

Evergreen Notes

Evergreen Association of American Baptist Churches

Volume 10, Issue 11

New Baptist Covenant II: NW Satellite Site to Connect Baptists in the NW with Baptists Across the Nation

Except from article by Greg Warner, http://newbaptistcovenant.org/news/

"...Baptists of many stripes will gather simultaneously in dozens of cities across the country for a unique virtual meeting, during which they will not only worship and learn but spread out to work in their local communities.

The occasion is New Baptist Covenant II, a three-day gathering being planned by Baptists from a number of different denominations and ethnic backgrounds.

The November 17-19 meeting is a follow-up to the first New Baptist Covenant, a historic 2008 meeting of 15,000 Baptists at a central location in Atlanta, which brought together Baptists from 40 different denominations and groups for the first time ever - Caucasians, Asians, African-Americans, Hispanics.

Rather than air and ground transportation, this time partici-

pants will rely on communication technology to traverse the miles...."

Baptists in the Seattle area are invited to gather at New Beginnings Christian Fellowship, 19300 108th Avenue SE, Renton WA 98055.

For more information, go to the webpage at https://sites.google.com/a/newbaptistcove-nantnw.org/nbciinw/

And, see the flyer on page 6 of this publication. Hope to see you there!

Inside this issue:

Events & Happenings	2
Fremont & MCLE	3
Ringing the Peace Bell	5
Baptist Lunching To- gether	7
Annual Meeting Pictures	8
Aita Farewell	9
FBC Berkeley MCLE	10

Special points of interest:

Please remember those churches seeking pastors:
Japanese Baptist Church,
Wedgwood Community
Church, Burien Community
Church, San Leandro Community Church and New Community of Faith.

Remember Mountlake Terrace First Baptist Church and the family of Harold Harris in their time of mourning.

Join Transformed by the Spirit



Transformed by the Spirit is a journey of discovery and renewal. The National Executive Council of ABC/USA is calling all congregations, Regions and other ABC

agencies to join this initiative. It is about mission and ministry in the midst of change. If your church decides to be a part of this initiative you will first be asked to answer the

Continued page 2

Events & Happenings Around the Association

FREMONT BAPTIST **CHURCH** invites you to Hymn Sing #5 on Sunday, November 20th, at 2 PM. See the flyer on page 7.

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

The Memorial Service/ Celebration of the Life of Harold Harris, Evergreen supporter and friend, will be held on Saturday, November 12, 2011 at 1 PM in the afternoon at the First Baptist Church of Mountlake Terrace, 22800 - 56th Ave. W, Mountlake Terrace, WA 98043. We extend sympathy to MaryEllen and other family members.

Transformed by the Spirit—Continued from Page 1

question: 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?

You will be coached to explore your answer to this question more deeply. You may be coached as an individual church or perhaps with other

churches who answered the question in similar ways to your church, perhaps with other churches who are nearby but who have also decided to join with other American Baptist Churches on this journey. Marcia will be making contacts with churches during the month of November to ask if you will join others including Evergreen Association, on this journey.



Mike Sterns—Singer and Song Writer

One of the many treats at the 2011 Annual Meeting was a song from Mike Sterns. He is a member of University Baptist Church, Seattle. His ministry is one of song and song writing.

You can find out more about this ministry, listen to more of his music and purchase CD's on his website:

http://www.mikesongs.net

Mike will also come to your church to share his music. Much of his music is of the "sing along" variety. We were blessed to have him at our annual meeting, and he can be a blessing to your church and community as well.



Page 2 **Evergreen Notes**

MCLE at Fremont Baptist Church

Mission with our neighbors rather than mission to or for our neighbors is a concept which the MCLE team at Fremont embraced. Surveying our immediate neighbors we discovered that beyond bringing in a drug store what was needed most was a sense of safety. To that end we determined that holding a picnic in our parking lot during the Annual Nite-Out for Safety would be a good way to build a bridge to our neighbors. Unfortunately Seattle put no emphasis on the Nite-Out this past summer so that idea was put on hold.

