

# *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.

**May 9, 2007**

Let the words of my mouth, and the meditation of my heart  
be acceptable in thy sight, O LORD, my strength, and my redeemer.  
Psalm 19:14

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## ABCMC NEWS

### *Family Council Meeting May 12*

The quarterly meeting of ABCMC's Family Council will take place on Saturday, May 12 at Community Baptist Church, Main Street and Warren Avenue, Warrenton. Everyone is welcome at this meeting. Registration will begin at 8:30 a.m. The meeting will be from 9 a.m. through lunch at noon. Please phone Tony Rake at the ABCMC office, 773-695-9791 or [abcmchi@aol.com](mailto:abcmchi@aol.com) to tell him whether you will attend.

### *Immigration*

Much is in the news these days about reforming U.S. immigration laws, especially in light of demonstrations across the country yesterday (May 1). This raises many important issues that we as Christians need to consider.

In the ABCMC family, we have many immigrants, especially in our churches who worship in languages other than English, including French, Latvian, Romanian, Spanish, Telugu and Urdu-Hindi. Regardless of their immigration status, they are our American Baptist sisters and brothers. Their rights are important to us, as are the rights of all God's children.

Shakespeare Osorio, pastor of Central Spanish Baptist Church in Chicago, asks that ABCMC join others asking for attention to a number of concerns about immigrant rights and immigration law. Executive Minister Larry Greenfield would like to add that discussion to our agenda for the Family Council meeting on May 12 at Community Baptist Church in Warrenton.

In view of the many immigrants present in this country, Shakespeare asks that we advocate for comprehensive reform of U.S. immigration laws. Among the concerns Shakespeare raises are hope that the U.S. will stop raids on immigrants, especially when those raids lead to terrifying scenarios involving children. Shakespeare also urges us to ask that the federal government stop deportations of illegal immigrants not believed guilty of another crime, until congress passes a comprehensive immigration law reform. It is especially important for us to say no to any deportation process that separates immigrant families, he adds.

Leticia Gutierrez, who emigrated legally to the U.S. from Mexico in 1972, is part of a group of folks, mostly immigrants, who work hard cleaning O'Hare Plaza, where the ABCMC office is located. Leticia cleans the ABCMC office every evening. Agreeing with Shakespeare's statements about the need for reform of immigration laws, Leticia pointed out that most immigrants, whether in the U.S. legally or otherwise, are in the U.S. because they seek a better life for themselves and their families.

Leticia added that immigrants are not seeking to take jobs away from American workers. She has observed that most Americans do not want to do the cleaning work that she and her colleagues do—certainly not at the wages they are paid. But even the opportunities immigrants have at low wages in this country are greater than the opportunities in Mexico, Leticia says. In Mexico, where everything but housing costs as much as or more than it does in the U.S., Leticia's sister works hard 60 hours a week at a grocery store, but earns only 800 pesos—\$80—per week. In comparison, even jobs that pay minimum wage in the United States look very attractive. She says that since undocumented immigration is dangerous and sometimes deadly, people would

not risk entering the U.S. illegally if comparable opportunities were available to them in Mexico.

Leticia sees a need for reforming the process by which immigrants may become legal residents. That process now requires an undocumented person who enters the U.S. and wishes to become a permanent resident must first pay a fine of \$3,000. The cost of then becoming a legal resident is \$10,000. Such costs are beyond the reach of someone working for minimum wage, especially if those wages are supporting children in addition to the wage earner.

Congress is currently considering a number of proposals for reforming immigration laws. Church World Service is sponsoring a series of dialogs exploring issues. (Please see the article below, "**CWS Interethnic Dialogues on Immigration begin April 28.**") Much information is available online, in newspapers and in magazines about recommendations under consideration. Online resources include <http://www.nclr.org/content/policy/detail/1058/>, <http://www.justiceforimmigrants.org/> and <http://www.whitehouse.gov/infocus/immigration>, Just as we Baptists believe in studying and discussing the Bible and theology and ethics, and coming to our own conclusions with the guidance of the Holy Spirit, we need to study the immigration matter, and come to Spirit-led, informed decisions.

