

Metro Chicago
eWind

*Suddenly there was...a strong wind blowing, and...
they were all filled with the Holy Spirit... (Acts 2:2-3, TEV)*

A weekly electronic newsletter of the American Baptist Churches of Metro Chicago
A patchwork of varied news and announcements
from our churches, communities, denomination and other organizations,
covering a wide variety of interests reflecting the diversity of our region

July 13, 2005

We give thanks for God's faithful servants who have made this world a better place to be.

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Upcoming Events

July 13--TONIGHT!! Protestants for the Common Good presents William Sloane Coffin Award for Justice and Peace to Mary Nelson, Cultural Arts Center, Beth-Anne Campus, Bethel New Live, 1140 N. Lamon Avenue (near Cicero and Division), Chicago, 5:30-7:30 p.m.; Jim Wallis, speaker.

July 14--TOMORROW!! Dialogut on "Without Sanctuary, 6 p.m., First United Methodist Church (Chicago Temple), 77 W. Washington STreet, Chicago.

July 17--Interim Executive Minister Larry Greenfield preaches at South Church, 501 S. Emerson, Mount Prospect, 10:30 a.m.

July 22-24--Weekend conference on the music of Hildegard of Binge, Warrenville Cenacle, 29 W 012 Batavia Road, Warrenville.

July 23--Concert of the music of Hildegard of Bingen by Susan Lincoln, 7:30 p.m. in the chapel of the Warrenville Cenacle, 29 W 012 Batavia Road, Warrenville.

July 25--A conversation with Imam W. Deen Mohammed and Francis Cardinal George, O.M.I.: Faithand the Coommon Good, Joseph Cardinal Bernardin Center Auditorium, adjacent to Holy

Name Cathedral, State and Superior Streets, Chicago, 7 p.m. RSVP **by July 18** to 773-456-5637.

July 28--Brown Bag Lunch with report from Denver at ABCMC office, 8765 W. Higgins Road, Suite 240, Chicago. RSVP by July 25 to 773-695-9791.

July 28-30--Missional Church Conference, Cenacle Retreat Center, Chicago. Register at www.missionalchurch.org/seminars/convo05/main.html. Costs are listed on the web site.

July 29--NCC's Green Ministries conference, 8:30-11:30 a.m., ELCA building, 8765 W. Higgins Road, Chicago. See www.nccecojustice.org.

July 31--5th Sunday Unity Service, Irving Park Baptist Church, 4401 W. Irving Park Road, Chicago, 6:30 p.m.

August 1--Deadline for receiving applications for Accessible Faith Grants. See www.rff.org for complete information.

August 1-5--Mediation Skills Training Institute for Church Leaders, sponsored by Lombard Mennonite Peace Center. Will be at Trinity Lutheran Church, 675 E. Algonquin Road, Des Plaines. Brochures with Registration form available from ABCMC. For more information, contact LMPC, 630-627-0507, or visit www.lmpeacecenter.org.

August 1-6--30th Annual Gathering of the Baptist Peace Fellowship of North America, Linfield College, McMinnville, OR. Visit www.bpfna.org.

August 6-11--World Mission Conference, Green Lake, WI. More information and registration materials available at www.internationalministries.org.

August 28--Emmett Till memorial at Chicago Historical Society, Clark Street and North Avenue, 2-4 p.m.

September 2-5--National ABC Singles Conference, Marshall, IN.

September 20--15th Annual Charit Golf Outing for Kids Hope United, Bonnie Brook Golf Course, Wakegan, 11:30 a.m.

October 14-16, 28-30--Parish Nurse Basic Preparation Course, Jefferson City, MO. Visit www.msr.crm.org.

***William Sloan Coffin Award for Justice and Peace* TONIGHT!!!**

On the evening of Wednesday, July 13, Protestants for the Common Good will present the William Sloane Coffin Award for Justice and Peace to Mary Nelson, to celebrate her 26 years of faithful service as President and CEO of Bethel New Life. Bethel New Life is a faith-based community development corporation on the west side of Chicago.



Mary Nelson

The organization came out of the ministry of Bethel Evangelical Lutheran Church. Ms. Nelson came to the community in the 1960's, when her brother became pastor of the church. She saw a run-down community on the verge of despair. But Ms. Nelson saw beyond the dilapidated houses and broken pavement, and imagined what could be. Through Ms. Nelson's vision, the organization helped turn around the community in which it is located. Their focus has been on affordable housing, health care, job training and creation, and community-based child care and adult day care. Although Ms. Nelson will retire at the end of this month, the ministry she began will continue.

The program to present the award will feature guest speaker Jim Wallis, author of *God's Politics*. The event will take place at the Cultural Arts Center, Beth-Anne Campus, Bethel New Life, 1140 N. Lamon Avenue (near Cicero and Division). A reception will be from 5:30 to 6:30 p.m. The program will follow. Tickets for the event are \$30. You may make reservations with a credit card at www.thecommongood.org.

Dialogue on "Without Sanctuary" TOMORROW!!!

