



# Capital Baptist Newsletter

www.dcbaptist.org

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## DC Baptists Focus on Unity at Annual Meeting

By Yvonne Lamb, DCBC Vice-President and Chair of the Program Committee

On Oct. 25-26, 2010, churches in the District of Columbia Baptist Convention will gather for the Annual Meeting at Israel Baptist Church to celebrate, to pray and to praise, to conduct business and to learn. Delegates and others will bear witness to this year's theme, "Churches United in Advancing the Emerging Work of God."

The Program Committee is excited about seeing the Scriptural text come to life at the Annual Meeting: Philippians 1: 27b: "...stand fast in one spirit with one mind, striving together for the faith of the gospel."

Several speakers and breakout sessions are planned to edify attendees and help them grow in the areas of

*"Churches United in  
Advancing the Emerging  
Work of God" is the theme  
for the Annual Meeting*

discipleship, missions, reconciliation and social networking technology.

The Rev. Dr. Kirk Houston Sr., founder and senior pastor of the Gethsemane Community Fellowship Baptist Church in Norfolk, VA, will speak at the Monday afternoon Ministers Convocation. The keynote speaker on Monday evening will be Rev. Glynis LaBarre, church transformation strategist for the American Baptist Home Mission

Societies (formerly National Ministries).

On Tuesday afternoon, Dr. Robert Parham, executive director of Baptist Center for Ethics, will lead the plenary session. Rev. Eldridge Spearman, pastor of Mt. Jezreel Baptist Church, will deliver the Tuesday evening Convention sermon.

Delegates will have the opportunity to attend Resources for Results sessions that will shed light on the crisis in Haiti and how churches can respond; how to fill the generational gap through oneness with Christ; uniting churches through the practice of reconciliation; how to get their churches involved with mission work here and abroad; and how churches are using social networking technology to advance the work of God.

The Older Adult Ministries Convocation on Monday afternoon will feature two presenters addressing the theme, "Tough Conversations for Grownups—at Midlife and Beyond." The speakers will be Sig Cohen, a family and community mediator, and Carolyn M. Parr, a former tax court judge with a mediation and consulting practice.

Israel Baptist Church is located at 1251 Saratoga Ave. NE in Washington, D.C. For more information on the Annual Meeting, contact DCBC at 202 265-1526.



District of Columbia Baptist Convention

One Faith. Many Cultures. Endless Possibilities.



*Pictured above: Israel Baptist Church in Washington, D.C., where the 134<sup>th</sup> DCBC Annual Meeting will be held.  
Photo taken by Charles F. Lee*

# Older Adult Ministries

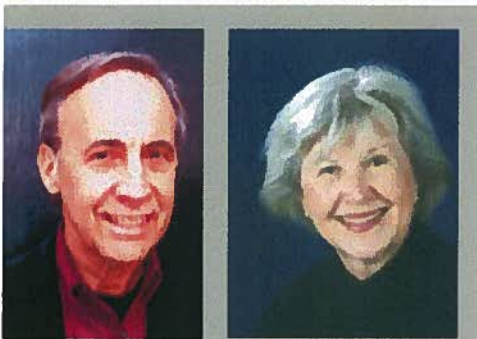
## OAM Convocation To Explore Having Tough Conversations

By Charles F. Lee

A tough conversation is one where emotions run high, participants are likely to see things differently, and people's lives may change, depending on the outcome. They are conversations that absolutely need to happen in order to prevent or to resolve a crisis. Resolving family conflicts is the focus of this year's Older Adult Ministries Convocation as part of the DCBC Annual Meeting. Using the theme "Tough Conversations for Grownups—at Midlife and Beyond," Judge Carolyn Miller Parr and Mr. Sig Cohen will provide guidance on how to keep peace, from conflict to collaboration.

Some examples from different families are: Dad has macular degeneration but wants to continue to drive. Mom falls a lot, but loves her home and wants to stay there. Kids are asking questions about mom and dad's finances, which the parents do not want to reveal. Two sisters and a brother inherited a beach house, and one is not paying her share of the expenses. Mom, in her 70's, has a younger boyfriend who the kids suspect is after her money. (The list could go on and on.) Each of these situations calls for honest, respectful, supportive talk, and each is tough.

Judge Parr and Mr. Cohen will teach how to prepare your heart, how to listen to understand, how to speak so you can be heard, how to defuse anger (including your own) and how to come out with both stronger family ties and a loving livable solution.



*Mr. Sig Cohen (above left) and Judge Carolyn Miller Parr (above right) will be the keynote speakers for the Older Adult Ministries Convocation in October*



*Speakers for this year's Annual Meeting include (from left to right): Rev. Ghynis LaBarre, church transformation strategist, American Baptist Churches USA in Nashville; Dr. Robert Parham, executive director, Baptist Center for Ethics; Rev. Eldridge Spearman, pastor of Mt. Jezreel Baptist Church in Silver Spring, MD; and, Dr. Kirk Houston Sr., founder and senior pastor of the Gethsemane Community Fellowship Baptist Church in Norfolk, V.A.*

## Upcoming Events

### Thursday, August 26

Orientation for Teachers of Youth  
7-9 p.m.  
Baptist Building  
1628 Sixteenth Street, NW  
Washington, D.C.

### Saturday, August 28

Youth Extravaganza  
1-7 p.m.  
Clifton Park Baptist Church  
8818 Piney Branch Road,  
Silver Spring, MD

### Monday, September 6

Labor Day  
DCBC Office Closed

### Thursday, September 9

Orientation for Teachers of Children  
7-9 p.m.  
Baptist Building  
1628 Sixteenth Street, NW  
Washington, D.C.

### Friday and Saturday, September 17-18

"Youth United for Christ" Event  
Location: TBD  
*Look for details in eNews Briefs or [www.dcbaptist.org](http://www.dcbaptist.org)*

### Saturday, September 18

Disaster Relief Training  
9-4 p.m. (registration starts at 8:30 a.m.)  
First Baptist Church, Camp Springs  
6936 Allentown Road  
Camp Springs, MD

### Thursday, September 23

Fall Begins

### Monday, Oct. 25-Tuesday, Oct. 26

DCBC Annual Meeting  
Israel Baptist Church  
1251 Saratoga Ave., NE  
Washington, D.C.

Judge Parr founded Beyond Dispute Associates in 2002 when she retired from the United States Tax Court after 16 years of service. Mr. Cohen, a mediator of family and community disputes as a DC Superior Court mediator for over 12 years, had a prior 29-year career as a U.S. Foreign Service Officer.

The Convocation will take place on Monday, October 25 at Israel Baptist Church beginning with lunch at 12:30 p.m. At 1:45 p.m., Convocation participants will come together with other Convention attendees for a joint Prayer Gathering to open the Annual Meeting, and then reconvene in the Convocation from 2:30 p.m. until 4:15 p.m. Spread the news in your church and come hear these popular speakers share their advice on this important older adult topic of how to conduct tough conversations providing livable solutions.

#### Facts about The Preservation Trust

- The D.C. Baptist Convention Preservation, Inc. (The Preservation Trust) was separately incorporated in January 2010.
- The Trust was established to acquire, preserve and redevelop, in perpetuity, existing real and personal property and other financial and material assets for the purpose of worship, fellowship, evangelism, and community outreach, as well as to maintain existing churches and other property used for religious purposes as sacred spaces for both Baptist and non-Baptist utilization.
- Preservation of sacred properties includes: building improvements, modernization and remodeling to maximize efficiency and occupancy.
- The vision of the Preservation Trust is to make sacred properties available for use by emerging congregations and continued use by congregations that are in decline.

