



Evergreen Notes

Evergreen Association of American Baptist Churches

Volume 10, Issue 1

MLK DAY SERVICE—Monday, January 17, 2011

Each year since Evergreen came into being we have hosted a worship service on Martin Luther King, Jr. Day. The intent is to offer such a service to the community, to help us all remember that Dr. King came to his work and service because of his faith.

For the first time, this service is being offered in one of our places of worship that is not primarily Afri-

can-American, and for the first time one of our “own” is the preacher.

Please come and invite your friends to the MLK, Jr. Day Worship at Seattle First Baptist Church, 1111 Harvard, Seattle Washington at 6:00 PM where the Rev. Dr. Leslie Braxton, senior pastor of New Beginnings Christian Fellowship will be preaching. We



will also have special music.

The Rev. Tim Phillips is senior pastor at Seattle First Baptist.

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Prayer Concerns:

- Betty Bates, former Evergreen Volunteer Coordinator and Treasurer, health concerns.
- Marcus Walker
- Churches seeking pastoral leadership: New Community of Faith—San Leandro CA, Ebenezer Confraternidad, Burien Community and Wedgwood Community



Ken Curl, Evergreen

Due to technical difficulties, Ken’s message for January is unavailable.

So...

Happy New Year!

from Ken and the Evergreen Staff—Marcia, Clem, Chris and Terri

Return to this space for Ken’s article in the February 2010 edition of the Evergreen Notes.

Events & Happenings Around the Association



EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE & ASSOCIATION BOARD

MEMBER CAUCUS LEADERS are invited to **RETREAT** at Camp Burton on Vashon Island, February 11—12, 2011 to begin planning. Youth Leaders are invited to participate as well.



NEW WALK CHRISTIAN CHURCH

wants you to **SAVE THE DATE**—March 6, 2011 to join them for their 6th Year Anni-

versary Celebration. More details as the date draws nearer.



BIENNIAL REGISTRATION IS NOW OPEN.

Register to attend the American Baptist Biennial in San Juan, Puerto Rico, June 24-26, 2011. Go to www.abc-usa.org and click on the “Celebrate 2011” logo on the left of the screen.

MISSIONAL CHURCH LEADERSHIP EXPERIENCE Continues

Our two Missional Church Leadership Experience “south” and “Seattle” groups will have their second meetings on January 29 and 30th, respectively.

The “south” group, with Salt Lake City joining by “technology”, will meet on January 29th at Shell Ridge Community Church, 200 La Casa Via, Walnut Creek CA at 9:30 AM.

The “Seattle” group will meet on January 30th at Seattle First Baptist Church, 1111 Harvard, Seattle WA at 2:00 PM.

Since their initial formal meetings in September, the churches involved have been working on gathering data from their neighborhoods. They will share their learnings and hear about the next steps at the upcoming meetings.

Participating churches are asked to please double check with your group coordinator about exact location and time for your next meeting.

****Rev. Micky Holmes (mmholmes@absw.edu)** is our “South MCLE” coordinator.

“Participating churches are asked to please double check with your group coordinator about exact location and time for your next meeting.”

****Rev. Carol Sutton (carol-dicksutton@comcast.net)** is our “Seattle MCLE” coordinator.

We all look forward to hearing how the first steps are going.

DECEMBER, QUIET AND....

During the 2010 year, I've gotten into the habit of sharing with you the ministry of Evergreen and beyond through highlights of my ministry travels and services the month before.

December, as usual, has been a month devoted to the work and ministry of the local church as each congregation takes the opportunity to reach its neighborhood in this season when some hearts are more open to understanding and others are in need and want to receive the gifts that we are always willing to share.

I took the opportunity to "get away" for 10 days with my youngest sister Gina and dear friends, Diane and Denny to Hawaii. We had three days on Oahu and 10 on the Big Island of Hawai'i. I won't bore you with the details of our good time, but I've got pic-



tures when you have a few minutes.

The month started off in an unfortunate way with my computer needing a hospital visit. This means that nothing is as it once was. If I've missed a correspondence or seemed distracted I assure you it was probably the problem of being without one's communication "life-line." It seems to be working OK now that its hard drive has been cleaned.

Speaking of hospitals, soon after the first of the year, on January 5th, I will

be visiting one to have some work done on my foot. The result will be at least six weeks totally off my right foot. Most of my work will be done from home. I'm hopeful that other than for the first few days I won't be out of touch and other than asking meetings to come to me instead of me going to meetings, I am hopeful things can be fairly normal.

