

Together in Ministry



Collegiality * Competence * Centeredness

GIVING TUESDAY WEEK

A generous person will prosper; whoever refreshes others will be refreshed. Proverbs 11:25



#GIVINGTUESDAY™
November 27, 2018

November 28, 2018

Dear Ministry Colleague,

“GIVING TUESDAY” and its ripples and reports are still on the minds of many who tend the good causes of the day. We pray for success of all your Spirit-led endeavors, and are grateful for all who are including the Ministers Council this week in their giving. ***(A generous colleague has committed to MATCHING all gifts received by November 30th!)***

This is the second of three reflections this week on the work of the Ministers Council. Specifically, we're lifting the 3C's which describe our guiding light values: Collegiality, Competence, Centeredness.

COMPETENCE... We lift today the awareness that our ministries demand skills and their cultivation, gifts and their nourishing, boundaries and the disciplines of wisdom. We are “ministers serving ministers.” Since 1935, we've worked to support competence in many varied ways:

- a) the creation in 1938 - and later updates to - the Code of Ethics
- b) advocating for standard ordination procedures
- c) creative collaborations with vocational discernment centers
- d) workshops and conferences on practices of ministry, stewardship, cultural trends, conflict resolution and Baptist principles of engaging differences
- e) Together in Ministry Covenant Groups, where fellowship, case studies and spiritual practices often intersect
- f) Resources for navigating healthy employment negotiating (see "Best Practices" and newsletter archives on **website**)
- g) Facebook community providing advice and referrals

Most recently, we've supported a Chaplains and Specialized Ministries Summit, co-sponsored the Young Adult Pastors conference and co-sponsored the 2020 celebration of women in ministry.

A few years ago, our chapter representatives coined this phrase at our annual meeting: "Inspiring Ministerial Excellence for the Glory of Jesus Christ."

Going forward, this commitment is especially embodied in our new "MC Live" Monthly Webinars and our renewed Together in Ministry Covenant Groups Initiative. (Read more about webinars and investigate financial support for groups at www.ministerscouncil.com.) A committee will be formed soon to explore necessary updates to our Code of Ethics.

COMPETENCE... How would you define it? What does it NOT mean? What is most important to you, in your context?

What are the ways that *ministers*, specifically, embody competence? Are there ways that we do so differently from other professionals?

COMPETENCE... When you pause to consider, what have been the most helpful tools for your formation? What do you most need now? Who are the colleagues who embody this supportive quality?

COMPETENCE! For us, it's a key to ensuring that Spirit-led service is grounded in the ethic and lifestyle of an accountable learning community.

We invite you to give a gift to the Ministers Council today, a gift inspired by your competence commitments. A gift investing in competence. You may, like others, give a gift specifically in gratitude for resourcing you've received.

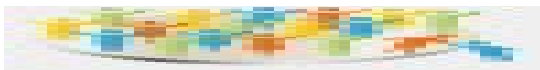
You can conveniently give via **PayPal** or by mailing your donation to:

Ministers Council ABCUSA
221 South High Street
West Chester, PA 19382

For the Giving Gospel,
The Leadership Team (2018)
DeeDee, Greg, Shane, RT, Jacki, Ivan, Dan, Lisa

PS. We all know that stewardship itself is a matter of common care and requires of us a competence (we might collectively sigh that we didn't learn it in seminary). It's God's call to sustainable stewardship that's led us to make the dramatic structure changes we've made to the national organization in the last two years. Your prayers - and gifts of all kinds -- will be such a blessing for our shared mission!

Reminders



Membership Renewals:

Dues are now being received for 2019 membership. You can submit your renewal by accessing ministerscouncil.com and selecting the "join here" option.

How to reach us:



Chapter Updates:

Please remember to **inform** the national office of all updates/changes to Chapter officers and addresses.



- By phone: (610)314-7837
- By email:
info@ministerscouncil.com
- Address: 221 S. High
Street, West Chester, PA
19382
- We can generally be
reached in the office on
Tuesdays and Thursdays
(emails and voicemails will
be responded to during this
time)

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