



December 1, 2018

The Rocky Mountain American Baptist

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

Servant Offering

Seeing the Incarnation in Preaching....



As I have had the opportunity to travel, one of the traditions I have developed is looking for a crèche... a nativity scene... that is depicted in terms of the local culture. One of the first was a crèche from Alaska that depicted the manger as an igloo, the attendant animals as polar bears and Mary and Joseph as Aleuts. It is really cute- although it could have been better if the Wise Men from

the east had been Canadians.

Originally, I bought them because my wife enjoys them and I thought they were kind of cute and unique. Over time, however, they have taken on more meaning. They have become a depiction of the Holy Spirit incarnating the Christmas story into the various cultures around the world.

Perhaps in some small way, this is why when Skye Jethani, our guest speaker at this year's Annual Gathering, suggested that live preaching might become less common in coming years (due to technology allowing us to hear the very best scholars and preachers instead), I found myself troubled. Oh... I understood and even agree somewhat with his argument. I lived through the early phases of this in my first church where one faithful deacon always watched the early morning broadcast of James Kennedy to get his "spiritual food" before coming to our worship where he sat and read the



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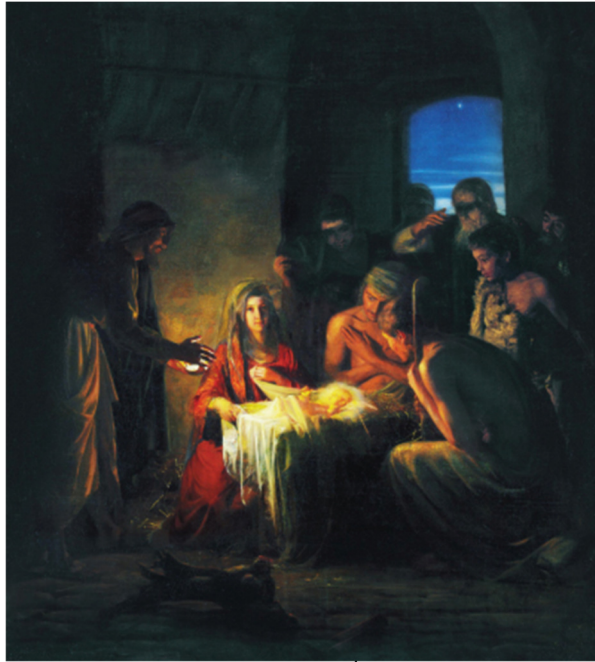
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Happy Holidays

Bible while I preached. People no longer are subject to learning from just one source, one preacher who stands two-foot above contradiction in a sacred pulpit... they have literally thousands of voices from which to choose.

And yet this is exactly why preaching and teaching in the local church is so important: to help people in a particular time and place to understand God's love for us.



You see, The Word became flesh and dwelt among us for precisely this reason... to express, to show and to manifest God's love in the many and varied contexts in which we find ourselves. To the blind He offered sight, the deaf – hearing, the lame- healing, the poor- provision, the lonely- presence, the grieving – comfort, the hungry – food. His meta message – God loves you and I am here to unite you with My Father- was always the same- but the vehicle changed according to the context – the needs and abilities of the people to hear and understand the message. And the role of the preacher/teacher is to take the meta messages of the Gospel and translate them into the context of the people they are called to serve.

And so, just as Jesus proclaimed the message of His Father's love differently at Bethsaida where he encountered Peter and Philip versus the Gerasenes where he encountered the demoniac, on the mount where thousands came to hear his words versus in the temple where the scholars argued every little point of the law, with Mary and Martha who needed comfort and the raising of their brother from the dead versus those he called to follow Him and let the dead bury the dead; so too must we learn to speak the message of the gospel in the context of our ministry! The meta message never changing – God loves you and wants to be in relationship with you- but the pedagogy and methodology ever evolving as our people's needs, interests and ability to hear

continues to evolve.

Like the artist's rendition of the manger scene, we must craft the message of the Incarnation so that the ears we serve can hear the message of God's love and come to know the fullness of that love in their own hearts... and not just leave it to some expert at the other end of a computer connection.

