

IMA Video Connect every 3rd Thursday of each month at 10AM Central Time. Contact IMA Home Office for more info.

Connect with IMA on social media: Facebook, Instagram & Twitter using @imaministers

If you would like to post any IMA events or articles, please send your information to the IMA Home Office two months in advance.

Quotable Quotes

"In the New Testament, we don't find our gift through self-examination and introspection and then find ways to express it. Instead, we love one another, serve one another, help one another, and in so doing we see how God has equipped us to do so."

~ Russell D. Moore

"The Bible was not given to increase our knowledge but to change our lives."

~ D.L. Moody

"Train people well enough so they can leave, treat them well enough that they don't want to."

~ Richard Branson

"You have a divine purpose that no one else can fulfill. You have to get out of the bleachers and into the game if you want to affect the outcome of your life!"

~ Pastor John Hagee

PLEASE NOTE CHANGE*

IMA National Conference

Dates: Mon-Wed, September 21-23, 2020

*Due to current restrictions in Illinois, the National Board has decided to change the location of our National Conference.

New Church Location: Return Church in Clarksville, IN (near Louisville, KY)

Evening Conf Speakers:

- ☐ Rev. Jason King from Faith Bible Chapel in Arvada, CO
- ☐ Rev. Ben Bufkin from Living Word Church in Houma, LA
- ☐ Rev. Paul Mason from Living Waters Church in Seguin, TX

Theme: Poised to Win! *I press toward the goal for the prize of the upward call of God in Christ Jesus. Phil. 3:14*



IMA PROCLAIM

Relational

Actional

Missional



Why Come Together for Conference?

By Pastor Ray Brown; The Gathering Church

I have to be totally honest that when I was asked to write an article about this theme, I thought, "Well I haven't been to a National Conference for a number of years!" How can I write without being a hypocrite!

Well, I am one of the many imperfect persons to do this because I won't sound like an advertisement that you may just overlook and/or gloss over. I get no monies for this, nor my room paid for at our conference hotel, I can assure you. I am just like the majority that has been at somewhat of a distance at times, and unintentionally disengaged.

We Pastors and Ministers have already said and know that we are living in unprecedented times. I don't have to spell that out for you. For myself, in having a ministry where I am regularly surrounded by people in the recovery community, I hear a repeated phrase: "If you want to get something different, you have to do something different." I sense that pre-Covid, many of us had been searching for a freshness that well-intended programs could not do. We knew something needed to be done, but how do you go about it without making a mess of things.

Now, we see that God is moving in the midst of these unprecedented times. He has nearly cleaned the slate for us.



Remember the sacred Scripture that says, "Behold, I will do a new

thing..." Today is a day to sit up and take notice of what God is doing. Remember that nothing ever shocks God. He already knew about all that would unfold and unravel.

This is the perfect time to assemble! Let's come together for just a few days and be refreshed after having rebuilt our portions of the wall of our personal ministry for the Kingdom. I sincerely believe this conference can and will be like a Nehemiah Chapters 8 and 9 convocation. Oh my, how many times have we went to Conference, listened to a podcast or hungrily went to Youtube to listen to another teacher and preacher because we were so spiritually dry and in need of something fresh and new?

Obviously, I could easily mention the benefits that come by fellowshiping. However, we already know these advantages, because we say such things within our own respective houses to help others connect.

Additionally, I believe we will be refreshed, because we will be unhinged from our familiar functioning. Let's interrupt our mundane schedules and let God do something eternal in each of us. We must do more than critique speakers and move far beyond a temporary fix. Gone are those days. I tend to think that at this gathering, predetermined peoples will come thirsty and hungry for God. Therefore, expect "above all that we think or ask" moments to begin in each of us. (Continue reading on Pg. 3)

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National Board:

- ☐ **Dr. Timothy Warner**
- ☐ **Dr. Don Crabtree**
- ☐ **Rev. Sean Dudley**
- ☐ **Rev. Chad Hayes**
- ☐ **Rev. Dan Hernandez**
- ☐ **Rev. Kurt Juscak**
- ☐ **Rev. Mike McCord**

District Chairs:

- ☐ **Dr. Lowell Collins**
- ☐ **Dr. Charles Dewing**
- ☐ **Rev. Paul Mason**
- ☐ **Rev. Joe Campbell**
- ☐ **Rev. Romualdo Corpuz**
- ☐ **Rev. Karrie Landsverk**
- ☐ **Rev. R. Scott Lehr**
- ☐ **Rev. Keith Owens**
- ☐ **Rev. Stephen Schafer**
- ☐ **Rev. David Spurlock**
- ☐ **Rev. Robert Garcia**

Retro Article:

Five-Fold Ministry

IMA National Board; Herald of Truth; May, 1958

The IMA, in the formation, took a position that we endorse the complete restoration of the **New Testament Church**. This was expressed in a resolution that stated, **"We believe in the five-fold ministry, the restoration of the gifts of the Spirit and in healing revivals."**

This broad statement of policy was not made to indicate that each member of the Association would be forced to subscribe to this view, neither was the purpose of the resolution to force the IMA to use this statement as its determined doctrine.

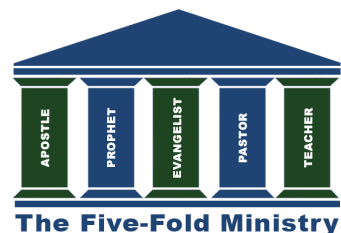
The resolution was intended to convey to all members of the IMA that we would not make those who believe in the "five-fold" ministry an object of persecution.

