

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

I love to share good news. Who doesn't? The gospel, of course, is the best good news. I hope you have frequent opportunities to tell it.

I have some other good news to pass along about our District. It concerns our giving to the Great Commission Fund (GCF). The year-end report arrived recently showing that GCF giving from Northeastern District churches increased by 6.3 percent in 2008 compared to 2007. In dollars that is an increase from \$1,463,270 in 2007 to \$1,555,899 in 2008—a difference of \$92,630. I have two responses. Thank you to God's people for every dime and dollar given and thanks to our pastors and church missions teams for your faithfulness in keeping the Great Commission and the GCF before God's people.

Now, though, as Paul Harvey says, "Here is the rest of the story." Total giving to the GCF from all sources in 2008 was down 3.6 percent or \$1,425,759 compared to 2007. These are calendar-year not fiscal-year (July 1 – June 30) figures, but they do show a twelve-month picture. A good part of the decrease is due to significantly less GCF income from legacy gifts. That's why last year C&MA leadership decided to move away from including projected legacy gifts in the GCF budget. While greatly appreciated, their timing is unpredictable. Only a greatly reduced amount of anticipated legacy gifts is included in the fiscal year 2008-2009 GCF budget.

Overall GCF giving from churches has remained at or above previous year levels. President Gary Benedict has expressed to District Superintendents his gratitude and great appreciation for the faithful giving of Alliance people in our churches. I pass that along to you.

Even so, according to the annual reports of our churches, a relatively small number of households that give regularly to the local church budget give also to support the GCF. President Benedict has urged us to pray that a greater percentage of people in Alliance churches who do not currently give to the GCF will begin to do so. A significant increase in the number of C&MA people supporting the GCF would have a great impact on GCF finances. Please join President Benedict and me in believing God for this!

I encourage the pastors and missions mobilizers in our churches to intentionally focus on this urgent need. Through effective education, passionate inspiration and consistent communication let us believe God for a great increase of Alliance people who are knowledgeable about and committed to supporting the mission of the C&MA through their giving to the GCF.

Thank you again for your partnership in the gospel!

Keep looking up,

Dan



VOLUME 8, ISSUE 2

FEBRUARY 2009

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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

Breaking the Barrier Update:

How are we doing?

In the September 2007, Northeastern District Newsletter, (Volume 6; Issue 9; page two), an article was featured on a few upcoming regional Breaking the Barrier Seminars. That was seventeen months ago and currently 46 churches have or will be participating in one seminar or other:

- ◆ 5 Churches have participated in Breaking the 500 Barrier
- ◆ 11 Churches have participated in Breaking the 250 Barrier
- ◆ 11 Churches have participated in Breaking the 125 Barrier
- ◆ 19 Churches have participated in Breaking the 65 Barrier

There has been a lot of preparation, traveling, setting up and tearing down, and hours of presenting. The real work comes however, when key leaders return home to their perspective ministries and carve out time to: pray, review and seek the Lord as to the next steps in their particular location. In making the one month follow-up coaching calls, some have expressed with enthusiasm the church leadership's commitment to the task of not letting the

material set on a shelf, but to prayerful review, seek the Lord and make necessary changes to reach more lost people in their communities. You see there is great potential in the Northeastern District! At each barrier there are a number of churches in our District who are currently poised to break the next growth barrier as they are commitment to the process of reaching lost people for Christ.

One of NCD Growth Forces is "Fruitfulness" which can and should be applied at any level of ministry: Church, District or National. The definition for "fruitfulness" is simple: "Each ministry needs to produce discernable results in line with its intended purpose. The key question: How can we maximize the fruitfulness of this ministry? The key word: evaluating."

The fruitful results of the Breaking the Barrier Seminars in the Northeastern District may still be out. It is the prayer of the CMTeam, DEXCOM and all those prayer warriors who committed to lifting this ministry before the throne of God that there would not only be much fruit, but multiple fruit,...fruit that will last!

For a Healthier today and tomorrow,

Jon

*Thank You
So Very Much!
Each of us at the
District Office is
very grateful to
DEXCOM and the
District for the
generous Christmas
gifts presented
to us.*



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"Love is patient, love is kind. It does not envy, it does not boast, it is not proud. It is not rude, it is not self-seeking, it is not easily angered, it keeps no record of wrongs. Love does not delight in evil but rejoices with the truth. It always protects, always trusts, always hopes, always perseveres. Love never fails." *I Corinthians 13: 4-8a*

District Items of Interest

Northeastern District Family Newsletter

Articles for the **March**
Newsletter should be sent to
da_martin@northeasterncma.com
by **Monday, February 23, 2009**



With Deepest Sympathy

Mrs. Thelma R. Osborne

Wife of Retired District Pastor,
Rev. George B. Osborne
December 15, 2008

The family encourages accessing:
www.gaskinservices.com

Dr. E. John Croston

born at Deposit, NY
Pastor (Tallahassee, FL)
former missionary
December 19, 2008

Mother of Mr. Shane M. Bertou

December 26, 2008

Rev. Charles R. Heier

Former Retired District Pastor
December 30, 2008

Mrs. Althea E. Logue

Wife of Retired District Pastor
Rev., Chester A. Logue
January 11, 2009

Rev. Thomas A. Hayes

Former District Pastor
January 16, 2009



The Christian and Missionary Alliance Annual

Report to the President.

for 2008 must be completed
by every C&MA church.

