



COMMUNIQUE

A CONFIDENTIAL BULLETIN TO DISTRICT MINISTERS FROM THE DISTRICT OFFICE

October - December 2010

NEWS FROM THE DISTRICT SUPERINTENDENT

General Council Open Church List

Please keep our General Council churches in prayer as they seek the Lord for future leadership:

House of Refuge, Allentown, PA
Valley Church, Allentown, PA
Beaver Assembly of God, Beaver, PA
Journey Church, Bridgeville, PA
Glendale Assembly of God, Coalport, PA
Dickson City Assembly of God, Dickson City, PA
New Beginnings Assembly of God, Kane, PA
Kensington Assembly of God, Philadelphia, PA

Ministers' Enrichment – October 4-6, 2010 – Bongiorno Conference Center, Carlisle, PA

Our guest speaker this year will be Sam Farina, an evangelist and life coach. Sam is a member of the International Coaching Federation and teaches the competencies required for certification. Also, Sam is certified as a Network Congregational Coach with Leadership Development Resources and holds certification with Valwood Christian Leadership Coaching.

C³ Leadership Network

Healthy relationships are essential to personal, spiritual and emotional well-being. If you have not become involved in one of our C³ groups, prayerfully consider doing so as soon as possible. Please be encouraged to contact one of the group leaders (See the District website for contact information and location.) or one of the facilitators. Catalyst Groups Facilitator: Bryan Koch; Coaching Groups Facilitator: Stephen Tourville; Connect Groups Facilitator: David Kennard.

Coach Training will be offered January 18-21, 2011 at the Bongiorno Conference Center. This is an excellent opportunity to receive training in this vital area. Please see page 5 for details on the 501 and 503 sessions.

Convoy of Hope: “One Day to Feed the World”

We are planning another district-wide effort to partner with Convoy of Hope in the “One Day to Feed the World” campaign. The target Sunday is November 21, 2010 which is World Hunger Day in the Assemblies of God; however, you may take an offering whenever it fits into your church calendar. More details and packets will be available at Ministers’ Enrichment.

Valley Forge Christian College

Valley Forge Christian College will be hosting two fall events to resource those who are in ministry. On Tuesday, October 26, Dr. James O. Davis, Founder of Cutting Edge International and Co-Founder of Billion Soul Network, will be the guest speaker at the annual VFCC Ministry Forum. The purpose of the Billion Soul network is to create a network of pastors and ministries to help plant five million new churches for a billion soul harvest. The first session will begin at 8:30 a.m. and the last session will conclude by 4:00 p.m. The \$25.00 registration fee includes four sessions, the chapel service and lunch. Please visit www.vfcc.edu/ministryforum for updated information. Questions can be directed to the Church Ministries Office at 610-917-3947.

November 9 – 11, VFCC will partner with the Church Multiplication Network to present a START event on the campus of Valley Forge Christian College. The three day event will feature such speakers as Israel Houghton, Naeem Fazel and Joel Hunter. Visit www.vfcc.edu/START for the most current schedule and updated information. Online registration will also be available at that site.

Recommended Reading – *Shepherd’s Balm* by Richard Earl

This is an excellent devotional for the 52 Mondays of the year. It will encourage and challenge your heart as a servant of Christ. You can see the website at www.shepherdsbalm.com.

NEWS FROM THE SECRETARY-TREASURER

Important Items From the Annual General Presbytery Meeting:

- As of July 31 there were 186 new church plants in the General Council bringing the total number of churches to 12,406 with 57 PAC churches included in the total. This is the first time in the history of our movement that the total number of churches exceeds the 12,400 mark!
- 2020 church planting goals were reported by district superintendents and the projected church total was set at 16,434 with 4.3 million adherents.
- The General Council was one of only two church groups in the US reporting an increase in total number of churches for 2009. The General Council moved into the top ten list of largest denominations in the US in 2009.
- The General Council will be held in Phoenix, AZ in 2011 at the request of the Arizona District. In the four years leading up to the 100th Anniversary of the General Council the annual themes will be as follows: 2011: Discipleship, 2012: Compassion, 2013: Worship, 2014: Evangelism.
- Spirit baptisms reported on the ACMR bottom line do not include district camps and other similar events where many are Spirit baptized. The total baptisms would be much higher if these figures were included.
- The number of ministers with the General Council 35 years of age or younger totals 5,000. This is a decline of 75 for the 2009 calendar year. The Certified Minister reflected the largest decline of the three credential levels.

