



EVERGREEN NOTES

Volume 4, Issue 10

October 2005

OUT OF MANY—ONE, SO THAT ALL PEOPLES MAY KNOW

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Special points of interest:

- **JAZZ VESPERS, FREE** - First Sunday night of each month-Nov.6, Dec.4, and Jan.1, 6:00 PM at Seattle First Baptist Church, Seneca at Harvard on First Hill.
- **YOUTH LOCK-IN** (for youth ages 10 and up) including pizza, Bible study, games, and a Christian music group called "Threefold Band" singing contemporary/rock Christian music—**FREE**— Mountlake Terrace First Baptist Church, 22800 -56th Ave W, Friday evening November 18th, beginning at 6:30 PM. Call Lynn Richardson at 425-771-4804 for registration/permission slip information.

The celebration and learning opportunities are ready for the third Annual Meeting, October 14 and 15 at Martin Luther King, Jr. Memorial Baptist Church in Renton. If you still need to register, please call or email the office (253-859-2226 or clem@ea-abc.org).

We celebrate three years of learning and growing together. We celebrate five congregations joining us, in-

cluding one new church plant (see article page --). We celebrate God at work among us these three years. We celebrate the gifts we have as we have a concert to raise funds for hurricane relief. Monies will be used to aid those brought to our churches with resettlement costs. Bring a friend to this celebration!

We learn together more about caucuses

in the workshop on Saturday afternoon. (There was the possibility of a schedule change, but no change is happening. The schedule will go forward as originally printed.) We learn together as we consider the implications of the first draft of the vision statement (see article pages 3-5). We learn together by being together and making new friends among the family. See you at MLK!

DO YOU WANT IT? A How to Do Fundraising Seminar

Several of our churches are working toward or thinking about upgrading or building new facilities. We have an opportunity to help that become a reality by offering a how-to-do-fund-raising seminar on November 1 and 2 at Judson Park Retirement Community. This is an Evergreen Building Bridges event. The seminar will run from 10 am to

9:00 pm on Tuesday and 9:00 am to 4:00 pm on Wednesday. The cost is \$25 which will pay for lunch both days. Please register with Clem Winbush 253-859-2226 or clem@ea-abc.org by October 28, 2005.

Larry Johnston of McConkey-Johnston Associates will lead the

event (He has raised millions for Campus Crusade.) with the assistance of Interim World Mission Support Director Rev. Bob Roberts.

You can't beat the information for the price. Sign up today!

Annual Reports Received:

ASIAN CAUCUS

Filipino American
Christian Fellowship

Japanese Baptist

BLACK CAUCUS

Goodwill Baptist

Greater New Bethel

Martin L. King Jr.
Memorial

Mount Zion

ANNUAL MEETING SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 14, 2005

- 1:00 P.M. MINISTER'S COUNCIL LUNCH AND MEETING Lunch: Fellowship Hall
Meeting: Sanctuary
- 3:00 P.M. REGISTRATION OPENS Foyer/Narthex
- 3:30 P.M. PRAYER MEETING Sanctuary
- 4:30 P.M. VISION FOR MINISTRY—PART I Sanctuary
- 5:30 P.M. BREAK
- 6:00 P.M. DINNER Fellowship Hall
- 7:00 P.M. WORSHIP Sanctuary
- 9:00 P.M. RECEPTION Fellowship Hall

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 15, 2005

EURO CAUCUS

Bountiful FB

Burien Community

Burton Community

Church of the Covenant

Fremont

Good Shepherd

Community Church of
Issaquah

Mountlake Terrace FB

Oak Lake

Panther Lake

Pullman

Salt Lake City FB

Seattle FB

University

Wedgwood

- 8:00 A.M. REGISTRATION OPENS Foyer/Narthex
- 8:30 A.M. OPENING WORSHIP Sanctuary
- 9:30 A.M. WORKSHOP ON CAUCUSES Sanctuary
- 11:30 A.M. VISION FOR MINISTRY—PART II Sanctuary
- 12:00 NOON LUNCH Fellowship Hall
- 1:00 P.M. CAUCUSES GROUPS
- 2:30 P.M. BUSINESS SESSION Sanctuary
- 3:30 P.M. VISION FOR MINISTRY—PART III Sanctuary
- 5:30 P.M. BREAK
- 6:00 P.M. DINNER Fellowship Hall
- 7:00 P.M. CONCERT Sanctuary

