freedom of conscience and religion** are foundational principles of justice and the common good, we are compelled by our Christian faith to speak and act in their defense.”

You can read the entire Declaration at [www.ManhattanDeclaration.org](http://www.ManhattanDeclaration.org). Since it was first adopted in late September of 2009, and after reading portions and eventually the entire Manhattan Declaration, I was compelled to put my name to the document. Come what may, these are days in “the land of the free and the home of the brave” when we need to stand strong in these basic principles, which form the very foundation of civilized society.

3. **HeART – Healing and Reconciliation Team.** While the D.S. has used many different leaders to help in past “situations” of conflict and various difficulties, the DEB appointed a task force to design a formal process for such circumstances. As a result HeART was born. “The purpose of the Healing and Reconciliation Team is to assist the District Superintendent and the District Executive Board in bringing healing and help to pastors and/or churches that are in difficult situations. The team will act in accordance with biblical principles and with the authority of the District Superintendent and the District Executive Board.” A complete statement giving purpose and direction for the process has been developed. The following leaders were recommended by the D.S. and appointed by the DEB to be in a pool of leaders from which the D.S. could form a small team for any given situation: *Jeff Hossler, James Jordan, Tom Knight, Stan Leichty, Steve Stump, Jim Thompson, Larry VanSlambrook, Jack Woodburn and Alan Yerke.*
4. **E<sup>3</sup> Groups - Pastors Clusters.** Please take seriously your opportunity to be a part of a pastor’s cluster. We have several active clusters with approximately 50-60 credentialed ministers involved in a variety of groups. Pastors in isolation are vulnerable. The three-fold purpose of these teams for the active pastors is to **Encourage, Equip and Empower** with interactive accountability and prayer support. Contact me or Stan Leichty with your interest.
5. **New Bridge Community Chaplaincy.** For three years we have been in a joint relationship with the North Michigan District of the Wesleyan Church to launch the New Bridge Coalition, a ministry that addresses the challenges of reaching unchurched people. The first step has focused on launching the New Bridge Community Chaplaincy with Chuck Koenemann at Sault St. Marie. We encourage your financial support for this home missions project to a very needy community in Michigan. *See [www.mychap.net](http://www.mychap.net) for information.*
6. **Board Members and Elders, please be alert to the needs of your pastor(s)** to support them in their expenses for training, retreats and conferences. Take note of the Pastoral Benefits Committee Report (Pg. 26-27 in Conf. handbook). The District staff is available to help you apply these expectations to your budget and pastor’s benefit package and to answer any questions you may have.
7. **Bethel College in your church’s budget.** Every Missionary Church should have Bethel College as a line item in their budget. We can be proud of our school. It exists to serve our young people and churches and needs our support during these times. It has a long standing reputation for growth, spiritual strength and longs to be well attached to the Missionary Church. I hope you keep a literature display in your lobby and that you take seriously this obligation to support our school.
8. **4% and 2% for District and U.S. Ministries.** Your District and Denomination do not operate on lavish budgets, especially when compared to other sister denominations. Thank you for your faithfulness to these responsibilities. These are not dues or taxes. These funds are contributions to ministry outside of your local church. Help your leaders to positively see that along with your church’s missions giving and support of Bethel College, these responsibilities could be compared to an individual giving of their tithe and offerings.

Respectfully Submitted,  
Rev. James W. Keller, District Superintendent

**MEMORIAL REPORT**  
**2009 – 2010**

**Bode, Alice M.** (1932-2010) Mrs. Alice Bode, age 77, went to be with her Lord on February 7, 2010 following a long illness. She was born and raised in Fremont, Michigan and married Charles Bode in 1950. Her husband passed away in October, 2008. They are survived by their five children and spouses; Patricia Bode, Michael and Rhonda Bode, Pastor Alan and Cheryl (Bode) Imboden, Gary and Violeta Bode, and Kenneth and Joanna Bode. They also left behind 14 grandchildren, 3 step-grandchildren, and 3 great-grandchildren. Alice was the founder of the Anchor Bay Artists Association and was active on the music committee at First Congregational Church in New Baltimore, Michigan. Her son-in-law, Pastor Alan Imboden, had the honor of conducting the funeral service. She is now at rest and reunited with her beloved husband.

**Coble, Carl E.** (1928-2010) Carl Coble was born in Dupont, Ohio. He worked as a signalman for the Norfolk and Southern Railroad, retiring in 1978 after 35 years on the job. Mr. Coble was a member of St. John the Baptist Catholic Church and the Navy Club #245, both in New Haven, Indiana. Carl had a small engine repair shop and was known in New Haven as the guy who could get most anything mechanical running again. During his last stay in the hospital, he accepted Christ as his Savior. He is survived by his children; Michael (Janet) Coble, Randy (Linda) Coble, Lila (David) Tobias, Lisa (Ken) Schroeder, Steven (Ruth) Coble, Rev. Chuck (Sandy) Koenemann, Leslie (Tom) Taylor, and Carol (Steve) Elser. Also surviving are 20 grandchildren, 26 great-grandchildren, and one great-great-grandson. He was preceded in death by Chuck's mother, Rosalyn Koenemann, and two daughters; Linda Machunas and Jean Koenemann.

**Costello, Peggy** (1925-2009) Peggy Costello was born in Brazil, Indiana, and spent most of her life in the Detroit area. She worked as a seamstress in order to support her three children. Peggy went on to manage several dry cleaners before her retirement. She was a very creative lady who used her hands to show her love to many people. Her apartment was like a soup kitchen where a tasty bowl of some creation was always going out the door to meet someone's need. She was a selfless person who found great joy in using her talents to serve others. She is survived by her three children; Donna Costello, Linda (Rev. Denny) Collins, and Daniel Costello; eight grandchildren, including Rev. J. T. (Trish) Mabe (Mizpah Missionary Church); and eleven great-grandchildren.

**Douglass, Philip A.** (1942-2009) Philip Douglass, former Missionary Church pastor passed away on October 18, 2009, at his home in Traverse City. Phil had ministered at Missionary Churches in California, Ohio, and Indiana prior to serving at Mancelona Missionary Church, and as church planter for Traverse City and Kalkaska. Philip is survived by his wife of over 44 years, Carolyn J. Douglass; three sons, Chad (Linda), Eric (Carrie), and Ryan (Amy), and seven grandchildren.

**Green, Peggy A.** (1929-2008) Peggy Green, mother of Rev. Charles Green Jr., went home to be with the Lord on November 15, 2008. She left behind her husband of 60 years, Charles Sr.; two sons, Charlie and Dennis; four grandchildren; and nine great-grandchildren. She was active for a number of years in the Redeemer Missionary Church where she was a Sunday School teacher, enjoying very much her work with the little children. (This memorial was inadvertently omitted from last year's report.)

**Jones, Rev. Edwin E.** (1934-2009) On March 22, 1934 Edwin E. Jones was born to Raymond and Thelma Jones. Eddie, as he was called, was a boy full of mischief, but as he grew in stature, he walked with God and listened to His voice. While Eddie was at Fort Wayne Bible College, he felt the call of God to go into full-time Christian ministry. On September 7, 1957 he married Joanne May and that same year accepted his first ministry assignment at the Midland Missionary Church. Eddie was a gifted speaker and

went on to serve as an evangelist. In 1983 he became the pastor at First Missionary Church of Clarkston. He was a minister of the Gospel of Jesus Christ for over 50 years. Eddie was a contributing writer for *The Oakland Press*, filled pulpits in the greater Detroit area, and loved to substitute teach in his retirement years. The Lord gently called Eddie home to be with Him on December 7, 2009. He is survived by his wife, Joanne; son, Rev. Steve (Sue) Jones, former District pastor and current District Superintendent of the Central District of the Missionary Church; daughter, Melanie (Robert Kuntzman; eight grandchildren; and other loved ones. He will be remembered as a man who loved to preach the Gospel and disciple his flock.

