



The Iteba Network Newsletter

Through Which Love Flows

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iteba.hanover.edu

October Network Meeting Held

Twenty-three representatives from Network churches met at Westminster Presbyterian in Munster, IN over the weekend of October 28-30. We had a wonderfully productive meeting, heard all about ITEBA, and enjoyed the gracious hospitality of our hosts, including The Phantom of The Organ Halloween music program. It was great fun! The purpose of this Newsletter is to offer a summary of the meeting for our friends in the Network.

Report From ITEBA

ITEBA received \$100,000 from the Presbyterian Women's Birthday Offering. The exciting news is that they have purchased an old school building in the old central city of Salvador that will be perfect for the school's new location (pictures of the new building will soon be on the website at iteba.hanover.edu). However, they still owe some money on the building and moving to the new location will necessitate renovation expenses. They continue to struggle monetarily, having reported an operating deficit in the period from January to August, 2005.

We heard some real success stories about ITEBA and our Network's involvement in their mission.

- The Quilombo Zeferina (QZ) community has gradually embraced us as we work there – moving from shutting their doors in 2000 to saying “You’re Back!” in 2004.
- ITEBA has raised the horizons of children in the QZ community – only 2 of the original 40 children with whom we first worked have fallen to crime.
- ITEBA has empowered the women of the QZ community to fight for their rights, and this empowerment has spread to the men.
- We were reminded that we provide ITEBA with a sense of solidarity and legitimacy of their efforts, something they do not receive locally. To quote the President of ITEBA, Marlene Moreira da Silva, “We will repeat this as often as need be: ITEBA’s heart is full of joy and hope, because God has heard our cry and answered through the solidarity of many.”
- Two young people from First Pres of Washington, PA who were members of earlier Mutiroes are now in seminary.
- A video celebrating ITEBA’s 18th anniversary was played during the Network meeting.

Structural Reorganization of the Network

A very significant part of the weekend activities was a structural reorganization of our Network that will allow us to better divide up our work and relieve a few persons of the need to be responsible for all that we do. We first created an Executive Committee of 4 persons who are responsible for day-to-day decisions and for coordinating all

Network activities and work. We next selected an individual from each Network congregation to act as the Network Church Representative. Finally, we created a list of important Network functions and selected individuals to be responsible for each. Some detail of each of these is presented below.

The Executive Committee

Decision making for the Network will be made by an Executive Committee composed of 4 persons, each of whom shall serve for 2 years. They will meet “electronically” at least once per month. The Executive Committee for the 2005-2007 period will consist of the following.

Mark Swift
 Elisabeth Rogers
 Gina Gustavson
 Jim Yackel

Network Church Representatives

Each affiliate church of the Network will have a Network Church Representative who will serve as the communications link between their church and the Network, such communications flowing in both directions. They will also be responsible for insuring that funds collected for the Network are regularly transmitted to the Network financial office in Washington, PA. Finally, they will cultivate interest in the Network and in ITEBA among their congregation. The following are the Representatives for the first year.

Westminster Pres in Munster – Erna Yackel
 Hanover Pres in Hanover – Paul Blume
 Westminster Pres in Minneapolis – Gina Gustavson

First Pres in St. Cloud – Lori Eggers
 First Pres in Youngstown – Carol Rogers
 First Pres in Washington – Mark Swift
 First Pres in Princeton – David Brookman
 Mt. Auburn Pres in Cincinnati – TBA

Functional Responsibilities

The various jobs necessary to the Network’s effective functioning are too many for only a few people to manage. Thus, we identified some significant functions and selected folks to fulfill them. The following represents that list.

Communications	Paul Blume
Correspondent with Brazil	Elisabeth Rogers
Database Management	Alice Campbell
Financial Management	Tom Vreeland
Librarian	Paul Blume
Marketing	Erna Yackel
	June Rogers
	Elisabeth Rogers
Mutirão Director	David Leslie
Resources	June Rogers

Mutirão IV Is Coming

ITEBA has invited us down again this summer for another work-study Mutirão. David Leslie is in charge of making all arrangements and it is his hope to have definitive plans by December. However, interest among your congregation may begin to be cultivated using the following information.

- The probable dates will be July 15-29, 2006.
- The probable cost will be from \$2,500 to \$3,000 per person.
- There will probably be two work projects, one surely being renovation of the new school building.

- There will be a maximum of 30-35 persons
- The use of orientation trips around Salvador will be kept and expanded to include new ones
- More “user-friendly” resources will be added to the resource list on the website (iteba.hanover.edu).

Network Contributions to ITEBA

ITEBA’s financial needs are regular and on-going and it is important for us to supply them with a steady flow of funds. Network churches are reminded to make quarterly (at least) transfers of funds to the Network so these might be sent to ITEBA for their operating expenses. All funds should be transferred to our financial agents at the First Pres of Washington, PA, with checks being clearly marked as being for ITEBA. **We will add a new page on the website that has definitive instructions for church treasurers about how to transmit funds to the Network.** Look for it in a week or two.

Help Update Our Database

The Network maintains a database of friends who receive this Newsletter and other communications. It is important that this database be maintained in an orderly fashion. We need to eliminate the names of those who would rather no longer receive our news. At the same time, we should add those who want to be kept up to date about ITEBA and the Network. And, of course, there is the continuing problem of keeping up with changes in e-mail and snail-mail addresses. Please send all of these changes to Alice Campbell, our database manager, at 278 Stonebridge Blvd., St. Paul,

MN 55105 (aliceC78@alum.mit.edu). She will pass those changes around so that effective communications may be maintained. Thanks for your help in doing this.