



Evergreen Notes

Evergreen Association of American Baptist Churches

Volume 10, Issue 12

For unto us a Child is born, Unto us a Savior is given

Isaiah 9:6

Rev. Dr. Cheryl Dudley, Keynote Speaker for the Martin Luther King, Jr. Day Worship Service

The “beloved community” (that’s you) is invited to join together for the Annual MLK Day Worship Service to be held at New Beginning Christian Fellowship, 19300 108th Ave. SE, Kent WA 98031 at 6 PM.

The Rev. Cheryl Dudley, D.Min., Senior Advisor to the Executive Director & CEO of Church World Ser-



vice (Specialization in Mission and Theology) will be our preacher for the service. Some of you will remember that Cheryl preached for our Annual Meeting

in 2006, and this writer can still hear “Brick by Brick, Stone by Stone”! She will bring a message by which to live.

A New Beginning Christian Fellowship Choir will also be a part of the worship service.

See you there.



Thank You for Teaching Me So Much

by Ken Curl



Ken Curl, Evergreen Chair

I thank all of you for

teaching me so much by giving me the opportunity to lead this wonderful association and ministry. Yes, Evergreen is both an association and a ministry. It is an as-

sociation because we choose to come together as a collective to do our work. The Bible says that where two or three are gathered in [His] name

(Continued on page 2)


Inside this issue:

<i>Events & Happenings Around the Association</i>	2
<i>Puzzle Poster Available for Member Churches</i>	4
<i>Missionaries, Borquists, Available to Seattle - Area Churches</i>	4
<i>BTS Partners w/ FBC Palo Alto in Mission Outreach</i>	5
<i>The Influence of ...Nzunga & Kihomi</i>	6
<i>MMBB Reports Average ABCUSA Compensation</i>	8
<i>Bacone Scholarship Opportunities</i>	8

Pray for these Churches:


- *Wedgwood Community*
- *San Leandro Community*
- *New Community of Faith*
- *Japanese Baptist*
- *Burien Community*

Events & Happenings Around the Association

 **GRACE BAPTIST CHURCH**, 2507 N. Vas-sault, Tacoma WA 98406, invites all women and girls to their **ANNUAL WOMEN'S CHRISTMAS TEA**, December 10, 2011 @ 12:00 noon. Come join the singing, conversation and fun. Bring a wrapped \$1.00 gift and participate in the gift exchange. RSVP @ (253)752-6643 or Jackie Williams @ (253)906-7565 and leave a message that you plan to attend.

We should be glad and celebrate. ~Luke 15:32

 **SEATTLE FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH** **Labyrinth Ministry**—private reflection; meditative walking; and personal contemplation. Open 6 to 8 PM every second Sunday through May 2012, with the exception of New Year's Day 2012. Enter at the lower Seneca doors.

 **MARTIN LUTHER KING JR. MEMORIAL BAPTIST CHURCH**, Renton, WA, invites you to celebrate with them, their 35th Church Anniversary, Sunday, February 26, 2012 3:00 PM MLK Youth will offer an anniversary celebration worship service on Friday night, February 24, 2012 at 7PM. Please save the dates and plan to attend.

Thank You

continued

(Continued from page 1)

there too shall [He] be. This saying has been confirmed for me many times in the gifts that I have received through Evergreen. Gifts like relationships that I never would have experienced had it not been for Evergreen. Gifts like receiving and answering God's call to Christian ministry. Gifts like enhancing my leadership skills.

The ministry of Evergreen became clear to me through such work of our churches as feeding the low-income and homeless, housing people, and helping children learn to read. If I tried to mention all the ministries undertaken by our churches it would fill up this entire newsletter.

I am reminded of these ministries when I look at the poster of the puzzle tiles that

churches brought to the 2011 Annual Meeting. What a tribute to Evergreen and us allowing God to work through us!

As I look back over our accomplishments it makes my heart joyful. I know I haven't said it enough, so once again, thank you for teaching me so much.

Ken

Lavway and Eccleston Participate in a Pastoral Exchange

Rev. Daryl Lavway, pastor of Grace Baptist Church, San Jose CA is currently pastoring in Australia and the Grace Baptist Church is being led by Rev. Cameron Eccleston of Kiama Baptist Ministries.

We hope to hear from both pastors about their experiences and learnings from this exchange.



Executive Committee at Bush Garden celebrating God's goodness in 2011 and anticipating His Grace in 2012.

