

# The Rocky Mountain American Baptist

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

## Experience Life ... Unplugged!! Join us for this year's Front Range Camp!! July 11-17, 2010

### Elementary Camp for completed grades 2-5

Elementary Camp is camping at its best! Experience a week of hiking, playing games, singing camp songs, and swimming, riding horses, air rifles and archery. From the time you climb out of your sleeping bag, you will be on the go from one activity to the next. Campers will also participate in daily teaching times in which they will learn about God's great Love. You will be unplugged from the luxuries of life at home and connect with God in a new and exciting way!



### Middle School Camp for completed grades 6-8

Middle School Camp is just for you! You will experience the thrill of rock climbing and the challenge of working together on the low ropes course. You will be amazed at the view from Soldier Peak. Of course you will have time to swim and play in the pool. You will grow spiritually as you apply the daily teaching time to your life and sing around the campfire.

### Senior High Camp for completed grades 9-12

Strap your helmet on tight. Senior High Camp is a non-stop adrenaline rush. You will test your limits while hiking to Soldier Peak, rappelling down a 160' cliff and challenging yourself on the ropes course. You will also stretch your faith as you learn to be "unplugged" from life and connected to God!

*Take advantage of the early registration discount. If you register and pay by May 24 the cost is:*

Rate	American Baptist Rate	Non-American Baptist
Elementary	\$225.00	\$250.00
Middle School	240.00	265.00
Sr. High School	240.00	265.00

For all registrations received after May 24, add \$35.00. Senior High Campers who would like to experience White Water Rafting, add \$75.00.

Come to experience all that Quaker Ridge Camp and the Rocky Mountains have to offer:

- Horseback Riding
- Swimming
- Air Rifles
- Archery
- Hikes
- Campfires
- Games
- Bungee Swing
- Low and High Ropes Course
- Rappelling (*Middle and Senior High camps*)
- White Water Rafting (*Senior High camp*)

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Registration forms and all other necessary forms can be found on our web site at <http://frontrangecamping.org> or [www.abcrm.org](http://www.abcrm.org) or by calling our office at (303) 988-3900.

**Front Range Camping can always use volunteers for various positions such as counselors, music leaders, craft leaders, etc. Contact the ABCRM office for more information.**

## Camp Wyoba Endowment Fund

How exciting! Long-held dreams for Camp Wyoba on Casper Mountain are being realized! One of those dreams has been the creation of a foundation or an endowment fund benefiting Camp Wyoba. The Wyoba Board initially evaluated the establishment of its own foundation, but discarded that idea. Similarly we evaluated setting up our own endowment fund and discarded that idea also. Susan Hall, with the American Baptist Foundation was instrumental in getting us to see the wisdom of becoming a Participant in their endowment fund. Any American Baptist affiliate (church, camp, whatever) can become a participant. Very soon now the Wyoba Board will complete the final steps to become a Participant in the American Baptist Foundation's endowment fund.



As you may know, the essence of an endowment fund is that the principal of the fund is never spent. Then, the yield of that investment is spent by the participant without decreasing the principle (or "corpus") and those cycles go on and on until the participant ceases to exist. The corpus of the American Baptist Endowment Fund (the combined corpuses of each participant) is about 4.6 million dollars and it is managed professionally by experts.

One of the distinct advantages of donating to the corpus of the Camp Wyoba Endowment Fund is the knowledge that a portion of the fund's earnings, the donor's earnings, will be used each and every year for the good of the camp. Thus, the donor's real contributions will never end. The Wyoba Board will soon be distributing promotional material detailing how you can become a participant.

*Robert Riedel*

## First Baptist Denver Member Headed For Xtreme Mission

Kim Cooke has been a member of First Baptist Church since 2007. Kim has been accepted to go on a mission trip to Egypt, the Xtreme Team, this summer! She will head to Detroit for orientation on the 14th of June and then spend 27 days in Egypt before flying home and presenting at the American Baptist Women's Conference in Ohio. What's this mission trip all about?



The Xtreme Team mission trip is through American Baptist International Ministries for young adults, ages 19-29, and is called Xtreme for a reason. It's not your everyday mission trip. Team members are not told what they will be doing on a daily basis, they are not told who else is going on the trip, they are not given any details about the trip at all! All they know for sure is the country they are visiting and when they will arrive and depart. The rest is a mystery. It's an intense faith walk in following Jesus to the Xtreme!