## Executive Board Holds Special Meeting (CORRECTED VERSION)

By Rev. Leslie Copeland-Tune, Managing Editor, and Yvonne Lamb, DCBC Vice-President

At a special meeting of the Executive Board on Monday, July 12, board members voted against two motions regarding the District of Columbia Baptist Convention Preservation Trust.

The meeting, which was attended by about 60 people, was called following petitions from 16 members who are concerned about how the Convention would move forward in its involvement in the Preservation Trust.

Norman Taylor, a member of Chevy Chase Baptist in Washington, D.C., introduced the motions on behalf of the petitioners. The first motion sought to rescind that portion of the Executive Board's resolution that approved the creation of a fund making up to \$500,000 available to the Preservation Trust. The second motion sought to establish procedures for the transfer of money to the Preservation Trust.

Following discussion regarding issues of stewardship, trust, fellowship and historical precedent, the first motion was defeated 35 to 21. The second motion received a tie vote, 29 to 29, but failed because a majority vote was required for the vote to carry.

A resolution establishing the Preservation Trust was approved at the 2008 Annual Meeting. The Preservation Trust was incorporated in January as a non-profit entity to acquire and hold sacred properties for worship, fellowship, evangelism and community outreach.

Concern arose among some members earlier this year about the Trust's independence from the Convention and the initial funding of the Trust from the Convention. The Trust could receive loans from the Convention over the next five years, totaling \$500,000. The funds are from the proceeds of the sale of Bethany House, which sold in July.

For the special meeting, Joseph Hairston, DCBC Parliamentarian, outlined a set of standing rules and used an electronic timer for speaker comments. Robert's Rules of Order were used to conduct the business meeting. Members observed a moment of silent prayer before voting by secret ballot.

DCBC President Mel Doxie, who also serves on the Board of the Preservation Trust, recused himself from chairing the meeting to avoid conflict of interest. DCBC Vice President Yvonne Shinhoster Lamb chaired the meeting.

# From the Interim Regional Minister

## Eye-Openers

By Joseph M. Smith, Interim Regional Minister

I had a bout of pneumonia recently, and it opened my eyes!

Actually, for a while, it crossed my eyes! Occasionally I would feel the muscles in my eyes contracting and crossing the angles of vision, so that I got a confusing double image. The world is discouraging enough, sometimes, without having to see it twice!

But the pneumonia opened my eyes to several other things: good health is not guaranteed in all circumstances; I am getting older and therefore more vulnerable, two years past the Biblical three-score-and-ten; and physical health and emotional and spiritual health are all tied together. When I felt tired, I wanted to do practically nothing and cared very little about anything that was going on around me. That is decidedly not my style ... or is it?

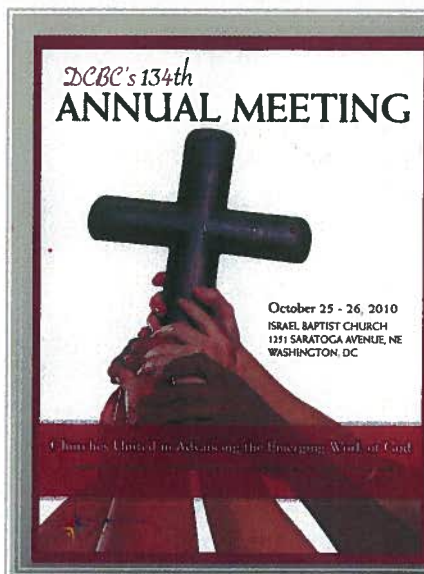
We Baptist Christians are, we say, evangelical. We believe that each person must confront the Living God on his/her own, and must enter into a saving relationship with Christ through personal faith. The corollary of this is that we believe that it is our duty and our privilege to share that faith with others who need to know Christ. Agreed? Not much argument there.

But we need an eye-opener through which we can learn about our ecclesiastical pneumonia, our corporate spiritual sickness. Friends, in this role with which you have entrusted me, I have visited many pastors and churches. And I am not

finding enough genuine, responsible, passionate evangelical outreach. I do find that some of us are trying music that we think young people will enjoy; that some of us are preaching mightily against the sins we've already beaten to death; that some of us are embracing very worldly values in an effort to be inclusive; and that some of us are simply weary of doing much more than holding weekly services and hoping for the best. We need an eye-opener by which we can understand again what our purposes are and how we need to reinvigorate our outreach.

As always, let's turn to Jesus for the eye-opener: "Do you not say, 'Four months more and then the harvest'? I tell you, open your eyes and look at the fields! They are ripe for harvest." (John 4:35 NIV) In other words, waiting and fumbling are not worthy strategies! The need is now, the people must be reached, and if we but acknowledge our sickness and let our eyes be opened, we will change.

My eye-opener has led me to be more careful about exerting myself in physically challenging circumstances. I will continue to "tote that barge, lift that bale," but more deliberately and more judiciously than before. And our spiritual eye-opener ought to lead us to keep on doing church, but more deliberately, more judiciously, and more focused on outreach.



### REGISTRATION IS NOW OPEN!

Register now for the D.C. Baptist Convention's 134th Annual Meeting, which will be held Oct. 25-26 at Israel Baptist Church, 1251 Saratoga Ave., NE, Washington, D.C., where Rev. Morris Shearin is the pastor. This year's theme is "Churches United in Advancing the Emerging Work of God." Workshops and plenary sessions will be focused on this theme. You do NOT have to be a delegate to attend. More information and a registration form are in this edition of the *Capital Baptist*. If you have questions or would like further information, please contact DCBC at 202.265.1526. Register today and be a part of this important meeting!



## BLESSINGS

By Ellen S. Teague

Executive Director, D.C. Baptist Convention Foundation

*This is a story about a woman named Martha and her church. Martha loved her church and the church loved Martha. She taught Sunday School classes, attended worship and prayer services regularly, served on committees, and gave generously. Along with her husband, she raised her sons to love the Lord and to serve Him. Even after her husband died and her sons left home, she continued faithfully to support her church.*

*But the time came when Martha's age and poor health caused her to slow down. She stopped teaching and serving on committees. She attended Sunday morning services but no longer attended prayer meetings. It wasn't that she wasn't interested, but she lacked both the energy and means to get there. In spite of slowing down, she continued to give her tithe and made sure that her will reflected her commitment to her church and other Baptist causes.*

*After a few years, when her health failed and she no longer could attend church services, the church forgot about Martha. She felt hurt that the church she loved so much had abandoned her. A few people called, but when she was hospitalized, no one came to visit her, and when she died, her sons were shocked and disappointed that so few members of the church attended her funeral.*

*Likewise, the church was shocked and disappointed to learn that she had removed the church from her will.*

*Two questions: First, is this a story about money or a story about caring for the members of your church? And secondly, who are the "Marthas" in your church?*

## Getting Involved in Missions: A White Cross Update

By Carmen A. Gray, BWM White Cross Coordinator

When you hear the phrase, "getting involved in missions," what comes to mind? Perhaps taking a trip, helping the community, praying, giving money or labor? While all of these things are important acts of missions, it is also important to realize there are many facets and many different levels of mission work—very small to extremely large.

As the Great Commission commanded in Matthew 28 and Mark 16, we, as Christians, are called to do something—preach, teach, share.... The key to "getting involved in missions" is simple: participate! All job descriptions are vital to these functions—CEO, secretary, pilot, teacher, volunteer, clothes sorter, driver, money donor, pastor, student, etc. We are *all* (young adults, older adults, children, youth, seniors, men, women) missionaries, who have faith and believe in the One who saves.