**Jones, Rev. Morris Joe** (1927-2010) Rev. M. Joe Jones passed away on January 4, 2010 at Mountain Vista Healthcare Center in Wheatridge, Colorado. He was born in Sanilac County, Michigan on March 1, 1927. Joe attended Owosso Bible College and went on to graduate from Bethel College in 1950, where he was active in many areas of student life. In the summer of 1950 he became the first pastor of the Forest Hills Missionary Church in Farmington, Michigan, and on July 29 he married Doris Witmer. Joe served in evangelistic work in 1953 and 1954 and then moved to Japan, where Joe and Doris served as missionaries for 20 years. Joe became District Superintendent for the Michigan District in 1975, and served two terms in that capacity. When he left the District office in 1983, he went on to pastor the Bliss Missionary Church for five years. From 1988 to 2004 he was a hospital chaplain in Santa Anna and Placentia, California. In 2004 Joe and Doris retired to Arvada, Colorado. Rev. Jones is survived by his wife of 59 years; a son, Willard; a daughter, Cheryl Scott; a daughter-in-law, Sally Wallner; two sisters; two sisters-in-law; eight grandchildren and seven great-grandchildren. He was preceded in death by one son, Daniel; one sister and three brothers.

**Matteson, Veronica “Arlene”** (1921-2009) Arlene Matteson was born on November 17, 1921 in Mancelona, the daughter of Gordon and Serena (Niswander) Guiliat. She married Robert Matteson in 1947 at the Mizpah Mennonite Brethren in Christ Church, Cass City. During their years of ministry Rev. and Mrs. Matteson served the Bad Axe – New Greenleaf circuit, the Mizpah – Riverside circuit, Bethel, Belleville and Elkton Missionary Churches. Mrs. Matteson attended both Bethel and Trinity Missionary Churches in Yale. She enjoyed playing the piano, organ and accordion and singing with her husband in several groups sharing the love of Jesus. Arlene loved to read her Bible, work crossword puzzles and spend time with her family. She is survived by Robert, her husband of 61 years, and children; Chuck (Sharon) Matteson and Cindy (Steve) Zook; seven grandchildren; and three great-grandchildren. Nephews, Rev. David Matteson and Rev. Don Matteson co-officiated the memorial service along with Rev. Anthony Ferriell (Trinity Missionary Church) and Rev. Brent Kriesch (Bethel Missionary Church)

**Miles, John H.** (1927-2010) John H. Miles, of Osceola, Indiana, died on January 6. He was born on February 11, 1927 to John and Anna (Deak) Miles. On November 11, 1948, he married Clarice Kindig, who survives him. After graduating from Mishawaka High School in 1945, he served in the U. S. Army, where he enjoyed entertaining the troops, at the U. S. Army base in Alexandria, Virginia as a magician. John was an independent insurance agent in Osceola for 38 years and owned the John H. Miles Insurance Agency from 1956 to 1983. He was an amateur song and dance man, who directed variety shows and served on the Pageant Board for St. Joseph County. John attended the Jamestown United Methodist Church. He was an avid Notre Dame and Indiana University fan, who also enjoyed fishing and watching old John Wayne and Bob Hope movies. He is survived by one daughter, three sons, one of whom is Rev. Scott (Judy) Miles of Warren, nine grandchildren, 12 great-grandchildren, and one brother.

**Newsome, Annie (Rene)** (1926-2010) Mrs. Rene Newsome went to be with her Lord on January 17, 2010. She taught herself to read music and play the piano at an early age. While playing for church, she met and married Buck Newsome in 1942. They were married 67 years in November 2009. In 1947 they organized the Good News Quartette, a gospel group, that sang all around the Detroit area. They sang together from 1947 until 2004. She is survived by three children and their spouses: Pastor Curt and Sue

(Newsome) Swick, Tom and Faye (Newsome) Sammons, and Ron and Debbie Newsome. Also surviving are eight grandchildren and 12 great-grandchildren. She will be greatly missed by her family and her church family.

**Pearson, Rev. Bruce W.** (1919-2009) Bruce W. Pearson was born near Snover, Michigan, on August 5, 1919. He graduated from Port Huron High School in 1938. At the age of 16 he met Margaret, the love of his life, and married her when they were both 19 years-old. For five years Bruce worked as a lineman for Detroit Edison while he and Margaret started their family. Daughters, Barbara and Beverly, were born during this time. In 1944 the Lord spoke to Bruce about full-time ministry and he moved his family to Indiana where he attended Fort Wayne Bible Institute. His college years also found him pastoring the Taylor Chapel Methodist Church. In 1947 he began his ministry in the Michigan District, serving for five years at Flint's Dartmouth United Missionary Church (now Dayton Heights Community Church) and then six years at Brown City Missionary Church. In 1958 he became District Superintendent and served for six years before becoming pastor at Faith Missionary Church, Flint. He pastored Faith church for 19 years and was once again elected, in 1983, to serve as District Superintendent. In 1991 he retired from the D. S. position and returned to Faith where he served as Pastor Emeritus. Margaret preceded him in death on April 18, 2003. Through the years, Pastor Pearson served in many capacities within the District and Denomination including: Secretary of the Michigan District, Overseas Mission Board, President of the Brown City Camp Board, Michigan District Youth Director, member of the Bethel College Board for 14 years (five years as Chairman), and the founding President of Michigan Missionary Loans and Investments. He is survived by his daughters, four grandchildren, five great-grandchildren, and one great-great grandchild. He will be remembered by the District as a pastor to the pastor who led by example. He was a man of integrity and compassion.

**Proctor, Kenneth E.** (1929-2009) Ken Proctor, age 79, went home to be with the Lord on September 14, 2009. He was born in Port Huron on December 15, 1929, the son of the late Guy and Violet (McTaggart) Proctor. He was a 1947 graduate of Port Huron High School. Ken was employed by Detroit Edison for 33 years. After retiring from Detroit Edison in 1987, he was called into the ministry and served Mizpah Missionary Church and Wheatland Missionary Church along with Free Methodist churches in Harbor Beach and Standish. He retired in 2003. He is survived by his wife of 61 years, Esther; and children Stephen (Rhonda), Susan (Richard) Reuter, Sally (Craig), Scott (Ann), Shawn (Pamela), and Robert (Stacey). He is also survived by 16 grandchildren and 10 great-grandchildren. Ken's life was marked by his deep faith in God, devotion to his family, and love for the people and congregations that he served.

Respectfully submitted,  
Rev. James W. Keller, District Superintendent

**REPORT OF THE DISTRICT EXECUTIVE BOARD  
2009-2010**

The Executive Board of the Michigan District of the Missionary Church, Inc. met in six regular meetings during the conference year on the following dates: May 18, June 9, September 1, November 3, December 1, February 2, and March 30. The Board received regular reports from the District Superintendent, the Director of District Ministries, the District Treasurer as well as the Directors of Church Multiplication, Children, Youth, Church Health, and Hispanic Ministries. All reports were carefully reviewed and approved. The Board received additional reports, periodically, from committees and task forces throughout the District. Following are the items of business cared for on behalf of the District:

**APPOINTMENTS**

1. Family and Children's Ministry Team:

Christine Crocker (Director)	Charlene Gaffney
Jim Keller, D. S.	Michelle Hobson
Alan Yerke, C. E. Director	Leanne Palmateer
Bart Adams	Larry Salsburey
Lynn Adams	Eric Smith

2. Youth Ministry Team:

Tim Patch (Director)	Brian Reinhardt
Jim Keller, D. S.	Jason Rohde
Alan Yerke, C. E. Director	Matt Swank
Neil Davis	Brant Wilson
Dan Hamrick	

3. Healthy Church Team:

Stan Liechty (Director)	Robert Johnson
Jim Keller, D. S.	James Jordan
Alan Yerke, C. E. Director	Larry Salsburey
Anthony Ferriell	Steve Severance

4. Church Multiplication Team:

Tom Blaylock (Director)	Reg Courliss
Jim Keller, D. S.	Jeff Hossler
Jonathan Boyer (Secretary)	Martin Roman
Jeff Carnacchi	Jim Thompson

5. Nominating Committee:

Larry VanSlambrook, Vice D. S. (Chairman)	Burton Schultz
John Hewett	Kurt Tuckey
Jim Jordan, Jr.	Jeff Hossler
Tom Knight	

6. Building Committee:

Walt McLavy (Chairman)	David Gardner
Don Durance	Boyd King

7. Bylaws Committee:

Don Severance (Chairman – 2010)	Jonathan Boyer (2012)
Karl Yoder (2011)	Alan Yerke (Advisor)

