

Please do not respond to this email.
Please send communications for and about *eWind* to the editor, Lynne Kelley, at
lynne@abcmc.org.

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

April 9, 2008

**How very good and pleasant it is when kindred live together in unity!
It is like the precious oil on the head, running down upon the beard,
on the beard of Aaron, running down over the collar of his robes.
It is like the dew of Hermon, which falls on the mountains of Zion.
For there the LORD ordained the blessing, life forevermore.
(Psalm 133, NRSV)**

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ABCMC NEWS

Moving Moments

Thank you to everyone who has offered prayers and gestures of support for the ABCMC staff in transition. The ABCMC office has moved! Our new address is 7035 W. Grand Avenue, Suite 102, Chicago, IL 60707. The new phone number is 773-804-1655. The new fax number is 773-804-1656.

Email addresses for contacting the ABCMC staff will remain the same as before the move:
Larry Greenfield, Executive Minister: larry@abcmc.org
Lynne Kelley, Communication Coordinator: lynne@abcmc.org
Tony Rake, Office Assistant: tony@abcmc.org
Jesse Smith, Bookkeeper: bookkeeperjesse@aol.com
Lowell Young, Mission Support Associate: younglowell@aol.com

ABCMC President and Spouse Write Judson Press Adult Curriculum

The Rev. Denise Janssen, President of ABCMC, and her spouse, the Rev. Randy Creath, are the authors of the Spring 2008 edition of JOURNEYS, the Judson Press series for adults. Both ordained American Baptist pastors, Denise and Randy are currently serving United Methodist parishes in the Chicago area, while Denise also serves as a Christian education resource person for ABCMC congregations.

Ewind interviewed the authors about their new publication. The interview is attached to this issue of *eWind*.

Thinking Theologically

ABCMC's Executive Minister Larry Greenfield pens a regular column for *The Common Good Network*. His March 28 column, "Authoritatively Sent," is attached to this issue of *eWind*.

Cook County Jail Ministry Dinner

The spring dinner and fund raiser for the Cook County Jail Ministry will be on Saturday, May 3, at

the First Baptist Church of Oak Park, 820 Ontario Street, Oak Park. This event will be the ministry's spring fund raiser. Everyone in the ABCMC family is encouraged to attend.

The evening will include a time of fellowship from 6 p.m.-6:30 p.m. The dinner and program are scheduled for 6:30 p.m. The program will include testimonies and good Christian music. A free will offering for the jail ministry will be taken.

The cost of tickets will be \$15 per adult, \$5/child, and \$100 per table. All dinner tickets are to be purchased at the door. If you have any questions, please contact CCJM board member Paul Sengpiehl at 708-383-8859.

Invitation to ABCMC Clergy

**American Baptist Churches of Metro Chicago
7035 W. Grand Avenue, Suite 102
Chicago, Illinois 60707**

Telephone: 773-804-1655 – Email: office@abcmc.org – Facsimile: 773-804-1656

TO: ABCMC Clergy
FROM: Larry Greenfield, Executive Minister
DATE: April 2, 2008

Colleagues,

On behalf of Rick Harris, the Director of American Baptist Personnel Services, and Sara Day, our regional representative of the Ministers and Missionaries Benefit Board, I write to invite you and your spouse/partner to be guests at:

A LIGHT CATERED DINNER

SUNDAY, MAY 4, 2008

**HYDE PARK UNION CHURCH
5600 S. Woodlawn Ave.
Chicago, IL 60637**

This will be an occasion for Rick and Sara to update us on recent developments in ABPS and MMBB, remind us the resources available to us through both of these ABCUSA agencies, and respond to questions about placement, health insurance, and retirement planning and provisions.

Please notify Tony Rake at the ABCMC office by Thursday, May 1, if you will be attending: (phone) 773-804-1655, (fax) 773-804-1656, or tony@abcmc.org.

NEWS FROM ABCMC CONGREGATIONS

You Are Invited

The Rev. Dr. Zina Jacque, Pastor of Community Church of Barrington, will lead the Spring Revival at First Baptist Church of Park Forest, 80 North Orchard, Park Forest, on Wednesday and Thursday, April 23 and 24, 2008 beginning at 7:00 p.m. The theme is SEEKING THE FULLNESS OF CHRIST, Ephesians 4:11-13,16 (NIV). Rev. Carol Jamieson Brown is pastor. For more information, please phone the church at 708-748-2566.