May your preaching and teaching this holiday season be truly inspired (God breathed) and God's message of love conveyed where you are.

Steve Van Ostran
ABCRM Executive Minister



Creating Your Own Resource

As Jesus walked the highways and byways of Galilee, Samaria, and Judea, he encountered real people with real problems. He did not wake up and say, “I need to find a tax collector today.” As we go through our day, we encounter many people who are in bondage and need to be set free (Luke 4:18-19). Sometimes, God places a special passion for responding to a problem in a church. We know that there are seeming unlimited number of problems that churches could address, but sometimes God places a special burden and passion on a church.

Too often, this passion gets lost between the dreaming stage and the doing stage. Perhaps they start by focusing on the size of the problem or the cost of addressing the problem. Perhaps they are daunted by insecurities, “Who are we to address this problem? We don’t have the answers.” Or they look at the congregation and they simply don’t have the volunteers. In spite of all these “what ifs”, God might still be calling your church to respond to a community need. God might want to use you to be the Jesus’ incarnate presence in your community. Where do you start?

Step One: Identify the Problem that Needs to be Addressed

If you are not addressing a need for either the church or the community, why would you invest the time and energy to develop a resource. At this stage, it is important to ask really hard questions. A simple exercise to dig deeper into the problem is the [5 Whys](#). The purpose is to get at root problems rather than presenting problems. When you identify your problem ask “why.” Each time, you ask “why” of the answer until you unearth the root problem. Through this process, you often identify people who have a passion for this topic. Recruit them to the planning or working teams.

Second, you need to ask if others are already addressing this problem. If they are, then join with their efforts and bring Christ’s witness even to secular organizations. The church rarely needs to duplicate services, but the church can join with others in doing good.

Recently, [Emmanuel Missionary Baptist Church](#) (Rev. Cleveland Thompson) took on just such a challenge. The presenting problem, too many young African



*Emmanuel Missionary Baptist Church
Colorado Springs*

American young men end up in prison. They began exploring the causes and triggers for this problem. They wanted to get beyond the political rhetoric and blaming game. The result, they created a community workshop entitled, *The School to Prison Pipeline*. More will be said about this workshop later.

Step Two: Identify Potential Partners

Too often the church wants to do things alone. What if the church intentionally sought out partners with whom they could work to address significant problems? What agencies touch on this topic? Who else? Who else? Out of this process of connecting with partners, the vision and focus of the resource you are creating comes into sharper focus. These partners will add clarity and resources to the workshop/resource. It is also important for the church to be flexible as the project grows and matures.

Emmanuel began asking who might address this issue. Within the congregation, they had School Resource Officers, a school social worker, and a student who had just done a project on human trafficking. These were good resources, but they were not enough. They invited a District Judge from El Paso County, a Child Protection Social Worker, and the Superintendent from a neighboring school district. The judge not only gave

up six hours on a Saturday to participate, he “court ordered” a public defender and a prosecutor to also speak to this issue from their specific perspectives. The Child Protection Social Worker brought another social worker who helped speak to the issue. A Colorado Senator, heard about the workshop and spoke to the issue from his perspective on the Judicial Committee (no he was not “invited,” but the committee agreed to give him time).

Step Three: Figure Out the Funding

Too often, the church limits their mission by considering budget first. There are a number of organizations who are willing to partner with churches (including ABCRM) if the purpose is truly community service. Perhaps some of the “partners” you identified above will help share the cost. Businesses might be willing to come along side and provide donations. If you are working far enough ahead, you might even be able to apply for grants.

Step Four: Work Out the Details

The details include the location, agenda, registration cost, length of the event, etc. Is it best to hold it at the church or another location? Do you charge for the event? Sometimes, if you don’t charge, there is a perception that there is little value. How much time are you asking for from participants and speakers? Do you need to include refreshments and/or meals? What resources do you have (financial, human, etc.)? Who will emcee the event? Do you need greeters and support staff?

