

Annual Report
Mike Lamb, Fund Development Coordinator
June 2024

In many aspects, these past nine months have been a time of exploration and discovery. In recognizing a need last year, WDC leadership envisioned leveraging some of the assets released in the sale of the 2500 Place facility to create a fund development position. As I explored this vision with staff and volunteers, it became evident that this new role could serve as a resource for not only the programs of WDC, but also the ministries of our member churches. And so, we embarked on this journey in September 2023. On a schedule of approximately one day per week, my experiences can generally be summed up as discovery in the first few months as I learned to know the culture and people of the conference, and then, outreach. My outreach has included individual meetings with our constituents (pastors and donors) and written communications (website newsletter articles, the fundraising letters and the fundraising brochure). These activities are detailed below in no particular order:

- August 2023 Assembly
- Review of WDC materials
- Individual meetings with WDC staff
- Attendance at WDC staff meetings, retreat and Stewardship Commission meetings
- Develop Statement of Intent to document legacy gifts
- Develop a spreadsheet to track existing legacy gifts for stewardship
- Meetings with personnel at Everence, Schowalter Foundation, Pankratz & Hodge Law firm, Menno Media and Bethel College
- Meetings with legacy gift donors to document their gift plans
- Review history of Vision 2012 fundraising campaign
- Assist in drafting fall fundraising letters
- Develop fundraising brochure
- Meetings with selected area pastors
- Review of restricted fund guidelines and controlling documents
- Assist in preparation of Lilly Endowment proposal (pending)
- Assist in preparation of Schowalter Foundation proposal (funded)

From my perspective, I have found my interactions with WDC staff, volunteers, pastors, donors to be affirming and full of hope for the future of the conference and our member churches. I look forward to continued meetings with pastors, congregational leaders and individual members.

Mike Lamb

