

Newsletter

Eastern Regional Association



A Growing Network of Healthy Churches

AUGUST 2014

Dear Lisa,

SAVE THE DATE!



Eastern Regional Association ONE DAY annual meeting * on Saturday, October 18, 2014 from 9:00 a.m. until 3:00 p.m. Held at the State Street Advent Christian Church, Portsmouth, NH 03801 (634 State Street). On-line Registration will begin, September 2 and paper Registrations will be mailed the beginning of September.

Our speaker for the day will be Rev. Steve Brown, President of Berkshire Institute of Christian Studies.

*Our annual meeting this year will not be a convention due to the ACGC Triennial Convention happening in June. We would like to encourage you to attend this event happening every three years for our denomination.

Voddie Bauchman at Hope Church

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Have You Been to the ERA Website Lately?

Antioch Fall 2014 Schedule

This Fall we will be offering a number of courses in local churches as well as through Web Ex if you prefer to attend classes with your slippers on! Please contact the Regional Office if you are interested in participating in any of these

Lenox Nov. 8-9



Family Shepherd Conference

*Save the Date
Details to follow next month*

From the  Super



Mechanic Falls Camp Celebrates 125 years!

offerings.

The cost for each one is \$80 plus \$10 for the online version.

Leadership Development needs to be the heart of what we do and Antioch is a great tool to help us do that. Please encourage your current and future leaders to grow by taking a class together.

REGION	COURSE	HOST	FACILITATOR	TIME
APPALACHIAN	Acts	Web-ex	M. Larkin	Tuesday 2-3:30
	Essentials	ACGC	S. Warren	Monthly
CENTRAL	Acts	Web-ex	J. Stevens	Tuesday 3-4:30pm Ce
SOUTHERN	Acts	Web-ex	C. Fernald	Wednesdays 2-3:30pm
WESTERN	Acts	Web-ex	R. Qualls	TBA
	Acts	Web-ex	G. Twitchell	Wednesdays 6-7:30pm
WEB EX	Essentials	Web-ex	G. Twitchell	Wednesday 3:30-5pm
	Shepherding	Web-ex	R. Brown	Thurs. 3:30-5
	Interpreting 1	Web-ex	D. Patterson	Tuesday 3:30-5pm
	Pauline	Dover	G. Twitchell	Tuesday 6:30-8pm
EASTERN	Pauline	Lennox	D. Foss/S. Cobb	Sunday 5:30-7pm
	Interpreting 2	Lennox	S. Brown	Thursdays 3:30-5pm
	TBA	State Road	G. Moody	TBA
	TBA	Windham	D. Patterson	TBA
	Essentials	Haverhill	F. Jewett	9/26, 10/24, 11/28, 12/
	Pauline	Charlton	B. Fabian	9/6, 10/4, 11/8, 12/6
	Evangelism	Charlton	B. Fabian	9/13, 10/11, 11/15, 12/
	Essentials	Meredith	R. Brown	Fall



Profiles In Grace

Watch, for inspiration

The original video series Profiles in Grace profiles 14 residents of Advent Christian Retirement Communities who, in their own words, provide snapshots of their quietly remarkable lives. Everyone involved in the video production has felt blessed to get to know these elders.

You're invited to get to know them too by visiting the ACRC YouTube channel: [youtube.com/user/AdventChristianRC](https://www.youtube.com/user/AdventChristianRC)



Pastor Roger Brown baptizes a young lady at Mechanic Falls.

Triennial Convention was a great event! So many wonderful brothers and sisters in Christ from all over the world were gathered to encourage one another, attend to business, hear reports, and be blessed by the music and teaching that was prepared for us. Here is a picture of the choir that was put together by Wes Ross for the Sunday morning worship celebration.



Whether having fun at the mall, painting a building, as they did in Farmington, NH on the AC Church Fellowship Hall (pictured below), or ministering to kids at camp, this group from the Summer Ministry Team loves to serve Jesus! Pictured below are (from left) Tiffany Carter, Heather Graff, Jordan Yatsevich, and Lindsey Herman.

Eastern Regional Association Fall Women's Retreat

September 19-21
Alton Bay Christian Conference
Center
Alton Bay, NH

~ Speakers ~

Sharon Van Amburg McLaughlin
Becky Nicoll, Eastern Region WHFMS president

WHO ARE YOU? Finding your identity in Christ

"Who are you?" If someone were to ask you that question, what would your answer be? Daughter? Mother? Teacher? Nurse? How about in regard to your relationship with Jesus Christ? We often define who we are in Christ in light of how we see ourselves. This year we are going to discover who we are in Jesus Christ and expand our understanding of how HE sees US. By the end of this weekend, our prayer is that you are going to have a new answer to that question. This weekend will be filled with great encounters with our awesome God!