Mostly in these waning days of December, I am aware of the many blessings I receive on a daily basis. By far the best is the blessing of the Evergreen family. You are a unique and wonderful people, and I am so privileged to serve as your leader. I thank God for you each day. May God continue to lead us in the year ahead with grace, mercy and love.

REMINDER to CHURCHES: To Assure your end-of-year Mission Contribution is recorded for 2010, mail your check early enough for it to reach the Evergreen Office at 409 Third Avenue S, Suite A, Kent WA 98032 by January 8, 2011.

Thank you for your continued support of American Baptist missions.

Urban Grace Church—Tacoma Says Grant Dollars Appreciated

Evergreen is in receipt of a letter dated November 2010 from Willie Stewart which reads in part: "...Urban Grace...take[s] this opportunity to thank you for your generosity. The \$500 that you have awarded Urban Grace will help us buy the necessary supplies and equipment for the continuance of our community breakfast program which services approxi-

mately 150 people...every week."

Urban Grace took advantage of Evergreen's budgeted Mission and Church Transformation Initiative Grants which are available to help member churches jump-start programs and ministry projects.

The grant will allow for the replacement/updating of equipment —utensils, cooking supplies used in the

preparation of the breakfasts.

If your church has a project or ministry that a bit of startup money will help you get going, please send a letter explaining your project or ministry to: Evergreen Association ABC, 409 Third Avenue S, Suite A, Kent WA 98032 or email:

clem@ea-abc.org, and the Executive Committee will give it every consideration.

America For Christ Offering Promotions Begin

During the first week of January 2011, your church should receive information packets with suggestions as to how you might weave the America For Christ (AFC) Offering theme, "*Touching Lives, Transforming People*", home mission stories, DVD and challenge to support home mission into your worship (mission moments) and Sunday School.

Generally you and your congregation are asked to set a goal, pray that American Baptist Home Mission Societies (ABHMS) churches exemplify its purpose which is to "promote the gospel in word and deed in North America".

Though the AFC promotion begins soon, March is the AFC Offering month. Begin to pray about how you will give to affect touching and

transforming lives in the U.S. and Puerto Rico.



If you have not participated in the AFC Offering in recent years and/or have not received the information mentioned above, or for any other information related to the America For Christ Offering, please contact Susan Bogle at 800-222-3872, ext. 2028.

HAITI "Mission Possible!": A Challenge to American Baptist Women

Excerpt of a letter from National ABW President, Barbara Anderson

"...I have received from American Baptist Missionary to Haiti, Kihomi Ngwemi, and the Women's Association of the Haitian Baptist Convention a proposal for a Health Education and Pre-

vention Project on Cholera disease. ... The goal is to educate women, families and communities about Cholera prevention.

Communicate this project to the women in your church. If each church sponsors a fund-

raiser that raises \$100 to \$200, together we could easily raise the \$30,000.

Evergreen Association will be happy to email to you a flyer that you can use to share this challenge with the women in your church.

Camp Burton Invitations

Schedule Retreats or Events at Camp—The facilities at Camp Burton are available for rent to Evergreen member churches year round. So when planning your church retreat or youth events consider Camp Burton on Vashon Island.

The camp director, Kathleen Hendrickson and staff welcome inquiries and will

schedule a time for your retreat or event coordinator to visit for a tour. Telephone Kathleen at 206-463-2512 or campburton1@centurytel.net for more information.

Consider Christian Service during Summer Camp—Camp Burton is partnering with Camp Bethel and Ross Point to employ 8 adults to serve as full-time

cabin leaders next summer. The focus is to provide younger cabin leaders with adult Christian role models.

If you are interested, contact Kathleen by phone at 206-463-2512 or via email at campburton1@centurytel.net about volunteer or employment opportunities.

*Faithful Action for
the Common Good!*



Inter-Faith Advocacy Day

Thursday, March 17, 2011

in Olympia

All faith communities are encouraged to participate.

Don't forget to wear green!

Participate in an interfaith gathering, learn about advocacy and current legislation, and have an opportunity to advocate in Olympia!

For more information, visit www.ea-abc.org

Sponsors include:

Associated Ministries/Pierce County • Church Council of Greater Seattle • Council on American Islamic Relation-WA • Diocese of Olympia (The Episcopal Church in Western Washington) • Earth Ministry • **Evergreen Association of American Baptist Churches** • Interfaith Taskforce on Homelessness • Interfaith Works • Islamic Civic Engagement • Jewish Federation of Greater Seattle • Lutheran Public Policy Office • Pacific NW Conference UCC • Social Justice & Peacemaking Ministry Team, Presbytery of Seattle • United Methodist Women • Washington Association of Churches

Evergreen Gathers Following the Biennial

The Rev. Manny Santiago, Pastor of University Baptist Church invites the Evergreen Family to join with him and explore the city of Ponce, Puerto Rico following the Biennial meeting.

