

# 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

**“Would you like to preach at our service on Sunday night?”**

That is the question that came to me from Mark Mindek, one of our District missionaries who, together with his wife, Becky, is working in the City of Bitola in Macedonia. Mark’s invitation came via email a few days before Elaine and I left on our annual Pastoral Care Couple trip to the Balkans early last month. Bitola was to be but one stop in our travels through Bosnia-Herzegovina, Kosovo and Macedonia between the 6<sup>th</sup> and 16<sup>th</sup> of April. During those days we would cover many miles (kilometers) on the ground and in the air as we visited 14 of our 15 missionary “units” in the three countries.

We would arrive in Bitola (Bee-toe-la) late Sunday afternoon and the service was scheduled for 7:00 PM. I hadn’t planned to preach during this trip but Paul’s words to Timothy immediately came to mind, “Preach the Word; be prepared in season and out of season; correct, rebuke and encourage – with great patience and careful instruction.” (II Timothy 4:2) How could I decline with that clear command ringing in my ears (even though it would mean preaching with a translator – something new for me). So, my response to Mark was that I would be happy to preach.

And I am so thankful I did! What a privilege and joy it was to stand behind the pulpit in the standing-room-only service and challenge those dear Macedonian believers (and yet-to-be believers) with what it means that “we have the mind of Christ” (I Cor. 2:16). They seemed to be all ears.

Those of you who have done it know that preaching with a translator is an interesting and stretching experience (maybe more for the translator than the preacher). I guess you could call it “double talk,” but this one thing I know, the Word of God in any language (and even with a translator) is “living and active. Sharper than any double-edged sword, it penetrates even to dividing soul and spirit, joints and marrow; it judges the thoughts and attitudes of the heart.” (Heb. 4:12) And whether God’s Word is proclaimed in English with Macedonian translation or any other combination of languages, He has promised that, “. . . it shall not return unto Me void, but it shall accomplish that which I please . . .” (Isaiah 55:11 KJV).

Today, even through the fog of jet lag, the thought of being entrusted to proclaim divine truth fills me with a clear and compelling sense of privilege and gratitude. If you are a preacher, I hope you share that with me.

Your partner in the gospel,

*Dan*



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## Memorial Day



**Northeastern  
District  
Office Staff**

**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*

## *Church Health and Multiplication*

Prior to District and Prayer Conference in South Glens Falls, the Church Health and Multiplication Office with the CMTeam would like to take this opportunity to welcome to the Northeastern District Family....



### **The Tharp Family.**

Patrick, Rebecca, and their daughter, Racheal reside in the North West region of our District. In partnership with the Northeastern District, Patrick recently came on staff at the Kenmore Alliance Church as their new Church Planting Pastor.

Patrick was born in Alexandria, Ohio where he grew up in a Christian home and accepted Christ as a child. He also witnessed church planting at an early age when his parents became one of the founding members of his home church. In High School, Patrick was involved in music, drama and sports and led prayer groups in his public school. He attended Malone College, a Christian school in Canton, OH where he ran Track and studied Business Administration and Broadcasting

Communications. It was there he began to hear God's call to enter full-time ministry. After college he attended Grace Theological Seminary in Winona Lake, IN where he received his M.Div. It was also in Indiana where he met Rebecca whom he married in 1989.

The Tharp family has lived in Lockport, NY for the past 11 years. Rebecca is a teacher for Orleans/Niagara BOCES and they have one daughter, Racheal who is a Junior at Lockport High School. As a family they have been involved in urban ministry as well as many short-term mission trips. Patrick has served as Ministries Pastor at Pekin Bible Church in Illinois, Pastor of Youth & Christian Education at First Baptist Church in Lockport, NY and Pastor of Missions at Knox Church in Kenmore, NY. He also served as an Interim Sr. Pastor at Knox Church before coming to Kenmore Alliance as the Church Planting Pastor. Patrick is currently Vice-Chair of the Board of Directors for Urban Christian Ministries in buffalo, NY. His greatest joys in ministry are communicating God's Word, connecting people and ministries together (often in other parts of the world), and mobilizing believers to carry out the Great Commission. Patrick also enjoys mission trips with his family, playing guitar, technological gadgets, video production and serving Jesus.

