



The Rocky Mountain American Baptist

A Newsletter of the American Baptist Churches in the Rocky Mountain Region

Ministry and Mission Coaches Serve ABCRM Churches

Is it hard for you to think “coach” instead of “area minister”? And when you think “coach,” do you think of someone pacing the sidelines yelling directions? That’s not the case with our coaches, Mike Oldham and Wayne Dvirnak. So let’s go back to square one and explore the work of our Ministry and Mission Coaches.

Back to Square One

We believe that leadership coaching is what today’s Christian leaders are looking for—someone to cheer them on, challenge them to go deeper and reach higher, and help them stay focused on fulfilling their life purpose. Coaching takes place in many ways—in both informal and formal settings. Our coaches honor the person/group being coached (hereafter, termed the “client”) as the expert(s). Coaches don’t come with answers, but rather help clients discover, clarify, and align with what they wish to achieve. Coaches encourage self-discovery in the client and elicit their self-generated solutions and strategies. It is also the coaches’ role to hold their clients responsible and accountable. Basic coaching skills include listening, encouraging, asking powerful

questions, responding, and negotiating action.

Jesus’ Example

Have you ever looked at how Jesus led people to action? He often asked powerful questions—so powerful, in fact, that people were challenged to realign their lives. Christian leaders are learning that Jesus is the “head coach” from whom we can learn valuable leadership lessons.

On to Square Two

With these basics in mind, how do these principles apply to Region staff working with local churches, pastors, and laity?

You will find Wayne and Mike filling the coaching role when you call them to get answers to a particular problem. You will be valued as the expert. They will guide you through the thought processes to arrive at a plausible solution.

When your church invites Region staff persons to help you chart the course for the future, you will receive coaching, but you won’t be

Inside Information

In this issue of RMAB, you will find articles about our ministry and mission:

International Cooperation in the Missionary Enterprise

CWS Urgent Request

Annual Report Form Yields Helpful Data—Please Report!

Message to Parents of Children and Youth

2006 Special Interest Missionaries

FAQs about MPTs and MPNs

told where to go and how to get there. That’s up to you as a collective entity. Remember, the client is the expert!

Your coaches are committed

- to be empathetic and provocative listeners.
- to help frame questions that will open ministry and mission possibilities.
- to stimulate strategic thinking.
- to broker resources and networking opportunities.

(continued on page 2)

Coaches. . .

(continued from page 1)

- to help churches and individuals take advantage of change and chart the future.
- to bring a non-anxious presence.
- to resist the temptation to be “fixers.”

Mike and Wayne remain available to you as you seek to maximize the use of your spiritual gifts and talents. They will seek to help you be accountable, and they will rejoice with you as you grow, fulfill your purpose, and realize your potential.

Both of our coaches work from their homes:



Mike Oldham (719-460-1830)
Ministry and Mission Coach
Western Slope
and SE Colorado/NM



Wayne Dvirnak (307-638-8247)
Ministry and Mission Coach
Northern Front Range
and Wyoming

*During this interim period,
Metro Denver churches may call
Desmond Hoffmeister
at the Region office
(303-988-3900).*

The Story of International Co-operation in the Missionary Enterprise

This article highlights the story of a failing mission work in India and how it became responsible for the Indian Baptist work in South Africa. It is one of hope, faith, and determination, and is sure to be of encouragement to missionaries around the globe. It is written by Rodney Ragwan, Former-president of the Baptist Association of South Africa and currently a Doctoral Student at Palmer Theological Seminary in Philadelphia. We welcome him as our new Global Mission Partnership Specialist.

American Baptist missionaries Samuel S. Day and his wife together with Mr. and Mrs. Lyman Jewett worked among the Telugus in India. On two occasions there were attempts to disband the work among the Indians. The American Baptist-led work in Burma was progressing well, but the work in India was not. At a meeting of the American Foreign Baptist Missionary Society, a presentation was made of their progress on the various mission fields. This progress was denoted by stars. Only one star was placed in India. The Board decided it was time to close the mission work in India.

