

BOOMERS and beyond

Connect
Ignite
Transform



Better
Together

CASA NETWORK
LEADERSHIP CONFERENCE
NOVEMBER 10-12, 2010
ATLANTA, GEORGIA

Better Together: A dynamic conference designed to inspire and equip leaders to develop powerful intergenerational and second half ministries.

For registration and details:
www.goCASA.org or toll-free 888.200.8552

Inspiration and Resources for Leaders in Second Half Ministry

A publication of
CONVERGE
Worldwide
2nd 1/2 for Him



September 2010

Don't miss this opportunity to expand your understanding of the potential in ministry with Boomers and Beyond!

2nd 1/2 for Him Leaders to Gather in Atlanta

A driving priority for Converse Worldwide 2nd 1/2 for Him is to develop leaders who understand the incredible opportunities for ministry with those in midlife and beyond. To that end we have offered a variety of seminars, workshops and conferences aimed to instruct and inspire a new generation of leaders within Converse Worldwide. For a second year we are partnering with CASA Network (Christian Association Serving Adults) to provide a cutting edge leadership conference that will address the needs of pastors and church leaders who believe there is great potential in ministry with those age 50+.

The International Leadership Conference will be held November 10-12, 2010, at the Hilton Atlanta/Marietta Hotel and Conference Center. Leaders in 2nd 1/2 ministries from across the nation will gather to hear keynote speakers such as Gordon MacDonald, Amy Hanson, Chuck Stecker, Pete Menconi and Ward Tanneberg. A variety of workshops addressing issues from ministry with the frail elderly to raising up young leaders to ministry with Boomers will be offered. Our own Dr. Doug Fagerstrom, Converse Worldwide vice president, will lead a workshop entitled "Laying Bricks or Building Cathedrals? Inviting, Training and Motivating Volunteers." Dr. Richard Bergstrom, co-director of Converse Worldwide 2nd 1/2 for Him, will speak and also facilitate an interactive panel on the subject of "Pastors to Pastures: What Happens to Preachers After Age 50?" Leona Bergstrom, co-director of 2nd 1/2 for Him, serves as the conference planning team chairperson.

Accommodations are at the Hilton Atlanta/Marietta. For more information please visit www.goCASA.org or call Leona Bergstrom at 206-362-2621. See page 4 for more plenary session titles and workshop options.

Short-Term Missions Opportunity:

SERVE IN THAILAND with 2nd 1/2 FOR HIM!

Would you like to make a difference in the world? This short-term mission trip may be the opportunity of a lifetime!

Converge Worldwide missionary Steve Cable has invited 2nd 1/2 for Him to minister at the Santisuk English School in Bangkok, Thailand. You can be a part of a group of fifteen 2nd 1/2 for Him participants from across the nation as we go to teach English to Thai students. The experience will

be four weeks long, arriving March 12 and returning April 8, 2011. (Some may stay through April 15 to celebrate Thai New Year.)



During our time in Thailand we will be trained and equipped to be good English teachers. We will then teach two classes per day, Monday - Thursday, two hours per class, 10-11 students per class. During free time we will

have the opportunity to develop relationships with students, go sightseeing, or spend time studying, swimming or shopping.

Costs are approximately \$850, and cover housing, food, in-country transportation and other fees. Airfare to Bangkok will be determined by your starting point, but typically is around \$1,200-1,400. If you are in country 30 days or less, a tourist visa is free upon arrival in Bangkok.

According to Steve, your service is extremely valuable and you WILL make a difference in the lives of students. You will also have fun in one of the most beautiful tourist destinations in the world. You can learn more about Santisuk English School and Peace Fellowship Church by visiting www.santisuk.org/serve

If you are interested in learning more about joining this National 2nd 1/2 for Him team, please email Leona Bergstrom at Leona.Bergstrom@convergeww.org or call 206-362-2621.



2nd 1/2 for Him Ministry

**Boomers and Beyond
Newsletter -
Please copy
and give to
your 2nd 1/2
Ministry
groups!**



This newsletter is produced bi-monthly by Converge Worldwide (BGC) 2nd 1/2 for Him. Editor: Leona Bergstrom. To subscribe for free electronic editions via your email, please visit www.convergeworldwide.org and click on "lists." To submit articles or ideas, please write to Leona.Bergstrom@convergeww.org or call (206) 362-2621.

Training

Our goal is to train leaders who are effective in leading the local church toward powerful midlife and older adult ministry. We are partnering with CASA Network (www.gocasa.org) to provide excellent leadership training opportunities. 2nd 1/2 for Him leaders are available to come to your church or district for on-site training. Call Richard Bergstrom at (425) 216-4408.

Resources

We are continually updating our resource list to provide you with up-to-date information. Check our website at www.convergeworldwide.org click on "U.S." and then go to 50+ Ministries.

CONTACT US:

Richard & Leona Bergstrom, co-directors
Leona.Bergstrom@ConvergeWW.org
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206-362-2621 (Seattle, Washington)

What could happen if...

We changed our emphasis from growing **OLD** to **GROWING** old?

★ Might we be more apt to provide opportunities for people age 50+ to discover their unique design and passion and unleash them to meaningful and significant service?

★ Might we honor and value those who are living a long time by listening to their stories and acknowledging their unique journeys?

★ Might we see long life as something to be cherished, not dreaded and resented?

★ Might we nurture the growth of the soul—that part of our being that lives for eternity?

WHAT ARE YOU DOING TO KEEP GROWING?

