


# Passing the Baton



Our ninth National Conference concluded May 28 with the traditional singing of “Wonderful Grace of Jesus” and the ceremonial passing of the gavel to Bishop-elect Bruce Hill. A careful, prayerful process resulted in his election as our fourteenth Bishop, and I am confident that God has raised Bruce up for such a time as this in the life of the Evangelical Congregational Church.

The actual leadership transition begins in earnest this summer as Rev. Hill prepares to assume his new office on September 1. Please pray for all involved... for Bruce and Gloria, as they face the challenge of wrapping up a fruitful ministry at Community Evangelical Church, Sinking Spring, and switching gears to denomination leadership... for me, as I work with Bruce and move to temporary quarters in Church Center so the Episcopal office can be refurbished... for the Church Center staff and Conference Ministers as they prepare for changes to come. We are a team, and we want to glorify God by a smooth passing of the leadership baton.



I have been honored and humbled to serve as National Conference Chair during this year of interim service, and I am deeply grateful for all your prayers, encouragement, and support. I have been truly blessed! Paul’s words to the Philip-  
pians best express my feelings: “I thank my God every time I remember you. In all my prayers for all of you, I always pray with joy because of your partnership in the gospel from the first day until now, being confident of this, that he who began a good work in you will carry it on to completion until the day of Christ Jesus.” (Phil. 1:3-6) To that I can only add, “Amen and Amen!”

Serving Him and you,  
Fred Moury, Jr.  
National Conference Chair

### Inside this issue:

National Chair Prayer & Praise	2
News from Evangelical	2
News from Benefits Corporation	3
News from Global Ministries	4
News from Loan & Investment	5
Campmeetings	5



## National Conference Chair Prayer & Praise

- ◆ Praise God for a good National Conference and a strong first ballot election for our 14th Bishop.
- ◆ Pray for Rev. Bruce Hill as he concludes his pastoral responsibilities at Community Church in Sinking Spring and transitions into his new responsibilities as our Bishop.
- ◆ Pray for those churches and pastors experiencing new pastoral assignments beginning in July.
- ◆ Pray for the pastoral assignment matters that the Stationing Committee continues to address.
- ◆ Praise God for Rev. Bruce Wagner's service as our Delaware Region Conference Minister. Pray for Rev. Gary Kuehner as he begins service as the Delaware Region Conference Minister in July.
- ◆ Pray that all goes well for Gary Brown as he oversees the "You Lead" mission trip to the Ukraine.
- ◆ Pray that the summer camping programs at Twin Pines, Camp ECCO, and Rock River Bible Camp go well. Pray that there will be many who will commit their lives to Christ and experience spiritual transformation.
- ◆ Pray that equally powerful results may take place during the campmeeting sessions at Herndon and Waldheim and the summer programming at Rosedale.
- ◆ Please pray for Dr. James D. Yoder and the family as they grieve the recent death of his wife, Jane.



## News from Evangelical

**Dr. Anthony Blair** becomes Evangelical's seventh president July 1. Pray for him and his wife, Carol, as they begin this new chapter of life and ministry. An official installation service is scheduled for September 30.



**Dr. John Tornfelt** is returning to full time teaching, effective July 1, and **Dr. Laurie Mellinger** becomes dean of academic programs. **Dr. Ken Nafziger** replaces retiring Bob Ladd as part-time director of special gifts.



**We praise God** for a healthy summer enrollment and pray for additional fall registrations. Check Evangelical's web site at [www.evangelical.edu](http://www.evangelical.edu) for a complete list of course offerings.

**Thanks to a Faith Community Leadership Grant**, the seminary will offer a class in "Theology, Disability, and Ministry" on Tuesday evenings this fall. The course will focus both on ministering to and effectively involving the physically and mentally disabled in the local church. Interested lay persons are especially welcome to audit this practical course. Call 717-866-5775 for more information.



**Thanks to all from the EC Family** who have been faithful supporters of Evangelical through prayer, finances, and other academic and volunteer involvements in this last fiscal year. Continue to pray for your seminary and the work done here to prepare servant leaders for transformational ministry in a broken and complex world.