8. District Committee on Ordination and Licensing:  
 Jim Keller, D. S. Steve Stump (2012)  
 Mike Cadrette (2010) Alan Yerke (2011)
9. Pastoral Benefits Committee:  
 Jim Keller, D. S. Darrell Schlabach (2012)  
 Jack D'Arcy (2010) Allen Sudmann (2012)  
 John Hewett (2010) Jack Woodburn (2010)  
 Robert Johnson (2011)
10. Credentials Committee:  
 Cliff Jordan (Chairman – 2012) David Wilgus (2010)  
 Bart Adams (2011)
11. HeART (Healing and Reconciliation Team):  
 Jim Keller, D.S. Steve Stump  
 Jeff Hossler Jim Thompson  
 James Jordon Jack Woodburn  
 Tom Knight Larry VanSlambrook  
 Stan Liechty
12. Vice D.S. Nominating Committee:  
 Steve Severance (Chairman) Jack D'Arcy  
 Jonathan Boyer Jim Thompson  
 Doug Connelly Kevin Winningham

**MINISTERIAL CREDENTIALS**

1. Appointed:  
 John D'Arcy to New Creation C.C., Caro as Pastor for 2010  
 Paul Melcher to Watertown M.C. as Interim Pastor for 2010  
 Laurie Shaffer as District Women's Director
2. Approved:  
 John Beauchamp for Ministerial License  
 Tim Bohm for candidacy status (now serving as a pastor in Central District)  
 Jeff Bridell for Ministerial License with review after one year  
 James Bruney for reinstatement (now serving on staff in the North Central District)  
 Dan Hamrick for Ordination  
 Ann Harrington for Ministerial License  
 Sue Nellis for Ministerial License  
 Mark Ralph for candidacy status  
 George Reser for candidacy status  
 Shirley Tuckey for paid staff, Cass City M.C.
3. Lay Workers Licenses:  
 Rodney Anderson, West Michigan W. C., Muskegon Dodi McGlynn, Emmett Street M.C., Battle Creek  
 Tom Batterson, Emmett Street M.C., Battle Creek Paul Melcher, Watertown, Sandusky (D.S. Appt.)  
 Lois Brewer, Lighthouse M.C., East Jordan John Meredith, Crossroads C.C.  
 Joni Buhler, Crossroads C.C. Bill Oliver, Warren C.C.  
 John D'Arcy, New Creation C.C., Caro (D.S. Appt.) Bob Partlo, Bethel M.C., Yale  
 Tim Exelby, First M.C., Clarkston Steve Pittiglio, Crossroads C.C.  
 Dan Grimes, Pathway C.C., Mancelona Michele Scott, Pathway C.C., Mancelona  
 John Hewett, Calvary M.C., Livonia Eric Smith, Midland M.C.  
 Tim Joye, Warren C.C. Nick Staley, Faith M.C., Flint  
 Don Leasher, Open Door M.C., Sandusky Jerry VanDeusen, Crossroads C.C.  
 Steve Lefler, Redeemer M.C.

## APPROVALS

1. Approved leadership team structure adjustments at Lamotte Missionary Church and received follow up reports.
2. Approved the District Staff handbook as presented.
3. Approved granting D.S. Jim Keller the power to appoint the members of a task force that will consider the possible restructuring of the District into a Region with multiple Districts.
4. Approved a possible bylaw change for MML&I as follows: For purposes of utilizing the services of Michigan Missionary Loans and Investments, Inc., The Michigan District Missionary Church recognizes all churches that are members of the Missionary Church denomination and are located in the State of Michigan as affiliate ministries. This recognition extends to members of the Missionary Church churches located in the State of Michigan.
5. Approved ratification of MML&I loan to Cass City Missionary Church with the Michigan District serving as guarantor.
6. Approved recommendation to the COOL Committee that they more closely scrutinize all licensing and ordination applicants about their practice regarding tithing and general management of their finances.
7. Approved the District borrowing up to an additional \$18,000 from MML&I on behalf of the Mancelona Camp Board for urgent building maintenance and reconstruction.
8. Approved the 2010 Housing Allowance and Medical Expense Reimbursement Plan for Dr. Al Yerke.
9. Approved authorization of the HeART (Healing and Reconciliation Team) to work in conjunction with the DS when circumstances merit their intervention. Reports on their interaction with churches were received.
10. Approved the work of the Task Force on Reorganization and received various reports. Current Task Force members are D.S. Jim Keller, Al Yerke, Larry VanSlambrook, Doug Connelly and Bob Ransom.
11. Approved the appeal to the General Oversight Council and Ministry Leadership Council of the Missionary Church on the issue of pastoral abstinence from alcohol.
12. Approved the disbursal of funds for Christmas and Pastor Appreciation gifts for Jim and Brenda Keller as well as Al and Kim Yerke.
13. Approved the 2010 Housing Allowance and Medical Expense Reimbursement Plan for Rev. Jim Keller.
14. Approved names for the HeART from which D.S. Jim Keller can choose as needed.
15. Ratified the Church Multiplication Team 2010 Budget as presented.
16. Ratified the Healthy Church Initiative 2010 Budget as amended.
17. Approved the 2010 Housing Allowance for Rev. Martin Roman.
18. Approved the 2010 Housing Allowance for Rev. Tom Blaylock.
19. Approved the 2010 Housing Allowance for Rev. Carlos Salazar.
20. Approved support for Chuck Koenemann and the New Bridge Coalition Chaplaincy, Sault Ste. Marie. The support will be reviewed in June with the possibility of providing additional funds. The support will be funded from the Oakley Park assets.
21. Approved a six-month extension of the rental agreement for the Westland property, which was set to expire April 1, 2010. The lease includes an option to purchase the land and facilities.
22. Approved mileage reimbursement rates for 2010.
23. Gave attention to various needs and issues at certain District churches.

## RECOMMENDATIONS

1. Recommended the 2010 Michigan District budget to the 2010 Michigan District Conference for approval. Approved a budget of approximately \$398,000, based on an apportionment adjustment with a 10% cap on any increase for 2010, based on the lower of the 2009 and 2010 figures for each church. This figure includes an approximate 3% increase in the hourly wages for office support staff. It was noted that the special adjustment in the apportionment formula will need to be approved by the District Conference.
2. The Retired DS stipend program expires in April 2011. The DEB recommends review of this subsidy at that time. Currently, only the widow of M. Joe Jones receives a monthly stipend.
3. Recommended a proposed 2010 Bylaw change regarding local church missions conferences with the intention that the change be presented at the 2010 Michigan District Conference. The proposed Bylaw reads:

*The Michigan District Missionary Church Bylaws Committee recommends to the Michigan District Missionary Church Executive Board that the following recommendation be presented at District Conference for 2010. RESOLVED, That, a deletion be made in the Michigan District Missionary Church Bylaws under ARTICLE III, DISTRICT OFFICERS, A., DISTRICT SUPERINTENDENT, 2., DUTIES, d., "He shall arrange for annual missions conferences within the District." We further recommend that items that follow letter "d" be adjusted accordingly.*

4. Recommended a proposed change to the Michigan District of the Missionary Church vision statement as follows:  
Our Mission (Our Calling)  
*"To **strengthen** churches and districts that reproduce and multiply devoted followers of Jesus Christ."*
5. Recommended the Task Force's report that District Conference adopt in principle a proposal for the District to become the Michigan Region with multiple District, beginning July 1, 2011, and that the District Executive Board appoint an implementation team to work out the details of this change, bringing appropriate bylaw recommendations, job descriptions, etc. to District Conference 2011 for final adoption.

## MISCELLANEOUS

1. Ratified the election and appointment of Richard Thomas as Interim Pastor for Lamotte Missionary Church (credentialed by the Wesleyan Church) for a period of 9-12 months.
2. Moved the District checking and savings accounts due to concerns about our former bank's financial health.
3. Submitted to the home office a recommendation for the Denominational Senior Adult Layperson Service Award.
4. Recorded the receipt of MML&I annual title of earnings in the amount of \$7,800 and Brotherhood Mutual Group Dividend of \$13,928.
5. Received reports from Mancelona and Brown City Camps that both camps went very well.
6. Received an update on the HeART (Healing And Reconciliation Team) that will evaluate the initial steps the District should take when a church is in trouble and requires intervention.
7. Received a report regarding Life Church, formerly Trinity Burton.
8. Received a report on Mancelona Camp reconstruction and search for a caretaker.
9. Honored Rev. Martin and Mrs. Sonia Roman for their years of service directing Hispanic Ministries in the Michigan District.
10. Received updates from the Task Force on restructuring.

