

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

May 28, 2009



In this Issue

ABCMC NEWS.....	2
See You Saturday!!	2
Health Care Pulpit Supply	2
Free Items.....	3
NEWS FROM ABCMC CONGREGATIONS	3
Baptists on the Run	3
Twentieth Anniversary Celebration.....	3
The South Church of Mount Prospect Presents June 6 Music Recital	3
COMMUNITY NEWS	4
Education Funding Reform: Please Take Action.....	4
Pay Day Loan Reform Update.....	4
Sing to Live Concert	6
June Is Torture Awareness Month	6
ABCUSA NEWS.....	7
Longtime National Ministries Staff Member, Richard Jones, Dies.....	7

PEACE NEWS.....	8
Life in the Spirit.....	8
HEALTH CARE NEWS.....	8
Health Care Pulpit Supply	8
Summer Celebration	9
PRAYER REQUESTS.....	10
CALENDAR.....	10

ABCMC NEWS

See You Saturday!!



We're going to have a great time at the Disciples' Gathering at Judson University in Elgin this coming Saturday from 2-6 p.m. The event will be held regardless of the weather, but there's only a 20% chance of rain that day, and temperatures will be in the 70's.

To get to the gathering, take Interstate 90 to Route 31 south bound. You will soon arrive at Judson University, one of our local American Baptist institutions of higher education. Enter the campus at the Brady Entrance (International Flags entrance), and follow the signs and friendly traffic guides to the ABCMC event. There will be lots of good music and fun for all ages, as well as a picnic meal (\$2 for children; \$5 for adults).

ABCMC's Executive Minister Larry Greenfield is working on his jump shot, and is ready to take on all comers at the Disciples' Event on May 30. He's looking forward to seeing you there. It will be a good time! Come enjoy the fellowship!

The program will culminate in a gathering in the chapel. There we will enjoy the music ministry of Equipo de Adoración de North Shore, a group from the Spanish language congregation of North Shore Baptist Church. We will also honor Daily Disciples from ABCMC congregations, and present the region-wide discipleship awards.



Health Care Pulpit Supply

The summer of 2009 will be a critical period for national health care reform as our representatives and senators in Washington debate legislation that will be voted on by September, 2009. Faith communities can have an important voice during this critical time. Protestants for the Common Good has joined Health Care for America Now in offering guest preachers who can speak from faith perspectives on the need for health care reform. Clergy who are engaged in health care reform issues are available to serve as a guest preacher or vacation pulpit supply. In addition, a volunteer is available to accompany the speaker to collect signatures of support or answer questions from members after the service.

Please welcome a guest preacher or consider preaching on this topic this summer (and be sure to share your sermon with us!) If you would like to join as one of the speaker's bureau for other congregations, a brief orientation is scheduled for June 11 from 10:00am to Noon. We urge you to use this summer to facilitate and moderate a health care discussion in your congregation during this most important period of debate. If you would like to take advantage of these opportunities, either to invite a speaker or to serve as a speaker, please contact Jessica Palys at 312-427-2114 x206.

Free Items

The following items are available for use by a church. They are currently in storage. We encourage any church that can use any of them to contact the ABCMC office at 773-804-1655 or office@abcmc.org to arrange to examine the items.

- 1 credenza
- 1 desk
- 1 side extension for a desk
- 1 conference table
- 13 chairs for conference table
- 2 arm chairs – one black and one green
- 3 swivel chairs with cloth upholstery
- 1 coffee table – glass top and metal legs
- 3 computer monitors
- 1 computer printer
- 1 keyboard for a computer
- 1 central processing unit (CPU)
- 1 Adventure in Sharing Wheel for World Mission

NEWS FROM ABCMC CONGREGATIONS

Baptists on the Run

On Memorial Day, nine members of Morgan Park Baptist Church participated in the Ridge Run, challenged to do so by Pastor Thomas Aldworth's sermon "Run the Race." Two members ran the 10 kilometer race and 7 ran or walked the 5 kilometer race - all wearing red Morgan Park Baptist tee shirts. Most of the nine were first time participants. The Pastor's wife, Beth Aldworth, ran both the 10 kilometer and the 5 kilometer race. The pastor and his wife crossed the 5 kilometer finish line together.