Ebene-zer Celebrates A Long-Awaited Baptism After Pastor Guadalupe Vasquez is Installed



SBU Annual Meeting



Terri Simpkins & Pres. Judy Gay

Seattle Baptist Union held its Annual Meeting/Dinner on Friday, November 11, 2011,

at the Seattle First Baptist Church.

Forty-six representatives from 17 member churches enjoyed a dinner and participated in the annual business meeting.

During the 2011 year, SBU granted or gifted the MLK Rites of Passage, Community Mental Health Services, the Pastors/Spouse Dinner Cruise, Washington Associa-

tion of Churches (WAC) and Faith Action Network (FAN) - newly formed by the merger of WAC and the Lutheran Public Policy Office (LPPO), and support to the ministries of Evergreen Association—ABC.

Also at this Annual Meeting, SBU recognized Terri Simpkins for 22 years of service as SBU's Bookkeeper.

Burton Community Church Calls Bruce Chittick as Pastor



The Burton Community Church on Vashon Island has called the

Rev. Bruce Chittick as Pastor. Bruce began his work with the church on November 6, 2011.

Please note that an installation service is scheduled for Sunday, January 22, 2012 at

3 PM, and you are invited to attend.

Puzzle Poster Available for Member Churches - Get Your Copy

We have a poster for your church. We can mail it to you, or if you'd like someone to come to present it to your congregation, please let us know.

Each church was asked to complete a tile representative of your church and its ministries, which many churches did. Some churches are working to complete their tile and others have yet to begin the project.

In an effort to share how the puzzle has come together to-date, we have made poster-sized copies (20 x 30) of the initial puzzle. We hope your church will be encouraged by its contribution to the



whole picture of the work God is doing through us and challenged to do more. If your church has not yet completed its tile, we hope you will see that the picture is not complete without you and

be encouraged to complete your tile to fill your place in the family picture.

Contact clemeba@comcast.net or telephone 253-859-2226.

Japanese Baptist Church Interim Pastor: Brooks Andrews

On behalf of the Diaconate of Japanese Baptist Church, Peter Yukawa, Moderator, announced that Reverend E. Brooks Andrews has been called and installed as the Interim Senior Minister to guide the church until a new Senior Minister is called.

Rev. Andrews grew up as a part of JBC "during its most difficult time". His father was pastor while members were interned during WWII. Brooks returned in recent years and has been an active member of the church's ministry.

During morning worship service on December 4th Brooks was installed as Interim Senior Pastor, and a reception followed.



Missionaries, the Borquists, Available to Speak at Seattle Area Churches



International Ministries Missionaries Bruce and Ann Borquist currently serve in Brazil and are on home as-

signment from December through February.

The Borquists are residing in Bremerton and are willing to speak with your congregation as pulpit fill or to small groups during the week.

Please contact them by email at borquist4all@gmail.com or via telephone: Ann 360-908-0174 or Bruce 360-908-0175.

While the Borquists will not return to their Brazil assignment until May, much of March will be spent in Myanmar and April will be a time of preparation for the return.

You may also contact clemeba@comcast.net or 253-859-2226 for assistance in extending an invitation to one or both of the Borquists.

ABSW Shares Gratitude for Your Support

We are in receipt of two letters dated October 20 and November 17 from American Baptist Seminary of the West (ABSW) Vice President Michelle Holmes and President and Professor of Pastoral Theology, Dr. Paul Martin, respectively, expressing thanksgiving for your gifts of \$384.37 in October and \$505.26 in November.

“The classroom environment,” shares Vice President Holmes, “is enhanced by the

cultural diversity of our students who share out of their life experiences and faith journeys. ..In the course of interpreting a well known Biblical text, the students became teachers to each other as they shared from their own experiences and in so doing, opened their peers to a new understanding of God’s grace. The classroom was no longer simply a room to impart theological education; it had become a laboratory for minis-

try”.

And President Martin in part, concludes his letter with the following words, “...I am overjoyed at the wonderful people who continue to support the efforts of our great institution by providing these magnificent gifts for the continuing work of our institution. ..”

NOTE: *Four per cent (4%) of your monthly giving through United Mission supports ABSW.*

BTS Partners with First Baptist Church—Palo Alto in Mission Outreach

Balasure Technical School (BTS) sent a \$2,000 donation to be added to the mission outreach funds of First Baptist Church Palo Alto (FBCPA. Ramesh Kumar, BTS Principal, and Rev. Samaresh Nayak, head of Bengal-Orissa-Bihar Baptist Churches, visited Palo Alto on their way home from attending a Baptist World Alliance meeting in July 2010. *"I have seen your outreach work while I was in the USA last year,* Ramesh said.

