

Metro Chicago

eWind

*Suddenly there was...a strong wind blowing, and...
they were all filled with the Holy Spirit... (Acts 2:2-3, TEV)*

Weekly Electronic Newsletter of the American Baptist Churches of Metro Chicago
A patchwork of varied news and announcements
from our churches, communities, denomination and other organizations,
covering a wide variety of interests reflecting the diversity of our region

October 22, 2008

“I hereby command you: Be strong and courageous; do not be frightened or dismayed,
for the LORD your God is with you wherever you go.”
Joshua 1:9

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ABCMC NEWS

ABCMC Annual Meeting

2008 Annual Meeting of the American Baptist Churches of Metro Chicago
Disparity and Difference
New Testament Perspectives and Imperatives
November 8
Morgan Park Baptist Church
11024 S. Bell Avenue, Chicago
Registration opens at 8:30 a.m.; lunch at noon; adjournment by 3 p.m.
Email office@abcmc.org or phone 7730804-1655 with your attendance plans.

30th Year Anniversary Celebration of Cook County Jail Ministry

We are all invited to celebrate the 30th year of Cook County Jail Ministry in Fellowship Hall, First Baptist Church of Oak Park, 820 Ontario Street, Oak Park on Saturday, November 8 at 6 p.m.

The featured speaker will be Dr. William Goddard, who was instrumental in helping Rev. Andy Gonzalez begin the jail ministry. One of the fruits of this ministry, "Rocky" Vasquez, will share his testimony. The evening's program will also include the premier showing of the DVD telling the story of the Cook County Jail Ministry.

Tickets will be available at the door, and will cost \$15 for adults, \$5 for children under 12, and \$100 for a table of 8. Plan now for a super evening that will substantially feed your soul.

World Mission Offering 2008

The fall is the season when most American Baptist congregations collect the World Mission Offering. This is the offering to support American Baptist mission work around the world. Your gifts to the World Mission Offering go **100 percent** to support the work of 2,500 short- and long-term missionaries doing work with local partners in 76 countries around the world. LIVE GENEROUSLY!

Kids Hope United Annual Dinner

Kids Hope United invites you to their Annual Dinner. Join them to commemorate 113 years of providing innovative services to protect children and strengthen families.

Jennifer Witherspoon will be the main speaker. She grew up in the Robert Taylor Homes on Chicago's South Side and is now the chief of corrections at Lake County Jail, the first African American and first woman ever to be named to that position. She has worked as a substance abuse counselor and law enforcement patrol sergeant in California, and as a legal advocate for victims of domestic violence in the YWCA ALIVE Program in Washington. She is a founding member of the North Shore Bronzeville Association in Chicago, which assists young men and women from underprivileged families by providing experiences and skills that participants would not ordinarily receive in schools. She earned her bachelor's degree in criminal justice from the City University in Bellevue, Washington, and her law degree from the John Marshall Law School in Chicago. She lives in Waukegan with her husband of 24 years, Michael, and their two children, Megan and Tyler.

The dinner will be held Wednesday, November 12, 6:00 p.m. at Drinker Biddle, 191 N. Wacker Drive, Suite 3700. There is no charge for the event, but reservations are due October 31. Please contact Kristy Cechini at kcechini@kidshopeunited.org or 847-245-6505.

Kids Hope United is an American Baptist related organization. Linda Requilez, Clarke Robinson, Edward Santiago, and William Wallin serve on the Northern Region Board. Larry Greenfield serves on the Federation Board. Come join us.

Save the Date

It's time to tune up your voice and your musical instruments, and prepare seasonal music for the 2nd Annual ABCMC Christmas/Advent Season Music Festival, Irving Park Baptist Church, 4401 W. Irving Park Road, Chicago, December 13, 3:30 p.m. Everyone is invited to be a part of the celebration. More information will follow.

NEWS FROM ABCMC CONGREGATIONS

Elijah

The Community Church of Wilmette, 1020 Forest Avenue, Wilmette, will present a performance of Mendelssohn's oratorio *Elijah* on Friday, October 24, at 8:00 p.m. There is no admission charge. *Elijah* will be sung in the original English. The Choir is under the direction of Winifred Brown. It will be a great evening. Call the church for additional information. 847-256-4592.

