



Evergreen Notes

Evergreen Association of American Baptist Churches

Volume 11, Issue 11

Annual Meeting 2012

Thank you to all who participated in an extraordinary Annual Meeting. Thanks to Mount Zion Baptist Church for their excellent hospitality from security, to ushers, to good food to general excellent welcome. Thanks especially to the Rev. Jacqueline Thompson for bringing the Word to Evergreen in straightforward, to-the-heart ways. We will be forever blessed.

Thank you to those who participated in the Sacred Conversation on Thursday evening at Seattle First Baptist Church and SFBC for doing their usual excellent job of

hospitality and food service. The conversation was most meaningful.

At our business meeting we were excited to welcome two new churches. The brand new church plant of the Washington Chin Baptist Church, meeting in Tukwila. On page 7 in this newsletter you will see pictures of their formal opening on Sunday, October 28, where they re-decorated the apartment where they have services to be a formal worship space. And then they worshipped! Note the Evergreen welcome candle on the altar.

Congratulations to the Washington Chin Baptist Church! And to Evergreen and the Asian caucus for adding a new church.

The second church added is Nueva Vida Iglesia in La Aguavida Venezuela. This means we have two churches in the Hispanic caucus, which means it is now officially "seated". Praise God! Congratulations to Nueva Vida Iglesia, Evergreen and the Hispanic Caucus!

We have much work to do to build relationship with Nueva Vida, and we are up to the challenge!



Karen Choir—Saturday Morning Worship

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Prayer Concerns:

Representatives carrying a message of peace to Hiroshima, Japan

Churches Seeking Pastoral Leaders: Urban Grace-Tacomoma, Japanese Baptist Church, Filipino-American Christian Fellowship

That we might turn to the Lord and receive the healing of our land

Perla's Pearls: American Baptist Home Missionaries



Rev. Perla Belo
Association Chair


As your representative, I just returned from the American Baptist Home Mission Societies (ABHMS) Board


meeting held at Valley Forge. One of the issues approved was the commissioning of American Baptist Home Missionaries; ABHMS has not commissioned home missionaries for quite a while. The American Baptist Home Mission

Society was established in New York City in 1832 to preach the gospel, establish churches, and minister to the needs of the unchurched and destitute people here in the United States.

(Continued on page 2)


Events & Happenings Around the Region

 **MLK Baptist Church** welcomes you to hear revivalist, **Rev. Dr. Jeremiah A. Wright, Jr**, Monday and Tuesday, November 5—6, 2012, 7 PM, at MLK and on Wednesday, November 7, 2012, 7 PM. at Mount Zion Baptist Church.

 **Seattle First Baptist Church** invites you to **Walk the Labyrinth**, Sunday, November 11th 6:00 to 8:00pm, last walk at 7:30pm in Fellowship Hall.

Every Second Sunday from November 2012 - April 2013.

 **Save the Date: Sing Love!**, the **Seattle First Baptist Church** Christmas concert on Saturday, December 15 at 7:30 PM and Sunday, December 16 at 1:00 PM. Featured on this year's program is the celestial *Ceremony of Carols* by Benjamin Britten with harp accompaniment. Bring your voices to join in on favorite carols.

 **2011 Annual Report** received from **Church of the Covenant, Palmer Alaska**; Thank you for sending a copy of your effort to access ABCIS. Your report is now recorded. Let us hear from your church. Clem will gladly send you another form if the original has been misplaced.

Thanksgiving Day Celebration & Anita Pittman Remembrance

You are invited to join us for a Thanksgiving Day Celebration which will include a Remembrance of Anita Pittman, held at Olympia First Baptist Church, 904 Washington Street SE, on Thursday, November 22, 2012.

In the style of Anita's Thanksgivings shared with us, we are planning to share

meals, movies, TV and table games as we fellowship in memory of her.

There will be a meal at 12:30 PM including turkey and basic fixings; and grand leftovers around 5 PM.

Come for the whole day, or whatever part of the time you can.

Please share this invitation with family and friends—especially those who knew Anita.

We would appreciate an RSVP, for good planning—Email: clemeba@comcast.net or call: 253-859-2226.

Join us for the celebration and the memories.

Perla's Pearl: American Baptist Home Missionaries

continued

(Continued from page 1)

I was commissioned to be a home missionary by National Ministries (the 1972 name of ABHMS) in 1990 to minister “to people with special needs,” the other description to mean Asians and other groups in the US.

American Baptists are still divided in their thinking as to “who is a missionary”. The most widely accepted view is

that the real missionary is one who preaches the gospel to people in foreign countries. Those who are in ministry in the U.S. are not really viewed as missionaries but as Christian workers, evangelists, pastors, directors, etc.

