



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

Sunday Morning! Rise and Rejoice!

What a great Saturday! The weather was great and everybody seemed to just be having a great time. Let's recap some of the events.

We started with Devotions where Rev. Grace Lawrence Shirk spoke about how John the Baptist had to get away in order to think about his mission. Our retreat is like that in that we need to get away from the clamor of everyday life. We need to proclaim what Jesus has for us. Grace noted that, like Jesus, after we receive God's spirit, we will be driven into the wilderness to be tempted by Satan. We, like Jesus, must resist with God's word helping us.

The workshops were very well attended. We even had to print extra handouts for one of them. Praise God! We should also note that on Friday night and Saturday night, we needed to put out additional chairs in the auditorium to accommodate the additional people. That is a great problem to have!

The afternoon was a hot one and folks took some time for recreation. The Horseshoe tournament was well attended with several youth joining in. The softball game started as a 6 on 6 game and grew to 7 on 7 later on. Will Smith of Hatboro Baptist proved that he's a player when we hit an inside the park home run. Nice job

Will! As usual, we did have one person needing to seek medical attention for some minor injuries. For the first time in many years, though, it was not this writer. I hope you're feeling better Pastor Doug!

Finally, we came to our evening services. A new slate of officers was elected during the business meeting. During the installation, Rev. Dale Miller challenged each of the men to be like rubber bands: To work best when stretched, to retain our Godly shape and to hold things together. Please continue to pray for our leadership as they meet to plan future events and other mission opportunities.

The choir and orchestra were wonderful. It's amazing what God can do with just a few voices or a few instruments. Great job guys!

The testimony by Wes Thomson was nothing but inspiring. Wes spoke about how God had a plan and how He held Wes through hard times caused by the disease of alcoholism. Stating that "God never wastes a hurt", Wes told about how he has been able to use his past experiences to enable him to minister to others who are sharing similar experiences. Isn't God great?

Richie Shive and Steven McQue played some wonderful music,

beginning and ending the set by singing about God's Amazing Grace. The love of the Lord continues to shine through with these young men.

God truly is remarkable in that Wes Thompson's testimony and Richie's music were both right on topic with Dr. McJunkin's message for the evening.

Dr. McJunkin spoke about how when we meet Jesus, God takes over. Our lives are no longer in our hands, but in God's hands. When we become clear about God's love and accept it, we understand what Grace is. If we understand John's message, we get the meaning of repentance—which includes grace and mercy.

We are reminded that our God is tender and full of mercy, but He is righteous no matter what. When we are connected with God's righteousness, we receive understanding and wisdom from God. Our ability to sense how our behavior affects others is enhanced when we get in touch with God.

Repentance is both an event and a process. Forgiveness and release is healthy—self condemnation is not. The last person people will forgive tends to be themselves. Remember, on the other side of confession, is REAL JOY!

Next up—"Lord, are you sure?"

Ten Mile Baptist Association Scholarship Given

The Ten Mile Baptist Association has once again given two \$500 scholarships. They were given to Anwa Lama and Courtney Giller for their continuing education. Since 2005, we have given a total of ten scholarships. The James L. Edgar Scholarship Fund was started in 2005 in an effort to reach out to anyone in the Ten Mile Association who wants to further their education. We continue to receive donations from churches and families in the association. Thanks be to God that we can help out in such a small, but meaningful way.

We read EVERY evaluation form. Please tell us honestly about your experience. Many of the changes that have been implemented in the past were based on feedback from your retreat evaluations. We'd like to hear from you about what you liked, what you didn't like, suggestions for improvement and general comments.

Attendance Awards

- Founder's Award (churches under 175 members) - Immanuel Baptist
 - President's Award (most first year registrations) - Parkesburg - 7 First Year Attendees
 - Past President's Award (most total registrations) - Calvary Baptist, Newark - 21 attendees
- Our total attendance was 210 this year (up from 200 last year), with 31 first time attendees, 15 youth and 8 pastors. We praise God for each and every attendee and hope that each of you will prayerfully consider returning next year and bringing a friend (or two).

Congratulations to James "Bud" Shirk 2007 Layman of the Year

On Saturday night, James "Bud" Shirk was honored as our Layman of the Year for 2007. James has been extremely active in men's work for years with many accomplishments. He truly has a heart for service. Congratulations to Bud for an honor that is well deserved.



Puzzle Solutions

Did you solve the cryptogram? The solution was:

The fear of the LORD is the beginning of wisdom, and knowledge of the Holy One is understanding.

Proverbs 9:10.

The Women of the Bible anagram solutions are:

Sarah	Delilah	Lydia
Hagar	Naomi	Priscilla
Rebekah	Bathsheba	Lois
Leah	Esther	Hadassah
Tamar	Elisabeth	Sapphira
Miriam	Martha	Tabitha
Deborah	Dorcas	Nehushta



Happy belated birthday to Tommy Hindmarsh, who turned 14 on Saturday.

A few final housekeeping items . . .

- Linens should be placed in your pillow cases and brought to the designated area. In Mowrey Hall, that area is the main lobby desk. In Seavers apartments, there is a laundry room on the first floor.
- When you check out, make sure you turn in your key. These keys will cost you \$40 if you loose one. DO NOT RETURN YOUR KEY IN THE KEY DROP. Return the room keys to our registration area in the CUB.
- 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 them to Howard Dade at:

Howard E. Dade
232 Co-op Drive
Cedarville, NJ 08311
- Lunch will be served at noon in the Reisner Dining Hall.
- All of the retreat editions of the Penn-Del tips are currently available on the website—www.abmopad.org
- Have a safe trip home and please return next year!

Thank you for coming to the 53rd Annual Men's Retreat. We are so glad you came and look forward to seeing you at the 54th Annual Men's Retreat to be held at Shippensburg University on August 1st through the 3rd, 2008. Mark your calendars now and don't forget to get one or two additional friends to come as well.

Have a safe ride home!

ABMOPAD Board of Managers