

# VISION 2012

## Gift-giving and gift-receiving

This season of the year is all about gifts. While the North American consumer-culture seems to think that all of us have lots of money to spend on lots of gifts, we know that simply is not true. There are those among us who have no health insurance, for example, so buying even a few presents for those we love will be difficult. And yet, there are those among us who have many resources and will dedicate those resource to serve others.

Vision 2012 has truly been a gift-giving opportunity. As of November 15, 648 individuals have made a financial and prayer commitment to the campaign. We are over half-way towards our \$1.5 million goal.

Vision 2012 has truly been a gift-receiving opportunity. The **Resource Library** is newly expanded, remodeled and stocked with over 12,000 items. **Camp Mennoscah** has a new tractor and has broken ground for a new director's house, thanks to Vision 2012. The first "**Vision Grant**" was made to Tabor Mennonite Church, Newton, KS to aid in congregational strategic planning.

Our resources are a gift from a generous God. We covenant to be good stewards of those gifts. During this season, especially, let us receive the gift of God's presence, Immanuel, and then let us share that gift with the world.

*--Dorothy Nickel Friesen, conference minister*

**2007 Annual Budget**  
Congregational Goal: \$472,300



**Vision 2012**  
3 year Goal: \$1,500,000



Totals through  
November 15, 2007

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# WDC News

December 2007/January 2008

## Take heart! Look around!

In the seasons of Advent, Christmas, and Epiphany, the Christian church enters into a time of spiritual vigilance, anticipation, celebration, and witness. During Advent, we wait in expectancy but with "a posture of yielded openness to God". During Christmas, we celebrate new life through the coming of Jesus. During Epiphany, we share the Good News with the world.

In Western District Conference, we take heart as we see God's transformation around us.



Pastor Jorge Quintanilla of Iglesia Menonita Mi Redentor, Dallas, TX, welcomes Conference Minister Dorothy Nickel Friesen to their third anniversary celebration in a newly remodeled space. (Photo by Janet Kaufman)



The leaders of Western District Conference met on Saturday, November 3 at First Mennonite Church, Halstead, KS, to remind themselves of God's leading of Mennonite Church USA and the current challenges which are reported in Conrad Kanagy's study, Road Signs for the Journey (Faith & Life Press). (Photo by Phyllis Regier)

***Often we see new things when we read! The Western District Conference Resource Library is updated, improved, expanded, and a welcoming place for all ages. (The space will be dedicated on Sunday, December 2 at 4:00 p.m.) Your leaders, pastors, and congregations benefit from over 12,000 items plus the assistance of Minister of Christian Nurture, Marlene Bogard.***



Naomi Epp and Lydia Deckert and spend time reading in the newly remodeled Conference Resource Library. (Photo by Marlene Bogard)



Camp Mennoscah broke ground for a new Director's house on November 4. Vern Preheim, chair of Vision 2012 Steering Committee, turns the first shovelful. (Photo by Phyllis Regier)

Delon Martens, frequent Camp Mennoscah volunteer/summer program director and chair of WDC's Staff Relations Committee, takes a close look at the house floor plans. (Photo by Phyllis Regier)



A newly-constructed maintenance office and two-bedroom apartment at Camp features much-needed storage and work areas. (Photo by Phyllis Regier)

Adolf Neufeld, Bethel Mennonite Church, Inman, KS, takes a turn at the ground-breaking ceremonies under the watchful eye of Adam Robb, Resource Commission member from Bethel College Mennonite Church, North Newton, KS. (Photo by Vada Snider)

