

EVERGREEN NOTES

Evergreen Association of American Baptist Churches

Volume 6, Issue 11

SEUSSICAL™ The Musical at University Christian Church, Nov. 17, 2007!



Proceeds to go to **SHARE-WHEEL** for Tent Cities and Evergreen Association! Tickets are available www.brownpapertickets.com or through the Association office: 253-859-2226. They are just \$25.00 each. Get yours today!

Further support the effort by advertising in the program book. All program advertising must be in the office by November 10. One line sponsors are

\$25.00, business card size are \$35.00, ¼ page sponsors are \$50.00, ½ page sponsors are \$100, and full page sponsors are \$150 and the inside front or inside back cover are each \$200.00. This is a way to tell your church's story or to indicate the support of your church or business for the homeless. Contact Clem at clem@ea-abc.org today!

Youth! We need help with ushering and with conces-

sions. Proceeds from concessions will help support youth from Evergreen churches to attend the National Gathering of American Baptist Youth in Colorado during July. Youth participating in concession sales will have priority consideration for the proceeds realized. Contact Bev Spears beverl-spears@earthlink.net for further information.

Reminder: **Festival Seating** at the show. Come Early!

Inside this issue:

| | |
|---------------------------------|-----------|
| Events & Happenings | 2 |
| National Youth Gathering 2008 | 3 |
| Annual Meeting at a Glance | 4 |
| Updates on Our Evergreen Family | 6 |
| Coffee House at GSBC | 6 |
| Haiti: Working Together... | 7 |
| Calendar of Upcoming Events | Back Page |

Continue to Pray

- It was wonderful that **Barry Briscoe** could join us for part of the Annual Meeting celebration. Continued prayers for his recovery.
- **Yosh Nakagawa** has learned some basic health issues need to be treated, followed by chemo and then a determination about the best next step. Continue to pray for him and his family.

Peter's Perspectives

Are we there yet? We are still maturing, but have come a long ways in five years. I can say with confidence that Evergreen Association is no longer an experiment.

Our 5th Annual Meeting clearly indicated the Evergreen "model" is working. It is not "perfect" whatever that might mean for an ABC region.



Rev. Peter Koshi, Chair
Evergreen Association

Each of the caucuses knows who they are

(Continued on page 5)

Events & Happenings

*******Good Shepherd Baptist Church** announces another in their regular series of "Coffee House Nights," featuring talented singers, musicians and comedians from around the area, on Saturday evening, November 10 at 7:00 p.m. (See article on page 5)

*******Offering Plates** available to any church which can make use of them. Call Seattle First Baptist Church at 206-325-6051.

*******Churches in Seattle are invited to provide internship/educational opportunities to seminarians.** Contact Fuller Seminary's extension in Seattle and/or the School of Theology and Ministry at Seattle University.



Martin Luther King, Jr. Day, Monday, January 21, 2008 will be held at Peo-

ple's Institutional Baptist Church, 159 – 24th Street (cross street is Fir, just North of Yesler). Worship begins at 6:00 pm. The Rev. Marilyn Turner will be the preacher.

*******Rauschenbusch Center's Centennial Celebration of Social Gospel**, November 30—December 1, 2007, University Christian Church. Register online at www.rauschenbusch.org by November 16th.

New Baptist Covenant Meeting

You do not want to miss the New Baptist Covenant meeting in Atlanta, Ga., January 30 to February 1, 2008.

This will be the largest and most inclusive gathering of Baptists in well over 150 years. Registration is quick and free.

The celebration begins the evening of January 30 with a keynote address by former U.S. President

Jimmy Carter. American Baptist evangelist, professor and author, Dr. Tony Campolo will be there. Other participants include former U.S. President Bill Clinton, Vice President Al Gore, U.S. Senator Lindsey Graham, U.S. Senator Charles Grassley, Founder of Children's Defense Fund Marian Wright-Edelman, and Journalist Bill Moyers.

"...Jimmy Carter...Tony Campolo...Bill Clinton...Al Gore...Lindsay Graham...Marian Wright-Edelman..."

For information or to register, see www.newbaptistcovenant.org

More Good Shepherd Good News...!

Good news about Good Shepherd Baptist's affordable housing for seniors! The U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development has just released the list of "202 Fund" awards. We have been depending on money from this source in order to move

forward and we were awarded the maximum possible -- over \$5 million in capital money for the building and nearly half a million in rent subsidy money over five years!

We have reason to believe that this good result with

Pastor Chris Boyer

HUD will move us to the top of the list for funding from both the state and the county. It looks like our hopeful plan to break ground next September is being made a reality.

Praise God! Thank you all for all your prayers!

Medley Visits Africa

American Baptists and Friends,

Grace, mercy and peace through our Lord Jesus Christ.

For the next two weeks, I will travel to and around Africa with other American Baptist leaders. We will visit missionaries supported by International Ministries as well as mission partners in South Africa, Zambia and the Democratic Republic of the

Congo. This is a wonderful opportunity to connect, commune and share with our Baptist brothers and sisters as they work to be the hands and feet of Christ in their individual ministries.

