



MINISTERS COUNCIL NEWS YOU CAN USE – PLEASE SHARE WITH YOUR NETWORKS

Joe Kutter, Acting Executive Director

January 2009

Click here to view this message as a webpage: <http://www.ministerscouncil.com/Periodicals/Publications.aspx>

~COMPENSATION WORKBOOK AVAILABLE

Several years ago, a Ministers Council Task Force created a compensation workbook for Ministerial Leaders. MMBB has recently updated the book and it is available through the Ministers Council office or by contacting MMBB. For more information from MMBB on clergy compensation, please click on this link. http://www.mmbb.org/index_whats_new.cfm?whats_new_id=120

~MINISTER MAGAZINE

What impact will the proposed restructuring of the ABC have on Ministerial Leaders and local church ministries? In the next issue of *Minister* magazine, Roy Medley, Aidsand Wright-Riggins, Reid Trulson, Dwight Stinnett, Liliana Da Valle, and Dave Russell will speak directly to the question. It will be published very soon. Look for it.

~WALTER PULLIAM

Walter Pulliam, former President of the Ministers Council and President of the ABC-USA passed away Wednesday, November 26. Click link. <http://www.abc-usa.org/news/2008/20081205a.htm>

~A DISTINCTIVE SUCCESSION PLAN

David Swink has served the Chilson Hills Baptist Church for nearly all of his ministry and most of the congregation's life. Now, David's retirement is on the horizon. Click here to see the distinctive plan that he and the congregation have developed to sustain the continuity of the congregation's ministry. <http://www.ministerscouncil.com/Ministry%20Stories/PastoralSuccessionPlans.aspx>

~TAKING CARE OF YOURSELF IN MINISTRY

Stephen Ott, Executive Director of The Center for Career Development and Ministry, has agreed to share insights, each month, in the life of ministry. Here is his first contribution to our newsletter.

Kathleen Norris is a well-known bestselling author in the area of spirituality, having written *The Cloister Walk*, *Amazing Grace: A Vocabulary of Faith*, and *Dakota: A Spiritual Geography*. Her latest book is *Acedia & Me: A Marriage, Monks, and A Writers Life* (Riverhead Books, 2008). *Acedia* is the noon-

day demon referred to in Medieval times as one of the 7 deadly sins, and is a term fallen out of modern usage except in monastic circles. It is the inability to care, the feeling of hopelessness, boredom, and commitment phobia that people struggle with today. It discusses the spiritual soul-weariness of acedia, something that has the power to undermine the capacity for joy, and commitments to faith, relationships and to vocations. There is a fascinating discussion about the sameness and differences between acedia and depression, and what can be done about it from a spiritual disciplines perspective. This is a relevant book for your self-care! Highly recommended for your reading. – *Rev. Stephen Ott, Executive Director, Center for Career Development and Ministry, Dedham, MA.*

~WOMEN IN MINISTRY TRAINING

The Great Rivers Region has provided a Women In Ministry Internet Webinar Course which can be found through the Ministers Council link....

<http://www.ministerscouncil.com/WIM%20Resources/WIMResources.aspx>

~JOE KUTTER'S ONLINE BLOG, "PRAYING THE PSALMS"

This is purely a devotional exercise, Joe's conversation with God through an encounter with the ancient hymns of Israel. The blog is an invitation to join in this ancient way of prayer, "Praying the Psalms." Go to <http://joekutter.blogspot.com> to share in this conversation with God.

~VIDEO NOTES FROM THE MINISTERS COUNCIL

Each week, Joe Kutter will post a video blog about our life together as Ministerial Leaders in the ABC-USA. Go to <http://www.ourchurchvideos.com/19482/ministerscouncil/>

~SOUL NOTES

Each month, Chaplain Karen Pickler, Treasurer for the Chaplains and Pastoral Counselors Ministers Council shares "Soul Notes" with us. Please check out the link to her January note.

<http://www.ministerscouncil.com/WhoWeAre/documents/09JanuarySoulnotes.pdf>

~PRE-BIENNIAL PASADENA CA

June 25 and 26, 2009

With Dr. Leonard Sweet

Register now for Thursday event!

