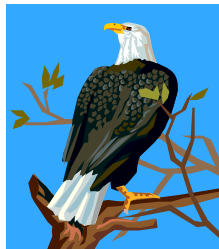


*Metro Chicago*  
*eWind*

*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

**July 15, 2010**



“You whom I took from the ends of the earth, and called from its farthest corners,  
saying to you, ‘You are my servant, I have chosen you and not cast you off’;  
do not fear, for I am with you, do not be afraid, for I am your God;  
I will strengthen you, I will help you, I will uphold you with my victorious right hand.”  
Isaiah 41:9-10

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## NOTES FROM THE EXECUTIVE MINISTER

In the Gospel text from the lectionary this week (Luke 10: 38 - 42), Jesus tells friend Martha that her sister, Mary, was getting it right by sitting at his feet and focusing only on him and his words, rather than busying herself, like Martha, with the many chores that always accompany being a hostess/host.

Well, I suspect this week many, if not most, of us are in Mary's posture (sitting) and bearing (focusing) -- if we have a choice at all -- not so much because we are riveted to Jesus and his teachings but rather because it's hard to concentrate on anything but the heat!

(It does make one wonder how, for centuries upon centuries, our ancestors did without air-conditioning, doesn't it? And whether we are softies for needing to have it?)

But maybe our attention on staying cool by limiting our physical activities could be the grace-filled occasion to reflect, as Mary did, on what is and should be central to our lives.

*Wouldn't that be really cool?!*

In the cause of the Evangel,

Larry

## ABCMC NEWS

### ***Save the Date - Ministers Council Fall Retreat***

Ministers Council Fall Retreat  
Monday September 13, 2010 at Third Baptist Church of Chicago  
Working Title: Becoming A Stronger Spiritual Leader - Why Discipline Matters

Please watch your mail and e-Wind for additional details.

Rev. Carol Jamieson Brown, Pastor  
FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH PARK FOREST  
80 North Orchard - Park Forest, IL 60466  
[www.fbcparkforest.org](http://www.fbcparkforest.org)  
708-748-2566

### ***Full Updated ABCMC Directory Available On-Line***

The full ABCMC directory is available as a password protected .pdf file on the ABCMC website, [www.abcmc.org](http://www.abcmc.org). The directory on the website will always be the latest update of the directory, and will be continually updated as changes and corrections are brought to our attention. If your contact information is included in the directory, you will receive an email or letter in U.S. Mail (if you do not have an email address) with the instructions and password for accessing the directory. Look for this notification in the coming weeks. If you need the password and have not received the notification, feel free to email me at [veronica@abcmc.org](mailto:veronica@abcmc.org).)

Posting the directory on the ABCMC website has been done in lieu of a mass mailing. If you have any questions, or would like to request a hard copy of the directory for \$5.00, feel free to email your request to me at [veronica@abcmc.org](mailto:veronica@abcmc.org).

Thank you. Veronica

## ***Thinking Theologically***

Check back next week for *Thinking Theologically*.

## **NEWS FROM ABCMC CONGREGATIONS**

### ***Greater Bethesda Extends an Invitation to Their 2<sup>nd</sup> Summerfest!***

# **Summerfest 2010**

The Fellowship Of Christians United for Service (FOCUS) Ministry of Greater Bethesda Missionary Baptist Church will hold their second neighborhood SUMMERFEST on Saturday, July 17th, 2010 from 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. The festivities will be held on 53<sup>rd</sup> street outside of Greater Bethesda Missionary Baptist Church at 5301 S. Michigan. Admission is free. There will be free food and drinks; health information and screenings; musical artists; and a "jumping jack and fellowship." Additionally, we have contacted the Chicago Fire Department to provide fire safety training and prevention tips. It is our hope that this event will inspire positive community involvement in a day filled with information, entertainment and fun.

We look forward to you joining us as we endeavor to revitalize and further improve our community. Rev. David W. Watkins, III, Pastor, invites all to attend.

### ***Lake Street Church Searching for Interim Minister***

With Pastor Bob Thompson decision to step down as the senior pastor of Lake Street Church this coming fall, a search committee is hard at work to find an interim almost as spectacular as Bob. The announcement and position description are posted below. If you know experienced pastors who should be considered, please pass this material on to them and/or let the committee know of their talents.

