



Mid-Atlantic District Church of the Brethren

Continuing the work of Jesus. Peacefully. Simply. Together.



April 28, 2009

The District Leadership Team is very pleased to announce that we have called a new District Executive Minister to fill our vacancy. The Search Committee reviewed the profiles of many outstanding candidates and then spent one Saturday in April interviewing three individuals. We were blessed to have such qualified persons interested in leading our District. The Search Committee selected their first choice and then recommended this individual to the Leadership Team. This past week we voted unanimously to call Pastor Gene Hagenberger to be our new District Executive Minister.

Gene has been a Church of the Brethren pastor for more than 27 years and most recently has been serving at the Easton COB for 10+ years. During that time, he has been very active in the District—he served on the Visioning Committee that developed the current Mid-Atlantic District mission statement, core values, and three-point mission focus. He has been a member of many subcommittees and is a past Chair of the Leadership Team. He currently serves as Vice-Chair of the Leadership Team.



Gene brings a vision and vitality to this position that will serve us well as we face budgetary and other challenges in the Mid-Atlantic District. He said in his application

letter, “I am particularly interested at this point in our District life in building a more secure financial foundation for district ministry, and have some vision and ideas about how we might go about that.” We are excited to have a candidate with Gene’s experience, enthusiasm, and commitment to join us at the District level. He has given three months’ notice to his congregation and will start in his new position on August 1, 2009. In the meantime, we will continue to be served by interim District Executives Linda Jacoby and Loyal Vanderveer. Please feel free to contact me if you have any questions or would like clarification about the process we used to call our new District Executive Minister.

In closing, I would like to thank you for your prayers and support as we have worked through the steps to call Gene. Many of you have expressed your encouragement to us and have confirmed that you have held us in your prayers. We have felt blessed and uplifted to be supported by you, our brothers and sisters in the Mid- Atlantic District. I look forward to continuing the work of the District with you as we welcome Gene into this position of leadership among us.

In Christ,

/s/ Gretchen Zience
Chair, Leadership Team
703-244-7190
gzience@comcast.net