

October 1, 2009

The Rocky Mountain American Baptist

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

THE GATHERING

*of the American Baptist Churches
of the Rocky Mountains*

October 16-17, 2009

**First Baptist Church • Pueblo, CO
Ecumenical Church • Pueblo West, CO**

People Going Glocal

*“Go out and train everyone you meet, far and near, in this way of life.”
- Matthew 28:19 (The Message)*

If you have not registered to attend this year's Annual Gathering **IT'S NOT TOO LATE**. Your Region office is here to serve you and your input and voice is very much needed. Please take the time to join us. Our workshop leaders are working hard preparing to inform and teach, and the staff is working hard to make this Gathering one of our best.

Don't forget to also register for the Pre-Gathering Workshop on October 15 that will focus on missions, and for the Missions Dinner which is free to clergy and their spouses. Non clergy are also welcome for a small fee.

It is also very important for our churches to appoint voting delegates and send those forms in early.

For more information and to register, visit our web site at abcrm.org or call our office.

If you need additional forms, brochures or flyers, please contact our office at (303) 988-3900.

We look forward to sharing with you in Pueblo!

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October

Dear Praying Saints in the ABCRM,

Another year is ahead of us as we minister in the Lord's Kingdom. As we prepare for another Gathering of the ABCRM, let us go forth as a people of prayer.

We have discovered at FBC, Cheyenne that "Prayer Changes Things." We will continue to take time each week to pray for the ABCRM churches and leaders.

To God be the glory as we all await His return. May we each be found totally faithful to the Great Commission until then.

Looking forward to another praying year,
Pastor Gina Gibson, FBC, Cheyenne

Prayer Requests for this new year (2009-2010)

- † Community Baptist Church, Glenrock, WY (Pastor Rick Bishop): Please pray for our Biblical Financial Ministry.
- † First Baptist Church, Ft. Lupton, CO (Pastor David Graves): Please pray for more prayer partners for the ministry especially for before Sunday morning service.

- † ABCRM: Transformation and revitalization of ABCRM churches; also for new church planters for our Region.
- † ABC-USA: please pray for peace during these financially stressful times when staff members have been laid off. Please pray for those who have lost their jobs. Also, please pray for sustaining of vital ministries.
- † Bethel Baptist, Casper (Helen Schindler, interim): For the Search Committee and also for the person who God is preparing to take the pastorate.
- † FBC Laramie, (Pastor Mary Beth Mankin): Networking with other Wyoming churches to reach incoming UW students; also to become more of a missional church resulting in relationship with UW and the Laramie community.
- † Tom and Terry Myers, ABC missionaries to Bulgaria: for ministries and friends in Bulgaria, for safe traveling over the next year while in the U.S., for a continued good transition.

Praises from this past year (2009)

- † Tom and Terry Myers: Praise that the transition back to the U.S. has been smooth.
- † FBC Cheyenne: We are praising God for our new Sr. Pastor Jason King; for a huge increase in our enrollment for Camp Wyoba this past year; for continued growth and revival and that we are becoming a House of Prayer.

CROP Hunger Walks

Hunger is the number one health problem in the world! (*World Health Organization*)

One child dies every six seconds from hunger-related causes (*FAO*). More than 1 billion of the earth's inhabitants go to bed hungry every night (*World Bank*)

The 225 richest individuals in the world together possess wealth equal to the combined wealth of 47% of the world's population (*UNDP*).

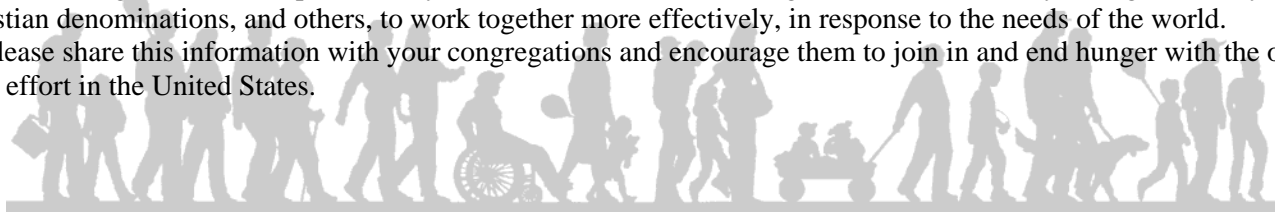
One out of six people in the world lacks access to potable water (*UN Millennium Development Goals Report 2006*), while in the United States we use billions of gallons of clean, drinking water each day just to flush our toilets.

