



# Evergreen Notes

Evergreen Association of American Baptist Churches

Volume 11, Issue 8

## Evergreen Annual Meeting—October 11–13, 2012

Evergreen’s Annual Meeting 2012, themed “Go and Do Likewise” from Luke 10:37b, will be held at Mount Zion Baptist Church, 1634—19th Avenue, Seattle WA 98122. The guest preacher will be the Rev. Jacqueline A. Thompson, Assistant Pastor, Allen Temple Baptist Church, Oakland CA.

The meeting begins with a pre-conference **Sacred Conversa-**



Rev. Dr. Jacqueline A. Thompson

**tion on an issue of race** on Thursday evening, October 11th, 7:00 PM, at a site yet to be determined.

Then on Friday at 11 AM registration opens and the gathering officially begins with a clergy lunch and a lay-lunch served simultaneously at noon.

See lodging information on page 3; a Schedule of Events

on page 9; and meeting and meal registration form on pages 10 of this newsletter.

We are expecting wonderful music from local church choirs and a special presentation by Mike Stern!

Begin planning now to be a part of this exciting time in the life of the Evergreen Association.

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### Continue to pray for churches seeking pastors:

- Filipino American Christian Fellowship*
- Wedgwood Community Church*
- Urban Grace*
- Japanese Baptist Church*

## Perla’s Pearls: American Baptist Home Mission Societies



Rev. Perla Belo  
Association Chair

American Baptist Home Mission Societies (ABHMS), formerly National Ministries, is the ministry and mission


arm of ABC in the United States. I was asked by the executive committee leaders to represent the Board of General Ministries (BGM) to the ABHMS Board.


The recent ABHMS board met at Valley Forge.


Following are some highlights of the ABHMS board meeting.

*(Continued on page 2)*

## Events & Happenings Around the Association

 **Burien Community Church** has called **Mindi Welton-Mitchell** as pastor, and invites you to the **installation service** on September 9, 2012 at 11 AM.

 **Good Shepherd Baptist Church** invites you to its biennial **Auction & Dinner**, October 13, 2012 at the Lynnwood Elks Club (exact early evening time to be determined )

 **Japanese Baptist Church** invites you to **Cafe 34:8**, an Asian Caucus Fundraiser, October 21, 2012, 4 PM

There's still time to return your **2011 Annual Reports!**

Thank you to the following churches:

**Burton Community Church**

**Panther Lake Community Church**

**Evergreen Association  
ANNUAL MEETING  
October 11-13,  
2012**

Mount Zion Baptist Church,  
Seattle WA , hosting  
Guest Preacher, Jacqueline  
Thompson, Assistant Pastor,  
Allen Temple Baptist  
Church, Oakland CA  
Theme: "Go and do like-  
wise" Luke 10:37b

## Perla's Pearls

*(Continued from page 1)*

The theme of the board was, "stretch toward a bright future." This theme was heard from the devotional messages by three board members. A small group sharing on the strengths of ABHMS based on the theme was an encouraging exercise.

In our plenary session, we heard reports from the treas-

urer, the finance and audit committees, and other standing committees.

New topics considered were the commissioning process for home missionaries; pledge cards distributed to board members for financial support. A surprise was individual laptops given to board members to enhance communication about ABHMS.

One interesting session at the

*continued*

end of the board meeting was the "church as an economic being," and her function as an economic entity since money is a sensitive topic in the church.

It has been my honor to be a part of these two boards of ABCUSA, and I praise God for this unique experience.

## Pastor Daryl Lavway and Family at the Mariners vs. Red Sox Ball Game!

On Sunday, July 1, 2012, Pastor Daryl Lavway, son Michael—recently returned home from a Middle East military deployment; daughter-in-law Megan and grandson Max enjoyed an evening at the Seattle Mariners vs. Boston Red Sox game (Red Sox won in overtime).

Also attending the game were Ned and Samara Parker, Marcia Patton and Clem Winbush.



Three generations of Lavways:  
Michael, Max and Daryl

## Annual Meeting 2012—Lodging

Lodging for the Evergreen Association Annual Meeting 2012 has been arranged with the Quality Inns & Suites Seattle Center, 618 John Street Seattle, WA 98109.