11. Received updates on the following church planting projects: Evident, Macomb; VOX, Chesterfield.
12. Received an update on the Michigan District 2009 financial statements noting that 2009 ended very nicely. Apportionments were reviewed and it was noted that eight churches gave nothing toward apportionments in 2009. D.S. Jim Keller and Al Yerke are at various stages of working with these churches.
13. Received a verbal report from Al Yerke on annual reviews of district administrative support staff that were conducted and that he is pleased with their work.
14. Received a report from Al Yerke on behalf of the Executive Committee of 3DYC re: the scheduled change of the youth event to an every other year format.
15. Received biographical information on the new Mancelona Camp caretaker.
16. Affirmed the progress of the Restructuring Task Force and support of the planned informational forums that are scheduled for March 9 and March 11, 2010.
17. Thank you notes from Al and Kim Yerke, Jim and Brenda Keller, and Harlan Gingrich were received.
18. Received a report on the land contract on the Oakley Park Property.
19. Received a report on the Westland rent-to-purchase contract.
20. Affirmed a request from Calvary M.C., Livonia, for the District to provide a curriculum for church leadership boards with special emphasis to be placed on churches in transition. A development deadline for the material was set at September 2010.

#### **EXECUTIVE SESSION**

The District Executive Board met three times in Executive Session to ratify the adjustment of a church leadership structure and ratification of election and appointment of a pastor, ratify the licensing of a pastor, hear a report from a congregation about their concerns, agree on amounts for Christmas and Pastor Appreciation gifts, and share concerns about certain transition issues.

Respectfully submitted,  
Dr. Michael S. Cadrette, Secretary  
District Executive Board

## **REPORT OF THE DIRECTOR OF DISTRICT MINISTRIES 2009 - 2010**

“The Word of our God stands forever.” (Isaiah 40:8) The proclamation of the ancient prophet still rings true. In spite of difficult economic times in Michigan with high unemployment and home foreclosures, God’s Word remains our unchanging standard, providing us with guidance and the life-changing good news of Jesus Christ.

This is my sixteenth year of ministry for the District. I am indebted to our office staff (Jim Keller, Janet McLavy, Jan Bartholomew, Kim Yerke and Matt Yerke) for their capable leadership and service. Special thanks go out to the District Executive Board for their wisdom, support and encouragement. It is truly a privilege to serve with a wonderful team of leaders.

During the year I assisted Jim Keller with recruitment, pastoral placement, credentialing matters and pastor-church relations. Other responsibilities included office administration (e-mails, phone calls, correspondences, etc.), publication of various newsletters and brochures, and the coordination of special events (e.g., Ministers’ Retreat) I am also involved in the financial preparations and oversight of the District Conference, Church Multiplication and Healthy Church Initiative budgets.

In 2009, I represented the District in eighteen of our churches, participated at Mancelona and Brown City Camps, and led a weekly home Bible study. I had 146 ministry contacts during the year and serve as a coach for two of our pastors who participate in our Strategic Pastoral Mentoring which meets 5-6 times per year. I continue to teach Bible courses for the Christian Ministries Institute of Warren and Spring Arbor University in the fall and winter months.

I serve as a member of the following District and Denominational boards and committees:

- District Executive Board (advisory member)
- District Christian Education Board (chairman)
- District Youth Ministry Team
- District Family and Children’s Team
- District Healthy Church Team
- District Church Multiplication Team (advisory member)
- District Committee on Ordination and Licensing (secretary)
- District Bylaws Committee
- Missionary Church Nominating Committee (chairman)

As I look forward to serving another year in the District, I am excited about what the Lord has store for our churches. Let us continue to reach our communities for Christ and make disciples who make disciples.

Respectfully submitted,  
Alan G. Yerke, Director of District Ministries

**REPORT OF THE HISPANIC MINISTRIES DIRECTOR  
2009 – 2010**

**Iglesia Evangélica Misionera “Yo Soy” – Pastor Martin Roman (Sonia)**

We have received many blessings during this year. Though Michigan is suffering, as we deal with times of economic hardship, God continues to bless us and our congregation. During the year we have initiated Bible studies and prayer meeting in homes. Pastor Martin is currently having a Bible study class with three families, with plans to begin three more study groups during 2010. Over the past year we have held two prayer services, with many of the District Hispanic Congregations in attendance. We conducted a series to inform the church of the plan of action for the restructuring of the Missionary Church. This series focused on *intercessory prayer, evangelism, discipleship, building up local ministries and developing leadership*. We are thankful for our congregation and their support in all the areas of the church.

**Iglesia Evangélica Misionera Betel – Pastor Heriberto Magallon (Margarita)**

The following is a list of events we have had during the year with our congregation:

- We have a bi-monthly celebration for all the members of our congregation that celebrate birthdays.
- On September 16<sup>th</sup> we commemorate the Independence of Mexico by wearing typical Mexican outfits.
- We had an abstinence conference for youth called “Princesses and Princes”.
- We held prayer vigils throughout the year.
- We had a program on Resurrection Sunday.
- We remodeled our kitchen and dining area.
- For Christmas, our Awanas presented a drama at our church and at the Kalamazoo IEM, “Yo Soy.”
- We also held our 7<sup>th</sup> annual camping trip for families at Fort Custer in Battle Creek.

**Iglesia Evangélica Hispana de Battle Creek – Pastor Alejandro Alcalá (Maria)**

Pastor Alcalá says, “With the prayers of the people of the Lord, we shall keep going forward.”

The schedule for the past year included the following:

- October 2009 - Prayer Service, Iglesias Unidas (United Hispanic Missionary Churches of Michigan)
- Sunday, Evangelistic Services - 2:00 PM
- Tuesday, Bible Study - 7:00 PM
- Friday, Prayer meetings in homes - 7:00 PM

**Iglesia Evangélica Misionera de Lansing – Pastor Margarito Mondragon (Gabriela)**

~January 2009 - Began Children's Ministry Club "K.I.N.D."	~February 14 - Couples Conference
~April 10 - Benny Hinn Miracle Service, Cleveland, OH	~April 12 - Easter Children/Youth presentation
~May 10 - Mothers Day Service	~June 21 - Fathers Day Service
~July 6-10 - Vacation Bible School	~August 8-9 - Campania Juvenil Youth Revival
~August 27-29 - City Wide, Hispanic Campania (revival)	~September 6 - Baptisms
~September 12 - Concert with "La Nueva Familia Paiz"	~October 25 - Pastor's Day
~October 30 - Children's Elohim Party (Halloween Alternative)	~November 24 - Started Leadership classes
~November 26 - Thanksgiving Celebration	~December 27 - Christmas Celebration

**Iglesia Evangélica Misionera “La Mies” – Pastor Carlos Salazar (Elizabeth)**

On May 9th, my wife Elizabeth organized a conference for women. Approximately 50 people attended, some of which were from the Hispanic Missionary churches and others from the surrounding community of Holland. It was a great blessing for all who attended. We have had an activity each month that is called “The Festival of Friends.” It is a fellowship time where we invite people and invest time in getting to know them. This has opened doors for us to visit and evangelize new contacts. We have also begun to visit the Allegan county jail, because of a brother who was incarcerated for 40 days. This has provided opportunities for us to see other prisoners’ and visit their families. Three families from Grand Rapids and one from South Haven have come to know Christ as a result of these contacts. We are discipling these new believers.

Respectfully Submitted,  
Martin Roman, Director of District Hispanic Ministries

## CHURCH MULTIPLICATION DIRECTOR'S REPORT 2009 – 2010

### *2009 – A Year of Progress*

We saw God at work on several fronts last year, among the highlights:

**Evident Church** finished 2009 strong with baptisms (4) and sending off Church Planting Interns, Matt and Katie Woodburn into the mission field of Chesterfield to plant VOX Church. A few families from Evident will be joining the Woodburns as launch team members for VOX – one baby church helping to plant another – that is Kingdom! A special thanks to **Josh and Raelyn Hossler** for their dedication, sacrifice, and leadership – we love you and look forward to all that God has in store for 2010.

