

# TEAMMATES

Greater Ohio District Ministry Bulletin  
November, 2006

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## **THANKSGIVING REFLECTION**

November brings thoughts of Thanksgiving and the many blessings for which we should be grateful. God has been very good to everyone of us, not because we deserve it but because he loves us and he enjoys doing nice things for his children. This is not to white-wash over the fact that life can still be very difficult, that some have experienced serious hardships, or that there are those who are holding out hope for a slightly larger blessing. Truth is, though, that we are blessed people.

Focus, however, is important for good mental health. Focusing on what has been received generates better mental health than being consumed by the thoughts of what you have missed out on. Acknowledging that as difficult as life may be that there are still reasons to give thanks will do wonders to enhance a person's well-being. There is a lot to be said for contentment with present attainment.

As spiritual leaders who influence the thought life of others you are encouraged to assist in developing attitudes of gratitude. Help them adopt a disposition of thanksgiving and a spirit of appreciation for what they have received and experienced. Help them develop the ability to look beyond present misfortune to be able to see the larger plan of God at work in their life. Take time to direct praise heavenward to the source of every good and perfect gift.

The month of November historically gave opportunity to assess the fullness of the harvest from the summer's toil. While few of us will be counting our blessings in terms of "bushels" we should take time to lift our voice in praise for the good that has come into our life. "Let everything that has breath praise the LORD! Praise the LORD!"

## **MEXICO**

The district's partnership with The Wesleyan Church in Mexico will be strengthened in December by another visit from a Greater Ohio ministry team. Jeff Mansell, Jesus & Jenny Lamus, Marty Baker and David Paul will spend a week in Mexico, teaching pastors, preaching in local churches, meeting with Bible college students and conversing with District Superintendents. Please pray for the team during their trip. The dates are December 6-13th.

## **PASTORS' GATHERING '07**

The registration now exceeds 1,800. If you are planning to attend you should respond immediately. There is still room on the district's charter bus for anyone wanting to take that form of transportation to Florida. Scholarships are still available also to assist with the trip.

## **GOLD INSTITUTE**

GOLD Institute will feature "New Testament Introduction" this month. Other classes scheduled for this year include "Church Leadership" in February, "Pentateuch" in March, "Pastoral Counseling" in April, and "General Epistles" in May.

Classes cost \$100 plus books. They are taught by excellent teachers and provide a great vehicle for ministerial training, Christian worker enhancement or a time of refreshment. You may register on-line or by calling the district office.

## **PASTORAL CLUSTER MEETINGS**

Pastoral Cluster Meetings were held in the Capital, Delaware and Frontier Zones in October. Topics for the fall session have included a Wesleyan perspective on hell, dynamics of spiritual formation and

developing a missional church. This month will conclude the fall session with meetings in the Athens and Cincinnati Zones. Ministers in these zones should be hearing from their Zone Pastor regarding time and location.

### **PASTORS' WIVES GATHERINGS**

The Pastors' Wives' Gatherings are now history. These proved to be wonderful times of fellowship and relaxation for the ladies that attended. Activities varied from overnight-retreats, to delightful dinner gatherings to evenings of pampering. Cheryl Mansell was in attendance at all the Gatherings and reported that everyone thoroughly enjoyed themselves. Special thanks to Marilyn Dodrill, Mildred Paul, Lisa Planck, Aimee Pratt, and Julie Staiger for serving as coordinators for the gathering in their area.

### **PASTORAL COMINGS & GOINGS**

The South Parkersburg, South Webster and Toronto Wesleyan Churches are continuing their search for a pastor.

### **CHRISTMAS BANQUET**

You are encouraged to reserve the evening of December 1<sup>st</sup> for the annual Ministers' and Spouses' Christmas Banquet. It will be held at the Cypress Wesleyan Church. hors d'oeuvres will be served at 5:30pm with the meal and program to begin at 6:30pm. Nathan Beals will be returning again this year to highlight the program.

### **BOARD OF ADMINISTRATION**

The DBA will hold their next meeting on November 13<sup>th</sup>. If you have items that need their attention please forward it immediately to the district office. Please pray on their behalf as they act on behalf of the district.

### **INFLATABLE GAMES**

The Inflatable Games that were stolen from the District Ministry Center have been replaced along with the purchase of a new trailer. Additional measures have been taken to enhance the security of the trailer and games including new locking mechanisms and security alarms that are linked to the Ministry Center's security system. Now would be an excellent time to look ahead on your calendar and schedule an event at your church with the games. Call the District Ministry Center to book your date.