

*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

**September 27, 2006**

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**SATURDAY!!!**

*Stewardship Seminar*

On Saturday, September 30 ABCMC will present a seminar for churches and lay and professional church leaders on seminar. Rev. Joseph Huse will be the seminar leader. The program will take place 9:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m. at North Shore Baptist Church, 5244 N. Lakewood Avenue, Chicago.

**Stewardship for Life—A Basic Seminar**

The goal of the seminar is to help persons/churches

- Move from fund raising to funding ministry
- By developing a stewardship life style
- Through a year-around stewardship education program

During the seminar, participants will explore:

1. the basics of a Biblical rationale for stewardship
2. a budget development process
3. how to interpret ministry to the congregation
4. develop a plan to bring people to commitment of their (God's) resources for ministry

Underwritten by ABCMC; no charge to participants.

## **FRIDAY!!! SUNDAY!!!** *Twentieth Anniversary Celebration*

Hyde Park Union Church, 5700 S. Woodlawn Avenue. Chicago, will celebrate the twentieth anniversary of Susan B. W. Johnson as their pastor on Friday, September 29. Susan has been devoted to the shape of the church's identity and mission, and to the greater good of its neighborhood and city. Her leadership has been a balance of spiritual direction and community building, attention to children, compassion for the poor and vulnerable, institutional stewardship and development, and partnership with the wider community.

The congregation will celebrate with a reception at 6:30 p.m. and a dinner at 7:30 p.m. For more information, please contact the church at 773-363-6063.

The celebration will continue on Sunday, October 1. The guest preacher at the morning worship service will be Rev. Ann Spennungsen, president of the Fund for Theological Education. The service will be at 11 a.m.

## *World Community Celebration at Lake Street Church*

### **SATURDAY!!! SUNDAY!!!**

*This invitation is from Lake Street Church. The Saturday program is timed just right for those of us who will attend the Stewardship Seminar. Be sure to print out and share the attached flyer.*

Lake Street Church of Evanston announces its 11th Annual World Community Celebration weekend - Saturday, September 30th & Sunday, October 1st.

Join us on Saturday at 4:30pm in the Sanctuary for a program on "Being Muslim in America." Our Muslim brothers and sisters will share their experiences, after which we will all share in a time of dialogue and reflection. We will break the Ramadan fast together after sunset, and continue our fellowship around the dinner table.

On Sunday, October 1st at 10:30 am the Sanctuary will be filled with the sights and sounds of eight diverse religious communities gathered together for worship. Imam Abdul Malik Mujahid, Chair of the Council of Islamic Organizations of Greater Chicago, will speak about "Repairing the World Together."

Please see the attached flyer or visit our website [www.lakestreet.org](http://www.lakestreet.org) for more information.

*ABCMC Accepts Des Moines Church*

At the meeting on September 23, the ABCMC Family Council voted unanimously to accept into membership the Wellspring Community Church of Des Moines, Iowa. Rev. Naomi Kirstein, pastor of the church, attended the meeting, along with her daughter Joanna.

The church has been a part of the Mid-American region of the ABC since the congregation's founding in 1996. The church was dissatisfied when the region voted in 2005 not to recognize the ordination of openly gay and lesbian persons, because the church believed this regional decision to be a violation of local church autonomy. In a unanimous vote on September 17, 2006 the membership of Wellspring Community Church voted to end its affiliation with Mid-American Baptist Churches, and to seek affiliation with ABCMC.

The congregation had provided appropriate documents and information to ABCMC. Our Executive Minister Larry Greenfield had visited the church in early August. At the Family Council meeting, Larry and Naomi shared information about the church, and answered questions about it. We are delighted to welcome the newest member of the ABCMC family.

### *American Baptist Historical Society Board Selects Consolidation Site*

VALLEY FORGE, PA (ABNS 9/25/06)—At its annual meeting, September 22-24, the Board of Managers of the American Baptist Historical Society voted to consolidate its collections in Atlanta, GA, on the campus of Mercer University, pursuant to approval of a formal agreement. This will be the fifth home for the Society in its 153-year history.

