



Northern Mountain News

Ten Leading Indicators of Church Health

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February, 2007

Recently a brand new revision of the Ten Leading Indicators (TLI) was finished. The original document was formulated from the EFCA national office in 1997. The first minor revision was done in 1999. This is the second revision. The purpose of this revision is to bring greater integration between the major ministry departments at the EFCA national office. The Indicators will be used both nationally and internationally, and can be used in a wide variety of church ministry settings. The revision is minor in that it contains the same number of indicators and the same concepts as the original TLI. No previous indicator was removed, and there are no new indicators that have been added to the list. Some of the titles of the indicators have been changed, and stronger content has been included in the text for certain indicators.



*Rick & Billie Jean Weinert, NMD
Interim District Superintendent*

If you would like a copy of the revised Ten Leading Indicators you can contact the NMD office, or contact NextStep Resources at www.nsresources.com. The new *Ten Leading Indicator Surveys and Implementation Guides* will be printed and available after March 1.

*See Page Two for Additional News,
Announcements and Information*

Mid-Winter Available Online

To view and listen to the Midwinter Ministerial Theological Discussion that was held recently in Indianapolis you can go online to <http://equip.efca.org/course/view.php?id=60>. Log into your account or open a new account. There is no cost for this. **The enrollment key is MTD07.** Open the "all courses list and scroll down to the EFCA Event, Midwinter Ministerial. If you don't have online access, the NMD office also has the sessions available on CD.

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Over Coffee

Reggie McNeal, in his book *A Work of Heart*, contends that for all the focus we have placed in recent years on methods, practices and programs we have neglected the heart. He writes in his introduction, "If we do what _____ did, we can see the same results" is the prevailing mantra. Maybe so, but probably not, because what _____ did grew out of their own walk with God and ministry assignment. Their own leadership journey has more to do with heart issues than most imagine. Capturing and mimicking their techniques will not deliver spiritual breakthrough. That happens only on the heart level."

I think Mr. McNeal is right on. He makes a point that techniques, methods and programs aren't wrong. In fact he concedes that 20 or 30 years from now he might be writing that we have focused so much on heart issues that we have neglected technique. But right now, as the pendulum swings, we seem to be out of balance in the area of the heart.

Why is it that we schedule everything on our calendar except time alone with God? If our hearts aren't being fed what is the purpose of all the activity? If we aren't hearing from God in our times of quiet before Him how do we expect to influence and impact others on the heart level? I find that I have been all to guilty over the years of challenging my congregations to heart level devotion only to neglect it myself in lieu of busyness and activity.

I just received an instant message from a friend in Ukraine. He's working on a sermon for Sunday and he says that if he had to do this every Sunday it would make him "old before my time." But then, that's the point. If our heart is not being fed the process will kill us. Let me challenge you to make matters of the heart first priority in your life and ministry. Let the ministry flow out of the heart rather than out of technique. Think about it, and maybe schedule a personal retreat day to refocus on what's priority!

By His Grace

Rick Weinert
NMD Interim District Superintendent



NMD Leadership Retreat & Annual Conference

Begin making plans now!!!

Our district Leadership Retreat and annual District Conference are rapidly approaching.

Leadership Retreat

- **Speaker:** H.B. London
- **Location:** Ruby's in Missoula, MT
- **Check in** Monday evening, April 9
- **Check out** after breakfast Thursday morning, April 12



H.B. LONDON, JR.

is vice president of church and clergy for Focus on the Family in Colorado Springs, Colorado. A fourth-generation minister, he was a pastor for 31 years before joining Focus on the Family. H. B. communicates with thousands of pastors and church leaders each week through "The Pastor's Weekly Briefing" (a fax network) and produces a bi-monthly "Pastor to Pastor" audioseries. While pastoring he hosted a daily radio program, "Lifeline to Truth" and a weekly television program, "A New Way to Live." H. B. is author, with Neil B. Wiseman, of *Pastors at Greater Risk, For Kids' Sake* and *The Shepherd's Covenant for Pastors*.

