

Evergreen Notes

Evergreen Association of American Baptist Churches

Volume 10, Issue 3

Eric Law Leads Evergreen's Building Bridges Educational Event—April 2, 2011

The Annual Evergreen Building Bridges Educational Event will be held Saturday, April 2, 2011, at Japanese Baptist Church, 160 Broadway, Seattle WA 98122.

The Rev. Dr. Eric Law of Kaleidoscope Institute is the keynote presenter with a focus on creating Grace Margins (times to work on issues of the church). In addition to the keynote, Rev. Law will share

with us a new offering during one of the two workshop sessions called, "Holy Currencies: Creating Sustainable Missional Ministry".

So, In addition to the plenary session on Grace Margin, you will have opportunities to choose two workshop topics presented by members of the Evergreen Education Team. See the Registration Form and workshop schedule on pages 5– 6 of

this newsletter.

The registration fee is \$15.00 if registered by March 26, 2011 or before; and \$20.00 at the door.

Come gain some new skills for your ministry work, or information to improve the skills you're already using to build God's kingdom.



Rev. Dr. Eric Law

A Call to Action

The Evergreen Leadership Retreat held on Friday and Saturday, February 11th and 12th was very exciting and rewarding. The Re-



Ken Curt, Evergreen Choir

treat was lead by Dr. C. Jeff Woods, Associate General Secretary for Regional Ministries

and he did a masterful job. He had us look at ourselves as a jigsaw puzzle with our core values establishing the corner pieces. Marcia is

(Continued on page 2)

Inside this issue:

<i>March is America For Christ Offering Month</i>	2
<i>Church's Annual Reports Due by April 30th</i>	3
<i>OOPS! Correcting Info on Missionary A. Gutierrez</i>	4
<i>An Invitation to Celebrate After the Biennial</i>	5
<i>From Marcia's Blogs</i>	6
<i>Building Bridges Registration & Schedule</i>	7-8
<i>Consternation About Preaching the Love of God</i>	11

Prayer Concerns:

Dick and Arlene Birdsall and family in the passing of their son, Steve.

Marcus Walker and family (See article on page 4)

Barry and Anne Briscoe

Churches seeking pastors—Wedgwood Community Church, Burien Community Church, New Community of Faith Church

Events & Happenings Around the Association

 **New Walk Christian Church** invites you to be a part of its 6th year **Church Anniversary Celebration**, Sunday, March 6, 2011, at 3 PM

 **Building Bridges Educational Event**, Saturday, April 2, 2011, Japanese Baptist Church, 8 AM—3 PM.

 **Easter Early Worship Service**, Sunday, April

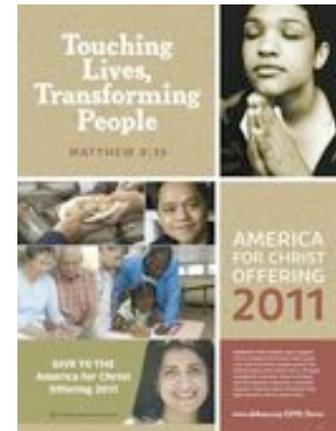
24, 2011, St. Ignatius Chapel, Seattle University Campus
7:30 AM



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.

March is America For Christ Offering Month



A Call to Action

continued

(Continued from page 1)

writing a blog on the Evergreen website (almost daily—see page 6) describing the experience, to encourage further thinking on the subject. I encourage you to go to her blog periodically to see what God has placed on her heart.

As leaders, we are excited about what God is calling us to do through Evergreen. I pray that you will get excited too.

Herein lies my call to you. I

want every pastor, minister, church, congregation and person associated with Evergreen to answer this call to action. Get involved with the Association in some form. Attend a Building Bridges session, or an association board meeting. Write an article for the Evergreen Notes about an activity at your church that may be of interest to the body. Remember we are all one body, many parts. Attend the biennial in San Juan, Puerto Rico, June 24-

26 or a worship service at a sister church.

Establish a new relationship with a person from another church. If you have skills as a filmmaker we need someone to help us make a new DVD that shares the Evergreen story.

I leave you with this; a plan is only as good as the action it creates.

