



July 2011

Open Letter to PCA Pastors and Key Church Leaders,

*"The harvest is plentiful, but the laborers are few. Therefore pray earnestly to the Lord of the harvest to send out laborers into His harvest." – Luke 10:1-2*

Pray for laborers. Serve our Lord in appointing and equipping laborers. Go with the assurance that the Lord of the harvest goes before – into every town and place. **As has been my practice for the past several years, my purpose in writing is to ask you to prayerfully consider encouraging your church to make two commitments for 2012:**

- 1. A greater commitment to church planting and other outreach ministry across North America.**
- 2. A commitment to 2012 Ministry Ask giving to MNA and the other PCA Committees and Agencies.**

The trends in North America are the same as they have been for the past several years. The momentum of change, and with it the implications for our churches, grows steadily. Our communities include ever greater numbers of minorities and new immigrants as the poor migrate from the center cities to the suburbs, and ongoing large numbers of people around us face great economic challenges. *God's call is to trust Him for a greater harvest, to reach out in love and mercy, bearing witness in word and deed to the salvation God has given us – and offers the people of our communities – in Christ.* Our outreach begins with prayer. Then, to put hearts, minds, hands and feet to work in ministering among the many people groups around us.

We encourage every church to seek out how they can participate in planting new churches. To assist you, **MNA Church Planting** resources include: vision casting, strategic planning, recruiting, assessing, placing, fund raising, training (including training for ministry through LAMP), and mentoring church planters and their wives. Our staff includes leadership in church planting among African Americans, Haitian Americans, Hispanic Americans, Korean Americans, Native Americans/First Nations, Portuguese Language communities, and among the poor.

As you seek God's direction in reaching new neighbors for Christ and in serving those who live in a variety of challenging circumstances, please take advantage of the resources offered by **MNA Outreach Ministries**: Disaster Response, MNA ShortTerm Missions, Chaplain Ministries, ESL, Metanoia Prison Ministries, Ministry to State and Special Needs Ministries. I am delighted to report that we are now adding **MNA SecondCareer** as a new service. As we are able to identify ministry opportunities for individuals and couples, we will make those known to men and women who may be seeking new career opportunities or ways to continue in ministry during their retirement.

Some highlights from 2010. Please join us in thanking God for these new advances in ministry across the PCA:

- **Church Planting:** For the past six years, the PCA has placed a church planter on the field in North America once a week, on average. While some church planters use only presbytery or local church resources, most utilize the services that MNA provides.



- **African American Ministries:** Two new Teaching Elders were ordained during 2010, and one new mission church was launched, led by an African American church planter.
- **Hispanic American Ministries:** Hernando Saenz succeeded Tim McKeown as Coordinator, as Tim accepted a new call. Hernando is an experienced church planter with longstanding experience in the Hispanic culture as well as in the mainstream culture of North America.
- **Network of Portuguese Speaking Churches:** Darcy Caires succeeded Renato Bernardes as Coordinator. Darcy, executive pastor at Astoria Community Church in Queens NY, serves in this role on a part time basis.
- **Leadership and Ministry Preparation (LAMP):** SpanishLAMP is under development, with the first year of courses now available in the Spanish language.
- **Church Planting Spouses Ministry (Parakaleo):** Increased spouse coaching network locations in 2010, for a total of 15 networks. New training materials were developed.
- **Disaster Response:** PCA/Mission to North America Disaster Response became an official member of National VOAD as of November 2010, giving us access to often restricted disaster work sites. MNA Disaster Response Staff are now in place and available to prepare churches and coordinate disaster response in every coastal county from Brownsville TX to the Delaware Bay.
- **Chaplain Ministries:** 280 chaplains (military and civilian) were serving as of the end of 2010; 79 serve as chaplains in civilian institutions such as hospitals and prisons.
- **English as a Second Language (ESL):** 20 new ESL (English as a Second Language) Schools started during 2010. ESL is increasingly a starting point for our churches to effectively begin relationships with new immigrants in their communities.