Bibles and Hymnals

Gently used Bibles and hymnals are available to churches, groups or individuals who would like to have them. Stamped "First Baptist Church of Maywood," these books were used by that ABCMC congregation until it closed its doors in October. If you are interested, please contact Wanda Scoble at DSCOBES@aol.com.

COMMUNITY NEWS



Human Trafficking and Sexual Exploitation

dy Morris for sending us this information.

The Sexual Assault Service Center of Guardian Angel Community Services

In collaboration with the

Chicago Foundation for Women's

What Will It Take Initiative

And

College of Du Page Human Services

And

Governor's State University

Presents

Prostitution, Human Trafficking and



Sexual Exploitation

Featuring

Chicago Coalition for the Homeless Heartland Alliance (CAASE) Chicago Alliance against Sexual Exploitation

Thursday, April 24 10am-4pm
Registration begins at 9:30 am

**College of Du Page
K Commons Building
425 Fawell Blvd
Glen Ellyn, IL 60137**

**Cost: Free
Breakfast and lunch included!**

- **5 CEU's available for Counseling and IAODAPCA provided \$ 10.00**
- **5 CEU's available for Social Work through Governor's State University \$ 10.00**
- **5 ICDVP CEU's available through Guardian Angel Community Services \$ 10.00**

For additional information please visit our website: www.guardianangelhome.org

To register please contact Kristina Hanson, 815-729-0930 ext 536, khanson@guardianangelhome.org
or
Donna Plier, 815-729-0930 ext 330, dplier@guardianangelhome.org .

For more information please contact Maryann Krieglstein, 630-942-2103, krieglsm@cod.edu

For American with Disabilities Act accommodations, call (630) 942-2141 (voice) or (630) 858-9692 (TDD).
The college will not discriminate in its programs and activities on the basis of race, color, religion, creed, national origin, sex, age, ancestry, marital status, sexual orientation, arrest records, military status or unfavorable military discharge, citizenship status, physical or mental handicap or disability.

Governors State University, University Park, Illinois, has been approved by the Illinois Department of Professional Regulation to offer continuing education to Licensed Social Workers (License #159-000200).

ABCUSA NEWS

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

National Ministries Sends Aid to Wisconsin Church Leveled by Explosion

VALLEY FORGE, PA (ABNS 04/04/08) — Within hours of the destruction of First Baptist Church of Oconomowoc, Wisc., on Wednesday, National Ministries, American Baptist Churches USA sent word to American Baptist Churches of Wisconsin that it was releasing \$5,000 of One Great Hour of Sharing undesignated disaster funds for recovery.

The funds will provide assistance to residents of two neighboring homes, owned by the church, that were gutted. Those residents were left without shelter, food, clothing and other personal belongings.

Firefighters and a utility worker were among the seven people injured in the blast. No church members were hurt.

The church building, constructed in 1912, was a landmark in Oconomowoc, a lakeside community 30 miles west of Milwaukee. In an interview with the television news station TMJ4, church council member Beth Jennings remembered especially the building's beautiful stained glass windows, almost a century old, that are now gone.

Faith and courage, however, are already poking through the rubble. This American Baptist congregation of about three dozen is "a small but loyal group of folks," says Dr. Arlo R. Reichter, executive minister of American Baptist Churches of Wisconsin.

In the last few months, members were working with the Rev. Sam Brink, a staff member of American Baptist Churches of Wisconsin serving as transitional pastor, and Dr. Ron Carlson, National Ministries' national coordinator of Missional Church Strategy, to discern a vision for the struggling congregation's future.

Brink says congregation members, as they considered reorganization, were looking at how they could respond to needs in the community and neighborhood; they did not want to close the church doors. Even now, they still don't.

Congregants have told Brink they want to move ahead with their discernment, with an eye toward rebuilding and developing mission to the community as their focus. They have already sought a temporary meeting place, possibly the nearby community library. "The church will go on; it is more than a building," says Brink.

"Our church family is together; we will survive," Jennings said in the news broadcast interview. "We will have a Baptist church in Oconomowoc, no matter what."

