



The Monday Memo

SUPERINTENDENT'S BRIEFING

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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.

My Way Works Just Fine, Thank You!

Or does it?

Recently, it came to my attention that my teachability may be devolving into an endangered quality. I always considered myself open to new ways of thinking and new methods, but a few weeks ago I was forced to face the possibility that such a desirable trait could be under threat inside me.

It all happened when a close friend asked me why I read and listen to various new ideas and even request input and advice, yet I end up challenging and ignoring each one. The observation stung a bit, but later, in quiet reflection, I realized that the comment, based on my practices was probably closer to the truth than I wanted to admit.

I had to ask myself when I made any behavioral or ministry changes based on instruction or advice that came my way. Oh, there were a few, but they were woefully few over the last several months.

Frankly, the assessment scares me since the quality of eldership, properly translated, according to I Timothy 3 and II Timothy 2 is not just apt to teach but most scholars and linguists agree entails being teach-able, i.e. possessing a spirit of openness to new instruction, understanding, and

training. There is danger to the spiritual leader who refuses to be open to fresh teaching/approaches and refuses to consider its worthiness and on occasion employ it in his life or ministry.

The tendency to fight new methods is a common aging issue. It goes along with whitening and thinning hair, bifocals, and increasing cholesterol.

Frankly, the older we get, the more set in our ways we are likely to be. The older we get, the more likely we are to tune out ideas that would require rethinking a long held point of view. Could that be the reason certain ministry conferences are populated with more younger pastoral leaders than older ones? Not sure.

But, the squirming-truth is that being unwilling to learn new things is a key to failure and an arrogance based in false pride and stubborn prejudice.

In one's personal spiritual life, pride is among the deadliest of sins for the simple reason that it prohibits learning. "Who is he to teach me anything - I'm twice his age and have been in ministry longer than he is old." "What can that seminar teach me? The instructor has been in pastoral ministry

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

a fraction of the time I have.”

Since my friend’s comment, I have been slower to push aside a fresh suggestion and to ignore the counsel of another. In fact, I have wondered if I should try something new even if I don’t think it will work. I might be surprised to find that it does.

Now it is agreed, that wisdom and discernment must be employed, but frankly, I am not so sure it has been that as much as the comfortable rut or the work of change. But, I am going to work

harder at being teachable.

Don’t you suspect openness to instruction was a big part of Jesus’ charge that His followers be child-like? “Unless you change and become like little children,” He said, “You will never enter the Kingdom of Heaven.” (Matthew 18:3)

Please join with me in the renewal of an open heart and the courage to try something fresh once in awhile – even when we may not be entirely convinced it will help anything. We just might be pleasantly surprised!

The Week Past

Ministry travel this past week included Washington (DC), Arlington (VA), Culpeper (VA), and Chesterfield (VA).

It has been a privilege to work with our Arlington Community Church to determine the Lord’s direction for this ministry and the opportunities in this community.

It was also encouraging to meet with the Advisory Committee of our Chesterfield Alliance Church and to observe how God is renewing that ministry both in numerical growth and with financial increase.

On Sunday morning, Linda and I were blessed as we worshipped

with our Arlington Community Church. The attendance was strong and the service was marked with excellent music and an outstanding message by Interim Pastor John (Marti) Janney. We enjoyed a delicious fellowship dinner afterwards and a helpful time of interaction with the congregation.

Open Churches

Great Commission Community Church (Pentagon City, VA)	Dr. Tom Tarrants, Interim Guest Speaker
First Alliance Church (Hockessin, DE)	Dr. Gayle Ryle, Interim Pastor
Golgotha Haitian Alliance Church (Laurel, DE)	Jean Moise (Moses) Domond, Interim Pastor
Arlington Community Church (Arlington, VA)	Rev. John Janney, Interim Pastor
Cornerstone International Church (Oakton, VA)	Rev. David Schleh, Interim Pastor

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The District Calendar

April 1, Thursday, 10:00am-3:30pm	L.E.A.D Meeting	District Office, Frederick, MD
April 6, Tuesday 10:00am-3:30pm	New Workers, Orientation Meeting	District Office, Frederick, MD
April 8, Thursday, 10:00am	Church Multiplication Team Meeting	Fredericksburg, VA
April 13, Tuesday, 10:00am	Church Health Team Meeting	Culpeper, VA
April 15, Thursday, 10:00am	LO&CC	District Office, Frederick, MD
April 23-24, Friday-Saturday	Alliance Women’s Retreat	Ocean City, Dunes Manor
April 30-May 2, Friday-Sunday	District Youth Retreat	Alum Springs, VA

District and Prayer Conference: May 24-27, 2010

The 2010 District and Prayer Conference is slated for May 24-27, 2010, Seaford, DE (Atlanta Road Alliance Church). All official workers are responsible to attend. Permission can be granted for emergency purposes only by requesting such in writing to the district superintendent.