Ponce is about a 2 hour drive

from San Juan. We will likely visit the museums, its historic cathedral and castles.

The actual details of our visit will be worked out as we determine the number for which accommodations will need to be made.

So when you make your reservations for the Biennial, plan to spend at least the Sunday night and Monday (June 26-27) in Ponce!

More information will follow as you notify the region office of your plans.

THANK YOU For Making A Difference In Our Work Together!

There are three sources of income that are absolutely essential to the continuation of Evergreen Association of American Baptist Churches:

***the giving of our churches to United Mission. Over 60% of every dollar given to American Baptist Churches United Mission comes back to Evergreen. It is our financial life-blood.

***SBU—Seattle Baptist Union grants us \$60,000—without this grant either Clem or I would not be on staff.

***the generosity of individual givers. Some of these wonderful folks give a portion once or twice a year, several give something every month. And a few of those giving over and above are friends (not members of our churches). All of these supports mean ministry can actually happen. Thank you!

\$5—\$99

Belva Baxter
Richard Birdsall
Barbara Bryant
Herbert & Diane Carey
Linwood Carlson
Bruce Chittick & Russ Kaake
Bill Clarke
Nancy Darnell
Valerie Duecker
Jim & Charlotte Erickson
Bob Fukano
Beverly Gayton
Georgene Haley
David & Anne Hall
Nancy E. Hall
Sarah Halverson
Larry & Shirley Harris
Lee Ann Hartley
Glenda Hawley
Yoshito & Yoshiko Ishimitsu

Vanessa Isom
David & Pat Kile
Woun Kim
George Lawson
George & Ann Lockman
Lynne Lohr
Gladys MacKenzie
Clinton McNair
Rick Mitchell
Tammy L. Nelson
Thomas & Marilee Nielsen
Roy & Joyce Ostergren
William & Karen Patterson
Marilyn Potts
Janet Roberts
Brooke & Mary Rolston
Bruce & Candace Sagor
Manny Santiago
Bill & Charlotte Scherer
Diane Schmitz
M.H. Schumacher
Leota Stanley
Andy & Dody Tweeddale
Helen Watkins
Michael & Martha Welch

\$100—\$499

Charles Elven, Sr.
Zane & Conda Abbott
Chester & Corean Andrews
Wally & Joy Bartlow
Gus & Perla Belo
Mary Clare Benson
Frances Bowman
Barry & Anne Briscoe
Mabel Brockhoff
Frank Brougher
Lloyd & Marge Burns
Lee Campbell
Ray & Karen Carter
Judie Clarridge
Ken & Gila Curl
Craig Darling & John Roddy
Olga Ferguson
Roxanne Fowler
Catherine Fransson
Leonard & Judy Gay
Harold & Mary Ellen Harris
Gay & Phyllis Hasselblad

Samara Hoag
Sam Hochstatter
Douglas & Michelle Holmes
Marilyn Hunwick
Richard Ice
Akira & Yo Ishimaru
Hattie Layton
Eugene & Frances Lott
Frank & Priscilla Lowe
Sylvia Luckie-Benefiel
Dawn McNab
Bobbie Patterson
Renna Pierce
Mark & Maureen Pittenger
Marilyn Pulliam
Leland & Paula Ross
S.K.Y. Associates
Yuki & Maki Sakiyama
Yoshihisa Sawano
Charles & Pamela Scalise
Eldora Sloan
Charles Z. Smith
Marian Voge
Marcus & Lauren Walker
Sarah Welton

\$500—\$999

Christopher & Connie Boyer
Bob & Almarie Burchell
Keith & Bonnie Harding
Ellis & Karen Keck
Wiley & Nancy Kehrli
Peter Koshi
Timothy Phillips & Patrick Green
Jack & Maxine Sondericker
Roberta Stevens
Willie C. Stewart

\$1000 or Above

Paul & Gail Aita
John & Coralea Doty
Harriet Harrington
Roy & Carol Johnson
Yosh Nakagawa
Marcia Patton
William & Sally Patton
Carol Tamparo
Herb Tsuchiya

[American Baptists] Responding to Haiti's Cholera Epidemic by James G. Layton

In ...Haiti, International Ministries (IM) missionaries, partnered with ... the Convention of Baptists in Haiti (CBH) and Doctors Without Borders, have mobilized to respond to a cholera epidemic that has ravished this poorest of Caribbean nations.

