

CB North Central E-Central E-mail



Great Commandment Passion, Great Commission Focus

September 2012

From our Regional Director:

What's In a Name Anyway?

If I had a dollar for every time I had to spell my last name, I would be a rich man and could retire with Don Shaw in Florida. I have seen everything under the sun like Finny, Feeney, Finnay, Feenay, Feeny, and Fynaey. It is Irish and it is not that hard to spell, "PHINNEY". More often than I want to admit, I have thought about the simplicity of other names like: Smith, Johnson, Williams, Jones or even Brown. Why not change a name? Others have done it like, Lew Alcindor to Kareen Abdul-Jabbar or Chad Johnson to Chad Ochocinco or Bobby Moore to Ahmad Rashad or Cassius Clay to Muhammad Ali or even Ron Artest to Metta World Peace. The list goes on.

A name is important. It can say something about who you are or who you want to be. There are even important name changes throughout the Scriptures like when Jesus renamed Simon Peter in order to map out his journey to maturity. The early church called Joseph of Cyprus "Barnabas" because he was a source of encouragement. Saul of Tarsus became Paul in order to contextualize himself in the Greek-speaking world. Shouldn't a name

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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.**

NCD will help you identify the eight qualities

change arouse curiosity, reflect character or even provide some sense of meaning as to why an organization exists?

Right now you are thinking, "Ok Pat, what is going on? Are you going to change the name of NCCBA?" You got it. Within the national CBA family there are eight representative regions. They are CB Mission Northeast, CB Northern California, CB Southern California, CB Northwest, Mission Mid-Atlantic, North Central CBA, Rocky Mountain Church Network, and Southwest CBA. If you will notice, four of the eight areas are identified as CB and then the name of the geographic region. For the primary reason of continuity with the other four regions, I have recommended to the Board that we change our DBA (Doing Business As) name from North Central CBA to CB North Central. The motion was made and decided on April 25, 2012.

This won't change anything concerning our priorities of ministry, but everything to do with the media segment of the region. You will see CBNC on our new logo, new web page, new Facebook page, new newsletter format, and much more. Even though you will see changes in the media side of things, our mission remains strong and clear, "We exist to nurture and network churches that passionately love God and are committed to making disciples of Jesus Christ." Without a doubt, we are here to serve all of the churches within the CB North Central region. We are committed to assisting churches in becoming great commandment and great commission healthy; the ongoing development of servant leadership; the development of a church multiplication strategy that could include church planting, turnarounds, and multi-church cooperative efforts; the development of local pastor clusters; the providing of resources that will build and develop better church health; and much more. We are here to serve you.



A newspaper ad read: "Lost - One Dog. Brown hair with several bald spots. Right leg broken due to auto accident. Rear left hip hurt. Right eye missing. Let ear bitten off in a dog fight. Answers to the name 'Lucky'".

The question still remains, "What's in a name anyway?" A lot. We hope you enjoy our new name like we do. Just call us CBNC.

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 Checks

CBNC is now able to perform background checks for member churches. Call the

Pat Phinney, Regional Director

Home office: 952-322-7173, Cell: 952-500-3743

patnccba@trivest.net

From one of our CLUSTER LEADERS

"But as for you, continue in what you have learned and have become convinced of, because you know those from whom you learned it, and how from infancy you have known the holy Scriptures, which are able to make you wise for salvation through faith in Christ Jesus. All Scripture is God-breathed and is useful for teaching, rebuking, correcting and training in righteousness, so that the man of God may be thoroughly equipped for every good work." 2 Timothy 3:14-17 (NIV)

If you grew up in an evangelical church, there is a good chance you know certain songs. As kids in Sunday school we often sang, "The B-I-B-L-E, yes that's the book for me, I stand alone on the Word of God, the B-I-B-L-E." As teenagers in youth group or college, it was Amy Grant and Michael W. Smith's, "Thy word is a lamp unto my feet and a light unto my path." Today as adults, we sing Mercy Me's, "Word of God speak, Would You pour down like rain, Washing my eyes to see, Your majesty."

What's more, most if not all of the Conservative Baptist congregations we shepherd have strong doctrinal statements regarding the inerrancy and inspiration of scripture. Together without apology we believe that the Word of God is absolutely true and the final authority for faith and practice. The church I pastor even has the Bible as the foundation of its logo.

