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AROUND THE CONFERENCE

Shaking Things Up in the Mid-Atlantic

by **Chris Surber**, *D.Min. Mid-Atlantic Area Representative*
and *pastor of Cypress Chapel Christian Church, Suffolk, Virginia*

God is shaking things up in the Mid-Atlantic region. In a few months my family and I will depart from Cypress Chapel Christian Church as we relocate to Montrouis, Haiti. God has called us to implement the vision He gave us to minister to missionaries, train pastors, and equip the local Haitian Church under the auspices of the ministry we founded for Haiti — *Supply and Multiply*.

Next month my brother in the Lord, Pastor Michael Brinkley, will similarly depart from Eure Christian Church (Eure, North Carolina) to answer the call of God to be a part of the effort to make disciples in Oviedo, Florida. He and a team of followers of Jesus will put their hands to the plow to begin planting our latest church under development in the CCCC — *Palmwood Church*.



Here is what Michael and his family have to say about their upcoming move:

“When God called us to Florida He applied His message to Elijah to our situation (1 Kings 17). The Lord told Elijah that He would send ravens to a certain brook to feed him during a famine. Now if Elijah did not go to the place of provision then he too would have suffered from the famine. The Lord has all along been saying His perfect provision awaits us in Florida. So without a house or a job we go with great expectation to see God provide where He is guiding.

A friend of ours told us that he had been reading Hebrews 11 about the people of faith. He said, ‘You know what? It didn’t seem like any of them had all the information they wanted. They just acted on faith

in what God already said. Besides, Michael, if he gave you all the signs and doors you have been asking for, you wouldn’t have use for faith. You could just go by sight. That’s not how God works.”

Why are we going to Florida? Nine-year-old Micah said, “So we can make Christians and then can tell other people about Jesus. We are going so we can build a church.” In answer to the same question, twelve-year-old David replied, “To train and send out missionaries.” David believes that while he is in Florida God will speak to his heart some more about his earlier vision for an orphanage. He is really passionate about helping orphans.

When you think about going to Florida, how do you feel? All of the children said basically the same thing. They were kind of excited but sad about leaving friends and family. Micah especially said that he was happy because God was sending us somewhere to make more Christians.

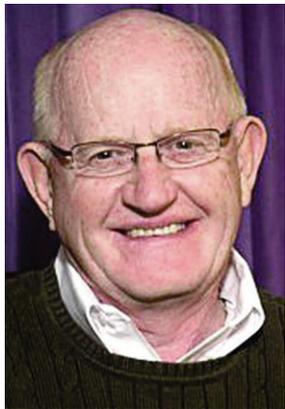
Interestingly, Cypress Chapel is where Michael grew up and where much of his family remains. I asked him to be our guest speaker for a revival service in late August. In his strong message about following Jesus he said, “You have to walk by faith. If it is all mapped out for you then it wouldn’t require faith. God calls us to live boldly as we follow Jesus.”

His point is well taken and my family is applying that principle as we prepare to move to Haiti in January. As part of our foundational work in Haiti, we took a team of 27 people to Haiti in August. The team was made up of people from five churches including our little old country church in Suffolk, Upper Room Assemblies of God in North Carolina, Bethany Baptist

CM COMMENTS

Devoted Leadership

Ron Hamilton, *Conference Minister*



We believe that a true disciple of Jesus Christ is devoted to Jesus, His Church and His mission. "Devoted" is the key word in this definition of discipleship because it speaks about something that flows from a love relationship and is reflected in obedience to Jesus Christ and

advancement of His Kingdom agenda. This is characterized in the early church.

They devoted themselves to the apostles' teaching and to fellowship, to the breaking of bread and to prayer. Acts 2:42

The CCCC is fortunate to have a strong core of devoted leaders in its elected leaders and members of the Board of Directors. These people were sought out for leadership because of their devotion to the Lord and His ministry through our Conference.

The Board members are deeply in love with Jesus. Every person involved has a story of personal faith and discipleship. They find ways to encourage each other in their spiritual walk. Many have said that they grew in faith as a result of being a part of the Board. This shows that our leaders are not driven by an agenda to strengthen the CCCC — rather, they are encouraged by a mutual devotion of faith in God.

