

“Disciples Making Disciples”

Into the Heart of God/Out to the World of God

AGENDA 2013 WESTERN PENNSYLVANIA ANNUAL CONFERENCE

June 12-16, 2013

Grove City College, Grove City, PA

Wednesday June 12

Annual Conference Prayer Ministry *Day of Spiritual Preparation*

- 1:00 p.m.** Concert of Prayer – Harbison Chapel
- 2:00 p.m.** Prayer Walk – Starting at Harbison Chapel
- 3:30 p.m.** Choir Rehearsal
- 6:00 p.m.** Healing Service – Honoring New Ordinands Harbison Chapel
- 8:00 p.m.** Lay Academy in Hall of Arts and Letters
- 11:00 p.m.** Blessing of the Plenary

Thursday, June 13

- 7:00 a.m.** Registration Begins
- 7:00 a.m.** Prayer Center Opens
- 8:30 a.m.** Worship Service – Student Union Court Yard.
- 9:30 a.m.** Clergy Session – Pew Fine Arts – Kettler Auditorium
- 9:30 a.m.** Lay Academy – Hall of Arts and Letters
- 11:30 a.m.** Lunch
- 1:00 p.m.** Opening Worship
- 2:15 p.m.** Break for Resetting
- 2:30 p.m.** Opening Plenary Session – IM Room
- 4:30 p.m.** Celebration Reception of Bishop Bickerton’s Ministry
- 5:00p.m.** Dinner
- 7:00 p.m.** Legislative Section Meetings
(See Pre-Conference Journal page 10 for Locations)
- 10:00 p.m.** Youth Pizza Party with Bishop Bickerton
- 11:00 p.m.** Prayer Center Closes

Friday, June 14

- 6:30 a.m. Early Morning Worship in Harbison Chapel with Youth leading**
- 6:45 a.m. Breakfast**
- 7:00 a.m. Prayer Center Opens**
- 8:30 a.m. Plenary Session – IM Room**
- 10:30 a.m. Disciple Making Session**
- 11:30 a.m. Lunch (YSF Tray Day)**
- 11:30a.m. Commissioning Rehearsal in Plenary Room**
- 1:00 p.m. Celebration of the 2013 Retiring Class**
- 1:45p.m. Break for Resetting**
- 2:00 p.m. Plenary Session – IM Room**
- 4:45 p.m. Dinner**
- 7:00 p.m. Worship**
- 8:30 p.m. Fellowship Reception in Student Union Courtyard**
- 11:00 p.m. Prayer Center Closes**

Saturday, June 15

- 6:45 a.m. Breakfast**
- 7:00 a.m. Prayer Center Opens**
- 8:30 a.m. Commissioning Worship Service**
- 10:45 a.m. Plenary Session – IM Room**
- 11:30 a.m. Lunch**
- 11:30 a.m. Ordination Rehearsal in Plenary Room**
- 1:00p.m. Conference Memorial Service**
- 2:00p.m. Break for Resetting**
- 2:15p.m. Plenary Session – IM Room**
- 3:15 p.m. Budget Legislation (order of the day)**
- 3:45p.m. Disciple Making Session**
- 4:45 p.m. Dinner**
- 6:00 p.m. Prayer Center Closes**
- 7:00 p.m. Plenary Session – IM Room**
- 8:30 p.m. Bishop's Reception in Honor Ordinands & Retirees**

