

United Church of God
an International Association

Robert Dick
Chairman

Clyde Kilough
President

Letter From the President
July 22, 2005

Greetings everyone,

I wanted to take a break from the whirlwind of activity that has consumed my attention in the last three weeks and write a few lines to keep in touch and fill you in on some of the newsy items of the work. Life has been a bit hectic for us, moving from California to Cincinnati and getting up to speed on the new duties here in the office, but everything has gone well, thanks in large part to the work of the home office staff.

In the very near future we will be announcing several more pastoral transfers, but it is premature at this point since some have not yet been announced in their respective congregations. If you missed it in the July *United News*, two elders have been hired full-time in the U.S. ministry. Vince and Carol Szymkowiak will be serving in the St. Louis and Rolla, Missouri, congregations. Scott and Monica Lord will be training with pastor David Baker in the Upstate New York area.

Transfers already in the works include Joe and Jacquelyn Horchak, who are taking my place in the Sacramento, California, and Reno, Nevada, congregations. They will be replaced by Randall and Linda Stiver in the Columbus and Cambridge, Ohio, areas. John Cafourek, pastor of Salem, Oregon, will pick up from Mr. Stiver Eugene and Coos Bay, Oregon, and Larry Walker, pastor of Bend and Medford, Oregon, will pick up Roseburg.

We've appreciated everyone's willingness to either move or assume extra duties, and the "domino effect" that is always set in motion with transfers is occurring quite nicely and orderly.

In another development, in late summer or early fall the French department is going to consolidate their personnel and operations here at the home office in a move to make the work of our two French-language employees more efficient. Bernard and Linda Hongerloot will move from Kansas City, Missouri, and Joel and Marjolaine Meeker will move from St. Louis. From its inception the French work has operated from their homes, and it has been challenging, especially with Mr. Meeker's heavy travel schedule.

They will now be able to work together more closely on the French-language publications,

sermon preparation and mailing, answering mail and handling other requests that come from 15 to 20 countries every year, as well as organizing the five French-language Feast of Tabernacle sites. Being in the home office will also allow them more immediate staff support. People are contacting us from more and more French-speaking countries, and many are becoming part of the United Church of God. Each new country added means more travel and support time to serve them. By working in the same office, more work can be shared and operations will be more efficient in preaching the gospel and caring for those God has called.

I am also pleased to announce that Diane Bailey will move from her duties in Ministerial Services to become my executive assistant. Diane will also help Bob Dick in his duties as chairman of the Council of Elders and continue her assistance to Larry Darden, the Church's legal counsel. All ministers will soon receive a revised home office duties list so you will know who to contact when you have needs from the staff here.

Another personnel change that will be taking place concerns Matthew Fenchel. Matt has worked the last seven years at the home office assisting the president and Council of Elders, and teaching at Ambassador Bible Center. He was offered a transfer back to the field ministry (having previously pastored congregations in Germany, Washington and Ohio). However, due to personal reasons, Matt did not want to undertake a move at this time. After cordial discussions it was agreed that the best course of action would be his transition from paid ministerial employment to the noncareer ministry, which will commence in mid-August.

If it's busy now, come August the pace really picks up. On August 3 and 4 we will be conducting some very important media meetings here to finalize plans for video production once the new Media Center is completed, which should be very soon.

The Ambassador Bible Center graduation, and all the surrounding activity, comes on the 13th and 14th weekend, followed by the big ABC sampler August 22 through 26, where we expect about 40 participants.

During the same week the Council of Elders comes into town for its quarterly meetings August 24 to 30. After the Council wraps up, we get a one-day break before approximately 15 couples arrive for the fourth annual Leadership Workshop September 1 to 5. Finally, the following day, Tuesday, September 6, we host a two-day conference for the three areas of operations in Africa that are administered from the United States—East Africa, Nigeria and Ghana.

Each of these activities has a full agenda, of course, and while it is exhausting just to look at the schedule, it is also energizing and exciting to anticipate the benefit that will come from these meetings and events.

All reports from the summer camps have been very encouraging. All the volunteers who serve as staff and the organizational camp team under Larry Greider's direction are to be

highly commended. Your dedication to serving our children and young adults continues to pay great dividends in shaping their spiritual, emotional and physical development.

That's all for now. I'll try to keep you well-informed of developments on a timely basis. Keep up the good work, and keep the mission in mind.

Kind regards to all,

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Clyde Kilough". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, prominent initial 'C'.

Clyde Kilough