Our leaders are very devoted to one another. The Board sessions always begin with a time of "life on life" sharing and prayer. These times are characterized by transparency and compassion. Many of our Board members have become close friends as a result of their service together. These people truly love each other from the heart and care for one another's needs. They also have loving relationships with many Conference members in their local areas of service.

The Board members are actively involved in ministry that advances the Kingdom of God. Eleven are currently serving as local church pastors. Of those, one is a church planter and four are engaged in the CCCC Church Development work. Four Board members are key leaders in their local church and have a significant impact on those ministries. Every Board member is excited about the strengthening and expanding the work of Jesus Christ in this generation.

I am privileged to work with this group of people. Our Conference is stronger because of the devoted disciples who lead our fellowship. Please join me in praying for these leaders as they guide the work of the CCCC in these exciting and challenging days of ministry! ♦

CCCC BOARD OF DIRECTORS PROFILES:

2012-2015 Term

Loring Carpenter, Haverhill, MA



Loring has served as pastor and mission leader for over forty years. He has served on the Board of Directors, Finance and Stewardship Committees. He has also served in leadership with the Northeast Congregational Christian Fellowship. He lives in the Boston area with his wife, MaryAnne.

Dave Kemper, Center Ossipee, NH



Dave pastors Tamworth Congregational Church, in NH. He is the founder and President of *Life Bridge Inc*, a mentoring ministry networking over 73 churches. He is leading the Board's re-structure team. "I Love being part of a movement of our Lord for the Kingdom and He is in the CCCC!"

Scott Nice, Telford, PA



Scott has served at Christ Reformed Church at Indian Creek in Telford, PA as Youth, Associate, Interim and now Senior Pastor. He has a passion for Biblical peacemaking and reconciliation, and mentored ministry. He and his wife, Catharina have four children: Timothy, Hannah, Levi and Thomas.

Larry Towne, Wichita, KS



A retired CCCC Air Force Chaplain who has been pastoring for more than forty years, Larry spends his time involved with Christian ministries in Wichita as well as with the CCCC. He is serving his third year as a member of the Board, and is the Central Midwest Area Rep.

2013-2016 Term

Steve Carmany, Huntington, OH



Steve has pastored the United Church of Huntington near Wellington, Ohio for 34 years. "I'm thinking it's going to be one of my longer pastorates." He and his wife, Connie have seven children and five (going on seven) grandchildren. Prior to joining the Board of Directors he served as the Area Representative for Eastern Ohio.

NE REGIONAL NEWS

Tested and Rested

Terry Shanahan, NE Regional Minister

Let them be restored as in the days of their youth. Job 33:25

Summer has ended. Most of us are slipping back into a hectic schedule with a full calendar. Perhaps during the summer you were able to take some time away from work or ministry and the tyranny of the urgent. I hope that time away was refreshing and restorative to you. It is clear, whatever vocation God has called us to, that we will be tested. But in order to maintain a spiritual vitality we will also need to be rested.

God places a high value on the sabbath and he speaks frequently in His word on it. It is the model He gave us, to labor six days and then set apart a day to rest. In our culture today there is no delineation for the sabbath. Anything you can do, anyplace you can go on Monday through Saturday you can also go and do on Sunday. But especially for pastors, Sunday is a work day. Sunday is the day you lead your flock in worship. Sunday is the day you minister in word and deed with your flock. Sunday can also be day for socializing with your church or friends and taking some time with your family. How often is Sunday a day of rest for you? Many pastors I know take a different day of the week as their sabbath. But even then the press of obligations is hard to keep out. A recent Leadership Journal article lists these statistics on burnout.

HARD CALLING

- **80% of pastors** are discouraged in their role as pastors.
- **40% of pastors** seriously considered leaving the pastorate in the past three months.
- **50% of pastors** say they are unable to meet the demands of their job and are so discouraged that they would leave the ministry if they could, but have no other way of making a living.
- For every **20 pastors** who go into ministry, only one retires from the ministry.
- **25% of pastors** have been forced out or fired from their ministry at least once.
- **45% of pastors** say they've experienced depression or burnout to the extent that they need to take a leave of absence.
- Of **1,050 pastors** surveyed by the Schaeffer Institute,

every one of them — 100 percent — had a close associate or friend from seminary who had left the ministry because of burnout, conflict in their church, or from a moral failure.