We have many opportunities to become informed about the matter before our discussion on May 12, where we will no doubt learn even more. We thank Shakespeare for bringing issues before us, and invite the ABCMC family to learn about, and then come together to discuss, questions about immigrants and U.S. immigration law.

## FROM ABCMC CONGREGATIONS

### *Speaker on Islam*

The Community Church of Wilmette invites you to hear Dr. Ghada Talhami, D.K. Pearsons Professor of Politics at Lake Forest College speak on "Islamic Societies Hear and Abroad: The Challenges of Assimilation." Please join our sisters and brothers in Wilmette for an opportunity to gain a greater understanding of the ancient religion of Islam and a greater appreciation for the challenges faced by the American Muslim community in coping with the pressures if a secular and multi-ethnic society and outside calls for reform. Learn what life is really like for most Muslims, particularly women, in a world dominated by religious laws and strict traditions. Grow in your awareness of the common goals we must seek together to achieve a world where all views are tolerated and respected.

A flier about this event is attached to this issue of *eWind*. Please print it out and share it with others in your church and community.

The presentation will take place on Wednesday, May 16 at 7 p.m. at the Community Church of Wilmette, 1020 Forest Avenue, Wilmette. For more information, please phone 847-251-4370.

## COMMUNITY NEWS

### *Car Wash*

Girl Scout Troop 4402 will be attending the 95th Anniversary celebration in Washington, DC on June 8. They are raising funds for their trip, and invite your participation. On Saturday, May 12 they will have a car wash at the Berwyn VFW on 15th & Harlem Avenues from 9 - 12. Their Troop Advisor is Sandy Cervenka from the First Baptist Church of Berwyn.

## *Memorial Observance*

Please come and join a Celebration of Life:

The Twenty-Second Annual Interfaith Memorial Observance for Indigent Persons will take place Wednesday, May 23 at 12:00--12:50 p.m. at the Chicago Temple/First United Methodist Church, 77 West Washington Street (Loop), Chicago. A reception & celebration will follow the service.

This Memorial Observance is being held to commemorate the lives of indigent persons who were recently buried by the Cook County Medical Examiners' Office. We, the community of Cook County, may not have known them personally, but they were someone's relative and someone's neighbor.

"To live and die alone is a human tragedy,  
but not to be remembered and mourned...after earthly life...  
is an ugly blemish on human dignity." --W. Earl Lewis (1949-1999).

For more information please contact Pat Smuck at (847) 362-8647

## *Eyes Wide Open*

An Exhibition on the Human Cost of the Iraq War will be held in Grant Park, Jackson and Columbus Drive, Chicago, May 24-28. More information is available at <http://www.afsc.org/eyes/chicago-three-years.htm>.

In January 2004, the American Friends Service Committee unveiled Eyes Wide Open in Chicago's Federal Plaza with 504 pairs of boots, each tagged with the name, rank, age and home state of a fallen soldier or Marine. Since that time, it has been a traveling exhibit. With each passing week, each stop in a new city, more pairs of boots are added to represent the newly fallen. This Memorial Day weekend, the exhibit returns to Chicago, the city where it all started.

Volunteers are needed from now until May 28 for Outreach, Volunteer Recruitment, Program planning, Boot-tagging, Boot installation, On-site management, Boot take-down, etc. For more information, please contact Erin Polley at 312.427.2533ext 25 or at [epolley@afsc.org](mailto:epolley@afsc.org).

### SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

#### **Thursday, May 24 - Opening Day**

8:00 a.m. Exhibit installation

12 p.m. Opening Press Conference. Participants will include:

Raed Jarrar, Iraq Consultant for AFSC and an Iraqi who is now living in the US and who conducted door to door casualty counts at beginning of war

Celeste Zappala, Gold-Star mother and co-founder of Gold Star Families Speak Out

Aaron Hughes, Chicago representative of Iraq Veterans Against the War

Mary Ellen McNish, AFSC General Secretary

Michael McConnell, AFSC Great Lakes Regional Director

#### **Friday, May 25- Focus on Youth**

12 p.m. Presenters will include:

Ray Parrish, Viet-Nam Veterans Against War

Dante Zappala, Gold Star Families Speak Out

Raed Jarrar, Iraq Consultant  
Free Street Theater (invited)

7 p.m. Youth + Militarism Poetry Slam will feature:  
Young Chicago Authors  
Crib Collective  
Kumba Lynx

### **Saturday, May 26- Focus on Military Families and Vets**

10:30-12 pm Kids Step Up for Peace. Presenters will include:  
Jennifer Bing-Canar, National Middle East Coordinator, AFSC  
Childs Play Touring Theater (invited)  
Co-sponsored by Chicagoans Against War and Injustice

12 p.m. MFSSO speakout  
Co-sponsored by Military Families Speak Out

### **Sunday, May 27- Focus on Iraqis**

11:00 a.m. Quaker meeting for worship

4:00 p.m. Interfaith Service. Speakers will include:  
Kathy Kelly, Voices for Creative Nonviolence  
Raed Jarrar Iraq Consultant, AFSC

### **Monday, May 28- Closing Day**

10:00 a.m. Presidential Candidates and Illinois delegation invited

12:00 p.m. Closing ceremony

3:00 p.m. Exhibit de-installation

For more information, contact Cynthia Okayama Dopke at [cdopke@afsc.org](mailto:cdopke@afsc.org).

## **ABCUSA NEWS**

### *Report from Greensburg*

*This report is from Steve Van Ostran, Interim Executive Minister of the American Baptist Churches of the Central Region. As you know, Greensburg, Kansas was virtually destroyed by a tornado over the weekend. American Baptist Men are reaching out to help.*

Yesterday Vincent Herriman, the regional President of our AB Men, and I traveled to the Greensburg Area to meet Pastor Marvin George of FBC – Greensburg and his congregational family. The purpose of our trip was to bring preliminary funds from One Great Hour of Sharing money for the congregation to use and to determine what needs will be for further assistance.

Vince and I arrived in Haviland, a small community ten miles east of Greensburg about 10 AM yesterday and were able to get ourselves oriented and attend a coordinating meeting for Volunteer Organizations. Then we met up with Marvin and Pastor Stan Hendershot, FBC of Pratt about noon to meet with Greensburg congregation's insurer, Church Mutual. I am so glad the

church had Church Mutual. Other insurers are doing their best to meet the needs of these people but Church Mutual is in the business of insuring churches. The company had an advance check ready for the congregation and a plan to help them get the rest of the money by the end of the week so they can get back to doing ministry. Indeed, the company offered to work on securing and to provide a large tent out of company funds to allow the seven congregations in Greensburg to hold a community worship service this weekend. I left the meeting glad that the region has been able to arrange a group plan with Church Mutual providing a 5% discount for their services to ABCCR Congregations.

After we finished meeting with the Church Mutual officials, Marvin, Vince, Stan and I loaded the 30 plastic totes I had brought with me (purchased by OGHS funds) into the van and headed to Greensburg. I have had a special relationship to Greensburg for the last 24 years since my mother-in-law grew up there, my wife's grandmother lived there until her death and it has been a gathering place for the family throughout my married life. And although I was somewhat prepared for the scene by the news coverage, it simply does not do it justice. Block after block of total destruction... homes crushed, automobiles tossed like "Hot Wheels" into yards, the crumpled Water Tower in the city park where so many families enjoyed picnics before a tour of the Big Well.

