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CONSERVATIVE
CONGREGATIONAL
CHRISTIAN
CONFERENCE

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AROUND THE CONFERENCE

Pastors Encouraging Pastors

Steve Burkett, *pastor The Congregational Church in North Chelmsford, and Area Representative, Northeastern Massachusetts*

For the past four years, 14–18 credentialed members of the CCCC from northeastern Massachusetts have been gathering on the first Thursday morning of every month for a time of prayer and mutual encouragement. It has been a wonderful time of learning and fellowship.

The idea for this group came from Reverend Jack Daniel, who just this past May retired after 34 years as the pastor of the Free Christian Church in Andover, Massachusetts. Free Christian Church joined the CCCC in 2005. Reverend Daniel initially met with CCCC Regional Minister Terry Shanahan and local Area Representative Steve Burkett in the fall of 2008 to formulate a plan for getting area

CCCC pastors, associate pastors and missionaries together on a regular basis. Reverend Daniel and leaders at Free Christian Church have hosted this meeting since its inception.

Our meetings begin with a few moments of welcome and introductions. Then the leader for the day opens the meeting with prayer and a 15-minute devotional time from the Scriptures. The leader then presents a 20-minute study on the topic at hand.

Following the leader's presentation, each person present then takes a turn — going one by one in order around the table — giving a three-to-four-minute reaction and reflection to the leader's thoughts. This procedure encourages input from everyone present, and discourages any one or two particular people from dominating the discussion. The session ends with a time of prayer for how best to use the information gained that day for the Lord's honor

and glory, along with any particular prayer needs for the members present.

During the first year, discussions centered on the various roles of the pastor in any given church setting such as preaching, counseling, discipleship,

administration, and evangelism. The second year included a series of topics on evangelism in the local church. The main ideas for that year, provided by David Midwood, were passion, prayer, pastoral leadership, personal relationships, powerful on-site experience, passionate community outreach, purpose, and power from the Holy Spirit.

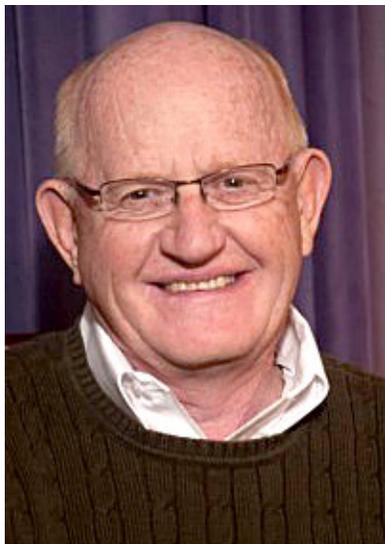
During the third year, featured topics included the



Free Christian Church, Andover, Massachusetts

CM COMMENTS

Change is Not Compromise



Ron Hamilton, *Conference Minister*

When we face the challenges of change, there are some sayings that come to our mind. One of these sayings is,

“I’d rather fight than switch!”

Many people are stubborn and argumentative and won’t back down when challenged. Let us agree that such an attitude does not reflect the character of Christ. People who choose to behave this way in the church set up battles between believers and destroy the unity of churches. James 4:1–6 speaks boldly about people who choose this approach.

What causes fights and quarrels among you? Don’t they come from your desires that battle within you? You desire but do not have, so you kill. You covet but you cannot get what you want, so you quarrel and fight. You do not have because you do not ask God. When you ask, you do not receive, because you ask with wrong motives, that you may spend what you get on your pleasures.

You adulterous people, don’t you know that friendship with the world means enmity against God? Therefore, anyone who chooses to be a friend of the world becomes an enemy of God. Or do you think Scripture says without reason that he jealously longs for the spirit he has caused to dwell in us? But he gives us more grace. That is why Scripture says: “God opposes the proud but shows favor to the humble.”

We should take the time to prayerfully consider our response to the challenges presented by change and ask the Lord to help us respond in a way that honors

Him and builds up the church and other believers.

Another saying that comes to mind when we face change is,

“If you can’t beat ‘em, join ‘em!”

