

*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

**October 18, 2006**

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*World Mission Offering*

be surprised by God.  
pray. give. be amazed!



Often *eWind* includes requests for prayer for American Baptist international missionaries serving around the globe. The World Mission Offering each year gives us an opportunity to put our money where our prayers are. Most churches collect the World Mission Offering in October. This offering is how we can support International Ministries.

What is International Ministries?

When Charles West helps a Zambian pastor to become a more effective servant of Jesus Christ...that is International Ministries. When Kim Brown and her co-workers from Thailand's hill tribe people develop a breakthrough strategy for HIV/AIDS education and prevention that UNICEF uses as a model throughout Southeast Asia...that is International Ministries. When Ketly and Vital Pierre lead young people in Bluefields, Nicaragua away from drugs and into a life-changing relationship with Jesus...that is International Ministries. When Luran Bethell accepts the 2005 Baptist World Alliance Human Rights Award for what God has enabled her to do globally among the victims of human trafficking...that is International Ministries.

The World Mission Offering is the single largest source of financial support for the global outreach God accomplishes through International Ministries. Your gifts to the World Mission Offering make it possible for missionaries to serve in over thirty countries, and for staff to provide vital support to the mission outreach of local believers in even more places. What God is doing in our world today is truly amazing, and the World Mission Offering is a vitally important tool you can use to join God in that amazing work!

Let's all give generously to the 2006 World Mission Offering.

### *Central American Parliament*

#### *Honors Gustavo Parajón, American Baptist Missionary*

Representatives of the Central American Parliament ([PARLACEN](#)) presented the Rev. Dr. Gustavo Parajón with its distinguished Francisco Morazán medallion, in honor of his courageous work for peace and reconciliation during the war between Nicaragua's revolutionary government and the Contra guerrillas during the 1980s.

The presentation occurred during a moving ceremony held on October 17, 2006, at First Baptist Church of Managua, where Parajón is senior pastor. The sanctuary was packed with diplomats, but also with people from every walk of life in Nicaragua. Especially notable was the presence of a large delegation from one of the regions that had been particularly affected by the conflict. The

delegation, from Nueva Guinea, included many who had served in that region's local peace commission, as well as the famous "Comandante Gallo," a leader of Contra forces in Nueva Guinea during the war.

The decision to hold the ceremony in the sanctuary of First Baptist Church of Managua was itself significant, as it is the first time that a session of PARLACEN has been convened in a Protestant church in the region. In honor of the church setting, and in a departure from normal protocol, the Nicaraguan national anthem was sung not by Nicaragua's military choir, but by the renowned Parajón-Domínguez choir of First Baptist Church, which is directed by Mrs. Joan Parajón.

The action of PARLACEN comes as part of a growing chorus of appreciation for Parajón's decades-long ministry on behalf of justice, reconciliation and peace. In 2002, during the celebration of its 150<sup>th</sup> anniversary, the City of Managua awarded Parajón its Sesquicentennial Medallion as one of the city's outstanding citizens. In July of this year, the Baptist World Alliance, at its meeting in Mexico City, gave Parajón its 2006 Human Rights Award for his peacemaking ministry.

From mid-1964 until the end of 2003, Gustavo Parajón and his wife Joan served as American Baptist missionaries in Nicaragua. Additional details concerning the ministry of Gustavo Parajón will be featured in the November issue of **International Ministries Update** (to receive a free subscription to this monthly newsletter, contact [Jill.Mussel@abc-usa.org](mailto:Jill.Mussel@abc-usa.org)). Additional coverage of the PARLACEN ceremony in honor of Parajón will appear soon on the [International Ministries website](#).

International Ministries (IM) is a Baptist mission agency, established in 1814, which serves the more than 5,800 churches of the [American Baptist Churches USA](#).

Globally, IM relates to more than 500 educational institutions and 125 hospitals and medical facilities. Missionaries work in partnership with some 15,000 trained national workers, who serve about 22,000 congregations and nearly 3,000,000 baptized members.

### *Thinking Theologically*

ABCMC's Executive Minister Larry Greenfield writes a fortnightly column, "Thinking Theologically," for the *Common Good Network*, which is the newsletter of Protestants for the Common Good. His latest column, "Breaking Barriers," is attached to this issue of *eWind*. Also attached to this issue of *eWind* is Larry's thought-provoking op-ed article "American Revolutions" from the October 13 *Common Good Network*.

