



CARLTON L. COON, SR.

And God Gave Some...

A few days back, I heard about one of our preachers who is being treated in a somewhat interesting way. After having faithfully served his church for several years, the following was taking place:

1. The folks he served only paid him forty-two weeks of each year. Actually Christmas week was one of the ten weeks when the church decided not to pay him.
2. The payroll system is unusual. One week the preacher has 50 in church with a paycheck of \$1,200, and the next week 600 attend and the compensation is \$300. Unusual to say the least!
3. The fellow who manages the church payroll actually seemed to be insulted when the preacher asked what he might expect to be compensated.
4. The minister told of driving 300 miles one way to serve his constituency. He received a \$300 honorarium. Fuel for the trip was \$125, the motel was \$80, and four fast food meals for he and his wife were \$60, leaving \$35 after expenses.
5. Vacation is another thing the preacher can do about any time he wishes, but the church told him, "Since you aren't here to preach, don't expect a check for that week."
6. Life insurance and a retirement plan? Somebody asked, "Is that a joke?" If he dies his wife can get a job. Social Security will take care of old age.
7. Routine realities of life like bad weather, sickness, and vehicle breakdowns adversely affect the guy's paycheck.
8. One critic even said the preacher lacked commitment and intimated he lacked faith because the preacher's wife supplemented their income by making and selling a few handcrafts.

You may ask who would pastor a bunch of people who would treat him so erratically. Actually, the preacher is not a pastor but an evangelist; and not "an" evangelist but almost *all* evangelists.

Brethren, evangelists are no modern invention. The office and ministry is a "God deal." A "God deal" to be valued, validated, and appropriately supported. The late Charley Mahaney put it this way, "In Ephesians 4:11-12, Paul's pen placed the ministry of the evangelist in the center, with apostles and prophets on one side, and teachers and pastors on the other. God's placing of these ministries tells us all that we are inter-dependent, building on what others have done. We are 'Laborers Together.'"

Are not the verses readily applied to a pastor also relevant to an evangelist?

- The laborer is worthy of his hire. (Luke 10:7)
- He that ministers of Holy things, should live of the temple. (I Corinthians 9:13-14)

Evangelists did not ask me to write this communiqué but there are some things we need to think about.

"It all comes from the 'Pot'"

A pastor's livelihood is derived from the local church, and in some cases a secular job, while a full-time evangelist's livelihood comes solely from those for whom he preaches.

Most pastors, regardless of church size, (with the possible exception of church plants) enjoy some

benefits. Such benefits *may* include:

- An IRS-approved housing allowance
- Health insurance (paid or provided at discount)
- Certain vehicle and fuel expenses
- Retirement
- Cell phone/long distance
- A church credit card for approved expenses
- An allowance for conference expenses like travel, meals, hotels, and offerings during the Home or Foreign Missions service.

Evangelists generally do not enjoy the same “perks.” The expenses remain but an evangelist pays them all *out* of his income. It all comes from the pot. Imagine being the last evangelist to preach at your church and having to pay all of these expenses (the trailer note, the escrow funds for cancellations, etc.) out of what you compensated for the last revival or weekend of services? Could you make ends meet?

Many evangelists support Foreign Missions, Christmas for Christ, and Metro Missionaries. Amazing sacrificial offerings to Home Missions have come from the likes of Evangelist Eli and Kathy Hernandez or Jason and Kimberly Sciscoe. When an evangelist gives, it doesn’t come out of a church’s mission’s fund. It comes out of his living. Every time he commits to giving, he will feel it personally. When you total the evangelists’ giving together, you would be amazed at the thousands of dollars these good folks give. Our evangelists are committed to the United Pentecostal Church.

So with all of these considerations, let’s talk about real world expenses for the “average evangelist.”

Imagine a church pays an evangelist \$1,000.00 for a week of revival.

Tithes	\$100.00
Average fuel cost to the next revival	250.00
Meals for a family of four traveling two days	240.00
Two nights at a budget motel	150.00
Van payment and Insurance per week	100.00
Laundromat	<u>30.00</u>
Total	\$870.00

That would leave a net of \$130.00 not including routine life expenses.

