

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.

December 13, 2006



This Sunday, December 17, is the third Sunday of Advent this year.

In this Issue

SATURDAY! ABCMC Family Cabinet Meeting
IM Missionaries on NBC Nightly News
American Baptist Women's Ministries Announces the Release
of New Program Resource for Ministry with Girls

Seasonal Concerts

**Jazz Christmas Concert at Hyde Park Union Church
First Baptist Church of Maywood**

**YWCA Exits Direct Child Care; Kids Hope United Expands
One of the Girls**

Arise & Shine Biennial

ABC Volunteer Opportunities
Brazil Lenten Build
Teaching Opportunities in Myanmar
Surgeons Needed in Nepal
Teach English as a Second Language (ESL) in Chile
Centennial Celebration Tours
Xtreme Team Applications are being accepted now!

2007 Week of Prayer for Christian Unity

American Baptist Teens "Stir It Up" for Souper Bowl of Caring

**Revive Us Again! Revival of our Spirit, Revival of our Baptist Principles
From Our Missionaries**

Volunteer for China Update

Second Annual ABCMC Disciples' Dinner

Come to the Edge!
Prayer Requests
Calendar

ABCMC Family Cabinet Meeting

The Family Cabinet will meet this Saturday, December 16, at the ABCMC office, 8765 W. Higgins Road, Suite 240, Chicago, at 9:30 p.m. Cabinet members, please phone the office at 773-695-9791 by Friday, and let Tony Rake know whether or not you will attend.

TM Missionaries on NBC Nightly News

Hope Unlimited, a ministry to street children led by Philip and Corenne Smith, will soon be featured on NBC Nightly News with Brian Williams. On Friday evenings the program includes a series entitled "Making a Difference." Details on the air date for the Hope Unlimited segment are not known at this time, but the Smiths believe it will likely happen in the next couple of weeks. When they get a firm date, they will post it on the [Hope Unlimited website](#). Once the program has aired it will be available for viewing on the "[Making a Difference](#)" section of the NBC website.

An NBC film crew visited the Smiths at the end of November, 2006, and was struck by the depth of transformation experienced by the Brazilian street kids that Hope Unlimited serves. Phil Smith co-founded Hope Unlimited in 1991 and currently serves as its president. Phil and Corenne Smith are missionaries of International Ministries.

American Baptist Women's Ministries Announces the Release of New Program Resource for Ministry with Girls

VALLEY FORGE, PA (ABNS 12/07/06) —American Baptist Women's Ministries announced today the release of the first CD in its new program resource for girls' ministry, *G.I.R.L.S.: Girls in Relationship, Leadership, and Service*. The national leadership team of AB GIRLS began planning the G.I.R.L.S. resource in 2004, and is excited to see its months of planning finally coming to fruition.

The first release is "Leadership 101: Leadership Training for Ministry with Girls", a CD containing articles, PowerPoint presentations, and workshop outlines for adults to build their skills in ministry with girls. It will be followed this spring by "Wholeness", the curriculum's first volume for girls from ages 8 to 18, containing 36 sessions that explore a Christian perspective on body, mind, and spirit, as well as journal articles written by teenage girls on various facets of the topic, to be used as part of the session plans in a variety of ways. Each new volume of curriculum will have 36 sessions based on an overall theme. Volume two (available in 2008) will be on the theme "Identity". The G.I.R.L.S. material is available only on CD to allow for the inclusion of multi-media resources.

The new G.I.R.L.S. material is built on the foundation of core values and goals which express what the national leadership team of AB GIRLS feels are crucial to the faith development of girls. The G.I.R.L.S. resource will help girls develop in their relationship with God through Jesus Christ, grow in their relationships with authentic, caring adults and with one another. It will equip girls to be critical thinkers to interpret the culture in which they live, will help them become secure in applying Biblical truths to every day life, and embrace a multi-cultural, multi-ethnic, cross-cultural context.

“Children and youth are growing up in a rapidly changing world that clamors to shape their values. This important resource for American Baptist girls and their adult leaders is contemporary for today’s youth while equipping young disciples to follow Jesus Christ,” said Virginia Holmstrom, executive director of AB Women’s Ministries. “I applaud the foresight and planning of the AB GIRLS National Leadership Team and the project’s design team to produce this curriculum resource.”