### *Peacemaking*

*The following communication is from Dave Martin of the West Suburban Faith-based Peace Coalition. The statement to which he refers is attached to this issue of eWind.*



#### **West Suburban Faith-based PEACE Coalition**

115 East Memorial Road, Bensenville IL 60106 [www.faithpeace.org](http://www.faithpeace.org) 630-768-9305

Dear Clergy Members and Faith Leaders,

As people of faith, many of us feel challenged to find meaningful ways to respond *faithfully* to the war in Iraq. A new statement titled "A Faithful Call to Repentance, Justice and Peace" seeks to do just that. Written by local clergy and faith-based peacemakers from across Chicago's west

suburbs, the statement draws from sacred scripture, and powerful statements of bishops, denominational councils and faith leaders in appealing for repentance, prayer and taking up the things of God that make for peace. As the war tragically presses into its third year, our yearning desire for peace only increases.

Please review the attached faith statement. All pastors, clergy and faith leaders are invited to sign in public affirmation of God's historic and ongoing call to reconciling love, justice and peace. We believe the public use of this statement, and signatures gathered in support of it, will help magnify God's call to justice and peace. The prayers, conversations, instruction, and work for peace that follow from it – will give flesh to the work of the Spirit, in reconciling a war-torn world to God.

As faith is the evidence of things not yet seen, so we expectantly await the stirring of the Spirit, the compassionate love of God - to move upon this world and bring about an end to this war. We pray that your signature and your continuing participation in this work will help bring that hope to reality.

In faithful service,  
Dave Martin

on behalf of the West Suburban Faith-based Peace Coalition's *Faithful Action Workgroup*

p.s. If you have any questions, please contact me directly at 630-768-9305 or [davemartin777@comcast.net](mailto:davemartin777@comcast.net). For information on WSFPC, see [www.faitpeace.org](http://www.faitpeace.org)

## **SUNDAY!** *Children's Sabbath*

*This invitation is from the First Baptist Church of Waukegan.*

First Baptist Church of Waukegan invites you to join us in a worship service October 22, 5 p.m. in our annual celebration of National Observance of Children's Sabbaths. The 2006 theme, "Congregations Stand for Healthy Children: Bringing Hope and Healing" will be addressed by Rev. Dr. Wendy Morris, our guest preacher. Wendy an active member of Community Baptist Church, Warrenville is Coordinator of Shalom Education, and author of "Stop the Violence! Educating Ourselves to Protect Our Youth." Special music will be provided by the mass choir of Mr. Sinai Institutional Baptist Church of North Chicago.

The National Observance of Children's Sabbaths celebration is sponsored by the Children's Defense Fund (CDF), guided by an interfaith advisory Committee, and endorsed by hundreds of denominations and religious organizations.

This national observance brings attention to the urgent plight of children in our nation and calls people of faith to put their faith into action to meet children's needs through direct service and work for justice. This year's theme focuses attention on the nine million children in the United States who do not have health insurance and may not be able to see a doctor when they need to. Congregations are coming together on Children's Sabbath to start putting our nation's priorities in the right place and to stand for healthy children.

First Baptist looks forward to our ABCMC's congregations worshipping with us as we focus on ways to "bring hope and healing" to children. Contact Pastor Keith Cerk at 847-623-2821 for additional information.

## **SUNDAY!** *Health Care Sabbath*

*This invitation is from Grace Baptist Church.*

Grace Baptist Church invites members of the ABC/MC family to join us on Sunday, October 22 at 6 p.m. for a special worship observance of a Health Care Sabbath. Health and healing ministries have long been central to Grace's mission. We've been inspired this fall by the Health Care Justice Faith Caucus's invitation to dedicate a worship service to the Creator whose intent is for shalom. We will worship as a people who believe this, and who are empowered with Christ's spirit to proclaim this Good News.

Join us for a time of empowering praise, invocation, lament, confession and hope. Join us for familiar and new spirited justice music. Join us for sabbath.

Grace is located at 5253 N. Kenmore Avenue, Chicago, near Foster and Sheridan. (We rent space from Epworth United Methodist Church). Our parking lot, shared with the Seventh Church of Christ, Scientist, is located 1/2 block north of Berwyn on Kenmore. Contact pastor@gracebaptistchicago.com or Jacki at 773-334-9003 for more information.

