

CB North Central 2019 Annual Conference Success

The 2019 Annual Conference was held at Calvary Baptist Church in Eau Claire, WI on October 18-19. It was a success. Before more is said, I want to thank Pastor John van Gorkom and his staff at Calvary for hosting the conference and making our time there so hospitable. You guys are the best and we were all blessed by how you served us. A special thanks goes to my Admin., Wendy Jonassen, for taking care of all the ever important details and as always, she did a great job. We were so blessed and thankful to God for the many individuals who participated. Those who came were pastors, pastor's wives, CBNC church members and our guest speakers. Many traveled quite a distance to attend.

Friday Evening

We started the evening off with a delicious catered meal by Beth Dietsche, a member of Calvary Baptist. The fellowship and time with each other was wonderful. As a bonus, we were blessed to have James Hall and the Calvary church Worship Team bring us before God with a great time of singing and praise.



To top the evening off, we had the distinct privilege of hearing from our new CB America President, Dr. Dave Whitaker from Morgan Hill, CA. His message was entitled, "Leadership Lessons by Nehemiah" from Nehemiah 1-11. It was great. Nehemiah clarified his passion, motivated leaders, moved to action, served from integrity, gave generously, lead with vision and much more. Enjoy what Dr. Whitaker had to say in these recordings of his presentations.

[CBA PRESIDENT SESSION 1 – Leadership Lessons from Nehemiah](#)

[CBA PRESIDENT SESSION 2 – Who is CBA?](#)

Saturday Morning

We began the morning with an enjoyable continental breakfast followed by our Annual Business Meeting. The CBNC board reviewed the importance of our foundational values of establishing healthy churches, developing strong leadership and planting missional churches in our region. Our guest presenters challenged us with the need for biblical transitions by Dave Jenkins; building a disciplemaking culture within the church by Jeremy Adelman; the opportunity of planting a Quad City church by Gerard Hall, [HEAR TESTIMONY](#); and an exciting update on CB America chaplaincy by Director Andy Meverden and Chaplain Robert Rand from Fort McCoy, WI. The meeting was concluded with a very special time of prayer with the laying on of hands by the board and many pastors. If you want to see the Business meeting for yourself, click [ANNUAL BUSINESS MEETING](#).

Building a Disciplemaking Culture Session

Because the majority of churches in America are either in decline or at best plateaued, building a strong disciplemaking culture in the local church is critical. Jeremy Adelman, the pastor of First Baptist Church in Minneapolis, presented a serious and needed challenge to the pastors present. If we are to be obedient and successful in "making disciples" as Christ commanded, then we must make a significant shift in the church from being a conventional teaching center to a training center. Training pastors and church leaders in a safe cohort environment, will bring about the most success. Four pastors present made a commitment to make the first step for such disciplemaking training 101. CBNC is happy to sponsor this endeavor and scholarship \$400 for each church that is willing to this one-year process. If you want to hear the training session first hand, click [DISCIPLEMAKING](#).

It was exciting to see so many pastors and wives connect to enjoy a time of fellowship together. On behalf of the board and myself as the Director, it is our joy to serve you in 2019 and the coming new year. We rejoice in what we see God doing in our churches and we look forward to watching God do the impossible. Let us be about the task of making and multiplying disciples that will impact our communities for Jesus Christ.

Pat Phinney, CB North Central Regional Director