- **70% of pastors** say they do not have a single close friend, and the same percentage say they have lower self-esteem than when they entered the ministry.
- Denominational **health insurance** agencies report that medical costs for clergy are **higher** than the average professional group.

To avoid such discouragement I want to call your attention to the ways we can take some rest. In New England there are opportunities for pastors and their families to get away for a day or two for little or no money. Forest Haven in New Hampshire welcomes clergy couples to come and be refreshed. Many of our missionary and ministry couples have enjoyed the quietness of the woods in this idyllic setting which offer an apartment with private entrance, living room, bedroom, bath, fully supplied kitchen and a dinner at no cost. <http://foresthavennh.org>

In Massachusetts, the Sanctuary at Woodville, is a place where for a small fee you can come to spend a day on retreat or communing with nature nearby. <http://www.sanctuaryatwoodville.org/>. Many Christian Conference centers will welcome a pastor for one or two nights at no charge.

In the CCCC we encourage living life together and we work to bring pastors together in small community groups for support and refreshment. One of the things that we could do to support each other is to share our knowledge of ways to be restored and opportunities for refreshment.

Our summer doesn't last all year long. Make sure you schedule time into your calendar as the ministry year goes on. Since I get requests from time to time on where one can find such respite, I would ask all of you to send me any information on your local accommodations or opportunities for pastors to get away and be refreshed so it can be shared. ♦



CHURCH DEVELOPMENT

Discipling the Whole Person

By John Kimball, *CCCC Director of Church Development*



One of the problems with the modern American idea of “discipleship” is that the Church tends to rely on increasing one’s knowledge as the primary way to bring about growth in spirituality and character. The truth is that this approach is simply inadequate. None of us would

teach our teenager how to drive by solely giving them a book about cars and expecting them to memorize it. They need hands-on training and real life experience to accompany that knowledge — and even then they need time to grow in both skill and confidence before we would turn them loose behind the wheel by themselves. Just like every other area of life, Christian discipleship requires knowledge, mentoring, accountability, experience and time to bear its fruit.

One component of discipleship that is often overlooked is accountability. People do not naturally desire accountability, because it requires change and an admission that we have yet to “arrive” in certain areas of life. I have found that, if someone disengages from discipleship, it is almost always due to resistance over accountability. Discipleship is not just about learning biblical facts — it’s about changing the way one lives. It’s about the language we use. It’s about the priorities we set and fulfill. It’s about the way we treat our spouses, our children and others. Ultimately, it’s about how much we grow to actually be like Jesus. In the end, this kind of growth cannot happen in a vacuum. It requires relationship and the loving, watchful eye of our Christian peers and mentors.

To disciple someone without addressing their “baggage” — be that pain from the past, bad behaviors in the present, or tainted desires for the future — is useless. It was Jesus who said, “Go and sin no more...” — demonstrating an expectation of substantive personal change. It is deception to think that church attendance, participation in a Bible study or even good works without a clear and loving accountability for life-change will bear kingdom fruit (and as always, by “kingdom” I am referring to the dominion of Jesus over us). It’s more difficult to hold someone accountable for a malevolent tongue, a self-centered lifestyle or a dysfunctional attitude. But that is precisely what discipleship requires if we want to produce the kind of growth Jesus expects.

The usual suspects can be found in every local church:

- The leader who hoards church funding in spite of clear and present ministry needs which lack resources.
- The mouthy member who commandeers church business meetings on a regular basis to promote a personal agenda.
- The self-aggrandizer that desperately needs to tell people how much they are doing for Jesus.
- The crisis-dweller whose life is forever in shambles, but who constantly rejects the very advice that will solve their problem(s).
- The angry person who refuses to forgive even the most elementary offenses (but is quick to advise others to follow Matthew 18 when they face an infraction).

