

*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

February 18, 2009

The sun shall no longer be your light by day, nor for brightness shall the moon give light to you;  
but the LORD will be to you an everlasting light, and your God your glory.  
Your sun shall no longer go down, nor shall your moon withdraw itself;  
for the LORD will be your everlasting light, and the days of your mourning shall be ended.  
Isaiah 60:19-20



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## ABCMC NEWS

### *We're on the Web!*

ABCMC now has a new web site at [www.abcmc.org](http://www.abcmc.org). Although the site has now "gone live," we still have some items to add and corrections to make. Please take a look at the new site. If you see errors, or if something should be there but isn't, or if you observe a link that does not work, please send your observations to [office@abcmc.org](mailto:office@abcmc.org) so that they can be forwarded to the web site creator.

### **Black History Month**

*This invitation is from Betsy Dunbar of the American Baptist Historical Society (ABHS).*

Celebrate Baptist history during Black History Month!

ABHS has a wonderful story from our collections: the 1865 annual meeting of the Wood River Baptist Association (founded in 1838 with Black Baptists in Illinois, Wisconsin and Kentucky). That year, three months after the assassination of President Abraham Lincoln, they met in Springfield, IL, at Emancipation Baptist Church.

Learn about what happened by visiting our website and clicking on the church bulletin insert *The Liberty to Vote*. Included are discussion questions you can use with a small group, or during your own quiet time.

Click on the link or paste the address into your internet service's address box:

[http://abhsarchives.org/services\\_resources\\_bulletins.shtml](http://abhsarchives.org/services_resources_bulletins.shtml)

### **April in Paris**

*This invitation is from Kids Hope United.*



### *April in Paris* Sunday, April 19 1-5 p.m.

Join us for a special event aimed at increasing awareness of child abuse and neglect, a crisis affecting a growing number of children and families each year. Enjoy a Parisian market theme, bistro-inspired menu, wine tasting and fashion show. All of this will take place on the afternoon of Sunday, April 19 from 1 to 5 p.m. at the Lehmann Mansion, 485 Milwaukee Avenue, Lake Villa. Proceeds benefit the children and families in Kids Hope United programs.

#### *How you can help:*

- Become a corporate or individual sponsor
- Become a volunteer
- Donate an item for our silent auction

#### *Contact:*

Kristy Cechini at 847-245-6505 or [kcechini@kidshope.org](mailto:kcechini@kidshope.org)

Kids Hope United, formerly Central Baptist Children's Home, is a private human service organization dedicated to protecting children and strengthening families. We offer a broad spectrum of prevention, intervention and community-based programs that impact more than 5,000 children and families each year in northern Illinois and southern Wisconsin.

## ***Metro Chicago ABC Youth Camp Opportunity***

***Tim Smith, PhD, layperson at Hyde Park Union Church, is looking to work with other Metro Chicago American Baptist Churches in organizing a Spring Youth Overnight Camp.***

Would your youth be interested in heading out to one of Illinois' State Parks for an overnight camping experience? Communally, the youth and their leaders would pitch tents, cook, clean, sleep, hike, and then wrap it up to return home after an evening and day in nature. The focus of the trip is three fold: have fun, explore nature, and commune with God.

For several years, the youth group at Hyde Park Union Church has been visiting various area state parks for overnight camping retreats led by one of its lay members with 40 years experience in camping. Each time, fun was had by all and spiritual growth happened. Now that we know the procedures to manage and the ways to make camping accessible for any able bodied youth or adult, it is time to expand on our success and invite all Metro Chicago American Baptist Churches in this fun worship experience.

We have tentatively set a date for a Metro Chicago ABC Youth Camp Retreat for Memorial Day weekend. We would leave Friday afternoon, May 22 and return late Saturday, May 23, so everyone can be in their church come Sunday Morning. Based on experience, we have tentatively chosen to visit Mississippi Palisades State Park due to sparse crowds and their large, set aside, youth-camp area. Cost per youth / adult is estimated at an average of \$30-\$40 for all food, camping site, and travel costs.

If your church is interested in taking advantage of this opportunity or seeking further information, please contact Tim Smith, PhD at 773 395 2981 or [tsmith@wiglafpricing.com](mailto:tsmith@wiglafpricing.com). We are forming a committee of Metro Chicago ABC youth leaders to finalize the date, place, menu, spiritual growth activities, and other dimensions. The more the better.

FAQ:

*What do you mean by "youth"?* Girls and boys ages 13-18

*How is food managed?* We cook communally over an open fire using charcoal cookers. Works in all weather. We cook whatever we think everyone can eat and we eat at the same time. Kids participate in prep, clean up, and of course eating.

*I have never camped. I don't know what to do. Is it still ok to come?* YES, most kids in urban environments don't camp. That is what makes this truly unique. If they have a toothbrush and a sleeping bag, they are good to go. (though we have a list of "suggested" items.)

*We have a small youth group, I don't know if we can contribute much?* Size is not what matters. The experience is what matters. If your church has as many as one youth that wants to go, then we will find a way to make it work. We know we will have a quorum and that fun will happen, so come.

*I have some ideas on how to make this work for us, are things "set"?* We are flexible. The point of issuing the call now is to form the committee and then use that committee to set an agenda that works for everyone.

*What kind of "spiritual growth" are we talking about?* Between Friday night and Saturday Afternoon, three spiritual exercises can be held, with the third culminating in a personal mediation and prayer exercise. Each spiritual exercise could be led by a different church youth leader. The format of that spiritual exercise is up to the leader in charge for that event.

*Can we sing songs?* Sure. Bring a guitar or other source of music and we can all join in on Friday Night Campfire Sing.