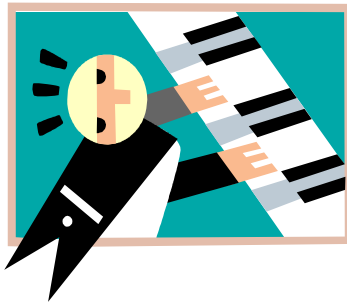
Pastor's Birthday

Saint John Church-Baptist will celebrate the 50th birthday of their pastor, Ricky Freeman, on Sunday, October 26, following the morning worship service. Happy birthday to Ricky from the entire ABCMC family.

Morgan Park to Install New Pastor

On Sunday, October 26, at 3 p.m., the Rev. Dr. Thomas Aldworth will be installed as Pastor of Morgan Park Baptist Church. The speaker for the afternoon will be Dr. Larry Greenfield. All are invited. A reception will follow the service. The ABCMC family is celebrating with Thomas and Morgan Park.

Concert in Flint



At The Good Beans Café, downtown Flint, on Grand Traverse at First Avenue, hear the mellow notes of Dr. Quincy Dobbs on piano and the sultry tones of Annie Oper on vocals.

You'll enjoy a selection of the Classic '40s-style' music that has been rediscovered by such greats as Linda Ronstadt, Rod Stewart, and Aaron Neville.

Absolutely free

(Tips are not required, but encouraged – In fact we may beg you for them)

Friday, November 7, from 7 to 9 p.m.



The Kite Runner

A one-man show based on the best selling book *The Kite Runner* will be performed at Woodside Church, 1509 E. Court Street, Flint, Michigan on Sunday, November 9 at 4 p.m. in the Chapel.

Worship Music Workshop

*United Church of Christ Musicians' Association
Along With Dr. Quincy Dobbs and
Woodside Church's Women's Folk Choir*

Presents

A Workshop In Alternative Worship

For Church Musicians

(Especially for directors, organists, choir, singers, drummers, percussionists)

Saturday, November 15, 2008

Noon

At Woodside Church

***1509 E. Court St., Flint, MI 48503 (next to Mott Community College)
810-767-4911, <http://www.woodsidechurch.net/>***

FEATURES:

***Drum Workshop, Led by Lori Fithian, of First UU Church, Ann Arbor
Creating a Folk Choir, Led by Karen Howells and Linda Angus,
co-founders of Woodside Women's Folk Choir***

Hymn Sing

Drum Circle

\$25.00 per person (includes lunch, workshop, and choir music packet)

More info: See <http://drummunity.com>

Registration must be postmarked by November 12, 2008. If registering later, add \$1.00 to the fee.

Karen-American Open House



K A R E N - A M E R I C A N O P E N H O U S E

Stepping to the Beat of the Same Drum

You are invited to attend the Karen-American Open House

Where:

North Shore Baptist Church in Chicago 5244 N Lakewood Ave, Chicago, IL 60640

When:

Sunday November 16, 2008 from 2:00 to 6:00 pm

Why:

To welcome our new neighbors to Chicago and to join us in exploring ways to help them succeed in America. Over 2,500 refugees from Burma and Thailand, most from the long persecuted Karen ethnic minority, have come to Chicago in the last year.

What to Expect:

An interactive, open forum where Karen refugees and Americans meet to share information and ideas for helping the Karen overcome their most pressing challenges, particularly:

- English tutoring for adults
- Employment opportunities
- Eligibility and Access to Public Support
- Housing
- Children's Programs

What Else?

- Representatives from state and city government specializing in refugee affairs.
- Karen crafts and cuisine will be available for sale.
- Karen art and culture will be demonstrated and discussed.
- Performances by local Karen and American musicians.
- Volunteer opportunities for you to explore.

What can I do?

Simply join us on the 16th. Bring your ideas and creative problem-solving skills. Our aim is to leverage the power of networking within our community on the Karens' behalf. No need to bring your checkbook, however, if you like, you may contribute to the Karen Welcome Pantry project of North Shore Baptist Church.

How do I RSVP?

