



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

Joe Kutter, Acting Executive Director

August 2009

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

### ~TOGETHER IN THE LORD CONFERENCE

***Ministry Renewal Conference***  
**Come to Orlando January 4-7, 2010!**

Presented by American Baptist Churches, USA - To be held at the Wyndham Resort and Conference Center

For more information on workshops and leaders print out a copy of the new brochure –  
<http://www.ministerscouncil.com/Together%20in%20the%20Lord/documents/TITLbro4web.pdf>

For registration and conference schedule visit this link -  
<http://www.ministerscouncil.org/Together%20in%20the%20Lord/TITLinfo.aspx>

Scholarship money will be available. For more information click on the link and follow instructions listed below -[www.nationalministries.org/](http://www.nationalministries.org/)

On left side bar point to Education - Click on Scholarship and Grants - Scroll down to bottom of page and click on "Tell me more about aid for Ministerial Leaders" and click on "Cultivating New Life Grant Application" then follow instructions given there.

### ~TOGETHER IN MINISTRY APPLICATION DEADLINE APPROACHING

**All applications for 2010 covenant group grants are due in the national Ministers Council office by October 31, 2009.** Applications must be submitted to your constituent Ministers Council officers to be reviewed for completeness before September 1, 2009, and through that body submitted to the national Ministers Council office. Applications to the national office must come from constituent Councils and be postmarked by October 31, 2009. Application forms may be found on [www.ministerscouncil.org](http://www.ministerscouncil.org) under the Together in Ministry link. In order to be considered, please complete the form online and print it out. Applications must be received by mail and NOT by email or FAX. For applications click on the link below.

<http://www.ministerscouncil.com/TogetherInMinistry/TIMApplication.aspx>

### ~COMMUNITY OF PRACTICE WORKSHOPS FOR CONSTITUENT COUNCILS

"We covenant together to deepen our spiritual journeys and to increase our effectiveness as leaders in Christ's church." At our recent Senate meetings, this was the covenant that our Senators made with one another. This short covenant is a summary of the Ministers Council purpose statement and focuses our

attention on our reason for being. Actually, it can be captured in four words, Covenant and Community, Spirituality and Leadership. Everything we do is captured in those words.

One dimension of our purpose is to assist our constituent (local) councils to effectively support ministerial colleagues as we “deepen our spiritual journeys and increase our effectiveness as leaders in Christ’s church.” If the Ministers Council is to be effective, it must be effective locally.

We are now offering workshops that utilize “Community of Practice” insights for our local councils. The workshops are designed (1) to support local ministers in their ministries and (2) to enhance the ability of our local Ministers Councils to fulfill our purpose of “covenanting together to deepen our spiritual journeys and to increase our effectiveness as leaders in Christ’s church.”

We offer our thanks to the Lilly Endowment for making these workshops possible.

The brochure that more fully describes the process can be found at:  
<http://www.ministerscouncil.com/Brochures/documents/COPWorkshopBrochure09FinalJuly29.pdf>

Print copies of the brochure will soon be available for you to order. Contact Joe Kutter for more information.

### **~RALPH GARFIELD SCHELL AWARD**

The Ralph Garfield Schell Award, given each year to a person who represents the values of the Ministers Council was awarded in 2009 to Rev. Richard Harris. Harris is retiring at the end of September after serving 26 years in the pastorate and 13 years as the director of the American Baptist Personnel Services of National Ministries.

### **~REPORT TO THE SENATE**

In his report to the Senate, Joe Kutter spoke both the current status of the Ministers Council and to one of the primary challenges facing Ministerial Leaders today. That challenge can be described as the rediscovery of community as a vital, indeed an essential, resource for ministry. To read his report, go to the following link. <http://www.ministerscouncil.com/Senate%202009/KutterExDirReportSenate09.aspx>

### **~SENATE HIGHLIGHTS:**

In a report to the GBEC, Joe Kutter offered a list of highlights from the senate meeting. To read that report, click on the following link. <http://www.ministerscouncil.com/Remarks/RemarkstoGBEC82209.aspx>

### **~SENATE PRESS RELEASE**

For a copy of the press release following our Ministers Council Senate meetings, click on the following link. <http://www.ministerscouncil.com/Senate%202009/documents/2009MCPressRelease.pdf>

### **~FACEBOOK AND MINISTERS COUNCIL**

The Rhode Island Ministers Council has a Facebook page which they use for communication among the members. I was recently surprised to see the Acting Executive Director's July report posted there. Good idea.

