



Evergreen Notes

Evergreen Association of American Baptist Churches

Volume 11, Issue 9

ANNUAL MEETING 2012

Be sure you have registered for the Annual Meeting and made lodging arrangements at the Quality Inns & Suites Seattle Center, 618 John Street, Seattle WA 98109 by September 6th in order to get the group rate. Mention Evergreen Association when making your arrangements.

The Sacred Conversation about Gracious Leadership in a Multicultural Setting will take place

on Thursday evening, October 11th, 7:00 PM, at Seattle First Baptist Church in the fellowship hall.

A meal will be provided. We will build cross caucus relationships and affirm each person's status as a beloved child of God. Our purpose is conversation and deeper relationships, not a written statement or anything like that.

Evergreen Association ANNUAL MEETING October 11-13, 2012

Mount Zion Baptist Church, Seattle WA, hosting Guest Preacher, Jacqueline Thompson, Assistant Pastor, Allen Temple Baptist Church, Oakland CA
Theme: "Go and do likewise" Luke 10:37b

Please join us. Contact Clem at clemeba@comcast.net or 253-859-2226 or make a notation on your registration form so we may prepare for our time together.

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Prayer Concerns

Churches seeking Pastoral Leaders: Filipino American Christian Fellowship, Japanese Baptist Church, Panther Lake Community Church, Urban Grace-Tacoma

Continuing Health Issues: Barry Briscoe; Dick Birdsall

Family Losses: McKinney, Winbush, Martin, and Landry

Perla's Pearls: The Executive Committee



Rev. Perla Belo
Association Chair

The leadership of Evergreen is the Executive Committee. The officers are: chairperson

(Rev. Perla Belo, Asian), vice chair (Priscilla Lowe, black), treasurer (Bob Sittig, Euro), representatives from the caucuses: Black (Rev. Walter Heyman),

Euro (Rev. Michelle Holmes), Asian (vacant at the moment), and Hispanic (Rev. Guadalupe Vasquez). The Committee is also served

(Continued on page 2)

Events & Happenings Around the Association

Burien Community Church invites you to the **installation service** of **Mindi Welton-Mitchell** as pastor, and on September 9, 2012 at 11 AM.

The Hispanic Caucus asks you to **SAVE the DATE**—Saturday, September 15, 2012, when New Beginnings Christian Fellowship will host the Caucus' next fundraiser in honor of Hispanic Heritage Month.

Japanese Baptist Church invites you to a benefit concert on September 30 at 3:00 to showcase Mike Stern's new song, "As If the Flowers Knew". This is also in preparation for a trip that Brooks and Corean Andrews, Yosh and Sue Nakagawa and Herb Tsuchiya are making to Hiroshima Japan to honor the work of Brooks' father and Mr. Schomo in building relationships between the

Japanese and America following World War II.

Good Shepherd Baptist Church invites you to its biennial **Auction & Dinner**, October 13, 2012 at the Lynnwood Elks Club (exact early evening time to be determined).

Japanese Baptist Church invites you to **Cafe 34:8**, an Asian Caucus Fundraiser, October 21, 2012, 4 PM..

Church Leadership News & Activity

Welcome **Mindi Welton-Mitchell** who has been called as *Pastor of Burien Community Church*. Mindi is the daughter of Sarah Welton, Pastor of Church of the Cove-

nant of Palmer AK.

Welcome **Elizabeth Archer-Klein**, *Pastor for the Interim* at Urban Grace Tacoma.

Thank You for having served with us **Stan Smith** as you retire from *Panther Lake Community Church* as of December 1, 2012.

Perla's Pearls

(Continued from page 1)

by Dr. Marcia Patton, Executive Minister and Clem Winbush as staff. The executive committee is formed to reflect the racial diversity of Evergreen.

One of the agenda items is concerns from the chairperson. In our last meeting, a concern from the chairperson was shared about what we do and do not do at these meetings. A discussion ensued about how much

"direct: programming the Executive Committee should and should not do. Do we stimulate, oversee the group or what? Are we being effective as a committee or going through the motions?" (from the committee minutes). The questions raised will be ongoing concerns for the members of the executive committee.