Please email Theneeners@aol.com to confirm your attendance and/or to ask questions. Please feel free to forward this email to others who may be interested. (Of course, you do not need to be Karen to benefit from the information presented at this event. It is OPEN to all!)

175th Anniversary Celebration

The First Baptist Church of Chicago, the oldest Baptist church in the city of Chicago, is celebrating 175 | of ministry this year. On October 12 they held a joy-filled time of celebration. They're not done yet, though.

First Baptist's 175th Anniversary Banquet will be held at 6 p.m. on the evening of Sunday, November 23. The banquet will take place in Ida Noyes Hall, 1212 East 59th Street on the campus of the University of Chicago. Tickets are \$50.00 per person. Please call the church office at 773-536-3430 reserve your seats. Evening attire is requested.



COMMUNITY NEWS

Vote Early—But Just Once

Election Day is less than two weeks away! Polling places in Cook County will be open on Tuesday, November 4, 6 a.m. to 7 p.m. **BE SURE TO BRING A PHOTO ID.**

You can go on line to <http://www.voterinfonet.com/> and type in your address to check to make sure you are registered, to find out what your polling place is, and to find out where you can go to vote early.

Voting early offers several advantages. It will save you from waiting in long lines on election day, when a record number of citizens are expected to vote. It will also leave you free to do other things that day, including working for candidates of your choosing.

For the 2008 Presidential General Election, Early Voting will be offered from Oct. 13-30, 2008, seven days a week.

Monday through Saturday, **Chicago** voters will be able to use any of 51 sites: one in each ward, plus the Chicago Election Board office at 69 W. Washington St.

On Sundays, Early Voting will be offered only at the Election Board Office at 69 W. Washington St., Lower Level, and only from 9 a.m. to noon. (All other Early Voting sites in the city are closed on Sundays.)

Ward / Location / Address

1. Goldblatt's Building 1615 W Chicago Ave
2. Mabel Manning Library 6 S. Hoyne Ave.
3. Chicago Bee Library 3647 S. State St.
4. M L King Community Center 4314 S. Cottage Grove Ave.
5. Jackson Park 6401 S. Stony Island Ave.
6. Whitney Young Library 7901 S ML. King Jr. Dr.
7. Jeffery Manor Library 2401 E. 100th St.
8. Olive Harvey College 10001 S. Woodlawn Ave.
9. Palmer Park 201 E 111th St.
10. Vodak/East Side Library 3710 E. 106th St.
11. McKinley Park 2210 W. Pershing Rd.
12. Back of the Yards Library 4650 S. Damen Ave.
13. West Lawn Park 4233 W. 65 St.

14. Archer Heights Library 5055 S. Archer Ave.
15. Lindbloom Park 6054 S. Damen Ave.
16. Sherman Park Library 5440 S. Racine Ave.
17. Thurgood Marshall Library 7506 S. Racine Ave.
18. Wrightwood-Ashburn Library 8530 S. Kedzie Ave.
19. 22nd Police District 1900 W. Monterey Ave.
20. Coleman Library 731 E. 63rd St.
21. Woodson Regional Library 9525 S. Halsted St.
22. Piotrowski Park 4247 W. 31st St.
23. Clearing Library 6423 W. 63rd Pl.
24. Douglass Library 3353 W. 13th St.
25. Chinatown Library 2353 S. Wentworth Ave.
26. Humboldt Park Library 1605 N. Troy St.
27. Union Park 1501 W. Randolph St.
28. West Side Learning Center 4624 W. Madison St.
29. Amundsen Park 6200 W. Bloomingdale Ave.
30. Portage Cragin Library 5108 W. Belmont Ave.
31. Blackhawk Park 2318 N. Lavergne Ave.
32. Pulaski Park 1419 W. Blackhawk St.
33. Independence Library 3548 W. Irving Park Rd.
34. West Pullman Library 830 W. 119th St.
35. Logan Square Library 3030 W. Fullerton Ave.
36. Hiawatha Park 8029 W. Forest Preserve Dr.
37. West Chicago Library 4856 W. Chicago Ave.
38. Wright College - Science Bldg 4300 N. Narragansett Ave.
39. N. Park Village Administration Building 5801 N. Pulaski Rd.
40. Budlong Woods Library 5630 N. Lincoln Ave.
41. Roden Library 6083 N. Northwest Hwy.
42. Access Living 115 W. Chicago Ave.
43. Lincoln Park Library 1150 W. Fullerton Ave.
44. Merlo Library 644 W. Belmont Ave.
45. Edgebrook Library 5331 W. Devon Ave.
46. Truman College 1145 W. Wilson Ave.
47. Welles Park 2333 W. Sunnyside Ave.
48. Edgewater Library 1210 W. Elmdale Ave.
49. Pottawattomie Park 7340 N. Rogers Ave.
50. Warren Park 6601 N. Western Ave., and,

