

Friday 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

Welcome to our 55th Annual Retreat!

Welcome back, or for the first time, to the 55th Annual ABMOPAD Retreat.

I have always considered these events as some of the mountaintop experiences of my life. Ever since my first retreat at 16 years old, they have always provided something to inspire me to greater service to the Lord.

As you have no doubt heard me say before, we attempt to provide Inspiration, Education, and Fellowship in order to provide an atmosphere conducive to a closer experience with Christ. The retreats

are not ends in themselves. They are to assist you to be a more effective Christian Man in your local congregation. As you enjoy the various activities this weekend, be sure to relate them to the possible benefits that you might bring with you as you return to your church activities.

Enjoy yourselves and may God bless, and guide your experiences.

Bob McQue, Sr.
ABMOPAD President

Welcome to the 2009 ABMOPAD Retreat. It is my prayer that as we live together this weekend, we will grow in faith, we will grow in truth, we will grow in righteousness and we will grow as ONE. When Jesus prayed for his disciples he asked that we be one as he is one with with Father. As we eat together and sing together and play together and worship together, may a deep fellowship develop that will go far deeper than the weather and the Phillies. I am looking forward to growing with you this weekend.

Pastor Doug Stratton

ATTENTION!

The University has informed us that there are six students on campus being treated for the Swine Flu. They have assured us that the facility is safe and we can proceed with our conference as scheduled.

For your protection, we are providing hand sanitizer in the registration area and in the CUB room 214. Please use your best judgment when shaking hands in order to protect everyone from infections.

Thank you for your assistance in this matter.



Welcome to our First Time Attendees!

We are so 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.

Please make sure to return next year and also bring someone along so you can show him the ropes.

If you see someone with a "1st" 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!

Bible "DITLOIDS"

A Ditloid is a type of puzzle where the answer is deduced from numbers and abbreviated letters. They are sometimes called letter equations. For example **66 B of the B** becomes **66 Books of the Bible**.

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|--------------------|------------------|----------------------|-----------------------|
| 1. 7 D of C | 6. 4 G in the B | 11. 7 S of R | 16. 5 P of B |
| 2. 150 P in the B | 7. 12 T of I | 12. 39 B in the O T | 17. 70 Y in B E |
| 3. 27 B in the N T | 8. 10 P of E | 13. 48 C of the L | 18. 7 D of the F of T |
| 4. 12 D of J | 9. 40 Y in the W | 14. 4 B of D | 19. 3 T of C |
| 5. 13 P at the L S | 10. 5 S S | 15. 176 V in the L P | 20. 12 S in E A |

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



A few housekeeping items . . .

- This year, 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** \$40 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. These cards are also required to gain entrance to the dormitories.
- This year we have bottled water available in limited supply at the registration desk. They will be supplied at a rate of one per person per evening. 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 Howard Dade at the side of the stage 15 minutes prior to the session.
- Please use only the back doors to enter and leave the general session room. Constantly opening and closing the side doors is a disruption to the program.
- 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 Heiges Field House pool will be open from 1 to 5 P.M. on Friday and Noon to 5 P.M. Saturday.
- The weather report for this weekend is for mid to upper 80'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 7 AM to 11:30 PM daily.
- Above all, please have a good time and come back next year (and bring a friend, too)!

Newsletter Submissions

The Penn-Del Tips will be available as you enter Reisner Dining Hall 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.

From The Editor

Light. We all know what it is. We cannot seem to get by without it. How many times have we gotten up in the middle of the night and stumbled in the dark. Maybe you stubbed your toe or fell. If we had simply turned on the light, though, you could see where you were going.

In the King James Version of the Bible, Light is mentioned 272 times. God jumps right in from the beginning. We all know the line – “Let there be.....LIGHT”. And there was light. And it was good. The very first thing God did when he created the world was create light.

An interesting thing about light is that it doesn't take much to overcome the darkness. If you were to turn of the lights in a room, we could see that it's impossible to get it completely pitch black. You'll get light from the street through the window, light from the emergency exit signs, etc. Even a cell phone's backlight brings an extraordinary amount of light into a dark place. If you've ever gone to a candlelight service at a church, you would see how brilliantly lit the church becomes. Starting from a single candle and then stretching until everyone is holding a light.

We take light for granted, don't we? I had my electricity out at my home a little while back. The first thing that we looked for was candles and flashlights. We didn't seem to be able to function in an absence of light. The children, of course, were frightened and it was unnerving for me to not be able to see clearly where we may be going in the house.

By the same token, many of us in the world today are living in darkness. Not physical darkness, but spiritual darkness. It is the responsibility of everyone who is a believer in Jesus Christ to shine their spiritual light into the darkness of the world.

Jesus tells us in Mathew 5:16 that we are to let our light shine before men, that they may see your good works and this part is important Glorify your Father which is in Heaven. We are to let our light shine and not hide it under a bushel basket. We are to put that light up on a stand so that everyone can see it. And when they see it, they will PRAISE GOD!

This does not mean that you need to be on the street corner preaching. It doesn't mean that you need to thump people over the head with scripture on every possible occasion. What it means is that you need to be living a light-filled life, doing your best to be a source of light to those in darkness. Praise God in all things. Consider the colloquialism “What Would Jesus Do” in all things. Let all that you do be done in love to glorify the Lord.

As we go through this weekend retreat, please consider how bright **your** light is. The “Light of the World” shines brightly and will never have a power outage. I pray that your light will do the same.