That night, S. F. Smith, who composed the song “America,” was very troubled about that decision. Unable to sleep, he wrote a poem about the Lone Star. This poem had such a powerful effect on the Board that they agreed that the work in India would continue. In 1853, a church was established in Nellore called the Lone Star Baptist Church. It was at this church that a Hindu priest, Tupela Rungiah, gave his heart to the Lord under the ministry of Lyman Jewett. Rungiah and his wife had four sons, Daniel, Samson, John and Benjamin, all of whom became Baptist ministers.

In the late 18th century Indians from the subcontinent of India, upon the invitation of the British Colonial Authority arrived in South Africa to work on the sugar and tea estates. Among these folks was a group of Telegu Christians who saw the need to organize the Indian church in South Africa. A request was sent to the Telegu Baptist Home Missionary Society for assistance. John Rungiah, son of Tupela Rungiah and a member of the Lonestar Baptist Church in India responded to this request. In 1903 John Rungiah arrived in South Africa to work among the Telugu Indian indentured laborers. This resulted in the establishment of the first Telugu Indian Baptist Church in Africa. Rungiah established many churches in Natal, South Africa. Two Baptist organizations in South Africa, the Baptist Association of South Africa and the Baptist Mission of South Africa, are a testimony to his work.

Three continents were involved in this world mission account – North America, India, and Africa. The American Baptist Churches, USA did not have a direct working relationship with the Indian Church in South Africa. In 2001 when I was president of the Baptist Association of South Africa, an initiative was undertaken to connect these two organizations. A partnership was formed between the Baptist Association of South Africa and the American Baptist Churches, USA.

...an urgent request from Church World Service Needed: "Gift of the Heart" Kits

Needs stemming from the earthquake in southern Asia in October 2005 and the hurricanes that affected the United States in the summer of 2005 are prompting Church World Service to urgently ask its member denominations to help replenish CWS's supply of CWS "Gift of the Heart" Baby and School Kits and CWS Emergency Clean-up Buckets.

A supply of the Kits and Buckets is necessary in preparing for what is predicted to be another busy hurricane season. Separate instructions for packing and sending the kits follow below.

School Kit:

- One pair of blunt scissors
- Spiral or tape-bound notebooks of ruled paper 8-1/2" X 11" containing 140-200 sheets of paper. No filler paper, please.
- One 30-centimeter ruler (12")
- One pencil sharpener
- Six new pencils with erasers
- One large eraser
- Twelve sheets colored construction paper
- One box of 24 crayons
- One 12" X 14" cloth bag with cloth handles and a closure (Velcro, snap, or buttons)

Pack these items in the cloth bag and secure contents with the closure.

Value per School Kit is \$13.

Baby Kit:

- Six cloth diapers
- Two shirts
- Two washcloths
- Two gowns or sleepers
- Two diaper pins
- One sweater or sweatshirt

- Two receiving blankets (one can be a knitted blanket)

Wrap items inside one of the receiving blankets and secure with diaper pins.

Value per Baby Kit is \$39.

Emergency Clean-up Bucket

- One 5-gallon bucket with re-sealable lid
- Five scouring pads
- Seven sponges, assorted sizes
- One scrub brush
- Eighteen cleaning towels (reusable, like Easy Wipes)
- One 50-78 oz. box dry laundry detergent
- One 12 oz. bottle of liquid concentrated household cleaner (like Lysol)
- One 25 oz. bottle liquid disinfectant dish soap (like Dawn)
- Fifty clothespins
- Clothesline, two 50 ft. or one 100 ft.
- Five dust masks
- Two pairs latex gloves
- One pair work gloves
- One 22-27 count box heavy-duty trash bags (33-45 gallon)
- One 6-14 oz. bottle of insect repellent (drops or lotion, not aerosol)

Please purchase all liquids in plastic bottles. Be sure to send only new, unopened materials. Put all items in the plastic bucket, making sure they are packed securely to avoid damage during shipment, and seal lid with packing tape. Place each bucket in a separate box.

Value per Emergency Clean-up Bucket is \$45.

Packaging and Shipping Instructions

- Pack "Gift of the Heart" Kits and Cleanup Buckets in boxes with only one type of Kit in each box.
- Indicate the type of Kit clearly on the outside of the box.
- Secure the boxes with packing tape.

Ship all Kits prepaid to:

Church World Service
Brethren Service Center Annex
601 Main Street
P.O. Box 188
New Windsor, MD 21776-0188
Phone: (410) 635-8797

(Please include both the P.O. Box and the street address on boxes.)

