



Evergreen Notes

Evergreen Association of American Baptist Churches

Volume 5, Issue 8

Clergy and Spouse Dinner Cruise

Seattle Baptist Union is sponsoring the 2008 Clergy and Spouse Dinner Cruise. This invitation allows clergy leaders and their spouses/partners to meet, network, and relax. The evening cruise on the Argosy Cruise Line departs from Pier 56 on the Seattle waterfront, Tuesday, August 19, 2008 at 7 PM and includes a buffet dinner.



Ministries, USA, his wife Betty, and leaders of the National Black Caucus, to which Evergreen's Black Caucus holds membership.

The cruise is free for Seattle area and Evergreen Baptist clergy and spouses. There are limited spaces, so please make your reservation early and make every effort to keep the commitment.

Please RSVP through the Region office - call Clem at 253-859-2226 or email clemeba@comcast.net

Special guests include Dr. Aidsand Wright-Riggins, Executive Minister of National

“What Does This Mean?” Acts 2:12

“All were amazed and perplexed, saying to one another, ‘What does this mean?’” This question out of the Pentecost story is often the question people ask of Evergreen. We ask it for our churches. We ask it individually. And we will unpack it at the Annual Meeting, October 10 and 11 at New Hope Baptist Church, Seattle Washington. Host pastor, Rev. Dr. Robert L. Jeffrey was on the front page of the local Seattle paper recently because of work he is doing to help kids in the city experience how produce is grown

(http://seattlepi.nwsourc.com/local/6420ap_urban_farmers_markets.html).

The Rev. Dr. Kenneth U. Fong, pastor of the Evergreen Baptist Church of Los Angeles will be our Keynote Speaker. A schedule can be found on page 6 followed by a registration form. New Hope Choir will sing on Friday as well as our own Evergreen Sounds (you can be part of that, too, music is available!)

On Saturday, the Voices of Praise from Martin Luther King, Jr. Church in Renton will help us worship.

Register today!

Curtis Comments On Trust

I was talking about our structure the other day with someone and describing consensus and the caucus structure and she made the observation, “You certainly

have a lot of trust in each other.” Trust indeed plays a central role in our relationship as a region. When we were writing the by-laws for the region, several



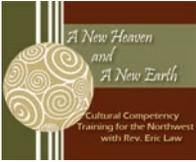
advocated for a safeguard that would suspend consensus in

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Events & Happenings



Cultural Competency Training for the Northwest

is being offered on **December 6, 2008** at the **Marysville United Methodist Church, Marysville, WA**. What is Cultural Competency Training? This training assists in building skills to effectively communicate with a

diversity of people. So that our faith communities may reflect the diversity of our local community, lay and clergy leadership, persons ministering cross-culturally and persons curious about their own “blocks” to embracing diversity should come. Register online at www.pnwumc.org/cctn or call (206) 870-6820.

This is the official logo for the **2009 ABCUSA Biennial**, adopted by the Biennial Program Committee this past June.



Plan to join us for the Biennial and its rich time of celebration.

Ken Curl

A Witness: AN ACT OF LOVE

Christians all over the world know that God is love and yet as human beings we don't always show our love for one another. So following this logic the heart of God must be love. He so loved the world that He gave His only begotten son for the redemption of our sins.

So where am I going with this? The Evergreen Association of American Baptist Churches (Evergreen) is based on the principal of love. We love one another, and we are not afraid to show it. We show it through the respect we have for each other's opinions. We show it through

making decisions by consensus, entering into common ministry and through our common goal of sharing the “good news” with a hurting world.

We have broken down barriers that normally separate us such as race, sexual orientation and money. We dispel the notion that 11:00 a.m. Sunday morning has to be the most segregated hour in America.

When I began my journey with Evergreen it was because my pastor asked me to become involved, but that's not what has kept me involved. What has

kept me interested and immersed is the love that I feel every time I attend an Evergreen function. Am I the only one that feels it, or do you feel it, too?

For those of you that have not felt this love I offer you the opportunity to become involved. We are waiting to love you too.

Yours in Christ,

Ken Curl
Vice-Chair

ABSW News

We are in receipt of a note of thanks to Evergreen Churches for the financial gift of \$580.92 during the month of June. Michelle Holmes, Vice President of the American Baptist Seminary of the West (ABSW), reports “[The

Seminary] received word that the Association for Theological Schools has approved [their] new *Master of Arts in Community Leadership* degree. This degree is a basic professional degree program designed to help prepare men

and women in ordained and non-ordained positions. There are three concentrations available in this program: Worship, Social Ministries and Spirituality and the Workplace.”

(Continued from page 1)

the event of a stand-still and revert back to a majority rules system. After long conversation, we decided to put our trust in each other rather than the structure. This insistence that trust in each other be our safeguard has yielded many good results.

