

## North Central CBA

## E-Central E-mail



Great Commandment Passion, Great Commission Focus

October 2009



[Click here for more information](#)

### **PASTORS & CHRISTIAN WORKERS RETREAT with Marty Giese--coauthor of 'Leading Through Change'**

This retreat November 8-10 in Northern Wisconsin will emphasize effectiveness in leadership and ministry. [Register](#) at the Camp

Forest Springs website.

## It's Not An Option

October 11 was a significant milestone. What made it significant for me was not that I just added another year to my life, but our granddaughter finished 794 days of treatment for acute lymphoblastic leukemia. However, the cancer issue for her is not totally over. There is now the five years of waiting to see if there will be a recurrence of the leukemia, but we can rejoice that to date there has been no red flags of any kind to this point. At least in terms of the leukemia; there is the collateral damage from the chemo and steroids. We know that her gall bladder, heart and liver have been damaged, and while she may have a normal life expectancy, she will never be the same as a result of the disease.



### In This Issue

YOUTH PASTORS  
CHAPLAINCY: Authorized but not Obligated  
GOOD IDEA section: Gardens at Two Churches  
CLUSTER CORNER  
Giese Retreat  
Ministry Quick Links  
Microsoft software  
Upcoming Events  
Contact Our Office

### 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

I have asked Hannah for permission to use her in this article. The reason I want to refer to her comes from reading Why We Love The Church: In praise of institutions and organized religion, by Kevin De Young and Ted Kluck. These are the same two young (thirty something) men who wrote Why We're Not Emergent: By two guys who should be.

In reviewing the books that I have read over the last year, the majority of them focused on the fact that the church in our culture is not doing well. Each writer offers some solution, but the one that seems to be gaining the most momentum is to suggest "leave the church and let's create something revolutionary". De Young and Kluck respond to this suggestion in very strong terms. To summarize with a sound bite, "No way!"

One might assume by the title and my summary sound bite that maybe "love is blind" in regard to the church. The authors are very candid in their appraisal of the church and willingly admit there are a number of serious flaws. Yet despite these, they openly challenge those who have or are thinking about walking away.

The authors strongly assert that to suggest there is an alternative to the church, means there is a failure to understand two important issues. The first issue is not coming to terms with ecclesiology. In regard to the ecclesiology issue the authors lay out six arguments against a churchless Christianity. (Space does not allow for going over this so I encourage you to get the book.)

The second issue is not coming to terms with total depravity. The fact is the church is comprised of two groups of people: sinning-saints and sinning-sinners. DeYoung and Kluck state, "Our churches have pew after pew (and pulpit after pulpit) of selfish, proud, petty, lustful, greedy people. Many of them are trying to put to death the deeds of the flesh, but it is slow, hard, and sometimes inconsistent work. And other churchgoers are simply unregenerate, sitting in church a couple times a month out of custom or obligation. With such a mix of people - sinning saints and sinning sinners - in our congregations, it's no wonder that things can look pretty grim." Yes, dealing with the sinning crowd can be grim.

terms of evangelism.

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.**

**Give us a call at 715-538-2298.**

**Valuable Information About Your Church's Area**

Customized demographic information available about your church location. This is a free service for all NCCBA churches. Call Don at 715-538-2298 or visit:

[www.Link2Lead.com](http://www.Link2Lead.com)

**Ministry Quick Links**

[CBAmerica](#)

[Link2Lead](#)

[\(demographic info\)](#)

[Illinois State Youth](#)

[Fellowship](#)

**Microsoft Software and More**

Microsoft Office Pro Plus 2007 is \$127 plus \$30 for the installation media. Other Microsoft products, Adobe and hardware are also available. Call Jean at the office, 715-538-2298, for price quotes and to order.

**NCCBA**

[www.nccba-gc2.com](http://www.nccba-gc2.com)

WEBSITE

As I read this book I couldn't help but think of Hannah. Two plus years ago she was thriving and in good shape, but as noted above she is not now what she was and never will be quite the same. If I use the logic of people like Barna and those who urge leaving the church, I would have to find a new Hannah, one that does not have the grim baggage. That is not an option as long as I have breath for obvious reasons.