Driving Directions to MLK

From North or South, take 405 and exit at #5 (Rte 900 East), from South turn Right, from North turn Left at Exit Ramp, traveling East on Sunset Blvd (Rte 900).

Stay on Sunset Blvd, past Union Ave and shopping center to Duvall Ave NE (between 2-3 miles), turn Right on Duvall, go to next cross street (There is a traffic light at the cross walk) and turn Right onto 116th. The church is on your left in approximately one block.

Address: 12611 SE 116th Street, Renton WA Phone: 425-255-1446

VISION PANEL REQUESTS FEEDBACK ON INITIAL STATEMENT

The following statement has been developed by the Vision Panel. It will be widely distributed at the Annual meeting, with request for feedback. You can find the questions that will be asked at the annual meeting following the statement. Please feel free to share your response via mail (409 3rd Ave S Ste A, Kent WA 98032), email (marcia@ea-abc.org) or phone 253-859-2226.

A Missional Vision for the Evergreen Baptist Association:

American Baptists' newest region is a thorough-going attempt to rethink the purpose and function of an association of American Baptist Churches. We seek to recapture the shared life of the churches of the New Testament in ways fitting to our Baptist heritage.

Because the Evergreen Association began its life with a new vision in mind, we first outline how that vision is already coming to fruition:

The Evergreen Association makes **decisions by consensus** and follows the process that actions proceed only after reaching consensus both among racial/ethnic caucuses of churches and within meetings.

The Evergreen Association organizes its life around racial/ethnic **caucuses** that are formed when a minimum of two like churches are accepted into Evergreen membership. The purpose of the caucuses is to level the playing field, empower all congregations, and assure that no unjust privilege is enjoyed.

The Evergreen Association bases its life around the historic **Baptist Liberties**, which include soul liberty, local church autonomy, religious freedom, scriptural liberty and the priesthood of all believers.

We intend our association to be joyful, prayerful and respectful. In the same light, we wish to engage other ABC Regions, the American Baptist Churches in the USA, local ecumenical partners, and Baptist groups around the world in the same **positive spirit**.

The Evergreen Association bases its life around **mutuality between churches and pastors**. Our Vision Team views this shared life as central for our emerging vision.

Some of our basic contextual assumptions are:

American urban culture has become increasingly isolationist and competitive. As our Baptist churches have sadly tended to conform to this nonbiblical culture, local congregations have increasingly become isolated from each other and suspicious of one another. The Scripture instead calls us not to "be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewing of [our] minds" (Romans 12:2). Evergreen is built upon a counter-cultural concept of mutuality between congregations.

VISION STATEMENT CONTINUED

Many judicatories are mostly promotional in nature, planning events and workshops which local churches are urged to attend. Pastors and leaders are asked to promote one event after another. Although judicatories need promotional events, the genius of Evergreen lies elsewhere. Our gift lies in the fundamental mutuality between congregations networking together to meet shared ministry needs and callings. We encourage pastors and congregational leaders to be in non-competitive, sharing relationships with one another.

