



Beth-El Churches of Christ, Inc.
FROM THE PRESIDING BISHOP'S DESK

The Lord Bless,

This correspondence serves as an invitation for you to attend the Beth-El Churches of Christ "Leadership Refreshing '09." This year's summit will be held on February 25-28, 2009 at the Willow Valley Resort & Conference Center, 2416 Willow Street Pike, Lancaster, PA 17602.

The Church and its leaders have played a very significant role in society throughout history and ultimately have become the nation's source of strength in times of crisis and decisions. We find it necessary to assist the local church in church growth, community development and theological training.

"Come away to a deserted place by yourselves and rest awhile." Mark 6:31

Leadership Refreshing is a time for those who are always giving to receive renewal and reflection, inspiration and fellowship with peers. Once known as The Pastors' Retreat, it has been held annually for the past 4 years. It provides time to meet and pray together, and to learn what it means to be leaders in Christ's church in this age. In keeping with our longer term plan of presenters at our leadership retreat, the 2009 event will feature a general and friend to our organization, Bishop Carl Montgomery. Bishop Montgomery is a pastor, author, teacher, and a profound teacher with a specialty in church history and protocol. He is especially gifted in his work with church leaders and issues we face. Other confirmed presenters include myself, Bishop Craig Coates, Bishop Robert Bussey, Pastor Yolanda Powell, Bishop Sterling Porter, Elder Anterio Cunningham, and Elder Michelle Saddler.

This event is a key piece of our effort as a presbytery to build community with each other and in the spirit of good times, fine food and fellowship and challenging speakers in Lancaster, PA. Make sure this year is on your calendar and be part of this unique cadre of leaders.

The Leadership Refreshing influences progressive means toward the church advancing spiritually, economically, and socially. In the best tradition of our establishmentarian, Bishop Robert Evans, we employ grassroots methodology to achieve successful outcomes in ministry. Leadership Refreshing, once a fledgling conference in the beginning of its 4 year history has drawn several churches from up and down the east coast.

Enclosed for your review is more information concerning the event. We hope that you can attend and encourage others. Questions about the retreat should be directed to the attention of Bishop Kenneth Hill (410) 440-4244 and Pastor Steven J. Smith (240) 294-4307.

Thank you for your consideration. We hope you will see the importance of this great endeavor. Again, thank you and may the freshness of the Spirit of Christ continue to rest with you and yours.

Sincerely,

+ Bernard N. Bragg

Bishop Bernard N. Bragg
Presiding Bishop



Leadership Refreshing '09
The 4th Annual Local Church Leadership Retreat
Of the
Beth-El Churches of Christ, Inc.
"Kingdom Enlargement: Embracing Apostolic Ministry"
February 25th through 28th, 2009
Willow Valley Resort & Conference Center
(717) 464-2711
2416 Willow Street Pike
Lancaster, PA 17602

REGISTRATION FORM
Registration Fee: \$115

Please type or print clearly.

US POSTAGE DEADLINE: February 10, 2009 – Mail completed registration to: **Pastor James B. Smith,**
General Administrator, Beth-El Churches of Christ, Inc. 9925 Linden Hill Road, Owings Mills, MD 21117.
ONLINE – www.beth-elchurchesofchrist.org

MAKE CHECKS PAYABLE TO: Beth-El Churches of Christ, Inc.

AFTER February 10, 2009– PLEASE REGISTER ONSITE; HOWEVER CALL Bishop Kenneth Hill @ 410-440-4244 or Bishop-elect Steven Smith @ 240-294-4307 TO RSVP.

