THEALLIANCE

# THE MONDAY MEMO

Mid-Atlantic District

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## Why I Need to Worship

***By Rev. Doug Conley, District Superintendent***

A woman approached me after a service one week and said, "I wanted to let you know we won't be here for the next month; our daughter has swim meets on Sundays for the next four weeks." I am sure you have heard that or something very similar. It seems that gathering for worship has become somewhat of an option for many church attenders. I recently saw a statistic that stated that regular church attenders go to church 1.8 times per month. If that is accurate, it represents a cascading set of problems for church leaders. But that is not the purpose of this brief article.

I want to offer some thought on **why I need to worship**. I was in a worship service nearly a year ago that included an extended time of silence. During that silence these ideas came to me. I believe God was speaking to my heart and I hope to yours as well.

I need to worship because...

- I need to be reminded of the character of God, His attributes; to be reminded of who He is
- I need to be reminded of the Gospel - an infinite God came in flesh to secure salvation for sin-enslaved humanity
- I need to have my heart warmed with a sense of connection with the triune God
- I need to stop the frenzy to pause and listen, pray and think
- I need to be reminded of my finiteness, brokenness and helplessness to deal with it all
- I need to be reminded of His sufficiency for all of my needs
- I need to be reminded that following Christ is not an individual effort in isolation, but a journey

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**December 7**
DEXCOM
District Office, 10am

**December 22- January 1, 2018**
**Office Closed**

**January 10, 2018**
The Gathering
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in the context of a community
- I need to be reminded that the Christian life is a life-long transformational journey and that there are no quick fixes

I jotted these ideas down on the back of the bulletin and tucked it away in my journal. I have looked at these items several times in the intervening months. I noticed that there was nothing here about the kind of music, the style of preaching, or whether there was a fog machine or an organ. What I need in worship and why I need to worship has little to do with the context and everything to do with being reconnected to the eternal. My guess is that most of the people coming to your services this Advent Season are looking for the same thing. May God empower you for this season of ministry.

## Church Planting Sunday
***February 25, 2018***

Would you please devote 5-10 minutes of the worship service to church planting?

Here are some ways to celebrate the day:

- Share how Acts 1:8 is lived out through planting
- Share how the Alliance started as a church plant
- Share what your district is doing in church planting
- Share how your church is involved in church planting
- Interview a planter in your service and pray for them
- Put up a photo of a church planter and pray for them
- Choose one of "10 Ways to Help a Plant" and go for it!

For more information visit:

www.cmalliance.org/ministries/church-planting

www.churchplantingalliance.org/

www.facebook.com/churchplantingalliance/

#GIVING TUESDAY™

**VIEW DISTRICT CALENDAR**

## Fair Share and Church Multiplication Update

***October 2017***

Fair Share (YTD):
Budget: $122,981.46
Received: $110,293.43
**Deficit: $12,688.03**

Church Multiplication (YTD):
Budget: $48,833.33
Received: $24,203.68
**Deficit: $24,629.65**

## Congratulations: Rev. Richard Bower

On November 10th, 2017, The Institute of Clinical Pastoral Training in Orlando, Florida appointed Rev. Richard Bower as a Board Certified Clinical Pastoral Education Supervisor.

**Congratulations on this very important achievement!**

## Remember Our International Workers During the Holidays

**"Each of you should give what you have decided in your heart to give, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver." 2 Corinthians 9:7.**

**Giving Tuesday is tomorrow, November 28th!**

Make an impact in our district by giving to Church Planting.

You may also take this opportunity to give to the Year-End Offering or the Great Commission Fund!

## The Gathering in January

Join us for **The Gathering on January 10th, 2018 at 7pm**. The live site is at Arlington Community Church, 6040 Wilson Blvd., Arlington, VA 22205.

Satellite sites are already forming. Please contact Ira Towns itowns@cmamad.org if you would like your church to be a satellite site.

Keep checking our website for updates to the satellite site list.

## Adoption Completed

Congratulations to Jeff and Amy Simpson (Lansdowne Alliance Church) for successfully adopting their beautiful daughter, Journey, on November 17th.

As we celebrate the Holiday Season, please remember our international workers who will not be able to spend time with their families.

## Quicklinks:

Mid-Atlantic District of TheALLIANCE

National Office

vimeo

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