Step Five: Do the Hard Work of Promoting the Event

Sometimes we are guilty of thinking that if we have a good idea, it will promote itself. Rarely is this true. It is not enough to post your event on Facebook and on your website. Who are the key influencers who might promote your event? How do you generate buzz within the church and outside? This is not the fun part of creating a new resource, but if you are not going to attract people, why are you putting all the energy into creating it in the first place.

Sometimes we think that only big churches can pull off a community resource like this. It does take hours of planning. The pastor cannot pull it off on

their own. I worked with a small, rural church in a community where people often returned “home” after retiring from a job in some other part of the country. This church put together a resource for empowering families dealing with multigenerational issues: a local doctor spoke about recognizing signs of dementia and Alzheimer’s, a pharmacist spoke on the importance of tracking all medications, a lawyer addressed wills and power of attorney, a nurse taught basic skills such as testing blood sugar and taking blood pressure, a social worker provided guidelines to know when homecare was no longer appropriate, and a funeral director spoke to the importance of preparing before death.

What is the need that you can address in your community? What is your next step?

Mike Oldham
Ministry and Mission Coach



Bethel Baptist Church, Casper WY

Bethel Baptist Church in Casper, WY, was founded in 1954 as a daughter church of the Casper First Baptist Church. It is the most recently founded new ABC church in Wyoming, although the Wind River Indian Baptist Church has more recently become part of ABC. Jim Bailey was a moving spirit in the founding. His son and daughter-in-law, Walt and Connie Bailey, are still active members of Bethel.

The current pastor is Rev. Dr. Steve Gunderson. Steve was originally baptized at Bethel and was married there. He and his wife Sharon spent considerable time in ministry in England, where Steve received his Ph.D. degree. The congregation has been energized by his ministry and especially appreciates the meaningful interpretation he gives to scripture in his sermons and Bible studies.

The modern sanctuary, dedicated in late 1966, is attractive with a wall of natural stone behind the baptistry, highlighted by a large cross. The building has been maintained and improved over the years, most recently by replacement of the exterior siding on the west side. There was extensive redecoration



a few years ago after a minor fire caused by a candle in an advent wreath caused smoke damage. The building is accessible, being built all on a single level.

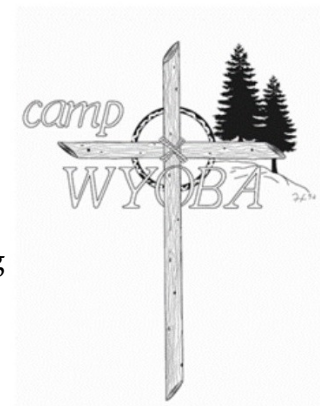
The church and its pastor are involved in the community. It is one of several churches and a Jewish synagogue which had an ecumenical community Thanksgiving service, followed by a community meal. The congregation works with Seton House, which serves single parents. Several of the Seton House children have been sent by Bethel to camp at Camp Wyoba. Pastor Steve teaches Bible studies at the Rescue Mission, and also teaches a class at Casper College.

The congregational demographics are skewed toward older members, with a good number of retired professionals among the regulars. The church appreciates good music and is one of only two in Wyoming with regular choir musical numbers.

*Bill Mankin
Ministry and Mission Coach
Wyoming Cluster*

Wyoba 500

The Wyoba Board is looking for 500 people who would be willing to donate \$100 to Camp Wyoba each year. Since the end of year is almost upon us, we wanted to make sure you know of this opportunity to give for 2018. If you are interested, please send your name and email address to Cynthia Rigsby at crigsby_712@hotmail.com. The Board met in Glenrock in late October and is moving forward with the Memorial Hall move out of the creek bottom...stay tuned for more details. Camp Wyoba also continues to be in financial need for maintenance needs as well. The Wyoba 500 will definitely help.



