



# EVERGREEN NOTES

VOLUME 5, ISSUE 3

MARCH 2006

## Upcoming Evergreen Caucus Workshops: Creating the Foundation for our Future

Evergreen Association of American Baptist Churches is unique among regional Baptist bodies in the way it lives its commitment to value the voices of its culturally diverse family of churches.

Evergreen's ethnic caucuses are the governing bodies of our Association. What we are doing in Evergreen is capturing the attention of American Baptist Churches throughout the country.

Our unique governance structure offers both opportunities and

challenges. This model for balance of cultural power is still new and fragile. If traditionally minority culture members are truly to function as equals with traditionally dominant culture members, special care and attention must be paid to establishing identity, shared agenda, and mutual support *within* each individual caucus. Secure in its own identity and ability to practice consensus decision making, each caucus is better prepared to move into inter-caucus relationship. Clear

identity within caucuses and effective communication between caucuses is critical to establishing sound organizational principles and an effective strategic plan.

Coming this spring is a unique opportunity to participate in a very important series of workshops designed for each caucus to enter into deep discernment of its own identity and its own agenda. Participants in the individual caucus workshops will then

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## PETER'S PERSPECTIVE: First Board Gathering

Someone might comment, "Well, Peter, you survived your first EBA Board meeting ." Yes, thanks to all who participated and those of you who though not in attendance, were present in spirit. I must confess, however, that I am still excited about our meeting. From the beginning with "Preparation for

Worshipful Work" led by Curtis Price, our host pastor, to the Closing Prayer by Marcia Patton, our Executive Minister, at times I felt like we were following not an agenda, but an order of worship. Was I daydreaming?

For me, chairing a meeting in the context of "consensus building" is much more than a

different way of conducting business. Let me try to describe for you my experience of the day. I realized from the start that I needed to be aware and to include everyone in the room, as well as those in attendance via video

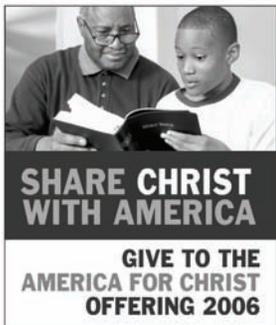
*(Continued on page 4)*



### Special points of interest:

- Remember to register for the Caucus Workshop (see page 6)
- Community Forum on Reframing, that is changing the way a thought is presented so that it maintains its fundamental meaning, but is more likely to achieve results: promoting effective parenting, improved child health, preventing child abuse and neglect (see page 9)

## America for Christ (AFC) Offering 2006



Love Kindness!  
Share Christ  
with America  
Micah 6:8

As a prophet to  
Israel, Micah  
asked: "What  
does the Lord  
require of you

but to do justice, and to love kindness, and to walk humbly with your God?" (Micah 6:8) The prophet's voice still speaks to us today of "loving kindness." It is a resounding charge from God to ministry - ministry that meets people at their point of need and shares Christ's love.

The myriad of ministries throughout the United States and Puerto Rico that the America for Christ offering supports are illustrated by articles in Mission in America and online at the National Ministries Web site. For example:

- Volunteers In Mission serving at home mission locations
- Life-changing conferences for youth and adult leaders
- Neighborhood Action Christian Centers

Many churches focus on

the America for Christ Offering in February and March, but the offering may be received any time throughout the year.

The United States has been called the third largest mission field in the world\*, following only China and India in numbers of unchurched people. May God continue to bless the ministries of your church in your own neighborhood as you join with American Baptist regions, National Ministries and other American Baptist congregations to extend

your mission from Alaska to Puerto Rico.

If you do not currently have a standing order to receive offering resources and would like to, contact the Evergreen office at 253-859-2226 or [clemeba@comcast.net](mailto:clemeba@comcast.net).

## HAPPENINGS AT OUR CHURCHES

### Nominee for ABCUSA Women's President: Theresa (Terri) Simpkins

Terri is a 30 year experienced leader in AB Women's Ministries at every level of participation. Nationally, she served as Church & Community Coordinator (1992-95) and Coordinator of the Western Section (1999-2002). She describes her ministry as "encouraging women to be all that God has called them to be, whether it is women in their churches, women at region/state conferences, or women in prison."