While this attitude stems the onset of conflict, it also does not honor the Lord. Compliant people often are burdened by bitterness and resentment. They put up with something and go along with the group while limiting their loving participation with others. Spiritual change is not compromise. It is a personal transformation that flows from the fresh work of the Holy Spirit renewing a person’s outlook and behavior.

These are days when God is doing a new work in our world. He is renewing the church and expanding His kingdom. Each of us will be challenged to deal with change as we live out our faith and fellowship with other believers.

I was recently encouraged by the words of the song, “Awakening,” performed by Chris Tomlin, written by Reuben Timothy Morgan and Chris Tomlin:

*In our hearts, Lord, in this nation
Awakening
Holy Spirit, we desire Awakening*

*For You and You alone
Awake my soul,
awake my soul and sing
For the world You love
Your will be done,
let Your will be done in me*

*In Your presence, in Your power
Awakening
For this moment, for this hour
Awakening*

*For You and You alone
Awake my soul,
awake my soul and sing
For the world You love
Your will be done,
let Your will be done in me* ♦

ENCOURAGING (cont. from page 1)

eight quality characteristics of a healthy church, as determined by the leaders of the Natural Church Development movement, which included, “Empowering Leadership, Gift-Based Ministry, Passionate Spirituality, Effective Structures, Inspiring Worship Service, Holistic Small Groups, Need-Oriented Evangelism, and Loving Relationships.”

During this current year, the topics have included the seven Guiding Values for the Conservative Congregational Christian Conference, as prayerfully determined by the CCCC Guiding Coalition, and presented to the CCCC Board of Directors and entire Conference. These seven guiding values are “A Culture of Believing Prayer and Intercession, Healthy Pastors, Healthy Disciple-Making Churches, Healthy Church Multiplication, A Community that Lives Out a Shared Life and Mission, A Culture of Peacemaking and Reconciliation, and A Membership Reflective of the Harvest Field’s Diversity.”

These monthly meetings, which begin at 8:30 a.m. and conclude at 10:15 a.m., have served as a great encouragement for seasoned leaders and relatively new leaders alike. Those who attend also usually spend additional time together following the sessions to catch up with one another before heading back to their respective places of ministry. It is a privilege to share life together in this way. While many other good opportunities exist for local and regional pastors’ fellowship beyond denominational lines, this gathering in Andover has been specifically designed for those holding ministerial credentials in the CCCC. It has proven to be a wonderful encouragement!

Many thanks go out to new Free Christian Church senior pastor Jonathan Paul, and campus pastor David Midwood, for their willingness to continue hosting this monthly meeting! ♦

CURRENT EVENTS

National Pro-Life Event

J. Kirk van der Swaagh,
CCCC delegate and Vice-President National Pro-life Religious Council

January 22, 2013 will mark the 40th year since a Supreme Court decision unleashed abortion on demand in the United States. From the time of that verdict till now it is estimated that more than 50 million nascent lives have been prematurely terminated. Research demonstrates that of these 50,000,000 abortions some 93% are undergone not for women’s health, or conception due to rape or incest, the usual justifications given for protecting the practice, but for “social reasons.” In truth, babies conceived via incest or rape account for less than one half of one percent of all abortions performed. 40 years is a long time. 50 million is a lot of lives lost. We should not let the date go by unnoticed.

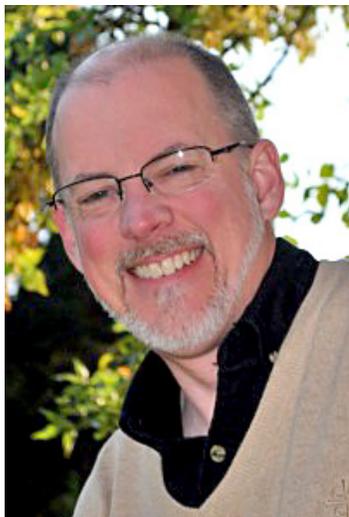
On January 25, the National Pro-life Religious Council is co-sponsoring the National Memorial Service: 40 Years after Roe v. Wade. It will be taking place at the DAR Constitution Hall, 1776 D Street, NW, Washington, DC, just across from the White House. January 25 is also the day on which the annual March for Life is taking place. The timing of the service, 8:30–10:30 AM, is designed to allow for participation in both the Memorial and the March.