Larry

#### **Job Opening Interim Minister**

Lake Street Church of Evanston, Illinois is seeking a full-time Interim Minister to serve our theologically liberal, uniquely fabulous, socially progressive, and welcoming and affirming congregation beginning in November 2010. Interested parties are encouraged to explore the church's website, [www.lakestreet.org](http://www.lakestreet.org), where the full job description and directions for applicants can be found (also included below) and to contact [betsywilson@gmail.com](mailto:betsywilson@gmail.com) with any questions.

#### **Job Opening Interim Minister**

Lake Street Church of Evanston is seeking a full-time Interim Minister to serve our theologically liberal, socially progressive, and welcoming and affirming congregation beginning in November 2010 through the search process and installation of a new Senior Pastor. The Interim Minister will have primary responsibility for preaching and worship leadership, will manage and lead the LSC staff, and provide support and guidance for the congregation as we thoughtfully refine our understanding of our identity and develop a vision for our future. Interested parties are encouraged to explore the church's website, [www.lakestreet.org](http://www.lakestreet.org), where the church Covenant and other pages provide more information about the

theology, history, and life of the community.

This opening comes as a result of the retirement of the Senior Minister who has served Lake Street Church for 30 years, alongside an Associate Minister who has been serving for the past seven years. Under this leadership, the church has developed an inquiring spirituality, an appreciation of contemplative and mystical traditions of Christianity, and an engagement in social justice ministries. It is an intellectually vigorous congregation that draws upon the spiritual resources of many traditions and celebrates the common ground shared with other faith traditions.

The Interim Minister will be an experienced pastor with a well-developed sense of pastoral and personal identity to provide calm, thoughtful, and flexible leadership through this period of change. Strong skills in preaching, listening, communicating, networking, discernment, facilitating small groups, and conflict resolution are necessary. The ability to facilitate the congregation's self study through a variety of means is important, including in that discovery process our relationship with our denomination, American Baptist Churches U.S.A.

The Interim Minister reports to the General Board. The Interim Minister will not be a candidate for the permanent Senior Minister position.

**Specific Responsibilities Include:**

- Preaching and worship leadership of the church in conjunction with the Associate Minister, including special services and ceremonies throughout the year. (The Associate Minister preaches 20% of the sermons, spread out during the year.)
- Provide regular administrative oversight and direction to the five church staff members, with the goal of supporting or enhancing their ability to serve the ministries of the church without changing the basic staff configuration.
- Provide pastoral care to the congregation, with the assistance of the Associate Minister, both directly and indirectly. This includes working with the Deacons and responding to e-mail and voice mail.
- Provide support to committees (with Associate Minister) and attend Board meetings.
- Work with the Associate Minister and the Board to present Lake Street Church to the larger community for general communication and to encourage inquiry from potential new members.
- Work with the Transition Oversight Team to fulfill the goals of the interim period, which may require leading specific study groups or other activities.

**Qualifications/Education/Experience:**

Ordination in a Protestant denomination and a Masters of Divinity or its equivalent are required. Training in interim ministry and previous experience in interim ministry work is highly recommended. Lake Street Church welcomes applicants of all genders, racial and ethnic backgrounds, and sexual orientation.

**To apply:**

Please submit a cover letter that emphasizes interim-ministry experience and training, a resume, and, if desired, copies of recorded sermons and published articles to:

Lake Street Church  
Interim Minister Search Committee  
607 Lake Street  
Evanston, IL 60201-4412  
or [betsywilson@gmail.com](mailto:betsywilson@gmail.com)

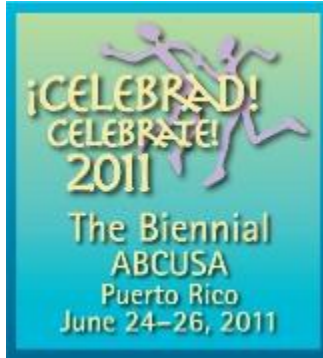
Applications will be reviewed as they are received, and applicants are encouraged to apply as quickly as possible. Interviews will be scheduled in late summer.