Even as that was happening our church was able to gain a new tenant – Woodland Park Cooperative Preschool. What follows is a description of their moving -in day. Because of our understanding of the Missional Church Learning Experience materials that some of us have been receiving. I decided to put out an announcement to everyone in the church suggesting that we join with the parents in helping with the move and preparation of the play yard. And we (church folks and preschool folks) had a wonderfully busy day. We shared lunch with the parents and did whatever we could to welcome them to our building.

As we got close to the end of the day - with two large trucks on site still needing to be unloaded - we were blessed with the appearance of 8 unbidden angels. While we were looking at the daunting task ahead of us, a man walked into the parking lot and overheard an expressed need for more help. This man responded that he had 7 teens with him who would be more than willing to help (it was his 18 year old son's birthday and they had come to Fremont to visit the Troll). These kids and the dad pitched in and both trucks were quickly emptied. We then invited this group into the lounge for sandwiches and treats. During a lengthy conversation we learned that the dad was a pastor who had tried to plant a church south of Tacoma. But somehow we never got his name. I wonder - do angels actually have names? God blessed us and the preschool parents and this group of teens so greatly that day.

This is an e-mail we received from one of the preschool parents early the next day. Enjoy. Greetings Jan and Pastor Judy, I have been reflecting all day on what we achieved together yesterday. Our work parties have always provided us the chance to feel the power of our collective generosity and to build friendships as we work towards our shared goals, but this weekend was special because we were not alone in this endeavor. I wish all our members could have witnessed the blurring of the boundaries between our communities as we worked seamlessly to get things done. You welcomed us with food, drink, and hours of tireless labor all day from the beginning to the end - it was overwhelmingly generous and we will never forget it. Warmly.

I am convinced that God had a hand in this endeavor from beginning to end. How else can you explain a broadening definition of community and the appearance of angels just when they were needed the most?

Convinced that what we had done exemplified Missional Church we have been looking for other ways to do mission with our neighbors. MCLE taught us that after surveying our neighborhood and identifying a need we were to seek community partners with which to work. Imagine my surprise when community partners began to reach out to us. To date I have met with representatives from both Fremont and Wallingford. These gentlemen are involved in community disaster work and are inviting the church to join them in surveying our immediate neighborhood to identify those individuals who would need special attention in times of disaster (as serious as earthquakes or as common as heavy snows that cause

"I wonder - do angels actually have names? God blessed us and the preschool parents and this group of teens so greatly that day."

power outages). We would also help in identifying people who would be valuable resources to the neighborhood. As a church we are eager to do this important canvassing of our neighbors.

The mindset of Missional Church has begun to open our eyes to the possibilities inherent in Fremont. I wonder what we will engage in next.

Judy Gay Pastor, Fremont Baptist Church

NOTE TO MEMBER CHURCHES:

As we approach the end of the year, please be sure all mission giving for 2011 is sent early enough to arrive in the Kent offices by January 9, 2012. Your gifts allow ministry to happen. Thank you.

Page 3 Evergreen Notes

CPAT Celebrates 20th Anniversary & Pays Tribute to Prophetic thinkers & Leaders

The Council for Pacific Asian Theology (CPAT) celebrated its 20th Anniversary and recognized Rev. Dr. Paul Nagano, Rev. Dr. William L. Malcomson (one of the founders), Rev. Dr. Walter Pulliam (posthumously), Rev. Dr. Richard E. Ice, and Rev. Dr. Eldon Ernst among the twenty one theologians.



Ministry Renewal and Orientation to ABC Life Conference

Patrick Green & Judge Chas Z. Smith



Seminarians and ministers new to American Baptist Churches are invited to attend one track and other ministry leaders are invited to attend a second track of this conference, Monday—
Thursday, January 23 –26, 2011. Travel on Monday and be back home on Friday.

