

BIBLICAL DIALOGUE

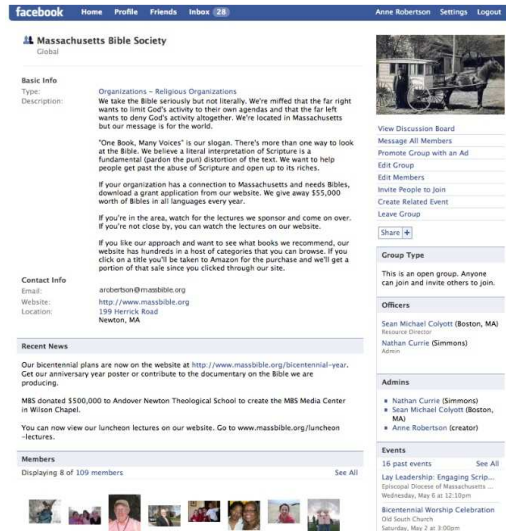
“Come now, and let us reason together” Isaiah 1:18

Across the past year we engaged our constituents in dialogue through visits by the Executive Director to local churches, interviews for our strategic planning process, and through our website.

Although the busiest time for local church engagements tends to be Spring through Fall, since September 2008 Rev. Robertson has been present to preach or speak in eight local churches representing eight cities or towns, four denominations and one ecumenical gathering. Often preaching engagements are followed by church coffee hours or more formal dialogue sessions where there is a chance to discuss the issues and hear from people at the grassroots.

All of our Executive Committee was involved in interviewing active constituents for our strategic planning process, resulting in helpful guidance and feedback about our strengths and challenges.

Our presence on the Internet continues to grow. Our own social network on the MBS website now has 108 members. Participants write blogs to share with others, comment back and forth, and discuss relevant issues.



We also have a strong Facebook presence. Our MBS Facebook group now has 109 members, enabling us to send out information immediately, register people for events, and host discussions. It has also facilitated our integration into the Andover Newton student population, since many ANTS students are members of our group. We own a Facebook application called the Never ending Bible Quiz, which allows users not only to take the quiz but to add their own questions which are reviewed and approved by our Executive Director.

We have continued the lectionary blog begun by our Field Education student last year. As each writer graduates and moves on, he or she finds another Harvard student to continue the blog, giving us a continuous flow and a diversity of approach. Comments are enabled so that anyone who reads can be in dialogue with the writer or others who make comments.

In the past fiscal year we have spent \$48,418 in the area of biblical dialogue.