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CB North Central E-Central E-mail

Great Commandment Passion, Great Commission Focus

June 2013

Spicer Scholarship Report

It has been my privilege to serve this past year as the chairman of the Henry C. Spicer Scholarship Committee. As a region we have the opportunity to award financial scholarships to high school graduates based on a number of different criteria including: 1)academic performance; 2)extra-curricular activities; 3)servant leadership both in the church and in the community; 4)future academic and career pursuits, and 5)financial need.

This is my third year serving on this committee and in all three years I have been impressed by the quality young men and women in our churches. There were many students who submitted applications this year, and we want to commend each student for all their accomplishments and their Christian testimony. Four students were chosen to receive a \$500 scholarship from the \$2,000 set aside by the CBNC Board.

We congratulate all the students and pray that God will continue to direct their steps.

Mike Wetzig, Chairman
Spicer Scholarship Committee 2013

Scholarship Recipients



Jaclyn Story
Windy City Community Church
Chicago, Illinois

Will be attending Indiana Wesleyan University this fall pursuing a degree in Psychology.

Andy Waller
Faith Baptist (Faithbridge) Church
Park Rapids, Minnesota

Plans to attend Northwestern College and major in Business.



Chenoa Piller
New Life Church
Wanamingo, Minnesota

Will be attending Northwestern College to attain a degree in Kinesiology

**Laura Anderson
First Baptist Church
Elmhurst, Illinois**

Attending Taylor University and will pursue a major in Digital Media/Communications



From our Regional Director:

We Are Still On Course!

I remember those many exciting family vacations over the years. Like the car trip to New York City. You know how it goes, right? We are not even one hundred miles down the road and the kids are already shouting from the back seat, "Are we there yet?" I'm thinking, "Are you kidding me? We just left the house." As familiar as that experience sounds, it is certainly true in the journey that CB North Central has recently taken. Last month in the newsletter, I commented that our GPS is on and tracking our course to a new and revitalized future. Good news! We are still on course.

With the need to bring significant change, the Regional Mapping process began with my request for CBAmerica and fellow Regional Directors to look into the ministry of CB North Central. The mission for the evaluation was to discover if we are focused on "reproductive health" in the reproduction of maturing believers, next generation leaders and healthy church plants. Getting input from our regional churches was vital to understanding this

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How Healthy is Your Church?

This is a proven tool that can help your church with growth, not just in terms of quality but in terms of evangelism.

Give us a call at 715-538-2298.

NCD will help you identify the eight qualities and six growth factors for

objective. We sent surveys to well over a hundred churches and were returned on May 3, 2013. I want to thank every pastor and church leader who participated in the online survey. Your honest responses and insightful comments are giving us clear direction as we strategically plan for the future.

The survey results revealed some strengths or positive trends that were good to see. Here are just a few that may encourage you as well:

1. Of the 111 churches in the Region, 67 or 61% (83 respondents) of the churches participated. Though we hoped for 100% involvement, over 50% is a significant representation.
2. Churches scored above the 80% agree level that there is agreement of values between the churches and churches to the region concerning an opportunity for a missional partnership.
3. There is strong doctrinal alignment or unity within our region. 90% of the respondents found some sort of commonality with the Regional Doctrinal Statement.
4. The majority of respondents indicated the Regional resources and services provided to the churches were helpful.
5. 65 of the 83 respondents identified themselves as a "Pastor" and 44 of those indicated that they have been involved in the Pastor Cluster Groups.

This is where the real work begins and that is responding to the areas that showed concern or need for improvement. Here are some weaknesses that we plan on addressing:

1. There is inadequate communication of Regional identity to the churches. Only 61% of the respondents have a clear understanding of the mission, vision and values of CB North Central.
2. Many responding to the survey were uncertain of the CBAmerica identity regarding its mission, vision, values, and relationship to their church.
3. There is a disconnection between churches to the region and in church-to-church relationships. The size of our region and sparseness of the churches contribute to this

a healthy church.

Healthy NCD is seeing a steady growth through conversions and the ongoing discipleship of those who are part of the church.

Valuable Information About Your Church's Area

Customized demographic information available about your church location. This is a free service for all CBNC churches. Call Pat at 952-322-7173 at his home office.

Ministry Quick Links
[CBAmerica](#)

CBNC

www.nccba-gc2.com

WEBSITE

CHILD ABUSE REPORTING laws by State on our website under RESOURCES

Your Church and the Sex Offender

Free website links to [National Sex Offenders](#) website

Call Pat at 952-322-7173 for a power point presentation.

