



# Out of My Mind...

A Publication of the Mobilization Unit of the Mideast Baptist Conference

Gary Schroeder, Editor ~ Vol. 2-6, June, 2006

## For Your Consideration... *The Barnabas Fund*

As a result of the generosity of attenders at the Annual Celebration, I have been able to establish *The Barnabas Fund* which has the intended purpose of assisting a pastor to receive training for which he would otherwise be unable to pay entirely, which would be personally beneficial and result in enhanced ministry for his congregation.

To qualify, a pastor needs to be: a) serving in an MBC church (he can apply himself or be nominated by a leader in the congregation); b) involved in district activities (LEAD Team, etc.); c) submit a proposal delineating the event to be attended (including costs), the potential benefit to himself and the congregation and the name of a person in the congregation who would be part of the implementation of the lessons learned from this training experience.

Applications would be reviewed by a three member panel and would be granted on the basis of practical value to the pastor and church as well as the current ability of *The Barnabas Fund* to offer grants. It isn't the intention of *The Barnabas Fund* to pay all expenses connected with such a trip, just to help defray some of the cost.

It is hoped that *The Barnabas Fund* will be replenished by both individual contributions and honoraria I may receive for speaking in our churches.

## Out In Cyberspace

[www.connectionpower.com](http://www.connectionpower.com)

assimilation ideas

[www.mppc.org/esermons.html](http://www.mppc.org/esermons.html)

sample Ortberg's preaching



**On the Mend**  
**Butch Badar's father** recovering from a stroke in TX  
**Sandi Peterson** recovering from shingles

## IN THE FOLD . . .

Rev. Michael Mullins, his wife, Kym and their three children will be starting their pastoral ministry at Calvary, Warren on June 11<sup>th</sup>. We welcome them to the MBC and look forward to getting better acquainted with them in the near future.

## FROM THE FIELD...

**Connection: Keeping Lost Sheep Found,**

**By Miriam Crossman, Grace, Erie**

One of the most moving email articles that's come across my desk recently included these words, "The typical church today, in elder brother style, has slaughtered the fatted calf and is having a joyful party with their friends while lost prodigals wander unnoticed, in and out of the front doors of their church. With no firm embrace, they return to their ways, their salient moment of spiritual conviction having passed."

(connectionpower.com) Even the Greek word for hospitality expresses God's heart for the unchurched ...

"*philoxenia*" - a lover of strangers.

We have a divine stewardship for those whom God sends through the doors of our churches, whether it's to introduce them to a relationship with Jesus Christ, lead them to the One who can heal their wounds or simply create room for them in the close community life many of us experience. A good place to begin is with the following:

### 10 Ways to Help Our Guests

1. Introduce yourself to someone you don't know by asking "How long have you been coming to \_\_\_\_\_?"
2. Invite newer attenders or guests to sit with you this week.
3. If they have children, **walk** them to the nursery or children's area.
4. Introduce them to someone else.
5. Walk with them to our guest center/information desk.
6. Make sure they know where restrooms, etc are.
7. Ask if they'd like information about specific ministries that may be relevant to them, ... like MOMS, DivorceCare, golf league.
8. Invite them to Sunday School or small group with you.
9. Invite them to coffee or a meal (at home or in a restaurant) after the service.
10. Invite them to sit with you next week.

Selah: "To reach port, we must sail, sometimes with the wind and some times against. But we must not drift or lie at anchor."  
Oliver Wendell Holmes