## **NEWS FROM ABCMC CONGREGATIONS**

### ***A New Church Web Site***

Please check out the new web site for Morgan Park Baptist Church, one of the most historic congregations of ABCMC. The URL is [www.morganparkbaptist.org](http://www.morganparkbaptist.org)

### ***Chin National Day***

The Myanmar Christian Church of Greater Chicago, 501 S. Emerson Street, Mount Prospect, invites us all to join in celebrating Chin National Day at the church on Saturday, February 21 from 4 to 8 p.m. The event is both a party and a "show and tell" of Chin culture, with native dress and dances. The Chin are one of the numerous ethnic groups in Burma (Myanmar) where Baptists in America first sent missionaries. Growing numbers of refugees in these groups are fleeing Myanmar and coming to the United States, where Baptists are welcoming them.

At the special event on February 21 we will learn about the meaning of Chin National day. We will also enjoy fellowship, eat Chin food and watch Chin dancing.

The Chin celebrate February 20 as a holiday because on that day in 1947, leaders of various Chin tribes voted to embrace democracy and abolish their system of chiefdoms. Burma gained independence from Great Britain in 1948 as a democracy, but has been under various forms of military rule since 1962. The country's official name is now Myanmar.

At the February 7 Family Council Meeting, Biak Hlei Mang, pastor of the Myanmar Christian Church of Greater Chicago, extended an invitation to the ABCMC family to join him and the congregation for the celebration on February 21. All are welcome.

### ***Chili Cook-Off***



On Sunday, February 22, Montrose Baptist Church, 4411 N. Melvina, Chicago, will host their second annual "Chili Cook-Off for Missions." Chili chefs compete for the title "Chili Champ"; and guests enjoy corn bread, salad, refreshments, and all-you-can-eat chili for only \$5. There is also a pie auction. All the proceeds go to missions.

### ***Ash Wednesday in Wauconda***

Ash Wednesday, February 25, marks the beginning of the Lenten season. The Federated Church of Wauconda will begin the journey to the cross and empty tomb with the 6 ½ weeks of Lent. The congregation will observe Ash Wednesday with a 7 p.m. service. There will be a message of repentance and forgiveness. Attendees will nail a sin to the cross and receive ashes on their foreheads or the palms of their hands.

## ***Ash Wednesday in Mount Prospect***

The South Church welcomes all to a Taize Ash Wednesday Service on February 25, 2009, at 7:30 p.m. Taize is music that emphasizes simple phrases, chanted repeatedly, to aid meditation and prayer. Imposition of ashes will be included in the service. Join them at The South Church, 501 S. Emerson Street, Mount Prospect. Visit the website at [www.thesouthchurch.com](http://www.thesouthchurch.com) or call 847.253.0501 for more information.

## ***Ash Wednesday at Montrose***

Montrose Baptist Church, 4411 N. Melvina, Chicago, will host an Ash Wednesday service of repentance and reflection on February 25. This will be the fourth year for the church to administer the ashes in preparation for the Lenten season.

## ***Hunting for Eggs***



Montrose Baptist Church, 4411 N. Melvina, Chicago, will host their first ever neighborhood Easter egg hunt on Saturday, April 11 from 9 a.m. - 11a.m. All are invited.

## **COMMUNITY NEWS**

### ***Lenten Resource***

The Institute for Asian American Christianity (ISAAC) is delighted to make available their **2009 Lenten Devotional**, *Road of Suffering, Road to Glory: A Lenten Adventure with the Savior*, edited by Rev. Dr. Johnson Chiu, Director of ISAAC's Equipping and Resource Center. This devotional was written by Asian American English ministry pastors in the San Francisco Bay Area and beyond.

### **Road of Suffering, Road to Glory: A Lenten Adventure with the Savior**

edited by Johnson Chiu, Director of ISAAC's Equipping and Resource Center

To download a free pdf version (without the cool looking cover) or to purchase a hard copy (\$5.70 + s/h), [click this link](#).

You can also sign up to receive an email of each day's devotional beginning Ash Wednesday (Feb. 25, 2009) through Easter Sunday (Apr. 12, 2009) below. But sign up soon - Ash Wednesday is only a week away! [Click this link to sign up](#).

## **Resources for Celebrating 400 Years of Baptist History**

*This information is from the Baptist History and Heritage Society.*

# Baptist History & Heritage Society Resources for the 400th Anniversary

**Savings Through March 15, 2009!**

## **Celebrating 400 Years**

400 years? Can you imagine that Baptists have been around that long?

The first Baptist congregation was founded in Amsterdam in 1609. So this is a celebration year for Baptists.

To assist in that celebration, the Baptist History and Heritage Society offers two books (at 20% discount) that present our shared history and its relevance for contemporary Baptist life.

Co-published with Mercer University Press, these books focus on Baptist people and Baptist values.

**Baptists in Prison:** Baptists marched straight into human history into the jails of England and early America defending believer's baptism, religious liberty, and the separation of church and state. Keith Durso's book ***No Armor for the Back: Baptist Prison Writings, 1600s-1700s*** (292 pp) captures these developments and will make readers thankful to God for the serious sacrifices endured by our Baptist ancestors.

**Baptist Heroes:** Who are our heroes of Baptist history? Julie Whidden Long's ***Portraits of Courage: Stories of Baptist Heroes*** (127 pp) tells the stories of fourteen courageous Baptists, male and female, black and white, who lived in various countries and centuries. Designed especially for older children and younger youth, the book emphasizes the biographical dimension of the Baptist past and highlights personal contributions of the fourteen heroes.

### **Visit Our Website:**

For more information about the 400th anniversary and for Baptist heritage resources, visit [www.baptisthistory.org](http://www.baptisthistory.org).