As we drove through town, Marvin had the window rolled down and would yell at first one person then another. He enquired about their needs and reminded them that he wanted to gather the flock at the church that afternoon to allow us to meet with them and to be together. Marvin has done and continues to do amazing work during this crisis. As the president of the local ministerial alliance he is a driving force to pull together the community worship this weekend. He is a member of the community disaster preparedness team and has become a spokesperson for the community with his numerous interviews. You might not think he has a care in the world... and then we pulled up in front of the former parsonage.

Yes, we were told the parsonage was still standing... but barely. Half the roof is gone, ceilings have fallen in, the two-story house that used to stand next door is collapsed against the house, Marvin's car buried underneath the rubble. Marvin had been able to rent a storage locker in Pratt so his family and friends, some they had just met due to their offer to put the family up in their home, where there to begin to help them collect some of the personal belongings that could be salvaged. Despite four walls still standing, the winds of the tornado had splattered a mixture of dirt, water and fiber throughout the house. From the outside you begin to see the loss. Marvin's wood working tools stand partially exposed and tossed about in what once was the garage. The clamps and saws have begun to rust from four days of exposure. That can all be cleaned up, but still, for a craftsman it hurts. Then we walked into the house itself and immediately began experience more deeply a minute portion of the loss the family must feel.

Standing against the far wall as we entered was Sandy's curio cabinet. It had been full of "Precious Moments" figurines, a collection of some years that there was obvious joy in having. No doubt there were many memories associated with those figurines as well. The cabinet stood there against the wall, the glass smashed as well as half the figurines. Sure, some of those can be packed up into one of the totes and carted off to storage for another day, but many will just be left in the house, broken and destroyed to be razed with the structure and carted to a landfill in the days and weeks ahead.

We helped Marvin and his family salvage their belonging as best we could until about 2:45 and then Marvin rounded us up to head for the church, leaving some family friends to continue work. I could not imagine pulling myself away from the work there, but it is obvious that Marvin takes seriously the call to shepherd his flock. So we go to the church where he and Stan had already set up a tent shelter on what once was the front steps of the church building in front of the bell tower. The roof has collapsed into the sanctuary, doors and windows are missing but the next set still looks like new. A church pew hangs out over the edge of the bell tower. But there in front of the building a little altar exists providing shade for those who want to stop by, Bibles setting out

for those who might need them, all done earlier that day.

Marvin grabbed the assistance of one of the mutual aid utility workers and rigged the church bell up to be workable. At 3:00 he had one of his youth ring the bell so that the community would know that the church was meeting. And the congregation gathered, as well as other members of the community and network media. Marvin asked the congregation to share their needs and contact information by a form and distributed the cash we had taken in. Then he shared that the totes that we had brought or that had been brought in by others were there for them to use, gifts from their extended church family. And finally he asked us all to join hands and Stan and I to lead in prayer. I felt led to close my prayer by asking everyone to say the Lord's prayer.

After the prayer service, one of the news guys came over to me. He had been operating the sound boom during the service and as Stan began the prayer service this man said, "I saw a white dove land in that tree (a stripped bare tree that stands in front of the church). That dove stayed there until you finished the Lord's prayer and then it just took off! It sent shivers up my spine!" As he told the story it sent shivers up my spine as well.

The rest of the afternoon was filled with meeting with the insurance adjusters, getting the contact information of the church family that stopped by later in the day, and helping Marvin and his family collect more of their belongings. We headed back out of Greensburg about six pm toward Pratt to store the George's belongings. Finally we all met at Pizza Hut in Pratt for a meal and a time of fellowship.

God's grace and hope is alive and well in Greensburg. It comes in the form of the many people who have and are responding. It comes in the generous sharing of so many for the needs that exist there.

How can you help?

**Pray.** Pray for Pastor Marvin and the people of Greensburg. Pray for Pastor Stan and the area communities and families that are coming to the aid of the brothers and sisters in Greensburg.

