

Missions, Outreach, Disaster Support Committee
Dec. 7th, 2023

Mark Jones, Grover Duling, John Collins, Scott Kinnick, Dewayne Heck, Stafford Frederick

Opening Prayer: Grover

Reading of the minutes: Dewayne

Motion to approve the minutes: Mark

Second: Scott

Haiti Emanuel Julien: Grover

He is approved at the Ex-Board for Emanuel to receive free for himself the training that we do for our ministerial program. Matt will start this after the first of the year and he does not need these translated. If anyone has material along this line feel free to share it.

Eric Brubaker has been asked to help with the training for Emanuel's pastors. They just don't need training in the courses, they need seminars on how to do counseling, or how to do a proper visit in a home. They might call someone up at midnight and want to visit with them. They don't know how to do the basic things of pastoring except preaching and they need to know how to love the people properly.



DR Update: Scott

A Zoom meeting has been set in January that includes, Grover, Pastor Gustaf (?), and Scott. Gustaf (?) is a minister in the DR (see map) and is located on the south side of the Island near the capital (Santo Domingo). This is a good area for him to branch out if he wants.

Not sure if he is a minister of the COB but Scott thinks he is. The leader of the DR COB also wants to meet with CBC. There is also another pastor with whom Scott has been in conversation for about a year.



Panama

Recently one of the gentlemen Scott met in Panama ((see map) is from the DR, and is doing some revivals there. Looks like good opportunities there.

Puerto Rico

Hopefully with approvals of the Ex-Board, the Puerto Ricans will be brought in soon. They will be a real asset to us. Puerto Rico (see map) and the DR are very close to one another and they know each other – they should be an asset to the CBC in the future as well.

Our next step is a Zoom meeting in January.

Grover:

“Checked with Fred today and the two \$1000 checks were written for giving to people at the packing centers, \$1000 at Baltimore and \$1000 at Boone.”

Balance: unencumbered... \$2700 and some change.

Executive Meeting Nov. 23, Grover:

An area they wanted to talk about was the expected overseas travel that is going to take place as we go to Puerto Rico, Panama, East & West Africa, and so forth... as Jim Myer said, we need to “look them in the eye and be able to meet with folks ‘face to face’ as has already been done. This is critically important. With that comes cost. The Ex-Board thought it would be good, to have some of these travel costs come out of the mission’s fund.” A vote for this was affirmative.

Questions...

Dewayne: Any estimate on the costs of travel needs?

Scott: It depends on where we go. In the past, I have used my funds for travel for some of these trips. If we can plan some of these trips out 2-3 months in advance, we could save some money. It's not cheap.



Grover: Our missionaries working in TOGO (see map) and Benin in West Africa, tickets cost about \$3800- \$4500 to fly into Loman on the Ivory Coast from the states. Checking ahead and the best pricing was about \$3800

To fly out of Guatemala is about \$500-600 round trip if you get your tickets ahead of time. It just depends on where you go. Panama and Puerto Rico are about the same cost.

Grover: A trip will be needed before we bring in any new churches. It cannot be done by any Zoom meetings. But we can help them with education and that is the thing they want and need. They both want education. Mark Jones, you tuck that away and be thinking about it because I know you have worked with training and we just want 2-3-hour seminars for pastors.”

Dewayne: Maybe we need to set up a two-fold fund in our Outreach/Mission account? This way if someone is taking a mission trip, the money will be available. If we would run our balance low and a mission trip comes up... we might not have the expenses to help pay/assist in the mission trip cost. Maybe set up a minimum balance so funds are available if needed.

Grover: Absolutely. Maybe we need to talk to our Ex-Board on Tuesday with the concept of that – the Mission Committee would like to split our funds and have travel for mission work and the balance would be used for Outreach and Disaster and so forth.

Scott: That is a good idea. You could build that fund up quickly that way.

Grover: Then if someone wanted to designate funds for travel or designate it be used for just outreach to buy Bibles, foods, helping to build a church, or whatever. You could differentiate between the two.

Stafford: Would it be good to label that 5% or 10% of the money coming in be used for travel?

Grover: We could do that but we still will need a place to put it where it's earmarked for that.

Mark: If we would do a percentage in a policy, we should also state there should be a minimal amount of funds in it. A \$1000 or \$1500 balance so people have opportunities to travel expenses paid.

This person-to-person thing in the long view is going to be much more effective than even the rescue of certain groups and so forth and emergency funds. I am not saying do not do that, I'm just saying this is important.

Grover: I have heard it said that we need to set up funds for the travel expenses separate from the outreach expenses.



Fulani People, Grover: Where are we with this?

John: At this point, we are on hold until given direction on how we want to respond to this ministry.

Scott: Brother Musa has another option. Someone that he knows ministers to the Fulani people, but that man was kidnapped by Boko Haram and he is being held for ransom money so we are on hold. Musa said if you went to Nigeria don't go out in the dark, make sure you are with a group, and be careful where you are at.

