

FB FAITH BUILDERS

EDUCATIONAL PROGRAMS, INC.

"Discipling the head, heart, and hands"

Issue 98

Winter 2010

Fifteen hundred years ago, Saint Patrick told his church leaders about his dream to become a missionary to Ireland.

"You want to return to Ireland? Are you crazy! For six years you were a slave to those barbarians. Then, when God delivers you, you want to return and convert them? You know the Irish are thieving pagans. What makes you think they will listen to you? You say that you have had

him to study for deacon ordination. Patrick spent the next six years studying Latin, theology, and the Bible, remaining committed to following His Lord to Ireland while the people surrounding him smirked at his ambitious plans to convert the barbaric Irish.

Patrick was ordained a deacon around the age of 28. He was finally set to return to Ireland. He asked his church leaders to commission him to go. The answer: "No." He asked again and again. Each time the answer was the same. "No." The excuses became familiar to Patrick. "You are needed at home. The Irish won't convert anyway. You need more experience." He was finally told that he must be ordained as a bishop before he could go. Fourteen years after his deacon ordination, he was finally nominated to be ordained as a bishop. His nomination was rejected. Why? On the basis of a sin he committed as a fifteen-year-old before he was a Christian. Four years later, when the Catholic Church sent missionar-

ies to Ireland, the British church finally relented, ordained Patrick bishop, and commissioned him to go to Ireland. He was just a few years short of fifty when he stepped onto Irish soil; he had waited twenty-five years from the time of his call until the church finally commissioned him to go.

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The CALLING OF PATRICK

by Davin Martin

a vision from God telling you to go? But we need you here in Britain to save the home church."

Patrick's parents and church leaders were not enthused about his plans to convert the Irish, but since they needed church leaders anyhow, they allowed

Join us for Winter Term 2011!

We have room for more single and married students in our five-week Winter Term, beginning January 3, 2011. Winter Term has a special focus on preparing servants for the local church. To that end we offer courses in Bible study methods, church growth, church history, theology, and practical service, as well as a number of Bible book studies. In addition to regular FB instructors, Richard Herr, Allen Roth, Chris Stoltzfus, and David Yoder will join us as guest instructors during Winter Term. Winter Term offers flexibility designed so ministers and families can attend, with the option of attending for as little as one week.

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We have prepared a one-hour informative presentation on the work of Faith Builders. If you are interested in scheduling this for a Wednesday or Sunday evening in your community, please contact Steven Brubaker at srb@fbep.org or call the office.

Apply online at www.fbep.org or contact the office for more information.

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Patrick's work was difficult and dangerous, and he remained in Ireland for the rest of his life. He slept in the rain, was thrown into prison, and preached to anyone who would listen. Within a few decades of Patrick's death, most Irish had converted to Christianity, and they were sending missionaries to Scotland and England. Thomas Cahill in his book *How the Irish Saved Civilization* argues that the Irish church preserved and reintroduced Roman civilization and Christianity to mainland Europe after the collapse of the Roman Empire. By any measure, Patrick's work was not in vain.

What would have happened if Saint Patrick had gone to Ireland before his training or commissioning? Patrick records several visions in his *Confessions* that remind us of Paul's visions of the Macedonian man. But Patrick stayed in Britain twenty-five years after receiving this call because his church refused to commission him. By going immediately, he would have almost doubled his time spent in Ireland. Many of the church

SUMMER TERM | June 27 - July 29, 2011

Faith Builders is offering these courses during the five-week summer term.

