

*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

April 15, 2009



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## **MINISTERS COUNCIL NEWS**

### ***ABCMC Ministers Council Meeting Friday, April 17***

TO: Pastors and Professional Church Leaders

FROM: Doug Harris (for the Ministers Council) and Larry Greenfield (for ABCMC)

RE: Ministers Council Meeting with Dr. C. Jeff Woods, Associate General Secretary of ABC-USA, Friday, April 17, Noon - 3:00 P.M. North Shore Baptist Church, 5244 N. Lakewood Avenue, Chicago.

No one in our denomination keeps up on trends in ministry like Jeff Woods. He's on top of the research literature, but even more importantly he is constantly checking in with church leaders not just to confirm or question what the literature is presenting but also to keep ahead of the research.

We are delighted to report that Dr. Woods will be in Chicago for meetings on the weekend of April 17 and we've persuaded him to come in a little early to meet with all of us -- to share his findings and insights with us, put us in touch with resources, update us on what is happening within ABC-USA and beyond, and engage in conversation about those trends he is tracking.

We'll gather at noon for a brown bag lunch (drink and dessert will be provided), and then meet together until 3:00 p.m.

Please call the regional office (773-804-1655) to let us know if you are coming.

### ***Have You Paid Your Dues?***

ABCMC Ministers Council treasurer Sara Day is in a receptive mood. We need to pay our 2009 dues, which are \$45. Please bring your check to the meeting on Friday, or mail it to Sara:

Rev. Dr. Sara E. Day  
The Ministers & Missionaries Benefit Board  
2205 S. Wolf Rd. #281  
Hillside, IL 60162

## HEALTH CARE NEWS

### ***It's Now or Never: Rally for Real Health Care Reform!***

Our nation is now in the best position we have seen in over a decade to reform our health care system. This issue affects everyone in the United States. It is especially close to the hearts of followers of the healing Lord who walked in Galilee. Jesus' care for the sick and suffering is a model for our own compassion and commitment to the well-being of all.

As Congress debates the future of health care in America, you may be wondering: Will we get quality and affordable insurance? Will we eliminate pre-existing conditions? Participate in the debate!

Join with Representative Jan Schakowsky, Citizen Action/Illinois and HCAN as we call for quality, affordable health care that we can all count on in 2009! We can't trust the insurance industry with health care reform.

When: Saturday, April 18, 2009 11:00 AM - 1:00 PM

Where: St. Augustine College, 1345 W. Argyle St., Chicago, 60640

(Just northeast of Clark & Lawrence - Argyle Red Line stop)

Contact Jessica for more info at 312-427-2114x206 or Jessica@citizenaction-il.org.

## ABCMC NEWS

### ***Official Notice of Meeting***

ABCMC's Family Council will meet on Saturday, May 9 at North Shore Baptist Church, 5244 N. Lakewood Avenue, Chicago.

Important business to be discussed at this meeting will include a proposed bylaws change that appears at the end of this article. Please come prepared to deal with this recommendation from the Family Cabinet.

Please call or email Tony Rake at the ABCMC office to let him know whether you plan to attend, and whether you will stay for lunch. Registration opens at 8:30 a.m. The meeting will begin with worship at 9 a.m., and conclude with lunch at noon. The suggested donation for lunch is \$5.

**Proposed Amendments  
to the Family Document of  
American Baptist Churches of Metro Chicago,  
as adopted September 14, 1991**

The Family Cabinet recommends the following changes:

**Article Seven** ("Without limiting this authority the [Family] Cabinet shall:

Add:

7.8 Meet with representatives of congregations making application for membership as an

Associated Church in ABCMC, review the applications, and make recommendations to the Family Council for or against membership.

Add:

7.9 Shall serve the functions of program oversight and evaluating structure as a committee of the whole, creating task forces to develop and coordinate program as needed; at-large members of the Cabinet will be expected to serve as chairs for these task forces, according to their gifts, at the request of the President or the Cabinet.