The White Cross initiative was created to help fulfill the scriptures of the Great Commission. This ministry provides so that both stateside (overland) and around the world (overseas) missionaries can carry out their work in the fields.

Several DCBC congregations collectively help to honor the requests made through the White Cross, such as, rolling bandages for hospitals and clinics or assembling baby/health/school kits. The congregations involved this past year include: Agape, Alafia, Antioch, Broadneck, Calvary, Calvary Burmese, FBC Camp Springs, Carmody Hills, E Washington Heights, First Baptist Church of

Georgetown, First Baptist Church of Washington, Forest Heights, Fort Foote, Fort Washington, Gaithersburg, Georgetown, FBC Hyattsville, Lai, Montgomery Hills, Nineteenth Street, Pennsylvania Avenue, People's, Purity, Rivers of Joy, Shiloh, Takoma Park, Trinity, FBC Upper Marlboro, Village, and West Hyattsville as well as numerous individuals who donated during the Refresh Her 2010 Women's Retreat held in May.

Examples of items needed for Baby Kits are: cloth diapers (6), T-shirts or undershirts (2), washcloths (2), gowns or sleepers (2), diaper pins (2), sweater or sweatshirt (1), and receiving blankets (2). Health kits include: a hand towel, washcloth, wide-tooth comb, nail clipper, a bar of soap, toothbrush and several band-aids. School Kits generally include: a pair of blunt scissors, spiral or tape bound notebooks (3), a 12-inch ruler, a pencil sharpener, six pencils with erasers, one large eraser, a box of crayons and a 12"x14" handle cloth bag.

August begins a new year of donation collections and request assignments. If you or your church would like to "get involved", monetary donations are accepted made payable to the DCBC, write White Cross in the subject line.

For questions or instructions on how to donate to the White Cross, assembly kits at your church or complete a drive for the requested items, please contact Carmen A. Gray, BMW White Cross Coordinator, at 202-437-5343 or via email at [carmenagr1@sprint.blackberry.net](mailto:carmenagr1@sprint.blackberry.net).

## STAYING IN TOUCH: The World Wide Web is Changing the Way We Communicate

By Carletta Lundy, BWM Communications Coordinator

Today we can communicate using websites, blogs, Facebook and Twitter! Because of this, some churches have gotten on board and have hired experts or utilized the skills of church members who do design, print and have experience as a webmaster.

Back in the day, most churches had a secretary who typed their announcements into a printed bulletin and the extent of their communication was their church bulletin and announcements that they made from the pulpit. Some of our mega churches we know have elaborate Welcome Boards and Welcome Centers.

We understand that different ministries have different audiences that receive information differently. For example, I attend Clifton Park Baptist church where we have 30+ countries represented which means that many of our members have a language that they speak other than English. Also, if we were honest, we can admit that often our members are not reading these printed bulletins but spend a significant amount of time on-line accessing the Internet.

The Baptist Women's Ministries Leadership Team is interested in entering the era of social media. Specifically, we're considering joining the FACEBOOK family of churches, and we would like for you to be a part of the process. Share with me how your church is getting the word out and what you are communicating. Are you a techie? If you are interested in being a part of the working group considering the pros and cons of joining the FACEBOOK family of churches, just drop me a line at [carla\\_lundy@yahoo.com](mailto:carla_lundy@yahoo.com).

So, the web may be changing how we communicate but not the need for us to keep the lines of communications open by staying in touch ~ one key at a time.

## Doing a New Thing

By Rev. Starlette McNeill, CML Coordinator

In recent months, the Center for Ministerial Leadership has created several new initiatives in cooperation with our mission to provide continual support through relevant and applicable resources and dynamic fellowship opportunities that encourage ministerial vitality, spiritual and vocational growth, and collegiality. The Center has created and distributed welcome packets to new pastors of the Convention, begun a new pastors' luncheon, and a Women in Ministry Roundtable, which had its first planning meeting on May 17 to discuss the challenges and triumphs of women in ministry and the Convention's role in assisting women in ministry. The Roundtable will meet again on Monday, September 13. The Ministers Fellowship also has a new emphasis: clergy self-care.

We know but too often don't acknowledge or address the fact that clergy are in need of care. Clergy are the most called on and the least cared for. A seemingly superhuman presence, congregants don't believe that the pastor needs to rest and sadly, many pastors agree, believing that they must be present for every occasion, address every need, and answer every question. But, we would all agree that this practice is not healthy for or helpful to the pastor or congregation. The pastor must create space for spiritual and physical renewal and the church needs an opportunity to demonstrate the leadership skills it has gained through the role modeling of its pastor.

In response to this reality, the Ministers Fellowship has sought to focus on the multifaceted needs of pastors, clergy, and lay leaders. During our March Fellowship, Adrian Simmons, CPA, provided tax tips for clergy, making sense of forms, schedules, and other tax jargon. He offered explanations in layman terms of the self-employment tax, housing allowance, deductible and non-deductible job expenses and the IRS' Publication 517 for clergy and religious workers. In April, Dr. Michael Koppel, Associate Professor of Pastoral Theology and Congregational Care, facilitated a dialogue on congregational care in the 21st century wherein we examined the outdated images of pastor and the need for updated tools for ministry.

In May, Dr. Jesse Wood, Assistant to the Senior Servant at Metropolitan Baptist Church of Washington, D.C., shared his personal story of poor self care that began in childhood. He challenged the myth of "self-sufficient leadership" and encouraged participants to set healthy boundaries, reserve family time, build friendships, and practice Sabbath.

In June, we were joined by Rev. Ed Allen, pastor of the Gateway Church in South Riding, Virginia, who discussed the importance of developing leaders in our congregations. How do we create a culture of growth? Allen suggested that we increase connection, increase expectation, and increase accountability.

The Center for Ministerial Leadership will host its first annual day of appreciation for clergy on Tuesday, September 28 at noon at the Baptist Building, 1628 Sixteenth Street, NW, Washington, D.C. For more information, contact Rev. Starlette McNeill at 202.265.1526, ext. 209.

## New Teacher Orientations

The Center for Congregational Health, Evangelism & Discipleship (CHED) is sponsoring several learning center forums that will provide opportunities for teachers of children, youth and adults to develop their skills. The sessions will be held on at the Baptist Building, 1628 Sixteenth Street, NW, Washington, D.C. from 7-9 p.m. on the following Thursdays—August 12, August 26 and September 9. The schedule is as follows: orientation for new teachers of adults will be led by Janet Henley of Clifton Park Baptist Church in Silver Spring, Md. on Thursday, August 12; orientation for new teachers of youth will be led by Rev. Dub Pool, Heritage Baptist Church in Annapolis, Md. on Thursday, August 26; and, orientation for new teachers of children will be led by Rev. Deborah Cochran, Associate Pastor, First Baptist Church of the City of Washington, D.C. on Thursday, September 9. Parking is available in the courtyard next to the building. RSVP by calling 202.265.1526 or register at [www.dcbaptist.org](http://www.dcbaptist.org).

