

Born to Win

Volume 6, Number 4

Newsletter of the CEM Network

April 15, 2001

Personal from. . .
Ronald L. Dart

Dear Friends,

A church I used to know had a simple and convenient way of dealing with ecumenism. They were the Christians and everyone else was pagan. End of story, end of question. There was no need to consider whether there were men of faith in other churches. There weren't. There couldn't be. They were one body. They had achieved unity. Ecumenism was a meaningless concept because there was no one else to become unified with. Then one day they learned that their unity was an illusion. They had a kind of uniformity, but the differences in thinking, beliefs, faiths, and even practices differed widely.

Once this came to the surface, the church was shattered into many pieces, and ecumenism became a meaningful idea for the first time. One or two of the larger fragments of the church adopted the posture of the old church. They were the Christians and everyone else was pagan. End of story, end of question. For them, ecumenism was not merely meaningless, it was a dirty word. But for the remnant of the church who had come to grips with reality, ecumenism was a relevant question that had to be addressed.

A few days ago, I was reading the March edition of "First Things"

and came across two essays on ecumenism, one by a Lutheran and the other by a Catholic. The Lutheran, James Neuchterlein, opened by saying, "Ecumenism – or at least ecumenism rightly understood – is not an optional matter for Christians. It is a necessary obedience to the will of Christ that his followers might all be one. But I have to confess to a good deal of confusion as to how precisely we are called to work out that mandate in practice."

Is he right? Is ecumenism a necessary obedience to the will of Christ? What he means by ecumenism is a movement toward cooperation and unity among religious groups. If he is right, then I have to echo his last sentence: "I have to confess to a good deal of confusion as to how precisely we are called to work out that mandate in practice."

But why would he say that this effort at unity "is a necessary obedience to the will of Christ that his followers might all be one"? You know the passage. We read it every year at the Passover: "And now I am no more in the world, but these are in the world, and I come to thee. Holy Father, keep through thine own name those whom thou hast given me, that they may be

one, as we are." (John 17:11)

Is it fair, then, to say that it is the will of Christ that we all be one? Then would you say that we have achieved any approximation of Christ's will in this matter? I wouldn't, but like the Lutheran, I have to confess to "a good deal of confusion as to how precisely we are called to work out that mandate in practice."

The Pope recently declared that separations between Christians are "contrary to the will of Christ." They are, he continued, "scandalous and weaken the voice of the gospel." But he went on to say that "we cannot and should not diminish the differences between us. True

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ecumenical commitment does not seek compromises and makes no concessions on truth.”

In another essay in the same Journal, Richard Neuhaus concludes, “the only unity. . .that can be pleasing to God is unity in the fulness of the truth that Christ intends for his church.”

And that accurately defines the problem that faces the churches of God in this generation. We must strive for unity, but we must not compromise with the truth. We cannot and should not diminish the differences between us. When it comes to the faith, we cannot negotiate or compromise our way into unity in Christ.

So what on earth is Paul talking about in his letter to the Corinthians when he says: “Now I beseech you, brethren, by the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, that ye all speak the same thing, and that there be no divisions among you; but that ye be perfectly joined together in the same mind and in the same judgment.”

(I Corinthians 1:10)

Is Paul describing for us a dream never realized? For indeed it was not realized in the churches to which Paul’s letters were addressed. Unity was an ephemera, a fleeting thing, accomplished briefly if at all. So how, then, is the church to cope with the instructions given by Paul for a unified church?

This is the question I addressed in a recent message to a conference in Phoenix. We have erred in important ways in the past, and we must not make those mistakes again. In this message, I outline the mistakes we have made and

suggest a new approach to the old problem. I would like to send you a free cassette tape of the sermon. The message is titled, “The Quest for Unity,” and you can get a cassette tape of it by simply checking the box on the enclosed card and returning it to us. As always, the tape is *free* but your contribution will help us greatly in getting the message out to others.

With love in Christ’s service,
Ronald L. Dart

Radio Update

Please note the following new stations:

Jacksonville, Texas

KLJT 102.3 FM
Monday - Friday
at 5:30 p.m.

Wheeling, West Virginia*

WWVA 1170 AM
Mondays at 11:00 p.m.

