



# The Monday Memo

## SUPERINTENDENT'S BRIEFING

Inside this issue:	
The Weeks Past	2
The Week Ahead	3
Annual Reports	3
Congratulations!	3
Surprise Celebration for Dr. Paul Alford	3
C&MA Men's Ministry	4
Prayer Request	4
Grain of Hope	4
AWM Retreat	4
Women's Leadership	4

### Special points of interest:

- Please submit all articles for The Monday Memo to [info@cmamad.org](mailto:info@cmamad.org)
- Attn: Ivy Panacopoulos
- All articles will be reviewed and approved for inclusion. Some editing may be required.

### Angels and A Sweetheart

Against Linda's counsel, I pressed ahead in the fury of the February 10 blizzard.

We were returning from the Spiritual Disciplines Retreat in Newport News (VA), and although we had heard reports of snow in the D.C. area, we assumed the storm would be over by the time we reached Frederick. As we reached Warrenton, the radio stated just that - the storm had moved east of D.C. and in fact in some places, the sun was shining.

So, although we originally thought we would secure a hotel in Leesburg, I decided to push on toward Frederick. Linda felt otherwise but this macho guy knew better. After all, the storm was finished.

We were barely out of Leesburg, when powerful winds began producing white-out conditions, forcing us to creep along, moving only when the wind stopped enough to see. Linda urged a return to Leesburg but I was not about to let some whiteouts keep me from home sweet home. After all, the storm was over, so the radio announced.

The whiteouts become more frequent

with the high winds and I was eager to cross into Maryland where more hills and trees were present and would surely reduce the force of the winds and lessen the drifting. Eventually, we arrived at the Potomac and then "Oh Maryland, My Maryland."

But, instead of less wind, it remained as strong and now was snowing again furiously. I'm thinking, "Where are those radio guys and the end of this storm." And, Linda is saying, "I thought you said this would get better."

We continued to inch our way toward Frederick and I could hardly wait for the link up with US340 where I knew with a bigger highway, it would be clear sailing. But when we reached it, the blizzard was the worst I ever saw in my life. The wind was making it hard to guide the car and the snow decreased my visibility to no more than 10 yards in front of me.

Then it happened. In the middle of US340, I hit a two foot snow drift and the car sank and the tires helplessly spun. No worry. I called AAA and a friendly voice answered and said, he would get right back to me.

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In less than one minute he called back, "Sir, this blizzard has forced all the tow trucks off the road, I called the State Police and neither they nor their Humvees can get on the road, and the National Guard has been ordered not to move until the storm abates. So, hang tight and eventually someone will rescue you. Good luck!" Click!

As the winds howled, rocking the car, and the snow gathering deeper around us, we prayed. No sooner had we finished when a large white four-wheel pick-up truck came up behind us. The man got out of his vehicle and braved his way through the whipping wind and I lowered my window. "Sir," he said, "I know you are stuck and I have a chain in the back of my truck. If I can break through the drift and get around you, I'll pull you out."

Successfully, he pulled around us but he had difficulty getting a chain hooked to our car frame due to the depth of the snow. Again, out of no where another man appeared with two shovels and they both be-

gan digging under our car and were able to locate the right place to hook the chain.

With the greatest of ease, he towed us out of the drift and down the highway to a better place. When he unhooked us and came back to my window, I thanked him profusely and asked him what I owed him. "Nothing, my friend. Just get off the highway and into a hotel."

I knew then he was an angel (angels don't take money ! – although Linda disagrees with me on that point). We learned later that more than 40 cars/trucks were stranded on that highway and some people did not get out for as long as 24 hours.

So, we were convinced that God sent His angels to give watch over us!

And, where is the "Sweetheart" part of this story? Well, my dear wife never said "I told you so" when we hit that snow bank. She lovingly waited until the next day!

Guys, don't you hate it when your wife turns out to be right?? (Smile!)

## The Week Past

Ministry travel included Chantilly (VA), Silver Spring (MD), and Stevensville (MD). Such gave me the opportunity to interface with a ministry possibility to Muslims in the DC area, spend time with several of our pastors, and step in for a quick visit to our youth Bible Quizzing that took place at Island Alliance Church.

Meetings were held to further develop our District Conference program (May 24-27, Seaford, DE) and to provide a missionary

tour orientation to Rev. Dennis and Marilyn Maves. Our District Executive Committee held its quarterly meeting this week as well.

Linda and I had the privilege to worship with our Calvary Tabernacle Church in Baltimore (MD) on Sunday morning where Rev. Allan and Kerry Vance are giving fine leadership. Both the music and the message were uplifting and challenging.



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## The Week Ahead

Our office team will be making a Pre-District Conference site visit to our Atlanta Road Alliance Church (Seaford, DE) on Tuesday to discuss with the staff there a variety of logistical matter as we continue our plans for our May Conference. The office will be closed but Andy's phone and my phone will be forwarded to our cell phones.