**Give.** Give to One Great Hour of Sharing. One of the biggest needs in Greensburg will be cash to rebuild (yes, they want to rebuild). Gifts to One Great Hour of Sharing specified for Greensburg will get to the church for distribution. Because the funds are administered by the local church, there is greater flexibility to meet unmet needs when you give through this channel.

**Volunteer.** If you would like to help in Greensburg our AB Men Disaster relief will be organizing teams to go there and help in the weeks ahead. Please contact Larry Oyer for more information about how you can help.

In Christ,

Steve Van O

### *Baptist Heritage Sunday – May 20*

Baptist Heritage Sunday is May 20. We hope you and your congregation will observe this time to focus on and celebrate Baptist history and distinctives. Resources for Baptist Heritage Sunday are available from <http://www.abc-usa.org/heritage.htm>. These resources include a brochure, eight posters, a bulletin insert and a book excerpt.

*Baptist Joint Committee for Religious Liberty*

## *Helps Win Battle in U. S. House against Religious Discrimination in Hiring for Head Start*



In the May 2 floor debate on the bill to reauthorize the Head Start program, Rep. Chet Edwards, D-Texas, highlighted the Baptist Joint Committee's opposition to an effort to remove protections for potential employees from religious discrimination in federally funded jobs. The effort to remove the civil rights protections failed, 222-195, and then the bill passed easily, reauthorizing the early childhood education program for children from low-income families.

"With the vote on Wednesday, the House reiterated that tax-funded religious discrimination in employment is wrong," said J. Brent Walker, executive director of the BJC.

Don Byrd covered the debate extensively on *Blog from the Capital*, the BJC's continually updated web log. Here's a sample:

From the Blog

[Read "Rep. Chet Edwards Leads Debate Against Religious Discrimination in Head Start Hiring, Motion to Recommit Fails".](#)

[Read "House Debates Faith-Based Role in Head Start, Rep. Ehlers Considers Me "Anti-Religious".](#)

[Read "Head Start Rule Debated, Passed".](#)

Visit the Blog at [www.BJConline.org/blog](http://www.BJConline.org/blog).

### *Arise & Shine Biennial*

Information about ABCUSA's Biennial/Centennial on June 29-July 2, 2007, in Washington, DC is available at the ABCUSA web site. Information about pre-biennial and post-biennial events is also there. Online registration is easy and quick, and can be done at [www.abc-usa.org](http://www.abc-usa.org).

## **Ministers Council**

### *Spring Meeting in Metro Chicago*

On Thursday, May 31 the Ministers Council of ABCMC will meet at Irving Park Baptist Church, 4401 W. Irving Park Road, Chicago. The meeting will be from 7:15-8:45 p.m., and will include several presentations that will be helpful to hear prior to ABCUSA's 2007 Biennial Meeting.

Larry Greenfield, ABCMC's Executive Minister, will report on the spring meeting of the General Executive Council (GEC). David Gregg, ABCMC's representative to the General Board of ABCUSA, will report on the meeting he attended, and what the General Board will be considering at its June meeting. Alice Greene, President of the Ministers Council of ABCUSA, will bring an update on that body, and report on programs to take place at Biennial time.

Dessert will be served, courtesy of the Ministers and Missionaries Benefit Board.

## *September Meeting in Metro Chicago*

The Ministers Council of ABCMC will meet on Thursday, September 27 at North Shore Baptist Church, 5244 N. Lakewood Avenue, Chicago. The meeting, scheduled to take place from noon to 2 p.m., will feature guest speaker Douglas Sharp. Douglas, a professor of theology at Northern Baptist Theological Seminary, is the author of *No Partiality: The Idolatry of Race and the New Humanity*. Racism will be his topic at the Ministers Council meeting.

If you would like to purchase a copy of his book, it is available from [www.amazon.com](http://www.amazon.com), BUT you can get it from him for less. He has copies of the book that he sells for \$14 plus \$3.49 for shipping. His price is considerably less than what people pay on Amazon - \$23. Please contact Douglas at [drs217@yahoo.com](mailto:drs217@yahoo.com). A discussion guide is available at [www.nopartiality.net](http://www.nopartiality.net).

