



August 1, 2019

The Rocky Mountain American Baptist

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

Gathering Keynote Address Speaker and Workshop Leader

Managing Leadership Anxiety

Because the author of the book *Managing Leadership Anxiety, Yours and Theirs*, is one of our speakers at the Gathering in September; and because Steve Cuss is a personal friend of mine, I asked if I could write a quick review of his excellent book for the newsletter this month.

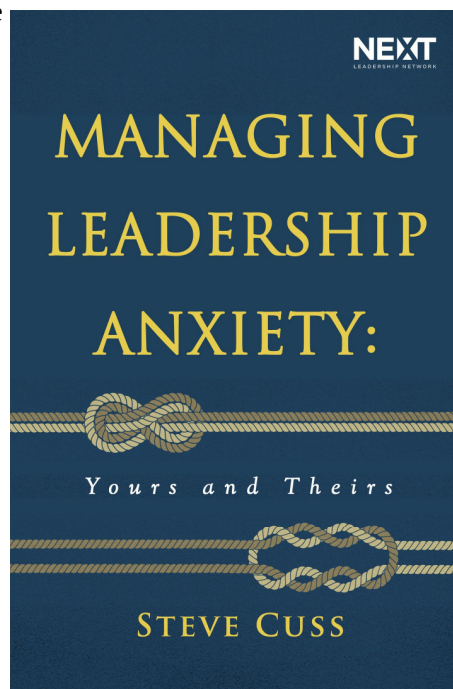
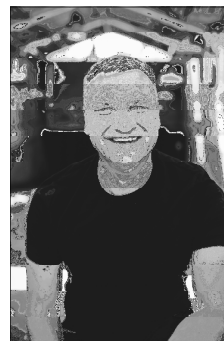
His last name threw me when we first met nearly 10 years ago. But then I learned that he makes fun of it in creative ways. His website is SteveCussWords.com. How can you not like a guy who does that?

Steve is an inspirational leader who takes his role as a lead pastor, author, consultant and speaker seriously but never thinking much of himself. I really like this guy.

This past spring his first book was released, published by Thomas Nelson, which tells you someone thought he had good things to say. That, or he knows people. And WOW, what a book. His treatment of the nature and consequences of sin in chapter two is alone worth the price of the book. (Although I never bought one, Steve gave me a copy).

Here's the deal. Everyone I know in ministry, pastors in particular, struggle with some level of anxiety that torpedoes effective leadership. I know this because I am a very anxious people-pleasing person and when I admit that to other pastors, they usually identify.

Anxiety has short-circuited my leadership more times than I want to admit. and it's led to no small amounts of frustration. Frustration of those I lead and personal frustration in my own life.



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In his book, (and don't judge this book by its cover, it's bland and needs a re-do) Steve tells us that leadership frustration is the result of not being self-aware. Then he gives us tools to do something constructive and healthy about it promising that we will be "empowered to take back control of (our) lives and lead in mature and vibrant ways. (When was the last time you felt you were a vibrant leader?)

The book is filled with approachable personal illustrations, practical help, theological depth and many a-ha moments. Buy this book. It'll help make you a better leader. So will listening to his excellent podcast by the same name.

Kim Skattum
Senior Pastor
Crossroads Church

Clergy Appreciation Dinner

Thursday, September 26, 2019

6:00 to 8:30 p.m.

at the

Blair-Caldwell African American

Research Library

2401 Welton St., Denver, CO 80205

ABCRM Regional Clergy and Spouse

attend at no cost

(for registered/paid Gathering participants)

\$30.00 per person for:

**Non-Clergy, Non-Gathering Registered Clergy,
and Non-Gathering Clergy Spouses**

(those not registered)

(TICKETS ARE REQUIRED AND MUST BE OBTAINED IN ADVANCE)



ENTERTAINMENT

**Wil Alston
Jazz Band**

Registration Information

Early Registration Deadline:

August 23, 2019

Thursday Pre-Gathering Workshop

Gathering University

(includes lunch)

\$50

Clergy Appreciation Dinner

(TICKETS REQUIRED AND MUST BE OBTAINED IN ADVANCE)