Sunday, June 16

- 6:45 a.m. Breakfast**
- 9:00 a.m. Ordination Service**

Additional Alphabetical Listing of Members

Section	Name	DS	Relationship
6.....	Bell, Linda	FR	EQUAL
8.....	Blair, William	CV	FE
9.....	Bloise, Cyndi	GB	FE
2.....	Bowser, Mary Lou	JT	EQUAL
10.....	Bowser, Tim	IN	FE
8.....	Brunner, Evelyn	IN	EQUAL
6.....	Burdick, Wendy	EM	LMAC
8.....	Burkhart, Donna	EM	EQUAL
4.....	Canter, Jessie	FR	EQUAL
4.....	Carr, Tom	IN	FE
1.....	Conti, Sandra	WA	PL
8.....	Cooper, Shirley	BU	EQUAL
4.....	Cox, Greg	PB	FE
4.....	Debbie, Price	JT	LMAC
5.....	Dunn, Alyce Weaver	JT	FE
3.....	Dyson, Doug	JT	PL
12.....	Evers, Linda	WA	EQUAL
5.....	Fitzgibbons, Wyatt	CV	LMAC
12.....	Gaither, Barb	EM	EQUAL
1.....	Garay, Michelle	JT	EQUAL
12.....	Garrett, Joel	GB	FE
4.....	George, Tom	BU	LMAC
1.....	Gray, Gail	JT	EQUAL
12.....	Grucza, Paula	FR	EQUAL
12.....	Higginbotham, Bob	PB	FE
2.....	Holley, Michael	FR	LMAC
3.....	Hulings, Bob	KA	EQUAL
1.....	Hutchins, Les	IN	PE
2.....	Hutchins, Sue	PB	FE
2.....	Johnson, Ardelle	KA	EQUAL
10.....	Jones, Nancy C	PB	LMAC
11.....	Kaufman, Joe	CV	LMAC
7.....	Kellogg, Stacey	EM	EQUAL
3.....	Killian, Grace	PB	EQUAL
11.....	Lambert, Christine	PB	LMAC
9.....	Mahoney, Dale	BU	EQUAL
6.....	McClintic, Emily	FR	EQUAL
10.....	Mealy, Dan	EM	PL
7.....	Meekins, William	GB	FE
8.....	Michaels, Carl	JT	LMAC
9.....	Miller, Dan	BU	EQUAL
9.....	Miller, Larry	EM	LMAC
11.....	Miller, Robert	PB	EQUAL
4.....	Morris, Patricia	BU	EQUAL
7.....	Morse, Steve	GB	FE
11.....	Noll, Clarice	JT	EQUAL
10.....	Noll, Tom	JT	EQUAL
4.....	Park, Eric	WA	FE
9.....	Patterson, Joe	EM	FE
5.....	Pike, Roger	EM	LMAC
7.....	Platt, Rita	PB	FE
11.....	Pond, Jim	IN	FE
7.....	Popson, Audrey	JT	EQUAL
2.....	Porter, George	FR	FE
3.....	Roberts, Janet	PB	LMAC
11.....	Roscoe, Bev	CV	PL
5.....	Scandrol, Don	PB	FE
7.....	Schwab, Sharon	IN	FE
3.....	Sheesley, Nan	KA	EQUAL
1.....	Smith, Kelly	PB	FE
4.....	Spencer, Greg	EM	FE
5.....	Stahl, Janet	FR	EQUAL
12.....	Stewart, Mark	WA	FE
10.....	Strandburg, Tom	KA	FE
8.....	Trudgen, Judy	JT	EQUAL
6.....	Trudgen, Terry	JT	FE
10.....	Vack, Kimberly	JT	EQUAL
9.....	Vack, William	JT	LMAC
7.....	Vrana, Judy	JT	EQUAL
5.....	Warrick, Bill	CV	LMAC
5.....	Wilkosz, Ruby	BU	LMAC
5.....	Wilson, Rob	BU	FE
12.....	Yeager, Sue	JT	EQUAL
3.....	Ziegler, Dean	BU	FE

