

# NETWORK NEWS

Equipping Laypeople to Give Pastoral Care

## The Ministry

The Lay Pastors Ministry is a ministry of presence. Lay Pastors are assigned five to seven households to care for. This is done through the acrostic PACE:

- P - **Pray** regularly for their flock
- A - **Be available** whenever, wherever possible
- C - **Contact** on a regular basis
- E - Be a Christian **example**

This ministry works because it is Biblical! The model for Lay Pastors Ministry is Moses' decentralized care of God's people (Exodus 18). Also, we are to "Tend the flock of God" (I Peter 5:3), and "Prepare God's people for the work of ministry" (Ephesians 4:12).

The Lay Pastors Ministry is the answer to your pastoral care needs. Regardless of size, churches of many denominations throughout the United States, Canada, Australia, The Bahamas, Korea, and many other countries are finding this model of congregational care to be both effective and easily adaptable.

The Lay Pastors Ministry is led by an interdenominational, board of directors. The corporate name is Lay Pastors Ministry, Incorporated (LPMI). LPMI sponsors conferences and equipping Seminars and publishes a quarterly newsletter (*Network News*). We offer a variety of helpful ministry resources, provide qualified seminar leaders to train your laypeople, and are available to give ongoing support through our Regional Directors.

*"Be shepherds of God's flock that is under your care."* - I Peter 5:2

## Dear Friends,

God is sovereign. Miracles still happen. Two hours before I began writing this letter a miracle happened. I just "happened" to call friends and invite them to come to supper at Cracker Barrel. They had family plans but asked if we could "drop" in after we went to eat.

We stopped and a conversation began. I learned of a lady from North Carolina who was in a critical unit in Austin, Texas. The family did not have the funds to bring her home to NC. I did my internship year there while in seminary in 1971-1972. The pastor of the church is still there. I called him and he will see the lady in the hospital and made all the arrangements for the finances to be taken care of. The world would say it's a coincidence. I say it's a God-incidence.

For centuries the unseen providential hand of God has changed lives. That did not go out of date after the first Easter, the reformation and all of the events surrounding the church today.

Through lay ministry ordinary people with extraordinary love touch lives, provide for needs, make a difference, and show "love with skin" on every day.

LPMI is fervently reminded of the call to be God's hands in a hurting world. We share in miracles every time we reach out in the name of Jesus.

Please consider joining us in this miraculous ministry.

Peace and love in our Lord Jesus Christ,



LPMI President

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*"Be shepherds of God's flock that is under your care."* - I Peter 5:2

# CONFERENCE 2010



## Christ Memorial Lutheran Church St Louis, MO



Conference Planning Begins



Assembling Conference Folders



LPMI  
Board Meeting  
and lunch  
at the Church

← Christ Memorial  
took good  
care of us. →



Speakers Luncheon



Christ Memorial Shepherds



Rev. Angela Palacios Workshop



Banquet Table



Small Group Discussion



Rev. Ed Duberkee  
giving thanks to God  
for the wonderful two days  
we had together.

To God be the Glory!  
Amen

## The Contact

By Kathy Stine

*The days are flying by  
the month is almost done.  
I haven't made a contact Lord,  
no – not even one!  
My body's tired my mind is dry  
I don't know what to do.  
A little creativity  
would help to get me through.  
Seems like I've been a Shepherd  
for about a dozen years.  
I'm sure my flock is tired of me  
or even bored to tears.  
A card, a call, a visit  
how does the Spirit lead?  
If you'd just show me what to do,  
I promise I will head.  
Where is that list my leader said  
would help me through the year,  
With extraordinary contacts  
designed to lift and cheer.  
Some bubble bath for Nancy,  
she's really stressed at work.  
Cookies and coffee for Harold,  
and a visit wouldn't hurt.  
A picture card for Margaret  
of her grandkids and her cat.  
Sally really needs some laughs –  
a silly dog with flopping ears  
will surely take care of that.  
A homemade card with a Scripture verse  
For all my flock, I'll send it first.  
A little extra effort  
is all it takes from me  
To show my flock, my care for them  
is really care from thee.  
So here I am at the end of the month  
with my contacts made, enjoying my lunch  
When suddenly I realize  
there's another month before my eyes!  
So now I'll go just trusting you  
to show me lord, what you want me to do  
For I know when I have done my best.*



