

The Lamplighter



American Baptist Women's Ministries of Colorado

Issue 49, Summer 2009

President

Thank you, Mom, for your dedication to White Cross and the Women's work. For peaking my interest in ABW. Thank you for taking me to camp where I began to build a network of friends which continue today through AB Women's Ministries. Thank you for bringing missionaries into our home where we could hear their personal stories and get an appreciation of Missions that we wouldn't have heard any other way.

We held our Annual Conference in Grand Junction last weekend. Have you seen their beautiful old church? It just feels good when you walk into the Sanctuary. I wish you could have been there. Jan DeWitt challenged us to "Go Beyond the Edge" as our main speaker. She was delightful, challenging and stirring as she led us through the weekend. I could listen to her all day.

And then Kristy Engel taught us what it means to be a missionary. Kristy is a medical missionary in the Dominican Republic. One of her unique teaching tools in teaching hygiene is using her dog to demonstrate how to brush your teeth. She shared what it means to spread the gospel through caring for those who cannot help themselves. What a blessing it was to get to know her. We really need more like her in our mission fields.

You would have enjoyed the varied opportunities. We call them workshops. Some of the women toured the Colorado National Monument. Did you know it is not a statue? It is a beautiful area just out of Grand Junction with beautiful rock formations, deep canyons and exciting walking trails. Wow! I could never have imagined such beautiful scenery. Workshops were fun, improving our skills, or gaining new information. LaRose Karr taught how to write a devotion. Bruce Talbot shared his family roots in the Immigrant and Agriculture in the Grand Valley. Betty Moseley taught how to teach children the Hand

and Words Pledge. Our Church and Community Ministries Group presented insights on going Green. Some people took advantage of the wonderful shopping in Grand Junction. Some took a nap!

We had wonderfully inspiring music. Have you ever heard Sandy Martinez sing? Beautiful! When Scott Hendrickson plays the piano you just want to sit back, relax and enjoy. The Elvimici String Quartet gave us a concert Saturday evening. I loved watching their fingers manipulate those strings. I can't imagine my fingers moving that fast and still sounding so beautiful. I really enjoyed just listening and enjoying the beautiful music of each of our musicians! And then the choir sang on Sunday morning. It was good.

We held a Silent Auction (raised \$100) for a Quilt made by one of the resident girls of The New Life Center in Thailand. Jan DeWitt installed our 2009/2010 Officers.

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You remember the Karens. Many of their people have migrated to the United States with many settling in Colorado. Our Colorado State Project goal is \$2000 to support the Karens. When they arrive in Denver they have come through many horrors, being driven out of their home and country. Many have nothing but the clothes on their backs and no background to live in this country. Our \$2000 will support some of those needs.

Mom, I wish you could have been there. You loved ABW so much.

Love, Yvonne

PS. I hope if you missed this year's Conference that you will be there next year. We have been invited to Sterling June 11-13, 2010 for Conference.

See you there!

Yvonne Whisenhunt, President, American Baptist Women's Ministries of Colorado



Conference 2009 Wrap-up

We had a wonderful time at the Conference and hope you were one of the over 60 people that attended. (Actually, what we meant to say is that more than 60 women attended, not that they were all over 60!)

Jan DeWitt was her usual wonderful self, using her wit and love of the Lord to give us a challenge to "Come to the Edge...and Beyond". At the last minute we were able to get Kristy Engel, a missionary from the Dominican Republic, who showed pictures of and told us about her medical work with the children there. We were able to contribute \$450.50 to help Kristy's mission work in La Romana. This was a love offering and our hope is that by sending it through International Ministries before the end of June, matching funds will be available. That will make it even better!

We have so many people to thank for this conference. To the great ladies of Grand Junction and Palisade, the ABMen of the Grand Junction church, and especially Betty Shoaf, the local arrangements contact, we say "Thank You". Jennifer and Eric Wynn kept us well fed; the staff at Grand Junction Visitors & Convention Bureau couldn't have been more helpful. A special thanks also to Estelle Torpy, who not only did the program book, but also was the registrar. The workshop leaders, the wonderful music, etc., etc., the list goes on and on. We couldn't have done it without you. And, of course, the great ladies from Colorado who attended, what a wonderful group of women we have in ABW.