Cause for despair? Not for the 51 communities in the Rocky Mountain Region about to kick-off their annual CROP Hunger Walks.

A few years ago, there were 35 CROP Hunger Walks, organized and led by volunteers who recognized the need to raise awareness and funds for hunger needs. Despite tough economic times, the number of communities getting organized rose from 40 to 47 in 2008. The momentum continues this year with 51 communities now planning to participate in a CROP Hunger Walk, the highest number of walks ever in our region. Visit www.cropwalk.org to see if your community is participating, and for ways for you to get involved.

CROP Hunger Walks are sponsored by Church World Service, an organization created 63 years ago as a way for 35 Christian denominations, and others, to work together more effectively, in response to the needs of the world.

Please share this information with your congregations and encourage them to join in and end hunger with the oldest walk effort in the United States.



Here are a few CROP Hunger Walks in the Rocky Mountain Region. Visit their web site for more.

COLORADO/NEW MEXICO	Location	Confirmed Date
Adams County	Westminster, CO 80030	Saturday, October 17, 2009
Arvada	Arvada, CO 80001	Saturday, October 10, 2009
Aurora	Aurora, CO 80010	Sunday, October 18, 2009
Boulder County	Boulder, CO 80300	Sunday, October 18, 2009
Colorado Springs	Colorado Springs, CO 80906	Sunday, October 11, 2009
Albuquerque	Albuquerque, NM 87101	Sunday, October 18, 2009

Grand Mesa Baptist Camp

Over 175 young people participated in the Grand Mesa Baptist camps June 28 thru July 18, 2009. Campers came from Colorado, Utah, Kansas, California and one from France.

Elementary Camp Dean was Kyle VanArsdol, Molina Baptist Church, Molina, CO; the Pastor was Mark Johnson, First Baptist Church, Palisade, CO and 27 campers participated.

Middle School Camp focused on "A Walk to Remember" with emphasis on young people walking closer to God. Bruce and Lynette Talbott, First Baptist Church, Palisade, CO served as deans. Two weeks before camp, a family crisis left the camp without a pastor; several local ministers volunteered to daily meet the camp needs, which was a great blessing. The attendance was 54 campers.

"Godly Ranch", the theme for High School Camp brought new events to the week. A team of stick ponies was ridden during the rodeo and pony express race. Tracy Eagan, River of Life Church, Ordway, CO served as dean with the assistance of co-deans Laura White and Betty Schanz, First Baptist, Grand Junction, CO. Pastor Joseph Prock of Stand Up Ministries, Swink, CO led the daily chapel. This year marked a record of 99 campers and 30 staff; unfortunately 4 teenagers didn't preregister and were turned away because the cabins and dining hall were at maximum capacity.

Sunshine throughout the three weeks provided opportunities for the campers to enjoy many outdoor activities



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from elementary camp's flour war, hiking Crag Crest Trail, playing volley ball and basketball, boating on Baron Lake and the highlight of High School camp, the paint war which involves slinging sponges at one another until all players are brightly covered in paint. All campers enjoyed a week of drawing closer to our Savior and learning more each day during our Chapel time. As always the nightly campfires with singing, devotions and testimonies is a favorite of all campers. Many new commitments were made at camp as well as re-commitments.

Pete and Patty Schaffner were guest speakers for Family Camp. The Schaffners are certified Biblical Life Coaches who are trained in both Love and Logic and Redirecting Children's Behavior parenting curriculums. The goal was to encourage family communication and to build better relationships.

Photos of camp and information are available at www.grandmesabaptistcamp.org. The 2010 registration and health forms will be uploaded in March. Young people are encouraged to register at least a month before the camp session begins. Camp costs are lower than other summer camps because so many faithful Baptists donate time, food and services. Proposed dates for 2010: Middle School Camp June 27-July 3, Elementary Camp July 4-9, Family Camp July 9, 10 & 11, High School Camp July 11-17.

Donations may be made to the camp Endowment Fund as a project to benefit campers by allowing rates to stay low and hopefully within reach of anyone wanting to join the fellowship in a Christian camping experience. The goal is to build the Endowment Fund, which is invested with the interest only being used for the basic costs of camp operation such as insurance, utilities, etc. Please make donation checks payable to Grand Mesa Baptist Assembly and send to Carlyle Currier, P.O. Box 40, Molina, CO 81646.