## ABCUSA NEWS

Visit the American Baptist News Service for complete articles and current ABC-USA news at <http://www.abc-usa.org/Resources/AmericanBaptistNewsService/tabid/79/Default.aspx>

### **2011 Biennial – Celebrate 2011! ¡Celebrad! You Are Invited!**

The Baptist Convention of Puerto Rico will welcome American Baptists to the city of San Juan for the American Baptist Biennial on June 24-26, 2011.



Biennial Consultant Brad Berglund says, "The last time the American Baptist Biennial was held in Puerto Rico was 1981. Those who attended still talk about the dynamic way God's Spirit was present in the music, the messages and the ministry they experienced there. Joyfully, we all have the opportunity to once again join hands and voices in San Juan with sisters and brothers in Christ as we celebrate together in 2011."

Highlights include:

- Missional experiences (both before and after the Biennial)
  - MMBB celebrates 100th anniversary
  - The Baptist Churches of Puerto Rico mark 50th anniversary as a region within the ABC
  - Sunday morning worship in local churches
- Musicians from around the island share their music
  - Dynamic speakers
  - Community worship and sharing time together as American Baptists

More highlights of the Biennial and information about the speakers and events can be found in **ABCUSA Connections**, the new denominational newsletter produced by the Office of the General Secretary.

## ABC ORGANIZATIONS



### **Fall Sunday School Curriculum Orders**

The Fall 2010 curriculum order form is now available. Download your copy by accessing [https://www.judsonpress.com/pdfs/order\\_form\\_fall\\_2010.pdf](https://www.judsonpress.com/pdfs/order_form_fall_2010.pdf). You can view the pdf and only print out the pages you need. Be sure to also print the order summary on page 8. As always, your order can be placed [online](http://www.judsonpress.com/catalog.cfm?category_id=2) [http://www.judsonpress.com/catalog.cfm?category\\_id=2](http://www.judsonpress.com/catalog.cfm?category_id=2), by fax, or phone.

**All standard orders are due July 30, 2010.**

## PRAYER REQUESTS

Please pray for "a just and peaceful resolution to the situation between Israel and Palestine." *General Sec. Medley*

Please pray for all of those affected by and perpetrating violence in Chicago and cities around the country.

Please pray for the people and the environment affected by the BP oil eruption.

Please pray for our country in the midst of the struggle for immigration reform and financial reform.

Please pray for the people of Haiti, the people of Chile, and people around the world who are suffering.

Please pray for world peace.

Please pray for our troops and our government.

Please pray for all persons facing job loss and job searches in the current economy.

Please pray for all children who are homeless and/or hungry.

Please pray for ABCMC staff and all ABCMC churches for effective Christian witness and service in 2010.

## **ABC CALENDAR**

**July 17** – SUMMERFEST at Greater Bethesda Baptist Church, 5301 S. Michigan, Chicago, 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

**June 21 – July 30** – A Cool Summer Experience, Summer Educational Program, First Baptist Church of Waukegan

**June 28 – August 27** – Free Meals, Ages 18 yrs and younger, Mon. – Fri., noon – 1:00 p.m. Irving Park Baptist Church, 4401 W. Irving Park Rd, Chicago

**August 16** – Specialized Ministers' Meeting at the home of Rev. Connie Stone, 10:30am-1:30pm. More information to come.

**August 19 – 20** – *Women Together, Lifting and Encouraging One Another*, Conference for Female Clergy, New Prospect Missionary Baptist Church, Detroit, MI, [www.abwministries.org](http://www.abwministries.org) for more information.

**September 13** – Save the Date - Ministers Council Fall Retreat, Third Baptist Church of Chicago. More information to come.

**September 14** – One Hope United Charity Golf Outing, go to <http://www.onehopeunited.org/golf/> for more information.

**September 17 – 19** - Annual American Baptist Men/ABBoys – USA Leadership Training Conference 2010, Grotonwood Camp located at 167 Prescott St, Groton, Massachusetts, [www.abmen.org](http://www.abmen.org) for more information.

**June 24 – 26, 2011** – American Baptist Biennial, San Juan, Puerto Rico

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 Thursday. We welcome your news, prayer requests and comments. Please send them to [office@abcmc.org](mailto:office@abcmc.org). If you spot a typographical error or other mistake in *eWind*, please let us know via email at [office@abcmc.org](mailto:office@abcmc.org).