

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

May 17, 2006

Do all things without murmuring and arguing, so that you may be blameless and innocent,
children of God without blemish in the midst of a crooked and perverse generation,
in which you shine like stars in the world (Philippians 2:14-15, NRSV)

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Extraneous Characters

Does your copy of *eWind* contain odd characters, e.g., clusters of letters where there should be punctuation? The character Å where there should just be vertical spaces? Although *eWind* goes forth from the ABCMC office in pristine condition, a small number of *eWind* recipients have reported this phenomenon. We have learned that there *is* a solution to the problem. Open Internet Explorer *on your computer*, go to the toolbar and click on "View." Then click on "Encoding." When a menu appears, click on "Unicode." This should enable you to read *eWind* without clutter. Thank you to computer guru Gary Page, a member of Grace Baptist Church of Chicago, for this technical assistance.

Family Council

TO: ABCMC FAMILY COUNCIL MEMBERS

FROM: Jesse M. Brown, President
Larry L. Greenfield, Executive Minister

RE: **RESCHEDULE FAMILY COUNCIL MEETING**

We are rescheduling the next meeting of the ABCMC Family Council from May 13 to the **morning of June 3** (location to be announced).

This rescheduling will allow us to have a full and informed discussion of matters

Revival

The First Baptist Church of Chicago, 935 E. 50th Street, Chicago, will hold revival services May 24-26, at 7:00 p.m. Rev. Dr. Alan Ragland, pastor of the Third Baptist Church of Chicago, will be the guest speaker. All are welcome!

North Shore Baptist Church Centennial Celebration Continues

North Shore Baptist Church will host the renowned Christian piano artist Ken Medema "in concert" as the conclusion to our Centennial celebrations. The concert will take place at the church, 5244 N. Lakewood, Chicago (off-street parking available) at 7 pm on Saturday, May 20, 2006. It will conclude at 9 pm in anticipation of a substantial number of young people present. We are promoting this as a FAMILY EVENT. Tickets are \$10 in advance, \$12 at the door, \$5 children under 12. We are anticipating a huge crowd and request that if your church plans ten or more in attendance, you call in advance. More info at 773-728-4200 or mthornburgh@northshorebaptist.org. Credit cards welcomed.

On Sunday, May 21st, guest preacher to combined congregation worship at 10 am will be former Executive Minister of ABC/Puerto Rico Rev. Yamina Apolinaris. Following the service, the congregation will dedicate their new Centennial Garden, North Shore's Centennial "gift" to the Edgewater community.

PSW Region Votes to Separate From American Baptist Denomination

VALLEY FORGE, PA (ABNS)—The Board of Directors of the American Baptist Churches of the Pacific Southwest (ABCPSW) voted at a meeting on May 11, 2006 to withdraw from the Covenant of relationships and Agreements with the American Baptist Churches USA (ABCUSA) effective November 1, 2006. The Board's vote was unanimous.

"PSW had been moving in this direction for some time over theological differences," said Dr. A. Roy Medley, general secretary of ABCUSA. "God's heart is broken when sisters and brothers in Christ divide over matters of scriptural interpretation. We pray God's blessing on PSW as they go their way from the ABC family." Medley added that "this parting of the ways will not diminish our passion, commitment and undaunted spirit to move forward in mission and ministry."

On April 29, 2006 delegates from the churches of the American Baptist Churches of the Pacific Southwest voted on the recommendation of the Board of Directors to withdraw from the Covenant of Relationships and Agreements of the American Baptist Churches USA; voting Yes: 1,125 delegates, Voting No: 209 delegates. The Board of Directors called for this vote to provide the Board with guidance and input needed to make a responsible and informed decision on withdrawing from the Covenant of Relationships with the American Baptist Churches USA. In order to complete the necessary legal and governance actions required, November 1, 2006 will be the effective date of withdrawal.

It was reported that ABCPSW will be using the name "Transformation Ministries: A Movement of Baptist Churches." Let us continue to pray for God's redemptive purposes to be made manifest even through this.