» EDU 202 Principles of Teaching (3)	..... Melvin Lehman
» EDU 204 Course Development Practicum (3)	..... Gerald Miller
» EDU 210 Child Development (3)	..... Jonas Sauder
» EDU 230 Teaching Reading (3)	..... Anna Zehr
» EDU 302 Principles of Teaching II (3)	..... Patrick Heatwole
» EDU 326 Life of the Teacher (1)	..... Jonas Sauder
» EDU 333 Teaching Language Arts (3)	..... Sharon Yoder
» EDU 350 Teaching History/Social Studies (3)	..... Patrick Heatwole
» EDU 372 Teaching Science (1)	..... John Mark Kuhns
» EDU 382 Teaching Music—Secondary (1)	..... Wendell Glick
» EDU 397 Art for Teachers (3)	..... Hannah Scott
» EDU 398 Drawing (1)	..... Hannah Scott
» Art: Private Lessons (NC)	..... Hannah Scott
» HIS 301 American History (3)	..... Stephen Russell
» HIS 310 American Church History (3)	..... Stephen Russell
» LIT 240 Children's Literature (3)	..... Janelle Glick
» LIT 310 Poetry Appreciation (1)	..... Jonas Sauder
» MAT 030 High-school Algebra (NC)	..... Earl Koch
» MAT 101 Algebra (3)	..... Earl Koch
» MAT 110 Intro to Geometry (1)	..... Earl Koch
» MAT 111 Intro to Trigonometry (1)	..... Earl Koch
» MAT 115 Joy of Mathematics (1)	..... Earl Koch
» MUS 110 Music Fundamentals (3)	..... Wendell Glick
» MUS 201 Music Theory I (4)	..... Wendell Glick
» MUS 301 Music History & Appreciation (1)	..... Wendell Glick
» SCI 220 Chemistry (4)(minimum of 6 students required)	..... John Mark Kuhns

**We reserve the right to cancel courses with enrollment under five students.
Registration will be available by Feb 1, 2011.**

SEMINAR for CONSERVATIVE ANABAPTIST NONPROFIT ORGANIZATIONS | March 25, 2011

Anabaptist Foundation and Faith Builders Educational Programs are co-sponsoring a seminar for conservative Anabaptist nonprofit organizations, to be held on the Faith Builders campus in Guys Mills, PA. Administrators, board members, long-term staff, and church leaders are encouraged to attend for education and fellowship. The day will include main sessions, workshops, and interest group roundtable discussions.

Main Sessions:

Vision in Anabaptist Ministries	..... Merle Burkholder (Anabaptist Foundation)
Vision in Action	..... Testimonies <i>Ken Nisly (Hillcrest Home), Allen Roth (DestiNATIONS International), and Brian Martin (Bald Eagle Boys Camp)</i>
Compliance and Accountability	..... Mark Payne, CPA
Trends in Voluntary Service Thought and Practice	..... Panelists <i>Amos Esh (Northern Youth Programs), Eldon Hochstetler (Mountain View Nursing Home), Melvin Glick (Mission Interests Committee), Ray Stutzman (Amish Mennonite Aid)</i>
Leading as a Team Member	..... Dan Beachy (LIFE Ministries)

Workshops:

The IRS Form 990	..... Mark Payne
Creating Sustainability in Service	..... Bob Miller (Missions Training Center)
How to Clarify Mission, Vision, and Values	..... Merle Burkholder
An Effective Board of Directors—Financial Statements	..... Richard Shank (Anabaptist Financial)
Implications of Health Care Reform Law	..... Dave Nisly (Choice Books of Northern VA)

Registration: Please contact the Faith Builders office at (814) 789-4518 or fbep@fbep.org to register. A nonrefundable registration fee of \$25.00 per person is required to process your registration. An offering will be lifted to cover additional costs of hosting the seminar. Lodging at Faith Builders is limited and available on a first-come, first-served basis.

For more information, contact Faith Builders Educational Programs at (814) 789-4518 or fbep@fbep.org or contact Anabaptist Foundation at (800) 653-9817 or info@afweb.org.

ADMINISTRATORS CONFERENCE & RETREAT March 18-20, 2011

Jumonville Christian Camp & Retreat Center, Hopwood, PA

Mennonite School Services invites all school administrators and their spouses to an Administrators Conference and Retreat to be held March 18-20, 2011. Come and be refreshed through practical sessions on current school issues, discussions with other administrators, and times of inspiration and worship. This year the conference will feature an extended interview and discussion time with long-time administrator Jonas Sauder and a session on time/life management by Steven Brubaker. Other session topics and a schedule will soon be available on our website or by contacting Faith Builders. Registration is open.

Cost: \$175 per administrator, including two nights lodging and all meals. A discounted rate of \$299 is offered for couples, including all lodging and meals.

Registration is required to attend. Call (814) 789-4518 to register.

NEWS from FAITH BUILDERS

Welcome to...

