



The Monday Memo

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SUPERINTENDENTS’ BRIEFING

We Simply Cannot Do It Alone

In some ways, it would be a lot easier. We would not have to be concerned about what people think, the objections they might raise, and how much time we would have to take to explain and persuade.

Yet, if we are to turn our vision into reality, we simply cannot do it alone. First, of course, we must have Jesus (John 15 – “Without me, you can do nothing”). Hence, we must make sure both the vision and the implementation steps are bathed in prayer, led by the Spirit, and anointed by Him. It, in fact, must be God’s vision and God’s plan; so consulting Him is critical.

That requires time - time to wait upon God, to listen to God, to be convinced that the vision and the outworking of it is clearly God birthed, God led, and God enabled. Recall the sage who warned, “Fools rush in where angels fear to tread”.

Too many of my plans have fizzled and flopped because they were wholly that – my plans exercised in my power. No, we simply cannot move our ministries ahead alone.

But more, we cannot do it without colleagues, men and women who will join us in carrying forth the vision. Remember the famous John Maxwell quote, “He who thinks he leads but has no one following is only going for a walk” – a wasted one at that.

As we cast vision and roll out the implementation of it, we must mobilize men and women who will join us in the strategic plan. We cannot do it alone for it will gain no traction and when we are removed the plan will die with us.

It takes time and energy to repeatedly cast it and explain it. It takes time and energy to recruit the right people and to equip and to train them. And, it takes patience to allow them to fail and fumble when we could do it so much better ourselves.

But eventually, we will have a trained team of men and women equipped to lead, thus multiplying our own abilities.

Jesus didn’t try to do it alone and today we have a movement that has

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Special points of interest:

• Please submit all articles for The Monday Memo to info@cmamad.org

Attn: Ivy Panacopoulos

• All articles will be reviewed and approved for inclusion. Some editing may be required.



“Strengthening the Church... Extending the Kingdom.”

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impacted history and society. Christianity encircles the globe.

No, we can't do it alone – we can't move our churches forward alone, we can't revitalize our churches alone, and we can't multiply them alone. Ephesians 4 tells us that as pastors we must be focused on the work of equipping the saints for the work of ministry.

Indeed, it can be a bother when we could do it ourselves faster and better. But, in the end we cannot do the work of ministry alone. So, we recruit, disciple, train, and develop leaders and workers – this is our calling and on what the effectiveness of our ministry will be judged.

We simply cannot do it alone! And, we ought not to even try!

The Week(s) Past

During the first two weeks in August, Linda and I took a few days to visit the International House of Prayer (Kansas City, MO) and found tremendous refreshing as we saw the earnest focus of hundreds of young men and women committed to praise and intercession. In addition we spent a few days in Branson, MO. When we returned home, we packed up our pop-up camper and camping gear and headed off to a New York State Park on Lake Ontario. We visited Niagara Falls and took a boat ride on the Erie Canal and were fascinated by the lock system. Thanks for praying for us while we were gone!

Last Sunday (August 22), we worshipped with the Rosemont Alliance Church (Brunswick, MD) and met with the congregation following that to discuss the transitional aspects of the departure of Pastor Tony (Dawn) Casas and family effective September 12.

Ministry travel last week included Oakton, VA (Alliance Church Centre), Virginia Beach, VA, (New Hope Christian Fellowship with Pastor Peter and Chari Daley), First Alliance Church (Hockessin, DE), Oakton, VA (Cornerstone International Church), Ebenezer Eritrean Church (Washington, DC), and Gaithersburg, MD (Gaithersburg Chinese Alliance Church) with lead pastor Tim Chan.

Two meetings were most encouraging. First, the meeting with the elders of Ebenezer Eritrean Church where they gave a report of their recent growth from a congregation of 20 to a congregation of 200. Through the internet (web casting/streaming) they have virtual congregations in Creative Access Countries (CAC), the Middle East, Costa Rica, Montana, and New York City.

The second exciting event was the retirement dinner and program for Rev. Don and



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Esther Weidemann at Gaithersburg Chinese Alliance Church. It consisted of a dinner, music, video remembrances, testimonials and special prayer. Don and Esther will be concluding on August 31. They will be relocating to Pennsylvania to be near family once their house sells here and a new one is identified there.

This past Sunday, Linda and I worshipped with our New Hope Alliance Church in Winchester, VA (Pastor Ross and Patti Halbersma). We rejoiced with them in the recent acquisition of new chairs in the sanctuary. It was my privilege to preach. The music was excellent.

“Strengthening the Church... Extending the Kingdom.”

“Catalyst One Day:” Lynchburg, VA

Thomas Road Baptist Church, Lynchburg, VA, will be hosting a Catalyst One Day Conference on Thursday, October 21. The cost

through September 30 is \$89. Registration can be accomplished by visiting www.CatalystOneDay.com.

The Week Ahead

Ministry activity this week will involve a quarterly License, Ordination, and Consecration Council. We will interview three men for ordination. Your prayers would be much appreciated.

Near the end of the week for three days, the Kerrs, Julie Conley, and Linda and I will be participating in Prayer and Reflections Days at the LivingStone Monastery in Newport News, VA. We are looking forward to this time of spiritual refreshment.

May the Lord give you a wonderful week as life patterns become more regular and dependable during the fall months.

Living the Call Together,

Randy (Corbin)

District Superintendent

“Strengthening the Church... Extending the Kingdom.”



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Looking for Hymnals

A church in the Southern District of the C&MA is looking for the 1978 edition of the *Hymns of the Christian Life* (burgundy cover).

Please contact Sharon at the

Southern District Office if you have these hymnals available.

Phone: 205-661-9585

E-mail: office@southernncma.org

In-Service Workshop

The next In-Service workshop for all in the ordination and consecration track, will be held September 20-21. The purpose for our In-Service Workshops is to provide critically essential training for ministry that may not have been covered in preparation for pastoral ministry. This year the overall theme is leadership and conflict resolution. While ordinands and consecrants are expected to attend, all pastors and staff serv-

ing our churches are welcomed attend. Guests may attend one or more sessions throughout the two day event. However it is imperative that all guests register by September 7 by contacting Andy Kerr at akerr@cmamad.org or 301.620.9934 x 107.

Please click here for a full description of this two day workshop.