Charlayne Higginson donated \$100 to the New Life Center in Thailand for the beautiful "Sweet Dreams" quilt designed and sewn by Patchara, a resident of the New Life Center Foundation.

We hope you got a chance to see the unusual table centerpieces. They were made by the associations and followed our theme. The associations also provided the delicious, "healthy" snacks enjoyed during the breaks. Thank you association presidents and your churches for your help.

Sterling FBC has invited us there for the 2010 Conference which will be the second weekend in June. We look forward to seeing you next year on the Colorado Plains!

Jackie & Fran

A special Thank You to these two groups of talented musicians who performed for Conference. Their biographical information was inadvertently left out of the Conference book.

ELVIMICI String Quartet (pronounced el-veh-me-chi)

The Elvimici String Quartet was formed over a period of three years beginning in the fall of 1991. From duet to trio the quartet and their name was complete around December of 1992. The repertoire for those first performances in the Grand Valley consisted mainly of Christmas Carols at various receptions and special events. They have been a well known and requested ensemble for weddings, receptions and special occasions for almost two decades. The ensemble has attended and performed at several Princeton University sponsored workshops at the University of New Mexico in Albuquerque, has performed with the Grand Valley's Children Choir and was the featured ensemble in the annual Lenten Recital Series. All four musicians have played in the Grand Junction Symphony Orchestra and have also been known to teach, perform, and play in various musical groups throughout the Grand Valley.

Ellen Currier on Violin
Vicki Ritz on Violin
Michelle Park on Cello
Cindy Bauer on Viola



The Musicians joined in unison, as with one voice, to give praise and thanks to the LORD.

Accompanied by trumpets, cymbals and other instruments, they raised their voices in praise to the LORD and sang:

"He is good; His love endures forever."
II Chronicles 5:13

First Baptist Carillon

The First Baptist Church of Grand Junction has heard handbells ringing for worship and praise for over 25 years now. We have enjoyed many different groups over the years, each one bringing their own talents to this unique musical form. Handbell choirs are a true multigenerational addition to many churches throughout the world. Everyone can ring, from the very youngest to the not so very youngest. The current handbell choir here at FBCGJ has been known as the First Baptist Carillon since about 2008. The choir as a whole has been ringing together two years now, but many ringers have played together off and on for over 20 years! Our director, Ellen Currier, has been leading the First Baptist Carillon for over 10 years, but has been a player/director for more than 20 years. We also enjoy ringing solos and in ensembles and have traveled with our bells to perform in Wyoming, Arizona, New Mexico and several cities in Colorado, all in pursuit of furthering our knowledge and enjoyment of our craft.

First Baptist Carillon continues to be blessed by a truly supportive congregation. We strive to return their goodwill with our contribution of time and love that is put into every note we share with you. We thank all of you today for the opportunity to perform in celebration of the American Baptist Women.

Church and Community

Who is my neighbor? This is a timely topic. I wish I could ask, who is my helper? We think of neighbors, friends and family. As members of ABW we know our family is not only in the community where we live, but citizens in our state and nation; our church community includes our national ABW. In this, my last article, I wish to remind all of us of how our national leadership helps ABW across the land and our international missionaries.

Serve God Save the Planet

Dolores Crisp for Church and Community

In the beginning, God made heaven and earth. Then He made water. He fixed the first recycle process using the sun and the water. About 100,000 cubic miles of sea water evaporates into fresh water vapor each year, to eventually become rain which falls over the watersheds of earth, to return to the seas and begin the cycle, again and again.