### **To Place Your Order:**

E-mail Pam Durso at [pamdurso@baptisthistory.org](mailto:pamdurso@baptisthistory.org).

Indicate how many copies you would like. Provide your name, mailing address, and telephone number. An invoice will be included with your order and will have shipping and handling charges added.

For questions, call 678-547-6095.

## Events at McCormick Theological Seminary

*This information is from Grayson VanCamp of McCormick Theological Seminary in Chicago.*

**Below are the three upcoming McCormick events for which registration is required.**

Feel free to contact me at [GraysonVancamp@mccormick.edu](mailto:GraysonVancamp@mccormick.edu) if you have any questions. These events will take place at McCormick. Parking is available at the Seminary, on the street or the University of Chicago Parking Garage on the corner of 55th and Ellis. See their website at <http://maps.uchicago.edu/north/garage.html>

**Monday, February 23, 12:00 – 1:30 pm & 4:30 – 5:45 pm**

### **A Survivor Remembers**

Join us Monday, February 23 only for a special lecture event, with **Ms. Hideko Tamura** - survivor, international peace activist and McCormick Theological Seminary alumna.

- 12:00 - 1:30 pm Presentation 1: **On One Sunny Day, It All Began**
- 4:30 - 5:45 pm Presentation 2: **From the Darkest Hour, the Light Beckons**

**The event is free and open to the public but registration is required.** Click on the following link to read more about the event, register online, view the full flier or to download it in .pdf format:

<http://www.mccormick.edu/content/view/662/641/>

**Saturday, March 7, 2009, 8:00 am – 3:00 pm**

### **L.E.A.D. 2009 – Leadership, Education and Development for the Whole Church**

**Rev. Eric H. F. Law**, founder and executive director of the Kaleidoscope Institute for Competent Leadership in a Diverse Changing World. Co-sponsored by our partners: the Presbytery of Chicago and First Presbyterian Church, Chicago. **Sign up now for this an annual leadership training event. This year we're offering 34 workshops at LEAD.** There's sure to be something for everyone!

Workshop topics include:

- Relevant Evangelism
- Making Good Decisions AND Good Christians
- Becoming a Multicultural Church in a Multicultural World
- A Culturally Contextual Bible Study on Exodus
- Using Facebook in Student Ministry
- "Do It Yourself" Mission Trip
- La pertinencia de la cosmovision Reformada para el dia de hoy
- Rare Books Tour
- Connecting Spirituality to Money Matters
- In a Broken and Fearful World, the Spirit give Us Courage
- Hospitality, the=2 OSacred Art
- Ministry to People Experiencing Divorce
- Worship Frames: Structures and Strategies that Support the Work of the People

We expect several hundred participants, so early registrations are helpful and much appreciated.

Go to [www.mccormick.edu](http://www.mccormick.edu) to learn more about LEAD 2009 and to register online.

**Cost: \$15 which includes a continental breakfast and lunch.**

## ***Interfaith Leadership in a Time of Crisis***



**Eboo Patel**

### **Acts of Faith: Interfaith Leadership in a Time of Crisis**

Eboo Patel will discuss how interfaith leadership is crucial in this current time of religious turmoil through presenting readings and stories from his book, *Acts of Faith: The Story of an American Muslim, the Struggle for the Soul of a Generation*.

The presentation will take place at the **Spertus Institute of Jewish Studies**, 610 S. Michigan Avenue, Chicago, on Thursday, February 26, from noon to 1:30 p.m. A kosher vegetarian lunch will be catered by Wolfgang Puck. The cost will be \$30 in advance or \$35 at the door.

R.S.V.P. by Friday, February 19 by emailing [luncheon@parliamentofreligions.org](mailto:luncheon@parliamentofreligions.org) or by phoning 312-629-2880, ext. 227. Please include your first and last name, full contact information, the best time to contact you by phone and the number of tickets you are requesting. **Tickets are limited.**

Millions of religious young people across the world are interacting with greater frequency. That interaction tends either toward conflict or cooperation. Where so many of these interactions tend towards conflict, the Interfaith Youth Core (IFYC) aims to introduce a new relationship, one that is about mutual respect and religious pluralism. Instead of focusing the dialogue on political or theological differences, IFYC builds relationships on the values that we share and is creating these relationships across the world by inspiring, networking and resourcing young people, who are the leaders of this movement. IFYC provides young people and the institutions that support them with leadership training, project resources and a connection to the broader movement.

Eboo Patel holds a doctorate in the sociology of religion from Oxford University, where he studied on a Rhodes scholarship. He writes "The Faith Divide," a featured blog on religion for The Washington Post and has also written for the Harvard Divinity School Bulletin, the Chicago Tribune, the Clinton Journal, The Review of Faith and International Affairs, the Journal of College and Character and National Public Radio. Eboo serves on the Religious Advisory Committee of the Council on Foreign Relations, the National Committee of the Aga Khan Foundation USA, the Advisory Board of Duke University's Islamic Studies Center and the National Board of the YMCA. He has spoken at the TED Conference, the Clinton Global Initiative, the Nobel Peace Prize Forum and at universities around the world. Eboo is an Ashoka Fellow, part of a select group of social entrepreneurs whose ideas are changing the world; was named by Islamica Magazine as one of ten young Muslim visionaries shaping Islam in America; was chosen by Harvard Kennedy School Review as one of five future policy leaders to watch; and was given an honorary doctorate from Washington and Jefferson College.

## Choral Concert



*Imagine a chorus created for those of us  
who are touched by breast cancer.*

**Sing to Live Community Chorus** will present two concerts in March. The theme for both performances will be **Sweets for Lovers**. One performance will take place on Sunday, March 8 at 4 p.m. at the Dominican University Performing Arts Center, 7900 W. Division Street, River Forest. The second performance will be held on Saturday, March 21 at 7:30 p.m. at the Music Institute of Chicago Nichols Concert Hall, 1490 Chicago Avenue, Evanston.