HOURS:

Monday-Saturday 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Sunday - 9 a.m. to Noon ONLY at the Election Board Offices,
69 W. Washington, Lower Level

(All other Chicago Early Voting sites are closed on Sundays.)

College Scholarship Fair

On Saturday, November 3, from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m., 100 Black Men of Chicago, Inc. will host its 2007 College Scholarship Fair. Students, parents, teachers and counselors are encouraged to attend. Over 125 colleges and universities will be participating. Students should bring 5-10 copies of each of the following: school transcript(s) or GED certificate; 2 different letters of reference; college entrance examination scores (ACT/SAT); an essay; their resume. For more information, please call 312-205-3340, or see your high school guidance counselor. To register on line, please visit the web site at www.100bmc.org.

ABCUSA NEWS

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

National Ministries Calls New Latino Ministries Strategist

VALLEY FORGE, PA (ABNS 10/20/08) — Rev. F. Salvador Orellana will join National Ministries as national coordinator for Intercultural Ministries, Latino Ministries strategist, on December 1.

In his new role, Orellana will provide leadership to American Baptist Hispanic and Portuguese-speaking constituencies and encourage awareness of and sensitivity to cultural diversity throughout American Baptist Churches USA, while working to strengthen ministries in multicultural and intercultural contexts. In addition, Orellana will focus on increasing the capacity of American Baptist leaders to excel in implementing effective ministries of evangelism, discipleship, transformation and prophetic justice, as his work furthers National Ministries' strategic mission.

"We are delighted by the addition of the Rev. Salvador Orellana to the National Ministries' team," says the Rev. Marilyn Turner, National Ministries' associate executive director for Program Ministries. "We're confident that the experience, leadership and commitment he brings will enable him to quickly engage in the kinds of ministry and mission that will be beneficial to the constituencies he serves and the ABCUSA body as a whole."

Since 2001, Orellana has served as senior pastor of First Hispanic Baptist Church of Trenton, N.J., where he led the congregation to establish "La Casita"—a legal services program that helps immigrants navigate the U.S. immigration system. "La Casita" has assisted more than 575 persons from approximately 35 countries—on the continents of Asia, Africa and Europe as well as the Americas—since its founding in 2006. He has also pastored congregations in Plainfield, N.J. and White Plains, N.Y. and his native El Salvador.

Orellana has been involved in all levels of American Baptist life. A member of the boards of American Baptist Churches of New Jersey and the American Baptist National Hispanic Caucus, he has served as treasurer of the Association of Spanish Speaking Baptist Churches of the New York Metropolitan Area and as an advisor to the Hispanic Youth of New Jersey. Orellana is currently a member of the ABCUSA General Board and the Executive Committee of the Board of National Ministries, from which he will resign when he joins National Ministries' staff.

A graduate of Central American Theological Seminary in Guatemala, Orellana is currently a candidate for a master of divinity degree from Palmer Theological Seminary, formerly Eastern Theological Seminary. He and his wife have two children.

Ministerios Nacionales nombra estratega para ministerios latinos

VALLEY FORGE, PA (ABNS 10/20/08) — Rev. F. Salvador Orellana se unirá a Ministerios Nacionales como coordinador nacional para Ministerios Interculturales, Estratega de Ministerios Latinos desde el 1 de diciembre próximo.

