

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

August 23, 2006

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How Embarrassing!

We were so excited about the links to articles in last week’s *eWind* that we were stunned and disappointed to learn that they didn’t work. They worked just fine when we tested them in the ABCMC office, but after traveling through cyberspace, they became, as our learned colleague Douglas Sharp said eloquently, “goofy.” Exactly what happened when a recipient clicked on the links varied depending on the recipient’s internet service provider. But in no case did they lead to *eWind* articles.

With Prof. Sharp's help, we did everything we could think of to fix them, and nothing has worked so far. We're still trying to figure out how to do it right. *Do you know how to do it? Would you be willing to teach us?* If so, please phone Lynne Kelley at the ABCMC office, 773-695-9791, or send an email to Lynne Kelley at abcmchi@aol.com.

We take comfort in the fact that our eWind links to web sites do work.

Family Council Meeting Rescheduled **NOT THIS SATURDAY**

The ABCMC Family Council meeting originally scheduled for August 26, 2006 has been rescheduled for Saturday, September 23, 2006. It will take place at Montrose Baptist Church, 4411 N. Melvina, Chicago. Registration will begin at 8:30 a.m. Please phone Tony Rake at 773-695-9791 with your attendance plans no later than September 20.

ABCMC Staff News

We regret that our highly competent bookkeeper, Douglas Galbraith, has decided to return to Florida. Because of that decision, he will be completing his work in the ABCMC office in September. We hope to identify candidates for this position as soon as possible.

Please post the announcement of this vacancy.

"The Friendly Church" Is at Home

Normal Park Baptist Church began in the Englewood neighborhood of Chicago in 1886. During the past four years, however, they were without a permanent home after selling their building. Throughout that time, God has always provided, and the church has faithfully waited for a new home. The congregation recently completed the purchase of a new home at 10700 S. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Drive in Chicago.

On Sunday, August 13, 2006, the congregation held a brief farewell service at their temporary home in the building of Beverly Park Seventh Day Adventist Church in Chicago. They then made a caravan to their new home, and held their "March In Service" at their new location. The church's pastor, Rev. Dr. Gregory S. Hardaway wrote, "Indeed, we have come this far by faith, leading on the Lord, and it is with steadfast hope and trust in the grace of almighty God that we the Saints of 'the friendly church' go marching into our new church home."

The March In Day was a day of prayer and celebration, remembering their history, looking forward to new ministries, and holding onto the goodly heritage that is theirs. May God continue to work through and within this faithful body to bring love, grace, faith and hope to many.

Nonagenarian

Many of us know Rev. Ed Boone, a faithful servant of God within the ABC. A native of South Dakota, he is an alumnus of William Jewell College and Central Baptist Theological Seminary.

Ed served as a missionary in the Congo. Later he was an instructor at Sioux Falls College. He pastored several suburban churches before retiring as pastor of Immanuel Community Baptist Church, Des Plaines, in 1981. Ed did quite a bit of interim ministry through the Minister at Large program. Then in the 1990's Ed was ABCMC's Minister of World Mission Support.

Ed and his wife Janet now live at the Fairview Baptist Home in Downers Grove. September 6 will be his 90th birthday. That will provide a great opportunity for our American Baptist family to drop Ed a note or card letting him know we remember and appreciate him, and wish him a happy birthday. His address is:

The Reverend C. Edwin Boone
200 Village Drive, Apartment 503
Downers Grove, IL 60516

ABCMC Women

WOMEN OF ABCMC -- Please hold this date and time: Sunday, October 15, 2006 from 2:30-4:30p.m. Virginia Holmstrom and the American Baptist Women's Ministries' Leadership Team will be in Chicago and would like to have a gathering of as many women as possible at this time. Watch for the flier and details with next week's eWind.

CROP Walk

Is your church participating in a CROP walk this fall? CROP walks raise funds for the Church Rural Overseas Project, which is working to eradicate hunger around the world. This is an important ministry.

Walks are taking place all over the Chicago area in October. The First Baptist Church of Berwyn will take part in their local CROP walk. Community Baptist Church in Warrenville will participate in the CROP walk in nearby Naperville.