### **Article Eight (Standing Committees)**

Delete: “There shall be five Standing Committees:”

8.1 Delete in its entirety

Renumber the committees as follows:

8.1 **Finance and Property**

8.2 **Ministry**

8.3 **Nominating**

8.4 **Fund Development Committee**

8.2 After the first sentence “This committee shall recommend ... ministers in Metro Chicago.” add the sentence, “This committee shall oversee the process of complaint against ordained persons with nationally validated ordinations.” Edit the final sentence as follows: “This committee shall carry out ~~such~~ *other* functions ~~in that regard~~ as delegated by the Cabinet.”

### ***4<sup>th</sup> Annual ABCMC Disciples' (Picnic) Dinner***



ABCMC's 4<sup>th</sup> Annual Disciples' (Picnic) Dinner will take place on the afternoon and evening of May 30 on the campus of Judson University in Elgin. This will be a fun event with games and activities for all ages. The university will serve a cook-out style meal. ABCMC congregations are invited to bring desserts reflecting their community's specialties

This will also be the occasion for recognizing 2009 Daily Disciples from each congregation, as well as the recipients of region-wide discipleship awards. The awards ceremony will take place in the university's chapel. (The nominating form for awards is available at

[http://www.abcmc.org/documents/2009\\_DISCIPLESHIP\\_AWARDS.pdf](http://www.abcmc.org/documents/2009_DISCIPLESHIP_AWARDS.pdf)

The cost of this event will be \$5 per adult, and \$2 per child. Children under 3 will eat free. A free-will offering for ABCMC will be taken.

### ***And the Award Goes to...***

Thank you to Sandy Mytys, secretary at the Community Church of Barrington, for sending us the attached clipping from the local newspaper. The photograph shows ABCMC's Executive Minister Larry Greenfield performing in *Two Faces in the Shadows* for Barrington congregations on Maundy Thursday.

## **Karen Open House**

*This invitation is from Dawn Noldan of North Shore Baptist Church.*

Dear Friends,



How can one person ask another to be concerned about the problems of a third?  
I'll try.

The Karen, an ethnic group from Burma/Myanmar, brothers and sisters who have been entering our community are facing the same concerns that we all are: job loss, housing issues, food shortages but with the added frustration of unfamiliarity with language, rules/laws, and education.

Last November, North Shore Baptist Church hosted the first Karen American Open House to attempt to meet those concerns and try to find answers for our new friends. We welcomed over 450 people!

**On April 19<sup>th</sup>, from 12:30-5:00 p.m., this effort will be repeated and you are welcome to join us as we provide:**

- sources for ESL, GED, skills assessment and job training.**
- workshops on application filing, résumé writing and developing interviewing skills.**
- housing and tenants' rights advocates.**
- public aid contacts.**

Detailed information is enclosed in the attachment.

**Traditional Karen foods will be served from 12:30-3:30 p.m. for a donation of \$5.00.**

Please join us, and if **anyone** you know would benefit from the information provided, bring them along. Presentation and materials will be in English, translated to Karen; some materials are available in Spanish. Translators will be present who are fluent in Spanish, English, Karen and Burmese. However, this is for everyone who is looking for assistance in any of these areas whether immigrant, refugee....

If you, or your organization, would be interested in making a presentation, interviewing potential employees, or supplying helpful and pertinent information, please contact me at the number below.

## **Metro Chicago ABC Spring Youth Overnight Camp on May 22-23**



***It's like a church youth lock-in, but outdoors.***

Join us at Mississippi Palisades for an Overnight Camp, leaving Friday, May 22, and returning Saturday, May 23. Communally, we 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.

Already, we have other churches joining us. So why not join the fun?

Cost per youth / adult is estimated at an average of \$35 for all food, camping site, and travel costs.

If your church is interested in taking advantage of this opportunity, please contact Tim Smith, Ph.D. at 773-395-2981 or [tsmith@wiglafpricing.com](mailto:tsmith@wiglafpricing.com). We are forming a committee to coordinate the activities. Further information will be provided to any interested church.

***No youth group is too small. No experience or equipment is required: just an open spirit of exploration.***

FAQ:

*What do you mean by "youth"?* Girls and boys in middle and high school.

