



CB North Central E-Central E-mail



Great Commandment Passion, Great Commission Focus

March 2013

Pastors & Wives Retreat/Pastor's Seminar
TODAY is FINAL DAY for \$20 discount
Register NOW

**April 25-27 at [The Abbey Resort](#)
on Lake Geneva (Fontana) Wisconsin
ALL CHURCH STAFF INVITED**

PASTOR'S SEMINAR: includes lodging Wednesday,
April 24

Begins at 8:30 AM on Thursday, April 25th and ends at 3:30.

Seminar Speaker

Bert Downs, Retired CB Southwest Regional Director
Former President of Western Seminary in Portland, Oregon For
more about Bert, [click here](#)



"The Missional Church - Penetrating a Christ-less Culture"

PASTORS & WIVES RETREAT

The Retreat starts with dinner at 5:30 PM, Thursday, April 25, and ends with
checkout

Saturday morning, April 27. Two delicious dinners, lodging and the Ladies Brunch

are included.



"Running the Race to Win" is the retreat session topic, with speaker, Art Cotant, Senior Pastor at Discovery Church, Sauk Rapids, Minnesota. For more about Art, [click here](#)

\$20 DISCOUNT
if registered by March 15 or if you are a first-time attendee. **Best value when you register for BOTH the Seminar & Retreat.** Use the coupon code on our

[registration page](#)

CBNC Annual Meeting, April 26, 2013, at 8:15 AM

Questions? Call Jean at 715-538-2298 (MWF), email nccba@triwest.net or contact Regional Director, Pat Phinney, at 952-322-7173, email: patnccba@triwest.net

FINAL DEADLINE TO REGISTER IS April 1st.

Snail Mail Invitation & Registration were mailed to your home or church.

From our Regional Director:

Life After Passion

Busted! Not long ago my wife caught me staring aimlessly out into space and asked, "What are you thinking Pat?" Easter is only a few weeks away and in preparation of this article, I caught myself staring into the past. What was I thinking?

Do you remember when the movie, "The Passion of the Christ" was released in 2004? I am not kidding, I think about the impact of this movie every Easter. The operative word in that epic movie title is "passion". It depicts a time of enormous suffering that our Lord endured during the last week of His earthly life. Luke said in Acts 1:3, "To whom He showed Himself after his passion by infallible proofs, being seen of them forty days, and speaking of the things pertaining to the kingdom." (KJV) Back to the movie. I remember clearly that theaters everywhere were being leased to churches who wanted to reach family and friends with the Gospel of Jesus

In This Issue

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Natural Church Development

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.

Christ. All of us wanted those who attended to experience Christ's passion (suffering) in a personal way. While watching the movie I found myself praying, "Lord, open the window of their souls. Help them respond to You because of what they are seeing. Meet each person where they are in their spiritual journey and stir a hunger for You deep in their hearts." That is exactly what Jesus prayed in John 17:3, "Now this is eternal life: that they may know You, the only true God, and Jesus Christ, whom You have sent." Through the biblical truth being portrayed in this movie many were saved and impacted for all eternity.

"The Passion of the Christ" movie and others like the recent series on the History Channel entitled, "The Bible" do not end with Jesus' horrific passion or suffering on the cross. HE IS RESURRECTED - glorious and flawless - never to die again. Let's rejoice in God for this wonderful truth. Years after Jesus was raised from the dead, John wrote these words, "When I saw him, I fell at his feet as though dead. Then he placed his right hand on me and said: "Do not be afraid. I am the First and the Last. I am the Living One; I was dead, and behold I am alive forever and ever! And I hold the keys of death and Hades." Revelation 1:17-18

What a passage. The hope of eternal life for the entire world is found in the One who brutally suffered, cruelly died, and amazingly came back to life. And it was for us! Because of the victory of the resurrection, Jesus holds the keys to death in His hands. He can and He will raise to life all those who put their trust in Him. Without the power of the resurrection, the passion of Christ's suffering and death are absolutely worthless. It becomes just another good story line for one more Steven Spielberg movie.