As for the church, despite all of her baggage, God has called me and all of us in ministry to be committed to the Bride of Christ. So let us embrace the only option in the time left, let us keep being faithful, ever striving to help the church be the Body of Christ and bring glory to God's name.

*Don Shaw*  
*Regional Director*  
[donnccba@trivest.net](mailto:donnccba@trivest.net)

---

## **YOUTH PASTORS: Why This Event?**

Do you know why you are doing what you are doing? Most likely you have been challenged with this question before-either by yourself or others. Today we want to challenge you to define the purpose of the programs you run. The more we have done ministry, the more we have become convinced that the former concept of a shotgun effect is not the most efficient ministry strategy. Instead, we should follow the examples of Jesus and Paul to fulfill specific roles at particular times.

"I have become all things to all men so that by all possible means I might save some" (1 Corinthians 9:22b). Paul was very specific about his ministry strategy. However, notice one thing he did not say: "at all times." In other words, even as Paul tried to reach a variety of people, he still had focus on the particular people group he was ministering to at that point in time. This is clear to see in his letters. There are similarities in the introduction and concluding remarks of many of Paul's letters, but the purpose of each letter shows details distinct to his audience. What the Corinthians needed to hear was not necessarily what the Ephesians needed to hear.

**CHILD ABUSE  
REPORTING laws by  
State on our  
[website](#) under  
RESOURCES**

**New Staff Background  
Checks**

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

**Father, Son & Holy  
Spirit: Relationships,  
Roles & Relevance**

This book by Bruce Ware is available from the NCCBA office for \$10. Highly recommended. Email the office at [nccba@trivest.net](mailto:nccba@trivest.net)

Similarly, we can notice in Jesus' interactions with people that he handled different audiences differently. For example, he showed compassion to the woman at the well, challenged the Pharisees, and befuddled the apostles for the purpose of future spiritual growth.

Within youth ministry, many frustrations occur when we are vague or use bait and switch tactics to trick students into participating in programs. Most times we do this because we feel pressure (either inward or outward) to produce numbers, instead of focusing on the students' current situations and spiritual needs.

Let us take a moment to think through very real youth ministry situations.

Suppose you give a challenge to your youth group to invite friends to your main, weekly program. Students may, after much prayer and inviting, get their friends to show up. But on that particular week, you are teaching on the role of the trinity within sanctification-or something clearly over the head of the average non-Christian teenager. We are not saying that this lesson is not important-or even vital-for the growth of more mature students. However, this is not necessarily the lesson non-Christian students need. If you are going to encourage students to invite unsaved friends to a program, then you need to deliver a program that will meet the needs of the friends your students bring.

Similarly, if you have a great weekly Bible study going on with a few committed, but solid and growing students, and instead choose to water down the content simply to bring in more people, the core students of your ministry will likely get frustrated that "their" in-depth time was taken away.

There is a need for in-depth Bible study, ground level evangelism, service-ministry challenges, times of worship and Christian hang-out time. But to focus on everything at once is the antiquated shotgun effect that aims at nothing and hits it. Not only do all these not have to take place at the same time, we do a disservice to our students when we are not clear as to what we are trying to accomplish within a program or event. Frustration will ensue, and instead of encouraging spiritual growth, we may actually be squelching it.

Those of you who fish know you need the right bait to lure the right fish. Similarly, picking a focus for a particular program doesn't

limit who can come to it but instead clearly gives your students direction and allows them to exist in their current spiritual state where God can work on them in His timing instead of through our manipulation.

As some of you know, our (Adam and Craig's) churches combine on youth ministry events from time to time. Within that, we clearly choose what our focus is and instead of hiding it, boldly proclaim it. Interestingly enough, when students are ready, they show up without the need for trickery or deception. Take some of our combined programs for example:

YAM Backpacking trip: Discipleship, focusing on camp counselor and leadership training

Bible Quizzing: Fellowship, breaking down the stereotype that Bible memorization is boring (and boy does it work AMAZINGLY!)

