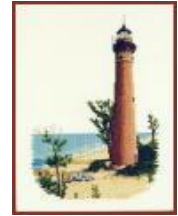


North Michigan District of The Wesleyan Church



Vision: *Transforming people through Christ. Empowering an expanding number of churches to be missionally healthy, to passionately transform diverse cultures for Christ.*

Mission: *Exists to equip, enrich, administrate and communicate to pastors and laity in redemptive ways to accomplish the Great Commission*

May 1, 2017

May 2017 DS Tom Newsletter

Luke 15:8-10 The Parable of the Lost Coin

⁸“Or suppose a woman has ten silver coins and loses one. Doesn’t she light a lamp, sweep the house and search carefully until she finds it? ⁹And when she finds it, she calls her friends and neighbors together and says, ‘Rejoice with me; I have found my lost coin.’ ¹⁰In the same way, I tell you, there is rejoicing in the presence of the angels of God over one sinner who repents.”

Recently I heard Pastor Jim Cymbala of Brooklyn Tabernacle say; “When a church loses its main joy of seeing a person come to know Jesus, that church has lost its reason for living.”

The eternal valued celebrations with rejoicing take place when people come to know Jesus Christ as Lord and Savior with the evidence of life transformations. “To repent” means that a person is headed in one direction and has now taken a 180 degree turn around and is heading in the other direction.

Something to think about....something that deserves our attention.

Denise and I were blessed to attend the DS Roundtable and sense the spirit of God moving:

-Family vacation in Mississippi and Indiana

-DS Roundtable in Brooklyn New York with North America DS’s and spouses. We had the opportunity to visit Brooklyn Tabernacle and then a special honor as Rev. Jim Cymbala spoke to us at our meeting.

Here are some notes jotted down as Rev. Cymbala spoke to us:

Shared from 1 Thessalonians 1:1-2 - “If a person isn’t devoted to God and directed by the Holy Sprit they will do their own thing, not do the things that God desires for them to do.”

“The most you can do is influence people, not control them.”

“Communication is not just with words.”

What ministry leaders need today!

1. Power through prayer – power to stand in God’s Word and stand for God’s message.
2. Holy Spirit – anointing and empowering
3. Deep Conviction that is unwavering

What should be the key focus of God’s followers, the church:

1. Prayer
2. Reach people who need to know Jesus as Lord and Savior – Proclaim the truth to all – evangelism
3. Discipleship

God’s message of truth is “our gospel”. We should study the gospel message as it was proclaimed in Acts. “Preach Jesus!” “Lift Up Jesus in all that we do!”

Mark 1:16-18 - “The first calling of all of us is to be with Jesus!” As Jesus called the disciples to come follow Him, it was to be with Jesus!

Last week Mike Henry and I attended **Exponential East 2017 in Orlando** – A gathering of 5,000 people for the purpose of reaching people for Christ. Over 300 Wesleyans present for a shoulder event. We also visited Crossover Church in Tampa to experience a multi-ethnic ministry. Phenomenal experience and energy!

COMING EVENTS TO PARTICIPATE IN:

1. LEADER CONNECT

Tuesday, May 2 the Leader Connect at 9:00 am or 7:00 pm will be led by Jack Steenbergh. The discussion will follow the Lighthouse Leadership Event of this past Saturday with Dr. Tim Mills which was on depression and burnout in the ministry. If you were not able to attend the Saturday session you are encouraged to attend one of the events this Tuesday. Excellent presentation and discussion time on Saturday.

2. **PASTOR PRAY & FAST** on May 18 & 19 at Whispering Pines. Arrive on May 18 at 3:00 pm and depart on May 19 at 1:30 pm.

3. **DISTRICT CONFERENCE** at Houghton Lake Wesleyan Church on June 24. Registration at 8:30 am. Celebrate Ministry Event.

4. SUMMER CAMP SCHEDULE at Whispering Pines

Family Camp – Consider attending one weekend, two weekends or both weekends and days between the two weekends.

Revival Weekend Camp June 30-July 2 and Family Weekend July 7-9.

Camp 180 for Teens – July 11-15 for Junior and Senior High.

WK Camp – Wesleyan Kids Camp July 17-19 for children ages 6-9 and July 19-22 for children 10-12.

Find pricing, forms for registering and other pertinent information by going to the Whispering Pines website: www.whisperingpinescamp.org.

