

Northeastern District Family Newsletter

The Northeastern District of The Christian and Missionary Alliance; 6275 Pillmore Drive; Rome, NY 13440
Phone 315-336-4720 Email: office@northeasterncma.com Web: www.northeasterncma.com

Thoughts from Dan

The following article written by
Rev. Jeffrey A. Miller, Central
District Director of Church

Development (becoming Central District Superintendent on August 1), appeared in their June 2008 Newsletter. The article struck a real chord with me from my pastoral experience and with Jeff's permission we are sharing it with you this month.

Have a great Summer, *Dan*

In the days of youthful infatuation I'd pick a daisy and start the petal pluck, "She loves me, she loves me not, she loves me, she..." If I didn't get the answer I sought for I would just pick another daisy. What a tough foundation for a relationship! If she would just tell me what she felt it would be so much easier. Romance built upon daisy petals is rough on the male ego. It's tough on daisies too. Pathways of life are strewn with unloved emotions and mangled daisy petals.

Questions of love aren't just for romance, marriage and parenthood. In church an unspoken question rattles around hallways and pews. "Does our pastor really love us?" If Jesus knew what He was talking about when He said that the world will know we are Christians by our love then doesn't it follow that we pastors need to lead the way and that it should start within our own ranks? (Galatians 6:9-10) When it comes to the flock being loved by the shepherd and not merely supervised by the hireling (see John 10) two questions are critical for us to ask:

"Do I love the people God gave into my care?" Don't answer too quickly and too flippantly. It is a question worthy of some meditation and prayer. There is an old quote that says, "You only love God as much as the person you love the least." It may be a little over the top but the point is worth pondering. There are a lot of things about sheep that can frustrate a shepherd. But these things need not affect his love for each lamb and ram. On Sundays it can be helpful to look out over the congregation and think of them, not only as the audience for your sermon, but as the objects of your love, a love that the Great Shepherd can place deep within your heart.

"Do they know that I love them?" This is not the same as the first question. Some people have love in their hearts but it makes only rare appearances in their words, their eyes and their actions. I would assert that if the people of your church don't know that you love them the malfunction is yours, not theirs. Do we tell our people that we love them? Do we find creative ways to say and demonstrate this core component of our calling? The visible love of a pastor can become contagious and lead to an atmosphere of love in a church.

When it comes to pastors and pastors wives may it be that a member of your church never finds the need to pick up a daisy and say, "He/she loves us, he/she loves us not..."

Jeff

PS: I love you!



VOLUME 7, ISSUE 8

AUGUST 2008

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District Superintendent
Rev. Daniel D. Miller

Director of
Church Health and
Multiplication
Rev. Jon A. Martin

Executive Secretary
Billie L. Merrick

District Business
Manager/Bookkeeper
Mr. Frank E. Whiting

Church Health
and Multiplication
Administrative Assistant
Mrs. Debra A. Martin

A CHURCH JOURNEY?

This seems to be the season for journeys! Perhaps for you and your family, it is that ideal relaxing vacation spot. For: Bruce Overstreet, the not so casual bike trip from CA to Maine; our Boy Scout son, Zebadiah, it was a 60 plus mile canoe trek/carry in the Adirondack State Park; our eldest son, Jonathan it was the journey to becoming an Eagle Scout (first one in Troop #44 for seven years); Amanda Martin, a life-changing one month Medical Internship in Swaziland, Africa.

What about your local church? Is it time for you to take a journey? New to our District are two additional helps to the NCD process: Profile Plus and NCD Insights. They are "Quality Characteristic Analysis" and "Trends for the Natural Church Development Journey" of your church. NCD is a powerful tool to assist the local church in understanding its health. The Profile Plus and the NCD Insights are two additional tools that are now available through the Office of Church Health and Multiplication for those churches going through the NCD Journey. Once the Church Health Team has completed meeting with the focus groups and they have initially identified the 3-5 key

factors that have contributed to the churches' Minimum Factor, they will then have available to them the results of the Profile Plus and NCD Insights. It is to help the church health team to "accurately identify existing and potential barriers impeding healthy growth. NCD Insights appeal to a broad spectrum of local church leaders by providing a more detailed picture for each quality without distracting the viewer with individual questions." These two additional tools (40 pages of wonderful charts and insights) contain:

- 'Summary information'
- 'Quality Characteristic Current Profile'
- 'Current (Minimum Factor)'
- 'Current Highest 5'
- 'Current lowest 5'

Also new to the NCD process is the print out sheet called: "Radical Quality Balance." This new sheet accompanies the NCD Church Profile and indicates the importance and benefit of having all Eight Quality Characteristics increasing together rather than having extreme scores of one being 81 and another 11. The more cohesive the scores are generally indicates better dynamic church health.

I don't know about you, but I always enjoy the journey much more when I am equipped with the best tools. NCD cares and is not satisfied with the status quo and these new tools will further assist your church in its journey toward thriving health. For further information contact the Office of Church Health and Multiplication at ext. 205.

For a Healthy Today and Tomorrow,

Jon

GHC

Faith Alliance Church (Albion) will be hosting
Growing A Healthy Church Seminar I led by Rev. Jon Schuerholz

Date: Saturday, October 11

Place: Faith Alliance Church

Time: 9:00 am – 4:00 pm

3305 Oak Orchard Rd.

Albion, NY

Cost: \$60.00 (includes materials and lunch)

For more information contact Gregg Marston facalbion@verizon.net

<http://facalbion.weebly.com>

Reservations payable to the Faith Alliance Church by September 18, 2008.

*His love is a
sweet fragrance*



District Items of Interest

Rev. Charles and Dot Droppa would welcome you to contact them at:
2 Chestnut St., Apt. #103
Whitinsville, MA 01588

Giving to the
Great Commission Fund
from our District churches of \$811,753
for the first half
of 2008 is 103.7% compared
to the same time in 2007.

In Transition

Rev. Kevin T. and Becca Elwood
to Leave of Absence to attend
Alliance Theological Seminary

Rev. Donald W. and Elaine Probert
to Unassigned
available for year-round **pulpit supply**
187 W. Main St., Angelica, NY 14709
Cell: 607-321-1647
dprobert@juno.com

2009 District and Prayer Conference

Tuesday—Thursday,
April 21—23, 2009
at Auburn Alliance Church,
Auburn, NY.

Items for the **Introductory Packet**
are to be submitted to
office@northeasterncma.com
by Tuesday, **January 13, 2009.**

The firm deadline for
Delegate/Events Reservations is
Tuesday, **March 31, 2009.**

2010 District and Prayer Conference
is scheduled for **April 19—22, 2010**
at Wheatfield, NY.

Reminder

Lock-in April 21—23, 2009 and April 19—22, 2010 now to attend
Conference: **“Every official worker holding credentials with
the District should attend Conference unless prevented from
doing so by sickness or emergency.”**

(District Bylaws, Article II, H)

**Northeastern District
Family Newsletter**
Articles for the **September**
newsletter should be sent to
da_martin@northeasterncma.com
by **Monday August 25**

DEXCOM Meeting

Reports to DEXCOM and other items for
DEXCOM consideration must be
received at least two weeks before
scheduled DEXCOM meetings
in order to be placed on their Agenda.
It is important to send information to
Frank Whiting at
fe_whiting@northeasterncma.com
by August 26 for the
September 9, 2008 meeting.

**Looking for Pastors
Interim Pastors in NY**
Andover, Ballston Spa,
Orchard Park, Saratoga Springs
and Troy, NY

**Looking for Assistant or
Associate Pastors in NY**
Corning, Horseheads,
Kingston and Syracuse

District Resource

An **electronic** copy of the
2008 **District and Prayer
Conference Proceedings**
(including current **District Bylaws,
Conference Policies** and
DEXCOM Policies)
is available by contacting
Mr. Frank E. Whiting at
fe_whiting@northeasterncma.com

Directory Updates

Missions Committee

Pg. 4, 07) Miss E. Lorraine Regnier. Pg. 5, 07)
518-356-1098
407 DeForest St.; Schenectady, NY 12303
lorregnier@aol.com

