



January 2012

Events

NCD Family & Children's Ministry Network - Jan 12, EFCA National Office, Bloomington, MN

Pastors, Children's Directors, Lay Leaders - Come Thurs., January 12, from 10 am-2 pm to the EFCA National Office. Topics

--Morning: Child/Student Safety, Security Issues. In light of recent cases around the country, do you have procedures and guidelines in place to ensure the safety of your families? Bring your policies/forms/procedures to share, or bring questions on the issues you are facing.

--Afternoon: Creative ideas to reach the current generation of families. Bring ideas/samples to share.

Lunch provided. Next Step Resources will also be on hand with resources to review or purchase. RSVP to Julie Andersen (jandersen@trinityefc.net or [952-469-6235](tel:952-469-6235)) by Jan. 10.

FAITH AT HOME Conference - Feb. 25, Lakeville, MN

Designed for senior pastors, their staff and lay leaders, this conference on Saturday, February 25, 2012, highlights Mark Holmen, author, speaker on the family for Willow Creek Ministries, and founder of Faith At Home Ministries. Through general sessions as well as break out groups (including a special lunch for senior pastors with Mark Holmen), this conference will provide vision and tools to help your church connect with families. Hosted at Trinity EFC in Lakeville. Cost: \$35/person. Groups of 10 or more discount – \$299. Watch for the brochure, or register online, beginning 12/15/11, at www.trinityefc.net.

NCD Annual District Conference - April 16-17, 2012, Andover, MN

Local-church ministry, whether vocational or "lay," faces unique obstacles and temptations. The condition of one's heart shapes ministry in the church and determines whether obstacles and temptations are productive or destructive. Paul David Tripp will be our speaker at district conference next spring, addressing the theme "*Dangerous Calling: The Unique Temptations of Ministry in the Local Church.*" The conference will be **April 16-17** at Constance EFC in Andover. Like last year, it is designed for both pastoral staff members and lay leaders. More information will come to you late January.

NCD Youth Blitz - April 27-29, Rochester, MN

District conference information packets were mailed in December. All information is available [online](#).

Resources

On Our Hearts - Kingdom Beauty in an Election Year

You don't have to be a political buff—or cynic—to realize that there are serious problems in our society, that they're getting worse, and that the divisions over how to address those problems are growing deeper. [Read more](#)

Pastoral Care Encouragement

January 2012 marks the beginning of a new Pastoral Care emphasis. The Word of God calls believers to be the most hope-filled people on the face of the earth. [Read more.](#)

Missions Update

Read of Todd M Johnson's summary of what he call's God's Century--1910-2010 and mission trend highlights. [Read more.](#)

Peacemaker Training Coming to Minnesota

Here is a good opportunity to take advantage of Peacemaker training that will be offered in or near our district in upcoming months:

* Metro area: Feb. 23-25 in Hudson, WI (Conflict Coaching, Mediation)

* Northwest and West Central: March 8-10 in Detroit Lakes (Conflict Coaching, Mediation)

* North and Northeast: April 26-28 in Duluth (Conflict Coaching, Mediation)

* District-wide: June 21-23 in Minneapolis (Reconciling Church Conflict)

We highly recommend this training for pastoral staff members and for lay leaders. For further information see www.Peacemaker.net.

Note: Peacemaker offers a significant discount when you register early. There is also significant reading to be completed before the training so it is beneficial to register early. Check the Peacemaker's website and your calendar now.

Miscellaneous

Lester Nelson, district superintendent of the NCD from 1964 - 1974 passed away in December. In a recent conversation, Lester at 97 years old, continued to be rejoicing in the Lord and trustful of His care for himself and his wife of 70+ years, Esther. On condolences to the Nelson family.