

# *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  
covering a wide variety of interests reflecting the diversity of our region.

**November 8, 2006**

### *In this Issue*

Sarah Jay

Bob Webber

**FRIDAY!!** Ministers Council News

Meeting of the ABCMC Ministers Council November 10, 3 p.m.

**FRIDAY and SATURDAY!!** ABCMC Annual Meeting

**SATURDAY!!** Cook County Jail Ministry Dinner

**SUNDAY!!** North Shore Baptist Church Second Sunday Concert Series

**SUNDAY!!** Joy in the Morning

Interfaith Thanksgiving Service

Songs of Faith, Hope and Love

Second Annual ABCMC Disciples' Dinner

Online Accessibility Improves Service to Ministry Opportunities Subscribers

Margaret Cowden to Retire from National Ministries

Prayer Requests

Calendar

Book Nook

12 Steps to Congregational Transformation

Other Judson Press Publications

### *Sarah Jay*

Rev. Sarah Jay has accepted a call as Pastor at the First Baptist Church of Girard, Ohio, beginning January 8, 2007. Sarah's last Sunday as Interim Pastor at Community Church of Barrington will be December 31, 2006. She and her husband Jeff are excited about the possibility for ministry that God has given them, and give thanks for the last four years with such a tremendous region as ABCMC.

### *Bob Webber*

Bob Webber, William R. & Geraldyn B. Myers Professor of Ministry at Northern Baptist Theological Seminary, is receiving radiation and chemotherapy treatments. He is suffering some discomforts, but these therapies are nearly over. Although the family has asked that there be no calls or visits at this time, Bob and Joanne welcome cards and notes from well-wishers. You may address mail to Dr. and Mrs. Robert Webber, P. O. Box 298, Wheaton, IL 60189. Please remember them and their family in prayer.

## *Ministers Council News*

**FRIDAY!!**

*Meeting of the ABCMC Ministers Council Nov. 10, 3 p.m.*

The ABCMC Ministers Council will meet Friday, November 10 from 3 p.m. to 4:30 p.m. Our special guest will be Rev. Marilyn Turner, the guest speaker for ABCMC's Annual Meeting. Our meeting will focus on the Children in Poverty Initiative of ABCUSA National Ministries. The meeting will be at the First Baptist Church, 935 E. 50th Street, Chicago.

**FRIDAY and SATURDAY!!** *From Larry Greenfield*

To: ABCMC Family  
From: Larry Greenfield, Executive Minister  
Re: ABCMC Annual Meeting and Family Reunion, November 10-11

This year's annual meeting and family reunion will be singular in focus but divided in venue.

As we determined over a year ago, the National Ministries' initiative on Children in Poverty is our continuing focus for the region. And we will intensify our attention to that theme by asking ourselves at this annual meeting: Will We See Them?

Our two locations for the annual meeting will help us with our singular focus, reflecting two ways in which we as a region can strengthen our work on children in poverty.

On Friday evening, beginning at 6:00 p.m., we will gather at the First Baptist Church of Chicago (935 E. 50th Street) on the south side of the city for a dinner and program. We will be honoring Mr. Jimmie H. Smith, the retiring Executive Director of Kids Hope United, for his years of wise, compassionate, and dedicated service to children in our region. And the speaker for the evening will be the Rev. Marilyn Turner, Associate Executive Director of National Ministries and Coordinator of the Children in Poverty Initiative. She is an incredibly gifted communicator and will speak to us on "Rizpah's Children."

On Saturday morning, November 11, we will change locations and meet at the Bridgeport Child Development Center of Kids Hope United, 3053 S. Normal Avenue (just west of the Dan Ryan Expressway) in Chicago. Our own Dr. Douglas Sharp, Professor of Christian Theology at Northern Seminary, will begin our session with a biblical and theological study on our theme.

Then Ms. Amy Rynell, Director of the Mid-America Institute on Poverty at the Heartland Alliance will help us answer the question: "Where Will We See Them?" It will allow us to see the *reconfigurations* of poverty in metropolitan Chicago. Come ready to be surprised and to be equipped for the ministry we share together.

At 11:15 Saturday morning we will have our annual business meeting, which will include the presentation of and action on our strategic plans for the region, along with reports, the adoption of our budget, and the election of officers. Lunch will follow. And we will conclude the annual meeting together by "Seeing, Receiving, Blessing."

