

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 29, 2008

O God, thou art my God; early will I seek thee:  
my soul thirsteth for thee, my flesh longeth for thee in a dry and thirsty land, where no water is.

Psalm 63:1 (KJV)

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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](mailto:office@abcmc.org) or phone 7730804-1655 with your attendance plans.

### ***30<sup>th</sup> Year Anniversary Celebration of Cook County Jail Ministry***

We are all invited to celebrate the 30<sup>th</sup> 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!

### ***Thinking Theologically***

ABCMC's Executive Minister Larry Greenfield pens a column, "Thinking Theologically about the Common Good" for the biweekly electronic newsletter of Protestants for the Common Good. His latest column, "Voting Twice, at Least," appears at the end of this issue of *eWind*. Be sure to take a few minutes to read and consider it.

## ***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](mailto: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 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual ABCMC Christmas/Advent Season Music Festival, Irving Park Baptist Church, 4401 W. Irving Park Road, Chicago, on Saturday, December 13 at 3:30 p.m. Your church is invited to attend and participate. If your church is interested in being among those sharing musical gifts, please contact Lowell Young at [younglowell@aol.com](mailto:younglowell@aol.com) or 773-370-2003. More information will follow.

## **NEWS FROM ABCMC CONGREGATIONS**

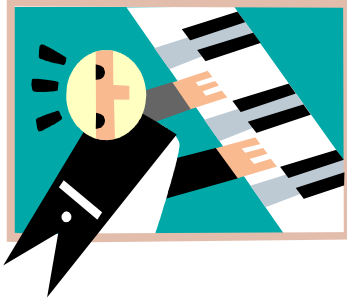
### ***Installation at Morgan Park***

Thomas Aldworth was installed as pastor of Morgan Park Baptist Church in a service at the church this past Sunday afternoon. Several ABCMC leaders, as well as pastors of other churches in the community, took part in the service.

ABCMC's Executive Minister Larry Greenfield preached the installation sermon based on I Thessalonians 2:1-8. His sermon is attached to this issue of *eWind*.

The ABCMC family shares the joy of Morgan Park and Thomas in their relationship. We are looking forward to Thomas' participation in the life of the region.

## **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.**

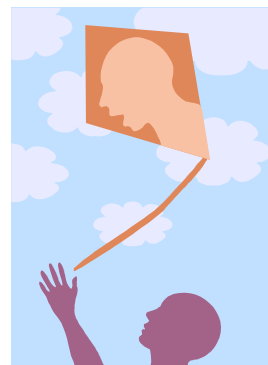
## **Unity Worship Service at North Shore**



This coming Sunday, November 2, North Shore Baptist Church—a congregation of three congregations—will give witness to oneness in Jesus Christ when all three congregations—English speaking, Japanese speaking and Spanish speaking—join together for worship at 10:30 a.m. Each congregation will provide special music in the service, and the three congregations will share communion.

## **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 Sunday, November 9 at 4 p.m. in the Chapel.



be  
on

## **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.

## **Hispanic Congregation's 30<sup>th</sup> Anniversary**



On November 15 and 16, the Hispanic congregation of North Shore Baptist Church will celebrate their 30<sup>th</sup> anniversary in ministry. At 6:30 p.m. on November 15, the congregation will have a special anniversary service followed by a reception at the church.

Celebration will continue the next day with the customary Spanish service at 10 a.m. followed by North Shore's All Church Luncheon at 12:30 p.m.

## ***Karen-American Open House***



# **K A R E N - A M E R I C A N OPEN HOUSE**

*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 Avenue, 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](mailto: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!)

## **175<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration**

The First Baptist Church of Chicago, the oldest Baptist church in the city of Chicago, is celebrating 175 years 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**

### ***Mexican Kidnappers Demand \$1 Million Ransom for Pastor***

*This article is from Baptist Press.*

By: Mickey Noah

TIJUANA, Mexico (BP)--Kidnappers are demanding \$1 million for the safe return of Manuel Jesus Tec, a Southern Baptist pastor in San Diego who was kidnapped in Tijuana, Mexico, around 5 a.m. Oct. 21.

