

News from Around the District. . . .

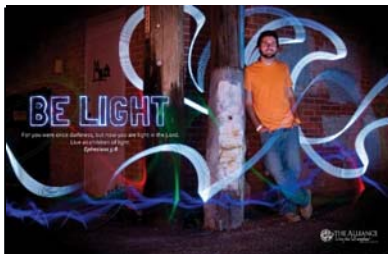
September 2011

Congratulations to Rev. Ben Lane on completing all requirements for ordination with The Christian and Missionary Alliance. A service of ordination was held on Sunday, August 21 at Creekside Community Church in Arlington, MN where Ben is pastor. Superintendent Wiggins participated in the service.

Ben recently returned from a trip to Vietnam where he was reunited with his biological mother and family. He will be sharing about this trip at a special service at Creekside - 3 p.m. on September 11.



Don & Linda Wiggins, Stacy & Ben Lane



BE LIGHT!

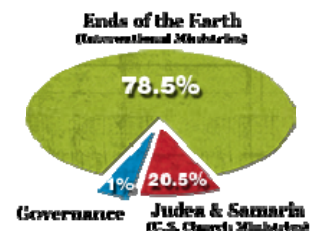
Churches are gearing up for fall ministries and our annual missions events are a highlight! More than 70 churches will be receiving missionary guests this fall who will be representing Alliance missions worldwide. Ministries range from rescuing children from the sex-industry, to Bible school teachers and CAMA services workers, to 'career' IM missionaries. Geographically, Europe, South America, Asia, Africa and the Middle East will be represented in our churches.

The Alliance family is global, with Alliance churches and ministries in more than 80 countries, 62 in which we have workers representing Christ and edifying His Church. More than half of the Alliance international worker corps ministers in the '10/40 Window'. Many are in 'creative access countries' where the government, culture and/or dominant religion is not favorable to Christians. In a world of nearly 7 billion people, nearly 1/3 will only hear if someone brings the Gospel message - in love, deed and word - from outside their own context. For that reason, and in obedience to Christ's call and command, we are engaged. **Be light!**

Local churches are planning and promoting their fall missions events. Spread the news, connect with the missionary guest in your church, and in nearby Alliance churches. Getting to know these workers, their lives and ministry contexts, allows us to better understand and develop a heart for people in other cultures - nearby and far-away!

Great Support for Great Commission Ministries!

The NWD family has 22 international workers and soon to have another family join that number in 2012! We also have 2 'missionary apprentices' whose ranks will double in the next few months. Missionary Apprentices serve in a 'self-funded' status overseas for a two year period alongside our regular international workers. Jessica Lloyd and Karissa Wallace will be going to Costa Rica and Germany (respectively) in late 2011 or early 2012. Your prayer support for all of these workers - apprentices, CAMA, IM (international Ministries 'career' missionaries) and Marketplace Ministry workers (formerly known as IFAP) is vital!



Our financial support of this missionary extension of the local church is also our privilege. The NWD family is generous in it's support. A total of 39 churches participated earlier this year in the Great Commission Sunday offering, contributing \$57,400. Thank you! Thus far, our family of 100 churches (and 10 non-Alliance churches) have given \$1,088,000. This is above the previous two years' YTD giving! Great Commission Ministries giving includes GCF, CAMA, official partnerships and designated giving (projects, vehicles, etc.).

Thank you to our entire NWD family for making cross-cultural missions and relief ministries part of your passion and outreach to the world!

Learn more about the GCF, and information explaining it to local church missions teams, newcomers to the Alliance, and leaders by visiting: www.cmalliance.org/about/great-commission-fund



A Word from Dave Toth—BSC Executive Director

With the conclusion of Labor Day Family Camp, Big Sandy will have finished up another “Camp” season. Our summer sessions were very successful in terms of Kingdom work. We were witness to dozens of kids coming to Christ weekly! I would like to offer my thanks to our speakers and camp pastors who guided them to the cross and provided support and leadership to our summer staff.

We aim to show the kids a great time at camp with lots of fun, friends, and laughs, but what do we really gain if that is our only measuring stick? Our true mission is to see as many as possible follow Jesus. We know that a high percentage of today’s Christians made decisions at a young age. With those statistics in mind, we would still like to see all of our sessions full to maximize that impact. Our NWD churches can help us out in the following ways:

- Please encourage your congregations to be sending their kids to camp
- Promote camp year round! We have retreats going from September through May every year in addition to the summer camp sessions.
- Please consider camp scholarship funds a priority in your budget.
- Appoint a camp coordinator to be our contact person. We’ve been sending out emails and event announcements all year long, but there are still many churches that do not have a contact person.

To all the faithful followers and supporters of Big Sandy Camp who have made our transition here a joy, we say thank you! We are enjoying our work at camp and rejoice over the many incredible stories of God’s faithfulness and grace being extended to our campers. Dave & Brenda

Looking for Something?

Verndale Alliance Church is looking for the video/DVD series **Experiencing God** by Henry Blackaby. If you have one they could borrow please contact Michelle at vernema@wcta.net or call the church at 218-445-5619.

Riverside Church of Big Lake/Monticello has these items for sale:

- ◆ Nursery paging system
- ◆ Pipe Organ

Interested? Contact Skipp Machmer at skipp@myriversidechurch.com or call the church at 763-263-2410.

Open Churches



New Life Church
Clarkfield, MN
Whitefish Community Church
Pine River, MN
New Hope Community
Sleepy Eye, MN
Sand Lake Alliance
Spring Lake, MN
River’s Edge
Watertown, MN
Redevelopment church
Watertown, SD



Dates to Remember

September 9	Tour orientation for C&MA International Workers—District Office
September 12	LO&CC—District Office
September 14	SE Minnesota Prayer Area visit by district staff—CCC Rochester
September 15	Metro NW Prayer Area—Gateway Church—Elk River
September 18	Living Hope Community Church—Huron, SD—75th Anniversary
September 19	South Dakota Prayer Area visit by district staff—Huron, SD
September 20	Red River Valley Prayer Area visit by district staff—Hawley, MN
September 26-28	Seniors Retreat at Big Sandy Camp
October 3	LO&CC—District Office
October 7-9	Women’s Retreat at Big Sandy Camp
October 12-14	Church Planting Couples Retreat—St. Cloud, MN
October 29, 30	C&MA Men—2nd annual Leadership Roundtable Retreat at BSC