- 1 RS 804 OLMSTED MANOR
2 (Section 8)
3 Nominating for election of a first term:
4 Joe Short, MANDY WOODFORD, JACKIE CAMPBELL, and one TBA.
5 Re-electing for a second term:
6 JOE STREETT, SIBYL REAM
7
8 **Corrections to Nominations Report**
9
10 Global Ministries: Page 305 line 19, change Global Ministries chair to Mark Hecht
11 markhecht22@aol.com (NOT Steve Bane)
12
13 Communications: Page 305 line 36 Remove Steve Bane chair of Communications
14
15 Conference Sessions: page 306 line 7 Change Barb Moore's email to
16 pbjmoore@zoominternet.net (there is a P at the beginning)
17
18 Communications: Page 307 line 42 Remove Steve Bane chair of Communications
19
20 Conference Sessions: page 308 line 33
21 (05) Nancy Denardo under 2014 for her final year.
22
23 Disability Concerns: page 310 line 13
24 Add Denise Mains as Butler district representative
25
26 Mission Support: page 314 line 25
27 Add Charles Fowler as Butler district representative
28
29 Joint Committee on Medical Leave: page 320 Line 25
30 Remove David Morse as Chair.
31
32 Poverty Team: page 321 line 37 add **Class of 2014**: Pam Armstrong, Gretchen
33 Hulse, JAN CHICO; **Class of 2015**: Cyndi Bloise, Clara Belloit, CHERYL DAVIS,
34 GLENNA WILSON; **Class of 2016**: ELIZABETH BJERKE, MARY BUZARD, Wayne
35 Cleary, KAREN ENOS, EVA PALMER, MARY SCHALL; **Resource Partners**: Kathy
36 Clark, George Porter, JACKIE CAMPBELL, Greg Cox, LINDA THAYER, Dennis
37 Zimmerman
38
39 COSROW: page 322 line 19
40 Remove Lola Turnbull
41
42 Conference Trustees: Page 322 line 28
43 Remove Bob DeSignore from class of 2015 and put Bob Martin in that spot
44
45 Methodist Theological School in Ohio Board of Trustees: page 325 line 25
46 Add Alan Morrison

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P 904 Ashes to Life Funding Plan

(Section 9)

Release of Funds for Ministry in Beaver Falls

WHEREAS Psalm 34:18 states: “The Lord is near to the brokenhearted and saves the crushed in spirit.”

WHEREAS the former Otterbein United Methodist congregation of Beaver Falls received a full insurance settlement of \$1.3M following a church fire in 2008;

WHEREAS ¶2543.3 of *The Book of Discipline* restricts such funds from being “used for the current budget or operating expense of a local church” unless used to “provide for congregational redevelopment efforts including program and staff”;

WHEREAS the recent purchase and future renovation of a well-kept former Roman Catholic parish property at 834 4th Avenue is not expected to exceed \$500,000;

WHEREAS ¶2543.3 also requires approval of the annual conference for the use of such excess funds for redevelopment and ministry;

WHEREAS the Otterbein members participated in a ¶213 study to consider options for a more vital ministry within their context and eventually embarked upon a radical new vision built around ministry to those in recovery from addictions;

WHEREAS the congregation reconstituted itself in its primary purpose, worship style and congregational life under the name Ashes to Life Ministries;

WHEREAS they have submitted to the bishop and the cabinet the required three year redevelopment plan projecting progress toward a self-supporting ministry;

WHEREAS the Bishop and the Cabinet have reviewed this request and are in agreement.

WHEREAS since the restructuring of the congregation in late 2011, Sunday morning attendance has already doubled, over 25 people have made commitments to Christ and two active discipleship groups have been formed;

WHEREAS the congregation is now home to two AA groups and one Cocaine Anonymous group, has maintained a consistent outreach to the local halfway house and has instituted its own 27 week recovery program;

WHEREAS operating costs for the newly constituted congregation exceed their income from offerings alone;

WHEREAS the congregational vision and ministry plan make it likely that they will require additional years to grow to a self-supporting level;

WHEREAS numerous stories of conversion, sobriety, spiritual renewal and reconciliation can be told revealing the Spirit of God at work to redeem human lives;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Western PA Conference of The United Methodist Church grant exception to the restrictions and allow the use of remaining insurance settlement money toward the costs of a multi-year strategic ministry plan now unfolding and may be supported by unused insurance settlement money.

Mark Ongley, Pastor, Ashes to Life

A Vision for Ashes to Life Ministries
 A Proposal for Ministry in the Beaver Valley
 Submitted to the Rev. Dean Ziegler
 District Superintendent of the Butler District
 January 10, 2012
 The Rev. Dr. Mark Ongley
 Beaver Falls City Charge

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Details of the Vision

Our Mission: To make disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world.