Camp: Discipleship, focusing on growing people to the next level in their faith

We certainly had non-Christian students at our week of camp this year, and we presented the gospel multiple times there, but we also don't hide the fact that it was a Bible camp. While we had fun, the main focus of the week was on spiritual growth. Both of us do evangelism in our ministries, but have other specific strategies and occasions for that including big events, Wednesday night programming, and personal relationship contact. Thus, even though we had non-Christians at camp, they complied with longer sessions because we didn't try to deceive them into thinking camp would have limited spiritual time-it was in fact the main component and the games and relationship times there were extras.

Jesus didn't use harsh language to the woman caught in adultery nor did he coddle the Sadducees in their legalism. He had a clearly defined purpose for each ministry contact. This gave him the freedom to minister effectively to whoever came across his path. We challenge you to evaluate your programs and do the same.

*Adam Zappetta, First Baptist Church, New Richmond, WI*  
*Craig Morris, Westside Church, Aitkin, MN*

---

**CHAPLAINCY:**  
**Authorized But Not Obligated**

"I just received an email chain letter claiming that the ACLU has filed a lawsuit against the military to remove all crosses from military graves. The email also claims that Navy chaplains can no longer use the name of Jesus in prayers because of the ACLU. I have a hard time believing this to be true. Have you heard anything like this?" I get e-mails and questions like this almost weekly and every church I visit this question always come up.

People have the idea that our chaplains are hindered from preaching the gospel or praying in Jesus name. Let me share a recent story from one of our Army chaplains at Fort Drum, NY, Chaplain Brian Hargis. He writes, "October 1-4 was the Ft. Drum Revival. It was the FIRST Revival at Ft. Drum, and one of the few ever made possible on any military installation. The Lord worked it all out to have Evangelist Phil Schipper of BIG Ministries to be our guest speaker...The Revival was hosted by the Gospel Service which I pastor, and it's the largest attended service on Ft. Drum. We are very well organized and have numerous ministries that people are involved in. During the Revival, the Gospel Choir was a huge blessing with favorite songs such as "There's a Leak in This Old Building," "You Deserve My Worship," "God is Good," and "Praise is What I Do." The preaching was exactly what the Lord ordered to transform hearts and lives. "What's On Your Altar?" was a life-changing message - about Abraham being tested to sacrifice Isaac. Evangelist Schipper's other messages were, "The Making of a New Creature," "The Danger of Delay" and "The Purpose of the Cross." Many people conducted business with the Lord during old-fashioned altar-call. Five people accepted Christ as their Savior, including a husband and wife on Sunday! Two men surrendered to God's calling to preach the Gospel, one of which was a former Muslim! God met with us in a mighty way and we are still not fully recovered... nor do we want to be. Our spiritual cups are full and running over."

He continues, "beyond Revival, the Lord has continued to outdo our expectations with opportunities and souls being saved. He's good like that! For example, two weeks ago I had a soldier accept Christ as his Savior in my office. The young man had been raised in church by a good mother and father and he knew the Lord in his head... but never in his heart. He had religion without a relationship. Last month I had a soldier accept Christ who was a former Pagan, and prayed to goddess. Now he prays to the one and true God Almighty, and is one of my most faithful congregants. Next week he, along with several others, will be baptized at the

Main Post Chapel. This hasn't been done for almost two years"

Keep praying for our military and other chaplains as they preach, teach, pray and lead people to Jesus. God is at work in a wonderful way reaching people and bringing them into His forever family.

If you have questions about chaplaincy you can contact Al Russell at 218-776-2813 or e-mail at [chapruss@earthlink.net](mailto:chapruss@earthlink.net) . We would love to come and share what God is doing through CBAmerica chaplaincy with you and your church family.

---

## **GOOD IDEA SECTION: Sweet Corn Give-a-way**

Faith Community Church, located just north of West Concord, Minnesota, decided to put some of its property to use this spring and planted sweet corn. That idea proved to be very fruitful! The end of August saw members of the church picking, bagging and delivering free bags of sweet corn to West Concord residents.