Disciples Dinner

You've been reading about it here. You've saved the date. You know the theme will be "Radical Evangels: Claiming the Promise, Quickening the Pace. You know that Roy Medley, General Secretary of the ABCUSA will be our guest speaker. The planning committee has been hard at work. A letter is going out to all congregations, Family Council representatives and professional church leaders. And now here's more information.

The dinner will take place at Hyde Park Union Church, 5600 S. Woodlawn Avenue, Chicago. The schedule of events for the evening of June 10 is:

5:30 PM Reception followed by Awards Dinner

**Featured Speaker: A. Roy Medley
General Secretary America Baptist Churches USA**

Local Church Mission Awards

SILENT AUCTION

**\$20.00 Suggested Donation per Person
Limited Subsidized Reservations Available**

We'll lift up our churches' lay leaders by recognizing one from each church at the dinner. We'll celebrate innovative ministries flourishing in our region, and welcome those congregations who are newer members of our body.

Don't miss this opportunity to bless a new beginning here in Metro Chicago. Here's what you can do to make it a fruitful offering for the Gospel:

Register by June 1 to the ABC/MC Office (see attached form)

Bring as many guests as possible! Each church is asked to purchase a table for eight

Share these materials by email and other duplication

Name a faithful disciple in your church whose devotion is inspiring

Bring that person and his/her family to the event. Note: child care will be provided

Donate or help solicit donations for the silent auction

We're privileged to be called upon as evangelists to live the Gospel in the wide diversity of our region. Join us to celebrate this calling, and the work of the disciples who embody it in our midst. We believe we will help each other to claim the promise and quicken the pace for the lives that Christ would have us live. We look forward to seeing you there!

Attached to this issue of *eWind* are a flyer about the event, a registration form, and a biographical sketch of our speaker for the evening. Please spread the word! Post flyers! Distribute bulletin inserts! Gather a group of friends to share a table at the dinner!

And please join in the fun of planning and leading this special gathering of our ABCMC family. To offer your assistance, contact Tony Rake at arake37826@aol.com or 847-566-0742

VOLUNTEER NEEDS

Let's work together to make the first annual Disciples' Dinner an effortless success. Here are some things we need additional help with:

Design and Duplication of Simple Program Booklet

Spanish Translation of Program Booklet

Afternoon Set-Up

Registration/Check-in

Food Preparation/Service

Videographer During Event (for DVD Production)

Resource Person/equipment
For DVD Duplication (on-site if possible)

Clean-up After Event

Contact Tony Rake at arake37826@aol.com or 847-566-0742 if you can help in any of these ways or recommend someone who can.

Ministers Council News

June Meeting

Thursday, June 15, noon to 2:30 p.m., Irving Park Baptist Church 4100 W. Irving Park Road, Chicago. Francine Stark will discuss the summit meeting on the future of the ABC. RSVP to Alice Davis, 773-286-6800.

Ministers Council Dues

Ministers Council dues may be paid by sending a check to the treasurer, Rev. Dr. Sara Day, 3013 Wolf Road, #324, Westchester, IL 60154.

Dues are:

- \$45 for individuals
- \$60 for clergy couples
- \$22.50 for seminarians

Retired clergy membership is free for retirees who were dues-paying members of the Ministers Council for 3 out of the last 5 years prior to retirement.

American Baptist Personnel Services

Rick Harris of the American Baptist Personnel Services will be available to meet with ministers between the hours of 11 a.m. and 2 p.m. on Friday, May 19, at the ABCMC office, 8765 W. Higgins Road, Suite 240, Chicago. You may phone James Jackson at ABCMC, 773-695-9791 to confirm your plans to drop by during that time frame.

Memorial Day Candlelight Vigil May 29 to Collect Signatures and Sundries

Local peace advocates in DuPage County have begun a campaign to collect signatures for an Iraq War question to appear on the November '06 ballot. Members of DAWN (DuPage Against War Now) and others will appear at public venues all over DuPage County in order to collect an estimated 25,000 signatures for the question to be included. The signatures must be collected by mid-August. The question reads:

"SHALL THE UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT IMMEDIATELY BEGIN AN ORDERLY AND RAPID WITHDRAWAL OF ALL ITS MILITARY PERSONNEL FROM IRAQ, BEGINNING WITH THE NATIONAL GUARD AND RESERVES? YES [] NO []

Voters have the option to check either the yes or no box.