*Doug and Cynthia Rigsby, Brenda Schladweiler
Wyoba Board Members*

Retired Clergy “Thank You” Luncheon

The Region held our “Thank You” luncheon for our retired clergy on November 13. We all met at Cinzzetti’s Italian Restaurant in Northglenn. Clergy were presented with a small gift of a pen made by our own Rev. Jeff Lundblad of First Baptist, Laramie. While being presented with the pen, each of our clergy was asked to give a piece of wisdom they would pass on to their sons or daughters going into ministry. Below are their words...



Wisdom Collected From Our Retired Clergy For Future Generations of Leaders....



Ritchie Bibelheimer

If you’re married and going into ministry, take your wife with you and give her a pre-view of what she’s getting into.



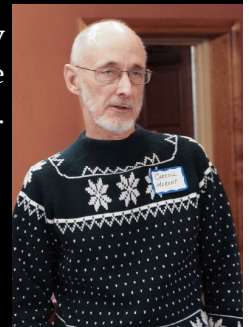
Mark Jervis

Love God with gusto. If you do not, you’ll have problems. Love the people you minister to.



Don Lambert

Just be yourself. Look on the bright side of life. Keep a sense of humor. Fran Lambert (Don’s wife) – he always reminded the churches he served that they had not hired two pastors; that I was my own person. I always appreciated that!



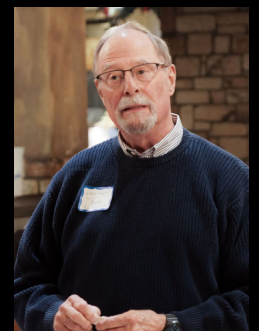
Carroll Morony

Make sure you work to understand the family system/dynamic of the small church you serve.



Gordon Kieft

Learn how to use mentors and consultants. Use someone outside of your ministry.



Larry VanSpriell

Love you congregation. Especially the ones that are not lovable.



Chuck Kinyon

There are lots of lonely people in churches, be a friend.



LeRoy Gardner

God gave you two ears and one mouth. Use them proportionately.



Ronald Erickson

Listen more than you talk.



Mary Beth Mankin

Be yourself. Listen well. Listen to the Holy Spirit. Follow your heart. Be faithful.



Kodiak, Alaska Summer Mission Opportunity 2019

Kodiak Baptist Mission - We want to see a world won for Jesus Christ.

There are so many individuals across the country within church congregations who need a nudge to help them grow in their faith, leadership potential and commitment to their local congregations.

A summer at Kodiak Baptist Mission, working in our summer programs will not only help someone grow personally in their relationship with Jesus Christ, but will also encourage commitment to leadership within their local church community.

Please share this opportunity with your church, we'd love to see a representative from every ABC church across the country summer of 2019!

Click [here](#) for additional information or contact publiced@kodiakbaptistmission.org.



You're invited!

COME EARLY
Enjoy the sunrise at Virginia Beach and relax!

STAY LATE
Discounts will be available after the event to visit local activities and attractions.

CELEBRATE our unique American Baptist identity with your sisters and brothers at the 2019 Biennial Mission Summit in Virginia Beach, Virginia, June 21-23, 2019.

www.americanbaptists2019.com

**New Opportunities ...
Awesome ABC Mission**

We are excited that the American Baptist Churches 2019 Biennial Mission Summit will feature an all new ABCUSA Biennial Academy. Academy Tracks offering continuing education and spiritual growth opportunities for both clergy and lay leaders will include: Social Media, Technology and Ministry; 21st Century Options for Church Planting and Renewal; Transition Ministries Training; Bible Studies; and more.

Bring the whole family! Virginia Beach is a top family-friendly destination. In 2019, VBS-style classes will be offered for elementary school ages, along with an all new youth track for middle and high school students. Day care will also be available.

Mark your calendars now—
June 21-23, 2019

www.americanbaptists2019.com

Join us for the
Summit by the Sea!

AMERICAN BAPTIST CHURCHES USA **BIENNIAL Mission Summit**

Summit by the Sea
JUNE 21-23, 2019
Virginia Beach, Virginia

www.americanbaptists2019.com

American Baptist Churches USA Biennial Mission Summit

Join us in Virginia Beach, VA
June 21-23, 2019

The celebration begins with events that occur before the Biennial.