____ Bishop ____ Overseer ____ Pastor ____ Elder ____ Minister ____ Other _____

First Name _____ MI _____ Last Name _____ Title _____

Name to appear on badge _____ Church _____

Address _____ Apt/Suite _____ City _____ St _____ Zip _____

Phone () _____ Fax () _____ Email _____

- For registration questions or comments, please call 240-294-4307

FOR OFFICE USE ONLY

Received By: _____ **Date Received:** _____ **Date Processed:** _____

- **Call Willow Valley Resort and Conference Center to make room reservations**
 - **\$149.98 per night/single occupancy with meals included**
 - **\$ 95.04 per night-per person double occupancy with meals included**

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LEADERSHIP REFRESHING AGENDA

Date: Wednesday, February 25, 2009 through Saturday, February 28, 2009

Registration begins: Wednesday, February 25th 4:00pm

GOAL: Our goal is to create an atmosphere for Local Church Leadership to be refreshed spiritually and personally and to strengthen them to go back to their various locations to do the work of ministry.

Wednesday Evening – February 25, 2009

4:00 pm Check-in/Registration

5:00 pm Dinner

7:30 pm Worship

Thursday – February 26, 2009

8:00 am Breakfast

9:30 am Prayer

10:30 am Class (session 1 – see recommended course tracks below)

12:00 pm Lunch

Free Time the rest of the day – Some type of Activity

5:00 pm Dinner

Friday – February 27, 2009

8:00 am Breakfast

9:30 am Prayer

10:30 am Class (session 2 – see recommended course tracks below)

12:00 pm Lunch

1:30 pm Strategic Planning for Beth-El Leadership

3:30 pm Free Time

5:00 pm Dinner

7:30 pm Evening Worship

Saturday – February 28, 2009

8:30 a.m Breakfast

10:00 a.m Closing Morning Worship

WORSHIP REFRESHING EMPHASIS

Apostolic Leadership - Wednesday

Apostolic Vision - Friday

Apostolic Anointing – Saturday

IMPARTATION TRACKS

(Divided by Ministry Tiers – i.e. –Bishops and Pastors,, Elders, Deacons, and Administrators and Ministry Leaders without credentials/title) Impartation Sessions will be held concurrently for each track.

Bishops, Overseers and Pastors Track

Surviving and Thriving as a Pastor (session 1) –Nothing is more difficult than maintaining spiritual vitality and joy in the midst of the craziness of ministry. To have a healthy church is to be a healthy pastor. Discover how to do the work of God in a way that doesn't destroy God's work in you.

How Do You Change Messy People? (session 2) - If you successfully pastor a church out of the culture, it will include messy people - how will you lead them to change? Learn how to lead people into a profoundly simple yet radically transforming relationship with God, each other, and our world instead of just keeping people busy.

Elders and Ministers Track

Preaching Once a Month Effectively (session 1) - Preaching is no less important just because you don't do it every week, but how do you develop a preaching rhythm without a regular preaching schedule. Together, we'll explore strategies for maintaining regular study and preaching preparation.

The Sticky Church Paradigm (session 2) - Sticky Church isn't about church growth, it's about discipleship. It's about keeping people long enough to fulfill the second half of the great commission. Explore why so many churches are leaky and what it takes to become sticky - and why it matters if we want to fulfill our mission.

Deacons Track

Innovative Evangelism Strategies for the Church to Transform the Community (session 1) -

Explore a theology, as well as, organic and programmatic strategies for community development and transformation. It is important today that we not just grow churches but that we change communities in which churches are planted.

Learning My Leaders Language (session 2) -

Often support leaders have a great passion for the work of the church, however, methodically it is hard to achieve because of the lack in understanding the directives that come from the senior leadership. Let's be honest, sometimes working with the pastor can stress you out. This course will assist the leader in learning, verbal, written, and physical communications given by the leader and the rest of the team.

Administrators and Ministry Coordinators

Affordable Technology for the Small Church (session 1) -

Explore new methods of reaching your community outside of the traditional means that church has been known for. Learn other venues to market your church and to communicate.

Before Insanity...How to Be Effective at Doing Church and Still Have a Life (session 2) -

Success is not measured in the number of people who come to your church or how much you do. It's measured by your devotion and commitment to God and ministry. Explore ways you can give your church all it deserves by giving your first and best to God and your family.