*How is food managed?* We cook communally over an open fire using charcoal cookers. Dr. Smith takes care of bringing all the food that is necessary for all parties. 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. The cost of food is divided proportionally to the attendees and is part of the estimated cost of \$35 per person.

*I have never camped. I don't know what to do.* Doesn't matter. If you have a toothbrush, sleeping bag, and a willingness to pitch in, you are good to go.

*How do we get there?* If there is only one or two of you, we can arrange a pick-up or meeting place. If there are 3 or more, it's just a short drive out of town.

*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

## ***North Shore Baptist Church Mission Trip Opportunity***

Any ABC-Metro Chicago church member who is interested in going to New Orleans June 13-June 20, 2009 on a short-term mission trip with North Shore Baptist Church may go to the church's web site and download the application at: <http://northshorebaptist.org> There are 4-5 slots open—**you will have until April 10 to respond** (ASAP will be preferable). The cost of the trip is about \$770. This includes airfare, lodging, and all meals. The project is to go help our sister church New Greater Hope Missionary Church which is part of the Program Churches Supporting Churches. The primary mission of this trip is to go help to paint and fix (different project) the inside of their worship center since they lost their sanctuary during Katrina. For more information you can email Pastor Rony Reyes at: [rreyes@northshorebaptist.org](mailto:rreyes@northshorebaptist.org) or call at (312) 316-4400 Hope to hear from you soon!

## **NEWS FROM ABCMC CONGREGATIONS**

### ***Sacred Activism Programs at Lake Street Church***

On April 24-26, Lake Street Church will sponsor a special, one-of-a-kind event. Renowned spiritual author Andrew Harvey and Lake Street Church friend Mirabai Starr will lead a weekend event, "Sacred Activism: Transforming the World in a Time of Darkness."

On Friday evening, April 24, at 7 p.m., Andrew Harvey will speak on "Sacred Activism" (\$10 suggested donation). On Saturday, Andrew and Mirabai will lead a workshop from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. on "The Way of

Divine Love: Rumi and John of the Cross” (\$50, includes lunch). On Sunday, April 26, Mirabai will preach in the Sunday morning service which will be followed by Dances of Universal Peace. Don't miss this opportunity! Invite your friends to join in this deeply meaningful and empowering weekend. Contact Lake Street Church at 847-864-2181 to inquire about registration.

## Sacred Activism—Change Yourself, Heal the World

*This article by Bob Thompson, pastor of Lake Street Church, 607 Lake Street, Evanston, is from the **Chicago Spirituality Examiner**, [www.examiner.com](http://www.examiner.com)*

Practically everybody wants to change the world. Truth be told, most of us would rather change the world than change ourselves. What if the way to transforming the world is finally not about signing a petition, joining in a march, electing the right candidate or insisting on a particular piece of legislation? What if the most important thing is the willingness to practice kindness and compassion in our everyday lives?

Throughout the ages, great spiritual teachers tell us that unless we are willing to change ourselves the world will not change.

When the scholar, mystic and teacher [Andrew Harvey](#) founded the [Institute for Sacred Activism](#) he combined the vision of personal transformation with economic and political engagement in the world. Sacred activism begins when we connect the sacred within ourselves with a deep commitment to bring healing to the world.



We have witnessed the embodiment of this compelling vision in the likes of Mahatma Gandhi, Martin Luther King Jr., the Dalai Lama, Nelson Mandela, Rosa Parks and Desmond Tutu among others.

Andrew Harvey points out that “both contemporary spiritual seekers and activists have not been connected to a vision of action that is inspiring, hopeful and rooted in deep spiritual wisdom and compassion. Some spiritual seekers, for instance, use spiritual knowledge as a subtle way of dissociating from hands-on realistic social, economic, and political engagement in the world, thereby ensuring that the world and its people will be abandoned in its hour of extreme need. Activists, on the other hand, are prone to complete exhaustion, burn out, and debilitating and divisive rage and are often cut off from the healing and transforming wisdom of the spiritual traditions and the simple techniques, prayers, and practices that could sustain, inspire, and nourish them in their heroic endeavors.”