A block of rooms is available to Annual Meeting attendees at a rate of \$79 per night. Room tax is 15.6% per night (8.6% sales tax-7% occupancy tax), and there is a \$2.00

tourism levy—making the actual rate, with taxes and fees, about \$94 per night. Parking is a flat rate of \$8 per night for standard vehicles.

To receive this rate, reservations must be booked by September 6, 2012.

For reservations, please call (206) 728-7666 and ask for the Evergreen Association of



American Baptist Churches group rate.

Shuttles will be provided to transport attendees between the Quality Inn & Suites Seattle Center and the meeting site at Mount Zion Baptist Church.

## Nakagawa Returns to the Place of His Internment—Minidoka

Excerpts (including picture) from the Times-News article by Tetona Dunlap July 2, 2012

On June 23, [2012, Yosh] Nakagawa returned again to the home of his youth, along with others who make the pilgrimage each year to the site of their imprisonment. Nakagawa has made this trek before, he said, and never returns with an ounce of hate.

“My returning is simply this: We did not want to go there, the Magic Valley invites us and we want to go,” Nakagawa said. “It took a tragedy to show the awesomeness of America.”

Nakagawa also makes a point to visit the First Baptist Church of Twin Falls when he is in the area. He was a guest speaker June 24. “I’m

there to tell a simple story — I was there,” Nakagawa said.

The church’s pastor, the Rev. Jeff Cooper, met Nakagawa last year while attending [the American] Baptist conference in Puerto Rico. Though Nakagawa spoke informally at the church years ago, Cooper was so impressed with Nakagawa’s story that he personally invited him.

“It’s such a tremendous story,” Cooper said. “He holds no ill will or regret. He is coming to represent the 120,000 nikkei who were interned ... he’s a great man, very humble.”

Nakagawa shares the story of his childhood because he said it is a tale that does not belong to him.



Yosh Nakagawa, of Seattle WA, listens to a National Park Service interpreter inside a former firehouse on a tour of the Minidoka Internment Camp site in Jerome County Saturday, June 23. Nakagawa lived in the camp as a boy, after Executive Order 9066 forced his family from their home during the Second World War.

“It’s not [only] a Japanese-American story. It’s an American story of history.”

Editor’s Note: *Thank you, Yosh, for modeling for us all, the love of Christ and sharing how your story is my story is the Evergreen Story. Thank you Sensei!*

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### Baptists Lunching

**Together** meet at 12 noon, Grand Lake Gardens, 401 Santa Clara Avenue, Oakland

**September 19**—Robert Wilkins

**October 17**—A Panel: “Gay Clergy”, Jim Hopkins, Moderator; Esther Hargis, Wally Bryen

and Rick Mixon, panelists.

## Evergreen Missionaries “From” Haiti Share First-Hand News

Evergreen Missionaries to Haiti were charged by IM Missionaries Nzunga and Kihomi and Executive Secretary Mano and host, Mama Jo of the Haitian Baptist convention “to tell their story”. And the grateful missionaries are about doing just that—sharing what was experienced in Haiti.

Previously, members of the team have shared with the **Wedgewood Community Church** during morning worship; **Community Church of Issaquah** in a sermon and at an after-church potluck; **FBC—Seattle** following a regularly scheduled Wednesday evening dinner; **Compans**, and at **Martin Luther King, Jr. Memorial Baptist Church**, enhancing the adult study during Vacation Bible School where lessons pointed to witnessing and discipleship.

Currently, the group is looking toward visiting and sharing with the following groups:

**Panther Lake Community Church**, Wednesday evening, September 12th.

**First Baptist Church, Seattle** Sunday School presentation on September 16th.

**Good Shepherd Baptist Church**, 10:30 morning worship, August 19.

**Evergreen Annual Meeting**, Friday, October 12, 3:45 PM.

And Keith Madsen, team leader, is in conversation with Burien Community Church, Japanese Baptist Church, Grace Baptist Church—Tacoma and Mount Zion Baptist Church.

The team aims to be flexible with each church’s schedule.

You are asked to prayerfully consider where there may be

space in your church’s teaching to learn about the fate of our neighbors in Haiti. The connectedness of this global community is becoming more and more evident.