"After reviewing the three final proposals, the Board decided that Mercer's proposed partnership and site best meets our mission and vision," said president Dr. Trinetta McCray. "We struggled, we prayed, we evaluated each proposal carefully. After a thorough discernment process, the Board believed that this is the direction God is leading us."

According to executive director Dr. Deborah Bingham Van Broekhoven, for the past 20 years, the Historical Society has managed two locations, 350 miles apart, housing different parts of the collection. "Good stewardship of finances, staff time, the collections' growth, and accessibility of those collections to researchers – who often needed to visit both sites – was the compelling reason why the Board decided to consolidate."

Among the compelling features of the Mercer proposal were impressive facilities for offices and the collections, as well as the potential to work with new and traditional partners on educational opportunities.

The mission of the Historical Society is to collect, preserve, and share Baptist history with a wide variety of publics. "The Society was founded in 1853 at a meeting of the American Baptist Publication Society, now Judson Press," said Van Broekhoven. "Like Judson Press, we are a ministry of American Baptist Churches, U.S.A. We have always collected materials from the whole family of Baptists, and today we hold the largest and most diverse collection of Baptist material in the world. This Board action is intended to solidify and expand the Society's ability to continue that broad vision."

The decision was the result of a two-year search. After conversations with institutions across the country, the Board of Managers received proposals and presentations from three organizations: the American Baptist Churches of Rhode Island, Colgate Rochester Crozer Divinity School in Rochester, NY, and Mercer University's Atlanta, GA, campus.

President McCray added, "The Board is very appreciative of the time, talent, and other resources put into offering the Society a new partnership. The enthusiasm for the Society's mission and substantial offers of aid communicated in the proposals encouraged the Board to envision

exciting possibilities of some kind of shared ministries with all three institutions, regardless of our physical location.

“What broke through for us was the incredible interest in communicating Baptist history and heritage in such a way that it brings forth a new generation of Baptist leaders in church and society. It is with excitement at this cooperative prospect that we take this step. It is the Board’s determination to build upon the gifts of all our partnerships.”

## *Congregational Singing Workshop*

*This invitation is from the First United Methodist Church of Arlington Heights.*

The First United Methodist Church of Arlington Heights is honored to host “The Ministry of Congregational Singing,” a workshop for singers, pastors, worship teams & committees, and everyone who loves to sing. The workshop will be held on Saturday, September 30 at First United Methodist Church, 1903 E. Euclid Avenue, Arlington Heights. The Rev. John Thornburg will lead the workshop.

John is a preacher/singer who believes in the transforming power of the gospel. He loves to laugh with others and at himself. In his 22 years of parish ministry, he was known as an innovative worship leader and teacher as well as an inspiring preacher. His mentors for this ministry include people like Jane Marshall, John Bell, Michael Hawn, Billy Crocket, and Ruth Duck.

He was the song leader of the North Texas Conference of the United Methodist Church for 10 years, and has led singing at several regional and national gatherings. Recently John has returned from Cameroon, where he is working with the newest United Methodist mission to assist in the development of a Cameroon Hymnal.

The schedule for the day of workshops is:

9-noon "Strengthening the Singing Voice of Your Congregation"

We'll use a wondrous variety of hymns, songs and choruses as we learn methods for strengthening the congregation's singing, and practice good song leading.

12-1pm Lunch for those registered for the full day

1-3pm "The Gift and Challenge of Global Song"

We'll learn how to incorporate world song in worship with integrity, beyond liturgical tourism ("Oh, let's sing a song from Guatemala today.") You'll be introduced to rich and reliable resources from outside North America.

