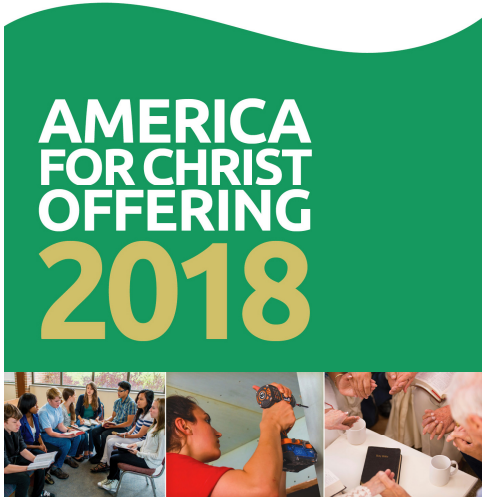




February 1, 2018

The Rocky Mountain American Baptist

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



CULTIVATING
LEADERS
**EQUIPPING
DISCIPLES**
HEALING
COMMUNITIES
Ephesians 4:11-13

Remarkable resources address effective discipleship

Every church faces the challenge of developing an effective discipleship strategy. American Baptist Home Mission Societies (ABHMS) offers a wide range of resources to support these efforts, including:

- topical Bible studies, such as “Children, Poverty and the Bible”;
- 60 downloadable workshops for Church Life and Leadership, with options in English, French, Spanish and Karen; and
- the annual Discipleship and Christian Education Guide.

Kudos for the Discipleship and Christian Education Guide

“ABHMS’ Discipleship and Christian Education Guide remains one of the best and most helpful resources produced by any denomination for congregational educators.”

— Rev. Israel Galindo, Ph.D., Columbia Theological Seminary and Judson Press author

“This is the best thing out there. I hope they NEVER stop producing it. If they ever couldn’t afford to publish it, I would pay for it myself!”

— An attendee of The American Baptist Churches of Massachusetts 2017 gathering

“The Discipleship and Christian Education Guide is a biblically sound and culturally relevant resource that connects our church to our American Baptist family, while allowing freedom to adapt it to our local church setting.”

— Rev. Dr. Carla A. Romarate-Knipel, Central Baptist Church, Woodbury, N.J.

Gifts to the America for Christ offering support production of discipleship resources. To download resources, visit www.abhms.org > Publications & Resources. For more information, contact the Rev. Cassandra Carkuff Williams, Ed.D., ABHMS director of Discipleship Ministries, at cwilliams@abhms.org or 1.800.222.3873, x2459.

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When We Denigrate Those Made in God's Image

Our own Rich Schweissing has an article in the EthicsDaily.com titled ***When We Denigrate Those Made in God's Image***. Rich is a retired high school social studies teacher, is the former president of the American Baptist Churches of the Rocky Mountains and previously served on the board of American Baptist International Ministries. He teaches U.S. citizenship to immigrants at Crossroads Baptist Church in Northglenn, CO where he also chairs the local missions committee.



I teach citizenship classes.

One of those classes focuses entirely on rights and responsibilities of U.S. citizens.

In my class, I especially emphasize responsibilities. I point out that the responsibility to use our rights for such things as free speech, voting and supporting freedom of worship for all was inherent in the DNA of this country when it began.

To fail to accept that responsibility leads to the failure of our democracy.

View the full article at <https://shar.es/1NYFiT>.



AB Women's Ministries Winter Retreat

Theme: ***Women's Well Being***

February 23-24

4:00 pm Friday till 4:00 pm Saturday

Cherry Creek Baptist Church
(formerly Bonnie Brae)
700 Bonnie Brae Blvd.
Denver, CO 80209

Costs:

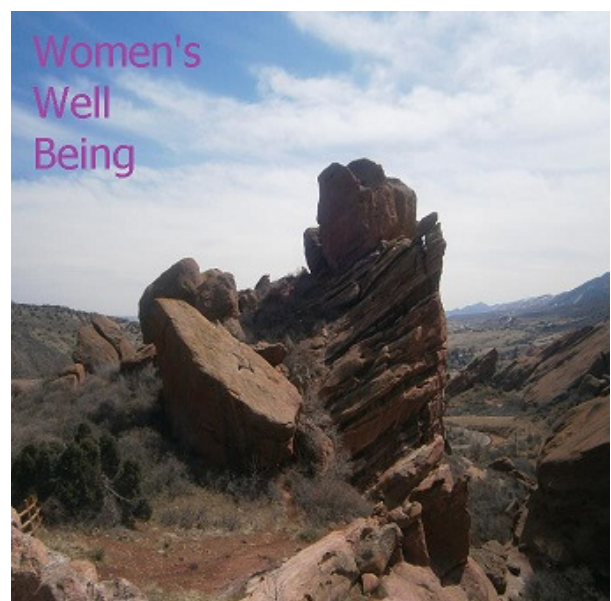
\$45.00 through February 16

\$55.00 after February 16

Click [here](#) for registration form/brochure or visit www.abcrm.org.

We have a wide variety of speakers and breakout sessions to cover women's mental, physical and spiritual health as well as listening to areas of personal safety and stories of victims of Human Trafficking. We also have some fun sessions planned including bible studies, adult coloring, nutrition and essential oils. These sessions are relevant for women of all ages. AND, last but not least, a chef will prepare our meals. We can't wait to have you attend. Invite your friends and relatives!

For information, email to carolbar1@aol.com and indicate "registration" in the subject line or call 303.678.0310.



One Great Hour of Sharing Funds Released in Response to California Fires

In response to damage wrought by the Northern California wildfires, ABHMS, on behalf of ABC-USA, released a \$5,000 One Great Hour of Sharing Emergency Disaster Relief Grant to the Growing Healthy Churches region.



The region will distribute funds to CrossWalk Community Church, Napa; New Vintage Church, Santa Rosa, and First Baptist Church, Ukiah.

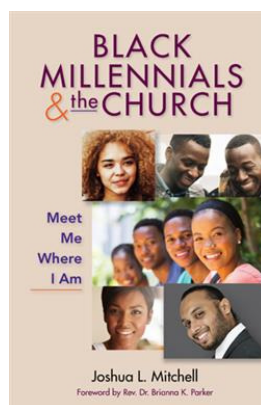
Donations can be made via credit card online through ABHMS' website at abhms.org>Give Now, or check designated to "OGH-No. CA Fires and mailed to Kim Wilikins at ABHMS, PO Box 851, Valley Forge, PA 19482-0851.

You can also send your donation designated for One Great Hour of Sharing to your Region office (designate OGH on your check):

ABCRM
9085 E Mineral Circle Suite 170
Centennial, CO 80112

New From Judson Press

Don't miss the groundbreaking "Black Millennials and the Church: Meet Me Where I Am" from the Rev. Dr. Joshua L. Mitchell. Based on an original survey of Black Millennials in the United States, this book offers church leaders a wealth of new data and practical tools for ministries of faith formation, as well as featuring the authentic voices of Black Millennials themselves.



Order from Judson Press at judsonpress.com or 800.458.3766.

2018 Camp Dates



Front Range Camp at Quaker Ridge
July 8-14

Camp Wyoba

Senior High Camp, June 24-30

Mini Camp, July 1-3

Junior High Camp, July 8-14

Junior Camp, July 15-21

Primary Camp, July 22-25

Family Camp, July 26-30

For additional information for Wyoba Camps, contact Jenita Calton at mjmipack@vcn.com.

Grand Mesa

Family Camp, June 15-17

High School Camp, June 17-23

Middle School Camp, June 23-28

Elementary Camp, June 28-July 1

For additional information, visit www.grandmesabaptistcamp.org.

The Power of Camp

Christian Camp and Conference Center Association responds to Disney and Nature Conservancy Research that says parents are concerned kids are nature deprived. Summer camp provides antidote for young generation thirsty for the outdoors. To view the article, visit <https://www.ccca.org/ccca/Media.asp>.

*Submitted by
Jenita Calton
Camp Wyoba Director*

WORK AS WORSHIP

1-DAY LOCAL CHURCH RETREAT

Friday, February 23, 2018

7:30 am to 3:30 pm

Crossroads Church

Thornton Campus

53 E. 128th Ave.

Thornton, CO 80241

Cost is \$25 and includes lunch and a light breakfast.