- Church multiplication: For the General Council to maintain its numbers 350 church plants per year would be required. To take ground, a growth rate around 500 churches per year must be planted. There is a great need to revitalize churches that have grown unhealthy rather than closing them.
- Position Papers: The following position papers were revised: The Doctrine of Creation; A Biblical Perspective on Assisted Suicide; Sanctity of Life Including Abortion and Euthanasia; The Kingdom of God as Described in Holy Scripture; Divine Healing; Baptism in the Holy Spirit; The Role of Women in Ministry as Described in Holy Scripture. The following position papers were removed: The Discipleship and Submission Movement; Transcendental Meditation.
- Holy Land Center For Study: The Assemblies of God has opened a Center for Holy Lands Study and specializes in Study Trips, as a Resource Center, and offers Summer Institutes. Please visit www.holylandsstudies.ag.org for additional information.

2011 Ordination Class

There is still time for all Licensed Ministers meeting the requirements to upgrade to Ordained Minister to be a part of the 2011 Ordination Class. All written exams should be completed by Thanksgiving so the applicant's file can be completed for a January 11, 2010 interview. Contact Dave by email: dcroz@penndel.org or by phone: 717-795-5921.

District Yearbook

The 2011 district yearbook will go to press on or about October 15. If you have any updates to your personal or church listing, please submit changes to Secretary Crosby by Friday, October 9. There are 3 ways to do this: preferred choice: online at www.penndel.org and logon your personal or church account to make changes; by fax 717-795-5928; or by phone 717-795-5921. Lead pastors should take special effort to have a current staff listing for the church submitted. **NOTE:** Only General Council credentialed ministers will be published in the directory as established by policy.

Financial Report as of July 31

Minister's dues for the year through July 31 totaled \$866,036 as compared to 2009 at \$871,905. Thank you for your financial support of district ministries. Reminder: credential renewals will be mailed during the month of November, and if you need to get current with your dues/tithes, it might be wise to begin that process at this time instead of waiting until the last minute.

NEWS FROM WORLD MISSIONS

RAJASTHAN: Land of Kings Project Update

To date the Rajasthan project has passed the \$400,000 in cash and commitments. Funds received are already at work! A church building has been built and dedicated in Pilani. Two additional churches are under construction in Dunghapur and Alwar. Property is being purchased for the Community Transformation Center Project, Bhojpura, and Rajasthan Institute of Theology and Cornerstone Church, Jaipur. Thank you for your partnership!

2011 India Exposure Mission

This promises to be a mission of a life time! A team of 12 will travel to Rajasthan, India to work alongside of the national pastors who are “cutting the frontier” by planting the church and preaching the gospel. Team members will have ministry opportunities and feel the impact our partnership with the church is making on this unreached people group. This will be a 10-day mission January 12-20, 2011. Scholarships are available to assist team members. Interested? Contact Dave Crosby Sr. 717-329-2122 or dcroz@penndel.org.

Missionaries Making Changes in Assignments

*Gary Higgins – transfers from Convoy of Hope to Europe to serve as senior pastor in one of our military churches in Germany.

*Steve Lilly – transfers to Hong Kong where he will serve as Area Director for Southeast China.

MA2GO – Senders Fund

I am pleased to announce the Missionary Associate 2 Go senders fund has made a commitment to support Rob and Ireida Grabill in their assignment to India. Rob and Ireida will be assigned to Chennai, India where they will assist with the February 2011 World Congress. Following this event they will be assigned to Jaipur, India where they will be engaged with the Rajasthan Team to plant the church and present the gospel message.

2011 Spring Missions Conventions

The 2011 PennDel Spring Missions Conventions are set for March 5 through April 10. Sectional missions reps are currently booking the convention in their sections. If you would like to participate in the conventions, please connect with your sectional world missions rep asap.

PennDel AGWM Top 20 Churches in Per Capita Giving 2009

New Life AG Chalfont	1652.00	First AG Tyrone	360.99
AG Jeannette	662.17	First AG Harrisburg	335.79
Rohlers AG Dover PA	588.70	Christian AG Bentleyville	334.34
Main Line AG Belmont Hills	554.78	Praise AG North Versailles	307.98
Heritage AG Gettysburg	513.83	First AG Punxsutawney	291.33
Highway Mission Philadelphia	492.56	Glad Tidings Bloomsburg	285.81
Bethel AG Chambersburg	441.28	Faith AG Cressona	278.84
Praise AG Newark DE	405.36	First AG Waynesburg	278.15
Central AG Houston	376.76	Grace Tabernacle Slippery Rock	277.33
Trinity AG Montoursville	373.22	AG Kantner	276.18

NEWS FROM Church development

Are You Wired?