Click [here](#) to sign up to receive more information. Also visit www.americanbaptists2019.com

Together We are Stronger



The Retired Ministers and Missionaries Offering is a personal offering, one rooted in thanks for the countless ways ministers and missionaries guide each member of the church along their spiritual journey. Those who have been touched by RMMO share their thoughts:

"I retired earlier this year and quite frankly was surprised and appreciative to receive it. I spent over 28 years as a pastor and the churches I served were always very supportive of MMBB and this Thank You offering. It is just a little different to be on the receiving end. Thank you again for your ongoing support."

— Retired Pastor from Elmira, NY

"We just received our very first Thank You Check from the RMMO! Thank you so much for remembering our service in the Central Region churches. We truly appreciate it."

— Retired Couple from Newton, KS

"It is always very heartwarming to be remembered by your faith family after the years of service we were blessed to give. Thank you to all who remembered and contributed."

— Retired Couple from Jeffersonville, IN

"I am grateful for all who have given in support and remembering my husband and I in our journey of faith and service through the American Baptist Church."

— Retired Widow in Ann Arbor, MI

Your generosity makes this possible and is an example of the strength and graciousness that flows from our abiding faith in God.

For more information, visit
www.abc-usa.org.

Retired Ministers and Missionaries Offering Month



Why is RMMO Important?

Your gift does make a difference. These heartfelt wishes of appreciation for the Retired Ministers and Missionaries offering reiterates the importance of sustaining this mission. Hear from those who have served.

"Thank you for the RMMO Thank You Check. It could not have come at a better time! Hurricane Irma destroyed 25% of my 14-year-old roof and the insurance adjuster said it must be replaced. God is good all the time."

— Retired Pastor from Leesburg, FL

"Every year of our ministry, and in fact also in 24 years of retirement, we presented the RMMO to our church. Also we always contributed each year and still do. I realized that help would be available should I become financially stressed in the future."

— Retired Pastor from Edmeston, NY

"It is so good to know that retired pastors are not forgotten—even after many years of retirement from active ministry, even though many of us are still involved in the Lord's work. These generous gifts are a source of real encouragement to us to continue to use our talents, even though in a lesser way."

— Retired Pastor from Abilene, KS

These kinds of stories are common at many ABC churches around the country. Your gift sustains the women and men who tirelessly carried forth God's work.

Recipients of *Thank You* checks express gratitude not only for the gift but for less tangible benefits, such as evidence of God's providential care, encouragement, hope and assurance that they have not been forgotten by their ABC family.

A Regional Star on the Rise

"And he gave some, apostles; and some, prophets; and some evangelist; and some, pastors and teachers; For the perfecting of the saints, for the work of the ministry, for the edifying of the body of Christ:" Eph. 4:11-12 (KJV)

There are numerous things that I enjoy about being a part of the Regional staff. One in particular is the privilege of serving on the Ministerial Leadership Committee (MLC). Being on the MLC provides me an opportunity to seek communion with the Holy Spirit as I listen to those who come before the committee in an effort to make clear how God is speaking into their lives as they seek to go forward in the work and ministry of Jesus Christ. It never ceases to amaze me the places and situations from which God calls those whom God choose to serve in the ministry of Jesus Christ. I want to highlight one such journey in this article.



I would like for you to meet Rev. Brian Keithline, an Associate Pastor at the Aurora Hills Church in Aurora, CO. At first glance, upon meeting Brian one might assume that he is a quiet and unassuming individual. Nothing could be further from the truth!! As one comes to know Brian, you quickly

learn that he is a "committed servant" of the Lord with a heart for advancing the cause and kingdom of Jesus Christ. You will also come to know that God has blessed him with "a wealth" of talents, gifts and skills that he yearns to use in kingdom service. During one of our times together, while discussing his gifts and skills, I jokingly referred to him as "Superman in Clark Kent's clothing". (I will say more about this later.) Though this imagery is figurative in nature, there is yet some truth in this analysis. When one takes a close look at Brian's life's journey and listens to his life story it does not take long to recognize that God has prepared and called him to do great things in the ministry of Jesus Christ.

