

# The Baptistar

The Newsletter of the American Baptist  
Women's Ministries of Wyoming



In This Winter 2007 Issue:

Rush slowly and pay attention, Jenita Calton  
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'Twenty years from now you will be more disappointed by the things you didn't do than by the ones you did. So throw off the bowlines, sail away from the safe harbor. Catch the trade winds in your sails. Explore. Dream. Discover.'

Mark Twain

I've had this quote hanging above my desk for several years now. I love it. It's wisdom gives me courage. But now I wonder about the wisdom of Twain, especially for someone like me who jumps at any opportunity which comes to me.

Mark Buchanan, in his book 'The Rest of God', says that when he was asked what his biggest regret was, didn't reply that it was having not done things. He replied that it was doing too many things- hurrying from activity to activity without fully entering into the wonder and sacredness of the activity. He says, "Through all that haste, I thought I was making up time. It turns out I was throwing it away."

Father Damien was a Catholic missionary to the leper colony of Kalaupapa, Hawaii, which at it's peak held 1,200 men, women and children in exile. I think Father Damien is about to be granted sainthood for the work he did in Kalaupapa. The work was extraordinary in the quantity of things he accomplished and the spirit in which the work was done.

In the book 'The Colony', John Tayman shares Father Damien's daily schedule. It is ridiculous and rivals anything the most driven person of our time can hope to sustain. In the margin of his diary, Father Damien once penned, 'rush slowly'.

I think this concept ties the life we face with the desires of our heart. These simple two words can move us from a life 'marked by frantic busyness and chronic distraction- to a life of restfulness and wonder'. Mark Buchanan calls it paying attention. Father Damien called it 'rush slowly'.

I urge you to rush slowly through life, paying attention to everything around you and within you.

Psalm 46:10 Be still and know that I am God.



Father Damien at Kalaupapa, Hawaii

#### Conference News:

Kristina Gutierrez missionary to Nicaragua will be our speaker at the June 8th & 9th 2007 ABWM Conference to be held in Lander at First Baptist Church, 339 Sweetwater. Registration is at 1:00pm on Friday, June 8th and the conclusion will be approximately 6pm Saturday, June 9th.

#### About Kristina:

Kristina works with the Baptist university in Managua. She also cooperates with PROVADENIC rural health program CEPAD (the Evangelical Council of Churches) and the Baptist Theological Seminary in equipping local leaders for evangelism and discipleship.

Kristina's work with the UPOLI has included both training nursing students and starting a chaplaincy program at the Baptist Hospital of Managua. The chaplaincy program is unique in Latin America and has begun sending trained chaplains to accompany patients and family members in different public hospitals in Nicaragua. She has also been training women at the UPOLI's urban public health center to be Promoters Against Family Violence in their community.

Bonnie and I will begin our planning in the very near future and have more info about the actual conference for the next newsletter.

Kristina with her children Gabe and Angélica



#### State Officers:

Let's try to meet together on Saturday, February 24, 2007 from 10:30 am to about 2:00 pm at my house, 913 Stafford, Casper. Please let me know how this works for you. We need to discuss next year's election of new officers and conference, primarily. Bring a report about your area of service, if you can. Hope to see you then! Barbara

Just thinking about the last few months and what has been happening. It seems many of our friends have spent time in the hospital--anyway we have been doing more visiting there than usual. The ladies of Casper are missing a dear, sweet friend who went home to be with Jesus in December. Our Fran Williams was nearly 100 (July), always helping wherever she could, and a real fixture in our church. I think she had been a member for about 60 years. What a wonderful life and testimony she enjoyed. Our church was filled with those who had been touched by this dear, sweet witness of God's love.

I hope your holidays were times of celebration and joy and didn't leave you frazzled or missing the peace that our Jesus provides. It can be very difficult in our culture to focus on what is truly the meaning of the season. I am finding that I enjoy the usual festivities but look forward more and more to Easter, which is really why Jesus came. How I pray that we can prevent the commemoration of the Resurrection from becoming more of a circus and buying time. A friend was showing me a book today, "Born to Buy" by a lady named Julia Shopfer who has researched how we have been "programmed" toward materialism almost from the womb. I haven't read it but think I will, just to see what we are falling into.

One of our Sunday School studies this spring is Beth Moore's "Daniel". She identifies a similar trap that we need to be aware of--returning to the Babylonian culture of youth, beauty, intelligence, and indulgence. Is the Lord trying to tell us something? Are we hearing (listening) at all?

Please put our state conference on your calendar--June 8 and 9 in Lander. Our speaker will be Kris Gutierrez, missionary to Nicaragua, who is on home assignment for this year. I'm sure we all have questions about life and struggles in other parts of our world.

God bless each of you as you go about your daily tasks, living life, witnessing and helping others, and enjoying life in Wyoming.

In His Love,  
Barbara Vinzant, President

#### A Little News from the Bethel Baptist Ladies

We are well on track for this year with giving, study and fellowship.

We completed our White Cross Quota to the Indian Baptist Mission in Oklahoma.

Four of our group attended the lunch hosted by the ladies of Laramie. Velma Thorne, Letah Larson, Helen Schindler, and Dorothy Beatty thoroughly enjoyed eating the good food and listening to Virginia Holstrom's presentation

We had a luncheon where the items for lunch were donated and the ladies that came to eat contributed what they were willing to spend for lunch. The money collected went to our cash quota for El Salvador

We are looking forward to this Summer's Conference in Lander. We hope to see information soon, so that we can get the out.