### *Public Hearing on the Iraq War*

The American Friends Service Committee invites you to a Public Hearing on the Iraq War with first-hand testimony from expert witnesses Ray McGovern, Ann Wright, Iraqi and Iraqi-Americans and Iraq veterans (see bios below).

## **Inquest Iraq: Accountability and the War**

**Public Hearing**

**Saturday, October 28**

**10AM-5PM**

**Northwestern University School of Law**

**Thorne Auditorium**

**375 E. Chicago**

**This will be a public inquiry into both the origins and ongoing operations of the Iraq War from people who have experienced it directly.**

### **Inquest Iraq Witnesses:**

**Ray McGovern**, a former CIA analyst whose career spanned 27 years. Ray was among the intelligence community alumni/ae who created Veteran Intelligence Professionals for Sanity (VIPS), an organization that sought to draw attention to the misuse and manipulation of intelligence analysis.

**Ann Wright**, a high-ranking member of the diplomatic corps who resigned her position due to the ethical and political implications of U.S. foreign policy related to the invasion of Iraq. Since her resignation, Ann has become an outspoken peace activist.

**Naba Hameed**, an Iraqi citizen and professor of biology at the University of Baghdad who is a survivor of both the U.S.-led invasion and current occupation of Iraq. Naba will travel to Chicago from her home in Baghdad to provide unique, first hand testimony from the perspective of the Iraqi citizenry.

**Raed Jarrar**, an Iraqi-American architect who was in Iraq during and after the 2003 invasion. Raed was the country director of CIVIC Worldwide, the only door-to-door casualty survey in post war Iraq. He also established an NGO called "Emaar" that implemented hundreds of community-based and humanitarian aid projects around the country on an extremely low budget.

**John Flynn**, an Iraq war veteran and member of IVAW recently completed a cross-country motorcycle journey through which he memorialized each military casualty sustained in this conflict by traveling one mile per fallen soldier.

**Mike Nowacki**, former Staff Sergeant who served in the US Army for over 10 years. He is a veteran of Operation Desert Storm and Operation Iraqi Freedom. From July 2004 to April 2005, he worked as a Counterintelligence Agent and Interrogation Team Leader in Baghdad, Iraq, with the 2nd Brigade Combat Team, 10th Mountain Division. Nowacki is separated from the Army and now works in law enforcement.

**Dr. Dahlia Wasfi**, an American medical doctor who has relatives residing in Baghdad and Basra, and who during visits with her family, has witnessed first hand the human cost of the Iraq War. Dahlia has become a full-time public speaker and has given testimony before Congress regarding her experiences in post-invasion Iraq.

**Kayla Williams**, a former Military Intelligence soldier and Arabic interpreter in Iraq as well as the author of the memoir, *Love My Rifle More Than You*. During her tour of duty in Iraq, Kayla often found herself acting as intermediary between her fellow soldiers and the Iraq people with whom she had formed close bonds, and her testimony provides a unique glimpse into the contradictions faced by soldiers in this conflict.

For more information contact Jarred Butto at 312-427-2533 or [jbutto@afsc.org](mailto:jbutto@afsc.org), or visit <http://inquestiraq.org>.

### *Good Company Coffee House*

Grace Baptist Church, 5253 N. Kenmore Avenue, Chicago, invites us all to their Good Company Coffee House on Saturday, October 28, at 7 p.m. at the church. The format will be open microphone (without the microphone). Please come, and bring your instrument, voice, poetry, imagination to share. Listen to other performers. Enjoy delightful refreshments and effervescent conversation. The acoustics and ambience of the room are terrific. Don't miss it!

Grace Baptist Church is located in the building of Epworth United Methodist Church on the southeast corner of the intersection of Berwyn and Kenmore Avenues. Entrance to the coffee house will be on the Kenmore Avenue side of the building. Free parking is available in the lot ½ block north of the church, on the west side of Kenmore, immediately north of the Christian Science Church.

If you have any questions, please contact Lynne Kelley at 847-909-8191 or Jacki Belile at 773-334-9003.

### *Benefit Concert for Christian Peacemaker Teams*

A Benefit Concert for Christian Peacemaker Teams (CPT) will take place Saturday, October 28, 7p.m. at Lombard Mennonite Church, 528 E. Madison St, Lombard. It has been a challenging year financially for CPT with the four CPT hostages who were held in Iraq. CPT does very important work in Israel/Palestine, Iraq, Colombia, Arizona Borderlands (immigration), Kenora Ontario (native peoples) and more. It's going to be a wonderful concert (details below). Any financial assistance you can offer is greatly appreciated.

