

## Peace Notes



### Thanking God for His Faithfulness and Provision

While this year started with some uncertainty and open questions about our path forward, we have seen God's hand at work as our Board came together with input from our conciliator team to frame a clear path forward, as individuals stepped up to provide interim staffing and generously provide financial support, and as key new staff has been led to serve this ministry. We are still looking for additional biblically grounded men with good communication skills and a temperament for peacemaking to serve occasionally on a conciliation team. If you know any, please send them our way.

This summer we welcomed Lucy Nichols, as our new Outreach and Development Officer and announced our search of a new CEO. The Lord put it on several people's hearts to apply. The Board interviewed candidates in October and ultimately decided to invite Mary Lyons to become our new CEO.

Mary is a highly qualified professional. Mary received her undergraduate degree from the University of Virginia, her law degree from George Washington University School of Law, and a Masters of Law degree in Taxation from Georgetown University Law Center. Her background and experience, which include running her own professional dental practice, legal experience in dealing with business and tax matters, and currently running her own professional mediation practice as a certified mediator with the Virginia Supreme court, will be of high value.

But most significant is Mary's deep faith in Christ and her heart for peacemaking. It is clear to us that Mary was responding to God's call on her to serve. Also, Mary and her husband are active in their church, particularly in the marriage ministry there, where they work with couples to seek a closer relationship with the Lord, and thereby improve their marriage relationships.

We thank God for Mary and her choice to accept our offer. Mary is thrilled about the opportunity to join the team, and build the program of the ministry by working to make it a more well-known resource to the pastors and staff of local churches, other ministries, local courts, and others who are involved in a dispute and are seeking a resolution process that is based on biblical principles, and reconciliation of the broken relationship, wherever possible, through repentance, confession and forgiveness.

Mary has started in earnest to lead our ministry forward and is currently working with the Board to frame a vision and mission statement upon which to frame our strategic direction for the future.

God has also provided us the opportunity to serve people in conflict in a variety of scenarios, involving parenting, child support, couples pursuing reconciliation, business partner conflict, employment conflict, personal civil claims, property division, and estate distribution, bringing peace where there was discord and brokenness.

As we begin Advent, preparing our hearts for the celebration of the arrival of our Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace, we trust that He will refresh us, renew us, and lead us on the path ahead.

**Starting Strong for 2019** We will continue to be trusting in God's faithfulness and provision as we strengthen and grow this ministry. If you agree with our vision to fulfill Christ's call to be peacemakers, please prayerfully consider how you may be an instrument of His provision. Let us know how you are led to help us. If you are led to bless us with a generous gift today, you may do so through the link on:

<http://www.conflicttopeace.org/support.html>

May you have a Blessed Christmas