Our Vision: To be a church where the last, the least and the lost can find hope, healing and forgiveness through Jesus Christ.

As Wesleyans, we believe the sanctifying work of the Holy Spirit brings not only reformation but also transformation. The world will be transformed as people are transformed. The ministry of Ashes to Life is built upon this belief. We believe we are called to bring healing to people in recovery and to others who are bound by life's struggles so that they can become devoted disciples who make disciples of others.

Twelve Step programs help people bring addiction under control. But we desire to help people in recovery find healing for the root causes which drive their addictions. This road to recovery is not just for addicts, however. We believe, "All God's children got monkeys." We all stand in need of grace to be set free to become all that God has created us to be. Transformation of heart through the work of God's Spirit should be an integral part of spiritual formation as disciples are made. This is our aim.

The Means:

Celebration: Corporate worship.

Cells: Small groups where community is formed, encouragement found and grace experienced.

Service: Active demonstrations of God's love for the world by serving the community.

Retreats: Weekend events aimed to position us before God to experience more of his grace and healing. At first these will be offered twice a year. But eventually they will be quarterly.

Triads: Accountability groups of three people where burdens are more intimately shared and loving encouragement is expressed on a weekly basis.

Formational Prayer: A ministry of prayer designed specifically to position people in the presence of Christ in order to experience healing for the wounds and false beliefs which have driven their dysfunctional behaviors. This form of prayer is experienced in counseling sessions with a trained caregiver, but there are expressions of this in all of the venues described above.

The Vision Expanded

Our vision is to develop a paradigm and program for ministry that can be replicated elsewhere. New communities of faith within the Beaver Valley could be developed based upon this model. If we were to become a church of at least 200, we could be self-sufficient and have the strength to birth new congregations within the valley that are passionate about bringing hope, healing and forgiveness to the last, the least and the lost. The aim of this proposal is to propel this vision forward.

Proposal to the District Superintendent

It has long been the vision of Dean Ziegler, our District Superintendent, that the insurance money from the Otterbein Church fire be used for ministry in the Beaver Valley. Because this valley is known for addictive issues, especially Beaver Falls, Rochester, Monaca and Aliquippa, it would seem a proper use of those funds to develop a model for ministry which integrates Formational Prayer with the discipleship process. Some churches are adopting Celebrate Recovery and other Twelve Step programs as a means for ministry to the last, least and lost. This is a great step forward. However, such an approach inherently alienates deeply broken people by sending the message, "We have a program for *your kind*." Nor do such programs address root causes. Our vision is to develop a model which creates an awareness of our common brokenness and our common need for God's healing and sanctifying grace. This model would mainstream the message of God's healing and wholeness for all of us, not just alcoholics and drug addicts.

To make this vision materialize, we propose the following:

1. For Mark Ongley to serve Ashes to Life as his only congregation. It is still his desire to remain at ¾ time so that he can continue work with Ashland Theological Seminary and with the counseling ministry he is developing. The cost of moving to a station church status would be borne by the insurance money.
2. For insurance money to cover his housing needs. Ashes to Life does not have a suitable parsonage. He and his wife would like to buy a house in downtown Beaver Falls. Given the fair rental value of their current parsonage plus their utilities, a cash housing allowance would be \$13,500 annually.
3. For Brian Knarr to continue as part-time Worship Leader for the next three years. His position would be expanded and salary increased to \$10,000 annually.
4. For insurance money to continue to be used to provide coaching from Dr. Steve Cordle at approximately \$720 annually.
5. For insurance money to be used to fund scholarships so that impoverished people can attend Ashes to Life retreats. People would be charged for the retreats based upon their income.
6. For a non-profit board to be established which would oversee the long term development of a recovery ministry within Beaver Falls. The board would be interracial and interdenominational, involving key people from other United Methodist Churches. This board would seek to provide funding and support for people in recovery, helping them to establish a productive and secure way of life. A recovery house for women is desperately needed in Beaver County, and would become a goal for this non-profit board. Ashes to Life would provide seed money and people to help fund and guide the program.