Tec, who lives in Tijuana, was driving across the border with his wife and one of his sons when gunmen stopped his car and forcibly abducted him. His wife and son were unhurt.

The pastor's older son, Johnny Tec, who also is a pastor, said his father's kidnappers have called the family three times, demanding a \$1 million ransom, according to Richard F. Vera, multi-ethnic evangelism specialist for the California Southern Baptist Convention and a colleague of Manuel Tec.

"Johnny stated the last time the kidnappers called, they were very menacing and threatened to take Manuel's life unless the family responded right away," Vera said. "The family is projecting a strength and a trust in Christ that is admirable. They believe they will see Pastor Manuel Tec again."

Tec is pastor of a new church plant in San Diego, Iglesia Familiar Amor y Vida, according to Hugo Campos, Hispanic ministries director for the San Diego Baptist Association and the Vision San Diego outreach in conjunction with the Strategic Focus Cities initiative of the North American Mission Board, the California convention, the San Diego association and local SBC churches.

Campos, who spoke to the Tec family on Wednesday, said the family now believes the kidnapping is a case of mistaken identity and that the pastor -- thought to be around 60 -- will be released once the kidnappers realize that.

"There's a lot of praying going on all over the place," Campos said.

Mickey Noah is a writer for the North American Mission Board.  
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**Provision Theater Company Presents**

**A WORLD PREMIERE**

*Just in time for the holidays*

Truman Capote's  
**A Christmas Memory &  
The Thanksgiving Visitor**  
Adapted and Directed by Tim Gregory  
**November 5 - December 21**

The Royal George Theatre  
1641 North Halsted Street, Chicago  
Box Office: 312-988-9000



## **Truman Capote's A Christmas Memory & The Thanksgiving Visitor**

**Provision Theater Company at the Royal George Theatre**

**OPENING DATE:** Wednesday, Nov. 5, 2008

**CLOSING DATE:** Sunday, Dec. 21, 2008

**TIMES:** Wednesdays at 1 p.m., Fridays and Saturdays at 8 p.m.,  
Sundays at 3 p.m.

**LOCATION:** 1641 N. Halsted Street - Chicago

Thanksgiving and Christmas mean something different to everyone. For seven-year-old Buddy, it means a new home and a new family. When his mother drops him off with her somewhat eccentric family at the edge of a small town, Buddy's first friend becomes his best friend. He develops an unforgettable relationship with his elderly cousin, Miss Sook Faulk. The two find themselves on one amazing adventure after another, proving that friendship is the greatest gift of all. Based on the best selling books by Truman Capote, A CHRISTMAS MEMORY and THE THANKSGIVING VISITOR, center on the author's early years growing up in Monroeville, Alabama. After becoming a literary sensation in his 20s, Capote still referred to his late cousin, a recluse who had never crossed the county line, as "an irreplaceable part of myself."

Tickets are \$26 and can be reserved by phone or online.

**Provision Theater Box Office - 312-988-9000**

Reserve Tickets Online: [Ticketmaster](#)

For more information about Provision Theater Company visit [www.provisiontheater.org](http://www.provisiontheater.org)

Media contact: [Blair Robertson](#)

## ***Vote Early—But Just Once—Or More?***



Election Day is almost here! 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.voterinfont.com/> and type in your address to check to make sure you are registered, to find out what your polling place is.

See Larry Greenfield's article (at the end of this issue of *eWind*) for advice on voting more than once.

## **ABCUSA NEWS**

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

### ***Medley Issues Plea for Protection of Christians in India***

**VALLEY FORGE, PA (ABNS 10/23/08)** — In light of the spreading violence against Christians in India, particularly in recent attacks against Baptists in the Orissa region, the General Secretary of American Baptist Churches USA, Dr. A Roy Medley, issued a letter to the Indian Ambassador to the United States, appealing for a restoration of security for Christians in India.

