

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 the region

July 18, 2007

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Attention ABCMC Churches

We hope you enjoy *eWind* as a source for news, information and prayer concerns from our churches, communities and denomination. Do you know folks in your congregation who would like to receive *eWind*? Please have them send their names and email addresses to the *eWind* editor at lynne@abcmc.org. Better yet, put together a list of folks who want to receive *eWind*, and send it all at once to this email address. *eWind* is a free service of ABCMC.

Family Cabinet Meeting

The Family Cabinet will meet at 9:30 a.m. on Saturday, July 21 at the ABCMC office. A number of important items will be on the agenda. If you are a member of the cabinet, please let us know of your attendance plans at office@abcmc.org.

A Summer Gathering for Women in Ministry

Dear ABC/MC Women In Ministry:

It's been too long since we've gotten together. Pastor Zina Jacque, our newest installed pastor, has graciously offered her home, in Buffalo Grove, for a gathering this summer. Please mark your calendars for Thursday July 26 at 11 a.m. The address is 2711 Acacia Terrace, Buffalo Grove, IL 60089. The phone number is 847 883 8881. Her home is approximately four miles west of 294/94 on Half Day Road. Map Quest does well with directions here.

We would love to have your RSVP—but last-minute appearances will be welcomed.

Rev. Carol Jamieson Brown, Pastor
FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH PARK FOREST
80 North Orchard - Park Forest, IL 60466
708-748-2566

Cooperating Church Annual Report -- Better Late Than Never!!

If your church has not completed the 2006 Cooperating Church Annual Report form and sent it on to Valley Forge, please do so as soon as possible. While the due date for the report was June 30th, they will continue to be accepted -- in this instance, "late" truly is better than "never." It is very important for a number of reasons that our region is well-represented in this annual survey of American Baptist churches.

Your church's completed report should be mailed or faxed to Valley Forge. The address and fax number are included on the form, as are directions for submitting the form on-line. Contact Lynne Kelley at the ABC-MC office, 773-695-9791, or T.J. Litwiler, ABC-MC Treasurer, at 312-252-1508 with any questions, or if your church did not receive the annual report form. Many thanks for your help on this important process.

NEWS FROM ABCMC CONGREGATIONS

Fifth Sunday Unity Service

Irving Park Baptist Church, 4401 W. Irving Park Road, again invites the ABCMC family to join in a multicultural celebration on the 5th Sunday in July. We will be joined by the Rivers of Living Water Church, featuring Pastor Linda Requitez as our guest preacher. We'll celebrate in worship and then with a cultural celebration of food afterward. Join us at 6:30 p.m. on July 29 for this celebration of our beautiful diversity and our unity in Christ!

Peace and Joy,
Rev. Dr. Alice Davis, Pastor
Irving Park Baptist Church

4401 W. Irving Park Road
Chicago, IL 60641
phone: 773-286-6800
fax: 773-286-3475

COMMUNITY NEWS

On the War in Iraq

The Albany Park, North Park, Mayfair Neighbors for Peace and Justice will be showing the movie *The Ground Truth* on Saturday, July 21 at 2 p.m. at the Albany Park branch of the Chicago Public Library, 5150 N. Kimball, Chicago. This is four blocks north of the last stop on the Brown Line. The Kimball bus stops right across the street, as does the Foster bus. This venue is wheel Chair accessible.

The Ground Truth shows

- how the military's basic training trains killers who see Iraqis in racist terms
- the ruthless killings of Iraqi civilians
- the psychological trauma GIs come home with, with no real help from the government
- the process of how some GIs deal with guilt about what they have done
- the way some GIs have come to not support this war and occupation
- some important elements of the developing veterans' resistance movement

All views will be welcome in the discussion about the war and what we can do about it. Speakers will include representatives from Iraq Veterans Against the War.

Faith and Order Conference to Eye Vatican Statement

This article is from the National Council of Churches.

New York City, July 11, 2007 – The Vatican statement on the doctrine on the church provides another historical context for the 50th anniversary conference of the National Council of Churches (NCC) Faith and Order Commission July 19-23 in Oberlin, Ohio.

The Vatican statement, released Tuesday July 10, reaffirmed that the Catholic Church is the one, true church, even if elements of truth can be found in separated churches and communities, such as Protestant and Orthodox churches.

The staff head of the NCC's Faith and Order Commission responded to the Vatican statement by calling it "an opportunity of hope."

"This reaffirms that the ecumenical nature and purpose of the Second Vatican Council is still very much alive within and outside Catholic circles," said Dr. Ann Riggs, NCC's associate general secretary for Faith and Order, in an interview with NCC News.

"Even though this was written for Catholic theologians," said Riggs, "it affords us all an opportunity for more dialogue and more insight."