And when someone like me visits the church and asks about these characters, too often the reply is, “Oh, they’ve always been that way...” — which is an admission that the church does not take accountability in discipleship seriously. Brand new believers will still display their sin and dysfunction to the world, but those who have had time to mature in the church’s life and ministry should exhibit the dominion of King Jesus over their lives. Every believer, including pastors and denominational guys like myself, must continuously show evidence that we are growing daily to be more and more like Jesus. If that’s not true, there is a problem with our discipleship.

I understand that there are some cases of mental illness — that there are medical reasons why some people cannot change — but all of these are the exception, not the rule. The truth is that we’ve grown accustomed to teaching people truth without expecting the accompanying behavioral changes. That’s not discipleship — and we should stop calling it such.

Now that I have sufficiently ruffled some feathers, would you like to know more? The CCCC Church Development Process has, at its core, this kind of transformational discipleship. You can call the Conference Office at (651) 739-1474 for more information. Let’s make this kind of discipleship the priority it has always supposed to have been. ♦

CONFERENCE CARE

Setting Our Hearts on Things Above

By **Lenn Zeller**, (Volunteer) CCCC Director of Conference Care

Since, then, you have been raised with Christ, set your hearts on things above, where Christ is seated at the right hand of God. 2 Set your minds on things above, not on earthly things. 3 For you died, and your life is now hidden with Christ in God. 4 When Christ, Who is your life, appears, then you also will appear with Him in glory. Colossians 3:1-4

Since, then, you have been raised with Christ... Since you have truly believed in Jesus Christ and trusted solely in Him for your eternal destiny, then you have been raised to a new life in and by Christ. That's the Gospel foundation — Jesus gave His life for our sins and was raised to eternal life as Savior and Lord. When we trust in Him we are raised with Him to a new and better life in this present age and to an eternal life of glory in the age to come.

And here Paul said, *Since that is true... Set your hearts on things above.* Seek the things of God, not the things of this earth. The practical, everyday affairs of life get their direction from Christ in heaven, and we now look at earth from heaven's point of view. Years ago in Washington, DC, there was a Senate committee hearing to consider the appointment of a new ambassador to the United Nations. The late Senator Hubert Humphrey made a comment. He said, "You must remember that in politics, how you stand depends on where you sit." He was referring, of course, to the political party seating arrangement in the Senate, with the Democrats on one side and the Republicans on the other. And which side of the aisle you sat on determined to a large extent how you stood on all the issues that came before the Senate. (Wiersbe, W.W. (1996). *The Bible Exposition Commentary* Col 3:4b. Wheaton, IL: Victor Books.)

But we walk and live on this earth, with our hearts in heaven, with Christ. He deserves our ultimate loyalty. His truth and His Word and His will determine where we stand and what we do about all the issues that come before us. We need to remember that we serve a great God. We need to remember that we serve His purposes and His kingdom, and He will not be defeated. When conflict arises in our lives... in our churches, in our homes, in our marriages, in our workplaces... it's a great opportunity to check our own heart.



What is it that we are getting so angry about? Why are we lashing out in such rage and vengeance? Why are we attacking and criticizing and tearing down? We need to ask. What purpose or goal is really being threatened? Is this really about the things of God, honestly, or is it about an idol that we hold dear? Is our heart truly set on God and His kingdom? Or is it set on another god that we hold dear? Is this about our own reputation? Is it because our own standing or status in the church or family or business is being threatened? Is it God's sovereignty that is being challenged, or our own authority and power?

Most often what really makes us angry reveals what our heart is truly set on and what it is that we truly hold dear. And I suspect that most often what is revealed is an idol of the heart, not a passion for God.

As Warren Wiersbe said it ...

"We must constantly keep our affection and our attention fixed on the things of heaven, through the Word and prayer, as well as through worship and service. We can enjoy 'days of heaven upon the earth' (Deut. 11:21) if we will keep our hearts and minds in the heavenlies." (Wiersbe, W.W. (1996). *The Bible Exposition Commentary* (Col 3:4b). Wheaton, IL: Victor Books.)