Wouldn't you like to be in a CROP walk? Visit [Crop Walk](#) to find about a CROP walk near you.

What about Health Care?

Will your congregation be among the many faith communities observing a Healthcare Sabbath on September 17? This will be an excellent opportunity for ABCMC congregations to live out our denominational positions on health care. Toolkits for Healthcare Sabbath (34 page PDF document) from the Campaign for Better Health Care (CBHC) are available online at www.cbhconline.org/hcjc/toolkit.htm.

Cooperating Church Annual Report

By now your church should have received a form for completing the annual report. The report can be completed on line. Instructions are included with the form. Has your congregation filed its annual report with ABC? Please check. If your church has not completed its report, please make sure the report goes in ASAP. If the form has been misplaced, please contact Lynne Kelley at ABCMC, 773-695-9791, for a fresh copy. If you need assistance with completing the report, please contact Maureen Morrissey at ABCUSA, 800-222-3872 (800-ABC-3USA).

World Mission Offering

By this time your church has received materials for the World Mission Offering, to be collected in September and October. If not, please let ABCMC know at 773-695-9791, and we will be sure to forward the resources to you. Also, if you need additional packets, let us know.

Culto Unido de las Iglesias Bautistas Hispanas de Metro Chicago

Culto unido de Las Iglesias Bautistas Hispanas de Metro Chicago
Fecha: sabado 9 de septiembre, 06
Lugar: Iglesia Bautista Misionera
Direccion: 6715 S Hamlin Ave Chicago, Il 60629 tel. 708/288-1351

Nota especial: en este culto unido estaremos celebrando el acto de instalacion del pastor de la Iglesia Misionera, José Nunez. La adoracion y la predicación estarán a cargo de la iglesia local y al final tendremos una cena.

Tanto la iglesia local como su nuevo pastor, el hno. Nunez esperan el apoyo de todos los pastores/as e iglesias hispanas para este importante culto de instalacion. Los esperamos.

Para mas información llame al pastor Almonte: 773/784-2479

Joint Worship Service of ABCMC's Hispanic Congregations

ABCMC's Hispanic congregations will gather for a joint worship service on Saturday, September 9 at Iglesia Bautista Misionera, 6715 S. Hamlin Avenue in Chicago. In this service we will celebrate the installation of José Nunez as pastor of Iglesia Bautista Misionera. The local church will be in charge of the worship and preaching. A dinner will follow. For more information, please phone ABCMC's Hispanic Coordinator, Omar Almonte, 773-784-2479.

Installation of Tripp Hudgins

You are cordially invited to the installation of the Reverend George V. "Tripp" Hudgins, III as pastor of The Community Church of Wilmette, 1020 Forest Avenue, Wilmette, on Sunday, September 10, 2006 at 5 p.m. A reception will follow the service.

Mid-October Deadline for Biennial Award Nominations Approaches

VALLEY FORGE, PA (ABNS 8/18/06)—National Ministries seeks nominations for nine national recognition awards to be presented at the 2007 Biennial in Washington, D.C. Awards honor American Baptist individuals or congregations for exceptional faithfulness in ministry. "In presenting these awards, we recognize the invaluable contributions of American Baptists past and present who have modeled for us the way of Christ-like service. They have inspired and encouraged us in our faith walk as they have humbly shared their time, talents, and resources, all in the name of the One who came not to be served, but to serve," says the Rev. Joel Hawthorne of Silver Spring, Md., chair of the Board of National Ministries' Recognition and Awards Committee.

Nominations submitted by e-mail, fax, or U.S. mail (postmarked) must be received by Oct. 13, 2006 for these awards:

- Edwin T. Dahlberg Peace Award to an individual or church for outstanding work for peace;
- Jitsuo Morikawa Evangelism Award to a layperson for outstanding leadership in holistic evangelism;
- Rosa O. Hall Town and Country Award to a pastor for exceptional effectiveness in rural ministry;

- Edward H. Rhoades Urban Ministry Award to a pastor for exceptional effectiveness in urban ministry;
- New Life Award to an individual or church for ministry resulting in congregational transformation;
- Richard Hoiland Award to an individual for faithful, effective leadership in Christian education;
- Luther Wesley Smith Award to an individual for faithful, effective leadership in strengthening Christian education at an American Baptist-related seminary;
- Kenneth L. Cober Award to an individual for faithful, effective leadership in discipleship education in an American Baptist region;
- Newton C. Fetter Award to an individual for significant innovation in campus ministry.