We have chosen the New Testament Greek word, *koinonia*, (koy-noh-**nee**-ah) to describe the mutuality that we see emerging in Evergreen and that we expect will flourish (Acts 2:42, 1 Corinthians 1:9, 2 Corinthians 8:4, Galatians 2:9, Philippians 1:5, 3:10, 1 John 1:3, 6, 7). The Scriptures describe *koinonia*, not as mere “fellowship,” but as “sharing in the Spirit” (Philippians 2:1). We therefore understand *koinonia* as *participating in a shared life* among congregations, characterized by a dynamic spirit of mutual caring that expresses itself in networking ministry needs and resources

Our vision can thus be summarized:

***Evergreen’s goal is to leave no church behind.* Through the love of God, the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, and the shared life of the Holy Spirit, we seek to empower and encourage every Evergreen congregation to become a vital missional church. We plan to lead our congregations in Spirit-directed transformation—expanding in vision for ministry, vitally engaging their local communities, and seeking health in the congregational systems informing worship, study, decision-making, fellowship and outreach.**

In particular, Evergreen desires:

- that there be no isolated pastors in the Association**
- that every congregation enter into cross-cultural partnerships**
- that every Evergreen church be engaged with other churches in active ministry networks.**
- to welcome new congregations in the discovery of profound mutuality of ministry with other Evergreen churches.**
- to continually ask our Association: “How can we deepen *koinonia* among our churches, which will naturally lead to increased relational networking among our congregations?”**

VISION PANEL REQUESTS RESPONSES TO THE FOLLOWING QUESTIONS

Responses are particularly being sought to the following questions:

1. What images used in this vision are familiar and you understand? What elements are not familiar and you do not understand?
2. Can we see into our future using the “lens” of this Vision Statement?
3. What are the “Big Ideas” in this vision and what’s missing?
4. If adopted, what impact will this vision have upon your church?

Native American Flute Players Benefit Concert

**Saturday, October 8,
2005, 7:30 pm**

at Camp Burton

**Enjoy Dessert &
Coffee**

Performances by:

**Ash Dargan, An
Australian indigenous
Didgeridoo performer;**

**Anthony Natividad, a
Hawaiian flutemaker and
performer;**

**Gary Stroutsos, a world
flute performer
concentrating on American
Indian music-accompanied
by Native American Flute
performers from across the
U.S.**

**Suggested Donation—\$15.00
per person**

ANN HALL TO BE INSTALLED AS A PASTOR— University Lutheran Church

You are cordially invited to Rev. Anne Hall's installation as a pastor of University Lutheran Church, 1604 NE 50th, Seattle, on Sunday, October 23, 2005 at 9:30 a.m.

As many of you know, Anne has been serving University Lutheran as Minister of Children, Youth and Families for the past two years. During that time, she has maintained her ties to the ABC, while also working toward becoming rostered clergy in the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America. The final step for rostering was completed on October 2, when the congregation voted to call her as pastor. Anne will continue her role at ULC with children, youth and families, and will continue to serve with Lead Pastor Ron Moe-Lobeda. She will also continue to attend EBA (and ABC) events.

Video Conferencing Trial: A Follow up

Evergreen's efforts at video conferencing have proved less than successful for large groups. However, please note that the problems are ones that can be worked out. During the Association Board meeting we were able to hear each other and text chat with Fairview and Shell Ridge.

Then during the Executive Committee meeting on Friday, September 30, this email excerpt best sums up the outcomes generally: “tonight's (Friday's) videoconferencing test did not work out the way we had hoped. This might have been successful had there not been a power failure ... This meant that I could not connect ... for lack of electricity)....tried to connect to the internet by way of a neighbor's computer ..not ... Workable...

It's not clear if there are any lessons for us from this experience other than Murphy triumphing once again”.

We'll keep working on it!!

JOB LISTINGS– COMMUNITY CHURCH OF ISSAQUAH

Closing Date: October 15, 2005

The Community Church of Issaquah is seeking to fill two part time positions as part of their Ministry. Qualified candidates are asked to please submit a resume to:

Community Church of Issaquah, 205 Mountain Park Blvd. SW, Issaquah, WA 98027
425 392-6447 Office 425 392-6448 Fax Office Hours: 9:30am to 3:30pm, Mon. to Fri

Minister of Outreach, Part Time

Qualifications: Minister of Outreach should have experience in working with seniors and experience in ministry to youth. (Ages 8 to 18). Candidate should have a valid Washington state driver's license and a good insurance record.