Funds for Processing/ Shipping and Purchasing Kits:

Funds are needed to cover sorting, packing, and insurance, as well as shipping Kits and Buckets to their final destination. Please give at least \$2 for each School, Health, or Baby Kit you send, and \$3 for each Kids Kit or Clean-up Bucket. You may also purchase Kits - prices are indicated on the Kit descriptions. Send your check or money order payable to Church World Service to:

Church World Service
P.O. Box 968
Elkhart, IN 46515

Questions?

Call 1-800-297-1516

Call the CWS HOTLINE for updates: (800) 297-1516 or visit the Church World Service Website at www.churchworldservice.org.

Reaching into the Hurt: Crisis Management Conference

Denver Seminary and Jan McCormack invite you to the "Reaching into the Hurt" Crisis Management Conference August 16th through the 19th.

This conference will equip local and regional pastors, care-givers, counselors, care professionals, and students to better identify and minister to



hurting people. More than ten speakers will be on hand to address various topics such as appropriate evangelism in the midst of crisis situations, juvenile delinquency and teen sex, crises within the church, grief and loss, divorce, suicide, and pornography. These topics and others will be addressed with the general purpose of teaching caregivers to appropriately help those who are hurting.

If you are interested, please visit the Denver Seminary news webpage: <http://www.denverseminary.edu/events/crisis> to access more details of this conference. You may register directly online, or you can download the registration packet. You may also stop by the Counseling Desk at the seminary to ask Stephanie Thompson for a hard copy of the registration packet.

It pays to register as soon as possible as seating is limited. In addition, there are deep discounts for early bird registration by July 15, 2006.

The Church's Annual Statistics

Why Bother Reporting?

Local churches want to change the lives of people in the neighborhoods around them, through both the evangelism of the Word and evangelism through deeds. In the midst of these important ministries of the local church, why bother with administrative chores like returning your Cooperating Church Annual Report to the denomination? Aren't they just being nosy anyway? Why does anybody need to know?



A direct relationship to meaningful evangelism happens through the "Find a Church" function of the abc-usa.org website. A newcomer to your area can go to the website and search for a local American Baptist church. If your church is entered in the ABC Information System (ABCIS) database, and the church has provided the Region or denomination with your website address via the Cooperating Church Annual Report process, the seeker can go directly to your website and find out more about your church. They can even search for directions. This is a direct route to evangelism!

There are other reasons to fill out these reports as well. The annual church data is used to compare

American Baptist Churches USA to other mainline denominations. Are American Baptists across the denomination growing? Our combined baptism data tells the story. For instance, statistics show that ABCUSA was the fastest growing denomination in 2002 and 2003. What a cause for celebration!

The information you provide on the Cooperating Church Annual Report is an opportunity for Regions and for American Baptist Churches USA to celebrate your local church's ministry. Every ABC church has a Congregational Profile containing the information reported by your church via the Cooperating Church Annual Report form. If your church's profile is not up-to-date, it may tell an inaccurate story about your church. Annually, you have an opportunity to update your church's profile and to review it. In 2006, the profile is accessible online for you to enter your 2005 data. Please make this a priority as you practice excellent church management in 2006 and use every means available in your efforts to evangelize!

*Cheryl Wade
Associate General Secretary
and Treasurer
Reprinted by permission from
Pastor to Pastor, Spring 2006.*

THANK YOU to the 50% of our churches who have completed and returned their forms to the Region office. THANK YOU to those who have used the on-line option as well. It certainly helps to keep your church's and the Region's information accurate. We would like to have this information available from ALL our churches. Therefore, you are encouraged—IT'S NOT TOO LATE—to forward your forms to the office. Call Beverley at 303-988-3900, ext. 10 with any questions you may have.

...an important message to parents of children and youth

MYSPACE on the Internet

There are a lot of things in the news about the fairly new bit of technology in our world called **MYSPACE**. Simply put, **MYSPACE** is an inter-net within the internet, where one can journal, email, instant message, and post music and pictures for free. It combines blogging and digital scrapbooking technologies as well. And it allows each individual to have their own “**MYSPACE**” on the internet at no charge. Originally designed for independent musicians to share their music and be noticed by others, it is now the social hub for millions of people under 30.