One of Terri's passions

is prison ministry; she leads women's Bible studies and retreats in the prison setting through Kairos Prison Ministry. Terri is a member of Burien Community Church, Burien, Washington.

\*\*\*\*\*

### Women in Ministry

Meet Wednesday March 1 and May 3rd 10-11:30 AM at Seattle First Baptist Church.

\*\*\*\*\*

### Showtime at The Apollo WINNER: Jordan Bolden

Jordan, an MLK youth, won the local competition on Saturday, February 11, 2006 at the

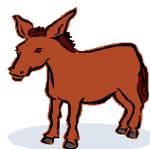
Seattle Paramount Theater. He received \$1000 and a trip for two to New York City to be showcased on the nationally televised Showtime at the Apollo. You'll remember that Jordan won our hearts when he directed AGAPE choir at our Annual Meeting 2005 youth night Way to Go, Jordon!!

\*\*\*\*\*

### MLK Voices of Praise

gave an excellent rendition of the "Star Spangled Banner" at the Seattle Sonics game on Sunday, February 12 at the Key Arena.

# W.I.L.D. TIMES AT THE LAKESIDE INN



**Women  
Imagining  
Life as  
Donkeys**



**Bible Study Leader:** Rev. Leotta Jarrett  
**Mission Speaker:** Alicia Luquin

**Theme Scripture**  
Numbers 22:21-41



## Friday Night

### Fun

Sharing together  
Games  
Puzzles  
Crafts  
Creative projects



### Music

Choir Special Music  
Group Singing

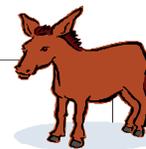


**Wild Life Showcase**  
(Talent Show)



### Mission Project

**Yakima Valley  
Hispanic Ministry**  
school supplies  
Spanish Bibles  
*(available for purchase)*



## Pacific Northwest AB Women's Ministries Conference

April 28 -30, 2006

Lakeside Inn

Moses Lake, WA



## CAUCUS WORKSHOPS

*(Continued from page 1)*

come together in an all-caucus event to share outcomes and refine them in relationship to the other ethnic caucuses.

Asian Caucus: March 18, 9:00 AM-12:00 noon, Japanese Baptist Church

Euro Caucus: March 25, 8:00 AM-6:00 PM, First Baptist Church, Mountlake Terrace

Black Caucus: April 22, 8:00 AM-6:00 PM, Martin Luther King Jr.

Memorial Baptist Church  
All-caucus: May 6, 8:00 AM-6:00 PM, (Location to be determined.)  
Representatives from the Hispanic and First Nation Churches will join us.

The cost for the Euro, Black and All-Caucus Event will be \$25.00 per person for those who pre-register; \$40.00 per-person registration on the morning of the workshops. The

registration fee will help cover the cost of lunch and refreshments at the daylong events.  
Registration for the Asian Caucus will be \$20.00 which will cover the cost of the Asian meeting and the All-Caucus event. For anyone attending only the individual caucus day-long events, the cost will be \$20 if pre-registered.

Beverly Spears, a professional ministry consultant and member of University Baptist in Seattle, will facilitate all workshops. Ms. Spears is

currently a candidate for regional ordination through Evergreen.

We pray that every church will enthusiastically commit to encouraging its members to participate in these very important workshop events.

For further information and pre-registration contact Clem Winbush at 253-859-2226 or email: clemeba@comcast.net

# Happenings at Our Churches

*(Continued from page 2)*

**Labyrinth Walk** March 12, **Seattle First Baptist Church**, 6–8 PM Come anytime until 7:40 PM, stay until 8 PM. Free. Enter at lower Seneca doors.

\*\*\*\*\*

**Ordination Service for M. Christopher Boyer**, Sunday, March 19, 6:00 PM, Good Shepherd Baptist Church, 6915 196th Street SW, Lynnwood,

**American Baptist Women of Evergreen and Puget Sound NW Conference**, April 28-30, 2006, Moses Lake WA.

\*\*\*\*\*

**Ministering in the 21st Century Conference**, May 9 -12, 2006, sponsored by New Beginnings Christian Fellowship and Evergreen.

