



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

Joe Kutter, Executive Director

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~AN ANCIENT-MODERN EXPERIMENT THE TOGETHER IN MINISTRY CAMPAIGN

Joe Kutter

It's true that the Ministers Council will embark on a capital fund campaign for the purpose of sustaining and enhancing the "Together in Ministry" culture. The campaign will enter its public phase in the fall of 2012. That simply means that the process of inviting contributions will be very broad based and very public at that time. But the work has begun.

Here is the "ancient-modern" experiment that will be a part of the campaign. We will attempt to raise about \$300,000 in "in-kind" contributions of expertise and time. In addition to financial gifts, which for many of us, even though sacrificial, will be modest, we are inviting gifts of expertise and time.

For example, we have already received a gift of expertise and time in the use of social media for educational purposes. Another person has pledged the gift of time and expertise in retreat leadership and small group facilitation. A third has pledged time and expertise in stewardship development and fund raising. With another, we are talking about hours that can be used to effectively administer and fruitfully utilize the "in-kind" gifts that are pledged.

The process is as ancient as Paul's descriptions of the distribution of gifts and "The Body of Christ." As our gifts are shared the Body becomes both more fruitful and faithful in the service of Christ. It's modern in that many of us are prone to think of cold hard cash when the topic of a capital drive is put on the table. To deliberately solicit and utilize gifts and skills and time seems like a brand new idea in the context of a national organization.

You'll hear more. In the meantime, we solicit your prayers as we seek new ways to be faithfully "Together in Ministry."

~A PRAYER FOR MINISTERS

Joe Kutter

Great Physician,

Seldom does a day come and go during which your servants fail to pray for the healing of a person entrusted into their care. Petitions are spoken daily for physical repair, emotional healing, and spiritual restoration and especially for the eternal wholeness of those who are dying. For this faithful ministry and for all who engage it, thank you.

Hear this prayer for your ministers. Grant physical, emotional and spiritual health to all who minister in your name and to those whom they love. Grant the powerful peace of your presence so that no burden will be overwhelming, no struggle defeating and no illness destructive of a deep awareness of your love and grace.

In Jesus name,
Amen.

~A NOTE FROM A MINISTERS COUNCIL MEMBER

Using a financial calculator, \$20 in 1934 is the equivalent of \$200.60 today. (78 years with an average 3% annual inflation)

It is, therefore, a PLEASURE to send you a check for \$50.

~ART AND CHRISTIANITY

The Art and Christianity Enquiry (ACE) group will be sponsoring its international conference in Boston, MA during the week of July 9-13, 2012. The theme of the conference is "Art and Christianity in Revolutionary Times." Persons with an interest in art and Christianity and/or the conference are invited to contact Brian Dixon for further information at pastor1.fbcmedford@verizon.net. Information about ACE may be obtained at acetrust.org.

~ASIAN MINISTRIES CONFERENCE/ASIAN CAUCUS (ALLIANCE) CONVOCATION

ABHMS Asian Ministries and the Asian American Baptist Caucus will again be partnering in this joint event to be held in Boston, MA August 20-22, 2012. The event is open to the whole ABC Family. Watch for more information to come. *Marie Onwubuariri*

~FEDERAL REPORTING REQUIREMENTS FOR CHURCHES -- AVAILABLE FROM MMBB

FEDERAL REPORTING REQUIREMENTS is an invaluable tool for church staff and leaders. It explains—in plain English—the complexities of federal tax filing requirements, including those that are unique to faith-based organizations. Get help with: Designating a housing allowance for ordained staff. Filling out W-2 forms. Determining whether you need to fill out an annual certification of racial nondiscrimination. Download [Federal Reporting Requirements for Churches](#).

~JUDSON PRESS RELEASES FIRST SPRING 2012 TITLES

Hot off the press! Judson Press is pleased to announce the release of ***Money on Purpose: Finding a Faith-filled Balance*** by Shayna Lear. A Certified Financial Planner, Shayna is presently pursuing both a Masters of Divinity and Masters of Economic Development at Palmer Seminary; as a result, she comes to this topic from a uniquely qualified perspective. In *Money on Purpose*, Lear explains how your financial type determines your financial future, and she offers faith-filled strategies for achieving balance in ones financial life. Though written with the African American reader in mind, *Money on Purpose* offers insight and instruction for everyone struggling to be a faithful steward. Retail price: \$15.99.

On March 15, Judson Press will release its second spring title, ***Missional Preaching: Engage, Embrace, Transform*** by Al Tizon. Tizon reveals the purpose of and need for missional preaching in order to meet the aims of the missional church, and he highlights related biblical themes. To illustrate how those themes may be proclaimed from the pulpit, *Missional Preaching* features sermons from leading Christian preachers, including Greg Boyd, Shane Claiborne, Brenda Salter-McNeil, and Ron Sider. Retail price: \$16.99.

Judson Press books can be ordered by calling 800-458-3766 or visiting www.judsonpress.com. Save 20% when you order online!

~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 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.