The monthly meetings include: worship, minutes review, finance report, status reports on Association priorities, agenda for the associa-

continued

tion board meeting, executive minister's report, chair concerns, calendar for 2012, for the good of the order, reflectively answering the question, "How or where have you seen God at work during this meeting?, or What did you learn?, and prayer time for Evergreen.

We work to do our best to honor God, enhance the ministry of Evergreen, and to bear fruit in every good work!

Youth Invited to Apply for Regional Youth Rep to 2013 Mission Summit

Youth from Evergreen member churches are encouraged to consider being a Regional Youth Representative to the 2013 Mission Summit (formerly called the Biennial) in Overland Park, Kansas (suburb of Kansas City) on June 21-23, 2013.

The age requirement for applying to this program is students who have completed their sophomore year of high school through those who finished their freshman year of college in 2012.

The American Baptist family meets nationally every two years. To insure the voice of our youth is heard, every ABCUSA region is en-

couraged to send two youth as delegates to represent their churches and regions at the biennial gathering.

Being a Regional Youth Representative (RYR) is a great opportunity to meet other American Baptist youth, get to know the larger American Baptist family, learn how the denomination works together, and speak to the concerns and future of the denomination.

Last year, at the Biennial gathering, American Baptists changed the structure of the organization—changing the way we do our work together. And now that gathering is called the Mis-

sion Summit. The hope is that we will be better able to hear the voices of the people and be intentional about the inclusion of all the generations of God's people.

As a delegate, participants will be able to influence future decisions of ABCUSA, and as a Regional Youth Representative, get a chance to meet missionaries, pastors, denominational staff and more. Youth Representatives will also be able to participate in a mission project.

Do you know a young person in your church who meets the age criteria and would be willing to participate in the RYR program at the Mission Summit in Overland Park, Kansas?

Contact Clem (clemeba@comcast.net; 253-859-2226) at the Evergreen Office for the application process or for further information.

Just For Fun—Check out the videos below:

Curtis' new song about writing sermons

<http://you.be/ZaBLwzBXaQk>

Curtis' Euro Caucus Song

http://youtu.be/w_dKSluqcXQ

Curtis' Mama Don't Let Your Babies Grow Up to be Preachers

<http://youtu.be/TqPyr4w-CQ8>

Car Located for Roberta to Use in the Seattle Area!

Our prayers and efforts to identify a vehicle for Missionary Roberta Stephens while she will be serving in the Seattle Area, have been answered!

We received the following excerpted note: "We have located a car for Roberta to use while she's here. My daughter has a friend whose home base is the Seattle area, but she teaches during the school

year in Alaska. [She] ...would be happy to let Roberta borrow her car..." Thank you to each person who has prayed for the solution to this concern and to Kelly for her generosity.

Churches: There's still time to return your 2011 Annual Reports!

Thank you to the following churches who to-date have submitted the Annual Report on-line or completed and returned it by mail:

1. Good Shepherd Baptist Church
2. First Baptist Church-Salt Lake City
3. Grace Baptist Church—Tacoma
4. Burien Community Church
5. Urban Grace—The Down-

town Church

6. Japanese Baptist Church
7. University Baptist Church
8. Shell Ridge Community Church
9. First Baptist Church—Seattle
10. **Oaklake Baptist Church**
11. **Fremont Baptist Church**
12. **Burton Community Church**

13. **Panther Lake Community Church**

Church leader: If your church's name does not appear on this list, please go to: annualreport.abcis.org and submit your church's 2011 Annual Report.

Remember, the Annual Reports is an important commitment to the health of the denominational church body.

Transformed by the Spirit Report

As this Newsletter is being sent, Marcia and Clem are in Chicago for continuing training as *Transformed by the Spirit* Coaches. Meanwhile three teams are gearing up as *Action Learning Teams* (ALT) and one more *Adaptive Challenge Team* (ACT) is being formed in California.

Action Learning Team (ALTs)

Evergreen Deepening Relationship Team facilitated by Ken Curl is in the process of adding team members. If you think you might like to serve, contact Ken, Clem (253-859-2226) or Marcia

Church Leadership Team facilitated by Nancy Darnell is also in the process of adding team members in addition to Judy Gay, Walter Heyman and Cathy Kernen. If you think you might like to be a part of this team, please contact Nancy or Marcia.

