



EVERGREEN NOTES

Evergreen Association of American Baptist Churches

Volume 6, Issue 12

MLK DAY WORSHIP AT PEOPLE'S INSTITUTIONAL

Martin Luther King, Jr. was first a pastor and preacher as well as leader in the civil rights movement. On MLK, Jr. Day we honor MLK's first occupation by having a worship experience for the community. People's Institutional Baptist Church, 159 24th (just north of Yesler), is our host church for this event, January 21, 2008.



Rev. Marilyn Turner,
MLK Worship Preacher

Their choir will sing.
Rev. Marilyn Turner,
Associate Executive
Director of National

Ministries of American Baptist Churches will be our preacher. The worship begins at 6:00 pm. At the conclusion of worship there will be a time of fellowship in the hall of the church.

Please plan to join us in this significant way to mark an important day in the life of our nation and our Association.

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Peter's Perspectives

Here we are coming into the Advent Season, (I can't believe it!). What can Evergreen bring to our Christ on this Christmas? This question came to me first because Christmas is gift-giving time; secondly, be-

cause the words "PEACE ON EARTH" popped into my mind from Luke's account of the proclamation of the heavenly host to the shepherds on the Bethlehem hillside, singing "GLORY TO GOD IN THE HIGHEST, AND PEACE



ON EARTH TO ALL WHOM GOD FAVORS!"; thirdly, in the adult Bible Study Class I teach on Tuesday mornings we're on the

(Continued on page 8)

Special points of interest:

- *Continue to pray for the healing of Barry Briscoe and for his wife/primary caregiver, Anne.*
- *Yosh Nakagawa is scheduled to begin chemo/radiation therapy soon. Continued prayers are asked.*
- *Michael-Ray Mathews has given notice of his resignation from Grace—San Jose to take a position with PICO. His last Sunday with Grace will be January 20, 2008.*

Events and Happenings

******* Fremont Baptist Church** invites you to **Sounds of Christmas 2007**, an evening of sacred and secular seasonal music, on Thursday, December 13, 2007, 7:30 p.m. Free. The church choir will present duets and then lead the audience in singing Christmas

carols. The Caravan Caroleers, local musical theatre professionals, will sing Christmas music from Broadway and motion picture musicals. And, the Impact Youth Chorale will present a musical play. A free-will offering will benefit B.F. Day Elementary and the Impact Chorale.

717 N. 36th. One-half block west of the Troll. 206-632-7994.

******OOOOPS!!!** In the October News, pg 7, SBU Ministers/Spouses Cruise, picture 5: is actually, Pat and Bob Walker (Retired), **not** Ruth and Colvin Caughey.

Celebrating Leaders in Evergreen

Chris Boyer, pastor of Good Shepherd Baptist Church, running against a twenty year incumbent in the Lynnwood City Council race, wrestled 48% of the vote, losing by only 300 votes!

Michael Cooper, husband of Evergreen Board member, Chrystal Cooper overwhelmingly won a seat on the Snohomish County Council with 60% of the vote.

Lauren Walker, wife of Marcus Walker, pastor of

Burton Community Church, won a seat on the Tacoma City council.

James Winbush, pastor and **Elizabeth Maupin**, Associate, at Community Church of Issaquah received the Raushenbusch Award for their leadership roles in the hosting of with Tent City 4.

Marcia Patton, Evergreen Association Executive Minister serves this region on the American Baptist Homes of

*CONGRATULATIONS AND
THANK YOU TO THESE
LEADERS...*

the West (ABHOW), and the American Baptist Seminary of the West (ABSW) Boards and was recently named to represent ABC/USA at the National Council of Churches General Assembly.

Nakagawa Shares “I Too, Once Was Homeless...” With Gratitude

Yosh Nakagawa, lay leader at Japanese Baptist Church and creator with others of the 120,000 Nikkei Voices, and his daughter Linda Nakagawa, presented to the Community Church of Issaquah a special thanks for their ministry to the homeless of Tent

City 4. Nakagawa remembered with CCI membership and residents of Tent City 4 during a farewell worship service, that the internment experience of Japanese Americans during World War II and the days

following, left him, his family and many other Japanese American families homeless. And so, he joined with Tent City 4 residents to extend thanks to faith communities like Community Church of Issaquah—then, now and into the future.