**Kathy Stine** is Coordinator of the  
Shepherd Ministry, King Street Church,  
Chambersburg, PA

Look for creative ideas and items of  
encouragement from Kathy for Lay  
Pastors (Shepherds) in future issues of  
Network News





## *Equipping your Lay Pastors for Ministry*

Presented at the 2010 conference of Lay Pastors Ministry, Inc  
By Jim King, Trinity Fellowship Evangelical Free Church, Big Rapids, MI

### ***Eoheians 4: 11-16 (English Standard Version)***

**11** And he gave the apostles, the prophets, the evangelists, the shepherds (or pastors) and teachers (or shepherd-teachers), **12** to equip the saints for the work of ministry, for building up the body of Christ, **13** until we all attain to the unity of the faith and of the knowledge of the Son of God, to mature manhood, to the measure of the stature of the fullness of Christ, **14** so that we may no longer be children, tossed to and fro by the waves and carried about by every wind of doctrine, by human cunning, by craftiness in deceitful schemes. **15** Rather, speaking the truth in love, we are to grow up in every way into him who is the head, into Christ, **16** from whom the whole body, joined and held together by every joint with which it is equipped, when each part is working properly, makes the body grow so that it builds itself up in love. “

Jesus gives specific spiritual gifts to each believer, in order to equip each one for the ministry to which He calls, for the purpose of building up other believers. The goals are unity, depth of knowing Christ, and building one another to maturity in Christ. We must no longer be like infants trying to stay afloat in the raging sea of shifting doctrines, defenseless against crafty evildoers who seek to pull us underwater to drown us. Instead, while speaking the truth in love to one another, we each must individually grow up into Christ, while gaining greater unity and interdependence as a healthy, mature, fully functional body of believers, which builds and strengthens itself in love, when each member is working properly.

I am deeply moved and compelled to action by this imagery of infants struggling to stay afloat while fighting off the cunning and crafty ones who try to pull them under. Some people would say that this describes their life or at least this season of their life. Our goal is not only to reach maturity individually, but also to build spiritual maturity and health in others. This is the calling of a Lay Pastor: To take responsibility and initiative for the spiritual growth and health of others in his care.

So how do we equip the saints for this ministry?

### **Our Equipping Efforts Should Be ...**

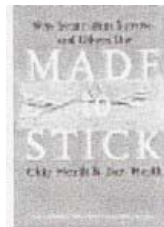
#### **1. Strateaic and Planned:**

- a. Have team leaders identify the core skills that are critical for the team members
- b. What are the current Priorities for your ministry?
- c. Keep visiting the core skills again and again, but in different ways (e.g., applications of P.A.C.E.)
- d. Select topics for the next 3-4 months, rather than putting something together at the last minute



# EQUIPPING

2. Relevant: Ask your teammates to list skills they need to succeed or to minister in the situations they face
  - a. Cancer or death and dying
  - b. jvairitai difficulties and conflict resolution
  - c. Depression or other psychological struggles
  - d. Caring for aging parents; Alzheimer's; Dementia
  - e. How to pray with someone and be an encouragement
  - f. How to listen and ask questions without directing the decision-making
  - g. How to transition into spiritually deeper conversations
3. Integrated:
  - a. Know your church's current priorities and tie into them
  - b. Have leaders of other ministries share their target, mission and how your teams can interact
4. Invitina:
  - a. Bring in experts and speakers from your area a few times per year
  - b. Give other leaders and teammates opportunities to present a session. Same ol' same ol' = Boring
  - c. Give a teammate the topic (or let them choose one) and then let them develop it in their best way
5. Creative:
  - a. Use fun learning activities to illustrate the topic
  - b. Facilitate discussion as your team sees what was learned
6. Appreciative:
  - a. Express your thankfulness for your teammates' work in this vital ministry
  - b. Convey the thanks of your pastor(s) for teammates' labors as they extend the pastor's care
  - c. Ask for success stories and pass these on to the church's leadership and congregation
  - d. Give thank-you gift: Christmas celebration, card of thanks, "I saw you do it again" gift certificate
7. Realistic:
  - a. Accept that not every teammate can come to every meeting
  - b. Don't be discouraged, but pour yourself into those whose come
8. Respectful: Start and end on time and be prepared so that your meetings are worth attending
9. Relational: Have a potluck or desserts fellowship once per year, focusing on team relationships and support
10. Worshipful: Spend some worship time in most of your meetings
  - a. Sing or listen to a song and pray in response
  - b. Read and discuss the lyrics of a hymn or use them as your prayer
  - c. Read a scripture passage that ties into the equipping topic of that meeting
11. Communicating: Make and distribute good Minutes of your meetings, which will:
  - a. Refresh the reader on the topic presented
  - b. Inform those who could not attend
  - c. Compel to greater involvement those who usually don't attend
12. Recruiting: Allow and urge teammates to invite potential new teammates who might be interested in joining
13. Supportive: Care for one another in your meeting times
  - a. Prayer requests and praying for one another
  - b. Discussing what barriers or difficulties are being experienced in ministry
14. Memorable:
  - a. "Made To Stick - Why Some Ideas Survive and Others Die" © 2007, 2008 by Chip & Dan Heath
    - i. **Simple**
    - ii. **Unexpected**
    - iii. **Concrete**
    - iv. **Credible**
    - v. **Emotional**
    - vi. **Stories**
    - vii. **S**
  - b. Capture, celebrate and proclaim the stories of what God is doing in and through your ministry