The Church Growth Team facilitated by Marcia Patton continues to meet via SKYPE. Team members are: Greg Ledbetter, Chris Shade, Curtis Price, Jodie Tooley, Daryl Lavway and Chris Boyer.



Adaptive Challenge Team (ACT):

A new ACT is being formed in the Bay Area titled, Doing Church in a Multi-Region Land. It is being co-facilitated by Micky Holmes and Rick Mixon. They are seeking local church representatives from the churches that make up the various Regions represented in the greater Bay area.

Celebrate Hispanic Heritage Month
September 15 - October 15, 2012



Missionary to Japan on Home Assignment September—November



Roberta Stephens, Missionary to Japan will be on home assignment in the Pacific NW

from September—November, 2012.

Congregations and small groups interested in hearing about Roberta's ministry are encouraged to contact Terri Simpkins (terrisimp@aol.com or 206-399-0029) to schedule a visit.

WBC Biennial Meeting at Panther Lake Community

The Washington Baptist Convention (WBC) Biennial Meeting 2012 will be held at Panther Lake Community Church, 10630 SE 204th, Kent WA 98031 beginning with lunch at 12:00 Noon on September 15, 2012.

The gathering will include the Total Experience Gospel Choir in concert at 1 PM.

Member churches should have received a letter outlining representation and reservation information. You may note that the newly revised by-laws now allow vote by proxy.

This biennial agenda calls for the election of officers and board members and reports from the camps.

American Baptist Churches in Washington and North Idaho are members of the WBC; be sure your church is represented.

ABSW Says Thanks



Evergreen Association is in receipt of a letter from American Baptist Seminary of the West Vice President

Michelle Homes, which reads, in part:

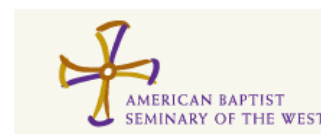
"...We are grateful for your association's gift of \$424.74 (4% of your combined United Mission giving goes to ABSW

each month) to the Annual Fund as we begin our 141st academic year. We look forward to the future due to the support of our ministry partners.

Our academic program continues to expand under the direction of our Dean, Dr. LeAnn Snow Flesher. Currently we are in conversation with the American Baptist Churches of the Rocky Moun-

tains to have a certificate program in their region. Plans for a Doctor of Ministry cohort in the Los Angeles area are also in formation. We are excited about these opportunities to serve our constituents and to provide educational resources to further their ministries.

On behalf of our students and faculty, thank you, for your generous support...."



IMMERSE: Upclose and Personal



A sister-duo from Wedgwood Community Church, and a group of 13 from First Baptist Church- Salt Lake City represented Evergreen Association churches in the five-day, 18 hours per day, IMMERSE experience in Washington DC immersed in the presence of God on the American University campus. Also from the great Northwest, was our neighbor and friends from Chinese Baptist Church—one youth and one adult.



Youth representatives from churches in the northwest were blessed to do two days of mission work together: Mission Day One was a field day with the residents of an apartment complex, where we had lunch together, then spent the next sev-

eral hours painting faces, playing games, joining some boys in watching for the new kittens to come from their hiding place, designing t-shirts, washing feet and then presenting the one with washed feet a new pair of shoes (provided through Samari-



tan 's Feet, another organization who served in conjunction with us).

Mission Day Two involved gleaning corn which would be used to feed the hungry in their urban settings.

Other groups spent one day with the elderly, playing video games with them, reading o them, delivering groceries, or cleaning the neighborhood slew to encourage the wildlife, and on the second mission day, they gleaned collard greens. Ask

any of the youth about “gleaning”.

In addition, Immerse featured worship with nationally recognized guest speakers, cluster and small group discussions and a prayer walk on the National Mall. More than 1,000 youth and their adult leaders attended and worshiped together. Evening worship included three altar calls: 1) those committed to following Christ for life, 2) those called to ministry, and 3) those who re-dedicated their lives to Jesus.



General Secretary, Roy Medley, addresses youth at Immerse

Youth and adults alike were among the 220 individuals who came forward during altar calls. They received counseling that night and were invited to a Respondents' Breakfast the next morning.

Thank you to our back-home support groups and church families for your prayers and support which allowed us this awesome time with God and each other.

