

Resource Development Commission

SO/K District Board Report

July 10, 2021

“. . . and let them have dominion over . . .” (Gen. 1:26)

From the beginning God has called into being all Creation and has given to humanity “dominion over,” the power and choice to steward or manage that which belongs to God. From the beginning God intended all relationships in the Garden under the Tree of Life would reflect “shalom.” God intended that all humanity, that which reflects God’s image, would experience God’s abundant, overflowing, never ending peace and wholeness with self, others, God’s Creation itself. After each day of Creation God “saw that it was good.”

With this in mind, the RDC tries, on behalf of the Board, to be faithful to God’s trust in us all to manage the material resources God has given us and to solicit other resources needed to fulfill God’s call for the ministry and mission in Southern Ohio/Kentucky.

While you have heard/read the reports of our staff, I will highlight the items we have attended to, with some still in the developmental stage:

- 1.) We are adopting an intentional strategy of “Annual Income Development.” The income streams include our congregations, individuals, and a variety of accumulated resources. The commission will be starting the development of our 2021-22 budget next week.
- 2.) The Commission, with the foresight of our investment advisor, Derrick Petry, agreed to increase the percentage of the annual withdrawal from our quasi-endowment (from the sale of the Woodland Altars property) from four to five percent. The commission intends to review this endowment on an annual basis.
- 3.) For resource development, the commission will be using the theme of district conference for the year ahead. Thus, beginning August 2021 our resource development will reflect the chosen theme of the 2022 conference.
- 4.) To reflect our calling as Christians, we are shifting the name of solicited funds from “Ambassadors Club” to “The Micah 6:8 Community” to reflect the calling of God’s people.
- 5.) The pandemic has put a strain on our members, our leadership, our relationships. In spite of this, good things have happened – are being done. These, too, need to become known, even visible. To assist the Wrights – Andrew is currently an interim pastor – the commission will be asking the board members to help in identifying “good news” stories

that can be shared electronically with our membership. You can anticipate more definition at our September Board meeting.

- 6.) As part of an extended practice of giving testimony to what each commission does, each commission has been asked to develop a “30 second” narrative on what it does. The intent is to engage in conversation and develop greater community.
- 7.) The commission is in consultation with Marcia Shetler. She has recommended the use of the “Generosity Project.” This stewardship education effort is a year long effort for pastors in small groups that includes the reading of four books, participating in monthly group sessions, and developing a stewardship project that fits his or her congregation. We hope to have more information for the September Board meeting.
- 8.) The commission acted on a prior approval in giving an Empowering Congregations grant for a Brethren Biblical Authority (BBA) Conference scheduled for November 5-6, 2021. While the commission acted on this prior to the pandemic, the conference was postponed. The event will be held at the Greenville CoB with Nathan Rittenhouse as speaker.