WHO: All supporters of peace  
WHAT: Benefit Concert for CPT  
WHERE: Lombard Mennonite Church  
528 E. Madison Street, Lombard  
FOR INFO: 630-627-5310

The Concert will feature:

Chuck Nuefeld: folksinger, songwriter, story-teller and pastor of Community Mennonite Church

Karin Redekopp Edwards: phenomenal classical concert pianist, Wheaton College piano professor

Dave Martin: peace activist, director of WSFPC, performer of songs for peace and social change

Ben Gac: Baritone vocalist with Chicago Symphony Chorus, graduate of Wheaton Conservatory of Music

### *5th Sunday Unity Service*

Irving Park Baptist Church invites all Chicago area American Baptists to join us for our next 5TH SUNDAY UNITY SERVICE on Sunday, October 29, at 6:30 p.m. Every month with a fifth Sunday, Irving Park presents a special service showcasing the diversity of our church, our community and our metro area, with preaching, music and fellowship in a different style. This month's service will be a gathering of several multicultural churches, including participants from Irving Park Baptist, Mont Clare United Church of Christ, and Galewood Community Church. Our guest preacher will be The Rev. Calvin Morris, Ph.D., Executive Director of the Community Renewal Society.

The church is located at 4401 W. Irving Park Road, Chicago, Illinois 60641. Please call the church office at (773) 286-6800 for further information.

### **REGISTER NOW** *Ministry in Times of Disaster*

A number of our church leaders have expressed interest in learning about ministry in times of disaster. A continuing education event offering just such information will take place on October 30, 8 a.m.-1 p.m. at Advocate Good Shepherd Hospital, 450 W. Highway 22, Barrington. A flyer with information and registration form is attached to this issue of *eWind*. The seminar, including materials and meals, is offered free of charge; however, registration is required by **October 23**.

## Ministers Council News

### *Meeting 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 Rev. Marilyn Turner, 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. This meeting will take place at the First Baptist Church of Chicago, 935 E. 50<sup>th</sup> Street, Chicago.

### *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. **This means that applications must be submitted to ABCMC's Ministers Council President Doug Harris no later than October 20.** Doug's email address is [dharris@northshorebaptist.org](mailto:dharris@northshorebaptist.org). 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).

## *ABCMC Annual Meeting*

The ABCMC Annual Meeting will take place November 10-11. Please phone the ABCMC office at 773-695-9791, or email us at [abcmchi@aol.com](mailto:abcmchi@aol.com) to let us know of your attendance plans. The theme will be "Will We See Them?"

**Friday, November 10 at the First Baptist Church of Chicago, 935 E. 50<sup>th</sup> Street, Chicago.**

Check-in will begin at 5:30 p.m. Please register in advance with the ABCMC office no later than November 6.

Our gathering will begin with dinner at 6 p.m. Our special guest speaker will be Marilyn Turner, Associate Executive Director, Program Ministries, on the staff of ABCUSA National Ministries. She will address the ABC focus on children living in poverty.

ABCMC's Task Force on Children in Poverty is planning this year's meeting. Much—but not all—of our focus at the meeting will be ministry with children in poverty. It is therefore most appropriate that we shift to a different special location for our Saturday gathering.

**Saturday, November 11, at the Bridgeport Child Development Center, 3053 S. Normal Avenue, Chicago.**

Our Saturday session will take place at one of the locations at which Kids Hope United (formerly Central Baptist Children and Family Services) ministers with children living in an inner-city neighborhood.

Check-in will begin at 8:30 a.m. Please register in advance with the ABCMC office no later than November 6.

Our Saturday morning session will begin at 9 a.m. The business meeting will begin at 11 a.m. Lunch will follow at noon, followed by a time of prayer, praise and commitment.

Our gathering will conclude by 1:30 p.m.

After the family reunion, what better way is there to end our time together than by going to the Cook County Jail Ministry Dinner? See the article below.

### *Cook County Jail Ministry Dinner*

The Cook County Jail Ministry Dinner and fall 2006 Fund Raiser will take place at the First Baptist Church of Oak Park, 820 Ontario Street, Oak Park, on November 11. Sponsored by Chaplain Marjean Gonzalez, the Cook County Jail Ministry Board, and the American Baptist Churches of Metro Chicago, the event will begin with fellowship at 6 p.m. and dinner and program at 6:30 p.m. All dinner tickets are purchased at the door. The cost is \$15/adult, \$5/child, and \$100/table. If you have questions, please phone Paul Sengpiel, 708-383-8859.