We are moving into one of the most celebrated events of our society and those of us who know Him, hold within our grasp the greatest truth that has changed this world. In the coming weeks, God will be giving us opportunities to share the passion of His suffering. We can give answers to those seeking, "What comes next?" It is the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead.

"Praise be to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ! In his great mercy he has given us new birth into a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead, and into an inheritance that can never perish, spoil or fade kept in heaven for you . . ." I Peter 1: 3-4

NCD will help you identify the eight qualities and six growth factors for 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](#)

NCCBA

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.

New Staff Background

This Easter I have made a commitment to tell others about the PASSION of Christ and the POWER of His miraculous resurrection. Will you join me?

Pat Phinney, Regional Director

Home Office: (952)322-7173

Cell: (952) 500-3743

patnccba@trivest.net

From a Cluster Leader:

Unbelievers often criticize the passage in 2 Kings 2:23-25 in which Elisha cursed the mocking boys and two bears mauled 42 of them as violent and horrifying. Believers usually explain it as a warning not to mock the prophets of God.

But reading the OT prophets it is clear they regularly faced mocking, persecution and execution. Jesus referred to the "persecution of the prophets," in his final beatitude in Matthew 5:12. In Hebrews 11, the prophets are included among those who among other terrible tortures, "experienced mocking." (verses 32 and 36).

Is it possible more is going on in this story than a warning not to mock the prophets? Isn't bears mauling little boys for mocking a bit harsh?

Elijah's transfer to heaven and Elisha's unprecedented succession as the primary prophet in his place is followed by three accounts: the search for Elijah, the purifying of the waters and the cursing of the little boys.

The first account establishes that Elijah is gone. He is nowhere to be found and Elisha is the primary prophet in his place. The next two accounts establish the parameters of Elisha's prophetic ministry: it can be permanently purifying or tragically terrifying.

Before Elijah departed, Elisha asked him for a "double portion of his spirit." Elijah declared that Elisha "asked for a difficult thing."

Was it difficult for God to give or for Elijah to grant? Or was it

Checks

CBNC is now able to perform background checks for member churches. Call the office, 715-538-2298.

Antioch School of Evangelism & Church Planting

Go to College at Your Home Church

(Accreditation by [DETC](#))

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@trivest.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.

difficult for Elisha to receive, to bear and to wield? When Elijah first encountered him in 1 Kings 19:19, he threw his cloak over Elisha, and Elijah asked, "What have I done to you?"

As the primary prophet in the darkest days of Israel's history, Elijah bore a heavy burden in his struggle against the sin, apostasy and idolatry of King Ahab and Queen Jezebel. On several occasions, he asked God to end his life.

In "passing his mantle" to Elisha, maybe Elijah knew "what he had done" to Elisha and how difficult it would be for him to receive a "double portion" of his prophetic spirit. Maybe he knew wielding such prophetic power could be permanently purifying or tragically terrifying.

If Elisha's ministry had continued this tragically terrifying pattern, it would have been frightening and fruitless. But after the episode of the boys and bears, nothing in the rest of Elisha's prophetic ministry comes close to the tragedy and terror of the boys and the bears. It mirrored, in many ways, the ministry of Elijah.

What had Elijah done in choosing Elisha as his successor, and granting him the "difficult thing" for which he asked? Who could carry on Elijah's ministry and wield a double portion of his prophetic spirit, with the power both permanently purifying or tragically terrifying?

What can this mean for us except that, if we do not participate in cluster groups, we might get eaten by bears?

*Wade Duroe
Crossroads Church, Chippewa Falls WI*

YOUTH PASTOR to YOUTH PASTOR

Student Ministries of Come To Life Ministries (C2L)- formerly called "SYF of Illinois"

Winter Retreat Reports

Approximately 9-11 churches joined together for our annual winter student ministries retreats in January! A Youth Pastor connected with C2L directs each retreat (great jobs again!). Jr. High Blizzard

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.cbamerica.org or toll-free 888-366-3010 in CASE LOTS ONLY

Health Insurance Option

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@trivest.net A link is included on [our website](#) to this insurance broker's website.

took place January 4-6, followed by Sr. High SnoCamp January 18-20. Pine Trail camp (Saugatuck, Michigan) was our host for both retreats. The staff there does all they can to provide a friendly, fun, Christ-honoring atmosphere! Neither weekend had snow, so hats off to the staff for providing extra activities to make up for lack of snow! The primary purpose for each retreat was for spiritual growth to take place in each of the student's lives. We are grateful that was accomplished.