Although it is a non-binding referendum, the group says the message will be made clear to elected officials, no matter who wins in November, that people want to bring troops home.

This will be the first time that anyone has ever asked voters in DuPage County about the Iraq War," said DAWN co-founder Amy Tauchman. "Even if people disagree on the answer, the dialogue is essential. In actual face to face interviews, nearly three-quarters of soldiers themselves said they think the US should exit Iraq within the next year."

Those who wish to sign the petition are encouraged to attend a candlelight vigil at the 4 corners intersection of Duane and Main Sts. in downtown Glen Ellyn on Monday, May 29th from 7 p.m. to 8:00 pm. The vigil will take place at dusk, but first the group hopes to collect a box of sundries to donate to Hines Veterans Hospital in Maywood, in addition to a box of needed items to be sent to soldiers stationed in Iraq.

"There are ways of honoring the troops that are merely lip service and there are ways that are

concrete such as being responsible and honest when asking our soldiers to defend us, bringing them home as safely and expediently as possible and fully supporting those who have served once they have returned-especially those who have suffered unimaginable physical and mental injuries."

For Hines Veterans Hospital, the wish list includes disposable razors, socks, and underwear in all sizes. For the troops in Iraq, the wish list includes paperback books, baby wipes, and packages of ketchup and condiments.

DAWN, founded in October 2002 in the run-up to the Iraq war, has sponsored several successful vigils. One in August of '05 drew 450 people to Glen Ellyn, and another in September '05 in Wheaton featured Peace Mom Cindy Sheehan.

In addition to obtaining signatures at the vigil for the ballot question, the group hopes to meet volunteers who will set out to obtain even more signatures. An orientation for signature collectors will be held Wednesday, May 17 at the Glen Ellyn Library, 400 Duane St. Glen Ellyn, at 7:30*. The meeting is free, and the public is encouraged to attend.

For information about DAWN and copies of the ballot referendum materials, visit www.d-a-w-n.org or call Amy Tauchman at 630-469-4931

Up to \$1,000 in Cash Grants Available for Your Church

Chicago, IL, May 10, 2006 – Pathways Awareness Foundation is now accepting applications for two annual awards programs: the Open Hearts Awards and the Junior Open Hearts Awards. Cash grants of up to \$1,000 are awarded to Chicago area congregations for outstanding efforts to reach out to affirm and include worshippers with disabilities. Awards are granted for the purpose of expanding inclusion efforts. DEADLINE FOR APPLICATIONS HAS BEEN EXTENDED TO JULY 1, 2006.

Pathways Awareness Foundation invites you to nominate your congregation for an award. The Open Hearts Awards application form is available at

<http://www.inclusioninworship.org/publications/openhearts/2005%20OH%20APPLICATION.pdf>

The Junior Open Hearts Awards application form is available at

<http://www.inclusioninworship.org/publications/openhearts/2005%20JOH%20APPLICATION.pdf>

The Open Hearts Awards invite adult members of congregations to submit a completed application form and a description of how their faith community welcomes persons with disabilities into worship, ministry, fellowship and study. Photos can be included with entries. Plans for using the grant prize must also be explained.

The Junior Open Hearts Awards ask children age 5 -18, to submit a completed application form along with essays, drawings, or computer presentations that show how their place of worship includes individuals of all abilities. Plans for using the grant prize must also be explained. Parents and teachers may facilitate the entry process or children can create entries on their own.

PLEASE NOTE THAT THE OPEN HEARTS AND JUNIOR OPEN HEARTS AWARDS DEADLINES HAVE BEEN EXTENDED TO JULY 1, 2006.