Funding

A transitional budget would be developed for the first three years with the goal that Ashes to Life would take over a growing share of these expenses as its ministry develops. What follows are four separate budgets, each one with two tiers to detail both the Current Budget and Reserve Fund Budget:

- January-June 2012
- July-December 2012
- Annual Budget for 2013
- Annual Budget for 2014

As one can imagine, there is great difficulty in projecting annual giving when working with people in recovery. It is our hope and prayer that as we give ourselves to ministry with the last, least and lost, that God will also lead to us some grounded believers to enable us to carry this ministry forward.

Some considerations concerning the budgets:

- Each year's budget reflects a 3% raise in salaries for pastor and staff.
- For the 2013 budget, the Current Budget takes over the Accountable Reimbursement Account and the Mission Share from the Reserve Fund Budget for an increase of about \$8000.
- For the 2014 budget, the Current Budget takes over \$10,000 of the Cash Housing Allowance.

Ashes to Life Ministries
January—June 2012 Budget

CURRENT (ALL FIGURES BASED UPON 6 MONTHS.)

Beaver Falls City Charge Obligations

• Salary	4839.00	
• Reimbursement	600.00	
• Pension	566.00	
• Hospitalization	2522.50	
TOTAL:		8527.50

Ministry

• Help the Needy	200.00	
• Upper Room	100.00	
• Evang/PR/Advert	300.00	
• Children's Ministry	100.00	
• Training Materials	100.00	
• Retreat Materials	100.00	
• Guest Speakers	150.00	
TOTAL:		1050.00

Administrative

• Workers Comp	105.00	
• Church Insurance	1500.00	
• Property Tax	1850.00	
• Offering Envelopes	50.00	
• Postage	50.00	
• Office Supplies	750.00	
TOTAL:		4305.00

Utilities/Maintenance

• Telephone	300.00	
• Water & Sewage	200.00	
• Lawn Care	200.00	
• Snow Removal	400.00	
• Trash	125.00	
TOTAL:		1100.00

GRAND TOTAL: 14,982.50

RESERVE FUND

Support Staff

• Worship Leader	2400.00	
• Payroll Tax	160.00	
• S. Cordle Coaching	360.00	
TOTAL:		2920.00

Mission Share 1843.00

Anticipated Expenditures: Chairs & Tables, Sound System, Carpeting , Heating/AC upgrade, Kitchen Equip., Nursery Room, Signage, Office Furniture, Utilities , Additional Advertising/PR, Snow Blower, Janitorial Services,

Ashes to Life Ministries
July—December 2012 Budget

CURRENT (ALL FIGURES BASED UPON 6 MONTHS.)

Pastoral Support

• Hospitalization	7440.00	
TOTAL:		7440.00

Ministry

• Help the Needy	200.00	
• Upper Room	100.00	
• Evang/PR/Advert	300.00	
• Children's Ministry	100.00	
• Training Materials	100.00	
• Retreat Materials	100.00	
• Guest Speakers	150.00	
TOTAL:		1050.00

Administrative

• Workers Comp	360.00	
• Church Insurance	2500.00	
• Property Tax	1850.00	
• Offering Envelopes	50.00	
• Postage	50.00	
• Office Supplies	750.00	
TOTAL:		5560.00

Utilities/Maintenance

• Telephone	300.00	
• Water & Sewage	200.00	
• Lawn Care	200.00	
• Snow Removal	400.00	
• Trash	125.00	
TOTAL:		1100.00

CURRENT FUND TOTAL:

15,146.00

RESERVE FUND

Pastoral Support

• Salary	16,130.00	
• Housing	6,750.00	
• Pension	1,886.00	
• Accout Reim	2,000.00	
TOTAL:		30,766.00

Support Staff

• Worship Leader	5,000.00	
• Admin Assistant	5,000.00	
• Payroll Tax	665.00	
• S. Cordle Coaching	360.00	
TOTAL:		11,025.00