Jr. High Blizzard '13 was directed by Jason Wilson, and co-directed by **Joan Vana**. Our speaker was Geoff Grubb (Assistant Pastor in Chicago) - reminding us from Genesis that we are greatly valued by God! How great that God didn't abandon Adam & Eve, but loved them even in their broken world. Joan had some great 'minute to win it' ice breakers! Thanks to the worship band from Jason's church (Harvard Ave. Ev. Free Church in Villa Park), for leading us.

We had around 106 students & staff attend from 9 churches. Sr. High SnoCamp '13 was directed by Gary Lisle, and co-directed by Christian Constante. The theme was "Worth It!". Hoodies were provided for Youth Pastors/Directors, and extras were sold to whoever wanted them - a popular addition this year! Our speaker was Brent Batiste (Athletes In Action Missionary at NIU). He reminded us Jesus' story is worth telling! I'm still amazed God thought I was worth it, to have His Son come and suffer & die for me/us! I'm so glad He rose again 3 days later! We had fun throughout the weekend asking students how much things were 'worth' to them. Dave Pikel (me) led a Concert of Prayer on Saturday Night - providing multiple experiences to interact with the Lord individually and in groups. Thanks to the worship band (Resonate) for leading us, led by **Nate Miller** - from DeKalb/**Sycamore** area churches. We had around 140 students & staff attend from 11 churches.

"BREAKAWAY 2013"

Our annual jr. & sr. high evangelistic outreach event called "Breakaway" is coming up April 6-7 (9:00pm - 7:00am)! **Joan Vana** is our director this year. This event usually draws 600-700 students & leaders from 20-25 churches. Each year we try to check how many unbelievers are brought, and the average is 25-30% (last year was 32%)! Major work is being put into this event - especially the rally portion where we'll have some fun ice breakers, followed by music & message by Level 3:16 (they present the Gospel through a

combination of music and personal testimonies that is fresh, biblical and high energy). We also welcome City Wide Christian Arts who spread the gospel through their performing arts. Then after pizza time, we'll go to three events for 2 hours each (Lifetime Fitness, Orland Bowl, & Odyssey Fun World). All that for just \$45 - or \$40 if register by March 22! Contact **Joan Vana at joanlynnvana@hotmail.com** for more info! Be sure to register ahead of time!

Pray for a great spiritual harvest - not just of salvations at the event, but also for solid gospel seed plants that the Christian students can follow up on in the future - for those not yet ready to respond positively to the gospel.

Sonlife Classic "Live2:6"

A group of ten Youth Pastors/Directors have been meeting every couple months (started in May 2011), going through Dann Spader's training on the life of Christ. It has been very valuable as we share what we've learned from Bible studies we've done in preparation for each gathering, then watching videos of Dann's training, and discussing how to implement that into our lives and ministries. I highly recommend this training available in a learning community format!

Grace n Peace 2 u,

Dave Pikel

www.cometolifeministries.org

HENRY SPICER SCHOLARSHIP for High School Seniors

The Henry Spicer Scholarship is awarded each year to high school seniors planning to attend college in the fall. To qualify, an applicant must be a committed Christian AND a regular attendee of a CBNC affiliated church. The amount and number of scholarships varies from year to year. For more information and an application go to our [website](#) or call the office at 715-538-2298. **Applications must be postmarked by APRIL 1st.**

NEW OFFICE HOURS

The CBNC office is now open Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays from 10 AM to 4 PM. The number for Jean at the office is 715-538-2298. To talk to our Regional Director, Pat Phinney, Tuesday through Friday, call his home office, 952-322-7173.