During the time in-country, Xfiles (clues about what is coming next) are prepared by the leaders to lead the Xtreme Team members to their next mission Xposure. This method is beneficial for several reasons: it certainly is an Exercise in faith, it forces team building and most importantly it reminds us that much of our Christian walk is a mystery to us, but not God! When we say to God "here am I, send me" we must be prepared to go whenever and wherever He calls!

The daily events of the Xtreme team are based on the Xtreme Team learning model which is composed of the following principles:

- XPERIENCE a variety of "mission," mission-related issues, and people involved in mission. XTEND your hand of friendship and service to people of a different culture...maybe even a different faith.
- XPAND your mind as you encounter different ways of thinking, communicating and behaving.
- XAMINE your values, priorities, commitments and responsibilities in relation to people of other cultures as well as those dedicated to global mission.
- XERCISE your faith as you cross culture boundaries and are Xposed to Xtremes in climate, geography, quality of life, religions customs, global issues, and more.
- XPLORE God's word and world as you search for the fullness of Christian mission.

*Linda Black*  
*First Baptist Church of Denver*

# 2010 American Baptist Women's Conference

**When: June 11-13, 2010**

**Where: First Baptist Church, Sterling**

**Who: Women of all ages**

I just returned from the American Baptist Women's Winter Retreat and what a blessed time we had in an idyllic setting at the Franciscan Retreat Center in Colorado Springs! The weather did not cooperate but we were snug and warm in our beautiful surroundings and since we didn't have to drive anywhere during the weekend, we admired the beauty of the snow on the surrounding hillsides and evergreen trees. Our speakers Terry Myers, Bernice Xia and Rev. Jody James brought inspiring messages. We learned about life in Bulgaria and the challenges missionaries face on a day to day basis. From Bernice Xia we learned about persecution in China against Christians and not only Christians but persecution to any Chinese person who opposes the government. We truly are blessed to live in a free country. Jody James showed photos from her trip to Israel and also spoke to us about serving Christ. We face an enemy who wants us to doubt who we are. Our identity is in Christ and even Christ faced the temptation to doubt his position as Son of God. We also enjoyed massages during free time.

But back to the American Baptist Women's conference, I wanted to tell you a bit about the retreat so you would know what happens when American Baptist Women gather together. Good fellowship, stimulating conversation, and growth in our walks with the Lord always occur.

Here are some of the highlights of the upcoming conference. We will have Vicki Goff from our National Office as speaker presenting the theme - Women... Destined for God's Purpose. During the weekend we have numerous workshops planned for women of all ages. A resource center will be in place to offer books, Christian materials, and gifts. Entertainment will also be part of the weekend with a concert from the Praise Team at First Baptist Church Sterling, and special music from Delores Crisp and friends from Flagler, Colorado.

We will also have lots to eat with one dinner guaranteed to stimulate your senses. We will be decorating with chocolate! Conference begins on Friday afternoon and Saturday will be "Southern Day." Expect to have fun with southern meals, clothing, and humor. Be prepared to wear hats or any other southern apparel you like. We will have a gospel group play bluegrass music and sing southern gospel hymns and songs. Unique local sights and tourist locations are planned for free time on Saturday afternoon. We will end the weekend conference with worship and communion at the historic Logan County Overland Trail Museum

[What's in this RMAB?](#)

Chapel on Sunday morning.

Our White Cross Mission Project will be "Baby Bear Hugs" of Sterling. The director of Baby Bear Hugs, Lonni Michel, will be explaining their ministry and we will be collecting all sorts of baby items for Baby Bear Hugs. Baby Bear Hugs also needs donated yarn for Afghans. This is our opportunity to help young families in the Sterling community.

Mark your calendars for the state conference June 11-13th and pray about attending! There is a special rate for first-time attendees! And I must tell you that women from around the state are already volunteering to help and are excited about the conference in Sterling.

Registration form can be found on the ABCRM web site at [www.abcrm.org](http://www.abcrm.org).