Duties: Develop and manage a well-rounded program providing for the spiritual, social Ministry for youth and seniors. As requested, responsible for all fund raising and the finances thereof. Minister of Outreach is responsible for all recreational equipment for the youth. Minister of Outreach institutes and conducts or coordinates training programs for seniors ministering to seniors and youth ministering to youth, and correlates all activities of youth and seniors with other departments as well as the church's master calendar.

Minister of Music Part Time

Qualifications: Experience as Choir Director and other necessary areas applicable to Music Ministry.

Duties: In cooperation with the Senior Pastor, oversees and administrates the entire music program of the church. Directs the choir in practice, in worship and in presentations. Directs, arranges and cultivates the music presented at all services. Develop small groups such as quartets, trios, etc. to sing at services. As requested, coordinates the presentation of "outside" musical guests. Seeks to discover and encourage new talent. Works with the Minister of Outreach in the development of a Youth Choir and youth ensembles. Integrate the total music program of the church so there is variety, acceptable quality of music, and a spiritual tone pervading the whole. Be familiar with copyright restrictions.

Evergreen Choir
Rehearsals:
Tuesdays, October
11, 18, 25; Nov. 1
& 8, 2005 at
Japanese Baptist,
160 Broadway, 7
PM
ALL
WELCOME! Evergre
en Choir

JOB LISTINGS– TABCOM

The American Baptist Churches of Massachusetts (TABCOM) is accepting applications for the positions of **Area Minister (Deadline for applications is October 25, 2005)** and **Director of World Mission Support and Development (Deadline for applications is October 15, 2005)**.

All those interested in applying should submit the following items:

- Resume; with 3 references none of whom are related to applicant
- American Baptist Personnel Profile (ABPS) preferred and current
- Brief outline of your Spiritual Pilgrimage
- A Letter of Calling as to why you seek the position and your vision for this regional ministry.

Contact Wendy Maxfield at (781) 320-8100, ext 111 for further information

HURRICANE

RESPONSE: American Baptists Respond to the Need

The winds and waters have subsided, only to reveal the great extent of the destruction. You've heard the news reports that this is the worst natural disaster in the history of these United States.

As Christians, we American Baptists and even closer home—we, Evergreen, are reaching out to share God's love — in many ways— with people whose lives have been torn apart. Proceeds from the Annual Meeting concert, Saturday, October 15, 7 PM, featuring A Royal Priesthood will support local Hurricane Relief Efforts.

As we're looking to welcome a new congregation into the family, they, too, are involved in ministering to others: **New Beginnings Christian Fellowship** has been very active in assisting the Hurricane Katrina relief efforts. To date, they have raised over \$14,000.00 as a congregation, and of the \$14,000.00, have donated \$7,000.00 to the American Baptist "One Great Hour Of Sharing" relief efforts. They have also made a commitment to provide financial as-

sistance to a group presently not covered by the relief benefits provided by agencies. Concentrated efforts are being made to help members of the New Beginnings Christian Fellowship who are currently housing survivors or are themselves survivors of hurricane Katrina. A team of NBCF members help provide financial resources for survivors and help them access resources that have been provided for them by agencies. This same team also assists NBCF members currently housing survivors with financial support to meet the demands of taking care of additional family members. Some NCFB members have also teamed with other agencies such as the Urban League of Metropolitan Seattle's "Operation Helping Hands" benefit which took place on September 30, and October 1, 2005 to assist them in their relief efforts. Rev. Allen Benson, Assistant to the Pastor shares, "Our Church's motto is: "God is always ready to start over" and we as a congregation

are committed to helping those who are survivors start over again in the Pacific Northwest".