---

## News from Benefits Corporation /Compensation Committee

- **The Pastoral Compensation Forms Committee (PCFC)**, a temporary subcommittee of the Compensation Committee, was established to attempt to simplify the current forms used for Pastoral Compensation. Before that work can be undertaken we need some insight at the local church level on Pastoral Compensation. **We will not ask you to change your current payroll practices.** Our goal is to simplify and bring clarity to the Pastoral Compensation process.

A short (10 question) survey can be found on [www.eccenter.com](http://www.eccenter.com) under Pastoral Compensation. Pastors, treasurers, lay delegates, ministry council chairs, etc. are encouraged to complete the survey. Multiple surveys from individual churches is OK. This survey is not designed to be terribly accurate but to get a general understanding of Pastoral Compensation at the local church. The survey is anonymous and will be available until June 30, 2011.

Thank you for your participation. Any additional comments or suggestions can be directed to [khenry@eccenter.com](mailto:khenry@eccenter.com).

- The rate of participation in AllOne is off to a slow start this year. Please take some time to complete your Health Risk Assessment, schedule an appointment with your physician and make contact with your health coach. We have a consistent group of individuals that are actively participating in AllOne going beyond the basic requirements. Thank-you! Please pass along any success stories to myself, [Dave King](#), our parish nurses or any member of the Healthy Pastors Team. There are no incentives for individual participation this year but we need a large majority of our members participating in AllOne to give us a bit of influence in our annual health insurance negotiations.



- We are currently engaged in conversations with multiple insurance carriers and insurance brokers searching for the best health insurance plan. We have heard promising news and bad news but nothing is final and other options still need to be investigated. At the least, these conversations will demonstrate to our current carrier we are committed to finding the best coverage at the least cost.

- At National Conference this year three new trustees were elected to the Board of Trustees: Rev. Ken Wiest, Deborah Zerbe and Kristin Parker. Please pray for them, the rest of the Board of Trustees and the board meeting on July 21.
- Please remember that the payment for the Worker's Compensation invoices are due July 1 and the payment for the Administration Fee invoices are past due.

Kevin Henry  
Controller



## PRAYER AND PRAISE:

◆ Please pray for the YOU LEAD team that left on June 16th and traveling to Zaporozhe, Ukraine to work with EC missionary Ken Sears.

◆ Please pray for Rev. Matthew Gueh, field Superintendent of the EC Church of Liberia as he concludes his visit to the United States and travels back to Liberia on July 14.



- ◆ EC missionaries BJ & Rachel Whitaker request prayer for an outreach concert their team will be sponsoring in Alcora Spain on July 18th.
- ◆ Herndon Camp Meeting July 22-31 will host DGM Randy Sizemore as the evening evangelist and EC missionaries Robert & Bettina Schaffer as the “Missionaries In Residence”.
- ◆ EC missionaries to Brazil, Dave, Conce and Andrew Roof will be arriving home for a six month furlough beginning in July.



Pray for Missions

◆ EC missionaries Nick & Lisa Lakatos will complete their language training in Costa Rica and will move to Mexico to begin their ministry in mid-August.

◆ EC missionary Jeremy Kunkel will marry Kristin Wright on July 30, 2011.

## SUMMER GMC VBS PROJECT:

For 2011, our VBS/MMK project will be to help **El Retiro Children’s Home in Montemorelos, Mexico**. The funds that are collected will be used to replace the roof on the dining hall, which leaks badly. We are hope to raise **\$10,000** for this project.



## FALL FAMILY MISSION RALLY:

Save the dates of October 14-15 for the GMC Fall Family Mission Rally at Salem EC, Lenhartsville. Again this year the Friday afternoon program is geared for our pastors and spouses and the general sessions on Saturday will have tracks for children and adults. Stay tuned for more information.

## SPEND-A-DAY BECOMES MISSIONARY PRAYER PARTNERS:

Of all the ways the EC Church facilitates and encourages our missionaries, the “Spend-A-Day” prayer initiative always scores near the top with our missionaries! Beginning January 1, 2012 the “Spend-A-Day” program will become “Missionary Prayer Partners.” The concept of connecting individuals and missionaries to mutually pray for each other on specific dates will remain the same but we will initiate a few changes to make this important ministry more accessible and user-friendly.

