

ceLink

An eLetter to the ceCommunity from the AGTS Office of Continuing Education

“Shaping Real People for Real Ministry in a Real World”

November, 2001

What’s Inside?

ceLines – A few words from the ceDirector

ceCommunity – Networking you with your future.

ceLinks – A few web sites you can surf

ceSources – A few tools you can use

ceCourses – A few classes coming your way

ceLines:

Hey there!

First, I want to extend a great big welcome to JoAnn Smith, our new Branch Campus Director at North Central University in Minneapolis, MN. JoAnn has earned honor and recognition due to her work within the A/G Deaf Culture ministries. Besides the formal ministry accomplishments, JoAnn is a wonderful person who will bring a very caring touch to the participants who take their courses at the NCU Branch. Welcome to the team JoAnn!

I got a few responses from my previous request for the ways that the ceCommunity is working to build bridges between its ministry and its community. Check out the ceCommunity section below to see how a couple of your peers are doing it.

Ask yourself this question, “How much of my time is spent in missional ministry?” As an education administrator I find it easy to get bogged down in the nuts and bolts of ministry process and miss the big picture altogether. I’m sure it’s not very different out there in the “real world” of ministry.

Let me tighten the screws on us a step further with this question, “How do I think God feels about the way that I spend my time in ministry?” Ouch!!!! That question always makes me stop and realize that my time priorities are often not the same as God’s. OuchÖagain!!!

We may have a values and/or vision statement for ministry, but the real question is not how well they are written, rather it is, “how much alignment is there between these documents and our practice of ministry?”

Dr. John Marshall, pastor of Second Baptist Church here in Springfield,

challenged us in chapel a few weeks ago with the simple statement that our primary ministry is winning the lost. He said that it does not matter what kind of ministry we do, if its primary focus is not on winning the lost it isn't kingdom ministry. The mission of the Father is redeeming his lost children and so our mission should proceed. My prayer is that you will keep a missional focus to your ministry. If you're struggling, drop me a line. I'd love to pray with you for a renewal of your life and ministry.

Next month we'll talk about some of the other challenges of ministry. Please respond to the survey below:

“What are the three greatest challenges for you in ministry today?”

E-mail me at: rwalls@agseminary.edu with your responses.

I look forward to hearing from you.

Until next time I wish you well,
Randy C. Walls, Director
AGTS Continuing Education

ceCommunity:

Kenneth Ross pastors First A/G in Helena, MT. He writes,

“First Assembly of God in Helena, MT, has started a Saturday Night "Reality" service for Generation "X" and "Y"ers. This has been highly successful. It is led by our Youth Pastor, Chi Alpha Pastor, and Master's Commission Pastor. As you can tell, we are working hard to reach the youth through the 20-somethings.

Heather Green is a missionary to Ukraine. She writes,

“The highlights have been the relationships I am building with Ukrainian women. Within my first week here, I became friends with a Ukrainian lady, Inna. Inna has introduced me to much of Ukrainian culture and has become a close friend of mine. God has definitely brought this friend along my path. It really helps, with being away from my family and friends in America, when I have a friend I can go places with, visit with, and learn about Ukraine from. Inna knows English, though not fluently, and I practice my Russian on her. One of my prayer requests, while I was itinerating, was that the Lord would guide me to know how and with whom to build friendships with. It is often through relationships that the love of Christ can be displayed effectively.”

Rosemarie Kowalski is on staff at Northwest College in Kirkland, WA. She writes,

“The church we attend only has Sunday morning services. It depends on its small

groups, from Fresh Start (exploration of faith in Christ) through membership classes and leadership training, as well as neighborhood groups. My 3 college kids aren't interested in joining a multi-generational group - they attend a small (8-20 member) college group at another A/G church on Sunday nights and LOVE it! They have a round-table discussion in the "service" of sorts... and all head out afterwards to a restaurant for fellowship."

--Way to go Rosemarie, Heather and Kenneth!

ceLinks:

Check out these web sites!

<http://www.fellowshipchurch.com>

If you like checking out websites for emerging churches, this is a cool one. Ed Young, son of the other "Ed Young," is the pastor. The website offers a full menu of great visuals, including a virtual tour of several areas of the church campus.

<http://www.spiritgarage.org>

Here's another cool website of an emerging church model. The church operates out of a renovated "garage" in Minneapolis, MN.

ceSources:

Books you can count on!!!