EVERGREEN ASSOCIATION OF AMERICAN BAPTIST CHURCHES
2012 ANNUAL MEETING “Go and do likewise” Luke 10:37b

OCTOBER 11-13, 2012

Mount Zion Baptist Church, 1634 19th Avenue, Seattle WA 98122

REGISTRATION FORM

Please mail the completed form (and applicable fees) to: Evergreen Association of ABC, 409 Third Avenue S., Suite A, Kent WA 98032-5843. Checks and/or money orders should be made payable to Evergreen Association-ABC.

Name _____ Church Name _____

Street Address _____ City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Email Address _____ Telephone _____

- I will need baby sitting for _____ child(ren); age(s) _____, _____, _____.
- I will participate in the Sacred Conversation, Seattle First Baptist, October 11, 7 PM.

	Cost	Total
<input type="checkbox"/> I am a DELEGATE (Representative Voice for my Church)		
Delegate Registration Fee	\$10.00	\$ _____

MEAL REGISTRATION

	Cost	Total
<u>Friday, October 12, 2012</u>		
Ministers Council Lunch/Meeting	\$10.00	\$ _____
Laity Lunch	\$10.00	\$ _____
Dinner	\$20.00	\$ _____
<u>Saturday, October 13, 2012</u>		
Box Lunch	\$10.00	\$ _____
Total Meals		\$ _____

TOTAL DELEGATE AND MEAL FEES ENCLOSED \$ _____

Registration Deadline: October 4, 2012



EVERGREEN ASSOCIATION OF AMERICAN BAPTIST CHURCHES

2012 ANNUAL MEETING “Go and do likewise” Luke 10:37b

Annual Meeting

Evergreen Association of American Baptist Churches

Mount Zion Baptist Church

Rev. Aaron Williams, Pastor
1634 19th Avenue, Seattle WA 98122

October 11-13, 2012

SCHEDULE

THURSDAY

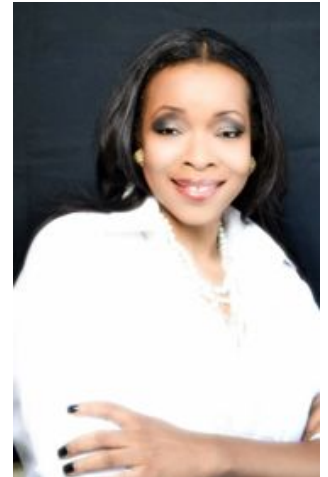
7:00 PM Sacred Conversation (Please register)— Place: First Baptist Church, 1111 Harvard Avenue, Seattle WA 98122

FRIDAY

9:00 AM Ministerial Standards and Concerns Committee Meeting
9:00 AM Caucus Leaders' Meeting
11:00 AM Registration Opens
12:00 NOON — Minister's Council Luncheon (tickets available for purchase)
12:00 NOON — Laity Luncheon (tickets available for purchase)
1:00 PM “THE EVERGREEN WAY” Workshop
2:00 PM Workshop Period 1: Choose one
Intro to Technology in the 21st Century Church
Consensus Building
3:45 PM Workshop Period 2: Choose one
Haiti Mission Trip
Transformed by the Spirit
5:15 PM Break
5:30 PM Dinner (tickets available for purchase)
7:00 PM Worship

SATURDAY

8:00 AM Registration Opens
8:30 AM Agenda Review
9:00 AM Caucuses Meet—Part I
10:30 AM Worship
12:00 NOON Lunch (tickets available for purchase)
1:00 PM Caucuses Meet—Part II
2:00 PM Business Session



Featured Preacher

Rev. Dr. Jacqueline A. Thompson
Assistant Pastor



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American Baptist
Churches**

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Kaleidoscope Institute NW—Holy Currencies



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An ecumenical group of clergy and lay persons representing American Baptists, Lutherans, United Methodists, Universalists and Episcopalians from across the United States and Canada spent the week of August 20th at Rainbow Lodge, North Bend WA, in a training session led by the Rev. Dr. Eric Law of Kaleidoscope Institute.

The title of the training was Holy Currencies, where the focus was on the six currencies for a sustainable ministry: time and place, gracious leadership, relationship, truth, wellness and money.