En su nuevo rol, Orellana proporcionará liderazgo a los Bautistas Americanos de habla castellana y portuguesa y estimulará la toma de conciencia y sensibilidad a la diversidad cultural a través de la denominación, a la vez que trabajará para consolidar los ministerios en contextos multiculturales e interculturales. Además de ello, Orellana se enfocará en incrementar la capacidad del liderazgo Bautista Americano para seguir implementando ministerios efectivos de evangelismo, discipulado, transformación y justicia profética, en tanto su tarea contribuye a la misión de Ministerios Nacionales.

“Estamos muy contentos con la llegada del Rvdo. Salvador Orellana al equipo de Ministerios Nacionales”, dice la Rvda. Marilyn Turner, directora ejecutiva asociada para programas, en Ministerios Nacionales. “Estamos confiados de que la experiencia, el liderazgo y el compromiso que él trae, le van a permitir involucrarse prontamente en el ministerio y la misión, de tal manera que beneficiará no solamente al pueblo hispano sino también a toda la familia ABCUSA”.

Desde el 2001, Orellana ha servido como pastor principal de la Primera Iglesia Bautista Hispana de Trenton, New Jersey, en donde condujo a la congregación a establecer " La Casita", un programa de servicios jurídicos que ayuda a personas inmigrantes a lidiar con el sistema de inmigración de Estados Unidos. Desde su fundación en el 2006 "La Casita" ha ayudado a más de 575 personas de aproximadamente 35 países, tanto de Asia, África y Europa así como de las Américas. Él también ha pastoreado congregaciones en Plainfield, N.J., White Plains, N.Y. y en su nativo país, El Salvador.

Orellana ha participado de la vida Bautista Americana en todos los niveles. Miembro de la Junta de las Iglesias Bautistas Americanas de New Jersey y del Caucus Nacional Bautista Hispano, ha servido también como tesorero de la Asociación de Iglesias Bautistas Hispanas de Metro New York y como consejero de la Juventud de las Iglesias Bautistas Latinas de New Jersey. Actualmente, Orellana es miembro de la Junta General de ABCUSA y del Comité Ejecutivo de la Junta de Ministerios Nacionales, del cual renunciará en cuanto se una al personal de Ministerios Nacionales.

Graduado en el Seminario Teológico Centroamericano en Guatemala, Orellana es actualmente candidato a una maestría en Divinidades del Seminario Teológico Palmer, antes Seminario Teológico del Este. Él y su esposa tienen dos niños.

American Baptist Leaders and Historical Society Dedicate New Home

ATLANTA, GA (ABNS 10/20/08) — The American Baptist Historical Society celebrated its Grand Re-Opening and Dedication on September 27, with the help of representatives from its major American Baptist partners.

A video of the event has been posted on ABHS' website, www.abhsarchives.org.

American Baptist Churches' General Secretary Roy Medley, National Ministries' Executive Director Aidsand F. Wright-Riggins III, International Ministries' Board Vice President Ruth Clark, The Ministers and Missionaries Benefit Board Regional Representative Z. Allen Abbott and local church historian the Rev. Lester C. Garner, from Calvary Baptist Church, Norristown, PA, joined ABHS President Trinette McCray, Vice President Wesley Roberts, Executive Director Deborah Van Broekhoven and Mercer University's President William Underwood and Vice President Richard Swindle, in cutting the ribbon, symbolically opening a new era in the Historical Society's own history.

The Historical Society's new home on the Atlanta campus of Mercer University is the fifth home for the collections since the Society was founded in 1853. The move consolidated the Archives Center, which was located at Valley Forge, PA, and held the archives of the mission societies of ABC USA as well as the Baptist World Alliance, with the Society's merged collections with the Samuel Colgate Historical Baptist Library in Rochester, NY.

“Now all the collections in our care are on one floor and under one roof!” said ABHS Executive Director Deborah Van Broekhoven.

“This move furthers the Board of Managers' goal to make the collections more accessible,” said President Trinette McCray. “No longer will researchers have to decide which facility to go to, or incur the expense of traveling to both. No longer will staff be separated by facilities 300 miles apart. Atlanta is perfect because it is one flight from almost any city in the country”

“Earth Shakers and World Movers”

The Rev. Dr. J. Alfred Smith Sr., senior pastor of Allen Temple Baptist Church, Oakland, CA, gave the keynote address at the celebration luncheon, sponsored in part by National Ministries. Author of numerous books, including *Speak Until Justice Wakes* (Judson Press), Dr. Smith called Baptists to remember those who have made a difference in church and society over the centuries.

