



## Sunday Edition

# 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)

### Good Morning—Here Is Your Saturday Recap!

Saturday started with a wonderful opportunity to Praise God with our whole being, as the planned venue for devotions was unavailable. True to His nature, God provided, though! The men assembled in the courtyard outside the lower level of the CUB while Rev. Bruce Martin spoke to us about our core. If our core is strong, it will support our spine and keep us straight. The same holds true if a relationship with God through Jesus Christ is our Spiritual Core. If that relationship is strong, we will be spiritually strong, but it takes exercise to get there. Bruce spoke of the inward, outward and corporate spiritual disciplines that when exercised, make us strong and straight in our spirits!

The workshops were well received. Walking around the CUB, there were several locations with full classrooms. Praise God for the individuals who volunteered their time to lead the workshops this year.

At the evening business meeting, the membership voted to accept the proposed constitution change to allow the board of managers to align with the ABCOPAD regional pastors. Following a brief break, Larry Battle gave his challenge to the men. He challenged us to keep going and not give up. We can't just sit by and let things be.

The evening program was full of music. From Larry's challenge, the praise band, the men's chorus, the orchestra, Fred Robbins and the traditional singing of The Lord's Prayer, the entire evening was incredibly moving. Thanks to everyone for lending their talents and using them to praise God with their whole being.

Rev. Bob McKemey once again gave hard challenges to us all to be leaders and servants for the Lord. Speaking predominantly from Psalm 78, Bob gave us seven principles of Leadership and Service. Among those are that our tasks are not self appointed. David was chosen by God the same way he chooses us for service and leadership. We are God's servants, not man's servants. We serve God by serving each other and when we serve faithfully in the "small jobs", God will give us responsibility in greater things. Even though God doesn't need us to accomplish His perfect will, he chooses to work through us. Each person we serve was purchased with the precious blood of Jesus Christ.

Rev. McKemey has truly been God's servant this weekend. With His help, Bob will certainly continue to serve today.

### Congratulations to —2012 Layman of the Year

#### Mr. Al Thomas Jr.



On Saturday evening, the American Baptist Men of Pennsylvania and Delaware honored Mr. Al Thomas as the 2012 Layman of the Year. Al has been a faithful servant of the Lord for many years. He has been an active member of his community fire department for over 60 years and a faithful member of his weekly prayer group. He and his wife, Gloria are active members of Christ Memorial Baptist in Dover.

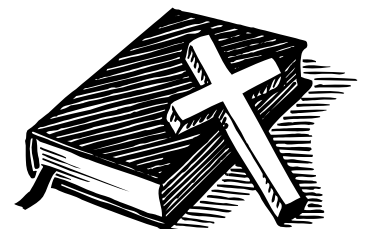
Al was joined by his wife and several other members of his family at the ceremony. It was great to meet with them and fellowship during the ice cream social.

Please join us in congratulating Al Thomas, Jr for a well deserved honor.

### Quote of the day:

It is the LORD who goes before you. He will be with you; he will not leave you or forsake you. Do not fear or be dismayed.

Deuteronomy 31:8



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



## Attendance Awards

- Founder's Award (churches under 175 members) - Immanuel Baptist, Edwardsville
- President's Award (most first year registrations) - Tie between Hatboro Baptist and Upland Baptist, each with - 2 First Year Attendees
- Past President's Award (most total registrations) - Calvary Baptist, Newark - 16 attendees.

## Checkout Procedures

- Linens should be placed in your pillow cases and brought to the laundry room on the first floor.
- When you check out, make sure you turn in your key to ABMOPAD registration personnel in room 125 of the CUB. These keys will cost you \$100 if you lose one.
- DO NOT RETURN YOUR KEY IN THE KEY DROP IN SEEVERS. Return the room keys to our registration area in room 125 of the CUB. Any key placed in the key drop is considered lost **and will cost YOU \$100.**
- Please complete your evaluation forms and drop them off in the registration area when you turn in your key. If you need more time to complete the evaluation form, you can mail it to the address shown on the form.
- The blue lanyard, bag, pen and notebook you received at registration are all yours to keep.
- Have a safe trip home!

## From The Editor—Living the HD Life

Go to the store today and try to purchase a TV. In an effort to outdo their competition, every manufacturer boasts higher resolution, more inputs, faster refresh and overall touts how awesome their high definition picture is. High Definition (or "HD") is great. Movies look better, the lines are crisp, the colors vibrant and watching sports in HD is something any sports fan can enjoy. When other people see how clear and vibrant the picture is, they want to get the same thing for themselves.

A side effect of seeing everything in HD is that the defects and mistakes are more noticeable. You see the places where digital effects were a little sloppy. You notice that the crowd scenes are the same 50 people digitally "copied" to make the crowd look much larger. You also can see how awful of a call that umpire just made, declaring "foul" a ball that is clearly fair. Every detail, good or bad, is enhanced when viewed in HD.

When we give ourselves to Jesus Christ, He turns our lives into HD. All of our good deeds are that much better when

**Thank you for coming to the 58th Annual Men's Retreat. We are so glad you came and look forward to seeing you at the 59th Retreat to be held at Shippensburg University from August 2nd through 4th, 2013. Mark your calendars now and don't forget to get one or two additional friends to come as well. Have a safe ride home!**

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## Lock In Your Rate Now!

**We won't know what the rates will be for the 59th Retreat until next spring, but if you pre-register by September 30 for 2013 and pay a \$100 deposit, you can lock in at this year's early bird rate of \$150. Avoid potential rate increases! Stop by registration for a form before you leave!**

## Need a Shirt, Hat or Magnet?

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.

## Who is this "Vacant" Guy and why is he serving in so many positions on the board?

As Bob pointed out during our business meeting on Saturday, we have many vacant positions on the board. Please check the nominating committee report and if you feel led to serve, please prayerfully consider filling one of these vacancies.

we do them for the Glory of God. All of our triumphs are that much better when our priorities begin with God. In the same way, all of our faults are more visible when compared against the example that Jesus has set for us. They are not just visible to others, but more visible to ourselves, giving us an opportunity to adjust our habits to eliminate the negative influences.

A very close friend once wrote to me that he really wants to be a Christian, but he's not worthy. That's really the root of it all. We are not worthy. Nothing we can say, nothing we can do and nothing we can offer on our own will make us worthy of being called God's children. In his book, "Merciless", Robin Parrish wrote, "Forgiveness is not something that can be bought or earned. It's a gift, free and clear." When Jesus Christ died on the cross, we were forgiven for our sins. Free and clear. We don't need to earn the gift, just accept it. The clarity in our lives that comes from a relationship with Jesus Christ will shine so brightly, that others will see how great it is and want to have that for themselves as well.