Using the Williams typology, the group’s model could be described as the “Charity in Community with Self-Limitation and Trusting Faith” model. As for Tiessen’s typology, the group was faithful to their Anabaptist, Seventh-day Adventist roots in the Wesleyan-Arminian tradition, although giving divine determination of wealth and poverty a little more emphasis than Americans would.

A number implications are drawn from the research for the enhancement of mutual relationships for the sake of Christian global mission.

Andrews University, Seventh-day Adventist Theological Seminary

Title: Leadership Development in Albania: Equipping Young Pastors for Apostolic Leadership

Name of researcher: Leigh Rice

Advisers: Bruce L. Bauer, D.Miss., and Rudi Maier, Ph.D.

Date completed: June 2005

Albania opened to Christian missions in 1992. The church is new and the pastors are young and with limited experience. Initial rapid growth has been followed by slow decline. Leadership and leadership development is in the hands of foreign missionaries with limited experience in Albania. There is a need to develop culturally-appropriate, apostolic leadership for a country with a predominantly Muslim population.

Library research, questionnaires, interviews, and observations were conducted to develop an understanding of the Project Director, the Albanian culture, a theology of leadership and church, and methods in leadership development. An appreciative inquiry approach was used to create and implement a plan for developing apostolic leadership.

Apostolic leadership was chosen as the preferred leadership model to plant the church in this recently-entered country. An appreciative inquiry summit was conducted that successfully partnered young Albanians with experienced foreign missionaries in creating a preferred pattern for leadership. A plan was partially developed and implemented. There is greater confidence and enthusiasm in leadership but the process is at an early stage of implementation. If proven to be effective, this approach will help develop apostolic leadership in the current pastors of the Albanian Church and provide for future generations of leaders.

An apostolic leadership approach created through appreciative inquiry will increase the effectiveness of the leadership of the Albanian Church. It affirms the skills and experience of the Albanian pastors and creates ownership through participation. Apostolic leadership will increase the health and growth of the church.