Musa would like for us to support his friend. He wanted to buy a Jeep or a truck to bring materials or food up to the people. But that option is on hold.

The Nigerian economy has collapsed and that is what people are doing to earn money - trying to kidnap people for ransom. It's a way for people to earn money.

Grover: John... can you get back to Peter and see what the conditions are where his ministries are, and what they can do now as far as helping people?

John: I can.

Grover: If we had \$1000 what would Peter use it for?

Dewayne: \$1 is worth 400 naira... ([1 USD = 882.59 NGN Jan 09, 2024](#))

Grover: John – if you can get info by our next Ex.-Board meeting that would be great.

Updates on the areas where Scott has ministered.



Update on Church floor **Rwanda**

About a year ago we gave \$1500 towards the repair of the church cement floor, and as they started working they realized that there wasn't going to be enough funds to finish the floor. They asked for increased offerings and using their tithe money they raised money on their own which was used to finish the floor

The four churches there are doing well. There was a food need there and we were able to go to one of our local revivals and put out a plea and asked if they could put out an offering one night... They gave me more than what I needed to get some food supplies to Rwanda ...

With the flooding last year, that is still hurting the crops this year – again food is expensive there but I think they are fine and doing well.



Pastor Samson and his wife traveled to Uganda about six weeks ago ... he started two churches in Uganda and I asked Samson (on all church plants) for a 6 month follow-up... he went back and did a five-day seminar and each church had decided to work on church planting. They set up some Bible Studies in nearby towns – we financed Samson and his wife’s travel and a little bit for the material, he charged people coming to the seminar to pay for their food, room, and board. Attendance was about 100 people from two churches and two Bible studies. The two Bible Studies have developed into two churches. The Minister/Leadership Committee will consider them tomorrow. If accepted that will give CBC four churches in Uganda.

If you look at the capital city of Kampala (see map), the existing churches that we have, Amazing Grace and The Holy Temple, are just north of Kampala... one of these new

ones is in Kampala and the other one is north of where they are at. It's like we are starting to get a little line up the highway.

Tanzania: (see map)

We had 12 congregations this past summer and we developed some bylaws.

Dewayne: This will better answer your Facebook question. One of the pastors is a young man. They chose him to deliver the registration to the government. Not only is he a pastor but he also works for the Tanzanian government. (Pastor Daniel Prosper Nzelani): "He forged the papers and made himself the Regional Executive Overseer for Tanzini. You cannot do that and they voted someone else in that position. I don't know how he thought he would get away with this... I decided not to respond to Daniel and let it die out."

We sent Pastor Lewis from Congo to go there to work with them. So he calls the 12 churches together and Daniel doesn't show up. We offer grace and forgiveness, but Daniel violated the Statement of Faith and he was untrue to his people. That is not acceptable in a leader. The churches spent the weekend in prayer and they called Pastor George to be their Overseer in Tanzania. We might lose Daniel's congregation – he tried to pull five others away but they want to stay CBC. But Daniel's congregation may not want to leave CBC and Daniel may be removed. Time will tell.

Four other groups came and participated or watched the board meetings and watched how they handled this disruption and they said, "These people do what they say and they do hold people accountable." In their eyes this type of response is good and this is what they want. They have asked to become CBC – we are going to hold off a little bit on these four and we need to let the other 12 congregations calm down ... the eleven churches have told us they want to stay CBC. Lewis and I have decided to revisit them in a couple of weeks and make sure that everything is good. We might lose one congregation but gain four more. But we will have to start from scratch with the registration.

Just south of Kampala is Entebbe (see map) where there is an international airport, so I am hoping that in the future we can fly into there to visit those four churches. That would be encouraging to them.



Puerto Rico: (see map)

Puerto Rico has announced to the COB that they are 100% gone from the COB. All six churches have withdrawn. I think this past Dec. 1st, Jose, their District Executive, gave them a 90-day notice that this would be his last day as their DE. So, they are gone from the Church of the Brethren and they voted that they want to become CBC. On Monday, Scott received 5 applications (5 of the 6). Four of the churches voted 100% to become CBC. One church had 2 folks vote against the move. Scott was told these two folks always vote this way as they are afraid of change but the vote was 95% to join. The sixth congregation said that their printer was broken and when they get their printer fixed they will send in a registration. God willing the Ministerial Leadership will accept them tomorrow. They have seven congregations, five in Puerto Rico and two in Uganda to consider. Puerto Rico is a tremendous endorsement for us.

Puerto Rico is big. There are Hispanic COB people in a lot of countries, but they don't have delegates like in the DR, Mexico, Venezuela, or Spain and they don't have representation at Elgin or the Annual Conference... they always feel like they are another level and so they look to the Puerto Ricans for leadership.

They have up until now, representation, delegates, and people on the Standing Committee. Even then, to the American congregations, they're always a minority in the district – they look to the Puerto Ricans. So, for the Puerto Ricans to all leave 100% and come to the CBC,

Next Zoom Meeting 1/11/24 8:30 pm

Respectively Submitted

Dewayne Heck

I John 2:6