For me, it has been an invaluable tool to connect to the youth of our church and their friends like never before. I learn things about the day to day lives of our kids that I might never learn otherwise. And, in a world where the chasm between youth and the rest of society is becoming larger and larger, it is a helpful bridge into a little bit of their world as well as a way of keeping in touch.

Much of what we see on the news about **MYSPACE** is how youth are vulnerable to the advances of sexual predators and child abductors. This is a real danger with **MYSPACE**. It is also a real danger when you let teenagers shop at the mall, walk home from school, go to the skating rink or the movie, work a part-time job, or be in Boy Scouts. The challenge is that we have trained our children and youth on how to deal with “stranger danger” in the above settings, but not on the computer. In my opinion, we don’t need to isolate our children from technologies such as **MYSPACE**,

but we need to teach our children and youth appropriate safeguards for using these tools appropriately.

Here are some safeguards I recommend with **MYSPACE**:

1. Put your computer in a high traffic area—a place where you can walk by and look at what your child is doing online at any time. This means that if you want your child or teen avoiding internet predators, pornography, suspect chat rooms, and similar dangers, you need to be walking by as a parent or grandparent and seeing what they are doing on the computer regularly. It also means that bedrooms, home offices, and basements are not good places for a computer to be used by a young person.
2. Spy on your kids; it’s your job! Check history after they get off the computer. If they have been deleting cookies and clearing history, be suspicious. Jump in with them when they are online and see what they have been saying and to whom, and when they least expect it. (This spying thing goes for their social life at times too..drop in on them once in while when they least expect it, even if they get angry with you.)
3. Use internet restrictions appropriate for your child’s age-level. And if you do this, as the primary account holder, do not share your password with your child or store it on your computer.
4. Have your youth set their **MYSPACE** settings to “private” to limit who may contact them.
5. Make your teenage child and grandchild’s “internet life” a matter of conversation as much as any other part of their life. Ask who have they been talking to and what about. Ask what their favorite sites

online are and why. Talk about their “online friends.” Make a point of meeting them.

6. Train your child and yourself to use proper boundaries online. This includes not just giving out your phone number to someone you have never met, but may also include not participating in chain letters and memes (online questionnaires that you share about yourself) that may share too much information. Some of these chain letters/bulletins also may give unintended signals to internet predators.

All in all sites like **MYSPACE**, instant messengers, and chat rooms are not bad things in and of themselves. But, they leave us and our children in vulnerable positions when we do not take the time to train ourselves in the nuances of the new world we live in. Technology is a great blessing from God. But we need to take the time to learn how to use it safely and to our advantage, and to the advantage of God’s kingdom.

Editor’s Note: We now host a youth forum known as NET on the ABCRM website at <http://www.abcrm.org/phpbb2/>. It is a place to talk about what your church youth group is doing and what’s happening in your life. So far, there are no postings.

Invite the youth with whom you are acquainted to be the first to help get it off the ground. There’s also a youth leader forum available.



*Clint Walker
Associate Pastor
First Baptist Church
Colorado Springs, CO
RMAB 6/15/06*

Our 2006 Special Interest Missionaries

SIMS: Not just for the women's ministry group anymore!

The American Baptist Special Interest Missionary (SIM) Program was started in 1952 with the support of American Baptist Women. This program

1. personalizes American Baptist mission.
2. acquaints congregations with missionaries and their ministries.
3. cultivates prayer and financial support for our mission in the United States and other countries.

Traditionally, the SIM program was administered through American Baptist Women's Ministries. However, not every church has an active AB Women's Ministries group. To reach every American Baptist church, National and International Ministries have expanded the SIM program in recent years so that all American Baptist churches will receive information. This was done at the request of pastors who want their congregations to learn more about American Baptist mission and to build stronger partnerships with our missionaries.

Following are the names and contact information for the SIMs assigned to ABCRM. Because our ABW Ministries groups remain organized according to state boundaries, you will note different names have been assigned to churches in Wyoming and Colorado/New Mexico.

RMAB 6/15/06

Names assigned to Colorado and New Mexico:

Rev. Mercedes Gonzalez-Barnes and Rev. Richard Barnes (United States)

2310 West Elm, El Centro, CA 92243
mercyrickmx@hotmail.com

Rev. Lauran Bethell (Global Service Missionary)
International Baptist Theological, Nad Habrovkou 3, Jeneralka, CZ 164 00 Prague 6, Czech Republic.

