



June 2004

PENN-DEL TIPS

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

Visit us on the web at www.abmopad.org

From the President's Desk

The race toward our 2004 ABMOPAD retreat has entered the homestretch and our year of jubilee is less than two months away. Your ABMOPAD Executive VP Bob Singley is leading the board in the final preparations and is doing a great job in putting together an outstanding retreat. I hope that each of you are as excited about this year's retreat as I am. I'm expecting God to do great things at the retreat and that lives will be changed forever as the fire of his Holy Spirit descends upon the Shippensburg University campus on July 30, 31 and August 1, 2004.

The events that await you at this year's retreat include Dr Harold Dean Trulear, who is going to be our keynote speaker and will both challenge and feed us from the word of God.

Tim Munson will be bringing us the special music and Bob Sterling will be returning to work with our youth program. Bob Singley has put together a great selection of workshops from which to choose.

If you have not pre-registered, now is the time to do it. If you prefer to register at the retreat, that's OK as long as we get together at Shippensburg University. See you there!

Attention Musicians!

If you play an instrument and would like to participate in the Orchestra this year, please contact Phil Steinhoff in advance of the retreat so he can plan accordingly. Phil can be reached at:

Phil Steinhoff
13 Shady Lane
Dover DE 19901-6226
Phone: (302)698-9908
Email: psteinhoff@access-4-free.com

Van Drivers Needed for 50th Retreat!

The events staff of Shippensburg University has graciously agreed to lend us their shuttle vans for our 50th retreat. We need to provide the drivers, however. Anyone who is interested in driving must complete the two driver information forms. They can be downloaded from our website at

www.abmopad.org. Complete the forms and return them to Bob Singley ASAP, as we need to have them to the University no later than July 22. This valuable service depends on volunteers, so please help if you can. Bob's contact information is:

Bob Singley
3727 Clearwater Lane
Upland, PA 19015
(610) 872-8580

Thank you in advance for your support!

Workshops for our 50th Retreat

The following is a partial list of available workshops that will be offered at the 50th retreat:

I'm Saved, now what do I do? - Ever wonder what a new Christian man needs to do when this time comes? Or what can we more 'seasoned', men do today to help? One way of helping each other out is to join your local church's Men's and Boy's Fellowship. No man is an island, and therefore Men's issues are more personal and can be acted upon with each other. If you have not joined a Men's group or don't have one to join, let's discuss how we can get you and your church started.

Growing Vital Congregations - It's possible for churches to be vibrant, healthy, life-giving congregation...regardless of size. Just as the human body has vital signs that measure one's health, so also does the Church, the Body of Christ. These 'vital signs' include proclaiming Christ, expresses authentic worship, make disciples, prays fervently, models servant-leadership, fellowships in love, serves others, and seeks God's vision. come and learn more about these 'vital signs' and an assessment tool capable of measuring them in your church.

Orchestra and Choir - Phil Steinhoff has agreed once again to direct our orchestra. Please make sure you bring your instruments. Bob McQue will return as the choir director. You don't have to sing lovely, just love to sing.

Taking your youth ministry to the next level - Are you scratching your head asking what do I do

with these teens? Or maybe you have been working with a faithful five and you want to work on growing the ministry. If so, this workshop is for you!

These and many more workshops will be offered. A full list is available on the ABMOPAD website.

Booster Call Update

Our 49th booster call went out recently in support of American Baptist Men's work at the national level. So far, we've raised approximately \$3,500. We're hoping for a grand total of \$7,500 by the time of the retreat. If you've not already sent in your support, please do so soon. If you didn't receive a letter and are a current Booster member, please send your support to the address below.

The Booster Club is our mission outreach program supported by contributions of its members. The Board of Managers sends out no more than two calls per year and members agree to contribute \$10 or more per call. Many worthwhile suggestions are made for Booster Calls and the board attempts to vary them among the PA/DE region, USA and overseas. If you are not currently a member of the Booster Club and wish to join, you may become one by sending a contribution for Booster Call 49 to:

Rob McQue
216 Brenton Circle
Harleysville, PA 19438

Please make all checks payable to ABMOPAD. Anyone who contributes will be automatically added to the roles of the Booster Club and will receive a membership card in the mail.

From the Editor

Wow! Fifty years of ABMOPAD retreats. That's fifty years of men doing ministry in our region. It's hard to fathom how far-reaching this can be. While our attendance over the last several years has been down a bit, a conservative estimate could put our average attendance at around 350 to 400 men per year. 350 men per year, times 50 years – that's 17,500 "man-years" of ministry at the retreats! Let's not stop there, though. Are we called to simply attend retreats? Of course not! While attending the annual conference is a good start, we are certainly called to go beyond that. We are commanded to go and make disciples of all people, baptizing them in the name of the Father, Son and Holy Spirit (Matthew 28:19). I'm too young to have attended the first retreats, but I've been attending since I was a young teen, and from the men I've met at the retreats as well as at other regional functions over the years, I can tell you with certainty that we, as American Baptist Men, are not taking

that command lightly. I constantly meet and hear from men who are doing amazing things for our Lord, from local men's ministries in their church to far-reaching ministries across the world. Perhaps it's fitting that the theme verse for our fiftieth retreat is "Who knows, perhaps you've come to royal dignity for such a time as this." Some would say that it only applies to Queen Esther, that we are not "royal". I tell you men that we have come to royal dignity, through our faith in the Lord Jesus Christ. We are his sons and therefore heirs to his kingdom (Galatians 3:26-29). We must do something with this "royal dignity". A very wise woman said to me recently, "If you walk with purpose, you will collide with destiny."

Our purpose: to be men in ministry, winning souls to Christ.

Our destiny: fellowship with our brothers and sisters and eternal life in our Lord Jesus Christ.

Don't wait, gentlemen! We have been brought to royal dignity for such a time as this!

Recreational Activities for the 50th Retreat

One of the wonderful aspects of our retreats is the recreational activities offered every year. Here are some highlights:

The Annual Golf Outing will be held at Cumberland Golf Club on July 30. See the ABMOPAD website for further details

On July 31, we will of course have the horseshoes, volleyball, tennis, basketball and softball games. We will also have the University swimming pool available. If you wish to participate in any of these activities, please bring appropriate clothing and/or equipment (softball glove, swim suit, appropriate footwear, etc.).

50th Anniversary Celebration Fund

Please prayerfully consider having your men's group/class or church make a gift to the 50th Anniversary Fund. This will help to cover costs for the 50th anniversary celebration. Have your gift made out to ABMOPAD, mark it for the 50th Anniversary and mail it to Treasurer, Gary Stump, 2417 Sunnyside Rd., Manheim, PA 17545.

ABMOPAD Board Vacancies

The Board of Managers welcomes Jason West as the new Delaware Area Vice President. We are grateful that God has led him to serve in this capacity. As of this writing, we still have some other vacancies on the board. We need area vice presidents for Pittsburgh and the Northwest area as well as a Youth Director. If you feel led to serve, please contact Bob Singley or John Anderson.