Join thousands of business leaders across the country for a full 1-day retreat to hear from experts, be encouraged, and discuss how to connect your faith and work.

For a list and speakers and to register, go to <https://www.workasworshipretreat.org>. You can also contact Bruce Boeltler at Crossroads Church at Bruce.Boelter@crossroadsabc.com.

Other locations:

- Saratoga
- Cheyenne
- Longmont
- Denver
- Aurora
- Colorado Springs
- Falcon
- Rifle
- Canon City
- Santa Fe

Congratulations to Lieutenant Ryan Khan!!!

On Saturday, January 20, 2018 at The Crossroads Baptist Church, Thornton, while his family and friends look on with great pride, Rev. Ryan Khan was commissioned by the United States Navy to the rank of "Lieutenant" in the naval reserves. Lt. Khan will serve in the chaplain corps of The U.S. Navy. The Region sends its congratulations and best wishes to Lt. Ryan Khan as he takes on this new rank and position in serving God and our great nation. Lt. Khan is currently a chaplain at University Hospital, Denver and a member of Crossroads Church.

*Larron Jackson
Mission and Ministry Coach, Denver Cluster*



*Asst. Commander for Naval Recruiting, Ryan Khan,
Larron Jackson*

Your Church Needs a Communication Thread

Most people love consistency while fleeing chaos. A busy church tends to have so many messages and activities that even church staff aren't fully aware of the busy calendar. People in the congregation hear the occasional announcement, but even those who regularly attend can't possibly know everything about the church.

Take another step into your community. They're so far removed that they drive by the campus and barely give you a thought. Stuff going on in there? "Probably; but not for me".

We need to fix this. A thread is the easiest way.

The blood of Christ is drizzled through the 66 books of the Bible. That scarlet thread unites the hundreds of stories and 31,000+ verses into a wholistic, united, book that communicates the love of Christ through His death on the cross. That's the kind of thread we need in our churches.



A communication thread allows these 3 things for your church:

1. **It'll cut through the noise.** The marketing saturated world that exists in our communities distracts and becomes chaotic. Since most are looking for peacefulness, they respond to a simple, consistent message. It's like [hearing a sustained note](#) in a frenetic rock song, your ear quickly gravitates to it. Simplifying your church events and efforts into a strong, sustained concept will get people to pay attention.
2. **It'll focus your ministries.** Left unchecked, churches tend to create ministry silos where leaders build walls around them so they promote their own individual efforts. They want to stand out so they can have success even if it's to the detriment of the other ministries. Instead we need to support the "farm" rather than building the "silo". When every ministry is united under a thread, their unison reaches farther than the rich harmonies of many silos. The challenge to unite under a thread will also focus every leader to be creative with the thread while supporting the corporate church. Imagine if everyone worked to build your central concept in the community!
3. **It'll simplify your church promotion.** The goal of a good thread is to have a [theme resonate](#) into the souls of your congregation and community. Sure, there will still be a lot going on, but people will start seeing the thread everywhere and it'll become the mantra of anyone who engages with you. When someone at the water cooler says "hey, you go to a church don't you? Why do you like yours?", they will have the words to say. It'll be your thread. Because your thread is the reason someone would want to attend ANY ministry of your church. Sure, it may be interpreted slightly different for various age groups. But it'll still be a thread.

So, discover your [thread](#) today. It'll unite your message, your content, your social media, your website, your outreach, and your vision. Just remember two things about the thread: 1) it has to be desired from the community's standpoint and 2) it has to be easily connected to the Scarlet thread from the congregation's standpoint. So that they can use it to introduce the gospel into the story of the church.

To view this article online, click [here](#).

Mark MacDonald
Senior Brand Strategist, Creative Director, Blogger
[BeKnownForSomething](#) [PinPointCreative](#)

Originally published at [BeKnownForSomething.com](#) (who holds the copyright); an organization dedicated to effective church communications while helping individuals and ministries become known for something influential; so they'll point to Christ. Printed with Permission.