(Lauran is a Global Service Missionary working with women and children at risk (prostitution, human trafficking, etc.) For her protection, email and phone numbers are not available. Please contact her Area Director, Reid Trulson, for current information. Call 800-222-3872 ext. 2227 or e-mail rtrulson@abc-usa.org.)

Mr. John and Debra Coats (Cambodia)
c/o Christian Care for Camodia, P.O. Box 830, Phnom Penh, Cambodia
djcoatsusa@yahoo.com

Mr. Tom and Terry Myers (Bulgaria)
2817 Wakonda Drive, Fort Collins, CO 80521
myersbulgaria@msn.com

Rev. David Reed and Rev. Joyce Anderson-Reed (Mexico)
c/o Casabuena, 3065 Belisario Dominguez, e/Sonora Y Sinaloa, Col. Pueblo Nuevo, LaPaz, BCS 23060, Mexico.
reedsinmex@lycos.com

Rev. Daniel and Mrs. Estella Schweissing (Bahamas)
American Baptist International Ministries, SB-51486,
Nassau, New Providence, The Bahamas
estela@haitianministries.net
dan@haitianministries.net

Dr. Paul K. Chapman (Ecumenical Ministries in US)
The Employment Project, 130 MacDougal Street, Apt. D., New York, NY 10012
p.chapman@mindspring.com

Rev. Vincent Harris (Race Track Chaplain)
Thistledown Race Track, 21501 Emery Road, Cleveland, OH 44128
harrisrtca@aol.com

Mr. Trevor Jones (Alaska Ministries)
Kodiak Baptist Mission, 1944 Rezanof Drive East, Kodiak, AK 99615
Kbmak@ptialaska.net

Our 2006 Special Interest Missionaries

Names assigned to Wyoming:

Rev. Lauran Bethell (Global Service Missionary)
International Baptist Theological, Nad Habrovkou 3, Jeneralka, CZ 164
00 Prague 6, Czech Republic.

(Lauran is a Global Service Missionary working with women and children at risk (prostitution, human trafficking, etc.) For her protection, email and phone numbers are not available. Please contact her Area Director, Reid Trulson, for current information. Call 800-222-3872 ext. 2227 or e-mail rtrulson@abc-usa.org.)

Rev. Debra and Rev. Dr. Flint Miller (Philippines)
Asian Baptist Graduate Theological Seminary, P.O. Box 7,
19 Tracy Road Guisad, Baguio City 2600, Philippines
flintndeb@yahoo.com

Rev. David Reed and Rev. Joyce Anderson-Reed (Mexico)
c/o Casabuena, 3065 Belisario Dominguez, e/Sonora Y Sinaloa,
Col. Pueblo Nuevo, LaPaz, BCS 23060, Mexico
reedsinmex@lycos.com

Rev. Daniel and Mrs. Estella Schweissing (Bahamas)
American Baptist International Ministries, SB-51486,
Nassau, New Providence, The Bahamas
estela@haitianministries.net
dan@haitianministries.net

Rev. Dr. Jeffrey Sharp (Global Service Missionary)
4908 Bangor Court, Richmond, VA 23228
hkbtsharp@msn.com

Mr. Alvin Lewis (Neighborhood Action/Christian Center)
United Christian Centers of Greater Sacramento
110 Sixth Street, W. Sacramento, CA 95605
alvinlewis@yahoo.com

Dr. Lawrence Lindley (Neighborhood Action/Christian Center)
Edna Martin Christian Center, 1970 North Caroline Avenue
Indianapolis, IN 46218
LindleyLM@juno.com

Mr. David Sheldon (Neighborhood Action/Christian Center)

**“Go, therefore and make disciples of all nations,
baptizing them in the name of the Father and of
the Son and of the Holy Spirit. . .”**



Executive Director, The Place,
20 E. Main Street, Norwich, NY
13815

theplace@theplace-cncn.org

For more information about the missionaries assigned to you, please visit the following websites: <http://www.inter-nationalministries.org> and <http://www.nationalministries.org>.