Mission Share

1,843.00

Retreats

• Scholarships	500.00	
• Expenses	100.00	
TOTAL:		600.00

Formational Prayer

• Literature	500.00	
• Training	50.00	
TOTAL:		550.00

Facility Utilities

• Electric	1250.00	
• Gas	6000.00	
TOTAL:		7,250.00

RESERVE FUND TOTAL:

52,034

GRAND TOTAL:

67,180.00

Ashes to Life Ministries
2013 Budget

CURRENT**Pastoral Support**

- Hospitalization 16,000.00
- Account. Reim. 4,000.00

TOTAL: 20,000.00

Ministry

- Help the Needy 300.00
- Upper Room 200.00
- Evang/PR/Advert 600.00
- Children's Ministry 200.00
- Training Materials 100.00
- Retreat Materials 200.00
- Guest Speakers 300.00

TOTAL: 1,900.00

Mission Share**Administrative**

- Workers Comp 720.00
- Church Insurance 5000.00
- Property Tax 3700.00
- Offering Envelopes 100.00
- Postage 100.00
- Office Supplies 1500.00

TOTAL: 11,120.00

Utilities/Maintenance

- Telephone 600.00
- Water & Sewage 400.00
- Lawn Care 400.00
- Snow Removal 800.00
- Trash 250.00

TOTAL: 2450.00

CURRENT FUND TOTAL:

40,760.00

RESERVE FUND**Pastoral Support**

- Salary 33,228.00
- Housing 13,500.00
- Pension 3,800.00

TOTAL: 50,528.00

Support Staff

- Worship Leader 10,300.00
- Payroll Tax 1,370.00
- S. Cordle Coaching 720.00

TOTAL: 12,390.00

Retreats

- Scholarships 1000.00
- Expenses 200.00

TOTAL: 1,200.00

Formational Prayer

- Literature 1000.00
- Training 100.00

TOTAL: 1,100.00

Facility Utilities

- Electric 2,500.00
- Gas 12,000.00

TOTAL: 14,500.00

RESERVE FUND TOTAL:

79,718.00

GRAND TOTAL:

120,478.00

Ashes to Life Ministries
2014 Budget

CURRENT

Pastoral Support

- Hospitalization 16,500.00
- Account. Reim. 4,000.00
- Housing 10,000.00

TOTAL: 30,500.00

Ministry

- Help the Needy 300.00
- Upper Room 200.00
- Evang/PR/Advert 600.00
- Children's Ministry 200.00
- Training Materials 100.00
- Retreat Materials 200.00
- Guest Speakers 300.00

TOTAL: 1,900.00

Mission Share 6,000.00

Administrative

- Workers Comp 750.00
- Church Insurance 5000.00
- Property Tax 3700.00
- Offering Envelopes 100.00
- Postage 150.00
- Office Supplies 1800.00

TOTAL: 11,500.00

Utilities/Maintenance

- Telephone 600.00
- Water & Sewage 600.00
- Lawn Care 400.00
- Snow Removal 800.00
- rash 250.00

TOTAL: 2650.00

CURRENT FUND TOTAL: 52,550.00

RESERVE FUND

Pastoral Support

- Salary 34,225.00
- Housing 3,500.00
- Pension 3,920.00

TOTAL: 41,645.00

Support Staff

- Worship Leader 10,609.00
- Payroll Tax 1,411.00
- S. Cordle Coaching 720.00

TOTAL: 12,740.00

Retreats

- Scholarships 1000.00
- Expenses 200.00

TOTAL: 1,200.00

Formational Prayer

- Literature 1000.00
- Training 100.00

TOTAL: 1,100.00

Facility Utilities

- Electric 3,000.00
- Gas 13,000.00

TOTAL: 16,000.00

RESERVE FUND TOTAL: 72,685.00

GRAND TOTAL: 125,235.00

Projected Depletion of Reserve Fund Beginning July 2012**Assumptions**

1. After the buildings are purchased and renovations completed, we will have approximately \$1,000,000 remaining.
2. Investment of \$500,000 in the United Methodist Foundation could net us \$30,000 annually.
3. Giving will increase as the church grows:
 - a. Increase in 2012 by \$10,000 totaling approximately \$32,200.
 - b. Increase in 2013 by \$8,000 totaling approximately \$40,000.
 - c. Increase in 2014 by \$10,000 totaling approximately \$50,000.