“American Baptists are about women and men who used power from the periphery...to strike a blow to kill slavery. Let us remember the many unnamed, unknown, unsung, white American Baptist missionaries who braved even the stigma of death from heartless persons to establish in the South some major colleges that educated some of the Black ‘earth shakers and world movers’ of American history.

“Let us...pay tribute not only to early itinerate home missionaries, like John Mason Peck, who helped move the denomination westward. Let us rediscover Benjamin and Adam Morales, early pioneers of American Baptist Spanish-speaking church growth and ... theological education.” Continuing his list, Dr. Smith paid tribute and called American Baptists to remember also history-makers as Orlando E. Costas, Elizabeth Conde-Frazier, Loida I. Martell-Ortero, Drs. Henry and Ella Mitchell, Dr. Jitsuo Morikawa, Dr. James Chuck, Dr. Eldon Ernst, Drs. Cora and John Sparrowk, Dr. Martin Luther King Jr., Dr. Howard Thurman and Dr. James Evans.

History in Abundance

After tours of the new facility, including the basketball court-sized compact shelving unit, provided by partners Colgate Rochester Crozer Divinity School, when ABHS was in Rochester, and moved and rebuilt by Mercer University, a panel discussion of historians from across the country shared stories of Baptist history from their research and life experience, continuing the discussion of why Baptist history matters. Special presentations included "Preservation Matters" a PowerPoint tour of ABHS media needs by summer intern Heidi Holmstrom, and a dramatic portrayal by actor Carol Anderson, recalling the words of Ann, Sarah and Emily Chubbuck Judson, Baptist missionary to Burma in the early 1800s.

Said the Rev. Dr. J. Alfred Brinson, Atlanta native, co-chairman of ABHS' History Matters capital campaign, and retired national ABC staff member, “This is a special moment. That now, here in Atlanta, we celebrate the open house of the largest center for Baptist history. And we are a part of this Baptist history. So Atlanta celebrates.

"Atlanta is a great city for bringing people together. We're hoping and asking God to bless this new home for the American Baptist Historical Society, and make it a great thing."

Panel participants included:

The Rev. Dr. Everett Goodwin *Panel Moderator*, pastor of the Scarsdale Community Baptist Church (NY) and the author of numerous books, including *Down By the Riverside: A Brief History of Baptist Faith*, and *Baptists in the Balance: The Tension Between Freedom and Responsibility*. He has led tours to significant sites for church and Baptist history and served as an officer for ABHS.

The Rev. Dr. Adam Bond, Assistant Professor of Historical Studies at the Samuel DeWitt Proctor School of Theology in Richmond, VA. His dissertation from Marquette University analyzes the life and theology of Samuel DeWitt Proctor. He is an ordained ABC minister and has served on the regional staff for ABC of Wisconsin.

Dr. William H. Brackney, Millard R. Cherry Distinguished Professor of Christian Theology and Ethics at Acadia Divinity School, Wolfville, Nova Scotia, Canada. He is the author of numerous books on Baptist history, with his latest title *Baptists and Higher Education* currently in production at Mercer University Press. He began his career as the Executive Director of the American Baptist Historical Society, after which he taught and administered religion programs at Eastern Seminary, MacMaster Divinity School, and Baylor University.

The Rev. Dr. Albert P. Brinson, *History Matters Campaign* co-chair, retired recently as ABC Associate General Secretary. Brinson was licensed and ordained at historic Ebenezer Baptist Church by co-pastors

Martin Luther King Sr. and Martin Luther King Jr. Dr. Brinson has authored numerous pieces on stewardship education and remains a popular speaker and preacher.

Dr. Anthea Butler, Assistant Professor of Religion at the University of Rochester and author of numerous articles and the book *Women in the Church of God in Christ: Making A Sanctified World* (2007). She is currently a visiting research fellow at Harvard Divinity School and is working on a biography of the Women's American Baptist Home Mission Society first missionary, Joanna P. Moore.

