



CB North Central E-Central E-mail



Great Commandment Passion, Great Commission Focus

May 2013

Your New CBNC BOARD:

Rev. Andrew Brown - Chairman
Senior Pastor-First Baptist Church
Long Prairie MN

Rev. Brad Little - Vice Chairman
Senior Pastor-Oak Grove Church
Golden Valley MN

Pastor Greg Standafer - Secretary
Senior Pastor-First Baptist Church
Whitehall WI

Rev. John van Gorkom
Senior Pastor-Calvary Baptist Church, Eau Claire WI

Rev. Jay Jentink
Senior Pastor-Calvary Baptist Church, Cedar Rapids IA

Rev. Lyall Sutton
Senior Associate Pastor-Bethany Baptist Church, Edwards IL

Mr. Vince Welch
Businessman-Buffalo MN



April 24 Board Meeting

Rev. Michael Wetzig
Senior Pastor-Ravenna Baptist Church, Ravenna, MI

Rev. Roland Whitcomb
Senior Pastor-Morrison Baptist Church, Minneapolis, MN

Pastor Adam Zappetta
Youth Pastor-First Baptist Church, New Richmond, WI



PASTORS' SEMINAR
with Bert Downs
April 25

PASTORS & WIVES
RETREAT with Art Cotant
April 25-27

The Abbey Resort



From our Regional Director:

Hitting the Mark

Regional Director's Report - April 26, 2013, CBNC Annual Meeting

How many of us have ever taken our rifle and enjoyed some target shooting? Try this sometime. Go to your local range, set up the

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**Natural Church
Development**

biggest target you can find, load your rifle for a first shot and then put on a blind fold. Ready, aim, shoot and duck! Really? Who would do such a thing? Believe it or not, that is what churches do at times. They have been given great Biblical goals (targets if you will) and then start firing blindly, hoping to hit the target. I wonder if that is what we are doing as a Regional Ministry.

This is our target and mission, "The CBNC exists to nurture and network churches who passionately love God and are committed to making disciples of Jesus Christ." Here is the big fat red bull's eye . . . "spiritual reproduction". It is my conviction that every CBAmerica region have churches that are spiritually healthy. Churches that are spiritually healthy are churches that reproduce more spiritual health. Healthy churches within the CBNC region are to be measured by spiritual reproduction or "making disciples" by three key values:

- 1) Is the church reproducing, discipling or mentoring believers towards Christ-likeness?
- 2) Is the church developing or reproducing servant leaders to be Great Commission focused?
- 3) Is the church increasing kingdom impact through the multiplication of new churches?

What does this have to do with CBNC? EVERYTHING! CB North Central exists for one primary purpose and that is to serve our churches in accomplishing the mission of "spiritual reproduction". The very moment that we philosophically or strategically think that our identity centers on the notion that our churches exist to serve the regional office, then we are failing. We have missed the target completely.

How do we as the regional leaders know that we are not just blindly shooting in the dark? How do we know if we are succeeding in supporting our churches to hit the mark of spiritual reproduction in personal discipleship, leadership development and church multiplication? The answer can be found in one word. EVALUATION!

One of the objectives of CBAmerica is to evaluate the eight regions in an effort to assess the health of our ministries. Healthy regions produce healthy churches. Healthy churches "make disciples" that spiritually reproduce and that's the bull's-eye. In January 2012, I

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 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

officially initiated the process to have CBAmerica and the other Regional Directors evaluate the effectiveness of CB North Central.

This is what the evaluation process looks like:

1. Submit statistical data to CBA - Data sent on September 10, 2012.
2. CBA to analyze data - Data analyzed on January 15, 2013.
3. Survey church constituents - Sent on April 2, 2013. (We are seeking evaluation in three areas)
Pastors or leaders perception of the church's view of CBNC
Pastors or leaders personal perception of CBNC
Open questions that allow for more personal responses from pastor and leaders
4. Surveys analyzed by CBA.
5. Regional Executive Directors will evaluate surveys on May 7-8, 2013, in Pennsylvania.
6. Ministry Mapping prescription will be written by CBA and presented to CBNC regional board.
7. General findings will be summarized and reported to churches.
8. Board evaluates prescription

Good evaluation will always bring a prescription for healthy change. The prescribed change could impact vision, mission, values, polity, methods, or philosophy. It is important that the ministry of CB North Central not blindly shoot in the dark or aim at some bogus target. "The CBNC exists to nurture and network churches who passionately love God and are committed to making disciples of Jesus Christ." We believe we can accomplish this mission by coming along side to serve and support our churches. 2013 will bring some healthy change in this mission. Thank you so much for extending your trust and confidence in Him, as you allow me to serve as your Regional Director.