In addition to the members of the national leadership teams of 2004-2007, a design team contributed to the shaping and development of this resource. The design team included Rev. Mayra Castañeda, experienced in children’s and youth ministry, cross-cultural/multicultural ministries, and ministry in Hispanic churches; Dawn Doerr, the national coordinator of AB GIRLS, active in girls’ and women’s ministries in a local church and regional level, and middle school teacher; Rev. Loretta Jones, associate pastor in the DC Baptist Convention, active in girls’ and women’s ministries, and probation officer with a focus on youthful offenders; Rev. Dusty Minnis, pastor and volunteer in women’s and girls’ ministries (DC Baptist Convention), and retired police officer with experience working with youthful offenders; Rev. Jackie Saxon, who has served as co-director of National Youth Gatherings sponsored by Educational Ministries (ABCUSA) and National Ministries (ABCUSA), with experience in children’s ministries, youth ministries, and campus ministries; Bonnie Sestito, former member of the national leadership team of AB GIRLS, active in girls’ and women’s ministries with a special heart for mission; Shelly Wanamaker, former youth member of the national leadership team of AB GIRLS, served in the children’s church and VBS in her church in Massachusetts; and Rev. Sandra Hasenauer, associate executive director of AB Women’s Ministries, with experience in youth ministry and curriculum writing.

“Leadership 101: Leadership Training for Ministry with Girls” is available now for \$20. Item #W4894. To purchase, visit www.abwministries.org/store or call 800-4-JUDSON.

Seasonal Concerts



FRIDAY! *Jazz Christmas Concert at Hyde Park Union Church*

Hyde Park Union Church, 5600 S. Woodlawn Avenue, Chicago, will present the 12th annual Jazz Christmas Concert on Friday, December 15 at 8 p.m. Featured musicians will include the Willie Pickens Trio, New Orleans saxophonist Donald Harrison and guest vocalist Yvonne Gage.

Tickets are \$25 and may be purchased with cash or check at the door on the evening of the event.

SUNDAY! *First Baptist Church of Maywood*

The First Baptist Church of Maywood, 401 S. 5th Avenue, Maywood, will have two special Christmas programs. On December 17 there will be a Children's Program during the worship service. On December 24 the choir will present a Christmas Cantata during the 11:00 am worship service.

YWCA Exits Direct Child Care; Kids Hope United Expands

*This article by Ron Barlow is from the December, 2006 issue of **Steeple Stories**, the newsletter of North Shore Baptist Church. Ron is the Church Administrator at North Shore Baptist Church.*

The YWCA of Metropolitan Chicago announced on July 19, 2006, that they were exiting their direct child care operations at three locations in the city, including their Northside Child Development Center, which has been located at North Shore Baptist Church for 34 years. This was unexpected, and a shock to the YWCA staff, parents and the church. The main reason given for closing the Y's child care centers is to allow the YWCA "...to focus on a new model for serving low income women." The marginal economics of child care seem to be behind the decision as well.

The Y's child care operation at North Shore has long served as a bridge between the community and the church, leading some to participate in church activities, and staff to become active in church life. We were at risk of losing this important contact. Another risk for North Shore was financial. The direct rental income from the YWCA comprised almost 9% of the budgeted income for North Shore. (There is also some miscellaneous income due to rebilling arrangements on a portion of our gas and electricity bills.)

Unrelated to the Y's announcement, John Dawson, Church Moderator, coincidentally had a meeting scheduled a few days later with Kids Hope United management. The topic? How to build strong relationships with American Baptist Churches in the Chicago area! A perfect opportunity was therefore presented to alert Kids Hope United management of the Y's decision on child care and to suggest that this might be an opportunity for Kids Hope to expand as they had indicated a desire to do.

Kids Hope was immediately excited about the opportunity presented. Confirming once again that God works in mysterious ways, after several months of negotiations between the YWCA and Kids Hope United, the YWCA transferred their direct child care operations to Kids Hope on November 1, 2006. Terms and conditions of the formal agreement between the church and Kids Hope are essentially unchanged from those with the Y.

Kids Hope United was formerly Central Baptist Children's Services. Kids Hope was founded in 1895 and North Shore in 1905, so there is a long relationship between the two organizations. We are very pleased to reaffirm this close relationship for direct child care and North Shore with a high quality service provider like Kids Hope, and anticipate that it will be a win-win for all concerned for many years to come.