**Matt Woodburn** completes his 18 month internship and joins **Colonial Woods** to plant VOX Church (“VOX” means “Voice”) in Chesterfield. Under the leadership of Senior Pastor, **Phil Whetsone**, Colonial Woods emerged as a District leader by partnering with the Woodburns and the CMT to lay the groundwork for the planting of VOX.

Our **Metro LEAD Team** shifts gears and gets ready for the future. After leading the way for the planting of Evident Church, our Metro LEAD Team (Jim Thompson – Warren, Doug Connelly – Parkside, Joe Purdy – Livonia, Jeff Hossler – The Orchards, Bud Freed – Clarkston, and Dale Hamrick – New Faith Chapel) underwent two major transitions. The first came as Pastor **Jim Thompson** retired from Warren Community Church and Pastor **Jeff Hossler** assumed the role of Team Leader. The second came as the initial commitments to Evident Church were met and the group decided to pursue another church plant in 2010. Thank you, Jim Thompson, for your tremendous leadership since 2007!

Our **Thumb LEAD Team** experiences steady progress in Sebewaing. This LEAD Team consists of Bob Sweeney – Cass City, Jonathan Boyer – New Life, Reg Courliss – Elkton, John Rzendzian/Larry Salsburey – Bad Axe, and **Brian Reinhardt** – church planter from New Life. Thanks to the leadership of **Bob Sweeney** (Team Leader) and the dedication of Brian Reinhardt, a group of 10 – 12 adults are now meeting weekly in Sebewaing. (I also want to acknowledge the past contributions of Gerald Steele and Bob Sims from Lamotte.) The mantra of this LEAD Team is to plant a church BY making disciples!

**Carlos and Elizabeth Salazar** serve the Lord faithfully in Zeeland. Our Hispanic Church planters, Carlos and Elizabeth continue to lay a foundation for a church plant in the Holland/Zeeland area. We greatly appreciate their faithfulness and consider them a dear brother and sister in Christ.

### *In 2010 we look forward to...*

1. A healthy and successful launch of Colonial Woods' daughter plant VOX in Chesterfield.
2. Our Metro LEAD Team sponsoring another church plant that will launch in 2011.
3. Another LEAD Team forming somewhere in the District.

### *Please pray for...*

1. The implementation of a grassroots, bi-vocational strategy that could place church planters in several communities at a much lower cost.
2. An increased involvement and ownership from our established churches to multiply disciples for Christ through church planting.
3. New leadership for our Hispanic Ministries as Pastor Martin Roman moves to Texas this year.

Respectfully submitted,  
Tom Blaylock, Director of Church Multiplication

## **HEALTHY CHURCH DIRECTOR'S REPORT 2009 – 2010**

God have been good to us in the Michigan District as He continues to work in the hearts of our pastors and the District churches. The Healthy Church Initiative Team has met on several occasions to oversee the work within that department.

Dr. Dan Riemenschneider is our Denominational Director of the Healthy Church Initiative. He is now settled in a local church pastorate, and is once again able to focus a portion of his time to the movement within our Denomination. He has guided and assisted us in Michigan to continue the work.

- 1) The E3 Pastor Clusters are still working as pastors meet within their affinity groups. I work alongside of our D.S., Jim Keller, to encourage, assign new members, and monitor them. The groups themselves decide their direction and materials selection. The groups have done much to share ideas and strengthen pastoral relationships.
- 2) In September of this year, we were able to initiate a new investigative team called HeART, Health And Reconciliation Team. This is a new effort to officially bring a small (2 or 3 person) team from the District into a local church to trouble-shoot an issue, or to help facilitate a healing or reconciliation. The HeART Team works directly under the authority of the District Superintendent and the DEB.
- 3) We have initiated a new ministry called Strategic Pastoral Mentoring. This brings a local pastor and mentor together to learn a concept in a classroom setting led by Dr. Dan Riemenschneider. The pastor is then held accountable by his mentor to accomplish their agreed upon task. This is then reported at the next bi-monthly meeting. One grouping met in Kalamazoo and another in Port Huron. Our plans are to continue this again in the fall.
- 4) Most recently, we have begun to offer individual coaching for a Senior Pastor in his local church. Over the years, I have received training in coaching techniques, and am now offering to come alongside individual pastors, and work with them to determine the next steps to take in their local churches.

We are now looking at how the new District restructuring will affect the Healthy Church Initiative. One of the first things will probably be a name change for our department; possibly from Healthy Church Initiative to Strengthening the Local Church.

Respectfully Submitted,  
Stan Liechty, Healthy Church Director

## FAMILY AND CHILDREN'S TEAM DIRECTOR'S REPORT 2009 – 2010

Over the past year the Family And Children Team (FACT) has taken a closer look at why we exist and how does our existence fit in with the proposed restructuring of our District and Denomination. In order to give the local churches and lay people of our District some additional insight to this ministry, we are sharing some of the questions and a summary of the responses:

1. **What is the ministry's mission/purpose statement? In other words, why does this ministry exist?** *The Family and Children's Team ministry is committed to winning, building, and equipping children and their families for Jesus Christ and enabling parents/care-givers to teach God's Word in daily living." (Deut. 6:6-7)*
2. **How does the ministry's mission statement compare to the District's mission statement.** *The heart of the Michigan District of the Missionary Church is to cultivate healthy churches and districts that reproduce and multiply devoted followers of Jesus Christ. Correspondingly, The heart of the FACT ministry is to cultivate healthy home by taking Christ and Christ-like living into each home. In order for our church plants to be healthy, the parent church needs to be healthy. In order for the parent church to be healthy, the congregation needs to be healthy. In order for the congregation to be healthy, the families within the congregation need to be healthy. Without healthy homes, we cannot have healthy churches. It's all about faith skills passed down within the family.*
3. **What is the ministry's greatest strength and why?**
  - The Operational manual with goals and objectives because it gives us a broad outline of what the ministry is about.
  - The members meeting to support one another in prayer.
  - The passion and giftedness of the people on the team. We have a great mix of credentialed pastors and key lay people that contribute their time and talents in giving leadership in the Michigan District in working with families and children.
  - The FACT ministry brings together the collective experiences of key district leaders to provide a spiritual think tank to provide training and consulting services to our district churches.
  - The sharing of ideas, particularly with regard to supporting people of all ages in living out their faith.
4. **What is the ministry's weakest area and why?**
  - An unfulfilled goal of convincing churches they really need this. We need to better communicate and continually improve specific tools with which to work.
  - The limited time and resources available. The team has evolved from a "talk about the details of Children's Camping" to an "equipping, encouraging, and empower" team, yet District budgeting has not reflected the new purpose.
  - At this time there is little or no communication between children's workers of local churches. Many of these teachers/directors are untrained and feel isolated. The FACTeam has not yet been able to fully facilitate networking between workers from various churches.

**Help us Help You.** We are on an "invitation basis" in serving you. Our purpose is not to impose. Our objective is to equip, encourage, and empower you in the area of getting Christ and Christ-like living into every home. Please contact me personally or one of our team members nearest you. They are: Bart Adams, Lynn Adams, Charlene Gaffney, Mickey Hobson, Leanne Palmateer, Larry Salsburey, and Eric Smith.

Respectfully submitted,  
Christine M. Crocker, Children's Director

## YOUTH DIRECTOR'S REPORT 2009 – 2010

The role of the Michigan District Youth Ministry Team is to equip our local churches, enabling them to develop healthy youth ministries in their own communities. We define a healthy youth ministry as one that is regularly reaching out to the lost students in their area of influence, while building Christ-like character qualities into the lives of youth group members, with a goal of developing student leadership that is able to reach lost friends and point them to Christ.

With this in mind, District programs are designed to equip the local church to develop disciple making ministries. We strive to model those ideals within our District programs. We evaluate everything we do in light of “how does this help the local church or the District fulfill the mandate of making disciples for Jesus?”