Pastor David Brederland commented "Our idea for this sweet corn give away was to be an encouragement to people in these economic times. We wanted to share God's blessings to us as a church with those in the community. We hope to plant the seed with folks that God is the giver of all good gifts. The sweet corn was also good stewardship of that part of our property. It is more appealing to look at a field of corn as opposed to a barren field."

The church has received favorable feedback from residents. One email read, "What a wonderful surprise to have sweet corn delivered right to our door and it was delicious. Sharing God's blessing with the community was such a great thought and very much appreciated. Thank you so much." Another resident commented that due to economic pressures they had not been able to purchase any corn this year and were really enjoying the gift of corn.

Last spring men from the church donated seed, and the planting and cultivating of that seed. After a few corn pickin' parties when the corn was ready, it was bagged and delivered over the space of a week. Some was frozen for the church's annual Thanksgiving dinner. The church's farmers are talking already about "next year"

on ideas for more fertilizer and less weeds to increase the yield.

"It was good for our people to cover the town and see more of our mission field as they delivered the corn," observed Pastor Breederland. "Some people offered to pay for it, others didn't want it if they had to pay for it, but no one complained when we said it was 'free.' I think there's a salvation illustration in there someplace. Our goals to bless the community and let them know we're here were achieved."

*Submitted by*

*Dave Breederland, Faith Community Church  
West Concord MN*

## **UPDATE on GARDEN HARVEST in Bushnell IL**

(see March & July 2009 Good Idea Section of the NCCBA newsletter [archives](#) for beginnings of the project below)

*From email received October 3:*

*Don, glad to see other churches doing the same. Our garden was very good, and the green beans are still producing though the harvesting is pretty much done. Our church and Prarieland Open Bible church, who also I talked into doing a garden, picked around 12,000 ears of sweet corn. We tried our best to target those who could use it most. We gave a lot away at a government funded housing, and a lot at senior citizen housing. We also received thank you notes from several of the recipients. We had a ton of green beans, peppers, and zucchini. It was not a good year for tomatoes because of it was late getting them in because of the wet cold spring and the cool summer slowed them down. It was a good opportunity for members of the church to go door to door. There were those that thought there was some catch to it or that we were trying to sell it, but we told them it was free and why we were giving it away. We also included a flyer with our church information on it. We did not get any new people coming to church, but it gave the community a positive view of our church. We still have butternut squash growing and to give away yet.*

*Dave Eden, First Baptist Church  
Bushnell IL*

## AREA CLUSTERS NEWS CORNER:

The First Annual **Northern Minnesota** Pastors' overnight retreat was held September 27-28 at Camp Lebanon, north of Minneapolis. Fifteen pastors, staff and other CB family members joined in a great time of prayer, fellowship, mutual equipping, good food and rest. A number of pastors came from areas outside our northern cluster, so we had representation from Southwest Minnesota and the Twin Cities as well.

Our Regional Director, Dr. Don Shaw, gave a Monday morning presentation on the State of the Regional and National networks of churches, the concept of covenant relationships, and also updated us on current needs in our area. There was a great spirit of encouragement and give and take, and some consensus emerged regarding the possibility of expanding the retreat next fall to include the entire state. Our time of sharing ministry resources and ideas was especially helpful. Personally, I can't wait for next fall!

Churches were represented from the following Minnesota communities: Aitkin, Clitherall, Detroit Lakes, Hastings, Laporte, Long Prairie, Moorhead, Park Rapids, Storden and Taylors Falls. The ministries of North Central CBA, and the CBA chaplaincy were also represented.

