



April 30, 2007

The Rocky Mountain American Baptist

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

ABCRCM Executive Search Committee Begins Its Work

When Louise Barger retired as Executive Minister in 2004, the ABCRCM Board empowered a Search Committee to begin looking for a replacement. When the Region hired Desmond Hoffmeister as our Interim, and later Transitional, Executive Minister, the Search Committee dramatically slowed down the search process. With Desmond Hoffmeister's resignation in March of this year, the ABCRCM's Executive Search Committee has moved into full swing in the search for a permanent Executive Minister.

The Search Committee is co-chaired by Kim Skattum, pastor of Crossroads American Baptist Church, and Jan McCormack, ABCRCM past president. Other committee members are Jackie Arnold, Deanna Dyer, Barbara Graham, Marie Heaton, Jim Peters, and Yvonne Whisenhunt. The Committee is looking to add up to three more members to round out the Search Committee and more closely represent the Region's diversity.

Search Process Steps

1. On April 2, 2007, the Committee met with Jeff Woods, ABC-USA, for a committee orientation and to begin the search process anew. One of the most important parts of this process is collecting self-study data from Region constituents. The data collected will help clarify who we are

as a Region, and the attributes/ characteristics, talents, and spiritual gifts we would desire in a new Executive Minister.

2. The Committee has compiled survey questions and will disseminate that survey in every way they can imagine: via pastors meetings, cluster meetings, direct communication to churches, through the Region newsletter and the ABCRCM website. The questions are available on p. 6 of this newsletter and as an online survey at http://www.abrcm.org/search_survey.htm.

3. The Committee hopes to collect this self-study data by the end of May 2007.

4. At their June 5 meeting, the Committee will then use that data to draw up a job description and post the position.

Steps 5-7 are CONFIDENTIAL

Though the search process for an Executive Minister is an open process, all candidates under consideration must be kept strictly confidential by members of the Search Committee.

5. Names of prospective candidates will be gathered from various American Baptist sources, including AB Personnel Services. After receiv-

ing resumes and profiles, the Committee will check references and narrow the choices as to whom they wish to interview.

6. Next, they will invite their top choices to come to the Region for an interview and geographic orientation. They will then choose one candidate to present to the Region Board.

7. The Committee will present their choice to the full Region Board for approval of a call. If the answer is "yes," they will conclude full contract negotiations with the candidate.

What can you do to assist this process?

1. Pray! For your Search Committee and for the candidates who need to and will apply.
2. Answer the survey questions in a timely manner so the Committee will have a good sense of who we are as a Region and who we are looking for in an Executive Minister.
3. Pray!
4. Come to terms with our past: look realistically at the blessings and failures we have experienced together. We will need to celebrate those blessings, lay to rest the ghosts of our failures, honor our heroes and heroines as well as the "story of us," forgive ourselves for our shortcomings and faults, and gain hope and vision for this next stage of our ministry and mission.
5. Pray!

Submitted by Jan McCormack

The Rebuilding Begins

**Enter
at
your
own
RISK!**

In today's world, the last thing you want to see on the door to your sanctuary is, "Enter at Your Own Risk." Unfortunately, in the small town of Holly,

CO, on the eastern edge of Colorado, those are exactly the words on the hand written sign on the two doors to the sanctuary.

At a little after 8:00 p.m on Wednesday, March 29, Holly, CO, was hit by a tornado. If you drive through on Highway 50, you notice very little damage. But if you look across the community park, you understand the devastation a tornado can cause. The roofs of houses are covered by blue and silver tarps. Some houses are missing the second floor. Other houses are completely destroyed. Many of these have already been cleared to the foundation.



First Baptist Church sits at the corner across from the park. This has been a terrible winter and spring for this church on the Eastern Plains of Colorado. In December, they were devastated by the snow. The heavy snows caused severe structural damage to the roof of the church. Three days after their insurance company agreed to pay to repair damages to the roof, Holly was hit by the tornado.