The Mission Task Team, asked by the Council to decide how to use the funds, made this decision:

1. \$500 was given to the Opportunity Center (along with our September outreach offering), which BTS had visited and met the Director, Mr. Dah.
2. \$500 will be given to Ecumeni-

cal Hunger Program in November along with our offerings, noting its source.

3. A \$500 donation has been made to UCCM at Stanford with an explanation about its for-credit class on Liberation Theology and the annual trip to El Salvador for students, the campus minister, and a Memorial Church Dean. UCCM also encourages students to work on a Stanford student Habitat project. (They had seen a Habitat project of FBCPA.)

The President of UCCM Board wrote about this gift: *"How wonderful! To think that our ministry at Stanford is receiving financial support from a school in India -- this sort of serendipity could not be made up! 'BTS wants to be on the giving end as well as the receiving end' -- How inspirational!"*.

4. A \$500 gift will make it possible for FBCPA to offer financial support in 2012 to both Dan & Sarah Chetti in Lebanon and Dan Buttry, peace advocate. The Chettis are natives of India and Dan Chetti lived in Calcutta when his father taught there. Dan Buttry visited Orissa twice in 2008 during a period of violence against Christians and also participated in interfaith workshops in Balasure in 2011. The Chettis and Buttry will be informed That BTS is the source of the financial support.

After reading about the uses of the gifts Ramesh wrote in a recent email: *"thanks for the information about the utility of our contribution. We are thankful to God that He is using our small contribution in a bigger and meaningful way."*

Volume 10, Issue 12

Page 5

The Influence of Long Term Missionaries—Nzunga & Kihomi Part I

Report from Dennis Shewell, MPT
Team Leader for Nzunga & Kihomi

I just returned from Haiti where I led a group of 10 others to learn first hand about Nzunga and Kihomi's ministry there. We had a diverse group ranging in age from 26 to 75. Five ABC churches were represented along with one Catholic church, one large New Albany IN church and one large Louisville KY church.

We were met at the airport in Cap-Haitian by Nzunga after a 2 1/2 hour flight from Ft Lauderdale. Nzunga wore a badge that allowed him access to anywhere in the airport. As friends of Nzunga we were quickly put thru customs and out of the airport. Our baggage arrived four hours later on another flight but again since we were with Nzunga there was no checking of bags and no fees.

For the remainder of the trip, again and again this was played out, we were met by his past students in their long sleeve shirts and ties...a status symbol that you are a college grad and have a position of responsibility. At the schools we visited, the new hospital being built, when we were at the border of the Dominican Republic it was the same; special privileges for friends of Nzunga.

Kihomi's work with the women of the Haitian Baptist Convention was also evident everywhere. Whenever we introduced Papa Fred, the husband of Mama Sharon, who supports Kihomi's work by sending large amounts of items that can not be purchased in Haiti or the ladies can't afford them if they were, many would hold up something they had received from her or point to their clothing.

It seemed as if we could not

go anywhere, even driving down the street, that there would not be someone shouting a greeting to one or both of them.

In a country that it is easy to see the overwhelming problems, what a wonderful testimony of goodwill and love they have created in northern Haiti. Who they are and what they stand for was evident from the time we landed to when we left.

Smiles, hugs and joyous welcomes everywhere!

NOTE: The Evergreen Mission Trip to Haiti (April 20—29, 2012) is still on! And there's still time for you to join us.

So send your \$100.00 deposit to 409 Third Avenue S, Suite A, Kent WA.

Go to www.ea-abc.org or call Keith Madsen at 425-392-6447 for more details!

'Transformed by the Spirit' Coaches Training

Marcia Patton and Clem Winbush attended the initial Transformed by the Spirit Coaches Training in Chicago on November 30—December 1, 2011.

This training is part of the preparation for the ABCUSA initiative inviting local churches to walk through a process wherein congrega-

tions ask themselves, "*What ministry challenges are we currently facing, for which we do not presently have an answer, but which must be addressed if we are to live into God's future for us?*"

Adaptive Challenge Team (s) will be formed to examine the ministry challenge and identify what is the adaptive chal-

lenge lying beneath.

When that work is done, an Action Learning Team will initiate experiments to address the discovered adaptive challenges.

All the while each of us will be listening for the leading of the Holy Spirit regarding the change (s) we face.