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

patnccba@trivest.net



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 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

From a Cluster Leader:

Confessions of a Maniac Driver

Aren't you weary of your inadequacies? I am. I'm not a strong enough leader. I'm not an exciting enough preacher. I'm not a smart enough apologist. I'm not a consistent enough evangelist. And this is to say nothing of how much I fail as a husband and father and friend. I'm selfish, arrogant, stubborn, and sometimes mean. And then you ought to see me behind the wheel of my car.

I've read so many books on leadership and preaching. I've boned up on evolution and the new atheism and on emergent relativism. I've learned how to be a contagious Christian and a lifestyle witness. I've shaken the salt out of my shaker and am looking for some kind of explosion to come from my evangelism. I'm currently attending a bible study on how to step up and be a man. And yet when I look in the mirror, although every day I look more like my dad, I have to admit that I'm still the same me that I've always been.

Oh, don't get me wrong, I've grown some. I've learned a lot and made significant progress in many areas of my life. God has sculpted me through pain. A lot of chips have fallen away. But I still struggle with the same kinds of things that I did 40 years ago... those same nagging inadequacies and sins. They are still there, maybe not as prominently as before, but there they are.

I need something different in my life. I need friends who truly care about me, who understand me and what I deal with and who accept me and my inadequacies and yet have earned permission and who possess the credibility to challenge them. I need to be encouraged and built up. I need some "atta boys." I need to laugh. In this I am truly blessed! I have this.

I realize though, that most pastors don't. We spend too much time alone. We have lived too long in the world of the ideal, hoping against hope that we stand on the brink of a spiritual breakthrough in our lives and in our congregations. But more often we are the target of criticism and the ideal we seek disappears in a vapor. In reality we are harder on ourselves than even our severest critic.

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.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.

I have friends in my life who care about me, who challenge me in my personal life and ministry. I have an accountability group who I've met with for over 30 years... friends from college who know me so well that I'm actually afraid of what they could have on me. I also have my cluster group.

I am blessed by the guys in the Twin Cities Cluster. We enjoy each other. We encourage each other. We challenge each other. We laugh. We have grown to love each other and to appreciate one another. We meet once a month to catch up and to pray for each other. We read and discuss a different book each time, something that feeds our souls like: "The Knowledge of the Holy" by A.W. Tozer, or "With" by Skye Jethani, or "Jesus + Nothing = Everything" by Tullian Tchividjian. We also read stuff that helps us to grow as leaders and pastors like "Humilitas" by John Dickson and "Necessary Endings" by Henry Cloud.

But most of all with these guys I have friends who care about me and who encourage me and who challenge my inadequacies and sins. I trust them. We are still growing in this, but it is coming. I look forward to our gatherings. We've even networked together in our ministries. If you are not active in the cluster in your area, consider it. You need it to because the fact is: we are inadequate. We need Christ, and we need one another.

*Stephen Schoenwald
Twin Cities Cluster
Hastings MN*

YOUTH PASTOR TO YOUTH PASTOR

Recently the Barna group and others have been putting forward much information designed to help the church to do ministry to the millennial generation (those born after 1982). For those of us in youth ministry this isn't new - we've been doing ministry in this context for years. And while there are some positives in the responses to recent surveys, one thing is clear, this generation is failing to connect to the church. While for many people this is an abstract statistic, for us this is a very present reality. I think back to

students who have come through our ministry over the past several years, students that I've invested in, and students who at one time showed growth in their commitment to the Lord. But where are they now? Drifting. Unconnected. In some cases they have left their faith, but for many they are simply floating along, nominally "Christian", but disconnected from the church and not growing in their walk with the Lord. Now, when I look at my current students, I can't help but wonder - where will they be a few years from now? Will they too follow this path.

When I see former students making poor life choices and making decisions that don't honor God, I can't help but feel that we - the church - bear part of the blame. We have failed to engage this generation in a way that will connect them to the church. I'm becoming more convinced that this is in large part due to the fact that we have a baby-boomer model of church that does not know how to relate to and engage those under thirty. Below are a few observations that may help:

1) Don't give me a job to do. How do we get visitors or newer attenders to our church to plug in? Conventional baby-boomer wisdom says to "give them a job to do". Why? Because to the baby-boomer generation this communicates trust and value to that person. However to my generation giving us a job to do communicates the exact opposite. It tells us that our only value to you is in what we can do for you. Show us that you value us as a person first, then we will buy in and serve. If you demonstrate we are valued, we will serve in the church - and give our very lives to it.

