

The Heartbeat

The Newsletter for the Western Pennsylvania District of The Christian and Missionary Alliance



November 2011

Volume 9, Issue 11

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Encouraging the Encouragers

By Rev. John Fogal, Sr.

When you talk about leadership in the Book of Acts, most people think about Peter and Paul. But, when you study the scenes where Barnabas comes across the stage in the early church (Acts 4:32-36, 9:26-30, 11:19-24, 11:25-26, 13:2,3,7,43ff, 15:2,12, 15:36-40) many see the **unusual impact** this “Son of Encouragement” made.

I suspect that believers with the gift of encouragement (Romans 12:6-8) constitute a larger part of the church population than most of us realize. They have an inner motivation to come alongside people one-on-one to urge them to pursue their full spiritual maturity in Christ. They are unusually hopeful and optimistic. They can see more potential in others than most people see. They see how trials can help people grow spiritually and they stay beside people through the hard times. They use wholesome **talk to “build others up”** (Ephesians 4:29). Most of what they do is hidden from view and they can get discouraged **when they don’t see progress.**

If we had some kind of a spiritual x-ray machine that would enable us to see the



invisible, we would see encouraging happening all around the church lobby, throughout the sanctuary after the worship services, down the hallways, out in the parking lot, etc. Throughout the week, follow the encouragers to the area restaurants, the water coolers, the gyms, the halls at school, the small group meetings, the grocery store, the beauty shop, on the telephone, through the internet, etc. Maybe, as a result of one of those conversations, a sinner came to know Christ as Savior; a suicide was averted; a marriage was restored; a “**first love**” was renewed; a lost passion was reinvigorated; a job was kept; etc. Typically, the encourager (and most other people) fails to see the connection between the conversation and the subsequent action.

Recently I talked with a young man who has the gift of encouragement but was somewhat discouraged. I asked a few questions and listened for awhile. Then I reminded him of all the small groups that were started and growing and multiplying through his encouragement. I talked about **the men’s ministry that he has** been informally leading and what is happening in the lives of those men. We shared the stories of some of the people who still attend church because of his encouragement. I urged him to remember all the times and places where people want him to preach and how they respond when he does. And, all this is without any official title or position in the church. **WOW!**

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Encouraging the Encouragers, continued

By Rev. John Fogal, Sr

“They see how trials can help people grow spiritually and they stay beside people through the hard times.”

Encouragers need encouragement. Preachers see the number of people who come to hear them preach and those who respond to an invitation—however you give it. Teachers can give some kind of exam and see how much people have learned through their teaching. Those with the gift of serving can see the tangible things they do for others and the effect they have. But, encouragers usually don't have this kind of feedback.

Maybe all you need to do is let them know that God sees what they are doing and so do you. Maybe we need to do some training that equips and affirms those with the gift of encouragement. We have homiletics classes for preachers. For a long time, we've had

teacher training classes for Sunday school teachers. We have leadership development programs and financial seminars in our churches. Why not provide training for this large group of people with the spiritual gift of encouragement? (Obviously, every believer is to “encourage one another” so this training would help the entire church.) Maybe there is a need for a simple organization that prevents gaps and overlaps when it comes to visiting church visitors; following up with new converts; caring for the sick and needy; reaching out to those who are drifting away; etc.

If this is not your spiritual gift, you may need to work a bit harder in order to be intentional about encouraging the



Encouragers need encouragement.

encouragers. But, think about the benefit of leveraging this ministry throughout the church and community in a way that multiplies the number of people involved and maximizes the effectiveness of informal encouragement that results in a congregation filled with hope.



Safe Harbor Christian Counseling Ministry

Altoona Alliance Church



They use wholesome talk to “build others up.”

Rev. Tim McGarvey, Altoona Alliance Church, is excited to announce that Safe Harbor directed by Michael Linn, will be occupying some space in the new Church and Ministry Center. It is big challenge for pastors today to know where to send someone when they cannot help the person anymore. The Safe Harbor Ministry will have four Christian

counselors on staff who will be able to help those in our communities and churches needing specialized counseling. The counselors have master degrees and a wealth of experience in dealing with mental health, crises and counseling issues.