Greetings AB Women Friends ~

Thank you to all of you who have sent or are preparing boxes to send to Watonga Indian Church in Oklahoma. That new address if you need it is: LaDonna Romannose, 1120 No. Burford, Watonga, Ok 73772. They will accept money in place of goods, especially for the bulking things.

I received a reminder from International White Cross facilitator, Chris Marziale, that all missionary support for El Salvador and India is needed by the end of April. If you have extra, I'm sure they would accept it! Please send roller bandages, etc. by the end of the school year. Once again, I know that if you want to make blankets and school, baby or health kits all year long, International would find a home for them.

Just a reminder to send me your year's report as soon as you have completed your requests from International and National White Cross. I need them by the middle of May so I can prepare my report by Conference time.

I still need acceptance responses from Cheyenne Calvary, Glenrock and Rock Springs. Just give me a call at 307-324-6363.

Thank you, and have a wonderful Wyoming winter and spring in service to our Lord, Jesus Christ.

Love in Him,  
Ann Chladek

Wyoming White Cross Chairwoman

Please encourage your pastor to support Camp WYOBA by having a Camp WYOBA Sunday. You can use this litany to remind everyone what a special place the camp is and maybe take a special offering too.

Litany of Celebration  
Camp Wyoba Sunday  
March 11, 2007

Sing a new song to the Lord! Sing it everywhere around the world!

**We sing praises and bless God's name.**

Publish the glorious acts of God throughout the earth.

**We are thankful for the amazing things God does.**

Worship God with the beauty of holy lives.

**We come, offering ourselves in worship and service.**

\*Today we are remembering a significant mission in our Region, Camp Wyoba.

We thank God for the meaningful ministries carried on in Jesus' name on Casper Mountain.

**We are reminded of God's majesty when we climb the slopes, look to the heavens, see the bright stars, and walk under the majestic trees.**

We give God the glory!

**We thank God for people, young and old, who have given their lives to Jesus at Camp Wyoba.**

We give God the glory!

**As leaders develop in our churches, our Cluster, and our Region, we remember them as young, eager children and youth in our camping programs.**

We give God all the glory!

**Knowing that it takes many hands to carry on a camping ministry, we join with sister churches throughout Wyoming to provide talented workers who minister in Jesus' name.**

We ask God's blessing on those who serve you at Camp Wyoba.

**As we look to the future and seek to enhance this meaningful ministry, we ask God to pour out the Holy Spirit on us, that through us and the ongoing camping ministry on Casper Mountain, future generations will be blessed and lives will be changed.**

O Spirit, come among us; sustain us, we pray. Amen.

I received this note from Jim and Bernetta Ogle:

“Even if our church left ABC we still like to hear from our good friends.”

Bernetta has asked that she receive the Baptistar in the paper version because they have no TV or e-mail. Talk about living the western life!

If you would like to say hello to the Ogles their address is:

2252 Road 149, Burns WY 82053 or you can call them at 307-547-3318

#### Fabric Needed for Wyoming Women's Center

American Baptist Chaplain, Judy Chaffin, shares the following need with ABW Ministries of Wyoming and Colorado:

The Wyoming Women's Center, a Wyoming Department of Corrections penal facility for Wyoming women citizens, is in need for flannel or fleece yard goods which the women will use to sew robes and pajamas. Approximately two yards of fabric is needed per item, per inmate. The current need is for about 60 inmates. (Ready-made clothing may not be donated—only yard goods.)

If you can assist in this project and would like to donate fabric, ship it to the attention of “Chaplain” at

Wyoming Women's Center  
1000 Griffith/P.O. Box 20  
Lusk, WY 82225

*(Chaplain Chaffin is currently participating in the Region's ordination program and is associated with First Baptist Church in Lusk, WY.)*

The folks at First Baptist in Lander are doing great. We finally got some snow. Though we know that Christmas isn't about snow we still didn't really take to the “Brown” that we had for that day, We did have a White New Years!

Our Ladies are busy working on the last of the White Cross Quota. We received an answer to the packages we sent to Watonga, OK for their Christmas and were very glad to help them have a great celebration.

Our Ruth Circle which meets once a month in the afternoon chose “Women of the Bible” as our programs for this year. We have learned some new, and some thought provoking things about Abigail, Ruth and Mary. And look forward to the next program.

Our Pastor Mike Halliburton resigned on Nov. 26, 2006 and has moved to Nampa, ID to serve in the ABC Church there. So we are now on the road to looking for a new pastor. Please pray for our church family in the months to come that we can keep focused on Jesus and what he wants for us.

The Trustees provided dinner of Stew and Barb's Apple cobbler for dinner on Sunday after services. Donations are for the Future Growth Fund.

Our Family night on Wed. evening is running smoothly, there is an adult and Hi school Bible study and a time of learning and fellowship for the younger youth.

The Men's Breakfast has been revived and with about 25 men the first Sat. Morning it will continue. Some times going to one of the local restaurants or some one fixing the Breakfast at the Church with a devotion each time.

We pray that all of you are healthy and had a great Holiday season. Kay Harvey ABWM Pres.