The church in the Philippines where I was a member (before coming to the U.S.) had missionaries from the U.S., U.K, Australia, and New Zealand attending. A person without Je-

sus Christ in his/her life is a mission field, the foreign missionaries said. I agree with them wholeheartedly!

Every true believer in Jesus Christ is a missionary of reconciliation, bringing people to know the only true God, bringing people to faith in Jesus Christ as Savior and Lord here in the U.S. and in all parts of the world.

Perla

Seattle Baptist Union Annual Meeting—November 18

Seattle Baptist Union will hold its 2012 Annual Meeting on Thursday, November 15th at Seattle First Baptist Church, 1111 Harvard, Seattle 98122 beginning with a meal together at 6:30 PM.

All American Baptist Churches within the following geographic boundaries: 128th SW in Snohomish County in the north; east to the Redmond/Carnation

ridge, including Maple Valley and Issaquah; south to include Kent School District and Federal Way; west to Puget Sound, to include Vashon Island, are invited to send a pastor, and two other members as representatives to this Annual Business Meeting.

At the 2012 Annual Meeting, the agenda will include proposed bylaw revisions, the

election of officers whose terms expire December 2012, and the current financial health of the organization.

Member churches received a letter of invitation and a registration form which should be returned by Friday, November 8, 2012.

If your church has not received an invitation, please contact Clem Winbush, SBU Secretary at 253-859-2226 or clem@ea-abc.org

November 15 Deadline for Biennial Worship Participation Approaching

Interested in being involved in leading worship at the American Baptist Mission Summit/Biennial in Overland Park/Kansas City, June 21 - 23, 2013?

To help evaluate what contribution you might be able to make you are asked to complete an application found at www.americanbaptists2013.org

Click on resources to find the performance application, and return it with other required information and materials as listed to the Worship Coordinator at:

Email Address:
brad@reinventingsunday.com

or

Mailing Address: Worship Coordinator, 8273 E Davies

**2011 Annual Report Returned
Thank You!**

*Church of the Covenant—Palmer
Alaska*

Ave, Centennial CO 80112
The application is due no later than November 15, 2012.

Haiti Presentations Continue and Second Mission Trip in 2013??!!

During the Christmas Holidays, Susan Blythe-Goodman, a missionary from our Haiti mission trip, will have opportunity to share our experience with a church in Lawrence Kansas. This congregation's pastor shared in an email that members of the church, 'in the summer

of 2011, stayed with Pastor Mano and Mama JoJo, and have fallen in love with Nzunga and Kihomi and the people of Haiti. Nzunga stayed with us in Lawrence in the first part of August, and we actually have a protégé of Kihomi's staying with members of our church as she studies nursing in order to be able to return

as a medical missionary to Haiti'.

It is wonderful that Susan will be able to share an update since the time of their visit.

Our prayer is that, after April 2013, we'll have another first-hand update for you. Pray for discernment—Is this the trip you will take to Haiti?

Asian Caucus Scholarship Fundraiser A Success

The ABC Asian Caucus Annual Scholarship Fundraiser, held yearly since 1977, was at Japanese Baptist Church, Seattle WA this year.

In addition to a small admission fee which covered the cost of tea and a dessert sampler; there was musical entertainment, dessert raffles and a silent auction.

This event included members from the sponsoring local Asian congregations—

Filipino-American Christian Fellowship, Chinese Baptist Church and Japanese Baptist Church—and was supported by members of other Evergreen churches.

And as the theme suggested, those in attendance were able to “taste and see that the Lord is [indeed] good”!



Dr. Patton Attends LeadingAge Annual Meeting and Expo



Dr. Marcia Patton, Executive Minister of Evergreen Association of American Baptist Churches,

attended the LeadingAge Annual Meeting and Expo held in Denver CO, October 21—24, 2012 as a Board member of the American Baptist Homes of the West (ABHOW).

The meeting of not-for-profit

senior housing and nursing care affiliates included a keynote address by the Rev. Desmond Tutu, who said during his address, “God without us, will not; we without God, cannot”.

New Beginnings Partners & Hosts Fundraiser for KentHOPE—A Day Center for the Homeless

New Beginning Christian Fellowship has partnered with KentHOPE, a partnership of Kent-area faith-based groups, Seattle's Union Gospel Mission, Valley Cities Counseling and Consultation and local social service agencies dedicated to improving the lives of the homeless in Kent WA. The goal of KentHOPE is to establish a

homeless day center and eventually an overnight shelter in Kent.

KentHOPE has received funding from the city of Kent and many Kent businesses.

And, on November 3, 2012, at 6 PM, New Beginnings Christian Fellowship, a group of 350 will gather for a KentHOPE fundraising din-

ner. During the benefit dinner, jailhouse lawyer and UW law student Shon Hopwood will share his story about making the most of second chances.

Tickets for the dinner are sold out, yet, you are invited to make a donation by contacting www.kenthope.org.

