

November 28, 2017

I want to give you a quick update in the wake of our recent Steering Committee meeting in Memphis, TN. We are grateful to the Church of God in Christ for hosting us at their headquarters. What a privilege to be in Mason Temple and stand where Martin Luther King preached his last sermon. Then to visit the resting place of C.H. Mason, the first COGIC bishop who has impacted the nation so profoundly.

Beyond the usual agenda items, the Steering Committee dealt with two major issues:

1. **Framework for Public Engagement**- For nearly one year, a small group of experts has been building a resource tool for pastors and church leaders to help shape how they engage critical issues in their communities. This framework brings a distinctly Wesleyan Holiness lens to the challenge of local churches living out their faith in contextual ways.

After a great deal of discussion, some final edits will be made and the document will be distributed so you can use it with your staff and your pastors. In effect, it provides some deep thinking that will help your pastors in their communities. I hope you will look carefully at it and share it broadly.

1. **Leadership Structure**- Over the last 3 years, I have been increasingly focused on ushering in a new leadership structure for the WHC that will transcend my own tenure. The WHC has grown beyond our expectations and it is important to provide for a leadership structure that is not limited. The Steering Committee was enthusiastically supportive of empowering a triad of leaders who will take greater responsibility for executing the vision and mission of the WHC. I will continue as Chair, guiding the general movement but the three key leaders who have taken deep roots among us will become more visible and present in their area of gifting:
	1. **Kimberly Dirmann**- Foursquare Church; former Supervisor, Church Planter, Pastor, and currently guiding the Next Gen ministries of the denomination.
	2. **John Richardson**- COGIC Jurisdictional Bishop; Pastor, former national coordinator of ethnic ministries for the Free Methodist Church.
	3. **David Drury**- Wesleyan Denomination Chief of Staff; Pastor, denominational executive, cultural innovator.

I am hoping you will get to know each of these people and recognize the hand of God in raising them to greater leadership among us in fueling the movement of God through holiness in the 21st Century. We are continuing to clarify how each contributes most effectively so please pray!

**APRIL 5, 2018 – Denominational Heads Meeting**- If you have not already done so, please let me know that you are coming to this very important gathering of denominational heads. Details forthcoming:

**April 5, 2018, Alexandria, VA – National Headquarters, Salvation Army**.

**Financial Condition**- I am extremely happy to tell you that we anticipate ending this calendar year with a balanced budget. We have been able to do this each year since beginning 11 years ago. As Dan Schafer, President of WGM and our treasurer, says each year: *“I can’t believe we are able to do so much with such a small amount. We’re getting a lot of bang for our buck!”* THANK YOU for your participation and annual contributions.

Blessings,

Kevin