Ken

Missionary Mercy Barnes to Visit Seattle Area

Missionary Mercy Barnes serves in Mexico focused on leadership development for new church planting, teaching at the Seminary, and work with short-term mission

groups from the United States, and will be at University Baptist Church for the ABW Spring Rally on March 26th; and on March 27th at Good Shepherd Baptist

Church for a morning Adult Sunday School and on the same day, in the afternoon, at Confraternidad.

Contact the churches for details.

Annual Reports Due

Pastors, Treasurers, Moderators:

If you have not received your church's annual report form, please contact Clem 253-859-2226 or clem@ea-abc.org

You may also go online to annualreport.abcis.org and submit your church's annual report for 2010.

Each church's report is due by April 30th.

ABCIS has introduced a short-form version of the Annual Report Form which we encourage churches to use.

Remember, the annual reports keep the region and the denomination abreast of the ministries and health of member churches and is an important commitment.

Thank you for your diligence/attention to this task.

Faithful Action for the Common Good! InterFaith Advocacy Day Thursday, March 17, 2011 in Olympia

Participate in an interfaith gathering, learn about advocacy and current legislation, and have an opportunity to advocate in Olympia! All faith communities are encouraged to participate.

Register online at

<http://thewac.org/ifad2011/>

Register before March 10th for the Early Bird ticket price.

Eric Law Leads Evergreen's Building Bridges Educational Event & Featured Speaker for Free Digital Media Training Offered at Trinity Lutheran College

Evergreen's Building Bridges Educational Event will be held on Saturday, April 2nd. Eric Law, founder of the Kaleidoscope Institute: For Competent Leadership in a Diverse, Changing World, will be with us. His plenary address will be about creating Grace Margins (times to work on issues of the church).

Though April 2nd is a first Saturday, you are urged to consider attending and encouraging others in your congregation to attend this particular session.

The following weekend, April 8—9, Rev. Law will be the featured speaker for the 2011 Lavik Series at Trinity Lutheran College, 2802 Wetmore Ave., Everett, WA

98201. Rev. Law leads faith-based communication seminars using digital media to communicate the Gospel and create sacred spaces.

The two-day event will explore a faithful presence in cyberspace and using digital media to share the Good News. The sessions will combine practical hands-on experience and theological and ethical reflection on the impact of computer technologies on media, art and community. This series of lectures and workshops will give participants a strong foundation for increasing their competency as a leader in our diverse, fast-changing and digitally-expanded world.

This is an opportunity to learn to use audio-visual electronic media as forms of

art for sharing the Gospel in cyberspace, and to connect cyberspace with physical sacred space where people of all generations can move from a "high-tech" virtual community to a "high-touch" fellowship of Christ.

Trinity is offering this event free of charge.

Go to the following website, register, and get more information: www.tlc.edu/lavik



WE DEPEND ON YOUR GIFTS TO UNITED MISSION! THANK YOU!

An Update From Pastor Marcus and Laurie Walker



Picture from *The Beachcomber*, January 5, 2011

“...The chemo hasn’t worked. Biopsy for desired gene mutation proved nega-

tive. The cancer has spread. Hospice has called. A second opinion is being sought. A poached egg has been eaten. A nap is being taken. There is a blue sky today...

It will mean a lot to both of us that you are able to share this story of an artist that has so much meaning for our family.

My Name is Asher Lev opens at Theater on the Square ...and then moves to the Lakewood Playhouse for the weekends of March 4-6; 11-13, and 18-20. You can purchase tickets at www.lakewoodplayhouse.org.

The wind chimes on the front porch are the bells of mindful-

ness. Reuben and Henry being home for three weeks with all of their friends were bells of mindfulness. The dog’s different behaviors have been bells of mindfulness. The daffodils coming up are bells of mindfulness.

The cosmos shifts and the Walker family welcomes your good thoughts and prayers as ever before.

Love,

Laurie and Marcus”

Seattle First Baptist Retreat Ministries Presents *Creed—Obstacle or Gateway?*

Are fixed beliefs a straightjacket or a framework to hang our values on?

In lectures, small groups, silence, song, and community, we will explore how creeds can help or hinder us.

Toss the components of your belief system in the air and see how they fall today.

Weigh them, refine them, change them or re-embrace them.

Join Pastors Tim Phillips and Catherine Fransson for our Lenten Retreat At Rainbow Lodge, Friday dinner – Sunday morning, March 11th - 13th, 2011

Though the early bird date has passed, there is still time to assure your reservation is held by your check or money order.