Antioch School of Evangelism & Church Planting

[Go to College at Your Home](#)

- feeling of disconnection.
4. The pastoral age demographic of those completing the survey was very high. 72% of the pastoral respondents were 50+ years old and 40% fell into the 50 to 60 years old category.
 5. The Region is not adequately assisting churches in the spiritual reproduction of believers, leaders, and churches. Though there is alignment to the mission, it is not being communicated.

Do you remember what I said earlier? Our GPS is on and we are on the road to a new journey. We are not quite there yet, but it does start right here. TODAY! Yes, there are some positive things happening in the region. And yes, we have much room for improvement. On Jun 19-20, the entire board is meeting in Eau Claire, WI to process the survey results and begin the steps for positive change. Please pray for us as we seek God's guidance for the future.

*Pat Phinney, Regional Director
Home Office: (952)322-7173
Cell: (952) 500-3743*

patnccba@triwest.net

From a Cluster Leader:

I had the opportunity over the last couple months to watch several of my 10 year old son's soccer games. One game in particular stands out to me. It was the game with the most lopsided score and unfortunately my son's team was on the losing end of things. The other team was very skilled and passed the ball extremely well for 10 and 11 year olds. It was difficult to watch my son's team give up opportunity after opportunity because the defenders would get caught watching the ball and would get pulled to one side of the field leaving 2 or 3 of the opponents completely unmarked in front of our goal. All it took was one easy pass from the sideline back to the center of the field and they had a 3 on 1 opportunity right in front of our net.

Church (Accreditation by [DETCA](#))

Would you be interested in being able to offer college level material in your local church? Would you be interested in being able to facilitate in providing a bachelors degree from your local church? Are you interested in being able to develop your current and next generation leadership?

If you answered yes to any or all of these we encourage you to look into this resource. **Antioch School of Evangelism and Church Planting** is a resource that will help equip your church for all of the above. We have three churches in the region that have become certified--Forest City Baptist, Rockford, IL; FBC Jackson, MN; and FBC Whitehall, WI. For further information contact the NCCBA office at 715-538-2298 or by email nccba@triwest.net

Software Discounts

BIG savings on software!

Microsoft Office Pro Plus 2013, Windows 8 Professional, Photoshop, Dreamweaver, Acrobat and other Microsoft and Adobe products are available for lease to member churches. [Click here](#) for an order form.

Bibles

CBAmerica is again offering Bibles at greatly reduced rates when ordered by the case.

Available by filling out the order form on the CBAmerica website www.cbameric.org or toll-free 888-366-3010 in CASE LOTS ONLY

Health Insurance Option

The score could have been much worse, but our goal keeper made several nice saves and the opposing team missed several very easy shots. As a former soccer player and avid soccer fan, the most frustrating thing was that we weren't able to make the necessary adjustments and we continued to give up these opportunities time and time again.

As pastors and church leaders, we are often called on to make adjustments in ministry. That can include casting a new vision, setting new goals, or laying out a new mission or purpose statement for our church congregation. And unfortunately, these are sometimes very much "man-laid" plans or goals and we simply ask God to "rubber stamp" our plans with a prayer seeking God's blessings on "our" goals.

Our church staff has been reading Henry Blackaby's book, ***Spiritual Leadership: The Interactive Study***, early on in the book Blackaby writes,

"People usually assume that along with the role of leader comes the responsibility of determining what should be done. They develop aggressive goals. They dream grandiose dreams. They cast grand visions. Then they pray and ask God to back them up and bless their efforts. That's not what spiritual leaders do. Spiritual leaders seek God's will, whether it is for their church or for their corporation, and then they marshal their people to pursue God's plan."

1)

Even when it comes to making necessary ministry adjustments, we desperately need to know the heart and mind of God rather than just plowing ahead and hoping God will bless our efforts. In Exodus 33, God commands Moses to take the people and go to the land that He had promised to give them. God promised to send an angel to drive out all the other people groups from the land, but God also declared in chapter 33 that He would not go with Moses and the Israelites. Their disobedience, their rebellion, their complaining, and their idolatry had become so unbearable that God declared that He would not go with them.

Moses knew that being called into a relationship with the Living God and being led by God was what set the Israelites apart from the rest of the people groups. He knew they would be in a

We have found a good option for pastors looking for health insurance. Call or email Pat to find out more, 952-322-7173 or patnccba@trwest.net. A link is included on [our website](#) to this insurance broker's website.

hopeless situation if they went up on their own. Listen to Moses' words from Exodus 33:15-16, "If your presence does not go with us, do not send us up from here... What else will distinguish me and your people from all the other people on the face of the earth?"