We also have a Facebook group page for the American Baptist Ministers Council which we use for similar purposes. Join us there. *Joe Kutter*

## **~NEW BOOK BY NATIONAL MINISTRIES LEADER TURNS TRADITIONAL EVANGELISM ON ITS HEAD!**

National Evangelism Team director Jeff Johnson has published his first book with Judson Press. ***Got Style? Personality-Based Evangelism*** offers churches and individuals an understanding of evangelism based on personality type. Ray Bakke, chancellor and professor of Bakke Graduate University praised *Got Style?*, noting, "Johnson's blend of strong biblical studies with contemporary illustrations, together with an amazing array of practical tools and recommended resources, combine to make *Got Style?* the book on evangelism that I will recommend in my church and for my school."

To order *Got Style?* call 800-458-3766 or visit [www.judsonpress.com](http://www.judsonpress.com) where you save 20%. National members of the Ministers Council are also eligible for free shipping! Contact your regional leadership for details.

## **~LEADER'S GUIDE NOW AVAILABLE FOR BAPTISM AHEAD**

The downloadable Leader's Guide for ***Baptism Ahead: A Road Map for Young Disciples*** by ABC pastor Wallace Smith is now available on the Judson Press [website](#). This is the ideal resource for your baptismal preparation and church membership class for 8- to 12-year-olds!

## **~AB OFFERS SCHOLARSHIPS TO CHILDREN OF ABC MINISTERS AND MISSIONARIES**

American Baptist-related Alderson-Broaddus College in Philippi, WV, has announced residential scholarships for dependent children of American Baptist ministers and missionaries, beginning with the Fall 2009 semester.

(Click to read more)

<http://www.abc-usa.org/Resources/AmericanBaptistNewsService/tabid/79/articleType/ArticleView/articleId/55/Default.aspx>  
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## **~FAITH AND LEADERSHIP NEWSLETTER**

This newsletter is an excellent resource for considering issues pertaining to ministry and leadership.

<http://faithandleadership.com/features/articles/holistic-approach-wellness>

## **~ONLINE CONGREGATIONAL ASSESSMENTS**

Dr. Bryan Auday at Gordon College is conducting a survey of pastors across America and he's asked me to forward this message to you. Dr. Auday has set up a brief online survey (12 min) and each participant will be entered to win a \$100 gift card to Amazon.com. To participate in the survey, please click here - [http://www.surveymonkey.com/s.aspx?sm=6Y\\_2bSjMCZifG\\_2bbmKtvBuP0Q\\_3d\\_3dsurvey](http://www.surveymonkey.com/s.aspx?sm=6Y_2bSjMCZifG_2bbmKtvBuP0Q_3d_3dsurvey). Thanks for your consideration. – *Jeff Johnson*

## **CONFLICT MEDIATION TRAINING WORKSHOP SPONSORED BY MINISTERS COUNCIL OF INDIANA/KENTUCKY AND CONFLICT MEDIATION NETWORK**

Is there CONFLICT in your church? Sure there is! Passionate, creative, lively ideas and the moving of the Holy Spirit are sure to bring some healthy conflict to any body of believers. It is proof that there is life and hope in the congregation. [Read More>>](#) - *Peg Nowling*

### **~NEWSLETTER FOR SUPPORT GROUP FOR PERSONS WITH SERIOUS ILLNESSES**

An Institutional Chaplain, Karen Pickler will serve as the new President and Senator for the Chaplains and Pastoral Counselors Ministers Council. Karen prepared this paper for a lecture she will be doing. To view this, please click on the link below.

<http://www.ministerscouncil.com/documents/ForSuchaTimeasthis09.pdf>

### **~REMEMBER US!**

When planning your estate, please remember The Ministers Council.

### **~HELP US KEEP YOU INFORMED**

The hard reality about this newsletter is this: Our email mailing list is not as complete as we would wish. But you can help and your help we ask. Please forward this to your constituencies and friends. Most months, there is something helpful and when there is not, the delete button is only about an inch away and there will be little imposition impressed upon your friends. We appreciate your help. *Joe Kutter*

**THE MINISTERS COUNCIL OWNS THE DOMAINS [www.ministerscouncil.org](http://www.ministerscouncil.org) AND [www.ministerscouncil.com](http://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](mailto:joe.kutter@abc-usa.org). The more we share with one another what works, the stronger we will all be.

### **~MINISTERS COUNCIL CONTACT INFORMATION**

Web: [www.ministerscouncil.org](http://www.ministerscouncil.org)  
Mail: The Ministers Council  
PO Box 851

Valley Forge PA 19482-0851  
Phone: 1-800-222-3872, extension 2333, 2334  
FAX: 610/768-2066

**Join the Ministers Council through your local constituent council. Contact information is posted on [www.ministerscouncil.org](http://www.ministerscouncil.org) under the WHO WE ARE link.**