

Mission West - Central, High Plains, Tres Rios Areas

Report to CCSW Regional Assembly - October 14, 2016

Moving Toward Integration

Tres Rios Area and **Central Area** boards, in meetings in August and October, approved the proposed plan of integration for moving forward in ministry with **Mission West**. This plan forms an "Association of Areas" without each Area closing their corporate identity, at this time. The Mission West board and bylaws become the bylaws and board for each Area. Mission West board requires representation by each "historic" Area in its membership and on each vote. These two Areas also voted to move forward with the process of integration of financial resources with Mission West. The Area boards will complete research needed for identifying which funds can be shared with Mission West and which funds cannot. **They are making plans for communication concerning this action and will call Area Assemblies for final approval.**

High Plains Area has a meeting scheduled for continued discussion on this decision the week of October 17. It is hoped they will reach the same decision as the other two Areas

Mission West Common Mission Board is reviewing Mission West financial reports and a preliminary draft joint financial report, showing balance sheets and profit/loss statements. With the understanding that financial resources may continue to decline, even with a possible integration of funds, they began work on revising staff descriptions, expectations and compensation. Draft staff descriptions and a reworked staff budget are still in process, to be completed by January 2017.

Following the resignation of full time Associate Mission West Minister, Rev. Karakay Kovaly, youth ministry responsibilities will be shifted to Lead Minister and the MW Youth Ministry Team. Newsletter and website communication tools will become the responsibility of the Administrative Assistant, with oversight by the Lead Minister. It is hoped that we will find enough resources to call a part time minister to live in eastern territory of Mission West to be able to provide more direct support in search and call for those congregations, without requiring Lead Minister to travel as much.

With a frank and energizing conversation about Mission West, three Key Result Areas have been considered and will be guiding future ministry decisions and actions:

Mission West Key Results – August 19, 2016

MISSION WEST is a transforming connectional ministry that supports congregations and pastors in the transformation of and leading faith communities with a missional focus for the sake of the Gospel of Jesus Christ, in the 21st century context.

To this end we will be – (the "we" is staff, board and all ministry participants – pastors and congregational leaders – together!!)

- **A Network of Pastoral Support**
- **A Collaborative Network for Discerning, Learning and Transforming our Mission and Ministries**
- **A Covenanted and Connected Network**
 - **A Generous and Stewarding Network**
 - **A Network of Administrative and Organizational Support**

As the three western Areas work toward becoming Mission West, **we encourage the Southwest Region to move forward vigorously and expediently in considering some form of restructure for best use of our abundant resources.** We need strong regional administrative support so that Area (or deployed regional) ministries can continue to be as personal and relational as possible. Area and Regional ministry resources are dwindling and losing effectiveness. It is our hope that radical change might be considered and might happen soon for the best possible ministry in support of the pastors and congregations of the Christian Church in the Southwest.

Respectfully submitted,
Rev. Charlotte J Hoppe
Lead Minister