

May 16, 2005

To All Restoration Branch Pastors

Dear Brethren:

Some members of the Pastors of Zion met in November to consider lawful ways to promote unity and identity among the branches. We concluded that church law allowed branches to convene a joint conference in which they could find extended fellowship, adopt mutually acceptable resolutions, and provide continuity for the Reorganized Church among Restoration saints. Little did we know then of the pending emergency that has come on the church and threatened to plunge its leading quorums into organizational disorder.

In December the Pastors of Zion formed a committee to further investigate a joint conference of branches. At their January meeting, the POZ expanded the committee to include any others interested in the investigation. Last Saturday the committee made its final report, after which the POZ authorized us to invite all interested branches to authorize their branch president or a priesthood representative to meet in a planning committee to adopt rules of representation and an agenda for a Conference of Restoration Branches. A copy of the resolution is enclosed.

As committee chairman, I am inviting your branch to consider participating in the planning for a joint conference. Our first planning meeting will be held on Saturday, June 4 at Zarahemla Branch, located at 502 SW 17<sup>th</sup> St, Blue Springs, MO. The meeting will begin at 8:00 AM. Lunch will be provided at the church. The POZ committee will direct the first meeting. One item will be to elect a chairman who will direct future committee meetings. We may choose to also appoint sub-committees such as a credentials committee. When these choices have been made, the POZ committee will no longer be involved with the planning for the conference, although some of its members may be representatives from their respective branches.

I invite your branch is to send a representative to our first meeting. We suggest that each branch vote in a business meeting to authorize their pastor or a priesthood representative. This will give each participant authority to act on behalf of their branch in the planning meetings. Some may be coming from a distance and need help with housing. If your branch wants to participate, but have no representative who can attend our first meeting, please contact me. My address is 26105 E. Bundschu, Independence, MO 64056. I will send all the minutes from our first meeting to you or the person whom you designate. You may also find information about the conference planning on our branch web site at [www.zarahemlabranch.org](http://www.zarahemlabranch.org).

We view the planned joint conference of Restoration branches as an important step in the continuity of the church. If the leading quorums complete their proposed agenda during their conference the following week, the Reorganized Church will fall into organization disorder. The only form of church government coordinating the activities of branches will be a joint conference. Its success will provide church identity to many of our members unsure of what church they have joined. It may also prove to form the foundation from which God can complete his latter-day work.

We look forward to your participation. Please keep this committee and its work in your prayers.

Your servant:



Bob Moore