In order to share our travels with you, we have set up a blog at <http://abc-usa.blogspot.com/> to relay our experiences and reflections in a way some of you may or may not be familiar with. We invite you to come and read

entries from the executive directors of International Ministries, National Ministries, the Ministers and Missionaries Benefit Board and American Baptist Women's Ministries as we journey together to join hands and hearts in Christian love, both with each other and with the communities we visit.

Centered in Christ,



Meet Seminarian Sean Brown

Evergreen Notes is happy to present Seminarian **Sean Brown**, who was born in Seattle and has lived here his whole life. He says, "I was raised in a Christian household but really didn't start taking my faith seriously until my senior year in high school." Sean attended the University of Washington



and received a bachelor's degree in history. After graduation, he lived for about three months in Portland, where

he got into a book study with some seminarians and recent seminary graduates. During this time, he made the decision to go to seminary him-

self, with the goal of becoming a professor of Biblical Studies in such a setting. A member of the Wedgwood Community Church who has completed a course of study at Fuller Northwest, Sean is currently going through the ordination process and preparing to get a second master's degree before moving on to doctoral studies.

The National Gathering of American Baptist Youth



MTW—More than a Week is again the theme of the 2008 na-

tional gathering of American Baptist Youth, July 5-11 at Estes Park, Colorado.

Raise Da Roof with 5 days of Praise and Worship. Come hear the sound of music everywhere...and more!

Register at www.morethanaweek.org

**ABWM—PNW
EDUCATIONAL GRANT
Scholarship for current
college senior or
graduate level student
preparing for fulltime
Christian Service under
ABCUSA.**

**Call 253-859-2226 for
info.**

Annual Meeting At A Glance



(Continued from page 1)

as a caucus. We know how to make decisions in caucuses. And we can come together as Evergreen and make informed decisions as a body; not necessarily in agreement, but in consensus that the body can live with the decision made.

The "miracle" of consensus is that there is no choosing of sides. There is only one side, OUR side, together. A year ago I was concerned about being able to chair a process of "consensus" decision making. Now, I am really at home in this way of work. I want to say that this way is "worshipful work."

The "spirit" of the annual gathering was super! I felt, as well as others present, that we were "Spirit" led. But we, individually, and together provided the "milieu," surrounding in which the Spirit could minister. Thank you and praise be to God!

The presence of our Native American and Hispanic brothers as well as national denominational leaders provided depth to our being together, enriching our diversity and strengthening ties (bridges.) Also, there is an increasing number of friends of Evergreen present at our gatherings. These are folks from churches outside of Evergreen. They feel very much

at home with us and add to our diversity.

Much care was given by Curtis Price, our incoming chair, to ensure that we had a wide range of participants from caucus churches and geographic distances. Our Evergreen Sounds was great! Thanks for raising your voices in worship and praise.

Our transition from the Black Caucus chair to Asian Caucus Chair went very smoothly; and we expect that the same will be true of the transition to the Euro Caucus Chair. As I pointed out during the transfer ceremony, choice of chair does not in any way mean transferring of leadership of caucuses. It is purely a sharing of the leadership role on a level playing field. As Ken Curl enjoyed the cooperation of caucus pastors and churches and members, I too was afforded the same. Thank you!

It's a good thing that Evergreen has this model of rotation of the role of chair, because, otherwise, I would have been tempted to campaign for re-election, oh, re-appointment?

What stands out for me about the annual gathering is our worship service at the close of our Annual Meeting. Thanks to Yosh Nakagawa who had arranged for the closing performance by the

Taiko Drummers. (We were glad to see Yosh in-and-out during the two days. He seems to be doing okay as he awaits the results of his tests.)

Imagine in a Baptist assembly, beginning with the Lord's Prayer and ending with a performance by the Taiko Drummers. What was even more amazing was the drummers included members from the Buddhist Church making the group interfaith. This happened because Karen, the leader, didn't have

The "spirit" of the annual gathering was super!

enough drummers in her own group for the performance. She wanted the best she could provide for the Baptists. Her Spirit, undoubtedly, contributed to the meaning of our closing worship.

To all Evergreen pastors and members and friends, I pass on to you a "Thank You" from Dr. Roy Medley which I received with a big hug from a "big man"!

"HAPPY THANKSGIVING" to one and ALL!!!

Your grateful chair,

Rev. Peter Koshi

Updates On Our Evergreen Family

Becky Jurewicz passed following a struggle with cancer. A memorial service was held at Burien Community Church on Saturday, October 27, 2007. Remembrances may be sent to Becky's family at 11850 25th Ave. S, Seattle WA 98168.

Rev. Dr. Leon C. Jones passed on Saturday, October 20, 2007 in Baltimore MD where he and his wife Ruby moved following his retirement to be near daughter Kathy, grandsons and great-

grandchildren. Funeral services were on Monday, October 30th. Condolences may be sent to 4504 Mary Knoll Rd, Pikesville MD 21208 Plans are being made to hold a memorial service in the Seattle area soon.