ABCUSA is One Step Closer to Transfer of Valley Forge Mission Center

VALLEY FORGE, PA (ABNS 11/13/07) — At their November meeting, The Ministers and Missionaries Benefit Board's (MMBB) Board of Managers voted to join a Limited Liability Company (LLC) and a Limited Partnership (LP) of American Baptist Churches (ABC) Partners with a goal of purchasing the Valley Forge Mission Center. This was the next in a series of steps that began last June when the ABCUSA General Board approved a proposal to sell the property.

Following the General Board's decision, the property was offered to Brandywine Realty Trust, a real estate

investment trust with a long term lease on the ABCUSA-owned property adjacent to the Mission Center. Included in its lease, Brandywine had a "right of first offer" on the property should ABCUSA ever decide to sell the property. As per the agreement, the property was offered to Brandywine who declined the offer in September allowing the recent vote by the MMBB Board to take place.

The next step in the process will be for ABCUSA to petition a New York state court for permission to sell the property. Because ABCUSA is incorporated as a "not for profit" in New York, that

state's Supreme Court must determine if it is in the organization's best interest to complete the sale. After that decision, the LLC and the LP would be legally formed and the property transferred to the ABC Partners LP, which includes ABCUSA, National Ministries, International Ministries and MMBB.

It is anticipated the sale will be complete early in 2008. Proceeds of the sale will provide an endowment to partially fund the work of ABCUSA's Office of the General Secretary and related ministries.

Evergreen Churches Invited to Prepare for MTW—More Than A Week



Evergreen Association invites and urges member churches to

plan to send at least two young adults (high school to 20 years of age) from your congregation to the 2008 national gathering of American Baptist Youth at Estes Park, Colorado during July 5—11, 2008.

Because this event is rated among the best offered for American Baptist youth, the Evergreen Black and Euro Caucuses are subsidizing registrations made by December 31, 2007!

Organizers promise to again "Raise Da Roof" with 5 (five) days of Praise and Worship!

If your congregation is unable to identify youth high school aged to 20 years old, perhaps

Black and Euro Caucuses are subsidizing registrations made by December 31, 2007!

you will consider helping a youth needing financial support. Register on-line at www.nationalministries.org

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED!!!

Willing to collate, fold, tape, file, answer the telephone, organize, help, etc.?

If yes, call Betty at 206-363-3683 or Clem at 253-859-2226

Seussical™

Over 400 people attended Evergreen's first major fund raising event on Saturday night, November 17th. The Lakewood Playhouse pro-



duction of the musical under the direction of Marcus Walker was a big hit! The production, a benefit to support SHARE/WHEEL Tent Cities and the Evergreen Association netted over \$6,000.

The laughter and enthusiasm of the evening was infectious. It could not have happened without the generous donation of time and talent of many people, first of whom are the Director (Marcus Walker), Cast and Crew from the **Lakewood Playhouse**. Not only did they give of their time and talent, parents and support people paid for tickets and donated over and above. Thank you to Lakewood Playhouse!! The Rev. **Marcus Walker** is also the Pastor of the Burton Community Church on Vashon Island. Marcus' enthusiasm and commitment to this event was a

blessing indeed!

The event was truly a community effort and thanks go to **Pastor Sandy Messick and the congregation of University Christian Church** for use of their beautiful sanctuary and facilities for the performance.

We are blessed in Evergreen with superb youth and are especially grateful and proud of the youth from **Martin Luther King Jr. Memorial Baptist Church and University Baptist Church** for acting as our ushers and hosting our concessions. Thank you also to their

adult chaperones and coordinators. Proceeds from Seussical™ concessions of approximately \$300 will help Evergreen high-school/early college aged youth attend the National Gathering of American Baptist Youth in Estes Park, Colorado this summer.

The efforts of all our adult volunteers were appreciated especially Seussical™ *cheerleader*, **Betty Bates** from Seattle First Baptist Church. Betty stuffed hundreds of envelopes, sold lots of tickets, and gave us our Cat in the Hat, Hats! Thanks also to **Rev. David and Pat**

Kile for stepping up on the evening of the performance to help at the "box office." We also owe a debt of gratitude to **David Spears** for his graphic design of our posters and promotional materials.

Without the oversight and encouragement of **Rev. Bev Spears**, Seussical™ would not have happened.

The event was inspired by the mission and ministry of the Community Church of



Issaquah in its hosting of Tent City 4 for 90-days. To **Pastor James Winbush and Elizabeth Maupin and the congregation of Community Church of Issa-**

quah, your witness to the power of Christian love, compassion and justice sets the standard for all who seek to "do justice, love mercy and walk humbly with our God."

