

ALL THIS is from God, who reconciled us to Himself through Christ and gave us the ministry of reconciliation. 2 Corinthians 5:18

Four years ago, February 1, 2016, I received the assignment to become the President of the Pilgrim Center for Reconciliation. It has been a great honor and adventure to step into this remarkable ministry established 25 years ago by our founders, Dr. Arthur and Molly Rouner. These last four years have been marked by deepening our roots, strengthening our trunk, spreading our branches, and increasing our fruitfulness. Here are a few of the things that have been accomplished since BCF sent me into this work.

DEEPENING OUR ROOTS

We have dug down deep to discover the essential DNA of PCR and have re-articulated our Mission Statement, Foundational Principles and Values, Goals and Objectives, and Strategies and Tactics.

STRENGTHENING OUR TRUNK

We have bolstered our core strength by establishing new comprehensive Bylaws, budgeting and financial guidelines, growing a diverse engaged board of directors, expanding our *Circle of Friends* giving partners and our summer Dinner with Friends in New Hampshire and our Fall Celebration Dinner in Minnesota. We have also grown our communications with our Journey Out Newsletter, and Stories of Transformation eNews as well as our base of prayer with our monthly and trip updates to our growing PCR Prayer Team.

SPREADING OUR BRANCHES

We continue to develop new methods to deliver this ministry of reconciliation. In addition to our 3 day Healing and Reconciliation Retreat we have now deployed our 1/2 day and 1 day Heart of Reconciliation Retreat, Way of Reconciliation Course, and Living Reconciliation evenings. Coming soon is our *Becoming a Reconciler* Course. We have also developed a new Training Retreat and training protocol for new PCR facilitators.

We are now utilizing these methods to reach new places and peoples both here in the USA, in Africa, and beyond. Our ministry stateside has expanded rapidly as we host retreats and courses in various setting for a wide variety of people. In Africa, we continue to sustain our work in Rwanda while also growing our work throughout Eastern Africa. This March we will officially launch Pilgrim Center Uganda, we are laying the groundwork now for launching Pilgrim Center South Sudan, and we continue to explore opportunities in the DRC, Ethiopia, Burundi, and Kenya. We have also taken exploratory Journey Out ministry trips to Nepal and Mexico.

INCREASING OUR FRUITFULNESS

One significant shift we have been pursuing is to build upon our significant *moments* of reconciliation to create a movement of reconciliation. As we intentionally pursue this shift we are seeing more lasting fruit in lives, relationships, and communities. We are specifically beginning to explore the potential of creating a comprehensive East African Initiative to release and empower a movement to reach an entire region.

Thank you BCF family for sending me into this work and faithfully covering and supporting this remarkable ministry through your prayers and financial partnership.

With deepest appreciation, Pastor Jim Olson