"This statement is responding only to some very specific questions about the Catholic doctrinal position on some Christian churches and is not a blanket statement on all non-Catholics," Riggs said.



Cardinal Levada

"The Vatican clarification is only stating their own doctrine from their point of view. There are ways in which the Catholic Church understands the Church differently than those churches born out of the sixteenth century Reformation. Rome is certainly not saying the door is closed on ecumenical dialogue. But we see there is still a lot more to talk about. There is more to discuss," according to Riggs.

Touching on what Catholic News Service termed "an ecumenical sore point," the document said some of the separated Christian communities, such as Protestant communities, should not properly be called "churches" according to Catholic doctrine because of

major differences over the ordained priesthood and the Eucharist.

The text was the latest chapter in a long-simmering discussion on what the Second Vatican Council intended when it stated that the church founded by Christ "subsists in the Catholic Church," but that elements of "sanctification and truth" are found outside the Catholic Church's visible confines.

The Vatican released the text July 10. Titled "Responses to Some Questions Regarding Certain Aspects of the Doctrine on the Church," it was signed by U.S. Cardinal William J. Levada, prefect of the Congregation for the Doctrine of the Faith, and approved by Pope Benedict XVI before publication.

The release of the Vatican document and [Riggs' comments](#) come just one week before the 50th anniversary conference July 19-23 of the Oberlin, Ohio gathering that began the process of the Roman Catholic Church's entrance into the modern ecumenical movement. The participation of Catholic observers at the 1957 event is viewed by many as a scene setter for the Second Vatican Council. NCC's Faith and Order Commission traces its eventual birth to that Oberlin event.

Monsignor John A. Rodano of the [Vatican Pontifical Council for Promoting Christian Unity](#), and a veteran participant in ecumenical events, will be present to engage participants in a dialogue on the meaning of "On The Doctrine on the Church."

Oberlin Program

The theme of the conference is, "On Being Christian Together: The Faith and Order Experience in the United States."

Oberlin is a site of deep significance for the Faith and Order Commission of the NCC, which traces its beginning to a 1957 Oberlin conference on the theme "The Nature of the Unity We Seek."

Dr. Martin Marty, a distinguished theologian, church scholar and Lutheran pastor; and, Rev. Dr. James Forbes (below), renowned American Baptist preacher, theologian and retired Senior Minister of The Riverside Church in New York, will be addressing the event.

In the nineteenth century, many now estranged streams of U.S. Protestantism lived together in a vibrant faith community at Oberlin. Issues of concern in the life and theology of 19th century Oberlin



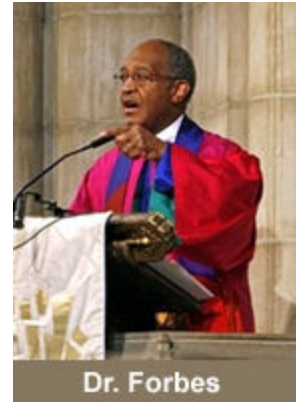
Dr. Marty

included racial justice, women's roles, and peace – all issues that became central for the ecumenical movement in the 20th century.

The 50th anniversary celebration will consider where Faith and Order has been, its current gifts, and its future life.

As NCC President Elect, Archbishop Vicken Aykazian of the Armenian Church of America put it, "We are looking forward with great interest to the realization of this important conference. It is important not only for our past, but will also be a mirror for the future of the church in the United States."

Over a four day period, participants including Faith and Order Commissioners, theologians and church leaders from an even broader range of communions, and selected undergraduate, graduate and seminary students, will be invited to engage the theme by responding to papers from senior ecumenists.



The theological differences that continue to divide communions and traditions will be approached through the categories of "resonance," "dissonance," and "non-sonance" created by Rev. John T. Ford, CSC for the Commission's new book *Ancient Faith and American-Born Churches*, edited by Ted A. Campbell, Ann K. Riggs and Gilbert W. Stafford (Paulist Press, 2006).

These categories have made it possible for churches with very different self-understandings, histories and theologies to engage one another productively in a dialogue of mutual discovery and discussion.

Dr. Kevin W. Mannoia, Professor of Ministry and Chaplain to graduate programs and faculty at Azusa Pacific University, and a former president of the National Association of Evangelicals, is a driving force behind the creation of a consortium for Wesleyan and Holiness churches. Dr. Mannoia will be present to engage participants in a formal dialogue on the consortium and other issues.

Bishop Christopher Epting, the Episcopal Bishop for Ecumenical Relations said, "The Episcopal Church has always encouraged Faith and Order to be more balanced within both the World Council and National Council so it's very exciting to us that this gathering is taking place."

The meeting will both celebrate the achievements of Faith and Order in the United States and explore the ecumenical significance of Oberlin as a place, combining repentance for continuing disunity with joyful worship in response to the unity the churches already experience in Jesus Christ.