## NCAMO Focus Week in September

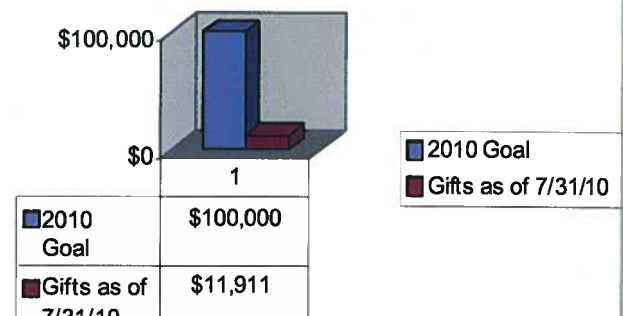
September 12-19 has been designated the focus week for the National Capital Area Mission Offering (NCAMO). During this week, member churches of the D.C. Baptist Convention are asked to set aside time to emphasize the NCAMO by: placing bulletin inserts in church bulletins; putting offering envelopes in the pews or having ushers hand them out; distributing the special NCAMO children's bank to the Youth Ministry and other children in your congregation; and, disseminating the NCAMO bookmarks to everyone and encouraging them to place them in their Bibles and pray for the NCAMO recipients that week according to the Daily Devotionals on the back. Through NCAMO, DCBC is able to help those with the greatest need as well as to support member churches in their outreach and ministry endeavors. If every member and friend of a DCBC church would make a contribution to NCAMO of at least \$15, we would be able to meet our region wide goal of \$100,000 to support the important ministry work of the Convention. Of course we would appreciate a gift of any amount. Through your prayers and sacrificial giving we will witness real transformation in the lives of those with the greatest need in the Washington, D.C. area.



*Pictured (right): Participants listen intently during a recent Ministers Fellowship event*



### National Capital Area Missions Offering (NCAMO) 2010 Contributions



# Community Focus



## Stoddard Baptist Home Foundation, Inc.: A Legacy to Preserve with a Progressive Vision

By Keisha Clark, SBHF Director of Development

Caring for an aging loved one can be difficult. However, deciding to place them in a nursing home is an even more challenging and emotional decision. Thankfully there are two places that many can feel safe to call their “home-away-from home.” These “homes” are Stoddard Baptist Nursing Home and Sycamore Hill Senior Assisted Living Facility.

Both Stoddard Baptist Nursing Home and Sycamore Hill exist because of a great heritage of elder care dating back to 1902. Initially founded to provide shelter and care for elderly ministers and their wives or widows, Stoddard operates as a five-star rated health care organization in Washington, D.C.

Stoddard’s philosophy of care is to “deliver professional quality health care services to their residents and families by responding to their spiritual, physical, emotional and social needs.” On a daily basis the Stoddard family works as a team to ensure that every resident is treated with respect, dignity and most importantly compassion.

Also affiliated with Stoddard is the Sycamore Hill Senior Assisted Living Facility located in Mitchellville, Md. In 2009, Stoddard’s Board of Director’s decided to temporarily stop providing services in order to move forward with a vision of expansion. With God’s grace Stoddard will redevelop Sycamore Hill into a residency for 72 individuals requiring assisted living services. Resting

on 8.9 acres of land, Sycamore Hill is projected to break ground in 2012. The expansion costs are estimated at \$19 million. This vision is bold; yet, Stoddard is confident that it is a necessary investment for the Greater Washington Metropolitan community.

The new Sycamore Hill facility plans to create approximately 100 employment opportunities, 85 percent of these positions are expected to be filled by Prince George’s County residents. In addition, Sycamore Hill will be a “green” facility, using earth-friendly products.

Both Stoddard Baptist Nursing Home and Sycamore Hill have benefited greatly from the kindness of local churches and civic organizations. Faith-based organizations account for approximately 70 percent of Stoddard’s charitable giving as well as countless hours of in-kind support such as ministry, clothing donations and various other items.

For more information about the Stoddard Baptist Home Foundation, Inc. please feel free to contact Ms. Keisha M. Clark, Director of Development at 202.328.7400, ext. 1316 or via email at [kclark@sbnhdc.org](mailto:kclark@sbnhdc.org) or visit [www.stoddardbaptisthome.com](http://www.stoddardbaptisthome.com).

Contributions may be directed to:

Stoddard Baptist Home Foundation, Inc.  
Fund Development Department  
1818 Newton Street, NW  
Washington, DC 20010

# ANNUAL MEETING SCHEDULE

## Oct 24 Sunday

DCBC Day in all DCBC churches

## Oct 25 Monday Afternoon Session

12:30p	Older Adult Ministries Lunch	
1:00pm	Registration, Bookstore, and Exhibits Open	
2:00pm	Flu and Pneumonia Shots	
2:00pm	Prayer Gathering	College of Prayer
2:30pm	Ministerial Leaders Convocation	Kirk Houston, Sr.
2:30pm	Older Adults Convocation:	Sig Cohen
	<i>"Tough Conversations for Grownups—at Midlife and Beyond"</i>	Carolyn Parr
5:00pm	Recognition Dinner	
	Dinner Blessing	Jean St. Ulme

## Oct 25 Monday Evening Session

Presiding	Melvin Doxie	First Baptist Church, DC
7:00pm	Congregational Praise & Worship	Israel Baptist
	Special Music	Lai Baptist
	Call to Order	Melvin Doxie
	Welcome and Invocation	Morris Shearin
7:20pm	Constituting of 134 <sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting	
7:30pm	Special Music	Lai Baptist
7:40pm	Executive Director/Minister Address	
8:00pm	Offering Prayer	Kendrick Curry
	Special Music	Israel Baptist
8:15pm	Keynote Address	Glynis LaBarre
9:00pm	Benediction	San No Thuan

## Oct 26 Tuesday Morning Session

9:30am	Continental Breakfast	Fellowship Hall
	Registration, Bookstore, and Exhibits Open	
Presiding	Melvin Doxie	First Baptist Church, DC
10:00am	Convention at Business	Sanctuary
10:05am	Worship	Valeria Foster
10:15am	Call to worship	Melvin Doxie
10:20am	Theme Interpretation	Mark Olson
10:25am	Invocation	Jevon Billups
	Greetings from Ministry Partners	Various
10:45am	Congregational Selection	Valeria Foster
10:50am	Memorial Tribute	Ronald James
11:00am	Partnership Reports:	Various
11:15am	Business	
	▪ Executive Board Report	Melvin Doxie
	▪ Proposed 2011 Budget	David McElveen
	▪ Nominating Committee Report	James Garnett, Jr.
	▪ Confirm ABC Regionally Nominated Representative	
	▪ Election of Officers	Melvin Doxie
	▪ Confirm Executive Committee	
	▪ Date, Place & Preacher Report	Melvin Doxie
	▪ DCBC Foundation Trustees	Ellen Teague
	▪ Miscellaneous Business	
	▪ President's Address	Melvin Doxie
	▪ Blessing for Lunch	
12:00pm	Lunch	
	▪ Presentation: African Tourism Org.	

## Oct 26 Tuesday Afternoon Session

Presiding	Melvin Doxie	First Baptist Church, DC
	<b>Resources for Results</b>	
1:00pm	Plenary Session	Sanctuary
	Congregational Selection	
	Theme Interpretation	Fred Tiedemann
	Prayer	
	Congregational Selection	
	Plenary Speaker: "Ethics"	Robert Parham
	Introduction to Breakout Sessions	Melvin Doxie
2:00pm	Flu and Pneumonia Shots	
2:40pm	Session (2:40 - 3:25pm)	
	▪ Preparing Ourselves to Minister and Respond to Emergencies.	
	▪ Filling in the Generational Gaps through the Oneness of Christ.	
	▪ Uniting Churches through the Practice of Reconciliation.	
3:30pm	Session (3:30- 4:20pm)	
	▪ How to do Home and Foreign Mission Trips; Getting Your Church Involved.	
	▪ Technologically Speaking, Using Social Networking to Advance the Kingdom of God.	
4:20pm	Move to Fellowship Hall	