Today, the church is marked by yellow caution tape. Two of the large sanctuary windows have been blown



out. A semi-trailer is being loaded with the contents of the building. Ralph Plummer, the pastor, is packing up 18 years of collected "stuff" and books and moving to an office at the building that once housed the local bank. The pews have already been removed from the sanctuary, as have the ceiling fans. (See photos below.)



Once again, the church is waiting on the insurance company. One structural engineer condemned the building, but the second opinion was that the building could be repaired. The church is debating the wisdom of investing the money in repairing an 80-year-old building. Pastor Plummer thinks that the church will decide to rebuild. He stated that he really hoped that, in the end, the insurance company will agree that the building

is unsafe. Unfortunately, they will probably have to wait up to two weeks to get a final answer from the insurance company.

As for the people of Holly, the sign at the Methodist church sums it up, "We're OK, We're Holly." This can-do attitude is reflected throughout the community. Most people were covered by insurance. The house of the church's financial secretary was a total loss and has already been demolished and removed from the site. Pastor Plummer reported that the secretary's greatest loss was her new car that was totaled by the tornado. The mayor of Holly lived next door and his house was also a total loss.

In spite of the devastation of the tornado, the people of Holly are determined to rebuild and make their community better than ever. In the midst of this, the laughter of Pastor Plummer is infectious.

Many American Baptists have asked, "What can we do to help?" Pastor Plummer said that right now, the church is in limbo until the insurance company gives them a final answer. As for the community, most of the work is being done by contractors. Pastor Plummer is going to check with the city and let the Region Office know if there are individual families who do not have insurance and who need help.

*Submitted by Mike Oldham
Ministry & Mission Coach
Southeast CO/NM and Western Slope*

Holly Congregation Expresses Thanks for Region Gift

It is with humbled hearts and great emotion that we write to acknowledge your gift of \$1,000. God has shown care for us through so many wonderful people, and we stand amazed to see our Christian family rally to our need.

Thank you for all of your prayer for us. We have so many decisions to make, and prayer is vitally needed.

Ralph Plummer, Pastor, FBC/Holly

ABCRM to Host Luncheon for Students Interested in Summer AB Polity Course at Denver Seminary

American Baptist Churches of the Rocky Mountains (ABCRM) will sponsor an informational luncheon on May 22 from 12:00 noon to 1:00 p.m. for anyone interested in enrolling in the AB Polity Course to be offered this summer at Denver Seminary. The class is open to anyone interested in learning about American Baptist Churches USA. The luncheon will be hosted by Jan McCormack, Director of Denver Seminary's Chaplaincy and Counseling Training Centers, and Mary Tellis, ABCRM Ministry and Mission Coach for the Metro Denver Cluster. The luncheon will be held in Room 213 of the Graber Administration Building.

The course will be taught by Louise Barger, former Executive Minister of ABCRM. The originally proposed class dates are July 9-20. However several potential students have indicated their inability to attend in July, so Professor Barger is willing to move the class to August 13-24 (first choice) or August 6-17 (second choice). Class hours will be from 8:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m. on Monday, Wednesday, and Friday. It is the intent of the leadership to confirm the class dates during the May 22 luncheon meeting.

Professor McCormack offers the following additional information:

- Summer classes are less expensive than fall and spring. This class is an elective 2 SH course. (The cost is \$750 for regular students.)
- One can be a non-Denver Seminary matriculated student and still get this course transcribed for summer. It can transfer as an elective to any seminary.
- One could also be an audit student at one-third the tuition price (\$250). However, it would not count as a degree course here nor will it transfer to another school. It would also not count as a Masters level course toward Standard Ordination. Nevertheless, it could count toward Region Ordination.

If you wish to attend the May 22 luncheon and have not already responded to the previously-posted meeting notice, please RSVP to Mary Tellis at mtellis@abcrm.org.