ABCRM Clergy & Spouse

\$0

free with paid Gathering registration

Non-clergy individuals

\$30

and persons not registered for the Gathering

Gathering Registration:

(cost to attend Friday and Saturday)

Church Delegate (voting member)

\$80*

Church Member (non-voting member)

\$80*

August 24 thru September 13

Thursday Pre-Gathering Workshop

Gathering University

(includes lunch)

\$70

Clergy Appreciation Dinner

(TICKETS REQUIRED AND MUST BE OBTAINED IN ADVANCE)

Same as early registration

Gathering Registration:

(cost to attend Friday and Saturday)

Church Delegate (voting member)

\$100*

Church Member (non-voting member)

\$100*

Cancellations must be received by September 20, 2019, and are subject to a \$10 non-refundable processing fee.

Cancellations after September 20 are non-refundable.

* Cost includes snacks and refreshments, Gathering materials, and three meals — Friday lunch & dinner & Saturday Lunch

Registration forms and brochures are available on our website at www.abcrm.org or from our office.

Call 303.988.3900 for more information.

Who Should Attend

Pastors, Lay-Leaders, Youth Leaders, and anyone wanting to learn more about the Region are welcome to attend this Annual Gathering of churches and people from around the American Baptist Churches of the Rocky Mountains.

Church Scholarship Funds

Your church may qualify for church scholarship funds.

Information was mailed to our churches last month.

ABCRM 2019 Gathering



**Central Baptist Church Denver, CO
Friday & Saturday, September 27-28**

Save the Date for the ABCRM Family Reunion!

Come together for Special Guest Speakers, Dr. Lee Spitzer, General Secretary of ABCUSA and Sharon Koh, International Ministries Executive Director.

**Join in *The Gathering University* on Thursday, September 26, 2019
for a day of inspiring workshops.**



Steve Cuss, author of *Managing Leadership Anxiety: Yours and Theirs* will lead a workshop on Thursday and another session, Saturday morning.

Pre-Gathering

Thursday, September 26, 2019

Gathering University

First Trimester:

10:00 am to 11:30 am

Friendship Circles:

***How Our Relationships
Impact Discipleship***

Instructor: Lee Spitzer

***Connecting With God,
Connecting With God's
People***

**Instructor:
Rodney Ragwan**

***Developing Resilience
for a Time of Radical
Change***

Instructor: Mike Oldham

***Cultivating A Healthy
Young Adults Ministry***

**Instructors: Javon Bracy
& Morgan Fletcher**

Second Trimester:

12:30 pm to 2:00 pm

***Managing Leadership
Anxiety***

Instructor: Steve Cuss

***Ways to Support Your
Pastor & Leaders***

**Instructor: Steve
Van Ostran**

***Staff and Volunteer
Development***

**Instructors: Brian Gray
& Matt Manning**



Third Trimester:

2:15 pm to 3:45 pm

***Cultivating A Spiritual Life
to Avoid Burnout***

Instructor: Dave DeMott

***New Ways to "Church" for
an Unchurched Culture***

Instructor: Mike Oldham

Cultivating Generosity

Instructor: Ray Schooler



Winblood Brings OGHS Experience to the ABCRM Board

Lori Winblood from Delta First Baptist Church has joined the American Baptist Churches of the Rocky Mountains Region Board. Her first introduction to the board was at the Summer board meeting on August 1-2. Lori has a background of working with One Great Hour of Sharing (OGHS) through the Presbyterian Church (USA) while she was living in Lake City, Colorado.



While with the Presbyterian Church, Lori was a member of the Self-Development Committee of OGHS both nationally and internationally. That committee offered grants to individuals and groups that improved the lives of those living in communities. Lori travelled to San Francisco, the Dominion Republic and Central and South America with the Self-Development Committee. She has been a member of Delta First Baptist Church since 2014. She has promoted OGHS and served as a deacon in her church.