As a church leader facing the need and the opportunity to make some adjustments in your congregation, don't try to dream big dreams for God or cast great visions and simply add your token prayer for God to bless "your" plans. Remember, His presence and our relationship with Him is what sets us apart. To make adjustments apart from God is a recipe for failure. Moses knew it which is why he declared that God's presence was the only distinguishing characteristic that mattered.

A month ago I had the opportunity to give the invocation at the state Senate meeting here in Michigan. The Lord directed me to **1 Kings 3** where King Solomon was overwhelmed with the responsibility of leading God's people. In his prayer for wisdom, he cries out, "*...I am only a little child and do not know how to carry out my duties... So give your servant a discerning heart to govern your people and to distinguish between right and wrong...*"

Our government officials are not the only ones needing that wisdom and discernment, we do as well. May we have the same kind of humility and the same passionate plea for wisdom that expressed as we lead shepherd God's people in our local congregations.

*Mike Wetzig
Ravenna Baptist Church
Ravenna, Michigan*

1) Blackaby, Henry, *Spiritual Leadership, The Interactive Study* (Nashville, Broadman & Holman, 2006), 23.

YOUTH PASTOR TO YOUTH PASTOR

I am a firm believer that Sunday school in America is broke. It is generally held at a time when many participants are still waking up and incoherent. It is often taught by unenthusiastic and worn out

volunteers. Plus, if you are a teenager you're lucky enough to get a seat on a stinky broken couch that sits three inches off the floor.

The adults don't have things a whole lot better. In their Sunday school class they get to watch a video on the big screen all while facing the same direction (forward) in the sanctuary. After the video is through a facilitator will read some discussion questions from the front which allows the participants to give safe and shallow answers which the rest of the congregation may or may not hear.

This past year I was on a mission in my church. This mission was twofold: to bridge the gap between multiple generations and to change the broken format of Sunday school. I began to wonder what would happen if high school students and adults actually had a class together. I wondered what would happen if instead of one facilitator who read questions off a pamphlet there were multiple group discussion leaders. What if those groups sat on *chairs* instead of stinky couches? What if the groups sat in circles and faced *each other* instead of forward in pews? What if the questions were about *real life* and *shared experiences* instead of the obvious, "Who was Jesus speaking to when he said...?"

When I pitched the idea of combined Sunday school to a few adults in my church they didn't seem sold on the idea. I would get responses like, "Well, I suppose we can try it and see how it goes." The youth (to no surprise) hated the idea! In order to prolong everyone's suffering, I decided to find the longest video series I could find which was produced by Josh and Sean McDowell called "The Unshakable Truth." It lasted a gigantic 12 weeks!

The results of the experiment were *extremely* positive. The far majority of adults loved having the youth in the class, and would you believe that the teenagers felt the same way? By combining youth and adults around discussion tables, the adults were able to speak into the lives of teens and in return receive perspectives they may not have themselves ever considered. The people liked the new format so much that they decided to polish off the school year with *another* eight weeklong series!

It's hard to believe that this simplistic change was so revolutionary in my church. After all, it wasn't rocket science - just a willingness to take a risk and change the way something had "always been"

done." I pray that other churches would be willing to attempt such risks and reap such rewards of their own in the future.

Go bless, *Craig Sanborn*

*First Baptist Church
Long Prairie, MN*

FREE BOOKS!

For the cost of postage (around \$2 to \$3), CBNC will mail to you free books from the archives:

Titles available:

Father, Son, & Holy Spirit, by Bruce Ware

Firestorm, by Ron Susek

Body Aches, by Kenneth Quick

Grace Walk, by Steve McVey

A Pastor Prays for His People, by Wendell Hawley

PRAYING FOR YOU, dvd, by Howard Tryon, Jr.

Youth/College:

DOES God Exist?, dvd plus student books (Truth Project)

Above books are available in quantity. Other titles available singly.

Call and ask if we have something for you or your church

library. 715-538-2298 or send an email to Jean,

nccba@triwest.net

CHAPLAINCY

We keep Growing!

I recently received word from the Chief of Chaplain's office that two of our candidates were selected for the Army National Guard - one from Minnesota and the other from Boston, MA.

Carol and I had the privilege to attend the swearing in of our newest Chaplain Scott Noyes. Scott has prior service and went through the Army Chaplain Candidate program. He is a graduate of Crown College and Liberty University. His wife Donna and their three children live in Ulen, MN. Scott will serve with a National

Guard unit in Devil's Lake, ND. He is a godly man's man and has an effective men's ministry. Pray for Scott as he begins this new adventure.