American Baptists wishing to help the First Baptist Church of Oconomowoc with donations can do so through their church's monthly report of mission support, designating contributions "OGHS-Oconomowoc fire, WI." For online contributions, go to the Give option available at www.abc-usa.org and make your donation through One Great Hour of Sharing with a comment line of "OGHS-Oconomowoc fire, WI."

National Ministries Names Fela Barrueto as Interim Liaison to Hispanic and Portuguese-Speaking Churches

VALLEY FORGE, PA (ABNS 03/27/08) — National Ministries' executive director, Dr. Aidsand F. Wright-Riggins III, today announced the appointment of Fela Barrueto as the interim liaison to American Baptist Hispanic and Portuguese-speaking churches. Barrueto's appointment fills a vacancy left by the death of the Rev. Pablo Calzoncit, formerly National Ministries' national coordinator of Hispanic and Portuguese-speaking Ministries. Citing Barrueto's years of experience and commitment to ministry, Wright-Riggins said:

"Fela Barrueto brings a deep and abiding commitment to Jesus Christ and to the American

Baptist family. She brings both a bi-cultural and bi-lingual competency to this work as well as a gift for critical listening. We are pleased that she is returning to serve in this capacity after years of preparing for and engaging in local church and institutional ministry. We are confident in her ability to bridge our continuing commitment to Hispanic and Portuguese-speaking ministries as she helps us to prepare the way for the next permanent national coordinator.”

In her new position, Barrueto will direct the resources of National Ministries in responding to the needs of Hispanic and Portuguese-speaking churches. “My goal is to create bridges to re-connect and re-establish communication with this important constituency,” Barrueto said. “In addition, I will help identify current needs in the Hispanic and Portuguese-speaking churches.”

A native of Peru, Barrueto came to National Ministries in 1996. She worked in various administrative support positions, including the NEW LIFE 2010 initiative and Hispanic and Portuguese-speaking ministries, while attending Eastern Baptist Theological Seminary. Barrueto earned a master’s degree in Theological Studies from Eastern Baptist Theological Seminary.

Barrueto was formerly the director of Hispanic Ministries at Calvary Baptist Church in Norristown, Pa. In 2003, she received an award from the Philadelphia Baptist Association in recognition of her work in evangelism and community outreach at Calvary Baptist. Barrueto serves as associate pastor for Spiritual Formation at Iglesia Bautista de la Comunidad in Queens.

Baptist Pastor Released from Prison

VALLEY FORGE, PA (ABNS 03/28/08) — Zaur Balaev, the Baptist pastor from Azerbaijan who was sentenced to two years in prison on August 8 of last year, has been released. Balaev was freed from prison on March 19.

“We praise God for preserving Pastor Balaev through the months of his harsh treatment in prison and for his release from the prison colony on March 19,” said Reid Trulson, executive director of International Ministries. “We continue to pray for Baptists and for all people who face harassment and oppression because of their faith and conscience.”

Elnur Jabiyev, General Secretary of the Baptist Union of Azerbaijan, expressed thanks to American Baptists as well as other Baptist bodies in the U.S. “On behalf of the Baptist Union of Azerbaijan, we thank you for your prayers and letters which were a big support for him and for his family during these hard times.”

Balaev was convicted and sent to prison on charges that he beat up five policemen and damaged a police car door. Arrested on May 20, 2007 during a raid on a church service at his home, Balaev was originally accused of resisting arrest and setting dogs on police officers. The congregation of the church denied these charges saying the pastor went peacefully. More than 50 people, including members of the congregation and non-Christian villagers, signed written statements testifying to Balaev’s innocence.

Balaev serves the Baptist church in Aliabad, located near the Azerbaijani/Georgian border in the northwest part of the country. Although the Aliabad congregation has repeatedly applied for legal status, since 1994 its applications have been refused without comment. Following Balaev’s arrest, other Baptists have also been harrassed. Last summer, police closed a five-day Baptist children’s camp in central Azerbaijan. Last November in the Caspian Sea port town of Neftechala in southern Azerbaijan, police summoned the local Baptist pastor and his assistant for “preventative conversations,” threatening them with imprisonment like Pastor Balaev if they continued to conduct Baptist worship services.

“Baptists from all over the world rejoice in God’s answer to our prayers for the release of our brother, Zaur Balaev,” said Baptist World Alliance (BWA) General Secretary Neville Callam.

