

EVERGREEN NOTES

FEBRUARY, 2006

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ACT: ACADEMY OF CONGREGATIONAL TRANSFORMATION



You may have seen this logo around Evergreen from time to time. ACT stands for Academy of Congregational Transformation. A class of 14 people has been meeting for the last year and a half with a team of four leaders exploring how to lead a church through transformation. The group has met for five weekends a year in a two-year-long process. Their last weekend will be in April.

We will start another group in late summer or early fall. I want to urge pastors who have not participated in the program to plan now to sign up. Our weekends are all day Friday and Saturday at a church in the greater Seattle area. I would encourage all pastors to enroll or encourage your Associates and lay leaders to enroll. The price of ACT is reasonable, and we are willing to negotiate what will

work for individuals and churches.

For more information, please contact Marcia Patton (marcia@ea-abc.org) or 253-859-2226.

PRAYER CONCERNS

- Akio Yanagihara, Our Photographer
- Jose Ojeda, Pastor Confraternidad Cristiana Eben-ezer

GREETINGS TO EVERGREEN BAPTIST ASSOCIATION FAMILY AND FRIENDS PETER KOSHI



No one asked me for my credential before I was affirmed to be Chair of EBA. This has left me a bit uneasy, so I have decided to make a confession right at the "get go". I come to you as a learner, a

student, as I undertake my unexpected new assignment. There is so much about Evergreen I do not know. Yes, I can read and I can listen. These have been doing

for several months. I greatly appreciate being a part of Evergreen in preparation to taking office. What I need to learn is the vocabulary and language of EBA and to understand the terms.

(Continued on page 3)

EVENTS AT OUR CHURCHES

Labyrinth Walk February 12, **Seattle First Baptist Church**, 6—8 PM Come anytime until 7:40 PM, stay until 8 PM. Free. Enter at lower Seneca doors.

Evergreen Association Board Meeting, February 18, 2006, Wedgwood Community Church, 9 AM. Each member church should be certain your repre-

sentative is present. We plan on connecting via video conferencing with distant churches. Everyone is invited to attend .

American Baptist Women of Evergreen and Puget Sound NW Conference, April 28-30, 2006, Moses Lake WA.

Ministering in the

21st Century Conference, May 9 –12, 2006, sponsored by New Beginnings Christian Fellowship and Evergreen.

RELATED CHURCH INFO

FREE: 43 Pilgrim Hymnals, good condition. 1967 ed. Call Clem at 253-859-2226 or email: clem@ea-abc.org

Multiple copies of the **Tax Guide for Ministers**, the **Federal Reporting Requirements for Churches 2006** and the **MMBB Guide for Church-Related Employers 2006** are available for interested churches or clergy.

FRIENDS SHARING IN THE SUPPORT OF EBA

Our deepest apology for failing to include in the list published last month a consistent giver in the \$250—\$499 category:

Janet Roberts

A Statement of Contributions given directly to Evergreen has been

mailed to individuals who sent donations directly to the Evergreen offices for any tax deductions those contribution may represent to you.

If you are entitled, but did not receive a statement, please let us know by calling 253-

859-2226 or emailing clem@ea-abc.org

Thank you all again for the support given in 2005, and we invite your prayerful continued support in 2006. If you did not financially support Evergreen ministries last year , you are encouraged to begin to do so now.

Save
March 25th
for
CAUCUS TRAINING
at
Mountlake Terrace
9 AM—5 PM

MLK DAY REPORT



We regret that there are no pictures from a **wonderful** Martin Luther King, Jr.

Day Worship event on January 16 at Mount Zion Baptist Church. What we are sharing with you below are

some quotes from Rev. Dr. J. Alfred Smith's fine sermon on Non-violence in a world of violence.

We want to thank Mount Zion Baptist Church for a superb job of hospitality (no surprise). Thanks, too to the excellent musical work of Phyllis Byrd-

well, the Evergreen Sounds, Japanese Baptist Church Youth, New Beginnings Christian Fellowship Praise Dancers and Mount Zion Youth Choir. We were blessed!!

Dr. Smith mentioned the book *Martin Luther King: The Inconvenient*

Hero by Vincent Harding. We have a copy of the book in the office if you'd like to borrow it. The first quote is from that book, the last lines of a poem of Carl Wendell Himes, Jr.

"...knowing that the cause for which he lived is still a

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Working Alongside - 1/17/2006

Baits, Gary and Mylinda



This week has us welcoming and

working alongside some of our friends from Washington state and the Great Rivers Region as they work alongside their Costa Rican friends in Alajuelita. In November we were blessed and encouraged by a terrific group from the First Baptist Church in Fairbury, IL who worked diligently to put up drywall and wiring in the pastoral house so that the church can offer a nice place to a new pastor that they are hoping to have soon. It is always a joy to watch our North American and Costa Rican friends interact and build relationships of

love while they are building with wood, block and wire.