Pray for Patrick and the Kenmore Alliance Church as they continue to hear from the Lord how this future new church plant should look and its location. Our prayer for the entire leadership team and those involved is that they will continue to experience the joy of the Lord and witness multiplied fruit as the harvest is transformed for Christ.

For a Healthy Today and Tomorrow,  
Jon

*Pulpit Supply*

Rev. Timothy P. Armstrong (Wellsville, NY), revtpacma@netzero.net or 585-593-4862

Rev. James C. Bruinsma (Mexico, NY), cjbpastor@att.net or 315-963-2097

Rev. Tom G. Stamatinos (Kingston, NY), thewiredoctor@yahoo.com or 845-626-2475

Rev. Jacob Bouw, Jr. (Summer; Downsville, NY) 607-363-2083

Summer at Delta Lake Bible Conference Center (Rome, NY):

Rev. Robert C. Lindsey – rlindsey@juno.com or 352-315-8933; late May: 315-336-3771

Rev. Harold D. Schlaegel, Sr. – 330-652-9676; June 1: 315-336-5631

## District Items of Interest

### *Welcome*

**Mr. Ronald and Vidhyotma (Vinu) Goldberg**  
Pastor, Port Crane, NY  
Home: 607-724-7175  
17 Potter Hill Rd.  
Port Crane, NY 13833;  
mashiach@juno.com

### Northeastern District Family Newsletter

Articles for the June  
newsletter should be sent to  
da\_martin@northeasterncma.com  
by Friday May 23

**Looking for Pastors  
Interim Pastors in NY**  
Andover, Niagara Falls,  
Orchard Park and Ticonderoga

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

Giving to the **Great Commission  
Fund** from our District churches of  
\$440,734 for the first quarter of 2008 is  
117.7% compared to the  
same time in 2007.

**Ordination/Consecration  
In-Service Training**  
Tuesday, May 13, 2008

Delta Lake Bible  
Conference Center  
Featuring

**Disciplemaking Ministries  
& Safe Place seminars**  
with Rev. Jonathan W. Youngmann  
and **Special Services in the Church**  
with Rev. Thomas L. Hartley

Contact the District Office at  
315-336-4720 or  
office@northeasterncma.com  
for more info.

## District and Prayer Conference

### **Living the Call Together: Got Health?**

June 9 – 12, 2008

Pine Knolls Alliance Church, South Glens Falls, NY

**May 2:** Conference Reports due at the District Office.

**May 9: Registration Fees** due at District Office  
postmarked by May 9  
\$50 Accredited Delegate, \$15 Corresponding Delegate

**At Conference** or postmarked May 10 or thereafter:  
\$65 Accredited Delegate, \$25 Corresponding Delegate  
Please do not include *Special Events* reservations after May 9

All **Special Events** Reservations must be postmarked or received  
at the District Office by May 9. **No** late Special Events Reservations  
will be accepted. **Please take careful note of this firm dead-  
line.**

**May 9: Lay Delegate Authorizations** due at the District Office.  
Pastors are encouraged to duplicate the **reports** mailed to you for any  
lay delegates who may not have registered by May 9 so they may read  
them prior to registering at Conference.

**May 16:** Items to be enclosed in packets to be distributed AT  
Conference are due at the District Office.

### **Conference Services and Special Events**

Monday 7:00 PM Public Service – District Superintendent's Message

Tuesday 6:30 PM Church Health and Multiplication Dinner Cruise  
on Lake George (May 9 reservation deadline)

Wednesday morning/afternoon Health Electives:

Financial/Retirement Health      Marital and Family Health  
Physical Health      Spiritual Health

Wednesday noon: Pastors' Wives and Women Official Workers Luncheon  
(May 9 reservation deadline)

Wednesday 7:00 PM Public Service – *Ordination/Communion/Healing*  
Pastors' Emergency Fund Offering will be received.