Dr. Loris Coletta, *History Matters campaign* co-chair, was honored in 2003 by American Baptist Churches USA with the Sparrowk Award, given for her years of leadership and community service. Previously she served for eight years on ABC's General Board, working in the areas of education, ecumenism, and statements of concern. She currently chairs the development committee for ABHS.

William D. Underwood, president of Mercer University. Prior to joining Mercer, President Underwood held the prestigious Leon Jaworski Chair at the Baylor School of Law. He is an elected member of the American Law Institute and the American Bar Foundation. He has published extensively and presented a number of papers on how faith relates to higher education.

Dr. Deborah Bingham Van Broekhoven, Executive Director of the American Baptist Historical Society. Previously she taught history at Ohio Wesleyan University, Barrington College, and Grand Rapids Baptist College. She has authored articles on American religion and social change, as well as *The Devotion of These Women: Rhode Island in the Antislavery Network*.

Founded in 1853, the American Baptist Historical Society holds the largest and most diverse collection of Baptist materials in the world. Focused on Baptists in the United States, the collections include the personal papers of prominent Baptists, minutes from Baptist associations from the early 1700s to the present representing many different Baptist denominations, archives of the mission societies of the American Baptist Churches, USA, Danish Baptists and Free Will Baptists, the archives of the Baptist World Alliance, local church records, missionary and church artifacts, and newspapers and magazines representing the worldwide Baptist press.

HEALTH CARE NEWS

Send a Clear Message to Your State Legislators

The Illinois Health Care Justice Campaign invites you and your congregation to participate in their statewide postcard campaign. Tens of thousands of Illinoisans this fall will be sending a clear message to their state legislators.

The excuse that many legislators use is "I'm not hearing from my constituents. Let's put that to rest once and for all. It's time to raise our voices to demand accessible, affordable and guaranteed health care for everyone. Members of the Illinois General Assembly must step up to the plate and pass comprehensive health care reform next year, to encourage the federal government to take action on the national level.

The Illinois Campaign for Better Health Care has postcards that you can order and use to contact your state legislators, and urge them to work for better health care. Each post card is already addressed to the state capitol; you need only add your return address and state legislator's name to the address side of the card. The message on each post card reads:

Dear State Legislator _____

Our healthcare system is broken. We're all paying more while the insurance companies are making record profits and denying coverage at historic levels. Every year means more Illinois families and businesses can't afford to pay for health care.

Illinois deserves better. We believe in shared opportunities and Shared responsibilities. We're in this together and we need to fix our healthcare system. We want a healthcare system that's accessible, affordable, and guaranteed for all of us. We need action NOW!

Sincerely,

You can order post cards by email at cbhc-cu@cbhconline.org, or by regular mail at Campaign for Better Health Care, 44 E. Main Street, Suite 414, Champaign, IL 61820. Specify how many post cards you would like. The organization requests a donation of \$5 to cover the cost of each 100 post cards.

BOOK NOOK

Judson Press Releases Making Your Church a House of Healing

VALLEY FORGE, PA (ABNS 10/17/08) — Author, pastor, and spiritual director Michael Gemignani believes that if the church is to fulfill its mission as the Body of Christ on earth, it must have spiritual healing as the focus of its ministry. In the new Judson Press book [Making Your Church a House of Healing](#), he offers a practical primer for churches that seek to become instruments of spiritual healing. Gemignani addresses key questions, including:

- What is spiritual healing?
- Why is it so important?
- How can my church develop a ministry focused on spiritual healing?
- What obstacles are we likely to encounter and how might we overcome them?

This book, which includes questions for small-group discussion and congregational action, concludes with lists of additional resources along with examples of prayers and rituals that might be used for healing. A free online workshop is also available at www.judsonpress.com.

Foreword writer and prolific author Keith Miller describes *Making Your Church a House of Healing* “a remarkable book.” He writes, “Rarely does a brilliant intellectual come up with a deceptively simple and user-friendly theological insight that can transform life in a local congregation.”

Spiritual director and author Dr. Leslie A. Hay offers her praise as well: “Michael Gemignani has carefully crafted a straightforward guide for church ministry that is sensitive to the healing of both individual members and the congregation as a whole. He helps the reader consider what it means to be a healthy church—the loving reflection of the ‘Body of Christ’ we profess to be.”