*LaRose Karr  
Personal Development  
Coordinator*

*From The Lamplighter, Issue 51,  
Spring 2010  
American Baptist Women's Ministries  
of Colorado  
The Lamplighter Newsletter can be found  
on the ABCRM web site at [www.abcrm.org](http://www.abcrm.org)*



National  
Day  
of  
Prayer

May 6, 2010

*Spend some time with God  
on National Day of Prayer  
and Everyday!*

## Hold on Tight!

*“Let us hold unswervingly to the hope we profess, for he who promised is faithful.” – Hebrews 10:23 (NIV)*

When I was a kid I loved to ride the roller-coaster. And even now, as an adult I still do. I can never forget how at the amusement park, just before the ride started, the announcer would always say “for your safety, please fasten your seat belt, remain seated and hold on to the handrail while the ride is in motion.” Back in the day, I couldn’t wait for the roller-coaster to begin its slow, steady climb up the first huge hill. Because, just as soon as it reached the top, what would I do? Let go of the handrail and stand up screaming, yelling and laughing like a mad banshee! What a thrill it was. And I’ll tell you a little secret ... I do the very same thing today. I guess, some kids simply never grow up. When it comes to roller-coasters, that would be me!



The word hope is defined as “a feeling that what is wanted will happen; desire accompanied by expectation” (Webster’s New World Dictionary). Desire accompanied by expectation. In other words, hope occurs when we believe that what we want or expect will happen – and when it does, that it will meet or *exceed* our vision. For example, even if I’ve been on a particular coaster a hundred times, I still anticipate the adrenaline rush of that first drop which has me floating in mid-air – with stomach flung up clear into my throat and scared half to death. I constantly look forward to the excitement of every heart-pounding descent, the thrill of each jerky twist and turn and the dizzy feeling that comes from a gravity-defying loop-the-loop. And I’m never disappointed. The joyride always exceeds my expectations, and I can’t wait to do it again and again and again. Indeed, I *hope* it will be even better the next time (and the next, and the next).

Cherished reader, life is a roller-coaster and our hope in God – through the redeeming blood of Jesus Christ and His comforting Holy Spirit - is our spiritual handrail. As long as we hold fast to Him (as the text says, *unswervingly*) - even though we will experience ups and downs; we will get twisted, turned around, suspended over a steep drop-off and sometimes even turned upside-down – we are forever protected and kept safe. Therefore, we can enjoy – even laugh our way through – the entire ride! Hear well the apostle Paul, in his letter to

the church at Rome, as he eloquently writes: *“We can rejoice, too, when we run into problems and trials, for we know that they help us develop endurance. And endurance develops strength of character, and character strengthens our confident hope of salvation. And this hope will not lead to disappointment. For we know how dearly God loves us, because he has given us the Holy Spirit to fill our hearts with his love” – Romans 5: 3-5 (NLT).*

The Lord uses our circumstances – every trial, struggle and tribulation which we endure, as well as every gift, favor and blessing - to build and strengthen our character. Because a well-developed Christian character rests on a foundation whose cornerstones are love, hope and faith. Of course, love is the chief cornerstone. Without love nothing else matters. But with love then hope and faith are fundamental and integral building blocks. Truly, hope and faith are inseparably woven together into the fabric of a Godly personality tapestry. Again Paul writes in the book of Hebrews, “Now faith is being sure of what we hope for and certain of what we do not see” – Hebrews 11:1 (NIV). Here’s an illustration. A piano has both black and white keys. Music can be made with just one or the other. But true masterpieces require both, because they compliment and complete each other. Likewise, faith may exist without hope but is severely limited, and faithless hope is both ineffective and pointless.

Surely, every believer does hope for God’s promises – anything and everything which He has said in His Holy Word. Moreover, those promises cannot fail, because Almighty God is sure, steadfast and faithful. The Old Testament declares, “God is not a man, so he does not lie. He is not human, so he does not change his mind. Has he ever spoken and failed to act? Has he ever promised and not carried it through?” – Numbers 23:19 (NLT).

He has promised that he will never leave us nor forsake us (Hebrews 13:5b). He’s promised that if we seek Him first, everything else we need will be supplied (Matthew 6:33). He’s promised that everything works out for the good of them who love Him (Romans 8:28). He’s promised that He’s preparing a place for us so that we can be with Him forever (John 14:2-3). He’s promised that the dynamic duo of goodness and mercy will follow us all the days of our lives (Psalm 23:6). He’s promised that if we trust Him completely and acknowledge Him in all our ways, He will direct our paths (Proverbs 3:5-6). He’s promised brand new mercy every morning (Lamentations 3:23). He’s promised us a spirit of power, love and sound judgment (II Timothy 1:7). And He provides us with generational blessings, because all His promises apply not only to us, but to our children, to their children and to distant generations (Acts 2:39).