One of the Girls

One of the Girls, a Celtic/Folk/Etc. band, will perform at 9 p.m. on December 20 at The Horseshoe, 4115 N. Lincoln Ave, Chicago. There will be no charge for admission. Tripp Hudgins, pastor of the Community Church of Wilmette, plays mandolin in the band. With a smile he says, "From out of the shadows....One of the Girls rides again! This time we open for Majors Junction. We are so very cool." Come enjoy this evening with a group of talented musicians.

Arise & Shine Biennial

The biennial meeting of the American Baptist Churches USA will take place in Washington, D.C. June 29-July 2, 2007. Please mark your calendar, and make plans to attend our Centennial

meeting! The theme will be "Arise and Shine," based on Isaiah 60:1. Informational packets have been sent to all ABC congregations. *eWind* will contain more details after the first of the year.

Attached to this issue of *eWind* is a bulletin insert with details. Please print out and share it in your church's worship bulletin and posted on bulletin boards to encourage folks to attend. This will be a special time to celebrate our American Baptist history and heritage.

ABC Volunteer Opportunities

Brazil Lenten Build

American Baptist Churches USA is joining Habitat for Humanity for a 40-day Lenten Build in Porto Alegre, Brazil February 17-April 8, 2007. Teams are being established for February 17-26 and March 31-April 8. In Porto Alegre, the families living on the islands of the Guaiba River are among the poorest of the poor in Brazil. Many make their living by recycling and selling garbage. This Lenten Build will provide 40 of these families an opportunity to build their homes alongside both national and international teams of church volunteers. For more information, please communicate with Paul Wood, the Habitat for Humanity International American Baptist contact and team leader, at pwood@habitat.org or 603-357-5166.

Teaching Opportunities in Myanmar

The Myanmar Baptist Convention is seeking teachers/professors for the seminaries and their liberal arts program in the following fields: English, Old Testament, New Testament, Pastor Theology, and Pastor Care and Counseling. The academic year for the seminaries begins in June and ends in February. Classes are taught in English.

Surgeons Needed in Nepal

Four hospitals in Nepal need surgeons for 2 weeks or more!! Also needed: Family practice doctors, anesthesiologists; pharmacists; and hospital administrators. Service of 2 + years is desirable, but surgical volunteers are welcome to come on a short-term basis.

Teach English as a Second Language (ESL) in Chile

Individual needed to spend 6 months to a year teaching ESL in Southern Chile. In partnership with the ministry of Barb and Dwight Bolick, you would live with a Mapuche family or an urban Chilean family as you not only teach ESL and but learn the rich culture of Chile and the Mapuche people. Trained ESL instructors only, please!

Centennial Celebration Tours

New tour added to Myanmar (Burma) fall of 2007!! Check this and other tours out on the website or call for more information.

Xtreme Team Applications are being accepted now!

Are you, or do you know, an outstanding young adult? Someone who loves God, has a passion for mission, and has what it takes to be Xtreme for Jesus? Applications are available online at www.xtremeteamonline.org.

2007 Week of Prayer for Christian Unity

The Ecumenical Millennium Committee, of which ABCMC is a part, will sponsor their 7th Annual Ecumenical Prayer Service during the 2007 Week of Prayer for Christian Unity. The service will take place at 4 p.m. on Sunday, January 21 at Fourth Presbyterian Church, 126 E. Chestnut Street, Chicago. Parking will be available at the John Hancock Center, 875 N. Michigan Avenue. (Access is from Chestnut Street.) The preacher will be Bishop Hee-Soo Jung from the Northern

Illinois Conference of the United Methodist Church. All are welcome. Please print out and distribute the attached flyer.

American Baptist Teens "Stir It Up" for Souper Bowl of Caring

VALLEY FORGE, PA (ABNS 12/06/06)— America's teens are transforming Super Bowl weekend into the nation's largest youth-led weekend of giving through the Souper Bowl of Caring, which encourages people of all ages to care for neighbors in need.

Armed with soup pots, teens in all 50 states collect cash donations at church, school and retail outlets, and every penny raised is given to local charities selected by each group. In February 2006, youth raised nearly \$5 million for charities through *Souper Bowl of Caring*. Eighty-one American Baptist churches participated in the 2006 event, raising more than \$27,000. Endorsed by NFL owners, this youth-led effort has raised more than \$33 million since its inception in 1990. Super Bowl Sunday 2007 —February 4—promises to set a new record, since *Souper Bowl of Caring* has raised the upcoming event's national goal to \$8 million for hunger and poverty-related charities across the country. With the help of more participants, more dollars will be raised, more lives will be changed, and more young people will experience the joy of serving Christ by serving others.

