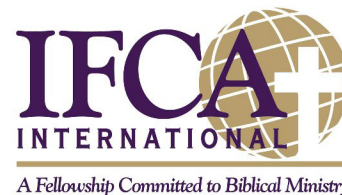




IFCA International News Connection



My Word ... by Les Lofquist

The first week of November was an exciting week at the IFCA Home Office. We hosted the IFCA Board of Directors as well as the IFCA Youth Committee in their semi-annual meetings. With fourteen men here for the Board meetings, and five men here for the Youth Committee, the Home Office was a hub of activity!

Most importantly during the Board and Youth Committee meetings, future plans were laid to help IFCA fulfill our **2020 Strategic Plan**. This plan is ongoing as we sequentially address the various needs in our Fellowship. Our hope is that the 2020 Strategic Plan will provide IFCA International with a road map for the next decade of ministry and beyond.

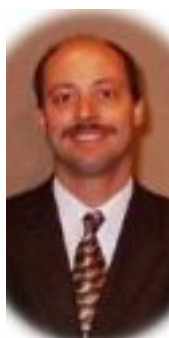
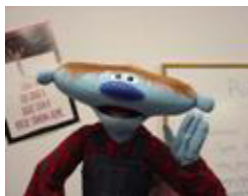
The first initiative in the 2020 Strategic Plan is **Vision America**, and it has already been unveiled and is now being implemented. Please pray for 100 IFCA churches to commit to the effort of church planting here in the United States. Your involvement in praying for Vision America is essential.

We rejoiced in our Board meetings when we heard reports of God's blessing through the combined ministries of IFCA members, churches, and organizations. It was so encouraging to hear of new churches being planted here in the United States and around the world. Several Regionals are growing in their interdependence and cooperative ministries have developed between places as far-flung as Michigan and Russia and Colorado and Uganda. The Community Care Today evangelistic initiative is yielding exciting fruit in those IFCA churches who are serious about reaching their communities.

We are profoundly grateful to God. Despite the uncertainty of our economy and the current political transition, great things are happening all throughout IFCA.

Ministry Spots

Praisin' Puppets a ministry of **Hope Bible Church** (O'Fallon MO), is dedicated to the presentation of the Gospel message and biblical truths through puppets in churches, camps and other venues. Puppeteers consist of church members from grades 4-12.



CAMPAGNING FOR CHRIST

*Pastor Ron David
Salina Bible Church*

By now it is no secret. Vision America and the need for Bible centered, God-fearing churches across our great country is imperative. The difficulty is not in seeing the need, but in presenting this enormous necessity in a viable way that is used by God to produce results.

One approach to presenting the need is the missions conference. While we commonly use this occasion to hear about the working of the Lord and the needs of missionaries around the world, the opportunity to share Vision America and the need in our own part of the world is also available.

Here is how it can work. Recently Salina Bible Church in Salina, Kansas held its Annual World Missionary Conference. Taking advantage of the 2008 election year, the Missions Committee chose "**Campaigning for Christ**" as its theme. Since the body of Christ has the greatest candidate – the need to present Him in our surrounding towns throughout our nation is essential. By inviting an IFCA church planting missionary to take part in the annual

Salina Bible Church was not only able to present the need to reach the far ends of the earth, but also our nation through church planting and Vision America.

Dr. Roy Sprague, an experienced church planter with **Northwest Independent Church Extension (NICE)**, was invited to take part in this task.

Throughout the nine day conference each missionary/planter was able to share from God's Word and to present reports from their field of service. The teens were able to meet and learn from a church planter at their Saturday night cook-out and some of those present came to Christ. Families were able to sit around their kitchen tables with each missionary/planter and hear how God can and will use them.

Throughout the nightly services the need was made clear using recent statistics, practical experience and of course the Word of God. Each attendee was encouraged **to pray** that God would use them, **to commit** to the challenge of Vision America, **to locate** a place where God can use them, **to set aside** resources, **to adopt** a pattern, and **to partner** in the effort.

Salina Bible Church was reminded that the campaign for our Savior is still an ongoing privilege even though the presidential campaign is now behind us. It is a privilege with opportunity ... opportunity that is present in Vision America and a welcome part of any missionary conference.

9:38 Prayer Team

Sign up Today!
www.ifca.org/938



VA RESOURCES

[VA Video on line](#)

[VA Web Page](#)

Your Church Didn't
Get a VA DVD?

[Request One Here](#)



Web's World

There are four important directories included on the [IFCA Website](#), each one containing information that is constantly changing and therefore subject to being "dated". You can help to keep them current!

