



# Evergreen Notes

Evergreen Association of American Baptist Churches

Volume 8, Issue 11

## A Blessed Thanksgiving Season to you

### Generating Electricity Where There is Rarely Any

My Dad, during my growing up years, was a boiler operator in a coal burning electric plant. On the occasions when the winds blew and the power went out we had some "friends" and acquaintances that would blame my Dad for the fact that they were without electricity for a time. If he was working during the time, the problem was not that electricity wasn't being produced, the boilers were working away, but that the lines going from here to there were broken.

However, in other parts of the world it is not just

the lines that get broken by wind and storm (although those incidences are often enough in a hurricane- path country like Haiti), but that the electricity isn't produced well enough and the lines have much demand on them. Now figure that you've got medical equipment that you want to protect and use. You can only effectively use the equipment when the electricity is available and constant. A generator would be a huge help.

So the eye clinic that Nzunga helps to operate needs a generator that will run all the

medical equipment so it can stay open and help the people.

We took an offering on Saturday at the Annual Meeting (\$1,141) that will help "purchase" about 1/12 of a generator. The challenge is out to our Evergreen churches to come up with the rest of the generator. Do we have 11 churches that can each put in \$1,000? Two that can each raise \$5,500? Let's give a gift of light and power!!

Grace & Peace

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### Our Sympathy and Prayers

for Cathy Kernen and family in the loss of her father, Rev. Colvin Caughey on October 11, 2009. Prior to retirement he was pastor of First Baptist Church, Des Moines.

### Praise & Celebration

- *It was wonderful to see Yosh Nakagawa, smiling and participating in our Annual Meeting at Mountlake Terrace.*
- *Thank you, Pastor Dennis, Mary Ellen and Harold Harris, Jim Erickson and all the folks I'm not able to name individually at Mountlake Terrace for a wonderful Annual Meeting experience!*

## CCI Hosts Human Trafficking Awareness Booth at Salmon Days



The Community Church of Issaquah (CCI) hosted a Human Trafficking Awareness

informational booth at the town's Salmon Days Festival in October.

Geri Anderson was an inspiration to all with whom she came in contact. She was tireless in her efforts to catch

people's attention and disseminate information. She'd hold pamphlets fanned in her hand and talk to anyone giving the booth a glance saying, "It's the second largest crime in the United States today— and growing."

About 12 or 13 people left their contact information saying that they had information to share; were involved with other Human Trafficking

Awareness organizations or had friends that they suggested as contacts. Several women said that they had chosen the subject as their community college class thesis.

**The next step is gathering at CCI, November 16th at 6:30 PM.** Let's plan to go public on National Human Trafficking Awareness Day, January 11, 2010.

Charlotte Scherer, Reporter

## ABC Ethnic Caucus Leaders invited to Participate in Re-structure

VALLEY FORGE, PA (ABNS 10/1/09)

President of American Baptist Churches USA Mary Hulst has appointed a task force on bylaws to develop "A way forward," following the affirmation of the General Board Executive Committee at its August meeting.

The task force will work to assess feedback from the 2009 Biennial in Pasadena, specifically focusing on issues that were brought forth due to constructive evaluations.

It will also recommend moderate adjustments that are aligned with delegate feedback and develop a strategic plan for constituent education and communication leading up to the 2011 Biennial in Puerto Rico.

The task force will not exceed 25 members, and will include pastors and lay representatives from across the denomination. It will also include the president of each of the national boards, one national staff member, the

"...work to assess feedback from the 2009 Biennial in Pasadena, specifically focusing on issues that were brought forth..."

president of the Regional Executive Ministers Council (REMC), and representation from *recognized ethnic caucus groups*.

The presidential task force met in Denver, Colorado on October 21-22, compiling a report to present to the General Board at its November meeting.

## Introduction to Missional Church Learning Experience

Grace Baptist Church, San Jose, California is hosting an Introduction to Missional Church, facilitated by Rev. Glynnis LaBarre, on Satur-

day, December 5, 2009.

Contact Dennis Glover at [dennis.glover@gmail.com](mailto:dennis.glover@gmail.com) to register your intent to attend.

The church is asking a dona-

tion of \$10 per person to cover the cost of lunch.