## Oct 26 Tuesday Evening Sessions

Presiding	Melvin Doxie	First Baptist Church, DC
	<b>Convention-wide Celebration Banquet</b>	Fellowship Hall
4:30pm	Welcome and Blessing	James Tiefel
	Special Music	Avery Nielsen
5:00pm	Dinner	
5:30pm	Procession of Ministries	Leslie Copeland-Tune
	Special Music	Avery Nielsen
6:15pm	Closing Prayer/Move to Sanctuary	Chauntia Bego
	<b>Evening Session</b>	Sanctuary
6:30pm	Praise & Worship	Mt. Jezreel
	Invocation	Abby Thornton
6:45pm	Special Music	Alderson-Broadus Quartet
	Commission 2010-2011 Officers, Centers, DCBC Staff, & Team Leadership	
6:50pm	New President's Greetings	
7:00pm	Special Music	Mt. Jezreel
	Offertory - DCBC	Cynthia Turner
	Convention Sermon	Edridge Spearman
8:00pm	Benediction	Wyndell Banks
8:05pm	Adjourn	Melvin Doxie



# REGISTRATION FORM

2010 Annual Meeting – October 25 & 26

**The Annual Meeting is open to ALL DC Baptists and neighboring communities.**

## DELEGATE/NON-DELEGATE INFORMATION

The Annual Meeting registration is required for Delegates\*. Please register by mail, online at [www.dcbaptist.org](http://www.dcbaptist.org), or on-site.

Name (1) \_\_\_\_\_  Delegate\*  Non-Delegate  
 Name (2) \_\_\_\_\_  Delegate\*  Non-Delegate  
 Mailing Address \_\_\_\_\_  
 City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip Code \_\_\_\_\_  
 Telephone \_\_\_\_\_ Email Address \_\_\_\_\_  
 Church Membership \_\_\_\_\_

## REGISTRATION FEES

Qty	Category	Fee	Amount Due
	Delegate* <i>(If you have registered through your church, please do not register again)</i>	\$20.00	\$
	Non-Delegate	FREE	
<b>Total Due</b>			\$

\*Delegates are elected by their local church to represent their church in the business session and are authorized to vote on business matters.

## MEAL RESERVATIONS

Meal reservations must be made in advance. Meal tickets will not be sold on-site. Meal reservations and payment must be received by **Friday, October 15, 2010**.

Qty	Meals	Vegetarian Option	Cost	Amount Due
	<b>Dinner - Monday, Oct 25</b> Baked Chicken, Mixed Vegetables, Parsley Buttered Potatoes, Dinner Rolls, Dessert and Beverage	<input type="checkbox"/>	\$10.00	\$
	<b>Lunch - Tuesday, Oct 26</b> Assorted Sandwiches (Turkey, Ham, Tuna, & Chicken Salad), Fruit, Chips, Dessert and Beverage	<input type="checkbox"/>	\$8.00	\$
	<b>Dinner - Tuesday, Oct 26</b> Baked Fish, Glazed Carrots, Rice Pilaf, Dinner Rolls, Dessert and Beverage	<input type="checkbox"/>	\$10.00	\$
<b>Total Due</b>				\$

**TOTAL PAYMENT** \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Please make checks payable to the **DC Baptist Convention** and mail to DCBC, Annual Meeting, 1628 16<sup>th</sup> Street NW, Washington DC 20009 or you may register online at [www.dcbaptist.org](http://www.dcbaptist.org).

**DC Baptist Convention**  
**Church Mission Giving**  
**For the Seven Months Ended July 31, 2010**

Churches	DCBC - 65% Coop - 35%			100% Designated					YTD Total Gifts
	Unified Coop	SBC Coop	ABC Unified	PNBC	DCBC Designated	SBC Designated	ABC Designated	Misc.	
Agape Baptist Church	-	-	-	-	204.00	3,344.00	-	-	3,548.00
Agape Bible Christian Fellowship	-	-	-	-	500.00	-	100.00	-	600.00
Alafia Baptist Church	-	-	-	-	300.00	500.00	700.00	-	1,500.00
Broadneck Baptist Church	-	-	1,021.00	-	766.00	-	-	-	1,787.00
Broadview Baptist Church	-	-	1,200.00	-	500.00	-	-	-	1,700.00
Brookmont Baptist Church	200.00	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	200.00
Calvary Baptist Church	-	-	1,250.00	-	2,500.00	-	2,700.00	1,750.00	8,200.00
Calvary Burmese Baptist Church	-	-	-	-	870.00	-	-	-	870.00
Carmody Hills Baptist Church	-	-	-	-	-	150.00	-	-	150.00
Chevy Chase Baptist Church	-	-	-	-	800.00	100.00	100.00	-	1,000.00
Christian Family Baptist Church	(0.00)	-	-	-	198.10	-	-	-	198.10
Clifton Park Baptist Church	-	-	-	-	1,500.00	-	1,383.00	-	2,883.00
Commonwealth Baptist Church	-	-	-	-	581.00	-	-	-	581.00
Dayspring Community Church	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	150.00	150.00
East Washington Heights Baptist	-	-	-	-	-	1,361.55	-	2,572.00	3,933.55
Emanuel, Iglesia Bautista	-	-	-	-	225.00	-	-	-	225.00
First Baptist Church Of Washington	-	-	-	-	4,062.50	973.33	3,573.32	6,337.02	14,946.17
First Baptist Church/Camp Springs	-	-	-	-	7,500.00	1,308.05	2,632.13	1,185.48	12,625.66
First Baptist Church/Front Royal	-	-	2,187.00	-	-	-	1,295.00	-	3,482.00
First Baptist Church/Gaithersburg	-	-	-	-	3,509.00	-	9,851.00	4,063.00	17,423.00
First Baptist Church/Georgetown	-	-	-	-	600.00	-	-	400.00	1,000.00
First Baptist Church/Hyattsville	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1,000.42	1,000.42
First Baptist Church/Silver Spring	-	-	962.31	-	13,909.47	-	9,169.09	315.00	24,355.87
First Baptist Church/Upper Marlboro	-	-	-	-	498.00	-	-	-	498.00
First Baptist Church/Wheaton	250.00	-	-	-	500.00	-	-	250.00	1,000.00
First Temple Hills Baptist Church	-	-	-	-	193.17	-	-	266.33	459.50
Forest Heights Baptist Church	-	-	-	-	2,647.59	3,224.59	-	-	5,872.18
Fort Foote Baptist Church	-	-	-	-	52,250.00	7,405.00	-	462.00	60,117.00
Fort Washington Baptist Church	-	-	-	-	2,400.00	1,200.00	-	-	3,600.00
Georgetown Baptist Church	-	-	-	-	1,370.95	70.00	-	-	1,440.95
Greenbelt Baptist Church	2,400.00	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2,400.00
Heritage Baptist Church	-	-	-	-	2,744.00	-	-	-	2,744.00
Holy Comforter Baptist Church	-	-	-	-	350.00	-	-	-	350.00
Israel Baptist Church	-	-	-	-	1,800.00	-	-	-	1,800.00
Luther Rice Memorial Baptist Church	-	-	-	-	600.00	-	600.00	1,202.00	2,402.00
Montgomery Hills Baptist Church	-	-	-	-	4,125.00	-	12,634.57	-	16,759.57
Morning Star Baptist Church	-	-	-	-	500.00	-	-	-	500.00
Mt. Airy Baptist Church	-	-	-	-	350.00	-	-	-	350.00
Mt. Gilead Baptist Church	-	-	-	-	500.00	-	-	-	500.00
Mt. Moriah Baptist Church	-	-	-	900.00	1,350.00	-	-	-	2,250.00
Nations United Baptist Church	-	-	-	-	2,482.69	16,750.07	-	-	19,232.76
New Creation Baptist Church	-	-	700.00	-	-	-	500.00	-	1,200.00
Nineteenth Street Baptist Church	-	-	-	-	500.00	-	-	-	500.00
Paramount Baptist Church	-	-	-	-	1,000.00	-	2,600.00	1,450.00	5,050.00
Pennsylvania Avenue Baptist Church, The	-	-	-	-	5,750.00	1,500.00	1,500.00	2,000.00	10,750.00
Purity Baptist Church	-	-	-	-	500.00	-	-	-	500.00
Ravensworth Baptist Church	-	-	-	-	1,746.00	-	570.00	1,425.00	3,741.00
Rivers Of Joy Bible Fellowship Church	-	-	-	-	200.00	-	-	-	200.00
Riverside Church	-	-	-	-	1,000.00	-	-	-	1,000.00
Saint Mary's Baptist Church	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1,000.00	1,000.00
Saint Matthews Baptist Church	-	-	-	-	1,000.00	-	-	-	1,000.00
Takoma Park Baptist Church	-	-	-	-	5,720.00	-	3,245.19	-	8,965.19
Temple Baptist Church	-	-	-	-	600.00	-	-	900.00	1,500.00
Third Baptist Church	-	-	-	-	200.00	-	50.00	-	250.00
Trinity Baptist Church	-	-	-	-	4,958.26	8,902.26	-	1,891.00	15,751.52
Twinbrook Baptist Church	-	1,553.69	176.01	-	496.68	3,357.00	362.31	311.00	6,256.69
University Baptist Church/College Park	-	-	-	-	11,642.52	53.00	12,173.82	4,583.73	28,453.07
Upper Room Baptist Church	-	-	-	-	88.00	-	-	-	88.00
Vienna Baptist Church	-	-	-	-	6,650.00	-	8,616.83	-	15,266.83
Village Baptist Church	-	-	-	-	750.00	-	-	-	750.00