1. **Member Church Websites** - a listing of the IFCA Member Churches that have websites and provides a link to those websites.
2. **Find A Church** - lists all IFCA related churches (member churches and non-member churches pastored by member pastors).
3. **Individual Members** - lists all current IFCA members with contact and ministry information for each. It is accessible only to members.
4. **Organizational Members** - lists all member churches and organizations with contact information for each.

Take some time to check each of these directories and let us know if your information is included and current! If it isn't, [drop me a note](#) identifying which list needs updating and providing the appropriate information. - **Web**

PRAYER PROMPTERS

For an army of VISION AMERICA church planters to take their place in the fields of harvest in America.

For 100 IFCA churches to enlist in VISION AMERICA to participate in planting new churches in our country.

For increased financial support for IFCA International as we look to the year ahead.

For God's provision in reducing the projected year-end deficit of 20,000.00.

For the several church planting projects that are just a few details away from becoming VISION AMERICA churches.

Fellowship Financial Update

IFCA International **needs your help**. As we prepare to close the year 2008 we are faced with the prospect of a **\$20,000 deficit**. **Can you help** with a one-time gift to **reduce the 2008 deficit**? **Can your church help** with an increase in monthly giving to IFCA to **avoid one in 2009**?

Did you know?

You can give one time and regular gifts to IFCA International [on-line!](#)
www.ifca.org/donations

Going Where He Leads

Lt. Michael Amedick, CHC, USN



Over the past year my ministry as a navy chaplain has been a mixture of change and constants. A year ago I found myself in Ramadi, Iraq, serving as a chaplain for a Marine Corps infantry battalion deployed there. I was responsible for ministering to about 1,000 Marines stationed on 11 small outposts spread over an area of several hundred square kilometers. My seven months in Iraq marked my third deployment to the Middle East in three years.

Today I am assigned as a chaplain at the [U.S. Naval Academy](#) in Annapolis, Maryland. Here I serve with a group of seven other chaplains. I am responsible for a battalion of about 750 midshipmen. I regularly preach at our three Protestant services each Sunday, conduct dozens of wedding and funeral services each year, and serve as the varsity football chaplain. Additionally I will be the chaplain in charge for the incoming class's [plebe summer](#) next year.

The contrasts between serving with the Marines and serving at the Academy are stark. In Iraq, the largest service at Camp Ramadi was attended by 60 or so soldiers, sailors, and Marines. By contrast, our main Protestant service in Annapolis has an attendance of around 700 on a typical Sunday and draws as many as 2,000 on the busiest weekends. Our midshipmen-only contemporary service draws more than 200 worshipers each Sunday evening.

In Iraq, of course, I was separated from my family. My wife, four children, and I had to be content with email, packages, and telephone calls. In Annapolis, my family is a regular part of our chapel community.

Ramadi is a rather forbidding-looking place. The surrounding area is marked by seemingly endless masses of desert. The city itself, though improving, still bears the scars of war and insurgency. My services were frequently held outside with Marines sitting on cots or cardboard boxes. Annapolis could hardly be more different. The chapel is wonderful, the Academy grounds pristine, and the surrounding city and water are beautiful.

Still, despite the many differences, much remains constant between the two ministries. People need to hear the message of the Bible. Among both Marines and midshipmen there is widespread biblical illiteracy. And while the precise counseling needs tend to be different in the two settings, both of them are filled with young people with lots of questions looking to their chaplain for wisdom and guidance.

Ramadi and Annapolis are very different places indeed. But they are both great places to be if God wants you there.

Chaplain Michael Amedick is a 1986 US Naval Academy graduate who left active duty in response to God's call to ministry. He trained at [Capital Seminary](#), thereafter pastoring Fairview Bible Church in Lewistown PA. In 2003, Lieutenant Amedick was commissioned as a Navy Chaplain and assigned to Commander, Destroyer Squadron 26 in Norfolk, Virginia, deploying with the Harry S. Truman Strike Group in 2004.

In 2005, Chaplain Amedick was assigned to 1st Battalion, 8th Marines, 2nd Marine Division. Serving with this battalion he deployed with the 24th Marine Expeditionary Unit in 2006 and to Ramadi, Iraq in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom in 2007.

In 2008, Chaplain Amedick was assigned as 2nd Battalion Chaplain at the US Naval Academy where he currently serves the Lord, and our armed service personnel.



Web-links

These links are given as potential resources for your use and edification. Inclusion here does not in any way imply IFCA's endorsement of everything they may contain.

[Scofield Prophecy Studies](#)
[Eternal Perspective Ministries](#)
[InternetSafety.com](#)



Do your Christmas shopping and financially assist IFCA International at the same time!
SHOP IFCA!