

In Mission for Christ

“Thanks, I needed that!” Our recent mission conference was a gold mine. I would like to highlight three great applications from Dr. Medeiros’ teaching.

1. “Don’t waste your geography-Jesus didn’t waste His geography.” In other words, look around the places where you live and move: your school, your workplace, your shopping places, your YMCA, your golf course...all of these are your geography. In your geography there are people who need Christ.

Dr. Medeiros told us he does not like the word ‘missions’ because we tend to think missions are other places (not across the street)... No, don’t waste your geography!

2. “You throw the net...God will bring the fish.” (See John 21:4-6) Our job is to throw the net, i.e. the going, the sending, the telling of the gospel of grace to all who would hear. It falls to us to be Christians who understand the times in which we live (1 Chronicles 12:32) and are wise in casting the ‘net’. For example, right after WW II came the Billy Graham crusades; “Peace with God”....In the 1960’s, Campus Crusades’ four spiritual laws. (We used to believe in universal laws then). In the 1970’s came the advent of Evangelism Explosion: visiting in teams, learning a detailed gospel presentation (15-20 minutes), on the job training (brilliant)...the diagnostic questions (great!)...however, each of these methods grew “long in the tooth”. The message of the gospel is eternal but the method changes. After a decade of EE in my former church we concluded; although EE is an excellent tool, we needed a ‘net’ (method) more suited to the community (I Chron.12:32). We needed to be more relational....more thoughtful regarding children and youth ministries (Truth Troop)...better at Mercy Ministries.

3. Mark 1:17. Reformed people need to emphasize the ‘sending’ -‘the going’ as much as we do effectual calling. Being passive? No way!

I Corinthians 9:19, Paul speaks of winning people.

I Thess.2:2, Paul agonizes for the sake of the gospel.

Dr. Medeiros was effective in bringing this home to us, giving many examples from his own life of not wasting his geography (initiating conversations in restaurants, airplanes, shopping, and the Pittsburgh incline). He not only teaches about fishing for men, but practices it. In my opinion this is rare in the theological world.

Conclusion:

How shall we not “waste” our Penn Hills geography?
Are we growing in becoming fishers of men?

COMING EVENTS



MAY 1
6 P.M.
PROMISES MUSICAL
“ELIJAH”

MAY 2
7 P.M.
BABY SHOWER FOR
LIZ SHEPLER

MAY 8
1:30 P.M.
SENECA SUNDAY

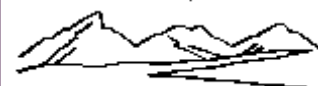
MAY 12
9:30 A.M.
MOPS BRUNCH

MAY 13
8 P.M.
YOUTH GROUP LOCK-IN

MAY 17
1:00 P.M.
LUNCH BUNCH

SUNDAY, MAY 22
OFFICER ORDINATION AND
INSTALLATION

*There is none
holier as the
LORD:
neither is
there any
rock like
our God.*



1 Samuel 2:2


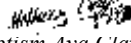




May



2011

Sunday Monday Tuesday Wednesday Thursday Friday Saturday

<p>1 Rev. Tweeddale A.M. <i>Lord's Supper</i> P.M. Promises Musical <i>Elijah</i></p>	<p>2  7 pm Baby Shower Liz Shepler</p>	<p>3</p>	<p>4 6 pm CE Meeting 7 pm Youth Group 7 pm Choir</p>	<p>5</p>	<p>6 7:00 p.m. College & Career Bible Study</p>	<p>7</p>
<p>8 A.M. Rev. Tweeddale  <i>Baptism Ava Clayton</i> Seneca Sunday 1:30 pm P.M. Rev. Tweeddale</p>	<p>9</p>	<p>10 7 pm Plum Covenant Group</p>	<p>11 7 pm Youth Group</p>	<p>12 9:30 am MOPS Brunch</p>	<p>13 7:00 p.m. College & Career Bible Study 8 pm Youth Group Lock-in</p>	<p>14</p>
<p>15 A.M. Rev. Tweeddale P.M. Rev. Tweeddale</p>	<p>16</p>	<p>17 1 pm Lunch Bunch 7 pm Session</p>	<p>18 7 pm Youth Group 7 pm Choir</p>	<p>19</p>	<p>20 7:00 p.m. College & Career Bible Study</p>	<p>21 9 am Mission Committee</p>
<p>22 A.M. Rev. Tweeddale <i>Officer ordination and installation</i> P.M. Rev. Tweeddale</p>	<p>23</p>	<p>24</p>	<p>25 7 pm Youth Group</p>	<p>26</p>	<p>27 7:00 p.m. College & Career Bible Study</p>	<p>28</p>
<p>29 A.M. Rev. Tweeddale P.M. Rev. Tweeddale</p>	<p>30  MEMORIAL DAY</p>	<p>31</p>	<p></p>	<p>Each Sunday: 9:30 a.m. Sunday School for all ages 10:45 a.m. Morning Worship 6:30 p.m. Evening Worship</p>		