Sacred Conversation 2012

We gathered for a meal and a discussion on belonging.



Annual Meeting 2012 at a Glance



*Rod Echols
Fairview Community
Ministerial Standards Committee Interviewees during Annual Mtg.*

*Sean Brown
Wedgwood Community
Ministerial Standards Committee Interviewees during Annual Mtg.*

Shepherd's Garden Receives Recognition

Shepherd's Garden has achieved recognition from the National Affordable Housing Management Association (NAHMA) as a Community of Quality. Below are excerpts from the formal announcement:

On behalf of everyone at the National Affordable Housing Management Association (NAHMA), we thank you for participating in the National Communities of Quality Recognition Program, and we congratulate you and all those affiliated with your prop-

erty on meeting the stringent criteria to earn the distinction of becoming nationally recognized as a Community of Quality.

The Communities of Quality (COQ) National Recognition and Awards Program makes it clear that the affordable housing industry succeeds in creating housing that is safe, attractive, modern, and well maintained - and that residents in this housing are often aided in ways rarely addressed in conventional rental housing settings. This is

an important message to convey to policymakers, government agencies, industry specialists and the general public.

Your recognition as a National Community of Quality is well deserved. Our criteria reviewers were truly impressed by your submission. Your attention to detail and inclusion of all necessary and supplemental exhibits provided an excellent representation of your outstanding community.

Hispanic Institute Held at Eben-ezer

The Eben-ezer Fellowship hosted area Hispanic Churches for an all-day Institute on Saturday, October 27, 2012. The day-long course was taught by Rev. Raul Ruiz, Rev. Hector Cortez and Rev. Miriam Mendez.

The Rev. Salvador Orellana American Baptist Home Mission Societies (ABHMS) His-

panic Ministry Specialist was present for the day as well.

Thirty people representing three congregations (one from Grandview and one from Bremerton in addition to members of Eben-ezer) studied with these leaders to learn more about giving leadership in their local churches.



Congratulations to Rev. Michael Ming Han Lee, Installed as English Youth and Young Adult Pastor at Chinese Baptist Church—October 28, 2012



Update & Invitation from Roberta Stephens, Missionary to Japan

Dear Friends,

I'm in the midst of a short home assignment and will return to Japan on December 1st. This will be my last home assignment before retirement in the summer of 2014. I am seeking to finish well by having all my support underwritten, because this is God's work, not mine. It's much too short of a time and I'm having to cram in a number of assignments to speak various places including Oregon, Northern and Southern California, Pennsylvania and New York, speaking over fifty times in all. For this reason I may not

have the chance to meet many of you even though I'm dying to tell you God's story in Japan.

I will be having an open presentation/open house on November 17th at 2 pm, particularly for those who have missed hearing my presentation. You are cordially invited to come. Please RSVP. The address is:

18951 Marine View Circle SW
Normandy Park, WA 98166
(206) 241-6414 Pat Kelley
(206) 399-0025 Terri Simpkins

In addition, I have a

DVD with three videos presenting my work I'd like you to have. Just send a request to Roberta directly at (robertalynn06@gmail.com) or (mptroberta@gmail.com). These videos are also on my profile page on the International Ministries website.

Share it with your congregation or with individuals. We'll add a bonus powerpoint if you'd like some shots taken during the last several years.

Blessings on You,

In Christ, Roberta L. Stephens,
American Baptist Missionary to Japan

OOPS! Editor's Apology



Two photos were inaccurately labeled or left unlabeled in the October Evergreen Notes.

Correction: Left to right above are: Tom Schmoe, Daisy Tibbs-Dawson and Kathy Yukawa

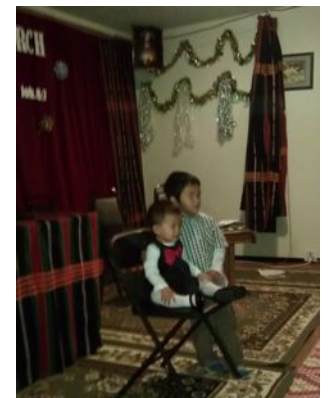


And pictured above, left-right are: Emogene Williams, Jean Walkingshaw, Tomiko Schmoe (widow of Floyd Schmoe), and Yosh Nakagawa

Please accept my apology for the misinformation or lack of information about the identities of persons present at the Mike Stern Concert to benefit the Floyd Schmoe Museum in Hiroshima Japan.
Clem



Washington Chin Baptist Church Dedicates New Meeting Space, and Sings Happy Birthday to a One Year Old—Sunday, October 28, 2012!



