

SHENANDOAH DISTRICT CHURCH OF THE BRETHREN

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Dear Friends,

The Shenandoah District Leadership Team approved the following motion at its meeting on October 15, 2015. Please share this with your congregation and ask them to set aside Tuesday, November 3, 2015, as a day of prayer and fasting.

“Whereas the 2004 Annual Conference paper on Congregational Disagreement with Annual Conference Decisions suggests that one response for the District Leadership Team would be ‘to call for a day of prayer and fasting to seek the guidance of the Holy Spirit and for appropriate spiritual conduct,’ the District Leadership Team is asking all district congregations to set aside Tuesday, November 3, 2015, as a day of serious prayer and fasting as we further determine our response to the Bridgewater Church of the Brethren on their May 3, 2015, decision to permit their pastors to perform any legal marriage.”

This step is one of many the District Leadership Team and the Bridgewater congregation leadership have worked at through this process. In the same meeting, the District Leadership Team approved a Shenandoah District version of the 2004 Annual Conference paper “Framework of Response to Congregations Out of Agreement with Annual Conference Decisions” to present to delegates at District Conference. Understand that processes such as this one take time. I ask for your patience in giving time to both the district and the congregation to work thoughtfully and seriously through this dialogue. We will be asking the delegate body to enter into a conversation about the process itself so that it will represent our best efforts as a community when we work in these situations. Pray for all our congregations and delegates that we might focus on getting the process in the best format possible.

In Christ’s Service,



Randy Simmons
District Leadership Team Chair



Together we reach out with Jesus. . .