- » Christina Gatewood (Chambersburg, PA), receptionist volunteer, Sept 13

Engagements

- » Katelyn Hoover & Davin Martin
- » Alena Martin & Nolan Martin
- » Jean Coblentz & Josh Nisley

Weddings

- » Kelsey Hobbs & Joel Martin, Sept 11

Births

- » Wendell & Janelle (Martin) Glick, Dante Wainwright, 2nd child and son, Sept 26
- » Merle & Amy Herr, Destiny Marie, 5th child, 4th daughter, Oct 6
- » Peter & Rachel (Kuhns) Goertzen, Isaiah Gordon, 2nd child and son, Oct 17

We need a maintenance volunteer in January 2011 to serve a one-year term. Basic skills in mechanics or one of the building trades is preferred, but not required. This person can be married or single. If interested, please contact Sheldon Kauffman at sheldonk@fbep.org or call (814) 789-4518, ext. 421.

Wanted: Books for the FB Library—We are constantly looking for books to add to the FB library. We are interested in theology, history, education, and other nonfiction titles. If you have books to donate or know of collections or libraries being sold or donated, please contact us at fbep@fbep.org.

We're grateful to have received a 1999 Ford F-250 pickup for snow removal. We also received funds to purchase a van.

The primary mission of Faith Builder is to serve conservative Anabaptist churches by training students. Those who study here pay tuition for classes, room and board. These payments and other incomes generated by FB services cover seventy percent (70%) of the expense to operate Faith Builders Training Institute. We are dependent on our supporting individuals, churches, and businesses to provide the remaining thirty percent (30%). Without these gifts the cost of training at FB would be significantly higher. Your donations to Faith Builders are a gift to our children, young people, families, and leaders.

- \$725,000: Annual operating expenses
- \$507,500: Student payments and other income (70%)
- \$217,500: Student assistance donations needed (30%)

In addition to the \$217,000 needed for student assistance, we depend on donors to fund capital improvements, workshops, seminars, materials development, the day school (FBCS) and other services not specifically connected with the Institute.

We have prepared a one-hour informative presentation on the work of Faith Builders. If you are interested in scheduling this for a Wednesday or Sunday evening in your community, please contact Steven Brubaker at srb@fbep.org or call the office.

We welcome alumni news to print in our newsletter. Please email your news to fbep@fbep.org. We'll be glad to include it in the next newsletter.

leaders who were holding Patrick back were more concerned about politics and their careers than genuine Christianity and saving the lost. These same church leaders took "gifts" from pagan rulers to supplement their income. Yet Patrick stayed, refusing to leave until the church commissioned him. Should he have waited as he did, or should he have followed the clear call of God? If he had gone immediately, could God have used Patrick as effectively as He did?

Patrick made the right decision. God used the years of waiting as preparation for the work that Patrick was to do. Patrick wrote, "I did not proceed to Ireland of my own accord until I was almost giving up, but through this I was corrected by the Lord, and he prepared me so that... I should be concerned for... the salvation of others, when at that time, still, I was only concerned for myself."

Let's not make this story into a simplistic, one-size-fits-all moral lesson. But our individualistic, "God-and-me" attitudes make us question the wisdom of Patrick's decision, and those attitudes fly in the face of Christ's call to submission.

If nothing else, Patrick's life demonstrates this—before we teach, we must learn. Before we speak, we must listen. Before we command, we must obey. And before we rule, we must submit.

Davin Martin
TAP graduate



This article was adapted from a commencement address presented on May 21, 2010. After graduating from Faith

Builders' Teacher Apprenticing Program, Davin taught grades 8-9 at West Cocalico Mennonite School. He attends South Hinkletown Mennonite Church (Lancaster, PA). As a teacher, he wants to fill his students with a vision for commitment to their churches.

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"Discipling the head, heart, and hands"



Science workshop at Teachers Conference

UPCOMING EVENTS

Winter Term | Jan 3 - Feb 4, 2011

» We have additional space for single and married students.

Administrators Conference | March 18-20, 2011

» We are accepting registrations for this weekend of networking with other school administrators and their wives.

Nonprofit Organization Seminar | March 25, 2011

» Anabaptist Foundation and FBEP are co-sponsoring a seminar for conservative Anabaptist nonprofit organizations, to be held on our Guys Mills campus. More information inside.

Shady Maple Banquet | April 1, 2011

» Join us at Shady Maple Smorgasbord (Blue Ball, PA) for an evening of fellowship, inspiration, and information about Faith Builders.

Summer Term | June 27 - July 29, 2011

» Class listing on page 602 inside newsletter

College Student Weekend | June 30 - July 3, 2011

Contact us...

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