INTERNATIONAL MINISTRIES

COSTA RICA YOUNG ADULT EXPERIENCE



Transform Your World Through Creation Care

Join IM staff, missionaries, and Costa Rican brothers and sisters in sustainable farming and construction practices, learn about the state of a country pioneering creation care, and dialogue cross-culturally about how love of nature is an expression of love for God and neighbor. Return with your peers to Green Lake, Wisconsin, where you will examine your experiences in a retreat format and present at the 2018 World Mission Conference.

Leaders: Emily Ferrin, IM Assistant Director of Short-Term Missions
Ruth Mooney, IM Missionary to Costa Rica

Partners: Latin American Biblical University
The Federation of Baptist Associations of Costa Rica
Association of Development through Education



DESIGNED FOR AGES 19-29

JUNE 19 – JULY 8, 2018
COSTA RICA & WISCONSIN

\$2,000 TOTAL INCLUDES:
AIRFARE*, ROOM & BOARD,
GROUND TRANSPORTATION,
INSURANCE, LEADERSHIP
*HOUSTON, TX – SAN JOSÉ, CR –
APPLETON, WI

OTHER EXPENSES INCLUDE:
PASSPORT, TRAVEL TO
HOUSTON, TX AND TRAVEL
FROM APPLETON, WI

LIMITED, 6 PERSON TEAM

CONTACT EMILY FERRIN
EFERRIN@INTERNATIONAL
MINISTRIES.ORG
OR 610-768-2245

NON-REFUNDABLE DEPOSIT
\$200, DUE WITH
APPLICATION

FINAL PAYMENTS DUE
MAY 1, 2018

AMERICAN BAPTIST
INTERNATIONAL
MINISTRIES
610-768-2245

volunteers@internationalministries.org
www.internationalministries.org

Mon-Fri, 8am-4pm (EST)

First Baptist Church of Cooperstown

HONDURAS

Details

Date	Tentative July 6-14, 2018
Cost	\$450 + \$400 (project supplies) + plane ticket
Team Leader	Cindy Falk

Ministries of Faith is led by Dilia Zelaya, a missionary with the First Baptist Church of Marshalltown, IA and American Baptist International Ministries.

Included in the \$450 price:

- Lodging, food, and transportation in Honduras
- Experienced leader
- Life-changing experience
- The opportunity to build cross-cultural relationships

What is not included in this price?

- Round trip transportation from your home to San Pedro Sula, Honduras
- \$400 for project costs
- Expenses to secure your passport and immunizations

PROJECT PROFILE



Azacualpa is located about a two-hour drive south west of San Pedro Sula, near the Guatemala border. The climate in the summer will be hot.

In 2003 Ministries of Faith began as an orphanage, which currently houses a small number of children, ages 10–18. They attend public school, share in the chores around the grounds, and participate in the life of the Ministry.

A multi-purpose building, which was finished in January 2008, is used for worship and fellowship, cafeteria space for the people who live on and travel to the site, a soup kitchen for the popular children's feeding program, and a school auditorium.

The main school building, which doubles as Sunday school classrooms, was completed in 2012 and has an office, six classrooms, and girls and boys bathrooms. Soccer fields, a playground, a pavilion for shade, and chicken coops round out the property.

In addition to the main work project, you will participate in all aspects of the Ministry during this mission trip: playing with children, participating in the feeding program, and performing skits at school and Sunday School.

My House Project

In 2013, the Ministry began a community outreach program called "My House Project." The idea came from different mission teams that visited Ministries of Faith. The premise is to build a small house for a widow or a poor family at no cost to them. Funds are raised by the teams that want to work on the project. In February 2015, the first house was finished and given to an older lady and her granddaughter. This past July 2017, a house was rehabilitated for a single woman with a significant physical disability. Through these actions, we are saying to the community of Azacualpa, "we love you and God loves you, too." Through actions, as well as words, show your love, care, and respect for others, especially the less fortunate.

Questions? Call Cindy Falk 607-643-8284 or email cynthia.g.falk@gmail.com

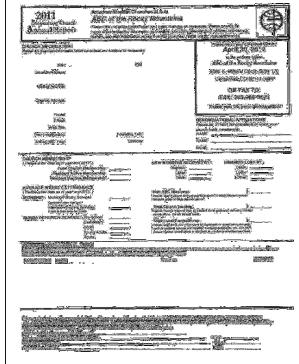
2017 Annual Reports



It is that time of year again to collect your church data to update our Region office data and National registry. We know that this process takes some time to complete, but the information is useful to assess the health of our denomination. It helps us plan for future mission and ministry, so your reports are important!