But just because we affirm our belief in the Holy Scriptures in song and in creed does not mean you and I are letting its teachings have an important place in our lives. This was proven once again this week by a study from Lifeway Research. In a survey of 2,930 Protestant churchgoers, the Southern Baptist organization found that only 19% read the Bible every day, 26% a few times a week, 14% once a week, 22% at least once a month, and 18% rarely or never. (<http://www.lifeway.com/Article/research-survey-bible-engagement-churchgoers#gallery>)

office, 715-538-2298.

From the TRUTH PROJECT: "Does God Exist?"



This is an outstanding series that will help prepare your high school kids for college. It is produced by the same group that did the Truth Project. It includes ten sessions on DVD and ten student books. Our price is \$50.89 plus \$10.00 shipping

Retail for the same set is \$110.89. If you would like to get a preview of why you should consider this go to www.trueu.org and check out: The Toughest Test in College.

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

The fact is the majority of those in the fellowships we lead do not feed themselves spiritually every day. Is it any wonder then that many Christians today are Biblically illiterate, weak in faith, easily deceived, and falling away from the truth? But before we are too hard on those we serve, let's be honest about our own personal engagement with the Word of God? Beyond the messages we prepare for, the Bible studies we lead, or the small groups we facilitate, are you and I spending daily time in the Scriptures to be taught, rebuked, corrected, and trained in righteousness ourselves?

One of the real dangers in ministry is that pastors can spend so much time studying God's Word to feed others that we neglect feeding our own souls. Or we are so busy speaking to others about Jesus, we have no space in our daily schedule to let God speak into our own lives? Could it be this is one of the main reasons so many leaders in the church today crash and burn or decide to do something else for a living? They do not continue in the things they first learned, they stop being students of the God-breathed book, they no longer make it priority to be personally equipped for every good work.

May we who are called to be to be examples to the flock (1 Pet 5:3), demonstrate a spiritual hunger for the scriptures. May our people see that the B-I-B-L-E is truly the book for me. And may they develop an appetite for the Word of God because they notice the spiritual direction and vision it is producing in our own lives.

*Pastor Jay Jentink
Calvary Baptist Church
Cedar Rapids, IA*

YOUTH PASTOR to YOUTH PASTOR

In John 5 we find an interesting encounter that Jesus has with a man at the pool of Bethesda. You know the story, Jesus walking through the colonnades comes upon a man who had been laying there for 38 years. He asks this man a simple question: "Do you want to be healed?" It's an interesting question. After 38 years, certainly the only life this man had known was here at the pool. Being healed would mean a big change for him. A huge adjustment to return to

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 2010, Windows 7 Professional, Photoshop, Dreamweaver, Acrobat and other Microsoft and Adobe products are available for lease to member churches. [Click here](#) for an order form.

NLT Bibles

CBAmerica is again offering Bibles at greatly reduced rates when ordered by the case. We would like to recommend the NLT Parallel Study Bible and the NLT Study Bible to our NCCBA churches.

NLT Parallel Study Bible (Hardcover) Normally \$44.99 is \$24.00 each (in cases of 8)

NLT Study Bible (Hardcover) Normally \$39.99 is \$21.00 each (in cases of 10) 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 in Minnesota and Wisconsin 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.

life outside the pool. There may have been a lot of reasons for the man to not want to be healed.

But his answer reveals something else about the man as well. He neither answers yes, nor no. He says "I have no one to put me into the pool ... while I am going another steps down before me." Evidently the man does desire to be healed. It seems that he had seen others healed by reaching the pool at the right time, and has a desire to do likewise. I imagine him sitting reflecting on previous healings, looking for patterns, advance warnings, etc. Trying to position himself so that he might have an advantage over others - so that he could get to the water more quickly. I wonder if there had been times he had been close, just to be beat out by someone else. I wonder if he had developed a routine manner of approaching the water, confident that if he just executed his plan better the results would come; or if he was constantly "tweaking" the plan, trying new methods of getting to the water.

Then comes Jesus. Jesus the very one who can make him whole. The healing that he has been desiring is standing before him, and he is asked a simple question: "Do you want to be healed?" I'd imagine if Jesus had come after one year of the man being there his answer might have been much different... "Of course I want to be well!" or "Yes, Lord, heal me". In fact, I suspect that this man prayed often in the early years for healing. And maybe even was waiting, expecting that God would do it.

But not now... Now after 38 years of seeking healing, he knows how the system works. It's no longer healing that is foremost in his mind ... it's "how do I get to the water faster?"

His focus had shifted ... from the healing to the method of healing.