5. NMD PRAYER CONNECT – Live on Location

NMD Prayer Connect is every second Wednesday of the month, next one is May 10. Take 10 minutes at 7:15 pm to pray for the people of our North Michigan District churches. It is a prayer time that will be live via FB live (Facebook Thomas K. Schmidt) and Zoom.

--- Praying for relevancy of ministry --- Praying for revival

- - - Praying for relationship ministry --- Praying for radical outreach

How about having DS Tom at your Bible Study, Small Group, worship time, prayer meeting or other local church ministry event on Wednesday to pray on Wednesday Prayer Connect. Contact DS Tom nmdoffice.dstom@yahoo.com to schedule a “live on location”

6. EXPONENTIAL REGIONAL EVENT in Chicago

On November 7 & 8 there will be an Exponential Regional Event in Chicago. Church Multiplication Director Dave Hansen believes that Exponential event provides tools, enthusiasm and encouragement toward reaching people for Christ. NMD Church Multiplication will be providing financial support for those who attend. If interested Contact Dave Hansen at pastordwhansen@hotmail.com and/or DS Tom nmdoffice.dstom@yahoo.com.

NMD Prayer requests and praises:

North Michigan District is now DEBT FREE. Go ahead and do the Dave Ramsey Debt Free Scream!

-Pastor search:

- Crystal Lake – Scott and Rachel McNett accepted the call as pastor.
- Midland Faith – Pastor candidate Phil Carder
- Coleman – Pastor candidate Scott & Adrienne Hayes.
- Sault Ste. Marie – Brooks and Jill Sayer accepted the call as pastor.
- West Golden – Seeking a pastor. Dave & JoAnne Willett to be interim pastor.
- Bellaire – Pastor search
- Muskegon Community – Pastor search

-Pastors in transition:

- Debra and Truman Jackson will be retiring.
- Jack and Elaine Steenbergh as they retire.
- Chuck and Shannon Hollenbeck accepted new ministry position.
- Dennis and Sue Curell as they seek new ministry
- Ron and Carole Rickard as they retire
- Chris and Jean Austin finally moved into the recently purchased parsonage.

Ministry involvement:

- Bellaire – Direction for ministry
 - Saginaw – Monday night live services
 - Fremont - Outpost Ministry
 - Cheboygan – Community Unity Ministry
 - Shoreline Alpena – Direction for a Community Center
 - Pinconning – Need funds for new roof & furnace
 - Cornerstone – construction on addition
 - Muskegon First – Multi-Ethnic ministry
 - Muskegon Community – Direction for ministry
- Remember Roger Sian's family as his brother Al passed away suddenly.
- Ministry life of North Michigan District
- every church in NMD to have people come to know Christ every month in 2017.
 - every church in NMD has people baptized.
 - every church in NMD supports at least one Global Partner – missionary.
 - every church in NMD has at least one Made New Gathering, new outreach event in 2017.
 - every church in NMD has at least one person called to full time ministry!
 - every church in NMD has an effective discipleship ministry.
 - every church in NMD is financially secure to make greater ministry impact outside the walls of the local church.
 - every church in NMD involved in Church Multiplication by sending, praying, planting, seeking
- Directors, Workers and attendees at Family Camp, Camp 180 (Student/Teen Camp) and Kid's Camp

2017 DATES TO REMEMBER:

- May 2 - Leader Connect by ZOOM 9:00 am or 7:00 pm
- May 5 & 6 - DBMD ministerial student and ordination candidate interviews
- May 10 – 7:15 pm NMD Prayer Connect via FB live or ZOOM
- May 18 – Retired Elders Assisting in Ministry Luncheon in Cadillac
- May 18-19 – Pastors Prayer & Fast at Whispering Pines Conference Center
- May 22-23 – Festival on Preaching in Marion, IN at College Wesleyan
- June 14 – 7:15 pm NMD Prayer Connect via FB live or ZOOM
- June 24 – District Conference is scheduled to take place at Houghton Lake
- June 30-July 2 and July 7-9 – Making Memories Family Camp at Whispering Pines
- July 11-15 – Camp 180 for students (teens) at Whispering Pines
- July 12 – 7:15 pm NMD Prayer Connect via FB live or ZOOM at Whispering Pines
- July 17-19 & 19-22 – Wesleyan Kid's Camp (WK Camp) at Whispering Pines
- August 9 – 7:15 pm NMD Prayer Connect via FB live or ZOOM
- September 5 – Leader Connect at 9:00 am or 7:00 pm
- September 9 – Celebration of Ministry Banquet and Ordination
- September 13 – 7:15 pm NMD Prayer Connect via FB live or ZOOM
- November 7&8 – Exponential Area Event in Chicago