Please register your attendance plans with the ABCMC office, email [abcmchi@aol.com](mailto:abcmchi@aol.com), phone 773-695-9791, or fax 773-695-9793.

This will be an exciting, informative and important meeting of American Baptists in Metro Chicago. I look forward to seeing you there as we share and prepare together.

**FRIDAY & SATURDAY!!** *ABCMC Annual Meeting/Family Reunion*

ABCMC's 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) or fax us a response form at 773-695-9793 to let us know or your attendance plans.

The theme will be "Will We See Them?" The focus will be on children living in poverty.

Driving directions from the Internet: Links to mapquest.com maps for the two meeting locations appear below. For driving directions from your home to each location, use the links. On the mapquest site, above and to the left of the map, click on "directions to," type in your starting address, and click for driving directions. If you need assistance with this process, please phone Lynne Kelley at the ABCMC office, 773-695-9791.

Friday, November 10

First Baptist Church, 935 E. 50th Street, Chicago

<http://www.mapquest.com/maps/map.adp?formtype=address&country=US&popflag=0&latitude=&longitude=&name=&phone=&level=&addtohistory=&cat=&address=935+E.+50th+Street&city=Chicago&state=IL&zipcode=60615>

Check-in will begin at 5:30 p.m.

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's National Ministries. Speaking from a biblical perspective, she will address the ABC focus on children living in poverty.

Saturday, November 11

Bridgeport Child Development Center, 3053 S. Normal Avenue, Chicago

<http://www.mapquest.com/maps/map.adp?formtype=address&country=US&popflag=0&latitude=&longitude=&name=&phone=&level=&addtohistory=&cat=&address=3053+S.+Normal+AV&city=Chicago&state=IL&zipcode=60616-3125>

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.

Our Saturday morning session will begin at 9 a.m. Our speakers will be Douglas Sharp, Professor Christian Theology, Northern Baptist Theological Seminary; and Amy Rynell, Director, Mid-America Institute on Poverty at the Heartland Alliance for Human Needs and Human Rights. We will all learn much from these two speakers.

The business meeting will begin at 11:15 a.m. Lunch will follow at 12:15 p.m., followed by a time of commitment. We expect our gathering to conclude by 1:30 p.m.

After the ABCMC family reunion, what better way is there to end the day than by going to the Cook County Jail Ministry Dinner? Please see the article below.

**SATURDAY!!** *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 Saturday, 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 will follow at 6:30 p.m. All tickets are to be purchased at the door. Tickets will cost \$15/adult, \$5/child, and \$100/table. If you have questions, please phone board member Paul Sengpiehl at 708-383-8859. Please don't miss this opportunity to learn more about and support the important ministry that we have at the Cook County Jail.

### **SUNDAY!!** *North Shore Second Sunday Concert Series*

North Shore Baptist Church, 5244 N. Lakewood Avenue, Chicago, will offer a "Second Sunday Concert Series" of free concerts in their sanctuary during each of the next several months. Each concert will be at 2 p.m. Upcoming concerts are:

November 12--Lakeside Pride Clarinet Choir  
December 10--Chancel Choir performing Saint Saens' "Christmas Oratorio"  
January 14--Chicago Children's Choir and Rogers Park Neighborhood Choir  
February 11--Lakeside Pride Brass Choir  
March 11--Faure's "Requiem" by Chancel Choir with Voices from the Edgewater Community

### **SUNDAY!!** *Joy in the Morning*

The Chancel Choir of Saint John Church-Baptist, 4821-35 S. Michigan Avenue, Chicago, will present its 79th Annual Anniversary Concert, "Joy in the Morning." The event will take place at the church at 4 p.m. on Sunday, November 12. Dr. Maurice Collins is director of music.

### *Interfaith Thanksgiving Service*

*This invitation is from the National Conference for Community and Justice (NCCJ).*

You are invited to join us for the Annual NCCJ of Chicago and Greater Illinois Interfaith Thanksgiving Service on Wednesday, November 15, at noon at the Chicago Temple First United Methodist Church, 77 W. Washington Street, Chicago. At a time when matters of personal faith and religious traditions command our attention, the NCCJ Interfaith Thanksgiving Observance illustrates the unity among Chicago's many religious communities. Participants will include religious leaders from more than a dozen communities.