Please specify name of roommate (s).

Call Judie at 206-325-6051 to register.

OOPS! Correcting Info on Missionary Adalia Gutierrez Published in February News

Adalia Gutierrez-Lee and her husband, Ray Schellinger, are serving as American Baptist missionaries since December 1994. They have two daughters: Michelle and Melissa

Adalia is a Medical Doctor as well as an Ordained minister.

As a missionary, Adalia worked for 4 years on Primary Health Care for rural communities through PROVADENIC, a program of the

Nicaraguan Baptist Convention. She’s been working with the Baja Baptist women in Tijuana, Mexico since August 2001.

Together, they have begun Deborah’s House, a ministry to victims of domestic violence. Deborah’s House brings a diverse mix of services, including crisis intervention, healthcare, shelter for victims, counseling and education for both

victims and abusers in these situations.

Ray and Adalia also offer workshops to all churches in the region on alternatives to violence, self-esteem, relationship skills, and communication.

Adalia will be in the Seattle area from April 10 –16, 2011—4/10 at Community Church-Issaquah; 4/13 at SFBC; 4/15-16 ABW NW Conference in Yakima

An Invitation to Celebrate! / ¡Celebrad! After the Biennial

The last time that the American Baptist Churches held a Biennial in Puerto Rico was in the 1980s. This year, with “Celebrate!” as the theme for the Biennial, there is much for which to be thankful and to rejoice. In fact, the ABC of Puerto Rico – Iglesias Bautistas de Puerto Rico – grew exponentially, now counting over 200 self-supporting congregations and over 50 mission stations throughout the Island. This alone is reason to celebrate!

As our Evergreen Region plans to attend the 2011 Biennial from June 24th to 26th in San Juan, I invite you to stay a few more days to explore and celebrate more of the culture, cuisine, and folklore of my homeland. If you are coming to Puerto Rico for the Biennial, make sure to make your plans to return to Seattle on June 29th. As the Biennial gathers to a close on June 26th, the Evergreen family will leave San Juan and journey towards the south of the Island, to the city of Ponce, to experience more closely what Puerto Rico has to offer.

A colonial and a modern city, Ponce offers both a historical

and a contemporary view of the people and the culture of Puerto Rico. The city was founded in 1692, and is named after the first governor of the Island, Don Juan Ponce de León. Ponce is also home to one of the few remaining indigenous ceremonial parks, Tibes Ceremonial Park, and the oldest Protestant church building in the Spanish-speaking Americas, the Episcopal Church of the Holy Trinity, where many of the first baptists worshiped while the island was under Spaniard control.

But Ponce has much more to offer: the Museo de Ponce houses the largest collection of art in all of the Caribbean; the iconic Fire House has a unique architecture with its red and black stripes; and the Roman Catholic Cathedral of Our Lady of Guadalupe is one of the first to be dedicated to this advocacy of Mary outside of Mexico.

Sunday nights are bursting with activity at the La Guancha boardwalk, where you can not only experience the calm waters of the Caribbean Sea, but also taste some of the local cuisine and music. Here is where our group will

begin our tour on June 26th, and if time and energies allow, we will end our tour by visiting my parents’ farm in the mountains of the town of Adjuntas, where my mom and dad are already planning a traditional home-cooked dinner for our group!

“...I invite you to stay a few more days to explore and celebrate more of the culture, cuisine, and folklore of my homeland...”

Ponce is about one and half hours away from San Juan through I-52 (Yes, just like Hawai’i, the island of Puerto Rico has Interstate roads!).

So if you are planning to stay with the Evergreen group, plan to leave on Wednesday, June 29th in the afternoon.

Contact the Evergreen office and let them know how many people are staying after the Biennial so we may plan accordingly.

I look forward to sharing with you in Puerto Rico!

Manny Santiago, Pastor
University Baptist Church

Seattle First Baptist Sanctuary Choir & Orchestra Present A Benefit Concert to raise emergency housing assistance for People from Burma
March 27th at 3 PM, Seattle First Baptist Church

The concert is free. An offering will be taken and child-care provided.

Proceeds go to the Coalition for Refugees from Burma.

