

March 2017

The transition team appointed by the Administrative Council to facilitate a fair and equitable division of assets for the restructure of Northwest Yearly Meeting met on March 18, 2017. Present were: David Green, Debbie Harrison, George Crosiar, David Peyton, Ken Beebe, Roger Watson, Gordon Crisman, Mark Ankeny, Retha McCutchen, John Price, Silas Olson and Lorraine Watson.

In this first meeting, no decisions were made. The team familiarized themselves with assets of NWYM and its related organizations and decided what research needs to be done to have the documentation necessary to make informed decisions. We made a commitment to honor the contributions of all members through the past as we go forward ministering through two yearly meetings.

Information to individuals and churches:

- June 30, 2018 is intended to be a soft date. Churches are *not* under a deadline to make decisions regarding their status within this time period. The transition team will offer a timeframe after June 2018 where churches might still leave NWYM with their property. It was the intent of the AC decision, as revised at the Mid-Year Representatives meeting, that churches that have not made a statement regarding human sexuality are welcome in either yearly meeting. NWYM will require support of the current Faith & Practice. The new group envisions including those affirming churches as well as those who agree to disagree.
- We want to make it clear that all churches currently members of NWYM will remain under NWYM's 501(c)(3) until a new yearly meeting is formed and obtained a 501(c)(3) for member churches or a local church has secured its own designation.
- The transition team will address participation of independent churches.
- Individual investments in the 401(k) will remain with those individuals regardless of the yearly meeting choice. Any individual has the option to withdraw his/her account. Any account is able to remain in the plan.

The next meeting will be April 15, 2017. An all-day meeting is planned.