Brian was a young man in his twenties when he came to know Jesus Christ as his Lord and Savior. Getting saved nor being saved was not a major concern to him at that time in his life. He had recently graduated from Metropolitan State College in Denver with a degree in journalism. Upper most on his mind was finding employment. His search for employment led him to a small local newspaper in Centerville, TN. Centerville is a small city in the state of Tennessee. One of Brian's first assignments was to cover the events taking place at the local flea market. The flea market was a big event in this small town. While carrying out this major assignment, he met a very vibrant and enthusiastic individual. Brian would soon learn that he was having "a chance encounter" with Pastor John Pennington. Pastor Pennington was the pastor of Centerville United Church. This "happenstance meeting" at the flea market would become a major turning point in Brian's life. After meeting Pastor Pennington, Brian started attending his church. He came to know Jesus Christ as his Lord and Savior and he committed his life to serving the Lord. Brian had entered into a relationship with Pastor Pennington and Jesus Christ that would be directional for the next four years of his life. After two years at Centerville United Church, Pastor Pennington asked Brian to consider using his gifts and skills in "kingdom service". He invited Brian to teach and preach in his home church. The word about this young disciple of Christ spread quickly through Centerville and the surrounding area. Before Brian knew it, he was frequently being asked to preach, teach and to use his various gifts and skills throughout the Centerville area. (Wow!!! What a mighty God we serve.)

As Brian surrendered his heart to the Lord, he sensed that he was being called into the work of the ministry of Jesus Christ. And even more, his "heart was on fire" to serve the Lord!! As the passion to serve Christ grew brighter in Brian's heart, he recognized the need to prepare himself for the work that Christ was calling him to do. He began his theological education by taking some classes at Duke Divinity School in Durham, NC. He later returned to Denver and continued his theological education at Den-

ver Seminary, where he earned his Master of Divinity Degree. Rev. Brian Keithline is a servant of Jesus Christ with enormous spiritual gifts and talents that he yearns to use in the advancement of the cause and kingdom of Jesus Christ. Let me highlight some of Brian's gifts and skills for your review. He:

- 1) Knows and loves the Lord Jesus Christ, and has a heart for the work of the ministry;
- 2) Is a gifted teacher and preacher of the Word of God;
- 3) Has excellent gifts and skills in the area of curriculum for the various ministries in the church and beyond the walls, particularly with children and youth;
- 4) Has unique gifts and skills to make the gospel come alive through the art of writing and storytelling;
- 5) Has a heart for evangelism: locally, nationally and internationally. He believes that the Kingdom of God is open and available to all who will come!!! And,
- 6) Believes that "The Church" is in the world to make real the love of God to all who will receive Jesus Christ as Lord and Savior of their life!!!
- 7) Amen!!

Indeed Rev. Brian Keithline is "A Regional Star on the Rise". At first glance he may look like "Clark Kent" the reporter for "The Daily Planet Newspaper" (even down to his glasses), but if you take a closer look, you can see some of his "Superman" gifts and skills that God has given Rev. Brian Keithline to use in advancing the cause and kingdom of Jesus Christ. May God continue to use Rev. Keithline for kingdom service. Up!! Up!! And, Away!!! Amen!!

If anyone desires to contact Rev. Brian Keithline directly regarding how he might assist your church, ministry or you individually, you may contact him in the following manner: 720. 809.2838 (cell) or keithline.brian@gmail.com.

*Rev. Larron D. Jackson, DMin
Ministry and Mission Coach
Denver Cluster*

Big news from Tom and Terry Myers

Tom and Terry Myers, our missionaries in Sofia, Bulgaria, are making a move. Tom has accepted the position of Director Global Personnel Services for International Ministries, and they will be relocating in the Valley Forge area, starting March 1, 2019. Terry will be resigning from missionary service, and will be looking for her next calling.



