

**GENERAL BOARD REPORT OF THE CENTRAL ROCKY MOUNTAIN REGION**

**By: Ralph S. Datema, Interim Regional Minister**

Number of Congregations: 43

Total Members: 11,129

States included in Region: Wyoming, Utah, Colorado

Please answer the following questions:

**1) Information regarding how your region has fulfilled the regions' primary purpose as stated in paragraph 20 of The Design.**

Global Partners is the ongoing ten year partnership between the United Evangelical Pentecostal Church of Venezuela (UEPV), the Rocky Mountain Conference of the United Church of Christ, and the Central Rocky Mountain Region of the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ). We are planning two trips to Venezuela in 2009 (a construction trip coming up at the end of April and a Medical Trip in October). A youth trip was also planned but will probably be cancelled due to lack of interest. We are working on plans to bring several members from our partner church (UEPV) to the United States in the Spring of 2010. We are also members of the Colorado Council of Churches and one of our Disciples ministers, Dr. James Ryan, is the Executive Director. We are committed to all of the various ministries of this organization. As the Interim Regional Minister, I also attended the National Council of Churches Meeting, held in Denver this year. Most of our pastors are involved in visible community events. Several of our churches have mission projects and annual trips. When storms and fires hit in our region, our churches are right there.

**2) As appropriate, please comment on your work in regard to the four mission priorities of New Church, Transformation, Leadership Development and Pro-Reconciliation/Anti-Racism and the mission imperative of strengthening congregational life for our mission.**

We have active ministries in all of the above areas. At the present time, we have six Hispanic Congregations in various stages of affiliation and actively working with our New Church Development Committee. We have plans for training by our National Disciples Reconciliation Team in October, 2009. Another active ministry is the Congregational Transformation team which is in the process of launching Strategic Spiritual Training for interested congregations. We are also in the midst of an active visioning process for which we have contracted with the Rev. Dr. Richard Hamm as facilitator.

*In response to interest expressed at the January College of Regional Ministers' meeting, as appropriate, please comment on the following questions.*

**3) What is your region currently doing to work toward the goal of transforming 1000 congregations by the year 2020?**

The Church Extension staff has been very helpful in working with congregations who have needed to address survival in a serious way.

Our visioning process is addressing the goal of transforming congregations.

**4) Which church transformation resources have you found to be helpful in those efforts?**

We are working with the material from Dick Hamm and George Bullard.

**5) What else do you need to make your church transformation efforts more effective?**

Increased communication between churches and more emphasis on the relational model of connect and collaboration as compared to control and command. Our Regional staff is very small right now, so we need to empower more volunteer support as well as better budget resources for more staff. Right now, the expectations are higher than staff, budget and volunteer resources allow.

**Operations Budget for the last three years is as follows:**

	<u>2008</u>	<u>2007</u>	<u>2006</u>
<b>Total Income</b>	209,450	230,750	226,250
<b>Total Expenses</b>	(208,950)	(228,860)	(258,668)
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Surplus (Deficit)	500	1,890	(32,418)

**Recommended Action:**

The General Board receives the report from the Central Rocky Mountain Region.