Tickets for each concert will be available at the door. General admission will be \$20. Tickets for seniors 65 and over, and students with school ID's will be \$15. Complimentary tickets will be available for breast cancer survivors. (Contact [melinda@singtolive.org](mailto:melinda@singtolive.org) or call 773-250-SING)

The mission of Sing to Live Community Chorus is to support individuals affected by breast cancer through the creation of a charitable, social and educational organization, which focuses its efforts on music and musical performance through an all voice community chorus that brings together singers, both men and women, whose lives have been directly or indirectly touched by breast cancer. It provides its members an interactive musical experience that celebrates hope and survival while providing quality performances for the community. Net proceeds raised by donations, choral performances and CD sales will be used to support local breast cancer communities through the gift of music and/or to support local breast cancer programs. For more information, please visit [www.singtolive.org](http://www.singtolive.org), email [info@singtolive.org](mailto:info@singtolive.org) or call 773-250-SING.



## Building Bridges

Family Bridges, or, Lazos de Familia will present a community forum on April 23 from 8 a.m. to 3 p.m. The theme will be "Building Bridges: Stepping Stones to a Healthier Community." The event will take place at Roosevelt University, 1400 N. Roosevelt Boulevard in Schaumburg. Please print and share the flier that is attached with this issue of *eWind*.

If we are to have healthy communities, we need healthy relationships. The April 23 program will give attention to relationship education and resources in the Chicago area. This event will provide networking opportunities for leaders, social workers, educators, psychologists and pastors. The program will include workshops on cultural adaptation of healthy relationship curricula to diverse populations. The keynote speaker will be Maria Kefalas, co-author of the book *Promises I Can Keep: Why Poor Women Put Motherhood before Marriage*.

The cost of admission will be \$15, payable at the door. To register or obtain more information, please phone 877-412-7434 or visit the web site <http://www.familybridgeschicago.org/>. The deadline for registration is April 15.

Family Bridges is a family support organization that works in diverse communities, and they are linked with the Hispanic Bible School through Maria Arellano-Buchanan who is liaison between the two. Maria is a family counselor and a member of Iglesia Bautista Central where Shakespeare Osorio is pastor. The Hispanic Bible School is next door to the ABCMC office on Grand Avenue.

## ***World Day of Prayer***

Each year, Church Women United observes the World Day of Prayer on the first Friday in March. This year the service in the northwest suburbs will be held at the First Church of Christ, Scientist, 421 E. Main Street, Barrington. The service was designed by church women of Papua New Guinea. They have written the service around the theme, "In Christ, there are many members, yet one body." They invite us to join them in celebrating their unity in Christ, where diverse communities are of one heart and soul, and where women have faced violence in their societies with courage and solidarity.

Zina Jacque, pastor of the Community Church of Barrington, will be the speaker. Zina has previously served congregations in multicultural, urban and suburban churches, and brings a background that reflects the kind of diversity that the day's service will celebrate.

The service will take place at 1 p.m. All are welcome.

## **ABCUSA NEWS**

Other articles from the American Baptist News Service are available at <http://www.abc-usa.org/whoweare/newsservice/newsservice.aspx>

## ***Please Do It Now***

If your church has not already received information about annual reports to the denomination, it should receive it soon. Please make sure that someone in your congregation or on the staff is completing and returning the report. Reports are due by April 30. If you have any questions, please contact Maureen Morrissey at [Maureen.Morrissey@abc-usa.org](mailto:Maureen.Morrissey@abc-usa.org)

## ***2009 Black Church Conference***

ABC's 2009 Black Church Conference will take place on November 3-7 in Matteson, Illinois. Featured speakers will include ABCMC's own Brenda Little, pastor of Bethany Baptist Church of Christ in Evanston and Alan Ragland, senior pastor of The Third Baptist Church of Chicago, which will be the host church for the conference.

The theme will be "Power Connection: A Call to Greater Works." The theme scripture for the conference will be John 14:12.

The location of the conference will be the Holiday Inn Hotel and Conference Center, 500 Holiday Plaza Drive, Matteson, Illinois. The phone number for the hotel is 703-747-3500. Registration materials will be available soon.

## ***Baptist Border Crossing***

A Baptist Border Crossing Summit will take place Thursday-Saturday, April 2-4 at the Pleasant Valley Baptist Church, 1600 N. 291 Highway (I-35 & 291), Liberty, Missouri. For more information, and to register for the event, please go to [www.baptistbordercrossing.org](http://www.baptistbordercrossing.org). There is no cost for the program. Hotel information will also be posted at the web site.

The plenary session on Thursday evening will feature David Goatley, Executive Secretary/Treasurer of the Lott Carey Foreign Mission Convention. Plenary sessions on Friday will feature Jimmy Carter, 39<sup>th</sup> president of the United States; Carolyn Ann Knight, evangelist and founder of Can Do Ministries, Inc.; and David Coffey, President of the Baptist World Alliance. The plenary session on Saturday will feature Tony Campolo, Professor Emeritus at Eastern University, and founder of the Evangelical Association for the Promotion of Education. Breakout sessions Friday afternoon and Saturday morning, led by facilitators from diverse Baptist groups, will deal with issues such as poverty, peacemaking, religious liberty, and diversity.

## National Gathering for Girls



## 2009 National Gathering for Girls

July 25-31, 2009

at Lake Williamson Christian Center in Carlinville, IL.

<http://lwccag.org>

Ephesians 4:1-6 reminds us that we are all one in Christ. The 2009 National Gathering for Girls will help us explore what it means to be one with God and at one with each other as we gather for six days of worship, learning, and fun!



