

**NOTES FROM THE NORTHERN MISSION ACTION COUNCIL MEETING
Sacramento, March 4, 2006**

On March 4, the Northern MAC met in breakout session during the annual CEF/MAC conference in Sacramento. The meeting was scheduled from 2:15-3:30 p.m.

We spent a good portion of the time brainstorming the CY 2007 grant review process and calendar. Our goal is to do a preliminary review of the grant applications and give feedback to the applicants prior to the final application deadline. We finally established a deadline of July 1 for initial applications. Copies of the applications will be emailed or sent to all MAC members for review and a meeting will be scheduled. We discussed the timing of the grant decisions and feedback to the applicants last year. We would like to have the information back to the applicants earlier this year. Information on the timing of the Board of Directors' process was not available at the meeting and Rev. Hartman will follow up. We are tentatively looking at a final application deadline of September 1 and a "big MAC" meeting in October again this year.

Rev. Hartman will draft a brochure of information on the grant process, including schedules, procedures, where to send the application, etc. (The draft of the brochure went out to MAC members via email on March 8.)

Jill and John volunteered to review the grant application form for possible simplification/revision. (Comments sent to Rev. Hartman March 6 and 13.)

Prayer network update: Sally sent out the first email prayer request and had five responses as of the meeting.

Visit update: Sally N. and Les G. are planning to visit the Foothill Mission Society, however are having difficulty with scheduling the visit. Jill will visit Word of Grace, Rohnert Park, for their dedication on April 2. John tentatively plans to visit Word of Grace in June.

The remainder of the meeting was spent discussing the philosophy of "casting vision." We still seem to be grappling with the how's of the tasks of mission action councils as defined in the MAC Handbook:

- Cast vision.
- Initiate and generate mission opportunities.
- Encourage the missions.
- Celebrate with the missions.
- Communicate the mission.
- Evaluate the mission.

Reports back from other MACs indicate that they are having similar discussions. We will continue this discussion at our next meeting, time and place to be determined.