“Who is my brother?” (Matthew 12:48) and “Who is my neighbor?” ( Luke 10:29), the scriptures ask. And how shall we answer?

Seattle area and geographically distant congregations are asked to contact Keith Madsen at [drkmad2006@yahoo.com](mailto:drkmad2006@yahoo.com) or 425-392-6447 or Clem Winbush at [clem@ea-abc.org](mailto:clem@ea-abc.org) or 253-859-2226 to schedule a time to hear a word from Haiti.

Additionally, you are invited to plan to be a part of an April 2013 return visit to our sisters and brothers in Cap Haitien, Haiti.

## Be sure to RSVP for the Clergy & Spouse Dinner Cruise Sponsored by SBU



Active clergy and spouses of Seattle Baptist Union (SBU) churches should have received invitations to the Annual Clergy and Spouses Dinner Cruise to be held on Tuesday, August 7, 2012.

The Argosy Cruise ship will leave from Pier 51 at 7 PM.

If you are active Evergreen and Seattle Baptist Union [“the American Baptist Churches located within these geographic boundaries: 128<sup>th</sup> SW in Snohomish County in the north; east to Redmond/Carnation ridge, including Maple Valley and Issaquah; south to include Kent School District and Federal Way; west to Puget

Sound, to include Vashon Island...”] clergy and you did not receive an invitation, please contact Clem at 253-859-2226 or [clem@comcast.net](mailto:clem@comcast.net) to RSVP.

Please be sure your RSVP is received by August 3, 2012.

## 4th Annual Bar-Be-Que Bake Sale Auction Fundraiser—July 14, 2012

The Bar-Be-Que Fundraiser and Bake Sale Auction sponsored by the Evergreen Black Caucus held on Saturday, July 14, 2012 was a wonderful time of fellowship and fun.

Early count of the proceeds has reached \$3,283 with the bake sale auction alone accounting for \$1,053 of that total!

Thank you, thank you! Some who were unable to attend

gave donations—thank you; some came early and pitched in to complete the setup/preparations which were a bit more labor intensive than in earlier years, due to the new site—thank you. However, it seems most enjoyed the new site even more.

Evergreen church members, families and friends representing each of the caucuses came together at picturesque

Teasdale Park in Renton on a beautiful Saturday afternoon and shared good food, laughter, and some of the discussions and networking bordered on working! The weather was gorgeous—sunny, and pleasantly warm!

In addition to the original menu of chicken, ribs, and or brisket, we received a taste of Pastor Aaron Williams' "holy ghost greens" and watermelon.



The New Beginnings Set-Up/Take-Down Ministry and the Heymans and Audrey Lakey of New Walk Christian Church did a gargantuan job of delivering and returning grills, tables and chairs.

Grill Chefs: Chris Boyer, Ken Curl, Julian Hunter extended the challenge this year to include individual sauces for the meats! [This editor thought they were all great!]

## Recruits Needed for TbyS ALTs and an ACT



Evergreen is actively recruiting participants for two Action Learning

Teams (ALTs) and one new Adaptive Challenge Team (ACT) forming in the Bay Area on **church relations in a multi-region land.**

The two ALTs seeking members are the **Evergreen Challenge of "Building Relationships**

**across Culture/Geography"** (clergy and/or laypersons needed) ; and **"Church Leadership"** which needs pastors.

If you are interested, please talk with Marcia Patton (253-859-2226) or [marciaeba@comcast.net](mailto:marciaeba@comcast.net)

## Geographically Distant Churches:

*The Evergreen*

*Missionaries "From" Haiti want to share with you, too. Contact the Evergreen Office and let's work out the details!*

## "AS IF THE FLOWERS KNEW" - A Song about Hiroshima

by Michael Stern

Seattle singer/songwriter Michael Stern visited Hiroshima last April at the invitation of the World Friendship Center to perform a "One World Peace Concert" for Hiroshima. Inspired after seeing with his own eyes the A Bomb Dome with its broken edges & twisted steel, and the museum with artifacts of destruction - like the wrist-watch frozen in time at 8:15 on August 6th in 1945, he composed and recorded a new song for Hiroshima titled, "As If the Flowers Knew".

The song has now been recorded in two different versions. One features Michael singing in English. The other version features Japanese narration by Yukio Sakiyama, [Second Language Pastor at Japanese Baptist Church, Seattle].