Annual District Conference

- **Location:** His Place EFree in Post Falls, ID (This has been scheduled for Butte, but we had to move it due to space issues.)
- **Dates:** May 4-5

Get these on your calendars and make plans to attend now
More information will be coming soon!!!

New Pastor in the District

Faith Bible Church in Libby Montana is excited to announce the arrival of their new pastor, Laurie Stuck. He arrives in Libby on February 11 and officially begins his responsibilities on February 15. His first day in the pulpit will be February 18. An official installation is planned for March 11.

Laurie is a graduate of Multnomah Biblical Seminary. His ministry experience consists of working as a chaplain for ten years, a lay leader for 22 years, and a worship leader for 24 years. In addition, he has completed short-term mission work in the United Arab Emirates and Peru and Ecuador. As a Chaplain at *Living Care Retirement Community* Laurie conducted chapel services, Bible studies and room/hospital visitation, co-founded and chaired "Senior Connections," a ministry designed to invite the senior community of Yakima to various programs and activities, often counseled a staff of approximately 200, completed training for Alzheimer's evaluation and care, conducted numerous funerals for residents, conducted weddings for 2 staff members, and served on various committees within the organization.

As a Lay Leader at *Memorial Bible Church* in Yakima Laurie served as a Deacon from 1984-86, an Elder from 1987-93; 1995-2000, taught biblical and practical finance classes from 1999-2005, preached in pastor's absence, taught adult Bible fellowships, and served as Awana commander. Laurie mastered certification by completing a financial 3-day intensive training course through *How to Manage Your Money* by Larry Burkett.

Laurie also served as co-owner and/or manager of a couple of different Christian book stores over the years. He enjoys, "backpacking, camping, hiking, rock hunting, fishing, golfing, basketball, football, reading, studying, yard work and spending time with my wife and family. (Not necessarily in this order!)"

New Pastor continued ...

... New Pastor continued

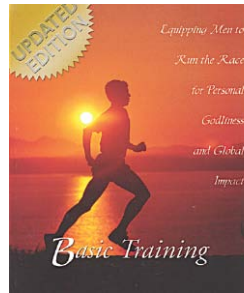
Faith Bible invites your prayer for Laurie & Barbara, and for the church through the next few months of transition. If you'd like to welcome him to the district his email address is: stuck53@hotmail.com. The church's phone number is (406) 293-7441.

National EFCA Dates to Remember for 2007

- Jan. 2-5 Church Planters BootCamp - Phoenix, AZ
- Jan. 8-12 Church Planters BootCamp - Houston, TX
- Jan. 18-20 Mid-winter Ministerial
- Jan. 20 Men's Ministries Iron Sharpens Iron meeting, Bakersfield, CA
- Jan. 29-2/3 Women's Ministries Internship, Redlands, CA
- Feb. 21-23 Challenge '08 planning meeting, Salt Lake City
- April 23-26 National New Church Conference - Orlando, FL
- May 14-18 Church Planters BootCamp - Dallas, TX & Chicago, IL
- June 27-29 EFCA Leadership Conference
- 27th National Ministries Dinner
- 28th Women's Ministries Luncheon
- 28th Church Planting Dinner
- 29th Men's Ministries Luncheon

MEN'S MINISTRIES RESOURCES

Top Gun: Basic Training



The Basic Training Program uses the "Master Plan" to encourage & equip men, based on sound biblical principles, to be godly leaders in their home, workplace, church, & community.

Through this nine-month small group experience, a man can expect to:

- Develop a consistent walk with the Lord
- Build lasting relationships with other men
- Find his place of service within the church
- Learn to make an impact for the Kingdom

No Man Left Behind

Patrick Morley
Moody Press, \$15.99

Why Men Hate Going to Church

David Morrow
Thomas Nelson, \$11.99

Effective Men's Ministry

Phil Downer
Zondervan, \$15.99

Available from NextStep Resources
www.nsresources.com
(800) 444-2665