Andrew Harvey is not the only voice calling for a deeper engagement between spirituality and action.

Critically acclaimed author of new translations of the Spanish mystics, John of the Cross and St. Teresa of Avila, [Mirabai Starr](#), is at once a student and teacher of transformation. Several years ago her 16 year old daughter, Jenny, died a tragic and unexpected death. This inexplicably painful experience has provided Mirabai with a wellspring of understanding for how we can transform the pain and bring healing into the world.

Andrew Harvey and Mirabai Starr are joining together for the very first time to lead an extraordinary event: [Sacred Activism: The way of Divine Love in the teachings of Rumi and St. John of the Cross](#), at the [Lake Street Church of Evanston](#), Friday, April 24<sup>th</sup> and Saturday April 25<sup>th</sup>.

This event is co-sponsored by [Common Ground](#) and is open to the public.

On Friday evening at 7pm Andrew Harvey will give an introductory talk on Sacred Activism. A donation of \$10 is requested.

On Saturday, April 25<sup>th</sup> from 10:00am--3:00pm, using the teachings of Rumi and St. John of the Cross, Andrew and Mirabai will offer a workshop on compassion and transformation. The \$50 fee for the

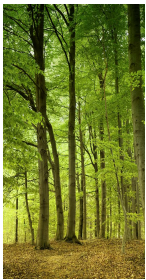
Saturday workshop (includes lunch) is payable at the door.

Attend either or both gatherings but a reservation is required for Saturday. To make a reservation or for more information send an email to; [transformation@lakestreet.org](mailto:transformation@lakestreet.org).

The now famous words of Mahatma Gandhi remind us to "be the change you want to see in the world."

Touch the sacred within yourself and become a sacred activist in the world.

## **Woods Groundbreaking**



Woodside Church, 1509 E. Court Street, Fling, Michigan, is celebrating Earth Day with a special dedication aligned to the events planned by Mott Community College. At noon, Woodside will officially begin the process of replanting the urban forest in Flint, located on the church property and adjacent to the Mott campus. The first tree will be planted by Betty Brenner, who made a significant contribution to the project as a memorial to her mother Lucille Brenner. Ms. Brenner is a member of Woodside who has been an active, involved resident of Flint and a reporter for *The Flint Journal* for many years. Sophia Bacon and Miriam Schaefer will be assisting Betty with the tree-planting. Ms. Bacon has been a member of Woodside for 77 years and was at the original ground-breaking ceremony for their current church building in 1951. Ms. Schaefer was also at both the original ground-breaking ceremony of the main building and of the Children's wing addition. She has been a member for 62 years.

This event signals a major milestone in the project, which includes planting a total of 103 trees--28 on April 18 and another 75 on April 25. Members of Woodside and honor students from Mott contributed their time and talent to prepare for this event. Deadwood and brush was cleared. Two trails were established. And, a number of benches will be installed throughout the area to allow visitors the opportunity to relax, reflect, and meditate in this wonderful setting.

Woodside invites everyone to join in the celebration, which will involve several dignitaries from Flint. Woodside is located at 1509 East Court Street, next to Mott Community College. Please visit [www.woodsidechurch.net](http://www.woodsidechurch.net) or call 810-767-4911 for the most up-to-date information.

## **North Shore Baptist Church Mission Trip Fund Raisers**

*This invitation is from North Shore Baptist Church, 5244 N. Lakewood Avenue, Chicago.*

There will be three fundraising opportunities for you to enjoy at:

**North Shore Baptist Church, 5244 North Lakewood at Berwyn, 773-728-4200**

Proceeds benefit the Mission Trip to assist North Shore's sister Church in the 9th Ward of New Orleans.

**Saturday, April 25th**

5:30 pm **Mardi Gras Dinner & Party:**

Cajun & Creole-inspired foods, Mask & Costume Contest, Family Fun!

\$10 donation/12-adult; \$6 donation/3-12

**Saturday, May 9th**

7:00 pm **Jazz Festival** featuring the **Clark Street Jazz Band** and other artists.

