



ON THE SAME PAGE—MARCH 2010

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 JACK TIGNER, CONGREGATIONAL SUPPORT GROUP (CSG) LEADER AND DEB CROWLEY, MISSION CENTER PRESIDENT (MCP)



Jack Tigner currently serves as a Volunteer Field Specialist as the Mission Center Financial Officer for Heart of Michigan Mission Center.

He holds the office of Bishop.

Jack and his wife, Ginny, live in Coleman Michigan. They have two grown children, Joshua and Sara.

Jack holds an Associate of Art Degree in Business management and a Bachelor of Business Administration Degree with a major in management. He owns and operates Tigner Printing, Inc., a commercial printing company.

In the Michigan Mission Center, Jack's primary responsibility will be as leader for Congregational Support Groups and assist the Finance team where needed.

When not busy with family, work, and church, Jack enjoys playing guitar and golfing.



Deb Crowley will serve as Mission Center President for the Michigan Mission Center. Deb lives in Eaton Rapids, Michigan, having lived in Michigan most of her life. She is married to Melvin Crowley and they have three adult children Kacie (Lane) Sires, Dustin (Sarah Thatcher) Crowley, and Ben Crowley and two of the most adorable grandchildren ever—Cadence (4) and Tyson (2)!

Deb worked as a Pharmacist while serving as Southern Great Lakes Intl. President for two years. In January, 2009, she retired from Pharmacy to assume the church job full time.

Deb has every confidence we can meet the challenges ahead by working together and remembering that "Jesus Christ is what matters most" for the journey ahead!

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WHO TO CONTACT:

Missionary
Diane McNeil
dmcneil@cofchrist.org
517-290-1646

Finance, Campgrounds
Gregg McDonald
gmcdonald@cofchrist.org
231-360-7774

Congregation Support Groups
Jack Tigner
jack@tigprint.com
989-465-9785

Communications
Deb Crowley
dcrowley@cofchrist.org
517-896-4356

Technology Team Lead
Tim Colthorp
tim@cofchristunion.org
616-241-1638

Disciple Formation
Bobbie Ann Robinson
brobinson@cofchrist.org
810-513-1545

Young Adult Ministry
Andrew Robinson
arobinson@cofchrist.org
810-252-0907

HISTORY PLEASE!

Ron Fuller from NGL is collecting historical information on each congregation to include on a website.

If you have information to share, please email to Ron at rfuller@freeway.net

Congregational Support Groups

A design team is meeting regularly to outline the geography and function of Congregational Support Groups (CSGs) in the Michigan Mission Center.

What is the purpose of a CSG?

One purpose of the CSGs is to provide an avenue of support for pastors, congregational financial officers, and other congregational leaders. They will have opportunity to meet together for prayer, share concerns, share ideas, and be sounding boards for one another.

A second purpose is to provide an administrative bridge between congregations and Mission Center Leadership. We understand that with limited staff, Mission Center leaders cannot attend every pastor meeting, congregational activity, etc. Yet, there is a wonderful complement of World Church Ministers in Michigan that will serve as an extension of the Mission Center staff. And, they are locally available.

So, many of the tasks currently handled by the Mission Center staff will be shared by World Church Ministers (High Priests, Evangelists) in small groupings of congregations to make the task manageable and give congregations support they need when they need it.

How are Congregations assigned a CSG?

The design team looked strictly at geography to determine which congregations would form a CSG. Travel distance was an important factor.

Ultimately, 11 CSGs were identified each having 6-7 congregations, one CSG has 11. As you look at the map and the congregations that are grouped together, it looks very much like "old district" or "stake" divisions. And, while not exactly the same, there are a lot of

similarities! It appeared the old boundaries made sense!

So are we creating "Districts" or "Stakes" again?

No. Districts and stakes had legislative functions. They created budgets, held conferences, and did business together.

CSGs will not have legislative functions or create budgets. They are simply a way to gather congregational leaders together in a way that makes sense to provide support. The boundaries ARE SOFT! While fellowship opportunities may arise from a CSG, the primary purpose is administrative support. Congregational leaders may even choose to participate in a different CSG if it better meets their needs. Fellowship opportunities will flow through the Disciple Formation team.

How are CSG identified?

The design team chose to call the groups "Congregational Support Groups (CSG)." They discussed many different titles, but this seemed to fit the function. Beyond that, each is identified as CSG 1, CSG 2, etc. As you will see on the map, the numbers start in Northern Michigan at "1" and end in the Detroit area as "11." This simple identification system will aid in communications. A CSG may want to call themselves by a different name, but officially, they will be identified in the broader MMC as CSG 1, etc.

To see a map and CSG group list Go to:
www.cofchristsgl.org
Under "About us", click "map"

Who will lead the CSGs?

Currently, invitations are out to High Priests, Evangelists, and in some areas, Elders asking for their prayerful consideration of leading a CSG. The goal is for

a High Priest/Elder to provide administrative leadership teamed with an Evangelist to provide caring and blessing ministry to congregational leaders.

What will occur in the CSGs?

As the design team continues to work along with those that have agreed to lead CSGs, details will become more specific. In addition to providing a support system for congregational leaders as described above, additional functions include:

Assist congregations in scheduling business meetings, initial processing of priesthood calls, work with MC finance team to arrange for audits, work with Disciple Formation team for various training needs including Temple School courses for priesthood ordinands, assist congregations seeking guest ministry, calendaring, and communications.

Please feel free to contact Jack or Deb with any ideas of reflections on CSGs!

WOW!

The first All Michigan Priesthood convocation held on March 6th was attended by 160 folks representing 48 congregations throughout all 4 Mission Centers!

Dave Schaal gave practical, useful ideas on "Revitalizing Congregations," not through any new programs, but by lasting and effective systemic changes.

NEXT PRIESTHOOD CONVOCAION:

March 5, 2011

Theme: The Sacraments

Guest: Jane Gardner