Bible Quizzing trains students to hide God's word in their hearts. SEMP and our mission teams (Home Missions Outreach and Missions Encounter) help students take what is hidden and share it with others. Our camps help us build community and provide an environment where students are able to grow and deal with specific issues. In our camps we are endeavoring to find student leaders, who have gone through our camping programs, and work them back in to the program as small group leaders.

We have tapped into Sonlife training and are using it as our groundwork for creating a strategy and philosophy, giving us direction for a healthy youth ministry. Based on that strategy, we are creating what we call 2/6 Cluster Groups. The “2/6” relates to 1 John 2:6 which says, “*Whoever claims to live in him must live as Jesus lived.*” As we study the life of Christ, we ask these questions,

- How did Jesus do ministry?
- What is the implication for our personal lives?
- What personal applications do we need to make and how should this impact our ministry?

We believe there are six foundational values that should be evident within a healthy youth ministry:

1. Dependence upon the Holy Spirit
2. Prayer
3. Obedience to the Kingdom Agenda
4. The Word
5. Exalting the Father
6. Relationships

After 15 years of 3DYC, following prayerful consideration of many different factors, the 3DYC committee decided to go was to a biennial format. For several years we have had a number of churches decide to run their own programs over the Christmas holiday. It is our hope that the biennial format will encourage some of the churches that have opted out in recent years to participate in 3DYC. This format change will allow the staff more time to plan each 3DYC, and it will be a cost saver for local churches. We sympathize with 2011 seniors who are disappointed that there will be no 3DYC next year. It is our hope that these students can be involved in some of the alternate plans that some of our District churches already carry out over Christmas break.

While District participation in SEMP was good in 2009, it was a disappointment to me that we had to cancel our Missions Encounter trip to Mexico and Teen Team due to lack of participation. Our plans for 2010 include SEMP (July 5-10) and a reevaluation of the viability of our missions programs and Teen Team.

Bible Quizzing continues under the direction of Kevin and Rhonda Schreck. 2009 District Quiz Finals were held at Brown City Camp on June 19 & 20. Evergreen placed first in the Experienced Division. Colonial Woods won first place in the Rookie Division. The Quizzer of the Year was Hannah Gerig from Evergreen. Evergreen placed fourth at International Quiz Finals in the Experienced League and Colonial Woods took third place in the Rookie League.

I am thankful for the support of the Youth Ministry Team, the staffs of Mancelona and Brown City Youth Camps, the Schrecks, the 3DYC Committee and many others who make youth ministry in the Michigan District possible. I am most grateful for the faithful youth pastors and sponsors who are the unsung heroes of District youth ministry.

Respectfully submitted,  
Tim Patch, District Youth Director

**CHRISTIAN EDUCATION BOARD REPORT**  
**2009 - 2010**

Your District Christian Education Board exists to help the local church reproduce and multiply devoted followers of Jesus. The Board gives oversight to youth, children and family ministries in the District, assists with our children and youth camps, and provides resources and training for the local church.

The District Christian Education Board met four times during the Conference year. The board was organized as follows:

<i>Chairman -</i>	<i>Alan Yerke, District C.E. Director</i>
<i>Children's Director -</i>	<i>Christine Crocker</i>
<i>Youth Director -</i>	<i>Tim Patch</i>
<i>Member at Large -</i>	<i>Jeff Aupperle (2011)</i>
<i>Member at Large -</i>	<i>Bill Barnwell (2011)</i>
<i>Member at Large -</i>	<i>Larry Salsburey (2010)</i>
<i>Member at Large -</i>	<i>Bart Adams (2010)</i>
<i>Member Ex-Officio -</i>	<i>Jim Keller, District Superintendent</i>

In 2009, we held several training events for local churches and leaders. Christine Crocker has conducted CE3 equipping events for our northern and thumb area churches. Tim Patch is a certified Sonlife trainer and gives direction to two clusters of youth pastors who meet on a regular basis. On May 1, 2010, in conjunction with Focus on the Family, the District is sponsoring a Family at Home Seminar at Colonial Woods, Port Huron. Mark Holmen, former Senior Pastor at Ventura (CA) Missionary Church, is the featured speaker. Plan to join us for a special day of training and inspiration.

The Board has spent considerable time evaluating its role in the District in light of the newly adopted Vision, Mission, Values and Five-Year Plan. We are convinced that youth, children and family ministries serve a valuable role in strengthening our local churches, as well as in planting new churches and Districts in Michigan. Our board has proposed the formation of a Ministry Leadership Council to enhance communication and cooperation among the District directors and ministries.

In this day and age, it is imperative that we provide a safe environment for children and teenagers in our churches. Therefore, every local church is urged to develop and implement a screening process for all staff or volunteers who work with minors. Most insurance companies offer excellent resources in this area.

Please let our office know if we can be of service to you.

Respectfully submitted,  
Alan Yerke, Christian Education Director  
District Christian Education Board

## BROWN CITY CAMP REPORT 2009 – 2010

### **Board members:**

Mr. Walt McLavy (2012)	Board Chairman	Rev. Willard Williams (2012)
Rev. Tom Knight (2011)	Board Vice-Chairman	Rev. Brent Kriesch (2011)
Rev. Jim Keller (D.S.)	District Superintendent	Mr. John French (2011)
Mr. Kurt Tuckey (2012)	Board Secretary	Mrs. Marcy Wagley (2010)
Mr. Dennis Pannabecker (2010)	Financial Secretary	Rev. Clifford Jordan (2012)
Rev. Eric Smith	Children Director	
Jack DiGiuseppe	Youth Director	

### **2009 Camp Workers:**

Adult Evangelist & Seminars	Rev. John Oswalt, Rev. Steve DeNeff, Rev. David Leeder
Worship Leader	Rev. Bruce Ake
Senior High Youth Evangelist	Don Roscoe
Junior High Youth Evangelist	Todd Perkins
Children – Junior & Primary	Dietzels - Servant Hands Ministries
Children – Preschool	Nancy Wheeler
Children – 2–3yr. olds	Heather Marshall

The Camp Board met eight times over the last year from September 2008 through August 2009.

Following years of prayer, and through the hard work of many, we have an agreement with the governing authorities to allow the building of cottages. We are pleased that the traditions of Brown City Camp were upheld and we can accommodate those that want to lay down a permanent stake at the camp in the form of a cottage. The commitment of those wishing to invest in holy grounds is noted by the family traditions that surround our camp.

The heritage was celebrated this year with our 80<sup>th</sup> anniversary of camping on our present grounds. Much time was set aside for reminiscing and telling stories. A historical display was setup in the Tuckey Cottage. Many can look back and remember the decisions made and the lives changed over the long years of our camp's ministry.

For the last several years the camp has had flat or declining income. Improvements have been made and buildings maintained as our costs continue to rise. Please remember to plan your support of Brown City Camp because we want to continue until His Church is called home. We look forward to the development of the west 15 acres as those funds become available making more room for new campers at our camp.

Those that have permanent lots and deposits on temporary lots have received an invoice for lot donation. The Camp Board has made a change in policy, moving the due date for lot donations to May 1<sup>st</sup>. This was done only to make sure that those that have lots reserved do plan on attending camp this year. Last year we had to tell as many as 60 families that we did not have lots, turning them away possibly for the rest of their lives and their children's lives. Then at camp you may have noticed many unused lots, but all of those vacant lots were reserved at camp the previous year. We need to know that every lot is going to be used this coming year making room for your friends and family to attend His camp.

Keep updated online - [www.browncitycamp.org](http://www.browncitycamp.org)

### Brown City Camp 2009 stats:

652	100 Club Members	2,140	Registered Overnight Campers
355+	Children Registered (2 yrs. – 6 <sup>th</sup> grade)	3 Tons	Ice cream
\$1,200	Children's Offering		
440	Youth Registered (6 <sup>th</sup> grade to 18 yrs.)		

Respectfully submitted,  
Kurt Tuckey, Brown City Camp Board Secretary

## **HAPPY TIME CHILDREN'S CAMP 2009**

Happy Time Camp (HTC) 2009 was fantastic! This year, nine children made first time commitments to Christ. While a majority of the other children made significant strides in their walk with the Lord, including one recommitment. Through the ministry of Paul and Jessica Dietzel, children recognized who they are in Christ. Paul and Jessica did a wonderful job connecting with the campers. Their use of energetic music and games established an interest for boys and girls alike.

