

Free Methodist Church

Board of Bishops
P. O. Box 535002
Indianapolis, IN 46253

fmcna INFO

TO: General Conference Delegates, Pastors, Superintendents, Ministers in Special Appointments and Relations, World Ministries Center Staff, Missionaries, Retired Bishops, Retired Ministers, AFMEI Presidents, AHSM Presidents, WMI President, MMI Executive Director, MMI President, FMF President, Chaplaincy Endorsing Agent

FROM: Joseph James, World Ministries Center Overseer
Hank Bode, Board of Administration Chair

RE: **FMCNA INFO** (Vol. 1, No. 4) May 2001

Board of Bishops Report

The Board of Bishops has met four times since the November 2000 report. Some specific decisions that may be of interest to you include:

- ✓ Approved church planting grants in the amount of \$6,000 each to:
 - 1st year - Lady Lake, Fruitland Park - Florida
 - 1st year - Charlestown, MA - New England
 - 1st year - Glendale Agape Christian - Arizona
 - 1st year - Binghamton Tri-Cities - Susquehanna
 - 1st year - Luz Y Vida Iglesia, Long Beach - Southern California
 - 1st year - First Haitian of Orlando - Florida
 - 2nd year - Roseville River of Life Fellowship - Sierra Pacific
 - 1st year - Templo Alfarero Metodista Libre - Florida
 - 1st year - Iglesia Monte Sinai, Imperial Beach - Southern California
 - 1st year - Iglesia Palabra Y Poder - Southern California
 - 1st year - Sylmar Luz y vida Hermandad - Southern California
 - 1st year - Storehouse FMC - New York
 - 1st year - Lighthouse Christian Fellowship - Southeastern Regional
 - 1st year - Nueva Vida Lorain - Ohio
 - 1st year - Cornerstone North Akron - Ohio
 - 1st year - Dayton African - Ohio
 - 1st year - Christ Community, Twinsburg - Ohio
 - 1st year - DC Metro Area Korean - Maryland-Virginia
 - 1st year - Layhill Indo-Pak - Maryland-Virginia
 - 1st year - Baltimore Brazilian - Maryland-Virginia
 - 1st year - Indianapolis West Morris Hispanic - Wabash
 - 1st year - Indianapolis Northside Fellowship - Wabash
 - 1st year - Lakewood, NJ Brazilian - New York
 - 1st year - Hialeah Spanish - Florida

- ✓ Scheduled Bishops' Schools for Renewal as follows:

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1.	McPherson, KS	March 4-6, 2002
2.	Spring Arbor, MI	March 18-20, 2002
3.	Lancaster, PA (MINE)	April 23-25, 2002
4.	Atlanta, GA	April 29-May 1, 2002
5.	Oak Glen, CA	September 23-25, 2002
6.	Warm Beach, WA	October 7-9, 2002
7.	Greenville, IL	October 15-17, 2002

- ✓ Hosted the Large Church Pastors' Event in Florida during January.

Board of Administration Report

The Board of Administration met at the World Ministries Center in Indianapolis on April 6 and 7. Members present included: Eric Baird (Mid-America); Carol Bartlett (Pacific Northwest); Robert Bedford (Florida); Hank Bode (Southern California); Forest Bush (Sierra Pacific); William Cryderman (Southern Michigan); Josh Fajardo (Florida); Hector Fernandez (New York); Stephen Fitch (Southern California); Byron Forbes (Pacific Northwest); Zonda Haase (Ohio); Roger Haskins (Western Area); Joseph James (Central Area); Gene Keene (Pacific Northwest); Leslie Krober (Heartland Area); Mark Logan (Genesee); Pearson Miller (Wabash); Larry Roberts (Columbia River); Dan Shinabarger (East Michigan); Richard Snyder (Eastern Area); Vernon Snyder (New England); Matthew Thomas (Columbia River); Rob Turner (Southern Michigan); Mark Van Valin (Wabash); Mark Whitlock (Gateway); Brenda Young (Ohio).

Reports were received from the following:

- ✓ Budget and Finance Committee — Gene Keene
- ✓ Benefits Committee — Pearson Miller
- ✓ Task Force to Review Role of Bishops — Dan Shinabarger
- ✓ Task Force on Reformatting Book of Discipline — Byron Forbes
- ✓ Track IV Ordination Task Force — Steve Fitch
- ✓ Board of Bishops — Leslie Krober
- ✓ Communications Committee — Larry Roberts
- ✓ Nominating Committee — Byron Forbes
- ✓ Missions Committee — Matt Thomas
- ✓ Free Methodist World Missions — Arthur Brown
- ✓ Association of Free Methodist Educational Institutions (AFMEI) — James Mannoia
- ✓ Court of Appeals — Hank Bode

The following actions were taken:

- ✓ Received a report from Budget and Finance that UMC Home Ministries goal was exceeded in 2000 for the first time.
- ✓ Approved a recommendation that the Budget and Finance Committee explore the dissolution of the Free Methodist Publishing House, General Missionary Board, and John Wesley Seminary, Inc. corporations and be brought under the one corporation, the FMCNA, with report to be given at fall BOA meeting.
- ✓ Approved continued accreditation for the following social service agencies: The Birth Connection; New Life, Inc. - Clawson Manor; Deaconess Hospital/Healthcare; Gerry Homes; Life Line Homes; Olive Branch Mission; The Retirement Village at Copper Lake; Warm Beach Health Care Center; Warm Beach Manor; Woodstock Christian Life Services.
- ✓ Approved the action of the Benefits Committee to not pursue group health insurance coverage as

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a denomination.

- ✓ Acknowledged with appreciation the full disclosure report received from the Free Methodist Foundation.
- ✓ Reviewed a paper from the Task Force to Review the Role of Bishops.
- ✓ Acknowledged with appreciation the work of Steve Fitch and members of the Track IV Ordination Task Force for the fine work done on developing the process for this ordination track.
- ✓ Approved the Track IV Ordination document subject to editorial review and final approval by the Board of Bishops.
- ✓ Reviewed a working document outlining the role of networks in the church.
- ✓ Noted that the project of translation of membership training materials into Spanish has been assigned to the Latin Leaders Network.
- ✓ Requested the Board of Bishops to present to the October BOA meeting a rationale for prioritizing funding of networks.
- ✓ Delayed action on the request from Taiwan to become a provisional general conference.
- ✓ Approved a request that Louisiana, Alabama, Mississippi, and the Florida panhandle west of the time zone line become the Gulf Coast Conference.
- ✓ Approved a request that Florida, east of the time zone line, Georgia, and the Bahamas become a conference, name to be determined.
- ✓ Approved a request that Kentucky, Tennessee, North and South Carolina become a conference, name to be determined.
- ✓ Approved a request that Northern Ireland change from a conference to a mission district.
- ✓ Rejected for inclusion in the Book of Discipline a paper on Technology presented from the Study Commission on Bioethics.
- ✓ Approved the discontinuance of the CEU (Continuing Education Units) system as currently provided in Section B of the Book of Discipline.
- ✓ Affirmed the value of continuing education on the part of ministers.
- ✓ Approved the name change of **Light & Life Communications** to **Free Methodist Communications**.
- ✓ Approved action naming **Douglas Newton** as Executive Director of Free Methodist Communications, effective July 1, 2001.
- ✓ Approved continued endorsement of George Fox Evangelical Seminary as a John Wesley Seminary Foundation institution.
- ✓ Approved recommendation that each year one of our post-graduate JWSF institutions be reviewed on a rotating basis and reported to the BOA for re-endorsement by a review task force to be named by the Board of Bishops.
- ✓ Discussed a paper entitled "Modeling the FM Vision" presented by the Board of Bishops.
- ✓ Approved **William Smout** as a member of the Task Force on Reformatting the Book of Discipline.
- ✓ Approved **Rev. Jimmy Tsai** of Taiwan as an overseas clergy member of the Board of Administration. (It was noted that Antoine Mahinja was no longer eligible to serve since he belongs to the Burundi General Conference.)
- ✓ Elected **Rev. David Shigekawa** as a member of the Committee on Free Methodist History and

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Archives.

- ✓ Approved **Dr. Stan Ingersoll** as an advisory member of the Committee on Free Methodist History and Archives.
- ✓ Reviewed a paper entitled “Free Methodist Church — AFMEI Relationship” which was proposed as replacement for paragraphs B/472-475 in the Book of Discipline. The paper was referred to a committee composed of the AFMEI, the Board of Bishops, and four representatives from the Board of Administration for further refinement with report back no later than the spring meeting of 2002.
- ✓ Referred a proposal regarding the possibility of designating the USA a “mission field” to Free Methodist Missions, with a report back to the October 2001 BOA meeting.
- ✓ Referred a church planting funding strategy report to the Budget and Finance Committee.
- ✓ Noted two persons have registered as conscientious objectors.
- ✓ Approved the location for the 2003 General Conference to be Seattle Pacific University, Seattle, Washington. (The dates being proposed by the Steering Committee are June 28-July 5, 2003).

Dates for upcoming Board of Administration meetings:

Fall Meeting	October 12-13, 2001
Spring Meeting	April 12-13, 2002
Fall Meeting	October 24-26, 2002

We welcome your comments, reflections, concerns. You may contact us by:

FAX	317-241-8897
Phone	800-342-5531

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For additional information, visit our website at

www.freemethodistchurch.org

Watch for the Premier Showing of the newly released video

Living Holiness
Free Methodists in the Year 2001
to be featured at the annual conferences.
Copies of the video will be available for \$10.00 (plus shipping)
from Light & Life Communications
1-800-348-2513.