*Please support MNA at \$26 per member per year in 2012, the same Ministry Ask as in 2011. Support for all PCA Committees and Agencies is crucial to a healthy future for the PCA. Ministry Ask guidelines from the PCA Administrative Committee are enclosed. All MNA ministry program staff members seek designated gifts for their personal support. This designated support is included in the \$26 Ministry Ask. MNA does not take administrative fees from designated giving for church planting projects or any other designated support. 100% of all designated support is used for the project for which it is given.*

A brochure listing our services is enclosed. For additional information for your key leaders, visit our web site: [pcamna.org](http://pcamna.org). Contact me (678-825-1200 or [jbland@pcanet.org](mailto:jbland@pcanet.org)), MNA Associate Coordinator Fred Marsh (404-307-8266 or [fmarsh@pcanet.org](mailto:fmarsh@pcanet.org)), or Church Relations Director Stephen Lutz (828-242-1440 or [slutz@pcanet.org](mailto:slutz@pcanet.org)) at any time, if you want to talk further about any of our ministries. Thank you for standing with us in the greatest cause to which we can be called – God’s servants in advancing the Gospel.

Sincerely in Christ,



Jim Bland  
MNA Coordinator

**P.S. MNA serves churches and presbyteries as God advances His Kingdom through intentional evangelism and outreach ministries. We pray for greater growth in the Great Commission, trusting that God will make the PCA strong in all centers of influence and among all people groups across North America.**



## 2012 PARTNERSHIP SHARES STATEMENT FOR THE PCA GENERAL ASSEMBLY MINISTRIES

### Preface

The working definition under which the 2012 Partnership Share Budgets have been calculated is as follows.

*As a general statement, “Partnership Shares” describes the amount of money needed to cover the anticipated total expenses of a ministry minus earned income and minus funds designated to specific individuals who are missionaries, church planters, campus ministers, and staff (unless the ministry also guarantees the full compensation of the employee), as well as specific capital funds or similar designated monies. This portion of the approved expense budget is dependent on contributions from the PCA churches and individuals. In every case the “Partnership Share” is permitted to be at least the General Administrative and Overhead portion of the particular ministry’s total budget.*

Two important numbers for each participating ministry are provided by the Partnership Share and Ministry Ask calculations. First, the numbers located in the column labeled “Per Capita Calculation” are obtained by a per capita giving formula, which divides the Partnership Share Fund amount for each General Assembly Ministry by the total number of communicant members last reported to and accumulated by the Office of the Stated Clerk.

A second set of numbers under the column labeled “Ministry Ask” is provided for churches. The “Ministry Ask” is the amount of money each Committee or Agency is asking the churches of the PCA to give if the church would like to give to PCA Ministries on a “per member” basis. The amount listed in this column is generally an estimate of what each Committee and Agency needs to receive from each *donor* church per member in order for the Committee or Agency to raise their full budget approved by the PCA General Assembly.

**These two numbers provide churches and individuals with important factors as they seek to decide how to give to the PCA General Assembly Committees and Agencies. All PCA Ministries struggle to raise Partnership Share funds, and none of the PCA ministries would be sustained without generous donors who give far beyond the Partnership Share. Please assist as generously as you are able.**

In short, the Partnership Shares calculation is based on the inaccurate assumption that all churches have the same giving capacity per member and that all churches will give to all Committees and Agencies. The Ministry Ask is a more realistic figure.

**2012 Budgeted Partnership Shares and Ministry Asks  
of PCA Ministry Partners  
by the Participating General Assembly Ministries**

Participating Ministries of the PCA	2012 Total Expense Budget	2012 Partnership Share Fund			*Ministry Asks  \$ Per Member
		P.S. Fund	% of Total	Per Capita Calculation	
AC	\$2,102,973	\$1,267,973	6.320%	\$4.65	\$7
CEP	\$1,802,000	\$815,000	4.063%	\$2.99	\$7
CC	\$27,412,005	\$2,200,000	10.966%	\$8.07	\$9
CTS	\$12,080,000	\$2,864,680	14.280%	\$10.50	\$10
MNA	\$9,778,715	\$3,369,267	16.795%	\$12.35	\$26
MTW	\$55,048,300	\$6,519,800	32.499%	\$23.90	\$24
RUM	\$18,955,330	\$2,513,652	12.530%	\$9.22	\$10
RH	\$1,445,000	\$511,000	2.547%	\$1.87	\$4
<b>TOTALS</b>	<b>\$125,928,023</b>	<b>\$20,061,372</b>	<b>100.00%</b>	<b>\$73.55</b>	<b>\$97</b>

The total number of Communicant Members according to the PCA Administrative Committee was 272,750 as of December 31, 2010.

**GENERAL NOTE**

Gifts designated “spread per Partnership Shares” (or some equivalent) and the totally undesignated gifts (which amount to less than \$3,000 a year) will be spread according to the “Ministry Ask” column (by percentages of the total).