The First Quarter 2007 Investment Report
is now available online at

http://www.abcrm.org/communication/regional_financial.htm



On Easter Sunday, the FBC/Delta congregation welcomed the following into the body of Christ through the waters of baptism: Mike and Robin Williams, Cullen Wear, Brandon Ness, and Eric Hamby. On Sunday, April 22, Ian Hamby and Aaron Grange were also baptized by Pastor James Conley.

Also on Easter at First Baptist Church of Cañon City, Pastor Scott Simpson baptized Robert Flanagan, who recently moved to Colorado from Arizona.

Share the names of those who have been recently baptised in your church with the ABCRM family. Send information to the RMAB editor at advirnak@abcrm.org.

Wyoba Work Weekend June 1-2, 2007

Choose your crew's job
from this list:

steps and boardwalk to the fire circle,
benches at the athletic field,
benches at the front of outdoor chapel,
podium at outdoor chapel,
work with Whalen Woodward to repair
the dining hall chimney,
cut firewood and stack in the woodshed
on the girl's side and establish
a storage site on the boy's side,
repair and paint kitchen ceiling,
paint kitchen, dining hall and bathrooms,
install better lighting
in both restroom facilities.

Please respond to the Wyoba office
at 307-234-6240

by May 25th reporting the number of
workers coming and which job(s)
you have chosen.

Please bring appropriate tools
to complete your task(s).

First Baptist Church of Colorado Springs to Host "Letter Rip!" Day

"Letter Rip! Day is back by popular demand. It's free, and it will take place on Friday, May 4, 2007. First Baptist Church of Colorado Springs, along with the Better Business Bureau of Southern Colorado, KKTU, and docuVault are hosting the third annual "Letter Rip!" Day. Participants will enjoy free document shredding, ice cream, and beverages.

Come to the parking lot of the First Baptist Church at 317 East Kiowa Street between 10:00 a.m. and 2:00 p.m. Bring your bank statements and other financial, personal, and consumer documents and shred them in a truck provided by docuVault. No plastics, cardboards, hardbound documents, files over 1/2" thick, newspapers or magazines please! The limit is five boxes; a fee will be charged if you have additional boxes.

Always Leave a Will!

Just 15 miles west of Rock Springs, WY, along I-80 is Green River. Home to about 12,000 people, this town was the first to enact the Green River Ordinance prohibiting door-to-door solicitation. It is also the city from which John Wesley Powell began his famous 1869 exploration of the Green River, Colorado River, resulting in the first passage through the Grand Canyon. Since 1942, the Wyoming Baptist Convention (now American Baptist Churches of the Rocky Mountains) had a witness in the community. This year, however, the church property, including a house and the church building, was sold to a local businessman.

After it became evident at the close of 2004 that First Baptist Church was no longer a viable entity, Michele Keil Blume and her husband, Scott, contacted the ABCRM office to ask for help in disposing of the property. Michele, a stay-at-home mom with an educational background in Human Resources, was the church treasurer at the time the church closed. Scott teaches art at the Lincoln Middle School. They have two children, Clancey and Philip. The other remaining members were older and unable to take on the responsibility of working with a realtor and dealing with the physical challenges involved in closing of doors of the 62-year-old ministry.

The First Baptist Church of Green River was chartered on December 1, 1942. FBC began its ministry in a garage located on East 2nd South Street. Shortly after First Baptist Church was chartered, the congregants bought a church building from the Mormon community. It was located where a park now graces the city landscape. Eminent domain prohibited the church group from



remaining in their original location, and they were forced to move. At the time of the move, perhaps half of the members chose not to stay in the congregation. Michele Blume describes the forced move as a critical point in the downward spiral that resulted in the church's closing.