\$5 donation, tickets available by phone (773)728-4200 and at the door

**Saturday, June 6th**

**Car Wash** 9 a.m. until 5 p.m. at Thybony Paint & Wallcovering, 5440 N. Clark, Chicago, \$5 Donation

A full-color flier is attached with this issue of *eWind*. Please print, post and share it.

## COMMUNITY NEWS

### ***Summer Employment for Chicago Youth***

The City Department of Children and Family Services received an additional \$14.5 million dollars targeted for the summer youth program this year. Which means that each youth that applies will receive a job this year.

Students can go on-line and apply at <http://www.youthreadychicago.org> to apply. Students must have their CPS student ID and social security number. It is really best if an adult provide assistance because students will have to do a short resume on-line. Students will print out a confirmation after completion, for their signature and parents. The application is final when the signature confirmation sheet is faxed to the city.

### ***Please Phone the Governor's Office***

*This Request is from Protestants for the Common Good.*

#### **Show Your Support for Low-Income Working Families in Illinois Support the Earned Income Tax Credit!**



**Call your state senator and representative, and the Governor's office and tell them that you want to see the state EITC increase from 5% to 20% of the federal level.**

We cannot ignore the impacts of Illinois' regressive tax system on low-income working families. These families often *pay up to twice as much as* wealthier households on state and local taxes.

Help us create a more just tax system for the future.

Supporting an increase in the state's EITC is one way to ease the burden on working families. Illinois currently has the second-lowest EITC rate in the country at just 5% of the federal level. Increasing the state EITC from 5% to 20% of the federal level would:

- *help low-income working families who especially need relief in these economic times*
- *protect low-income working families from shouldering an even greater burden in the future*
- *provide true economic stimulus to low-income communities as this money will most likely be spent close to home on daily necessities*

We support the effort to balance our budget and create much needed revenue for Illinois, but we also recognize that an EITC increase is necessary to offset the state's regressive income tax.

Visit the [legislator look-up](#) for your state representative's and senator's contact information. See the [EITC fact sheet](#) for more information. Please email [courtney@thecommongood.org](mailto:courtney@thecommongood.org) with any questions or to let us know what your legislators said!

## ABCUSA NEWS

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

### ***Relighting the Torch through Spiritual R&R***

*This invitation is from Judson Press.*

Join us for a Webinar on April 30. Space is limited. Reserve your Webinar seat now at <https://www1.gotomeeting.com/register/984350705>

It's widely acknowledged that Christian retreats provide much-needed spiritual R&R. Unfortunately, rest and relaxation may be in short supply for the retreat planner, particularly if you're working on your first event!

Join Rachel Gilmore on April 30 to participate in this creative and practical retreat planning webinar. Rachel has twenty years experience in retreat planning and has shared her expertise in a new Judson Press book entitled *The Complete Leader's Guide to Christian Retreats*.

In her "Relighting the Torch" webinar, Rachel shares:

- The basic elements of retreats (who, when, where, why)
- Planning 101, including developing that all-important time line
- Brainstorming basics for creating a rich and memorable retreat experience

To order a copy of *The Complete Leader's Guide to Christian Retreats*, visit [www.judsonpress.com](http://www.judsonpress.com) where the Guide is 20% off.

We hope you can join us on April 30!

Title: Relighting the Torch through Spiritual R&R  
Date: Thursday, April 30, 2009  
Time: 1 p.m.-3 p.m. Central Time

After registering you will receive a confirmation email containing information about joining the Webinar.