Twentieth Anniversary Celebration

On Sunday, May 31, the First Baptist Church of Waukegan will celebrate the twentieth anniversary of Keith Cerk as their pastor. The celebration service will be at 11 a.m. Larry Greenfield, Executive Minister of the American Baptist Churches of Metro Chicago, will be the guest preacher. A celebration luncheon will be held at 12:30 p.m., following the worship service. We extend our congratulations to Keith and the congregation as they celebrate this milestone in their ministry together.

The South Church of Mount Prospect Presents June 6 Music Recital

The South Church is proud to present the second in its 2009 series of music recitals, as it warmly welcomes The Chicago Pan-American Ensemble on Saturday, June 6, 2009, at 7 p.m.

Formed by husband and wife American cellist Andrew Snow and Mexican pianist Beatriz Helguera, the Pan-American Ensemble performs a standard cello and piano repertoire, but also engages top artists to perform chamber music including trios, quartets and quintets. In addition to Snow and Helguera, the June 6 recital will feature guest violinists Gregory Maytan and Mathias Tacke. The afternoon program will include the Mozart quartets in G Minor and E flat Major, as well as the Frescobaldi–Cassado Toccata for cello and piano.

According to its founders, a major objective of the Ensemble is to reach new audiences (especially young listeners) and make them aware of the richness and quality of composers of North and South America

who have influenced not only the Americas but the rest of the world, as well as to introduce audiences to new works from contemporary composers.

The South Church is located at 501 South Emerson Street in Mount Prospect, Ill., and is wheelchair-accessible for those with physical limitations. A suggested donation is \$10.00 per adult, and \$5.00 for students.

COMMUNITY NEWS

Education Funding Reform: Please Take Action

Thank you to Alice Greene, pastor of Irving Park Baptist Church for sending the following information from the Community Renewal Society.

TAKE ACTION FOR EDUCATION FUNDING TELL YOUR SENATOR TO CO-SPONSOR SB750

Thus says the Lord, I choose you to bring justice and I am here at your side.

-Isaiah 42:6

Last week, the Senate Education committee approved SB750, sponsored by Senator James Meeks. Thanks to the efforts of Civic Action leaders on Faith in Action Day for Education Funding Reform in Springfield on May 12 and our call-in day last week, the bill now has 21 co-sponsors! The legislative session is scheduled to close this week, so now is the time to call your state Senator and ask them to co-sponsor and pass SB750 to ensure that all children in Illinois have the opportunity for a quality education.

CALL TODAY! 3 easy steps

1) Find your State Senator using your address [here](#)

at <http://www.elections.state.il.us/DistrictLocator/SelectSearchType.aspx?tr=y&auid=4898373>

2) Find if they are already a co-sponsor of SB750 [here](#)

at

<http://www.ilga.gov/legislation/billstatus.asp?DocNum=750&GAID=10&GA=96&DocTypeID=SB&LegID=40051&SessionID=76&tr=y&auid=4898391>

3) Call or email them and tell them that as a constituent you want them to co-sponsor SB750 (or thank them for co-sponsoring) and to ensure that it comes to a vote and passes this session.

Some more facts about SB750:

- SB750 would increase the state income tax from 3% to 5% and expand the sales tax base to include the sale of non-essential services - Illinois would still have the third-lowest income tax of any state that utilizes an income tax.
- The funds raised would be used to fully fund the Education Funding Advisory Board (EFAB) foundation level of funding for the first time.
- The state currently under-funds EFAB by more than \$1,300 per student per year.

THE CHILDREN OF ILLINOIS NEED YOU TO SPEAK UP FOR THEM.

CONTACT YOUR STATE SENATOR TODAY!

[Learn more and download the CRS Education Funding Briefing Sheet.](#)

at <http://www.communityrenewalsociety.org/civicactionnetwork/action-center?tr=y&auid=4898397>

[Read SB 750 and follow its progress](#)

at

<http://www.ilga.gov/legislation/billstatus.asp?DocNum=750&GAID=10&GA=96&DocTypeID=SB&LegID=40051&SessionID=76&tr=y&auid=4898402>

Pay Day Loan Reform Update

This information is from Emily Stuard of Citizen Action Illinois, working with religious leaders to help place legal limits on the payday loan industry, which takes advantage of some of our most economically vulnerable fellow citizens.

The Consumer Installment Loan Reform Act, SB 1435, did not pass out of the House Executive Committee. Please read the press release below for more information. The press release is also attached.