FULL DAY registration (including lunch) . . . \$25

HALF DAY registration (\_\_AM / \_\_PM) . . . . . 15

Child Care Registration (Sept. 25 deadline)

# of Children \_\_\_\_\_ Ages \_\_\_\_\_

\$10 full day/ \$5 half day

Register by calling . . . . . 847- 255- 5112

OR mailing [francyb@ahfumc.org](mailto:francyb@ahfumc.org)

OR faxing . . . . . 847- 255- 2986

Kindly provide us with your

NAME \_\_\_\_\_

PHONE \_\_\_\_\_

E-MAIL ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_

MAILING ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_

First United Methodist Church  
1903 East Euclid Ave.  
Arlington Heights, IL 60004

- - - between Rand Road (Rte. 12) and Arlington Heights Road - - -

### *SCUPE Anniversary*

SCUPE (The Seminary Consortium for Urban Pastoral Education) celebrates 30 years of service to the city with an entertaining evening of spirited music for all to enjoy. Renowned jazz pianist Willie Pickens will be featured in the celebration concert, Friday, October 6th, 6:30 pm at St. James Cathedral, 65 East Huron Street in Chicago. Other talented performers include: Sue Conway, Robert Haigler, the Voices of Innocence Children's Choir from Chicago's Faith Tabernacle Baptist Church, and Artistings. A special reception will follow the concert. Tickets are \$20.

To purchase tickets or obtain additional information, please contact the SCUPE office at (312) 726-1200 or email [urbanmin@scupe.com](mailto:urbanmin@scupe.com).

### *Invitation to a Wedding*



*Two hearts, joined together in friendship and  
united forever in love, by the grace of God.*

IT IS WITH JOY THAT

*The Reverend Alice J. Burnette Davis*

AND

*The Reverend William Edward Greene*

INVITE YOU TO SHARE

IN A CELEBRATION OF LOVE AND BLESSINGS

AS THEY ARE JOINED IN HOLY MATRIMONY

ON SATURDAY, OCTOBER 7, 2006

AT 2:00 P.M.

IRVING PARK BAPTIST CHURCH  
4401 WEST IRVING PARK ROAD  
CHICAGO, ILLINOIS

THE REVEREND DR. CYNTHIA BELT, OFFICIATING



JOIN US AS WE DANCE THE NIGHT AWAY IN CELEBRATION

8:00 P.M.

WYNDHAM O'HARE HOTEL  
6810 NORTH MANNHEIM ROAD  
ROSEMONT, ILLINOIS

### *Decade of Ministry Together*

October 1, 1996 was a day of joy at the Community Baptist Church in Warrenville. The Reverend Diane Merrill Pomeroy began her ministry as pastor on that day. The succeeding decade has continued to bring much joy and love for pastor and congregation. On Sunday, October 8, 2006, congregation and pastor will celebrate a decade of shared ministry. The worship service will be at 10:30 a.m. A pot luck dinner will follow the service.

### *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.

### *Campaign against Torture Sends Call to Congress*

VALLEY FORGE, PA (ABNS 9/22/06)—As both Houses of Congress consider legislation this week on the treatment on military detainees, religious leaders are calling for the elimination of torture and cruel, inhuman, and degrading treatment as part of U.S. policy in a statement to be published in the Capitol Hill newspaper *Roll Call*. Originally published in the *New York Times* on June 13, 2006, the statement ran on Tuesday, September 19.

The headline of the ad states that 'Torture is a Moral Issue' and proclaims that torture violates the basic dignity of the human person that all religions hold dear. Shepherded by the National Religious Campaign Against Torture (NRCAT), the statement is signed by 27 national religious

leaders, including Dr. Rick Warren pastor and author of *The Purpose Driven Life*; Rev. Bob Edgar, General Secretary of the National Council of Churches; Rev. Ted Haggard, President of the National Association of Evangelicals; and Nobel laureates President Jimmy Carter and Elie Wiesel.

Other signatories include Dr. Roberta Hestenes, Minister-at-Large for World Vision and past president of American Baptist related Eastern University; Dr. Glen Stassen, Professor at Fuller Theological Seminary, who recently addressed the American Baptist Churches General Board at their June Board Meetings; and Dr. Frank Thomas, pastor and editor of *The African-American Pulpit*, originally published by Judson Press.