Tom and Terry have deep roots with ABCRM. Tom grew up in the church in Center CO. His mother Nita was national president of ABW and his father Jim served as president of ABCRM. Terry grew up in the American Baptist Church in Fort Collins. Her parents, Bill and Betty Moseley, were active in a number of ministries of ABCRM. ABCRM and many churches and individuals in our Region have supported their missionary work.

Tom and Terry have been missionaries in Bulgaria for 17 years. Their sons, A.J. and Nathan were raised there and returned to Colorado for college. Tom worked in economic development in Bulgaria, helping farmers develop dairy businesses and recently starting a coffee shop in the church in Sofia. Terry has worked with Roma children, helping them with literacy and education. She also has been part of Daughters of Bulgaria, a ministry to the women working at night along the Ring Road around Sofia.

Tom and Terry are sad to be leaving Bulgaria, but are looking forward to this new opportunity and being a bit closer to family. We welcome them back. Supporters of Tom and Terry are asked to continue their support to the end of the year.

*Bill Mankin
Ministry and Mission Coach
Wyoming Cluster*

One Pastors Thoughts on Missions

Are you a missionary? Is God calling you? Ummm... if you are a follower of Jesus then your answer to both questions is YES! Or, at least, it should be. "As the Father has sent me, I am sending you," (John 20:21). Jesus was a "sent one" and if we are followers of Jesus, we are "sent ones", too.

At Ecumenical Church of Pueblo West (ECOPW) we have been trying to learn what that means in today's culture, in our community. This has resulted in mission trips to as far away as Bulgaria and Nicaragua. It has also meant mission trips outside our front door as over 50 volunteers serve in our twice weekly food pantry and monthly Free Farmers Market.

One development in ECOPW's learning to be sent has been our annual mission trips to various parts of our own country and ABCRM Region. Most recently, this has been going to work with our ABCRM mission on the Wind River Indian Reservation with Pastor Scott and Pam Engelhart. Scott and Pam faithfully serve two American Baptist Churches: First Baptist Church in Lander, WY and Wind River Indian Baptist Church in Fort Washakie, WY.

With support from ABCRM mission funds (all participants paid their own expenses) and the use of the ABCRM disaster relief trailer, we have been able to serve and work with our brothers and sisters in furthering the Gospel of Jesus Christ.



Along with volunteers from two other ABCRM churches and one Presbyterian Church, we have been able to partner with the Baptist in Lander and Fort Washakie to clean, paint, weed, mow, replace flooring, and hold VBS. This has been done with a total of over 30 volunteers over a three-year time frame. Your

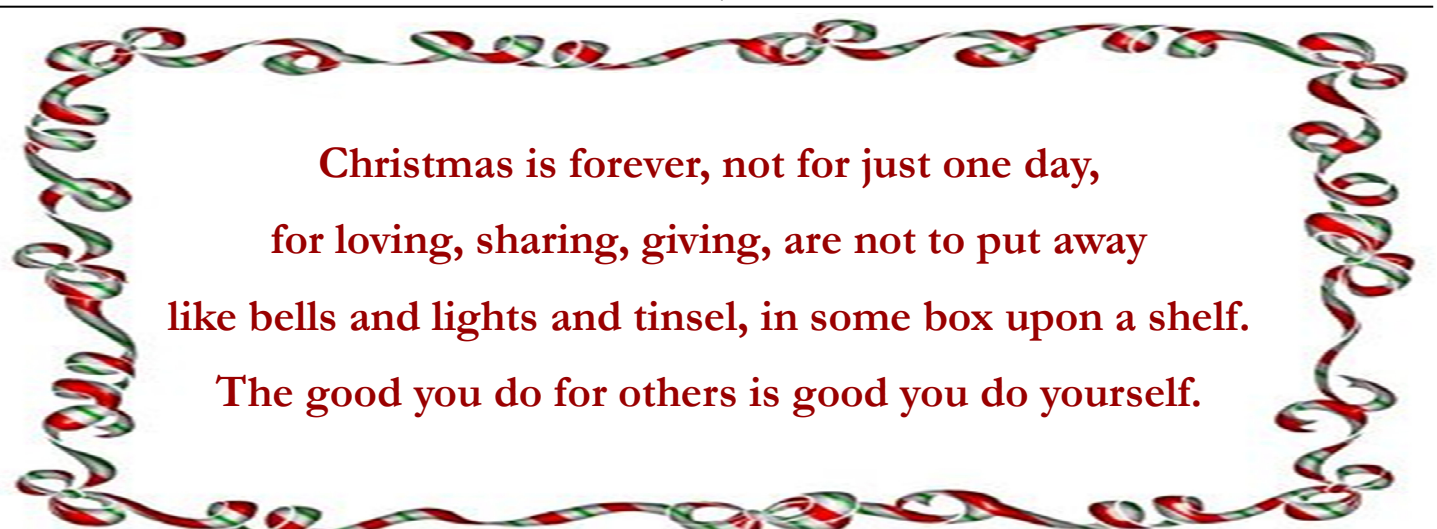
mission dollars helped make this a reality!