Although the bill did not pass out of the committee please stay alert! The session is not over yet and we may still need you to make calls in the coming days. We will keep you posted. Thanks for all your support these last few weeks.

Best,
Emily

Consumer Protections Defeated in House Executive Committee *Predatory Lenders Stall Efforts to Stop Usury in Illinois*

The Consumer Installment Loan Reform Act (SB 1435) was defeated in the House Executive Committee on Tuesday night with one aye vote, two nay votes, and **eight present votes**. SB 1435 would have ensured that all Illinoisans have access to credit with reasonable rates and protections to guard against the cycle of debt.

“The Consumer Installment Loan Reform Act was the result of over a year of numerous open meetings between consumer advocates and industry players,” said Tom Feltner of the Woodstock Institute. “The proposal represented a reasonable direction – balancing the need to offer longer-term, small consumer installment loans in Illinois.”

SB 1435 defined within the Consumer Installment Loan Act a “small consumer installment loan” with a principal of \$4,000 or less and interest rates below 99% APR. The Act also closed a glaring loophole in the Payday Loan Reform Act, which has allowed lenders to evade guaranteed consumer protections, by limiting interest rates to 36% APR on loans above \$4,000. Additionally, the Consumer Installment Loan Reform Act would have capped monthly payments for a “small consumer loan” at 20% of the borrower's monthly income and required lenders to report loan information into a consumer database for purposes of determining borrower eligibility.

“Following a year of good-faith negotiations, the Governor’s Office, Attorney General’s Office, and the Egan Campaign successfully won the support of all the major installment lenders in Illinois, as well as half of the payday lending industry represented by the Community Financial Services Association,” said Lynda DeLaforge of Citizen Action/Illinois. “However, the portion of the lending industry, which philosophically opposes reasonable rate caps, soundly defeated the pro-consumer proposal in the Executive Committee last evening.”

“Last night’s devastating defeat means that working families in Illinois for at least another year will be preyed upon by high-cost, long-term loan products, which trap borrowers’ in an endless debt cycle,” said Suzanne Strassberger of Metropolitan Family Services. “Due to the inaction of the House Executive Committee, consumers will continue facing loans with interest rates ranging upwards of 1000% APR without any consumer protections.”

“The Illinois House Executive Committee voted with a small, but well-connected segment of the lending industry – maintaining the status quo,” said William McNary of Citizen Action/Illinois. “The working families of Illinois, who are currently trapped in triple-digit interest rate loans, lost today, but their time is coming. We are confident that with the support of a strong consumer coalition, including State Representative Hamos, State Senator Lightford, Governor Quinn, Attorney General Madigan, and major segments of the payday and installment lending industries, consumers will prevail. We urge five more members of the Executive Committee to vote for the bill and give their colleagues an opportunity to vote.”

Sing to Live Concert

The Sing to Live Community Chorus will present identical concerts on Saturdays June 6 and June 13. The theme for each concert will be "Emeralds: Music from Eastern Europe." The June 6 concert will be at 7:30 p.m. at the Performing Arts Center of Dominican University, 7900 West Division Street, River Forest. The June 13 concert will be at 7:30 p.m. at the Nichols Concert Hall of the Music Institute of Chicago, 1490 Chicago Avenue, Evanston (near Lake Street Church).

Tickets will be available at the door. General admission is \$20. Seniors (65+) and students with school ID pay \$15.

The Sing to Live Community Chorus provides complimentary tickets to breast cancer survivors, as part of its ministry to provide the gift of music to the breast cancer community. For more information, please email info@singtolive.org or call 773-250-SING.

June Is Torture Awareness Month

The recent release of the "torture memos" has fueled an intensified public debate, and the impending release of additional graphic photos in May will ensure the visibility of this issue into the month of June. Last week's release of the [Pew poll](http://www.cnn.com/2009/US/04/30/religion.torture/) (<http://www.cnn.com/2009/US/04/30/religion.torture/>) showing support for torture among many religious people makes it even clearer that the time is ripe both for a more vigorous religious witness and for engaging our own faith communities in worship and study on this issue.

Please make plans NOW to join NRCAT in marking [Torture Awareness Month](http://www.nrcat.org/index.php?option=com_content&task=view&id=298&Itemid=219) (http://www.nrcat.org/index.php?option=com_content&task=view&id=298&Itemid=219) by taking at least one of these actions in June.