In January Evergreen will begin to form committees to work on next year's major fundraising event.



ABHOW Senior Housing Development Receives Nation's Largest HUD Award - \$13,824,000 in Section 202 Funding

Two Awards were received. The Second Award is for ABHOW's \$5,549,000 Good Shepherd Senior Housing Project in Lynnwood, WA. The total ABHOW Grant Award is \$19,373,400!

On October 26, 2007, the Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) announced a \$13,824,400 HUD Section 202 award to the Valley Vista Senior Housing Development located in San Ramon. The combined capital advance/rental subsidy of \$13,824,400 for this Satellite/ABHOW project is the largest award given to any one HUD-funded senior housing development this year.

ABHOW's second HUD Section 202 award for its **Good Shepherd Senior Housing Project** in Lynnwood, 25 miles north of Seattle. ABHOW and its co-sponsor, Good Shepherd Baptist Church (GSBC), will build a 40 unit, affordable housing development for low-income elderly persons in Lynnwood and Snohomish County. The Good Shepherd project is only one of 3 projects to be successfully awarded HUD 202 funding in the state of Washington this year. The award is for a capital advance of \$5,077,700, plus a 5 year rental subsidy of \$471,300 for a total of \$5,549,000. To further ensure the success of the

project, ABHOW and GSBC have contracted the services of Seattle-based Beacon Development Corporation (Beacon), the premier affordable housing developer in the Pacific Northwest. Beacon has signed up to be the devel-

The total ABHOW Grant Award is \$19,373,400!

opment consultant of the project.

In addition to being a co-sponsor of the project, ABHOW will serve as its owner and management agent

A Thank You Note...

Rev. [Virgil] Nelson:

Thank you so much for coming to the Monday Night Bible study last evening and sharing with us about your missionary work with the people of Congo. We were all so enlighten and inspired by

the work of International Ministries ABC. We pray that we were a blessing to you as much as you were to us. Know that we will keep you and the other missionaries in our prayer and support. We love you and thank God

for the works that you are doing.

Peace, joy and love,

Rev. Linda Smith and the Monday Night Bible Study at MLK Baptist Church

A Note of Thanks...

Thank You all for your expressed concerns and prayers during my illness. Because Christ lives, we face tomorrow boldly and wish for each of you
A Bountiful Christmas and New Year!

Yosh Nakagawa

National Ministries Releases OGHS Funds to Aid CA Wildfire Victims

VALLEY FORGE, PA (ABNS 11/08/07) — National Ministries' office of Direct Human Services has released \$2,000 of One Great Hour of Sharing (OGHS) undesignated disaster funds to American Baptist Churches of Los Angeles (ABCLA) to provide relief to victims of the recent wildfires in California.

“We thank God today for the compassion of American Baptists who have contributed undesignated funds to OGHS for times such as these,” says Dr. Aidsand F. Wright-Riggins III, National Ministries' executive director. “Generous support of this offering allows us to reach out to our brothers and sisters in Christ when their lives have

been torn asunder by devastation of truly disastrous proportions, offering God's love and the bright light of hope.”

To read more, go to:

<http://www.abc-usa.org/news/2007/20071108a.htm>

Two AB Women Honored at NCC General Assembly

VALLEY FORGE, PA (ABNS 11/21/07) — Rev. Rothangliani Chhange, former director of Ecumenical Formation for American Baptist Churches USA (ABCUSA), and Rev. Mary Mild, former director of American Baptist Personnel Services for National Ministries (NM), were among twenty-four women

recognized for work in the ecumenical movement by the National Council of Churches (NCC) at their General Assembly in Woodbridge, N.J., Nov. 6-8.

Each year, the Justice for Women Work Group of the NCC sponsors a Women's Caucus Lunch open to all interested delegates and visi-

tors at the General Assembly. This year the lunch was dedicated to Claire Randall, the first female General Secretary of the NCC, who passed away in September and also recognized the thirty-year anniversary of the Work Group.