And, **Seattle First Baptist Church** commissioned Dr. Paul Roby, through Companis Mission Workers Association, and he has been deployed as one of the Mission Workers to serve for at least 2 months in the hurricane relief effort. Dr. Roby's work will be a part of the response team being managed by the Interfaith Ministries of Greater Houston at the request of Houston's Mayor.

Also, Seattle First Baptist has made apartments available at Hilltop House in Seattle for elderly persons affected by the hurricanes.

And **Martin Luther King Church** is part of a Katrina Clergy & Community Coalition (KCCC) where several churches pooled their resources to aid Katrina victims. The Rev. Toni Booker, chairperson of the Katrina Relief Committee at Martin Luther King Church, relates that dona-

tions to KCCC have provided three homes that are rent free, furniture, clothes, & food for families in need. Airline tickets have been purchased to fly several survivors to the Seattle area as well as a ticket purchased to fly one of the survivors back to Louisiana to see if anything could be salvaged of the home there.

Once survivors are settled in their new homes, the coalition then helps them to get acquainted with resources made available through FEMA, the Red Cross, and other organizations.

Rev. Toni Booker has not only had the opportunity of helping families meet their physical needs, but she has been in prayer with them. It's a good thing to know that the church will support their physical needs, and their spiritual needs as well. It's all about the love of Jesus!

Together we will work as Christ's hands and feet in this crisis, bringing the healing only God can offer to those whose hearts and spirits have been broken.

The Biennial—A Youth's Perspective

My favorite part of the Biennial was working with Jackie Saxon. She is so full of life and energy (except in the morning before her coffee). She is a real fun person to be around and is very easy to talk to—everybody listens when Jackie talks!

I loved being a Delegate and being able to have a voice in our denomination.

It really made me feel like I was an important part of the ABC. However, I was very disappointed with the way some of the adults acted when it came to the homosexuality issue. It turned more into an argument than a debate. One person would state his/her opinion and someone else would get mad, get up on the

Stephanie Goddis

podium and attack the other side. Many left angry at the end of the day. It was really baffling to me because the youth all had different opinions, and yet we were still friends at the end of the day. It really made me think of my own maturity level and how much I have grown as an adult. The youth are supposed to

learn from the adults, and the adults were not setting a good example.

I am not sure if I would like to go back to the Biennial. Some say that first impressions stick with you, but I'm open minded; I may give it another shot.



Evergreen Association of American Baptist Churches

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Visit our webpage
at www.ea-abc.org

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, EXCEPT THE PARISH PAPERS as you choose, for your congregation (s).

Rev. Dr. Marcia J. Patton, Executive Minister

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.

CALENDAR OF UPCOMING EVENTS

OCTOBER

- 1, 8, 22, 29—Ethics Course, (CEU's available) 1–4 PM, Kent Offices
- 14-15—Evergreen's 3rd Annual Meeting, MLK Baptist Church, Renton
- 30—Asian Caucus Scholarship Dinner

NOVEMBER

- 1– 2 How to do Fundraising Workshop, Judson Park Retirement Center, RSVP by Oct. 28
- 4-5 ACT Weekend
- 7—Executive Committee Meeting
- 12—EBA Association

Board Meeting, 9 AM, Wedgwood

- 17 –20 ABCUSA General Board Meeting, Valley Forge PA
- 24-25—EBA Offices closed for Thanksgiving

DECEMBER

- 2 Executive Committee meeting, Busch Gardens
- 23-26—EBA Offices closed for Christmas
- 30—EBA Offices closed for New Year

JANUARY

- 2 EBA Offices closed
- 6–7 ACT Weekend
- 16 MLK Day Worship

FEBRUARY

- 10–11 ACT Weekend

APRIL

- 16 RESURRECTION SUNDAY!!
- 17–20 ABCUSA "Wait on the Lord" Pastors' Conference, Orlando FL
- 28–29 ACT Weekend