



Home Mission: One Perspective

Today, there is a need for brethren of the Churches of Christ to meet together and discuss evangelism, church growth and church planting. Many congregations have become stagnant and others have stopped meeting and have closed their doors. Fewer young men are becoming gospel preachers. Some have warned us that seventy congregations are closing each year. We cannot continue to ignore this problem. It will not go away. The time to act is now.

Ten years ago a new congregation was started in Highland County, Ohio. The brethren purchased property and remodeled the existing building. The auditorium can seat one-hundred and twenty. There are three classrooms, a kitchen, ample parking and plenty of room to grow. There is another building on the property that can be used for classrooms or a fellowship hall. Our attendance is forty, members and children.

One year ago we became familiar with the work of Home Mission. Through our contact we became acquainted with John and Suzy Orr. The Orr's have been to Highland County on two occasions. John has spoken for two of the congregations in our County. He knows the condition of the church in this part of Ohio. Brother Orr has presented lessons on first principles, evangelism and visitation.

We need to start a School of Evangelism in Hillsboro, Ohio. Our church house is has a central location on US State 50, just fifty miles from Cincinnati. The Creation

Museum, located in northern Kentucky, is within easy driving distance. The City of Hillsboro has a community college, hospital and a regional airport. There is a Walmart and several restaurants. The Highland County Fair has seventy-five thousand visitors each day.

There are seventeen Christian Churches in the area. These congregations use instrumental music and several of them are progressive. However, two of the Christian Church congregations have contacted us and have expressed desire to stop using mechanical instruments are work with us. Consequently, there are doors of opportunity.

The Highland County Church of Christ conducts vacation Bible School each summer. We door knock the neighborhoods and pick-up the children and take them back home. In previous years we have conducted two Gospel Tent Meetings and area wide Gospel Singings. We have had several visitors from the community with many from the area instrumental Christian Churches.

We believe there are many opportunities to reignite evangelism in this part of Ohio with a School of Evangelism and conducting evangelism workshops similar to the ones that Home Mission has presented. We want to partner with Home Mission as we believe it is a good work.

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