Depletion July-December 2012

Beginning Balance:	1,000,000	(July 2012)
UMF Investment	<u>-500,000</u>	
	500,000	
Investment Proceeds	<u>22,500</u>	(March-December)
	522,500	
Expected Giving	<u>16,100</u>	(July-December)
	538,600	
Expected Expenses	<u>67,180</u>	
End of 2012	471,420	

Depletion 2013

Beginning Balance:	471,420
Investment Proceeds	<u>30,000</u>
	501,420
Expected Giving	<u>40,000</u>
	541,420
Expected Expenses	<u>129,488</u>
End of 2013	411,932

Depreciation 2014

Beginning Balance:	411,932
Investment Proceeds	<u>30,000</u>
	441,932
Expected Giving	<u>50,000</u>
	491,932
Expected Expenses	<u>134,344</u>
End of 2014	357,588

Summary

It is obvious that these projections are based upon assumptions, any of which could be faulty. Building a ministry which seeks to disciple people in recovery faces numerous challenges. Often people in recovery must rebuild their lives from scratch, and so their resources are limited. Therefore the projected growth in giving could be overly optimistic.

Funding ministry with investments is also risky. The projected income from investing \$500,000 assumes a 6% rate of return. This likewise could be overly optimistic.

Other unknowns within the budget are the actual costs of utilities once we begin to fully use the building and the actual cost of our insurance. Health insurance and Mission Share could also rise more dramatically than assumed. But the cushion that remains after three years seems sufficient to accommodate these unknown factors.

Moving Forward with Faith and Vigor

Setting assumptions and projections aside, I believe God is at work in a fresh way here in Beaver Falls. Not only are we seeing unchurched people walk through our doors, we are beginning to see miracles of transformation. Never before have I felt so encouraged to take a step of faith in ministry. A divine convergence is taking place. The needs of the Beaver Valley, the gifts of the staff which I desire to hire, and the training that I have received in counseling broken people all seem to be in step with what I sense God is doing in Beaver Falls. New people have become involved who are not in recovery but who are drawn by what they see taking place. I believe God will lead more of them our direction as we take this step of faith.

Patrick Overton once wrote: *When you come to the edge of all the light you have, and must take a step into the darkness of the unknown, believe that one of two things will happen. Either there will be something solid for you to stand on or you will be taught how to fly.* There is an opportunity before us to step into the darkness of the unknown. I am confident, however, that our God of light will provide either solid ground or wings.

Psalm 34:18 states: "The Lord is near to the brokenhearted and saves the crushed in spirit." Few people in our culture are as brokenhearted and crushed as those who have lost everything to addiction. As we have begun to reach out to the last, the least and the lost of Beaver Falls, we have indeed sensed the nearness of the Lord. Last Sunday we had 45 in attendance. Over half were people in recovery. We have cocaine and heroin addicts, alcoholics, and family members of those in recovery—and they are inviting their friends. One lady gave a testimony last Sunday about being 6 months clean. She has lost everything because of heroin. But she began attending the recovery worship service we used to have Sunday nights and has been coming for counseling. This week she is starting classes at Community College of Beaver County and is extremely excited about Ashes to Life.

And while we have lost a few people of the old Otterbein congregation, most of those who remain are excited about what God is doing. As we have made this transition in the last 5 months, they have given me free reign to lead assertively as we "do church" very differently. And I have been rigorously training a few of them to do ministry to the ones God is leading to us. A fresh Wind is blowing and they have readjusted their sails.

The insurance money left from the Otterbein church fire, if used as described above, can enable us to move forward with vigor. Instead of having to wait for a church to grow in order to hire qualified staff, people can be brought on board in this very season as God is leading deeply broken people to us. And so I hope we will be granted permission to move forward with this vision of developing a model for ministry which will help people rebuild from the ashes of brokenness to the life God desires for them.

