

GENERAL BOARD CHAIRMAN

Dr. Timothy Warner

GENERAL BOARD

Rev. Virgil Amundson
Rev. Ken Benson
Rev. David Cook
Rev. George Dudley
Rev. Charles Garner
Rev. Daniel Hernandez
Rev. Phil Thompson
Dr. Rick VanHoose

DISTRICT

Rev. Joseph Campbell, MC
Rev. Don Crabtree, SC
Rev. Willis Devine, NW
Rev. James Heard, NEng
Rev. Daniel Hernandez, C
Rev. Wayne Mays, MS
Rev. Loran Mejean, F
Rev. Regan Myers, NC
Rev. Stephen Shafer, MT
Rev. Darlene Smith EC
Rev. William Wilson, W

THIS MONTH

IMA BENEFITS

CHAIRMAN'S CORNER
DR. TIMOTHY WARNER

FOLLOW HIS STEPS
REV. CAROL KNAPP

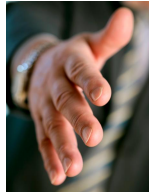

ANNOUNCEMENTS

TAX COMPLIANCE
ANGELA CHILDERS

WHAT THE IMA DOES FOR MINISTERS

A Message from Dr. Timothy L. Warner, IMA Chairman

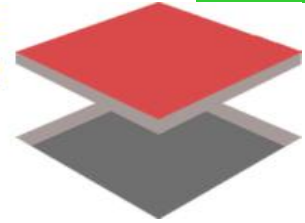
Not long ago one of our ministers asked me, "What does the IMA do for me?" My first thought was to answer him with the proverbial words of former president John F. Kennedy who said (in essence) "ask not what the IMA can do for you, but ask what you can do for the IMA!" However, I restrained myself, yielded to the Holy Spirit, and asked him to clarify his question. Upon listening to him for a few minutes I could tell that the brother was quite disgruntled over some apparent negative experiences in his ministry experience. I did not know if he had an "ax to grind" or if his feelings were from the IMA, his church, or himself. So, I began to point out just a few of the many benefits of our beloved (association affectionately called the) IMA. Here are some of them:

1. **FELLOWSHIP** First and foremost the IMA is a ministry that is founded *by ministers, for ministers* for the **express purpose of fellowship**. You could call that *mutual support, a haven of safety, a family of acceptance, or a safe place to share one another's burdens and concerns as ministers*. The bottom line of the IMA is and will always be based on fellowship. It's a beautiful word in the Greek language and I challenge you to research it (fellowship) further.
2. **OVERSIGHT** The IMA provides a covering for ministers and churches. We are living in a day when people of authority are often questioned and held in contempt, especially ministers. Ministers need to be a vital part of something greater than themselves. Congregations, associates, peers, and colleagues need to know that their ministry is covered by a reputable organization (association). IRS coverage is offered to pastors to cover their churches and missionaries to cover their missions. 
3. **EXPERTISE** The IMA is a place to find **great resources** to enhance ministries of all kinds. If someone has been blessed with a particular gift, talent, or resource, my experience has been that people share it willingly and freely. We are presently developing a system to increase the potential of sharing our resources with each other. However, there is a great history of brethren that have given what they've had in order to bless others with resources to strengthen pastors, missionaries, evangelists, teachers, and administrators. 
4. **CONNECTION** The IMA hosts **National and District conventions** to promote unity, love, and effective ministries. These conventions are amongst the best in the country in terms of the content of the Word, integrity, and genuine ministry. God's Spirit is definitely at work amidst those who gather for these conventions. Many Districts host planning sessions; youth camps and conferences; men's and women's gatherings; and other "equipping" seminars and fellowships.
5. **RELATIONSHIPS** The IMA serves as a safe place to **build and maintain life-long relationships** with brethren (and sisters) of "like precious faith."
(Continued on Page 4 See MINISTERS)



Dr. Tim Warner

CHAIRMAN'S Corner



THE PURPOSE OF THE PLANNING SESSIONS

“Without counsel purposes are disappointed: but in the multitude of counselors they are established.” (Prov 15:22 KJV)

If you are at all like me, you not only want to be informed as to what happens at an IMA National Board Planning Session, but also ascertain the purpose behind the meeting. I like to know *where* the association is going and how I can become an active member in its forward progress. I want to hear the heartbeat of my leaders and have a clear sense of what God is saying to the greater body of ministers into which the Lord has placed me. Therefore, I would like to share the following thoughts to help you see the greater picture and purpose of the IMA’s Planning Session.