## EVENTS

# Here, There and Everywhere

### **Cornelius, NC: September 10,11,2010**

Can the Pastor Do It Alone? will be the theme of a Lay Minister's Equipping Seminar to be held at

**Community in Christ Lutheran Church  
7621 Norman Island Drive  
Cornelius, NC**

The two-day seminar is open to the public.  
Registration is needed as soon as possible.  
Contact Barbara Eaker 704-483-2060

email: leaker@bellsouth.net or you may call the church office at 704-892-0120

For more information contact Marianne Wiegman,  
Regional Director at 704-876-4988 or  
email:mwigman@bellsouth.net

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### **Manasquan, NJ: Saturday, October 23, 2010**

**Note new date!**

Half-Day Equipping Seminar on Caring  
8:00am – 12:00 noon followed by lunch  
First Presbyterian Church, 16 Virginia Ave.  
For more information and/or registration contact  
Else Rodland Phone: 609-261-0904,  
email: else33@comcast.net

\*\*\*

### **Beavercreek, OH: Fri. - Sat. Mar. 18,19, 2011**

"I Care" Seminar with Mary Beth Ludt  
Aley United Methodist Church  
*We Care – Because God Cares!*

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**From our International Friends:** LPM East Africa will hold the first conference of its kind in Tanzania, October 1-3 of this year. Please join us in praying for this event.

\*\*\*

**NOTE:** LPMI Consultants and Seminar Leaders are ready to help you. You may arrange for a Training Seminar in your church or group of churches. Contact Else Rodland at the LPMI office.

**Phone: 609-261-0904  
Fax: 609-261-0976  
e-mail: lpmi@comcast.net  
Website: laypastors.com**

## INTERNATIONAL

### *Greetings from IkSan-city, Korea*

Byeong Chea, Seo  
Director of LPMKorea

#### **May 17, 2010**

I am planning to start **PACE** ministry for this new areas...  
As we did last 10 years, I will visit and doing seminar for each congregation.

There are many small churches around...

1. Our school start in Septmeber. .so plenty of time...
2. It's easier to access local churches as an Institute...not a formal school.

I will let them know "I am the director of LPM Institute," Korea.

How is that??

Pray for this new adventure.... new area, new people...everything is new to me.

Byeong

#### **May 22, 2010**

Good news...we have pastors and wives' meeting yesterday...about 15 persons...have decided study **PACE** (in English) everyday from 10-12am.

We will start on Monday...good?!!! Thanks to God.

I came here 3 weeks ago...so God's mercy is upon this place and me.

I need something to do before September...inwardly...to create energy, dynamics.

so...

Byeong....

#### **May 25, 2010**

One church has decided to be trained with **PACE** in June.

I have to go there 4 times on Sunday afternoon, to train their lay leaders...

It is very important for our Schooling progress that local churches' (around here) are PACEing

Of course, it's my primary Task from the very beginning.