Therefore, knowing that God’s promises are true and everlasting, our duty is to simply profess and confess our Lord,

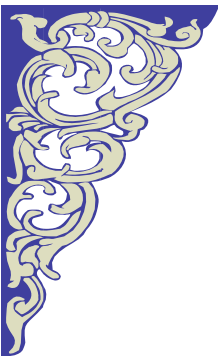
Jesus Christ, to anybody who will hear us ... and then some. We simply need to let folk know that our confidence is not in the New York Stock Exchange. Our confidence is not in politicians - Mayor Hickenlooper, Governor Ritter or even President Obama. Our confidence is not in education. Now, don't get it twisted. There is nothing wrong with any of those things. But our confidence and our hope must rest and reside wholly in the One God and Father of all, who is above all, and through all, and in you all (Ephesians 4:6). Hallelujah! Thank You, Jesus! That *hope* will never fail us or disappoint us, because it's rooted in the blessed assurance that God loves us. And His love is eternal and everlasting.

So, today and every day let hope be your handrail and ... ***hold on tight!***

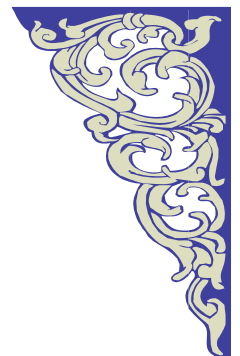
By Larry W. King  
*The KINGDOM CLARION*



*Larry W. King is a graduate of the University of Cincinnati College-Conservatory of Music and heads the Denver-based music group, Kingdom Kru. He's a founding Board member of Faith Community Baptist Church, pastored by Rev. Douglas and Rev. Katherine Farley, and is active in Prison Ministry.*



*The American Baptist Churches  
of the Rocky Mountains  
is pleased to invite you to participate in a  
service of commissioning for  
The Rev. Daniel Mark Schweissing  
and  
Mrs. Estela Luisima Schweissing*



*who have been appointed as  
Region Missionaries  
for refugee resettlement.*

*The service will be held on*

**Sunday, May 16, 2010, 3:00 p.m.**

*at*

**Crossroads American Baptist Church**  
*North Campus  
53 E. 128th Ave.  
Thornton, CO 80241*

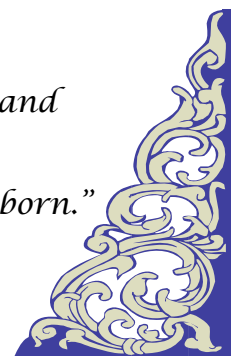
*or view the live webcast at*

[http://www.netcastvideo.com/crossbc\\_archive.htm](http://www.netcastvideo.com/crossbc_archive.htm)

*We hope your schedule will permit you to share in the blessedness and  
joy of this special occasion.*

*"The foreigners residing among you must be treated as your native-born."  
(Lev. 19:34)*

*Reception will follow the service.*



## 2009 Annual Reports

We would like to thank the following churches for taking the time to complete their 2009 Annual Reports. Your cooperation is greatly appreciated.



- |  |  |
|--|--|
| † American Baptist Church                | † First Baptist Church, Greeley            |
| † Aurora Hills Baptist Church            | † First Baptist Church, Lamar              |
| † Berkeley Baptist Church                | † First Baptist Church, Lander             |
| † Bethany Baptist Church                 | † First Baptist Church, Longmont           |
| † Bethel Baptist Church                  | † First Baptist Church, Loveland           |
| † Calvary Baptist Church, Cheyenne       | † First Baptist Church, Montrose           |
| † Calvary Baptist Church, Denver         | † First Baptist Church, Rawlins            |
| † Community Baptist Church, Glenrock     | † First Baptist Church, Rock Springs       |
| † Crossroads American Baptist Church     | † First Baptist Church, Simla              |
| † Ebenezer Ethnic Baptist Church         | † First Baptist Church, Torrington         |
| † Ecumenical Church                      | † Flagler Baptist Church                   |
| † Emmanuel Baptist Church                | † Grace Gathering                          |
| † Evanston Baptist Church                | † Highland Park Baptist Church             |
| † First Baptist Church, Austin           | † Hillcrest Baptist Church                 |
| † First Baptist Church, Center           | † Koinonia Church                          |
| † First Baptist Church, Cheyenne         | † Lake Avenue Baptist Church               |
| † First Baptist Church, Colorado Springs | † Macedonia Baptist Church                 |
| † First Baptist Church, Delta            | † Solomon Temple Missionary Baptist Church |
| † First Baptist Church, Denver           | † Sombra Del Monte Christian Church        |
| † First Baptist Church, Fort Lupton      | † Trinity Baptist Church                   |
| † First Baptist Church, Fowler           | † The United Church of Los Alamos          |
| † First Baptist Church, Grand Junction   |  |