Lyrics to "As If the Flowers Knew" by

Michael Stern  
花は知っていたのか

A flower grows in Hiroshima  
But it's known by very few  
How its color changes at a certain time  
As if the flowers knew

From spring till early August  
It remains a solid blue  
But then its edges appear to be burned  
As if the flowers knew

It's funny how it happens  
So precisely but it's true  
Every August 6th at 8:15  
The blossom changes hue  
As if the flowers knew

I think flowers remember  
And there's something else they do  
They pass that memory on again  
If only we will, too  
If only we will, too

At 8:15 on August 6th  
In 1945  
Out of rubble a flower grew  
And still the flowers thrive  
Still the flowers thrive

A flower grows in Hiroshima  
But it's known by very few

How its color changes at a certain time  
As if the flowers knew  
As if the flowers knew



For more information about obtaining the song for digital download, please visit [www.mikesongs.net](http://www.mikesongs.net) or look for it on iTunes under Michael Stern singing "As If the Flowers Knew."

Commendation from Steve Leeper, Chairman of the Hiroshima Peace Culture Foundation: "Michael Stern has come up with a surprising and original work of art about Hiroshima. 'As if the Flowers Knew' is a thoroughly American folk song appropriately wrapped in Japanese instrumentation, and accompanied by an amazingly powerful and poetic Japanese translation/narration by Yukio Sakiyama. This is an inspired piece of musical artistry."

## Haiti—Part 3: What Can We Do?

Ron Kirstein



“What CAN we do?” The millions of dollars that pour into Haiti daily via family, friends and NGO’s are not going to change it overnight. It is a Catch-22 in terms of how do we help and how do we encourage dependence? We have four missionaries in Haiti in a population of 9 million (two are medical missionaries whom we did not meet while there).

The bottom line is, as Nzunga said, “One person at a time.” Nzunga and Kihomi have seen ... the quality of life change for thousands due to the churches, schools, eye clinic and medical work we support. Yes, there are many good things going on in Haiti for which we can celebrate and praise God.

The primary message I heard while in Haiti was that education is the answer. Education does provide a vision for the future and once there is a critical mass of educated people there may be a revolution — not of the political sort but of hope, vision and imagination that things can be very different.

.... I believe mission-work is about achieving ... a critical mass on the spiritual, personal, social, economic and political level to bring about total systemic change. As I understand ABC missions, our goal is to raise the physical strength of people, the intellectual knowledge and training, and the spiritual commitments in the next

generation or two of Haitians to make this happen. We are working slowly towards that critical mass...

This is the reason we helped to do some menial labor on a school that is being built. Its purpose is to provide a school in a district where it can serve the poorer children. There is no public education in Haiti, so this school hopes to provide low-cost schooling to children who could not afford it otherwise. It may take years to complete this school as money flows in for the project, but that is the vision of those inaugurating the development. Evergreen has pledged \$10,000 for this school but much more is needed. The patience of those dreaming is amazing to me as they said, “Maybe in 5 or 10 years, we will have our first class here.” But the impact of such a school is so vital that they will not let go until it is completed. They will build it one brick at a time as the money is available. And we will educate, one child at a time, ... so that true social, economic and spiritual revolution will happen.

Prayer is essential. As we pray, we become more active and, most importantly, we begin to educate ourselves about the history of Haiti and the US economic and political ties there. Being thus informed, we can become instruments and advocates for what needs to happen on the systemic level. Most of all, I pray that as any of you feel connected to Haiti or any other third world group, you allow

yourselves to be transformed by their experience and your relationship with them.

I wonder... How would the Good News of the Gospel sound to us as we read it on an empty stomach, with sick children (with no money to pay for a doctor), relatives in prison, dead or disappeared or even after being raped by the soldiers who are so-called “liberating” us.

...The point is that as we open our hearts to the voice of the poor, we have a new avenue for our own spiritual growth. I pray that I will be able to incorporate all that I said here into my own spiritual journey in a meaningful and coherent way as I move on.

