

Friends of the Shenandoah District,

The Blue Ribbon Team held its first meeting Feb. 25 at the District Office. Brother John Jantzi opened our time with devotions and prayer. Our first item of business was to address the name of our team. While "Blue Ribbon Team" has been the working name, interest in changing the name to something that better reflects the role and task of our team was expressed. We discussed several options that reflect both our work and our intentions as a team. The team will take time to think and reflect on the suggestions and settle on a new name during our next meeting.

We spent the majority of our afternoon setting the context of our work. We viewed a presentation of the key events in our District and denomination between 2015 and the present day. This presentation highlighted many of the factors that have led to our current division, as well as the papers and documents related to our understandings.

Our meeting concluded with identifying key concerns and questions regarding the work of the team. The main question we considered was "How do we measure the success of this team?" We then talked about ways our work will be guided through prayer, worship and dialogue with the District.

Our next meeting date is set for Sunday, March 18, 2018, from 2-4 p.m. at the District Office.

Thank you for your prayers and support for our team.

Jon Prater