WHAT PROGRAMS DOES YOUR CHURCH PROVIDE TO HELP PEOPLE IN THE SECOND HALF OF LIFE KEEP GROWING?

Please share your ideas with us! Email: Leona.Bergstrom@convergewww.org and submit your ideas and suggestions!

PSALM 92:12-14:
THEY WILL FLOURISH...
THEY WILL GROW...
THEY WILL BEAR FRUIT...!

Resources to Inspire Grandparents!

Sunday, September 12, is Grandparents Day. Hats off to all of you who have the “cutest” grandkids in the world.....

BOOKS

NEW RELEASE (available September 12, 2010)

Preparing My Heart for Grandparenting



by Lydia Harris, AMG Publishers, 2010.

Laugh, Love, and Learn While You Prepare for Your GRAND Role!

Whether you're “expecting” to become a grandparent or you're already a great-grandparent, you'll benefit from this practical Bible study and how-to book in one fun package.

The book is designed to take you through a six-week study, each containing five lessons with Scriptures, stories and quotes from grandparents, a “grand” thought and a prayer. The lesson titles give you a glimpse of what's in store : Prepare for a New Role;

Prepare to Pray; Prepare to Model a Godly Life; Prepare to Invest in Their Lives; Prepare for Joy and Tears; and Prepare to Make an Eternal Impact. This study can be done individually, in a group or together as a grandmother and grandfather!

For more information visit www.preparingmyheart.net

Out of the Mouth of Grandbabes

by Donna Vander Griend, NavPress, 2007

This joy-producing book features more than 40 surprising stories that uncover biblical truths--all from the mouths of grandbabes. Parents and grandparents alike will be inspired, refreshed and encouraged to view the world through the children in their lives.

Extreme Grandparenting: The Ride of Your Life

by Tim and Darcy Kimmel, Focus on the Family, 2007

Grandparents themselves, the Kimmels explore four foundational roles that every grandparent is to play in the lives of their grandchildren.

Grandparents who understand and take seriously these roles will impact their grandchildren... for eternity.

WEBSITES

www.ChristianGrandparenting.net

Founder and President Cavin Harper shares words of wisdom on this website and through his weekly e-newsletter. The Christian Grandparenting Network is devoted to challenging those in midlife and beyond to finish the race well by living for future generations.



From page 1:

"Better Together" conference offers sessions and workshops to inspire and instruct!

Here is a sample of what you will experience at the International Leadership Conference, Nov. 10-12, 2011. For more information visit www.goCASA.org

Who Stole My Church?
Dr. Gordon MacDonald

**Shifting the Generational
Paradigm**
Chuck Stecker
Pete Menconi

**Worship: Finding the Bridge
Over Troubled Water**
Dr. Michael Sharp

**Unveiling a New Para-
digm for Life's Second
Half**
Dr. Amy Hanson

IMAGINE!
Dr. Ward Tanneberg

Unity in Diversity
Dr. Dolphus Weary

**Encore: Helping Boomers
Create a Second Act**
Chris Holck

**Changing the Perception of
Aging, One Dream at a
Time**
P.K. Beville

**Too Important to Lose: A
Grandparent's Plan for
Leaving a Legacy**
Cavin Harper

"ONE" is the Loneliest Number that You'll Ever Do

Many of us remember that old song by Three Dog Night. Love scorned is one thing, but these lyrics shouldn't describe what 2nd 1/2 ministry in the church is like...

However, oftentimes it feels like you're out there alone, trying to attract people age 50+ who don't want to be "seniors," vying for endorsement of the senior leadership, and advocating for the value of long life! It can get lonely out there. That's why you should join us in one of these networking events:

2nd 1/2 for Him Ministries

PEER NETWORK GATHERING

April 7-9, 2011
Converge Worldwide
Collaboration Center
Orlando, Florida

Join ministry peers from CWW churches for a time of fellowship, sharing program ideas and best practices and prayer. The format is both informal and productive. You'll leave with new ideas, new friends and a new passion for ministry.

The gathering will begin with dinner on Thursday night and end at noon on Saturday. This will be one of the first events held in our new collaboration center! You can come early or leave later and enjoy some of the Orlando attractions.

The format of a Peer Network Gathering is fresh, innovative and designed to meet your specific and unique ministry needs.

More details will be available soon. Watch the 2nd 1/2 for Him website or email Don.Windmiller@convergeww.org or Leona.Bergstrom@convergeww.org

Join Us for Breakfast at the Leadership Conference

A special breakfast breakout will be held on Friday morning, November 12, for those attending the Leadership Conference (see page 1) who are from Converge Worldwide churches. The event will be hosted by Doug and Donna Fagerstrom, senior vice president, Converge Worldwide, and Richard and Leona Bergstrom, co-directors, Converge Worldwide 2nd 1/2 for Him. This is a great opportunity to meet others in like ministry!

A Report from the 2010 Biennial Meeting in Denver

The Intergenerational Church Seminar

Nearly 100 people packed out the pre-conference intensive sponsored by 2nd 1/2 Ministries entitled "The Intergenerational Church." Speaker and author Pete Menconi summarized the major differences between



the five adult generations in the church

today and suggested ways to overcome the division they may experience.

One CWW pastor wrote this: *I was thoroughly fascinated by the afternoon we spent together at the recent meeting. I believe it may be one of the most critical meetings I have attended in a long time. We are an aging church and we need to learn how to better incorporate the 20 and 30-year-olds into our "inter-generational family."*