Journals and newsletters from our missionaries are available on these sites. We hope you can share these journals with everyone in your congregation, so your church as a whole can pray for the missionaries, send messages of encouragement and, if you feel led, support them financially.

For other ideas of ways to support your SIMs, visit the ABCRM website: http://www.abcrm.org/mission/missionaries_special.htm and scroll down to view the suggestions. Thank you for your ongoing support of American Baptist missionaries serving in the

FAQs about MPNs and MPTs

What are MPNs and MPTs?

A Missionary Partnership Network (MPN) is a relational support system engaging individuals, churches, associations, and region in direct support of a missionary by coming alongside a missionary to pray for, participate in, and facilitate their ministry. The Missionary Partnership Team (MPT) is a small group of individuals who are invited by the missionary to serve as the “core” or “hub” of the network.

Where did the idea of MPNs and MPTs come from?

The development of Missionary Partnership Networks and Teams arose early in this century out of International Ministries’ *Go Global* Strategic Plan as a response to the desire expressed by individuals and local churches to connect more directly and personally with missionaries. The MPT/MPN initiative was inspired by a similar program used by Eastern Mennonite Missions, who shared their vision and experience with IM. The concept of mission partnership has biblical roots in the Philippian church’s partnership with the apostle Paul (Philippians 1:3-11; 2:25-30; 4:10-20) and in Paul’s strong sense of relationship with the church at Rome (Romans 1:8-12). There is a clear historical precedent for mission partnerships in the women who traveled with and supported Jesus in his itinerant ministry (Luke 8:1-13), in the church at Antioch sending out Paul and Barnabas (the “Son of Encouragement”) as a team, and in the work of Luther Rice to rally American Baptist churches to support the missionary work of Ann

and Adoniram Judson, giving birth to what is now International Ministries.

How can a person or church join a Missionary Partnership Network?

An individual, church, association, or Region may take the initiative to join a network by contacting the IM Mission Partnership office, a missionary’s MPT, or a missionary to volunteer their involvement, prayer support, or financial support. The “Missionary Partnership Network” brochure, (available at http://www.international-ministries.org/mission_partnership/mpn_english.pdf) as well as the prayer cards for each of IMs missionaries, provide tear-off sections which may be filled out and returned to the IM Mission Partnership office to enroll in a network.

How can a person or church join a Missionary Partnership Team?

MPTs are made up of individuals (not churches or groups) who are *invited by the missionary* to help build and manage the missionary’s partnership network. Though the opportunity to serve on an MPT is limited, the opportunities to be part of one or more MPNs are unlimited.

What does the MPT do?

The job of the MPT is to help their missionary build and maintain their partnership network. MPT members may speak on their missionary’s behalf, produce and distribute communications sharing the work of the missionary, relay prayer requests from the missionary to network churches, organize mission trips to support the

missionary’s work, and provide encouragement and support for the missionary and their family. The MPTs relational network-building generates increasing levels of commitment to local church and global ministry, enhances mission education, engages people in focused prayer for the work of the missionary, increases the desire and opportunity for people to go and serve in missions, and increases the level of financial support provided for the missionary.

Do ABC missionaries now have to “raise their own support”?

Missionaries are not being asked to raise their own support. They are asked to be intentional about building and nurturing relationships with individuals and churches who desire to be more personally connected to them and their ministry. The missionaries are asked to form (and have staff orient) their MPT, who are to help them build a relational network of individuals/churches. One of several expected responses to that growing relationship is a commitment to contribute financially to their ongoing support needs.

What is the “MPT Target Goal”?

The MPT Target Goal is a portion of the total expense of a missionary’s work which IM aims to have provided by network individuals and churches in response to their personal interest and engagement in the missionary’s ministry. The specific goal for a missionary or missionary couple is the sum total of the missionary’s *actual* living allowance + medical insurance + retirement benefit. All other costs (housing, utilities, transportation, education, work funds, visas, etc.) are funded through giving to the World Mission Offering.

Northern Seminary Board Appoints John Kirn as Interim President

At a recent board meeting, June 1-2, the Northern Seminary Board of Trustees publicly expressed their appreciation for the leadership of former Board Chair, John Kirn, over the past three months as Acting CEO of Northern Seminary. As a result, they have unanimously agreed to appoint Kirn Interim President of Northern Seminary during a transition period encompassing a presidential search. The appointment is effective immediately and will fill the position left by outgoing president, Charles W. Moore.