THANK YOU to each church and
pastor who submitted your
Annual Report by the **January 30**
District deadline. Your cooperation in
completing the report by the end of
January is allowing time for the District
Office to peruse all of the District
church report submissions.

2009 District Office Hours

Monday—Friday

8:30 AM—12:00 PM & 1:00—4:30 PM

Between 8:45—9:00 AM (prayer time)
and “after hours,” voice mail is available.
Please feel free to call Dan Miller and
Jon Martin at home if necessary.



District Directory and Conference Proceedings:

Electronic copies of the new *District
Directory* as well as the *District and
Prayer Conference Proceedings* are
available by contacting Frank Whiting at
fe_whiting@northeasterncma.com
in 2009.

District Events Calendar – 2009

The *Northeastern District
Events Calendar* in a printed
or Microsoft Word format may be
requested at:

office@northeasterncma.com
or 315-336-4720, Ext. 201



Ordination/Consecration In-Service Training

Tuesdays,

March 24 and **October 13, 2009**

Delta Lake Bible Conference Center
Rome, NY

10:00 AM—3:30 PM

Provisional official workers and those
preparing for ordination or consecration,
as well as all District Official Workers and
spouses, are invited to attend this
training which also qualifies for
Continuing Education credit.

DEXCOM Meeting

Reports to DEXCOM and other items for
DEXCOM consideration must be re-
ceived at least two weeks before sched-
uled DEXCOM meetings in order to be
placed on their Agenda.

Information to Frank Whiting at
fe_whiting@northeasterncma.com
was due **January 27** for their
February 9—10, 2009 meeting.

Great Commission Fund

Giving to the
Great Commission Fund
from our District churches of
\$1,555,899 for the year of 2008
is 106.3% compared to the
year of 2007.
Praise the Lord!

Looking for Pastors or Interim Pastors in NY

Ballston Spa, Olean,
Schoharie, Springville
and Whitesville



Looking for Assistant or Associate Pastors in NY

Horseheads
Kingston and Syracuse

In Transition

Rev. Michael D. Brady

to Unassigned
22 S. Highland Ave.
Wellsville, NY 14895-1416
Cell Phone: 585-808-0099

Rev. Burton F.

and **Judith A. Huegel**
to Retired.

CONGRATULATIONS,

Burt and Judy, on your Retirement,
January 1, 2009



Welcome

Mr. Arnold C.

and **Melody E. Buehler**
Director of Youth Ministry
Vestal, NY-Valleyview
28 Doubleday St.
Binghamton, NY 13901
Cell Phone: 419-654-0697
arnie@valleyviewalliance.org



Parsonage to Parsonage

Thursday, April 23, 2009 is a great day for Northeastern District Pastors' Wives and Women Official Workers. Mark your calendars! We would like you to come for breakfast—stay for dinner—don't leave yet—spend the weekend!

The Northeastern District invites all Pastors' wives and Women Official Workers to a day and a night away to bridge the gap between District Conference and Alliance Women Spring Refresh. Both are being held the same week in Auburn, New York. Conference ends Thursday at noon. Alliance Women Refresh begins Friday at 3:00 pm. Here is what is planned for you on the day in between, Thursday, April 23:

- ◆ Breakfast begins at 8:00 in the Holiday Inn Ballroom with Krista French speaking on the theme "Angels Watching Over You."
- ◆ Lunch and the afternoon are yours to do whatever your heart desires. When was the last time that happened?
- ◆ Dinner begins at 5:00pm in the Holiday Inn Ballroom with Elaine Miller speaking on "The Heart of a Ministry Wife." Prepare your hearts for fun and a challenge.
- ◆ Our evening concludes with an optional pajama or pool party.

So, send your husband home after Conference—stay for a night with other women in ministry—remain for Spring Refresh—catch a ride home with women from your church.

Please RSVP by April 9 to the invitations sent to you in the mail. Elaine makes your room reservation for Thursday, April 23. District Conference and Spring Refresh reservations are made separately through your church.

I am very excited to spend this time with you. May our hearts be bound together in love with Jesus tying the knot.

Happy Valentine's Day! Do something wonderful for your Valentine! *Elaine*

Directory Updates

A few updates may be included in the *District Directory* mailed in December to each District official worker along with credentials for 2009. Please continue advising the District Office at office@northeasterncma.com of your address, phone, e-mail and website changes as they occur. Please make note of these directory changes in your District Directory for future reference.