## *Ministers Council Dues*

Ministers Council dues may be paid by sending a check to the treasurer, Rev. Dr. Sara Day, 3013 Wolf Road, #324, Westchester, IL 60154.

Dues are:

- \$45 for individuals
- \$60 for clergy couples
- \$22.50 for seminarians

Retired clergy membership is free for retirees who were dues-paying members of the Ministers Council for 3 out of the last 5 years prior to retirement.

## **Prayer Requests**

Please keep in prayer Joanne Webber, and her and Bob's family. Please hold in prayer also the many friends and colleagues who are grieving Bob's death while celebrating his life.

Please pray for world peace.

Please hold in prayer Bob and Joanne Webber during Bob's illness. Bob is being treated for pancreatic cancer.

Please lift up in prayer ABCMC's bookkeeper Douglas Galbraith as he prepares to leave our staff and move to Florida.

Please pray for ABCMC staff and leaders as they seek a new bookkeeper for ABCMC. Douglas Galbraith has done a wonderful job in this position since November of 2003. He completely turned around the management of our financial records, and made it all much more orderly and efficient. We pray that we will find a successor who will do the work with as much thoroughness and integrity as Douglas has applied to the job.

Please join ABCMC and Irving Park Baptist Church in prayers of thanksgiving for Lowell Young, ABCMC's Mission Support Associate, whose birthday is today.

## **Calendar**

**May 10**—Fund raiser for Protestants for the Common Good, world premiere production of *Cynical Weathers*, Victory Gardens Biograph Theater. Space is limited, and tickets must be purchased by **April 26th** in order to ensure a reservation. Tickets for this event are \$50 each and can be purchased [online](#) or by calling the PCG offices @ 312.223.9544 ext. 231.  
6:15 reception - 7:30 curtain.

**May 11**—*The Influence Index* simulcast, Judson College, Elgin, 8 a.m. Features Terry Bradshaw. Register at [www.judsoncollege.edu/leader](http://www.judsoncollege.edu/leader).

**May 12**—Family Council Meeting, Community Baptist Church, Warrenville. Registration opens at 8:30 a.m. Meeting begins at 9 a.m.

**May 12**—Girl Scout troop 4402's car wash, Berwyn VFW, 15th & Harlem Avenues, 9 a.m.-12 p.m.

**May 16**—Presentation on Islam, Community Church of Wilmette, 1020 Forest Avenue, Wilmette, 7 p.m.

**May 21**—Deadline for Baptist Joint Committee for Religious Liberty's Religious Liberty Essay Contest. Visit [the BJC's Web site](#) for more information.

**May 22**—Finance and Property Committee meeting, 3 p.m., ABCMC office.

**May 23**—Twenty-Second Annual Interfaith Memorial Observance for Indigent Persons, May 23, 12:00--12:50 p.m., Chicago Temple/First United Methodist Church, 77 West Washington Street, Chicago. A reception & celebration will follow the service.

**May 24-28**—"Eyes Wide Open", Park, Jackson and Columbus Drive, Chicago. More information is available at <http://www.afsc.org/eyes/chicago-three-years.htm>.

**May 26-June 9**—Join **Interfaith Peace-Builders** (IFPB) and the **American Friends Service Committee** (AFSC) as they travel to Israel/Palestine. Applications will be accepted on a rolling basis until April 23, 2007. Apply early to reserve and lock-in lower airfares.

**June 7**—"The Two-State Solution: Still Possible?" presentation, 6:30 p.m., University of Chicago's, International House, Assembly Hall, 1414 East 59th Street, Chicago. Free and open to the public.

**June 16**—Mauck & Baker, LLC presents The 2007 Church and the Law Seminar, The Sweeting Center, Moody Bible Institute, 820 N. LaSalle Boulevard, Chicago. Event begins with a continental breakfast at 8:15 a.m., and concludes at 12:30 p.m. For more information, please phone 312-726-1243.