The IMA has members who believe that the church will again have apostles as well as prophets, and also those who do not believe it. Therefore, we take the position as stated on Page 6,

Paragraph Four, of our Constitution, "Differences of opinion on doctrine shall not be a barrier to membership as long as there shall be no contention and the pulpits and churches of others are respected and not mistreated."

We feel proud that our first resolution described the latitude of freedom allowed our members in believing or not believing in present day apostleship; and whatever the belief on the matter, it was not to cause contention by mistreating other churches or pulpits.

The IMA stands for freedom, the right for free expression; it fights to give you the liberty to believe or not to believe in present day or endtime apos-



ties. That is our position now and was from the beginning and it has not been changed.

~ Signed by the IMA Board Members; 1958

We have the same spirit as our founding fathers.

IMA vision states that we have **RAM** force! **Relational; Actional; Missional. Vision** is expressed in:

- ☐ **VALUES** (never change);
- ☐ **VIRTUES** (may change);
- ☐ **VENUES** (must change).

IMA respects differing views on current theological trends and how ministers live out their faith. The Bible continues to be our anchor, we are joined together by the Holy Spirit and share a passion to reach our broken world with the gospel of our Messiah, Jesus!

The Great Need to Gather Together in Person

National Conference 2020

Chairman's Corner:



By Dr. Timothy L. Warner
IMA National Chairman

"Making request, if by any means now at length I might have a prosperous journey by the will of God to come to you. For I long to see you, that I might impart unto you some spiritual gift, to the end you might be established." Romans 1:10-11

What an eventful year this has been so far! January 2020 began with a report of the first case of coronavirus that was sweeping China at the time. President Trump wisely began shutting down travel to and from China and international flights and border crossings. From that time, Covid-19 began to spread across 184 nations. Then, mid-March 2020, bars, casinos, business, government, and yes, churches began to close across the nation and around the world. All IMA ministers were affected in some way.

We all found out very quickly that God's church gatherings on the first day of the week for the first time in modern history could be interrupted. David Wilkerson's vision of a pandemic that would cause "bars, churches and government shutdown" came to pass. Dozens of IMA pastors and missionaries I spoke with were in utter shock that we could not gather for worship, travel for missions or communicate with fellow ministers face to face. Communication was by phone, text or internet. What a rapid change!



One particular heart to heart conversation with a fellow IMA minister went something like this: "After our church closed down and [IMA] meetings were canceled, I simply cannot wait for the

September 2020 National Conference to come; I will do anything to get there.... It's like I'm homesick to be with my fellow ministry comrades of faith. I love the IMA and our ministers more than ever!" Wow, what a take-away from Covid-19 epidemic. As bad as the Covid-cloud has been, God always has a silver lining.

Paul had a similar feeling about gathering together with his fellow ministers and the saints at Rome. The above Scripture underscores his heart's desire to be with them: "I long to see you..." Yes, gifts of the Spirit can be shared, communicated and imparted when we gather together in person – even more than by letter, phone, Zoom or Face-time. Nothing can REPLACE the dynamic of God's ministers gathering together face to face.

Let's remember Bible verses like: Be comforted together; Extend the right hand of fellowship; Greet one another; Call the elders; Come together; Eat the Lord's supper, etc.

Every one of these verses signify the need to gather in person. IMA District and National Conferences are embedded in our Constitution, have been practiced for more than a half-century, and continue to be a meeting place for God's ministers from around the world.

"Why Come Together for Conference?" (Article Continued from Pg. 1)

Lastly, I end this by repeating, "If you want to get something different, you have to do something different." Although in the past, we have gravitated toward what has been familiar, 2020 has ushered us into a new way of seeing and doing our Father's business. Sure we can stay away from another National Conference and be perfectly fine. Or, we can explore new territory—just like what we have had to do in closing our doors for a season and reopening, all while navigating race relations, heightened disagreements between political parties, the bombardment of partial truths from our media outlets, and much more. This is not what you or I were

prepared or trained for specifically.

However, the adjustable wrench that we have been given when we started in ministry, will fit any nut that comes along. Listen, we have been operating outside of our zone of comfort for awhile now. In these last number of months, how about we intentionally mark our calendar with the International Ministerial National Conference. What we will find when we attend is that it will be oh so apropos and right on time. We will return home and be prepared to do something different and embrace our new normal. See you at Conference!



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Greetings and Farewell Fellow IMA Ministers:



I love the IMA and am proud to be part of this organization of Ministers. I am so thankful the National Board asked me to step into this position last Spring. However, it is now time for me to move into a new direction. I have decided to step down from the position of Member Services Coordinator following the IMA National Conference, September 21-23, 2020.

I have gleaned so much from this experience and am thankful for all the help and support I have received along the way. Special thanks to Dr. Paul and Verda Todd for helping to train me early on in this position. Special thanks to Revs. Tom and Kim Couture for making office space available at Bethel Church in Eau Claire, WI for the IMA Home Office. I know God has great things in store for this association. I've enjoyed the phone conversations, emails, and correspondence with each member. I look forward to seeing you all at the upcoming National Conference.

God Bless, Rev. Jim Warner