

Together in Ministry



Collegiality * Competence * Centeredness

January 2019 Newsletter



Image: Dr. Martin Luther King delivers a sermon at Ebenezer Baptist Church in Atlanta in September 1960.



WE'VE ONLY JUST BEGUN

As we look ahead to the work of Christmas, we're grateful for the sharpening gifts of one another. Special thanks to these colleagues who shared meaty Advent and Christmas devotions crafted specifically for us:

Rev. Jose Flores (contributor and translator)
Rev. Dr. Charlotte Myers
Rev. Brent Newberry
Rev. Dr. Stephanie Salinas
Ms. Leta Williams

You can read them on our website in **Spanish** and **English**.

Upcoming Events/Webinars

BUILDING THE BELOVED COMMUNITY:

**Conversations on Learning and Leadership Inspired
by MLK, Jr.**

Thursday, January 10

11am Central

To join the webinar: [Zoom Link/Instructions](#)



Join Ministers Council colleagues committed to the spirited legacy of Martin Luther King, Jr. for this time of conversation, resource-sharing and prayer. Together, we'll share about MLK's impact on our discipleship and leadership, and especially what we have been learning about the struggles for beloved community. We'll set intentions for the strength and wisdom needed this year for our respective and collective journeys of justice. Hosted by national Leadership Team members Rev. Dan Hopkins and Rev. Jacki Belile.

"I refuse to accept the view that mankind is so tragically bound to the starless midnight of racism and war that the bright daybreak of peace and brotherhood can never become a reality... I believe that unarmed truth and unconditional love will have the final word." -Martin Luther King Jr.

MC LIVE WEBINAR

Join us the 2nd Thursday of every month at 11am Central Time for our monthly gatherings featuring topics relating to clergy life. We are now recording these whenever appropriate and sharing on our website. For more information or to share ideas for topics, contact Rev. Dan Hopkins missionsdan@hotmail.com or Rev. Jacki Belile at jacki@livingwellministries.net.

2018 WEBINARS AVAILABLE FOR VIEWING

Watch Fall 2018 webinars on preaching and suicide prevention [here](#).

PRAYER SERIES BEGINS

Our Annual Lenten Prayer Series will be Mondays in Lent at 8:30am Central Time. Contact Lisa at info@ministerscouncil.com for more information or to volunteer to host these prayers via Zoom.

HEALTH CARE ADVOCACY -

Explore ideas and resource-sharing for increased clergy health, health care access and insurance. For more information, contact Rev. Jacki Belile jacki@livingwellministries.net

MLK THE PREACHER

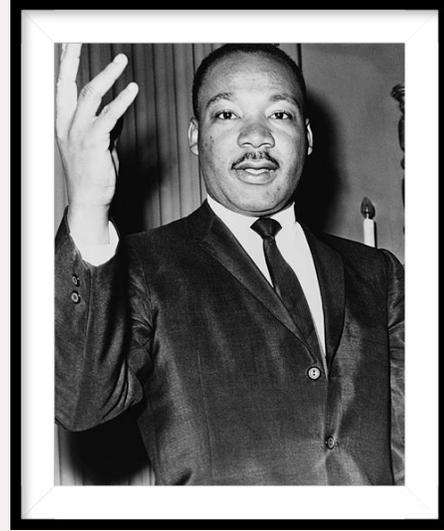
Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. did not take sermon preparation lightly. While he was a pastor serving in a congregation, he spent 15 hours in sermon

preparation.

He followed a schedule:

- Tuesday he began to outline his ideas;
- Wednesday he would conduct research which included gathering illustrations for the sermon;
- Friday he would begin to write the sermon;
- Saturday he would complete the sermon.

His systematic approach during The Civil Rights Movement had to be adjusted. King stated during the movement, "I very seldom get to write out my sermons as I did in the past. I frequently have to be content with an outline."



Listen to a full sermon given by Martin Luther King, Jr. at the Ebenezer Baptist Church in Atlanta on November 5, 1967 at: <https://youtu.be/pOjpaIO2seY>

President's Update

GEARING UP FOR 2019

Your **Leadership Team** of eight committed volunteers is gearing up for 2019, our second full year under volunteer leadership and our first year working under a balanced budget.

The Bylaws changes that allow for the new, streamlined structure were approved at the November 2018 Annual Meeting and soon will be in print and posted on the national Ministers Council website. As part of our first quarter work, we will be orienting new board members, preparing for our March in-person meeting, and compiling the 2018 Annual Report drawn from reports given at the 2018 Annual Meeting.

Several exciting possibilities were discussed at the Annual Meeting and sent to committees for review and proposals. All members are welcome to send feedback on these ideas, either through your Local Representative (they are listed on the website, under "about"/"local chapters") or directly to the Leadership Team via our Member Services Coordinator Lisa Simpson, at info@ministerscouncil.com.

Read more

Blessings in the New Year,
Rev. Dr. Darla "Dee Dee" Turlington
President

Milestones & Prayer Requests

PRAYER REQUESTS

- Our seminarians and newly ordained
- All those living with mental health vulnerabilities
- Our chaplains and counselors

--Our work toward racial healing

Do you have a prayer request or milestone announcement for February newsletter? Email to Lisa at info@ministerscouncil.com.

ABC Announcements

SAVE THE DATE

Summer 2019 Meetings of Ministers Council & ABC-USA

Come early to the **Summit by the Sea in Virginia Beach** and connect with colleagues:

- Lunch and Speaker for all Ministerial Leaders and their guests, Thursday, June 20
- Ministers Council 2019 Meeting for Local Chapter Representatives Wednesday, June 19 through Thursday, June 20 (Chapter Representatives should arrive before noon June 19.)
- Leadership Team will meet June 18-19 so should arrive before noon Tuesday, June 18



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. Chapter Representatives are encouraged to send announcements for the newsletter.



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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