Are you wired to plant a church?

Use the FREE Online Discovery Tool at <http://churchplanterprofiles.com>

Be sure to select *Pennsylvania-Delaware AG*.

Bootcamp Grants are Available!

PennDel credential holders can apply for the Continuing Education Grant to reimburse you for the cost of PennDel BootCamp Registration and the BootCamp Kit. Lodging and additional meals are not covered. Church Planting BootCamp is a weeklong strategic planning event that is designed to prepare the planter for the early stages and eventual maturing of a church.

There is also a Church Health track for established churches. The goal is to equip pastors to intentionally recruit, mobilize workers, communicate vision and be a strategic planner.

Church Plant Target Areas

The following areas have been identified as potential areas for church planting. Feel free to speak with the contact person about the opportunity in the area.

- *Bethany Beach/Ocean View, Delaware (Tim Satryan)*
- *Cranberry, Venango County (Chris Clark)*
- *DuBois (Chris Clark)*
- *Elsmere Hispanic, Delaware (Tim Satryan)*
- *Fogalsville (Mark Caston)*
- *Frackville (Richard Earl)*
- *Hanover (Gerry Stoltzfoos)*
- *Inner city/South Side Wilmington, Delaware (Tim Satryan)*
- *Lewisburg (Jon Baker)*
- *Lock Haven (Jon Baker)*
- *Marshall's Creek (Jim Rugg)*
- *Milton (Jon Baker)*
- *New Castle/Minquadale, Delaware (Tim Satryan)*
- *Philadelphia (Dan Clark)*
- *York (Gerry Stoltzfoos)*

Coach Training

"The entire experience was life changing for me and has certainly helped fill in some gaps on how to get from where I currently am to where God wants me to be." - PennDel Pastor

501 BUILDING BLOCKS OF COACHING

This course provides an overview of the theory and skills of coaching. Time will be spent understanding how coaching works, a process for coaching and basic skills utilized in a coaching relationship.

January 18-19, 2011

Bongiorno Conference Center, Carlisle

Cost: \$50.00 for training materials and lunch. Lodging is additional.

PennDel is providing a full scholarship for the registration fee.

503 **COACHING FOR CHANGE, TRANSITION AND TRANSFORMATION**

This course focuses on coaching people through differing types of change including pro-active change, transitions, and transformations. The course integrates biblical and theological rationale and reflection in understanding coaching in relationships and disciple making.

January 20-21, 2011

Bongiorno Conference Center, Carlisle

Cost: \$150.00 for registration, lunch and training materials

PennDel is providing a partial scholarship for the registration fee.

NEWS FROM CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

Junior Bible Quiz: 2010 - 2011 Season

Rules for this year's JBQ season have been distributed to all registered teams. Please contact Megan at the District Office if you did not receive your copy or email megan@penndel.org.

EQUIP Conference 2010

- **West:** September 25th @ Monroeville A/G in Monroeville, PA (Early registration deadline: 9/15)
East: October 2nd @ Glad Tidings A/G in Reading, PA (Early registration deadline: 9/22)
Registration to begin at 8:30 AM; event to conclude at approximately 3:00 PM.
- We will be equipping your church leaders in many facets of church ministry by offering training for teachers and including classes for pastors, board members, hospitality training for greeters and ushers, workshops for church treasurers, training for disciple makers, and much, much more!
- **Cost:** \$27.00 for early registration / \$32.00 at the door (includes all sessions, necessary resources, and lunch)
- To receive a complete list of workshops and/or any needed Equip documents, please contact megan@penndel.org.

PK / MK Retreat October 23 – 25, 2010 @ Bongiorno Conference Center

(Held in conjunction with the youth PK/MK Retreat)

Who: Children of ministers who hold credentials with the PennDel Ministry Network of the A/G
(Children's Track: Grades 2-6; Youth Track: Grades 7-12)

Speaker: Aaron & Jen Gruber (Children's pastors at Christian Life Center in Bensalem, PA)

Cost: Free for children of PennDel A/G credential holders; \$75.00 per child for children of non-credentialed church pastoral staff members; postmark deadline is October 8th

ATTN: Parents: Interested in being a chaperone for the children's track?

Contact Megan Jordan at the District Office or megan@penndel.org.

Home Missions Pastors/Ministries!!!

