



# Penn-Del Tips

The official newsletter of the American Baptist Men of Pennsylvania and Delaware

Visit us on the web at [www.abmopad.org](http://www.abmopad.org)

## Welcome to our 58th Annual Retreat!

On behalf of the Board of Managers, we'd like to welcome you to the 58th Annual Layman's Retreat of the American Baptist Men of Pennsylvania and Delaware.

Our theme for this weekend is from Psalm 103:1—"Praise the Lord, Oh my soul, and all my inmost being, Praise His Holy name!" In order to truly praise God with all of your "inmost being", then everything that you do, everything that you say and everything that you feel needs to be in an attitude of praise. While that may be a tall order, with God's help, we can certainly strive for this. As you move around the campus this weekend, praise God for the opportunity to fellowship with your brothers in Christ. Praise God for the weather. Praise God that you overslept. Praise him in EVERYTHING that you do this weekend. And when you return home,

continue to praise Him. If we take nothing else from this weekend, let us take an attitude of gratitude for God and his Holy, wondrous love!

A special welcome goes out to our First Time attendees. We are all glad that you decided to join us this year! If you have any questions about anything at the retreat, please feel free to ask any of the other men. Don't be shy! None of us bite!

If you see someone with a "First Retreat!" on his badge, that means that this is his first retreat. Please make sure you welcome him warmly and ask how you can make his retreat experience better!

We Praise God for the youth in attendance this year. Not only are they our future, but the youth are our present. Praise the Lord and have a great weekend!

## Retreat Speaker Change

We had planned for Rev. A. Roy Medley to be with us this year. Unfortunately, Rev. Medley's mother was moved to hospice care and the family has all joined her in Atlanta for her final days. Please keep Rev. Medley, his mother and the rest of the family in your prayers.

Since we have a great God and he provides for us in all things, we were able to secure Rev. Robert McKemey for the weekend.

Bob has served in Japan as a missionary with SEND International since 1969.

Following five years of student ministry in the city of Kofu, Bob was assigned to a camp ministry at Okutama Bible Chalet, where he served for over 30 years – 20 years as the OBC Director. Since turning over the camp leadership, his primary assignment has been evangelistic preaching while serving at the camp on a part time basis. During his many years of service Bob gained proficiency in the Japanese language and built cooperative relationships with Japanese pastors and churches.

We Praise God that He has provided Bob on such short notice! Please give him a warm welcome!

## Newsletter Submissions

The Penn-Del Tips will be available as you enter the CUB for devotions on Saturday and Sunday mornings. If you have something you would like to add to the next morning's edition, please write it down and give it to a board member by 6:00 P.M. If you have email access, you can also email your information to [webmaster@abmopad.org](mailto:webmaster@abmopad.org).



## Booster Call 56 is under way!

The American Baptist Men of PA and DE Booster Club has issued a call to support repairs, maintenance and upgrades at Camp Icthus. "Camp Fish" (as it's affectionately called by our youth) has grown tremendously over the past few years and is in need of some renovations to meet the current demand. Part of the project will include remodeling a building to serve as infirmary and office space. The Kingdom Builders will be involved in the project as well.

If you would like to contribute, there is a box in the registration area in the CUB.

## Important Information And Updates

- The pool hours listed in the retreat booklet are incorrect. The correct pool hours are 2-5 PM on Friday and 1-5 PM on Saturday.
- As you can see, there is active construction going on at the University. Please use caution and do not enter any fenced off areas.
- Fellowship Times on Friday and Saturday Evenings will be held in the "Great Hall" on the lower floor of the CUB.
- All six meals are included with your retreat registration (Friday dinner, Saturday breakfast, lunch and dinner and Sunday Breakfast and Lunch).
- Lost room keys will cost **YOU** \$100 each. If you lose your key, please report it at the registration desk immediately. Also, if you find a key, please turn it in immediately.
- Don't lose your meal card. They are not replaceable and you need it to eat.
- We have bottled water available in limited supply at the registration desk. Please be sure to recycle the bottle when finished.
- All men who are participating in any part of the evening or Sunday morning programs need to meet with John Kofroth at the side of the stage 15 minutes prior to the session.
- If you are wearing any kind of hat or cap, please be sure to remove it during times of prayer and communion.
- Quiet time begins at 11:00 P.M.—You may stay up late if you wish, but please keep the noise to a minimum so as not to disturb others who may be trying to sleep.
- Remember to have a parking permit tag on your car. These are available at the registration desk.
- The weather report for this weekend is for mid 90's Please make sure you drink plenty of fluids when spending time outside (especially during the recreation period).
- The Etter Health Center across from the Seavers Apartments is open for medical emergencies from 8 AM to 9 PM daily. University police can be contacted at extension 1444 in the event of an emergency.
- Workshop number 13 has been moved to room MPR 100A.
- Above all, please have a good time and come back next year (and bring a friend, too)!

### ABMOPAD "Stuff"!!

T-shirts, hats and car magnets are available for sale. Come by the registration room and check them out!

Hat's and T-shirts are \$10 each and magnets are \$3 each. Package deal: All three items bought at once for \$20.

## Welcome Back to the Praise Band!

Once again this year, we are blessed to have a live Praise Band to lead us during our Praise and Worship singing. Please extend a special welcome to CG Coats, David Parris, Luke Eccles, Brent Hancock and Steven McQue as they Praise the Lord and lead us with their talents.



### From The Editor

The year 2012 is a leap year. We get an "extra" day! What will we do with it? February 29, 2012 fell on a Wednesday, so most of us likely went through our normal Wednesday routines: work, school, etc. but anyway you look at it, 2012 will have 366 days in it. How will we treat this bonus day? Every year we have daylight savings. We spring ahead and then we fall back. When we fall back, you always hear people say, "We gain an extra hour of sleep!" but is that really true? How many people say up a little later watching a movie or browsing the internet, knowing that there is an extra hour in the schedule? Just to prove that we're never satisfied, when Spring rolls around and we set the clocks ahead, we lament the loss of that hour of sleep, even though we squandered the hour we had gained a few short months ago.

How can we make the most of our days? Read your bible daily. Pray daily. Spend that extra hour at daylight savings in prayer. Find one day in your schedule to help someone who really needs it, to attend a Christian conference, volunteer at a mission or the soup kitchen, attend or even lead a bible study.

The Latin phrase "Carpe Diem" is often used – "Seize the day!" The Greeks would say, "Eat, drink and be merry, for tomorrow we may all die." Is that what we, as Christians should be doing with our time? Paul warns us in Ephesians 5 to be careful how we live and to make the most of every opportunity.

How we've lived is certainly important – we need to live as citizens of Heaven – heirs to the kingdom and servants of the Living God. As Jesus said, "Announce God's Kingdom!" Every day we do will certainly be a day that we have seized.

**Please be sure to silence your cell phones and pagers during sessions.**

