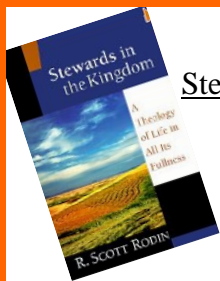




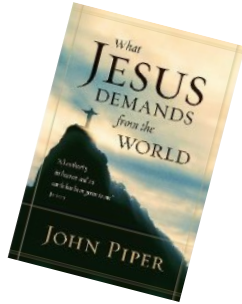
Out of My Mind...

A Publication of the Church Mobilization Unit of Converge MidAtlantic
Gary Schroeder, Editor ~ Linda Penney, Graphic Design ~ Vol. 5-6 June, 2009



In My Briefcase...

Stewards in The Kingdom
by R. Scott Rodin



What Jesus Demands from the World
by John Piper



Is This a Great Game or What
by Tim Kurkjian

For Your Consideration...

The Don Quixote of Church Mobilization writes...

I've got a riddle for you: When is a church planter no longer a church planter?

Like the hot dog vendor who doesn't offer customers a bun or the ice cream man who doesn't have cones in the commercials, I don't have an answer. I hope you're not too disappointed

In my time in the district, I've heard pastors who planted churches more than a decade ago referred to as "church planters". It seems "once a church planter, always a church planter" is the rule of thumb. So, a church planter is still a church planter long after the church he planted becomes an established church with all the trappings, challenges and ministry needs that come with the classification.

Allow me to make proposal that can clarify our nomenclature. Let's let self-sufficiency be the rite of passage that morphs a church plant into an established church. That generally occurs at the three or four year mark when a church is on its own financially; no more Seed Money grants or salary checks from the Poland office. At that point, the church planter becomes the "founding pastor" of said congregation. As long as he stays in that ministry he is the founding pastor. If he leaves to plant another church, he re-claims the designation of "church planter" and the cycle repeats itself.

For thirty years of my life I was a softball player (16" variety in Chicago; 12" variety everywhere else). I loved it passionately and played enthusiastically, but I don't participate any longer. I have great memories (the older I get, the better I was) but I no longer consider myself a softball player and no one else should either.

The ultimate goal is to call each vocational church leader "pastor", but I'll save that discussion for when I'm in another Andy Rooney mood.

From The field...

Since we have been enrolled in the Amazon.com "Associates Program" Converge MidAtlantic has received over \$150 in referral fees when people buy from Amazon by logging on through our website. While we're not anticipating enough money from this source to fund a church consultation or plant a church, every bit helps us to provide resources for your church's mission. What if we were able to increase that to \$100 a month! We would appreciate your help in getting the word out that making purchases from Amazon by first going to www.convergemidatlantic.com, clicking on "Resources", then "Links" then "Amazon" is another way to support the Kingdom work we are doing in Converge MidAtlantic and greatly appreciated by our staff.



ON OUR PRAYER WATCH:

Alan Gross
recovery after successful liver transplant
Abigail Holloway
chronic headache pain
Madison Allison
neurological issues

Selah: "Until Christ identifies and welcomes home the disciples he has called, we, his followers, can expect to be as unfinished and unvarnished as we are unlikely - but we are on the road, and we are followers of The Way."

Os Guinness