- Coordination of the Missionary Prayer Partners will be from the GMC office (Carla Sizemore).
- You will be able to select from the participating missionaries, available months and download the needed information from the GMC website or by calling the GMC office.
- We will no longer collect the \$1.00 donation with each participant’s prayer slip.
- An informational/instructional brochure and DVD will be produced to guide interested participants through the new Missionary Prayer Partners program.



We want to thank Cathy Jo Bast for her work as Spend-A-Day Coordinator over the years! Cathy Jo will be stepping down as Coordinator at this year’s National Conference so by July 1, 2011 the remaining months of the original 2011 Spend-A-Day program will be handled by Carla Sizemore at the GMC office. We will do our best to navigate this transition smoothly but please do not hesitate to contact Carla with any questions or concerns. Our ultimate goal is to have even more of our members partnering in prayer with our EC missionaries!



Call the Church Center (1-800-866-7581) or email ([blong@eccenter.com](mailto:blong@eccenter.com)) to place your order for the 2011 National Conference Journal. The Journal will be available by August 15th. IF you have not already placed your order do it today. The cost is:

- Binder w/cover & spine insert \$7.00
- Section Dividers \$4.00
- Printed Contents \$14.00
- Additional CD—WORD format \$5.00



## TWO DAY BASIC COACH TRAINING EVENT

at Evangelical Theological Seminary  
Myerstown, PA

August 16-17, 2011

8:30 am—4:30 pm

Trainer: Frederick J. Moury

**Participant Fee:** Cost for this event is \$200.00.

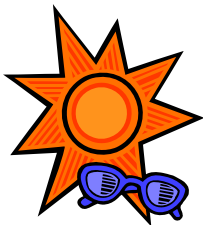
(Included in the fee are: 2 full days of training, C4C resource materials, continental breakfasts, noon meals, break snacks, and CEU credits.)

This training is limited to a maximum of 21 people.

For information or to register, Email Fred Moury at [fmoury@eccenter.com](mailto:fmoury@eccenter.com) or call him at 1-800-866-7581.

Additional coach information can be secured on the web at [www.coaching4clergy.com](http://www.coaching4clergy.com).

This event is sponsored by the Church Health Commission of the  
Evangelical Congregational Church.



---

## News from Loan & Investment Committee

- Effective July 1, 2011 the interest rate on Investment Pool loans will be reduced from 5.25% to 4.75%. Each debtor church will be receiving a new loan amortization schedule in the mail shortly. If you have already paid your July payment we can either refund the payment difference or apply the extra payment to outstanding principal. If you would like a refund contact Shirley Long at the E.C. Church Center (1-800-866-7581). If you do not request a refund we will apply the extra payment to outstanding loan principal. You may wait until your new loan amortization schedule is received before making your July payment. Please remember that Interest Pool loans have a variable interest rate and the interest rate may increase in the future. The rate on the Conference Pool loans will remain at 5%.
- Also, the interest rate paid on investment certificates will be reduced to 2.75% from 3.25% effective on July 1, 2011. A notice stating the rate change will be mailed to all certificate holders with the June 30 interest checks.

*The Loan and Investment Committee*

---

### CAMPMEETINGS

**Waldheim** July 10-July 14  
July 15-July 17  
([www.waldheimpark.org](http://www.waldheimpark.org))

Evening Bible Studies with Professor Douglas Buckwalter, ETS  
Campmeeting Weekend featuring Bishop Emeritus  
Michael Sigman

**Herndon** July 22-July 31  
([www.herndoncampmeeting.org](http://www.herndoncampmeeting.org))

Evangelist: Rev. Randy Sizemore  
Bible Teacher: Dr. Kenneth Miller  
Bible Discussion Leader: Dr. H. Douglas Buckwalter  
Missionaries in Residence: Robert & Bettina Schaeffer



**Rosedale** They do not have a specific campmeeting week, although they do have special programming all summer long.  
([www.rosedalegrove.org](http://www.rosedalegrove.org))



Evangelical Congregational Church  
100 West Park Avenue  
Myerstown, PA 17067  
717-866-7581

[www.eccenter.com](http://www.eccenter.com)  
[eccenter@eccenter.com](mailto:eccenter@eccenter.com)