

Te Cuento...

...The Story Inside

S Upgrading to FMC 3.0

Something strange and wonderful happened in the Free Methodist Church in the 1990s. We moved from a denominational phase of our existence (FMC 2.0), where we defined ourselves by how we were different from other Christians; to the new challenges (FMC3.0) of reaching the dominant American culture, a culture that doesn't accept as "givens" either the Bible or the church.

FMC three point oh really throws us back into the urgency of the Free Methodist founders, but with our ears tuned to our secular neighbors and co-workers. We have seen that just lining-up our arguments for God isn't doing it. We have seen that just living exemplary lives isn't doing it. We have seen that just having good music in our churches isn't doing it. It's not about smarter, it's not about purer, it's not about zippier. And yet God and His immutable love still stand. God's plan to save the world is still THE plan.

FMC 3.0 is about talking again. Just like Jesus did, by talking about salt and light and oxen and weeds and fruit to an agrarian people. We must again learn to tell the story of God's mighty acts and our own personal stories of transformation, rather than compiling evidence & argument.

But it's also about expecting to lead people to Jesus. Stop expecting to be rejected. Tell them a good story about a good God and ask them to take a step toward Him. No formulas, no arguments. Just Jesus.

And we are the heirs of our founders courage. We are charged with reaching our generation, especially those not like us, with the news of Jesus.

Why Overflow Conference?

Listen together for our next steps together

Reset together our expectations for Rapid Kingdom Expansion

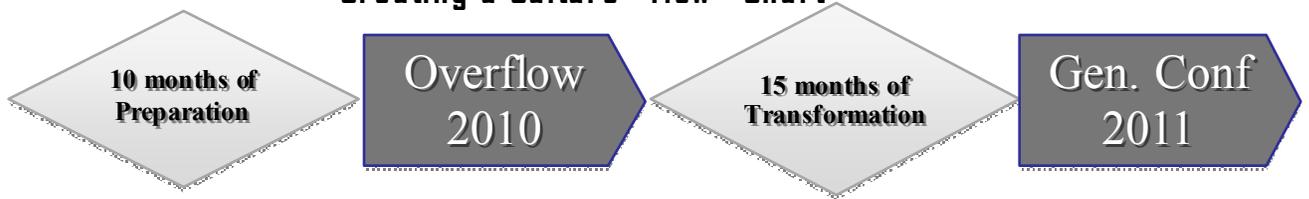
Affirm together our unity in the changes

LIVE THE STORY...

TELL THE STORY

Orlando, April 22-24,
2010

Creating a Culture "Flow" Chart



Casi Ovejas que Todavía Aúllan

Hay una idiosincrasia en que en nuestro idioma la palabra *pastor* indica el encargado de la iglesia tanto como la persona que cuida ovejas o chivas. No existe esta confusión en inglés. Hay "pastor" y hay "shepherd." Son cosas muy distintas.

¿Y cuál es el problema? El problema es que el encargado de la iglesia realmente tiene igual que buscar el bienestar de los pecadores como de los salvos. Y esa imagen no va con la idea de un pastor de ovejas. Un pastor de ovejas odia los coyotes. Nunca jamás se le ocurriría la idea de ayudarles a los coyotes. Porque jamás se ha visto que un coyote se vuelva oveja. Los coyotes se queden coyotes y las ovejas, ovejas. Punto.

No es así en el mundo espiritual. El encargado de la iglesia sí protege las ovejas pero TAMBIEN ministra a los coyotes para que ellos se hagan ovejas. Así que si tu solamente te imagines como pastorcito de las ovejitas nunca vas a captar lo amplio de tu llamado. Estás llamado también a buscar el bien de los que todavía aúllan.



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Integrity and Intensity

Something that's always bugged me about the FMC is we don't have a clear origins story. "Origins story" is the telling of the passion that ignited a movement. But whenever I've told the story of how Free Methodism began, people's eyes have glazed-over, rather than blazed-over.

I'd start with "There were really 4 reasons for the birth of the FMC..." Then I'd talk about freedom of the Spirit, freedom of the slaves, free pews and ... I can't remember the 4th, it's probably the most important. Probably something about secret societies, which would inevitably segue the conversation in other directions.

Really, the origin story of the Free Methodist Church is "Not too far away and not too long ago a group of radical Christians chose to whole-heartedly follow Jesus rather than maintain their security in the hypocrisy of the established church. They gave up everything else to guard the integrity and intensity of their desire to please God with their lives. This integrity and intensity ignited a movement and the church flung out missionaries across the American frontier, quickly planting churches as they went. We are the children of fruitful radicals."

Now that's an origins story!

David Roller's 2009 Calendar

JUNE

- 2-3 Various meetings in Rochester, NY area
- 5-6 New England Annual Conference
- 12-13 Pittsburgh Annual Conference
- 14-16 NY & Maryland/Virginia Conferences
- 19-20 GulfCoast Annual Conference
- 29 Nazarene General Assembly Orlando, FL

JULY

- 6 Board of Administration
- 7-10 Mexican Annual Conference
- 11-17 Southem Michigan Family Camp speaker
- 21-26 Latin American Leaders' Summit in Mexico
- 30-Aug 5 Vacation

AUGUST

- 15 Liverpool, NY Leaders' Forum
- 22 Batavia, NY Leaders' Forum
- 31 Begin trip to Paraguay/Brazil/Chile

From
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