So to experience powerful

preaching, insightful teaching, spiritual development, practical workshops and rest & relaxation, plan to attend

Go to A New Land, a Ministry Renewal Conference, at the Doubletree Resort, Orlando FL..

Preachers and Speakers include: Rev. Dr. Zina Jacque, Rev. Dr. Alan Roxburgh, Rev. Dr. Dwight Stinnett, and Rev. Douglas S. Avilesbernal.

Sponsored jointly by AB-CUSA and the Ministers Council with your renewal and growth in mind, this conference offers hope and time to refocus. To register go to:

http://www.abc-usa.org/

EventRegistration/

ANewLand.aspx

Yosh Nakagawa



Medley Visits Evergreen



ABCUSA General Secretary, Roy Medley, visited the Evergreen Region during the week of October 18—21, doing work related to the Transformed by the Spirit Initiative.

Herb Tsuchiya & Roy Medley

Volunteers Needed to Assemble the "Evergreen Notes" & Other Mailings

This newsletter is distributed on the first Wednesday of each month unless the first Wednesday f

first Wednesday falls after the fourth day.

Many receive an email version of the newsletter, but monthly, approximately 200 copies of the newsletter are mailed from the Kent Evergreen office. To support this ministry, volunteers collate, fold, tape and label – basic/menial work – yes, but when combined with good conversation and a cup of coffee/tea, the task becomes a pleasant few hours spent with friends.

Sometimes there are other mailings of 600—700 pieces which require even more hands. These

are usually quarterly mailings and perhaps you could lend a hand for collating, labeling, stuffing, and sealing envelopes.

W are grateful to our current team of volunteers which includes: Karyn Akishin, Stephanie Commandest, Roxanne Fowler, Arnett Garrett, Gay & Phyllis Hasselblad, Ruth Hunter, Lynn Pulliam, Marilyn Pulliam, Lynora Reeves, Bruce Sagor, Barbara Sloan, Carol Sutton, Charlotte Scherer, Terri Simpkins, Bill & Virginia Thompson, and Cherie Vivilo.

We also have an honorary team of volunteers who have given us many years of service: Betty Bates, Cora Lea Doty and Chellie Rowland.

We need you! We need more folks, more hands and feet of Christ willing to help 3 to 4 times a year. You are needed! Please consider volunteering, and contact:

Charlotte Scherer, Volunteer Coordinator, at <u>scherercm@q.com</u>, or 425-392-1185; or Clem Winbush at <u>clemeba@comcast.net</u> or 253-859-2226

Ringing the Peace Bell

August 15th is a commemoration of the beginning of Peace in 1945. In Hiroshima at the Peace Memorial Park on August 15, 2011, the day began with a gathering of The Hiroshima Association of United Nation Educational Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) members, guests, citizens and visitors to the park.

Those in attendance are hopeful for a future of Peace and gather around a traditional bell, a permanent part of the Peace Park crafted in 1964, to ring for peace around the world. The continents of the earth carved around its surface with no national borders represents

Hiroshima's hope that the world will become one in Peace. The wooden hammer, held by a rope strikes the bell exactly on the symbol of nuclear energy, in hopes that one day all nuclear weapons will be eliminated from the earth. Opposite the hammer is a mirror reflecting the true self of all who ring the bell. The bell is under a dome shaped roof symbolizing the universe and is accessible from all four sides across a lotus pond by steps that form a bridge and invite anyone to strike the bell for Peace. The pond is filled with lotus plants growing from 2,000-year-old seeds. August is the month that the lotus blooms and during 1945 the Atomic bomb victims tried to ease their pain by covering their burns with lotus leaves.

The August 15, 2011 ceremony included peace messages from Thailand,

High School UNESCO Club members, and Volunteer Directors from the World Friendship Center (WFC). Mr. Larry Sims, Co-Director of WFC, stated that WFC is, "pleased to be

JoAnn Sims

a part of this community where world peace is a common goal. We join with many other organizations both here



in Hiroshima and in the rest of the world to work for a conflict-free world. Our thanks goes out to these organizations as well as to the City of Hiroshima for being with us in our path to world peace."