Don't forget to visit the CE Bookstore at Ministers' Enrichment (October 4-6) at the Bongiorno Conference Center. Each home missions lead pastor or ministry receives up to \$200.00 worth of resources courtesy of Boys & Girls Missionary Challenge (BGMC). Don't miss out!!

Young Adults & Singles New York City Outreach

If you have a desire to connect with other Young Adults (18 years and older) while being used in a cutting edge ministry close to home, then partner with us to minister to one of the most international cities in the world. Allow God to use you to reach New York City.

We will assist the NYSUM team (New York School of Urban Ministry) in distributing food, blankets, toiletries, and clothing to the homeless people on the streets in the spirit of God's love.

Dates: November 19 – 21, 2010

Cost: \$195.00 per person to be postmarked by October 27th

If you have questions or are interested in registering, contact the Christian Education department at (717) 795-5921 or megan@penndel.org.

NEWS FROM WOMEN OF PURPOSE – What's New?

Equip Conferences – Workshops for Women - “Ministering to Today's Woman”

Monroeville – September 25

Sue Willis - am & pm workshops

Reading – October 2

Christine Kreisher - am Workshop

Jacquie McCauslin - pm Workshop

Flawless Women of Purpose Conference

November 12 & 13, 2010

Hershey Lodge, Hershey, PA

Guests - Liz Curtis Higgs, Kathy Wampler and Kim Walker

Schedule

Evening of Prayer - Thursday 7 – 9 pm

Refresh & Refuel Sessions

Friday 9 – 11 am (Select one)

“Walking with Those Who Have Suffered from Sexual Abuse” – Dr. Diane Langberg

“Journey to Wholeness” - Carol Showalter & Maggie Davis

“Personality Puzzle” – Angela Coon

Conference Sessions

Friday 1 pm & 7 pm*

Saturday 9:30 am

***Special note:** After the Friday night session and altar time, Kim Walker will lead us in a time of “Soaking in His Presence through Worship” for those that wish to remain.

Conference T-shirt sale – preorder your shirts on-line (www.penndelwomenofpurpose.org) or by mail when registering. Pick up your order at our table.

Hershey Lodging - **\$158.73 per night** - Price increased due to hotel taxes

More Information

www.penndelwomenofpurpose.org and www.hersheyPA.com

Jessie@penndelwomenofpurpose.org or call 724-654-2258

NEWS FROM THE YOUTH DEPARTMENT

Winter Retreat - Parallel

January will put us half way through the school year; a critical time when students need to assess their victories as well as acknowledge their struggles. Parallel Winter Retreat is a fun yet spiritually challenging moment that will include a Youth Leader Session and student involvement. Are you ready for Parallel?

Cost for Winter Retreat: \$89.00 per week (\$44 deposit, \$45 final payment)

Winter Retreat is open to students who are currently in grades 7-12.

Winter Retreat Dates

Week #1 - January 14-16 Communicator: Jayme Montera

Week #2 - January 21-23 Communicator: Jacob Jester

Week #3 - January 28-30 Communicator: Wayne Northup

PK/MK Retreat - OCTOBER 23-25

The Pastor's/Missionary's Kids Retreat (PK/MK Retreat) information and applications have been mailed. The application for the Youth Track is available to download from www.pennatelyouth.com. Please be sure to postmark all applications by October 8, 2010.

NEWS FROM HONOR BOUND

2010 Conference

This year's HonorBound Men's Conference on October 15-16, 2010 will feature:

Glen Berteau went to Louisiana Tech, where he started as a running back and won two national championships. Glen now carries the ball as the pastor at Calvary Temple in Modesto, California (one of the fastest growing churches in America). Last year CT grew by 3,180 people. *Your men will be challenged to step up and be God's men in their homes, workplace and church.*

Matthew Barnett is pastor of the LA Dream Center and author of *The Church That Never Sleeps*. The church grew from 39 members at its conception in September of 1994, to reaching more than 35,000 people each week in the Center's 40 services and 273 ministries and outreaches today. *Your men will be challenged to reach out with God's love.*

Greg Surratt is the founding pastor of Seacoast Church in Mt. Pleasant, South Carolina and has 29 weekend worship experiences in 13 separate locations. His church has been named one of the 25 Most Innovative Churches in America. Greg is down to earth and has a big heart for missional evangelism. *Your men will be challenged to expand the Kingdom.*

Alton Garrison is the National AG Assistant Superintendent and a dynamic speaker. He is passionate about helping men live transformed, godly lives as a spirit-filled 360 Degree Disciple. *Your men will be challenged to look at their spiritual walk and make the changes necessary.*