



July/August 2011

EVENTS

BUMP (Bridging Urban Missions Project) - July 16-24

Over 150 students and leaders will descend upon the Twin Cities metro area serving 7 neighborhood urban communities. Pray for these individuals as they “*Serve an urban church for a week. Gain ministry skills that last a lifetime. Return home. Change your world.*” Check out [blog posts](#) for daily updates. [Read more](#)

Safe Families for Children – July 28

SAFE FAMILIES FOR CHILDREN – a movement of compassion, invites you to: **REDEFINE** our call to Christian Hospitality. **ENGAGE** every person in every pew to acts of mercy and kindness. **RENEW** our influence in the community - would they miss you if your church disappeared tomorrow? Dr. David Anderson, founder of Safe Families for Children, will cast vision of how Safe Families for Children™ (SFFC) can serve your church in acts of mercy and justice as we reach out in Jesus’ name to serve those in need. [Read more.](#)

Sabbath rest retreat – Aug 28-30

The teaching and value of a biblical Sabbath is something that has faded from the vocabulary and lives of true believers in the recent decades. But as the world continues to speed up with innovation and technology, the need to slowdown gets greater and greater. Nowhere is this more evident than in the lives of pastors and their churches. With burn out and divorce rates equaling those of the general public there is an obvious need for something. That something is a return of the biblical Sabbath. [Read more.](#)

Pastors Teaching Conference – Oct. 10-11

What is Ministry Success?

Success is something most of us would like to experience in ministry. Failure in ministry is a heavy burden to bear. But just what is true success? And how does failure figure into God's ongoing work in our lives? Come learn more about success and failure at this year's Pastors Teaching Conference:

- October 10-11, 2011
- Camp Shamineau
- *Failure in Life and Ministry: Finding Grace and True Success*
- Dr. Steve Roy, Associate Professor of Pastoral Theology at TEDS

RESOURCES

Church Health in the Old Testament?

Here in the NCD we talk a lot about healthy churches. More recently we've been talking a lot about emotionally healthy spirituality, a main root of church health. Are these concepts Biblical? [Read more](#)

EFCA Missions Update

Highlights from the recent Leadership Conference. [Read more.](#)

Pastoral Care Encouragement

The powers of Friendship: None is more powerful than prayer. [Read more](#)

MISCELLANEOUS

NCD Summer Office Schedule

The NCD staff will be out of the office for vacation time in the coming weeks so there may be a delay in response to your phone call or email. Thanks for your understanding.

Is your church incorporated with the State of Minnesota?

One of our older district churches recently discovered when they were applying for a building improvement loan that they had never been legally incorporated with the State of Minnesota. This is the case of many of our older churches. Here is a short article about how [incorporating can protect church members](#). Check here on the [state web site](#) to determine if your church is incorporated. As a reminder, this filing has to be renewed each year, no fee required for renewal.

Faith Community Nurse Online Course

Do you have an RN in your church who could use their gifts and professional skills to minister in your church and community? [Read more](#).

Golf 'FORE' Elim Care, Camp Shamineau and NCD at the 2011 Twin Cities Golf Classic!

The 2011 Twin Cities Golf Classic combines a day of fun on the golf course with the worthy missions of Elim Care, Camp Shamineau and the North Central District (NCD) of the EFCA. Come out and join us for this wonderful charity event. Foursomes and individual golfers are welcome. [Read more](#)

Ministry Trip Reflections

On June 13 to the 16, 2011, Jola and I had the privilege and pleasure of being the guest speakers at the annual CABTAL (Cameroon Association for Bible Translation and Literacy) staff development retreat. [Read more](#)

Ministering to Military Women and the Wives

If you are wondering how to minister to active duty military women and the wives, mothers of our military, Stonecroft Ministries (our own Kathy White is Stonecroft Ministries field director) is hosting an outreach and support luncheon for designed for them on July 30. This HEART TO HEART event is FREE to military families and personnel; a \$10 cost for all other attendees. [Read more](#)

Host Homes Needed:

We cannot fix poverty, homelessness and the ills of this world. But we can impact lives one at a time. Safe Families for Children is winning the battle one child at a time. [Read more](#)

Pastoral Changes

Crossroads EFC in Albert Lea has called James Petersen as lead pastor
Grace EFC in Worthington has recently called Scott Barber as pastor.