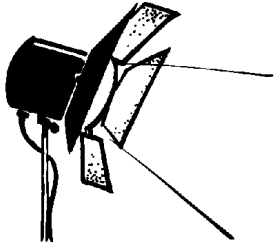


The Proactive Pulse



Three Crimes Committed By Christian Leaders

In many churches in America, regardless of the name on the sign out front, three major crimes are being committed year after year by Christian Leaders of those congregations. These crimes, while not “illegal” in secular law code, are very deadly in the spiritual realm of leadership development. Each one of them is a crime of omission. Here’s the list:



June
2009

PEM Staff

Executive Director
Rev. Jim Hollis

Director of Ministry
Development
Rev. Jim Burt

Associate of Ministry
Development
Rev. Gary Whatley

Director of Ministry
Staff & Covenants
Joye Percival

Director of Ministry
Administration
Jamie Blankenship

Ginger Arcadi
Crystal Barham
Lois Burt
Chuck Duncan
B.J. & Lloyd Griffith
James & Jessica Hollis
Jewels Kind
Steve Klinger
John Landis
Heidi Lauer
Polly McClure
David Nysewander
Sonsee Sanders
Lamarr Stevens
Jimmy Trimble
Wayne & Vicki Tucker
Suzanne Zipperer

Crime #1 against Effective Leadership: Secular based recruiting practices.

How do we choose leaders for our ministries and committees in the church? Typically, by choosing someone who usually says, “Yes.” We start by praying for about 45 seconds as we start our meeting, making our best guesses on which people to ask. Then we decide how we can talk them into taking the positions that are open. After all, the busiest people around us are the ones who really get things done. Asking them to take another position is an efficient move because they will probably agree to it. We try to do all this in the fewest number of meetings possible so we can get this done!

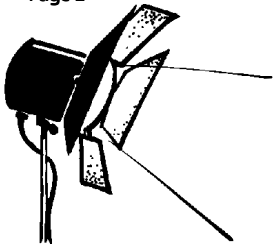
Crime #2 against Effective Leadership: Once they say, “Yes” then provide MINIMAL, if any training for them.

We feel so good when they agree to the position that when they ask, “What’s really involved with this?” we immediately let them know there is not that much to it and they will be great at it. We then tell them we will get back with them later on this or maybe that the District has some training time in January. Somewhere along the way, we have failed to realize that if we train our people to do “little or nothing” we will likely get them to do just that in leadership – “little or nothing.”

Crime #3 against Effective Leadership: After they get started with minimal, if any training, then do NOT encourage or affirm them.

We ALL need encouragement, affirmation and support to be effective in ministry. Yet, far more often than not, volunteer church leaders AND even paid ministry staff RARELY get encouraged, affirmed or supported consistently. In churches, incidents happen! People get cranked. There are the “nay sayers” and “whiners” who will sit back and criticize church leaders, staff and pastors. What an incredible difference it would make if we became intentional and consistent about encouraging, affirming and supporting ALL our leaders!

Through our ministry, we provide detailed and in-depth training, coaching and modeling to make certain none of these three deadly crimes continue in a local church. And the results are spiritually transformational. Testimonies are available upon request.



Dr. Ron Flowers to Join Our Staff in July 2009, as Director of Resource Development

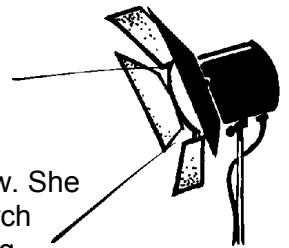
Ron has served admirably and effectively in the North Georgia Conference for the past 41 years. He has spent the last 16 years as the Senior Associate and Teaching Pastor at Northside UMC in Atlanta, GA. Ron brings with him a multiplicity of ministry gifts to PEM's work with pastors, districts and congregations.

For several years Ron has organized the widely known, Reinhardt College Golf Tournament, raising thousands upon thousands of dollars for Reinhardt College. Ron is a very gifted golfer. He has served with excellence as the Atlanta-College Park District Chairperson of the Board of Ordained Ministry of the North Georgia Conference. He has counseled with and guided hundreds of clergy candidates. For a number of appointments, Ron was the Campus Minister in some of our denomination's excellent colleges. Ron also created a wonderful ministry at Northside UMC, called The Lay Academy, which has helped many individuals and families deepen their faith walk with Christ as disciples. Ron's passion for ministry is strong.

Ron will be working on our ministry Staff as a Senior Instructor of several of our Ministry Training Units. He will also be sharing in our ministry of conflict resolution. He will be raising funding for our ministry, Barnabas Project Congregations and other churches which are experiencing tremendous need in the face of enormous potential for change. Ron and his wife, Yvonne, reside in Jasper, GA .

Staff Spotlight: Vicki Tucker

Vicki Tucker has been an important part of the PEM ministry and staff for three years now. She first encountered PEM's ministry while serving on staff at the First United Methodist Church of Pinellas Park, FL. While at that church, she participated in Personal Christian Coaching with Rev. Jim Hollis. She became excited about the mission of PEM, and the important role it has to play in strengthening local churches of many denominations so that they may be about the important work of sharing the love of Christ with those who are walking in darkness.



Vicki is extremely effective in each area in which she ministers in our PEM Covenant churches. She loves the Lord and her gifts of encouragement and faith help to inspire Churches and her team members at PEM to be the best that they can be for God. Her gift of wisdom enables her to be effective in handling almost any issues that come up during a weekend of training. Her administrative gifts keep her and her team very organized, efficient and effective.