We often remind our friends who come that the building projects are just ex-

cuses to allow God to do the more important work of Kingdom and relationship-building. The primary purpose of any mission experience is to **be** with God's people not to do something significant for God. God is already doing something significant in, within and in spite of us. Our job is to recognize what that is and be obedient and faithful to God's presence within and around us. There are a million opportunities for

growth when we are open to God's movement in our world and we are so blessed to see God moving in and through our friends who come together from different

contexts to serve the same Lord.



We have seen the advice of Paul to the Roman Christians lived out in the lives of the Costa Rican

and North American Christians who work together to sincerely love.

- Please pray for the work God is doing in and through our friends this week.

Blessings y bendiciones,
Mylinda

I sense a "new thing" happening in Evergreen—underneath, over, beside her, I see a glimmer of God, "doing a new thing."

GREETINGS... FROM EVERGREEN CHAIR

(Continued from page 1)

I've been an American Baptist for most of my life, but the words, ideas/concepts we're using are not traditional ABC language. I am not confused nor am I adverse in any way to the new.

Let me list a few key words that immediately

stand out: *association*—act of associating, union, connection of, (in our context—relational); *caucus*—meeting of members of common identify (in our case, ethnic, including Euro); *diversity*—variety, multi-formity—variety of appearances among

the same (in our context—laity, ministerial, officers, women and men, different languages and theology, local and geographically distant churches, ABC/USA, etc., "out of many One."

I sense a "new thing" happening in Evergreen—underneath,

over, beside her, I see a glimmer of God, "doing a new thing." Isaiah 43:19 (NIV) the word of the Lord, "See, I am doing a new thing...can you see it?" Already, I am sensing that I am not only in for a new organizational experience, but a

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TEAM

Evergreen is formally governed by the local church through the Annual Meeting. In-between Annual Meetings, the Association Board (with each church having a representative), and in-between those the Executive Board is commissioned to carry out

the day to day work. In addition, there is an advisory group working with me, Marcia. They have a new designation, they are known as TEAM members. The Executive Minister's Advisory Ministry

You know

most if not all of them. First is Clem Winbush, Administrative Assistant, Associate of Mission Education. She is full-time paid staff. Also paid, but very part time is Rev. Angela Farrar, Ministry Associate. Her current duties include

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Clem

Angela

James

Barry

Yosh

Peter

A CALL TO INTERCESSORY PRAYER FOR NEW LIFE 2010

On the 20th day of February, as is asked each month, we ask the whole of the denominational family to pause at 10am or 10pm and pray for the NEW LIFE 2010 movement and its specific areas of focus...the making of NEW believers, the planting of NEW churches, the realization of RENEWED congregations, and the creation

of NEW caring ministries.

If the Lord affirms the prayers of two or three believers when they pray together, imagine how the hand of God can move with the prayers of two or three hundred thousand American Baptist believers asking for God

to do a NEW thing in this first decade of this new century!

Thanks for your partnership of intercession.

Dr. Jeffrey A. Johnson
National Coordinator for Evangelism,
National Ministries,
ABCUSA

“...imagine how the hand of God can move with the prayers of two or three hundred thousand American Baptist believers ...”

GREETINGS... FROM EVERGREEN CHAIR

(Continued from page 3)

spiritual experience, a journey with God who is doing things in a different way in 2006. I'm almost convinced that to understand and to get to know Evergreen we

have to experience her, get a feel for who we are.

I am excited to join the Lord and you in this undertaking, confident that, "What is impossible from a human perspective is possible with

God!" Luke 18:27 (NLT)

Will you join with me as we "walk the talk!"

Peter

EVERGREEN ASSOCIATION OF AMERICAN BAPTIST CHURCHES &

NEW BEGINNINGS CHRISTIAN FELLOWSHIP

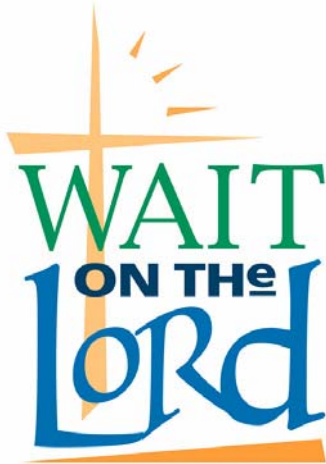
Invite you to attend

EMPOWERING THE CHURCH FOR THE 21ST CENTURY

Urban Ministry Conference

MAY 9–12, 2006 SEATTLE WA

WATCH THIS NEWSLETTER FOR MORE INFORMATION



Spiritual Formation Conference

Presented by American Baptist
Churches USA
For All Ministers and Lay
Ministers
April 17-20, 2006
Orlando, Florida