In recent days, tensions have escalated between Orissa's largely Christian population and the balance of India's Hindu majority. Current religious violence was set off on August 23 by the killing of a charismatic Hindu preacher known as Swami Laxmanananda Saraswati. Local police blame Maoist guerrillas for the killing, but Hindu radicals assert that Christians were responsible, using the killing as a pretext and justification for continued violence against area Christians in retribution.

The violence against Christians has continued to escalate ever since. Most recently, a catholic nun was raped and over 140 churches, orphanages and other Christian organizations were burned and destroyed.

Pointing out that respect for life is a basic tenet shared by both Hinduism and Christianity, Medley noted that both Mohandas Karamchand Gandhi and Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. (an American Baptist pastor) taught and lived the principle of nonviolence as a reflection of the respect for life that they shared as a value common to their respective faiths. Medley said, "We are sorrowful that the principle of nonviolence that each of these great leaders espoused has been so trodden underfoot by these recent attacks."

American Baptists have had a missionary presence in India for some time, and [International Ministries](#) has been putting out "Call to Prayer" notices and articles on the violence as it has developed.

Medley concluded, "We join our voices and prayers with theirs in asking for strong intervention to stop the violence against them. Their desire is to live at peace with their neighbors, to exercise their Christian faith in loving service to others, and to build a strong and united India. They ought not to fear for their lives because of unchecked prejudice and violence."

Read the full text of Medley's letter on the next page of *eWind*.

AMERICAN BAPTIST CHURCHES USA

*Rev. Dr. A. Roy Medley*

*General Secretary*

October 20, 2008

Ambassador Ronen Sen

The Ambassador of the Republic of India to the USA

2107 Massachusetts Avenue, N.W.

Washington D.C. 20008, USA

Dear Ambassador Sen:

We have been closely monitoring the religious conflict in the state of Orissa as it is home to more than half a million Baptist Christians and are alarmed at the growing violence against Christians there and across India. We are deeply concerned that basic protection and safety for Christian citizens of India have broken down allowing widespread attacks against them.

We have learned from the All India Christian Council that in the state of Orissa alone more than 300 villages have been damaged; 4300 homes destroyed; 50,000 people made homeless; 57 Christians killed, including pastors; 10 priests, pastors and nuns injured; and 18,000 men, women and children injured by Hindu militants who have attacked predominantly Christian villages. And those figures do not reflect incidences of violence in the states of Bihar, Chhattisgarh, Jharkhand, Karnataka, Kerala, Madhya Pradesh, New Delhi, Punjab, Tamil Nadu, Uttar Pradesh, and Uttarakhand.

Certainly, Christians, along with every citizen of India, have the basic human right to security of life and property and to worship according to the dictates of conscience as guaranteed by your constitution and by the UN Declaration on Human Rights. As General Secretary of the American Baptist Churches USA, I most strongly call upon your government to secure the basic human rights of Christians within India. Respect for life is a basic tenet shared by both Hinduism and Christianity. As American Baptist Churches, USA, we have been greatly influenced by one of our own, Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., who was influenced by Gandhi. We are sorrowful that the principle of nonviolence that each of these great leaders espoused has been so trodden underfoot by these recent attacks.

Again, we ask you to impress upon your government our horror at the continuing reports of the systematic oppression of the Christian citizens of India. We join our voices and prayers with theirs in asking for strong intervention to stop the violence against them. Their desire is to live at peace with their neighbors, to exercise their Christian faith in loving service to others, and to build a strong and united India. They ought not to fear for their lives because of unchecked prejudice and violence.

Sincerely,

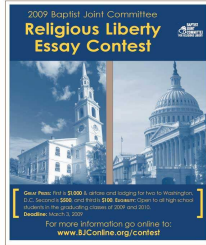
Rev. Dr. A. Roy Medley

General Secretary

OFFICE OF THE GENERAL SECRETARY  
P.O. Box 851, Valley Forge, PA 19482-0851  
800 ABC 3USA · 610 768 2274 · FAX 610 768 2275 · roy.medley@abc-usa.org

## **Details Released for the 2009 Essay Contest!**

### **Contest open to all students in 2009, 2010 graduating classes**



The Baptist Joint Committee has released details of its annual religious liberty essay contest, which is open this year to **all** high school students in the 2009 and 2010 graduating classes.

