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One Century in the Service
of our Lord Jesus Christ

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Newz of His

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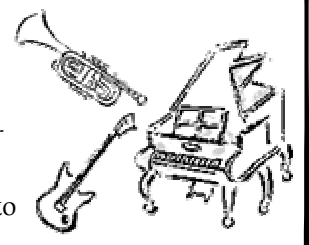
Guided by His Word,
Serving in His Love

Join me at the Eastern Christian Convention!

I've been attending the Eastern Christian Convention since I returned to the Lancaster area. In fact, I can safely say I have attended every one held in Hershey and several of them held at "away" locations around the Mid-Atlantic region. Since Karl's first ECC chairmanship in the mid 1990's, I have been in some way or another involved in the convention's execution, primarily in local arrangements (staging, procurement, auditorium preparation, audio critique, *etc.*). I'm there most of the afternoon and evening on Friday and all day Saturday, preferring to spend Sunday at ARCC.

This is not a convention for "delegates" to vote on anything. (That's how some of the denominational brethren do convention.) If there was ever a gathering designed and executed with the average, pew warming, Christian in mind, this is the one. The sermons and workshops are all contemporary in theme, Biblically sound, and very accessible to all. There is even an exciting convention just down the hall for teens, kids, and a nursery.

Over the years the musical accompaniment has changed from the piano/organ "revival" combo to the more contemporary "worship band". The graphics on the dual screens are quite professional. The audio is very professionally done (just a hair louder than normal because we have no system for the hearing impaired folks). The convention is interpreted for the deaf and recorded so you can hear concurrent sessions. The services move along swiftly and last about an hour and a half. The worship teams are teams from area churches. Part of the delight is to be shepherded into new facets of worship. It's refreshing not unlike taking your soul on a vacation as you would your body when you leave your daily environs to go to the mountains/beaches, always with the intent of returning to your home base but invigorated.



It is only a 40-minute drive to the convention from Lancaster; you can be home before 10pm. You don't have to spend money for a room, but if you choose to, remember, it is a resort that people come to from all over the country. The commute is fun and easy, particularly with friends in the car. Food is available in several venues on-site so you don't have to struggle to be fed in a timely manner. You can also avail yourself of several types of dining off-site and very close by. What could be more fun than getting a group of brethren together and grabbing a bite in a new restaurant?

The convention center itself is easy to find (across from the medical center). Just go into the main entrance on Rt 322 beside the Grill and your name card (assuming you have registered) and convention booklet (tells you everything) are waiting for you. You will want to arrive early. There are selections to be made. There are college and mission (some of whom we support) representatives to meet. At the convention you will find 700-1200 of your closest friends that you have never met. You can bet that everyone at the convention has at least one Person in common. That's a good place to start the conversation.

Now, when you get there, look me up. The people at the Info Booth always know where I am and you can dial my cell at 717-380-9319. I can give you the tour. I can talk you through the booklet. I know where the coffee shop and comfortable seats are. Come on! Would I do it if it were not fun? (Do you know that the Lancaster congregation was instrumental in starting the convention and that the first one was held in the original Brunswick Hotel in downtown Lancaster?) Come see what you started!!

See you there,
Jim McKay