American Baptist International Ministries has partnered with the Baptists in Azerbaijan, which have grown to 22 churches and 3,000 members today, from 15 churches and 500 members in 2001. They are actively reaching out to meet human need in areas such as literacy, jobs training, conflict transformation, hunger and medical care.

Trulson noted that in 1992 Azerbaijan signed the United Nations International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights. Article 18 of that Covenant states: "Everyone shall have the right to freedom of thought, conscience and religion. This right shall include freedom to have or to adopt a religion or belief of his choice, and freedom, either individually or in community with others and in public or private, to manifest his religion or belief in worship, observance, practice and teaching."

"We call upon the government of Azerbaijan to fulfill its publicly stated commitment to human rights by protecting and promoting liberty of religion and conscience for all people within its nation," Trulson said.

The Republic of Azerbaijan, located south of Russia and north of Iran between the Black Sea and Caspian Sea, has been independent of the Soviet Union since 1991. The nation is largely Muslim, with a growing Christian presence.

HEALTH NEWS

Thank you to Jacki Belile for sending this information.

National Health Care Decisions Day April 16, 2008

Join Americans across the country in making future healthcare decisions known to family, friends and healthcare providers. Share your wishes and complete your advance directive, because...YOUR DECISIONS MATTER!

This event will be at Advocate Illinois Masonic Medical Center, 836 W. Wellington Avenue, Chicago

Advance Care Planning: Nurturing the Process

9:30 a.m. Continental Breakfast

10 a.m. to noon Panel Discussion Olson Auditorium

Registration (800) 3-ADVOCATE Reference Code 9G55

Join us for an informative panel discussion on the legal and ethical considerations for completing advance directives. The panel will consist of legal, spiritual and healthcare experts, including:

Mary Ellen Cherry, Associate General Counsel, Advocate Health Care

Julie Goldstein, MD, Internal Medicine and Chair of Ethics Committee, Illinois Masonic Medical Center

Dave McCurdy, Senior Ethics Consultant and Director of Organizational Ethics, Illinois Masonic Medical Center

Tom Tunney, 44th Ward Alderman, Chicago

Advance directive documentation and forms will be distributed and expert help will be available to assist attendees in filling out their personal directives. The event is free to the public. Continuing education credit will be available for nurses, social workers and chaplains.

Deep Listening

Still Point Theater Collective is a ministry of St. Paul Lutheran Church in Villa Park, Illinois. It is a Chicago-based community of artists dedicated to creating performances, workshops, retreats, and community events that celebrate spirituality and raise consciousness on issues of peace and justice. For more information, go to www.stillpointtheatrecollective.org or call 312.226.0983.

DEEP LISTENING

This performance piece by Teresa Weed explores death, dying and end of life care. This vivid, moving play, drawn from interviews with care providers, engages the audience with humor and songs, while exploring candidly what it is like to "look death in the face" on a daily basis.

Sunday, April 13, 3:00 p.m., Chiesa Nuova, 230 S. Laflin, Chicago.

Donation: \$25 / person or \$40 for 2.

Reservations (encouraged): 312.226.0983

PEACE NEWS

Northwest Suburban Meeting

The Northwest Suburban Peace and Education Project will hold its regular monthly meeting tonight, April 9, at South Church, 501 S. Emerson Street, Mount Prospect. This group works to promote peace in local high schools. The meeting will be at 7 p.m. All interested persons are welcome.

The Origins of Sacred Violence

Attached to this issue of *eWind* are a flier and a registration form for an upcoming interfaith conference on religion and violence, *The Origins of Sacred Violence*. The conference will take place Friday and Saturday, April 11 and 12, at The Raven Foundation, 2624 Patriot Boulevard, Glenview. This conference will be via video from the Trinity Wall Street Conference held January 21 of this year. The conference will be an exploration of the provocative ideas of Rene Girard on the function of sacred violence in human communities. Learn what Judaism, Christianity, and Islam teach about God, violence, and the path to peace. Speakers at the conference will include persons from all three faiths. Please see the attached flier for details. Enjoy a reduction in fees by registering in advance.

The Way that Leads to Peace

This article is from LeDayne McLeese Polaski, Program Coordinator of the Baptist Peace Fellowship of North America.