Racism has been called America's gravest sin. The depths of that sin are displayed in the startling exhibit of picture postcards--"Without Sanctuary"--at the Chicago Historical Society (CHS). These pictures were taken and sold by photographers at lynchings in the United States from the 1870's to 1960. This haunting collection of souvenir photographs and postcards documents brutal acts of terror from America's past. The pictures on loan are from the collections of James Allen and John Littlefield.

CHS augments the exhibition with materials from its own collection—most notably Chicago-based artist Franklin McMahon's drawings of the Emmett Till murder trial—and has developed programming to help address the difficult issues surrounding such violent images. You may wish to see this exhibit prior to the program at Chicago Temple. The Chicago Historical Society is at Clark Street and North Avenue. Chicago Historical Society's phone number is 312.642.4600.

Museum hours are:

Mondays, Tuesdays, Wednesdays: 12:00 noon-8:00 p.m.

Thursdays, Fridays, Saturdays: 9:30 a.m.—4:30 p.m.

Sundays: 12:00 noon—5:00 p.m.

On July 14, First United Methodist Church at the Chicago Temple will host a panel discussion and an open dialogue on the response of contemporary Christians to the sight of ordinary people participating in a picnic-like atmosphere at scores of lynchings in American communities. Both adults and youth will benefit from attending this program.

Attached is a publicity flier for the July 14 event: A Dialogue on "Without Sanctuary" (the Chicago Historical Society exhibit of lynching photograph postcards). This program will be held at 6 p.m. at the First United Methodist Church (Chicago Temple), 77 W. Washington Street, Chicago. It will be in the James Parlor on the 2nd floor. A panel of 4 speakers will invite questions and conversation with attendees on the Church's response to racism then and now.

Please pass on the flier as you are able to your congregation, network and email lists.

For more information on the program, please contact Dr. Cheryl Magrini, Minister of Christian Education, First United Methodist Church at Chicago Temple, 312-236-4548, ext. 122. You can learn more about the CHS exhibit by visiting <http://www.chicagohistory.org/exhibitions/WithoutSanctuary/index.asp>

CHS is also offering opportunities for discussion about the exhibit. The following is from the CHS web site:

Programs for *Without Sanctuary: Lynching Photography in America*

Drop-In Facilitated Discussions

Wednesdays at 6:30 p.m. and Sundays at 3:00 p.m.

CHS will host twice-weekly facilitated discussions to help visitors address the difficult themes presented in *Without Sanctuary*. Staff and volunteers trained by the Anti-Defamation League will lead the discussions.

Cost: This is a **free** event.

No reservations are required.

This summer, CHS offers a series of public programs to humanize the victims of lynching, foster understanding, and stimulate constructive dialogue on the current-day issues of justice and equity. The following programs are free, but reservations are recommended.

What Happened at Biennial?

Clergy, lay leaders and others interested in hearing about events at the Biennial, General Board and Regional Executive Ministers Council meetings in Denver are invited to a brown bag lunch at the ABCMC office, 8765 W. Higgins Road, Suite 240, Chicago on Thursday, July 28. Bring your own lunch. Drinks will be provided. Larry Greenfield, Interim Executive Minister of ABCMC, and Francine Stark, staff minister at Third Baptist Church of Chicago, and our General Board representative, will fill us all in from noon to two. RSVP by July 25 to 773-695-9791.

Biennial Sermon

As advertised in a previous issue of *eWind*, Alice Davis, pastor of Irving Park Baptist Church, was among the preachers at Biennial. Her excellent sermon is attached. The title is "Out of Chaos, Effective Butterflies." Her text is I Kings 17:8-16.

Churches Prepare for the Chicago Heat

The Chicago Department on Aging invites pastors and senior church representative to attend one of several meetings to be held to plan for ministry with senior citizens in dangerously hot weather. At this meeting you can learn of city services available to vulnerable seniors; steps you can take to ensure the safety of seniors; volunteer opportunities with the Chicago Department on Aging. Come to the meeting closest to your church. Meeting sites, dates and times are:

Northwest Regional Center (Copernicus)

Tuesday, July 12

3160 N. Milwaukee Avenue
2-3:30 p.m.

Southeast Regional Senior Center (ATLAS)

Wednesday, July 13
1767 E. 79th Street
2-3:30 p.m.

Central West

Friday, July 15
2101 W. Ogden Avenue
10-11:30 p.m.

International Council of Christian & Jews

You are welcome to attend the opening session of the annual conference of The International Council of Christians & Jews. It will be at the Chicago Temple (First United Methodist Church), 77 W. Washington Street (at Clark and Washington Streets), Chicago, at 8 p.m. on Sunday, July 24. Admission will be free.

Rev. Dr. Samuel Kobia, General Secretary of the World Council of Churches, will be the keynote lecturer. Rabbi David Rosen, International Director of Interreligious Affairs of the American Jewish Committee will be the respondent. Also on the program will be the presentation of the ICCJ International Sir Sigmund Sternberg Award to Dr. Mary Boys, Skinner and McAlpin Professor of Practical Theology at Union Theological Seminary, New York.