#### **System Requirements:**

PC-based attendees

Required: Windows®2000, XP Home, XP Pro, 2003 Server, Vista

Macintosh®-based attendees

Required: Mac OS® X 10.4 (Tiger®) or newer

### ***2009 Biennial: National Ministries and Judson Press***

The 2009 Biennial Meeting of ABCUSA will take place in Pasadena, California June 26-27. National Ministries will host a number of events that include:

Thursday, June 25: Pre-biennial event for chaplains and pastoral counselors

Friday, June 26: Homes and caring ministries breakfast

Opening of National Ministries exhibit with cheese and fruit reception

Historical exhibit about Baptists and slavery

Workshops: Publishing for Pastors 101; Challenges of the Church in Our Time; Children in Poverty; Radical Engagement in Global and National Mission; personality-based faith sharing

Saturday, June 27: Luncheon with panel discussion on racism

Exhibit honoring American Baptists' settlement of 100,000 refugees

Workshops: Building Bridges; Small Churches; Immigration and Resettlement of

Refugees; La Inmigración  
Sunday, June 28: Luncheon with Al Staggs performing dramatizations

Judson Press will be celebrating its 185<sup>th</sup> year in Christian publishing. There will be a bookstore in the exhibit hall. There will also be computers connected to the Judson Press web site so that we can order books and resources, receive free shipping, and not need to carry our purchases home. Be sure to stop by the bookstore on Friday evening from 9 to 11 for book signing and reception for Judson Press authors.

## **PEACE NEWS**

### ***When There Is Justice, Then Peace Will Come***

The Baptist Peace Fellowship of North America will host a conference July 20-25 at Webster State University in Ogden, Utah. This event will celebrate the 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the BPFNA. Leaders of the event will include Ken Sehested, Paul Dekar, Rita Nakashima Brock, Greg Ledbetter, Kate Campbell, Angela Yarber, Darrell Adams and Janet Chisholm. Activities and programs will be available for adults and children of all ages. For more information, please visit [www.bpfna.org](http://www.bpfna.org).

## **PRAYER REQUESTS**

Please pray for world peace.

Please pray for those dealing with conflicts in the Middle East.

Please pray for God's guidance to those who are seeking to make the Illinois process for funding public education more just.

Please pray for the father of Ryan Sutton (pastor of Federated Church of Wauconda). Ryan's dad is facing surgery on April 16.

Please lift up in prayer ABC missionary Wendy Bernhard in the Democratic Republic of Congo. Wendy teaches at the Bible Institute of Kimpese, 120 miles west of Kinshasa. She also works with a team of doctors, pastors, and lay people holding "Responsible Living Skills" seminars for young people, advocating a return to biblical principles of sexual behavior as part of the fight against AIDS.

Please pray for ABC missionaries John and Tomiko Armagost ministering in Japan.

Please hold in prayer Terry and Tom Myers, ABC missionaries in Bulgaria. Tom and our partners in Bulgaria are developing ways to help families by creating long-term solutions to the problems of unemployment, while ministering to the families' immediate needs. Terry is involved in teaching English to a group of teenage orphans and is also involved in developing markets for handicrafts made by the women of the Baptist churches.

Please pray for Jeff Woods as he travels from Valley Forge to Chicago, and shares with ministers and churches in our region.

Please support in prayer the International Ministries volunteer team from Carson Valley Christian Church, Nevada serving in Kenya from April 19 - 29 with their sister church.

Let's join Beverly Finley-Gardner, interim pastor of Original Providence Baptist Church in Chicago, in prayers of celebration. Beverly received word from The American Folklife Center at the Library of Congress in Washington, DC that the sermon she preached the Sunday after President Obama's inauguration has been accepted and is being filed along with other accepted sermons referring to the inauguration.

## CALENDAR

**April 17**—ABCMC Ministers Council brown bag lunch meeting with Jeff Woods, North Shore Baptist Church, 5244 N. Lakewood Avenue, Chicago, noon-3 p.m.

**April 18**—Family Cabinet meeting

**April 18**—Health Care Reform Rally, St. Augustine's College, 1345 W Argyle Street Chicago, 11 a.m.-1 p.m.

**April 19-May 10**—Guest preacher Rodrick Banda, Christ Community Church, 602 E. Geneva Road, Wheaton, Sunday morning services.

**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 19**—Karen American Open House, North Shore Baptist Church, 12:30 until 5:30 pm.

**April 21**—Finance and Property Committee meeting, 200 W. Madison, Chicago, 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.