Michael Gemignani, MS, PhD, JD, associate rector at St. Michael's Episcopal Church in Lamarque, Texas, has been an ordained Episcopal priest for more than 30 years. Also a longtime spiritual director, Gemignani has a special interest in, and experience with, healing ministry. He is the author of several books, including [To Know God: Small Group Exercises for Spiritual Formation](#) and [Spiritual Formation for Pastors](#), both from Judson Press.

Founded in 1824, Judson Press—a publishing ministry of National Ministries, American Baptist Churches USA—produces Christ-centered leadership resources for the transformation of persons, congregations, communities and cultures.

Order *Making Your Church a House of Healing* (\$14) by calling 800-458-3766 or visiting www.judsonpress.com.

PRAYER REQUESTS

Please pray for World peace.

Please join in prayer for Thomas Aldworth and Morgan Park Baptist Church. The installation of Thomas as pastor of the church will be at the church this Sunday at 3 p.m. Let's support the celebration with presence and prayer.

Please lift up in prayer Saint John Church – Baptist and their pastor Ricky Freeman as they celebrate the pastor's birthday this weekend.

Please pray for ABC missionaries Chuck and Ramona Shawyer and the people with whom they are ministering in Mexico.

Please pray for the people of Haiti and for ABC missionaries Dan and Estella Schweissing as they minister in that hurricane-devastated island nation.

Please remember in prayer all American Baptists serving as volunteers in mission. Please remember especially Susan Omanson, who is working with Annie Dieselberg in the Night Light mission in Thailand. Susan is a member of our own Executive Minister's home church, the First Baptist Church of Sioux Falls, South Dakota.

Please hold in prayer our state and our nation as we prepare for elections next month.

CALENDAR

October 24—Concert for Breast Care Awareness Month, Woodside Church, 1509 E. Court Street, Flint, Michigan, 7 p.m.

October 24— Mendelssohn's *Elijah*, Church of Wilmette, 1020 Forest Avenue, Wilmette, 8 p.m.

October 25—Benefit concert for Iraqi Refugees, 7 p.m. at St. Gertrude Social Hall, 1401 W. Granville Avenue, Chicago.

October 26—Installation of Thomas Aldworth as pastor of Morgan Park Baptist Church, 11025 S. Bell Avenue, Chicago, 3 p.m.

October 27-28—McCormick Days 2008 program on the Emerging Church. For more information, please visit www.mccormick.edu

November 1—Workshop with Ken Medema, Rockford. For more information, please contact Mark Vincent by e-mail: marklv@DesignForMinistry.com or marklv@DesignForBusinessIntl.com or phone: 877-771-3330 or 888-463-9995.

November 7—Concert by Quincy Dobbs and Annie Oper of Woodside Church, The Good Beans Café, downtown Flint, Grand Traverse at First Ave, 7-9 p.m.

November 8—ABCMC Annual Meeting, Morgan Park Baptist Church, 9 a.m.-4:30 p.m. (registration begins at 8:30 a.m.). This year's theme will be "Disparity and Difference: New Testament Perspectives and Imperatives."

November 8—Cook County Jail Ministry 30th Anniversary Celebration, First Baptist Church of Oak Park, 820 Ontario Street, Oak Park, 6 p.m.

November 12—Kids Hope United Annual Dinner, law firm of Drinker Biddle, 191 North Wacker Drive, Suite 3700, Chicago (in the Loop), 6 p.m.

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

November 25—Annual Meeting, Illinois Campaign for Better Health Care, Holiday Inn Mart Plaza, 350 West Mart Center Drive, Chicago, 9 a.m.-3 p.m. Please contact Kathleen Duffy at 312-913-9449 or kduffy@cbhconline.org for more information.

December 13—2nd Annual ABCMC Christmas/Advent Season Music Festival, Irving Park Baptist Church, 4401 W. Irving Park Road, Chicago, 3:30 p.m.

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

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 the editor, Lynne Kelley, at lynne@abcmc.org. If you spot a typographical error or other mistake in *eWind*, please let us know at the ABCMC office, 773-804-1655. The ABCMC office is at 7035 W. Grand Avenue, Suite 102, Chicago, Illinois 60707