I would like to invite my fellow Conference members to join me at this year’s memorial and march that we might together give voice to our convictions. If you would like to organize a contingent from your area or church, please get in touch: jkvanderswaagh@cccusa.com, and check out the details for the March at www.marchforlife.org and the Memorial at www.nprccouncil.org. ♦



CHURCH DEVELOPMENT

What Would It Be Like?



by **John Kimball**,
*CCCC Director of Church
 Development*

It had been a great gathering. I was now out to eat with the host pastor and his family. We were enjoying some laughs and doing a little debriefing about the day, when his wife asked me the question: “I know there is no perfect church, but if there was, what would it be like?” So many thoughts; so little space in this article! This is certainly not exhaustive, but here are some of the more salient ideas that have come to mind:

- Prayer, specifically intercessory prayer, is the life-blood of the whole body, not just a select few.
- Discipleship— the kind that transforms us to actually be more like Jesus — is done mainly in the home, within the family, and especially from the parents (both of them!) to the children.
- Church leaders are prayerfully selected based upon character, spiritual maturity and their fruitful ministry record among the people.
- Folks are “plugged into” ministry in the church based upon their Divine design — temperament, spiritual gifts, natural talents, life experience, etc.
- Business meetings are the product of prayer gatherings.
- Weekly worship is mainly a time of praise and celebration for all that God has done in our midst throughout the previous week— and testimonies abound of his power, grace, mercy and love.

- The church family is undeniably marked by love— they are extravagantly in love with our Triune God, and that love overflows sacrificially into their relationships with each other.
- Ministry is so community-oriented and fruitful that those in the neighborhood around the congregation truly love the body for how it displays Jesus— all the time.
- Folks can daily attest to encounters with God, to evidence of answered prayer and to new people who have fallen in love with our Savior.
- Individuals deeply desire their own respective time in the Word and prayer, and openly discuss what the Spirit has taught them every time they gather.
- Leadership development is Biblical and intentional, and is focused on reaching the harvest rather than on administrating the church organization.
- Sabbath is not an unknown concept to anyone.
- The sending of missionaries and the planting of churches is both normal and ongoing.
- Biblical reconciliation and accountability are both expected and treasured by the body.
- The teaching and preaching of the Word is solidly Biblical, immediately practical and consistently fruitful.

This is not a “pipe-dream”! Rather, these are qualities for which every local congregation should be intentionally striving. And many of these are rooted in integral components of our LifeFlow process.

As you evaluate your own congregation against these ideals, how do you look? For more information about Church Development and LifeFlow, contact our office at (651) 739-1474. ♦

NE REGION NEWS

The Church Is on Fire!



by **Terry H. Shanahan,**
Northeast Regional Minister

Unless the LORD builds the house, the builders labor in vain. (Psalm 127:1)

On Memorial Day 2009, the Central Congregational Church of Middleboro, Massachusetts experienced a devastating fire that thoroughly gutted its sanctuary. Community events for that Memorial Day were cancelled as a parade had been scheduled to pass by the church. All of the emergency responders from that community and other communities were called in to engage this devastating conflagration.

Three and a half years later, the church is fully restored. I had the joy of bringing the message at their dedication service for the restored building in September of 2012. This beautiful building, in the historic district of the town, has been transformed to its former glory, but there has been a spiritual transformation as well. We had a full day of celebration with morning worship, a wonderful time of food and fellowship and then an uplifting dedication service. It seemed as though the entire town was there, The fire department, police department, the VFW, the State representative, other local clergy and former pastors of the church were on hand. Everyone came out.

One of the former pastors, John Cayton, who served the church from 1992 until 2000, is now retired and living in town. He tells the story that in the early morning of that Memorial Day fire, his wife came to him exclaiming, "The church is on fire!" His response was, "It's about time!" She meant that it was literally on fire. He was referring to the spiritual state of the

body. But it would appear that the Holy Spirit blew on the embers that had been glowing in that church for some time and produced a spiritual awakening that is beautiful to see.