One Thousand, six hundred sixty-one gallons of water are wasted in one year by a faucet leaking water at a rate of one drip per second. Add food coloring to the tank of the toilet. In 30 minutes you'll know if there's a leak. Install a showerhead with a sensor. It'll run until the water reaches 95°F. Then it automatically reduces the flow to a trickle, signaling your shower is ready. Flip a switch or pull the cord to start the full spray. Tankless water heaters instantly heat water only when you need it for a 40% energy savings, about \$270.00 a year. The simplest and least expensive way to filter your home's water is with a pitcher or drinking bottle equipped with an integrated filter, usually around \$25.00.

Water is a public trust and a human right. God entrusted man with stewardship of this world and gave him free will, and man chose to exploit the earth with deforestation, excessive pesticide use, over fishing and pollution of the seas and rivers. Don't flush your meds into the sewer to contaminate the recycled water. The Littleton Fire Department will accept your unused and expired medicines and aspirin and containers. They will burn the meds and recycle the containers.

Shortage of water is world-wide. The U.N. says 2.8 billion people will face water stress of scarcity by 2025. Electronics is growing so fast that the green house gases are causing faster global warming. So, do you charge your I-Pod and kill the polar bears and the penguins? Or do you change the way you live?

Water wars are taking place on both sides of Colorado. Its been speculated that Lake Mead, with its 250 square miles of water, will be dry by the year 2100 and irrigation in northeastern Colorado may be coming to an end soon. Projects are being worked on, but will answers come soon enough?

This is a passage in the book "The Shack" by William P. Young: "Our earth is like a child who has grown up without parents, having no one to guide and direct her. Some have attempted to help her but most have simply tried to use her, Humans, who have been given the task to lovingly steer the world, instead plunder her with no consideration, other than immediate needs. And they give little thought for their own children who will inherit their lack of love. So they use her and abuse her with little consideration and then when she shudders or blows her breath, they are offended and raise their fists at God."

Very few of us will be around 20 years from now, but as the saying goes, "Every little bit helps." Look at your children and grandchildren and great-grandchildren and see a line between what we leave them in 25 years and what we could leave them if we had acted with passion to be more conservative in our way of life. We are obligated to live on this planet without destroying it.

Please, **REDUCE! - REUSE! - RECYCLE!**

Our environment needs your help! When? Yesterday, today and tomorrow. The growing crisis involving our resources can be addressed in many ways.

The Green topic was presented at Conference in a workshop by the Church and Community group. Contact Delores Crisp, Margot Keur, or Carol Weale for ideas on ways you can "Serve God & Save the Planet."

Shalom to all and my gratitude for your help and interest in the projects we have promoted in Church and Community: peacemakers and the **Hands and Words are not for Hurting Project**. You are God's Beloved.

Carol Weale, Denver, CO



Introducing

the new theme

for AB Women's Ministries

for 2009 – 2010



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New Colorado State Officers and Board Members

Dates to Remember 2009 – 2010

2009

- July 25-31 National Women's Conference
Lake Williamson Christian Center
Carlinville, Illinois
- Sept. 11-12 ABW Ministries Fall Board Meeting
(Local presidents invited!)
FBC, Longmont
- Sept. 1-3 Souljourners Retreat,
Franciscan Retreat Center
Colorado Springs
- Oct. 15-17 ABCRM Annual Gathering
- Sept. 20 AB Women's Ministries Sunday
(3rd Sunday)
- Nov. 2 AB Women's Day of Prayer

2010

- Feb. 18-19 State Winter Board Meeting
- Feb. 19-21 AB Women's Winter Retreat
Franciscan Retreat Center
Colorado Springs

Books of the Bible

2009

- June** I Chronicles
July Philippians
August II Chronicles
September Revelation
October Ecclesiastes
November Psalms 73 -150
December Luke

2010

- January** Acts
February Ruth
March Ezekiel
April Zephaniah
May Malachi
June Genesis
July Song of Solomon
August Exodus
September I & II Timothy & Titus
October Leviticus
November Haggai
December Matthew

Pictures from Conference 2009



Nurse Missionary Kristy Engel and Estela Schweissing enjoying the Colorado National Monument

Jackie Arnold holding up the winning quilt from The New Life Center in Thailand



Jackie Arnold joyfully announcing the beyond the goal total for the National "Break the Chains" campaign



Resources

Ladies, since 2010 is my last year as your Resource Chair, I just wanted to say that I've enjoyed getting to know each and every one of you. Please let me know what resources you would like to have for the 2010 Conference. It was a pleasure to serve the Lord and you in this way.