2017 Annual Report's will be mailed to our churches this month. Please take the time to complete your report and send it in early.

We thank all of you for your support to our Region.



Candy Trivia

Fun Fact: Did you know that the actual flavor of circus peanuts is banana!

1. What was the first candy to be individually wrapped?
2. What was the original name for cotton candy?
3. How many heart shaped boxes are sold each year for Valentine's Day?
4. In the 1800s, what did physicians commonly prescribe to heal a broken heart?
5. How many pounds of chocolate are consumed in America each year?
6. What is the paper flag on the Hershey's Kiss called?
7. What country consumes twice as much candy as the United States?
8. Which US president developed a Jellybean addiction?
9. What is the difference between hard, soft and chewy candy?
10. What was the original name of Candy Corn?
11. How much of the total calories in the American diet come from candy?
12. How heavy was the world's largest lollipop?



Answers:



1. Tootsie rolls in 1896.
2. Fairy Floss – invented by William Morrison.
3. More than 36 million.
4. Chocolate
5. 2.8 billion pounds of chocolate.
6. The plume!
7. Germans consume an average of 28.7 pounds of candy per capita which is twice as consumed by Americans.
8. Ronald Reagan, whose favorite flavor was licorice, developed a jellybean addiction after he quit smoking.
9. The texture of the candy is determined by the temperature to which the sugar is heated.
10. Chicken Feed
11. Less than 2%.
12. 7,000 pounds, made by See's Candy.



**First Baptist Church,
Colorado Springs and
Ecumenical Social Ministries
Helping Our Military Families**



Ecumenical Social Ministries, a social service outreach ministry founded by First Baptist Church, Colorado Springs and seven other churches over 35 years ago, is reaching out to the over 45,000 active duty military personnel and their families who live in El Paso County during the uncertainty of the federal government shut-down. Until a permanent funding measure is passed by the Congress and signed by the President, ESM will open its food pantry to all active duty military personnel. Normally, ESM's services are limited to persons living in a nine-zip code area, but during this time of financial uncertainty for military personnel, ESM is waiving that criteria.

Rev. Ann Steiner Lantz, ESM Executive Director, stated, "Our military personnel and their families sacrifice so much in service to our country every day that this seems to be the least we can do to assist them in their time of need."

First Baptist Church, Colorado Springs provides funding, monthly food donations, and volunteers to support the mission and ministry of ESM. "We couldn't be more proud to be a part of ESM and its ministry. It is an organization that constantly has its eyes peeled for how it might be the hands and feet of Christ in Colorado Springs. They are constantly asking, "What tangible act can we take to express Christ's love in this situation?" said Rev. Dan Schumacher, Senior Pastor, First Baptist Church. "Their latest effort to ensure that our military families do not go hungry is yet another example of that sensitivity and their ongoing commitment to serving our city's most vulnerable with Christ's love."

For more information, please contact Rev. Lantz at 719.228.6782 or at alantz@ecusocmin.org.



Calendar

February

- 14** Valentine's Day
- 17** MLC Meeting
- 19** President's Day
(Region office is closed)
- 23-24** ABW Colorado Winter Retreat
Cherry Creek Baptist Church
(formerly Bonnie Brae Baptist Church)



March

- America For Christ Offering Month
- 8-20** Zambia Mission Trip
- 11** Daylight Savings Time begins
Set clocks ahead one hour on Saturday night
- 22-23** Region Board Meeting
- 25** Palm Sunday
- 29** Mission Committee Meeting
- 30** Good Friday *(Region office is closed)*





The Real Reason The Ice Caps Are Melting.

Happy Valentine's Day

**The Rocky Mountain
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is published by the
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www.abcrm.org

Steve Van Ostran
Executive Minister
svanostran@abcrm.org

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is the 20th of each month.
Send submissions to
akeys@abcrm.org*

*Reprint permission is granted
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