Pathways Awareness Foundation honored Fourth Presbyterian Church, 126 E. Chestnut Street, Chicago, IL with a 2005 Open Hearts Award for their efforts to provide access and inclusion in worship.

Accessible buildings equipped with automatic doors, ramps and elevators as well as accessible washrooms, pew cutouts, large print worship guides, and ushers and greeters trained in disability etiquette maximize everyone's ability to participate at Fourth Presbyterian Church in Chicago. Members with disabilities serve as deacons, greeters, teen group leaders and members of the children's choir. The 2005 Open Hearts Award will be used to purchase additional large print

bibles and hymnals and to purchase more assistive listening devices. Fourth Presbyterian Church believes each person has special gifts. By providing accommodations the church encourages people to share their gifts and maximizes everyone's ability to participate.

For additional information about the Open Hearts, Open Minds, Open Doors program visit www.inclusioninworship or call 1-800-955-2445.

Pathways Awareness Foundation was established in 1988 to raise awareness about early detection, early intervention and inclusion of children and youth with physical challenges. The "Open Hearts, Open Minds, Open Doors" program promotes inclusion in worship. For more information please call 1-800-955-2445 or visit www.inclusioninworship.org.

Green Lake Conference Center News

Green Lake, WI—The Board of Directors of the Green Lake Conference Center (GLCC), during their May, 2006 meeting, took historic steps toward insuring vital ministry into the next century. Recognizing the Christian church in America is in the midst of significant transition, the Board of Directors approved a site development master plan that will generate funding for "Project Kingdom²¹—Securing Ministry for the 21st Century." "Kingdom²¹" will create funding to provide for GLCC's Center for Christian Leadership Development. This Center is committed to being on the cutting edge of emerging trends in pastoral and lay leadership training. GLCC is committed to partnering with congregations as they seek to be vital, vibrant, healthy missional churches engaging their communities with the Good News of Jesus Christ in the new millennium.

"Project Kingdom²¹" includes funding for several new initiatives already identified, such as programs to strengthen families, as well as providing flexibility for funding God-inspired initiatives yet to be revealed. While it is difficult, if not impossible, to predict emerging trends over the next 25 years, the Board is committed to a plan providing the ability to be relevant in adjusting to emerging opportunities in pastoral and lay leadership development.

While GLCC has historic ties to the American Baptist Family, these initiatives will not only be directed to American Baptist churches but also to the wider Christian church regardless of denominational affiliation. GLCC Board Chair the Reverend Dr. Michael Williams, who also serves as the Executive Minister of the American Baptist Churches of Michigan, states, "Our passion and purpose is to do our part in building the Kingdom of God. We want to do whatever it takes to partner with existing churches in order to help them maximize their God-inspired Kingdom potential. We also want to assist in assessing and equipping church planters for new church planting across the US."

The site development master plan, as currently envisioned, includes two possible single family unit communities to be developed on the GLCC grounds. Teska Associates of Evanston, Illinois, has worked closely with the Board of Directors in the development of the Master Plan. The Teska plan includes land that is not being utilized and is not a part of the core conference area. Next steps include inviting proposals from developers willing to comply with the conceptual plan and work with appropriate governmental units to protect the unique environment of GLCC. The selection of a developer could take place during the GLCC Board of Directors meeting scheduled in December.

"This is one of those historic moments that will be looked upon as a significant turning point in the future ministry opportunities of GLCC," states GLCC President Kenneth P. Giacoletto. He further states, "We look forward with great anticipation to what God will continue to reveal to us in the coming years. We want to be faithful to God's leading in this moment as well as in the days and years ahead."

Children and Malnutrition

ABCMC's focus this year is on children living in poverty. Lack of proper nutrition is a deadly reality for many poor children. According to the United Nations, malnutrition kills 10 children every minute. More than a quarter of children in developing countries are underweight and suffer disease because of their poor diet, and in some areas almost half of all under-fives are malnourished, a new United Nations report says. You may learn more about this grave concern by visiting http://www.truthout.org/issues_06/050306HA.shtml.