*Indicates a 50,000 watt clear channel station

Calendar of Events

April 28th - Hopkins, Minnesota **Meet the Teacher**

Ronald L. Dart will be speaking at a special Sabbath service and a “Meet the Teacher” session in Hopkins, Minnesota. The service will be held on Saturday, April 28th at 1:30 p.m. at Hopkins Community Center, 33 14th Ave. N., in Hopkins. For more information, please contact Dona Fehr at (763) 572-8377 or by e-mail at DLFehr@compuserve.com

May 12th - Little Rock, Arkansas **Meet the Teacher**

Ronald L. Dart will be speaking at a “Meet the Teacher” session in Little Rock, Arkansas at the Holiday Inn Select (West Little Rock), located at 201 S. Shackleford (take the Shacklefold exit off of I-430N). For more information, please call John Beasley at (501) 224-1883.

June 16th - Cincinnati, Ohio **Meet the Teacher**

Ronald L. Dart will be speaking at a “Meet the Teacher” session in Cincinnati, Ohio. The session will be held at Christ, The Prince of Peace United Methodist Church, 10509 Colerain Avenue. For more information, please contact Lee and Judy Creech at J777CLC@aol.com or call (513) 385-6076.

June 24th - July 1st - **Summer Camp**

Visit our website for the latest updates on summer camp. Call, write or e-mail CEM for more information.

Feast Excitement Grows!

For the 2001 Feast of Tabernacles

The Passover season seems to trigger a signal in all of us that it's time to start making serious plans for another great Feast of Tabernacles. Many have already taken advantage of the price-saving discounts the FA travel team has arranged for you. If you want choice accommodations, don't let any grass grow under your feet before you make your reservations. Last month's Network had a very comprehensive layout of housing and travel bargains. Also, there are all sorts of interesting and exciting information and discounts on our website at: www.cemnetwork.com. Airlines, car rentals, motels, condos, houses and camp sites are all detailed. Please keep in mind that Newman-Dailey and Abbott Realty do not serve the Niceville area, only the Destin and Ft. Walton areas.

We Need You!

The Festival Association continues to need *your* involvement in Feast 2001 in Niceville, Florida. We invite and encourage you to join us in putting on an exceptional Feast of Tabernacles this year. Volunteers are needed in all areas. Our needs include such things as seminar presenters, assisting with activities for all age groups, special music, pianists, and

choir members, YEA teachers and assistant teachers, helping with set-up, etc. We can use your expertise or help you develop some. Please e-mail Dr. Steve Clouthier at preventiondoctor@yahoo.com or fax him at 281-419-8887 and let him know your area of interest or role you would like to fulfill. Please let us hear from you today. We look forward to getting *you* involved in making this very special Festival a reality.

Kids want a Great Feast Too

About nine months out of the year are devoted to putting together five exceptional full-color Sabbath School Feast books with supplies. Each action-packed lesson is relevant to what is going on in each particular kid's world. CEM and YEA are going all out to ensure every kid has the most wonderful spiritual and physical Feast available. From the time your kids approach their classrooms they will see action, fun and excitement. They will know something is going on, and they will want to be involved in it. YEA provides interesting door hangers, visuals, name tags, decorations, etc. to carry out each book's theme and ensure every class is outstanding.

Have you ever asked your child to tell you what they learned in last week's Sabbath

School lesson and they couldn't even remember what it was about? YEA understands that the learning process is incomplete until a kid acts out the lesson in one form or another. So every state-of-the-art lesson provides an active form of learning to ensure lessons are remembered. We also understand that kid's need action, and they are much more likely to incorporate a truth into their lives they discover for themselves than one a parent or teacher passes on to them. YEA follows steps to ensure that all five classes are some of the finest hours your kids will spend in a classroom. The following are the themes for the 2001 Feast Sabbath School classes:

- **Beginners (3-5)**
What Will You Bee?
- **Primaries (6-8)**
Friends Forever
- **Juniors (9-11)**
Stay on Track
- **Intermediates (12-15)**
Hot Topics
- **Senior-teens (16-19)**
Smart Talk

We need your help in seeing to it that every child and teenager attends all of the classes this year. But guess what, the fun doesn't end in the classroom. Keep watching the Network and our website for details about exciting Feast activities for our kids.