### *Baptists Urge Tolerance, Education to Overcome Religious, Ethnic Conflict in Africa*

VALLEY FORGE, PA (ABNS 10/12/06)—At a joint conference of the All Africa Baptist Fellowship (AABF) and the Baptist World Alliance (BWA) in Kenya, pastors and educators invoked the Baptist conviction of religious liberty—saying mutual recognition, dialogue, and tolerance are needed to stem the tide of rising religious and ethnic conflict across the continent of Africa.

"There are some who ask, why should we deal with others who don't believe in Jesus Christ?" said Rev. Sam Brickson of Sierra Leone, as he spoke about Baptists in his country leading religious dialogue. "We are not trying to exchange beliefs," Brickson said the leaders told him, "We are trying to find ways to co-exist."

Peaceful co-existence was on the mind of Brickson and dozens of Baptist leaders at the joint general assembly of AABF and "Living Water" evangelism conference of BWA. Attendees at the meeting in Limuru, outside of Nairobi, Oct. 8 to Oct. 13, 2006, include Charles Jones, Acting Executive Director and a delegation from International Ministries, ABCUSA.

In a session held Wednesday, Oct. 11, participants sought both to witness to the gospel of Jesus Christ and to defuse situations all over the continent plagued by religious tension, conflict, and violence.

"We have to educate people about the issues at stake and train leadership," said Dr. Fola Lateju of Nigeria. "Change will not come when only one or two people are qualified to lead," Lateju said. Lateju, who has a doctorate in Muslim studies, runs the Centre for Interfaith/Relations and Cross Cultural Outreach in Ogbomoso, Nigeria. Lateju explained that from the period of independence until the 1970s, much of what people in the West see as Christian-Muslim conflict in Nigeria did not exist. However, in the late 70s, Lateju said there was a rise in conservative Christian groups, particularly on college campuses, which led to the proliferation of churches in the mainly Muslim

North part of the country. The activities of these groups, often backed by Western conservative Christians, led to a reaction among Muslims. Lateju said that fundamentalist Muslim groups arose, claiming their parents and earlier Muslims had compromised key practices of the faith. These younger Muslim leaders sought financial support from Arab countries to build Mosques and other programs.

"How could they justify getting the money?" asked Lateju. He explained that Muslims would tell their benefactors, "the Christians were posing a challenge to the propagation of Islam, and show them churches that were not there five or ten years ago."

Lateju said those who follow the conflict in the West are not aware that most people do not want to live in religious violence. "In the majority of the people there is that sense of belongingness and wanting to lead a tolerant lifestyle, but it is some people for whom [conflict] is beneficial," he said. The same challenge of leaders provoking conflict exists when the tensions are ethnic, not religious. Rev. Felicien Nemeyimana, of Rwanda, is executive director of Peacebuilding, Healing, and Reconciling Programme (PHARP), which he and others helped form in the aftermath of the Rwandan genocide.

Nemeyimana said problems in his country started at the leadership level. When President Juvenal Habyarimana was killed in April 1994, Hutus saw this as an attack on them and the military leadership used this immediate incident as a provocation to launch a program of genocide against Tutsis which had been planned for months, even years, according to subsequent United Nations investigations. Now, more than a decade later, Nemeyimana said the people of Rwanda "want to go beyond ethnicity and come together. The leadership—church and political—is not focused on ethnicity, and that is where I can see change taking place."

Leaders encouraged multi-ethnic ministry and programs that involve a wide variety of people. They also said leaders should be open to criticism, and realize that the best witness to the Gospel may be in works, not words.

"We don't preach against Islam, we preach Jesus Christ. That is the mistake some pastors are making" said Brickson, who pastors Victory Baptist Church in Freetown, and is director of the AABF youth fellowship.

"Most of the time our testimony will speak. Our testimony is very important," Brickson said. "We are compassionate, we are friendly. We forgive."