"When someone becomes a Christian, he becomes a brand new person inside. He is not the same anymore. A new life has begun!" 2 Corinthians 5:17 Plan now to come and join us this year for what is guaranteed to be a weekend of refreshment to your souls, and a renewal to your spirits

Registration begins at 7 PM Friday night
(Keys will not be given out before you register)

Friday night beginning at 8:30 PM: singing, sharing & ice cream!

Saturday: prayer and friendship circles, 3 teaching sessions with Sharon McLaughlin and free time

Sunday: personal reflection time and sharing, praise and worship with Becky Nicoll wrapping it all up.

Lots of activities for free time! Games, crafts (you



Tiffany, Heather, Jordan and Lindsey
2014 Summer Ministry "Super Heros"

Farmington AC Church fellowship Hall that was painted by the Summer Ministry Team.



Community Lighthouse Advent Christian Church
Farmington, NH

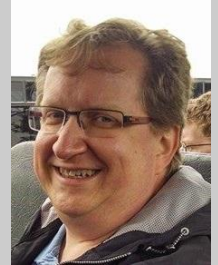
Heather, Tiffany, and Jordan at Mechanic Falls Camp. Over the course of the summer the 5 members of the Summer Ministry Team will work at the Regional Office and 3 New Hampshire churches doing service projects, and serve at the following camps as counselors and VBS leaders: SPAM, Big Lake, Beebe, Faithful, Marion, NOMACCA, Mechanic Falls, and Washington.

must sign up on reg. form), hiking, shopping, shopping, a visit to the prayer altar and more.

All women welcome to attend!

[Download Registration Form - Click Here!](#)

AC Orphan Sunday - September 2



and the cause of the fatherless (Isaiah 1:17). God's heart is for the fatherless. The global Christian church is beginning to recognize that orphans aren't someone else's problem; these are OUR children, and their care is OUR issue.

The evangelical church is responding to the needs of orphans in powerful, unique ways. **Orphan Sunday** is a growing observance which began in America about 10 years ago. **The first Sunday of September** each year is designated as a day to recognize God's heart for the orphan, both domestically and internationally.

The website www.orphansunday.org has numerous resources for churches to use, including bulletins, Sunday School curricula, videos, and even sermon outlines. Churches are encouraged to log events on an event map. Even though the name implies an event on a Sunday, the movement has broadened into a weekend observance; Friday or Saturday might work better in your church's schedule.

As I consult with various churches across Maine on orphan ministries, I suggest that they start by praying and listening. **Even the smallest church can pray**, and the Holy Spirit may lead you to certain outreach efforts to support orphans. I'm the Maine Regional Coordinator for Orphan Sunday, but I'm also willing to work with other churches.

Please let me know if I can assist with an outreach, brainstorm ideas, or pray along with you.

Phil DuBois



Heather, Tiffany and Jordan

This picture was taken at the celebration service for the Ordination of Randy DeTrude as licensed Evangelist within the Maranatha Conference. Speakers at the service included Superintendent Emeritus, Clint Taber, Rev. Dr. David Alves, Pastor Mark Bickford, and Pastor Jerald Hardy.

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orphan
sunday

Little Bird Told Me

Marantha, you're fussing far too much and getting yourself worked up over nothing.

One thing only is essential, and Mary has chosen it-it's the main course,

and won't be taken from her."

- Jesus

A hummingbird darted across my line of sight and snapped me back into the moment from the world of "I wonder what will happen when..."



A photo was taken advantage of by the Pastors and their wives who were present at the Service in Pittsfield, NH.

I sat on our deck with coffee in hand reveling in the spectacular colors of early summer: ten foot purple ninebark loaded with thousands of white florets, white and pink Rugosa roses fragrant even from a distance, a dozen deep pink single peony blossoms, the lighter pink blooms of a Double Play Spirea set against gold leaves and tall purple spires of Meadow Sage and False Indigo.

I thought about what almost was - a stand of forty-foot spruce separating lawn from meadow. I don't remember why we decided to cut them down when we built the house, just that we did.

I thought about how I ached after mowing the lawn on a day high with humidity and felt the soreness of a muscle in the back of my leg that cramped because I failed to maintain my hydration level.

And I wondered who would tend this a decade hence. Chances are good it won't be me. Would the new residents of the parsonage allow it to grow wild? Would they cut the grass in a different direction each mowing? Would they replace perennials that died during a harsh winter? Would they rise up and call me blessed or curse me for leaving behind this legacy to our stewardship of the



Is Your Church Planning a Short Term Mission Trip?



We would love to help promote your mission trip. Contact the Eastern Regional Office (603) 332-1412 to provide information or if you have any questions.