Daily Radio

The *Born to Win* broadcast can be heard daily on these stations:

- Huntsville, Alabama**
3:30 p.m. daily - WBXR 1140 AM
- Little Rock, Arkansas**
5:30 p.m. daily - KAAV 1090 AM
- Denver, Colorado**
5:00 a.m. Daily - KLT 670 AM
- Augusta, Georgia**
5:30 p.m. daily - WFAM 1050 AM
- Morrow, Georgia**
7:30 a.m. & 7 p.m. daily
WSSA 1570 AM
- Richmond, Kentucky**
12:30 p.m. daily - WCBR 1110 AM
- Denton, Maryland**
10:00 a.m. daily - WKDI 840 AM
- Omaha, Nebraska**
3:30 p.m. daily - KLNG 1560 AM
- Asheville, North Carolina**
4:00 p.m. daily - WSKY 1230 AM
- Mount Olive, North Carolina**
11:00 a.m. daily - WDJS 1430 AM
- Charleston, South Carolina**
4:30 p.m. & 7:30 p.m. daily
WZJY 1480 AM
- Greenville, South Carolina**
4:30 p.m. daily - WELP 1050 AM
- Chattanooga, Tennessee**
5:00 p.m. daily - WLMR 1450 AM
- Beaumont, Texas**
8:30 a.m. daily - KQHN 1510 AM
- Dallas, Texas**
6:30 a.m. daily - KSKY 660 AM
- Jacksonville, Texas**
5:30 p.m. daily - KLJT 102.3 FM
- Ephrata, Washington**
6:00 a.m. Monday - Saturday
KTRW 970 AM

The following stations broadcast daily at 2:30 p.m.

- Northeastern Oregon**
KGDN 101.3 FM
- Central Washington**
KGER 95.9 FM
- Moses Lake, Washington**
KTAC 93.9 FM
- Northwest Washington**
KTBI 810 AM
- Spokane, Washington**
KSPO 106.5 FM
- Yakima, Washington**
KYAK 930 AM

CHRISTIAN EDUCATIONAL MINISTRIES STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS FOR THE THREE MONTHS ENDED JANUARY 31, 2000

RECEIPTS	
CONTRIBUTIONS	\$289322.68
CEM BOOKSTORE	17227.88
INVESTMENT INCOME	5240.35
	\$311790.91
EXPENSES:	
A/V SUPPLIES	\$8226.89
RENTS	6954.18
OFFICE & ADM. EXPENSES	2909.15
MAILING EXPENSES	3374.31
POSTAGE	19894.09
PRINTING	8119.76
RADIO EXPENSES	108548.56
TELEPHONE & UTILITIES	2091.20
YOUTH MINISTRIES	1885.13
CONFERENCES	543.50
CEM BOOKSTORE	4602.89
COMPUTER & WEB EXPENSES	3069.69
FOREIGN OPERATIONS	343.04
EQUIPMENT	2098.64
EMPLOYEE BENEFITS	11640.58
WAGES & PAYROLL TAXES	*70857.16
TOTAL OPERATING EXPENSES	\$255158.77
INCREASE IN FUND BALANCE	\$56632.14

*TOTAL SALARY TO LARRY WATKINS = \$14375.00
TOTAL SALARY TO RONALD DART = \$17250.00



Tune in for the latest weekly broadcast.

- April 21 - April 27**
Christian Holidays 8
- April 28 - May 4**
Christian Holidays 9
- May 5 - May 11**
Christian Holidays 10
- May 12 - May 18**
Christian Holidays 11

Your Letters...

Dear YEA,

I am very excited. I just received my first student and teacher Primary Sabbath School books for my grandchildren.

My wife has taught Primaries in COG-7th Day and the Seventh-Day Adventist Church. I am happy to say that your Primary material compares extremely favorably to the large SDA curriculum. This is a very pleasant surprise seeing that CEM is a much smaller entity. Congratulations!

I would personally recommend the CEM (YEA) curriculum to a COG for Sabbath School or to parents for home use. The written word just can not express how well I like and endorse your curriculum. Thank you.

Your friend and fellow servant,
J.B.

Christian Educational Ministries

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...the man of God may be efficient and equipped for every good work.