At 12:00 noon a silent prayer for the war and A-bomb victims was held. Then Hiroshima UNESCO President, foreign guests, and invited High School students together tolled the Peace Bell three times. The sound, as it moved across the park, seemed to voice a prayer for a war-free, nuclear-free, and conflict-free world.



of the Northwest

"Once again, we will join together to re-certify our common faith and values without regard to race, ethnicity, partisanship, or geography." - Jimmy Carter

NOVEMBER 17-19, 2011

SPEAKERS

Jimmy Carter • DeeDee Coleman • Ken Fong • Wendell Griffen • Stephen Thurston Robert Abernethy • Marian Wright Edelman • Carrol Baltimore • Tony Campolo Rosalynn Carter



NORTHWEST MEETING AT



For More Information and to Register

Registration Cost

Worship and Workshops **Free** Friday Breakfast \$7 (\$10 at door)

NBC II National Website

http://newbaptistcovenant.org/

NBC II Of The Northwest Registration

http://newbaptistcovenantnw.org

Location

New Beginnings Christian Fellowship 19300 108th Ave SE Renton, WA 98055

Email

info@newbaptistcovenantnw.org

Facebook

New Baptist Covenant II NW

Twitter Phone NBCIINW 425-282-6220

Hotels

Embassy-Suites Sea-Tac International-Airport-

Group Rates: \$101 per night 15920 W Valley Highway, Seattle, WA 98188 (425) 227-8844

www.embassysuites1.hilton.com/

Holiday Inn Renton

Group Rates: \$84 per night

One South Grady Way, Renton, WA 98057

(425) 226-7700 www.holidayinn.com

Page 6 Evergreen Notes



Baptisms at Ebenezer

The new pastor at Confraternidad Cristina Ebenezer reports that on Sunday, November 6, 2011 they will baptize four people. Congratulations to the four and to Ebenezer and Pastor Guadalupe Vasquez!

MLK Memorial Baptist Church to Celebrate 35th Anniversary

The Martin Luther King, Jr. Memorial Baptist Church invites you to join in the celebration of its 35th Church Anniversary, Sunday, February 26, 2012, at 3:00 PM.

MLK, Jr. Memorial Baptist Church is located at 4519 NE 10th Street, Renton, WA 98059.

The theme for this celebration is: God Has Spoken (35 years of ministry!!!). Let the Church say Amen! Nehemiah 8:6
"Ezra blessed the Lord, the great God, and with their hands uplifted all the people said, Amen, Amen! Then they

bowed down and worshiped the Lord with their faces to the ground!"

MLK's youth will begin the celebration on Friday night, February 24, 2012 at 7PM.

You are encouraged to attend both these worship services.

Baptist Lunching Together

November 16, 2011—Focus on Asian Church Ministries, James Chuck, Marie Onwubuariri, and Richard Ice

December 10, 2011— Candles and Carols at Oakland First Baptist Church

January 18, 2012—Women's

Role in Ministry in 2012, Katie Choy-Wong, Micky Holmes, Liliana DaValle and Barbara Bowman

Tuesday, February 7, 2012—Interaction with Roy Medley, General Secretary, ABCUSA (Meeting Wednesdays at Noon, Grand Lake Gardens)

Saturday, May 12, 2012—Spring Conference.

Evergreen Annual Meeting 2011

















A heartfelt thank-you to $Seattle\ First\ Baptist\ Church\$ leadership, staff, choir and $congregation\ for\ being\ most$ hospitable hosts!



















Page 8 Evergreen Notes

Evergreen Haiti Mission Trip

We are going to Haiti on April 20-29, 2012, to be part of American Baptist Mission work at Cap Haitien, Haiti! A delegation going from the region will help Nzunga Mabudiga and his wife Kihomi in their ministry to the poorest country in our hemisphere.

