

DOUGLAS COUNTY EVANGELICAL FELLOWSHIP October 2009 Meeting



The DCEF met at the Church on the Rise on Thursday, October 29, 2009 at 12:00 p.m. Lunch was provided by the host church.

PRESENT:

Mark Bodenstab, Church on the Rise
Phil Evans, Roseburg Christian Fellowship
Dave Ewert, New Hope Evangelical Free Church
Andrew Farhat, St. Paul Lutheran Church
Rick Hansen, Winston Church of the Nazarene
Roger Horton, LifeCare Ministry
Steve Kufeldt, Hucrest Community Church of God
Andy Middlekauf, Roseburg Alliance Church
Dave Pagni, Harvest Ministries
Craig Schlesinger, Garden Valley Christian Assembly
Capt. Joe Whipple, The Salvation Army

VIDEO PRESENTATION was shown during lunch from Harvest Evangelism and Ed Silvano about local prayer efforts in Elk River, MN, and the resultant transformation of the community. Pastors, business leaders and governmental leaders are praying together for the city and lives have been changed and specifically, teen suicide, which was the highest in the nation, has dramatically dropped. Can you picture something similar happening in Douglas County as pastors and community leaders gather for regular prayer?

CITY IMPACT ROUNDTABLE – The Seventh Annual Pacific Northwest City Impact Roundtable, a gathering of Christians interested in transforming their communities, will meet at the Quality Inn & Suites Airport Convention Center in Portland on Monday, November 30 (starting at 1:30 p.m.) and concluding Tuesday, December 1 at 3:00 p.m. Several from DCEF are planning to attend. If interested in participating, contact Craig Schlesinger.

FREE MARKET – Many persons have been to be a “flea market” where goods are bought and sold. Can you picture a “free market” where the church of Douglas County can bless the “poor”? Craig Schlesinger introduced this concept and challenged DCEF congregations to participate in this potentially life-changing event. Working with persons within Douglas County government who know those who really need assistance in our community, vouchers will be distributed to families who can attend this event and pick up needed household items for free. The church will be asked to sacrificially give items of value, not simply discarded things. The date is tentatively set for Saturday, May 1, 2010 from 8:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m. and will be at a “neutral” parking lot or large building. This is an opportunity to:

- Bless the poor

- Expand unity among churches
- Partner with D.C. Health & Social Services
- Obey a Biblical mandate to serve those in need
- Communicate to Douglas County that we care
- Teach our congregations to sacrifice

LOCAL MISSIONS – Craig Schlesinger also challenged DCEF churches to consider budgeting for local missions this next year, specifically DCEF and LifeCare. Each church is asked to select a “home missions coordinator” to work with LifeCare and similar initiatives.

LIFECARE UPDATE – LifeCare director Roger Horton reported that since the inception of this cooperative ministry bridging local churches with social work agencies in our area, over 4,544 hours of volunteer service has been provided to the community totaling over \$34,000 value in services, time and donations. 144 persons have been equipped for local missions and 20 lay counselors have been trained and are now serving clients. Call LifeCare at 541-673-1293 for upcoming training events and conferences.

COMMUNITY MARRIAGE POLICY – An idea that came out of the recent Pastors’ Prayer Summit was a community marriage policy where churches and pastors agree to a certain standard of marriage preparation before couples would be married in our community. There are numerous communities in our country that have adopted such policies and have experienced marked drop in divorce rates. Steve Kufeldt distributed a handout from Marriage Savers (Mike McManus, founder) that explained the concept. For more information, go to www.marriagesavers.org.

SEEK GOD FOR THE CITY 2010 – Last spring around a dozen DCEF churches partnered together in a season of prayer for our community utilizing the “Seek God for the City” prayer guides from WayMakers (www.waymakers.org). Another “Forty Days to Palm Sunday” prayer emphasis (February 17-March 28, 2010) is coming. If churches partner together once again, great savings can be passed on to participants due to volume discounts (regularly priced \$3 but available for \$1.15 in quantities of 1,000 or more). A decision is needed by January.

ROSEBURG MEN’S CONFERENCE is scheduled once again for February 26-27 at Garden Valley Christian Assembly. Churches are encouraged to participate in this annual event that confronts men’s issues head-on with Biblical forthrightness and power.

WEEKLY PRAYER – A twice-a-month pastors’ prayer meeting has been held the past several months (first and third Thursday of the month at 8:00 a.m.) at Hucrest Church with a small number of regular participants. An open question was asked if there was a time that more pastors could regularly participate. It was decided to hold the prayer meeting on a weekly basis on Thursdays at 12:00 p.m. at Hucrest Church, except for holidays and regularly-scheduled DCEF meeting days. These weekly meetings will be held on a trial-basis through the end of December. Come and join us each week that you are able.

LETTER OF CONCERN – Phil Evans distributed a review (<http://bible.org/print/1687>) of

Henry Wright's book, *A More Excellent Way*, which highlights numerous doctrinal concerns and problems in the book. Several area pastors have been contacted about a possible future meeting with Mr. Wright and may want to read the review prior to making a decision.

DCEF FIELD TRIP TO CORVALLIS – DCEF has been invited to a meeting of the Corvallis ministerial association on Thursday, November 5 and see first hand what is happening in their community. They have been meeting regularly for prayer for a number of years and have quite a community impact ministry through Love, Inc. Lunch will be provided. Ron Laeger has agreed to drive a van from Wellspring Bible Fellowship. We will leave the Wellspring Bible Fellowship parking lot by 8:15 a.m. If interested in attending, please contact Craig Schlesinger or Steve Kufeldt.

NEXT MEETING – Due to the holidays over the next two months, the November and December DCEF meetings will be combined into one session and will be hosted by Hucrest Community Church of God on Thursday, December 3 at 12:00 p.m. Lunch will be served.

Respectfully submitted,

Steve Kufeldt

Associate Pastor
Hucrest Community Church of God