**Bible Study Leader: Rev. Francine Stark**, staff minister at Third Baptist Church of Chicago, IL, where the Rev. Dr. Alan V. Ragland is senior pastor. Rev. Stark is an ordained American Baptist clergywoman and is an endorsed chaplain/pastoral counselor. She has a background in nursing and mental health. Rev. Stark's guiding Scripture is 2 Timothy 1:7, and she is excited about the opportunity to help girls at the National Gathering find their power through Jesus Christ.



**Worship/Music Leader: Hornrette Washington**, minister of music at the Antioch Baptist Church in Corona, NY. Psalm 34:1-3 is her life theme. Hornrette is a popular worship leader at regional and national gatherings of all ages, and is particularly gifted in creating interactive worship experiences and helping conference participants lead worship themselves. Hornrette was thrilled to be invited to be a part of the National Gathering this summer and can't wait to praise God with the girls.

### Special opportunities:

- *Hands-On Mission Trip to Peoria Friendship House, Peoria, IL.* Peoria Friendship House, a Year One grant recipient in the AB Women's Ministries "Break the Chains: Slavery in the 21st Century" national mission project, is an excellent site for us to continue our tradition of a day-long mission trip as part of Gathering. Visit [www.peoriafriendshiphouse.org](http://www.peoriafriendshiphouse.org).
- *Evening Worship with Women:* The participants of Gathering will be leading one night's evening worship service of the National Women's Conference! Always a highlight of both conferences, this worship experience brings women and girls of all ages together in praise and thanksgiving to God.
- *Fundraiser for AB GIRLS Ministry:* Gathering participants can join with women's conference participants to help support ministry with girls through AB Women's Ministries. A fun auction will provide entertainment and funds at the same time!

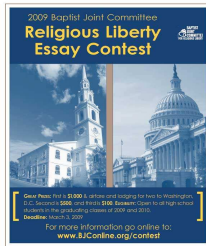
### Registration Fees:

\$450 per person for registrations postmarked on or before May 1; \$480 if postmarked after May 1. This covers housing, meals, and all conference program fees for the Gathering.

You will be responsible for personal spending money and transportation to and from Lake Williamson Christian Conference Center. (Further information about recreational and shopping opportunities will be provided in the confirmation packet you will receive when AB Women's Ministries receives your registration forms and fees.)

Please visit [http://www.abwministries.org/upcoming\\_events/#gatheringforgirls](http://www.abwministries.org/upcoming_events/#gatheringforgirls) for more information and updates.

## ***Religious Liberty Essay Contest Entries Due Soon***



Entries for the Baptist Joint Committee's annual religious liberty essay contest are due in a month, on March 2. The contest 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 Baptist Joint Committee web site, <http://www.bjconline.org/contest/index.html>. All entries must be postmarked by March 2, 2009.**

Visit the BJC Web site 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)

## ***Women's Day at Biennial 2009***

### **Women's Day 2009**



**First Baptist Church of Pasadena  
Friday, June 26, 2009**

**Program begins at 9am and dismissal before 3pm.**

Ticket price: \$35, includes all Women's Day program and luncheon

**Bible Study Leader: Rev. Dr. Elizabeth Conde-Frazier**



Rev. Dr. Elizabeth Conde-Frazier is the Academic Dean of Esperanza College in Philadelphia, a college of Eastern University. Prior to relocating to Philadelphia, Conde-Frazier taught religious education at Claremont School of Theology, Claremont, CA. She received her B.A. at Brooklyn College, her M.Div. at Eastern Baptist Theological Seminary and her Ph.D. at Boston College.

Rev. Dr. Elizabeth Conde-Frazier is a religious educator who integrates the discipline of religious education with theology, spirituality and the social sciences. She has written on

multicultural issues, Hispanic theological education, and the spirituality of the scholar. Her scholarly passions involve her in doing participatory action research with communities working on justice issues, such as immigration and ecumenism as they relate to religious education. She is an ordained American Baptist minister with more than 10 years experience in the local church. She is author of *Hispanic Bible Institutes* and co-author of [\*A Many Colored Kingdom: Multicultural Dynamics for Spiritual Formation\*](#). Rev. Dr. Elizabeth Conde-Frazier was one of the contributors to the Judson Press book [\*Those Preaching Women: A Multicultural Collection\*](#).

### Speaker: Charity Marquis



Charity Marquis worked in the fashion industry for 12 years and traveled the world as a model, agent and photographer. In May 2007, she earned a Master of Arts and Theology with a concentration in Global Leadership from Golden Gate Seminary. She is passionate about mobilizing people to address injustice!

Charity serves as the director of NightLight USA, a faith based organization that began in Bangkok, Thailand, committed to combating human trafficking and the sexual exploitation of women and children globally. NightLight USA provides people with ways they can be involved both domestically and internationally. Through advocacy, trainings, and street outreach, NightLight equips business owners and community members with the tools to recognize and act when they encounter trafficking. NightLight USA received a grant from our Break the Chains project and will receive a second grant to help expand NightLight's outreach.

**Purchase Your Ticket Now!** Tickets are available from AB Women's Ministries. \$35 through May 15; \$45 after May 15. Pay by check or credit card.

To pay by **credit card**, click on the Buy Now button below and complete your purchase, or call AB Women's Ministries office manager Phyllis at 610-768-2285 and give her your credit card information. Please remember to print out a copy of your PayPal "Payment Receipt" and bring it with you to Women's Day. It is your ticket verification.

To pay by **check**, send a check payable to AB WOMEN'S MINISTRIES, P.O. Box 851, Valley Forge, PA 19482-0851, together with a note listing the name(s) and contact info for each attendee.

