

July 9, 2019

I am sure you agree that time in the mission of Christ seems to fly. There is such a great harvest. I pray you are encouraged and blessed in your Kingdom work. A few updates of our work together:

1. **Seedbed/NewRoom:**  For nearly a year now, we have been in close communication with the staff and leaders at Seedbed/NewRoom. You may know that this is a relatively new initiative launched by Asbury Seminary to “sow for a great awakening” through publications and more recently a gathering of churches in the Wesleyan tradition. Last year, leaders reached out to the WHC inquiring about how they might link with us. Since then we have met, prayed, and reflected together on how God might weave our hearts in common mission. There is a good spirit of synergy and first steps are being taken to more clearly shape the affiliate relationship of Seedbed to the WHC. Please pray for the path forward in this exciting future.
2. **CA Legislative Update:** You recall previous reports of my efforts over the last two years influencing the Church’s engagement with lgbt initiatives in California. Based upon the WHC formative document *“Gracefully Engaging the LGBT Conversation”* and more recently *“A Case for Engagement,”* I along with a group of pastors have been able to work with the lgbt legislator to prevent a law that would have restricted pastoral ministry in this area. We provided input that resulted in a non-binding resolution calling for compassion and equitable treatment of all people. Although we could not fully support even the resolution and gave limited support as a positive step in modeling dialogue, some Christian outlets have misreported the events. This has been a good step of staying anchored to our belief that lgbt is not God’s plan while engaging with legislators with deep differences in order to call people to compassionate behavior. We are thankful that instead of a restrictive law, the freedom of churches and colleges to minister consistent with our Biblical view of human sexuality is fully preserved.
3. **Leadership Development:** As the WHC enters its 15th year of effective, collaborative ministry centered on Holiness for the 21st Century, we are thinking more directly about empowering new leaders to take up the leadership. I am grateful for the Leadership Team of Kimberly Dirmann, John Richardson, and Fawn Imboden who have been invaluable in expanding the reach of the WHC. We do plan to take further steps in this priority at our upcoming Steering Committee on October 25 at the Global Headquarters of the Salvation Army in London.

Please pray for that important gathering. You are welcome to join us as we celebrate 15 years and remind ourselves of our heritage in the Wesley sites. It is a joy to be in the Kingdom mission together.

Blessings,

Kevin

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