John Hatfield and his wife Cynthia live in Elmwood, MA along with their 4 children. John is a graduate of Boston University and the Southern Baptist Theological Seminary in Louisville, KY. John also finished the Army Chaplain Candidate program and is now a chaplain in the Rhode Island Army National Guard. John serves as an elder at Grace Bible Church in East Bridgewater, MA. Pray for John as he now works as a chaplain and ministers to those in his unit.

God keeps sending godly men our way for ministry. I am working on paperwork for another five candidates at present. Financial support for Chaplaincy is going well. Keep praying for our many chaplains around the world. Seven are serving in Afghanistan, one in Turkey , several aboard ships and others in hospitals and a variety of other ministries.

If you would like to know more about becoming a chaplain or knowing more about this exciting ministry contact Al Russell at 218-776-2813 or chapruss@cbamerica.org.

Global Leadership Summit (Willow Creek)

The [Global Leadership Summit](#) exists to transform all Christian leaders around the world with an injection of vision, skill development, and inspiration for the sake of the local church. The goal of the Summit is to choose leaders from a variety of disciplines including ministry, not-for-profit, academia, sports, marketplace, and government. At each Summit leaders and experts will not only deliver practical skills but also stretch church leaders to develop their unique gift of leadership.

This year the Summit will take place **Thursday-Friday, August 8-9, 2013 from 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m MDT.**

The Global Leadership Summit is designed for the entire leadership team's staff and volunteers, key influencers and innovators within

the community, emerging leaders, and students with leadership gifts. It encourages churches and organizations to bring large teams to experience the learning together.

CBAmerica has received a discount code for you and your church leadership. The special rate structure that you may use is as follows:

\$129/registration until 6/26/13

\$159/registration after 6/26/13

Use Priority Code: 13DAS when registering

Do you Know What your Church Board May be Liable For?

A resource Pat would recommend for Church Boards:

"Essential Guide to Liabilities and Duties for Church Boards"

[Click here](#) for a summary of this ebook and how to order.

Tornadoes and Fires and...is your church ready? Do you want to send a team to help?

For preparation before a disaster [read this article](#) from Church Law & Tax.

If your church wants to help another location that has experienced a disaster, [click here for a resource](#) for help in sending a team.

Upcoming Events

GRAND OPENING for new facility of Calvary Baptist Church, Eau Claire, Wisconsin

August 4

Call John VanGorkom for details, 715-832-6363

Please update your church directory to new address:
Calvary Baptist Church

1805 Goff Avenue

Eau Claire WI 54703

AREA CLUSTER MEETINGS:

SW MN

WILL MEET AGAIN THIS FALL

2nd Tuesday of each month, 11 am

Contact Doug Noonkester, 712-754-3310

MICHIGAN

September 16, 10 AM, Rockford Baptist Church, Rockford

Contact Mike Wetzig, 231-853-6021

Northern MN/ND

Skype meeting, third Thursday of the month

Contact Steve Daggett, 701-520-5399

or Andrew Brown, 320-732-2179 for information on how to attend

Illinois

Sept. 10, regular cluster meeting, 10:30 am

Bethany Baptist, Edwards IL

Contact Mark Friday, 309-347-5635

For a Pastor Cluster Leader in your area, click [here](#)

CBNC Churches In Need of a Pastor

Please pray for the following churches and Search Committees:

- Mason Township Baptist Church--Cassopolis MI SENIOR PASTOR
- First Baptist Church-Bradford IL SENIOR PASTOR
- New Providence Baptist Church--Greencastle IN SENIOR PASTOR
- First Baptist Church--Streator IL SENIOR PASTOR
- Delavan Baptist Church--Delavan IL SENIOR PASTOR
- First Baptist Church--Elmhurst IL SENIOR PASTOR
- Calvary Church at Village Green--Moorhead MN SENIOR PASTOR
- First Baptist Church--Whitehall WI SENIOR PASTOR

- Faith Fellowship Church--Cincinnati OH WORSHIP LEADER
- Bethel Baptist Church--Jackson MI DIRECTOR of FAMILY MINISTRIES
- First Baptist Church--Spring Lake MI ASSOCIATE PASTOR
- Calvary Baptist Church--Eau Claire WI DISCIPLESHIP & WORSHIP

Contact Our Office

CB North Central - Jean Wright - 715-538-2298 - nccba@triwest.net

CBNC, Conservative Baptist North Central | P.O. Box 568 | Whitehall | WI | 54773