"The Way that Leads to Peace" will be the theme of a Conference sponsored by the Baptist Peace Fellowship of North America at John Abbott College (Saint-Anne-de-Bellevue, Quebec, Canada), July 14-19, 2008

You are invited to gather this summer for a focus on what each of us can do in our own personal lives to create peace -- starting with peace within ourselves and circling out to our ways of being in our families, churches, neighborhoods . . . and the world.

All people who long for peace are welcome. Come to add your own insight and to enrich your own journey!

We will begin Monday night, July 14, with a keynote address by Jim Loney. Jim is a member of Christian Peacemaker Teams who, along with three others, was held hostage in Iraq for months in 2005-2006. His peaceful witness before, during, and after his capture has received worldwide attention and opened many hearts to the idea of living life in a peace-filled way, even in the midst of immense violence.

Our mornings (Tuesday through Friday) will include music, morning prayer, Bible Study, and workshops.

Lawrence Martin will begin our day with prayer. Wapistan (Lawrence) is a member of the Cree First Nation from Moose Factory Reserve, located on James Bay in Ontario. Wapistan is a storyteller, an environmentalist, a vocalist and drummer and a Juno award winning musician -- he won the very first Canadian Aboriginal Juno Award. He plays many instruments and in a style that is a blend of indigenous, country and folk music. He is a father and grandfather and husband to aboriginal artist, Betty, with whom he owns and curates Ehkwateh Art Gallery in Cochrane, where he is also the mayor. Lawrence is currently the Interim Executive Director of the Misiway MilopemahteseWIN Community Health Centre in Timmins, Ontario.

We'll be led in Bible Study by Glen Stassen, Lewis Smedes Professor of Christian Ethics at Fuller Theological Seminary. Focusing on the practices of peace outlined in his book *Just Peacemaking: Ten Practices for Abolishing War*, Glen will explore both international and personal implications for his practical research into the actions that truly move us toward peace.

Workshops will cover a wide variety of topics -- everything from creating peace within your marriage to supporting the just recovery of New Orleans or addressing lasting issues of injustice toward First Nations people and communities. Workshops leaders who are artists, dramatists, human rights workers, environmentalists, social justice trainers, parents, teachers, pastors, and more will share their wisdom and gather ours.

Children and youth will spend the mornings in their own programs designed to join them into a transformative community and offer them real-life skills for creating peace.

Youth work veterans Mary Meadows and Julie Reiswig will coordinate the youth morning sessions. Hector Aristizabal -- artist, human rights worker, therapist, and actor -- will serve as a special resource leader with the youth program, using innovative theatrical techniques to teach conflict transcendence and life affirming group processes.

Long-time children's leader Elaine Pennington, will once again coordinate the morning program for children, drawing on various conference leaders to share their skills of art, drama, story-telling, music, conflict transformation and more to help our children develop as peacemakers.

A special afternoon workshop series called "Transforming Conflict: Transformed by Conflict" led by Dwight Lundgren will be offered for adult participants desiring intensive training.

Other afternoon offerings will include family-friendly field trips in the Montreal area, intergenerational peacemaking activities, and a peace and justice film series.

We'll worship together each evening. Our preachers will include Mary Hammond of Oberlin, Ohio, USA and Lee McKenna of Toronto, Ontario, Canada. Nightly worship will include music, dance, drama, and sermons examining the life of peace from the inside out.

After hours events will include plays, concerts, and open mic events in which all attendees are

invited to share their talents. Hector Aristizabal will present two one-man plays "Nightwind" and "IN-TE-A-RRO-R-GATOR." Lawrence Martin will be in concert.

A wide variety of additional leaders will help us to encounter and live the way that leads to peace.

Through music, worship, art, workshops, speakers, programming for children and youth and young adults, we as ordinary people will be empowered to live our ordinary lives in an extraordinary way.

Plan now to enrich your life and your personal journey toward peace by joining us July 14-19, 2008.

BPFNA Friendship Tour to Nicaragua

This invitation is from the Baptist Peace Fellowship of North America (BPFNA).