Rev. LaBarre

## Haiti Mission Education and Work Trips Being Planned for 2010

There are two options for the trips. The first trip option, (Mission Education only) will be from September 14—20, 2010. We will see much of the Nzungas' work in Haiti, worship with Haitian congregations on the 19th and possibly spend one day at one of the most beautiful beaches in the Carribean at a cost of about \$1,000 per person.

Those participating in Option two will remain in Haiti

until September 25th to do a work project, donating our time and energy. At this point Nzunga places renovations to the Eye Clinic at the top of his list for the mission work team. The cost will be around \$1,250 plus what ever might be raised to purchase materials for the renovations.

The cost projections are approximations at this point as airlines don't give fares out this far in advance, and I am

trying to work with a travel agent who might help us put this together in a total package at a lower cost.

Pencil in the dates, and prayerfully consider participating in option one or two of the mission trip (s) to Haiti.

Looking forward to you joining us,

Ron Kirstein

## Evergreen Appreciates & Depends on Your Donations

Donations given to the support of Evergreen will help the Association to continue its work in events such as the upcoming Leaders Retreat, MLK Day Worship Service, and the Building Bridges Day Educational event. Also such basics as office supplies which allow

the production and mailing of this publication for your information are made possible by your continued giving.

As always, we thank you for what you've given to date and pledged to give in the future.

And if you have not given, please add Evergreen to your

list of charitable organizations. Your contributions to this ministry are tax deductible, and we will send you a statement at the end of the year.

Again, thank you for your contributions.

## Martin Luther King, Jr. Day Worship Service

Evergreen Association will celebrate the life and legacy of American Baptist pastor and civil rights leader, Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. at its annual MLK, Jr. Day Worship service on Monday, January 18, 2010, 6:30 PM at the New Beginnings Christian Fellowship Family Life Center, 19300 108th Avenue

SE, Renton WA.

Preaching will be the Rev. Dr. Paul Martin, newly installed President of the American

Baptist Seminary of the West. Dr. Martin is the 21st and first Black president in the seminary's long history.



Dr. Paul M. Martin

### 2010 Religious Liberty Essay Scholarship Contest for High School Juniors and Seniors

This year's contest will commemorate the 50th anniversary of John F. Kennedy's landmark speech about the relationship between his religion and his politics and the separation of church and state.

*Details available online at [www.BJConline.org](http://www.BJConline.org)*

*First Prize: \$1,000 and a trip to Washington DC  
Second Prize: \$500  
Third Prize: \$100*

## Celebrating Marcia's Birthday...



# Thank You

What a surprise! I did not suspect or expect anything, and you did indeed surprise me. Thank you for celebrating my 60th Birthday. For all the wonderful words and gifts, I am most grateful. The gift of my friend Diane coming for a visit was especially wonderful. We had a great couple of days, going to Mount Rainier and quilt shop hopping! I am so very blessed to have the privilege of serving this awesome Association of American Baptist Churches!



*Marcia*



## Fremont Hymn Sing Raises Funds for SHARE/WHEEL Support

Fremont Baptist Church hosted Hymn Sing #2 on Sunday, October 18th and the offering of more than \$140.00 was given to support SHARE/WHEEL, a ministry for the homeless. In past years, Evergreen Association shared

its major fundraising effort with SHARE/WHEEL for Tent Cities.

Thank you is extended to Leland Ross for his vision and leadership and all attendees to the service.

Pastor Judy Gay reports that

Leland saw to the minute details of planning and hosting the event.

## 2010 Annual Meeting and Craft Fair

The next Evergreen Association Annual Meeting will be held on October 8 and 9, 2010. Please mark your calendar and plan to attend.

The Asian Caucus will determine the site and host its craft fair fundraiser during that gathering. Everyone is invited to prepare your craft as a donation for the fund-

raiser. So if you quilt, sew, make floral designs, etc., begin now to prepare your offering.

## Karen Church Baptism & Worship Hosted by Panther Lake

Panther Lake Community Church (PLCC) in Kent



hosted special events for the Karen congregation that meets at the Kent Covenant Church. Since the Karen congregation does not yet have a pastor, the baptism of its four candidates was performed at PLCC by Rev. Hsa Moo of the First Karen Baptist Church of St. Paul MN (an ABC church), who came to Washington State with his wife and two children for this and other ministry to Karen people.