A mid-October deadline allows the committee to consider nominations during National Ministries' board meeting in November, when final selections will be made. For nomination forms, instructions, and criteria for each award, visit www.nationalministries.org (see link on the home page) or call 1-800-ABC-3USA, ext. 2028.

Religion and Ethics Program to Feature Gardner C. Taylor

VALLEY FORGE, PA (ABNS 8/18/06)—“The dean of the nation’s black preachers,” Dr. Gardner C. Taylor, will be the featured profile on this week’s edition of “Religion & Ethics Newsweekly,” a PBS newsmagazine. Kim Layton will interview Taylor about his lifelong ministry, his involvement in the civil rights movement and the “art” of preaching.

Taylor is considered by many to be the greatest living African American preacher. The recipient of more than 100 honorary degrees, he served as pastor of Concord Baptist Church in Brooklyn for 42 years.

Since retiring in 1990, Taylor has maintained an active travel and speaking schedule. In 2000, he received The Presidential Medal of Freedom, the nation's highest civilian award, recognizing exceptional meritorious service.

Taylor has authored several books and collections of sermons, including Perfecting the Pastor’s Art: Wisdom from Avery Lee and Gardner Taylor, We Have This Ministry: The Heart of the Pastor’s Vocation with Samuel D. Proctor, and six volumes of The Words of Gardner Taylor, all published by [Judson Press](http://www.judsonpress.com).

To view this episode of “Religion & Ethics Newsweekly,” check your local PBS listing. To obtain a transcript of the report, send an e-mail to schultzm@religionethics.org or visit the Web site, <http://www.pbs.org/wnet/religionandethics>, where the transcript and streaming video will be available.

International Day of Prayer for Peace

Dear colleagues:

I wish to bring to your attention, The International Day of Prayer for Peace, an annual observance of the World Council of Churches that coincides with the UN World Day of Prayer on September 21, 2006. This year's theme, selected by the churches in Latin America is, "...and still we seek peace."

In a time of many wars and conflict in our world, I invite you to join Christian brothers and sisters from around the world in observing the day of prayer for peace on Thursday, September 21, 2006 or the Sunday before the date. If you go to the home page of www.abc-usa.org you will find a link

to resources for the International Day of Prayer for peace. Brochures in several languages for the International Day of Prayer for Peace can be downloaded from the World Council of Church's website www.overcomingviolence.org under resources.

Below are some other websites you might like to visit:

From the National Council of Churches USA, a call to prayer by religious leaders see www.seasonofprayer.org

Baptist Peace Fellowship at www.bpfna.org

May God's peace, shalom, be with you and in you.

Rothang Chhangte
Director of Ecumenical Formation
American Baptist Churches USA

Holy Relationships for All People

On Sunday, August 27, 2006, from 3:30 - 5:00 p.m. at Grace Baptist Church, 5253 N. Kenmore, Chicago, Rev. Rich McCarty and team members of the Holy Relationships movement will facilitate a discussion group on the qualities of holy relationships for all people, with a particular focus on gay, lesbian, straight, bisexual, and transgender relationships. "Holy Relationships" is an ecumenical movement that began in 2003 in New Brunswick, NJ, and is now coming to the Midwest. Story-telling and guided discussion will make for an enriching afternoon of conversation.

Information will also be presented on the upcoming Holy Relationships Midwest Regional Conference (see www.holyrelationshipsmidwest.org). Please make your reservations for Grace Baptist Church's event by Thursday, August 24. RSVP to 773-334-9003 or pastor@gracebaptistchicago.com.

For a map or further information about Grace, please visit Grace's website, www.gracebaptistchicago.com. The church is located 2 blocks east of the Red Line's Berwyn stop, at the corner of Kenmore and Berwyn Avenues (in the Epworth United Methodist Church building). The parking lot is 1/2 block north of the church on the west side of Kenmore Avenue.