Vicki has been an extremely valuable part of our Lay Leadership Committee (LLC) training and along with her husband Wayne has been a Staff Instructor in the second module of LLC training. The second module is focused on training and equipping those in the Church leadership so that they can do their work with great excellence and be successful. Vicki had this to say about that training:

"As we continue to work with the Lay Leadership Committee to develop excellent leadership, we prepare them to train all committees and key leaders in the church. Training is an important component that is lacking in most churches. Very often, new leaders are handed a brief job description (if they're lucky!) and given a pat on the back and told, "You'll do a great job! We'll be praying for you!" and that's the full extent of the guidance and support they receive. Providing training so that leaders can be on the same page and understand expectations is the next building block to establishing a culture of leadership excellence for the Lord in His house.

I get so excited to teach these concepts to Lay Leadership Committees, because in the course of a year, we get to see profound changes in how churches "do leadership" at the core level. It truly makes a difference and changes the DNA of a church. And ultimately, the Lord is glorified in a wonderful way."

The Miracles of LRE

Divine Appointments

The purpose of LRE is “To consistently love others unconditionally with the love of Jesus Christ, expecting nothing in return.” The words “expecting nothing in return” may be the most difficult for most people to truly embrace. We are such a “results” oriented people. We want to be able to count the number of people who visit our church as a result of the LRE ministry. We want to be able to share the names of the people who accepted Jesus as their Lord and Savior through LRE. Some people think that if they cannot produce those numbers or names, that LRE has not been successful.

During our LRE training, it was made clear many times and in many ways that success comes in the LRE ministry when we “leave the parking lot” to make our visits. At that moment we are being truly obedient to God and can be totally confident that we are right in the center of God’s will for us. At no other point in our life are we more centered in what God wants us to do then right then!

Does that mean that no one will visit our Church as a result of LRE or that no one will receive Jesus Christ as Lord and Savior? That is not the question we should ask. The question is, “Will we obey the Lord’s instructions to “go” and seek to make disciples?”

We were told during our training that something “unusual” happens in many churches when they begin to be obedient to God in doing LRE. That unusual thing is that while we are loving people and developing relationships in the community, God may well send new people to our Church who we did not contact through LRE. Because of our obedience in LRE, He knows that He can trust us to love people He sends to us and to develop relationships with them.

While Macon Evangelistic Church has not yet had one visitor as a result of our LRE ministry (we have been faithfully knocking on doors and making friends for over two months), He has led four new families whom we had not visited on LRE to begin attending our church in the last few weeks. We had not had any visitors for the previous six months! We are encouraged and excited by the people the Lord has sent.

Are the new families who are attending the reason that we are doing LRE? Does that mean that we have been successful? The answer to both of those questions is NO. WE are doing LRE because it is God’s will that we go out and love people for Jesus’ sake. We do thank God that in the midst of our obedience, He gives us blessing that we were not expecting!

**-From Gary Berrier,
Pastor of Macon Evangelistic Church**

Our Calendar

June

1– Envisioning
Chatsworth UMC, Chatsworth, GA

3-Envisioning
Fields Chapel UMC, Canton, GA

2-4 Pastoral Staff Coaching
Tavares FUMC, Tavares, FL

5-7 Connect Group Ministry
Warren Memorial UMC, Atlanta, GA

7 Town Hall Meeting
St. John UMC, Atlanta, GA

10 Leadership Development
Chick Fil A, CNN Center, Atlanta, GA

12-14 Discovery & Reflection
Carnesville UMC, Carnesville, GA

14 Leadership Envisioning
Elberton FUMC, Elberton, GA

16-18 UMC Annual Conference
Athens, GA

23 PEM Executive Committee Meeting
Atlanta, GA

24 Leadership Development
Chick Fil A, CNN Center, Atlanta, GA

26-28 Faith In Action
Shepherd of the Hills UMC, Douglasville, GA

July

3 Office Closed in Observance of Independence Day

8 Leadership Development
Chick Fil A, CNN Center, Atlanta, GA

10-12 Sunday School Ministry
Macon Evangelistic Church, Macon, GA

12 Town Hall Meeting
Carnesville UMC, Carnesville, GA

13-14 Staff Retreat
Tavares FUMC, Tavares, FL

17-19 Lay Leadership Development
Faith UMC, Pinson, AL

22 Leadership Development
Chick Fil A, CNN Center, Atlanta, GA

24-26 Worship Ministry Development
Shepherd of the Hills UMC, Douglasville, GA

See Our Calendar & More at: www.proactive-evangelism.org

Find us on the World Wide Web at:
www.proactive-evangelism.org

Proactive Evangelism Ministries
PO Box 1251
Douglasville, GA 30133-1251

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Douglasville, GA
30135
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What is Inside?

Three Crimes
Committed by
Christian Leaders

The Miracles
of LRE

Calendar

Staff Spotlight

PEM NEWS

"It's Going to work out fine. You'll be great at this!"

"You want me to be a Trustee?" said John. "What does a Trustee do?"

Bill, a member of the Nominating Committee answered, "We don't really have time to go into all that right now. But don't worry, you'll figure it out. You'll be great at it. We just need to get your OK to put your name on the Trustee line for Charge Conference."

While the names might be different and the ministry position might not be the same, that same basic conversation takes place in churches all across America. The very sad thing is that John will most likely be left to "figure it out." himself. The thought that the church should provide detailed job descriptions and then train those in leadership positions and/or ministries rarely occurs in many churches.

PEM provides training for the Lay Leadership Committee in churches so that the above mentioned scenario never takes place in those churches again. In this issue of the Proactive Pulse, you will get a glimpse of how this training transforms churches.



Proactive Evangelism Ministries
P.O. Box 1251
Douglasville, GA
30133-1251
Main Office: (770) 949-9674
Fax: (770) 949-5181
Email : pemoffice@bellsouth.net

Find us on
the World Wide Web at:
www.proactive-evangelism.org