June 2-4 Chicagoland AWAAB Gatherings

"Turning Brokeback Mountain into An Open Range." will be the theme for a weekend of gatherings of welcoming Baptists in Chicago. A flyer is attached. You are welcome to print out and distribute this flyer. The schedule of events is listed below.

June 2, 6 to 7:30 p.m.: Strawberry Ice Cream Social (\$5 donation appreciated). Inspirational Music and Message with David Gregg preaching, Lake Street Church, 607 Lake Street, Evanston. For more information, phone the church, 847-864-2181.

June 3, 9 a.m. – 2 p.m.: Community Building Event Lake Street Church, 607; Lake Street, Evanston. In a relaxed informal setting, connect with others through story-telling, information-sharing and breaking-of-the-bread. Lunch: \$8. If child-care needed, contact Ann-Louise Haak by May 30 to make arrangements: alhaak@lakestreet.org or 847-864-2181. For more information, phone at the church, 847-864-2181.

June 4, 11: 15 am: Adult Education - Speaker: Ken Pennings, at North Shore Baptist Church, 5244 N. Lakewood Avenue, Chicago. For more information, phone the church, 773-728-4200. 6 pm: Worship – Ken Pennings preaching at Grace Baptist Church; 5253 N. Kenmore Avenue, Chicago. For more information, phone the church, (773) 334-9003.

For more information, contact Ken Pennings, (608) 255-2155 or ken@wabaptists.org.

Tapestry 2006: A National Gathering of Welcoming Church Programs

**A Gathering of People from the Welcoming Church Movement of Baptists, Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) and the United Church of Christ
Join in an Exciting Program of Speakers, Worship and Workshops**

Registration is Only \$124 Through May 30th

Tapestry 2006 is gathering at the University of Indianapolis June 26-29. It will bring together people from the welcoming church programs of the Association of Welcoming and Affirming Baptists, the Gay, Lesbian, and Affirming Disciple Alliance of the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ), and the United Church Coalition for LGBT Concerns. Welcoming Church Programs exist in many denominations to work for the full inclusion of lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender (LGBT) persons in the church and society. This gathering builds upon the historic ties between Baptist Churches, the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ), and the United Church of Christ.

Each day of the gathering will focus on a word from the event theme "Live, Love, Laugh and Lead" to lift up the empowering aspects of what it is to be a person of faith in an LGBT-affirming Christian community. Keynote speakers and preachers from the three gathering traditions and others will speak. The schedule includes worship and preaching, workshops, opportunities for small group discussion, and denominational gatherings.

Registration for Tapestry is available <http://www.tapestry2006.org/>. Registration is only \$124 before May 30th with late registration of \$150 after May 31. Youth registration of \$99 is also available for those 18 and under. Lodging starts at \$75 and meals plans for \$60. Single day registrations are also available.

Keynoters, Preachers and Entertainers

- **Rita Nakashima Brock**, from the Disciples tradition, will speak on Monday night. Dr Nakashima Brock is Visiting Scholar at the Starr King School for the Ministry, Graduate Theological Union, Berkeley, CA.
- **Harry Knox**, formerly a United Methodist pastor, will keynote on Tuesday and Wednesday nights. He is currently Director of the Religion and Faith Program of the Human Rights Campaign.
- **Obadiah Ballinger**, from the UCC tradition, is a student at Yale Divinity School. He will preach on Tuesday night.
- **Susan Sparks**, preacher, lawyer, and comedian from the Baptist tradition, is scheduled to be Wednesday night's Preacher and Comedian.
- **Kenneth Samuel**, from the Baptist tradition, will speak on Thursday night. Dr Samuel is adjunct professor in the Religion and Philosophy Department at Clark Atlanta University
- **Susan Drake and Julie Jennings**, singer-songwriters and UCC ministers, will entertain on Tuesday night.
- **Andra Moran** will serve as musician, choir leader, and perform throughout the event.