Dr. David Laubach, National Ministries' associate executive director, Program Ministries, encourages congregations to get involved in the 2007 effort: "Here is a natural and creative opportunity for American Baptist youth to be engaged in making a difference in the lives of children and families in poverty in their local communities."

No matter the size of your congregation or your youth group, your church can stir it up in 2007, helping to provide shelter to the homeless, food to the hungry and compassion to the needy by joining the national grassroots movement.

It's as simple as holding soup pots at church doors following worship on or near Super Bowl Sunday and asking worshippers to drop in a dollar for people who are hungry. *Souper Bowl of Caring* provides all the materials you need. All you have to do is:

- **REGISTER** your group at www.souperbowl.org;
- **RALLY** your youth on Super Bowl Sunday;
- **REPORT** your collection to www.souperbowl.org on or near Super Bowl Sunday;
- **DONATE** your collection to the charity of your choice.

Registrants receive a resource kit that includes planning and promotion materials and an owner's manual with step-by-step instructions and ideas, along with a poster, bulletin insert, soup pot sticker and DVD.

"Youth everywhere are demonstrating how small efforts can make a huge impact in the fight against hunger and poverty," says Brad Smith, *Souper Bowl of Caring's* founder and executive director. "We applaud everyone who has signed up to use this event to step outside of themselves and help their neighbors in need."

For more information, call 800-358-7687 or visit www.souperbowl.org.

Revive Us Again!

Revival of our Spirit, Revival of our Baptist Principles

Revive Us Again! Revival of Our Spirit, Revival of our Baptist Principles will be a gathering of progressive Baptists who come from across the country, and are ready to share the Good News

of Jesus Christ. We are gathering to say that we are Christian, we are Baptist, and we believe our Baptist Principles are foundational to our understanding and sharing of the Gospel. We are gathering to say that we can be both progressive and evangelical! The gathering will be Friday-Saturday, February 16-17, 2007 at Andover Newton Theological School, Newton Centre, Massachusetts.

Speakers will include:

- Rev. Cynthia Maybeck, pastor, Trinity Church, Northborough, MA
- Rev. Nancy Hitt, pastor, First Baptist Church, Natick, MA
- Rev. Dr. Liliana Da Valle, Area Minister, The American Baptist Churches of Massachusetts; Adjunct Professor, Andover Newton Theological School; and Adjunct Professor, Gordon-Conwell Theological Seminary
- Rev. Alan Newton, Executive Minister, ABC of the Rochester-Genesee Region
- Rev. June Cooper, Minister of Outreach, First Baptist Church, Framingham, MA and Executive Director, City Mission Society, Boston, MA

The gathering will begin on Friday evening at 7 p.m. with a healing service and worship led by Cynthia Maybeck. Saturday's program will run from 9 a.m. to 9 p.m., and will include Bible study, discussion groups, workshops, and update on ABCUSA, and closing revival worship. The \$30 registration fee is to cover the cost of meals on Saturday.

For information on registration, transportation and lodging, please contact Mindi Welton at u2mindi@yahoo.com.

From Our Missionaries

Dwight and Kari Jacobson, ABC Missionaries in Japan, write:

Well, like for most of you, Christmas is a busy season here in Japan. At Kanto Gakuin University, we've tried to bring in some different, younger musicians for Christmas worship services at each of the college's campuses this year, and they've been really good so far. Just yesterday, about 300 students showed up for a wonderful service led by local Christian guitarist, Tatsue Shioya. Around 1,500 students out of the 15,000 enrolled at Kanto Gakuin are expected to attend special Christmas services on campus this year. Please pray that those leading worship will be able to share the good news faithfully and well.

Besides these major things, we're busy getting ready for Christmas at church and home. I'm preaching at two churches this month, and our children Adam (1) and Sarah (7) are in the Christmas pageant at Kanto Gakuin Church—Adam will be Joseph and Sarah gets to be an angel. They're working hard on their lines in Japanese!