Nelliston: vacpastor@frontiernet.net

Orchard Park

716-464-9746
3888 Southwestern Blvd.
Orchard Park, NY 14127

Rochester Savior's Chapel

office@thesaviorschapel.org

Rev. David B. Linn

pastordave@thesaviorschapel.org

Troy: delete e-mail

Rev. Jack L. Murphy

m2murfs@yahoo.com and he is available for
year-round **pulpit supply:** 518-796-0309
12 Kings Mills Rd., Gansevoort, NY 12831-1369

Rev. Kenneth D. Lindsey

pastkl1212@aol.com

Please send phone, address, e-mail and website
updates when they occur to
office@northeasterncma.com – Thank you!



Parsonage to Parsonage

I've been thinking about water lately. Not only because I try to spend as much time as possible in Delta Lake on hot summer days, but also because "Thirst Quenchers" is this year's theme for Alliance Women Ministries.

Meditating on the following verse convicted me to ask myself some questions: "Whoever believes in me, ... rivers of living water will flow out from that person's heart." John 7:38. Do rivers of living water flow from my heart? Not a trickle of water now and then—a RIVER of living water!

If so, what does that water look like? Is it pure or contaminated? If the water is tainted, then it will not quench the unbeliever's thirst. However, if it is pure, wouldn't the thirsty run to me for a drink? Desiring to keep rivers of living (not deadly) water flowing from my heart, I must regularly examine myself. Is there anything in my life that contaminates the body of Christ? What is my passion? Who is influencing me?

I encourage each of us to ask ourselves and ask God these questions and obey His answers. As God's servants in the Northeastern District we can change the world's heartbeat as pure and living water flows from us. So in the final days many will come for a drink as they see the reality of Revelations 7:17 "... He will lead them to springs of living water. And God will wipe away every tear from their eyes."

Praying for RIVERS of LIVING water flowing from each of our hearts, as we enjoy a dip in God's Word.

Elaine

District and Prayer

Conference 2008 Delegates

If you donated your "Northeastern District" bag to the mission project at Conference and you would like to have one for your personal use, a supply of these bags is available at the District Office.

Contact Debra at:

315-336-4720 ext 204 OR

da_martin@northeasterncma.com

to make arrangements to pick yours up at the District Office when you are in the area or one may be delivered to you by staff who may be traveling in your ministry area.

Dates to Remember

AUGUST

26 DEXCOM Agenda items due at District Office

29--Sept 1 **District Alliance Family Retreat**, Delta LBCC

SEPTEMBER

1 **LABOR DAY HOLIDAY** – District Office Closed

9 DEXCOM Meeting, District Office, 10:00 AM

11 Missions Tours Begin

11 Evangelism Committee Teleconference, 3:00 PM

26--27 AWM Fall Mini-Retreat, Delta LBCC

Library Books

Valleyview Vestal Church has a few tables of books from Pastor Bob Cody's ministry library and from the church library available until August 15 to anyone who is interested in adding to their own library.

Interested parties are invited to call the church at: 607-754-1358 to set up a time when the church will be open to view these books.

Great is Thy Faithfulness



Executive Pastor Position

Grove City Alliance Church in Grove City, PA, a church that ministers to over 800 people weekly, seeks an experienced executive pastor. We are looking for a visionary, faith-filled, people-oriented man gifted with organizational skills and a passion for Jesus Christ to join our pastoral staff and guide us through the next stages of growth.

The executive pastor's responsibilities include overseeing the pastoral staff and all aspects of church administration. In conjunction with the Senior Pastor, he will continue to develop the ministry strategic plan and oversee the execution of that plan.

The executive pastor must be a leader of leaders, a person with a proven track record of accomplishments: someone who "gets things done", creative, resourceful, a problem-solver, and a strategic planner. We prefer someone with at least 5 years experience in leadership in a congregation of 800 or more. We will consider others but management skills in a large church setting is a must.