During the fellowship time I was able to engage several of the attendees of that celebration. As I moved from table to table, I encountered several recent converts to Christ from all walks of life. There were people sharing their stories with me in all age groups and all circumstances. As someone who visits a different church each week, I was impressed and rejoicing at the work of the Lord in this place. Often when I encounter rapid growth in a church it can be attributed to transfers from other believing bodies. In this instance, there was a preponderance of new believers that have come alive in Christ by the work of the Holy Spirit.

The building is beautiful. You cannot tell what was restored and what was replaced. As you walk through the church there is an amazement of the craft that went into this restoration. But when you talk with the people, there is a blessed joy at the spirit of renewal that fills their hearts and the realization that the church is not the building. The church is the people, and the people are rejoicing at what Christ is doing in their midst.

So the church in Middleboro is still on fire.
Praise the Lord! ♦



CHURCH MULTIPLICATION

What We Can Learn from International Church Planting

Comments by Ed Stetzer from his blog, www.edstetzer.com
(Used by permission)

Edited by Ron Hamilton

At the Church Planting Leadership Fellowship, (November 2012) we gathered about 100 leaders from about 40 different denominations. We meet twice a year to encourage and learn from one another. Our focus was on church planting GLOBALLY for what we could learn and apply locally.

We had leaders from Hong Kong, China, Germany, Sri Lanka, and several other Asian countries we cannot list for security reasons. One of the speakers helped start a movement with almost 2,000,000 believers. Another talked about movements he studied with tens of thousands of churches. Our speakers were nationals and missionaries.

Here are some things that we can learn from international church planting.

North American church planting leaders need to be the learners and not the leaders in the global church planting conversation. We in the West need to be listening and learning from our sisters and brothers around the Two-Thirds World.

The reality is that because North America has been so prominent in mission sending, sometimes it's not as engaged in mission learning. That's a mistake.

If you are a North American (or Aussie or Brit) listen to the global leaders and have a humble missiology to learn what's going on around the world. We've seen that among the Anglicans, Methodists, Pentecostals, Baptists, Lutherans and others. Around the world there are explosive movements that we can learn from.

Be Simple and Reproducible. Movements around the world are typically simple and reproducible. Global church planting movements are generally unencumbered by buildings, paid clergy and

denominational credentialing processes. We have not seen such movements here since the early 1800s.

We believe that this new track is needed. As of now, such organic approaches have not produced the breakthrough needed. Regrettably, we have seen some claim to be church planting movements in the West, but the claims have failed to live up to scrutiny. But there are some glimmers of hope.

We believe they can work. It will "open up some more lanes" and "lay a second track" — and that is what it will take to get to a church multiplication movement and, we pray, perhaps even a true church planting movement one day. One of the faces of this new track will perhaps be organic or house church networks that have a strong DNA of multiplication.

The good news is that many denominations and networks are trying — and beginning to see some success. We see some stirrings of that now, but I believe that more is yet to come.

We need a greater commitment to obedience-based discipleship. If attendance is primarily what you are measuring, your measurement will place value on consumers, rather than on disciples. This challenged me to go back to my church and say, "let's make sure we're measuring the right things." It is easy, in our contemporary church culture, to value attendance (or the wrong things) above everything else. I get this wrong, at times, too.

Every person who addressed the CPLF audience who works on the international field, found some way of saying that it's not about what you know, but it's about knowing more this week than last week, and helping other people who know a little less to grow in their faith. So again, it's not that there is a dismissal of knowledge, but I think particularly in North America we are knowledge addicts with experience deficit.

I think that's a challenge for us, to think about how we might engage this obedience-based discipleship. We have developed a pattern in the US where proficiency is determined by the ability to provide correct answers to various questions. The Church Planting Movements that we see overseas, and the most aggressively growing churches in the Two-Thirds World, are those who believe that providing correct answers is important to proficiency, but living rightly in response to those correct answers is most important. ♦

CONFERENCE CARE



New Director of Conference Care

Lenn Zeller Appointed

by **Ron Hamilton**, *Conference Minister*

We are pleased to announce the appointment of Rev. Lenn Zeller of Stowe, Pennsylvania as the new Director of Conference Care. Lenn's appointment was confirmed by the Board of Directors in December as a part of our effort to strengthen the ministry of Conference Care for our pastors and churches.