Lori moved to Delta in 2010 after losing her husband David to cancer in 2007. She met her husband through her older brother. Lori and David raised a son together and later became foster parents while living in Lake City, Colorado. In 2006, they were chosen by the State of Colorado as Foster Parents of the Year. After moving to Delta, Lori has worked for a company that provides housing and services for mentally challenged adults, been an in-home care giver, and operated a doll shop, Dolls by Lori on Main Street. She has an inventory stored away of dolls, ceramic molds and parts after she closed the shop in 2017. She still teaches children the art of doll making from time to time.

Currently she is providing in home care part time to a couple of elderly clients. Lori's younger brother

from Denver has moved in with her and her sister has moved to Delta from Texas. Lori has stated, "If, I didn't have to work, I would do so much more for the Lord." She enjoys helping people. While in Lake City, Lori had a doll shop, David built all her cabinets and display tables. Along with some other artisans, they started a Lake City Mountain Coop that provided funding for a local day-care center.

Lori was born in Houston, Texas, but only lived there until she was four years old. The family moved to Dallas and later Fort Worth. The only church activities Lori remembers from that time was her Aunt Maxine taking them to church. She had another aunt (Mae) that showed her the Christian faith. It was in the 1980's while living and working in Gunnison that Lori Winblood was baptized at Trinity Baptist Church (1987).

Even though baptized, Lori confesses that it was not until she joined a church in Lake City that she felt God really speaking to her. Then, when David was diagnosed with colon cancer in 1995, the Winblood's really leaned into Jesus. After moving to Delta, it took Lori awhile to find a church home. She visited several churches before feeling at home and fed by the word of God at First Baptist. When she came in, she looked around and realized, "all people are welcomed here."

Lori Winblood is filling the unexpired term of James Conley as the Western Slope representative to the Region Board.

*Submitted by
Rev. James Conley
Pastor, FBC, Delta*

Front Range Camp at Quaker Ridge 2019

Theme: Moving Mountains

What happens when faith comes alive!



Elementary Pastor: Dan Schumacher, FBC, Colorado Springs

High School Pastors: Darren Stroh, FBC,
Lamar; and Jackie Samuel, Emmanuel
Missionary BC, Colorado



Middle School Pastor: Bill Wolfe,
Colorado Springs

Middle School:
Low ropes, team building
and rappelling





Elementary hiking around to their activities around camp.



Elementary camp adventures of tree climbing and archery



NEW to camp: Mountain Biking Campers loved this new adventure!



High School worship around the campfire in God's creation.



High School: zip line off of high ropes (above left) and low ropes team building challenge (above right)



A Timely Word for Godly Children and Their Parents

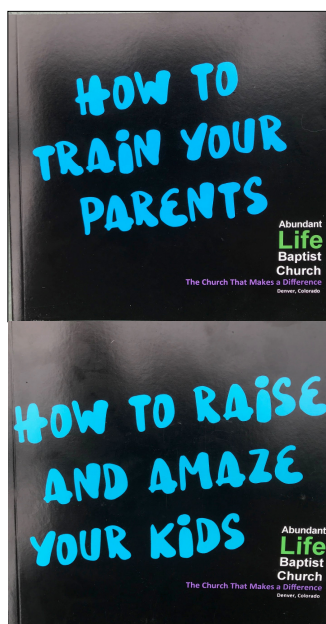
“Train up a child in the way he should go and when he is old he will not depart from it.”

Prov. 22:6 (NKJV)

“Children, obey your parents in the Lord, for this is right. Honor your father and your mother, which is the first commandment with promise: that it may be well with you and you may live long on the earth.” Eph. 6:1-3 (NKJV)

I am glad to have an on-going “Brotherly” relationship with Rev. William Rooks, Senior Pastor of Abundant Life Baptist Church in Denver. He is a man that possesses significant insight regarding matters of “The Kingdom of God” and the issues of life that we shall encounter as we seek to walk after Jesus Christ in the world. And even more, he is a “Brother Beloved”. Pastor Rooks, is normally referred to as “Bill” or “Pastor Bill” by all who know and love him. God has blessed Pastor Bill with numerous leadership gifts and skills that he employs as he leads the people of God under his charge at Abundant Life.