Presenters include:

Rev. Dr. Ray Bakke, Rev. Kathi Chavous, Rev. Merlyn Harris, Rev. Melvin Maxwell, Rev. Heidi Newmark and Rev. Anthony Robinson, Rev. Gary Simpson and Rev. Nolan Williams. For additional information as it becomes available, watch this space in the Evergreen Notes.

**the way of EBA is “new” and therefore, is not to be done in the old ways of doing things...**

## Peter’s Perspective...

*(Continued from page 1)*

conferencing and by telephone. Keeping aware of the active listening and responding of all participants took a bit of doing on all our parts. I believe we managed all aspects of the meeting fairly well. No doubt, we will get better with experience. Thanks for the patience of all, especially those of you in contact from a distance. We’re glad you were with us.

Consensus building as I am beginning to understand the process, takes active participation by all who are connected in the process: learning to have confidence in one another and taking ownership for actions taken in the interest of the common good. What I find is that the

process at its very heart is relationship building.

Yosh Nakagawa reminds me saying, “You preached while pastor at JBC”, as did other pastors who followed, “you don’t put ‘new wine in old wineskins...the old wineskins will burst from the pressure, spilling the wine and ruining the old wineskins,” Matthew 9:17 (NLT). He reminded me that the way of EBA is “new” and therefore, is not to be done in the old ways of doing things. Right? If God is doing a “new thing”, He must be directing our path, a new one for most of us. My appreciation to all the member churches for your support through United Mission Giving and/or Direct Giving.

I also encourage you to keep in touch by email or by letter. I am most anxious to hear from you any concerns and praise reports you may wish to share.

*Peter*

pkoshi22@aol.com

Evergreen's National Evangelism Team (NET) is a team trained by National Ministries under the auspices of NEW LIFE 2010, with the goal of making 1,000,010 new disciples. More than 31 of the 35 American Baptist regions now participate in training through NET initiatives including Evergreen.

NET members, called associates, now number

nearly 80—a multicultural group of local church leaders, pastors, regional staff and executive ministers. Your Net members are Angela Farrar, pastor of First Baptist Church, Mountlake Terrace; Tim Phillips, pastor of University Baptist Church, and Clem Winbush, Evergreen Minister of Mission Education.

Training with local

churches is based on the *Got Style? TM approach, a personality-based understanding of holistic evangelism developed by National Ministries.*

If your church or group is interested in this exploring a "Natural" approach to Evangelism, please contact Clem Winbush at 253-859-2226 or [clemeba@comcast.net](mailto:clemeba@comcast.net)



Clem



Tim



Angela

## Asian Caucus Hosts McKee Consultation

Words of gratitude received from Campbell Singleton, Convenor and Winona Green, Chairperson for the William T. McKee Memorial Consultation 2005 best express the sentiments of the hosts and guests: " ...We



Yosh welcomes McKee.

during our closing banquet. Please know that your kindness was appreciated and has left us with warm and wonderful memories of our visit to your special city...."



Marcia and Peter

write to say "thank you" for the warm and generous way you, the



Aidsand & Betty Wright-Riggins

Evergreen Baptist Association and the Asian American Baptist Caucus welcomed the American Baptist Black Executives who came

to Seattle, February 1—February 3, to participate in our 23rd annual William T. McKee Memorial Consultation. Your presence and hospitality contributed greatly to enriching our time in Seattle.

We are grateful for the sacrifices that were made to accommodate us and fellowship with us



Herb and Yosh

Yosh Nakagawa, Herb Tsuchiya, Peter Koshi and Marcia Patton joined with thirty conference participants—including our own Patricia Hunter, Rick Barlow Rev. Dr. Samuel B. McKinny (Bible study leader for the week) and Clem Winbush—for dinner at Bush Gardens on Thursday evening, February 2nd and at the closing banquet at the Red Lion on Friday, February 3rd.