We can glorify God in life and in times of conflict by allowing those circumstances to reveal our true heart's desires and focus and by allowing them to drive us to set our hearts on God and the things of His kingdom. ♦



The Renovate! 2014 National Church Revitalization Conference will be held in Orlando, Florida, November 3-5, 2014.

FREE admission passes available to CCCC members, go to www.cccusa.com for more information!

BOOK REVIEW

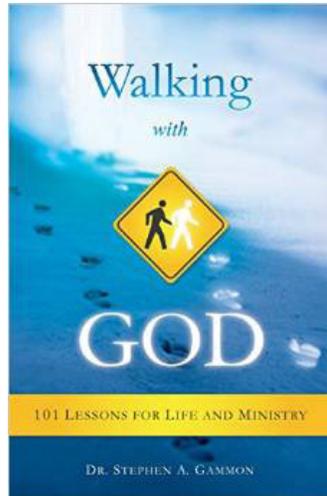
Walking with God

by Dr. Stephen A. Gammon, Reviewed by Daniel L. Peterson

Walking is one of the daily activities we share in common. We walk from one room to another in our house, school or at the office. We may walk to the mailbox to retrieve our mail or we may walk to exercise. We can do it alone or we can be accompanied by others. We can also walk with God. Former Conference Minister Dr. Stephen Gammon's book, *Walking with God*, invites his readers to join him and experience what

a personal walk with God is like. This is not a book based on theory, but one that is deeply personal, experiential, spiritual, devotional, and for growing an intimate love relationship with God.

Walking with God promises to heighten your enjoyment of walking with God; expand your awareness of lessons God is trying to teach you; reduce your resistance to leaving your comfort zone in obedience to Jesus; and increase your anticipation of fruitful ministry for Christ until your last breath. That is a tall order for a book of this nature to deliver, and it does!



For instance, in Lesson One, Steve shares that he learned of God's love from birth. He writes, "From the very beginning God showered me with gifts of life and love," and "God wants us all to know that He loves us." I didn't begin to experience and learn these lessons until I was 20! But once the lesson is learned, it remains with you for a lifetime. The first twelve lessons are great reminders how personal and real God is, to the young and older alike. Another lesson Steve shares is how he learned that through the most basic prayer ("Help!"), God really hears and acts. In two specific incidents, one involving his father, the other his mother, God answered Steve's cry for help! I was deeply moved by these testimonies to pray in like manner. It instilled in me to have more confidence in God knowing He truly does answer our prayers. This lesson also challenged me to be like Steve's parents: to love children as they did. In Lesson 70, Steve shares an inspiring story of sacrifice that he and Helen made concerning their dreams and desires. Anyone who reads this story will be challenged to give sacrificial love in their marriage and other relationships.

Walking with God consists of fourteen sections, and by reading it from cover to cover, the reader will see a chronology of life lessons Steve learned over the nearly 60 years of his life and ministry. Each lesson begins with a scripture verse, a personal experience strengthened by other scriptures, and ends with three probing questions, to help the reader make some application in response to the lesson.

WALKING cont on pg 7

WORLD OUTREACH

The Pinkes

Bruce and Carolyn Pinke are CCCC missionaries who serve with WEC International (Worldwide Evangelization for Christ) and have been part of the Avon Community Church (a CCCC church in Minnesota) family from its inception. Bruce, as a matter of fact, is the founding pastor. Bruce helped spearhead a small group of people from a former pastorate to form what is now Avon Community Church. Since that time, Bruce and Carolyn have been sharing the gospel in Africa among various Mu*lim people groups.

Since 1989, their service has taken them to Liberia, Ivory Coast and France. They have had to flee for their lives more than once, leaving everything

behind. Their courage and faithfulness have been an inspiration to all of us.



Bruce and Carolyn are currently serving

as Church Planting Coaches for WEC International traveling extensively as they continue their work in missions. Bruce and Carolyn reside in North Minneapolis among the Somali population in order to reach out to them more effectively.

WEC International's aim is to reach out to people who have limited or no access to the good news of Jesus Christ, particularly where there is no church. They work in multicultural teams to help worshipping communities of believers multiply among these people.