JoAnn Clutter, Resource Chair

Did you leave a banner?

At the Conference there were two banners left hanging in the sanctuary on the side balcony. If not claimed, I will send them to the next board meeting in Longmont with Grace Gilley.

Contact Betty Shoaf at tbshoaf@msn.com
First Baptist Church, Grand Junction

Hello American Baptist Women,

I just wanted to let you know that I am moving forward putting together a planning committee for the Day of Prayer with Street's Hope, for which we received a \$1500.00 grant from the North American Baptist organization. How often do we have the opportunity to plan something that's already funded?

I have the Prayer Coordinator from Street's Hope and two women from my church. Please let me know if you're interested in serving on the planning committee. If you're interested but don't live in the Denver metro area, we can connect through phones so you can be present at the meeting without traveling! :)

Street's Hope of Denver, Colorado provides help for women trapped in the "sex for sale" industry. Many women in this industry feel trapped and alone, and are indeed without help to change their lifestyles. Street's Hope uses their resources in partnership with other community programs to assist each individual in her attempt to build a new life. In return, the participant must show an honest commitment to change and a willingness to make the efforts required of her. Escaping the "sex for sale" lifestyle is not easy.

Please browse the website to learn more: <http://www.streetshope.org>

Street's Hope
P.O. Box 140088
Edgewater, CO 80214
303-433-2712

Thanks for considering it!
Through this project we are "BREAKING THE CHAINS" right here in Denver!

Blessings, *Kathy Bird DeYoung*
Contact Kathy for more information or to help at kbirddeyoung@clcmail.org

Love Gift



There is a bit of good news! The conference Love Gift contribution total was \$365.19. This includes a generous gift from Donna Hamilton's family. Other records indicate that through June 30, 2009 our state Love Gift contributions are \$29.11 above this time last year. In view of all that has happened in our churches and with the economy this is encouraging.

Do remember that, depending on when your church treasurer forwards Love Gift contributions to the Region treasurer, these figures may not represent our total contributions. So you may need to meet with your local treasurer (especially if he/she is new to the office) to explain how important it is to forward these funds to the Region on a monthly basis.

It is now my pleasure to introduce to you **Janet Blackman** (2925 Wagon Place, Grand Junction, CO 81504), who was elected to be the Love Gift Chairman for American Baptist Women's Ministries. By the way, if you missed the conference in Grand Junction you missed a special experience. Start planning now to attend next year's conference.

Remember that Love Gift was started during the "Great Depression" of the 30's. Let us continue the 'over and above' giving that has meant so much to so many over the years.

Love and Prayers,

Jo Bailey
Love Gift Chair

Scholarship Recipients

The Scholarship Committee has awarded two scholarships for the year 2009 - 2010:

Elizabeth "Lizi" Wolfe from Highland Park Baptist Church in Colorado Springs has again been awarded a \$3,000 Jane Loring Jones Scholarship. She will be a senior at the University of Sioux Falls, in Sioux Falls, South Dakota. She plans to graduate in May 2010, with a major in Criminal Justice and Sociology. She is very interested in working with troubled teenagers. She plans to be home in Colorado Springs this summer and will again volunteer at Quaker Ridge for our ABC Camp. She is involved in a mentoring program from her college for Elementary Children. Many of these children come from broken homes. She feels it is very important for these children to have a positive role model in their lives.

