



October 2010

Superintendent Search Update

"We are better together" is a theme that is again proving itself in our superintendent search. We are very pleased with the volume and thoughtfulness of input we are receiving. Your feedback is producing a rich framework of qualifications with a number of common threads. We also have nearly 30 nominees, including a great balance of gender diversity and many names who are familiar and many who may not be as broadly known. Going forward, there are still many more important steps.

- Focus groups at both pastors' retreats
- Nov. 20 search team meeting to narrow nominee list for interviews
- Jan. 7-8 interviews with finalists
- Announce a nominee by the Midwinter Conference
- Vote at the MWC and ECC annual meetings in 2011

Thank you for your partnership and prayers during this significant season!

135th Anniversary Celebration!

The Evangelical Covenant Church of Sloan, IA, will celebrate 135 years of ministry on Nov. 7, 2010. Formed in 1875 in the rural community of Albaton, near Sloan, the congregation is currently served by Rev. Richard Moore. Special guests include President Gary Walter of the ECC, Rev's Russ Sizemore and Sumit Sen, and conference superintendent Ken Carlson. The congregation is actively involved in missions both to their community and in Mexico.



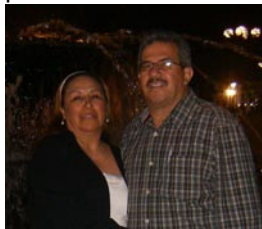
Churches New to the MWC (visit our website for more information)



Please pray for two of our newest church starts in the Midwest Conference. **Emmaus Covenant Church in Carroll, IA**, is pastored by Jeff Grote (wife, Melanie). Jeff had formerly planted a Covenant church in the Denver area. As the photo shows, Jeff not only plants churches but he also plants

pumpkins! Jeff expects to begin public presentations in the next several months. Pray also for Pastor Jose Sanchez (wife, Lupita), **Kansas City, KS**, shown in the picture below, and the new **Iglesia Evangelica Siloe Covenant Church**. Siloe is Spanish for Siloam, the pool of Jesus'

miraculous healing mentioned in the Gospels. It currently meets for worship in a Nazarene church just south of the KU Med Center. This is actually a ministry morphing from English to Spanish. Pray for this transition, that the word will be shared among unchurched and unbelieving Spanish-speaking friends.



2010 Fall Retreats for Pastors & Spouses

The western retreat will be held **November 8-10** at Glacier View Ranch Retreat Center in Ward, CO, featuring Pastor Nick Lillo of WaterStone Church in Littleton, CO, with special guest from the ECC, President Gary Walter.

The eastern retreat was held **October 11-13** at the St. Benedict Center in Schuyler, NE, with Dr. John Weborg, retired North Park Seminary professor as the featured speaker and special guest from the ECC Christian Formation, Executive Minister Doreen Olson.

MWC Pastors/Staff new since August issue

Jesse Bolinder, Dir. of Development, Covenant Heights Camp & Retreat Center, Estes Park CO
Phil Ebersole, Co-pastor, Ecclesia, Denver CO
Ben Gleaves, PT Pastor, Olathe Covenant, Olathe KS
Jeff Grote, Church Planting Pastor, Emmaus Covenant, Carroll IA
Don Holmertz, Pastor, Decorah Covenant, Decorah IA
Jose Sanchez, Church Planting Pastor, Iglesia Evangelica Siloe, Kansas City KS
Mark Schaap, Youth Pastor, ECC, Des Moines IA

Conference Sunday, February 13, 2011

The Midwest Conference will bring you more information in the December issue of this newsletter, but be watching for this event which will focus on the ministry we have with the Alaska Partnership.

FEAST 2011—Held in the Midwest Conference!

Estes Park, CO, June 25-28, 2011. Mark your calendars! More info to come!

Hope Covenant Church in El Dorado, KS, broke ground for their first building on June 6. Through the support of the MWC and Covenant churches in central Kansas, this 6-year-old congregation is a vibrant ministry in the community with a strong emphasis toward children and young families. A dedication service for this 10,000 square foot facility is planned for spring 2011.



Midwest Conference

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The Midwest Conference is a mission association of Covenant churches in Colorado, Iowa, Kansas, western Missouri, Nebraska, Wyoming

SAVE THE 2011 ANNUAL MEETING DATE!! The Midwest Conference Ministry Celebration will be held April 15-16. Hosted by First Covenant Church of Omaha, NE, we will celebrate our 125th Anniversary, share time with the president of the Covenant, Gary Walter, bid farewell to Superintendent Ken and Nancy Carlson and elect a new conference superintendent! Don't miss this event where time together is also spent hearing personal witness of how ministry in your conference is truly sharing the gospel of Christ. God is working in personal lives and in our churches! See you in 2011 in Omaha!