Trust is at the heart of any good relationship. It is the crucial ingredient that moves one from being an acquaintance to a real friend. Trust means we can be ourselves and others are also free to be genuine. Trust allows for the hard conversations to happen and the questions to be asked that you never dared ask before. Trust is a risk however. To trust someone and be trusted means to be vulner-

able. One may take advantage of trust. Yet, when people of good faith are working toward a common good, trust yields much fruit.

I am waxing philosophic about trust because I think it is the wheel on which our association rides. I have seen many of the acquaintances and colleagues in our circle form genuine trusting relationships and where that has happened, incredible stories of faith, ministry and life changing relationships resulted. Many people are finding trust coming from people they never thought possible. The trust we have built has transcended many of the walls that history has built up. This is, I believe, the clear and compelling purpose to which we have been called.

These walls don't come down overnight however. Trust takes time and a willingness to take a chance on someone not like oneself.

As we think about where we are going in Evergreen and how we are going to get there, it is crucial for us to insist that our ministry happens in an environment of trust. It takes all of us, with the help of the Holy Spirit to create such an environment.

Grace and Peace,



Curtis

Mount Zion Installs Aaron Williams as Pastor—July 20, 2008

Rev. Aaron Williams was installed as Mount Zion's 24th Senior Pastor. The Sunday afternoon, July 20th service included remarks from a host of pulpit guests and music from Mount Zion's massed choir and Woodwind Ensemble.



Williams' mentor for about 10 years, was the guest speaker and installing minister.

Leach praised Williams and his wife, Michelle, for working with that

church's young adult and senior adult ministries. "They have a spirit of love," Leach said. "They are like brother and sister to us."

Williams is a native of Augusta, GA.

WELCOME TO THE GREAT NORTHWEST, PASTOR AARON AND MICHELLE WILLIAMS!

More Than A Week AB Youth Conference, Estes Park CO July 5–11, 2008

Among the more than 1400 youth and adults attending the ABC More Than A Week (MTW) Conference in the Colorado Rockies were Evergreen's own.



Leaving evening worship



Waiting for the dining hall to open



In Their Words

"[One of the] things that impressed me at the MTW conference was the love that so many youth have for God. I love the way we all praised God and were not ashamed to do so." - *Quiarra*

"...worship God from head to toe and have a radical praise for Him...I am still asking God to help me find my special gift..." *Arereonda*

"I really enjoyed my time there - from the minute I got on the plane until the second it ended at home (I was kind of sad the whole thing was over). I really enjoyed the other youth groups that came to worship with us. The music was great and so were the people in the lodges. The worships and bible studies helped me get more connected with Jesus..." - *Jordan*

"Overall I enjoyed the whole experience (besides the food). I

think that any one who has the chance to go should. There are so many things to be learned. There are amazing people who are very friendly. And there are gatherings every night to have praise and worship. This is an experience you do not want to pass you by. I am grateful that I was sent, thanks to my fellow church members ... Thank you for this GREAT experience!" - *Cedric*



Salt Lake City, Martin L. King and Grace Tacoma pose for a group shot.



Ready for the shuttle to begin our trek home—where are the guys?

Campus Ministry

Does your church support an ecumenical campus ministry? We'd like to institute the following adopted guidelines. It depends on local churches "applying" for funds. Application form is in the next column.

Grants of \$100 will be given to a Campus Christian Ministry upon application from a local congregation which has direct relationship and involvement in the said campus ministry. (Involvement is defined as awareness of the said ministries to direct services provided by the local congregation). A church may apply for grants to more than one campus ministry if it has relationship or may divide a \$100 grant between ministries.

ECUMENCIAL OUTREACH: CAMPUS CHRISTIAN MINISTRY SUPPORT APPLICATION

Church Name:

Church Address:

Church Phone Number:

Pastor's Name:

Pastor's Email Address:

Lay Executive Officer (or Ministry Representative) Name:

Above person's email address:

The above church hereby applies for a Campus Christian Ministry Grant of \$100 by Evergreen Association for the following ministry:

Campus Christian Ministry Name:

Campus Christian Ministry Address:

Campus Christian Ministry Phone:

Campus Christian Ministry Email/Web:

Campus Christian Ministry Contact Person:

WORLD MISSION CONFERENCE IN MEDFORD OREGON

We were among the 167 registered attendants at the International Ministries-sponsored Missions Conference in Medford, Oregon on the weekend of July 18-20.

Lively celebrative worship with IMax-quality video and sound characterized the outstanding plenary presentations. *Duane and Marcia Binkley* led a workshop on Burmese Karen refugees and are now overseeing resettlement issues here in the USA. *Dan Buttry*, a global consultant who has led training sessions in eighteen nations, focused on conflict transformation. Dan's interpretation of the Sermon on the Mount

gave powerful understanding of the use of "transformational initiatives."