Telling the Truth, edited by D.A. Carson. Carson presents a smorgasbord of contemporary church leaders who are reaching postmoderns. Very interesting stuff here!

Pentecostal Theology and the Christian Spiritual Tradition, by Simon Chan. This one's a little "headier" than some of the more recent books I've recommended. However, Chan, a Pentecostal, really offers some wonderful insights into the significance of the spiritual tradition of the Church for current Pentecostals. Definitely worth reading.

Contact: adilley@agseminary.edu at the AGTS Bookstore to place your orders.

ceCourses:

A Full Slate of Courses for All of Your ceNeeds!

SPECIAL SEMINAR ON EMERGING CHURCHES IN THE 21ST CENTURY
Brian McLaren, speaker for the AGTS pre-General Council seminar, will be our special guest for a regional conference on the emerging church March 4-5, 2002 in Sacramento, CA. Final details as to location and cost will be sent

soon, but go ahead and block off your calendars for a great overnigher with McLaren and others who will challenge us all to more effective missional ministry. A graduate credit option for the seminar will be available. Hope to see you there!

AGTS Branch in Springfield, MO

January 14-18, 2002

PTHM 545

Ministry Development Seminar (3 Credits)

Bradford/Spurling/Walls

1-5 pm 6-10 pm

January 21-25, 2002

BTHM 640

Spirit & Power: Foundations of Pent. Exp. (3 Credits)

R. Menzies/W. Menzies

1-5 pm 6-10 pm

February 11-15, 2002

PTHM 528

Vision Centered Leadership & Mgmt. (3 Credits)

Mel Ming

1-5 pm 6-10 pm

March 4-8, 2002

BTHM 632

Biblical Theology of Signs and Wonders (3 Credits)

Ben Aker

Mon. 1-10 pm/

T-F 8 am - 5 pm

NC Extension in Kirkland, WA

Vision 2002 Conference

February 7-8, 2002

PTHE 640

(Graduate Credit Option through AGTS)

Ministry in the Postmodern World

Earl Creps

Conference Schedule

February 25 - March 1, 2002

PCPE 547

Interpersonal Techniques in Helping Relationships (2 Credits)

Melody Palm

1-3 pm (Monday) /

8-Noon T-F

February 25 - March 1, 2002

BNTE 542

Special Studies in the NT: First Peter (2 Credits)

Blaine Charette

3-5 pm (Monday) /

1-5 pm T-F

SC Branch in Lakeland, FL

(Special "Beyond All Limits" conference in Orlando, FL, Jan. 17-19.

Graduate credit option available.)

January 7 - April 22, 2002

BIBB 532

Hermeneutics (3 Credits)

Charles Estridge

Mondays 5:15-8 pm

January 7 - April 22, 2002

PCPB 632

Tests and Measurements (3 Credits)

David Boyd

Mondays 8-10:45 pm

February 18-22, 2002

PTHB 528

Vision Centered Leadership & Mgmt. (3 Credits)

John Spurling

8-Noon 1-5 pm

March 11-15, 2002

BTHB 530

Old Testament Theology (3 Credits)

Steve Fettke

8-Noon 1-5 pm

VFCC Branch in Phoenixville, PA

Jan 18-19, Feb 15-16, March 8-9, & 29-30, 2002

PTHB 535

Pastoral Ministry (3 Credits)

Roscoe Leach

Fridays 6-9pm / Saturdays 9am-5 pm

January 21 - April 15, 2002

HISB 532

History and Polity of A/G (3 Credits)

Michael DiGiacomo

Mondays 6-10 pm

February 11-15, 2002

PCPB 645

Theories of Marital and Family Therapy (3 Credits)

Jim Harris

8 am - 5:30 pm

Network Partners (Graduate Credit Option Available)

A/G Executive Ministries

March 11-13, 2002

Pentecostal Preachers Conference

Steve Lim

Conference Schedule

Division of Home Missions

Various Dates and Locations

Church Planting - Boot and Reboot Camps

Jay Taylor

Camp Schedule

National Leadership Institute A/G

Various Dates and Locations

Foundations of Leadership Conferences
Ron McManus
Conference Schedule

Contact us 8am – 4:30pm CST at:

Ph: 1(800)467-2487 Fx: 1(417)268-1009

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