Your Contributions to Evergreen Association—ABC are Appreciated and Make the Ministries We Do Together, Possible. Thank You.



Baptist Joint Committee Essay Contest

Entries are now being accepted for the **2012 Religious Liberty Essay Scholarship Contest**, sponsored by the Religious Liberty

Council of the Baptist Joint Committee.

In an essay, examine the role religion should play during a presidential campaign.

For more information, contact Cherilyn Crowe at 202-544-4226 or by e-mail at ccrowe@BJCOnline.org, or go to www.bjconline.org

Last Meeting of ABHMS's 35—Member Board

VALLEY FORGE, PA (ABNS 11/21/11)—In a historic American Baptist moment in time, the Board of National Ministries met for the last time in Orlando, Fla., Nov. 16-18, in accordance with American Baptist Churches USA (ABCUSA) by-law changes passed in June at Biennial meetings in San Juan, Puerto Rico. The current 35-member board will be reorganized with 16 members as the Board of Directors of American Baptist Home Mission Societies (ABHMS), as of January 1, 2012.

Members of the Board of National Ministries voted unanimously to elect directors and officers of ABHMS, recommended by the Governance Committee as follows:

Class A Directors (one year):
James H. Callaway Jr., First Baptist Church (FBC), Junction City, Kan.; Sherman L. Lambert, Purity Baptist Church, Washington, W.Va.; Kevin “Scotty” Robertson, FBC, Grantsville, W.Va.; Eleanor Siegrist, FBC,

Hollidaysburg, Pa.; Laura Sinclair, Parkchester Baptist Church, Bronx, N.Y.; and Wallace C. Smith, Shiloh Baptist Church, Washington, D.C.;
Class B Directors (two years):
Kenneth R. Board, Pilgrim Baptist Church, Rockford IL; Garth E. Brokaw, Lake Avenue Baptist Church, Rochester NY; Wendy J. Hagn (secretary 2012-2014), FBC, Franklin IN; Clifford I. Johnson (president 2012-2014), Shiloh Baptist Church, Wilmington, DE; Jay Rambo, FBC, Bordentown NJ; Robert C. Scott, Central Baptist Church, St. Louis MO; and
Class C Directors (three years): Lois M. Chiles (vice president 2012-2014), FBC, Leavenworth, KS; David C. Gregg, Grace Baptist Church, Chicago IL; Antonio L. Lombardi, Church of the Master, Providence, RI; and Brazilian Thurman (Finance Committee Chair 2012), Calvary Baptist Church, Milwaukee, WI.

...Executive Director Aids and F. Wright-Riggins III pointed out the theme of the meeting—“Engaging Discipleship: Open Eyes, Hearts and

Hands” (Mark 10:46-52), inspired by the upcoming America for Christ (AFC) Offering theme—lifts up the ABHMS mission of helping people equip themselves to live as disciples in their daily lives. “We really do need to be engaged in partnership with local churches to call forth missionaries who do mission in their communities,” he said.

In a closing worship service of thanksgiving and commissioning, board members were invited to celebrate and affirm three intentions: to follow Christ more nearly, love Christ more dearly and incarnate Christ more clearly; and to ask three daily questions: How shall I follow Christ today? How can I demonstrate compassion to people and creation today? How can I practice the presence of Christ right here and right now?

MMBB Reports Average ABCUSA Compensation Increases Nearly 1%

NEW YORK, NY, November 10, 2011 – The Ministers and Missionaries Benefit Board (“MMBB”) has finalized the results of its 2011 compensation analysis. The study found that the average compensation among American Baptist Churches USA pastors was \$52,446. This represents a nearly 1% increase over the 2010 average of \$52,028.

“While the year-over-year increase may seem low, we believe that our churches are compensating at appropriate levels given the state of the economy and the impact this

has had on church giving,” noted Reverend Dr. Perry Hopper, MMBB’s associate executive director and head of denominational relations. “This annual compensation study is just one of the ways MMBB works to promote interest in the better maintenance of the ministry.”

To focus on full-time pastors, the study included those with reported compensation greater than \$12,000. A chart detailing the comparison from 2010 to 2011 by region is also available upon request.

“Understanding average compensation is important, espe-

cially in these challenging economic times, for both churches and for pastors,” explained Rev. Dr. Hopper. “ABCUSA and church leaders use our compensation analysis to determine fair compensation for their pastoral leaders.”