*Psalm 27:14: "Wait for the LORD; be strong, and let your heart take
courage; wait for the LORD!"*

*Christian spiritual formation is the life long process of being conformed to the
image of Christ by the gracious working of God's spirit through the Scriptures, for
the transformation of the individual and the world.*

For complete information and to register online, visit www.ministerscouncil.com

Call: 800-ABC-3USA ext 2234 or email: Anne.Harris@abc-usa.org

THANK YOU TO EVERGREEN CHURCHES FOR YOUR TOTAL UNITED MISSION GIVING 2005

4% of these dollars go directly to American Baptist Seminary of the West and approximately
61.5% of the balance returns to Evergreen Association

1	Seattle WA, First Baptist Church	\$47,866.99
2	Seattle WA, Japanese Baptist Church	\$15,747.00
3	Issaquah WA, Community Church of Issaquah	\$11,348.42
4	Salt Lake City UT, First Baptist Church	\$8,773.78
5	Mountlake Terrace WA, First Baptist Church	\$6,923.00
6	Renton WA, New Beginnings Christian Fellowship	\$6,000.00
7	Seattle WA, University Baptist Church	\$4,693.92
8	Chico CA, First Baptist Church	\$4,459.78
9	Moscow ID, The United Church	\$4,072.91
10	Seattle WA, Fremont Baptist Church	\$3,250.00
11	Walnut Creek CA, Shell Ridge Community Church	\$2,813.50
12	Kent WA, Panther Lake Community Church	\$2,655.03
13	Bountiful UT, First Baptist Church	\$1,746.53
14	Seattle WA, Mount Zion Baptist Church	\$1,303.26
15	Seattle WA, Greater New Bethel Baptist Church	\$900.00
16	Seattle WA, Oak Lake Baptist Church	\$650.00
17	Costa Mesa CA, Fairview Community Church	\$558.25
18	Lynnwood WA, Filipino-Am Christian Fellowship	\$500.00
19	Renton WA, M L King Jr Mem Baptist Church	\$455.23
20	Renton WA, Daystar Baptist Church	\$370.00
21	Pullman WA, Pullman Baptist Church	\$307.00
22	Burien WA, Burien Community Church	\$166.88
23	Lynnwood WA, Good Shepherd Baptist Ch	\$74.45
24	Seattle WA, Wedgwood Community Church	\$11.50

GIVE TO THE AMERICA FOR CHRIST OFFERING 2006

Our America For Christ gifts are vital to the existence and growth of leadership development for home missionaries, youth leaders, church school educators, lay ministers and pastors.

America for Christ gifts support mission in this country – one of the most challenging mission fields in the world – and extend the witness of American Baptist congregations for Jesus Christ in the United States and Puerto Rico. www.abc-afc.org

SEEKING A DIGITAL PHOTOGRAPHER to help Evergreen keep a picture journal of our history as it is made. Our photographer is currently on the prayer concern list. Own a digital camera? Can you help? Call 253-859-2226; Email: clem@ea-abc.org

TOTAL AMERICAN BAPTIST MISSION SUPPORT FOR 2005

Thank you, the generous members and friends in our churches who gave to American Baptist Missions (these figures include United Missions plus all special offerings and specific gifts—including Evergreen).

These monies made a real difference in American Baptist Missions and Evergreen specifically being able to carry on with ministry and mission.

We are grateful for the faithfulness of our communities.

1	Seattle WA, First Baptist Church	\$69,419.68
2	Seattle WA, Japanese Baptist Church	\$34,104.09
3	Issaquah WA, Community Ch. of Issaquah	\$16,692.61
4	Renton WA, New Beginnings Christian Fell.	\$13,000.00
5	Seattle WA, Mount Zion Baptist Church	\$12,206.19
6	Salt Lake City UT, First Baptist Church	\$11,542.61
7	Mountlake Terrace WA, First Baptist Church	\$10,801.25
8	Walnut Creek CA, Shell Ridge Com. Church	\$10,540.64
9	Moscow ID, The United Church	\$9,829.44
10	Chico CA, First Baptist Church	\$9,248.32
11	Seattle WA, University Baptist Church	\$8,023.13
12	Seattle WA, Fremont Baptist Church	\$7,377.00
13	Burien WA, Burien Community Church	\$7,230.81
14	Pullman WA, Pullman Baptist Church	\$6,888.98
15	Seattle WA, Wedgwood Community Church	\$4,787.61
16	Kent WA, Panther Lake Community Church	\$4,480.96
17	Costa Mesa CA, Fairview Community Church	\$4,390.70
18	Bountiful UT, First Baptist Church	\$4,323.46
19	Renton WA, M L King Jr Mem Baptist Church	\$3,543.83
20	Lynnwood WA, Good Shepherd Bapt. Church	\$3,348.67
21	Seattle WA, Oak Lake Baptist Church	\$3,030.00
22	Seattle WA, Greater New Bethel Bapt Church	\$1,200.00
23	Lynnwood WA, Filipino-Am Christian Fell.	\$500.00
24	Renton WA, Daystar Baptist Church	\$370.00

