

STOCK	BID	OFFER	LAST	VOL
SBC	25.64	25.74	25.33	22247
COGIC	25.5	25.7	25.225	30891
UMC	25.32	25.2425 ▼	25.145	33334
AMEC	25.5	25.57	25.23	70176
NAZ	25.67	26.05	25.63	39694
CMEC	25.45	25.74 ▲	25.31	51064
FMC	25.51	26.33	25.48	66422
ELCA	25.97	25.57 ▼	24.96	64614
PCUSA	25.47	25.54	25	46369
PCA	25.37	25.92 ▲	25.1475	32556

STOCK	BID	OFFER
UCC	26.31	27.19
MENN	27.08	27.88
ADG	27.88	28.16
NAC	27.86	28.18
AVC	28.01	27.38 ▼
CMA	28.33	27.77 ▼
NLF	28.59	28.82
SDAC	28.69	29.73 ▲
RCA	28.73	29.38
URCNA	28.96	28.96

LEADING WITH LESS

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Volume 11 / Issue 3 / December 2010

www.dvuli.org

TAKING STOCK OF MINISTRY OPTIONS

By William Cumby

My favorite childhood book is *Green Eggs and Ham* by famed author/illustrator Dr. Seuss. The main character, Sam, works hard to persuade his counterpart to step out of his comfort zone and taste a seemingly unordinary food combination. It is interesting that my appreciation for storybooks is so profound that I have taken it into my professional career as a full time minister of youth at The Fountain of Praise in Houston, TX. Never did I imagine how influential a children's story could be until I was forced to deal with a situation where the characters involved might not have enjoyed a happy ending.

2010 has been an especially difficult year for several ministries – our church included. Tithing and other contributions have not been what they typically were. It's as if we're reliving the account in the book of Haggai where the people had a beautiful glorious temple under Solomon when wealth and prosperity flowed like an unyielding stream. Now with everything different. Money is tight but a temple (your ministry and your message) must be built.

After two years of operating the youth ministry free of financial constraints, suddenly I was tasked with trying to hold things in place while facing cutbacks in a few areas. Many of the cuts were difficult to make but very necessary. Budgets, staff and activities were all affected.

It is no coincidence that I was selected to participate in the DeVos Urban Leadership Initiative. I believe that before entering this program I would have approached our situation with a completely different set of principles and expectations. In order for our youth ministry to maintain and even build under these conditions, I needed to:

1. Review the balance of our youth department and evaluate how we were utilizing our time for team meetings, worship services, and group morale.
2. Revisit the mission and vision statements of our youth department and compare them to the needs of our church, community, and our youth. I asked them, "Are we just having service and events for us or are we really addressing the needs of our community and ultimately leading youth to salvation?"
3. Scenario Plan – What is the Best, Average, and Worst case scenario for the remaining events, the commitment of the part-time employees, and the youth department as a whole? How successful can we be given the reductions in finances, employees, and internal resources?
4. Resource Network – What community resources could we substitute or gain to reduce our costs and appeal to individuals who typically do not attend the services or events?



...continued on page 6

HERE'S MY TAKE

HELP! IN THE TIME OF NEED

The current economic downturn is no respecter of churches! Congregations of every size are facing some financial shaking. Youth ministers and leaders are feeling it all the more with sliced budgets, diminishing offerings and fewer youth attending church because they're working jobs to help keep home life stable. With all that churches and youth departments lack, still there is the faith and ability to feed the multitudes with what appears to be insufficient inventory – like Jesus with the 5000. Some in our DVULI family have figured that the church doors don't have to close and those they serve shouldn't have to suffer just because the funds are feeble. What can be done to keep going with less? Here's their take!

Cary James (Washington DC 2009)



Reid Temple AME Church

Some of the creative ways that have worked for us include collaborations with other churches and parachurch

organizations; grant writing; partnerships with Parks and Recreation; the Police Department; State's Attorney's Office and local businesses, agencies and other organizations. One of our most successful city-wide ministry events this year was an ESPN Zone "All-Nighter". Fifteen churches collaborated and shared resources to minister to 400 urban youth for 13 hours. We also share our annual calendars, and join forces quarterly for events like crab feasts, summer camps and revivals. We have partnered with Parks and Recreation to use their

facilities for tutoring and recreational activities. We have partnered with a local university, and have received 20 new notebook computers for the computer lab at our church. We have hosted a silent auction where goods and services were donated by youth, families, congregations and the community. There were no overhead costs, and we raised \$4,000. Our youth started a recycling program at the church and made money year-round. Members can pay all or a portion of a youth's cost for mission trips, camps and retreats through our sponsor-a-child program. Also there's a youth investment club to teach youth how to raise resources, save and invest money. God specializes in doing much with little, and as His children, we can too.