Lenn will serve as a volunteer in this position. His work will focus on the development of a Conference Care Team to serve our pastors and churches. Lenn and the team will assist in the development of healthy pastors and healthy disciple-making churches. Some of their strategic work will involve:

- Care for pastors and churches in crisis.
- Developing a culture of Biblical peacemaking and reconciliation through training and encouragement of our members.
- Assisting churches in a pastoral transition.
- Developing a system for mentoring pastors and their spouses.

Conference President, Paul McPheeters, is enthusiastic about this appointment.

Lenn is an excellent choice to serve as our Director of Conference Care. He is a wonderful and godly pastor, a loving husband, and a devoted member of our Conference. He has also been fully involved in the LifeFlow process with his church, and is living out our Guiding Values in his life, his home, and his community.

John Kimball has served in this position since it was created in 2007. He believes that Lenn has the gifts and experience to serve us well in this position.

Lenn is a perfect choice for leading our Ministry of Conference Care. Not only does he have many years of experience in fruit-bearing pastoral ministry, but during that time he has also worked

through many ministry challenges. He has experience in peacemaking in the local church, has a gentle demeanor and has been part of the CCCC family long enough to know our culture and our people.

Lenn has an M.Div. degree from Lancaster Theological Seminary, and has been a member of the CCCC since 1994. He has served as the pastor of St. Paul's Church in Stowe, Pennsylvania since 2001. He previously served as pastor of CCCC churches in Illinois and Ohio. He served as our Area Representative in Pennsylvania and Illinois and chaired the committee of Area Representatives from 2009–2011.

Lenn is enthusiastic about leading the work of Conference Care for the CCCC.

I have been privileged to serve Christ and His Church for more than thirty years, in a variety of settings and locations. Throughout those years I have seen the hand of God in the fellowship and ministries of those congregations in sometimes dramatic ways, and His transforming, healing power in many individual lives. It has been a joy to be able to witness God's gracious intervention in the life of His Church and His people — I love to see God work and His glory displayed! Have there been struggles and conflicts? Yes, of course. But through it all God's Word, truth and faithful Spirit have been patiently working to build a people for Himself.

I am excited to enter this additional and challenging area of ministry as the volunteer CCCC Director of Conference Care, and thankful to the folks at St. Paul's Church for being willing to make the adjustments necessary to allow me to do this. Your prayers are requested as I "learn the ropes" and try to figure this all out. My trust is, as it always has been, in the grace and power of God to accomplish His purposes as we work together for His glory. I look forward to what He will do in the months ahead. ♦

CONGREGATIONAL CHRISTIANS

Moishe Rosenby Alwyn York, *Conference Historian**(Another in a series of articles about eminent Congregational Christians)*

Moishe Rosen was known to Christians throughout the world as the founder of Jews for Jesus, an influential and effective evangelistic organization employing over a hundred missionaries, with offices in thirteen different countries. What is less well known is that he was a long-time and faithful member of the CCCC. The story of his remarkable life is told in *Called to Controversy*, a biography written by his daughter Ruth Rosen, which was published in 2012.

The course of Moishe Rosen's life would be impossible to account for apart from the grace of God. There was nothing in his background or upbringing to indicate that he would become a religious leader or do anything for which the world would remember him. He was born in Kansas City, Missouri in 1932 and raised in a Jewish neighborhood in Denver, Colorado. His family, like many Jewish families in America, was culturally Jewish but not very religiously observant. When he was a young man it seemed that he would be a businessman like his father. He worked for a sporting goods store and proved to be an effective salesman.