Missionaries to Japan on Home Assignment in Seattle

John and Tomoko Armagost are American Baptist missionaries to Japan serving in Kobe. Along with their two younger children, Alisen and Andy, they are living in West Seattle during their year of home assignment. (Their eldest child, Ami, began her college studies in Toronto in September.) Since their arrival in June, both John and Tomoko have done some traveling, near and far, to interpret their mission work, espe-

cially during October as part of the promotion of the World Mission Offering. While in Seattle, they generally worship at Japanese Baptist Church, where Alisen and Andy especially enjoy being part of the Nichigo (Japanese-speaking) congregation. Recently, Tomoko has been assisting JBC's Associate Pastor Yuki Sakiyama in teaching weekly classes in conversational Japanese.

If you'd like to learn more about

the Armagosts, you may visit their website at

<http://profiles.internationalministries.org/profiles/view/410>.

To contact them, you may write to tjarmagost@gmail.com, or call the JBC office (206/622-7351) for additional contact information.



L to R: Tomoko, Ami, Andy, Alisen, & John

Evergreen Churches Concerned for Burma

Recent events in Burma have brought that southeast Asian nation to the attention of many in our own country. Burma, whose military government changed its official name to Myanmar in 1989, has been of special interest to several Evergreen's churches and members for some time.

Gail Aita of Japanese Baptist Church's interest in Myanmar has resulted in four summers of teaching at the Myanmar Institute of Theology (MIT) in Yangon (Rangoon) as a volunteer with ABC International Ministries, starting in 2000, along with her husband Paul, Senior Minister of JBC. Gail teaches English while Paul teaches Biblical languages

and pastoral theology. Should the political situation allow it, Gail and Paul plan to re-

turn to Myanmar during the summer of 2008. The JBC congregation has been very supportive of the Aitas' service in Myanmar, allowing Paul the time for mission work, and also raising funds (especially through an annual rummage sale) for various mission projects there. The American Baptist Women of the Pacific Northwest have also contributed to projects in Myanmar.



Seattle First Baptist Church also has a strong interest in Burma, largely because of the work of two of its members, David and Carol Tegenfeldt. David and his brother Paul grew up there, where their parents, Herman and Ruth, served as American Baptist missionaries until they were expelled by the regime in 1966. Later, David and Carol served in Burma under World Vision. Their particular interest is conflict intervention and change processes with the native peoples.

University Baptist Church's deep concern for Burma is related to a four-year relationship with Dr. Mohan and Dr. Hnin Yee (Rosie), both physicians who had been working for health and healing in Burma. When Mohan passed away in 2005, his life was celebrated at University Baptist Church, as well as several places in Burma.

Christians make up about 7% of the population of Burma. Because of the work of American Baptist missionaries Anne and Adoniram Judson and others who followed them, most Christians in Burma are Baptists. And because missionaries experienced greatest response from the minority tribal peoples of that country, most Christians there are from these groups—

including Karen, Chin, Kachin, and many others—rather than from the majority Bama people from whom the country gets its name.

Christian leaders in Burma have an enormous challenge in interpreting and living out the gospel in the midst of their ongoing situation. At MIT, an annual theme helps to call attention to one aspect of the Christian faith for consideration throughout that year. A recently published book by Rev. Dr. Samuel Ngun Ling of MIT, entitled *Theological Themes for Our Times*, deals with themes from nine academic years beginning 1998-9. The various chapters deal with issues of creation, religion, culture, ecumenism, globalization, justice, mission, and liberation. Paul Aita has about 30 copies of this book, which are available at a cost of \$10.00 each. Proceeds will benefit the Judson Research Center at MIT, which encourages ongoing respectful dialogue between Christians and Buddhists. Especially in light of recent events, this book can provide insight into the thinking of some of our Christian brothers and sisters whose experience of life is very different from our own.



(Continued from page 1)

Beatitude: "BLESSED ARE THE PEACE-MAKERS, FOR THEY SHALL BE CALLED CHILDREN (SONS) OF GOD."; and fourthly, because Evergreen is committed to BUILDING BRIDGES.

With such momentous ideas swirling in my simple mind, I am led to suggest that, this Christmas, We, as a body commit ourselves - PASTORS, CONGREGATIONS, and INDIVIDUALS - to PEACEMAKING. And YES, YOU, OUR FRIENDS, are welcome to join us.

The Apostle Paul had some pertinent point to suggest: (Might these and others apply to peacemaking between nations?)

"Let us therefore make every effort to do what leads to peace and to mutual edification." Rm 14:19 NEV.

"But there will be glory and honor and peace from God TO

ALL WHO DO GOOD..." Rm 2:10 NLT.