Carlos Nicasio (San Diego 2008)



Iglesia Evangelica Bethel

We have never had to challenge adults in the church to give to our youth ministry but we felt like it was time. Annually we have a summer internship where youth have to pay to participate but they just didn't have the money this time so I went before the congregation and challenged them to generously help our youth and the donations started to pour in. Then I began to ask for help from area businesses and they started to give also. But we did not stop there. We created the "\$5 donor" program for adults to give \$5 as often as they liked. Although it was humbling for us, we believed it to be affordable and we got a lot of \$5 donations. I called it the 'faith project'

because we're seeing kids grow in Christ every week at our high school campus clubs. The internship program is going strong with youth engaged in community outreach, mission, fieldtrips and learning the Bible because God has provided.

Jocelyn Thornton (Chicago S. 2007)



Emmanuel Covenant Church

We felt the giving commitment of our members start to weaken last summer. One the creative ways that our church

decided to help our members was to limit the number of trips that members needed to make to the church to save on gas in their commute to Orland Park, IL where the church is located. Therefore, we centralized meetings by holding them on Sunday after worship to eliminate extra travel. We've held Bible study and prayer services via telephone conference calls, and our activity nights (movies and games) include the whole family – adults and youth are not separated. In addition, every adult is involved in youth ministry, that way one person is not doing all the work and we're ministering to youth as a community without compromising their level of need. Last year we started a program called "Change for Change." Coins and spare change were dropped in a bucket and all the collected monies went to one member whose name was drawn from a hat. This provided a blessing for a member with financial needs. We're having a lot of fellowship as a church family because hard times bring you closer together.

BRIEF NEWS AND BREAKTHROUGHS

Emory Berry (Miami 2009) is the new Sr. Pastor at Fourth Baptist Church of Richmond, VA. The offer was made to Emory last February and he started a month later. "I am very excited about the opportunity," he said. According to Emory the church' search committee received 170 applications and his made it to the top. Now in this new role, Emory said the 500 member church has shown a lot of appreciation and has made his arrival a good experience. Along with the normal pastoral duties, he has lots of ministry vision and came up with a new motivational slogan, "No doing church as usual, but unusual."

Lauren Walton (Indianapolis 2007) & Tim George exchanged marriage vows on July 10, 2010 at Zionsville Fellowship in Indianapolis, IN. The ceremony was officiated by a pastor that Lauren grew up with, and she said he gave a charge to both of them that made their wedding day very memorable. Lauren adds of her dream husband, "He is loving, trustworthy, faithful and so much more". The new Mr. & Mrs. George spent their honeymoon on the island of St. John.

Angela Reeves (Chicago 2002) received her Master's Degree in Christian Ministry with a concentration in Leadership Administration from North Park Theological Seminary last May. "I am still excited and it's a little overwhelming," she said. "To go back to school after 20 years and have this accomplishment really feels good."

Currently Angela is working at Breaking Ground Ministries in Chicago as Director of APL Teaching Factory where she works with ex-offenders. Angela shared that it's her dream to one day open a group home for young women. "I know that's part of my journey."

Marcia St. Juste (New York 2009) was ordained at Praise Central Baptist Church on October 17, 2010. In the company of church clergy, family, friends, mentors and a few of her DeVos fellows, Marcia said it was a "great service and emotional too." About this new responsibility she said, "I feel very numb, the whole transition is a new phase of accountability in my leadership...I can now officiate weddings, do counseling and baptisms." Marcia keeps regular hours at the church and is accepting more ministerial assignments of behalf of the pastor. "I am very grateful and humbled," she said.

Randy & Lisa Vander Weit (Grand Rapids 1998) were married July 24, 2010 at the Christian Reformed Conference Grounds in Grand Haven, MI. With about 250 in attendance, Randy said having his nephew as ring bearer was really cool, but that the entire moment was a milestone. As for the bride,

"she makes me a better person and keeps me in check," said Randy. "We laugh together and it's just good to have someone to say yes to."

