

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

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TODAY!

Family Council

Very Important Reminder

The ABC/MC Family Council meets Saturday June 3, 2006

9:00am through Lunch (provided)

8765 West Higgins Road

Chicago, IL 60631

Enter through security at 8755 W. Higgins and ask to be directed to:

The Lutheran Center
11th Floor Conference Center
Epiphany Rooms I and II

Free Parking Available at the office complex
RSVP to ABC/MC office 773-695-9791 or abcmchi@aol.com

All are Welcome

Click here for [map](#).

THIS WEEKEND! *Seeking Justice in Health Care*

A special "Seeking Justice in Healthcare" seminar will take place this weekend. In past months, the Campaign for Better Health Care has offered these "Grassroots Leader Advocacy Training's," structured according to a guide created by Reverend Linda Walling from UHCAN (Universal Health Care Action Network). This Saturday, in partnership with the Chicago Metropolitan Association of the United Church of Christ (CMA UCC) and Advocate Healthcare's Congregational Health Ministry Program, Linda is leading the training with the author herself. This training, in Westchester, will be geared towards people in the UCC tradition, but you are welcome, too. Since only 5 slots remain, let Jessica Palys know if you are interested. You can reach her at 312-913-9449.

Disciples' Dinner

The first annual ABCMC Disciples' 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 Musician: Willie Pickens

**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) **NEXT WEEK!**

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 letter and flyer about the event, a registration form, a bulletin insert and a biographical sketch of our speaker for the evening. Also attached is a nomination form for awards to be given at the dinner. Please spread the word! Post flyers! Distribute bulletin inserts! Gather a group of friends to share a table at the dinner! Nominate deserving disciples for awards! For ease in downloading, all of these documents are in a single Word document that you can open, print, divide, copy and share.

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.

Thinking Theologically

Our Executive Minister, Larry Greenfield, and his fellow travelers returned last week from Ghana. Several of them preached while they were in Ghana. Attached to this week's eWind is a sermon that Larry preached at the Grace Baptist Church in Kumasi, Ghana, on Sunday, May 21, 2006.

One Great Hour Of Sharing to Provide \$25,000 In Initial Relief Assistance to Earthquake Victims

The World Relief Office of the American Baptist Churches USA has released a grant of \$25,000 for immediate relief to victims of the recent Yogyakarta earthquake on the Indonesian island of Java.

The death toll from earthquake, which struck Indonesia on Saturday, May 27, 2006, now stands at 5,137, officials said recently. Church World Service Indonesia reports that some 1,700 persons are injured and more than 13,000 houses are damaged. The earthquake measured at 6.3 in magnitude. In all, more than 200,000 people are homeless, the government has said in reports, many of them in and near the ancient city of Yogyakarta.

Baptist World Aid (BWAid), the Union of Indonesian Baptist Churches, and Church World Service responded immediately to the needs of the hundreds of thousands of victims of this most recent tragedy. One Great Hour of Sharing funds will assist the relief efforts of all three of these relief agencies.

BWAid and Hungarian Baptist Aid (HBAid) immediately sent two "Rescue 24" teams in the affected area. Rescue 24 immediately offered search and rescue, medical and mass feeding teams to local authorities, who accepted the medical assistance. One team is working in the Bethesda Hospital in Yogyakarta and the other in Bantul and surrounding areas. The teams will provide medical assistance and also help to assess needs and possible ways for Baptists to be involved in later stages of humanitarian relief and rehabilitation.

One of the teams sent was from Nias Island, Indonesia, where they had been carrying out post tsunami work with the Convention of Indonesian Baptist Churches. An Indonesian doctor from the Convention of Indonesian Baptist Churches traveled with them, arriving in the area on Sunday evening. The other team was dispatched by HBAid from Budapest, Hungary, late Saturday, arriving in Indonesia on Sunday. The medical team, consisting of 6 doctors, paramedics, and half a metric ton of equipment, were joined by two Singaporean paramedics and have been working together with local Indonesian Baptists.

Leaders within the Union of Baptist Churches of Indonesia have been coordinating the response and have already distributed emergency tents, meal packs and food. In addition, Anugrah Baptist Church is being set up as an operation center, and Prambanan Baptist Church as a medical clinic.

Baptist groups have gained relief experience in work they have done following the December 2004 Tsunami. They have also been assisting those who have recently been evacuated from the path of the Merapi volcano.

With local staff throughout Indonesia, Church World Service responded almost immediately following the earthquake, sending an initial supply of nearly 3,000 bottles of water and blankets to Bethesda Hospital, in Yogyakarta, which is receiving many of the injured. Church World Service has distributed water and food rations to 500 households in four sub-districts of Bantul: Kretek, Parangtritis, Tambang Dipuro, and Pundong. Two tons of family tents, Health Kits, and CWS Blankets were sent yesterday, and 11 more tons of emergency supplies will follow later this week.

