

# ON THE SAME PAGE—AUGUST 2010



Canada • Michigan • Indiana  
**michigan mission center**  
Community of Christ

Keeping you up to date on Mission Center consolidation.  
Michigan (Canada and Indiana) become ONE on 1-1-11 !

*In an effort to keep everyone updated on the consolidation process, we will create a newsletter for distribution throughout all Michigan Mission Centers so everyone is receiving the same information. Please feel free to contact any one of the persons listed under "Who to Contact" if you have questions, suggestions, or would like to volunteer to support a design team!*

## MEET BISHOP DENA DEVORMER AND CSG/FINANCE TEAM SUPPORTER DIANNA VANDERKARR



Dena DeVormer currently serves as the Mission Center Financial Officer for Southern Great Lakes Intl MC. In the Michigan Mission Center, Dena will assist Mission Center Financial Officer Gregg

McDonald, primarily in the area of book-keeping.

Many met Dena at recent budget presentations throughout the State. She is a whiz with numbers and can make the most complicated budget understandable!

Dena is the daughter of Rodney and Dottie Colmus and grew up in Coleman. Currently she lives in Rockford with her husband, James and three "non-human" children, cats Itty Bitty, Pirate, and Nala.

Dena is an accountant by trade and works as a self-contracted employee. One of her major accounts is a Harley-Davidson Dealership.

Dena is a Bishop and attends the Grand Valley Congregation.

Dianna Vanderkarr was born and raised in Shepherd MI. She lives in Flint with husband Craig, a retired GM worker. They have three children, James & (Jenna Scott), Stephannie & (David Maskowski) and Jason & Leslie (Scott). James and Stephannie are both Military families. Jason also lives in Flint. The have



four beautiful grandchildren and one on the way.

Dianna is a convert to the church. She as an accounting background, although is currently unemployed. Her hobbies are knitting, sewing & walking in the woods, playing with her grandkids, reading & music.

Dianna currently , currently serves as Assistant Mission Center Financial Officer in Blue Water MC and has served as pastor in several congregations. She will serve as a Congregation Support Group Leader and assist the Finance team, in part, by working with Oblation cases..

### AND THE WINNER IS....

The logo above submitted by Tim Werth from the Waterford Congregation won the logo contest!

The logo is in compliance with World Church requirements and has received approval for use as the official logo for the Michigan Mission Center. Thank you to all who submitted artistic renderings!

### WHO TO CONTACT:

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## ***Rumor Control!***

Following are facts in response to rumors brought to our attention over the summer.

**Rumor:** There is a plan in place to sell one of the campgrounds.

**Fact: There are** NO plans in place to sell any campground now or in the foreseeable future. The executive committees of the Campground Boards agreed that no action on campground assets would happen in 2011. If budgets are all supported by congregational pledges and they are all running in the black, there is no immediate need to consider eliminating any of these assets.

**Rumor:** Each congregation is asked to pledge \$500.00 more for the Mission Center Budget in 2011 than they paid in 2010.

**Fact:** Not true! Each congregation was given a fact sheet showing various scenarios of what their donations could be. However, with a generosity based budget, each congregation will determine the dollar amount they can pledge to both the Mission Center and Campgrounds. This will vary depending on local considerations. Just a reminder, both Mission Center and Campground budgets ultimately support ministries in local congregations. Sharing together helps everyone!

**Rumor:** Congregational Support Groups are for pastoral support only.

**Fact:** Partly true, but remove "only!". Congregational Support Group Leaders are in place to support leaders in congregations BOTH pastorally and administratively. The March "On the Same Page" outlined what CSG's are expected to look like and how they will function. It is an ongoing process so how they function may vary from group to group depending on the needs of Pastors and Financial officers. However, they will NOT be legislative and NOT have budgets to deal with.

## ***CONGREGATION GATHERINGS A SUCCESS!***

Gregg McDonald, Deb Crowley, and Dena DeVorner traveled all over Michigan in June, July, and August to present the proposed budgets for the Michigan Mission Center and Campgrounds. A total of 22 meetings were held—5 sessions with pastors and CFO's and 17 sessions with groups of congregations. It was great meeting many new folks, answering questions, and hearing the excitement out there for becoming One on 1-1-11 !! Thank you to all of the congregations who hosted a gathering.

**Temple School Event**—The Temple School Event recently held at Park of the Pines was a great success! Over 60 folks from all over Michigan took advantage of the multitude of classes offered. Even the hot, humid weather, and 10 hours of classes a day did not deter adult learners from seeking more knowledge to enhance their ministry. Thank you to Gary and Barb Villeneuve for all the hard work on this event.

## ***REGISTER NOW!***

The Organizing Conference for Michigan Mission Center is just around the corner! IT IS IMPORTANT that everyone PREREGISTER. It's easy! Go to [www.cofchristgl.org](http://www.cofchristgl.org) where you will find a registration form to print out or, for those who prefer, an on-line form. Fill it out and send it in ASAP! The conference is underwritten in part by a Field Grant. A minimal \$5.00 per person or \$20.00 per family registration fee will help cover additional expenses, primarily for youth activities. Yes, this is a FAMILY event!

Just a reminder. This is a member conference. This means everyone who is a member of Community of Christ can vote during the legislation session.

Also, this is a **SPECIAL conference** so only those items of business announced ahead of time by the Mission Center Leadership dealing with organizing the conference will be in order. New business brought from the floor will be ruled out of order by the chair. This is not an attempt to stifle any one's voice, but simply because until we officially are organized, there is not a defined way to handle business. Calling a special conference for organizing a new entity, such as the Michigan Mission Center is in accordance with Robert's Rules of Order and World Church By-laws.

Business coming before the conference, including budgets for the Mission Center and each of the five campgrounds will be distributed by September 15th. Each pastor will receive a hard copy, the information will also be sent via email and accessible from each of the current Mission Center websites.

Questions? Call Deb, Gregg, or Bobbie Ann!

Check out progress on the new Michigan MC website currently under construction: [www.cofchristmi.org](http://www.cofchristmi.org)