From Marcia's Blogs: A Compilation

To read Marcia's blogs in their entirety, go to www.ea-abc.org—Click on Executive Minister Messages

The leaders met on February 11 and 12. The group worked hard and we were pleased with what was accomplished. The Rev. Dr. Jeff Woods, Associate General Secretary of ABC/USA was our facilitator. One of the many tools he shared with us was to look at our organization as though it was a jigsaw puzzle. Have you done a jigsaw puzzle recently? Usually, assuming it is a traditional puzzle, you begin by finding the corner pieces. They are foundational to the puzzle. Likewise, Jeff told us, our core values are foundational to our work. Our core values permeate all we do. Each time we meet you can “see” our core values. We started our time agreeing that two of our values are “unity” and “cultural diversity”. After a series of exercises we agreed that the other two corners are “acceptance” and “shifting perspective”.

Unity is a core value of ours, it is seen most in our decision making process of consensus building. Unity doesn't mean that we agree exactly the same on everything. It does mean that we are glad to share that we agree on the important things and are willing to live and work with each other because of these things. We believe that God gives us this gift of unity, it is not ours but God's gift to us. The more we exercise our gift and understanding of unity, I'm convinced, the more God blesses us. It doesn't mean we all have to agree with each other, but it does mean we listen for the places

and points where we can come together. It means that when we understand God's call to a particular work or ministry, we can work together to make it real and make it happen. Our mission statement ends with “translate our unity to the world.” I believe that the world sees the church/Christianity as divided (especially Baptists?!). Yet, I also believe one of the things the world is seeking is a sense of unity, of partnership or “brother/sisterhood”, so our call to share with the world what we experience is not an after-thought, but a call to share our faith, our walk with God, with others, particularly as they have need.

The third corner, those of us at the leader retreat agreed, is “acceptance”. Acceptance means that all people are “accepted”, and all opinions are accepted. During the retreat when we would self select groups or do some work, time after time, people would say, “well, I agree with what has been said, but also...” The sense that everyone counted was apparent in our work together, and it is apparent in our work as Evergreen. Our consensus decision making as well as our caucus structure both support this “acceptance” reality. The growing edge again is the need to listen for and affirm the differences among us so that we use these to best do our work. There is a story line that goes with this “core value”, it is the storyline of “Everyperson”, an organizational archetype, that describes how we usually operate. Acceptance is a primary

characteristic of this archetype, we tend to live it out in Evergreen.

The fourth corner is “shifting perspectives.” Another way of saying this might be that we are ready and willing to be transformed, and we believe we have been called to transform our world through the love and grace of God. We do hold as a value that we are learning new ways of doing things, and we are called to share these learnings outside our doors. It may be that people will tire of hearing of our adventures with caucuses and consensus, but our value is that what we learn can help others. We are a learning organization!

In next month's newsletter I'll unpack the mission perspectives—the edges of our jigsaw puzzle; the month after that we'll share how the leader team began to paint the future (fit the pieces together in the middle of the puzzle) of Evergreen.

We hope this is helpful to you and would like your feedback. Just write, email or call us: marciaeba@comcast.net



BUILDING BRIDGES EVENT



APRIL 2, 2011

REGISTRATION FORM

Name: _____

Street Address: _____

City: _____ Zip: _____

Phone: _____ Email: _____

Church: _____

Child Care is needed (please list child's name and age)

_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____

Please register me for the following workshops (one each series or preference 1, 2, 3):

Series I

- Kaleidoscope Bible Study
- The Generosity Factor
- Under our Bridges & In Our Alleys
- Consensus Building
- Our Children

Series II

- Family
- Holy Currencies
- Generation to Generation
- Consensus Building

FEE: \$15.00 if registered March 26th or before. \$20.00 at the door. Registration: _____

TOTAL FEES enclosed: _____



EVERGREEN ASSOCIATION OF AMERICAN BAPTIST CHURCHES

BUILDING BRIDGES EVENT

SCHEDULE

8:00—8:30 Registration and Continental Breakfast

8:30—8:45 MINI-WORSHIP

Leader, Rev. Woun Kim

8:45—10:15 SERIES I WORKSHOPS

1. “Kaleidoscope Bible Study”

Rev. Dr. Eric Law

2. “The Generosity Factor” Planned Giving that never stops

Rev. Rick Barlow

3. “Consensus Building” Continuing the mission toward hearing all voices.