So I have to ask each of you, “What would the Good News mean to you if you read Scripture through the eyes of the ‘least of these?’” The paradoxical fact in what I experienced is these people have found HOPE beyond HOPE as they read Scripture. God is alive and there is a new future out there for them and all of us — even in Haiti. They continue to keep on keeping on. God is the Liberator and the future! This is the Good News! This is what we celebrate as Christ’s disciples. The Body of Christ extends across all miles and all oceans. We are all connected in Christ. That is our calling and our future — for the Body of Christ includes everyone, even the least among us. Welcome to everyone! Welcome to a new future for all of us!

## Washington Baptist Convention Biennial Meeting 2012

The Washington Baptist Convention (WBC) Biennial Meeting 2012 will be held at Panther Lake Community Church, 10630 SE 204th, Kent WA 98031 beginning with lunch at 12:00 Noon on September 15, 2012.

The gathering will include the Total Experience Gospel

Choir in concert at 1 PM.

Member churches should have received a letter outlining representation and reservation information. You may note that the newly revised by-laws now allow vote by proxy.

This biennial agenda calls for the election of officers and

board members and reports from the camps.

American Baptist Churches in Washington and North Idaho are members of the WBC; be sure your church is represented.

## Good Goodbyes: The Baitses Leave Puerto Rico After Serving 12 Years



We have been overwhelmed by the kind words, beautiful gifts and timely meals we have re-

ceived in our last month in Costa Rica. The packing is pretty much done, we are out of our house and while we have some loose ends to tie up, we are mostly soaking in our last week in what has been our "home country" for the last twelve years.

The people of the Emmanuel Church in Aserri invited us to a very special dinner and gave us a picture painted by Eufracia, one of the leaders in the church. It's a painting of a Costa Rican kitchen and as they presented it to us they reminded us that whenever we come back to visit there will be places at the table ready for us. They also said "Vaya con Dios" to Sarah Nash (Oly, WA) who spent a year as a volunteer, serving mostly with that congregation.

The Church in La Guacima (Mansion of Light Baptist Church) honored us during their morning worship service by washing our feet. Micah, Jamie, Mylinda and I felt a little strange at first, but

mostly we felt loved as four pairs of church members gently washed and dried our feet. Mine were too big for the plastic container, but Eddy and his son smiled and made it work. There were smiles and tears and mutual expressions of gratitude. Mylinda spent most every Tuesday at the church working with "the candle ladies", the Butterfly Transformation Center, and providing pastoral care to some of the leaders. Both Mylinda and I were privileged to preach, teach classes, and serve the Lord's Supper there a number of times. After getting our feet washed we were invited to serve the Santa Cena one last time. We took turns giving and receiving that day, and I couldn't help but think that this is the way church ought to be all the time.

Our love tanks were full, but there was more to come. That same Sunday our "home church" in Santo Tomas honored us in their evening service. It's the church with the stained glass window where Mylinda was privileged to help create the "Saved to Serve" panels that now grace the sanctuary. There were more kind words, tears, laughs, and using the left-over glass from our project, they commissioned and gifted us with a

lamp that replicates their windows that we can take with us. We were overwhelmed by this thoughtful act of grace.

This Friday is our last big despedida (send off) at the Federation offices where we've served alongside the national leadership of Baptist churches and their pastors. As we head into a new phase of ministry with our Latin American partners, it has been our prayer to have good goodbyes this month. Thanks be to God that we have been blessed beyond our prayers, for they have been good indeed.

We are returning to the United States, Olympia WA to be specific, but we go with cups filled with bendición (blessing) and twelve years of giving and receiving and sharing table with some amazing sisters and brothers in Christ.

Thank you for being part of our journey.

Gracias,

Gary Baites

**Editor's Note:** *Melinda will continue with International Ministries as a Regional Missionary with a special focus on ministries in the prevention and eradication of human trafficking.*