Fifth Sunday Unity Service

Everyone is invited to the 5th Sunday service on July 31 at Irving Park Baptist Church, 4401 W. Irving Park Road, at 6:30 p.m. This is the third of the congregation's series of multicultural worship services. In July, the celebration will be in African American style, with Rev. Dr. Alan Ragland, pastor of 3rd Baptist Church of Chicago as preacher. The choir from 3rd Baptist will also be featured. After the service everyone will celebrate with traditional African American foods. All are welcome!

Remembering Emmett Till

In conjunction with its exhibit "No Sanctuary," the Chicago Historical Society will present "Remembering Emmett Till: The Murder that Changed America" Sunday, August 28, 2:00-4:00 p.m. The event will commemorate the 50th anniversary of the violent murder of 14-year-old Chicagoan Emmett Till.

The program will feature a discussion on racial violence with Christopher Benson, author of *Death of Innocence: The Story of the Hate Crime that Changed America*; Emmett's cousin Wheeler Parker, who accompanied him to Mississippi; and moderator Bonita Blue, a freelance researcher who has spent decades studying Emmett's murder. The afternoon also includes an opportunity to talk with Franklin McMahon, artist of the drawings from the Emmett Till murder trial.

While this will be a **free** event, reservations are recommended to ensure admission and seating. You can make a reservation for the Emmett Till event on the CHS web site.

Golf Outing

Rebound, Wings and the Parent Group programs of Kids Hope United will present their 15th Annual Charity Golf Outing at the Bonnie Brook Golf Course, 2800 N. Lewis Avenue, Waukegan on September 20. The event will include lunch, golf, and dinner. Proceeds from the event will

benefit ministries with troubled youth and challenged families. Read the attached brochure to learn more, and to register to play golf. The brochure also lists other ways in which you may choose to be supportive.

Parish Nursing

Parish nursing was conceived by Rev. Granger Westberg in the 1980's at Lutheran General Hospital, Park Ridge. Parish nursing is a 're-invention' of Deaconess work for the 20th century. The Deaconess movement, coming out of the early Church and rekindled in Germany in the 1800's, was a recognition that the professional service ministry of the Church could involve more than the ordained clergy.

The parish nurse focuses on the whole person to emphasize wellness, disease prevention and health promotion, including healthy spirituality. Care is based on the belief that health is growth toward well being, and emphasizes the interrelationship of body, mind and spirit. Health is related to everything a person does, thinks, and feels; and is not merely the absence of disease. The nurse's ministry is of value in the setting of virtually any congregation, whether large or small; whether urban, suburban or rural.

A parish nurse serves a variety of roles in a local congregation and neighborhood. Her or his specific assignments are decided in consultation with other church leadership and/or a parish nursing advisory committee or health cabinet in the congregation. The roles of a parish nurse may include integrator of faith and health; health educator; health counselor; referral advisor; health advocate; developer of support groups; coordinator of volunteers.

If you are a nurse interested in exploring this ministry, you may want to participate in a basic preparation course October 14-16 and 18-30 at the Rickman Center in Jefferson City, Missouri. The \$600 fee for this continuing nursing education event covers tuition, lodging and meals. For more registration and more information, please visit www.msr-crm.org or phone the MSR Center for Rural Ministry, 573-635-1187.

Prayer Requests

The long-simmering political crisis in Haiti has once again begun to boil over, producing violence in several parts of the country. Please pray for the people of Haiti, and especially for the churches and many ministries that are part of the Baptist Convention of Haiti (CBH). IM personnel serving with Haitian Baptists include Hollis and Wanda Clark and Mabudiga and Kihomi Nzunga. The Clarks and Kihomi Nzunga are outside Haiti at this time, but Mabudiga and two of the Nzungas' four children are present in the situation. Good sources for more information on the general situation in the country include (www.bbc.com, www.cnn.com, www.miamiherald.com [a recent story is available at <http://www.miami.com/mld/miamiherald/news/opinion/11993629.htm>]).

Book Nook

ALL CHURCHES GREAT AND SMALL: 60 Ideas for Improving Your Church's Ministry by Kirk and Rose Farnsworth

In All Churches Great and Small, the authors make a compelling case that smaller is better when it comes to the church's ability to accomplish its mission. The authors cite research of church members that reveals that, when it comes to the vital qualities of strong churches'

qualities such as growing spiritually, participating in the congregation, and having a sense of belonging, small churches have a decided advantage over larger churches. The authors explore the ingredients of faithful, healthy churches, offering some 60 ideas for small churches that want to increase effectiveness in key areas such as worship, caring, praying, studying, giving, and witnessing. Featured is the Small Church Advantages Index, which lists five vital qualities of strong churches and seven essential qualities of healthy churches. The book is available for \$12 from www.judsonpress.com.

The Metro Chicago *eWind* is an electronic communication intended for the people of the American Baptist Churches of Metro Chicago. The events publicized herein do not necessary express the opinions of the American Baptist Churches of Metro Chicago. We welcome your news, prayer requests and comments. Please email your communications to abcmchi@aol.com. We will email the newsletter each Wednesday. If you spot a typographical error in *eWind*, please let us know at the ABCMC office, 773-695-9791 or abcmchi@aol.com.