The contest offers a grand prize of **\$1,000** and airfare and lodging for two to Washington, D.C. Second prize is **\$500**, and third prize is **\$100**.

**The topic for the 2009 contest and all of the requirements are available from the [BJC Web site](http://www.bjconline.org). All entries must be postmarked by March 2, 2009.**

Completed essays and required forms should be mailed to:

**Baptist Joint Committee Essay Contest  
200 Maryland Avenue, N.E.  
Washington, D.C. 20002**

Visit the BJC Web site ([www.bjconline.org](http://www.bjconline.org)) to download registration materials and for more information. If you have questions, contact Jeff Huett at 202-544-4226 or by e-mail at [jhuett@bjconline.org](mailto:jhuett@bjconline.org)

## ***Jacobs Retires as President of American Baptist Foundation***

**VALLEY FORGE, PA (ABNS 10/24/08)** — Dr. John B. Jacobs, Founding President of the American Baptist Foundation, entered retirement on September 30, 2008. Jacobs' vision and dedication transformed the Foundation from a simple concept to an estate planning institution that generated more than \$250 million in planned gifts over the twenty-two years since its founding.

On September 29, at the Airport Renaissance Hotel in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, Jacobs was praised for his accomplishments that began in 1985. Speaking on behalf of the Foundation's Board of Directors, Chair Judith K. Fackenthal observed, "The Foundation and our denomination are forever grateful to John for his ministry of more than two decades."

Fackenthal continued, "John not only has served as the first president of the Foundation but was the 'foundation' of the American Baptist Foundation. We celebrate the fact that we are now prepared to build on the base he established through new leadership that is exactly right for the next phase of our service."

During Jacobs' tenure, the Foundation grew from a one-person office to a staff of more than fifteen, including field representatives located in nine locations around the nation. Through the Foundation, estate planning services have become available to American Baptists wanting to live out their faith by making planned gifts.

At the close of 2007, annuity and trust agreements provided income to vast numbers of beneficiaries. Additionally, financial support from gifts through wills, charitable gift annuities, and trusts has gone to American Baptist ministries worldwide—from local congregations to regional, national, and international missions.

The Foundation's support has sustained ongoing programs and funded new initiatives by American Baptists, ministering through 33 regional organizations, serving nationwide through National Ministries, and working in more than 76 other countries through International Ministries.

Dr. Reid Trulson, Executive Director of International Ministries, defines what is typical of the American Baptist outreach that the Foundation helps to fund: "With planned gifts that come through the Foundation,

all of us can do much more. With International Ministries, for instance, Vietnamese Baptist pastors are receiving theological instruction, which in turn has helped the Baptist movement to receive legal recognition from the government of Vietnam. Leaders of immigrant churches in Italy are acquiring skills for healthy pastoral care of their new congregations. Women in the Democratic Republic of the Congo are learning to read the Bible, which is helping to shield them from the false teachings of a newly emerging religious sect."

Lawrence E. Wilson, III will succeed Jacobs as President. Wilson has served as the Foundation's Executive Vice President since July 1, 2007. Summarizing the outstanding years of service Jacobs devoted to his work, Wilson stated: "John's efforts have created a remarkable, gratifying record. His ongoing counsel to me and others during his initial time in retirement will ensure synergies in the immediate days and months ahead. With the excitement that comes in serving Christ, we anticipate even greater support for American Baptist ministry and mission for all of our tomorrows."

Jacobs will continue with the Foundation as consultant to the incoming president and selected staff.

## **MINISTERS COUNCIL**

ABCMC's Ministers Council will next meet in January, 2009. The topic will be "*Conversation on Immigration.*" More information will follow.

## **HEALTH CARE NEWS**

### ***Health Care Sabbath***

Many congregations observed Health Care Sabbath on October 19. If that date didn't work for your congregation, you may choose a date convenient for you.