You're invited to be part of the BPFNA Friendship Tour to Nicaragua, planned for August 15-24, 2008. On this Friendship Tour, you will hear stories from people who lived through the series of crises in Nicaragua. You will learn how they survived. You will hear from leaders who helped communities transform conflicts into opportunities for growth, understanding, and constructive change. You will gain perspective on your own context of life and ministry. You will be changed too.

The Friendship Tour is being organized by Deirdre Hinz, a student at United Theological Seminary of the Twin Cities. Deirdre is a frequent world traveler, and an intern at BPFNA Partner Congregation University Baptist Church, Minneapolis, MN.

We hope you will be considering participating in this important Friendship Tour. There is much more information about the tour on the website at www.bpfna.org/friendship, or you can call Deirdre at (612) 331-1768. **The registration deadline is April 1.**

MINISTERS COUNCIL NEWS

Ministers Council Senate 2008

The Ministers Council Executive Committee has chosen the theme for Senate 2008: **Re-Member the Body**. As we enter into a season of transition, we will envision our future by looking back through our history to recall what our mission on behalf of American Baptist pastoral leaders has always been and how we have lived it out, and simultaneously will RE-MEMBER the Ministers Council through focus on constituent Council leadership development and resourcing.

For information on the history of the Minister's Council:

<http://www.ministerscouncil.com/WhoWeAre/historyupdate.aspx>

<http://www.ministerscouncil.com/WhoWeAre/markers2004update.aspx>

http://www.ministerscouncil.com/WhoWeAre/ministers_council_presidentslist.aspx

An index on various aspects of identity may be found here:

<http://www.ministerscouncil.com/WhoWeAre/default.aspx>

The Senate will meet August 16-20 at the Green Lake Conference Center, Green Lake, WI. Because the registration for the meeting and for lodging is done online through the Ministers Council website it is not necessary to contact Green Lake.

Senators are requested to register immediately in order to guarantee a room at Green Lake:

<http://www.ministerscouncil.com/Registrations/SenateRegistrationForm.aspx>

BOOK NOOK

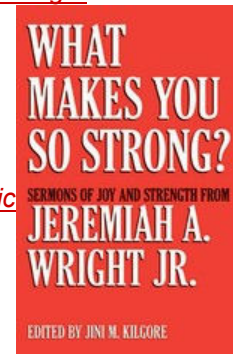
From Judson Press

Judson Press Offers Jeremiah Wright Sermons of Hope, Joy, Strength

In the wake of negative media attention surrounding the "sermon bites" of Rev. Dr. Jeremiah Wright Jr., Judson Press offers the more contextualized [*Good News! Sermons of Hope for Today's Families*](#) and [*What Makes You So Strong? Sermons of Joy and Strength*](#) from its backlist.

The larger context of Wright's preaching can be placed in what Temple University Professor Molefi Kete Asante has called Afrocentrism (i.e., Africentrism). Wright, and other Africentrists, seek to bring together Christian theology and African culture in a meaningful way. (See [*Africentric Christianity: A Theological Appraisal for Ministry*](#) by J. Deotis Roberts, Judson 2000).

Contained in [*What Makes You So Strong?*](#) is "The Audacity to Hope," the sermon from which presidential hopeful Senator Barack Obama drew the title of his recent best-selling book.



Jeremiah Wright has long been part of a well-respected and leading group of African American preachers and authors associated with Judson Press, the publishing arm of National Ministries, American Baptist Churches USA. For a complete list of African American Christian resources from Judson Press, visit www.judsonpress.com.

PRAYER REQUESTS

Please pray for world peace.

Please lift up in prayer all who are working to bring peace to Iraq.

Please pray for ABC missionaries Charles and Sarah West, working in Zambia. Charles works on Christian education with Baptists there. Sarah works with vulnerable and exploited women and children at risk.

Please pray for ABC missionaries Carolos Bonilla and Mayra Giovanetti in Chile, where they are professors-at-large for the churches of the Convention of Baptist Churches of the Chilean Mission and for their Baptist Theological Institute.

Dan Buttry works for conflict resolution in churches around the world. Please pray for him and his ministry.

Debbie and John Coats have been ABC missionaries in Cambodia. They have submitted their

resignation from International Ministries, and are making changes for the sake of their children. Please pray for them all as they travel a new road.

ABC missionaries LaMon and Pat Brown train Thai Christians to be church leaders in Thailand. Please pray for them in their work. Please pray for Pat as she endeavors to learn the Karen language in order to enhance her ability to train Karen leaders.