So pastor(s), when you have reached your limit in counseling or talking with a hurting

individual or couple, be assured there is someone in our district that is trained to help.

For more information about this great new resource, phone 814-381-0755 or check out the Safe Harbor website at www.safeharbor1.com.

Pennsylvania Bible Institute

“Training individuals to be better prepared for ministry in today’s world.”

PBI has been developed primarily to train people who:

- Are aware of the call of God to full or part time ministry.
- Are looking for their own personal spiritual enrichment.
- Want to improve their involvement and skill for ministry in today’s world.
- Desire continuing education training needs.

There is a non-refundable \$100 application fee. The program consists of 15 courses. Tuition for each course is \$100.

Courses meet in a classroom setting one evening per week for approximately 6 to 8 weeks. Books needed for each course cost between \$20 and \$75. The total cost to complete the entire course of study

is approximately \$2,000...a very affordable way to prepare for ministry. To enroll complete the 2010 Admission Application.

For more information and to register, contact Lynette by email norrisl@cmawpa.org or phone 814-938-6920.

Expository Preaching 206

ACAC Heritage Cafe

Instructor:

Clarence Croscutt

Thursdays, 6:00 - 9:00 pm

Nov 10, 17; Dec 1, 8, 15; & Jan 5

Receive instruction on developing and delivering expository sermons using an eight-step system.

Old Testament Survey 104

ACAC Heritage Cafe

Instructor:

Scott Woodlee

Tuesdays, 6:00 - 9:00 p.m.

Nov. 1, 8, 15, 29; Dec 6, & 13

This course presents a panoramic view of the Old Testament, pointing out the relationship of the Old Testament to the New Testament, showing the historical basis of N.T. doctrines, and applying lessons learned from O.T. characters to contemporary problems.



Directory Changes/Additions

- Altoona Alliance Church, Pastor Rev. Timothy McGarvey (Brenda), New church address: 3220 Pleasant Valley Blvd, Altoona, PA and web site address: www.altoonaalliance.org
- Atkins, Mr. J. Colby, Unassigned effective October 2.
- Baker, Mr. Paul, District Alliance Men’s Ministry Coordinator resigned effective June 14, 2011.
- Barnets, Rev. Thomas (Nikki), Retired effective March 31.
- Miller, Rev. Timothy, No credentials effective October 10.
- Rev. Jeff Smith (Heidi), New home phone: 724-308-6285.

Email Additions/Changes:

- Blair Blakeslee, Corry: Blair@BlairBlakeslee.com
- Gary Dindinger, Drake: garydindinger@yahoo.com
- Eric McAdams, Cecil: pe@cecilcma.org
- Steve Miller, Hollidaysburg: patriot121852@aim.com
- Punxsutawney C&MA, office@pcmachurch.org





Operation Christmas Joy 2011

"So far we have received over \$7,000 for Operation Christmas Joy 2011."

Operation Christmas Joy (OCJ) is a unique program in which our local churches donate gifts or money to assist our pastoral families (active or retired) who may be facing financial limitations during the holiday season. It is an opportunity for individuals and churches to share the blessings God has sent their way.

In 2010 our district churches generously provided gifts for over 100 pastors, evangelists

and retired workers during the holiday season. It was encouraging to receive thank you notes explaining how God provided through OCJ for specific needs just at the right time.

We invite all WPA churches to be a sponsor in the program. Share in the joy this Christmas season and be a part of this unique tradition.

If you would like to participate

in OCJ 2011 contact Janeen by phone 814-938-6920 or email barrettj@cmawpa.org. For your convenience, an online contribution form is available. (Go to www.cmawpa.org and click on the OCJ picture.)

Please send your OCJ "gifts" to the District Office by December 9. That will allow us time to get the "gifts" to families before the holidays.

Welcome to the District Mr. & Mrs. Donald Tucker

New Assistant Pastor/Worship, Media, & Arts at Allegheny Center Alliance Church

"Serving in The Christian & Missionary Alliance is a dream come true for both of us."



