

Chairman's Report 2017: Trustees Board of Converge Northeast

Submitted by Christopher Brown

In the midst of revealing himself more completely to his disciples as God the Son in Mark 16:18, Jesus told them, "I will build my church..." It is in that understanding that the Trustees Board has approached the responsibilities of the district this past year. Our desire has been to facilitate and encourage ministry where God is at work in the churches of our district.

The Trustee Board met quarterly to address the business of the district. The focus has been to be proactive in efforts to start and strengthen churches. Along with the able leadership of our Executive Minister, Brent Allen, the Trustees Board engaged in the following efforts:

- 1) The board added two new members, Derrick Jackson from Trinity Church, Norwood, MA and Nicholson (Sony) Pierre from Beraca Baptist Church, Brooklyn, NY.
- 2) Reviewed and discussed the Converge Diversity Study, and sought opportunities to implement its recommendations on the Board and with our churches.
- 3) Osterville Baptist Church in Osterville, MA was approved by the Board to join CNE. Welcome!
- 4) The Board agreed to financially assist two church planting opportunities – Bethany Bible Chapel in Winchendon, MA, and Roots Church in Queens, NY. Both will receive \$12,500 from the Revolving Church Planting Fund.
- 5) We are still working towards a 10 year plan in conjunction with Converge Worldwide to start and strengthen churches in the district.
- 6) We awarded 2 scholarships given to students attending undergraduate school for ministry/missional impact. This has been administered faithfully by trustee Tori Rowe. Thank you, Tori.
- 7) The Board approved a unique opportunity for Brent Allen to serve as part-time Interim Pastor of Valley Community Baptist in Bristol, CT. This would be balanced with his present responsibilities as District Executive Minister.
- 8) The Board approved a budget for 2017-2018 fiscal year. Thanks go to Lori Allen as Financial Secretary and Bill Jeffries as Treasurer for doing the real work in making that possible.
- 9) Board members Heather Fignar and John Ames have moved on to other ministry opportunities. We thank them for their faithful and able service to the district, and pray God's direction and blessings for them.

Your brother in Christ,

Christopher Brown