Our National Board just returned from Branson, MO, where we spent about three days together on behalf of the entire IMA. My understanding is that the “planning session” initially started to plan for the current year’s upcoming National Conference. As time progressed and the association grew, the purpose enlarged to hear of reports from the various districts; handle any problems that may have arisen; discuss and set policy; be updated on new IRS laws or regulations; develop vision; chart progress; create ways for future growth; discuss ways to better care for our members; monitor our missions outreaches; and learn how to be more effective as an “international living vibrant fellowship of ministers.” All this is being done; and much more.

Each National Board member has agreed to function in a specific responsibility that relates to various ministries of the IMA. Throughout the year these elected national board members operate in their assigned duties, answer questions, contact members, distribute funds, encourage leaders, etc. When we come together for the “Planning Session” the members share reports on their responsibilities and give information and input to the entire Board. Together, we seek to meet needs for the greater body of ministers in the IMA. In short, they are the “multitude of counselors” that “establish” purposes for the Association, as mentioned in the above Proverb.

Of course, we are not able to address every issue or complete all tasks as prescribed on our agenda, but we can accomplish a tremendous amount of ministerial business on behalf of the IMA and the kingdom of God. This year we covered areas such as:

- ◆ Plan for themes and places for upcoming conferences
- ◆ Hear reports from the Home office and current policy
- ◆ Update communication (Herald, internet, mailings)
- ◆ Meet with our Missions Director on IMA missionaries
- ◆ Recruitment for new and younger ministers to join us
- ◆ Consider ways to be more effective in equipping ministers
- ◆ Discuss direction, vision, and God’s leading for the future



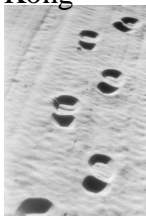
Be assured that your elected leaders are men of God who possess Christian character and are well seasoned in ministry. We have the members’ best interest in mind and desire to serve the Lord and the greater Body of the IMA in sincerity. Most of all, we seek to do the Lord’s will and be sensitive to the Holy Spirit. We try to apply fresh prophetic unction in charting our future. Our objective is to “not [be] slothful in business; fervent in spirit; serving the Lord” (Romans 12:11). Our objective is to keep the IMA as a *cutting-edge* fellowship with a clear sense of purpose!

By Carol Joy Knapp, DD
Farmersburg, Indiana

FOLLOW HIS STEPS

Missionary to
Hong Kong

“For to this you were called, because Christ also suffered for us, leaving us an example, that you should follow His steps.” (I Peter 2:21 NKJV)



Verse 24 of the same chapter reads like this; “Who Himself bore our sins in His own body on the tree, that we, having died to sins, might live for righteousness— by whose stripes you were healed.” Christ has suffered for us in the flesh. Therefore, we should not sin the rest of our life, but should live and follow the steps of Christ Jesus. He paid the price to liberate men and women and the children from sin and the lust thereof. We need to understand “being confident of this very thing, that He who has begun a good work in you will complete it until the day of Jesus Christ.” (Phil. 1:6 NKJV).

Follow Christ steps and His teachings, “that we should no longer be children, tossed to and fro and carried about with every wind of doctrine, by the trickery of men, in the cunning craftiness of deceitful plotting, but,

speaking the truth in love, may grow up in all things into HIM who is the head —Christ.” (Eph. 4:14-15 NKJV) Christ is our head and leader to guide us in the right way.

There is a story, of a woman that did her last good deed, she was 67 years old. The woman died as she was helping to bring new life into the world. Shortly after midnight, she heard the cries of a Brooklyn neighbor who was giving birth. The elderly woman, active in her church and civic affairs, was always ready to extend a helping hand to those in need. She wasted no time in running upstairs to offer assistance. She succeeded in calming the expectant mother and seemed to have the situation under control. However, the strain was too much. She collapsed and died. She live a life of service, which should be the way we live our life. Nevertheless, to live and even to die in such a way is in itself no small accomplishment. Never forget that the Lord who made you in His divine image loves you as His child, and expects you to return that love, even if only known to Him, but to as many as you can reach during this pilgrimage to heaven.