1. **Now Available!** Organize an educational event for your congregation, using NRCAT's new DVD and discussion guide: "[Ending U.S.-sponsored Torture Forever](http://www.nrcat.org/index.php?option=com_content&task=view&id=312&Itemid=236)" (http://www.nrcat.org/index.php?option=com_content&task=view&id=312&Itemid=236). You can view the trailer [here](http://www.nrcat.org/index.php?option=com_content&task=view&id=313&Itemid=235) (http://www.nrcat.org/index.php?option=com_content&task=view&id=313&Itemid=235). You can order a copy for your congregation [here](http://www.nrcat.org/index.php?option=com_content&task=view&id=271#dvd) (http://www.nrcat.org/index.php?option=com_content&task=view&id=271#dvd).
2. Incorporate a prayer or sermon about torture in a worship service during June. You can access a variety of worship resources, including an interfaith prayer and sample sermons [here](http://www.nrcat.org/index.php?option=com_content&task=view&id=20&Itemid=49) (http://www.nrcat.org/index.php?option=com_content&task=view&id=20&Itemid=49).
3. Make your opposition to torture visible with NRCAT's new banners and bumper stickers. Order today from NRCAT's [Online Store](http://www.nrcat.org/index.php?option=com_content&task=view&id=271#new%20banners) (http://www.nrcat.org/index.php?option=com_content&task=view&id=271#new%20banners). If your congregation already has an anti-torture banner, please display it during June.
4. Organize a delegation to visit the local district office of your Member(s) of Congress to advocate for a [Commission of Inquiry](http://www.nrcat.org/index.php?option=com_content&task=view&id=277&Itemid=198) (http://www.nrcat.org/index.php?option=com_content&task=view&id=277&Itemid=198) and legislation making elements of the President's executive order permanent in law. Members of Congress will most likely be in their home districts during the July 4th recess (June 29 to July 3).

Continue to check NRCAT's [Torture Awareness Month](http://www.nrcat.org/index.php?option=com_content&task=view&id=298&Itemid=219) webpage (http://www.nrcat.org/index.php?option=com_content&task=view&id=298&Itemid=219) for further updates and additional resources in the coming weeks.

Please let ABCMC (lynne@abcmc.org) know how you and/or your congregation choose to participate in Torture Awareness Month so we can share it in a future issue of *eWind*.

ABCUSA NEWS

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

Longtime National Ministries Staff Member, Richard Jones, Dies

VALLEY FORGE, PA (ABNS 5/12/09)—Dr. Richard M. Jones, who retired as deputy executive director in 1991 after 36 years of service to American Baptist National Ministries, died on Friday, May 8, following a fall several days earlier. He was 81.

During his more than three decades of ministry at National Ministries, he also served as director of planning and secretary to the board of directors; he held leadership positions in the Office of Policy Development and the Division of Evangelism as well, where he became engaged with the Baptist Jubilee Advance (1959–1964). This loose collaboration of several Baptist bodies planned evangelism strategies in the context of movements for social justice.

As part of that work, Jones participated in the Civil Rights Movement, walking in the March on Washington in 1963. Jones wrote of that event: “We...gathered at the First Baptist Church of Washington, D.C., for a short prayer service and then joined thousands of others to walk toward the Lincoln Memorial for a time of music and the famous ‘I Have a Dream’ speech by Dr. King. I was fortunate to be close to the platform and hear those words and feel the power of them.”

On the occasion of his 80th birthday last year, Jones wrote of a 1963 meeting with Dr. King and other social justice advocates to plan strategies for taking stands against injustice: “There was a sense of emergency, fear and authenticity to the relationship of faith with action. Dr. King...had a sense of what might befall the movement as it took shape.”

Jones engagement in the Civil Rights Movement, he wrote, transformed his theological understanding and commitment along with his belief that personal salvation and action for social justice are intertwined. “Dick Jones helped shape the ministry and mission of home mission for more than a quarter of a century,” says Dr. Aidsand F. Wright-Riggins III, National Ministries’ executive director. “He was particularly adept at planning and making the connection between evangelism and ministries of emancipation. He was an encourager who led National Ministries in its mission of encouraging life in Christ. Dick Jones was a great American Baptist who will be deeply missed.”