A Fresh Wind for Ministry

-- A Call to an Ancient Evangelical Future Conference

This article is from Northern Baptist Theological Seminary.

Join church and ministry leaders, theologians and laity for the inaugural conference on "A Call to an Ancient Evangelical Future"—a challenge issued for evangelicals to rediscover their common mission and be energized by the Holy Spirit for ministry! At this historic conference December 7-9, sponsored by Northern Seminary, Baker Books, the Institute for Worship Studies, Inter Varsity Press and *Christianity Today* magazine, you can explore the contemporary church's role in life, spirituality and worship.

Special speakers include: Robert Webber, author of *Ancient Future Faith* and *The Younger Evangelicals* and Myers Chair of Ministry (Northern Seminary); Brian McLaren, author of *A New Kind of Christian* and one of this century's leaders in contemporary ministry; Martin E. Marty, the well respected religious historian at the University of Chicago and author of *When Faiths Collide*;

Aaron Flores, pastor and co-founder of Union ministry (Irvine, CA) and emergent church planter; Frederica Mathewes-Green, speaker, writer & author of seven books on ministry and life including *First Fruits of Prayer: A Forty-Day Journey through the Canon of St. Andrew*; Lauren Winner, speaker and author of *Mudhouse Sabbath*.

"The Call to an Ancient Evangelical Future" conference will be held at Northern Seminary (Lombard, IL) at the Lindner Conference Center. For cost and registration information go to: www.growcenter.org.

Gary McIntosh to Address How Churches Should Welcome and Bring in New People

This article is from Northern Baptist Theological Seminary

LOMBARD, IL—Dr. Gary McIntosh, a well known author, speaker and consultant on strengthening churches, will speak at Northern Seminary September 18, 2006. Dr. McIntosh will lead the seminar "Beyond the First Visit" at Northern's Lindner Conference Center from 9:00 am – 4:00 pm. The one-day seminar is sponsored by The Grow Center for Church Leadership at Northern Seminary.

Beyond the First Visit is specifically geared for pastors and church leaders who routinely ask the questions: "What's the best way to attract new people to our church?"; "How do we welcome those who come?"; "What's the best method for following-up with new people?" In addition to answering these questions, *Beyond the First Visit* will show how being friendly accounts for only 20% of a church's effectiveness in welcoming guests—80% comes from well-designed systems.

This seminar is open to pastors and church leaders involved in welcoming and connecting ministries. Greeters and those involved in guest follow up will particularly find the conference helpful as well as all persons working in the areas of assimilation, member involvement, and guest services.

Gary McIntosh is a professor, consultant, author and speaker as well as the President of the "Church Growth Network." He is the professor of Christian Ministry and Leadership at Talbot School of Theology at Biola University in California. Over the years, he has helped more than 500 churches of 55 different Christian denominations. He is the author of 13 books on church growth, six manuals on pastoral ministry and is the editor of *Church Growth Network & Journal of American Church Growth*. Gary is listed in the "Who's Who" in church growth.

The cost for "Beyond the First Visit" is \$ \$85. Participants may register online at www.GrowCenter.org, where there is also information about group rates. They can also call the Grow Center at 630-620-2197 and request a brochure. **Register by TOMORROW August 24 for the best rate of \$70 per person.**

Ministers Council News

Together in Ministry

Together in Ministry 2006 evaluation forms have been for some time posted on the web <http://www.ministerscouncil.com/TogetherInMinistry/> under 2006 Forms to Submit, along with the 2007 application form. Please take note, any TIM groups that have current grants and/or might wish to apply for 2007 funding.

Practicing Our Faith Grant

For the second time, the Ministers Council of Valley Forge has been awarded a \$10,000 Valparaiso Project Practicing Our Faith grant. The grant will fund a year-long program for national leaders on the faith practice of testimony. The series will be shaped around monthly luncheons for prayer, reading and conversation about experiences of God in daily life and how God strengthens for mission.

The Valley Forge Ministers Council convenes pastoral leaders called to positions of national denominational leadership and based in the Mission Center. The previous Valparaiso Project grant in the 2002 and 2003 program year funded monthly luncheon gatherings for leaders who manage numerous responsibilities and heavy travel schedules, on the faith practice of honoring the body.