Once again, we are collecting donations for Thanksgiving Food Baskets for Chicago public housing families and senior citizens through a cooperative effort with the Chicago Housing Authority and Windows of Opportunity, Inc.

If you have any questions or would like further information, please call our office at 312-236-9272. We look forward to your joining us.

### *Songs of Faith, Hope and Love*

Jeffrey Taylor, bass-baritone, and music director at Irving Park Baptist Church, will present a recital, "Songs of Faith, Hope and Love," on Saturday evening, November 18, at 7:30 p.m. at the church, 4401 W. Irving Park Road, Chicago (on the southwest corner of Irving Park Road and Kostner Avenue). In collaboration with pianist Patrick Holland, Mr. Taylor will sing classical arias and songs (including Brahms' "Four Serious Songs," dramatized), as well as gospel and

contemporary selections. Admission is free. A free will offering will be taken to benefit the future music ministry at Irving Park Baptist Church. For more information, please call the church at 773-286-6800. A flyer about the recital is attached to this issue of *eWind*. Please print and post it.

## *Second Annual ABCMC Disciples' Dinner*

Save the date for the Second Annual ABCMC Disciples' Dinner on Saturday, April 21, 2007. Our late afternoon keynote speaker will be **Tony Campolo**, professor emeritus of sociology at Eastern College. More information will appear in future editions of *eWind*.

## *Online Accessibility Improves Service to Ministry Opportunity Subscribers*

VALLEY FORGE, PA (ABNS 11/01/06)—Searching for a ministry opportunity involves waiting on the Lord and understanding his will, but knowing which positions are available through American Baptist Personnel Services (ABPS) now involves little waiting. A premier service of ABPS that is called “Ministry Opportunities” (MO) just became available online at [www.abpsconnection.org/mol/](http://www.abpsconnection.org/mol/).

Every day, new ministry opportunities of which ABPS has been informed are accessible online. Detailed information is available for every opportunity and, whenever a ministry has a Web site, even more information is immediately available through a link to its site.

By using online features, ABPS subscribers can readily answer “What’s *your* MO?” Previously, a report of position listings, 12 to 13 pages in length, was available to subscribers once a month. “People don’t have to wait a whole month to know what’s out there, because position listings are updated on a rolling basis,” said Chris Pappanastasiou, ABPS Data Editor. “It’s so much easier!”

A Web-based system has one great advantage of providing more complete listings than is possible in a paper report. An even greater advantage is that online subscribers can search and sort listings, which enables them to find opportunities based on desired criteria, such as particular types of location — small city or center city — or specific areas of service, such as youth ministry.

“This is right in line with National Ministries’ ministry of transforming leadership, transforming lives,” said the Rev. David Cushman, National Ministries’ Research and Information Services Officer, who designed the system. “Here the transformation of leadership is that more people are placed in a right position to employ their ministry gifts. They can find out as much as they can early on in the process of looking, which facilitates self-screening — whether toward or away from a position.”

While the Web site home page has opportunities anyone can view, only subscribers can view church-related listings. Once subscribers pinpoint suitable positions, they can print them out for future reference, including information for the contact person, which is provided with each listing.

“I think search committees are going to find it extremely helpful, because applicants can be in touch with them much more quickly,” said Lynne Eckman, ABPS Coordinator and publisher of the site. With increased provision of information about ministry sites and position details, they also should hear from applicants who meet their criteria more closely.

Current subscribers to Ministry Opportunities only need an e-mail address to access the system. New subscribers go through an approval process in order to obtain an ABPS profile and then are added to the professional registry.

## *Margaret Cowden to Retire from National Ministries*

VALLEY FORGE, PA (ABNS 11/01/06)—After close to 30 years of ministry with American Baptist Churches USA, the Rev. Dr. Margaret Ann Cowden, National Ministries' treasurer and chief financial officer, will retire July 2007.

Her exemplary Christ-centered leadership—rooted in her grounding in faith and theology and her commitment to justice—has touched many corners of the denomination throughout her decades of service.

Along with her financial role at National Ministries, Margaret serves the denomination as a member of the General Executive Council, the Treasurer's Council, the American Baptist Computer Center board of managers, and the board of the American Baptist Foundation. Also a trustee of the Colgate Rochester Crozer Divinity School, she is a commissioned American Baptist home missionary.