EVERGREEN ASSOCIATION OF AMERICAN BAPTIST CHURCHES

2012 ANNUAL MEETING *"Go and do likewise"* Luke 10:37b

# Annual Meeting

## Evergreen Association of American Baptist Churches

### Mount Zion Baptist Church

Rev. Aaron Williams, Pastor  
1634 19th Avenue, Seattle WA 98122

**October 11-13, 2012**

#### SCHEDULE

##### THURSDAY

6:00 PM Sacred Conversation — Place : TBA

##### FRIDAY

9:00 AM Ministerial Standards and Concerns Committee Meeting

9:00 AM Caucus Leaders' Meeting

11:00 AM Registration Opens

12:00 NOON — Minister's Council Luncheon

12:00 NOON — Laity Luncheon

1:00 PM *"THE EVERGREEN WAY"* Workshop

2:00 PM Workshop Period 1: Choose one

Intro to Technology in the 21st Century Church

Consensus Building

3:45 PM Workshop Period 2: Choose one

Haiti Mission Trip

Transformed by the Spirit

5:15 PM Break

5:30 PM Dinner (tickets available for purchase)

7:00 PM Worship

##### SATURDAY

8:00 AM Registration Opens

8:30 AM Agenda Review

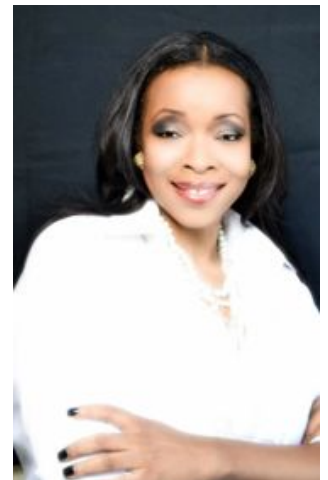
9:00 AM Caucuses Meet—Part I

10:30 AM Worship

12:00 NOON Lunch (tickets available for purchase)

1:00 PM Caucuses Meet—Part II

2:00 PM Business Session



**Featured Preacher**  
**Rev. Dr. Jacqueline A. Thompson**  
**Assistant Pastor**  
**Allen Temple Baptist Church**  
**Oakland, CA**



**Evergreen Association of  
American Baptist  
Churches**

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EVERGREEN ASSOCIATION OF AMERICAN BAPTIST CHURCHES

2012 ANNUAL MEETING "Go and do likewise" Luke 10:37b

OCTOBER 11-13, 2012

Mount Zion Baptist Church, 1634 19th Avenue, Seattle WA 98122

**REGISTRATION FORM**

Please mail the completed form (and applicable fees) to: Evergreen Association of ABC, 409 Third Avenue S., Suite A, Kent WA 98032-5843. Checks and/or money orders should be made payable to Evergreen Association-ABC.

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Church Name \_\_\_\_\_

Street Address \_\_\_\_\_ City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Email Address \_\_\_\_\_ Telephone \_\_\_\_\_

I will need baby sitting for \_\_\_\_\_ child(ren); age(s) \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_.

	Cost	Total
<input type="checkbox"/> I am a DELEGATE (Representative Voice for my Church)		
Delegate Registration Fee	\$10.00	\$ _____

**MEAL REGISTRATION**

	Cost	Total
<u>Friday, October 12, 2012</u>		
Ministers Council Lunch/Meeting	\$10.00	\$ _____
Laity Lunch	\$10.00	\$ _____
Dinner	\$20.00	\$ _____
<u>Saturday, October 13, 2012</u>		
Box Lunch	\$10.00	\$ _____

**TOTAL DELEGATE AND MEAL FEES ENCLOSED** \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Registration Deadline: October 4, 2012

## With Sadness: Rodney Romney Memorial Services

Friends,  
In honor of Dr. Romney's life and in gratitude for his ministry, Seattle First Baptist Church, is planning a memorial celebration on Sunday, August 26, at 2 p.m. All are welcome to attend.

*The edited version of the obituary follows:*

Rodney Ross Romney, 81, of Idaho Falls, Idaho passed away Saturday, June 30, 2012 at his home. Rodney was born January 17, 1931 in Arco, Idaho to Lois Taylor Romney and Daniel Gaskell Romney. He was the third of three sons. Rod grew up in Arco and moved to Howe in the fourth grade. He returned to Arco and graduated from Butte High School in 1947. He graduated from Linfield College, Berkeley Baptist Divinity School and earned a Doctor of Ministry from the American Baptist Seminary of the West in Berkeley, California.

Rod taught school in Stanley, Idaho from 1949 to 1951, high school English and music in Arco, Idaho from 1954 to 1957, youth counselor for Dependents of Military Personnel in Verdun, France from 1960 to 1961. In 1964 Rod married Beverly Wilcoxon.