A Partial List of Workshop Topics

- Anti-racism/Pro-reconciliation
- Befriending the Bible
- Christ Has No Hands But Our Hands
- Ethical Dating and Relationships
- Exploring our Deepest Desires: An exercise in Loving and Liking
- Making the Case for Same-Gender Marriage
- Mentoring Queer Youth
- Planned Giving
- Process of Coming Out: Implications for Ministry
- Sex-Sexuality-Spirituality
- Sexuality Education Advocacy Training
- Sodomy and Dirt Biblical Insights into Cultural Homophobia
- Transgender Transitions for the Individual, Church And Society
- Why the Welcoming Movement Needs Straight Allies
- Women's Health

Register Online or by Mail

Online registration: <http://www.tapestry2006.org/onlinereg.asp>

PDF Form to print and mail: http://www.tapestry2006.org/docs/Tapestry_2006_Reg_Form2.pdf

Tapestry website: <http://www.tapestry2006.org/>

Northern Baptist Theological Seminary Commencement June 3

On Saturday, June 3, students will be celebrating their graduation from Northern Baptist Theological Seminary at the seminary's 91st commencement ceremony. This year's speaker will be the Rev. Diana L. Swoope, an ordained minister with the Church of God, Anderson, Indiana. She has served on the staff of the Arlington Church of God in Akron, Ohio since 1981. Currently, she is the Administrative Pastor of that Church.

Commencement will take place at Hammerschmidt Chapel on the Elmhurst College campus at 10:00 a.m. A graduation luncheon will follow at Northern Seminary's Lindner Conference Center at 12:30 p.m. Cost for the luncheon is \$15 per adult and \$9 per child under 12 years of age. Contact Melissa in the Advancement Office at 630-705-8250 to make reservations.

Prayer Requests

See that none of you repays evil for evil, but always seek to do good to one another and to all. Rejoice always, pray without ceasing, give thanks in all circumstances; for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for you (I Thessalonians 5:15-18, NRSV).

Please hold in prayer our brothers and sisters in the Ghana Baptist Convention.

Please pray for our ABCMC sisters and brothers visiting Ghana, that they may be both blessed and a blessing in their journey.

Please pray for everyone who is working to make our Disciples' Dinner on June 10 a success. Please be open to joining their efforts. This will be a source of joy!

Let's join 2006 graduates and their parents in a prayer of thanksgiving, and benediction for the futures of those graduating this spring.

Please lift up our denomination in prayer. Please pray also for those in the Pacific Southwest who have chosen to separate from the American Baptist family.

Book Nook

Northern Baptist Theological Seminary's former president Charles Moore recently co-wrote a book for the Alpha Books Idiot's Guide® series titled ***The Complete Idiot's Guide to Faith***. Addressing the subject from a conservative Christian perspective, Moore and co-author Robert Bittner tackle the issues of why some people choose to believe in a loving and forgiving God and how the Christian faith can yield hope in every aspect of life—from family issues and career crises to devastating tragedies. Each chapter also includes a variety of self-discovery exercises, tips and helpful sidebars that explain the Christian faith.

The Complete Idiot's Guide to Faith is available online from www.idiotsguides.com and in bookstores across the country.

Calendar

May 20—Concert by Ken Medema, North Shore Baptist Church, 5244 N. Lakewood Avenue, Chicago, 7 p.m. Phone the church for more information, 773-728-4200.

May 21—North Shore Baptist Church, 5244 N. Lakewood Avenue, Chicago, welcomes Yamina Apolinaris, former Executive Minister of the American Baptist Churches of Puerto Rico, as guest

preacher. Following the worship service, the church will dedicate the new Centennial Garden, North Shore's Centennial gift to the Edgewater Community.

May 21—Organ Recital, First Baptist Church of La Grange, 21 N. Catherine, La Grange, 7 p.m. For more information, phone the church at 708-352-2740.

May 23—Finance and Property Committee meeting, ABCMC office, 3 p.m.

May 24—Revival, First Baptist Church of Chicago, 935 E. 50th Street, Chicago, May 24-26, 7 p.m. Rev. Dr. Alan Ragland, pastor of the Third Baptist Church of Chicago, will be the guest speaker. All are welcome!