Some interesting statistics for an evangelist:

- Less than half our evangelists have medical coverage.
- Weeks cancelled each year – **2.5 weeks**
- Weeks that cannot be scheduled each year – **7.4 weeks**
- Total weeks with no income – **10 weeks**

This is reality for the hundreds of evangelists in our ranks. They face these facts each week. Seems like the Master talked about “Doing unto others as you’d have them do unto you.” Would you want to pastor in a setting where they treated you in exactly the way evangelists are being treated?

How can we do this better?

Some of the suggestions I’m offering are more radical than others. Regardless of whether you do any of this or not – at least think about whether you treat evangelists with appropriate value.

Pastor and evangelist alike are to live a life of faith. Now I may be the exception to the rule, but when I went to pastor in Springfield, my last question to the trustees was about the amount of support we could expect. *It is wise and scriptural to count the costs.* While the will of God is not always based on monies to be received, it does seem prudent to know the costs involved. Following are suggestions on how we can help our evangelists. If you have never evangelized, you may want to ask someone who has, so you can know better how to bless these good men and women.

Suggestions:

- Most pastors have a base figure in mind to pay an evangelist. Inform the evangelist ahead of time of these plans and have an adequate amount set aside before he arrives. If God provides more, pass it on to the evangelist.
- Should the norm be to pay the evangelist what it takes for the pastor to live – whether all of that income comes from the church or from secular employment? Might pay be equal to the value of the pastor's overall benefit and expense package rather than just equal to a pastor's weekly salary?
- There's a problem when it costs more to travel than the evangelist receives in the offering. William Sechrist was one of the first Home Missions evangelists, and without apology he hitchhiked to many revivals. We live in a different day. It'd be unacceptable for an evangelist to tell a pastor he didn't have the money to drive to the meeting. "So who's financially responsible for the evangelist getting there? God or the church?" How about this: God *through* the church. Pay the IRS-approved travel costs incurred to bring the evangelist to your church. This would be over and above the honorarium; a separate check sent in advance or provided on arrival. The evangelist can provide the mileage in advance to allow you time to prepare.
- Provide a cancellation offering to evangelists for each week cancelled if it is within 3 months of the scheduled time. Also, offer to call other pastors to help schedule the time.
- A pastor must also consider that if he schedules an evangelist's Sunday, he most likely has taken the evangelist's entire week and should pay accordingly. Most evangelists cannot schedule revival services during the mid-week without a Sunday. So if you schedule the evangelist for a Sunday, choosing to have no additional services, what you pay him will be all he receives for that *entire week*.
- Since evangelists are unpaid 20% of the year, increase your minimum compensation by 20%.
- Initiate an evangelist's support fund to help with emergencies. Perhaps a group of 100 pastors (maybe fellows who evangelized in earlier days) would contribute \$1,000 annually to cover qualified emergencies. Is there a pastor who'd like to help me (and more important, help our evangelists) by taking the lead in developing this project?

Do unto an evangelist . . . as you would have done unto you if *you* were an evangelist!

The evangelist leads a unique life, and the ministry is one of great value to the Kingdom. Let us work together to appropriately provide for these worthy ministers.

The Evangelist's Coordinator of the United Pentecostal Church is Tim Greene. If you have any thoughts about how to help our evangelists, contact Brother Greene at tjgreene@hotmail.com. To designate an offering to an evangelist or to an evangelist's emergency fund, send that check to the General Home Missions Division, clearly designating your intent. The Home Missions Executive Team will administer an emergency account as we do the Home Missionaries Emergency account.

News and Views

March/April 2010

Christmas for Christ 2009 Update – Preliminary numbers are starting to come in as this Communiqué is being developed. So far, several District Directors are reporting an increase from last year's offering. If you have not sent in your church's offering, please help. Our goal is to have 100% of our churches investing in helping church planters through *Christmas for Christ*. Church plants in North America multiply our evangelistic effectiveness and increase the investment in Foreign Missions. *When you invest in a church planter you invest in everything!*

HM Live Leadership Training for 2010 – Leadership Training is provided the last Tuesday of each month. The resources include lesson material pastor's to download, includes a student handout. Use the resource to teach yourself or use the webcast version. This year's training will be devoted to "The Apostolic Continuum" addressing Apostolic ministry from pre-conversion to spiritual fatherhood.