*If you have not completed your report, it's not too late. Please take the time to complete your 2009 Annual Report.* This information is useful to assess the health of our denomination. It also helps us plan for future mission and ministry, so your reports are important.

If you did not receive your report, have questions, or need assistance completing your report, please call Alyce at 303-988-3900.

## Global Leadership Summit presented by Willow Creek

ABCRM is offering pastors of member churches an opportunity to attend The Global Leadership Summit presented by Willow Creek. It will webcast on August 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> to six locations in the Region (Colorado Springs, Denver, Loveland, Vail, Albuquerque and Casper). An individual ticket would cost \$245 if purchased before May 18<sup>th</sup> and \$265 after that date. ABCRM is planning to purchase a large group of tickets and will offset even more of the cost to allow you to attend for only \$75 before May 17<sup>th</sup> and \$100 per person if you register through us between May 18<sup>th</sup> and July 11<sup>th</sup>. Key church members may also benefit from this offer if they attend with the church pastor.

RMAb 05/01/10



Bill Hybel, Jim Collins, T.D. Jakes, Jack Welch, Andy Stanley, Tony Dungy, Blake Mycoskie, Jeff Manion and other church and business leaders are scheduled for this year's summit. For more information about the summit, visit <http://www.willowcreek.com/events/leadership/2010/>. If you would like to take advantage of this great opportunity, please contact your Ministry Coach (Mary, Mike or Bill) or the ABCRM office at (303) 988-3900.

**The Leadership Summit exists to transform Christian leaders around the world with an annual injection of vision, skill development, and inspiration for the sake of the local church.**

[What's in this RMAb?](#)

# Grand Mesa Baptist Camp

Middle School Camp  
June 27 thru July 3

Elementary School Camp  
July 4-9

High School Camp  
July 11-17

Camp Registrar: Dawn Currier (970) 487-3032

Family Camp  
July 9, 10 & 11

Camp Registrar: Bonnie Talbott (970) 464-5849

Visit the camp website:

[grandmesabaptistcamp.org](http://grandmesabaptistcamp.org)



# Camp Wyoba

**\*\* Please note corrected dates \*\***

Primary Camp / completed grade 3 or 4  
July 7-10

Junior Camp / completed grade 5 or 6  
July 11-17

Junior High Camp / completed grade 7 or 8  
July 18-24

Senior High Camp / completed grade 9-12  
July 25-31

Camp Opening Weekend — May 22-23

Camp Closing Weekend — October 1-3

Contact Camp Wyoba:

PO Box 442

Casper, WY 82062

Phone: 307-234-3088

Offsite Phone:

307-234-6240

Website:

<http://www.wyoba.org>



## Rocky Mountain Winds A Prayer Guide

### May

*"If my people, who are called by my name, will humble themselves and pray and seek my face and turn from their wicked ways, then will I hear from heaven and will forgive their sin and will heal their land."*

2 Chronicles 7:14

#### **Prayer Emphasis:**

This month we celebrate the National Day of Prayer on May 6th. Let's pray as a Region for those who are in authority over us in federal, state and local government.