In addition to learning how to assess value to the ministries in which leaders are already involved, there was planning

for intentional stewardship of newly identified currencies.



A New Heaven and A New Earth Cultural Competency Training for the Northwest

Lay and Clergy Leaders, Congregations whose communities are becoming more diverse, who are sharing or contemplating sharing facilities, persons **ministering** cross culturally and persons who are **curious about**

their own blocks to embracing diversity are invited to experience *A New Heaven and A New Earth*.

The next two opportunities to participate in this training will be September 29, 2012 at First United Methodist Church of Olympia, and/or October 20, 2012 at Sunny-

side United Methodist Church.

For registration info visit www.pnwumc.org and click “Training Events”, then “A New Heaven and A New Earth”, or call Lyda Barr, 206 -870-6802

The Evergreen Family Extends Sympathy to the Families of:



Rod Romney—former pastor of Seattle First Baptist Church; Memorial services were held at FBC-Arco ID, Lake Shore Baptist and Seattle First Baptist Church



Amos Landry—former pastor of Peoples Institutional Baptist Church; Memorial Service held at PIBC on August 25, 2012



Louise McKinney—wife of Rev. Dr. Samuel Berry McKinney; Memorial Service scheduled for August 31, 2012



Paul Melvin Martin II—43 year old son of ABSW President, Dr. Paul Martin and his wife, Dr. Agnes Martin; Services held August 9th in Los Angeles CA



Antonio Dion Harris—the youngest(37 years old) brother of Clem Winbush. Dion's tragic death occurred on August 23, 2012 while engaged in his favorite pastime—race car driving.

ABHMS Free Resources Can Ease Church-Year Planning

VALLEY FORGE, PA (ABNS 8/22/12)—As you look ahead to the upcoming church year, make your planning easier with free downloadable Workshops for Church Life and Leadership from American Baptist Home Mission Societies (ABHMS). The 51 offerings include nine in Spanish, three in French and 12 in Karen.

“These resources cover a variety of subjects from discipleship-formation to American Baptist heritage,” says the Rev. Cassandra Williams, Ed.D., ABHMS national coordinator, Discipleship Resource Development. “Several are multisession topical studies suitable for small groups, including two developed spe-

cifically for youth. Others are designed for leadership training ...”

The newest offering—“Naturally Creating Community”—is based on the Judson Press book “Got Style? Personality-based Evangelism” by Jeffrey D. Johnson, Ph.D., ABHMS national coordinator, Evangelism and New Church Planting. It will be available for download in November. To download workshops, visit ABHMS’ website at www.abhms.org and click on “Workshops for Church Life & Leadership.” Hard copy can be requested from karen.drummond@abhms.org or 800-222-3874, x2394.

If you would like to suggest a topic or are interested in writing a workshop, please contact Williams at cassandra.williams@abhms.org or 800-222-3874, x2459.



This year's Baptist Peace Fellowship of North America (BPFNA) summer conference was held July 30-August 4 at St. Olaf College in Northfield, Minnesota.

During this annual gathering of over 225 people, we sought to encourage each other and learn more about doing the work of justice and compassion.

Equanimity and working for social justice. We sometimes think that the angrier we are about injustice, the more effective we will be in the "fight" against oppression and unjust systems. In her Monday evening keynote address, Cheri Mables explained that it doesn't work that way, that peace cannot be done out of anger. "Peace in one's own heart is a prerequisite to providing true justice and compassion to others." The idea that "someone else needs to change" is not productive.

Communities that work. Our Bible study leader was the Rev. Michael-Ray Mathews, whom many of us in Evergreen already knew. He was pastor at Grace Baptist Church in San Jose be-

fore joining People Improving Communities through Organizing (PICO) full time. He emphasized that to do ministry and outreach, we want to listen to people rather than assume we know what they want or need. He mentioned Evergreen as a positive example. Instead of the dominant group setting the agenda and then inviting dialogue with other groups, the system is set up so that various ethnicities are part of the table and involved in setting the agenda.