Rev. Dr. Marcia Patton

4. “Under Our Bridges & In Our Alleys” Connecting with our neighbors

Rev. Dr. Judy Gay

5. “Our Children ” Reaching the youngest among us

Mrs. Diane Plourde

10:30—12 NOON “Grace Margin”

Plenary Session with Rev. Dr. Eric Law

12 NOON LUNCH

12:45—2:15 SERIES II WORKSHOPS

1. “Family Ministry” Ministry to the whole family

Rev. Ned A. Parker

2. “Holy Currencies” Creating sustainable missional ministry

Rev. Dr. Eric Law

3. “Generation to Generation” Developing programs to reach a wide age group.

Rev. Mark Rambo

4. “Consensus Building” Continuing the mission toward hearing all voices

Rev. Dr. Marcia Patton

2:30—3:00 CLOSING WORSHIP

Leader, Rev. Woun Kim

Leaders' Retreat—February 11-12, 2011

Your Executive Committee, Caucus Leaders and staff met in retreat at Camp Burton with some ideas and direction from the January Association Board meeting and facilitation by the Rev. Dr. Jeff Woods, Executive Director of Regional Ministries to plan short term and long term foci for Evergreen.

Currently, Executive Minister Marcia Patton has begun a blog (<http://www.evergreen-abc.org/ExecMin/execmin.php>) for your information and input, and Chairman Ken Curl presents an article (page 1)



Back Row: Judy Gay, Bob Sittig, Walter Heyman, Frank Lowe, Chris Boyer, Bob Fukano, **Middle Row:** Yosh Nakagawa, Herb Tsuchiya, Clem Winbush, Doug Holmes, Jon Peterson. **Front Row:** Micky Holmes, Perla Belo, Jeff Woods, Marcia Patton and Ken Curl

in this issue of the Evergreen Notes offering a call to action.

Chin National Day



Many Chin people have been resettled in the Seattle area, having come to the US as refugees from Burma (Myanmar). Since their native villages are remote even from one another, there are many sub-groups among them speaking different dialects of the Chin language, which is unrelated to Burmese. Despite their differences, the Chins have many things in common, including their desire to celebrate Chin National Day in

late February, marking the movement of their people from feudalism to democracy following the end of World War II. Unfortunately, of course, as part of a country ruled by a military dictatorship, their people do not experience democracy there now.

On Saturday, February 19th, over 200 Chin people gathered at the Kent Covenant Church to celebrate Chin National Day in a program that included a number of addresses and presentations of the traditional dances of each of the Chin groups. The first address was given by Rev. Dongh Suan Pau,

by Rev. Dr. Paul Aita

a Tedim Chim, who is a member of Japanese Baptist Church (JBC). The first dance, which celebrated the harvest, was presented by a group of Matu Chin, most of whom are also members of JBC. The group co-opted JBC's



Minister of Outreach, Rev. Woun Kim, who played the drums for the Matu dance along with other musicians. (JBC received a total of 13 Chin youth

and adults into its membership in recent months, including two young men by baptism. In addition, ten Chin children regularly participate in Sunday School and other church activities.)



ABW MINISTRIES / PNW CONFERENCE

APRIL 15 – 17, 2011

CLARION HOTEL – YAKIMA WA

1507 North First Street, Yakima WA 98901

It's time to Register!

Please send in your registration form and **TOTAL PAYMENT** by March 12th.

Make your check payable to ABW/PNW, and send your check and registration form to **Lorna Flannery**, 864 So. Mullen, Tacoma WA 98405, by March 12th.

For registration information, contact Lorna Flannery – 253-752-0024 or FLANBAKER@aol.com

For Conference information, contact Georgia S. McDade – 206-722-0964 or gsmcdade@msn.com



Mariner vs. Angels Baseball Tickets Available Take Your Pastor/Church leader/Family/Friends out to the Ball Game

Monday June 13, 2011

RSVP: Email Clem@ea-abc.org or telephone 253-859-2226

Tickets are \$10 each; Orders due by May 15th



New Walk Receives Missional Church Learning Experience (MCLE) Grant

New Walk Christian Church submitted its Missional Church Learning Experience Community Project Outline and has been granted \$1,000 to begin the project.