#### **Please pray for these churches:**

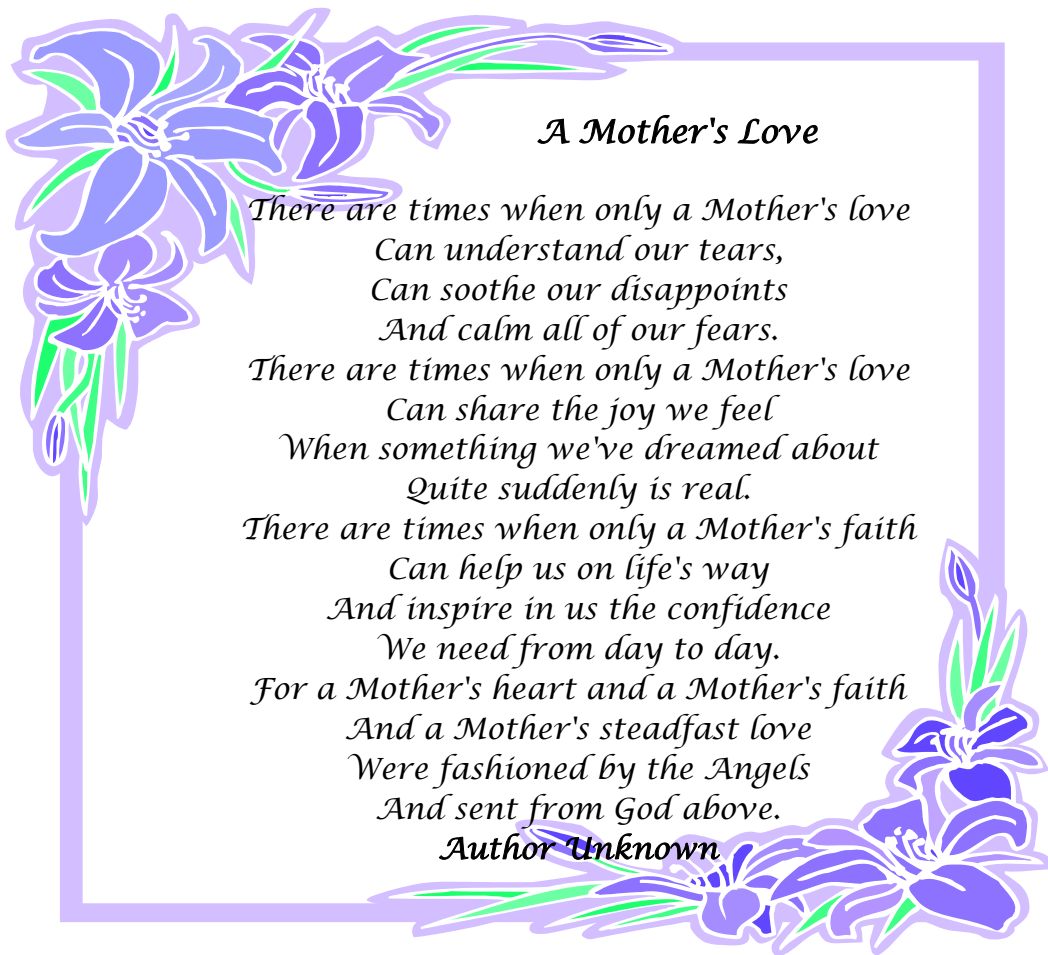
- † First Baptist Church, Olathe — Pastor Mike Wick
- † First Baptist Church, Palisade — Pastor Mark A. Johnson

- † First Baptist Church, Pueblo — Pastor Frank Proffer
- † First Baptist Church, Rangeley — Pastor David Morton
- † First Baptist Church, Rawlins — Pastor Harvey Hansen
- † First Baptist Church, Rock Springs — Pastor Lori Dvirnak Lundblad
- † First Baptist Church, Simla — Pastor Gary W. Gray
- † First Baptist Church, Sterling — Pastor John Roberts
- † First Baptist Church, Torrington — Pastor Richard Cederholm



#### **Please pray for this leader:**

- † Karen VanValkenburgh, Region Administrator



### *A Mother's Love*

*There are times when only a Mother's love  
 Can understand our tears,  
 Can soothe our disappoints  
 And calm all of our fears.*

*There are times when only a Mother's love  
 Can share the joy we feel  
 When something we've dreamed about  
 Quite suddenly is real.*

*There are times when only a Mother's faith  
 Can help us on life's way  
 And inspire in us the confidence  
 We need from day to day.*

*For a Mother's heart and a Mother's faith  
 And a Mother's steadfast love  
 Were fashioned by the Angels  
 And sent from God above.*

*Author Unknown*

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**Jessica Fischer**  
 Communications Specialist

*This newsletter is published  
 on the 1<sup>st</sup> of each month.*

*The deadline for submissions  
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 Send submissions to  
[akeys@abcrm.org](mailto:akeys@abcrm.org)*

Reprint permission is granted  
 to ABCRM churches.

*Committed to the Gospel!*  
*Learn It, Live it,  
 Share It, Be It!*



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