

Progress Report from the Common Mission Board for Mission West 10/3/2013

We, The Mission West Common Mission Board have been working together since August 10th. We have come to see Mission West as a partnership of the Tres Rios, Central and Hi Plains churches that can enrich, renew, and even expand each congregation's response to God's call to mission in our context by the sharing of resources, personnel and inspiration. We are convinced that what our congregations and Areas do together is more than we can do apart.

The Mission West Common Mission Board envisions our work in the following ways and more:

Offering support, encouragement, and hope for existing and new congregations

Equipping lay and clergy leaders through fellowship, education, mission opportunities and leadership development training.

Working and witnessing through camps, retreats and shared events.

Resourcing faith formation and discipling new believers of all ages.

Developing a communication and sharing network among congregations to empower fellowship, mission and transparency.

Creating and identifying resources and counseling to build and maintain dynamic and healthy relationships within and between Congregations.

To determine support for our work together we have extended an invitation to the Area boards: What is the best you can offer to support the ongoing work of Mission West? What is the best each Area can contribute not only to provide reasonable and acceptable financial resources, but treasures of talent, passion and prayer? Just as every congregation has to consider carefully how much they contribute to the work of the larger church, each Area is asked to prayerfully consider what their best offering from the respective Area budgets might be.

A Budget Task Force from the Common Mission Board will prepare a budget reflective of what the three Areas believe to be their best financial contribution to the Common Mission Fund. The proposal for Mission West, including the budget will be presented to the Area Boards and Assemblies for approval. Our target for launching Mission West as Mission West is June 1, 2014.

Much remains to be done. By the end of the year we will:

- Determine the personnel we need to make Mission West a reality.
- Develop governance documents, policies and procedures
- Incorporate
- Create a Common Mission Fund
- Improve our communication

While the task at times seems daunting, we have a sense of true calling to this ministry opportunity. Urged and supported by the Holy Spirit we move forward in this important work.