Out of the Baptist Jubilee Advance experience grew Metropolitan Associates of Philadelphia (MAP), a lay ministry laboratory, of which Jones was a founder. The ecumenical endeavor, an experimental action-research project, explored new forms of mission in and through urban institutions by drawing together small groups of individuals engaged in sectors of business, medicine, social work, politics, the arts and education to examine what it meant to live out Christian life in the “real life” of the city.

Dr. A. Roy Medley, general secretary for ABCUSA, said, “Working with Dick, there was no room for sloppy thinking or theology. He pressed us to think our best, to reach deep into our faith and how it challenged and had transformative power for our culture. His prophetic voice will be greatly missed.” Jones authored several books, including *The Man for All Men*, a lay study book, along with *Witness Through the Arts and Evangelistic Life Style Awareness Manual*, among others. Prior to his work with National Ministries, Jones held pastorates in Sumner, WA, and Medford, OR.

Jones earned his master of divinity degree with honors at Berkeley Divinity School, now American Baptist Seminary of the West (ABSW) in Berkeley, CA, and did graduate work at Union Theological Seminary and the New School for Social Research, both in New York City. He was a cum laude graduate of Linfield College in McMinnville, OR. ABSW awarded him an honorary doctorate in 1988.

Jones is survived by his widow, Shirley; a daughter, Cheryl; a son, Kimball; and seven grandchildren. Shirley Jones served the Board of Educational Ministries, American Baptist Churches USA, as executive

director of the division of Christian Higher Education, and Colgate Rochester Divinity School as interim president.

A memorial gathering, "A Celebration of Life and Service," will be held on Saturday, May 23, at 2 p.m. at Lakeshore Avenue Baptist Church, 3534 Lakeshore Ave., Oakland, CA, where Jones was a member, Condolences can be sent to Shirley Jones at 1300 Quarry Court #405, Point Richmond, CA 94801.

PEACE NEWS

Life in the Spirit

Provide your congregation the opportunity to explore themes of Pentecost with renowned theologian and teacher, James Alison, in his lecture "Life in the Spirit and Imagining the Good" on Tuesday, June 2 at 7:30 p.m. at St. Nicholas Church's Oldershaw Hall, 1108 Washington Street in Evanston. With a uniquely accessible and humorous speaking style, James gently guides listeners to a deeper understanding of their faith and practice. All are welcome.

A Roman Catholic theologian and author, James is noted for his work on the application of René Girard's anthropological theory in theology. His writings include *Knowing Jesus*, *The Joy of Being Wrong: Original Sin through Easter Eyes* and *On Being Liked*.

This event is sponsored by the St. Nicholas Adult Faith Enrichment Committee and the Raven Foundation. St. Nicholas Catholic Church is a diverse and welcoming Roman Catholic parish in Evanston (<http://www.nickchurch.org>). The Raven Foundation is a 501 (c)(3) educational foundation in Glenview, working to make religion reasonable, violence unthinkable and peace a possibility (www.ravenfoundation.org).

HEALTH CARE NEWS

Health Care Pulpit Supply

This invitation is from Protestants for the Common Good and Health Care for America Now.

The summer of 2009 will be a critical period for national health care reform as our representatives and senators in Washington debate legislation that will be voted on by September, 2009. Faith communities can have an important voice during this critical time. Protestants for the Common Good has joined Health Care for America Now in offering guest preachers who can speak from faith perspectives on the need for health care reform. Clergy who are engaged in health care reform issues are available to serve as a guest preacher or vacation pulpit supply. In addition, a volunteer is available to accompany the speaker to collect signatures of support or answer questions from members after the service.

Please welcome a guest preacher or consider preaching on this topic this summer. A brief meeting for sharing information and an orientation is scheduled for June 11 from 10:00am to Noon. We urge you to use this opportunity to facilitate and moderate a health care discussion in your congregation during this most important period of debate. If you have an interest in serving as a guest preacher on health care, we urge you to make that known to us. If you would like to take advantage of these opportunities, either to invite a speaker or to serve as a speaker, please contact Jessica Palys at 312-427-2114 x206.

Summer Celebration

This invitation is from the Illinois Campaign for Better Health Care.



Monday, June 8, 2009

5:30 - 7:30 PM

La Decima Musa Restaurant

1901 S. Loomis St., Chicago

As we stand on the verge of passing health care for all,
join your friends in the fight for health care justice at
the Campaign for Better Health Care's 2009 Summer Celebration!