Prior to her financial role at National Ministries, which she assumed in 1999, Margaret was president of the American Baptist Extension Corporation (ABEC). At the Ministers and Missionaries Benefit Board (MMBB) she served in a variety of roles, including deputy executive director and director of the Women in Ministry Project, a program previously related to MMBB. Early in her ministry, Margaret served the Board of Educational Ministries as a program associate in Adult Ministries.

"For the last 12 years or so, Dr. Cowden has served National Ministries and our ministry network faithfully as a consultant, as the ABEC president, and as treasurer of the American Baptist Home Mission societies," says Dr. Aidsand F. Wright-Riggins III, National Ministries' executive director. "It has been my pleasure and privilege to work with and alongside Margaret since we were both juniors at the American Baptist Seminary of the West more decades ago than I care to count."

Margaret has been a moving force in the New York-based Interfaith Center on Corporate Responsibility (ICCR) as a member of the governing board for five years, serving as chair for two years. A leader in the corporate social responsibility in investments movement, ICCR utilizes members' corporate holdings to advocate for just and environmentally responsible business policies and practices. Under Margaret's guidance, National Ministries' has continued its 1971 commitment to ICCR's guidelines in managing its Common Investment Fund.

Ordained in 1975, Margaret began her ministry with American Baptist Churches USA in the local church: she served First Baptist Church, Boulder, Colorado., and Cambridge Drive Baptist Church, Goleta, California. She was the first ordained American Baptist woman to preach at the well-known Riverside Church in New York City.

Margaret completed programs at Columbia University's Institute for Not-for-Profit Management in New York City and Harvard University's Program for Management Development at its Graduate School of Business in Cambridge, Mass.

Along with a Ph.D. in psychological studies from Temple University, Philadelphia, Pa., Margaret earned a master of divinity degree from American Baptist Seminary of the West, Covina, California, and a bachelor of arts degree from Linfield College, McMinnville, Ore.

"I do not know of a more committed, competent, and compassionate servant of Jesus Christ and this denomination than Dr. Cowden," says Wright-Riggins. "Also a gifted musician, Margaret once taught me the song, 'May Those Who Come Behind Us Find Us Faithful.' There is no doubt in my mind that will be Margaret's legacy to her American Baptist family. She is indeed a faithful servant of Jesus Christ. I join the chorus of others who say to her, 'Well done! And thank you.'"

*Cheryl Wade to Resign as ABCUSA  
Secretary and Treasurer  
Philanthropy for Kendal Corporation*

*Associate General  
to Become Director of*

VALLEY FORGE, PA (ABNS 11/01/06)—The Rev. Dr. Cheryl H. Wade, associate general secretary and treasurer of American Baptist Churches USA since January 1993, will resign those positions as of December 31, 2006, to become director of philanthropy for the Kendal Corporation and executive director of Kendal Charitable Funds. Cheryl has close ties to ABCMC through her relationship with North Shore Baptist Church, where she was ordained in 1978.

Cheryl has held a wide variety of vital national administrative and financial responsibilities for American Baptist Churches USA, which includes approximately 5,600 churches and 1.5 million members.

As associate general secretary she has consulted regularly with the general secretary regarding denomination-wide issues of ministry, ecclesiology, governance, strategic planning, and theology. She functions as the chief operating officer, responsible for the daily management of staff of the Office of the General Secretary, and is the chief staff person for the denomination's Representative Process, which includes the General Board, the governing body of the denomination.

Cheryl staffs the General Board Executive Committee and the Budget Review Committee, and serves on General Executive Council (the denomination's chief staff council) and its Executive Committee. Because of her efforts, the General Board in recent years has refocused its traditional approach to denominational business to include significant time for "Worshipful Work" and the pursuit of common ground and consensus.

As treasurer, Cheryl functions as chief financial officer for denomination, responsible for the collection, distribution and accounting for denomination-wide giving of approximately \$45,000,000 annually. She is responsible for the operation of the American Baptist Churches USA Mission Center in Valley Forge, Pa., and chairs both the Building Management Council for that property and the Treasurers' Council at the national offices.

She has consulted with the denomination's 34 regions as requested on financial and other management matters, and was the primary staff person guiding the GEC process that revised the Common Budget Covenant, an agreement among the 39 covenanting partner organizations on the raising and disbursing of common giving from churches.