Donald Tucker has been happily married to Barbara Buchanan-Tucker for 21 years. They have three adult children, four grand children and a host of nephews and nieces. They reside on the North side of Pittsburgh where they have lived for 21 years.

Barbara is a teacher's aide at Allegheny Middle School and a college student at Carlow University, finishing up her early childhood degree. She is also very active with classes at the

church. Our hobbies include working out, movies and socializing with other Christian couples.

When Donald is not at work or hanging with Barbie, he is usually practicing and working on new material for the department. He does a lot of consulting work with different music companies and studios in the city of Pittsburgh. Occasionally he lends himself out to run sound for different venues.

Donald states, "God has blessed us in so many ways from our health, to our schooling, friendships and just plain growth that has helped us understand what God wants from us. Serving in the Christian and Missionary Alliance is a dream come true for both of us."

Welcome Donald and Barbara to the district family.



Prayer Requests, In Sympathy

- Sara Breedlove, wife of Rev. Jerry Breedlove (Pastor of Clarion Alliance), had surgery on November 2 and everything went fine. She is recuperating at home. Please continue to pray for Sara and Jerry.
- Dorothy Dietrich, wife of Rev. Tim Dietrich (Pastor at Martindale Alliance), had thyroid surgery at Montefiore Hospital in Pittsburgh. Doctors removed the thyroid and parathyroid glands. Please remember Dorothy and family in prayer
- Lorinda Robinson, WPA International Worker, had surgery October 3. Her surgeon believes she is healing well. She will begin a non-chemotherapy treatment on November 17. This treatment is to stimulate her immune system and is "brutal" on the body. Please pray that she will regain strength before beginning treatment and

that the treatment will be effective with minimal side-effects. Thank you for your continued prayer support. If you would like to send Lorinda a card her address is as follows: 42 School St., Baden, PA 15005.

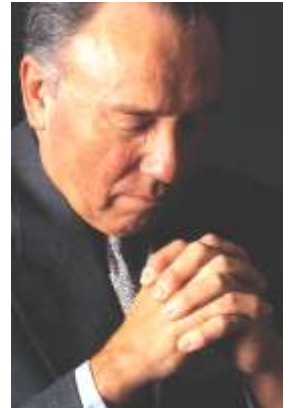
- West Newton Alliance Church, has a team heading to the Dominican Republic, November 7. The team will be in three phases of ministry while they are there. Please **pray for God's favor and that signs and wonders and miracles will follow the spoken Word.** Also pray that the hurricane will be diverted from Miami.

The Alliance Prayer Requests: Visit the Prayer Page on the National Office website to view prayer requests, receive prayer and discuss prayer needs and techniques on the prayer forum. You can also download a copy of the *Alliance Call to*

Prayer bulletin insert. Use the following link to access the page: www.cmalliance.org/pray

In Sympathy

Mr. Paul Kauffman, brother-in-law to Rev. Jeffery and Lynette Norris, DS, went home to be with the Lord October 30. The funeral service was held at the Pine Glen Alliance Church in Lewistown, PA. Please **continue praying for Paul's wife Rochelle**, his daughter Jackie, his son Robert and extended family.



Ordination

Bryan Downs

November 20 at 4:00 pm

New Stanton

Alliance Church

New Stanton, PA

"Revamp the Camp" - Phase II

Children's Mission Project 2011-2012

The Children's Commission extended the Revamp the Camp project for another year. We want to help Sergey Guts realize his dream of operating the camp year round. Contributions will be used for renovations.

There are still six months to contribute to "Revamp the Camp." We are over half way to our goal of \$10,000. We are so thankful to all churches who

have participated so far and we encourage others to help us go above and beyond the \$10,000 mark. We only need another \$3,402.37 to get there.

Rudy has his tools and he is **ready to work!** Let's join him and partner with the Russian pastors and...

**"Revamp the Camp,
Phase III!!**

DONATIONS RECEIVED SO FAR THIS YEAR!!

\$6,597.63

Please make your check payable to WPA C&MA District Office and designate that the money is for "Revamp the **Camp, Phase II."**

There are still some Rudy balloons available!