Lay people from neighboring churches are encouraged  
to drive in for the evening ministries.

Contact the District Office at 315-336-4720  
or office@northeasterncma.com for more info.



The **2008 Alliance World Week of Prayer** will  
be held **April 27 through May 4**, corresponding  
with the **National Day of Prayer**, May 1.

Please make the World Week of Prayer a  
special time to bring your church together for a  
concerted season of prayer. A list of Alliance  
Prayer Requests is provided Online; PDF files  
are available for download at:

[www.cmalliance.org/pray/wwop/wwop.jsp](http://www.cmalliance.org/pray/wwop/wwop.jsp)

## Directory Updates

### **Albion**

facalbion@verizon.net

### **Rev. Gregg W. Marston**

marstonsgn@verizon.net

### **Greene and Mr. Jeffrey R. Cutting**

pastorjrcutting@frontiernet.net

District Family,

Thank you for sending phone, address,  
e-mail and website **updates** when they  
occur to office@northeasterncma.com  
Keep up the good work!



## *Parsonage to Parsonage*

Spiraling down, our helicopter landed in Bosnia under dangerous conditions. Dodging the sniper fire, we ran for cover. Of course, I am joking. Neither I nor Hilary saw sniper fire in the Balkans.

Not true of the people who call that war-torn land their home. Shell shock is written on their emotionless faces.

In some towns half the population was annihilated. The cemeteries cover more ground than the village. The tombstones outnumber the villagers.

Teenagers hide their toothless grins caused by their diet of bread, water and sugar.

Dan put our tithe in the offering of the Bitola Church where Mark and Becky Mindek (Northeastern District missionaries from Auburn) serve. Becky told us it was more money than they receive in a year of offerings.

Kathy Eikost (Northeastern District missionary from Nelliston) and I enjoyed tea with Muslim women who came to the Sarajevo Church selling their lace. They told me I was beautiful. (I think because I still have my teeth.) "I am beautiful because Jesus lives in my heart," I replied. They responded with blank stares.

Viviane Shady (C&MA missionary in Mostar, Bosnia) commented that I could be spotted as an American because I was smiling. Blank stares, expressionless faces, sad eyes, lost souls describe the people of the Balkans. We know little of their suffering.

The work in the Balkans is difficult. The Bosnian Pastor of the Sarajevo church told me, "There is no peace for Christians in Bosnia." Bombed buildings are constant reminders of their past pain and uncertain future.

Please, will you say a prayer right now that the Balkan people will be filled with the Prince of Peace? Pray our missionaries will not grow weary and discouraged as they show the love of Jesus to these hurting people.

Knowing many of you suffer in a different sort of a way, please be assured of my prayers for you.

Hugs,

*Elaine*



### *Congratulations*

Rev. Mark A. and  
Laureen Patterson  
and children:  
Sean and Danielle  
Sworn in as citizens of  
The United States  
of America  
at a ceremony in  
Buffalo, NY  
on April 17, 2008

### *60th Anniversary Celebration*

Floyd and Betty  
Gibbs,  
ministers/missionaries  
with the C&MA will be  
celebrating their  
60th Wedding Anniversary  
June 1, 2008.

Anyone desiring to participate  
in a card shower may send  
greetings to:

Betty & Floyd Gibbs  
The Oaks  
3864 Sweeten Creek Road  
Arden, North Carolina 28704

### Small Town Pastors' Conference

Lancaster Bible College  
and Graduate School  
Lancaster, PA  
May 19-21, 2008

This conference given by Rural Home Missionary Association  
is tailored to pastors and wives in town and country settings

For complete details and a brochure,  
go to the RHMA website at:  
[www.rhma.org](http://www.rhma.org)

Oswego Alliance Church  
invites you to a *Prayer Conference*  
led by: *Jonathan Graf*  
May 31-June 1, 2008  
Cost: \$15.00 per person

for the Saturday Seminar  
Registration deadline is May 16

Saturday 8:00 am doors open  
9:00 am Conference Begins  
3:00 pm last session ends

Jonathan will also be speaking  
during the Sunday morning services at  
8:15am and 10:45am  
and Sunday School at 9:30am

A Concert of Prayer will be led  
by Jonathan during the  
Sunday Evening Service at 5:30pm  
All are welcome to attend!