Chocolate and working for human dignity. In 2001 chocolate companies fought federal legislation that would have forced them to label their products with "no child labor" labels. They agreed to a voluntary protocol to end abusive and forced child labor on cocoa farms by 2005. This was pushed back to 2008 and then 2010. As part of the afternoon film series, we watched the 2010 documentary "The Dark Side of Chocolate" (<http://documentaryheaven.com/the-dark-side-of-chocolate/>), which shows that African children as young as 8 years old are still

forced to work on cocoa farms in the Ivory Coast.

Investments in keeping with our values. We pretty much know how to give money away in accordance with our values as followers of Christ. But how do we invest money held in reserve so that its use reflects our values? For example, we presumably want to put our money in banks that make loans to low-income persons, that have branch banks in low-income neighborhoods, and that loan money to small businesses. We were challenged to think about how to put these values into practice rather than simply seeking to maximize return on investment.

Looking ahead to next year. Please save the date for next year's conference. It is planned for July 15-20, 2013 on the campus of Gonzaga University, within walking distance (if you're under 30) of downtown Spokane and its Riverfront Park. We will have the benefit of spending time with others who are seeking to live out peace and social justice.

Haiti Missionaries Available to Share First-Hand Experiences

As charged by IM Missionaries Nzunga and Kihomi and hosts, Executive Secretary Mano and his wife Mama Jo of the Haitian Baptist convention "to tell their story", grateful missionaries are sharing what was experienced in Haiti during the

mission trip in April 2012.

You are asked to prayerfully consider where there may be space in your church's teaching to learn about the fate of our neighbors in Haiti.

Also, please consider being a part of an April 2013

return visit to our sisters and brothers in Cap Haitien, Haiti.

Contact Keith Madsen at drkmad2006@yahoo.com or 425-392-6447 or Clem Winbush at clem@ea-abc.org or 253-859-2226 to schedule a time to hear about Haiti.

Clergy & Spouse Dinner Cruise



The Smiles Tell It All! Thank you SBU!

Baptists Lunching Together

BLT meets at 12 noon, Grand Lake Gardens, 401 Santa Clara Avenue, Oakland and Rick Mixon, panelists.

September 19—Robert Wilkins

October 17—A Panel: “Gay Clergy”, Jim Hopkins, Moderator; Esther Hargis, Wally Bryen

Celebrate Hispanic Heritage Month!

September 15th through October 15th

is

HISPANIC HERITAGE MONTH

The Hispanic Caucus of the Evergreen Association invites you to celebrate with us and to raise awareness of the issues that affect our communities as well as to raise funds for our work with the Hispanic community in the Region.

The theme for the 2012 Hispanic Heritage Month is:

*Many backgrounds, **Many stories...***

One American Spirit

HOW CAN YOUR CHURCH BE INVOLVED?

- Designate a Sunday or a mid-week worship service during this month to celebrate Hispanic culture and traditions
- Collect an offering for the Hispanic Caucus of the Evergreen Region
- Host a meal, celebration, fair or special event with your local Hispanic communities

If your church wants to join in the celebration, there will be liturgical resources available in English and Spanish. Contact Rev. J. Manny Santiago at pastor@ubcseattle.org

For information on nationwide events, check out www.hispanicheritagemonth.gov

Evergreen Association of American Baptist Churches

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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.



Rev. Dr. Marcia J. Patton
Executive Minister

Building Bridges, Resourcing Churches & Translating Our Unity

Calendar of Upcoming Events

SEPTEMBER

5—Executive Committee Meeting, Seattle First Baptist Church, 6:00 PM

15—Hispanic Heritage Month Celebration, New Beginnings Christian Fellowship, 11 AM

15—WBC Biennial Meeting, Panther Lake Community Church, 12 Noon

30—Mike Stern Concert at Japanese Baptist Church 3 PM

OCTOBER 11-13, 2012 - ANNUAL MEETING, Mount Zion Baptist Church, Rev. Jacquie Thompson, Associate at

Allen Temple Baptist Church, preaching

21—Café 34:8 Asian Caucus Scholarship Fundraiser, 4 PM

SAVE THE 2013 DATES:

January 21—MLK Day Service (details to come)

March 31—Easter Community Sunrise Service

June 21-23, 2013—Mission Summit, ABCUSA Biennial, Overland Park, Kansas (*Rev. Dr. Braxton is on the Program*)



Planning Committee.)

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.