We certainly want to pass on how encouraged we've been to have received so many cards and gifts from churches lately. It's heart-warming to know that so many folks are thinking of us and praying for us, and that you continue to value the ministry we're trying to do on your behalf here with our partners in Japan. God's richest blessings to you this Christmas season!

Daniel and Estela Schweissing, ABC missionaries in the Bahamas, write:

We hope this advent season finds you in reflection and contemplation as we prepare ourselves to celebrate the birth of our savior Jesus Christ.

Estela's last day of class with the Haitian women was on Thursday. They celebrated by having a Bahamian Christmas dinner. All in all, the class ended on a high note and the women are enthusiastic about returning in January. Dan has finished the semester with his students at

Atlantic College and is busy grading final exams and preparing syllabi for next semester's classes—Evangelism I and the Gospels.

We also spent this past week hosting Jamie Arthur, an American Baptist volunteer missionary. Jamie is a school nurse and a Red Cross certified HIV/AIDS trainer who comes here with significant volunteer missions experience with the Haitian community in the Dominican Republic. She spent the week giving HIV/AIDS workshops to the Haitian women in Estela's classes and was also able to spend time working with one of Dan's former students who works for the Bahamian Ministry of Health as a nurse and HIV/AIDS counselor.

At the invitation of a local pastor, we have recently gotten involved in the Bahamas Human Rights Network (BHRN), a newly founded organization that has made Haitian rights one of its major priorities. BHRN has recently received a sizeable grant to fund the translation of literature on immigration rights into Creole as well as to set up free legal aid clinics for Haitian immigrants. They have also initiated dialogue with Haitian community leaders on the island of Abaco about the reconstruction of a Haitian squatter settlement that is still suffering the effects of a major fire that struck the area a few years ago.

As always, we greatly appreciate your continued prayers and financial support, both of which make our ministry possible.

Volunteer for China Update

Volunteer for China (VFC) is a Christian humanitarian organization that provides opportunities for volunteer service in China. Although VFC is not ABC-related, some American Baptists have been involved in the past. Volunteers generally serve as English instructors, not as evangelists or missionaries.

Sixty-six (66) volunteers served in China this summer. Sixteen (16) were college students. VFC has had 7 full time volunteers teaching during this year at high school and university level in four different cities in China.

Chinese students that took part last summer numbered over 1100. In most cases the Christian volunteers were the first foreigners and first Christians they had ever met. At David Wilson's site the students saw a Chinese English Bible, a New Testament, heard the Christmas story and Easter truth for the first time. During this summer over 750 Chinese students asked for a New Testament and or the "Jesus" film DVD. This was by request ONLY!

One of the VFC volunteer teachers wrote that they had some very interesting emails. "We've gotten some great feedback about reading the Bible and wanting help understanding it. One student wrote that her grandmother loves the 'Jesus' DVD and is showing it to all of her friends and neighbors. One student is going to church with her grandfather and another wants to write to tell us everything that he has learned from the Bible."

The VFC web site has been updated. See www.volunteersforchina.org

Summer programs for **May, July and August** have been posted. **College students** have a two week project in May and a three or five week project in July/August. Volunteers, **both college students and adults** who want to teach oral English have opportunities during the month of July and maybe into the month of August. Volunteers who would like to teach oral English to high school students may also apply. VFC will try to place anyone at anytime you want to serve. Just ask!

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*.

Come to the Edge!

The National Women's Conference will take place at Green Lake Conference Center July 21-28, 2007. Women are invited to "Come to the Edge!" and be challenged by the words of Deuteronomy 31:6, "Be strong and courageous ... for the Lord your God goes with you." Participants will hear great speakers, sing powerful songs of praise and take time to connect with each other every day. Tuesday will be set aside as a Spiritual Retreat Day with refreshing quiet time.

Among the guest leaders at the conference will be Rev. Dr. Lauran Bethell, keynote speaker. Lauran is a global consultant for International Ministries, and is based in Prague, Czech Republic. Her task is to encourage and facilitate Christ-based ministries that address the exploitation and abuse of women and children.

Lauran, daughter of an ABC pastor, was a teacher at an international school in Hong Kong when she experienced God's call to missionary service. After graduating from seminary in the U.S., she was commissioned by International Ministries for service in Thailand. She helped to establish the New Life Center in Chiang Mai, Thailand, in 1987. The New Live Center offers freedom and hope in Jesus Christ to young women and girls who have been sold, tricked, or willingly drawn into prostitution. The New Life Center, now with branches in Chiang Mai and Chiang Rai, provides Christian education, literacy, and vocational training; rehabilitates former prostitutes; and works to reduce risk factors among other women.