2009 was another year for making some changes to the way HTC operates. This year's changes focused on continuing to understand and comply with the State of Michigan's camp licensing requirements. The knowledge and experience Brian Reinhardt shared with us made the transition much smoother than anticipated.

Based on the suggestions of other camp directors, this year HTC conducted check out differently. The camp counselors were dismissed from the closing chapel, prior to releasing the campers. The parents were instructed to accompany their child(ren) to their dorms. Parents or responsible adults were required to initial next to their child's name before leaving the grounds. After checking out with the camper's counselor any camper with medications met the nurse in the gym. This method proved to work much better than previous methods. Praise God, all children were checked out with no complications!

We continued our focus on Scripture memorization. As a parent and as a member of the District Children's Board, I am aware of the need to make sure our children are prepared for their future. Based on the Elementary Biblical Mastery portion of the District's CE<sup>3</sup> Assessing Our Disciples Booklet, a list was made for the children to work at memorizing key Scripture passages. Counselors encouraged the young people to study during their free time. The incentive of having the opportunity to put a pie in the face of either the director or the co-director proved profitable. Each child who worked diligently at memorizing the chosen material had their name added to a drawing for the honor of plastering one of our faces. More than half of the campers strived for the privilege. Not only was it a fun, but God's Word was planted in their hearts and minds. PTL!

HTC was again blessed with an outstanding staff. Marcy Wagly and her kitchen people made meal time enjoyable. Marcy also made sure the ingredients for the evening snacks were available. The counselors and additional support staff exemplified Christ-like attitudes and behavior. My wife Lynn was an incredible help to all of us. I want to thank the counselors for their flexibility with all the changes we experimented with this year. Their help and positive attitudes made the camp a joy. Thanks also go out to mini-camp directors for their important role during the week. And I cannot conclude without a huge thank you to Rita Hanby. She has faithfully served as the co-director for several years and is an incredible asset to the ministry of the camp.

There is much more to say, and more people to thank. If you have a real heart for children and want to know more about HTC, feel free to contact me or get involved in next year's camp. One way you can help is by making sure your church is promoting HTC. Thank you for your support.

Respectfully Submitted,  
Rev. Bart Adams, Happy Time Camp Director

## **MANCELONA CAMP BOARD REPORT 2009 – 2010**

We have so many things for which to give God praise! The camp has been richly blessed in a variety of ways, and God deserves all of the credit for the great things that have been happening. 2009 was a wonderful year that brought about many challenges and opportunities, and God has proved His faithfulness time and again.

Over the course of this year, the new property purchased by the Camp has been completely paid off. The additional 12.5 acres will provide a wonderful expansion and growth opportunity in many ways for several years to come. The Camp Board will continue to be making plans for the best and most effective use of this new land.

The Camp suffered a severe blow last spring, when half of the Children's Tabernacle collapsed under the load of snow and ice on its roof. Many people from across the district came to help remove the debris and prepare the site for rebuilding. The Camp Board decided to have trusses with a steeper pitch installed on the entire roof and to use steel roofing rather than shingles. The rebuilt facility is now completed and should be ready for use this spring. Because the Children's Tabernacle was not available, the children moved into a large rented pavilion tent. This was obviously not an ideal situation, but it worked as a temporary fix.

Mancelona Camp enjoyed the highest overall average attendance in its history in 2009. The youth camp and the children's programs were at or near capacity, with very strong participation and numbers. Nearly all of the camper lots were in use, and many people also drove in each night for the evening services. And while these are good statistics, even more important are the transformed hearts and changed lives that are the result of meeting God and doing business with Him at camp. Only eternity will tell the full tale of the decisions to serve and honor Jesus that were made at camp and the impact that those decisions will have on many hearts and lives.

In the fall of 2009 several workers gathered at the camp to put a new roof on the main tabernacle. Over the course of two rainy and cold days, the entire tabernacle was covered with steel that is not only very attractive, but also sheds the snow, removing the need to shovel that roof in the winter. We also have the steel on site to re-roof the Bookstore/Goody Shack building. At the same time that this work was going on, others were painting the rebuilt Children's Tabernacle.

At the Board's September meeting, Caretakers Walter and Lori Irwin resigned from their position after serving the camp since 2001. The Camp has been blessed by the work and ministry and sacrifices given by the Irwins over the years. After a search and interview process, the Board decided at their January, 2010 meeting to install Leon and Lisa Carey as the new Camp Caretakers. That transition is on-going at the time of this writing.

We are so thankful for so many ways that God has shown His great goodness to us. I am very thankful for the wonderful work of the Camp Board and so many others who have given, worked, and provided in so many ways for the on-going ministry of Mancelona Camp. May our Lord Jesus always be glorified in this ministry.

Respectfully Submitted,  
Jim L. Jordan, Mancelona Camp Board Chairman

**COMMITTEE ON ORDINATION AND LICENSING REPORT**  
**2009 – 2010**

The District Committee on Ordination and Licensing met during the year to interview individuals for ministerial credentials. The committee also reviewed the status of inactive ministers and updated the District's roster of ministers.

Committee members were Rev. Jim Keller, District Superintendent, Dr. Michael Cadrette, Rev. Steve Stump, and Dr. Alan Yerke, Secretary.

The Committee recommended the following to the District Executive Board for a ministerial license:

- John Beauchamp (Worship Pastor, Crossroads, China)
- Ann Harrington (Pastor of Adult Education and Missions, Colonial Woods, Port Huron)
- Sue Nellis (Pastor of Small Groups and Administration, Crossroads, China)

The Committee recommended the following to the District Executive Board for ordination:

- Dan Hamrick (Youth Pastor, Colonial Woods, Port Huron)

In addition, the committee has monitored the discipline and restoration plan for a District minister whose credential is currently suspended.

The Missionary Church Constitution contains the following guideline when churches add pastoral staff: "Full or part-time ministry staff may be hired provided the person has been approved as a minister in the Missionary Church or has been approved by the District Executive Board for the ministry position." (Article XIII. E. 2.) This Committee serves as a liaison for the District Executive Board and the District in this area. We urge you to promptly contact the District office whenever your church is considering adding or changing pastoral staff. Thank you for your help in this matter.

Respectfully submitted,  
Alan G. Yerke, Secretary  
Committee on Ordination and Licensing

**BYLAWS COMMITTEE REPORT**  
**2009 – 2010**

The Michigan District Missionary Church Bylaws Committee recommends to the Michigan District Missionary Church Executive Board that the following recommendation be presented at District Conference for 2010.

RESOLVED, That, a deletion be made in the Michigan District Missionary Church Bylaws under ARTICLE III, DISTRICT OFFICERS, A., DISTRICT SUPERINTENDENT, 2., DUTIES, d., "He shall arrange for annual missions conferences within the District."

We further recommend that items that follow letter "d" be adjusted accordingly.

Respectfully Submitted,  
Don Severance, Chairman

**DISTRICT BUILDING COMMITTEE REPORT**  
**2009 – 2010**

**District Building Committee Members:**

Don Durance  
David Gardner  
Boyd King  
Walt McLavy - Chairman

Once again, I've considered it a privilege to serve as the Building Committee Chairman. The Committee had minimal activity this past year, probably due to the economic downturn.

**Hart - Faith Christian Fellowship**

In consultation with Faith Christian Fellowship & Pastor Glenn Bearss, the decision was made by them to sell their vacant property because it was no longer being considered for a building site.

If you have any questions regarding a property purchase or a building issue, please feel free to contact any District Building Committee member. We are here to serve and assist our local churches.

Respectfully Submitted,  
Walt McLavy, Chairman

**WOMEN'S MINISTRIES STEERING COMMITTEE**  
**2009 – 2010**

Steering Committee Members: Laurie Shaffer, Director; Karen Eldridge; Sheryl Lhamon; Evelyn Purdy. Teresa Glantz was the director for the Women's Steering Committee until September 2009. She stepped down and Laurie Shaffer took up the position.

Mancelona Camp Ladies Day went well with speaker Lisa Lempke. Evelyn Purdy moderated and represented the Steering Committee for the event.

Brown City Camp Ladies Day 2009 was well received with nearly 500 women in attendance. Our theme was *Christmas in August*. Randy and Marli Brown presented an inspirational musical program. The ladies enjoyed receiving a personalized Christmas ornament as they left the tabernacle.

