

Governance---- Comments ---- Wider Church Ministries Board

Feedback --- April 2010 *Received electronically June 30, 2010*

1. What do you believe God is calling the UCC to do and to be now and into the future?

-What creative new models for ministry and mission do you see emerging in the church today? What new possibilities do you imagine for the church?

- If you were to imagine a “network of settings” for the UCC, what might those look like? How would they support and interact with each other?

- We need to be finding new and creative ways to engage people other than in governance. Help our members and friends learn to do mission well in various settings. E,g, International partnerships. Educate the local churches and Associations about what’s happening in WCM, LCM, JWM so they are engaged and resourced.

- We need a focus on being relevant. We aren’t now really. We need to look forward to be relevant to all age groups. In Physical ways. Actually doing mission. Be the multi- [everything] church we are, but louder. Be a virus! We should go with our kids on youth events --- see what happens.

- Look at the end that we desire --- be realistic and inclusive

- Humble leadership is needed. Community. Really DO that God is Still Speaking. Look at impact of technology on all our ministries and mission.

- Get rid of the buildings and just do ministry. Pay attention to passing the word like a virus.

- This question seems to suppose there will be single governance. I have skepticism about what this really is. What am I getting? I have no idea what this really is. How can I work on this if I don’t really know what it really is? Concerns re: inclusion of young people, who will inherit this. Is this just from the people in power, but not those who will have to live with it?

- Things are not working the way they are now. Why are we upset that finances are part of the basis for this decision? We have to take money into account. People give, and come to church because of our mission, not our governance. What does governance mean? At our church 22 people is too many on the board. 5 elected leaders that we elected and trusted brought this to us to put our mission forward. We need to remember that this came from trusted people who need this to be able to do their jobs.

2. What is your response to the Unified Governance Working Group?

Thank you ! Go go go! Rock On!

What’s option B?? One board gets things done. It’s cheaper. Want transparency. Checks and balances are necessary. How do we make sure the board is doing the work it’s supposed to do.

- The holistic approach of one board is good. All knowing what the whole is doing so we can make responsible decisions.
- Good luck, and just do it!

We have our own questions: wish we could have spent more time in detail on how this will fix specific problems. How will this structure further our mission? How will this connect with the local church? Will it give more authority to local church, or less? More or less communication with conferences? Why are we having 4 separate boards still? Who’s in charge?