Pastor Walter Heyman expressed thanks for the MCL experience which ...”has opened up an avenue for New Walk to move outside the walls of the church building

and engage in our next steps as a growing church body. We are excited about where it is leading us.”

Congratulations, New Walk!

Have you made your will?

Have you included your local church / Evergreen in your will?

For more information, please check out the American Baptist Foundation at www.americanbaptistfdn.org or contact Rick Barlow at telephone: 206-444-0323; email: RBarlowABF@msn.com

Consternation About Preaching the Love of God

Pastor Ted Sandberg

Excerpt from "FOCUS", Vol. 30, No.2 - 2/24/11, the monthly newsletter of First Baptist Church, Chico CA

...For those of you who haven't read the Letters to the Editor section of our local newspaper, I need to bring you up to date. A week and a half ago, someone angry with us (me) for placing "We Love Our Muslim Neighbors" on our street sign phoned the Tell It to the E-R section of the paper suggesting we're not Christian because we love Muslims. Then last Saturday, a gentleman wrote a letter to the Editor complaining because we want to allow Muslims to speak in Christian churches. (I haven't the foggiest idea where he came up with this idea.) He then went on to complain that we had fliers supporting Prop 8 in our foyer during that election. (The fliers came from the California Council of Churches and were intended to provide information about all the propositions to be voted on.) He found these fliers reprehensible. The writer went on to say, "This letter is about pastors who ill-serve the community by

preaching 'God is love' sermons without mentioning the 'wages of sin is death.'" A second letter supported this position by saying, "It is really sad to see so-called Christian churches changing what they are teaching."

I've talked with many about how to respond to these letters, and have had many reactions myself. Let me share some of my thoughts with you.

First, I confess that I may not be 100% correct in my theology, because this is God we're thinking about, and God is far beyond the knowledge of anyone. No one can understand everything about God or about the Scripture with 100% certainty, no matter what the letter writers may believe.

Second, I believe I can make a strong case that God loves all people – from Muslims to Jews to Catholics to Baptist to atheists to homosexuals to slaves to divorced to African Americans to liberals to conservatives. I pray only that God will love me.

Third, I believe that preaching the love of God is what I've been called to do. If I preach God's love, if people believe God loves them, then we/they will want to do what is good in the eyes of the God they love, just as I want to do what is good in the eyes of my wife whom I love. I, therefore, am not called to continually preach condemnation and fear. If we love God, we'll do our best not to sin.

Finally, I believe that too many Christians have preached "hellfire and brimstone" for far too long, and this is one of the main reasons today's youth want nothing to do with Christianity today. The more Christians preach "against," the more people seem to stay away from Christ's church – which is tragic.

I learned early in life, "Jesus loves me," and I've never found a person whom Jesus doesn't love. I wish the same could be said about we Christians.



Baptists Lunching Together (BLT) News

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

Lunch Time -12 Noon

Lunch Cost: \$8.00

Program Time -1:15 PM

****March 16:** Rev. Steven Reimer, Director, "*Samaritan*

Neighborhood Center"

****April 6:** Dr. Nancy Hall, Faculty member-ABSW, "*New Ideas in Hymnody*"

****June 1:** Mr. Frank Christine, President ABCUSA, "*Report on ABC Biennial*"

**** May 7: PCBA Spring Conference**, featured

speaker: Brent Walker, Director of the Baptist Joint Committee. Hosted by Shell Ridge Community Church, Walnut Creek

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



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 **24th** of the month prior to expected publication.

You are encouraged to copy and/or reprint information and articles.



Rev. Dr. Marcia J. Patton
Executive Minister

Building Bridges, Resourcing Churches & Translating Our Unity

Calendar of Upcoming Events

MARCH

17—Faith Advocacy Day in Olympia

APRIL

2—**Building Bridges**

Education Event with Eric Law, 8AM-3 PM, JBC

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

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

MAY

2-3 Ministers Council Retreat, Camp Burton

JUNE

10-11 Black Caucus visits Calvary Baptist Church, Spokane, Details being finalized

13—Take your Pastor/Church Leader to the Ball Game, Mariners vs. Angels, 7:10 PM

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

JULY

4-9—Baptist Peace Fellowship of NA Summer Conference, Eastern Mennonite University, Harrisonburg VA.

AUGUST

15-19 Kaleidoscope Institute NW—“Process for Planned Change”, Rainbow Lodge

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.