Our thanks to all who helped make 2009 another successful year on Grand Mesa. We look forward to having full camps next year!

Betty Shanz, FBC Grand Junction

Celebrate Recovery

A CHRIST-CENTERED Recovery Program

Changing Lives for 18 Years in more than
12,000 Churches

Hurts increase during hard economic times. How will you help the hurting in your church and community?

ONE-DAY SEMINAR

*The Seven Keys of Celebrate Recovery
&
Advanced Leadership Training*

DATE: October 24, 2009

LOCATION: Colorado Community Church
Englewood, Colorado

For individual and group rates, to register, and for more information go to www.CelebrateRecovery.com.

Summer Collegium

Applications are now available for the Summer Collegium, a project in support of small congregations at Virginia Theological Seminary in Alexandria, Virginia. Clergy (and their spouses or partners) from 25 small churches of all Christian denominations are invited to spend nine days at Virginia Seminary for encouragement, education, rest and renewal. *All expenses, including travel, books, meals, lodging, child care at home and pulpit supply, are paid by a grant from the Lilly Endowment.*

The theme of the Summer Collegium this year is Leadership in the Small Congregation. Our keynote speaker will be Alice Mann, a prolific writer on congregational ministry, and John Bell from the Iona Community in Scotland will join our worship team for the conference.

The dates for the Summer Collegium are June 23 - July 1, 2010. Application forms are on our website, www.vts.edu/education/collegium, or will be sent in the mail by emailing SummerCollegium@vts.edu or by calling 703-461-1760. Applications must be postmarked by December 15, 2009, to be considered.

World Mission Offering 2009

You can share the light of God's love with millions in Zambia, and around the world when you give to the World Mission Offering.

Hundreds Came to Hear the Word of the Lord

In a wide-open, treeless space (called a misasa) carved from the dense forest in Zambia, Charles West, International Ministries missionary, shared the good news of God in Christ. On that single day in Africa, 200 people made a profession of faith, and later, 148 of those new Christians were baptized.

Jesus calls his followers to make disciples of everyone, everywhere. The call of International Ministries is to help people come to Christ, grow in Christ and change their worlds with Christ. We work hand-in hand with local Christian partners in over 70 countries to plant new congregations and to preach good news to those who have not heard about the love of Jesus Christ.

Your gifts to the World Mission Offering are needed especially now for work in countries like Zambia, which has 10,000,000 people who speak 72 different languages! Those gifts:

- ⇒ Send missionaries to share the good news while meeting human needs
- ⇒ Train local church leaders in starting and nurturing new congregations
- ⇒ Take the gospel, enhanced by the efforts of local church partners, to those who have never heard



Give to the

World Mission Offering

Be Surprised by Walking in Different Shoes

Leading People to Faith and Starting New Churches

MLC Class

The Ministerial Leadership Committee of the American Baptist Churches of the Rocky Mountains is sponsoring a course titled **THE PRACTICE OF MINISTRY**. This course will be held Friday through Sunday, October 9-11. Class will be held at the Drury Inn Conference Center on the northern corner of I-25 and Dry Creek. The instructor is Rev. Steve. Van Ostran, Executive Minister of ABCRM. Cost is as follows:



- \$225.00 which includes housing and meals
- \$125.00 which includes meals only

This course will help the student consider some of the practical elements of being the pastor of a congregation. Particular focus will be given to understanding ministry priorities, worship planning, special services (weddings, funerals, baptism and communion) and the work of administering the church.

This course is open to everyone — new preachers, pastors, evangelists, and laity and it will fulfill requirements for ABCRM Regional Ordination.

For a full syllabus and registration form, please call our office at (303) 988-3900 or email us at akeys@abcrm.org. **Registration deadline has been extended to Monday, October 5.**

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Let us know . . .

We invite you to send us updates and pictures of your special events.

Also, if you have programs and activities that you would like for us to promote, send us that too.

Email your pictures and event information to akeys@abcrm.org by the 20th of each month.



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Send submissions to
akeys@abcrm.org*

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Committed to the Gospel!

*Learn It, Live it,
Share It, Be It!*

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