Now may the Lord help us to spend our lives doing well to others and to see the joy in following in Christ’s steps. “These things I have spoken to you, that My joy may remain in you, and that your joy may be full. This is My commandment, that you love one another as I have loved you. Greater love has no one than this, than to lay down one’s life for his friends. (John 15:11-14 NKJ)



Newly Elected

DISTRICT CHAIRPERSONS

- Pastor Darlene Smith.....East Central District
- Pastor Loran Mejean.....Florida District
- Pastor Daniel Hernandez.....Central District

Previous Chairpersons



- East Central District
Rev. James Hightower
- Florida District
Rev. L. J. Pennington
- Central District
Rev. Don R. Smith



MID-SOUTH DISTRICT CONFERENCE

JULY 14-16

METRO CHRISTIAN CENTER

Marietta, Georgia

Pastor Mary Mayfield

Rev. Wayne Mays, District Chairman

Guest Speakers: Dr. Leroy Kelly & Pastor Bob Williams

LODGING, INFORMATION AND DIRECTIONS

770-428-1810 or 205-435-0310

(**MINISTERS** Continued) God has blessed our association with good and faithful ministers who honor the Scripture, walk with integrity, respect others' ministries, and know how to express His love.

6. **RECOGNITION** The IMA offers a **visible identity** as a bona fide ministerial group.

7. **NETWORKING** The IMA is a **communication link** for ministers, churches, and the hurting. "**Iron sharpens iron**" says the Proverb (27:17). The IMA is an association that will personally sharpen and challenge you to reach your full potential as a minister of Jesus Christ!

Having just researched dozens of ministeriums, I am convinced that the IMA is a ministry raised up by the Lord and is able to meet the growing needs of ministers today.



Church Tax Compliance

By Angie Childers, Executive Director/Treasurer, The Cathedral, Evansville,

Below are some facts concerning non-profit organizations that may be of interest to you. Pass these along to your Pastor, Church Treasurer or Board Members or anyone who would make financial decisions for your organization.

DID YOU KNOW ???

(SOURCE . . . "CHURCH MANAGEMENT")

- ◆ There are 277 Tax Laws for exempt organizations listed in the IRC (Internal Revenue Code).
- ◆ There are currently 78,000 church audits in progress by the IRS for 2009 and 2010.
- ◆ Giving cash to any individual from the offering is illegal.
- ◆ Any compensation given for a service rendered is taxable, and must be reported to the IRS on the applicable form.
- ◆ There are currently 800 lawsuits in existence from church members suing their church for a refund on their tithing.
- ◆ As of October 1, 2009, it is a law that you must pay your Nursery Workers a least minimum wage. Nursery workers are not contract labor. They are considered employees, and must be treated as such.
- ◆ Improper filing of 1099's and W-2's's by churches is the #1 audit targeted by the IRS.
- ◆ The average CPA knows nothing or very little about non-profit tax laws.
- ◆ Churches must have an EIN # even if they do not have any employees.
- ◆ Do not let any organization, ministry, group, or individual who are not affiliated or a part of your church accounting system use your EIN # for any reason.
- ◆ SS-4 is the Application Form for an EIN #, or go online to the IRS website (www.irs.gov) and apply.
- ◆ Ministers are the only profession who are recognized as a dual-status profession by the IRS.
- ◆ Loaning church funds to anyone is illegal.
- ◆ 92% of all church audits are "2nd door knocks" sparked by audits from outside sources such as guest speakers, guest musicians, and congregational member audits.
- ◆ Contributions are the 2nd largest deduction on an individual tax return.



QUESTIONS : DO YOU KNOW WHAT PRIVATE INUREMENT IS?
DO YOU KNOW WHAT THE 9 SACERDOTAL DUTIES OF A MINISTER ARE?

To find out the answers to these questions and more read the June Herald Newsletter.

Need Help? Email Angela Childers at beth22@aol.com.

Sis. Connie Dearden announces that the late Dr. Herbert (Bert) Dearden's extensive personal library,

INTERNATIONAL MINISTERIAL ASSOCIATION, INC.

EDITOR

INTERNATIONAL MINISTERIAL ASSOCIATION, INC.

EDITOR

5201 W. Homosassa Trail
Lecanto, FL 34461-9117

Rev. Paul Todd

Phone (352) 628-5198 ■ Fax (352) 628-5195
Email: imahdq@aol.com ■ Web: Interma.net

The views expressed in the Herald Newsletters do not necessarily reflect the consensus of IMA members