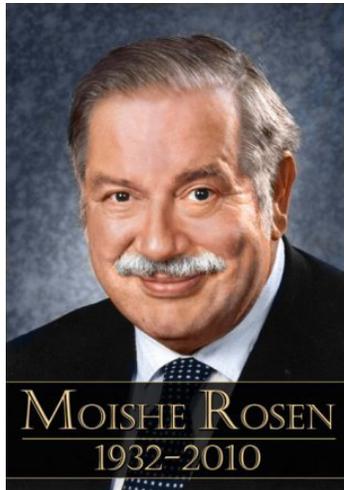
Moishe Rosen married young. He and Ceil Starr were both eighteen when they were married in 1950. They were married in an Orthodox synagogue, but did not intend to keep a kosher home. In Ceil's words, they intended to "just be modern American Jews." (*Called to Controversy*, p. 56) A friendship they developed with a Christian couple started them on a path they would never have imagined. Ceil started reading the Bible and became convinced that it was a Jewish book about a Jewish person who claimed to be the Jewish Messiah. Moishe began studying the Bible in order

to prove her wrong. After months of arguing against Christianity, almost against his will, Moishe found himself becoming convinced that Jesus was the Messiah. He and Ceil were baptized in July of 1953.

Moishe did not merely embrace the teachings of Christianity, but soon felt a call to spread the gospel. Reading in the book of Acts, he thought to himself that it would be great if someone like Paul would bring the gospel to Jews in modern times. He suddenly realized that this was a work that he might do. He and Ceil moved east in 1954 to attend Northeastern Bible College in New Jersey, and he was ordained as a minister of the Conservative Baptist Association. He became involved with the American Board of Missions to the Jews (ABMJ, now Chosen People Ministries), which got him involved in street preaching in New York City. His first attempts were failures, but he soon learned how to become more effective.

Moishe was sent to Los Angeles in 1957 by the ABMJ to oversee their ministry there. He ministered for ten years in Southern California. In 1967 he was called back to the mission's headquarters in New York City. His ministry with ABMJ involved training missionaries and doing public speaking. He did not do much person-to-person direct evangelism during this time.

It was a friend's criticism of a flippant wisecrack that led him into a changed course of ministry that would eventually become Jews for Jesus. In a speech he repeated Ronald Reagan's quip that "A hippie dresses like Tarzan, walks like Jane, and smells like Cheetah." (*Called to Controversy*, p. 169) His friend asked him if he had ever actually smelled a hippie. This question stung. He realized that he had had no real contact with the youth movement that was going on in the 1960s, even though many of the hippies were Jewish. He began spending time in Greenwich Village, and began distributing what he called "broadsides," tracts done in cartoon style, with messages designed to appeal to the youth culture.



Rosen (cont. from page 8)

He moved to San Francisco in 1970 and found himself ministering in the Haight-Ashbury district, the center of the hippie movement. He felt the incongruity of his ministry saying, "I'm overweight, overbearing and over 40. What am I doing leading a youth movement?" He trained a team of young recruits and sent workers into cities across the country and ten countries abroad, including Israel and Russia. They produced and distributed their "broadsides" on the streets, performed street theater, and had a musical group, "The Liberated Wailing Wall," which performed in many cities. The confrontational and unconventional style of his ministry led to a growing estrangement from the organization he was working for. He parted company with the ABMJ in 1973, and chartered Jews for Jesus as an independent ministry.

Moishe Rosen was a controversial figure throughout his life. The nature of his ministry made it inevitable that many of his fellow Jews would consider him a traitor and an apostate. Famous author Elie Wiesel wrote, "Jews for Jesus are dishonest. They are hypocrites. They do not even have the courage to declare frankly that they have decided to repudiate their people and its memories." Some of his views also made him controversial among Christians. He was insistent that evangelism needed to be forthright in presenting the claims of Christ, even if this might cause offense. He declared, "Friendship evangelism is no evangelism at all." He was always proud of his Jewish identity, but he did not agree with fellow Jewish believers in Jesus who wished to be known only as "Messianic Jews" and not be identified by the label "Christian." His strong, flamboyant personality alienated some people, and he had a short temper which would sometimes flare up. He knew his flaws and was quick to admit them.