Throughout the 1990's Lauran shared her knowledge and experiences in international venues. She continued to direct the New Live Center until 2000 when she moved to the Czech Republic and became a global consultant. Lauran's work has been recognized throughout the world. She received the Human Rights Award of the Baptist World Alliance in 2005. She was a featured speaker at the Living Hope International Consultation on Prostitution held at the Green Lake Conference Center in April 2006.

Lauran is an inspiring speaker who will bring the challenge of "Break the Chains: Slavery in the 21st Century" in a way that will help women hear God's call to ministry in their own areas.

Prayer Requests

Please pray for world peace.

Please pray for American Baptist Women's Ministries and their new curriculum for ministry with girls.

Please pray for musicians, artists, and others sharing special ways of making Advent and Christmas celebrations memorable.

Please pray for Dwight and Kari Jacobson and their children as they serve Christ as our missionaries in Japan.

Please pray for Jamie Arthur as she ministers to Haitian women in the Bahamas.

Please hold in prayer Daniel and Estela Schweissing, ABC missionaries in the Bahamas.

Please pray for Chuck and Ruth Fox, ABC missionaries in Thailand, and others who are working to better the lives of women and tribal groups there.

Please pray for volunteers in mission and ministry, and keep your heart open to where God is leading you.

Calendar

FRIDAY! December 15—Jazz Christmas, Hyde Park Union Church, 5600 S. Woodlawn Avenue, Chicago, 8 p.m. Tickets are \$25. See the article above for information about getting tickets.

SATURDAY! December 16—ABCMC Family Cabinet meeting, 9:30 a.m., ABCMC office.

SUNDAY! December 17—Children's Christmas program, First Baptist Church, 401 S. 5th Avenue, Maywood, 11 a.m.

December 20—One of the Girls performs at The Horseshoe, 4115 N. Lincoln Ave, Chicago. There will be no charge for admission.

December 24—Christmas Cantata, First Baptist Church, 401 S. 5th Avenue, Maywood, 11 a.m.

December 26, 2006-January 2, 2007—ABCMC office closed.

January 21, 2007—7th Annual Ecumenical Prayer Service for the Week of Prayer for Christian Unity, 4 p.m., Fourth Presbyterian Church, 126 E. Chestnut Street, Chicago.

February 4, 2007—Souper Bowl of Caring. For more information, call 800-358-7687 or visit www.souperbowl.org.

February 16-17, 2007—"Revive Us Again! Revival of our Spirit, Revival of our Baptist Principles," Andover Newton Theological School, Newton Centre, MA. This will be a gathering of progressive Baptists from around the country.

February 17-April 8, 2007—ABCUSA Lenten Build with Habitat for Humanity, Porto Alegre, Brazil. For more information, please communicate with Paul Wood, the Habitat for Humanity International American Baptist contact and team leader, at pwood@habitat.org or 603-357-5166.

March 9, 2007—"Fixing No Child Left Behind" Ecumenical Advocacy Days Pre-Event, Alexandria, Virginia, 10 a.m.-4:30 p.m. Sponsored by the National Council of Churches Committee on Public Education and Literacy. For registration information, please contact Aisha Howard, 216-736-3714 or howarda@ucc.org.

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

April 21—Second Annual ABCMC Disciples' Dinner.

June 29, 2007—"Ministry in Such a Time as This" pre-Biennial event, 9 a.m.-noon, Washington Convention Center, Washington, DC.

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

July 21-28, 2007—National Gathering for Girls, Green Lake Conference Center. The conference fee is \$485 per person, and includes conference registration fee, housing, and meals; scholarships are available. Further information may be found on the American Baptist Women's Ministries' website at www.abwministries.org.

February 21-23, 2008—Gathering of Baptist Bodies from across the U.S. for a celebration of a new Baptist covenant, Dallas, TX.

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

The Metro Chicago *eWind* is an electronic communication intended for the people of the American Baptist Churches of Metro Chicago. The events publicized herein do not necessarily express the opinions of the American Baptist Churches of Metro Chicago.

We welcome your news, prayer requests and comments.
Please email your communications to abcmchi@aol.com. We email the newsletter each Wednesday.

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