The second location was a building that had been built as a business. However, the structure looks very much like a house (*see photo above*). It was a homey place, and Michele says, "The church was my family." She became part of First Baptist Church in Green River in 1987 (prior to the move). Michele and Scott were married in the church building which she helped market. Their children grew up there. Originally from First Baptist Church in Rawlins, Michele has also been involved at the First Baptist churches of Casper and Laramie. Camp Wyoba is among her favorite places, and she's pleased that the pulpit and communion table will find a new home on Casper Mountain. She intends to continue sending her children to camp at Wyoba. The Blumes currently attend a Methodist church where the organ from FBC is now being played every Sunday. The

pews from Green River now accommodate the worshippers at FBC/Rawlins.

When asked what advice she would have for her sister churches in the Region, Michele was quick to reply, "Always leave a will!" Have you thought about your church having a will? Perhaps a church doesn't have a will, per se, but it should have in its organizational papers some language that makes it clear what would happen to the physical property in the event of closure. In some cases the property reverts back to the Region. It is illegal to disperse the proceeds of a non-profit organization among remaining members. "So make a plan. Be organized! Label things. Establish central storage for your church's records. It will make things a lot easier for those who follow after you." These are Michele's words of advice, and they're worth some follow-up action.

The proceeds from the sale of the Green River property have been set aside for new church plants in the Rocky Mountain Region. The closing of the doors in Green River will enable others to open new doors of ministry in the future.

Ingrid Dvirnak

Some Facts on Church Growth

Some congregations grow while others decline. Why is this? *The Cooperative Congregational Studies Partnership* hosted by Hartford Seminary's Institute for Religion Research conducted a survey of 3000 congregations to discover the reasons.

Almost all churches say they *want* to grow, but in order for growth to happen, there must be intentionality and action. Congregations that have a plan to recruit new members are much more likely to grow than those who wait for people to walk through the doors.

Growth happens when people invite others. Studies have shown over and over again that most people are in a church because a friend or relative invited them. Radio, television spots, newspaper ads, and other nonpersonal attempts at promoting growth in a church are very ineffective.

Even if a church wants to grow, conflict will keep it from happening. Conflict cannot be totally avoided, but when a congregation finds itself involved in conflict after conflict, decline is going to be the result. It has been said that when two Baptists are together, we will find three opinions. However, when these differing opinions lead to congregational fights, the environment becomes unpleasant. This causes people to leave and keeps others from joining. It is imperative therefore that conflict resolution skills become a part of the congregation's DNA.

Congregations that change their worship services are more likely to grow than those who keep the same format year after year. It was discovered that having drums and guitars as a vital part of "contemporary worship" is also an ingredient for growth. Likewise, increasing the number of worship services offered during the week is a sign of health and growth.

Having children actively involved in worship leading is an additional sign of health and vitality. It doesn't matter how many children are a part of the congregation; if they are not included in worship, decline will most likely take place.

There are a number of other factors that are associated with growth:

- Newly established churches
- Multi-racial churches
- Larger proportions of younger adults in the congregation
- A clear mission and purpose
- Spiritual vitality and health
- Support groups
- Visitor follow-up
- Financial health

Congregations grow and decline for many reasons; the above are only a few. Take some time to assess the health of your congregation. If you have discovered other factors that have brought about growth in your congregation, please share them, so that the Kingdom of God will grow and flourish.

Submitted by Wayne Dvirnak

A Healthy Congregation Workshop
will be held in
Grand Junction, CO
on October 17-18
(prior to the 2007 Gathering)



The **Healthy Congregations Workshop** uses the insights of family systems theory to help church leaders become more effective stewards of their congregations.

The workshop was developed by Peter Steinke and is based on the work of Edwin Friedman, author of *Generation to Generation: Family Process in Church and Synagogue*.

The **Healthy Congregations Workshop** helps both clergy and laity expand their insight into how churches function as emotional systems and equips church leaders to focus on mission and purpose.

Who should attend?

- Pastors,
- Moderators,
- Deacons,
- Trustees,
- Elders,
- Church Council Members,
- Lay Leaders in any capacity.

The workshop will be especially helpful if a team made up of both clergy and laity from a congregation attend the event together.

Watch for more details!