GORDON CONWELL
THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY

Save the Date for this year's National Preaching Conference!

Pastors, students, ministry spouses and others who have accepted the call to preach: Join us for the biennial National Preaching Conference this fall. Featuring an impressive array of accomplished preachers and teachers, "**Faithful to the Call**" will equip you with new tools and a renewed passion to continue carrying out your call.

property?

Would they...

My thoughts drifted. What about Hazel, Cameo, Elliot and the grandkids if...? What would become of the folks who call me "Pastor?" What of the young men who look to me as a mentor?

That's when the hummingbird darted across my line of sight and snapped me back into the moment from the world of "I wonder what will happen when..." Into the moment that dovetailed with a recent Gospel reading: "Don't fuss about what's on the table at mealtimes or if the clothes in your closet are in fashion. There is far more to your inner life than the food you put in your stomach, more to your outer appearance than the clothes you hang on your body. Look at the ravens, free and unfettered, not tied down to a job description, carefree in the care of God. And you count far more.

"Has anyone by fussing before the mirror ever gotten taller by so much as an inch? If fussing can't even do that, why fuss at all? Walk into the fields and look at the wildflowers. They don't fuss with their appearance-but have you ever seen color and design quite like it? The ten best-dressed men and women in the country look shabby alongside them. If God gives such attention to the wildflowers, most of them never even seen, don't you think he'll attend to you, take pride in you, do his best for you?

"What I'm trying to do here is get you to relax, not be so preoccupied with getting so you can respond to God's giving."^[1]

Luke had caught my attention and held it until days later when the Wind's whisper would drive it home: "If fussing before the mirror can't make you an inch taller, why fuss at all?"

If I can't control circumstances that will insure the safety and well-being of Hazel, Cameo, Elliot and the grandkids now... If I can't manage events in the lives of the folks I serve as pastor... If I can't by my wisdom and proficiency as a preacher or my skill as an administrator change the course of their lives now, why give time and energy to things yet to be revealed?

Trusting God does not mean the things I fear will never happen but that, with God's help, they will in

What: [National Preaching Conference: Faithful to the Call](#)

Who: Pastor Bryan Loritts, Dr. Bryan Chapell, Dr. Derek Tidball, Dr. Matthew Kim, Dr. Carol Kaminski and others

When: September 4-5, 2014

Where: Gordon-Conwell Theological Seminary, Hamilton Campus

Be sure to connect with us on Twitter ([@PulpitTalk](#)) and Facebook ([PulpitTalk](#)) for updates.

We hope to see you there, Scott Gibson, The Haddon W. Robinson Professor of Preaching; Director of the Haddon W. Robinson Center for Preaching; Director of Th.M. Program in Preaching; Director of the A.J. Gordon Guild
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The Eastern Regional Association Newsletter is published as a ministry of the Eastern Regional Association of the Advent Christian General Conference.

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the end turn out to be nothing to be afraid of.[2]

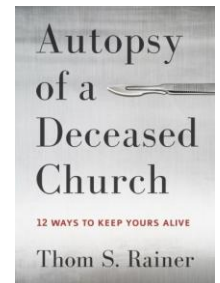
"Nothing to be afraid of" - that's what a little bird told me.

[1] Luke 12.22-29 The Message

[2] Adapted from a Jonathan Aitken quote cited by Philip Yancey in Prayer: Does it work? (Grand Rapids, MI: Zondervan Publishing House, 2006), 210

Recommended Reading

Much today is being written about Church Revitalization. This book fits that genre but is an important read for every pastor, no matter what size your congregation. He points out that over 100,000 churches in America are in slow decline and need to understand the warning signs.



In this short read, Thom Rainer addresses 12 issues that are commonly found in churches that "die" and end up closing. He addresses the issues of:

- slow erosion
- having the past as the Hero
- following the money trail
- being inward focused
- losing focus on the Great Commission
- allowing preferences to dictate
- short pastoral tenure
- lack of corporate prayer
- obsession with facilities

and more. He draws from his personal experience as a church consultant as well as from a variety of studies and first hand accounts. Many of these issues can be clearly seen in our churches across the Eastern Region. It's time that we take a good look at ourselves, our ministries over the past 20 years, and use resources like this to help us turn the ship around before we're the corpse on the table.

Reviewed by Greg Twitchell

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*Have you been on the Eastern
Regional Website Lately?*

Check out:

- [2013 Workshop at Annual Convention Church Planting with Rev. Greg Twitchell](#)
- [Bus Trip 2014](#)
- [Women's Fall Retreat](#) - Sept. 19-21
- [Antioch Fall Schedule](#)



and there is so much more!

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