### ***The Children's Corner***

*The Children's Corner* is published three times annually by National Ministries, ABCUSA. ABCMC's own Wendy Morris is the managing editor and a writer for this helpful resource for ministering with children.

The Spring/Summer 2009 issue has the theme "Rolling the Stones Away." It includes an article by Wendy. It also includes an article by Mayra Castañeda, who formerly ministered in ABCMC and now is the intentional interim pastor of Princeton Baptist Church of Penns Neck, Princeton, New Jersey.

*The Children's Corner* is mailed free of charge to every American Baptist congregation. For additional copies, please call 800-222-3872, ext. 2484. You may also download the latest issue at [http://www.nationalministries.org/children/docs/Childrens\\_Corner\\_2009springSummer.pdf](http://www.nationalministries.org/children/docs/Childrens_Corner_2009springSummer.pdf)

## National Women's Conference



The 2009 National Women's Conference, sponsored by American Baptist Women's Ministries, will take place July 25-31 at Lake Williamson Christian Center in Carlinville, Illinois. The theme will be

# Women ...Destined for God's Purpose

The guest speaker will be Rev. Betty Wright-Riggins, who currently serves with MMBB, and who has been a local church pastor in Vermont in the past.

Conference highlights include

- Worship led by women and girls throughout the week
- Workshops on a variety of topics
- "Counterpart Training" opportunities for those in leadership in women's ministries

For more information, or for a downloadable registration form, visit the AB Women's Ministries web site at [www.abwministries.org/upcoming\\_events](http://www.abwministries.org/upcoming_events), or call AB Women's Ministries at 800-222-3872, ext. 2288.

## MINISTERS COUNCIL NEWS

### *Pre-Biennial in Pasadena, California*

The Ministers Council in partnership with Interim Ministries, Women in Ministry, and the Area Ministers Group will host Dr. Leonard Sweet at two pre-biennial events.

Thursday afternoon, June 25, Dr. Sweet will speak to the topic "What's A Guttenberg Groupie in a Google World Going to Do?" All Members of the Ministers Council, ministers in Interim Ministries, members of the Area Ministers Group, and those participating in the Women in Ministry group are invited to participate. The cost will be \$30.00 per person.

Friday morning, June 26, Dr. Sweet will address all who wish to attend at the Ministers Council meeting. His title is "The Metaphorics of the 21<sup>st</sup> Century: Seven Metaphors that Can Transform the World." An offering will be received to help offset the costs.

## HEALTH CARE NEWS

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

*This announcement is from the Illinois Campaign for Better Health Care.*



### **"SOUND THE ALARM for Health Care Justice!" -- March 13-15**

Now is the time for people of faith to call for a more just and equitable health care system! On March 13-15, hundreds of congregations statewide will sound a bell, horn or other instrument 18 times to call attention to the needs of the 1.8 million uninsured people in Illinois.

[Click here to learn more about the event](http://www.cbhconline.org/issues/hcj/faith.html)  
<http://www.cbhconline.org/issues/hcj/faith.html>

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As part of "SOUND THE ALARM!," people of faith across the state will:

- Sound an instrument 18 times for the 1.8 million uninsured people in Illinois,
- Pray for the uninsured and others suffering from the health care crisis,
- Hold discussion groups about the issue, and/or
- Write to legislators in support of reform.

[For a free event packet with prayers and liturgies, click here](http://www.cbhconline.org/issues/hcj/faith.html)  
<http://www.cbhconline.org/issues/hcj/faith.html>

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1.8 million people statewide have no health insurance, and the economic downturn is costing more people their jobs and their health care coverage. At the same time, new leadership in Springfield and D.C. offers new opportunities for reform.

As people of faith, we're called - now more than ever - to speak out for a just and compassionate health care system.

"SOUND THE ALARM" provides the opportunity to do this through a simple but powerful advocacy event. When you register online, you will receive a [free event packet](#) of resources.

For more information, you can also contact Laura Leon (312-913-9449).

Please print, share and post the flier attached with this issue of *eWind*.

## PEACE NEWS

### ***Baptists Gather in Rome for Global Peace Conference***

by Katie Cook for BPFNA

(Rome, Italy, February 9) — Close to 400 Baptists and others—including the larger Christian community and the Islamic faith—from more than 50 countries gathered at the Mondo Migliore conference center near Rome Monday for the 2009 Global Baptist Peace Conference. Many participants came from deeply troubled, war-torn regions. For many, simply making their way to the conference was a struggle.

The people have come together to share stories of their struggles to bring about peace, in their own communities and cultures and across the world.

Sharon Buttry, a minister from Michigan, said that, for her, the most beautiful aspect of the conference is the interaction between the people. “My theology is relational, and peacemaking for me is relational,” she said. “I had heard stories for years about many of these people, but I had only seen photos. They were two-dimensional to me. Coming here and meeting them is like seeing the statues around Rome and then seeing them suddenly come to life.”

The conference opened last night with a worship service conducted in Italian, Spanish, English and a Zimbabwean tribal language. The celebration of music ranged from traditional hymns, sung in various languages, to original, contemporary music written for the conference by Emanuele Aprile.

Rev. Anna Maffei, president of the Italian Baptist Union and a conference organizer, presented a plenary address, based on Matthew 18:14: “It is not the will of your Father in Heaven that one of these little ones should be lost.”

Rev. Maffei spoke of the effects of violence on children in every country in the world. “There are 50 countries currently in armed conflict, but I do not think it is only 50 countries who have declared war on children,” she said. She spoke of those who plan conflicts and violence as those who look down from above and “play God,” instead of seeing the world from below as the victims do, and as Jesus chose to do.

“We need to stop playing God and become human beings again,” she said.