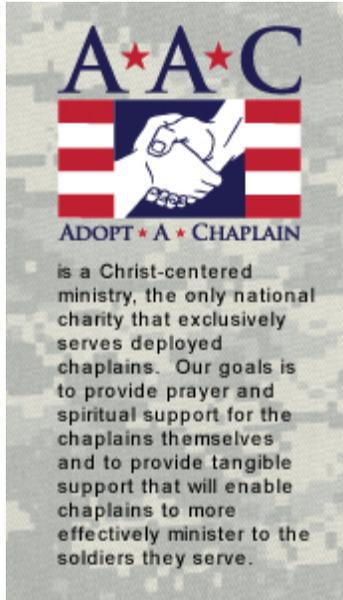
CHAPLAINCY

Helping CBAmerica Chaplains

I am often asked when I visit churches or Regional Meetings "How can we minister to our chaplains that are deployed?" In years past many care packages have been sent to our chaplains in the war zones. In the last several years as the economy has faltered very few packages have been sent. If your church or a group within your church is interested in assisting our troops let us know. We have six chaplains deployed to the Middle East these days and they would love to hear from your family or church.

There is a great resource for helping chaplains that are deployed. Here is info about them.

Adopt-a-Chaplain is a Christ-centered ministry that is dedicated to supporting our troops through the ministries of chaplains. By adopting chaplains and their families, we pray for and communicate with them regularly. We send care packages to chaplains serving in the Middle East and they distribute the items to our troops.



How To Contact Adopt- a- Chaplain:

E-mail: adoptachaplain@yahoo.com

Please make checks payable to Adopt- a- Chaplain, 222 Forrester Rd. Los Gatos, CA 95032. Telephone: 408-600-8884

CBAmerica Chaplaincy is developing a new area of ministry. We are working with our first Disaster Relief Chaplain. Special training is needed in order to be certified for this area of ministry. If you are interested in assisting in Disaster Relief settings contact our office and we can give you the needed

information about training and certification.

I received a call from one of our chaplains who told me this story. Recently a fellow worker came to his office to talk and mentioned they were unhappy with their present faith group and local church and wanted to change. He gave them a list of several local churches this person could check out. Several weeks later he was told they had selected the local CBAmerica church and were enjoying the warm fellowship and felt very much at home.

If you would like more information about CBAmerica Chaplaincy please contact Al Russell at 218-776-2813 or by e-mail at chapruss@cbamerica.org.

Can you help Calvary Baptist Church?

WORK DAYS are coming soon. Be ready. Sheetrock is being put in place and taped and mudded. Painting could begin before Easter and for the week after. Trim carpentry will follow that. Get ready!!! And Thanks!!!

Please call Greg Smith for dates: 715-271-8811

*John van Gorkom, Senior Pastor
Calvary Baptist Church
Eau Claire WI*

Upcoming Events

PASTORS & WIVES RETREAT, April 25-27

PASTORS SEMINAR, April 24

CBNC Annual Meeting, April 26

**All at the Abbey Resort on Lake Geneva, Fontana,
Wisconsin [REGISTER TODAY](#) for \$20 discount**

AREA CLUSTER MEETINGS:

SW MN

2nd Tuesday of each month, 11 am
Contact Doug Noonkester, 712-754-3310

Northern MN/ND

Skype meeting, third Thursday of the month
Next meeting, March 21, 10 am
Contact Steve Daggett, 701-520-5399
or Andrew Brown, 320-732-2179
for information on how to attend

Twin Cities

April 8, 10 am, River of Life Church
Hastings MN
Contact Steve Schoenwald, 651-437-3965

Illinois

April 9, 10:30 am, Bethany Community Church
Washington IL
Contact Mark Friday, 309-347-5635

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

Moody Bible Institute has a burden and passion for pastors. This year, May 20-23, the Chicago campus is host to one of the premiere events for pastors from a variety of denominations and from all over the globe. Click on [conference](#) for more information.

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

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

Contact Our Office

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

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