The philosophy of practices opens the possibility of new ways of being through communal conversation and sharing of stories and struggles, alongside the wisdom of our faith. Further information is available at <http://www.practicingourfaith.org/>.

Ministry in Such a Time as This

The Ministers Council, the Campus Ministers Association and International Ministries of American Baptist Churches invite you to MINISTRY IN SUCH A TIME AS THIS, a Pre-Biennial event for pastoral leaders in the Washington Convention Center, Washington, DC, on Friday, June 29, 2007, from 9 am until noon. The event is designed to invite pastoral leaders into reflection on what it takes to be faithful and effective Church leaders in such a time as this.

For more information and speakers, check www.ministerscouncil.com.

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.

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 (1 Thessalonians 5:15-18, NRSV).

Please pray for Robert Brian Williams, who is recovering from recent eye surgery. Brian is the ABCMC Family Council representative from Grace Baptist Church.

Please hold in prayer ABCMC's bookkeeper Douglas Galbraith as he begins his transition from Chicago to Florida.

Please join Normal Park in prayers of thanksgiving for their new home, and future ministries there.

Calendar

August 26—Faith and Health Conference, University of Illinois at Chicago. Go to www.cityofchicago.org/health for more information and registration.

August 26—Family Council meeting. **RESCHEDULED to September 23.**

August 27—Holy Relationships for All People, 3:30 - 5:00 p.m., Grace Baptist Church, 5253 N. Kenmore Avenue, Chicago. RSVP by August 24 to 773-334-9003.

September 9—Culto unido de Las Iglesias Bautistas Hispanas de Metro Chicago, el sábado 9 de septiembre, 06, Iglesia Bautista Misionera, 6715 S Hamlin Ave Chicago, IL 60629 tel. 708/288-1351. Para mas información llame al pastor Almonte: 773/784-2479.

September 10—Installation of Rev. George V. "Tripp" Hudgins, III as pastor of the Community Church of Wilmette, 1020 Forest Avenue, Wilmette, 5 p.m. A reception will follow the service.

September 16—ABCMC Family Cabinet meeting, 9:30 a.m., ABCMC office, 8765 W. Higgins Road, Suite 240, Chicago. Please phone Tony at 773-695-9791 with your attendance plans.

September 17—Healthcare Sabbath

September 18—"Beyond the First Visit," Northern Baptist Theological Seminary, Lombard, 9 a.m.-4 p.m., Lindner Conference Center. Register online at www.GrowCenter.org, where there is also information about group rates, or also call the Grow Center at 630-620-2197 and request a brochure. **Register by TOMORROW August 24 for the best rate of \$70 per person.**

September 21—International Day of Prayer for Peace. See www.abc-usa.org for more information.

September 22-23—"Healthy Congregations" workshop, Lombard Mennonite Peace Center (LMPC), Glen Ellyn. Register by September 8.

September 23—ABCMC Family Council Meeting, Montrose Baptist Church, 4411 N. Melvina, Chicago. Registration 8:30 a.m. Please phone Tony at 773-695-9791 with your attendance plans no later than September 20.

October 13—Deadline for Biennial Award nominations. Please see the above article or www.abc-usa.org for specifics.

October 15—ABCMC women meet with Virginia Holmstrom and the American Baptist Women's Ministries' Leadership Team from 2:30-4:30p.m. See next week's *eWind* for details.

November 10-11—ABCMC Annual Meeting.

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

December 7-9—"The Call to an Ancient Evangelical Future" conference, Northern Baptist Theological Seminary, Lombard, at the Lindner Conference Center. For cost and registration information go to www.growcenter.org.

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

June 29-July 2, 2007—ABCUSA Biennial Meeting and Centennial Celebration in Washington, D.C. The biennial's theme will be "Arise and Shine."

Feb 21-23, 2008—Gathering of Baptist Bodies from across the US for a Celebration of a New Baptist Covenant, Dallas, Texas.

April 14-17, 2008—National Workshop on Christian Unity.

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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 necessarily 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 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.