The Story of a Youth Ministry That's Fired Up! We're Moving with God

Last year some friends of Trudy's and mine had Lasik eye surgery done on their eyes to improve their vision. It made their eyes sensitive to the sun right after the surgery, but after one day, they were able to see better and no longer needed the assistance of their glasses. They would tell us that they could see more clearly, didn't have to worry about their glasses, and it was evident that it improved their self-esteem as well. In fact, they still tell everyone they know who wears glasses to have the surgery and experience the joy of having better vision. They are truly sold on this procedure.

In January of this year, God gave me a vision of what God wants to have happen with the youth ministry here at First Baptist Church in Cheyenne. God asked me if I was tired of where we were with the youth ministry and whether I was ready to take it to the next level. "You bet I am!" I said. God then revealed to me what needs to be done, how to do it, and to trust God in everything. And that is exactly what I have been doing.

Since then, we have seen our youth ministry

- grow from 25 students to 50 students,
- 10 students come to know the Lord as their personal Savior,
- a senior in high school change his plans for his future to follow God's plan for his life to be come a minister,
- many students getting off drugs and getting on to Jesus,
- high school students changing their shifts at work to be at First

Baptist on Wednesday nights and Sunday mornings,

- students stepping out of their comfort zones to witness to their friends and inviting them to church, and
- we are experiencing God's love for us every time we get together.

That was only four months and we are only a quarter of the way through the year!

Youth Tell Their Own Story

Here's what some of the students have to say about the change happening in our youth group, which we call "Fuel."

"Why do I like coming to youth group? Hmmmm....I like coming to youth group to hang out with friends, eat good food, and worship God, but most importantly, I come to youth group to get closer to my God. I don't come just to listen to some music and talk to my friends. I can do that at school. I have set this time aside just for God and nothing else."

Justin - 8th grade

"The reason I like Fuel is because I feel that it is living up to its name. I have been coming to this church since I was born, and I have been at this youth group from day one. When we first started out, we were a very small group, but now it has grown to an enormous number. We started with ten or less

students and now we have gotten up to 50 students, but we aren't stopping at that. I love the way we reach out to the kids, and help them get real with God. We have been learning about being strong and courageous, and since then, I have seen a change in our youth group. Our leaders are amazing, because you can talk to them about anything and they are always there for you. Our youth pastor, Jason, is here for us no matter the time of day. He is always there and willing to talk, but we pay for it the next day. (Just kidding; he is really great!) I like the fact that the students have a close bond with almost everyone, and we are not afraid to be ourselves. We love praising God so much, our Senior Pastor opens his office door to listen to us praise our God. I feel God has really blessed the church and Fuel Youth Ministries. God works miracles all time and all over the world. God did it for us. Why not again? God is good. . . all the time."

Crystal - 12th grader



"One day of the week that I look forward to is Wednesday. I can't wait for Wednesday to come around because I know that at night at First Baptist Church I get to participate in

the best worship there is in town. I have been going to Fuel now for about a year and a half, and I will never miss it for the world. I enjoy going there because the games are so much fun. For instance, Jason, the youth pastor, and I get into some pretty intense ping pong games. The other aspect of Fuel that I really like is how jammin' the worship team is. The worship team really knows how to rock out and get all the kids pumped to worship God. They stay up to date with all the songs and their bass player is the best in all of Cheyenne. Last, but not least, the messages in Fuel really hit it home. The messages are directed toward life as a teen, and every night that I go there, God speaks to me. God is really moving in Fuel right now, and we feel God's presence with us. The other students are amazing and really fun to hang out with. There are other places that I can be on Wednesday nights, but I would rather go to Fuel and worship God with teens that are sold out for Christ."

David - 12th grade



I believe it's time that every church catches the vision of what God wants done. Are you tired of where you are right now and are you ready to take it to the next level? Wouldn't it be great

- to see our congregations double in two months,
- to have hundreds come to know Jesus as their Savior,
- to learn of people leaving their jobs to become missionaries or ministers,
- and to have all of us stepping out of our comfort zones and witnessing to everyone and inviting them to church?