EVENT TICKETS: \$50

Help CBHC continue the fight for comprehensive health
care reform in Illinois and health care justice for all!

SPONSORSHIPS: \$500

All sponsors receive listings in event materials, tickets to
the event, special recognition at the event, and recognition
for a year on the CBHC website as a friend to the health
care justice movement.

Tickets include appetizers, soft drinks, and wine.

A cash bar will also be available.

Space is limited - please register early!

[REGISTER ONLINE TODAY!](#)

For more information, contact Kathleen Duffy
kduffy@cbhconline.org or 312.913.9449.

PRAYER REQUESTS

Please pray for world peace.

Please pray for God's guidance to those who are seeking to reform our health care system.

May we all join in prayers of thanksgiving and blessing for Keith Cerk and the First Baptist Church of Waukegan. They will celebrate the 20th anniversary of Keith as pastor on May 31.

Please join in prayers of thanksgiving for all the faithful disciples of the Evangel in ABCMC congregations.

Please hold in prayer Phil Yetter, pastor of the First Baptist Church. Phil is receiving treatment for cancer. He also fell recently and cracked some ribs.

Please pray for ABC missionaries Miriam and Ed Noyes in the Democratic Republic of Congo. Please hold in prayer all the people of that nation, especially children, some of whom are vulnerable to religious abuse.

Please pray for ABC missionaries Tim and Patti Long, working in leadership training with Baptists in Mexico.

Please pray for ABC missionaries Jan and Larry Martin, who minister in rural northern Thailand.

CALENDAR

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

May 31—Celebration of Keith Cerk's 20th anniversary as pastor of the First Baptist Church of Waukegan, 401 N. Genesee Street, Waukegan. Larry Greenfield will be the guest preacher at the 11 a.m. service. A celebration luncheon will take place at 12:30 p.m.

May 31-June 4—Eighth Annual Conference on Globalization for the Common Good. Loyola University's Lake Shore Campus,

June 2—James Alison lecture, "Life in the Spirit and Imagining the Good," St. Nicholas Church's Oldershaw Hall, 1108 Washington Street, Evanston, 7:30 p.m.

June 4—American Friends Service Committee's annual benefit, Gage Gallery, Roosevelt University, 18 S. Michigan Avenue, Chicago, 6-9 p.m. For more information, please see <http://www.afsc.org/chicago/ht/d/sp/i/77815/pid/77815>

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 6—Sing to Live Community Choir concert, "Emeralds: Music from Eastern Europe." Performing Arts Center, Dominican University, 7900 West Division Street, River Forest, 7:30 p.m..

June 7-12—95th Annual Hampton University Ministers; Conference, Hampton, Virginia.

June 8—Campaign for Better Health Care Summer Celebration, La Decima Musa Restaurant, 1901 S. Loomis Street, Chicago, 5:30-7:30 p.m.

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

June 10—ABCUSA reception at Hampton University Ministers' Conference, Conference Room "A," Embassy Suites at Hampton Roads Conference Center, 9:30 p.m.

June 11—Information and Orientation meeting on preaching about Health Care Reform, 27 E. Monroe, Suite 1100, Chicago, 10 a.m.-noon.

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 16—Finance and Property Committee meeting, 3 p.m.

June 20—End of Life planning, 6554 N. Rockwell Street, Chicago, 1:30-4:00 p.m.

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 21—Finance and Property Committee meeting, 3 p.m.

July 20-25—Baptist Peace Fellowship of North America conference, Weber State University, Ogden, Utah. See 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.

August 18—Property and Finance Committee meeting, 3 p.m.

August 22—Family Council meeting. Registration opens at 8:30 a.m.; meeting begins at 9 a.m.

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

November 14—ABCMC Annual Meeting

The Metro Chicago *eWind* is an electronic communication intended for the people of the American Baptist Churches of Metro Chicago. The events publicized herein do not necessarily express the opinions of the American Baptist Churches of Metro Chicago. We email the newsletter each Wednesday. We welcome your news, prayer requests and comments. Please email your communications to the editor, Lynne Kelley, at lynne@abcmc.org. If you spot a typographical error or other mistake in *eWind*, please let us know at the ABCMC office, 773-804-1655. The ABCMC office is at 7035 W. Grand Avenue, Suite 102, Chicago, Illinois 60707