Wendy Toups (Houston 2003) returned to Houston, TX from Okinawa Japan in March of 2009 after a three year mission service to military children from America. While there she was a church youth pastor responsible for Bible teaching, leading and mentoring. "It's unique because every three years you lose 1/3 of the youth who relocate, so I miss aspects of it," said Wendy. During this time she gave birth to two girls, Meagan, now 3, and Emily, 1.

"When you have kids it pulls on you," she explains. "I pulled away from working with youth because the Lord was guiding me to focus on my own children." Presently Wendy is availing her expertise for marketing and advertising to Chick-Fil-A and The Aldine Youth Church.

Amaryllis Lewis (Indianapolis 2007) married Jeffrey Walker on September 11, 2010 at the Roadway Hotel Ballroom in Indianapolis, IN. "It was a beautiful wedding," she said of the candlelit ceremony that also included a moment of silence to honor victims and families of victims of the 9/11 attack. "All of our sons were in the wedding and it was like a fantasy to me," Amaryllis said. "The combination of family and friends made it very beautiful and afterwards we partied!"

Her fondest memory of the occasion was her husband never stopped crying from the time he saw her walking down the aisle through the entire wedding. "His joy flowed through his eyes and that was the ultimate," she said.

Roland Robinson (Boston 1998) was appointed Director of the Liberty Partnership Program of Long Island University - Brooklyn Campus. Roland will manage the daily operations, budget, tutoring and curriculum for this college readiness program serving high school juniors and seniors. "I enjoy it every day," says Roland. "To listen to their stories about where they are in life and their dreams of where they want to be." He also said part of what brings fulfillment to the position is, "Helping young scholars discover what they're capable of and then celebrating their successes."



For updates as they come in, see our facebook page at [facebook.com/dvuli](https://www.facebook.com/dvuli)



CAUGHT C





ON CAMERA

A BLAST IN DENVER

From the morning devotions to the Aftervibe to Saturday's World Café, DVULI alumni never saw a dull moment at the 2010 Reunion in Denver. Speakers Chris Hill, Bill McCartney, Larry Acosta, Doug DeVos and others shed some powerful light on what's needed to make a Comeback. There was great music, meals, and so much more and yet not enough time to love on all 300 alumni, spouses, trainers, and staff who all made the 3-day event unforgettable. The next reunion is in 2013 in a "to-be-announced" alumni city. View the entire media collection at: dvuli.org/reunion

-Gerald Bell



COVER STORY CONTINUED

The Leadership Team of our youth ministry and I contemplated these questions and came to an overall solution. Referencing Romans 12:1-2, we had to first submit our plans and ourselves to Christ completely by removing any element of selfish desire. Secondly, we realized that our competition was not other churches, their budgets, or mainstream media. Our competition was anything that could hinder the youth of our community and the surrounding areas from a real relationship with Christ. We essentially needed to change our perspective and get to the true reason we were doing ministry. We exist to save lives and prepare youth for an eternal life with Jesus Christ by any means necessary. Through partnerships with established entities such as The YMCA, community groups (Golden Senior Uplifters), and local business (Frenchey's Chicken) we effectively reached a larger audience and capitalized on resources. The YMCA donated counter space for advertising and their over-sized moonwalk in return for time to promote membership in their programs. Frenchey's Chicken provided discounted food and advertising space in their restaurant in return for advertising and the senior citizen organization donated their time to help serve food at an event in return for our youth going to their homes to wash their cars for Sunday service. Although we are operating with less monetary capital, we have a myriad of valuable resources in our community that are as available as we are to ask for them. The youth at our church and the youth in the community are both being served and it is all because we changed our approach.

In the last part of *Green Eggs and Ham*, Sam has followed his counterpart in the book to the point that the character is now under water. Yet, even underwater, the character denies Sam's plate of delicacies. In life, the solutions we need are often right before our eyes; being offered to us at every juncture. Under all of the duress of our different meetings, events, and services, we don't see solutions until we are drowning in decisions and prepared to give up. That is when we realize that our solution is simple and perfect. Psalms 34:8 says, "Oh taste and see that the Lord is good." Perhaps you have tried everything else, don't wait till you are drowning – try God now and see. Because we changed our perspective at The Fountain of Praise we have been blessed to find that the solutions were right in front of us in our community...we just needed to take a second look.