As we have journeyed together on these mission trips, we have grown in our faith and understanding of who Jesus has called us to be. One of our core values in these mission trips is to be multi-generational. The youngest on these trips has been 18 months old, while the most chronologically gifted have been in their 80's! Men, and women, of all ages and all skill levels have been welcomed and fully participating.

If you are interested in having a church of missionaries, contact your Region Mission Coach and ask how to do it... (you're welcome Mike!) or, if you would be interested in partnering with ECOPW and other churches let us know. We learned to be missionaries by partnering with others who were learning. Together we are growing and learning what it means to be "ones sent".

Bill Johnson

Pastor, Ecumenical Church of Pueblo West



**Christmas is forever, not for just one day,
for loving, sharing, giving, are not to put away
like bells and lights and tinsel, in some box upon a shelf.
The good you do for others is good you do yourself.**

IRS Year-End Giving Guidelines	Report for 2018	Report for 2019
Checks written in December 2018 and deposited in church offering in December 2018	X	
Checks written in December 2018 and deposited in church offering in January 2019		X
Checks written and deposited in church offering in January 2019 but "backdated" to December 2018		X
Checks written and deposited in church offering in December 2018 but "postdated" to January 2019		X
Checks written in December 2018 and deposited in the mail and postmarked in December 2018, but not received by the church until January 2019	X	
Checks written in December 2018 and deposited in the mail in December 2018 but not postmarked until January 2019, and not received by the church until January 2019		X

ABC-USA Mission Giving Guidelines

Monthly cut off is the 7th or 8th of each month (except for weekends, holidays, and December year-end). Checks received prior to this are posted to the prior month. For example; checks received October 9 through November 8 are posted to October.

	Report for 2017	Report for 2018
Checks received in Region office through January 10, 2018, but dated 2018	X	
Checks received in Region office through January 10, 2018, but dated 2018		X



Calendar

December

- 7 Denver Senior Pastors Christmas Party
- 8 Wyoming Senior Pastors Christmas Party
- 11 SE/NM Senior Pastors Christmas Party
- 13 NFR Senior Pastors Christmas Party
- 17 Western Slope Senior Pastors Christmas Party
- 24 Christmas Eve (*Region office closed*)
- 25 Christmas Day
(*Region office closed*)
- 26-Jan 1 Christmas / New Years Holiday
Break (*Region office closed*)



January

- 1 New Year's Day (*Region office closed*)
- 21 MLK Holiday (*Region office closed*)

HOLIDAY OFFICE HOURS

Your Region office will be closed December 24 through January 1 for the Christmas and New Year Holiday Season.



For
Unto
us a
CHILD
is born
Unto us a Son
is given, and the
Government shall be
Upon His shoulders,
and His Name shall be called,
Wonderful, Counselor,
Mighty God, Everlasting Father,
Prince of Peace!
Isaiah 9:6

Merry Christmas!!

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Steve Van Ostran
Executive Minister
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is the 20th of each month.
Send submissions to
akeys@abcrm.org*

*Reprint permission is granted
to ABCRM churches.*



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