The clincher really comes from our Lord, who said, "LOVE YOUR ENEMIES. DO GOOD TO THOSE WHO HATE YOU. PRAY FOR THE HAPPINESS OF THOSE WHO CURSE YOU. PRAY FOR THOSE WHO HURT YOU." Luke 6:27-28 NLT.

Where do we start? That's the GREAT QUESTION. Wilferd A. Peterson wrote: "The skylight factor is the secret of genius. Through quietness, meditation and prayer one keeps oneself open to the flood of light from above."

In addition, it seems to me to be helpful to remember, "THERE ARE THESE THREE THINGS THAT WILL ENDURE---FAITH, HOPE AND LOVE." Our Love for the Lord, and for the world which He so loved, and our faith in GOD'S PEACE will keep our hopes alive for

PEACE ON EARTH and JOY TO THE WORLD!

Note: There is an interesting event being held In Annapolis, MD, A Middle East Peace Summit arranged by USA with invitations going to some 40 countries. It will be interesting to watch whether this will be a peace-making Summit. But what an opportunity! It appears that Condoleezza Rice is the chief US organizer/participant. Let us pray for her and all participants attending from all nations. (Watch the newspapers and news reports.)

MERRY CHRISTMAS TO ONE AND ALL! YOU ALL are great people to be with and to serve.

With appreciation for the two years, and with affection,

Peter

Rev. Peter Koshi,
Outgoing Chair

Seattle U Offers Baptist History & Polity

The Reverend Dr. Marcia Patton will teach Baptist History and Polity at Seattle University during the Winter Quarter, January 10—March 14, on Thursdays from 1:30 PM—4:30 PM.

If you've been wanting to take the class for credit,

now is the time. Visit Seattle University's web page at www.seattleu.edu for registration information.

tempted to leave the cross

From the Introduction of this Judson Press publication, come these words: "...We have become more American in our consumeristic obsession than we are like Jesus and his suffering ser-vanthood..."

In *tempted to leave the cross—renewing the call to discipleship*, author and pastor Ernest R. Flores considers the cross of Jesus and what it represents in the Christian church today. Flores calls for readers to center their beliefs and actions in the cross and to value the high price that Jesus paid for our salvation.

*At Annual Meeting the offering for HAITI was \$562.75. This money was sent to International Ministries targeted for use in the clinic mission.
Thank you for your generous support of mission in Haiti.*

Merry Christmas and a New Year of opportunities to serve!

Your Evergreen T.E.A.M. —

Peter Clem

Marcia

Yosh

Bev

James

David

Here's how you and your church can help with the resettlement of Karen and Chin refugees:

- Visit www.karenkonnection.org to learn more about refugee needs.
- Consider contributing to National Ministries' Matthew Giuffrida Memorial Fund, which is used to assist refugees. Make checks payable to National Ministries, noting "Matthew Giuffrida Burmese Refugee Fund" on the memo line. Send checks to: Finance Dept., National Ministries, PO Box 851, Valley Forge, PA19482-0851
- Contact National Ministries for a Refugee Resettlement Manual that describes what's involved in refugee sponsorship and how to get started. E-mail Diane.Giova@abc-usa.org or call 800-222-3872, ext. 2450.
- Remember that groups of churches can sponsor refugee groups, if it's too much for one congregation.
- Above all, pray for guidance.

**Visit us on the web
at 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.

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Rev. Dr. Marcia J. Patton, Executive Minister

Building Communities Between Communities

CALENDAR OF UPCOMING EVENTS

JANUARY 2008

- 4—Executive Committee Mtg.
- 19 Baptists—Who We Are & How We Do Things Workshop, First Baptist Church, Bountiful UT.
- **21—Martin Luther King Jr. Day Worship Service, Peoples Institutional Baptist Church, 159 24th Ave, Seattle 98122, 6 PM**
- **26—Association Board Meeting, Wedgwood**

FEBRUARY

- 15—16 TEAM, Executive Committee & Caucus Leadership Retreat

MARCH

- **15—Association Board Meeting, Wedgwood, 9 AM**
- 3/30—4/2 Ministers Retreat, Camp Bethel

APRIL

- 18—20 PNW AB Women's Conference, Yakima
- 27-30 J. Alfred Smith, Sr./Raymond Bakke Empowerment Conference, Seattle Airport Hilton

MAY

- **31—Association Board Meeting, Wedgwood, 9 AM**

JULY

- **5—11 MTW—national youth gathering, Estes Park CO**

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.