URGENT PRAYER REQUEST

Recently, Bruce became very ill, and is back in the States facing serious surgery. Please pray for him. ♦

JUST FOR WOMEN

Body, Mind, Spirit Connection

by Sharon Galloway, *Women's Ministry Chair*

Taking care of ourselves is crucial to Christian living. We all would like to be whole in body, mind and spirit. Often we settle for living a life that is something less than God intends for us. It is important to understand that our physical health is affected by our emotional health, and our emotional health is affected by our spiritual health. Are you whole? Is your soul well? Are you living the full and deeply rich life that God wants you to experience? It takes courage to reflect and honestly assess your deep beliefs, emotions, and habits that could be affecting your physical, emotional, and spiritual health. Caring for our physical body certainly makes sense because each of us wants to be as healthy as possible; but it's also a commandment by God — *Glorify God in your body, and in your spirit.* (1 Corinthians 6:20). *Truly, we are fearfully and wonderfully made* as the Psalmist tells us (139:14).

Isn't it reasonable that we should care for the physical body that God gave us? Caring for our body means taking care of our physical health. Being physically active, eating well, getting adequate sleep and rest, being free from addictions and managing our stress are a few key aspects of attending to our physical health. You may describe mental health as an absence of mental or emotional issues, although everyone at times struggles with emotional issues such as stress, guilt, anger, anxiety, depression, or grief. Mental wellness really involves the process of using one's mind to create a greater understanding and depth, and deepening our appreciation of life and

our world. The enemy wants to keep us dwelling on the negative and to steal our joy and health. However, God desires us to be filled with peace, joy and love. The more effort we intentionally put into fighting this battle in our mind, the more likely we'll enjoy a healthier life. Like training the muscles of your body to be more physically fit, you can train yourself to feed your mind with healthy thoughts. Do not conform to the pattern of this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind. Then you will be able to test and approve what God's will is, his good, pleasing, and perfect will. (Romans 12:2)



A healthy spiritual life is often overlooked when we search for happiness, purpose and meaning for our lives. Many times we fall short of these pursuits because we are too busy concentrating on the physical. When we are out of balance in one area, it tends to flow over to other areas as well. To sustain or improve your level of physical fitness, it's especially important to consider the frequency, intensity and time of the various types of exercises you engage in. The same holds true for your spiritual fitness program. As Christian women we know that "exercises" for spiritual growth include prayer, reading and studying God's word, obeying Him, abiding in His presence, crying out to God, forgiving others, confessing

our sins, being in community with others, worshipping God, and loving and serving others. To have the kind of full and whole life that God wants us to have we must attend to our body, mind, and spirit. One way to assess our wholeness is to gauge the degree to which we are experiencing the "fruit of the spirit" in our lives as mentioned in Galatians 5:22–23. How prevalent are love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, and self-control in your life?

He gives strength to the weary and increases the power of the weak. Even youths grow tired and weary, and young men stumble and fall; but those who hope in the LORD will renew their strength. They will soar on wings like eagles; they will run and not grow weary, they will walk and not be faint. Isaiah 40: 29–31

WALKING cont from pg 6

No matter where you are in reading the book, you never get the sense you are being preached at, but instead you feel you are walking with a very dear friend who is warm and transparent in sharing his personal walk with God.

Steve continues to walk with God. His book, *Walking with God*, will help you immeasurably do the same. I highly recommend you get his book to enhance your walk with God today and until your final breath. Enoch walked with God and he was not, for God took Him. (Genesis 5:24b) May this be our destiny as we learn 101 lessons of life and ministry. ♦

LEADERSHIP *cont from pg 2***Dave Kimberly, Massilon, OH**

Dr. Kimberly has served as a pastor, teacher and board member. He brings to the CCCC experience in organizational development and strategic planning. He has a commitment to intercultural and international ministry, recently conducting a Timothy Network visit to Nepal on behalf of TEAM.

Susan Moody, Chester, VT

Susan found her way to pastoral ministry through camp ministry, classroom teaching, college ministry and event planning. She loves to use humor to help others learn God's truth and looks forward to using her creativity, problem solving skills, and event planning expertise as a member of the Board.