Lancelot Muteyo, a young Baptist from Zimbabwe, said his favorite part of the service came with an audio-visual presentation of children from around the world—child soldiers in Africa, street children, victims of bombings in the Middle East, and one child at whom a gun was pointed by another child.

“As I watched these pictures, I realized that I am not doing enough,” Muteyo said. “The future does not belong to us; it belongs to the children. And yet no one looks at the children. In my country there are so many children in the street, and no one cares about them.”

For Doug Donley, a Baptist minister from Minnesota, the music was what affected him most. “I felt awash in the diversity of the people, in the beauty of the music, and the ease of the inclusivity of the group,” he said.

This is the fifth international peace conference held among Baptists in the last 20 years. For the next five days the group will continue to worship together, attend a variety of workshops, and listen to the stories of others who struggle for peace and justice. Perhaps best of all, they will come to know each other individually, during breaks in hallways and during meals. Many peacemaking efforts now taking place around the world were born in conversations such as these.

## ***Peace Vigil***

A peace vigil will take place on Saturday, February 21 at the corner of Northwest Highway and Hicks Road in Palatine. All who support peace in our world are welcome to come and participate. Feel free to bring signs, or use one of the signs available at the vigil. The vigil will last just an hour, from 3 to 4 p.m.

## ***Sixth Anniversary Commemorations: March 14 and March 21***

March 21, 2009 will mark the sixth anniversary of the U.S. invasion of Iraq. Commemorating that event, there will be a rally and march in Chicago on Saturday, March **14**. The event will begin at noon with a short rally, with participants assembling at Marshall Boulevard and Cermak Road, which is 2 blocks from the California stop on the pink el line.

This event will protest against the wars and occupations in Iraq, Afghanistan and Gaza, as well as what many see as a war on the home front against immigrants. Following the rally, participants will march to express their concerns.

The war in Iraq has killed, wounded or displaced nearly one third of Iraq's 26 million people. Thousands of U.S. soldiers have been killed, and hundreds of thousands more have suffered severe physical and psychological wounds. The war in Afghanistan is expanding. Secretary of Defense Robert Gates has announced that the troop levels in Afghanistan may double in the coming months.

Many Christians and others in the United States support this. Some others are disturbed at the deaths and maiming that will result from U.S. military efforts. There are also concerns about the impact that wars are having on the U.S. economy, and how money spent funding war might have been invested in education and jobs. The rally and march on March 14 will express concerns on many levels.

A week later, some Chicagoans and others will travel to Washington, D.C. to participate in protest marches on the anniversary of the U.S. invasion of Iraq. A number of local groups are arranging for buses to transport Chicago area protestors to Washington for the event.

As the anniversary of the invasion of Iraq approaches, Americans, whatever their opinions of U.S. actions and policies, would do well to reflect on their own values, and to advocate for public policies that reflect their values.

## ***Christian Peace Witness for Iraq Event in Washington April 29 and 30***

Scheduled for April 29 and 30, the third national Christian Peace Witness for Iraq event will be held in Washington, DC at the 100-day mark of the new U.S. administration. All are invited to the US capital for witness and worship Wednesday evening and nonviolent action and advocacy on Thursday to call on the US President and Congress to end the war and occupation in Iraq, support a comprehensive peace process, end the policy and practice of torture and meet human needs at home.

Can't make it to Washington? Then plan your own local event for one or both dates. Resources will be available on the Christian Peace Witness for Iraq website at [www.christianpeacewitness.org](http://www.christianpeacewitness.org). Lift your voice and witness for peace!

## ***Art against War***

There will be an Art against War performance on Saturday, February 21, 9 p.m. at the Heartland Cafe, 7000 N. Glenwood Avenue, Chicago in the Rogers Park neighborhood. Admission cost will be a \$5 donation at the door. February's performance features folk singer Donnie Biggins, poet King Keith, and a peace fashion show put on by American Friends Service Committee.

Proceeds benefit CCOMY (Chicagoland Coalition Opposed to the Militarization of Youth)

For more information, please visit [www.myspace.com/artagainstwar](http://www.myspace.com/artagainstwar)

## BOOK NOOK

### ***She Reads: A Book Club for Women***

Judson Press and AB Women's Ministries have developed a special book club, SheReads, of featured selections. Every two months, four new featured selections are available for 30% off the original list price by using the special promotional code "SheReads".

The titles and links to Judson Press for information about and ordering the March and April books are below. The four selections for March and April are:

***God in Her Midst: Preaching Healing to Wounded Women*** by Elaine McCollins Flake; Edited by Kathryn Stanley; Foreword by William H. Curtis  
[http://www.judsonpress.com/product.cfm?product\\_id=11678](http://www.judsonpress.com/product.cfm?product_id=11678)

***Modeling Mary in Christian Discipleship*** by Rev. John Burns  
[http://www.judsonpress.com/product.cfm?product\\_id=12060#](http://www.judsonpress.com/product.cfm?product_id=12060#)

***Hope for Children in Poverty: Profiles and Possibilities*** edited by Ron Sider and Heidi Rolland Unruh, Foreword by Marian Wright Edelman  
[http://www.judsonpress.com/product.cfm?product\\_id=11679#](http://www.judsonpress.com/product.cfm?product_id=11679#)

***What Eve Didn't Tell Us: Sex, Casseroles, and a Life of Faith*** by Sue Thomen Dolquist and Jane M. Wood  
[http://www.judsonpress.com/product.cfm?product\\_id=7788&CFID=2817995&CFTOKEN=46474940#](http://www.judsonpress.com/product.cfm?product_id=7788&CFID=2817995&CFTOKEN=46474940#)

Only these four books are eligible for the SheReads discount in March and April. Order soon! For more information about SheReads, please visit the web site  
<http://www.abwministries.org/resources/resource.cfm?ResourceID=783>

## PRAYER REQUESTS

Please pray for world peace.