### *Dr. Virginia Sargent, Retired Educational Ministries' Staffer, Dies*

VALLEY FORGE, PA (ABNS 10/13/06)—Dr. Virginia Sargent, active in Christian education for more than 50 years, died October 10 after a long battle with cancer. She was 77. Sargent served Educational Ministries for more than two decades, joining the mission board in 1973 as a program associate for the Department of Ministry with Children. Known as an innovator and visionary, she was instrumental in organizing the first American Baptist educational conference for Black Christian Education and Leadership Development held at prestigious Oberlin College.

Known to her many friends as "Ginger," Sargent retired from Educational Ministries in 1995, but continued to challenge herself. Instead of enjoying well-deserved leisure, she went back to school to become a registered chaplain and was ordained into American Baptist ministry in 1998 at Saints Memorial Baptist Church, Bryn Mawr, Pa.

"The best way to describe Ginger is that she was a life-long learner," says the Rev. John Murrow, Associate Executive Minister for Discipleship at Philadelphia Baptist Association (PBA), another

recipient of Dr. Sargent's energy and dedication. In addition to serving on various committees, she was editor of PBA's *Metroliner* newsletter.

With the Civil Rights Movement at its peak in the 60s, a young Virginia Sargent joined others protesting inequality in a country founded upon the proposition that all are created equal. She was a strong peace and justice advocate, and her participation was a statement of her faith, according to long-time friend, Vernice Lee, Secretary at Saints Memorial Baptist Church. "She followed her faith and her belief. She didn't just talk about it, she lived it."

A native New Yorker, Sargent earned her doctorate from Eastern Seminary (now Palmer Theological Seminary) in 1988, while serving Educational Ministries. She received a master's degree in Christian education in 1952 from Hartford Seminary and a bachelor of arts degree from Hunter College in 1950.

Sargent, a member of Saints Memorial Baptist Church, served there as minister of Christian education and coordinator of ministers. She was also an associate member of Central Baptist Church in Wayne, Pa.

A resident of Ardmore, Pa., Sargent is survived by a son, a daughter, and four grandchildren. Funeral services will be held Tuesday, October 17, at Saints Memorial Baptist Church, 47 S. Warner Avenue, Bryn Mawr, Pa. The funeral begins at 7 p.m.; calling hours begin at 5 p.m. In lieu of flowers, please send gifts in memory of Dr. Sargent to Youth Ministry for Saints Memorial Baptist Church at the church address.

### *OGHS Funds Designated to Support Amish Families after Shooting*

VALLEY FORGE, PA (ABNS 10/17/06)—Kenneth George, National Coordinator for Direct Human Services of National Ministries, American Baptist Churches USA, reports that \$5,000 in One Great Hour of Sharing (OGHS) undesignated disaster funds went to the Amish School Recovery Fund.

"Violence in schools across our nation is deeply disturbing and our hearts go out to all children and families facing these tragedies," said Dr. Aidsand Wright-Riggins III, Executive Director of National Ministries. "With our contribution to the Amish relief fund, American Baptists stand with a gentle people -- in our own Anabaptist tradition -- who were violently attacked. Their only show of force is amazing forgiveness that is now reverberating throughout the world."

The Mennonite Disaster Service and Mennonite Central Committee, both in Akron, Pa., established the fund to help meet medical, transportation and support service expenses of the families whose daughters were shot at Nickel Mines School on October 2. The Amish, who do not carry health insurance, face high costs for the hospitalization of five girls wounded in the attack. Funds also will support the family of Charles Carl Roberts IV, who shot 10 Amish girls in the one-room schoolhouse, killing five.

"We ache that such senseless and terrible violence has been visited upon the most innocent and upon a Christian community that has foresworn violence as they follow Christ," said General Secretary, Rev. Dr. A. Roy Medley in a statement from American Baptist Churches USA, issued immediately following the tragedy.

Though the Amish did not request financial assistance, leaders in their community consented to receiving this help. A nine-member committee with seven Amish and two non-Amish members will administer the fund.

American Baptists desiring to respond with Christian love, can send contributions to Office of the General Secretary – Finance, P.O. Box 851, Valley Forge, PA 19482-0851, designated for

"OGHS-Amish School Fund" or enter an amount on the Monthly Report of Mission Support, Line OGH, on the receipt form. For online contributions, go to the American Baptist Churches USA Web site and click on Give/ Give Online / Ministry Around the World.