American Baptists addressed the issue of torture in their 1976 [Policy Statement on Human Rights](#) which, under article thirteen, states that basic human rights include, "the right to be free from arbitrary arrest and detention and from torture; the right to a just and open trial with the opportunity to confront accusers and the right to humane treatment if incarcerated."

The more recent [Resolution on International Terrorism](#) cautions, "that we [American Baptists] remain vigilant concerning the erosion of civil liberties in the name of security." (article 5) NRCAT bridges theological and political divides by uniting mainstream Protestants and Evangelical Christians, Muslims with Reform and Conservative Jews, and Orthodox and Roman Catholics. Fifty four national, regional, and local religious organizations and congregations have joined with NRCAT and its 'Torture is a Moral Issue' campaign by encouraging people of faith across the country to endorse the statement by visiting [www.nrcat.org](http://www.nrcat.org).

### *Celebration*

The First Baptist Church of Chicago will celebrate the 40th Anniversary of Dr. Larry Greenfield's ordination on Sunday, October 15 as part of its 173rd Anniversary. Dr. Greenfield will be preaching at the 11:00 a.m. worship. Rev. Taurus Scurlock will be preaching at the 4:00 p.m. service and the Mt. Zion Baptist Church Choir will be singing.

## Ministers Council News

### *Meetings of the ABCMC Ministers Council*

*November 10, 3 p.m.*

Remember to keep your Friday, November the 10 from 3 p.m. to 4:30 p.m. available for our special Minister's Council meeting with the guest speaker for our Annual Meeting of ABCMC. This will be a focus on the Children In Poverty Initiative of National Ministries of ABC/USA.

### *Together in Ministry*

Applications for Together in Ministry 2007 funding for collegial covenant groups are due in the Ministers Council office by October 31. They are to be sent first to the constituent Ministers Council officers for review and forwarding to the national office. Forms and essential instructions are available at [www.ministerscouncil.com](http://www.ministerscouncil.com) under the Together in Ministry link. If you have any questions please contact Kate Harvey at [Kate.Harvey@abc-usa.org](mailto:Kate.Harvey@abc-usa.org).

### *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](http://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.

### *Central Sectional Black Church Education Conference*

Ten ABC regions agreed, in conjunction with ABC National Ministries, to jointly sponsor this event to be held at Midwest Hotel and Conference Center, Columbus, OH, April 19-21, 2007.

Registration begins at 3:00 PM on Thursday, April 19, and the conference adjourns at 3:00 PM on Saturday, April 21. ABC of Ohio is the host region and New Salem Missionary Baptist is the host church.

The theme chosen for this event is "MAKING NEW CONNECTIONS." There will be two major worship experiences, two luncheon plenaries, Bible study and praise and worship each morning,

and three opportunities to participate in various seminar and workshop options. The registration fee for the conference is \$99, plus \$30 to cover the cost of the two luncheons. Rooms at the conference hotel will be available at a cost of \$79 per night which includes a complimentary buffet breakfast. We are in the process of securing leadership, but we can confirm that the Rev. Dr. Marvin McMickle, Pastor of Antioch Baptist Church Cleveland, will lead the Bible studies and that the Rev. Dr. Edward Wheeler, President of Christian Theological Seminary, will give the closing address.

## *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 world peace.

Please pray for the people of Thailand, and for missionaries and others who are ministering with them.

Please hold in prayer the people of the Democratic Republic of Congo, and missionaries and others who are ministering with them.

Please remember in prayer the people of the Darfur region of Sudan, that international intervention may help to save those in danger from violence and upheaval there.

Please join ABCMC in prayers of praise and thanksgiving for our newest member congregation, Wellspring Community Church of Des Moines, Iowa.

Please pray for IM missionary Annie Dieselberg and others who are working to help women in Thailand and elsewhere move out of prostitution.