Jody James, a member of Crossroads Baptist Church in Northglenn has been chosen as the recipient of the Student Grant for 2009. She is working toward a Masters of Divinity at Golden Gate Baptist Theological Seminary. She is the Chaplain/Director of Spiritual Care for the residents at Franklin Park. She has become involved with American Baptist Women's Ministries and is serving as the Co-Chairman of Personal Development Ministries. The Seminary learning experience will aid her ministry and further equip her for her call to the ministry. The American Baptist Churches of the Rocky Mountains as well as the American Baptist Woman's Ministries will benefit as she continues to serve God through these ministries.

*Congratulations to both of these
young women as they
continue their education and
ministry to God!*

White Cross

Thank you all for your hard work this past year. Even with the economic challenges, most of the churches completed their request, which is really great. The missionaries will greatly appreciate your efforts. Our Conference White Cross Project this year was items for Latimer House in Grand Junction, which is an abused women's shelter. We learned about them from their Volunteer Coordinator, Grace Powders, and were able to give them over 170 items. Grace very gratefully accepted the items at our luncheon. Thank you to all who participated in this project.

I would like to explain a little about the 2009-2010 request. Our money request for Overseas goes to Bulgaria, which means it goes to our own Tom and Terry Myers. I'm sure we want to support them to the best of our abilities. We have two Overland requests: First Apache in Anadarko and Edna Martin Christian Center in Indiana. They are both fairly large requests. I have told National that we are down in number of churches and members working and asked that we not be given as large a request next year. Vickie Goff, the national coordinator, understands and has had the same request from other regions.

However, this leaves many of our mission fields without the supplies they need. I have done some figuring and it comes out to about \$36 per year per person. This covers both Overland and Overseas expenses. That is only \$3 per month per person. When put that way it doesn't really sound like very much; only one or two Starbucks a month! So I think we can do this. sAll I'm asking is that you do the best you can knowing that the mission fields really need our help. After all, as you all know, the bad economy is hitting them just as hard as it is us.

All that being said, there is a big bright side to all of this. Both of the Overland recipients will take gift cards. This can be a huge help to us as it means we do not have to pay postage to send the

bulkier items, and it means we can spend more on the items they request. However, if gift cards are sent, please price out the items they are to cover and send a gift card large enough to cover those items. Also, send a list of the items to be covered by the card. Sending gift cards saves tremendously on postage and also allows the agency some flexibility if their needs change a little, but it also means they must take the time and energy to purchase those items. Also, remember we no longer need to pay postage to send items to the Philippines as they are accepting contributions only for the items they need. Be sure to read to requests carefully, as how to do this is explained on the request. We need to thank National for looking out for both the needs of the mission fields and our need to not have to spend money on expensive postage.

There have been changes in forms also, so please throw away any old forms you have. National is trying to save money on forms so some are printed on both sides and the Triple Payment Form is no longer triple. Simply make a copy for yourselves before the form is sent.

Please give prayerful consideration as you work on your requests this year. By sending your prayers with your gifts you help in two ways!

Do not hesitate to call me with any concerns.

In Christ's name,
Judy Rothe
3965 Britting Ave.
Boulder, CO 80305-6508
303-494-0714
judyrothe@comcast.net

Subscription to *The Lamplighter*

Subscription rate is \$5.00 per year. You may subscribe anytime throughout the year.

Every association and local president receives a complimentary copy.

I am enclosing my payment of \$ _____ for a subscription for _____ year(s).

Name: _____

Address: _____


City/State: _____ Zip: _____

Make checks payable to: AB Women's Ministries of Colorado

Send to our treasurer: Jackie Arnold 1307 S. Tyler Ave. Loveland, CO 80537-6764

★ **Be a STAR!** Share articles & photographs of interest for *The Lamplighter* to:

Estelle Torpy 890 Union Ave., Boulder, CO 80304-0709

E-mail is a great way to send information! E-mail Estelle at: emtorpy@comcast.net 

The Fall issue deadline is October 1, 2009! ♥

The Lamplighter Summer 2009



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