Church World Service is projecting that their relief work will continue in this area for at least one year. "The people of Indonesia have suffered greatly from recent natural disasters," said World Relief Officer, Lisa Rothenberger. "Within the past 18 months, they have been victims of the tsunami, the eruption of the Mount Merapi volcano, and now this devastating earthquake. There is little doubt that relief will be needed for at least the next twelve months. Even as we pray for the victims of this earthquake, please also pray for the relief workers, as many have worked tirelessly on relief and rehabilitation activities since the tsunami of December 2004."

American Baptists wishing to support Indonesian earthquake relief efforts can do so through their church's monthly report of mission support, designating contributions "OGHS-Indonesian Earthquake." For online contributions, go to the Give Now option available on either www.abc-usa.org or www.abcusamissions.org.

June 2-4 Chicagoland AWA 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.

Avivamiento

Todos están invitados al tercer culto de avivamiento de las iglesias bautistas hispanas de Chicago el sábado el 17 de junio, 2006, á 6 p.m. en la Iglesia Bautista Lationamericana, 3756 S. Washtenaw, Chicago, 773-247-4448. Habrá refrigerios y algo más. Para más información, llame al Rev. Almonte, 773-784-2479.

Baptists in Finland Celebrate 150th Anniversary

Baptists in Finland, the Finnish Baptist Union, and the Swedish Speaking Baptist Union celebrate together 150 years of Baptist witness in Finland. The Celebration will take place June 15-18, 2006 near Jakobstad (Pietarsaari), where Baptist witness to the area began and is still well represented.

Baptist witness came to Finland from Sweden in 1854. The first local Baptist church was founded in Åland, in the Finnish archipelago, and from there Baptist witness spread along the Western coast and to other parts of the country. Baptists in Finland have had a strong influence on Christian education, youth work, music, and other activities and have been actively involved in working for the renewal of legislation for religious freedom (1922 and 2003). Today the Finnish speaking Baptist Union consists of eleven churches with 692 members. The Swedish speaking Baptist Union has nineteen churches with 1,290 members.

Finland Baptists have good cooperation with other Christian churches locally and nationally, especially on mission, evangelism and relief work. They work together in the Free Church Council and the Finnish Ecumenical Council where a Baptist minister served as general secretary of the Council from 1993-2006. Finnish Baptists are members of the Baptist World Alliance and the European Baptist Federation and would very much like to hear from other Baptist families around the world.

International Ministries (IM) has a long history of fraternal relationships with both the Finnish and Swedish speaking Baptists in Finland. Following the Second World War, the American Baptist Foreign Mission Society gave aid to Baptists in Finland. This assistance included the gift of two tents that both the Finnish and Swedish speaking Baptists used as they conducted evangelistic meetings in the summer months. The Society also assisted the Finnish speaking Baptists after the war as they prepared new quarters for their theological school.

You are invited to send a message or a greeting to the Finnish Baptists when they celebrate 150 years of Baptist witness in Finland. Send your e-mail to rolf.eriksson@baptist.fi

Rev. Reid Trulson, IM's Area Director for Europe and the Middle East, encourages American Baptists to pray for both groups and their vision for evangelism as they celebrate the 150th anniversary of the Baptist witness in Finland.

To read greetings from the ABCUSA General Secretary, Rev. Dr. Roy Medley, please to <http://www.abc-usa.org/news/20060524b.htm>.

American Baptist Affiliated Seminary Moving To New Campus

by Andrew Jayne

VALLEY FORGE, PA (ABNS)—Founded in 1901, Central Baptist Theological Seminary will be moving from Kansas City to its new campus in Shawnee, Kansas in mid-summer '06. In only its third move since founding, the Seminary's Board of Directors voted to move the campus to a new

location that will "mobilize resources to match mission." Downsizing from its current 90 acre campus to the new 10 acre site will save the seminary approximately \$400,000 a year.

"We wanted very much to remain in Kansas," said President Molly T. Marshall. "American Baptist Churches in Kansas have historically supported the seminary. They have sent us students and we sent them ministers." In addition to American Baptists, the seminary today has students from over twenty denominations including Cooperative Baptists, Disciples of Christ, National Baptists, and Presbyterians.

The new location offers many opportunities for growth. "The coming year will be a time of inviting others to visit, learn and worship with us," said Dr. Lisa Wimberly Allen, Dean and Vice President for Institutional Advancement. "We want to share the abundance of blessings that have come our way through this new location." Churches and other special interest groups are encouraged to access the campus for workshops, seminar and retreats. "Central has been given much in this next place and the seminary desires to give to others as a natural extension of the hospitality and community that characterizes the institution," affirmed Wimberly Allen.