My linda Bates, who delivered the Sunday Sermon, used the story of the midwives in Exodus 1:8-22 who "spoke truth to power". And *Bucky Snyder* in his Bible Study on the raising of Jairus' daughter, was creative in using Biblical contexts to tell stories within stories. *Karen Smith* who oversees the New Life Center in Thailand, shared stories of women transformed by the power of the gospel, and seven youth from the Xtreme Team, just returned from *Xposure* in Thailand, shared their *Xciting Xperiences*. The

Chettis from Lebanon recently hosted a visiting group from Oregon who found the experience empowering. *Mike Lowry* challenged the conference to help provide a satellite to bring the Internet to Congo.

For us, this World Mission Conference was a demonstration by enterprising missionaries of the thoughtful and creative ways they share God's love to their constituency on behalf of us all. *Be surprised by God: Come, Grow, Change.*

Marilyn & Lynn Hunwick
Palo Alto First Baptist

2008 ANNUAL MEETING “WHAT DOES THIS MEAN?”

ACTS: 2:12

“ALL WERE AMAZED AND PERPLEXED, SAYING TO ONE ANOTHER, “WHAT DOES THIS MEAN?”

OCTOBER 10–11, 2008

NEW HOPE BAPTIST CHURCH

124 21ST AVENUE

SEATTLE WA 98122

REV. DR. ROBERT L. JEFFREY, PASTOR

REV. DR. KENNETH U. FONG

PASTOR,

EVERGREEN BAPTIST CHURCH OF LOS ANGELES

ANNUAL MEETING SCHEDULE



Rev. Ken U. Fong, Pastor
Evergreen Church of Los
Angeles



Kihomi and Mabudiga
Nzunga, Missionaries to
Haiti



Evergreen Association of
American Baptist Churches

409 Third Avenue South Suite A
Kent WA 98032

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FRIDAY, OCTOBER 10, 2008

12 NOON Minister's Council Luncheon

American Baptist Women's Ministry Luncheon

1:00 PM Registration Opens

1:30 PM Devotional

2:00 PM Workshops: Haiti — Kihomi and Mabudiga Nzunga

Tools for Cultural Competency — Marcia Patton

Prayer — Clem Winbush & Mark Rambo

4:00 PM Workshops: Haiti — Kihomi and Mabudiga Nzunga

Earth Ministry — Jessie Dye

5:45 PM Dinner

7:00 PM Evening Worship with Rev. Dr. Ken U. Fong, Preaching,
New Hope Choir Singing

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 11, 2008

8:30 AM Registration Opens

9:00 AM Devotional

9:30 AM Evergreen Association Meeting Opening

10:00 AM Caucus Meetings

12 NOON Lunch in Fellowship Hall

12:45 PM Caucus Meetings Resume

2:00 PM Break

2:30 PM Business Session

3:30 PM Closing Session with Rev. Dr. Ken U. Fong, Preaching,
MLK Voices of Praise Singing



EVERGREEN ASSOCIATION OF AMERICAN BAPTIST CHURCHES

2008 ANNUAL MEETING
“WHAT DOES THIS MEAN?”

ACTS: 2:12

“ALL WERE AMAZED AND PERPLEXED, SAYING TO ONE ANOTHER, “WHAT DOES THIS MEAN?”

OCTOBER 10–11, 2008

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 _____

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

Signature of Church Clerk or Pastor (Required for Delegates only) _____

MEAL REGISTRATION		
	Cost	Total
<u>Friday, October 10, 2008</u>		
Ministers Council Lunch/Meeting	\$5.00	\$ _____
AB Women’s Luncheon	\$8.00	\$ _____
Dinner	\$15.00	\$ _____
<u>Saturday, October 11, 2008</u>		
Lunch	\$ 8.00	\$ _____

TOTAL DELEGATE AND MEAL FEES ENCLOSED \$ _____

Deadline: Monday, October 1, 2008



Evergreen Association of American Baptist Churches

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Email:

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**Visit us on the web:
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 25th 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 Between Communities

Calendar of Upcoming Events

AUGUST

- 3—Ministers Council Ordained Clergy Gathering, Marcia’s condo Club House, RSVP.
- 14—Education Team Meeting, Kent Office, 10 AM
- 19—Clergy & Spouse Cruise. RSVP to 253-859-2226 or clemeba@comcast.net
- 23—Association Board Meeting, Wedgwood, 9 AM

SEPTEMBER

- 27 - Asian Caucus Scholarship Dinner, JBC, 4:30 PM

OCTOBER

- 10—11 6TH Evergreen Association Annual Meeting, New Hope Baptist Church, Seattle.

NOVEMBER



- 21 & 22—”Godspell”, a fundraiser for Tent Cities and Evergreen, Seattle First Baptist Church, 7 PM each evening.

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.