FOR MORE INFORMATION, please contact:

Perry Hopper - 212-870-8025
or perry.hopper@mmbb.org

NOTE: *Evergreen’s average compensation grew from \$61,118 in 2010 to \$62,059 in 2011 or a 1.5% increase.*

Center for Christian Ministry Scholarship Opportunities at Bacone

Greetings in Christ from Bacone College, part of the ABC family of colleges and universities for over 131 years, with a historic mission to American Indians.

Bacone’s Center for Christian Ministry offers the following Scholarship Opportunities:

Christian Ministry Learning Work Community Scholarship—100% of tuition, room,

and board for children of ABC paid staff members and students who are members of churches affiliated with the ABC Caucuses.

Christian Ministry Students of Promise—100% of tuition only for any resident Christian ministry major.

Christian Clubs Scholarships—35% of tuition, room, and board for students who partici-

pate in Gospel Choir, Praise Team, or Worship Art Clubs.

For more information contact Rev. Dr. Leroy W. Thompson, 918-360-9694, thompsol@bacone.edu or Rev. Dr. Stephen Wiley, 918-360-3763, wileys@bacone.edu

Baptist Lunching Together— UPDATE

January 18, 2012—*Women’s Role in Ministry in 2012*, Katie Choy-Wong, Micky Holmes, Liliana DaValle and Barbara Bowman

Monday, February 6, 2012—Interaction with Roy Medley, General Secretary, ABCUSA (Note the date change)

Saturday, May 12, 2012—Spring Conference.

(Meeting at 12:15 PM, Grand Lake Gardens *unless otherwise noted*)

For reservations contact Joan Thatcher at 510-350-7008.

NOTES ABOUT

NEW BAPTIST COVENANT II of the Northwest

I noted with great excitement that at the recent "New Baptist Covenant" meet-



ing at New Beginnings Christian Fellowship in Renton, that former President Jimmy Carter, in a video interview, was advocating for Baptists to get involved in helping Haiti. *We're right with you, President Carter!*

Excerpt from an email by Pastor Keith Madsen.



Thanks again for all the work you did on the New Baptist Covenant II conference in Renton! Don and I really appreciated the opportunity to hear the great speakers, attend the workshops, and (of course) meet you. ;-)

Please also pass on our thanks to the others who helped make this a positive experience. Thanks, Linda Watson



I want to thank you for the privilege of working with you to prepare for the Baptist Gathering that we experienced together. I am thankful for the opportunity to celebrate our collective Baptist identity and mission and to get to know you personally along the way. Chris, you did a great job leading our efforts and, David, we were blessed beyond measure by your efforts and those of your gracious congregation!.....

...interested individuals and churches can better connect with ministry leaders and representatives who can re-

source them for future ministry possibilities...

Also, ...about the informal dialogue regarding the future of the Gathering for the Northwest immediately following the last workshop session on Friday. ...

Thank you again for your commitment to Baptist life and the friendships that spring from it.

Your friend in Gresham,
Shane Kinnison
First Baptist Church

DAY OF SERVICE Thank You

I wanted to drop a note to say THANK YOU for helping at the Vision House Jacob's Well construction site last week! From what I was told,

so much was accomplished so quickly, people were able to go home early! Because of you and many others, we will be able to provide a warm, loving place where families can rebuild their lives and successfully move from desperation and homelessness to



self-sufficiency. I pray that everyone from your team had a meaningful experience helping at Vision House Jacob's Well and that you were able to find projects for everyone on your team!

Thank you so much for your love, compassion, and generosity! Wishing you a joyous holiday!

Kristi Slattery, Volunteer/
Event Coordinator



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

Return Service Requested

Non-Profit
Organization
US
PAID
Kent WA
Permit No. 451

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.



Rev. Dr. Marcia J. Patton
Executive Minister

Building Bridges, Resourcing Churches & Translating Our Unity

Calendar of Upcoming Events

MERRY CHRISTMAS AND HAPPY NEW YEAR!

JANUARY

16 —MLK Day Service, New Beginnings Christian Fellowship, 6 PM

FEBRUARY

10—11 Evergreen Leaders' Retreat, Camp Burton

March 10, 2012—Building Bridges Day, Location TBD

APRIL

April 8, 2012—Easter Sunrise

Service, St. Ignatius Chapel, Seattle University Campus, April 15-17 Ministers' Council Retreat, Camp Burton

April 20—29, 2012 Mission Trip to Haiti

May 4—6 ABW-NW Conference, Ross Point Camp

July 24—28, 2012 Immerse; ABC Youth Gathering

October 11-13, 2012 - 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.