*Steve Daggett, Laporte Community Baptist Church  
Laporte, MN*

### **Report from this week's Iowa meetings:**

*The Iowa CBA meeting met October 12 & 13 in Colfax, Iowa. While this is an official meeting, most of it is sharing ministry - we had special music, a forum on ministry, and a message on Monday night. On Tuesday we had a devotional, did the routine business, listened to reports from CB people, and prayed in small groups. When we concluded it was mentioned that maybe we ought to unofficially change the name from ICBA Annual Meeting to Annual State Cluster. We are the last state association. For the most part, we like having these meetings; it gives us an opportunity to visit with each other, for most don't see each other often, we enjoy the fellowship - and good food and a very nice motel.*

*Phil Butler, First Baptist Church  
Colfax IA*

---

## Tip for Church Websites

Remember to obtain permission for photos, artwork, text, music or other items obtained from the internet or other sources. Be sure the original author understands their material will be posted on your website.

---

[Back to Top](#)

### **Giese Main Speaker at Pastors & Christian Workers Retreat in November**

Marty Giese, Senior Pastor at Faith Baptist Church in Park Rapids, MN and co-author of the book "Leading Through Change" will be the speaker for a Pastors and Christian Workers Retreat in northern Wisconsin, November 8-10.

Brad Eidsen, Resident Program Director at [Camp Forest Springs](#) lists "Three reasons why you should join this retreat."

- Rest and relaxation in a premier camp environment
- Fellowship and group interaction with peers that understand your context
- Leadership training that applies to your ministry setting.

You can expect:

- Presentations that respect the multiple challenges of ministry in Town and Country churches. The issue is not "pro small church/anti big church" nor "pro big church/anti small church." But "pro effective church." (Numerical size is a far less significant issue, and is typically a by-product of effectiveness + contextual potential.)
- Emphasis on effectiveness in leadership and ministry (not numbers) Develop a fresh perspective on your current ministry - see its potential and move from faithfulness to fruitfulness.
- Professional training and personal encouragement  
Develop sensitivity to context, effectiveness in ministry, and find encouragement for your soul.

If you or someone you know would like to register for this event, visit the Camp Forest Springs [website](#) to register, or call the camp at 715-427-5241.

[Back to Top](#)

## RETREAT ALERT!

We are giving you advance notice that there will be **changes in the Annual Pastors & Wives Retreat format**. This year we will be offering a seminar on Thursday morning and afternoon. The theme of the seminar will be **Board and Leadership Development**. This will be presented by Jim Smith the Regional Director for CB Southern CA. The Retreat itself will begin with Thursday evening dinner and run through Friday evening entertainment. There will be no meeting on Saturday, so you can leave at your leisure.

We will be offering price options for just the seminar or just the retreat as well as a package price for attending both. Look for more details and plan to attend both--April 21-23, 2010, at the Heidel House Resort in Green Lake, Wisconsin.

## Upcoming Events

### **Pastors & Christian Workers Retreat with Marty Giese** [Info & Registration](#)

Camp Forest Springs                      November 8-10  
Westboro WI

**Cluster Leadership Training**    November 10 & 11                      Lansing, Illinois  
with Bill Hoyt

<b>Pastors Seminar</b>	April 22, 2010	Heidel House Resort
<b>Pastors &amp; Wives Retreat</b>	April 22-23, 2010	Green Lake, Wisconsin
<b>NCCBA Annual Meeting</b>	April 23, 2010	Green Lake, Wisconsin

## NCCBA Churches In Need of a Pastor

Please pray for the following churches and Search Committees:

- Squaw Creek Baptist Church--Marion IA YOUTH & WORSHIP
- Ganson Street Baptist Church--Jackson MI YOUTH PASTOR
- First Baptist Church--Colfax IA YOUTH PASTOR
- First Baptist Church--Jackson MN YOUTH PASTOR (part-time)
- First Baptist Church--Elk Horn IA
- First Baptist Church--Breckenridge MN

## Contact Our Office

North Central CBA - Jean Wright - 715-538-2298 - [nccba@triwest.net](mailto:nccba@triwest.net)

[Forward email](#)

✉ **SafeUnsubscribe®**

This email was sent to [nccba@trivest.net](mailto:nccba@trivest.net) by [nccba@trivest.net](mailto:nccba@trivest.net).

[Update Profile/Email Address](#) | Instant removal with [SafeUnsubscribe™](#) | [Privacy Policy](#).

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

Email Marketing by