Cheryl led staff in developing the General Secretary Circles program, which provides individual donors with levels of opportunities for annual gifts to the denomination. She has served as chief staff liaison for three feasibility studies, and has worked with the consulting firm McConkey Johnston recently to improve the fundraising capacity of the Office of the General Secretary, the national boards, and regions of ABCUSA. Under her leadership the Donor Development Advisory Council for ABCUSA was inaugurated.

Cheryl took on responsibilities as the denomination's ecumenical officer in 1997 and has continued to provide American Baptist representation with ecumenical partners. In 1998 she was elected to a seven-year term on the Central Committee of World Council of Churches, where she has served on the Budget and Finance Committee. She also has represented the ABCUSA in World Council work on the Finance Committee for the 9<sup>th</sup> Assembly in Porto Alegre, Brazil, and as a member of Board of Directors of U.S. Conference of World Council of Churches, among other positions.

At the National Council of Churches of Christ in the U.S.A., Cheryl chairs the Audit Committee and is a member of the Executive Board, the Administration and Finance Committee, and the General Secretary's Advisory Committee.

She also has been involved in the work of the Baptist World Alliance, serving on its General Assembly from 2000 to 2003.

Ordained in 1978 at North Shore Baptist Church in Chicago, Cheryl has done extensive preaching and public speaking at national and regional gatherings of the denomination and at local churches.

Among many other responsibilities and accomplishments, Cheryl implemented the redesign of space at the American Baptist Mission Center and negotiated and implemented the merger of the Congregational Profile System and the Mission Receipts Disbursement System into a single nationwide, region-based data system.

Prior to her ministry at American Baptist Churches USA in Valley Forge, Cheryl served from 1990 to 1993 as treasurer of The Ministers and Missionaries Benefit Board of American Baptist Churches USA in New York. In that position she was responsible for assets totaling \$1.4 billion, working with the Finance Committee to implement investment policy decisions and managing relationships with ten different asset managers, among many other responsibilities. She previously had served as assistant treasurer, special representative, and field representative.

Cheryl was associate pastor of the North Shore Baptist Church in Chicago from 1980 to 1983. In that ministry she performed preaching, teaching, and pastoral duties for a large multicultural urban congregation.

Prior to that she had been director of guidance and counseling and taught at the Latin School of Chicago and was co-coordinator of the Middle School of The Anne Wright School in Tacoma, Wash.

Cheryl is an active member of Second Baptist Church of Germantown in Philadelphia, where she has served on the Trustees and Missions boards, among many responsibilities.

She has been active in community outreach through a number of organizations: BuildaBridge International, a nonprofit arts education organization dedicated to bringing hope and healing to vulnerable children, families, and communities; Summerbridge of Germantown, Inc., an academic enrichment program for educationally and economically disadvantaged middle school students; and Northwest Interfaith Movement, an interfaith alliance of 36 congregations in Northwest Philadelphia to build a more just and sensitive community through advocacy and service.

Cheryl holds an M.B.A. degree in Non-Profit Management and Finance from Columbia University; the M.Div. degree from Garrett Evangelical Theological Seminary; and the B.A. degree from the College of William and Mary.

She received an honorary doctorate from Central Baptist Theological Seminary in 1999 and was the recipient of the Joann Martin Award for Public and Non-Profit Management granted by Columbia University in 1987.

Cheryl began her national work with ABCUSA in 1993 under the leadership of General Secretary the Rev. Dr. Daniel E. Weiss. She also served with Interim General Secretary the Rev. Dr. Robert H. Roberts from 2000 to 2002 prior to the election of current General Secretary the Rev. Dr. A. Roy Medley.

In her new responsibilities, Cheryl will lead in the development of a system-wide philanthropy strategy for the Kendal Corporation, a nonprofit organization committed to care for the aging based on the principles of the Religious Society of Friends (Quakers).

“Working in this ministry has been a joy for me,” Cheryl said. “It has been a privilege to work with wonderful leaders, especially our general secretary. But 14 years is a long time, and this new opportunity has come to me as a gift. I will dearly miss the everyday challenges of ministry for Christ in this great denomination, as well as the fellowship of special colleagues, but I also look forward to an exciting new ministry with older adults.”

“Cheryl Wade has blessed us with a multitude of gifts in ministry, administration, and stewardship--all supported by boundless energy and an exemplary commitment to ABCUSA life and health,” General Secretary Medley said. “We will miss her deeply as a leader, colleague, pastor, counselor, motivator and friend, but we know that God has called her to a wonderful new opportunity for service in the name of Christ.”