Spanish Leadership Training – The last Tuesday of each month HM provides Leadership Training in Spanish. This is a language and cultural adaptation of the English version. Errin Bryant is doing the adaptation.

Home Missions Training Seminar Online – A significant *Christmas for Christ (CFC)* mandate is the training of missionaries. This year the training will be provided online. It becomes available April 1st. Presenters include David Bernard, Rex Deckard, Cindy Miller, as well as Rick and Donna Maricelli. *CFC* sponsored missionaries are required to participate. In the interest of providing a resource to our entire fellowship – the training will be made available to all. Though there is no cost to participate a registration process is required. Contact rfazzalore@upci.org for more information.

Christian Prisoner Fellowship Conference – Our annual CPF conference is March 26-27 at First Church in Nashville, TN (Pastor Ron Becton). Pre-registration is \$35.00. Onsite registration is \$45.00. For information about having a display or to pre-register go to www.christianprisonerfellowship.net or call 314-837-7300 (extension 360). Two distinct tracks of training will benefit veteran chaplains as well as those just starting into prison ministry. Pastors this is a great opportunity to get someone in your church passionate and purposeful about prison ministry. I commend Chaplain Michael Rickenbaker for the excellent work being done in prison evangelism.

Encouragement to Home Missionaries – Leaders of several events make a great investment in Home Missionaries. Pastor Jerry Dillon hosts about sixty Home Missionaries at *The Apostolic Conference*. Pastor Anthony Mangun and sponsors of *Because of the Times* register Home Missionaries at no cost. *Winterfire* led by Northeast Regional Director Kent Elliott does the same. The encouragement of such events is a great benefit to church planters.

Investing in Home Missions – I received several positive responses on last year's *Communiqué* on estate planning. One of the most touching came from Elder Richard Tiller. Bro. Tiller is 91 years old and read in the *Communiqué* about donor-advised funds. Bro. Tiller lives with his daughter on a small social security income, but had his daughter contact Bro. Drury about his interest in investing in such a directed cause to help some aspect of Home Missions. What an attitude of interest in "Future Church!" We continue to hear of others who chose to include Home Missions in their financial plan. If you would like to join in impacting eternity through your investment contact us at (314) 837-7300 ext. 367 or Evangelist Stan Thrift at (318) 680-3208.

Thank You – A great “thank you” to various divisions and departments for partnering with Home Missionaries. Through the years Home Missionaries have been served by contributions from various other divisions or ministries. Word Aflame Press provides each new missionary a quarter of Word Aflame literature and other materials; Sunday School provides funds for a Home Missionary to have a Children’s Revival; and Ladies Ministry and the Youth Division make allocations to missionary needs. These serve Home Missionary needs that would otherwise go unmet.

Sis. Oakes and Ladies Ministry allocated a total of \$18,000 from *Mother’s Memorial* to Home Missions ministries. (Prison Ministry: \$8,000.00 / Literature: \$5,000.00 / Multicultural Ministries: \$5,000.00)

Bro. Mann and his team in Youth Ministry provided \$71,800 in *Sheaves for Christ* allocations for property purchases.

Twitter – I’m far too young to stop trying new things. Social networking via the internet is an area I am learning more about. On *Twitter* you can learn a tiny bit of what happens in the Home Missions world by following <http://twitter.com/HMDIR>. I’ll try to keep my 140 characters focused on the relevant. General Superintendent David Bernard can be followed at <http://twitter.com/davidkbernard>.

Metro Missions – A great need is in North America’s large cities. Metro Missions is an opportunity for a missionary to be full-time as they launch a church. Several steps of approval are necessary – the local district, followed by the same level of examination as a Foreign Missionary appointment. A metro missionary then deputizes to gain financial support. This process takes about eighteen months. Donors provide support for the first five years of the church plant. We need Metro Missionaries. Information about Metro Missions is on pages 86-88 of the 2010 manual. Metro Missions applications are available for download at homemissionsdivision.com. Cities approved for a potential Metro Missionary are:

Montreal, Quebec	Cleveland/Akron, OH	Atlanta, GA
Vancouver, BC	Detroit, MI	Honolulu, HI
New York, NY	Minneapolis, MN	Orlando, FL
Boston, MA	Washington, DC	Tampa/St. Petersburg, FL
Ft. Lauderdale, FL	Pittsburgh, PA	Milwaukee, WI
Salt Lake City, UT	Seattle, WA	Jacksonville, FL
Miami, FL	Hartford (Fairfield/New Haven), CT	Kansas City, MO
Los Angeles, CA	Baltimore, MD	Oklahoma City, OK
Philadelphia, PA	Portland, OR	St. Louis, MO
Providence, RI	San Francisco, CA	Charlotte, NC
Chicago, IL		

Newfoundland District Conference – Our district conference in the Home Missions District of Newfoundland saw the licensing of an additional young preacher. All but two pastors attended the District Conference. I honor District Secretary Leroy Gee and Host Pastor Keith Locke for their efforts.

Church In A Day – On February 5-6, an army of workers descended on muddy Grand Lake, Louisiana to raise up a building for this Home Missions church. This was my first CIAD project. I’m no builder but the synergy and collaboration of a diverse group of laymen and pastors were a sight to behold. One laborer from Bossier City (Pastor Jerry Dean) repented and received the Holy Ghost while working on the baptistery. On the opening service the building was full, with over 50 of those present part of the Grand Lake church. Two were baptized in Jesus Name. Every preacher should attend at least one Church in a Day to be reminded of “why” it is great to be part of the UPCI. We can do together what none can do alone. Several CIAD projects are in the works. Contact Brian Hord at bhord@upci.org for the latest information.

People of the Mission

March – April 2010

Home Missionary Reports

Home Missionary **Stephen Williams** (Sioux City, IA) had 62 at the Christmas program. Home Missionaries **R. Stacey and Melody Meeks** (Hermitage, TN) are teaching a Bible study to their next door neighbor. She recently received the Holy Ghost. Pastor **Robert Eaby** (King George, VA) baptized 11 and had 7 filled with the Holy Ghost last year. Pastor **Ronald Rice** (Salt Lake City, UT) had 113 at their Christmas service. **Home Missionary Kenneth Stewart** (Tampa, FL) had a special service for the last service of 2009. The building lost power, but they had a powerful A cappella worship service with 3 baptized. Pastor **Courtney Brown** (Far Rockaway, NY) had 95 visitors and 38 guests for 2009. 13 were baptized and 10 filled with the Holy Ghost. Missionary **Chad Harper** (Pflugerville, TX) reports 3 cancer healings in 2009 and over 165 filled with the Holy Ghost—155 in prison ministry. **Robert E. Hohman, Sr.** (Dixon, MO) had 2 receive the Holy Ghost in December. Probation officers are now promoting the church's ACTS classes. Sis. Hohman is now president of the city library board. Missionary **Stuart Young** (Livermore, CA) had 1 filled with the Holy Ghost in December. Home Missionary **Philip Phillips** (Chatham, Ontario—a Church in a Day project) had first-time visitors in every service in December with 1 baptized. Pastor **Horacio Lachica** (Laguna Hills, CA) had 80 for their Christmas service; they are teaching 12 Bible studies and recently baptized 1. **Dean Lunsford** (Hamilton, OH) had 3 filled with the Holy Ghost in their annual anniversary revival.

Multicultural Ministry

Pastor **T.A. LaFave** (Saratoga Springs, NY) started a campus ministry at a local college and is teaching oneness and baptism to students from various African nations; a student from Ghana got the Holy Ghost. The Spanish Evangelism effort in Bossier City, LA, launched by Intracultural Missionary/Evangelist **Darrell Collins**, recently had 60 with 29 first-time visitors and 1 receiving the Holy Ghost. Fifty were in attendance at the **Filipino conference** in Vancouver. In Juneau, AK (Pastor **William Nelson**) 1 deaf person received the Holy Ghost with **Terry Pugh** preaching. Pastor **David Reever** (Baltimore, MD) had missionary evangelist **Edwin Forkpa** where 7 received the Holy Ghost. Bro. Reever suggested that every pastor have Bro. Forkpa come to their church while he is deputizing in their area.

Metro Missions

Metro Missionary **Brian Williams** (Southgate-Detroit, MI) had their first person receive the Holy Ghost and 5 new visitors in December.