Please hold in prayer ABC missionary Ingrid Roldan-Roman ministering in Panama. Please hold in prayer also people affected by floods in Panama and Costa Rica.

Please pray for people in India, especially for Christians being mistreated there. Remember in prayer ABC missionaries Betsy and David Perkins ministering there. Betsy is a nurse and David oversees relief and development work.

Please lift up in prayer ABC missionaries Hermelinda and Jorge Damasceno in Great Britain, where they assist churches of the Baptist Union of Great Britain in reaching out to the communities of Portuguese-speaking migrant workers in the region.

Please pray for all who are undergoing treatment for life-threatening illnesses.

Please pray for churches and regions struggling to make ends meet in these difficult economic times.

Please hold in prayer our elected leaders as they work to solve the many problems of our state and nation.

Please pray for the leaders and people of our nation that we may overcome partisan politics.

## CALENDAR

**February 20**—Graduate Session of “A New Reality: The Great Emergence,” led by Phyllis Tickle, Sheil Catholic Center, 2111 Sheridan Road, Evanston, across Garret Place from Seabury-Western Theological Seminary, 9 a.m.-12:30 p.m.

**February 20-21**—“A New Reality: The Great Emergence,” led by Phyllis Tickle, Sheil Catholic Center, 2111 Sheridan Road, Evanston, across Garret Place from Seabury-Western Theological Seminary, 2 p.m.-4 p.m. and 5 p.m.-6:30 p.m. on Friday and 10 a.m.-3:30 p.m. on Saturday.

**February 21**—Forgiveness program, 6554 N. Rockwell Street, Chicago, 9:30 a.m.-4 p.m. Cost: \$100. Registration deadline: February 15.

**February 21**—Peace Vigil, Northwest Highway and Hicks Road, Palatine, 3 p.m.-4 p.m.

**February 21**—Chin National Day celebration, Myanmar Christian Church of Greater Chicago, 501 S. Emerson Street, Mt. Prospect, 4-8 p.m.

**February 21**—Art against War performance Heartland Cafe, 7000 N. Glenwood Avenue, Chicago, 9 p.m.

**February 22**—Concert to Save Mothers' Lives, Christ Church Chapel, 470 Maple Street, Winnetka, 4 p.m.

**February 25**—Ash Wednesday. Services at the Federated Church of Wauconda, 200 Barrington Road, Wauconda, 7 p.m.; the South Church, 501 S. Emerson Street, Mount Prospect, 7:30 p.m. and Montrose Baptist Church, 4411 N. Melvina, Chicago.

**February 26**—Interfaith Leadership in a Time of Crisis, Spertus Institute of Jewish Studies, 610 S. Michigan Avenue, Chicago, from noon to 1:30 p.m.

**February 26**—Protestants for the Common Good Fund Raising Event, *Living Green*, Victory Gardens Theatre, reception at 6 p.m. followed by a 7:30 p.m. curtain.

**March 6**—World Day of Prayer, Church Women United. Service at the First Church of Christ, Scientist, 421 E. Main Street, Barrington, will have Zina Jacque, pastor of the Community Church of Barrington, as speaker.

**March 8**—Second Sunday Series, North Shore Baptist Church, 5244 N. Lakewood Avenue, Chicago. Keyboard Combinations featuring Rebecca Barbalace and Randall Fleer.

**March 8**—Sing to Live Community Chorus concert, Dominican University Performing Arts Center, 7900 W. Division Street, River Forest, 7:30 p.m.

**March 11**—Northwest Suburban Peace and Education Project monthly meeting, South Church, 501 S. Emerson Street, Mount Prospect, 7 p.m.

**March 15**—Health Care Sabbath.

**March 21**—Family Cabinet meeting (retreat)

**March 24**—Rally and march against war, occupation, and mistreatment of immigrants, assembling at Marshall Boulevard and Cermack Road, Chicago, 12 noon.

**April 8**—Northwest Suburban Peace and Education Project monthly meeting, South Church, 501 S. Emerson Street, Mount Prospect, 7 p.m.

**April 11**—Neighborhood Easter egg hunt, Montrose Baptist Church, 4411 N. Melvina, Chicago, 9-11 a.m.

**April 18**—Family Cabinet meeting

**April 19**—Kids Hope United Spring Fashion Show and fund raising event, The Lehmann Mansion, 485 Milwaukee Avenue, Lake Villa, 1-5 p.m.

**April 21**—Finance and Property Committee meeting, 200 W. Madison, 3 p.m.

**April 23**—“Building Bridges: Stepping Stones to a Healthier Community,” community forum by Family Bridges (Lazos de Familia), Roosevelt University, 1400 N. Roosevelt Boulevard, Schaumburg, 8 a.m.-3 p.m.

**May 13**—Northwest Suburban Peace and Education Project monthly meeting, South Church, 501 S. Emerson Street, Mount Prospect, 7 p.m.

**June 10**—Northwest Suburban Peace and Education Project monthly meeting, South Church, 501 S. Emerson Street, Mount Prospect, 7 p.m.

**June 13**—Sing to Live Community Chorus concert, Music Institute of Chicago Nichols Concert Hall, 1490 Chicago Avenue, Evanston, 7:30 p.m.

**June 25-26**—Pre-Biennial Event with Leonard Sweet, Pasadena, California.

**July 8**—Northwest Suburban Peace and Education Project monthly meeting, South Church, 501 S. Emerson Street, Mount Prospect, 7 p.m.

**July 25-31**—National AB Women’s Conference, Lake Williamson Christian Center, Carlinville, Illinois.

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