



# BUILDERS

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



It's More About  
**Attitude**  
Than Age



Some studies suggest a congregation's average age will be the age of its pastor, plus or minus 10 years. "Guess I blew that theory," chuckles Pastor Bill Vaughn (age 78). In the past five years, Oasis Community Church in Fallon, Nevada, has grown more than ten-fold under his shepherding. From a dying

20-person Bible study to a thriving congregation of more than 200, Pastor Bill is proof that God still uses His people during the golden years.

Almost 40 years ago, Bill Vaughn and his family of five left a successful business in Southern California to be

a youth pastor in Paradise, California. "I just wanted to serve God full-time," he shared. Years later, he was called back to his hometown when his former church asked him to serve as their senior pastor. Bill, along with his son as youth pastor, watched as the Lord grew that small church family to more

(Continued on inside)

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#### COVER STORY (cont.)

than 400. The church bought 15 acres, the beginning of a long relationship between Bill and ADF.

Just as the church began a building program in 1990, Pastor Bill was asked to consider serving the South Pacific District as superintendent. He had been a successful businessman and pastor of one church, now God would use his skills to bless many churches. His gift for recognizing the potential in real estate transactions enabled him to help churches obtain and pay for properties through the sales of excess land. When he retired ten years later, he had used his business savvy to significantly help nine different churches in adding staff. "ADF came alongside us and made all that possible," he shared.

He was serving as a part-time pastor during his "retirement" when another district superintendent called. He wanted Bill to close the doors of a tiny 20-person church. Bill found it in dire straits. The exterior was rotting away. Their morale was so low that they would set out a few chairs and stack the rest "like they didn't expect anyone to be in them," Bill explained. But instead of closing the church, he committed to give them six months to see



if it would grow. And it did! They asked Pastor Bill to stay; that was five years ago. And this Easter they almost topped 300.

Again the Lord blessed Pastor Bill's efforts financially as he eyed a vacant building that "just looked like a church." Oasis Community Church had 30 days to act before the city took possession, and again "ADF moved fast and made it happen," Pastor Bill exclaims. Now that building houses the friendliest church in town.

God has continued to use Pastor Bill and his wife Nettie in their retirement years because this is his attitude, "Ministry was our life, and has been our life, and is our life."

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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



OUR FATHER  
IS ALWAYS  
AT HIS WORK



**Dear Fellow Investors and Friends,**

A recent CNN.com article reported on an extensive new study to predict the fate of five major faiths, along with folk religions and the religiously unaffiliated. Pew Research Center collected data from 234 countries and territories on Buddhism, Christianity, Hinduism, Judaism, and Islam. The study based its projections on the age of populations, fertility and mortality rates, as well as migration and conversion patterns.

Of the major faiths, all except Buddhists are expected to grow in the next 35 years with the biggest increases among Christians and Muslims. Islam is the fastest growing religion and will make up about one-third of the world's total projected population, that is 2.76 billion by 2050 (up from 1.6 billion in 2010). Christians will grow to a slightly higher number of 2.92 billion. About 40 million people are projected to switch to Christianity, while 106 million are projected to leave, with most joining the ranks of the religiously unaffiliated.

The article includes a number of very interesting projections and some analyses/caveats, as well as a link to the Pew research report. Here is the link if you'd like to read it: [www.cnn.com/2015/04/02/living/pew-study-religion/](http://www.cnn.com/2015/04/02/living/pew-study-religion/)

God is the only One who knows the real numbers, and He is sovereignly at work. I couldn't help but pause, though, at the enormity of the task that we share as Christ-followers. But I also rejoice that we are part of The Alliance movement that is involved in so many places ministering to a lost and hurting world.

Thank you once again for your investments in ADF that demonstrate your commitment to Alliance churches who are on the frontlines in their communities, and in the supporting echelons of the worldwide work.

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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