**DC Baptist Convention**  
**Church Mission Giving**  
 For the Seven Months Ended July 31, 2010

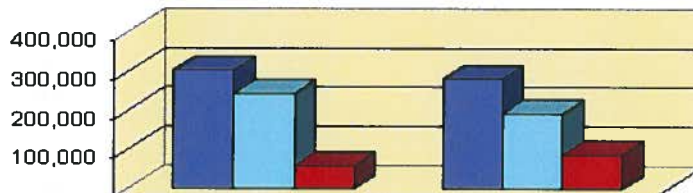
Churches (Continued)	DCBC - 65% Coop - 35%			100% Designated					YTD Total Gifts
	Unified Coop	SBC Coop	ABC Unified	PNBC	DCBC Designated	SBC Designated	ABC Designated	Misc.	
West Hyattsville Baptist Church	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	500.00	500.00
Wisconsin Avenue Baptist Church	2,600.52	-	-	-	-	5.00	463.00	214.00	3,282.52
Zion Baptist Church	-	-	-	-	250.00	-	-	-	250.00
<b>Sub-Total</b>	<b>5,450.52</b>	<b>1,553.69</b>	<b>7,496.32</b>	<b>900.00</b>	<b>156,237.93</b>	<b>50,203.85</b>	<b>74,819.26</b>	<b>34,227.98</b>	<b>330,889.55</b>

Missions & New Church Starts	DCBC - 65% Coop - 35%			100% Designated					YTD Total Gifts
	Unified Coop	SBC Coop	ABC Unified	PNBC	DCBC Designated	SBC Designated	ABC Designated	Misc.	
Clinton Korean Baptist Church	-	-	-	-	350.00	230.00	-	-	580.00
Falam Baptist Church, Maryland	-	-	-	-	100.00	-	-	-	100.00
Glory Baptist Church (Korean)	-	-	-	-	100.00	-	-	-	100.00
Greenbelt Vietnamese Baptist Church	-	-	-	-	-	1,160.00	-	963.08	2,123.08
Lai Baptist Church	-	-	2,000.00	-	-	-	-	-	2,000.00
Olive Branch Community Church, Inc.	-	-	-	-	500.00	-	-	-	500.00
Power House Baptist Church	-	-	-	-	300.00	-	-	-	300.00
Salem Gospel Ministries (Baltimore)	-	-	-	-	350.00	-	100.00	50.00	500.00
Word and Spirit Baptist Church	-	-	-	-	500.00	-	-	-	500.00
Word for Life Church Ministries	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	665.00	665.00
<b>Sub-Total</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>2,000.00</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>2,200.00</b>	<b>1,390.00</b>	<b>100.00</b>	<b>1,678.08</b>	<b>7,368.08</b>

<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>5,450.52</b>	<b>1,553.69</b>	<b>9,496.32</b>	<b>900.00</b>	<b>158,437.93</b>	<b>51,593.85</b>	<b>74,919.26</b>	<b>35,906.06</b>	<b>338,257.63</b>
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Misc Column: Gifts for NCAMO, JBCC, BWA, BJCPA, CBF, Bapt Sr Adults, & National Ctr Children & Family

**Budget vs. Actual**  
as of July 31, 2009 and 2010



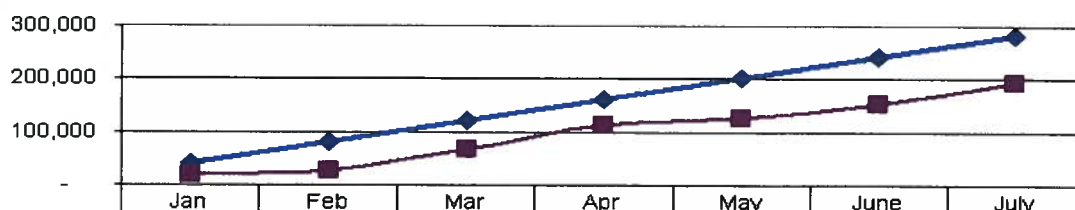
	2009	2010
Budgeted DCBC Church Mission Support	302,729	280,440
Actual DCBC Church Mission Support	243,520	192,866
Shortfall	59,209	87,574

**Comparative Analysis**

The 2010 actual DCBC church mission support is **31.2%** or **\$87,574 below** the budgeted amount.

<b>Total Contributing Churches/ Missions &amp; New Starts:</b>	<b>73</b>
<b>Total Non-Contributing Churches:</b>	<b>47</b>
<b>Total Non-Contributing Missions/New Start</b>	<b>30</b>

**YTD Church Support Trend**



	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	June	July
YTD Budgeted	40,063	80,126	120,189	160,252	200,315	240,377	280,440
YTD Actual	19,874	26,322	67,237	111,416	126,353	153,249	192,866

# News Briefs



*Pictured left to right: Rev. Abby Thornton, the new pastor of Broadneck Baptist Church in Annapolis, MD; and Rev. Dr. C. Lee Hagwood, and his wife, Leslie. Rev. Hagwood is pastor of Agape Bible Christian Fellowship in Martinsville, Va.*

## Church & Staff News

### Welcome Home!

Rev. Dr. C. Lee Hagwood, pastor of Agape Bible Christian Fellowship in Martinsville, Va., has returned safely from a year-long tour of duty in Kuwait and Afghanistan as part of the Virginia (Army) National Guard's 134<sup>th</sup> Chaplain Support Team.

### Two DCBC Churches Call New Pastors

Broadneck Baptist Church in Annapolis, Md. has called Rev. Abby Thornton as its new pastor and Rev. Carl Greg is the new pastor of Broadview Baptist Church in Temple Hills, Md.

### Congratulations!

Agape Life Ministries, Inc. has moved to its new sanctuary, which is now located at 8568 Laureldale Drive, Laurel, Md. 20724. For more information, contact the church at 301.725.6525 or visit the church website, [www.agapellifeonline.org](http://www.agapellifeonline.org).

