



Date: September 18, 2009

Re: Agreeing to the Co-operation Plan

I am writing this proposal for the Louisville Church to reconsider its position and agree with the unity proposal submitted by the Unity Proposal Group in March of 2006 and further summarized in August, 2009. My initial fears of a new hierarchical structure with incremental financial demands have never materialized. Instead, all that I have seen are churches and church leaders working in humility with each other to make forward progress to strengthen the local congregation, to build up geographical families of churches and to insure that world missions be funded and strengthened. The two major concerns with the proposal were (1) the surrender of our local church authority and (2) incremental financial demands placed on our congregation. With this agreement each congregation is empowered to do what is best for its congregation with no "oversight" from another congregation. By agreeing to the proposal we do not surrender our local church authority. The request to support cooperative endeavors is all voluntary and not mandated. Support for Hope Worldwide, Disciples Today and World Missions are encouraged and these are efforts that we already support. The original Unity Proposal has been changed to the Unified Plan for Cooperation. Without reiterating what has already been written I have attached this letter and three other articles to the Louisville church website in the "news" section. The other three articles are (1) the original Plan for United Cooperation, (2) the most recent Plan for United Cooperation Summary and (3) an article written by Mike Taliaferro entitled "My Church Signed the Unity Proposal. What Does It Mean". These articles should equip you with the necessary information.

In our fellowship of churches, including those that have "agreed" and those that have "not agreed" out of 90,000 disciples close to 83,000 disciples are part of congregations that have agreed to the proposal. Most of our larger churches have agreed to the Co-operation Agreement.

Though we have been a part of the MidSouth Family of churches we are now transitioning to the ACR family of churches. This will help build unity between the Lexington and Louisville congregations as well as tie us in with the Ohio churches. At present, the staff is already attending monthly meetings in Columbus, OH and attending ACR Leadership workshops. On October 18-20 members of our Leadership Group will attend a workshop in Morgantown, WV.

The Church Leadership Group discussed this proposal last Monday, September 14, 2009. We thought it best to present this proposal to the Family Group Leaders in the Leader's Meeting on Sunday, September 20th and ask them to take it to their groups, pray and discuss, and return feedback at the next leaders meeting October 4th.

Please prayerfully consider this proposal.

In Him,
Keith