February 18, 2015

Reimagine Stake 2 Update
Aligning the national and district office to a catalytic culture.

Dear Leader,

As you know we have been on a journey called Reimagine Foursquare. Our goal has been to discern the Holy Spirit’s direction for us as the Foursquare family so that we stay true to who He’s made us to be, while collectively becoming more effective and fruitful in the 21st century. Our Foursquare Connection 2014 event in Dallas was the culmination of many months of this process, which resulted in Five Stakes for the future with Isaiah 54: 2-3 as our prophetic mandate. Our opening night concluded with an extended time of worship and prayer following the service and more than 2,000 people stayed to seek the heart of God for our movement. The convention body overwhelmingly approved the Five Stakes later in the week, and we have been taking steps of implementation since that time.

Stake 2 is to align the national and district offices to a catalytic culture. Our board, an eldering community comprising mostly of pastors elected by each district and our executive leadership, developed a profile for district supervisors (see enclosed) and established a nine-member personnel committee, which includes pastors as representatives from the districts and our president, general supervisor and HR director. Their responsibility is to discern the Lord’s direction and make recommendations to the board regarding district supervisor appointments.

The next step was then to optimize the number of districts as follows:

The Northeast and Mid-Atlantic districts were consolidated. With the timing of Harriet Mouer’s retirement from the Mid-Atlantic district and the decision to consolidate the Mid-Atlantic and Northeast districts, the context of the new district was studied. A supervisor selection process began, and Peter Bonanno was appointed. The new district name is Northeast Atlantic, and the office has been established in Frederick, MD. We want to express our deepest thanks to Harriet and Bill Mouer and Robb and Janet Hattem for their district leadership in this past season. Harriet and Bill are enjoying retirement, and Robb and Janet are praying about their next ministry assignment.

The Distrito Hispano del Suroeste (Southwestern Hispanic District) was formed after much work by our national Hispanic commission to help us determine the best next steps for the Hispanic movement. The outcome was the formation of the new district, which covers California, Arizona, Utah and Nevada, and the supervisor selection process resulted in Juan Vallejo’s appointment as the supervisor. The new district office has been established in La Crescenta, Calif.

The Great Northern District was consolidated in part with the Northwest District and in part with the Gateway District. We want to express our deepest thanks to Mike and Marlene McGovern for their leadership of the Great Northern District in this past season. They will now turn their focus full time to pastoring their local church.

The Greater Los Angeles District was consolidated in part with the Southern California (SoCal) District (formerly Pacific Coast & Valleys) and in part with the Southwest District. We want to express our deepest thanks to Tim
and Deborah Clark for their leadership of the Greater Los Angeles District in this past season. Tim and Deborah now pastor The Church On The Way (Van Nuys Foursquare Church) in Van Nuys, Calif.

The next step of alignment was to interview all remaining supervisors so that we could prayerfully consider if God has graced them with the anointing and capacity to lead in the next season of the district. Though the committee reviewed the last season of their leadership, the focus was on the future in light of Reimagine and the new profile. Each supervisor was interviewed in a conversational manner; they remarked that the experience was respectful and enjoyable. The objective of the committee was to get a sense of the direction that God was speaking concerning the supervisor’s life and ministry, as well as the direction of the district. We know that all of these leaders have a significant contribution to make to our church family, but we needed to determine their best contribution in this next season.

The following were recommended and appointed by the board as district supervisors for the next term: Kimberly Dirmann, Southwest District; Dennis Easter, SoCal District; Ron Pinkston, Central Pacific District; Dave Veach, Northwest District; Sam Rockwell, Gateway District; Dan Mundt, Heartland District; David Coffey, MidSouth District; and Fernando Castillo, Hawaii District.

After conferring with Scott and Michelle Reece of the Southeast district, the personnel committee discerned and recommended to the board that, in this new season, the Reeces would transition into a pastoral role at a local church. Scott wrote the following in a letter to the Southeast District; “The primary role of a district supervisor is that of a catalytic leader who possesses a visionary capacity to bring, not only health and leadership, but multiplication to the district. While I am confident that I certainly possessed that for this first season of leadership, I began to sense a waning and found myself losing the fulfillment that this role should certainly bring. I had actually made the statement to Michelle that I wasn’t sure how much longer I could continue doing this. During the interview, it became apparent that my current calling was that of a pastor who was called to love and lead a local fellowship. I have desperately missed that and can hardly wait to pick up that mantle of pastoral leadership in the community to which we know God will call us.” We will begin our supervisor selection process (see enclosed) in the next two weeks. Scott’s term will conclude May 1, 2015.

During the interview with Larry and Sue Spousta, their passions were apparent for areas that we need multiplied across the nation. It was determined that their best contribution for the next season would be in partnership with the National Church Office (NCO), working with the general supervisor. Larry will oversee the development of plans for leadership health, including processes for recovery and restoration of fallen leaders and care for their families. He will also serve as a consultant in the area of church transformation.

The Spoustas’ many years of experience and wisdom will be a vital gift to our national church as we move to more intentionality in the personal development of all of our leaders. We want to be known as a family where healing and restoration are normative, that we speak the truth in love and walk with families who are broken and longing for wholeness. We want to be a church that reaches the city, the suburb and the rural communities through disciples who are “sent” with the love of Christ. We want to be a church that recognizes the landscape of our nation and world sending missionaries locally and globally in innovative ways. We will begin our supervisor selection process (see enclosed) in the next two weeks. Larry’s term as supervisor will conclude April 30, 2015.

Again, we are grateful to those who have served this past season as district supervisors: Robb Hattem, Mike McGovern, Harriet Mouer, Tim Clark, Larry Spousta and Scott Reece. Each of these served in a very critical time of our church family. They served with excellence and laid a strong foundation of health for the season ahead, which we believe will result in great multiplication. We honor each of these for a job well done. They are loved and appreciated by our Foursquare family.

Transitions are never easy because of our relationships and our love for one another. We have pastored the transition process with care, working with district staffs and district leadership. We are very aware of the fact that there has been a significant amount of change in districts in the last 15 years. Our prayer is that we truly are
putting stakes firmly in the ground of this larger “tent” to make room for more and establish it for the sake of future generations. There is much work to do, and there is a clear prophetic sense of our calling as Foursquare and our contribution in partnership with the body of Christ to proclaim and embody the good news of God’s love and Kingdom.

‘Til all have heard,

Glenn C. Burris, Jr., President

Tammy Dunahoo, General Supervisor