



Out of My Mind...

A Publication of the Church Mobilization Unit of the Mideast Baptist Conference
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For Your Consideration... Random Thoughts on a Name Change

“What’s in a name? That which we call a rose by any other name would smell as sweet.”

William Shakespeare, “Romeo & Juliet” II ii 43

Last month, the delegates assembled at our Annual Leadership Conference voted to approve a name change for the district (from “Mideast Baptist Conference” to “Converge MidAtlantic”) so that we would conform with a similar denominational change (“Converge Worldwide”). What’s this all about??



- 1) It’s about converging ”around a common vision: to *connect* people to a gracious Savior; to *ignite* passion for extending His work of grace; to *transform* their values to look like His.”
- 2) It’s about removing artificial barriers that might limit the expansion of the Gospel and hinder partnerships developed for that purpose.
- 3) It’s about using a name that stimulates conversation rather than cutting it off. “Converge MidAtlantic” has more conversation starting potential than “Mideast Baptist Conference”. (Think “Amazon.com” / “Google” etc)
- 4) It’s about giving a new name content based on who we are, how we live and what positive impact we have in our communities coming out of our values and vision.

ON OUR PRAYER WATCH:

The Sheveland Family ♦ Barbara Wheeler ♦ Vince Eisaman ♦ Mark Anderson ♦ Don & Marianne Hazel

FROM THE FIELD...

Pastor Jerry McCann offers this opportunity for community impact that Hillcrest, Jamestown, NY is involved in, partnering with World Vision and local churches:

“This September, through an interactive exhibit, World Vision will offer our community a unique opportunity to gain a completely new perspective on the greatest humanitarian crisis of our time. AIDS is a global pandemic that is killing nearly 6,000 people every day. The good news is we can do something about it!

The Step Into Africa exhibit combines stirring audio and captivating photography, transporting you into the heart of Africa. You will walk in the steps of a child affected by the AIDS crisis. You’ll see, hear, and experience stories of tragedy and triumph lived out by real children in AIDS-affected communities. Just over one-tenth of the world’s population lives in sub-Saharan Africa. Yet this land is home to nearly two-thirds of all people living with HIV as well as more than 11 million children who have been orphaned by the disease.

Our hope is to change hearts and minds about what we can do to alter the path of devastation this disease is on. This crisis is one that affects people around the world, even those in our own community.

Please join us as we pray for the success of Step into Africa. “

In My Briefcase...

The American Church in Crisis

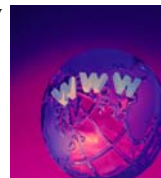
by David T. Olson

What It Means to be a Church Leader

by Norman Shawchuck

112 Miles to the Pin

by Duncan Lennard



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Selah: “By the time a church holds its third worship service it has started establishing traditions.”

Bill Easum