May 29—Peace vigil, intersection of Duane and Main Streets, Glen Ellyn, 7 p.m.

June 1—Deadline for entries in the Baptist Joint Committee for Religious Liberty's essay contest.

June 2—Children in Poverty Initiative meeting, 10 a.m.-2 p.m., Third Baptist Church, 1551 W. 95th Street, Chicago.

June 2-4—**Chicagoland AWAB Gatherings—*"Turning Brokeback Mountain Into An Open Range."*** Contact Ken Pennings, (608) 255-2155, ken@wabaptists.org.

June 2—AWAB Wine and Cheese Reception, 6 p.m., and worship time, 7:30 p.m., Street Church, 607 Lake Street, Evanston.

June 3—Family Council Meeting

June 3—AWAB Community Building Event, 9 a.m.-2 p.m., Street Church, 607 Lake Street, Evanston. Contact Ann-Louise Haak, 847-864- 2181 or alhaak@lakestreet.org for child care.

June 3—Northern Baptist Theological Seminary commencement, 10 a.m., Hammerschmidt Chapel on the Elmhurst College campus. Graduation luncheon, 12:30 p.m., Lindner Conference Center, NBTS, Lombard. Cost for the luncheon is \$15 per adult and \$9 per child under 12 years of age. Contact Melissa in the Advancement Office, 630-705-8250, to make reservations.

June 4—Ken Pennings, Executive Director of AWAB, speaks at Adult Education, North Shore Baptist Church, 5244 N. Lakewood Avenue, Chicago 11:15 a.m.. For more information, phone the church, 773-728-4200.

June 4—AWAB Executive Director Ken Pennings preaches at Grace Baptist Church, 5253 N. Kenmore Avenue, Chicago, 6 p.m.

June 7—Ecumenical Millennium Committee meeting, 1:30 p.m., Archdiocese of Chicago Pastoral Center, 155 E. Superior Street, Chicago.

June 10—ABCMC Disciples Dinner, Hyde Park Union Church, 5600 S. Woodlawn Avenue, Chicago. Reception will be at 5:30 p.m. Dinner and program will begin at 6:30 p.m. Our guest speaker will be **Rev. Dr. A. Roy Medley**, General Secretary of the American Baptist Churches in the USA. Make reservations with the attached form, or phone ABCMC at 773-695-9791. To volunteer to help, please contact Tony Rake arake37826@aol.com or 847-566-0742.

June 12-13—Pilgrimage to Taizé, France. Please contact Brad Berglund at info@illuminatedjourneys.com for more information. Deadline for application is March 1.

June 15—Ministers Council meeting, noon to 2:30 p.m., Irving Park Baptist Church 4100 W. Irving Park Road, Chicago. Francine Stark will discuss the summit meeting on the future of the ABC. RSVP to Alice Davis, 773-286-6800.

June 20—Finance and Property Committee meeting, ABCMC office, 3 p.m.

July 7—Children in Poverty Initiative meeting, 10 a.m.-2 p.m., Hyde Park Union Church, 5600 S. Woodlawn Avenue, Chicago.

July 14-16—ABMen National Conference, Parchment Valley, WV.

July 18—Finance and Property Committee meeting, ABCMC office, 3 p.m.

June 23—Council on Religious Liberty luncheon, noon-1:45 p.m., in Grand Ballroom E (North Tower) of the Omni Hotel at CNN Center, Atlanta, GA.. Tickets are \$25. To register, contact the BJC at (202) 544-4226 or bjc@BJCOnline.org.

July 27-29—The Center for Parish Development's Missional Church Conference, at the Cenacle in Chicago. Visit www.missionalchurch.org/pages/seminars for more information and registration.

August 22—Finance and Property Committee meeting, ABCMC office, 3 p.m.

August 26—Family Council meeting, 9 a.m.

November 10-11—Annual Meeting.

November 21—Finance and Property Committee meeting, ABCMC office, 3 p.m.

December 19—Finance and Property Committee meeting, ABCMC office, 3 p.m.

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.