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

**June 23**—Chicago Rush Fellowship Day, Allstate Arena, Rosemont. Fellowship Hour, 4 p.m. Game, 7 p.m. For more information and reservations, contact David Hodge, 773.243.3460 or [dhodge@chicagorush.com](mailto:dhodge@chicagorush.com).

**June 27-28**—"Seeing the Children—Transforming the Church" pre-Biennial event, Howard University Divinity School, Washington, DC.

**June 29**—Deadline for applying for The Retirement Research Foundation's Accessible Faith Grant Program. Please see [www.rrf.org](http://www.rrf.org) for more information.

**June 29**— ["Ministry in Such a Time as This: Adaptive Change for Faithful and Effective](#)

**Leadership**” pre-Biennial event, 9 a.m.-noon, Washington Convention Center, Washington, DC. This event is sponsored by the Ministers Council, the Campus Ministry Association, and International Ministries. Visit [www.abc-usa.org](http://www.abc-usa.org) to register.

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

**July 17**—Finance and Property Committee meeting, 3 p.m., ABCMC office.

**July 21-28**—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](http://www.abwministries.org).

**August 6-10**—Mediation Skills Training Institute. For more information and registration, please visit [www.LMPeaceCenter.org](http://www.LMPeaceCenter.org).

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

**August 21-23**—Here I Stand: Leading Change Through Self-Differentiation. For more information and registration, please visit [www.LMPeaceCenter.org](http://www.LMPeaceCenter.org).

**September 15**—ABCMC Stewardship Seminar

**September 18**—Finance and Property Committee meeting, 3 p.m., ABCMC office.

**September 21**—International Day of Prayer for Peace

**September 21-22**—Lombard Mennonite Peace Center’s *Healthy Congregations* Workshop, Christ Community Mennonite Church, Schaumburg. For more information and registration, please visit [www.LMPeaceCenter.org](http://www.LMPeaceCenter.org).

**October 16**—Finance and Property Committee meeting, 3 p.m., ABCMC office.

**November 20**—Finance and Property Committee meeting, 3 p.m., ABCMC office.

**December 17**—Finance and Property Committee meeting, 3 p.m., ABCMC office.

**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

**June 21, 2008**—ABCMC’s Third Annual Disciples’ Dinner, Lindner Conference Center, Lombard. Aidsand Wright-Riggins, Executive Director of ABCUSA’s National Ministries, will be our keynote speaker.

## Position Openings

### *Minister for Outreach & Growth*

The Community Church of Wilmette is affiliated with the American Baptist Churches, USA and is a member of the Association of Welcoming and Affirming Baptists. This community of diverse

faith backgrounds is actively searching for a part-time Minister for Outreach and Growth to help build our congregation's numbers in a wide range of ages but particularly for young adults and families, to make the Community Church of Wilmette a more visible and active member of this North Shore community, and to successfully market and grow a variety of discipleship and outreach opportunities for its congregation.

A fuller description of church congregation's composition and vision are available upon request.

**Contact:**

Rev. Tripp Hudgins  
Community Church of Wilmette  
1029 Forest Ave  
Wilmette, IL 60091  
847-251-4370  
[www.communitychurchofwilmette.org](http://www.communitychurchofwilmette.org)

## *Pastoral Search*

The South Church of Mount Prospect, a progressive, friendly and inclusive American Baptist church in the northwest suburbs of Chicago, seeks a full-time pastor. The person called will have demonstrated skills in spiritual, pastoral and community leadership and a dedication to work in partnership with members in congregational development and growth.

Contact: [tmwh23908@sbcglobal.net](mailto:tmwh23908@sbcglobal.net).

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

We welcome your news, prayer requests and comments.  
Please email your communications to [abcmchi@aol.com](mailto:abcmchi@aol.com). We email the newsletter each Wednesday.

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