### Bebber Takes Position at Christ House

Rev. Eric Bebbler from Calvary Baptist Church in Washington, D.C. has taken a position at Christ House in the Adams Morgan neighborhood of the city. Bebbler, who was the Missions coordinator for Calvary, is now the Kairos House Manager, Christ House's long-term housing community.

### Shiloh Showcases Excellence in African American Sacred Music

The American Guild of Organists chose Shiloh Baptist Church in Washington, D.C. to host a special service honoring African American sacred music during their centennial convention here in July. The service included readings from Rev. Dr. Wallace Charles Smith, Senior Pastor of Shiloh, and featured a wide range of music from traditional hymns and anthems to spirituals, Gospel and contemporary praise music. Shiloh's music ministry is under the leadership of Thomas Dixon Tyler.

## Recording Secretary Position Open

The Nominating Committee of the District of Columbia Baptist Convention (DCBC) is prayerfully seeking a proficient Recording Secretary for the term 2010–2011. The ideal candidate would be a member of a DCBC church, preferably a Church Clerk or Secretary (past or present), who has experience taking minutes for business meetings. The DCBC Recording Secretary is responsible for preparing agendas and taking minutes of the proceedings of the Annual Meeting, the Administrative Council, the Executive Committee and the Executive Board. He/she is also responsible for writing certain official letters certifying information from DCBC records. The Recording Secretary is elected for one year, but may be re-elected consecutively. This is a voluntary position that requires time, accuracy and dedication to the work of the Convention. If you are interested in serving in this position or wish to recommend someone, please respond as soon as possible to: The Nominating Committee at the District of Columbia Baptist Convention, 202.265.1526 or [gail.lacy@dcbaptist.org](mailto:gail.lacy@dcbaptist.org).

## Procession of Ministries

Let others know what your church is doing! Each year at the Annual Meeting, the D.C. Baptist Convention highlights the important ministry work that our member churches have been involved in the previous year. Again this year we will feature ministries of our member churches that are using creative and innovative approaches to fulfill their mission during a multimedia presentation. Please send us details about the work your ministry has been involved in over the past year for the Procession of Ministries, including a brief description (1-2 pages maximum), photos, PowerPoint slides and/or video. Forms for the Procession of Ministries can be printed out by clicking [here](#). Completed forms should be sent to D.C. Baptist Convention, Attn: Rev. Leslie Copeland-Tune, 1628 Sixteenth Street, NW, Washington, D.C. 20009, [communications@dcbaptist.org](mailto:communications@dcbaptist.org). If you have questions, please contact DCBC at 202.265.1526.

## Volunteers Needed

The D.C. Baptist Convention is looking for volunteers to serve as our receptionist on Wednesdays, Thursdays and Fridays each week. Please contact Lashanor Doolittle, Business Manager, at 202.265.1526 or [info@dcbaptist.org](mailto:info@dcbaptist.org) if you are interested.

## CPBC Seeking New Minister of Music

Clifton Park Baptist Church located in Silver Spring, MD is seeking a Minister of Music. Clifton Park is a multicultural, multigenerational congregation of 525 active servants of Christ. We are seeking a talented and Spirit-led Minister of Music to grow and develop the music ministry of the church, lead worship services and play appropriate accompaniment (piano, keyboard or organ). The salary is negotiable. To apply please forward a resume and salary requirements to the Worship, Music and Arts Committee via e-mail to [Music-Arts@cpbc.net](mailto:Music-Arts@cpbc.net). For more information, contact the church at 301.434.2456.

## TPBC Hosts Friends and Community Day Weekend

Takoma Park Baptist Church in Washington, D.C., is having its Outreach Weekend on September 11-12. Saturday, September 11 will be Community Day from noon-4 p.m. at the church. Then on Sunday, September 12, the church will host Friends Day. All are invited to attend Bible study at 9 a.m. and worship service at 10:30 a.m. There will be a picnic on the church grounds following the morning worship service. For more information, contact Lillian Ingram at 202.723.4700.

## Deadline Extended for Haitian Nationals to Seek Temporary Protected Status

(From ABNS) The U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services has announced that the deadline has been extended for Haitian nationals to apply for Temporary Protected Status (TPS), a relief program launched in response to the devastating earthquake earlier this year. The new registration deadline is Jan. 18, 2011. TPS registration allows eligible Haitian nationals to continue living in the United States and to obtain work authorization for the duration of the program. Waivers of the application fees are available to those who demonstrate inability to pay. For more information, contact Rev. Aundrea Alexander at [Aundrea.Alexander@abhms.org](mailto:Aundrea.Alexander@abhms.org) or 800.222.3872, ext. 2430.

# Making Moves in Ministry

By Rev. Leslie Copeland-Tune, Managing Editor

## Q&A with Chaplain Saul Garcia



*As people all over the world watched and marveled at the athleticism and passion of the 2010 World Cup soccer players, one DCBC pastor had insight and perspective into the game that many of us could only dream about. Chaplain Saul Garcia, pastor of Buenas Nuevas de Salvacion in Washington, D.C., once played professional soccer for his native country El Salvador. Garcia, who is also on staff at the D.C. Baptist Convention, has lived in the United States for 30 years—21 of which he has worked for the DCBC. We took some time to talk to Garcia about his experience as a soccer player as well as the moves he's making to minister and witness to ex-offenders.*

**CB:** *What was life like for you growing up in El Salvador?*

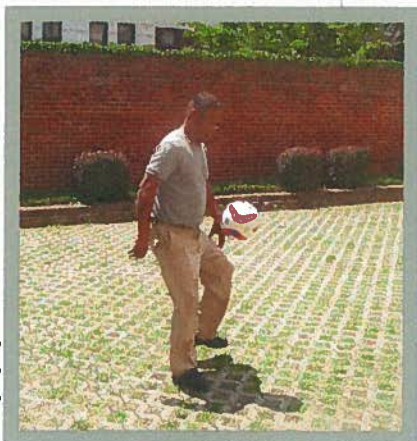
**SG:** When I was growing up, life for me was happy because I had lots of friends with whom I used to play soccer. As I got older, life got a little harder because I had the responsibility to help my father with the farm. Then, I registered in the army. Those were the most difficult years of my life until I came to live in the USA.

**CB:** *What attracted you to soccer? When did you know you were good enough to play professionally?*

**SG:** I first began to play soccer when I was a little child. When I turned nine years old, I was part of the minor league. And when I was 14, the scouts came to a game and saw me playing. I was drafted to train for the professional team.

**CB:** *What soccer teams did you play for?*

**SG:** I played for three of El Salvador's professional teams: Sonsonate, Dragon, and Limeño.



*Garcia shows off some of his soccer moves in the courtyard of the Baptist Building.*

**CB:** *How has soccer changed since you played?*

**SG:** Soccer used to be a sport played only in Latin America and Europe; now it has been introduced in the U.S. and there is a lot of growing interest especially for young people to play soccer. Also, the sport has become more commercial, teams play for large sums of money and not so much for fun.

**CB:** *When did you know you were called to preach the Gospel?*

**SG:** When I was a member at Iglesia Bautista de Washington, I used to pay close attention to the sermons and the Sunday School lessons that talked about serving God by sharing the gospel. In 1998, at the end of an evangelistic revival, the guest speaker made the invitation to dedicate our lives to serve the Lord by sharing the gospel with every person. I accepted that call and I went forward. This call was later confirmed at a Sunday School Conference in Glorietta Retreat Center in New Mexico.