**Your can still observe the Health Care Sabbath!**  
Visit <http://www.cbhconline.org/issues/hcjc/sabbath.html>

**For a free, faith-based toolkit of resources, visit**  
<http://www.cbhconline.org/issues/hcjc/toolkitsignup.html>

### ***Send a Clear Message to Your Sate 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](mailto: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.

### ***Campaign for Better Health Care 2008 Annual Meeting***

The Illinois Campaign for Better Health Care, an advocacy organization for improving the quality and availability of health care in our state, will have their annual meeting on Tuesday, November 25 for 9 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. The gathering will take place at the Holiday Inn Mart Plaza in Chicago.

The morning program will present a panel discussion featuring a number of leaders from state government. They will discuss the role of states in health care, and what the federal government can do to help and support states in moving forward in securing health care for all. The afternoon will see a panel discussion by leaders of different advocacy organizations, who will address health care reform on the national level.

Tickets for the meeting are \$60. To order yours, please go to [www.cbhconline.org](http://www.cbhconline.org) or contact Kathleen Duffy at 312-913-9449 or [kduffy@cbhconline.org](mailto:kduffy@cbhconline.org).

## **PRAYER REQUESTS**

Please pray for World peace.

Please pray for Pastor Manuel Tec and his family. Manuel was kidnapped in Baja California, Mexico last week.

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

Please pray for ABC missionaries Doris and Ricardo Mayol, who are seminary professors at an intercultural Mayan seminary in Mexico. May God bless their ministry as they prepare future ministers.

Please pray for ABC missionaries Ann and Bruce Borquist, working with a church in Brazil. Please pray also for their son Asa, whom Ann baptized recently.

Please pray for congregations living in interim periods, that God will guide them, and help them to look bravely and wisely to the future.

Please pray for American Baptist volunteers in mission around the world.

## BOOK NOOK

### *Children's Choir Curriculum*

This distinctive music curriculum focuses on teaching children the Spiritual & traditional songs of the African American church music legacy.

Ideal for children's choirs, children's church, summer programs and Christian and home schools, this comprehensive program provides the elements to teach music reading and the historical and biblical relevance of these 13 timeless songs.

Children will enjoy learning these songs specifically formatted for the voices of 6 to 12 year olds. Directors will enjoy teaching the children to worship through music.

This curriculum is on clearance special at Judson Press. To order, please go to [www.judsonpress.com](http://www.judsonpress.com) and do a search for "children's choir curriculum."



## POSITION OPENING

### *BJC Opens Search for Associate Director of Communications*



The Baptist Joint Committee for Religious Liberty, a 72-year-old organization based in Washington, D.C. and committed to extending and defending religious liberty for all, seeks an Associate Director of Communications.

The Associate Director of Communications assists the Director of Communications in gathering, analyzing and disseminating news and information on religious liberty and church-state separation as related to the interests and needs of the Baptist Joint Committee and its member bodies.

#### **Responsibilities of the Associate Director of Communications include:**

- Providing day-to-day editing, content production and maintenance of the Baptist Joint Committee Web site
- Developing multimedia content for the Web site and staff presentations, including video and PowerPoint
- Assisting with Web site tracking and analytics
- Developing and managing regular e-mail updates to BJC constituents
- Serving as associate editor of the BJC's monthly printed newsletter, including gathering, writing and editing materials for the publication
- Maintaining and strengthening contact with editors and reporters in religious and secular media and distributing BJC staff-written analysis and opinion articles to secular and religious publications
- Preparing fliers, brochures and reports for constituents and member bodies
- Writing articles and analysis on church-state relations for BJC and other publications
- Serving as the primary staff contact for the annual religious liberty essay contest

## Qualifications

- Bachelor's degree
- Strong writing and editing skills
- Working knowledge of page design software (QuarkXpress or InDesign)
- Working knowledge of Adobe Photoshop and related graphics software a plus
- Experience with a Content Management System a plus

## How to apply

APPLICATION DEADLINE: Nov. 24. Please submit resume, cover letter, salary requirements and three work samples (including web, video or published written work) to [jhuett@BJCOnline.org](mailto:jhuett@BJCOnline.org) or Jeff Huett, Baptist Joint Committee, 200 Maryland Avenue N.E., Washington, D.C. 20002.

