

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 30, 2018

Dear Ministry Colleague,

We ministerial leaders are alert to the need to give; after all, our churches and ministries depend on the generosity of members and friends. So we welcome cultural movements like "GIVING TUESDAY," which builds on the gratitude we experienced at Thanksgiving and counters the frenzy of Christmas shopping.

We hope God blessed you with all you need and enough extra to give to the causes dear to your heart. We 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 today!)*

This is the third 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.

CENTEREDNESS... We lift today the awareness that, no matter how skilled we are and how accountable we make ourselves, the effectiveness of our ministries depends on the movement of the Holy Spirit. Since 1935, the Ministers Council has called ministerial leaders to nurture their own spirituality as they encourage the spiritual growth of others.

- Whenever we gather as the Ministers Council we conduct "worshipful work," focusing attention of the presence of Christ with us before we take up any of the duties before us.
- Our business gatherings routinely carve out space for small prayer teams, that we might reflect Biblically and theologically on the theme of our meetings.
- At national events, we contribute to having prayer rooms and spiritual counselors available.
- We regularly offer times for retreating and centering, and try to make you aware of opportunities

We seek to highlight the spiritual dimension of our seasons of work by hosting conference calls for reflection and prayer (such as the Lenten devotional calls this year) and by publishing reflections (such as the Advent devotions coming your way this December).

CENTEREDNESS? How would you define it? What does it NOT mean? Why is it particularly important for ministerial leaders to stay centered and spiritually grounded?

CENTEREDNESS... What have been the most helpful tools for your spiritual formation? What do you most need now to help you structure sacred space and find inner peace? Who are the ancient masters and current colleagues in your experience who show the way to listening to our Lord?

CENTEREDNESS! It's a necessary part of serving our Lord. During the busy Advent, Christmas, and Epiphany seasons, protect your spiritual disciplines and be touched anew by the wondrous acts of our loving God.

We invite you to give a gift to the Ministers Council today, a gift inspired by your spiritual growth. A gift investing in centeredness for yourself and your professional colleagues. 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 centeredness that allows embracing divine priorities. It's God's call to sustainable stewardship that has led the national Ministers Council to make the dramatic structural changes 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.

Chapter Updates:

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



How to reach us:

- 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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