Rick (ABF)



Patricia (MMBB)



Marilyn Turner who preached at University



Clem and Yosh at banquet



# Caucus Discernment and Development Workshops

Creating the foundation for our future

What are the caucuses of Evergreen really about? What is each caucus's individual purpose? How do individual caucuses relate to each other? How do all the caucuses relate to the association as a whole?

If we are to live our commitment to value the voices of our culturally diverse family of churches, special care and attention must be paid to establishing identity, shared agenda, and mutual support within each individual caucus. To address this need, Evergreen is presenting a two-phase workshop series to help caucuses:

- Discern Individual Caucus Identity
- Develop Individual Caucus Goals
- Nurture Inter-Caucus Relationships
- Experience Consensus Decision Making

Participants will attend their respective caucus workshop in Phase I and combined All-Caucus workshop in Phase II. **Please note: The workshops in Phase I are foundational to the workshops in Phase II. Your participation in both workshops is encouraged. However, if you can only attend one, the Phase I workshop is the most valuable.**

### Phase I: Foundational Workshop

Asian Caucus Half-day: March 18, 9:00 AM-12:00 Noon, Japanese Baptist Church

Euro Caucus: March 25, 8:00 AM-6:00 PM, First Baptist Church, Mountlake Terrace

Black Caucus: April 22, 8:00 AM-6:00 PM, Martin Luther King Jr. Memorial Baptist Church, Renton

### Phase II: Integration Workshop-All Caucuses

May 6 8:00 AM-6:00 PM (Location to be determined)

**Pre-register and save! Registration at the door \$40 a day!**

Pre-Registration Form (mail to address at left)

Evergreen Association of  
American Baptist Churches  
409 Third Avenue South Suite A  
Kent WA 98032

Phone: 253-859-2226  
Cell: 206-778-2226  
Fax: 253-859-1537  
Email: clem@ea-abc.org

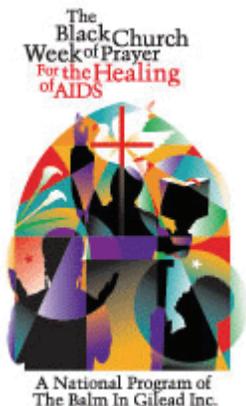
Name \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

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

Church \_\_\_\_\_

- Asian Caucus and All-day workshop \$20.00 Total \_\_\_\_\_
- Euro Caucus and All-day workshop \$25.00 Total \_\_\_\_\_
- Black Caucus and All-day workshop \$25.00 Total: \_\_\_\_\_
- Single Workshop \$20.00 \_\_\_\_\_ Total: \_\_\_\_\_



## 17th Annual Black Church Week of Prayer For the Healing of AIDS March 5th - March 11th, 2006

*The Black Church Week of Prayer for the Healing of AIDS*, a powerful week of prayer and education that engages Black congregations to take action towards stopping the spread of HIV/AIDS in Black communities worldwide.

*Pastors in Seattle/King County invite the public to attend and help increase awareness and stop the spread of HIV/AIDS*

Sunday, March 5th at 7:30 AM & 11 AM

Monday . Saturday, March 6th . 11th at 7 PM

Wednesday, Thursday, & Friday special prayer at 12 PM

Featuring - speakers, testimonials, film, music, & HIV/AIDS resources

*A time for education, reconciliation, encouragement, and healing.*

Co-sponsored locally by: AARTH Ministry, First A.M.E., Freedom Church of Seattle, God Answers Prayers Ministries, Paradise of Praise, HIV Vaccine Trials Unit/Seattle, Public Health— Seattle & King County

For more information go to:  
[www.freewebs.com/aliveinthesepages](http://www.freewebs.com/aliveinthesepages)

HIV/AIDS continues to spread out of control in our community! African American women are disproportionately affected by HIV/AIDS. As such, HIV/AIDS is the leading cause of death among African American women ages 25 to 34. Of the

estimated new AIDS cases, 61% are among African American girls and women ages 13 . 29. African American Gay men continue to be at high risk for infection, accounting for an estimated 57% of AIDS diagnoses among men.