Our District C&MA Men's Retreat will be held in Fredericksburg, VA this Friday and Saturday. Andy and I are hoping to see many of you there.

Additional travel this week will include Virginia Beach (VA) and Oakton (VA). Thanks so much for praying for Andy and me as we travel. We are grateful for the Lord's safety!

Living the Call Together,

Randy (Corbin)

District Superintendent

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## Annual Reports—DUE IN FIVE DAYS

This Friday, February 26th is the last day to submit the Annual Report to the President. Currently, less than half (38.6%) of the Mid-Atlantic District churches have completed the report.

The Annual Report packet of information and link to the worksheet were sent electronically to all the churches. A hard copy was sent via USPS to churches without access to email. Please contact Ivy at the district office (301) 620-9934 Ext 201 or email ([ipanacopoulos@cmamad.org](mailto:ipanacopoulos@cmamad.org)) if you need assistance with the process.

Hispanic speaking churches requiring assistance may contact Laura Lores ([llores@cmamad.org](mailto:llores@cmamad.org)) or call Ext 206.

## BIRTH ANNOUNCEMENT

Congratulations to Adam and Elisabeth Sellen (Milton, DE) who announce the birth of their daughter, Anna Elisabeth Sellen. She was born at 4:30 p.m. February 18th. Anna arrived weighing 6 lbs. 6 oz. and was 20" long. Everyone is doing fine.

## Surprise Celebration for Dr. Paul Alford

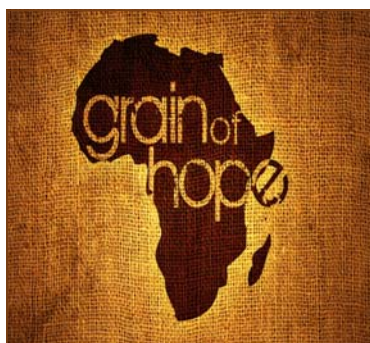
A surprise birthday celebration is being held to honor Dr. Paul Alford on Wednesday, March 10th. He is turning 80 years old next month. If you would like to send a birthday message and/or an expression of remembrance of his service to the Mid-Atlantic District as the interim District Superintendent, please [click here](#). A collection of the notes and well wishes will be presented at the celebration. Please extend this invitation to participate in this event to those members of your church who may remember him.

THE MID-ATLANTIC DISTRICT OF THE  
CHRISTIAN AND MISSIONARY ALLIANCE

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## GRAIN OF HOPE:

### *Engage Now!*

Youth groups are encouraged to begin to collect donations for Grain of Hope.

**When:** March 5 & 6, 2010

**Where:** First Alliance Church, Silver Spring, MD

**Cost:** The cost for the event is \$10 in order to cover dinner and minor expenses.

**Registration:** Due by Friday, February 26th

Contact Dan Lawrence:  
[dlawrence8@gmail.com](mailto:dlawrence8@gmail.com)

## Prayer Request

Becky Puchy's Grandfather passed away this week; she was very close to him. Please pray for the family and the service. Also, you may remember Jim Puchy's mother had a stroke in November. She is not doing well. Her name is Gloria. Please pray for Jim's Mom and his family.

*Link* [C&MA Men's Ministry Retreat](#) For Information

## Men's Battle in the Work Place: Dissatisfaction with work Country Inn & Suites, Fredericksburg, VA

Final registrations have been accepted to attend the C&MA Men's Ministry Retreat taking place this coming weekend, Friday, February 26-27. For those who have registered but have not yet submitted payment, you may do so on line at the district website or you may make your payment "at the door" by check or cash.

Registration for this event has been submitted and is now non refundable; if you find that you are unable to keep your reservation to attend, you may send another person in your place. Please contact Ivy at the district office with registration name changes.

No one turned away! Even though the registration is closed, there is still opportunity for those whose schedules allow an unexpected chance to attend this event! Please contact Ivy Panacopoulos at [ipanacopoulos@cmamad.org](mailto:ipanacopoulos@cmamad.org) or call (301) 620-9934 Ext 201 to ask about late registration.

## Alliance Women's Retreat

Register now! Follow this link to the [information brochure](#). Print out the brochure. Fill out the registration section and send it to Danita Hogue (address is on the form). For more information, email Danita at [eugohatinad@aol.com](mailto:eugohatinad@aol.com).

**Who:** You, Family, Friends, Neighbors, Friends' Neighbors

**What:** C&MA Mid-Atlantic District Women's Retreat

**When:** April 23 - 24, 2010

**Where:** Dunes Manor Hotel, Ocean City, Maryland

## Women's Leadership Studies

[www.alliancewomen.org](http://www.alliancewomen.org)

WLS - Unit 4

**Saturday, March 13, 2010**

**Frederick Alliance Church**

**Frederick, Maryland**

For more information email Danita Hogue [eugohatinad@aol.com](mailto:eugohatinad@aol.com) or