2) Learn from skateboard culture. So how do we demonstrate to people that we value them? We have to give them the ability to be real. We have to walk with them in their struggles. We need to learn from the skateboard culture here. Ever watched a group of skateboarders doing tricks? It's like having someone say, "Watch, let me show you what I can't do." Then they go and almost complete the trick they were trying for and wipe out. And everyone cheers and tells them how close they were. And they get back on the board and do it again. Over time they get better, and eventually get it right - only to move on to the next thing that they can't do.

Freedom to fail. Freedom to be real. Encouragement to start again. These are the signs of true community to my generation. Why do skateboarders feel so much freedom to fail? 1)

Because they've watched everyone around them do it too. 2) Have you ever watched the professionals? They are amazing, but if you've ever watched with a skateboarder, they are waiting for the moment when the professionals fail. They cheer when the professionals blow it. because it shows that they were going all out, and trying things that they have not done before. This is what sets the culture of the skateboarding apart from the culture of figure skaters. If an olympic figure skater wipes out it's an embarrassment, when a skateboarder wipes out it's a badge of honor.

The baby boomer generation often values figure-skater perfection within the church. While my generation and younger values skateboard realism. Churches that understand and embrace this within their ministry model are much more effective in reaching my generation.

3) *Technology mediates relationships.* "If we want to engage this generation, the technology in our church needs to be equivalent to, or one step beyond, the technology that people have in their homes." A fellow youth minister shared this comment a while back. I thought it was brilliant. If I have a 60" TV in my living room and at the same time have my email / social-media available to me on my ipad or phone, it's going to be hard for me to connect with a 32" screen (if any) and isolation (non-connectivity) in a Sunday School class.

I attended a conference a few years ago where the speaker pointed out how much of our life is mediated through screens. TV, movies, computers, even our phones. To the Baby-Boomer generation these are tools for accomplishing tasks and communicating information. To my generation (and even more the millennials) these are the mediators of our relationships. Facebook, Twitter, Instagram, SnapChat, Pintrest, etc. These are the arenas where relationships are built in this generation. If we cannot relate to people through these media (and whatever is next) we will not be able to reach this generation with the message of the gospel, nor be able to connect them to our church.

4) *Less information & education; more Inspiration and motivation.* We live in an information age, and an era where constant connectivity puts any and all information at my fingertips 24 hours a day, seven days a week. This means that a sermon (or a Sunday School class, or any other venue) that is information based

or academic is largely irrelevant to my generation and especially the one after me. We are not looking for information - we can (and will) google it and get whatever information or education we want. What we are looking for is inspiration, motivation, and application.

5) Don't tell me that you need me. I hear baby-boomers all the time say things like "We need more young families." When asked why their response is usually something along the lines of being the "future of the church", or that the "church won't survive", or that they are the "leaders of the future". For Baby-boomers (particularly those in the church) there is a strong sense of obligation to the institution of the church. For my generation the "obligation card" just doesn't work. Instead tell us why we need the church. If the best answer you can give for why your church needs younger families is so that you won't die, then maybe your church needs to die.

It is a dangerous thing to speak on behalf of a generation, and much more the generation after one's own. But perhaps these thoughts will help us as we seek to develop a model of ministry that reaches those under thirty more effectively.

*Andrew Polheber
Director of Youth and Family Ministries,
Oglesby Union Church, Illinois*

2013 Directory Published

The 2013 Church Directory link has been emailed or snail mailed to all churches. If you did not receive yours, or would like a paper copy, call or email Jean at 715-538-2298 or nccba@trivest.net

New Software Available

Remember, CBNC can lease software to your church for 1/4 the box store prices. Microsoft Office 2013, Office 365, and Windows 8 are available, as well as Adobe products.

Call or email Jean for a new order form and prices. 715-538-2298, nccba@trivest.net

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@trivest.net

Upcoming Events

AREA CLUSTER MEETINGS:

SW MN

WILL MEET AGAIN THIS FALL

2nd Tuesday of each month, 11 am

Contact Doug Noonkester, 712-754-3310

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

June 7 Family Meeting, 11 am

Call Mark for details, 309-347-5635

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

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

Contact Our Office

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

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