Hundreds of cholera patients in the north of Haiti are receiving free care and treatment in tents bordering the CBH hospital in Quartier Morin. Sectioned off in neon orange snow fence, the cholera center provides 24/7 care that includes re-hydration through oral re-hydration solution and IV serums. Patients arriving at the center are admitted while doctors assess vitals and interview those bringing the sick. The soles of shoes are sprayed in a bleach solution and hands are also rinsed by everyone coming and going.

"This is the biggest center to treat cholera in the north," says **Pastor Eugene Gedeon**, CBH president. "This is a very good place to be. As teams of doctors and nurses provide treatment, they

are also giving patients and their families hope. It is a very big blessing to people in Haiti."

Dr. Stephen James, IM medical missionary, has been serving through the Ebenezer Community Health Center in Haute Limbé. He reports of similar procedures to those in Quartier Moran, adding, "People arrive all day and night with vomiting and diarrhea, many close to death due to rapid dehydration."

At both facilities, as well as in Grand Rivière du Nord where IM is partnering with IMA World Health, water is purified in a separate tent where hoses never stop filling containers, jugs and plastic bags—anything that will hold water. Masked attendants briskly whisk buckets throughout the entire complex. The 2% mortality rate, compared to a national rate of 16%, is due to the high quality of care and a massive education strategy that refutes false rumors about the epidemic...

Efforts throughout Haiti include the dedication of volunteers

from the U.S. and Canada who are providing medical and logistical support and installing water purification systems. Among those focused on the educational component is IM missionary **Kihomi Ngwemi**, who is helping to em-

"The 2% mortality rate, compared to a national rate of 16%, is due to the high quality of care and a massive education strategy that refutes false rumors about the epidemic."

power women community leaders to identify the true causes of cholera. She observes, "We travel all over to train leaders and have seen big changes in latrine usage and cleaning areas with much better health overall. Along with this training we always share the love of Jesus—the source of power for our ministry."

PCBA—Baptists Lunching together

BLT Luncheons at Grand Lake Gardens, 401 Santa Clara Avenue, Oakland CA

Lunch -12 Noon

Program-1:15

****Wednesday, January 12:**

Dr. Joe Kutter

Director of ABC Minister's Council, Valley Forge PA

"Ways to Help Pastors"

****Wednesday, February 23:**

Dr. LeAnn Snow

Now Dean and since 1994, Old Testament Professor at ABSW

"Update on Seminary News"

Lunch costs \$8.00

Please call Joan Thatcher at 510-350-7008 to make your reservations.

American Baptist Churches USA Biennial at a Glance—June 24-26, 2011



Puerto Rico Convention Center
Go to www.abc-usa.org/LinkClick.aspx?fileticket=EmR%2fA20CjL0%3d&tabid=465 for details.

Biennial Dates: Friday, June 24 - Sunday, 26, 2011

Pre-Biennial Events: Wednesday & Thursday, June 22 and 23, 2011

Optional Tours (details coming soon!)
Other Pre-Biennial Events
Friday, June 24
Breakfast Meetings
Other Pre-Biennial Events
Exhibit Hall Open
Welcome to Celebrate! 2011: Commencement of Biennial Events
Dinner Break
Worship: Celebrate God's Glory!
Late Night Events
Saturday, June 25
Breakfast Meetings
Pavilion Experience
Exhibit Hall Open
Statements of Concern: A Conversation on "Civility in Churches and Society"

Lunch Break
Mission Summit: Continuation of Biennial Events
Dinner Break
Worship: Celebrate God's Power!
Late Night Events
Sunday, June 26
Breakfast Meetings
Worship at Local Churches
Exhibit Hall Open
Discernment Session: Focusing on Program Board Reports and Statements of Concern
Dinner Break
Worship Celebrate God's Way!
Post-Biennial Meetings: Monday, June 27 - Wednesday, June 29, 2011

Amazing Faith and Leadership Despite Hardships

by Kihomi Ngwemi



Dear Loved Ones,

At this Christmas and New Year eves,

we thank God for the gift of His son Jesus Christ. We can not stop counting our blessings throughout the year.

While we rejoice, we also think of so many women around the world whose life was a nightmare for the entire year 2010. This has been the case with many women in Haiti: earthquake in January, hurricane Tomas, floods, cholera and post electoral violent manifestations.

In the midst of these crises Haiti has gone through, God has raised and used a lady leader like Mrs. Vogly Marcellus to inspire and to encourage others women to be faithful to God, to not give up despite adversities. She teaches women to

find positive ways to cope with the situation.