## *Calendar*

**TOMORROW!! September 28**—Mission Partnership Committee meeting, 11 a.m.-1 p.m., McCormick Theological Seminary.

**September 28**—Eighth annual Christian Century dinner and lecture by Bishop William Willimon, 6 p.m., The University Club, 76 E. Monroe Street, Chicago. Email [event@christiancentury.org](mailto:event@christiancentury.org) or call 312-263-7510, extension 229.

**September 29**—Preaching workshop, “A Talkative God,” by William Willimon, 9 a.m. to noon, Fourth Presbyterian Church, 126 E. Chestnut Street, Chicago. Email [event@christiancentury.org](mailto:event@christiancentury.org) or call 312-263-7510, extension 229.

**FRIDAY!!! September 29**—20th Anniversary Celebration for pastor Susan B. W. Johnson at Hyde Park Union Church, 5700 S. Woodlawn Avenue, Chicago. Reception, 6:30 p.m.; dinner, 7:30 p.m.

**September 30**—Congregational singing workshop, First United Methodist Church, 1903 E. Euclid Avenue, Arlington Heights. Please phone 847- 255- 5112 for registration and/or more information.

**SATURDAY!! September 30**—ABCMC stewardship seminar, 9:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m., North Shore Baptist Church, 5244 N. Lakewood Avenue, Chicago. Please register by phoning the ABCMC office, 773-695-9791.

**SATURDAY!! SUNDAY!! September 30-October 1**--11th Annual World Community Celebration, Lake Street Church, 607 Lake Street, Evanston.

**Saturday**, 4:30 p.m., "Being Muslim in America," followed by dinner after sunset.

**Sunday**, 10:30 a.m., Imam Abdul Malik Mujahid, Chair of the Council of Islamic Organizations of Greater Chicago, will speak, "Repairing the World Together."

**October 6**—Seminary Consortium for Urban Pastoral Education (SCUPE) celebrates 30 years of service to the city, 6:30 p.m., St. James Cathedral, 65 East Huron Street, Chicago. To purchase tickets or obtain additional information, please contact the SCUPE office at (312) 726-1200 or email [urbanmin@scupe.com](mailto:urbanmin@scupe.com).

**Get your dancing shoes ready! October 7**—Wedding of Alice Davis and William Greene, 2 p.m., Irving Park Baptist Church, 4401 W. Irving Park Road, Chicago. Dancing at 8 p.m., Wyndham O'Hare Hotel, 6810 N. Mannheim Road, Rosemont.

**October 13**—Deadline for Biennial Award nominations. Please see [www.abc-usa.org](http://www.abc-usa.org) for specifics.

**October 15**—11 a.m. worship service celebrating the 173<sup>rd</sup> anniversary of the founding of the First Baptist Church of Chicago, and the 40<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the ordination of Larry Greenfield by that congregation. Larry will preach at the morning service. At the 4 p.m. worship service Rev. Taurus Scurlock, pastor of Mt. Zion Baptist Church of Evanston, will preach, and the Mt. Zion Baptist Church choir will sing.

**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.

**October 17-19**—Conference on "Women in Religion in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century," Interchurch Center, New York, NY. The conference begins at 10 a.m. on Oct. 17, and concludes at 3 p.m. on Oct. 19. Full conference registration is \$300, before Sept. 10. One-day registration is \$140. To register online or for more information, visit [www.womeninreligion2006.org](http://www.womeninreligion2006.org).

**November 10**—ABCMC Ministers Council Meeting, 3 p.m.

**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](http://www.growcenter.org).

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

**April 19-21, 2007**—ABC Central Sectional Black Church Education Conference, Midwest Hotel and Conference Center, Columbus, Ohio.

**April 27-28, 2007**—Revive Us Again! Revival of our Spirit, Revival of our Baptist Principles, Andover Newton Theological School, Newton, Massachusetts. This will be a gathering of progressive Baptists from around the country.

**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](mailto: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](mailto:abcmchi@aol.com).