Resources are available at the District Office. Contact Rudy by phone 814-938-6920 or email pszkerr@cmawpa.org.

Events

*Pastors and Wives
Annual*

CHRISTMAS PARTY
December 5, 2011

*Greensburg Alliance
Church*

Time: 4-7 pm

CMO SYNERGY!

Coming Together for the
Sake of Our Kids!

Children's Workers Training

Special Guests:

Dennis Barta

Melissa MacDonald

November 12, 2011

9:00 am to 4:30 pm

Community Alliance

Butler, PA

For Children's Workers Only

Deadline is past so please
call for availability. Choose

up to four workshops for the
day from fifteen topics. Topics
include:

- Creating a Fun, Inviting Atmosphere
- Leading Children in Worship
- Ministering to Children of Divorce
- Raising a Modern Day Joseph
- Ministry to Special Needs Children
- Getting and Keeping Volunteers

And much more!

To download the detailed brochure, go to www.cmawpa.org and click on the CMO SYNERGY picture on the left. If you do not have access to the internet, contact Ruby by phone 814-938-6920.

**ENVISION
EL SALVADOR!**

Alliance Youth Workers
January 2-7, 2011

This conference exists to mobilize and inspire the next generation (aged 18-30) within our churches for Kingdom change. More than a missions conference, the gathering will challenge attendees with a God-given vision for how to live out a missional lifestyle—overseas as well as in their own communities. For more information go to www.alliance-youth.com/envision/.

*The Nature of Conflict:
Procedures & Models
of Resolution*



Rev. Paul Holland

November 3, 10, 17 and
December 1 (if desired)

Calvary Presbyterian Church
1099 6th Avenue
Beaver Falls, Pa

These classes will be updated
modifications of eight previously
offered classes.

- Session 1: Motivation, Perception Cognitions, Beliefs
- Session 2: Types of Conflict (within marriage, family, groups, church) Models of Resolution
- Session 3: Resolutions (continued) Federal Government Mediation (Perc) Group Think, Family Systems, Gestalt, Dissonance. II Corinthians

To sign-up, call Dr. Holland's office at 724-847-2817.

DISTRICT OFFICE
TRANSITION

While we are in transition at the district office, please send inquiries regarding Ordination/Consecration and CEU's, to Kathy Anderson and inquiries regarding In-Service Retreats, Ministerial Study Program and PBI, to Lynette. Their contact information is as follows:

Kathy and Lynette

Phone: 814-938-6920

Emails:

Kathy: andersonk@cmawpa.org

Lynette: norrisl@cmawpa.org

Thank you.

PASTORS/TREASURERS

Please be looking for the following information coming by the US mail service to your church pastor/treasurer for 2012.

- Pastors minimum salary requirements
- 2012 approved district budget
- 2012 DOB for your church
- Mission mileage reimbursement

Questions? Contact Dixie by phone: 814-938-6920 or email mcintired@cmawpa.org.

Legacy Builder
Luncheons 2012

May 11, 12, 13

Mark your 2012 calendar.
Details will be announced
at a later date.

Alliance Women News

ALLIANCE WOMEN
ANNUAL RETREAT

June 15-46, 2012

UPJ - Johnstown, PA

Speaker: Gwen Smith

Read Gwen's article in the

Leadership Link,

Simply Living, at

www.gwensmith.net

CELEBRATE 2012

Sheraton Sand Key Resort

Clearwater, FL

September 27-30, 2012

Speakers:

Alicia Williamson Garcia

Chondra Pierce, Allan

Keys, Tammy Trent and

Donna Baptiste

Registration Fee: \$275

Rooms \$119 for 4 persons

Sessions begin the 27th at 7

pm and end Sunday, Septem-

ber 30 at 12 noon.

Each person is to secure

their own transportation.

Let Ethel Fennick, WPA

Director of AW, know by

email if you plan to attend

wefcma1@verizon.net.