### *Death of Al Brinson's Mother*

Word has been received regarding the death of Al Brinson's mother. Mrs. Gertrude Frazier Brinson, retired resident director at Spelman College, passed away on October 15, 2006 at the A.G. Rhodes Home in Atlanta, GA. She was 91 years old. The funeral will be held at 11:00 am on Saturday, October 21, at Ebenezer Baptist Church in Atlanta. Condolence messages may be sent to Al and his family at 6313 Colby Way, Virginia Beach, VA 23464. Please keep the Brinson family in your prayers during this difficult time.

### *Revival Being Rescheduled*

*We have received this announcement from Rev. Mindi Welton-Mitchell, organizer of the spring 2007 revival previously announced in eWind. We will provide updates as we receive them.*

Due to a scheduling conflict that could not be resolved, the spring gathering, "Revive Us Again! Revival of the Spirit, Revival of our Baptist Principles" on the campus of Andover Newton Theological School in Newton Centre, MA, is in the process of being rescheduled. We will announce the new dates as soon as possible. We regret any inconvenience.

### *ABC of Ohio*

*We have received the following information about one action taken at the annual meeting of the American Baptist Churches of Ohio last week.*

On October 12-14 the American Baptist Churches of Ohio held their annual meeting. They considered a proposal to allow churches to remain members of the ABC of Ohio while withdrawing from the ABCUSA. Although there was significant opposition to this proposal, it passed.

### *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 hold in prayer those who are engaged in sorting out plans for the future of ABCUSA.

Please pray for Kristy Engel, an IM mission volunteer, as she uses her skills in nursing and education in medical ministry in the Dominican Republic.

Please keep Al Brinson and his family in prayer as they mourn the death of his mother.

## *Calendar*

**SUNDAY! October 22**—Children’s Sabbath Service, 5 p.m., First Baptist Church of Waukegan, 401 N. Genesee Street, Waukegan.

**SUNDAY! October 22**—Healthcare Sabbath Service, 6 p.m., Grace Baptist Church, 5253 N. Kenmore Avenue, Chicago.

**October 24**—Finance and Property Committee meeting, 3 p.m., ABCMC office, 8765 W. Higgins Road, Suite 240, Chicago.

**October 28**—“Inquest Iraq: Accountability and the War,” Public Hearing, 10 a.m.-5 p.m., Northwestern University School of Law, Thorne Auditorium 375 E. Chicago.

**October 28**—George Winston benefit concert for the homeless, 7:30 p.m., St. Timothy Lutheran Church, 1313 N. Mill Street, Naperville. (Free parking, handicapped accessible.) Reservations may be made at 630-225-5012, or by email at [info@hearus.us](mailto:info@hearus.us).

**October 28**—Good Company Coffee House, Grace Baptist Church, 5253 N. Kenmore Avenue, Chicago, 7 p.m. Open microphone. Come and perform. Come to watch and listen. For more information, please phone the church, 773-334-9003 or Lynne Kelley at 847-909-8191.

**October 28**—Benefit Concert for Christian Peacemaker Teams, 7 p.m., Lombard Mennonite Church, 528 E. Madison St, Lombard.

**October 29**—5<sup>th</sup> Sunday Unity Service, 6:30 p.m., Irving Park Baptist Church, 4401 W. Irving Park Road, Chicago. Please call the church office at (773) 286-6800 for further information.

**October 30**—“Prepare to Care: Ministry in Times of Disaster,” 8 a.m.-1 p.m., Advocate Good Shepherd Hospital. 450 W. Highway 22, Barrington. For more information, please email [rozann.shackleton@advocatehealth.com](mailto:rozann.shackleton@advocatehealth.com), or phone 847-381-0123, Ext. 26-5062. This seminar, including materials and meals, is offered free of charge; however, **registration is required by October 23.**

**November 10**—ABCMC Ministers Council Meeting, 3 p.m., First Baptist Church of Chicago, 935 E. 50<sup>th</sup> Street, Chicago.

**November 10-11**—ABCMC Annual Meeting.

**Fri., Nov. 10, 6 p.m., First Baptist Church of Chicago, 935 E. 50<sup>th</sup> St., Chicago.**  
**Sat., Nov. 11, 9 a.m., Bridgeport Child Development Center, 3053 S. Normal Ave., Chicago.**

**November 11**—Cook County Jail Ministry Dinner, 6 p.m., First Baptist Church of Oak Park, 820 Ontario Street, Oak Park. All tickets are purchased at the door. \$15/adult; \$100/table; \$5/child.

**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 U.S. 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.  
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