Roy noted that the process to determine an acting treasurer to serve through this important time of transition was proceeding well: “We hope to be able to announce soon the name of the qualified and committed individual who will assume these fundamentally significant responsibilities.”

## *Prayer Requests*

Please pray for world peace.

Please pray for Bob Webber and his family during his illness.

Please pray for Margaret Cowden as she moves toward retirement.

Please pray for Cheryl Wade as she leaves her ministry at the ABCUSA Mission Center to begin a new job.

Please pray for Scott and Tan Coats, ABC missionaries in Thailand. They serve among the minority peoples of the Mekong River region. Tan and Scott are among the founders of Mekong Minorities Foundation, a ministry based in Chiang Rai, Thailand and devoted to holistic leadership development.

Please remember in prayer Lynn and Virgil Nelson, ABC missionaries in the Democratic Republic of Congo. They report with thanksgiving that a week after the run-off election for the presidency there, they have heard of little violence in any part of the country.

Please hold in prayer Adalia and Ray Schellinger-Gutierrez, ABC missionaries in Mexico. They recently dedicated a new shelter at Deborah's House, their home for women.

## *Calendar*

**FRIDAY! November 3**--"Alternatives to Wars in the Middle East," 3 p.m., McCormick Lounge, Coffey Hall, 1015 Sheridan Road at the Lake, Loyola University, Chicago.

**FRIDAY! November 3**--Deadline for submission of reports and other materials for the ABCMC annual meeting booklet.

**SUNDAY! November 5**--124th Anniversary Celebration, Greater Bethesda Baptist Church, 5301 S. Michigan Avenue, Chicago, 11 a.m. worship service with Rev. Gail Rice preaching.

**MONDAY! November 6**--Deadline for registration for the ABCMC annual meeting.

### **NOVEMBER 7--ELECTION DAY. EXERCISE YOUR RIGHTS AS A CITIZEN AND VOTE.**

**November 10**--ABCMC Ministers Council meeting, 3 p.m., First Baptist Church, 935 E. 50th Street, Chicago. Special guest speaker will be Marilyn Turner, Associate Executive Director, Program Ministries, on the staff of ABCUSA's National Ministries

**November 10-11**--ABCMC Annual Meeting and Family Reunion.  
Fri., **Nov. 10**, 6 p.m., First Baptist Church, 935 E. 50th Street, Chicago.  
Sat., **Nov. 11**, 9 a.m., Bridgeport Child Development Center, 3053 S. Normal Ave., Chicago.

**November 11**--"The Other Side of Israel: My Journey across the Jewish/Arab Divide," 2 p.m., Lincoln Park Branch, Chicago Public Library, 1150 W. Fullerton, Chicago.

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

**November 12**--124th Anniversary Celebration, Greater Bethesda Baptist Church, 5301 S. Michigan Avenue, Chicago, 11 a.m. worship service with Rev. Dr. Ricky Freeman preaching.  
November 12--Lakeside Pride Clarinet Choir, North Shore Baptist church, 5244 N. Lakewood Avenue, Chicago.

**November 12**--Screening of the documentary film *Breaking the Silence*, 2 p.m. Oak Park Public Library, Veterans Room, 834 Lake Street, Oak Park.

**November 12**--Chancel Choir Concert, "Joy in the Morning," 4 p.m., Saint John Church-Baptist, 4821-35 S. Michigan Avenue, Chicago.

**November 15**--Annual NCCJ of Chicago and Greater Illinois Interfaith Thanksgiving Observance, noon, Chicago Temple First United Methodist Church, 77 W. Washington Street, Chicago.

**November 15**--"The Search for Truth and Justice in the Middle East," 7:30 p.m., North Park University, Hamming Hall, Foster and Kedzie Avenues.

**November 18**--"Voices of the Palestinian Struggle: Using Creative Nonviolence to Resist Occupation," 2:30 p.m., Maze Branch Library, 845 S. Gunderson, Oak Park.

**November 18**--"Songs of Faith, Hope and Love" recital by Jeffrey Taylor, bass-baritone, and music director at Irving Park Baptist Church. Recital will be at Irving Park Baptist Church, 4401 W. Irving Park Road, Chicago.

**November 19**--El-Funoun performance, 7 p.m., the Center for Performing Arts, Governors State University, 1 University Parkway, University Park.