Moishe Rosen's international influence increased when he took part in the Consultation on World Evangelism in Pattaya, Thailand in 1980. That meeting produced a unique mission network, the Laus-

anne Consultation on Jewish Evangelism, in which he became active.

He was the author of several books, including *Christ in the Passover*, *Share the New Life with a Jew*, *Jews for Jesus*, and *The Sayings of Chairman Moishe*.

He suffered from poor health in his later years. He stepped down as executive director of Jews for Jesus in 1996 but continued to serve as a board member for the rest of his life. He died on May 19, 2010, at the age of seventy-eight.

Moishe Rosen's involvement in the CCCC began when he lived in Southern California in the early 1960s, when he and his wife attended Lake Avenue Congregational Church in Pasadena. It was through the influence of his pastor, Ray Ortlund, Sr., that he sought standing in the CCCC, which was granted in 1963. He frequently attended the Annual Conference, where he would personally represent Jews for Jesus at their display. He was a speaker at the 2002 meeting in Lansing, Michigan. He treasured his friendship with past CCCC president Barry Jones, and even considered moving to Carlsbad, California after he retired so that he could sit under Barry's ministry. Through Moishe's influence Tuvya Zaretsky, now international director of staff development for Jews for Jesus, joined the CCCC.

(I would like to thank Barry Jones, Ceil Rosen and Tuvya Zaretsky for their help with this article. ...A. York)

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR AND READERS' CONTRIBUTIONS

We welcome your contributions
to our publication.

If you have comments on what you read here, please e-mail them to
kenandjoy@bellsouth.net.

If you have other comments or articles you wish to contribute,
including Something to Think About, please send them to the same
e-mail address.

WORLD OUTREACH



The Tiners

After serving 21 years in Austria, Europe, and the Middle East, the Lord has opened a new door of ministry for Tim and Mary Lou Tiner. In February the

(Tim and Mary Lou Tiner are CCCC members and long-time missionaries. They have served for many years in Austria, and are now making a move to the Western Hemisphere — in Peru.)



Tiners will be traveling to Peru to work with the International Training Institute. Tim and Mary Lou will be training national pastors and leaders who are working in the villages and jungles of Peru. These bi-vocational leaders have little or no access to Biblical training. The International Training Institute (ITI) provides sound Biblical training, which is intense, relational, modular in format, reproducible, and practical.

Last year ITI celebrated the graduation of around 20 Peruvian students, many of whom are now being trained as trainers for ITI. Others are now planning to serve as missionaries, and still others are working in and planting new churches. In addition to teaching Old Testament Survey for the ITI, Tim will also minister in a prison which has an amazing group of

believing prisoners who have a heart to reach the next cellblock and plant another church. After the week of ITI training, the Tiners will co-lead a marriage conference for pastors and leaders. The Tiners' new book on God's plan for marriage: *It Started in the Garden*, will provide much of the material for the conference. One of the core values of the work of ITI is the importance of relationships. For this reason the class size is small, and priority is given to times of one-on-one sharing ministry, and praying over each national leader.

The Tiners' passion for discipleship, as well as for marriage ministry, fits in well with the International Training Institute.

Tim and Mary Lou will not only be working in South America, they will also begin working in Africa this summer, as well as another country in the Middle East.

Because the Tiners are traveling more internationally, they have moved their "home-base" from Austria to Colorado. Tim and Mary Lou will also continue ministry in Europe (especially among Arabic speakers), in



Egypt, Israel, and other Middle East countries — those countries where they have been serving for many years. They appreciate your prayers as they equip and train national leaders around the world. ♦

CHANGES & OPPORTUNITIES

PASTORAL CHANGES

Ford City, PA First Church of Ford City
Corey Grywinski

PASTORAL OPPORTUNITIES

- Rockland, ID Rockland Congregational Church *(Part-time)**
- Blue Island, IL Evangelical Community Church*
- LaMoille, IL First Congregational Church*
- Otsego, MI First Congregational Church of Otsego *
- W Newbury, MA W Newbury Congregational Church*
(Asst. Pastor – Youth and Families)
- Cook, MN Ashawa Chapel*
(Part-time)
- Inwood, NY Community Bible Church*
(Part-time)
- Robertsville, OH Christ Memorial Church*
- Sardis, OH St. Paul's Church*
(Part-time)
- Reynoldsville, PA Paradise Community Church
(UCC)
- Woxall, PA Old Goshenhoppen Reformed Church (Independent)
- Parkston, SD Salem United Church of Christ (UCC)
- Orwell, VT First Congregational Church
(Independent) *(Part-time)*
- Hillsboro, WI First Congregational Church*

* = Conference member

+ = In process

HEALTH NEWS

What Is Your Plan?