SOME THINGS TO CONSIDER:

LEADERSHIP EVENT - LEADERCAST

Alive on the Lakeshore (the people who bring you Unity Christian Music Festival) and Christian Business Roundtable are proud to present Leadercast West Michigan coming up on Friday, May 5! Speakers this year include Andy Stanley, Dr. Henry Cloud and Tyler Perry. We know that those who attend will be blessed and encouraged to become leaders worth following! We encourage you to share the attached pdf with your church

leadership and anyone else you know who would benefit from a time of learning and inspiration.

For more information and to purchase tickets go to: event.leadercast.com/location/westmichigan
Lynn Morse, Alive on the Lakeshore, 2735 E. Apple Avenue Suite D, Muskegon, MI 49442, (231)773-3361
<http://www.unitymusicfestival.com>

FREE AND LOW COST VACATIONS AND RETREATS FOR PASTORS INFORMATION

Just wanted to pass along this free resource that might be a help to pastors in the North Michigan district.

It's a directory of over 150 Free and Low-Cost Vacations and Retreats for Pastors that I maintain. Pastors can search by state for low-cost getaways near them. All are discounted for clergy, and some are free.

This directory is free, and it's a great help to pastors who may not have the financial means to take family vacations, or just need a place for quiet personal retreat.

Would you be willing to pass along this link to the pastors in your district? Below is a blurb about the directory and some social media share links you can use if you like.

Thanks for your work on behalf of the church, and please let me know if I can be a help to you.

Larry

PS: If you or any of your pastors have used these retreats, I'd love to hear about your experience.

Lawrence W. Wilson
[\(317\) 622-8849](tel:3176228849)
[LinkedIn](#)

Share Links

Free and Low-Cost Retreats and Vacations for Pastors

State-by-state listing of discounted or free vacations for pastors and missionaries. Includes North American and international retreat centers, B&Bs, resorts, and more.

Retreat Directory URL: <http://www.lawrencewilson.com/free-retreats-vacations-pastors/>

10. Festival on Preaching sponsored by College Wesleyan and IWU Wesley Seminary



May 22-23 College Wesleyan Church and Wesley Seminary are hosting a Festival on Preaching.

This two day conference will focus on preaching from the margins. Keynote speakers include Dr. Lenny Luchetti, Dr. Dave Ward, Rev Steve DeNeff and more. We would like your help in getting the word out to your local pastors. If you would be willing to let them know about this conference through your newsletter, an email,

or Facebook that will help us spread the word about this great event. The cost of the conference is \$40. Any pastor or student who is currently in the DBMD process will get a \$15 discount, when they use the code "DBMD". Below is text we have been using in emails. The link to register is www.collegewes.com/festival.

We want to personally invite you to be part of a gathering of preachers from various denominations for the purpose of sharpening our ministries, specifically in the area of preaching.

Across the Church there is a revival of preaching. Young men and women, in every denomination, are rediscovering their call to proclaim the Gospel. In fact, we think that many of today's preachers have the potential to be among the best in the history of the Church. But their talent must be matched by an unwavering commitment to root themselves in discipline and in virtue, and to root their ministry in the Word of God.

So this year, College Church in partnership with Wesley Seminary invite you to The Festival on Preaching, which will focus on the art of preaching in exile because we believe the culture is changing, making it difficult for many preachers to be heard. Some are trying to say the same things differently, but perhaps it's time to say different things.

We would love for you to join us for two days, May 22-23, 2017, at College Wesleyan Church, in Marion, Indiana and explore how to diagnose the symptoms of a secular age and apply the gospel, with all its implications. Together we can create a movement that revives the holiness message and the holiness church. Register at www.collegewes.com/festival

CONNECT TO ZOOM

Instructions For Zoom Meetings on cellular smart phones (Apple and Android)

1. Go to your app store.
2. Download Zoom
3. Select, Join A Meeting
4. For meeting ID, type in, 9897790188, and select JOIN.
5. You will now be connected.

Other information:

- Zoom can be used across all platforms, computers, tablets and smart phones.
- You do not need to create a user account to be a part of a meeting, but you may want to.
- If you are getting feedback from your speakers, you may need to turn the speakers down or your mic down. The best way to communicate without feedback is by using a headset with a microphone built in.