## CALENDAR

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

**November 4**—Election Day

**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 30<sup>th</sup> 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 16**—Karen-American Open House, North Shore Baptist Church in Chicago 5244 N Lakewood Avenue, Chicago, 2-6 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](mailto:kduffy@cbhconline.org) for more information.

**December 13**—2<sup>nd</sup> 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](mailto: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

## Thinking Theologically About the Common Good

*Reflections on theology, scripture, and public life  
from the Rev. Larry Greenfield.*

### "Voting Twice, At Least"

Ever the realist, James Madison had little to no confidence in the capacity of religion — or ethics, for that matter — adequately to control the human proclivity toward the sin of exclusive self-interest. And that self interest left unchecked, he thought, quite naturally led to social division, the building of destructive factions, and eventually to oppression and violence.

I'm deducing here from other statements by Madison, but I suspect he thought religion and ethics might intensify rather than relieve those consequences, despite their teachings to the contrary. They would be used, that is, to rationalize whatever individuals or groups believed would be in their self-interest.

Rather than appeal to moral and religious motives, therefore, Madison found his solution to the deep problem of human sin in a particular political structure. It certainly wasn't simple or pure democracy that he advocated in his *Federalist Paper Number 10*, since a majority of those voting could override the rights and aims of the minority, leading to "spectacles of turbulence and contention." But neither was the problem solved by destroying liberty through the rule of one or a few. His structural solution was a democratic *republic*, by which he meant the election of citizen leaders to represent sufficiently large portions of the population so that a diversity of self-interests and factions would be honored in reaching political decisions for the whole.

It was a stroke of genius, along with the other constitutional provisions of limited government based on checks and balances among functions, dual sovereignty between the federal government and the states, and a set of rights that applied to all individuals, irrespective of whether they were in any majority or any minority.

There didn't need to be an authorized religion or ethical theory or an approved list of them to make republican democracy work. But there did need to be respect for the religious and ethical stances individuals bring with them as they participated in the political process, based on the principle of one person, one vote.

In just a few days, U.S. citizens across the nation — one by one — will again participate in the political structure Madison and his colleagues created in 1787.

\* \* \* \* \*

But can this Madisonian solution still work today? Can each one of us exercise the franchise based on the combination of our self-interest and whatever weight we give to our religious and ethical convictions, confident that some sort of justice and unity can be achieved through the structures and provisions of our Constitution?

I don't think so. I think, instead, that each one of us has to vote at least twice — and maybe more than that.

Don't jump to the conclusion that this is just another Chicagoan trying to justify what has been our tradition here in the city of allowing some people to have their vote count more than once. That's not what I'm arguing for.

I mean, rather, that in the contemporary world our county has such immense power, influence, and control over the lives of other nations and peoples that it would be unjust and irresponsible for individual Americans to vote only on their own self-identity and self interest within a national context.

Whether it be in the realms of economics, health, food, the environment, war and peace, human rights, and so many other areas, our election decisions will have a profound and lasting impact on the lives of people around the world.

So when we cast our ballots on November 4, we've got to find a way to account for the self-identity and self-interest of those outside the United States.

We've got to vote for them as well as ourselves.

For disciples of Jesus there is guidance on how to accomplish this. When, in the Gospel of Matthew, a lawyer asks Jesus, as a test, which of all the commandments is the greatest, Jesus says it is the one about loving God with every dimension of one's self and loving the other — the neighbor — as one loves one's own self.

That's the commandment. That's the operating principle. It is up to us to make it operational in the concrete conditions of our contemporary world, in this case, the forthcoming election.

Madison may still be right: that like all religious and ethical teachings, the Christian ones will end up being only a rationalization of our own self-interest.

But it's the best we've got, and better, I believe, than voting with no concern at all about the consequences of the election for people around the world, especially those who have the least power to act on their own self-interest in relation to the power of others.

So in this forthcoming election, love God completely, and love the neighbor as you love yourself.

And vote twice, at the very least.

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