We would start seeing every town shutting down on Sundays because everyone is in church.

Are you catching the vision yet? Do you see clearly? Are you truly sold out on God and God's vision? We can learn a lot from these teenagers. They caught the vision and now it's your turn.

***"And afterward,
I will pour out my
Spirit on all people.
Your sons and
daughters
will prophesy,
your old men will
dream dreams,
your young men
will see visions"
(Joel 2:28).***

*Submitted by Jason King
Youth Pastor, FBC/Cheyenne
and members of Fuel,
Justin, Crystal, and David*



Employment Opportunities at ABCRM

Karen VanValkeburgh, Region Administrator, is currently seeking applicants for three part-time positions in the Region office.

- The Region Bookkeeper is responsible for organizing, recording, and reporting the financial records for the Region.
- The Region Secretary is responsible for administrative support for the Executive Minister, Region Coaches, and the Region office.
- The Communication Specialist is responsible for organizing, writing, coordinating and editing all forms of communication for the organization.

Go to <http://www.abcrm.org/churches/employment.htm> to view the job descriptions.
Interested applicants may contact Karen VanValkeburgh, kvan@abcrm.org
or call the Region office at 303-988-3900.

Calling All Folks 55+ !

A retreat is planned with you in mind. For many years ABCRM seniors have gathered for a time of study and celebration. This year's retreat will be **September 25-27, 2007, at The Franciscan Retreat Center in Colorado Springs.**

Life is a journey to be lived with mind, heart, and soul. As we mature in our journey, we become storehouses of wisdom and truth, as well as a degree of wealth. The SoulJourners Retreat (formerly the Senior Adult Conference) will give folks who are 55 years+ time together to reflect, grow, befriend, renew, and seek God.

The theme is **"What in the World Are We Doing Here?"** Together we will explore what it means to create, live, and leave a Christian legacy for our families, churches, and the world. All aspects of life will be considered: our purpose and meaning as we age, family, relationships, the Church and congregations, personal wealth, and social, ecological, and economic justice. This is an opportunity to focus on the future and hone our spiritual strengths for fully living our remaining years. Hebrews 12:1-2a is the guiding scripture; *"Keep your eyes on Jesus, who both began and finished this race we're in."*

Two dynamic speakers are coming to guide our study.



Roy Medley, General Secretary of the American Baptist Churches, USA, will be our theme speaker. He will guide our thoughts in the

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biblical perspective on the legacy we will leave as we age and mature as Christians. Medley serves as the pastoral and administrative leader of our 1.5-million-member denomination. He has articulated a vision of ministry and service that focuses both on the local church—the fundamental unit of mission in American Baptist life—and on Christ-centered servanthood.



Deborah Van Broekhoven, Executive Director of the American Baptist Historical Society, teaches and writes about Baptists including

women abolitionists, activists, history, and denominations. Deborah will represent the ABCUSA as our missionary speaker and help us get in touch with our Baptist roots and how to preserve our local church history for future generations.

Michael Williams, Pastor of Congregational Care, Calvary Baptist, Denver, will guide us in provocative worship services.

John Pipe and Lois Oswalt, the dynamic duo, will again bring their musical talents and enthusiasm to lead us in lifting our voices in song and our hearts in praise.

The Franciscan Retreat Center provides a quiet, reflective place of beauty. The charism of the Center is the Franciscan tradition of sharing, hospitality, and joyful service. Located in Colorado Springs, the Center, at 6,200 feet elevation, offers 110 beautiful acres just 15 minutes from downtown. The Center provides walking trails,

animal life, private chapel, bookstore, an outdoor labyrinth, and spiritual direction. There are very comfortable sleeping rooms for two or three people.