OUR TOKYO (CHIBA) TEAM AND THE JAPANESE DIASTER

The Chiba team began to prepare to help the victims within 2 ½ hours of the earthquake. Even though they are 200 miles away they began praying for a place where they could connect with a pastor. People and vans were gathering ready to go somewhere. They were able to reach a pastor they could help in the area of Miyagi, Fukushima (where the nuclear reactors are) and Ibaraki. They desperately needed water and gasoline. The displaced people were stunned, cold, tired, but most desperate for water. Many took less than a container full so more could be served. The missionaries saw almost no official relief supplies coming in this early. The people back at the church, including non-Christian friends and neighbors were working day and night filling trucks. They then began working with the CRASH emergency response team of the Japan Evangelical Missionary Association to coordinate locations. The Chiba church plans to focus on this area long term through the recovery and rebuilding efforts. In this area are some of the most spiritually needy places in Japan. The pastor felt these proud people would not allow them to help. After they returned for the third day to a place a lady said she had concluded that Christ had sent them in this difficult time. All the evangelical missionaries had been praying for God to send whatever was needed to wake up Japan from their spiritual slumber. This has done that. The church-planting timetable has advanced by several years already. May this disaster be used for his glory!

Linda Karner is a member of this team but currently on HMA in the US.

May the Japanese people come to thirst like this spiritually,
 and be this desperate seeking Living Water (Isa. 55:1-2; John 4).
 - May they flee to higher ground... to The High Rock (Ps. 61:2).
 - May a tsunami of grace, wave after wave, flood Japan (Ezek. 47; John 1:16)

May Birthdays



2	Rich Gardner Shelah Renda	17	Bob Knox Scott Magnuson
4	Liza Gray	18	John Faber
5	Ralph Master	19	Katie Anderson
6	Amy Frost Nathan McGuire	22	Catherine Harke Narcilyn Matta
7	Harry McGuigan	23	Eric Kahle
8	Maria Taylor Mark Taylor	25	Shawna Crawford Anna Jane Sneddon Matthew Sullivan
10	Christopher Dietz	26	Mitchell McGuire
11	Keith Nelson	30	Seth Clayton
14	Patty Frost Paul West	31	Briana Boyer
15	Debbie Faber Carol McGuigan Paul Musser		
16	Lara DeFazio		



Baptisms

Noah Anderson, son of JJ and Katie Anderson, and Tyler Douglas, son of Eric and Julie Douglas, were baptized on April 17, 2011.



Christian sympathy is extended to the family of Mr. Ken Forman, member of FRPC, who passed away on March 19, 2011.



Financial Summary
 January 1 - March 31, 2011

Operating Account:	
Receipts	\$ 92,800
Disbursements	\$ 87,817
<i>Account Balances -</i>	
Operating Checking	\$ 12,058
Operating Saving	\$ 223,311
Benevolence Account:	
Income	\$ 28,128
Disbursements	\$ 25,394

Baby Showers Coming Up!

7 p.m. Monday, May 2 for Liz Shepler
7 p.m. Thursday , June 2, Melissa George



MOPS Spring Brunch

Thursday, May 12
9:30 - 11:30 am

Come for a time of food and fellowship and to hear our speaker

Amy Sabella, who will share with us about God's grace to her and to her family as Amy dealt with health problems over the past few years.



Lunch Bunch in May
Hoss's Steak & Sea House
4813 William Penn Hwy, Murrysville, PA 15668
(724) 733-2090

Please sign up at Welcome Center soon!