Please provide resume to:

Rev. Richard W. LaFountain, Senior Pastor
Grove City Alliance Church
845 North Liberty Road
Grove City, PA 16127

OR

by e-mail to: gcac@grovecityalliance.org

For more information visit us on the web at
www.GroveCityAlliance.org

You may submit your resume, answer a questionnaire and apply online.

Sympathy

Mrs. Anne R. Ackerman

Wife of Former Retired District Superintendent and Pastor, was promoted to the Church Triumphant on June 30, 2008.

A celebration to the glory of God of her life was conducted on July 5, 2008 -- Chapel Pointe at Carlisle, PA. Rev. Walt Frankensberry officiated, Rev. Jon Martin brought words from the Northeastern District, Rev. Sidney Harris ministered in music, Rev. Albert Webster and other Alliance pastors shared.

Condolences may be sent to:

Rev. W. Emerson Ackerman
Chapel Pointe at Carlisle
770 S. Hanover St.
Carlisle, PA 17013

Mrs. Charlotte Eloise Olenhouse

Widow of Former Retired District Pastor, Evangelist and Missionary
Rev. Charles C. Olenhouse, July 1, 2008.

Her life, earthly and eternal, was celebrated at a Memorial Service on July 5, 2008 at the Delhi Alliance Church with Rev. David A. Wheatley, Jr. officiating and sharing remembrances from the Northeastern District. Condolences may be sent to her children, Vance, Janice and Linda, c/o the Delhi Alliance Church. In lieu of flowers, donations payable to "Delhi Alliance Church" may be given for the C&MA Great Commission Fund in her memory and sent to:

Delhi Alliance Church
16178 State Highway 28
Delhi, NY 13753-9767

A Memorial Service emphasizing the Lord's faithfulness to **Mrs. E. Bernice Steiner**,
Widow of Former District Pastor Rev. Dwight Steiner,
conducted at the Delta Lake Bible Conference Center Prayer Chapel
with her Daughter Linda sharing her Mother's early life and call to ministry,
was led by Rev. Stephen B. Clark, July 22.

A graveside service officiated by Rev. H. Wayne Eppheimer,
was held at the Blockville Cemetery, Jamestown, NY, on July 30, 2008.

Memorandum

To: Northeastern District Official Workers; MSP Students; Laypersons

July 21, 2008

Announcing a *Growing a Healthy Church I* training event for pastors and laypersons at:

**Faith Alliance Church
3305 Oak Orchard Rd.
Albion, NY 14411**

on

Saturday, October 11, 2008

from

9:00 AM – 4:00 PM

led by

Rev. Jon Schuerholz

For travel directions or questions about the seminar, please contact **Rev. Gregg Marston**, Faith Alliance Church Senior Pastor, at: **facalbion@verizon.com** or **585-589-7820**.

The **cost** will be **\$60.00** per person unless you have a new manual (2000 or later) in which case you can bring it and the cost will be **\$5.00** per person. Spouses are allowed to share a manual – cost, **\$5.00** per person. Lunch, also, is included for all participants.

Please **send all checks and registration** requests **prior** to Thursday, **September 18**,

to: Faith Alliance Church (please make check payable to **Faith Alliance Church**)
3305 Oak Orchard Rd.
Albion, NY 14411-9136

This is a firm deadline. All registrations must be received at Faith Alliance Church by September 18.

GHC I is a requirement for ordinands, consecration women and Ministerial Study Program students. This seminar also qualifies for **Continuing Education** for District official workers.

GHC I Invitation Newsletter 10-08, July 21, 2008

Please return this portion and check **prior** to the Thursday, **September 18**, 2008 firm deadline to: **Faith Alliance Church**, 3305 Oak Orchard Rd., Albion, NY 14411-9136. Thank you!

* The following plan to attend the **Growing a Healthy Church I** training event **October 11**, 2008

Please Print:

Name _____ Name _____

Name _____ Name _____

Total Number of Participants _____ @ **\$60.00** = \$ _____ (please make check payable to: **Faith Alliance Church**)

Total Number of Participants _____ @ **\$5.00** = \$ _____

Total Amount enclosed: \$ _____

Church Name _____ Church City _____

* Please list any additional attendees on another page and enclose with this form.