



Saturday 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

Good Morning! How Was Day 1?

Happy Saturday Men!

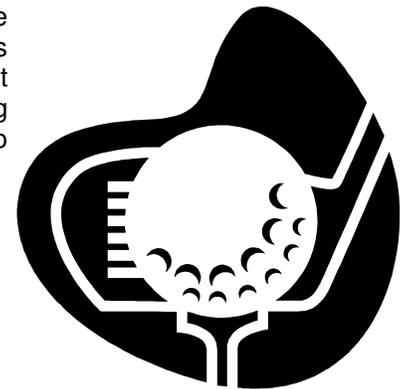
It was a great Friday start to our event. Registration was up from the previous few years and everyone was very patient while we checked them in. There was a bit of a learning curve on the swipe cards at the new McLean II residence, but as of this writing, I didn't see anyone sleeping on a bench, so it would seem that we all figured them out.

At our evening session, we were treated to love and laughs at the hands of Rev. Eric Kraihanzel. We are looking forward very much to see what he pulls out for us tonight. Prepare for the fun!

From my position at the sound board, I can say that you guys sounded great during the praise and worship singing. Thanks to CG, Luke, Tim, George and Rob for leading us!

Reverend Jeff Johnson certainly did not disappoint with his message. Dressed for the part, he compared the game of golf to a life of evangelism. Golf starts with "GO" and we must GO to do God's work. The game of golf's emphasis is on the ball and getting it to the hole. In evangelism, the ball represents the person who needs to meet Jesus Christ and the hole is that faith commitment. Seldom does anyone shoot a "hole in one" either in the game of golf or in evangelism—it takes on average between 5 and 7 separate interactions to bring a person to Christ, and often there are 3 or 4 different Christians interacting with them. Just like in Golf where we have different clubs for different situations, God puts different Christians into the lives of his children who are seeking that relationship. In the end, the "putter" gives a gentle nudge to ease the "ball" into the "hole". Remember:

God loves you
Our inadequacies, Our abilities and Our isolation
Little faith, Lots of forgiveness
Full and Forever life



Don't Forget!

Make sure you sign up for a workshop today. There are several offered. Please make sure you make use of the wonderful opportunities to share with your brothers in Christ and grow in the Lord!

Lost and Found

Find something? Please turn it in at the registration area.

Lose something? Check at the registration area to see if it's been turned in.

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.

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



From the Editor

If you live in Pennsylvania, you are familiar with the annual ritual we participate in called "State Safety Inspection" where we must have a state registered mechanic perform specific vehicle checks, make any necessary repairs and provide a new sticker to indicate that the vehicle is current on its inspection. The following year, we do it all again. Anyone who has ever driven a "beater" knows the feeling of dread when the phone rings on inspection day, generally bearing the bad news that your beloved car will require hundreds of dollars in repairs in order to pass this year. Honestly, many of the repairs I make on my vehicles are only as a result of needing the inspection. Look around at the vehicles you see on the road. Many have mismatched fenders, smoke pouring from the exhaust pipe, cracked glass and a whole host of other issues that may not be apparent to the naked eye.

If you've ever purchased a used car, you know that you cannot just look at the car and trust that it is in good repair and will give you trouble-free service. Your best bet is to

have a trusted mechanic go over the vehicle for you, checking brakes, hoses, tires, how well the engine runs, etc. Many a fine-looking vehicle will turn out to need thousands of dollars in repairs in order to be road-worthy. By the same token, you may see a vehicle with mismatched paint, dented fenders, missing hubcaps and plenty of other cosmetic issues but will run like a dream, pass the state safety inspections and provide many years of service.

Paul tells us in 2 Corinthians 13:5 that we must examine ourselves and test ourselves to see that we are holding to our faith. If Christ is indeed within us, then we will surely pass this test. No matter what we look like on the outside, our true faith within us will always come through.

What is the state of repair with your faith? Do you need to visit a mechanic? Perhaps you can serve as a mechanic to another. Don't be afraid to put your faith life to the test. If you need repairs, then make them and then keep up with the regular maintenance. Don't settle for driving a spiritual "beater".

Retreat Evaluations

How did we do this year? Was there something you liked? Was there something you would like to change? Do you just have some suggestions for additions or improvements to our retreat? Let us know by filling out your evaluation form. We read ALL of them! Many of the changes we've made over the years, including adding bottled water for the rooms at night have been a direct result of your feedback, so please make sure you fill out your evaluation before you leave.

IMPORTANT REMINDER!

If you are going to participate in any outdoor activities today, please be sure to be careful. Drink plenty of water (not soda), even if you don't feel thirsty. Above all, don't overdo it! Please also be sure to keep any eye on your fellow participants. Above all, enjoy your free time!

Well Done Golfers!

The golf tournament held on Friday raised a total of \$540 toward a new roof at the First Hispanic Baptist Church of Lancaster, PA. A symbolic "big check" was presented to Pastor Morales at Friday Evening's session. Congratulations!



Don't miss the fellowship time following tonight's service. Ice Cream and beverages will be served in the "MPR A" which is right next door to our main meeting room. Come and enjoy!