KATRINA RESPONSE: Evergreen churches gave over \$69,000 to One Great Hour of Sharing last year as is reflected in the numbers above. Many of those gifts were for Tsunami and Hurricane relief efforts.

Five **Volunteers in Mission Teams** totaling 40 volunteers have gone on cleanup missions...For information on how to volunteer for Katrina rebuilding efforts in Louisiana and Mississippi, contact National Ministries, 1-800-ABC-3USA, ext. 2449; Jacci.White@abc-usa.org

MLK DAY REPORT

(Continued from page 2)

cause and the dream for which he died is still a dream. a dead man's dream."

"Violence is fuel for a .com world de-humanize conscience

non-cooperation with evil is a good as cooperation with good.

Peace with integ-

rity and justice

Aggressively opposing evil

Honor the man neglect the message

Violence cannot drive out violence

A church that is fractured cannot bring reconciliation to the world

Hate is a 2-

edged sword-hurts both ways...love is the only thing that replaces hate

Sometimes we need to forgive them when they know what they do.

No one needs to carry the burden of unforgiveness."

NEWSLETTER CAN BE RECEIVED VIA EMAIL IN PDF FORM

Tired of the many papers you receive regularly? Prefer to get the newsletter while it's still news?

We now have the capability to send the Evergreen Notes in a PDF file via email.

If you'd prefer to receive the newsletter via email please send an emailed request to: clem@ea-abc.org and get the March 2006 Evergreen Notes via email only!

NATURAL EVANGELISM TRAINING ASSOCIATES

Three members of the Evergreen family who trained to become Natural Evangelism Training (NET) Associates were charged to begin training our church congregations on how each of us might answer God's call to spread the GOOD NEWS. Using our individual personality style preferences as

a beginning point, the training endeavors to help each person take another look at what it means to be an evangelist/envangelizer. To date, Burien Community Church, Wedgwood Community and Community Church of Issaquah have completed the basic training and created timelines for evangelism work for 2006. Japa-

nese Baptist Church has scheduled training sessions and will soon join the three churches mentioned to increase their efforts in gathering the ripened harvest for Christ.

Your NET Associates want to work with you and your congregations so American Baptists become purposefully active in this "None" zone - the great NW.

Call: 253-859-2226, or Email: clem@ea-abc.org

TEAM...

(Continued from page 4)

Youth Ministry. We also have four other folks as part of the TEAM who are volunteers: Rev. James Winbush, Barry Briscoe, Yosh Nakagawa and Peter Koshi. Their primary responsibility is to do inter-face work with caucuses. We all work together to lead Evergreen Association toward our mission of building bridges.

I am grateful for this team and their time and energy.

Marcia,

Executive Minister



Angela Farrar, Pastor
Mountlake Terrace



Tim Phillips, Pastor
University Baptist



Clem Winbush
Evergreen Mission Support

**EVERGREEN ASSOCIATION OF
AMERICAN BAPTIST CHURCHES**

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Website: www.ea-abc.org

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Evergreen Notes, the newsletter for the 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 Patton, Executive Minister

Our goal is to encourage every Evergreen church to move forward in creative partnership with other churches and the Association (deeper koinonia).

CALENDAR OF UPCOMING EVENTS

FEBRUARY

- 10-11—ACT Weekend.
- 18—Association Board Meeting, Wedgwood Community Church, 9 AM

MARCH

- 10 Executive Committee Meeting, JBC, 5 PM
- 25 Conference on Caucus & Consensus, Mountlake Terrace, 9 AM—5 PM

APRIL

- 17—20 Wait on the Lord Spiritual Formation Conference, Orlando FL

- 28-29 Last ACT weekend for 2004-2005 Class
- 28—30 PNW AB Women's Conference, Moses Lake WA

MAY

- 6—Association Board Meeting, Wedgwood Community Church, 9 AM
- 9-12 Empowering the Church in the 21st Century Conference

JUNE

- 22-25 ABCUSA General Board

JULY

AUGUST

- 26 Association Board Meeting, Wedgwood Community Church, 9 AM

SEPTEMBER

OCTOBER

- 20-21 ANNUAL MEETING, Community Church of Issaquah

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.