It will highlight those who have fostered a capacity for serious theological and ecclesiological dialogue in the midst of the culture wars through new methods and respectful conversation. It will seek to produce the kind of holistic approach embodied by Christian Methodist Episcopal Bishop Thomas L. Hoyt, Jr. who made important contributions for many years as a Faith and Order Commissioner and during his recent term as NCC President worked to ensure that issues of unity were never separated from ethical issues such as poverty and racism.

Focused on the theme, "On Being Christian Together: The Faith and Order Experience in the United States," the Commission will mark a half century of Christian communities working to

strengthen the unity of the Church by engaging one another through dialogue and research on the theological differences that divide our churches. *Since the meeting in Oberlin in 1957*, the Commission has worked tirelessly to advance ecumenism and to discover new ways to state the core truths of Christian faith together.

One session entitled, "New Horizons for Christian Unity," has been planned to highlight the voices of younger theologians as they prepare to enter the Christian unity movement. Other sessions during the four-day conference will include: "Faith and Order in a Post-modern World," "Issues Facing Ecumenism," and "Faith and Order in the Context of Religious Plurality."

ABCUSA NEWS

For additional articles from the American Baptist News Service, please visit <http://www.abc-usa.org/whoweare/newsservice/newsservice.aspx>.

American Baptists Congratulate Neville Callam on his Election to BWA General Secretary

VALLEY FORGE, PA (ABNS 07/11/07) -- Rev. Neville Callam is the new General Secretary Elect of the Baptist World Alliance (BWA), succeeding Denton Lotz, who has been General Secretary since 1988. As a Jamaican, Callam is the first person outside of Europe and North America to be so elected. The groundbreaking election took place during the BWA General Council meeting in Accra, Ghana, in West Africa on Friday, July 6.

"We are enthusiastic and prayerful about Neville's election to this high position. He has been called to usher in the light that the BWA organization has become: to lead its extension to all corners of the world," said Rev. Dr. Roy Medley, General Secretary of American Baptists Churches USA. "May we be filled with excitement and enthusiasm as we are guided by this new light."

The new General Secretary Elect assumes duties in September at the BWA headquarters in Falls Church, Virginia, in the Washington DC Metro Area of the United States.

Callam, a gifted lecturer and teacher from the Caribbean basin, is a respected theologian who has written five books and published numerous articles in journals. He is a graduate of the University of the West Indies and has spoken at seminars, forums and symposia in countries as diverse as South Africa, Malaysia, and Germany, among many others. He is a respected member of the Faith and Order Commission of the World Council of Churches.

Callam has been active in the BWA for over 20 years and has held significant leadership positions within the Baptist family. He served as vice president of the BWA between 2000 and 2005, and has been a long-standing member of the General Council, Executive Committee, the executive committees of the Divisions of Evangelism & Education and Study & Research, as well as several other committees, commissions and workgroups of the BWA.

The BWA has a membership of more than 36 million baptized believers and represents a community of approximately 110 million Baptists worldwide that are part of more than 200 conventions and unions.

PRAYER REQUESTS

Please pray for world peace.
Please pray for congregations and leaders in transition.

CALENDAR

July 19-23--50th anniversary conference of the National Council of Churches (NCC) Faith and Order Commission, Oberlin, OH.

July 21--Family Cabinet meeting, ABCMC office, 9:30 a.m.

July 21-28--National Gathering for Girls, Green Lake Conference Cent.

August 6-10--Mediation Skills Training Institute. For more information and registration, please visit 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.

August 25--Family Council meeting. Registration opens at 8:30 a.m.

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.

September 22--Family Cabinet Meeting, ABCMC office, 9:30 a.m.

September 27--ABCMC Ministers Council meeting, 2 p.m., North Shore Baptist Church, 5244 N. Lakewood Avenue, Chicago.

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

October 19-21--Sojourners gathering, "Reviving our Souls, Restoring our Politics," Cleveland, OH. For more information about the conference and housing, please visit www.cacradicalgrace.org/conferences/ros or phone 800-714-7474.

October 20--Family Cabinet meeting, ABCMC office, 9:30 a.m.

November 10--ABCMC Annual Meeting.

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

December 15--Family Cabinet meeting, ABCMC office, 9:30 a.m.

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

January 30-February 1, 2008--New Baptist Covenant Celebration, Atlanta, Georgia. Please visit www.newbaptistcovenant.org for more information.

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--ABC MC's Third Annual Disciples' Dinner, Lindner Conference Center, Lombard. Aids and Wright-Riggins, Executive Director of National Ministries, will be our keynote speaker.

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 email the newsletter each Wednesday. We welcome your news, prayer requests and comments. Please email your communications to lynne@abcmc.org. If you spot a typographical error or other mistake in *eWind*, please let us know at the ABCMC office, 773-695-9791 or lynne@abcmc.org.