ROLL OF THE HONORED DEAD
WESTERN PENNSYLVANIA ANNUAL CONFERENCE
June 1, 2012 to May 31, 2013

ACTIVE CLERGY	BORN	DECEASED
Johnnie David Panther	2/18/1957	5/26/2013

RETIRED CLERGY	BORN	DECEASED
Charles Straver Loney	7/14/1926	6/8/2012
Molly Brown	7/24/1923	8/6/2012
Mearle Leventry	1/12/1922	9/10/2012
John Dobbs Patterson	10/29/1930	9/22/2012
Fred Preuss Jr.	8/16/1942	10/12/2012
Jean Cable	6/25/1920	10/28/2012
Ivan Dewayne Johnson	3/10/1923	12/24/2012
Donald T Rainey	4/8/1935	1/4/2013
James Earl Davis	11/12/1929	1/9/2013
Jacob Henry Breakiron	6/18/1920	1/28/2013
Paul Meuschke	12/11/1927	3/15/2013
Robert Gumbert	1/5/1929	3/23/2013
Spurgeon Witherow	9/27/1925	3/24/2013
Charles Moore	10/12/1929	3/31/2013
Robert Foltz	12/27/1939	4/14/2013
Conway Keibler	9/26/1927	4/27/2013

CLERGY SPOUSES	Born	Deceased
Rita Groters	10/29/1919	6/12/2011
Michael Condon	10/25/1965	6/17/2012
Josephine Cowder	4/10/1914	7/1/2012
Edith Rickard	7/9/1921	7/28/2012
Mildred McEntire	7/13/1913	8/29/2012
Dorothy Gray	5/14/1920	9/19/2012
Margery Winkie Morey	9/21/1916	10/12/2012
Bernadeane Picht	4/11/1922	5/21/2012
Betty Gordon	8/29/1923	10/25/2012
Esther Garner	10/24/1921	11/23/2012
Helen Mabel Lyman	2/22/1914	12/14/2012
Lucy Stewart	5/11/1921	12/15/2012
Amelia Haine	7/13/1911	12/30/2012
Sarah Maher	7/5/1941	12/18/2012
Sally Rupert	8/24/1947	12/16/2012
Rosemary Basinger	9/21/1925	11/28/2012
Constance Rowles	12/11/1942	10/22/2012
Virginia Prisk	9/2/1913	12/22/2012

Lois Jean Scott	11/22/1929	1/16/2013
Luella Moffat	6/2/1915	1/29/2013
Lois Hollenbeck	6/10/1928	2/9/2013
Geraldine Nunemaker	12/21/1927	2/13/2013
Betty Dubois	6/6/1933	3/11/2013
Betty Shaffer	2/20/1921	4/4/2013
Ednah Shultz	10/12/1919	4/8/2013
Kelly Wasser	4/25/1960	4/14/2013

LAITY

	Born	Deceased
Betty Jane Green	11/21/1931	7/11/2012
Erin Jedlowski	12/12/1988	7/15/2012
Geraldine Anna Copeland	1/26/1925	10/9/2012
Richard Trimble	unknown	11/28/2012
Wilma Parrish Trimble	2/20/1929	12/20/2012
Helen D. (Norman) Miller	unknown	12/26/2012
Nancy Hill	8/23/1939	12/27/2012
Thelma "Turk" Carns	9/1/1925	1/1/2013
Raymond Dixon Copeland	7/31/1920	2/15/2013
Ruth Jeanette Marsden Idecker	unknown	3/2/2013
William E Green	5/17/1930	3/16/2013
Shawn Drummond	unknown	5/6/2013

OTHER

	Born	Deceased
John Culley	5/12/1947	8/19/2012
George Lee	2/27/1963	1/2/2013
Robert Fulton	unknown	1/11/2013
Randall Paul Luther	2/4/1944	1/21/2013
Raymond A. Piper	12/6/1937	4/5/2013