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

**December 7-9**--"The Call to an Ancient Evangelical Future" conference, Lindner Conference Center, NBTS, Lombard. For information and registration, visit [www.growcenter.org](http://www.growcenter.org).

**December 10**--Saint Saens' "Christmas Oratorio" by North Shore Baptist Church Chancel Choir, 2 p.m., North Shore Baptist Church, 5244 N. Lakewood Avenue, Chicago. Cookies, cocoa, and a carol sing, too!

## *Book Nook*

### *12 Steps to Congregational Transformation*

VALLEY FORGE, PA (ABNS 11/07/06)—Dr. David C. Laubach, associate executive director for Program Ministries, National Ministries, ABCUSA, recently released his first book, *12 Steps to Congregational Transformation: A Practical Guide for Leaders*.

Having devoted much of his life's work to evangelism, renewal and transformation, Judson Press Publisher Laura Alden knew David would be the right author for this important resource. "With more and more churches reevaluating their ministries and re-envisioning the future, we were looking to publish a practical handbook that could walk church leaders through the process of transformation. When David came to us with this idea, we thought it was the perfect fit."

In *12 Steps to Congregational Transformation*, David identifies primary principles and top priorities for churches seeking not only the right answers, but the right questions to ask as they begin the journey. He offers twelve direct and clear steps, each of which includes a biblical reference and commentary that illuminate the topic.

Chapters include light-hearted cartoons, inspiring anecdotes and personal illustrations, making the book accessible, while questions for reflection and recommended action steps provide clear direction.

In addition to his work with National Ministries, David serves as chair of the Church Renewal Workgroup of the Baptist World Alliance (BWA) and as a member of its Evangelism and Education executive committee. He holds a D.Min. from Northern Baptist Theological Seminary, an M.Th. from Princeton Theological Seminary, and an M.Div. from Eastern Baptist Theological Seminary.

*12 Steps to Congregational Transformation*, which retails for \$12.00, can be ordered from Judson Press at 800-458-3766 or on the Web at [www.judsonpress.com](http://www.judsonpress.com).

### *Other Judson Press Publications*

VALLEY FORGE, PA (ABNS 11/08/06)—November is the culmination of a busy fall quarter at Judson Press where three new books have released within the past month. "This list shows a continued emphasis on resourcing church leaders," points out Publisher Laura Alden. "Judson Press is intentional about publishing Christ-centered leadership resources for the transformation of persons, congregations, communities, and cultures."

Judson's most recent release is *12 Steps to Congregational Transformation: A Practical Guide for Leaders* by Dr. David C. Laubach, National Ministries' associate executive director, Program

Ministries. A timely resource for the increasing number of churches that are reevaluating their ministries, Laubach offers a clear and direct roadmap for those embarking on the journey of transformation.

Another recent addition to the Judson Press catalog is a new resource from respected author and Christian educator Israel Galindo. *How to Be the Best Christian Study Group Leader Ever in the Whole History of the Universe* focuses Galindo's expertise on truly effective small group leadership. He provides the educator with the perspective and tools needed to achieve the ultimate goal of Christian education: to bring faith to life.

Also on the fall list, *The Work of the Chaplain* is rapidly becoming a strong seller in Judson's popular "Work of the Church" series, which has sold more than 900,000 copies. Written by Naomi K. Paget and American Baptist minister Janet R. McCormack, this new resource has received more than a dozen endorsements from chaplaincy organizations and seminaries nationwide.

Teresa E. Snorton, executive director, Association of Clinical Pastoral Education, writes, "The Work of the Chaplain is a clear, concise text that offers essential understanding of this critical caregiver role in a variety of public contexts. This should be required reading for students in formation or introductory pastoral care classes in seminary, persons in their first unit of Clinical Pastoral Education (CPE) and for any clergy or layperson considering chaplaincy as a vocation."

Finally, the fall 2006 list began with the publication of *Speak until Justice Wakes: Prophetic Reflections from J. Alfred Smith Sr.* In this inspirational resource, one of the most respected statesmen in the African American church communicates with unbridled passion what it means to speak truth to power.

These resources are available at [www.judsonpress.com](http://www.judsonpress.com), or by calling 800-458-3766.

---

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 or other mistake in *eWind*, please let us know at the ABCMC office, 773-695-9791 or [abcmchi@aol.com](mailto:abcmchi@aol.com).