



NCN's Language Ministries Newsletter

An update from your Language Ministries Team Leader

April 2010

Upcoming Events

◆ NorthStar Ministers Fellowships

⇒ Tuesday, April 27, 11:00 am
For All Ministers and Administrative Professionals Honoring Secretaries/ Assistants; Musical Program
Plymouth Haven Baptist Church
8600 Plymouth Road,
Alexandria
Lunch: \$7 (Pastor, treat your assistant)

⇒ Tuesday, May 11
9:30 am—12noon
For All Senior Pastors
Free Seminar by Mike Kachura:
"Stress and the Senior Pastor"
Crosspoint House, 4601 Roberts Road, Fairfax

⇒ Tuesday, May 25
9:30 am—12noon For Church Staff and Associate Ministers only
Free Seminar by Mike Kachura:
"Stress and the Associate Pastor"
Crosspoint House, 4601 Roberts Road, Fairfax

◆ Hispanic Pastors Fellowship Meetings

⇒ Saturday, May 1

⇒ Saturday, June 5

⇒ Saturday, July 3

⇒ 9:00 am—11:00 am
NorthStar Annandale Office
Fellowship President: David Mangieri

◆ Next Culto Unido (Joint Service for All Hispanic Congregations)

⇒ July 11—Hosted by Iglesia Bautista Dios Es Amor—Pastor Jose Tobar
(At Antioch Korean Baptist Church: 6355 Lincolnia Road, Alexandria)
Emphasis: *The Different Generations*

If you would like to inform churches of language events, please contact NorthStar Church Network: 703-941-6822

Thank you for reading this newsletter. I hope you will pray for the language churches and for your own church and its part in the gospel enterprise of Christ. It is an honor to serve the churches and work together with you. Thanks for your prayers and financial support, especially in these challenging days. Please contact me with any questions or ideas.

II Corinthians 11:28, **Greg**

Always Busy, Hopefully Effective

Your Language Ministries Team Leader has been busy with the following examples of activities, hopefully being used by God in effective ways. Thanks for your prayers for service and for our NorthStar churches. Here are some recent ministry examples:

- Giving counsel to a young pastor
- Guiding a missions council on establishing a language ministry
- Networking churches in need with those having resources
- Meeting a new pastor whose church is interested in joining NorthStar Church Network
- Providing resources for developing a church/mission covenant
- Giving a presentation on NorthStar ministries
- Conducting a language pastor's accountability/support group
- Reviewing demographic information for a church in a changing community
- Attending a language church's anniversary celebration
- Assisting language congregations applying for membership in NorthStar

NorthStar churches worship and minister in many languages: English, Arabic, Spanish, Russian, Vietnamese, Chinese, Korean, Twi (Ghanaian), Liberian, Amharic (Ethiopian), Cambodian, Portuguese (Brazilian), Tagalog (Filipino), Tigrinya (Eritrean). There are 60+ language congregations and ministry groups in our association family.

Some ethnic churches have multiple congregations or services. Some have home Bible study groups. Some are multi-lingual or multi-cultural. Some help to sponsor work in other languages. Some have begun English ministries to reach and disciple the younger generation. All are seeking to fulfill the Great Commission of our Lord Jesus Christ.

Congratulations

Recently, Korean Baptist congregations throughout the region met in conference to form the Northern Virginia Korean Baptist Church Association. Two NorthStar pastors will serve as leaders of this new fellowship of churches. Rev. In-Ho Kim, Pastor of Franconia Korean Baptist Church, was elected president, and Rev. Sammual Choi, Pastor of Columbia Korean Congregation, was elected vice-president. May God bless their efforts as they seek to unify Korean churches for fellowship and mutual edification.



An Association of Baptist Congregations



Starting a Mission Congregation

If your church is prayerfully considering the start of new work, in English or for any other language group, NorthStar can help. We can provide guidance, resources, and suggestions, both in person and in print. Call the NCN office or email Greg Loewer. The Holy Spirit is moving among the churches. What is He saying to you and yours?

Praying for the Churches

- Churches seeking a pastor: that the search committee would prayerfully follow an appropriate process and would discern God's will concerning the right person to lead the congregation.
- Churches exploring the start of a language ministry or multi-ethnic congregation: that they would understand the need, take the best approach for reaching people with the Gospel, and experience the Spirit's unity in moving forward for God's Kingdom.
- Churches needing additional financial support for their language pastors: that the congregation would give generously to God's work and that other churches would be enlisted to help provide the financial need.
- Churches with special needs and opportunities: that the people would pray fervently and move forward in unity and faith to accomplish the divine tasks before them.

Space Needed

Several congregations are needing to relocate. If your church might be interested in exploring a partnership for shared building use, contact Greg Loewer for a list of seeking churches, along with samples of partnership covenants, rental agreements, and suggestions.

Financial Contributions to NorthStar

"How much are our membership fees and when are they due?" This question actually comes to the office. Here is the answer. There is no membership fee for NorthStar churches. NorthStar ministries of staff and volunteers are supported by the contributions of the churches. Many churches have a NorthStar contribution budget of 2-4 % of their general offerings - some more, some less. Some give quarterly or annually; most give monthly.

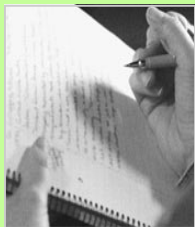
Some congregations have very limited resources. Be assured that even the smallest gift helps the Kingdom cause. If your church hasn't contributed to NorthStar lately, just start with \$10/month. We will use your mission dollars in the most effective, God-honoring way.

Each time a church sends a check to NorthStar, our office sends back a receipt, a contribution form for the next gift, and a mailing envelope. If your church needs any of these, please call the NorthStar office for assistance.

NCN Language Ministries Tip:

Pastors and churches are wise to ask and answer, "What Would Jesus Do?" (And "What Does Jesus Want?") Everything begins with His Kingdom perspective.

- Would Christ value those new foreigners as potential citizens of His eternal Kingdom?
- Would Jesus make them first learn English before communicating to them the Good News of salvation?



- Would our Lord see immigrants as second class human beings?
- Would the Savior start a worship service in their language?
- Does He want us to provide English classes? Or legal assistance?
- Does He desire that we show them God's love?
- In what way does Christ yearn for us to open our hearts and budgets?
- How does the Lord want us to risk and venture for His Kingdom's cause?

NorthStar Church Network

Language Ministries

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