Elmira and Rev. John M. McConnell
meethim@southsidealliance.com

Jamestown
www.jamestowncmachurch.org

Rochester-New Life and Rev. Thomas G. Howell
tghowell@gmail.com

Mr. Leonard Cacciatore
tore@rochester.rr.com

Rev. Wayne A. Cole
PO Box 115, Nelliston, NY 13410-0115

Rev. Peter H. Courlas, III
Home: 16 Alsace Ave., Buffalo, NY 14220
716-822-1917

Mr. Timothy B. Kong
Home: 3191 Woodhaven Dr.,
Schenectady, NY 12303; 518-355-2159

Rev. William C. Payne
pbbpayne@embarqmail.com

Rev. Clint E. Pearsall
155 Pinneo Hill Rd., Oswayo, PA 16915
814-698-2584

Delta Lake Bible Conference Center
needs nurses available for a full week of commitment for the '09 summer programs for the six weeks following family camp (July 3-11). Please contact Rick Barnard, Executive Director if you can help with this ministry for any week.

315-336-7210

rckb@deltalake.org

Getting tired of winter already?
Want to have a Summer Camp Promotion
presented to your congregation to warm them up?

Delta Lake Bible Conference Center can provide a display board and brochures OR a DLBCC representative is available to make a personal presentation. Call or email to schedule your summer camp planning promo.

Thank you,
Rick Barnard, Executive Director

Frewsburg Alliance
Dedication Celebration
February 8, 2009 10:15 AM

CONGRATULATIONS to the Frewsburg Alliance Church congregation on the completion of updated and expanded building facilities.



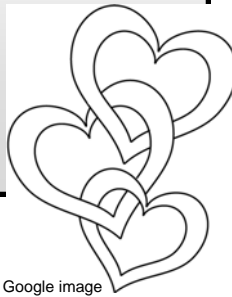
Dates to Remember

FEBRUARY

- 3 LO&CC Meeting, District Office, 10:00 AM
- 6-8 Youth Winter Weekend, DLBCC
- 9-10 DEXCOM Meeting, District Office; Monday, 12:00 PM, DLBCC
- 12 Evangelism Committee Meeting, District Office, 10:00 AM
- 13-15 Youth Winter Weekend, DLBCC
- 14-28 Alliance Women Vision Tour
- 16 *PRESIDENTS' DAY HOLIDAY* – District Office Closed
- 20-22 Youth Winter Weekend, DLBCC

MARCH

- 10 Conference **Optional** Highlights/Reports/Information due at District Office
- 20-21 District Quiz Scramble Meet, LaFayette Alliance
- 21 Breaking the 125 Barrier Western Area at Trinity Alliance, Rochester
- 24 Ordination/Consecration In-Service Training Continuing Education, DLBCC, 10:00 AM—3:30 PM
- 31 DMC Teleconference, 9:00 AM
- 31 **Conference Registrations Due** at District Office
 - by March 31, per: Individual \$45
 - Married Couple \$75
 - after March 31, per: Individual \$60
 - Married Couple \$90



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Evangelism Minute

The Northeastern District Evangelism Committee desires to encourage all of our district churches to make Evangelism a priority in 2009. There are many “vehicles” available to get the Gospel in the ears of unbelievers. Let me share a few.

- ◆ The Gospel was presented during the Christmas season using dramas and other media forms with reported success of conversions and deeper walks with Christ.
- ◆ Super Bowl parties are planned with a designated time during half time for a clear presentation of the Gospel.
- ◆ A challenge to trust Christ given during a Sportsmen Banquets with wild game dinners.
- ◆ One of our churches is using “Dare to be a Daniel” geared towards kids.

There are good follow up materials being used to help ground new believers in the faith. One used with strong endorsement is “Won By One”, a solid course book for doctrinal grounding.

Our command is to “make disciples”. This means to win the lost, and to “teach them to obey” God’s Word. May the LORD help us in the ongoing work of Matthew 28:18-20.

Your Evangelism Committee will be meeting at the District Office on February 12 to continue our work and to prepare for District Conference. Please keep us in your prayers!

For The District Evangelism Committee
Tom Howell - Walworth

District and Prayer Conference

April 21—23, 2009
Auburn Alliance Church
Theme: *Living the Call Together . . .
In a Culture of Peace!*

Peacemaker Ministries Seminars with Mr. Rick Friesen and Mr. Tim Pollard

Tuesday, 1:30—4:00 PM — *Biblical Foundations of Peacemaking*
Wednesday, 9:15—11:45 AM — *The Four “G’s” of Peacemaking*
Thursday, 10:00 AM —12:00 PM — *Leading Your Church to a Culture of Peace*

Seminars qualify for Continuing Education for all official workers; plus one Ordination-Consecration In-Service Training day as applicable.

March 20 – Reservation deadline at the Holiday Inn and Inn at the Fingerlakes

March 31 – **Registrations** due at the District Office.

Registration Fees --

By March 31:

\$45.00 all **Individual** Conferees
\$75.00 per **Married Couple** Conferees

After March 31 and at Conference:

\$60.00 all **Individual** Conferees
\$90.00 per **Married Couple** Conferees

April 21, Tuesday evening, 6:00 PM **International Banquet** for all registered Conferees -- cost is included in Registration Fees.

Introductory Packets were mailed January 20. If you have any questions or desire information, contact the District Office at:

315-336-4720, Ext. 201 or office@northeasterncma.com