



# BUILDERS

∞ Building the Kingdom. Transforming Lives. One Investment at a Time.



## PRESIDENT'S CORNER: Generosity and the Guarded Heart



They Knew  
They Would Be  
Welcome  
Here

CHURCH SPOTLIGHT:  
Murrysville Alliance Church,  
Murrysville, PA

### Murrysville Alliance Church

#### ADF CHURCH LOAN

Church: Murrysville Alliance Church
Pastor: Dan Lawrence
Address: 4130 Old William Penn Hwy Murrysville, PA 15668
Phone: (724) 327-7206

Loan type:
<input type="checkbox"/> Building purchase <input type="checkbox"/> Land purchase
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Building renovation <input type="checkbox"/> New construction
<input type="checkbox"/> Refinance

Ministry Focus:
Reaching Their Community for Jesus Christ.

We've all seen bikers—black leather, tattoos, Harleys—but have you ever seen 9,000 of them in a church parking lot on Sunday morning? It happens every year at the *Blessing of the Bikes* at Murrysville Alliance Church (MAC) in Pennsylvania. Pastor Dan Lawrence

prays for a safe riding season and then invites them to return any Sunday. They always feel welcomed and loved. Over the years, many have joined MAC's *Biker Ministry* before hitting the road on a mission to share the love of Jesus.

"Our heart is to reach our community for Jesus Christ," Pastor Dan shares, which they do in seemingly innumerable ways: *Reality Tour* is a drug and alcohol prevention program in which teens and their parents are exposed to the harsh realities of a life (and death) of substance use.

(Continued on inside)

*“Put God first, love Him and love others. Try to show them who Jesus is. And if you’re going to talk about it, then you’ve got to demonstrate it.”*

- Dan Lawrence, Pastor



COVER STORY (cont.)

*Caring Hearts* reaches out to children with special needs and their families, planning events and providing special friends who share the love of Jesus through God’s Word. With *A Soldier’s Christmas*, the church family collects items from the community and sends gifts and supplies to deployed military personnel. *PrimeTimers*, a ministry of retirement-age members, recently conducted a two-week food drive and raised enough to feed 90 families over the holidays. *Christmas Care Bears* gives presents to dozens of children in the community who otherwise wouldn’t receive any. And every Easter the *Biker Ministry* drives the *Pipes & Pork Run* delivering hams to needy families in the community.

As MAC reaches out, they find that the community reaches back. It was a handful of bikers who approached Pastor Dan in 1996 about starting the *Blessing of the Bikes*. He wondered why. Their reply, “You allow bikers to come to your services.” Not long after, MAC was asked to host *Strengthening the Thin Blue Line*, an event to honor law enforcement officers who serve and protect their community. A few years ago, the local high school football team asked for prayer as they entered the play-offs. That Sunday, the team stood as Pastor Dan prayed not only that they play well, but also that these boys would become the young men God intended them to be.

“Extending ourselves into a community that really needs to know about Jesus Christ takes a lot of work and resources. Any time you do Great Commission work, it takes work and resources,” says Pastor Dan.

Since Pastor Dan’s arrival 26 years ago, they’ve built office space, expanded a building, extended parking, and built a new sanctuary. He praises their relationship with ADF: “Larry McCooley wants to see what we’re doing and see the heart for ministry. He wants to see ministry develop and put a stamp of approval on it. ADF is [about] ministry, not just loaning money.”

This fits well with Pastor Dan’s passion to “Put God first, love Him and love others. Try to show them who Jesus is. And if you’re going to talk about it, then you’ve got to demonstrate it.” At Murrysville Alliance Church – they do.

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To share with our Alliance family what God’s doing in your fellowship to advance the Kingdom, please contact us at [adf@adf-inc.com](mailto:adf@adf-inc.com)



# President's Corner

Sharing with Larry McCooey



## GENEROSITY AND THE GUARDED HEART



### Dear Fellow Investors and Friends,

It was a perfect, late fall morning in Colorado—clear blue sky, cold air, warm sun, and snow-covered mountain tops peeking through the trees. I was with a group of men talking about the things that cause our hearts to grow cold. We were focusing on Proverbs 4:23, “Above all else, guard your heart, for everything you do comes from it.”

In our affluent society, money and all of the things connected with it can involve lots of temptations, wrong attitudes, and actions that lead our hearts away from God. As a “finance guy,” I have my own special set of struggles not only in my corporate roles, but also in my personal life. I believe in saving and investing wisely, working within budgets, frugality, etc. In fact, the ministry of the Alliance Development Fund involves saving and investing for Kingdom returns as churches are built and lives are transformed, so a good part of my life is spent dealing with these sorts of things. Even in my most recent *President's Corner* blog, I talked about the need to be seriously considering our retirement savings.

But why does God give us all of these good things? At least part of the answer is so we can be generous toward others. That's an element that helps keep our heart right in the complicated and important issues of money.

As an ADF investor, you are demonstrating generosity. There are other places to save and invest, other ways that you could use these resources. But placing part of what God has given you in ADF results in “many expressions of thanks to God” (2 Corinthians 9:12).

Money and financial matters are extremely important for a myriad of reasons, but having just celebrated God's “indefinable gift,” let's trust Him to lead us in generous ways through the coming year. Guarding our hearts through generosity: that's a worthwhile thought that my friends and I settled on last fall and for the days ahead.

Please share your thoughts and comments by contacting me at [presidentcorner@adf-inc.com](mailto:presidentcorner@adf-inc.com). They are always welcome.

Lawrence L. McCooey, CPA, PFS, CGMA  
President



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For more information and to register, visit:  
[www.cmalliance.org/council](http://www.cmalliance.org/council)

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*All of us on the ADF team look forward to serving you.  
Please contact us if you have questions or if we can help you in any way.*

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