The Ministers Council in partnership with Interim Ministries, Women in Ministry, and the Area Ministers Group will host Dr. Leonard Sweet at two pre-biennial events.

Thursday afternoon, June 25, Dr. Sweet will speak to the topic "What's A Guttenberg Groupie in a Google World Going to Do?" All Members of the Ministers Council, ministers in Interim Ministries, members of the Area Ministers Group, and those participating in the Women in Ministry group are invited to participate. The cost will be \$30.00 per person.

Friday morning, June 26, Dr. Sweet will address all who wish to attend at the Ministers Council meeting. His title is "The Metaphors of the 21st Century: Seven Metaphors that Can Transform the World." An offering will be received to help offset the costs.

To learn more about Dr. Sweet, go to his home page, www.leonardsweet.com or if you wish to go directly to a biographical sketch, go to www.leonardsweet.com/biocv.asp. He is a leading interpreter of the present age to the church and a teacher of the gospel to the present age.

**~TOGETHER IN THE LORD
HOLD THE DATES
JANUARY 4 -7, 2010
ORLANDO FL**

~WORLD MISSION CONFERENCE

Got the mid-winter blues?
Sick of cold temperatures, snow, ice or rain?
Take a winter break and head to sunny ARIZONA!

Come to the World Mission Conference,
February 20 – 22 in beautiful, warm Sun City, Arizona!

- Let us warm you up in main sessions that are packed with mission stories, videos, international music, worship and more!
- Kick up the heat in 20 challenging workshops
- Enjoy comfort food like a BLT – a Boxed Lunch Talk with a missionary!
- Challenge yourself with some hands-on “Mission in Motion” experiences
- Lift your spirits with special guest choirs from around the state!

Conference Leaders

Morning Devotions: Betsy & Dave Perkins, missionaries in India
Worship leader: Brad Berglund from Illuminated Journeys
Bible study leader: Jill Lowery, missionary in the Democratic Republic of the Congo
Sunday Preacher: Reid Trulson, executive director of International Ministries
International guest: Rev. Jean-Claude NSANA from Congo Brazzaville

Winter Bargains

Discounts on housing available at the Windmill Suites (see our site for a link)
Discounts if you register on line – only \$20 for the whole weekend!!

Register today! See the latest videos!

http://www.internationalministries.org/read/world_mission_conferences

~ERNEST FLORES BOOK SELECTED BY JUDSON

Judson Press has selected ***Tempted to Leave the Cross: Renewing the Call to Discipleship*** by Ernest Flores as the “ABC Reads” title for 2009. The book is also available in Spanish as ***Tentado a dejar la cruz: Renovando el llamado al discipulado***. In addition to serving as pastor of the Second Baptist Church in Germantown, PA, Rev. Flores serves as President of the Ministers Council, PBA, and former V.P. of the MC, ABC-USA, Congratulations to Ernest Flores.

<http://www.abc-usa.org/news/2009/20090107b.htm>

~REMEMBER US!

When planning your estate, please remember The Ministers Council.

THE MINISTERS COUNCIL OWNS THE DOMAINS www.ministerscouncil.org AND www.ministerscouncil.com. IF YOUR BROWSER ENCOUNTERS DIFFICULTY IN OPENING ANY OF THE LINKS IN THIS NEWSLETTER, GO DIRECTLY TO THE WEBSITE AND/OR FEEL FREE TO CALL THE OFFICE FOR SPECIFIC NAVIGATION DIRECTIONS TO LOCATE THAT LANDING PAGE ON THE SITE.

~SIGN UP FOR FUTURE ISSUES OF NEWS YOU CAN USE FROM THE MINISTERS COUNCIL

Sign up for future issues of the monthly Ministers Council newsletter by replying to this message from the email address to which you wish issues to be sent. Add the newsletter email address to your address book so that future newsletters will not go into your spam filter.

If you have news, ideas, events or websites from your Ministers Council to share with colleagues, please email to joe.kutter@abc-usa.org. The more we share with one another what works, the stronger we will all be.

~MINISTERS COUNCIL CONTACT INFORMATION

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Join the Ministers Council through your local constituent council. Contact information is posted on www.ministerscouncil.org under the WHO WE ARE link.