I wonder if there isn't a lesson in this for those of us in student ministry. Why do we do what we do? Why do we attend football games, go on camping trips, take students to conferences, stay up all night, eat pizza, organize mission trips and service projects, preach, teach, answer text messages at 1:00 AM, etc. We do it because we want to see students know Christ, be built in their faith, and be equipped to do ministry and share the gospel. But I wonder if over time our focus has a tendency to shift - from our goals to our methods.

Like the man in John 5, we do what we do because ... well this is

what we do. We have seen students get saved as a result of this event, conference, program, etc. and so we continue to do it, as though IT were the key to success, and we miss the fact that it is simply a tool that the Lord has used in the past and that he can act independently of that tool. I wonder if at times we miss opportunities for ministry, because we are so busy "doing ministry".

Perhaps the lesson of John 5 is that when Jesus shows up, our methods no longer matter. He can choose to use them or not. And perhaps the saddest part is that after the man is healed he doesn't even know who did it. (At least he does recognize it wasn't his own doing.)

May we never get so attached to our "system" that we miss seeing Jesus.

*Andy Polheber, State Youth Fellowship of Illinois
Director of Youth and Family Ministries
Oglesby Union Church*

YOUTH PASTOR RESOURCE

Are you a Youth Pastor? Do you have Sr. High Students in your Ministry? Do you know Sr. High Students studying Science in school? If you are like me and answered yes to one or all of these questions then I have a GREAT resource for you. TrueU's Video series Does God Exist? is an Amazing resource for building the scientific case for Intelligent Design. I have used this series for the past few years in small group settings to do just that, build a scientific case for Intelligent Design. Dr. Stephen Meyer does an Excellent job of walking you through four worldviews, pitting those four worldviews against one another, and examining the evidence of each worldview to see if any can answer the question, does God exist? He looks at Faith and Reason, The Big Bang Cosmology, DNA, and The Moral Necessity of Theism. Dr. Meyer discusses these things in a way that is easy to understand and that helps you come to your own conclusions on this very important topic.



As our culture and the world become increasingly more hostile

when it comes to God, His existence, and His interaction with His creation, it is increasingly importance that we as Christ Followers understand what He has done and be able to intelligently defend our Faith. I have found in the several small groups that I have done this video series with that all have come away with a better understanding of the four worldviews that are discussed and that those who are Christ Followers are able to better defend their Faith especially in the area of science. I highly recommend that you purchase this resource if not only for your own knowledge, but also to use to help guide the next generation of leaders in your congregation. If you have any more questions about this resource please feel free to contact me at 715-246-2700, email me at fbcnryouth@hotmail.com, or if you would like to purchase this resource please contact the NCCBA Regional Office at 715-538-2298.

(Note: see sidebar [by clicking here](#) of this newsletter for prices and media available, or call Jean at the CBNC office 715-538-2298)

*In Him,
Pastor Adam Zappetta
Asst. Pastor/Director of Youth Ministries
First Baptist Church of New Richmond*

Your Church and the Sex Offender

CBNC is developing a list of resources to address the issue of sex offenders wanting to attend church. Also, when considering individuals for leadership positions, a background check should be performed. A free website that connects to all state sex offender lists is listed below. Background checks are available from CBNC for \$10 to \$13, or ask your insurance company for a contact.

This is a must for each church to be responsible for the safety of their congregation and to prevent possible lawsuits.

[National Sex Offenders Website](#) links to free listing of all states' sex offenders

[Church Law & Tax article](#) about whether to tell the congregation that a sex offender is attending

Talk to Pat Phinney, Regional Director, at 952-322-7173 or Jean at the CBNC office 715-538-2298 for a power point presentation regarding sex offenders and the church.

Upcoming Events

AREA CLUSTER MEETINGS:

Michigan Cluster

October 8th, 10 am

Ganson Street Baptist, Jackson MI

Contact Mike Wetzig, 231-853-6021

SW MN

September 18th, 11 am, lunch provided

Home of Steve DeKok

Contact Doug Noonkester, 712-754-3310

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
- Noelridge Park Church--Cedar Rapids IA SENIOR PASTOR
- First Baptist Church-Bradford IL SENIOR PASTOR
- New Providence Baptist Church--Greencastle IN SENIOR PASTOR
- First Baptist Church--Streator IL SENIOR PASTOR

- Faith Fellowship Church--Cincinnati OH WORSHIP LEADER
- Bethel Baptist Church--Jackson MI WORSHIP LEADER
- First Baptist Church--Worthington MN WORSHIP LEADER (part-time)

THANK YOU for your prayers. **Chad Tyson** is the new Youth Pastor at Ganson Street Baptist Church in Jackson MI.

Contact Our Office

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

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