Besides its main campus, the seminary operates four satellite campuses in Milwaukee, Oklahoma City, Omaha, and Murfreesboro, Tennessee.

Memorial Service for Paul LaDue

by John Dawson

The family of the late Paul LaDue, former President and CEO of American Baptist Assembly, Green Lake WI, thanks the host of Chicago Baptists for their prayers and notes of condolence upon Paul's recent passing. The family invites all interested Chicago Baptists to a memorial for Paul to be held in Green Lake's Vesper Circle on Sunday, July 2, 2006 at 2 pm. The service will be conducted by Rev. Ronald Newsom, retired Vice President of Development at the Assembly.

A reception will follow immediately following the service, in the new Kraft Centre, to which all of Paul's friends are cordially invited. Further information can be obtained by calling Green Lake at 1-800-558-8898. Lucille LaDue will be in residence at Green Lake most of the summer and welcomes visitors and old friends.

Gather -- Grow -- Get Up and Dance!

by LeDayne McLeese Polaski

This summer (July 10-15, 2006), the Baptist Peace Fellowship of North America will host **Becoming the Beloved Community**. Hundreds of folks from all around North America will gather at Oglethorpe University in Atlanta, Georgia for a week of networking and relationship-building -- retreat and renewal -- inspiration and challenge -- growth and learning -- recreation and fun. Why might you want to be one of them?

To worship at Ebenezer Baptist Church, a cornerstone of the Civil Rights Movement and a congregation that continues to live out the vision of Martin Luther King, Jr. for rights, freedom, and dignity for ALL.

To allow your children to gather in a glad community in which they will be loved, have fun, and be shaped as peacemakers -- including real world knowledge such as how to peacefully and effectively confront bullies in their schools.

To hear the inspiring preaching of J. Alfred Smith, widely acknowledged as one of the finest preachers of the day.

To hear encouraging stories of what other peacemakers (folks just like you) are doing in their own lives, families, churches, schools, neighborhoods -- and in the world. To share your own stories of peacemaking -- your successes and your challenges.

To honor, hear, and encourage U.S. Representative Barbara Lee, the lone U.S. congressperson to stand against the call to use "all necessary and appropriate force" -- a resolution that led to the ongoing disaster in Iraq.

To connect to the force of Love that enables and sustains peacemaking -- through morning meditation, evening Compline, and workshops connecting spirituality and the work for justice.

To hear "**Martin and Me, Confessions of a Born Again Whiteboy,**" a story series from George Williamson which moves from the Civil Rights Movement of the sixties -- to Iraq -- to the struggle for GLBT equality.

To allow the youth in your life to take part in a program of community-building using art, drama, history, action, and fun -- including specific information and support for being a Conscientious Objector to war.

To experience "**Play With Borders: Reflecting Israeli and Palestinian Voices,**" "**Theater for Social Change: A Playful Experience**" and other dramatic pieces with Rabbi Lynn Gottlieb and Hector Aristizabal.

To take part in a round table discussion of Hurricane Katrina and its aftermath -- including what happened and why -- what is happening now -- and how we as individuals and churches can respond effectively and faithfully.

To learn about "**King and the Theology of Nonviolence**" with Bob Hunter in the very places in which King's vision began.

To enjoy the great city of Atlanta -- from the Georgia Shakespeare Festival to the world's largest aquarium -- from the Carter Center to the King Center -- and everything in between.

To hear C.T. Vivian, close associate of Martin Luther King, Jr., deliver the key note address -- "**Becoming the Beloved Community: How Do We Live King's Vision NOW?**"

To experience music, Bible study, story-telling, drama, workshops, worship, and friendships that will inspire, change, and empower you for the work to which God has called YOU!

For more information or to register, visit www.bpfna.org.

Campus Ministers Association Hosts Annual Gathering in Green Lake

by Andrew C. Jayne

VALLEY FORGE, PA (ABNS)— Emphasizing renewal, connection and mission enhancement, the Annual Gathering of the American Baptist Campus Ministers Association will take place at Green Lake Conference Center from Saturday, July 29, to Wednesday, August 2, 2006. Anyone registering before June 1 is eligible for a subsidy grant of \$150.

In addition to opportunities for exchange of ideas on campus ministry, participants are invited to join in selected events of the World Mission Conference of American Baptist Churches USA being held at the same time.

Download a registration form and event schedule at www.nationalministries.org. The conference fee of \$300 includes lodging, part-time registration for the World Mission Conference, most meals and association dues for 2007.

Learn whether you qualify for a continuing education grant by contacting Lynne Eckman, financial aid coordinator, National Ministries, American Baptist Churches USA, at 800-ABC-3USA, ext. 2067, or lynne.eckman@abc-usa.org.