It is expected that the presidential search committee could take up to a year or more to identify a new President for Northern Seminary. In the meantime, John Kirn will assume the full authority of the presidential office and will be responsible for the leadership of the seminary.

“The Board of Trustees expressed its great appreciation to John Kirn for his willingness to continue as the leader of Northern Baptist Seminary during this transition,” said Ted Rodgers, Chair of the Board of Northern Seminary.

John Kirn has served on the Board of Trustees since 1998. During his tenure on the board, he served in several key roles including involvement in the activities committee; as chair of the advancement committee; chair of the presidential search committee that called Charles Moore to the role of President in 2001; and as Chair of the Board.

A Conference on Grace

A Conference on Grace will be held at Camp WYOBA on Casper Mountain on Friday, August 18, starting at 9:00 a.m. and concluding on Saturday, August 19 at noon. The opportunity for early arrival will be available on Thursday evening, August 17.

The purpose of this conference is to celebrate God’s grace. The conference will focus on four themes: having a need for grace, called by grace, living in grace, and celebrating grace. The conference program combines speakers, discussion times, small groups, singing, and opportunities for private meditation and prayer. Personal testimonies relating to God’s grace are welcome!

Leaders include:

- Whalen Woodward (*Bethel Baptist/Casper*),
- Myron Reed, Clinton Lewis, Doug Carr (*Calvary Baptist/Cheyenne*),
- Wayne Dvirnak (*Region office/Cheyenne*),
- Rick Bishop and Carl Hildebrand (*Community Church/Glenrock*),
- Mike Halliburton (*FBC/Lander*),
- Mary Beth Mankin, Eric Moorehouse (*FBC/Laramie*),
- Jenita Calton, Mary Ann Golden (*FBC/Rawlins*).

The cost

- before July 15: One individual \$35, Couple/Family \$55.
- after July 15th: One individual \$40, Couple/Family \$60.

Registration materials are being mailed to your church office.

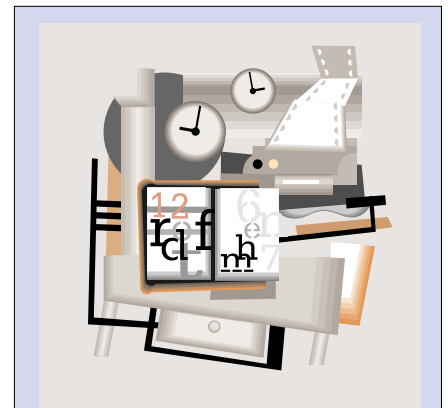
A Recipe for Success



Mission speakers: Judy Derolf, Terry Myers, Ruthann Stevenson

Bring 3 mission speakers,
Add 111 conferees bearing
825 bears,
Mix in 6 workshops
Blend with several colorful displays,
Sing some songs,
Pray and worship together,
Shop and eat with friends
whenever you can. . .
that was the 2006 recipe for a
successful ABW Ministries
conference in Colorado.

Look for more pictures on the ABW Ministries page of the website soon.



Summer Production Schedule

Due to summer vacation schedules, the next issue of the *Rocky Mountain American Baptist* will be published on July 15. The deadline for submissions is July 10.

Look for a special leadership issue on July 31.

**Leadership Changes
(since 4/15/06)**

Fred Allen

retired
FBC/Fowler, CO

Richard Goins

interim minister
American Baptist Church
Fort Collins, CO

Mike Wick

interim minister
FBC/Olathe, CO

Lori Dvirnak-Lundblad

pastor
FBC/Rock Springs, WY

Jim Watson

interim minister
FBC/Cheyenne, WY

NEW!
at abcrm.org

FORUMS

for clusters, camping,
youth, leaders, etc.

JOIN
the conversations!

GO
to [http://
www.abcrm.org](http://www.abcrm.org),
click on the
communication page
and you're there!

You will need to register
to participate.

**The Rocky Mountain
American Baptist**

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Desmond Hoffmeister:

Transitional Executive Minister

Ingrid Dvirnak:

Newsletter Editor

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10th and 25th of each month.*

*Reprint permission is granted to
ABCRM churches.*