Christian Prisoner Fellowship (CPF)

Chaplain **Michael Rickenbaker** (Nashville, TN) baptized 11 in a metro correction center in 1 weekend. **Pastor Ricardo Gonzalez** (Chicago, IL) reports 20 filled with the Holy Ghost in prison services in December for a total of 403 filled in 2009.

Evangelists

Evangelist **Billy Hughey** reports 2 filled with the Holy Ghost and a Bible study set up with a local Methodist minister in Fannett, TX (Pastor **George Adams**). Harvester **David Smith** was in Katy, TX, with Pastor **Robert McKee** and had 20 get the Holy Ghost and 3 baptized. Evangelist **Brian Norman** reports 41 receiving the Holy Ghost in India, and 4 in Dubai. Evangelist **Travis Worthington** was with Pastor **Timothy Gettings** (Mays Landing, NJ) a 16 month-old church where 2 received the Holy Ghost

and 3 were refilled. The Worthingtons were also with Pastor **Tim Sistrunk** (St. Petersburg, FL) where 5 received the Holy Ghost. **Evangelist Felix Crowder** ministered in South Bend, IN (Pastor **Michael McKinnies Sr.**) where 10 received the Holy Ghost and 5 were baptized.

Special Reports

Pastor **Russell Campbell** (Corpus Christi, TX) baptized 2 Trinitarian pastors in outlying communities and linked 1 of the churches with a UPC church nearby. He is also working with an independent Spanish pastor who may join the UPC with his Guatemalan congregation. **Roy Barnhill** (Lumberton, NC) our Southeast Regional Representative to the HM Administrative Committee has had 11 teenage visitors with 5 receiving the Holy Ghost. A local church of another denomination is asking if their youth can come to Lumberton's youth services.

Special Needs and Prayer Requests

Home Missionary **Stephen Williams** (Sioux City, IA) needs their young people to have a breakthrough. A French-speaking pastor is needed in Trois Riveres, Quebec. Home Missionary **Joe Huffman** (Lincoln, NE) is in need of an electrician to come wire their new building. He has a local contractor who will help with permitting. The men of the church are doing most of the work on this building. If you would like to help or you can pass this on to someone in your church, contact Brian Hord at HMD (bhord@upci.org) or contact Missionary Huffman at (402) 475-9100 or revivalcenter@windstream.net. Church planter **Joel Bean** (Seattle, WA) requests prayer that God would guide them to hungry souls. Pastor **Gary Mackowiak** (Taylorsville, KY) thanks HMD for the funding of *Christmas for Christ*, which has helped keep the church moving forward.

Director's Itinerary

March/April 2010

March

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|-------|---|
| 2 | Executive Board Meeting |
| 3-5 | General Board Meeting |
| 5 | General Superintendent's Inauguration |
| 7 | Springfield, MO (Pastor Ben Medlin) |
| 9 | Monthly Division Head Meeting |
| 10-12 | HM Board of Director's Meeting |
| 14 | Trois Riveres, QC (AM) (Interim Pastor Scott Grant) |
| 14 | Cote des Neiger, QC (PM) (Pastor Fidel Valenciano) |
| 15 | Quebec District Board (District Secretary William Price) |
| 16 | Quebec District Conference (District Secretary William Price) |
| 22-23 | Home Missions Sub-Committee Meetings |
| 23-25 | Mid-Winter Home Missions Administrative Committee |

April

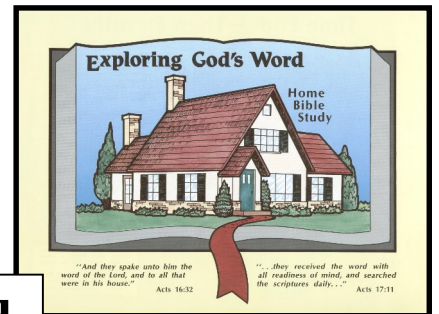
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| 2-4 | Springfield, MO |
| 15-17 | Oregon District Conference (District Superintendent Gary Gleason) |
| 18 | Gresham, OR (Pastor Ted Graves) (10 AM) |
| 18 | Oregon City, OR (Pastor Gary Gleason) (6 PM) |
| 20 | Home Missions Executive Team Meeting |
| 29-30 | Louisiana's Men's Conference |

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