Following the baptism, Pastor Has Moo provided the candidates with certificates of membership into his congregation, since the local group has not yet officially organized into a church. The baptismal service was followed by a regular worship service and then, after a break, by a communion service.

Evergreen churches were represented at these events by Mark and Maureen Pittinger (PLCC), Mona Han (University Baptist), Aung Khin and his son Mel (Seattle First Baptist Church), and Paul Aita (Japanese Baptist Church). Through a grant received from the ABC Burma Refugee Assistance Task Force, Evergreen was able to contribute towards the expenses of bringing Rev. Has Moo and his family to the Seattle area.



Many of the members of the Karen congregation are recent arrivals from Burma (Myanmar) who have come to Western Washington from refugee camps in Thailand. Many spent years in the camps, and some of their youth were born there.

The choir from this congregation—mostly youth—sang at the Saturday afternoon ses-

sion of Evergreen's Annual Meeting, on October 10.



Panther Lake Community Church and Japanese Baptist Church pooled resources recently to provide a number of coats for people from Burma. Shoes are also desperately needed.

Can you provide coats, gift certificates from Value Village or Payless Shoes, so we can provide much needed winter wear for these people from a climate much different from ours? You can send any donations made payable to Evergreen Association, 409 Third Avenue S, Suite A, Kent WA 98032 or Japanese Baptist Church, 160 Broadway, Seattle WA 98122-5434..

# Annual Meeting 2009—Worshipful Work At A Glance



Passing the 'talking stick' and prayer for the incoming Chair, Board & Association reps



Conversation Café



Youngest Annual Meeting Attendee



Nzunga presents Marcia a gift



Dr. Wright-Riggins leads in Communion



Asian Caucus at work



Black Caucus prays for the Euro Caucus



Euro Caucus at work



Commissioning Youth Association Rep, Pherez Keys



Euro Caucus prays for the Asian Caucus



Black Caucus at work



Conversation Café



Curtis listens as Missionary Nzunga shares



# *A New Heaven and A New Earth*

## **Cultural Competency Training**

*An ecumenical workshop that assists in building skills to effectively communicate with a diversity of people, to initiate and deepen relationships across cultural, ethnic and racial differences*

Saturday, January 23, 2010

New Beginnings Christian  
Fellowship

Worship and Family Life Center  
19300—180th Ave SE  
Renton WA 98055

Rev. Dr. Leslie D. Braxton, Pastor

Registration 8:30 a.m.— 9:00 a.m.

Seminar 9:00 a.m.— 5:00 p.m.

Cost: Advance \$25.00 includes lunch.

Group discounts available.

Registration at the door: \$35.00

To register, visit [www.pnwumc.org](http://www.pnwumc.org) and click “Training Events,” then “A New Heaven and A New Earth” or call 253-859-2226 to request a registration form.

### **Who should attend?**

*Lay and clergy in leadership positions in their churches or denominational structures*

*Congregations whose communities are becoming more diverse, or are sharing or contemplating sharing facilities*

*Persons ministering cross-culturally*

*Persons who are curious about their own blocks to embracing diversity.*



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Evergreen Notes, the newsletter for member churches, ecumenical partners, national affiliates, and friends of the Evergreen Association of American Baptist Churches, is published monthly.

Please submit articles by the 25th of the month prior to expected publication.

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



**Rev. Dr. Marcia J. Patton**  
Executive Minister

**Building Bridges Between Communities**

**Calendar of Upcoming Events**

**NOVEMBER**

6—SBU Annual Meeting, Burien Community Church, 6:30 PM

7—**Association Board Meeting cancelled**

13—Executive Committee Meeting, JBC, 5:30 PM

16—Human Trafficking Awareness, Community Church of Issaquah, 6:30 PM

26-27—Thanksgiving—Office Closed

**DECEMBER**

5—Missional Church Learning Experience, Grace Baptist—San Jose, 9 AM-3 PM

**JANUARY**



4—7 Together in the Lord: Ministry Renewal Conference, Orlando FL

18—**MLK Worship Service, Dr. Paul Martin, preaching, New Beginnings, 6 PM**

23—New Heaven & New Earth - Cultural Competency Training, New Beginnings Christian Fellowship, 9 AM

25—Greater Seattle Area Clergy Gathering with Roy Medley. More info to come.

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

**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.