2011 District Calendar

Schedule of Events

November

- 8 LO&CC Meeting, DO
- 12 Children’s Workers Training - Community Alliance in Butler
- 24-25 Thanksgiving Holiday, DO Closed

December

- 5 District Pastors & Wives Christmas Party
- 13 DEXCOM Meeting, Mars Alliance
- 23&26 Christmas Holiday, DO Closed
- 30 New Years Day Holiday, DO Closed

2012-2013

Ordinand/Consecrant

In-Service Retreat
February 17-18, 2012
Antiochian Village
Ligonier, PA

Breakaway 2012

Jason Ostrander
Logan Martin Band
Family First Sports Park
Erie, PA
April 20-22, 2012

ENter 2012

July 15-19, 2012
Greenville, PA

ENter is a district-wide service project for middle school students designed to introduce them to a worldview of service and spiritual formation.

Life 2013

St. Louis, MO
July 9-13

Youth Leaders - It is not too early to start thinking about and planning for Life 2013.

November 2011

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8 <i>LO&CC</i>	9	10	11	12 <i>CMO Synergy</i>
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24 <i>Thanksgiving Holiday</i>	25	26
27	28	29	30			



District Churches in Pastoral Transitions

- Chippewa*
- Lower Burrell Hillcrest
- Nanty Glo*
- New Wilmington*
- Osceola Mills
- Smethport
- Warren

*Receiving Resumes

Churches With Credentialed Interim Pastors

- Erie Grandview
- Fuoss Mills
- Grove City
- Mars

Churches With Uncredentialed Ministry Leaders

- McPherron
- Mina, NY

- New Kensington Greensburg Road
- Sandy Lake

Churches With Lay Leadership or Pulpit Supply

- Ambridge
- Beccaria
- Gray
- Hilltop Community

Anyone interested in submitting a resume should send it to the attention of:

Rev. Jeffery Norris, DS
341 Chestnut Street
Punxsutawney, PA 15767
Phone: 814-938-6920

Western Pennsylvania District of
The Christian and Missionary Alliance

WPA District Office Personnel

341 Chestnut St.
Punxsutawney, PA 15767
Phone: 814-938-6920
Fax: 814-938-7528
E-mail: office@cmawpa.org

District Leadership Team (DLT)

- Rev. Jeffery Norris, District Superintendent
- Rev. Joseph Toomey, Director of Church Planting and Southwestern Regional Team Leader
- Mrs. Cheryl Grossoehme, Director of Disciplemaking Ministries
- Rev. Robert Douglas, Director of Church Health and Northern Regional Team Leader

Support Staff

- Kathy Anderson, Admin. Asst. to the DS
- Janeen Barrett, Receptionist
- Dixie McIntire, Financial Asst.
- Lynette Norris, Admin. Asst. to DCP, DCH and Missions
- Ruby Piszker, Admin. Asst. to DDM

We're on the web:
www.cmawpa.org



DISTRICT CORE VALUES

- Lost people matter to God. He wants them found. (Luke 19:10)
- Prayer is the primary work of the people of God. (Philippians 4:6-7)
- Everything we have belongs to God. We are only stewards. (1 Chronicles 29:14)
- **Knowing and obeying God's Word is fundamental to all true success.** (Joshua 1:8)
- Completing the Great Commission requires mobilizing every fully devoted disciple. (Matthew 28:19)
 - Without the empowerment of the Holy Spirit, we can accomplish nothing. (1 Corinthians 2:4-5)
- **Achieving God's purposes involves taking faith-filled risks; this always involves change.** (Hebrews 11:6)
 - Social Justice is a passion of God. Our faith champions justice for all. (Micah 6:8)

District Pastoral Chaplains Sutton/Ulrich Cottage



Sutton/Ulrich Cottage,
Mahaffey Camp and Conference
Center, Mahaffey, PA

Northeast Quadrant
Rev. Bernard Knefley
814-274-8661
bjknef@yahoo.com

Northwest Quadrant
Rev. Edwin Dixon
814-786-7669
edixon@access995.com

Southeast Quadrant
Rev. William Hazlett
814-736-4032
wehazlett@comcast.net
and

Rev. Patrick Walsh
814-443-4242

Southwest Quadrant
Rev. William Wood
Chaplain Coordinator
724-863-5179
wpnjwood@yahoo.com

If you would like to reserve the
cottage, contact your chaplain.