Pastor Bill and his lovely wife, Elizabeth, commonly referred to as Betsy, took on a major task in the life of their ministry at Abundant Life. They wanted to help both children and their parents to learn how to speak “life, hope and healing” into each other’s lives in ways that reflected the spiritual presence of Jesus Christ in their relationship. Their task came to fruition in 2017. In 2017, through their collective efforts, Pastor Bill, Betsy, the children and their parents, wrote and published a book on children relating to their parents in the world today and parents relating to their children in the same manner! The end result of this collective effort is



producing two books in one. The dual titles of their collective work are, **How to Raise and Amaze Your Kids** and **How to Train Your Parents**.

Each side of the book is broken up into five topics. They are: **Section-1.) Communication; Section-2.) Relationships; Section-3.) Be Flexible/Wise; Section-4.) But Wait. There’s More, and, Bonus Sections.**

Each section of the book addresses real life questions and situations that are common in the “child-parent relationship” in our world today. I would highly recommend this book to: 1.) churches that are looking for contemporary Christian material to enhance their youth ministry; 2.) Church or secular parenting groups; or, 3.) Anyone who is looking for honest insight/answers to the “child/parent” relationship in our world today.

I want to thank Pastor William Rooks and the Abundant Life Ministry Leadership Team for a job well done!! Prayers and blessings.

For additional information on this ministry effort or to purchase books, please contact:

Elizabeth Kennedy Rooks
Abundant Life Baptist Church
2455 E. 36th Avenue
Denver, CO 80205

Or, email Pastor Rooks at, revrooks@earthlink.net

Submitted by

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

The Way Out Here



A Camp for Families at Camp Wyoba

August 9 – 12, 2019

Cost is \$300 for 8 meals, supplies, and a cabin to sleep in
For more information, visit wyoba.org.



2019 Women's Conference at Camp Wyoba

August 9 – 11

Cost is \$125 and includes all meals, materials, and a place to sleep

We will be watching the keynote addresses from the Gospel Coalition's 2018 Woman's Conference where speakers expounded key passages from Deuteronomy.

For more information visit wyoba.org.

Introduction to Video Workshop

Tuesday, August 20, 2019

10:00 am to 4:00 pm

Learn the basics of how to shoot a good video, no matter what kind of camera you are using. Spend time learning about lens, lighting, white balance, depth of field, and more. Work with a team to create your own video, and learn as you do it together. Utilize standard video editing tools on your PC or Mac to put together your video. No prior experience necessary.



The Episcopal Church in Colorado - Office of the Bishop
1300 N Washington Street Denver, CO 80203
We will eat lunch together nearby; paying separately.

Parking is available in the shared Saint John's Cathedral lot as well as via street parking and the Saint John's Cathedral Lot at Argonaut Liquor & Wine (Please follow lot directional signs for designated spaces).

Presenter: Jeff Riley, director of photography, Jeff Riley Cinematography, Denver

Register online at caffeinatedchurch.org



Calendar

August

- 1-2 Region Board Meeting
- 2-3 Bear Trap Music Festival at Camp Wyoba
- 8-9 Global Leadership Summit
- 9-11 Wyoming Women's Retreat at Camp Wyoba
- 9-12 Wyoba Family Camp
- 10-11 CommUNITY Blast 2019
Macedonia Baptist Church
- 24 100 Year Anniversary
FBC, Lusk

September

- 2 Labor Day (Region office closed)
- 6 Wyoba Open House
- 14 Wyoba Board Meeting
- 26 Pre-Gathering
Clergy Appreciation Dinner
- 27-28 Annual Gathering
Central Baptist Church, Denver

2019 Annual Gathering
September 26-28, 2019
Central Baptist Church
Denver, CO

Optional Training: Thursday, September 26
Gathering University

THE BACK PEW - JEFF LARSON

No Dear, Leviticus 1 & 2 was
not intended as an outline for
a cookbook.



http://thebackpew.com

Leviticus 1: Burnt Offering,
Leviticus 2: Grain Offering

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Send submissions to
akeys@abcrm.org*

*Reprint permission is granted
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