

BUILDING BROTHERS™

PMB 337 • 11757 W. Ken Caryl Ave., #F
Littleton, Colorado 80127



Training Schedule

United Methodist Pastor Overviews

74 Pastors attended the Pastor Overviews held in Memphis and Jackson, TN and Paducah, KY in October. Dan Schaffer presented how the Wesleyan Building Brothers process helps the pastor achieve church revitalization and renewal.

Leadership Training

also called Male Leadership Experience (United Methodist Church)

These 3-day interactive seminars are life changing. The participants understand the importance of Spiritual Fathering, and experience a transformational process taking you from immaturity to spiritual maturity. This training also introduces the Pastor and core leadership team to the four phases of the Building Brothers process.

3-day Male Leadership Experiences are tentatively scheduled in Kansas and Tennessee for early 2008. Details will be posted on the web site: www.buildingbrothers.org

One-Year Four-Phase Training

At the heart of the Building Brothers Process is the One-Year Four-Phase Training. This is an interactive small group of the pastor and core leaders of the church. The group will meet for a minimum of 1 hour each week and discuss how their church can implement the topics of *Filling the Father Vacuum*, *Creating a Safe Place for Men* at their church, *Building Unity and Trust* through servant leadership, *Building a Ministry Plan* that works for their men, *Pursuing God and Becoming Reproductive Spiritual Fathers*.

1-Year Four-Phase Training Cities:	United Methodist Church:	New York City, NY
Colorado Spgs, CO	Port St. Lucie, Florida	Las Vegas, NV
Parker, CO	Oviedo, Florida	Toronto Ontario, CA
Fort Collins, CO	Wichita, Kansas	Kansas City, MO
Alliance, NE	Salina, Kansas	Topeka, KS
Northwood, ND	Church of God, 7th Day:	Oklahoma City, OK
Page, AZ	Harrisburg, PA	Marian, OR (2nd Cyc)
Albuquerque, NM		Eugene, OR (2nd Cyc)

Bishop Richard J. Wills, Jr. and his cabinet for the Memphis Annual Conference of the United Methodist Church, recognize that men working in small groups with their pastors, growing in spiritual maturity to the level of spiritual reproduction is a pathway to revitalize and renew the local church. Their support of the Pastors' Overview was responsible for the tremendous pastor participation. We were thrilled with the pastors' response following the six hours of instruction.

David R. Reed,
Men's Ministry Consultant
for the United Methodist Church

We are a medium-sized independent church and in many ways very healthy. Our vision is to be a vital ministry that proclaims Christ in our community and hence, meets the needs of the city.

I am excited for the Building Brothers process. We are just completing the Phase I studies on making our church a safe place for men. I am confident that this process with our key leaders will, indeed, super-size us as we refine ourselves to effectively reproduce a passionate pursuit of God.

Pastor David Niquette
Christ Center Community Church
Fort Collins, Colorado
david@christcenter.cc

PMB 337 • 11757 W. Ken Caryl Ave. #F • Littleton, CO 80127 • Phone/Fax 303-972-2775 • www.buildingbrothers.org



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▶ Choosing God's Best

by Dan Schaffer

All of us, as Christians, struggle at some level with sin. (1 John 1: 8-9)
But, recently I have found myself struggling with an even subtler enemy –

the temptation to choose the good things in serving God at the expense of the best He is offering me.

In Luke 10: 38-42 we find that Christ exposed this dilemma. Mary and her sister, Martha, had invited Jesus and His followers into their home. This choice burdened Martha with the perceived responsibility of hospitality. She was focused on the details, the good things, which could be done for her guests, but resentful that Mary was not helping her accomplish this good and worthy task.



When she brought this complaint to Jesus He patiently responded, "Martha, Martha, you are worried and upset about many things, but only one thing is needed. Mary has chosen that which is better and it will not be taken away from her." I find myself caught in this dilemma many times. There are so many good and needful opportunities to choose from, but if I accept the responsibility for the good instead of choosing the better or best, I, like Martha, miss out on the most important opportunity.

Years ago, I remember reading the account of a man who had spent much of his life in Christian ministry. He had been working hard for God and now he was physically, emotionally and spiritually exhausted—feeling hopeless and joyless. Have you ever felt that way? What was wrong with this picture?

God revealed to him that freedom, joy, and peace were found only in knowing God intimately and doing only what God had called him to.

We must ask the same question as this man, how do we find out what specifically God has called us to? I doubt there is any follower of Christ that wouldn't want to know God's specific calling for their life. So, why do we have such a difficult time finding it?

I believe that the answer is illustrated in Luke 10. Both sisters were acquainted with Christ and both of them highly valued their relationship with Jesus. Yet, one was focused on being with Him and the other on doing things for Him.

The answer is further described in 1 John 2 where John gives us a clear description of the mature spiritual man. The mature man knows God intimately (in the Hebrew culture, the word "know" was used to describe sexual intimacy). It is through this intimacy that he is beginning to know God in His completeness and is reproducing the passionate pursuit of God in others. To fully accept and engage God's calling upon my life I must be (1) focused on Him and, (2) beginning to move towards a deeper, more intimate relationship with Him. But, if I am not walking with Him and allowing His heart to transform mine and be reproduced in me, I will not be able to stay close enough to Him to see His best for me.

For the church, is building men into spiritual fathers the best focus? As pastors and church leaders, what are the good things that are keeping you from focusing on the development of building spiritual fathers who are able to reproduce the passionate pursuit of God in others?

I remember when Harvey, a dear brother of mine, sent me a letter, a number of years after we had both left Promise Keepers. This letter clearly communicated the principle of choosing the "best." He said, "My joy has doubled, no it has tripled since I have learned to work with God instead of trying to work for Him." *Will you begin today to search out that calling and begin to experience the freedom and joy that comes with doing only God's best and rejecting the calls of the many good things that we could be doing?*



The Building Brothers Leadership Training was very helpful in the process of establishing our men's ministry and our pursuit of building into the lives of men. Although I had been through the Building Brother's process several years ago, I found it very beneficial in re-establishing the purpose and broad picture view of the mission of Building Brothers, which gave me the framework in which to lead and facilitate when I returned home. The other critical piece was the benefit of bringing my pastor. It wasn't until that training that he finally "caught on" to the importance and potential impact of a vibrant and health pathway for men to mature in the church into Spiritual Fathers.

The Leadership Training was well worth the time and resources we invested.

Scott Alwin
Alliance, NE