

U.S. Ministries Council – March 14-15, 2007

- Natural Church Development - **The U. S. Ministries Council highly recommends NCD survey to all Brethren Churches.** The National Office is subsidizing up to \$150 of the cost.
- Church Planting - Bill Ludwig is working with the Center at developing church plants around the ATS location so students have places to do ministry with foci on discipleship and outward ministry. He wants to develop resources for church planters to effectively identify, develop and support strong church plants.
- Growth Partners Call – needs to be explained and promoted. People need to see results of Growth Partners; so be sure to report what was raised and what difference it made in that particular ministry.
- B.Y.I.C. – The Youth Advisor Committee reported that the B.Y.I.C. Steering Committee had been disbanded, and that the Summer Ministries Program had been canceled for this year because of lack of applications. Y.A.C. will continue with responsibility for B.Y.I.C. and propose a budget.
- Stewardship - suggest Financial Planning Seminars and courses like Dave Ramsey's Financial Peace University or Crown Ministries to help our churches.
- Peace Education Program –communicate this with N.A.B.C.E. and the Executive Board to help Phil Lersch create a committee or task force for this purpose.
- Vision Statement (presented by Executive Director)- The Council unanimously supported his statement.

Watch for more details on these meetings in the July_August issue of the Evangelist.

International Ministries Council – March 14-15, 2007

- Working on Missions/ World Relief banquet to hold a fun international flavor designed to get people talking about what's going on, who's taking trips and how they can be a part.
- Discussed the new leadership of World Relief, the direction they are going and avenues that the Brethren can take to partner both with resources and in some cases in personnel.
- Discussed the excitement that International Sister Churches is generating with those congregations that are now involved and the need to better define the program and present it to the General Conference.
- Discussed the excitement and renewal that many churches are receiving throughout the denomination through participation in short-term trips either internationally or to places like Mississippi working on restoring hope to those displaced by hurricane Katrina. Again placing emphasis on helping congregations send members out into the field and especially focusing on getting more Pastors themselves into the mission field.

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