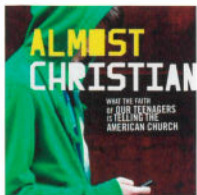
William H. Cumby is the Minister of Youth at The Fountain of Praise in Houston, TX. He is a graduate of Oral Roberts University, a freelance writer and a participant in the DVULI class of 2010. William is married to Ebony S. Cumby.



did you catch the code
in the ticker? where is it?
if you are the first one to
find it, let us know! you will
win a free dvuli tee-shirt

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BEFORE YOU GO



ALMOST CHRISTIAN

How often have you heard a young person say, "I'm keeping it real?" By this they mean being true to themselves or not being fake. But when it comes to exhibiting authentic faith in Christ, many of today's church going youth are not "keeping it real." Instead, they are being fake Christians...

Read More at: <http://goo.gl/HdvZ0>



PATERSON EMERGES WITH LEADING FOR LIFE

Over the past two years Paterson alumni (classes of 1999 and 2001) have been convening to explore ways of empowering urban leaders in their city. They held several meetings focused on what would be the right investment and the DeVos' Leading for Life® 12-hour training seemed most appropriate...

Read More at: <http://goo.gl/9eesH>



MONEY AND THE CARS

"I want the money, money and the cars, cars and the clothes...I just want to be successful..." - Drake and Lil' Wayne, hip-hop artists Like it or not, if you're not teaching your youth about money and resources, someone else still is! Sadly, popular urban culture does little to promote positive, life-giving attitudes around these vital elements...

Read More at: <http://goo.gl/Lpbco>



LET'S COOK

As leaders of youth activities we should be aware of the problems that threaten our youth today. Under nutrition and obesity plague our urban areas because of lack of access to healthy food and poverty. Parents, and caregivers play a key role in making healthy choices for children and teaching children to make healthy choices for themselves...

Read More at: <http://goo.gl/uDmaz>



AND, THEIR OFF!

The 2011 City Coordinators darted out of Grand Rapids in August with all the right ammunition for selecting participants in their cities for the next round of DeVos training. After 2 ½ days of instruction, relationship building and sharing, there is much anticipation and excitement for...

Read More at: <http://goo.gl/fCvxN>



SAN DIEGO REVISITS CORE VALUES

Last April the San Diego alumni presented the Five Core Values to over 50 youth workers. With alums from all three DeVos cohorts (1999, 2001 and 2008) partnering to coordinate the one-day training event, alumnus Nate Landis (San Diego 2008) reported that each presenter received very high marks from the event evaluations...

Read More at: <http://goo.gl/8lYIO>



CCDA 2010 ROCKS CHICAGO

This year the annual CCDA conference was held in Chicago, with an approximate attendance of 3,200. The view of the downtown Chicago skyline was beautiful! The days were cool and the friends were warm! It all started with a celebration commemorating the 80th birthday of Dr. John Perkins...

Read More at: <http://goo.gl/ipbvM>

ATTENTION WORSHIP LEADERS!

DeVos alumni who also serve as worship leaders are eligible for scholarships to attend Ron Kenoly's Academy of Praise February 16-19, 2011 in Orlando

For application and more:
<http://300.31/WPwPG>

Local Workshop 5 "Accelerating Change" Class of 2010

Houston, Los Angeles & NYC
March 3-5

Orlando & San Antonio
March 10-12

"Personal & Ministry Assessment" Class of 2011

Washington, DC
February 10-12

Dallas, Detroit & Tacoma
February 17-19

New York
February 24-26

Email Address Change

Our staff email addresses have changed. What used to read *@rdvcorp.com is now *@dvuli.org. All prefixes are still the same.

CONTACT UPDATES

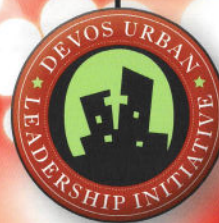
Address Updates:

George Williams (Kansas City, 2001)
Christopher Bates (Los Angeles, 2010)
Desiree Carter (Portland, 2005)
Angel Halstead (Boston, 2000)
Charlene Turner Johnson (Detroit, 2004)
LaShon Tilmon (Los Angeles, 2005)
Carlos Webster (Memphis, 2002)
Kevin Taylor (Miami, 2009)
Eli Hernandez (Boston, 1998)
Shawn Beach (Kansas City, 2001)

Email Updates:

Pamela Adams (Cleveland, 2009)
Melvin & Marie Cole (Kansas City, 2008)
Shelene Byrd (Cleveland, 2007)
Ingrid Broadnax (Boston, 1998)
Wendy Toupes (Houston, 2003)

Complete contact information is listed at www.dvuli.org.



May you and your families enjoy the love, peace and blessings of this holiday season and its true meaning!

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year

From the staff of DeVos



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ON THE
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