This year’s theme is: “Living The Call Together: Connecting Christ To Culture”

Special speakers include:

- **Dr. Dwight Smith**

Dr. Smith is the author of “Invading Secular Space” and serves as President of Saturation Church Planting International. To get a taste of what Dr. Dwight Smith will be teaching, go to www.theinfinityalliance.com.

- **Rev. Hugh Halter**

Rev. Halter is co-director of Missio, a team that both apprentices and shares experiential learning with incarnational people and

communities in the Western context. He leads Adullam, a network of incarnational communities in Denver. He has authored three books: “The Tangible Kingdom,” “The Tangible Kingdom Primer,” and “And: Gathered and Scattered.”

To get an idea of his teaching content, visit www.tangiblekingdom.com. To read chapter one, “The Beautifully Sent Church,” from “And: The Gathered and Scattered Church, go to www.outreachmagazine.com/Halter.

- **Rev. David Goodin**

Rev. Goodin will be our evening speaker and our C&MA Board of Directors’ representative. He serves as a market place chaplain, having previously been lead pastor of our Morgantown (WV) Alliance Church.

You may register by going to our web site: www.cmamad.org.

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Mid-Atlantic District Financials: February 2010

District Operating Budget (DOB)		February Income	\$10,383.03 (under budget: \$-1,741.97)
February Budget	\$33,819.33	February Expenses	\$10,141.12
February Income	\$30,148.39 (under budget: \$-3,670.94)	February Balance	\$ 241.91
February Expenses	\$28,152.95	Year to Date Balance	\$ 4,405.19
February Balance	\$ 1,995.44		
Year to Date Balance	\$16,566.63		

Church Multiplication Budget (CMB)

February Budget \$12,125.00

Please continue to encourage your congregations to support both our District Operating Budget and our Church Multiplication Budget. During February, DOB receipts were 2.91% higher than in 2009 but Church Multiplication receipts were 14.39% lower than the previous year. Thank you!

Great Commission Fund Income: January 2010

January income to the Great Commission fund totaled \$3,554,708, leaving the fiscal year to date income at 101.4% of the budget. We celebrate God provision!

Since July 2009, the Mid-Atlantic giving to the Great Commission fund stands at \$547,930. January giving was \$88,251 which was \$9,781 less than the previous January (2009).

District churches with the highest percentage of increased giving in 2010 over 2009 were (in order):

- Fuente de Luz (Frederick)
- Island Alliance Church (Stevensville, MD)
- Great Commission Community Church (Pentagon City, VA)

- Gaithersburg Chinese Alliance Church (Gaithersburg, MD)
- Cross Point Church (Edgewood, MD)

District churches giving the most this year to date are (in order):

- Faith Alliance Church (Roanoke, VA)
- Atlanta Road Alliance Church (Seaford, DE)
- Derwood Alliance Church (Rockville, MD)
- First Alliance Church (Silver Spring, MD)
- Gaithersburg Chinese Alliance Church (Gaithersburg, MD)

We are grateful for the giving of God's people! Thank you, pastors, for promoting the Great Commission Fund!

The New Alliance Online Store

The new online Alliance Store opened March 1, 2010. A 10 percent grand opening discount will be available on products throughout the month of March. Find valuable Alliance resources and material at www.thealliancestore.com.

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The Art of Reaching 20-Somethings: Dan Kimball

Outreach Magazine recently published the above article. In summary, here are Dan Kimball's points:

1. The fruits of the Spirit are lived out in the attitudes and hearts of the church's leaders.
2. The church is involved in local and global compassion and justice ministry.
3. 20-somethings are respected and given a voice.
4. Mission is focused on relationships, not events.
5. Theology and doctrine are taught.
6. Mission is the driving force of the church.

The full article is in the March/April issue of Outreach Magazine.

The Week Ahead

I am looking forward to a number of opportunities to interface with several of our pastors as I travel to Virginia Beach (VA), Portsmouth (VA), Chesterfield (VA), Silver Spring (MD), and Stevensville (MD). In addition, I will have the opportunity to interact with several others with whom we have ministry relationships. It will be a full but rich week.

Most importantly, the week, as always, holds prospect of continued fellowship with Jesus our Savior – the One Who loves us and gave His life for us. The coming Sunday is Palm Sunday. Be assured of our prayers for all our pastors and churches who are focusing on these days of recognition and celebration.

Living the Call Together,

Randy Corbin
District Superintendent

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Alliance Women's Retreat

April 23-24, 2010

Dunes Manor Hotel, Ocean City, Maryland

Register now! Follow this link to the [information brochure](#), print it out, fill out the registration and send it to Danita Hogue. For more information, email Danita at eugohatinad@aol.com.