**April 23**—Faith Community Conference on Addictions: *It Takes a Village— Working Together to Help Families Heal and Recover from the Impact of Addiction*, Avenue Hotel Chicago, 160 E. Huron, Chicago, 8:30 a.m.-4:30 p.m.

**April 24**—Lecture on “Sacred Activism: The way of Divine Love in the teachings of Rumi and St. John of the Cross” by Andrew Harvey, Lake Street Church 607 Lake Street, Evanston, 7 p.m. Donation: \$10

**April 25**—Workshop on Sacred Activism, Lake Street Church, 607 Lake Street, Evanston, 10 a.m.-3 p.m. Fee: \$50.

**April 25**—Mardi Gras dinner and party, Cajun and Creole foods, mask and costume contest, North Shore Baptist Church, 5244 N. Lakewood Avenue, Chicago; adult donation \$10; child (3-12) donation \$6; 5:30 p.m.

**April 26**— Mirabai Starr preaches at Sunday morning worship service, Lake Street Church, 607 Lake Street, Evanston.

**April 26**—Memorial Service for Tom Douthett, Grace Baptist Church, 1020 W. Bryn Mawr Avenue, Chicago, 4 p.m.

**April 26-29**—Mobilization to End Poverty, Washington D.C. For more information, visit [www.sojo.net](http://www.sojo.net)

**April 29**—Hospice Foundation of America's 16th Annual Living With Grief Teleconference, “Diversity and End-of-Life Care,” Live-via-satellite and webcast from at Advocate Christ Medical Center, the Auditorium, 4440 West 95th Street, Oak Lawn, 12:30 - 3 p.m.

**May 9**—Family Council meeting, North Shore Baptist Church, 5244 N. Lakewood Avenue, Chicago. Registration opens at 8:30 a.m. The meeting begins with worship at 9 a.m., and concludes with lunch at noon. Suggested donation for lunch: \$5. Please let Tony Rake at the ABCMC office know of your attendance and lunch plans by noon on Wednesday, May 5. Contact Tony at [tony@abcmc.org](mailto:tony@abcmc.org) or 773-804-1655.

**May 13**—Northwest Suburban Peace and Education Project monthly meeting, South Church, 501 S.

Emerson Street, Mount Prospect, 7 p.m.

**May 17**—Eighth Annual Walk for a Just Peace in Israel and Palestine, Oak Park. For more information, please contact [www.cjip.org](http://www.cjip.org)

**May 22-23**—Metro Chicago Youth Spring Overnight Camping event.

**May 30**—ABCMC's Fourth Annual Disciples' (Picnic) Dinner, 2 p.m.-6 p.m., Judson University, Elgin.

**June 4-6**—Baptist History and Heritage Society's annual conference, Huntsville, Alabama, "Celebrating 400 Years of Being Baptist," <http://www.baptisthistory.org/annualmeeting2009.pdf>

**June 6**—Car Wash to raise funds for North Shore Baptist Church's mission trip to New Orleans, Thybony Paint and Wallpaper, 5440 N. Clark, Chicago, 9a.m.-5 p.m. Donation: \$5.

**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 13-20**—North Shore Baptist Church mission trip to New Orleans.

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

**June 26-28**—ABCUSA Biennial Meeting, Pasadena, California.

**June 28-July 3**—Holy Spirit Renewal Ministries conference, Green Lake Conference Center, Wisconsin.

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

**July 20-25**—Baptist Peace Fellowship of North America conference, Weber State University, Ogden, Utah. See [www.bpfna.org](http://www.bpfna.org) for more information.

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

**July 27**—Tony Rake preaches at Federated Church of Wauconda, 200 S. Barrington Road, Wauconda, 9:45 a.m.

**August 3-7**—Mediation Skills Training Institute for Church Leaders, presented by Lombard Mennonite Peace Center at St. Barnabas Episcopal Church, 22W 415 Butterfield Road, Glen Ellyn. For information, please visit [www.LMPeaceCenter.org](http://www.LMPeaceCenter.org).

**November 3-7**—2009 Black Church Conference, Holiday Inn Hotel and Conference Center, 500 Holiday Plaza Drive, Matteson, 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