For more information about the annual gathering, contact Rev. Jackie Saxon at Jackie5262@aol.com or call 512-478-8561.

Call to Action

The following communication comes from Protestants for the Common Good, and includes a request from People for the American Way.

OPPORTUNITY TO SERVE THE CAUSE OF HUMAN RIGHTS

Please Act Now!

Protestants for the Common Good was central two years ago to the passage of the amendment to the Illinois Human Rights Act that includes gays and lesbians for protection from discrimination.

The political Christian right now wants to move in the direction of discrimination by calling for a constitutional amendment to ban marriage equality. Such an amendment does not belong in our constitution, and the issue should be left up to religious bodies.

We urge your support to block efforts on behalf of a constitutional amendment that would ban same-sex marriage. You can help to stop this action by volunteering for the project described below by People for the American Way.



PEOPLE FOR THE AMERICAN WAY May 17, 2006

"...an infection that is dangerous to the absolute institution of marriage." That's how David E. Smith of the Illinois Family Institute referred to gay and lesbian families last week when his group submitted over 300,000 petition signatures to the Board of Elections to have a state constitutional amendment banning marriage equality placed on November's ballot.

The forces of intolerance are pushing hard to write discrimination into Illinois' Constitution, but we are pushing back.

If you live in Chicago, you may have received an e-mail from us last week telling you about Fair Illinois and our campaign to keep this mean-spirited amendment off the ballot. Now we are writing to the entire state to let you know that we are in this fight to WIN, but we need your help. The right-wing 'Family' Institute needs 283,111 of their signatures to be valid under Illinois law -- that's 83% of the total signatures they submitted

and a very high number. We believe they do not have it, but the burden of proof is on us. That's why we are amassing the largest army of volunteers we can muster to check every single signature they submitted. The best way to keep discrimination OUT of the Illinois Constitution is to keep it OFF the ballot, and we only have a few short weeks to do it before the referendum qualifies.

We need volunteers day and night, week days and weekends to help verify the validity of these signatures, help with administrative needs and recruit other volunteers. Our operation is based in Chicago, so if you live in the city or can make it in during the week, please join us. If you have friends or family in the area, please ask them to volunteer. If you live downstate, plan a weekend trip up to Chicago to come help us out. It's that urgent. It's that important.

Sign up today by using our online volunteer form at www.pfaw.org/go/FairILSignUp.

Volunteer locations will vary between the Cook County Clerk's office on W. Washington, the brand new Fair Illinois campaign headquarters on N. Halsted (opening this Saturday), and perhaps other locations. Tell us what times you can help and campaign staff will be in touch with you to get you on the schedule.

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 Jack Skiles (pastor of the South Church in Mount Prospect, his wife Lynn James and their daughter Kali Skiles as they mourn the death and celebrate the life of Jack's father, Paul Skiles, who died on Monday.

Please pray for Barbara Greenfield, husband Larry, daughters Sarah and Jessica, and grandchildren as they grieve the loss and celebrate the life of Barbara's mother, Lillian Shoemaker, who died on May 25.

Please pray for Craig Jenkins and his family as they mourn the passing and celebrate the life of Craig's mother, Daisy Jenkins, who died last week.

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!

Please pray for those suffering from the recent earthquake in Indonesia, and all who are working to help them.

Please pray for the safety and security of people living near Mount Merapi in central Java, Indonesia. More than 5,000 people have been evacuated from that area due to the eminent risk of volcanic eruptions.

Please hold the ABCUSA and ABCMC families in prayer.

Calendar

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, the Lutheran Center, 8765 W. Higgins Road (where the ABCMC office is located in O'Hare Plaza), 11th floor. Registration at 8:30 a.m.

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 3—Seeking Justice in Health Care seminar, Westchester. For information or registration, phone Jessica Palys at 312-913-9449.

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 17—Tercer culto de avivamiento de las iglesias bautistas hispanas de Chicago, 6 p.m., Iglesia Bautista Latinoamericana, 3756 S. Washtenaw, Chicago, 773-247-4448. Para más información, llame al Rev. Almonte, 773-784-2479.

June 20—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.

June 26-29—Tapestry: A Gathering of Welcoming Church Programs, Indianapolis. For information and registration, go to <http://www.tapestry2006.org>.

July 2—Memorial service for Paul LaDue, Green Lake Conference Center, Vesper Circle, 2 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.

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.

July 29-August 2—American Baptist Campus Ministers Association gathering at Green Lake Conference Center. For more information, visit www.nationalministries.org.

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.

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If you spot a typographical error in *eWind*, please let us know at the ABCMC office, 773-695-9791 or abcmchi@aol.com.