Please lift up in prayer all ABC women in ministry, especially those attending the Daughters of the Flame conference in St. Louis next week.

CALENDAR

April 9--Northwest Suburban Peace and Education Project meeting, South Church, 501 S. Emerson, Mount Prospect, 7 p.m.

April 11-12--Interfaith Conference on Religion and Violence, The Raven Foundation, 2624 Patriot Boulevard, Glenview.

April 13--Performance of *Deep Listening*, Chiesa Nuova, 230 S. Laflin, Chicago, 3 p.m.

April 14-17--National Workshop on Christian Unity

April 15-18--2008 Conference on Urban Ministry. Please visit www.scupe.com.

April 15--Finance and Property Committee meeting, Wunderlich Securities office, 200 W. Madison, Suite 2950, Chicago, 3 p.m.

April 16--National Health Care Decisions Day, panel discussion, Advocate Illinois Masonic Medical Center, 836 W. Wellington Avenue, Chicago, 10 a.m.-noon; continental breakfast and registration at 9:30.

April 16-19--"Daughters of the Flame" women in ministry conference, Hilton, St. Louis Airport. Please see <http://www.ministerscouncil.com/documents/DaughtersoftheFlameConferenceSchedule-Leadership.doc>

April 22-25--"Fanning the Flame" national pastors' conference, Green Lake Conference Center.

April 23-24--Spring revival, First Baptist Church of Park Forest, 80 North Orchard, Park Forest, 7 p.m. each evening.

April 24--Program on Prostitution, Human Trafficking and Sexual Exploitation; College of Du Page, K Commons Building, 425 Fawell Boulevard, Glen Ellyn, 8 a.m.-4 p.m. Registration begins at 9:30 a.m.

April 25--Application deadline for Mayor Daley's Summer Jobs Program for young people ages 14-21. Please visit www.chicagokidsstart.org/general/kidstart/home.htm or phone 773-553-JOBS (773-553-5727).

May 1--ABCMC Women in Ministry gathering, Living Well Ministries, at St. James Presbyterian Church, 6554 N. Rockwell Street, Chicago. (Please use the Albion Street entrance to the educational wing.) The gathering will be from noon to 3 p.m. RSVP by April 29 to 773-655-4357.

May 3--Cook County Jail Ministry dinner, First Baptist Church of Oak Park, 820 Ontario Street,

Oak Park, 6 p.m.

May 4--ABPS/MMBB dinner for ABCMC clergy, Hyde Park Union Church, 5600 S. Woodlawn Avenue, Chicago, 6 p.m. RSVP by May 1 to tony@abcmc.org.

May 20--Finance and Property Committee meeting, Wunderlich Securities office, 200 W. Madison, Suite 2950, Chicago, 3 p.m.

May 31--Legal Seminar for churches, True Rock Ministries, 57 East 16th Street, Chicago.

June 21--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.

July 5-11--**The National Gathering of American Baptist Youth**, Estes Park, Colorado, sponsored by National Ministries, American Baptist Churches USA. For more information and registration, please visit www.morethanaweek.org.

July 14-19--Baptist Peace Fellowship of North America's Peace Camp. Please visit www.bpfna.org for more information.

July 17--Finance and Property Committee meeting, Wunderlich Securities office, 200 W. Madison, Suite 2950, Chicago, 3 p.m.

August 17-22--Christian Writers Conference, Green Lake Conference Center. Visit www.glcc.org and click on "conferences" for complete information.

August 19--Finance and Property Committee meeting, Wunderlich Securities office, 200 W. Madison, Suite 2950, Chicago, 3 p.m.

September 16--Finance and Property Committee meeting, Wunderlich Securities office, 200 W. Madison, Suite 2950, Chicago, 3 p.m.

October 21--Finance and Property Committee meeting, Wunderlich Securities office, 200 W. Madison, Suite 2950, Chicago, 3 p.m.

November 18--Finance and Property Committee meeting, Wunderlich Securities office, 200 W. Madison, Suite 2950, Chicago, 3 p.m.

December 16--Finance and Property Committee meeting, Wunderlich Securities office, 200 W. Madison, Suite 2950, Chicago, 3 p.m.

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