Bobbie Sargent, East Barre, VT

Bobbie has been a ministry partner to her husband, Tim, brainstorming, leading and helping in various ministries as they work to revitalize their small, rural church. She has worked in CE, Missions, Music, and Women's ministries and has been an adult and youth small group leader.

2014-2017 Term**Tim Dubeau, Salem, CT**

In 1994 Tim resigned a 23 year career to attend seminary. He currently serves the 1st Congregational Church of Salem. Credentialed in 1996 by the CCCC, Tim has served as the Southern New England Area Rep, the Local Arrangements Chair for the Annual Family Conference and is presently the Moderator of the New England Congregational Christian Fellowship (NECCF).

Mark Galloway, Exeter, RI

Mark and his wife, Sharon, (Chair of the Women's Ministries Committee) have been in ministry since 1997 and currently serve the Church of the Apostles in Coventry, RI. They have 4 adult children and one grandson. He says, "It is a joy to serve the conference any way I can."

Kim Gardell, Spokane, WA

Active in ministry alongside her husband, Gary, Kim has served on the Women's Ministries committee and worked as a CCCC Commissioned Christian Worker on Pohnpei, Micronesia. An experienced graphic designer, she is currently the CCCC Communication Coordinator.

Mike McElroy, Oceanside, CA

Retired from the Southern California Edison Co. San Onofre Nuclear Generating Station, Mike serves the Carlsbad, Community Church on the Administrative team, as a small group leader, choir member, and in various capacities, including chairman, on their Board of Elders. He is also a group leader for Bible Study Fellowship, International.

SHAKING *cont from pg 1*

Church in Portsmouth Virginia, Catalyst House Church in Virginia, and First Congregational Church of Peru, Illinois. It was a large and vastly varied mission team!

We were amazed at God's work sending support through the growing network of friends and partners of Supply and Multiply. On our trip we paid for some significant improvements to an orphanage, we built tables for children at a feeding and Bible teaching program, we trained pastors, encouraged church leaders, baptized new believers, and a whole bunch of other stuff. But it was all built on a foundation of sharing the love of God.

On that trip we solidified the groundwork of our ministry partners in Haiti, Stephen and Autumn Byxbe of Together We Can — Haiti, as we have now established Legliz Asnamn (Churches Together) Evangelistic Association, comprised of a growing network of nearly forty pastors. In one day we founded an evangelistic association and the Institute D'Biblique D'Montrouis (Montrouis Bible Institute). That was a fruitful day of ministry!

We performed baptisms and worshiped with fellow missionaries at the Montrouis International Fellowship, where Christina and I will provide a pastoral presence to English speakers in Haiti. We handled the immediate transition needs of the little girl we are adopting in Haiti, as her custodial grandmother departed this life to be with the Lord only a week before our trip. She's staying with the other children at the orphanage our ministry partners direct until we move in January. We did a lot on that trip.

But what was perhaps most exciting for me was to bring back a team full of people with changed hearts, having had an encounter with God in Haiti. We were making disciples in both directions; Americans ministering in Haiti and God transforming American hearts along the way. That is our central call, and it's what the Surbers and Brinkleys are zeroing in on for this next season of ministry in the lives of our respective families.

We serve an unimaginably immense God. He is shaking things up in our lives and He is shaking things up in the Mid-Atlantic region of the CCCC. To learn more about Palmwood Church go to www.palmwoodchurch.com. (Information is being added as the site is developed.) To learn more about Supply and Multiply you may visit www.supplyandmultiply.com. ♦

HEALTH NEWS

West Nile Virus

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



The West Nile Virus is transmitted to humans by a bite from an infected mosquito. A mosquito becomes infected by biting a bird that carries the virus. Horses and other mammals can also become infected by a bite from an infected mosquito. West Nile Virus is not transmitted through casual contact such as touching or kissing a person infected with the virus.

Now that the mosquitoes have hatched and are in your neighborhoods, campgrounds and other areas around you, it is time to take a few precautions to prevent mosquito bites.