Kihomi and Nzunga serve as a vital link between International Ministries and the Haitian Baptist Convention. Nzunga teaches theology at the Christian University of Northern Haiti, trains assistant professors in teaching and writing books, administers a scholarship program, and visits and preaches in churches. He also administers the "Kids for Kids" goat project that provides needed school and personal supplies for children and university students.

Kihomi works with families in the areas of counseling, family planning, and women's health issues. She also coordinates and advises the women's association of the Haitian Baptist Convention, representing women of all the Baptist denominations of Haiti at international conferences.

We have a need for participants with a large variety of helping skills (1 Corinthians 12:4-26 describes this well!). If we are able to enlist enough people with construction skills, we will be working on a new school for the mission. If not, we will still need to do various kinds of repair work for them. With the cholera outbreak after the earthquake, as well as the needs of the eye clinic in Cap Haitien, we can certainly use people with medical or nursing training.

We are hoping to take some new computers to the mission and people with skills at using and/ or teaching computer use would certainly be helpful. But also, there is a lot of work, especially for women, just being part of the ministry of encouragement that Kihomi does with the women of Haiti. Nzunga wrote in response to one of our questions, "You will have opportunity to connect with women's work. Kihomi will take you places you don't want to go!" Talk about a challenge!

More information can be found at http://www.evergreen-abc.org/ haiti/haiti

Those wanting to be part of the trip should send a deposit of \$100, along with their name, church and contact information to the Evergreen Office. If you have questions or would like for someone to talk to your church about this mission trip, email: Dr. Keith Madsen or contact him at the Community Church of Issaquah (425-392-6447).

JBC says Farewell to Retiring Pastor, Paul Aita

On Sunday, October 30, 2011, Japanese Baptist Church, Seattle held a luncheon and worship experience in honor of Rev. Dr. Paul Aita, for his 11 years of ministry with the church and 42 years of ministry.













First Baptist Church of Berkeley Partners with ABSW for An MCLE

In spring 2010 I was strongly encouraged by Rev. Dr. Marcia Patton, executive minister of the **Evergreen Baptist Association** (which was soon to become FBCB's new regional home) to take part in a year-long training project, the Missional Church Learning Experience, sponsored by American Baptist Churches USA. With our congregation's blessing, an MCLE team was formed: Sharon Allen, Laura Gottwald, and Nancy Hall. Our training in the project would take place in the form of four Saturday events (September, January, April, July), led by Rev. Glynis LaBarre, Transformation Strategist for the American Baptist Home Mission Societies (with local leadership from Rev. Michelle Holmes, Shell Ridge Community Church, Walnut Creek). Note: for more information about MCLE, go to:

http://www.nationalministries.or g/mcle/

Our FBCB team's mission (along with teams from several other Bay Area ABC churches, all part of the Evergreen Baptist Association) was to find a need within our immediate community that would result in an opportunity to reach out and build a partnership with a local community group, for the greater good.

After taking time to contact and consider a number of possible community partners, our team found that the most fruitful conversations were taking place with members of the ABSW Stu-

dent Council. Although our church has been supportive of the American Baptist Seminary of the West for many decades and in a variety of ways, we saw an opportunity to partner with the students in a new way at this time.

The students of ABSW make great personal sacrifices in order to pursue a theological education. One example: with all of ABSW's courses held at night, many students arrive from their full-time jobs or other weekday commitments just in time to sit down for class, often without having the chance for an evening meal. Another example: paying his or her tuition bill each semester may not leave a student sufficient funds to purchase textbooks for each class.

The seminary provides as much tuition assistance to students as possible. But how could FBC Berkeley reach out and form a partnership with the students, to help address some of their *other* needs?