Oswego Alliance Church  
371 Thompson Rd.; Oswego, NY 13126  
315-342-5493

# Auburn Church Dedication

# Dates to Remember

Auburn Alliance Church cordially invites our district family to attend the dedication of our new sanctuary

**May 18, 2008 at 3:00 PM**  
630 North Seward Avenue  
Auburn, NY 13021

Guest speaker will be  
Dr. Gary Benedict

An hors d'oeuvre reception will follow the dedication. If you plan to attend, please R.S.V.P to the church office at 315-253-2650

- MAY** Great Commission Month
- 2 **Conference** Reports due at the District Office
  - 2-3 District Quiz Finals, Auburn Alliance
  - 6 LO&CC Meeting, District Office, 10:00 AM
  - 9 **Conference** Delegate/Events Reservations (\$50/\$15 through May 9) & Lay Delegate Authorization forms due at the District Office
  - 10 West Central 65 Barrier, Arcade, 10:00 AM 3:00 PM
  - 13 Ordination/Consecration In-Service Training, Delta LBCC, 10:00 AM—3:30 PM
  - 16 Breaking the 250 Barrier, Auburn, 5:00—9:30 PM
  - 16 Conference registration distribution items to be at District Office
  - 26 **MEMORIAL DAY HOLIDAY**— District Office Closed
- JUNE**
- 1-4 Senior Saints Advance, Delta LBCC
  - 9-12 **District and Prayer Conference**, S. Glens Falls  
Delegate Registrations (after May 9, \$65/\$25)
  - 12 DEXCOM Meeting, South Glens Falls
  - 27-July 6 **District Family Bible Conference**, Delta LBCC
  - 29 AWM "Renew" Rally, Delta LBCC Main Tab, 3:00 PM



# Sympathy

## Missionary Cottage

Need R & R??



Alliance Women Ministries invite all District workers and missionaries to use the lovely facilities of the missionary cottage at Delta Lake Bible Conference Center in Rome, NY.

You will enjoy a quiet, restful atmosphere and beautiful surroundings with all the comforts of home!

The cottage is available, without charge, June to October, with the exception of Family Camp week (June 27-July 6, 2008).

Contact: [jspurling@aol.com](mailto:jspurling@aol.com)

**Rev. Richard R. Walker**  
Retired District Pastor  
**April 9, 2008**

Dick's life, earthly and eternal, was celebrated at a service at the Oakland Church of the Nazarene Oakland, MD on April 12.

**Condolences may be sent to:**  
Mrs. Marilyn Walker & Family  
110 A St., Apt. 224  
Mountain Lake Park, MD 21550

**Memorial donations may be sent to**  
Delta Lake Bible Conference Center  
6420 Pillmore Dr.  
Rome, NY 13440



**Mr. Milton Wolters**

Husband of Jean Wolters  
(Mutual Benefit Association Secretary-Treasurer)

**March 26, 2008**

Rev. Michael Clayton officiated and family members participated at a Memorial Service at Rome Alliance Church celebrating Milt's life on March 29.

**Condolences may be sent to Jean and her family at:**

Delta Lake Bible Conference Center  
6420 Pillmore Dr.  
Rome, NY 13440

**Memorial donations may be sent to the**

Great Commission Fund  
The C & MA  
PO Box 35000  
Colorado Springs, CO 80935-3500

as well as to the:  
Delta Lake Bible Conference Center  
6420 Pillmore Dr., Rome, NY 13440