Funded by grants from the Northwest AIDS Education and Training Center/HRSA and the HIV Vaccine Communication Campaign/Division on AIDS & National Institute of Health

### Baits' Journal—An Excerpt from Open Doors

“Behold, I stand at the door and knock.”  
(Revelation 3:20)

Xinia is one of our favorite students at the Baptist Training center and one of our favorite pastors. She comes alive in a classroom setting and eagerly applies what she’s learning to her ministry. Xinia and her congregation are finding

that child prostitution, which is rampant in urban Costa Rica, is now affecting smaller communities like theirs. So when Mylinda mentioned the conference on prostitution at Green Lake, WI, Xinia decided it was worth knocking on the door. We put the word out via e-mail that Xinia needed a visa from the US embassy. Members of our Mis-

sionary Partnership Network activated a prayer chain. We had worked with the embassy before and had some doors closed, so Mylinda and Xinia went with some apprehension. Would this door open?...

Mylinda and Xinia returned from the embassy and opened the door; the visa had been granted!

Working in leadership development is not always easy, but it is a privilege to walk alongside out Costa Rican brothers and sisters and see God open doors. “I have set before you an open door.” (Revelation 3:8)

Gary & Mylinda Baits, American Baptist Missionaries in Costa Rica

## Unconditional Love—A Devotional

Kairos Prison Ministries is an effort of the Walk To Emmaus and the Catholic & Episcopal Crusillo movements for working with men and women within the prison system. Over the past 15 years Dave, my husband, and I have been involved in this ministry in the men and women's prisons. Twice a year in Western Washington, Kairos Ministries sponsors a three-day retreat inside

the prison walls for those who choose to participate.

The motto of Kairos is, "Listen; Listen: Love; Love". We are not allowed to ask anyone who is participating why they are in prison or when they will be out. Some people tell, but not because they were asked. Since it is ecumenical with volunteers from many different walks, we concen-

trate on the Resurrected Christ and God's love that led Him to the cross for the salvation of everyone.

The first time I went into the women's prison for a weekend, I was scared to death. I had the image that every woman there was mean and must have murdered someone. What a shock God had

*(Continued on page 9)*

**EBA Choir—Evergreen  
Sounds to meet the  
second Tuesday each  
month beginning  
March 13,  
7 PM at JBC  
April 11,  
7 PM at JBC  
May 9,  
7 PM at JBC...  
You get the idea!  
See you there!**

## "Peace Camp" for Evergreen Youth!

**What:** Send a contingent of Evergreen youth to the Baptist Peace Fellowship of North America's 21st Annual Summer Conference (AKA "Peace Camp")

**Theme:** "Becoming the Beloved Community"

**When:** July 10-15, 2006

**Where:** Oglethorpe University, Atlanta, Georgia

**Also:** Includes times of worship at historic Ebenezer Baptist Church, home church of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Opportunities to visit the King Center and the Carter Center are also planned!

**Why should our youth attend?** As the world continues to reflect upon the legacies of Rosa Parks and Coretta Scott King, and portions of the Voting Rights Act may expire in 2007, we need to ensure that our young people are equipped for the human rights challenges to come. Youth will be enriched to learn the King legacy by experiencing this conference in Atlanta, and be the leaders in the next generation to continue to make his dream a reality!

**Who's Coordinating this trip locally?** Congregational Leadership by Mission Support,

Peace, and Justice Team of University Baptist Church, and Evergreen TEAM Leadership by Angela Farrar, Evergreen Coordinator of Youth Ministry.

Registration forms are not yet available, but will appear on the conference website when they are.

**Interested?** Contact Angela Farrar at [farrara@yahoo.com](mailto:farrara@yahoo.com), or 206-240-2114

For more information on the conference: <http://www.bpfna.org/summerconference2006>

*“Reframing - The process of changing the way a thought is presented so that it maintains its fundamental meaning but is more likely to achieve results.”*

The Washington Council for Prevention of Child Abuse & Neglect (WCPCAN) / Children’s Trust Fund of Washington will host national communications expert Kevin Kirkpatrick for a **FREE community forum**

**on re-framing on 9 am – 12 noon Friday, March 10 at the SAFECO Jackson Street Center in Seattle.**

Kirkpatrick, who directed Prevent Child Abuse America’s re-framing research, works as a member of Chicago’s Metropolitan Group on advancing a social movement to promote effective parenting, improve child

health and development, and prevent child abuse and neglect.