I am happy to now report:

- 1) Sharon, Laura, and I completed our training sessions for MCLE on July 30.
- 2) After submitting our application for a grant from ABCUSA, FBCB received \$1000 to carry out our plans for partnering with the ABSW Student Council.
- 3) Our final list of action/outreach items was reached this summer, through continuing consultation with members

of the ABSW Student Council (Rev. Tanisha Sparks, moderator). The project includes:

- -- Purchasing one copy of each required fall 2011 semester textbook for the ABSW "core" curriculum courses. These books will be clearly marked and placed on the fourth floor of Hobart Hall, becoming an on-campus "reading library." The intent is to help those students who may not be able to purchase all required texts for their classes, or who may need to delay in purchasing those books for several weeks.
- -- Restocking the ABSW food pantry with non-perishable items that students can use on an emergency basis, when funds run low.
- -- Providing food items that will help the Student Council's "evening snack bar" fund-raising project get underway for the fall 2011 semester.
- -- Donating a used two-drawer file cabinet from the FBCB office to the Student Council.
- -- Purchasing and preparing food to host a Monday evening community meal at ABSW, including an ice cream social, on September 26.

Our congregation is excited about this MCLE project and working more closely with the students at ABSW. We hope it will be just the start of a closer relationship with ABSW (after all, the school is only four blocks from our church!) We even hope that our project may inspire other local congregations to partner with the student body in the future.

Blessings, to all FBCBers, across the Bay Area, the nation and the world --

Nancy, Sharon, and Laura

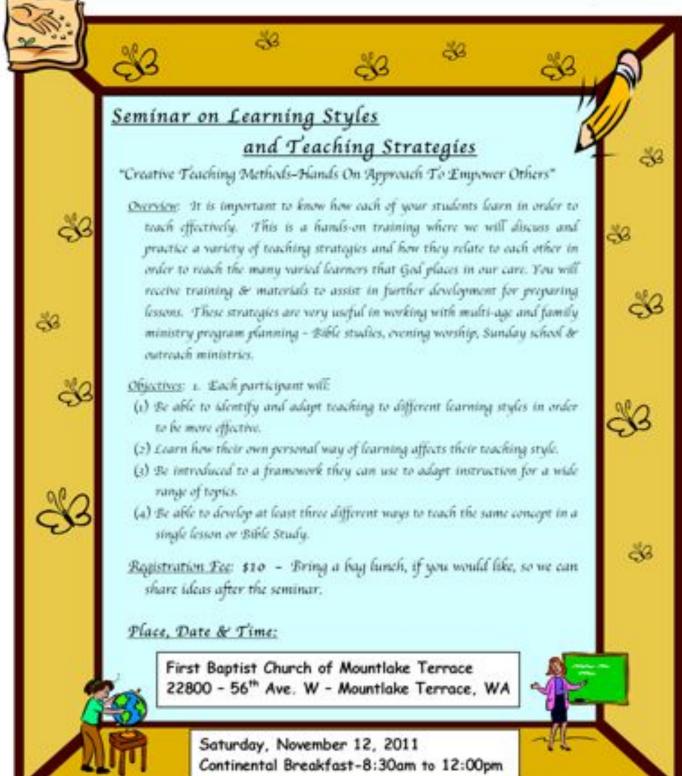
Page 10 Evergreen Notes



Plourde, M.Ed. - International Educational Consultant 15414 - 35th Ave. 4th, #55 Lynnwood Washington 98087



Telephone: 425-743-0351 E-mail: orcadiane@earthlink.net





Evergreen Association of American Baptist Churches

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

409 Third Avenue South Suite A Kent WA 98032

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

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

NOVEMBER

11—Seattle Baptist Union (SBU) Dinner & Annual Meeting, Seattle First Baptist Church, 1111 Harvard Ave., Seattle 98122, 6:30 PM. Be sure to Register.

17-19—New Baptist Covenant II, Satellite Site: New Beginnings Christian Fellowship, 19300-108th Ave SE, Kent WA

January 16, 2012—MLK Day Service, New Beginnings Christian Fellowship, 6 PM February 10—11, 2012 Evergreen Leaders' Retreat

March 10, 2012—Building
Bridges Day

APRIL

April 8, 2012—Easter Sunrise Service

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.