- Avoid areas known to harbor mosquitoes, such as shaded and wooded areas.
- Wear long-sleeved shirts and long pants outdoors where mosquitoes may be present.
- Avoid outdoor activity from dusk to dawn when mosquitoes are most active. Use insect repellents and always follow the manufacturer's directions carefully, especially when using on children.
- Keep window and door screening in good repair to keep mosquitoes out of your home.
- Cover infants' strollers and playpens with mosquito netting when outdoors.

Most people infected with West Nile Virus do not have any symptoms. Some people may exhibit mild symptoms such as fever, headache, muscle weakness and body aches. Skin rash and swollen glands may also occur. More severe cases will exhibit a high fever, headache, stiff neck. Always consult a doctor if any of these symptoms occur for proper diagnosis and treatment.

Source: http://www.oakgov.com/news/Documents/fs_west_nile_virus.pdf

Then God said, "Let us make man in our image, after our likeness; and let them have dominion over... all the earth."

Genesis 1:26 ♦

Promotion to Glory

Rev. Warren W. Feustel, of Norway, Maine, passed away August 13, 2014. He was born April 28, 1926. His wife, Helen L. (Winsor) Feustel, passed away in 2002. Before retirement, he had pastored, among others, Faith Community Church in Lovell, Maine ♦

CHANGES & OPPORTUNITIES

PASTORAL CHANGES

Derby, VT Derby Community Church*
Josh Calmes

PASTORAL OPPORTUNITIES

Greeley, CO St Paul's Cong. Church*
(Part-time Associate Pastor)

Parkersburg, IA First Congregational*
(Associate Pastor)

LaMoille, IL First Congregational Church*

Sulphur Springs, IN Sulphur Springs Christian*
(Family Life Minister)

Boxford, MA First Cong. Church of Boxford*

Douglas, MA Second Congregational Church*

Tauton, MA Union Congregational Church*

Avon, MN Avon Community Church*
(Part-time Worship Arts Dir.)

Cook, MN Ashawa Chapel* *(Part-time)*

Hardin, MT Christ Evangelical & Reformed*

Beulah, ND Beulah Congregational Church*

Taylor, ND Taylor Ecumenical Parish (AFLC)

Scottsbluff, NE Plymouth Cong. Church*

Cambridge, NY Coila Church*

Inwood, NY Community Bible Church*
(Part-time)

Parkman, OH Parkman Congregational Church*

Beaver Springs, PA Christ Church (EFCA)

Reynoldsville, PA Paradise Community (UCC)

* = Conference member

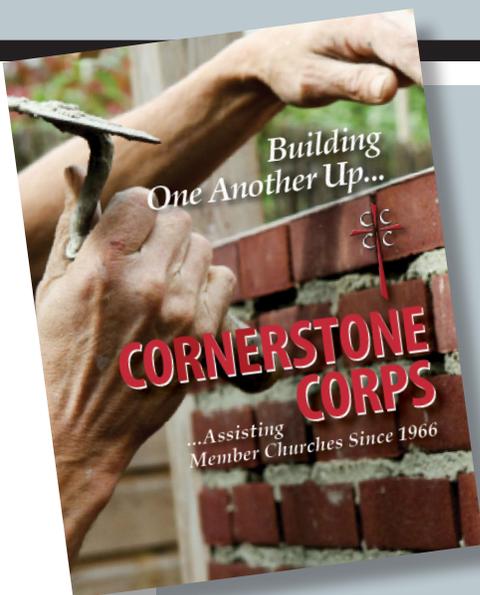
+ = In process

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR AND READERS' CONTRIBUTIONS

We welcome your contributions!

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.



New Cornerstone Corps Project- Fall 2014

Assisting the East Oberlin Community Church in Oberlin, OH with building repairs.

Information about this project has been mailed to members and churches. Watch for your opportunity to share in the life and ministry of this church through your generosity.

**CHECK OUT THESE ADDITIONAL RESOURCES—
ALSO AVAILABLE FOR DOWNLOAD AT:**

www.ccccusa.com/resources

- 2014-2015 Monday Prayer Guide (color or B&W)
- 2014-2015 Yearbook
- Updated 2014 CCCC Constitution



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