

EPISCOPACY/EVALUATION

I'll begin my report by referring back to last year's report where I quoted the Bishop's statement "Sometimes I find myself with a foot in two worlds – one foot is standing in the current structure and polity of the Evangelical Congregational Church while at the same time my other foot is trying to gain a foothold in the new world of a restructured denomination". With all the rewriting, restructuring and continual revising and re-evaluating that has taken place we believe the Bishop now has a firm hold on the new structure and thus, to some degree, he is putting the process behind him and "Pressing On."

This committee continues to meet with the Bishop formally four times a year. We do not scrutinize the Bishop's every move but we do ask questions and he gives us a monthly update of his involvements. As a result what we have determined is he's busy. His busyness includes giving continual oversight to the leaders under his charge, planning for numerous events such as this National Conference and keeping in touch with all the churches via the EC Leader and other various publications plus personal contacts. He keeps his preaching schedule full but His continual aim is to be able to preach in every one of our churches. If you have not invited him to your church please do so.

In accordance with the rules of Conference, the Episcopacy Committee was appointed to conduct the required evaluation of Bishop Hill. The Committee hereby reports the following responses/results. The survey was directed to three groups: Pastors and Lay Delegates; the National Ministry Team; and Affiliated Ministries.

1. Results for Pastors and Lay Delegates: A total of 250 surveys were sent out, and 98 responses were received. On a scale of 1-10, the respondents consistently gave the Bishop an average rating of 8 or above.
2. Results for National Ministry Team: A total of 16 surveys were sent out and 16 answers received. On a scale of 1-10, the respondents consistently gave the Bishop an average rating of 9 or above.
3. Results for Affiliated ministries: A total of four surveys were sent out and one answer was received. On a scale of 1-10, the respondent consistently gave the Bishop an average rating of 7 or above.

The Bishop was made aware of all of these results and given copies thereof by the Committee.

This committee consists of the following members Rev. Gerald Baum, Rev. Lewie Bennett, Rev. Keith Blank (secretary), Rev. David Dennis, Margie Miller, Paula Osborne, Rev. Marlin Lafferty and Bishop Bruce Hill

Respectfully Submitted,

Marlin Lafferty, Chairman