SoulJourners Retreat flyers and registration forms were sent to every Region church on April 25th. Check with your church office to get your copies. **Remember, you can save \$25 by registering before July 20th.** Find the fees, schedule, and details on the Registration Form. Complete the form today and send it with your check to Ken Pinkham, Registrar. **August 20, 2007 is the final day registrations can be accepted.**

For a glimpse of the meaningful experiences of those who have attended past retreats, read their personal accounts in future issues of this newsletter. You may also check out the Seniors Ministries page at <http://www.abcrm.org/ministries/seniors.htm>.

Come by the car load, van load, bus load, train load, caravan—any way, just come! Come to be inspired, rejuvenated, supported in your faith journey, and renewed for your Christian walk.

You may direct your questions to the Registrar, Ken Pinkham at 303-470-1306 or e-mail him at kenpinkham@gmail.com.

Submitted by Carol Willard and John Pipe



Northern Front Range Cluster Focuses on Christian Education

The churches of the Northern Front Range Cluster met on Sunday afternoon, April 29, at the American Baptist Church in Fort Collins to take a look at Christian education. A panel of Christian educators from Cluster churches shared ideas from their local ministries and later hosted interest groups to further explore their specialties with interested attendees.



The panel members (*pictured above, left to right*) were Lynnette Thayer (ABC/Fort Collins), Nancy Wheeler (FBC/Fort Morgan), Mary Burman (FBC/Laramie), and Betty Moseley (ABC/Fort Collins). The panel was moderated by Ingrid Dvirnak (*at left*), ABCRM Newsletter Editor and Christian educator.

Collectively, the group represented about 250 years of experience in the field of Christ-centered education. The specialties and passions shared by panel members included experiential learning, intergenerational learning opportunities, the workshop rotation model for Sunday school, and mission education.

An added bonus for those who attended this event was an abundance of free Christian education resources and samples from Judson Press, Group Publishing, and the bookshelves of the ABCRM office. Before the afternoon concluded, attendees also participated in the Region-wide survey to give input to the Executive Minister Search Committee.



Clergy/Laity Event at Iliff

Join in creating a new kind of conversation about what it means to be a faith community, a conversation that engages the experience of lay persons with the tools of progressive theological reflection.

“Rekindling Passion for Progressive Religion in Congregations” May 18-20, 2007 at Iliff School of Theology is cosponsored by seven congregations and features Dumas Harshaw, pastor of First Baptist (American Baptist), Raleigh, NC.

Sessions cover fostering spiritual growth, care of souls, music in worship, the role of preaching, and inter-faith cooperation. All sessions are co-led by a practitioner and a scholar. This event is designed especially for lay persons and pastors and takes place on Friday evening, Saturday and Sunday afternoon. Cost, including two meals, is \$75. For more information and to register go to: www.iliff.edu/academics/cont-ed/rekindling-passion.php.

Northern Front Range Interest Groups



Input for the ABCRM Executive Minister Search Process

The ABCRM Executive Minister Search Committee invites you to give your input. Please provide brief answers to the following questions and mail your answers to 6855 South Havana Street, Ste. 220, Centennial, CO 80112 or e-mail them to abcrm2@abcrm.org or respond online at http://www.abcrm.org/search_survey.htm.

1. What do you see as the role of the Executive Minister of ABCRM?
2. How does the Executive Minister of ABCRM assist the constituents of the Region?
3. What are you looking for in an Executive Minister for your church/cluster/city?
4. What kind of credentials do you think this person should hold? Is an advanced degree essential to the position?
5. Where do you see ABCRM in 2010 and what kind of leadership is necessary to get there?
6. What attributes/characteristics (internal) are most important for an Executive Minister?
7. What skills and talents (external) should an Executive Minister have?
8. What spiritual gifts should be exhibited by the Executive Minister?
9. How important is it to you that the Executive Minister be seen as a "pastor to pastors" in ABCRM?
10. What type of leadership style would you want your Executive Minister to have?
11. What would you see as the top three (3) priorities for his/her time in general?

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*Discover your
PASSION!*

*Realize your
MISSION!*

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