Rev. Dick Ice is at his daughter's home following a collapse while on vacation in Russia. After a stay in a hospital in Moscow, he was escorted to California by a Russian physician. In Berkeley he had angioplasty, stints

and a pacemaker. He plans to retrieve his car from WA soon.

Rev. Pablo Calzoncit, national coordinator for Intercultural Ministries and Hispanic Churches Strategist at National Ministries, American Baptist Churches USA—passed away at his home on Thursday, October 25. He was 61.

He is survived by his wife Evelyn, two sons and two daughters, and five grandchildren. Send condolences to the family at 60 N Savanna Dr., Pottstown PA19465.

Coffee House Night at Good Shepherd

Good Shepherd Baptist Church is pleased to announce another in their regular series of "Coffee House Nights," featuring talented singers, musicians and comedians from around the area, on Saturday evening, November 10 at 7:00 p.m.

Headliners include Mike Pryor, one of the Pacific Northwest's finest recording and performing songwriters. Mike is well known throughout the region, with lyrics that range from Intelligent Poetry to Gentle Satirical Comedy, with musical styles from Willie Nelson to Night-club Crooner. Also featured will be Lynn Melby, an "irregular" stand-up performer at Giggles Comedy

Club in Seattle and folk musician. Mr. Melby, an author, teacher, journalist and management consultant, is probably best known for hosting the weekly public affairs program, "Northwest Encounter," on KING5-TV, 1982-1990.

Also performing will be singer/guitarist Curtis Price, pastor of Wedgwood Community Church and singers Chris and Connie Boyer, pastor of Good Shepherd and his wife. Several other Good Shepherd members will also perform.

Light refreshments will be available, with proceeds benefiting Good Shepherd's youth program. A donation of \$5 is suggested for the cover

Also performing will be singer/guitarist Curtis Price, ...and singers Chris and Connie Boyer...

charge with proceeds benefiting Good Shepherd's Community Gardens and Arboretum project.

Good Shepherd Baptist Church is located at 6915 196th Street SW in Lynnwood, just north of the Edmonds Community College. For more information, call the church at 425-774-1010 or see the church's website at www.gsbchurch.com. For more on Mike Pryor, www.mikepryormusic.com.

Haiti: Working Together for Community Health

Dear Loved Ones,

May the peace of our Lord be with each one of you.

This past Sunday Sept. 30, 2007, was a big day at our Baptist Church of Acul Jeanot. We were presenting the health agents of our program, Community Health Evangelism, to the entire community. The community has over 1000 people but faces many challenges: no good drinking water, no health care facilities, a very poor school that teaches only up to second year of elementary school, many persons don't have latrines ...

People meet to hear about community health agents

For almost a year now we have been training some persons in the community to be Community Health Evangelists or health agents who can help their own people transform their way of life. We have already demonstrated

the power of working together here by repairing the church toilet in less than three days with the local help.

In spite the fact that they had two funerals in the community many people (about 80) came to our invitation. All the social classes were present.



We were honored to have the government agent with us. We presented about 15 persons who will be going door to door to explain all kind of teaching we have been able to give them.

This program has brought together Catholic, Protestants and none believers. They are coming to realize that once

they all pull together their resources, their time, their will, and their skills they can accomplish more. After the meeting, every body was unanimous to recognize that clean and drinking water was the priority number one to work on in the days to come.

It started to rain when we were saying the last prayer. We walked back under the rain and got home completely wet.

Let us pray and help them get clean water and cut short on the medical bills they pay day after day on diarrhea, worms, etc. They need to dig a well where they can get clean water.

Yours truly,
Kihomi Nzunga



**Happy
Thanksgiving**

Being a Christian is like being a pumpkin. God lifts you up, takes you in, and washes all the dirt off of you. He opens you up, touches you deep inside and scoops out all the yucky stuff- including the seeds of doubt, hate, greed, etc.

Then He carves you a new smiling face and puts His light inside you to shine for all the world to see.



Evergreen Association of American Baptist Churches

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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 25th 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

CALENDAR OF UPCOMING EVENTS

NOVEMBER

- 2—Executive Committee Meeting
- 6—Eric Law Training on Cultural Competency, Peace Lutheran Church, Tacoma WA
- 10—Association Board Meeting, Wedgwood, 9 AM
- 17—Evergreen presents,  **Seussical™, the Musical, University Christian Church, 4731 15th Ave NE, Seattle 98105. Tickets \$25.**
- 30—Executive Committee Combined (outgoing and incoming) leaders Meeting,

JANUARY 2008

- 19—Baptists—Who We Are & How We Do Things Workshop, First Baptist Church, Bountiful UT.
- 21—**Martin Luther King Jr. Day Worship Service, Peoples Institutional Baptist Church, 159 24th Ave, Seattle 98122, 6 PM**

FEBRUARY

- 15—16 TEAM, Executive Committee & Caucus Leadership Retreat

MARCH—APRIL

- 3/30—4/2 Ministers Retreat, Camp Bethel
- 4/27-30 Empowering the Church in the 21st Century

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.