Betty Mitchell
RN BSN,
Parish Nurse
Emmanuel Bethel
Church,
Royal Oak, MI

Death and dying bring about difficult and sensitive times for family.

As Christians we know our family member or friend is at home with the Lord. However, as the remaining family deals with their grief and loss, planning a funeral adds extra burden during this difficult time.

In an effort to alleviate some of the burden to the family, set aside a time to talk about what you would like to occur at the time of your death. Knowing what your preferences are will help give your family peace of mind. Talking to your family and pastor about the type of service you would like, including special music and those you would like to speak at the service would be a thoughtful gift to your family.

Death is a natural event, but very sad. Expressing your wishes and desires will give your family members a sense of peace and comfort knowing they are following your desires. A funeral is a time to gather, remember and celebrate your life, love and special moments.

Think about a time when you can gather your loved ones together and thoughtfully discuss what you have considered for your funeral. Everyone involved will appreciate knowing your desires.

Source: Michigan Senior Living

The 65th Annual Family Conference July 22-25, 2013 Crowne Plaza Hotel, Riverfront—St. Paul, MN

Theme: *Being Changed*

No, we are not changing the theme — rather, the theme is “Being Changed.” *And we all, who with unveiled faces contemplate the Lord’s glory, are being transformed into his image with ever-increasing glory, which comes from the Lord, who is the Spirit.* (2 Corinthians 3:18)

July 22–25 we meet in St. Paul, Minnesota at the Crowne Plaza Hotel — Riverfront, about a 20-minute drive from our home office in Lake Elmo.

SPEAKERS:

MORNING BIBLE

HOUR:

Rev. Dr. Leith Anderson,

President of National Association of Evangelicals, noted author & retired pastor of Wooddale Church, Eden Prairie, MN

MON EVENING:

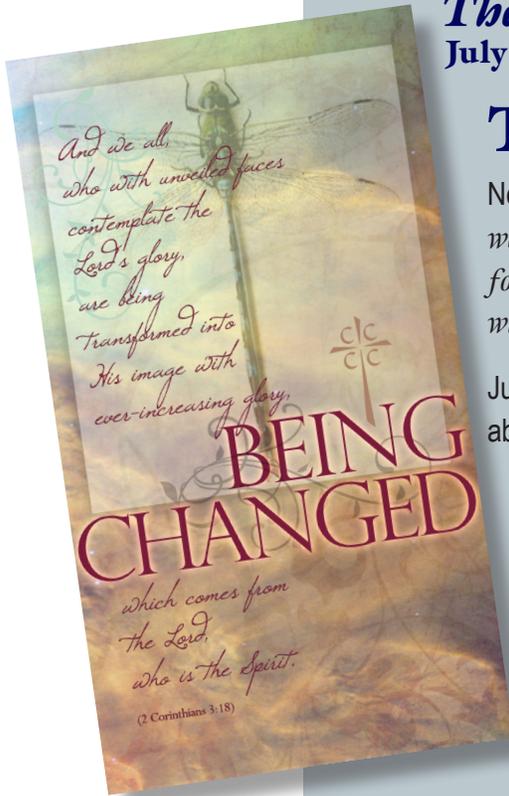
Rev. Dr. Ron Hamilton, CCCC Conference Minister

TUES EVENING:

Rev. Alvin Helms, Pastor, Carlsbad Community Church, Carlsbad, CA

WED EVENING

Rev. Dr. Rob O’Neal, Founding pastor of Brookwood Community Church, Shakopee, MN (CCCC church plant)



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