Byeong.

#### **June 8, 2010**

This is what we named and...

Pre-School of PACE

Term: June 1-August 30 (12 weeks)

Day: Monday through Friday(5 days a week)

Time: a.m. 9:00-10:30

Subject: PACE (in English)...with Melvin's first book

Instructor: Byeong Chea

### *Congratulations to LPM, Kenya*

The LPM, Kenya and East Africa,celebrated its tenth anniversary June 1-3 this year. LPMI US joins their organization in thanking God for His faithfulness to the Ministry. We also thank God for Pastor John Ogillah and the people serving the Lord in the LPM, Kenya and East Africa Ministry.



## NEW CDs



### **The Power of Prayer...God At Work**

*By Marie Parma*  
LPMI Southeast Regional Director,  
Frazer Memorial UMC, Montgomery, AL

Prayer is our connection for a personal relationship with God. We will explore prayer as a powerful means of communicating with God, learning to hear His voice and seeing Him at work through our prayers of relinquishment and petition.



### **Making a Difference - One Life at a Time**

*By Marie Parma*  
LPMI Southeastern Regional Director  
Frazer Memorial UMC, Montgomery, AL

Encouraging words, little acts of kindness. Do they really make a difference? ABSOLUTELY! This session will open your eyes to the many ways God is at work as we share our faith through words and deeds.

**These audio CDs complete with handouts  
are available for \$10.00 each**

**Order from our new online store on the the Web at:  
laypastors.com**

**Or from Else Rodland at the LPMI office  
Phone: 609-261-0904, Fax: 609-261-0976  
email: [lpmi@comcast.net](mailto:lpmi@comcast.net)**

**-or-**

**Marianne Wiegman,  
425 Baymount Dr, Statesville, NC 28625-9549  
Home phone: 704-876-4988 Home fax: 704-876-2509  
email: [mwiegman@bellsouth.net](mailto:mwiegman@bellsouth.net)**

## A Book Review

By Else Rodland  
Director of LPMI Ministry Operation



### **EVERY MONDAY**

**Finding God on Tough Days**  
By Craig H. Smith

Each chapter in this book is a story based on the experience of the author as a Christian leader. It is inspirational and full of insights. I believe every type of leader in the Christian church can relate to the different stories and the teachings they provide. The chapters each end with a prayer showing Craig's dependance on God.

I have read the book through and I keep going back for more to retrieve the encouragement and energy that leaps out at you from each page.

Take for example this story: "The Juggling Act" (page 9). Craig writes that whether it is his job as a church executive or ours as a heavily involved lay person or pastor of a church it is by some weird definition a juggling act, and that without Jesus we can do nothing. He goes on to say, and I quote:

*... when you are juggling your schedule, balancing your Blackberry, downloading your Outlook, rolling your eyes, spinning your head, launching your new venture, and on the verge of tossing it all in, try holding on to these:*

- \* *Hold his Word in your mind*
- \* *Hold his authority in your labor*
- \* *Hold his humility in your example*
- \* *Hold his song in your heart*
- \* *Hold his love in your approach*

*With these held tightly, go juggle, spin, toss, preach, teach, visit and serve, knowing that the One whom you hold is ultimately the One holding you.*

Rev. Craig Smith is a former Board member and current consultant to the Lay Pastors Ministry. His book is available from the LPMI office.



## WHAT'S NEW?

### SAVE THE DATE



## “I Care” Equipping Seminar

Mary Beth Ludt is coming to Aley United Methodist Church,  
Beavercreek, Ohio  
Friday & Saturday, March 18-19, 2011

*“We Care, because God Cares”*

To be added or deleted from the mailing list, to offer suggestions for content, to submit writings, or to inquire about the Lay Pastors Ministry, the Network News, conferences or resources for your lay pastoral care ministry, contact:

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Three Years (12 issues) - \$ 40

You may still order multiple copies. However, these copies will be sent via Bulk Mail instead of First Class. The cost of 10 or more multiple copies will be \$10.00/person for each subscription. To subscribe, contact Else Rodland, Director of Ministry Operations, at the above address.

#### Purpose:

To share lay pastoral care ministry information and resources with churches, individuals, denominational leaders and seminaries.

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