Laurie attended the Missionary Church National Women's Ministry Council meeting in Indianapolis in November 2009. It was a time of encouragement, prayer, and vision planning for Women's Ministries in the Missionary Church.

Our Michigan Women's Ministry Steering Committee met in November 2009 and January 2010. We have set a 2010 calendar:

- Michigan District Women's Ministries put on a *Beat the Winter Blues "Sweet Life Café"* on Saturday, February 27, 2010 at Warren Community Church. A book table was set up for the half-day event to raise money for the Yalunka Project 2010. Proceeds were designated to help sponsor the attendance of three Yalunka pastors for a pastors' retreat.
- Mancelona Camp Ladies' Day is July 20, 2010. Plans are in gear for a great time of ladies' ministry.
- Brown City Camp Ladies' Day is Tuesday, August 3, 2010. We are excited to have author, columnist, and speaker, Sheila Wray Gregoire share with us. Information about her ministry is available at: [www.sheilawraygregoire.com](http://www.sheilawraygregoire.com)

We also started a *Facebook* group called Michigan Missionary Church Women. After just two months of activity, there were more than 100 registered members in the group. It is a great tool, enabling us to send out event information to large numbers of women with just one click.

The Steering Committee has established a blog site that is linked to our *Facebook* group. The address is [www.michiganmissionarychurchwomen.blogspot.com](http://www.michiganmissionarychurchwomen.blogspot.com). It is also linked to the District web site, [www.mcmichigan.org](http://www.mcmichigan.org). Our goal is to connect to every one of our 52 churches' women's groups.

My goals, as director, include making personal visits to as many of our churches as possible, encouraging our leaders to develop viable women's ministries at each local church and seeing the Lord glorified in all that I do and say.

Respectfully submitted,  
Laurie Shaffer, Women's Director

**CHRISTIAN MINISTRIES INSTITUTE**  
**2009 – 2010**

This year of CMI started out very strong, but ended on an anticlimactic note. In the fall semester we were able to conduct all three courses being offered. We also picked up several new students. Unfortunately, in both the winter and spring trimesters, we were not able to offer any courses. We had interested students, but not the number needed to move forward with any of the classes. This difficulty in recruiting students is due to several reasons:

1. Limited Geographical Network—For the most part, we can only realistically target those who are in the Southeastern Michigan area.
2. Limited Appeal in Already Small Churches—Most of our churches are small to medium sized churches. Within these churches, only a portion of these individuals would naturally gravitate towards something like CMI. For example, if we had 30 individuals at a given time wanting to train for ministry, this would create a supply/demand problem as we would have more students than realistic positions available for them upon completion. This is not a negative aspect, as I believe God has sent us the right men and women who have been called to vocational training and are applying those skills in the real world of ministry.
3. Busy Schedules of Existing Students—Many of the CMI students are already busy working professionals. This makes it difficult for them to find the time to take scheduled courses.
4. Difficulty of Promotion—By not having any paid officials of CMI, or a large budget, we cannot spend the money we would like for promotional efforts. Much simply rests on the help of local church pastors, reaching out to those in their congregations whom they believe CMI would be a good fit for.
5. Lack of Appeal Outside the Missionary Church—While we would welcome students from any denominational background, and have promoted in the past outside the denomination to other groups in the state, we have not found any fertile soil.

As already mentioned, this does not mean CMI is “failing.” I believe the opposite is true as we have helped men and women achieve their ministry goals that they might not have otherwise been able to do in such an accommodating fashion. We have allowed others to stretch their comfort zones by taking challenging college-level Bible courses. Others have completed their educational requirements for licensing in the Missionary Church. Friendships and networks have been created or strengthened. These are all very positive elements that CMI has brought to the table.

The point of CMI is not to be an expanding for-profit enterprise. The point is to help train up leaders of tomorrow and give anyone an opportunity for college level Biblical education. This means CMI will likely exist in the future on an “as-needed” basis for small groups of students, unless an explosion of interest develops. As a District, we can feel good about the fact that we have helped people reach their dreams and have provided a positive growth experience for others.

Respectfully Submitted,  
Bill Barnwell, CMI Director

**MICHIGAN MISSIONARY LOANS AND INVESTMENTS, INC.**  
**REPORT OF THE PRESIDENT**  
**2009**

Despite a very difficult year for the economy in the State of Michigan and across our country, God blessed MML&I with a good operating year and a healthy balance sheet, for which we give Him praise. We also thank you for your continued support.

As expected, 2009 was not a big year for church construction projects and new loans. Only 2 small loans were requested and approved totaling \$39,000 with most churches concentrating on simply paying down the loans they had. As a result total outstanding loans declined nearly \$350,000 to just under \$2.4 million.

Considerable time was spent consulting as churches struggled with their budgets and a number of payment modifications were approved. But, I'm pleased to report that as of year end all churches were current with their loan payments.

Turning to the interest rate market, MML&I lowered its interest rates  $\frac{1}{2}\%$  beginning January 1, 2009 to 6% on loans and 4% on deposits and then lowered another  $\frac{1}{2}\%$  beginning July 1, 2009 to 5  $\frac{1}{2}\%$  on loans and 3  $\frac{1}{2}\%$  on deposits. The 5  $\frac{1}{2}\%$  and 3  $\frac{1}{2}\%$  rates were then continued for the first half of 2010. At 5  $\frac{1}{2}\%$  our church borrowers found their loan rate to be very attractive, if not below market for this type of loan. Despite the decrease, our depositors also found the 3  $\frac{1}{2}\%$  rate to be quite attractive and generally well above market for this type of deposit.

By protecting our depositors in a low interest rate market, such as we are now experiencing, we have been able to attract new depositors and additions to existing deposit accounts, growing our deposit base so that we will have additional money to lend when the economy turns around and loan demand returns. Thus, in 2009 total deposits increased by \$633,000 to just over \$5.2 million at year end.

Operations again permitted a contribution from our profits to support District ministries, \$7,800 in 2009, and in 2009 we were also able to contribute \$5,000 to the Pearson Memorial ministerial college scholarship fund. Both good operating profits and strong returns on our invested reserves increased our Capital by a little over \$136,000 to nearly \$1.9 million. This strong Capital position has two primary functions: it protects our depositors, and, as it grows, it gives us the capability to handle larger loan requests with sufficient safety margin.

Thanks again for your fine support.

Respectfully submitted,  
Darrell L. Schlabach, President

**MICHIGAN MISSIONARY LOANS AND INVESTMENTS, INC.**  
**REPORT OF THE SECRETARY**  
**2009**

This report is for the Fiscal Year beginning January 1, 2009 and ending December 31, 2009.

The Board of Directors of Michigan Missionary Loans and Investments, Inc. met on May 12, 2009. The Board was organized as follows:

President:	Darrell Schlabach
Vice President:	Donald Faupel
Secretary:	Gordon Gingrich
Treasurer:	Al Hobson
Executive Committee:	The officers plus Jack D'Arcy

Other Board Members include: Clyde Jones, Ryan King, Joe Purdy, Marvin Ramseyer, Donald Severance, Willard Williams, Karl Yoder, Bruce Pearson, President Emeritus, and Harold Hall, Board Member Emeritus.

The Board voted to reduce the interest rate paid to depositors from 4% to 3 ½% effective 7/1/09. Subsequently the loan rate to churches borrowing money was reduced from 6% to 5 ½%. The rates were reviewed again in December 2009 and it was decided to leave the rates the same. These rates will stay in effect until June 30, 2010 when they will again be reviewed.

RESOLVED: That we give \$7,800.00 (which is approximately 10% of our earnings for 2008) as a gift to the Michigan District of the Missionary Church.

The Flint Faith Missionary Church had set up the Pastor Bruce and Margaret Pearson Memorial Fund to be used to fund scholarships for ministerial students. MML&I made a contribution of \$5,000.00 to that fund in memory of the Pearsons who faithfully served MML&I for so many years.

This past year we approved new loans to the following churches: Cass City Missionary Church and the Michigan District of the Missionary Church to be used for Mancelona Camp.

Respectfully Submitted,  
Gordon H. Gingrich, Secretary