Pray for the Presence of Evergreen Through Representatives Traveling to
Hiroshima Japan for the Dedication of the Floyd Schmoie Museum;
Friday, October 26—Wednesday, November 14, 2012

Yosh and Sue Nakagawa
Herb Tsuchiya

Brooks and Corean Andrews
Larry & JoAnn Sims (volunteers in Japan)

The Church Council of Greater Seattle Says Thank You



In a letter dated October 15, 2012, Michael Ramos, Executive Director of the Church Council of Greater Seattle (CCGS) says:

“...As this week’s much-needed rain is refreshing our gardens and forests, I can’t help but think of how your sponsorship is nourishing the parched soil of our region, the

places where compassion and justice are simply not getting to the roots of what holds our sisters and brothers in poverty and injustice. Thank you for Evergreen’s partnership in healing a wounded world and creating beloved community.

Evergreen’s \$1,000 sponsorship will be used to support our core mission of forging partnerships across communities on behalf of a more just and joyful world. Specifically,

it will be linked to the Apel Awards...”

And a handwritten note add, “I am so grateful for all of Evergreen’s steadfast support!” [Editor’s Note: Your gifts at work!]

A Note From Our Annual Meeting Preacher—Rev. Jacqueline Thompson



The Rev. Jacqueline Thompson, Evergreen’s Annual Meeting Preacher sent the

following letter:

“...Greetings in the Name of Our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ! I pray this letter finds you blessed and living in Resurrection power.

I am writing to thank you for allowing me to serve as speaker during your Evergreen Annual Meeting. It was indeed my honor to be asked and my pleasure to serve!...

I pray that those who attended were blessed, strengthened, and empowered by our time of sharing.

May the Blessings of God overtake you and your ministry. Until we meet again...”

A Note From Interfaith House at Washington State University

I hope that your Fall finds you well. Here at the Interfaith House, we are keeping busy serving students and our community. Here are the upcoming events for the next month:

Meditation: Every Tuesday and Thursday, 12:15pm to 12:45pm. Time for meditation instruction and practice in Lectio Divina. Free. All are welcome.

Inspire!: Every Wednesday, 5:00pm to 7:00pm. Dinner followed by small and large group activities and Biblical study. Free. All students are welcome.

Interfaith Mythbusters: Every Thursday, 5:00pm to 7:00pm. Dinner followed by faith discussion. Many weeks have presentations. See our website for schedule and details. Free. All are welcome.

We also have many volunteer opportunities. To reserve event or meeting space, please email or call the Interfaith House / Common Ministry at office@interfaith-house.com or 509-332-2611 for more information.

Kindest Regards,

Lorraine Mason
Building and Office Manager
The Common Ministry /
Interfaith House at WSU

Smaller Global Servants' Map Now Available for Download

A full-color global servant's map is now available on the American Baptist International Ministries (IM) website for downloading.

This conveniently-sized map (8 ½" x 14") can be printed in color or black-and-white and distributed to church members. It is helpful for churches that want to focus on global mission during **World Mission Offering** (WMO) and throughout the year. The map will remain on the website and will be kept up to date. Go to www.internationalministries.org

scroll to the bottom and click on **Resources**. (Remember to print on 8 ½" x 14" paper and landscape.)

This full-color mini-poster visually places IM's 106 missionaries, development workers and global consultants in their mission field. It can be used in educational settings, for display on bulletin boards or for devotional times in homes.

The mini-map complements the **WMO** materials that were mailed to churches in July. Additional educational and worship materials focusing on the



2012 theme: **Hear the Call** are available by calling Tammy or are downloadable from the WMO website: www.worldmissionoffering.org.

The home staff at IM would like to know how churches have used the resources for WMO education and promotion. Please send suggestions and stories to catherine.nold@abc-usa.org.

Judson Press Rebate Reminder



Please remember to add Evergreen's regional code (38) when you shop at www.judsonpress.com. As a

result, Evergreen receives a generous 10% of your total purchases!

We are thankful that when you shop online at Judson Press you remember to enter

Region Code 38 as you leave the web page. By so doing, you gift the association.

Thank you.

Evergreen Association of American Baptist Churches

409 Third Avenue S, Suite A
Kent WA 98032-5843

Phone: 253-859-2226
Fax: 253-859-1537
E-mail: eba@ea-abc.org

Visit us on the web at
www.ea-abc.org

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

Please submit articles by the **24th** of the month prior to expected publication.

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

Building Bridges, Resourcing Churches & Translating Our Unity

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Rev. Dr. Marcia J. Patton
Executive Minister

Calendar of Upcoming Events

SAVE THESE 2013 DATES:
January 21—MLK Day Service, Rev. Michael-Ray Mathews, preaching.
(More details to come)

February 2013—Leaders' Retreat (Day to be determined)

March 31—Easter Community Sunrise Service

 **June 21-23, 2013 – Mission Summit, AB-**

CUSA Biennial, Overland Park, Kansas *(Rev. Dr. Braxton is on the Program Planning Committee.)*

October 10 –12, 2013 Annual Meeting

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.