He was the Senior Minister of Lakeshore Avenue Baptist

Church in Oakland, California from 1961 to 1979, Speaker on "Hour of Prayer" Radio Broadcast Station KFAX in San Francisco, California from 1961 to 1979, Adjunct Professor at American Baptist Seminary of the West in preaching in 1966, speaker at numerous retreats and conferences in many states and several foreign countries, Senior Minister of Seattle First Baptist Church in Seattle, Washington from 1980 to 2000 and Adjunct Professor in Spirituality at Northwest Theological Union in Seattle in 1985. In Seattle his sermons were broadcast on KIRO-FM each Sunday morning. He was a trustee for Linfield College from 1990 to 2008 and was a recipient of an Honorary Doctor of Divinity degree from Linfield College on May 31, 1987. He is the author of six books, *A Promise of Light, Journey to Inner Space, Love Without Conditions, Wilderness Spirituality, Lessons of the Soul and I Heard A Crow Call My Name*. An accomplished composer and lyricist, his hymns are included in Hymns for the Spiritual Journey, used by churches of many denominations. One hymn is published in the Upper Room Worship book. He wrote many articles for various newspapers and magazines. He was a gifted speaker and a talented musician.

Perhaps the most notable facts about Rodney Romney have been his affirmation and inclu-

sion of all people, his honoring of the various pathways by which people seek God, his commitment to peace and non-violence and his belief in the oneness of all creation. Rod worked in Oakland for 20 years at the Lakeshore Avenue Baptist Church which integrated during his leadership and today is a racially-integrated church. It was during the turmoil of racial tensions in our country. The next 20 years he was senior pastor at First Baptist Church of Seattle, a large downtown church with around a thousand members. He enjoyed 20 years at this church before retiring to Idaho Falls, Idaho.

He is survived by his wife of 48 years, Beverly Romney of Idaho Falls, Idaho; his brother, Verl (Cec) Hansen of Buhl, Idaho, sister, Dixie Lainhart of Idaho Falls, Idaho; many extended family members; and the large community of friends, students and co-workers who he helped, mentored or inspired along the way. Rod was preceded in death by his two older brothers and their wives, Dan (Mary Ellen) and Dick (Helen) Romney.

A Celebration of Life was held at 11:00 a.m. on Friday, July 13, 2012 at the Baptist Community Church, 402 West Grand Avenue in Arco, Idaho, under the direction of Lost River Funeral Home.



# Evergreen Association of American Baptist Churches

Non-Profit  
Organization  
US  
PAID  
Kent WA  
Permit No. 451

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Return Service Requested

**Visit us on the web at  
[www.ea-abc.org](http://www.ea-abc.org)**

Evergreen Notes, the newsletter for member churches, ecumenical partners, national affiliates, and friends of the Evergreen Association of American Baptist Churches is published monthly.  
Please submit articles by the **24th** of the month prior to expected publication.  
You are encouraged to copy and/or reprint information and articles.



Rev. Dr. Marcia J. Patton  
Executive Minister

Building Bridges, Resourcing Churches & Translating Our Unity

## Calendar of Upcoming Events

### AUGUST

7—SBU-sponsored Active Clergy/Spouse Dinner Cruise (by invitation only)

13—17 Eric Law's Kaleidoscope NW: Creating Sustainable Missional Ministries, Rainbow Lodge, North Bend WA

25—Association Board Meeting, 9 AM, Wedgwood

OCTOBER 11-13, 2012 - ANNUAL MEETING, Mount Zion Baptist Church, Rev.

Jacquie Thompson, Associate at Allen Temple Baptist Church, preaching JANUARY

21—MLK Day Service (details to come)

Save the Date: June 21-23, 2013 - Mission Summit - ABCUSA Biennial, Overland Park, Kansas (Did you know that Evergreen Pastor Rev. Dr. Braxton is on the Program Planning Committee?)



**MISSION STATEMENT**  
Being a culturally diverse people who are one in Christ and who value the liberties of our American Baptist Heritage, the Evergreen Baptist Association will  
**Build bridges** between communities;  
Provide resources to **equip member churches** to share Christ and teach God's word; and  
**Translate our unity** to the world.