Vogly Marcellus is married and mother of three children (6, 4, & 20 months old). She is a teacher. Her school was destroyed by the earthquake and was not open when I saw her. President of a large region/district in Port-au-Prince with 16 churches under her control, Mrs. Vogly is very active in her "Larousse Baptiste Church" in Port au Prince.

The earthquake did not stop her in exercising her leadership responsibility. Even though her house was completely destroyed, Mrs. Vogly finds that the tent life gives her more incentives to inspire other women.

Mrs. Vogly was among some women who received US \$ 70 from the love offering through One Great Hour of Sharing. She instructed women of her church to not buy food with that love offering instead for each to start

a small business that can sustain the family life for many days to come.

She sells in front of her tent spaghetti, soap, fruits, onions, beans, and anything else she can acquire. Mrs Vogly can now feed her family on a daily basis.

Mrs Vogly and the many women who received the love gifts, listened to her advice and followed her leadership and wisdom. They are very appreciative and thank the American people for their big heart that pushes them to share their love with the poor of the world.

To the Haitian women's voice, we also add our own in saying Thank You to all of you for your support. Without it we would not be able to do what we do. We would not meet people like Mrs. Vogly and appreciate her for who she is.

MERRY CHRISTMAS AND HAPPY NEW YEAR in 2011.

Article from the ABCUSA Connections, a ministry of the Office of the General Secretary.

MMBB recognizes that these are trying economic times. church giving is down. Health insurance costs are up. The recession has forced MMBB to reduce our annuity benefit for the third consecutive year. We know these trends combine to put additional pressure on those in active service as well as those who are retired.

Fortunately, MMBB may be able to relieve some of this stress. We are blessed with an endowment that enables us to offer financial assistance to clergy and lay

staff members of our American Baptist family, both pre-retired and retired. The endowment allows us to provide emergency financial assistance, grants, and medical subsidies.

We know that these grants can make a real difference to those who have dedicated their lives to the church. Over the years recipients of emergency assistance used the money to repair a storm-damaged roof; purchase a new boiler in the middle of winter; make their home wheelchair-accessible; buy a wheelchair or scooter; replace a hearing aid; and pay off unreimbursed medical, dental and prescription

expenses.

The grants are made through the Heritage of Shar-

“The endowment allows [MMBB] to provide emergency financial assistance, grants, and medical subsidies.”

ing program. If you know an MMBB member who might need assistance, ask the member to send an email to Sara Day, MMBB’s director of member services via her email address at: sara@mmbb.org or, via telephone at 800.986.6222.

Evergreen Leaders to Receive ABCUSA Biennial Awards

Congratulations are extended to three of Evergreen’s many leaders who will be recognized as award recipients during the Biennial in June 2011.



Rev. Dr. **Richard Ice** has been selected to receive the 2011 Religious

Freedom Award. This award, according to the ABHMS “honors demonstrable leader-

ship in defending and extending God-given religious liberty for all”.

Dr. Yosh Nakagawa

who was also recently honored to throw the first pitch at the Seattle/Boston baseball game, is the recipient of the Cora and John Sparrowk Award for extraordinary service to American Baptist Churches.



Rev. William Painter who currently serves at Judson Park Retirement Community, has been se-



lected as the American Baptist Institutional Chaplain who is to receive the Award of Merit. The Award will be presented during the Chaplains and Pastoral Counselors pre-Biennial Awards luncheon on June 23, 2011.



Evergreen Association of American Baptist Churches

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Return Service Requested

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 **23rd** 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

JANUARY 2011

14—Executive Committee Meeting, 5:30 PM

17—**Martin Luther King, Jr. Day Worship**, Seattle First Baptist Church, 1111 Harvard, Seattle, 6 PM

22—**Association Board Meeting, 9 AM, Wedgwood**
FEBRUARY

11-12—Leaders' Retreat, Camp Burton

MARCH

17—Faith Advocacy Day in Olympia

APRIL

2—**Building Bridges Day**, with Eric Law. Details Later.

16—**Association Board Meeting, 9 AM, Wedgwood**

24—**Easter Sunrise Service**, St. Ignatius Chapel, Seattle University Campus, 7:30 AM

JUNE

13—Take your Pastor/Church Leader to the Ball Game, Mariners vs. Angels, 7 PM

24-26—American Baptist Biennial, San Juan Puerto Rico
AUGUST

15 -19 Kaleidoscope Institute NW, Process for Planned Change, Rainbow Lodge, North Bend WA

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.