This forum is of great importance to child advocates, philanthropists, policy makers, businesses and community- and faith-based programs.

Seating is limited, so interested participants are urged to e-mail

[wcpkan@dshs.wa.gov](mailto:wcpkan@dshs.wa.gov) to reserve space today.

The forum is sponsored by the FRIENDS National Resource Center for Community-Based Child Abuse Prevention. FRIENDS, a service of the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Administration for Children and Families Children’s Bureau, provides technical assistance to recipients of federal Community-Based Child Abuse Prevention grants, WCPCAN’s federal funding source.



## Unconditional Love

*(Continued from page 8)*

in store for me! The women at the retreat were just like me, only they had walked a different path; one which led them into prison. (There go I, but by the Grace of God.) They are all women who need to be loved – loved unconditionally, and to know they can be forgiven, not just by a team from outside the prison walls. They, like us, have to learn that God loves them and through Jesus Christ they are forgiven and have received God’s promise of eternal life.

Sometimes I feared that if I had met one of the women on the outside, I wouldn’t have even acknowledged them. When I should have loved them unconditionally, I would

have looked the other way! Our cities, towns, and neighborhoods are full of women like my friends who are now behind prison walls.

My fear is long gone; Dave and I go to the women’s prison every Sunday night for Bible study, to help them understand the word of God and to love them unconditionally. The women are so grateful to the volunteers, but the rewards are ours when we see how they have grown in their walk with the Lord.

Romans 13:10 - Love does no harm to its neighbor. Therefore love is the fulfillment of the law.

How and where do you find unconditional love? Where in your life are you demonstrating unconditional love?

Lord, we prayer that

when and wherever we encounter Your people, we find it in our hearts to love them unconditionally just as You love us.

Terri Simpkins  
Burien Community Church

The first time I went into the women’s prison for a weekend, I was scared to death.



**Evergreen Association of American Baptist Churches**

Evergreen Association of American Baptist Churches

Phone: 253-859-2226  
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Fax: 253-859-1537

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Evergreen Notes, the newsletter for the 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 Patton, Executive Minister**

**Our goal is to encourage every Evergreen church to move forward in creative partnership with other churches and the Association (deeper koinonia).**

**Mission Statement CALENDAR OF UPCOMING EVENTS**

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.

**MARCH**

- 10 Executive Committee Meeting, JBC, 5 PM
- 13—Evergreen Sounds Rehearsal, JBC , 7 PM
- **18—Asian Caucus Discernment & Development Workshop**, JBC, 9—12 Noon
- 19—Ordination of M. Christopher Boyer, Good Shepherd, 6:00 PM
- **25—Euro Caucus Discernment & Development Workshop**, Mountlake Terrace, 8 AM—6 PM

**APRIL**

- 11- Evergreen Sounds Rehearsal, JBC, 7 PM
- **16—HAPPY EASTER!!**
- **17—20** Wait on the Lord Spiritual Formation Conference, Orlando FL
- **22—Black Caucus Discernment & Development Workshop**, MLK, 8 AM—6PM
- 28-29 Last ACT weekend for 2004-2005 Class
- 28—30 PNW AB Women's Conference, Moses Lake WA

**MAY**

- **6—INTERCAUCUS WORKSHOP**, Place to

**be announced, 8AM—6 PM**

- 9—Evergreen Sounds Rehearsal, JBC, 7 PM
- 9-12 Empowering the Church in the 21st Century Conference, sponsored by New Beginnings and Evergreen

**JUNE**

- **22-25** ABCUSA General Board

**JULY**

- 10—15 Peace Camp Atlanta GA

**AUGUST**

- **26** Association Board Meeting, Wedgwood Commu-