*"When I am either preaching or witnessing to people, I feel the same excitement and passion that I experience when I play soccer and I score a goal."*

*~Saul Garcia*

**CB:** *When did you start the prison ministry and what was your motivation to start it?*

**SG:** In the year 2000, I was on my way to visit a friend in the hospital. I didn't know exactly where the hospital was; so I accidentally ended up at the D.C. Jail. There I saw many of the Hispanic men that I once had shared the gospel on the streets of D.C. I began to look for ways to gain access to them so that I could minister to them. I was granted permission to visit the jail. Eventually, I became a Hispanic Chaplain.

**CB:** *Tell me about the prison ministry.*

**SG:** I visit two prisons: Correctional Facility of America and the D.C. Jail twice a week on Tuesdays and Wednesdays. We have a worship service with the inmates, with music, prayer,

testimonies and preaching of the Word. I minister to the families of the inmates. Some of those families live here in the USA and some are abroad. And some come to worship at my congregation.

**CB:** *What motivates you to keep the prison ministry going?*

**SG:** My passion is that many hear the gospel and put their trust in Jesus as Lord and Savior. The positive responses motivate me to continue.

**CB:** *Do you ever feel discouraged doing prison ministry and if so, how do you handle it and keep going in spite of that?*

**SG:** Up to now, I have not felt discouraged at all because I see that God is working in their lives. I see their lives changed by the grace of God. And that is enough reason to keep going.

**CB:** *Are there any success stories of ex-offenders who have turned their life around that you would like to share?*

**SG:** An inmate who was a doctor in his home country had broken the law with drug possession. He heard the gospel and repented from his sin. He gave his life to the Lord Jesus. When he was released, he went back to his country and started a church where he is the pastor.

**CB:** *Do you see any parallels between playing soccer and pastoring?*

**SG:** When I am either preaching or witnessing to people, I feel the same excitement and passion that I experience when I play soccer and I score a goal. In soccer, one is taught the disciplines of the game, the risks, the effort and sacrifices as well as the rewards of playing by the rules. When pastoring, I disciple people by telling them what consequences of sin are, and the blessings received by obeying God's Word.

*Garcia has been the pastor of Buenas Nuevas de Salvacion for almost four years. He has been married for 25 years and has three adult children and one grandson.*



## Rev. Dr. Marion Criddle

**Pastor, Rivers of Joy Bible Fellowship Church  
District Heights, Maryland**

*If there were a word, or phrase to sum up the unique passion that God has given you, what would it be?*

“Feed my lambs...Tend my sheep... [and] feed my sheep” John 21:15-17

*How has that passion worked its way into the purpose of your ministry at your church?*

The emphasis on making the word of God an integral part of everyday life is reflected in the church’s motto. The motto is an acronym for DISCIPLESHIP—Doing Instinctively, and Spontaneously Christ’s Instructions Pertaining to Living Exemplary, Sanctified, Holy and Inspired Personalities. As always, souls for the Kingdom are the number one priority, but it is the word of God that will do the reproofing, correction and instruction in righteousness to equip and complete us for good work. As a ministry we take every opportunity to feed or tend Jesus’ lambs or sheep—whether in the foreign mission field; with the young people visiting my home, Sunday School, VBS or in informal rap sessions; at the nursing home; in a senior’s recreation center; at the jail; or in the written word distributed through the “Launching into the Deep” newsletter. The word is always shared. Anyone hungry or in need of the word will receive it if our paths cross.

*What group of people has the Lord laid heaviest on your heart?*

The broken-hearted, the unchurched wanderers and the shepherdess sheep. This is reflected in my doctoral dissertation, *The*

Care of Shepherdess Sheep: Surrogate Shepherding. Note: Lambs and sheep may be shepherdess even though they are on a church roll. Often they are lost in the numbers of mega-churches or reticent about their issues, thereby, they are without a comfortable place to turn for help.

*What are the unique challenges of ministering in the DC Metro area?*

The economics of staffing resources to effectively reach the wanderers is difficult. For example, the salary ranges of good musicians are unreachable for small churches and it takes time to grow your own. The beauty of it all is that God provides in spite of these challenges.

*What is your favorite scripture?*

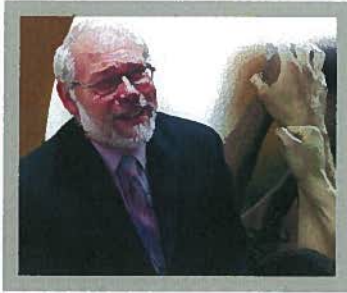
Proverbs 3:5-6, “Trust in the Lord with all your heart, and lean not to your own understanding; in all your ways acknowledge Him, and He shall direct your paths.”

### *In the Next Issue*

The deadline for submitting articles for the October/November 2010 issue of the *Capital Baptist* is September 3. Submissions should be sent via email to [communications@dcbaptist.org](mailto:communications@dcbaptist.org). This issue will feature:

- News from Denominational Partners
- Ministry for and with Immigrants
- Domestic Violence Awareness Month
- “My Passion Is” with Rev. James Martinez, Agape Baptist Church; and Rev. Essentino Lewis, Clifton Park Baptist Church
- Upcoming Events
- And more...

# My Passion Is... Community



**Rev. Dr. Lynn Bergfalk**  
**Pastor, Wisconsin Ave. Baptist Church**  
**Washington, D.C.**

*If there were a word, or phrase to sum up the unique passion that God has given you, what would it be?*

Community—both in terms of understanding what it means to be the body of Christ as the church, and in living out the reconciling love of Christ in the world. The New Testament not only says but shows us that “the Word became flesh and dwelt among us.” It is not enough to preach. As imperfect as we are, by the grace of God, we need not simply to proclaim but to be the message – a community of love and mercy, people who serve others and whose lives embody a prophetic critique of the world’s system.

*How has that passion worked its way into the purpose of your ministry at your church?*

Taking seriously that Christ calls us into community impacts the vision and ministry of the church at every level. Wisconsin Avenue Baptist is one of those congregations that reflects a glimmer of heaven, described in the book of Revelation as people gathered together in Christ “from every tongue, tribe, nation, and people.” That diversity also captures the demographics of our international neighborhood in upper Northwest. At the same time, we seek practical ways of reaching out to underserved neighborhoods blighted by poverty and pain throughout the city. It is a matter not only of love but justice. Jesus taught us that to love our neighbor means to be a neighbor to those in need.

*What group of people has the Lord laid heaviest on your heart?*

That’s a hard question, because the compassion of Christ draws us to all who are in need. A few years ago I began a ministry modeled on the biblical “city gate” where the poor, the widow and orphan, and the foreigner were to receive justice and inclusion into the larger community. So those outside the mainstream have a special claim on my heart. Jesus said what we do to the hungry, naked, sick or imprisoned, we do unto Him, and the church discovers its greatest joy when we love Jesus in this way.

*What are the unique challenges of ministering in the DC Metro area?*

Challenge is just another way to spell opportunity. What an incredible place and privilege our city provides to speak prophetically, to do justice and love mercy, and to grow communities of faith that demonstrate the power of Christ’s love to transcend the boundaries of culture, color, and class which so often fracture our world.

*What is your favorite scripture?*

John 13:34-35. “A new command I give you: Love one another. As I have loved you, so you must love one another. By this all men will know that you are my disciples, if you love one another.”

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## Periodicals

# Lasting Connections

## DCBC Becomes Member of Baptist World Alliance

In July, the D.C. Baptist Convention (DCBC) was formally granted membership to the international Baptist organization, the Baptist World Alliance (BWA) during a meeting of the BWA General Council prior to the start of the 20th Baptist World Congress in Honolulu. DCBC member churches have been strong supporters of the work of the BWA, including giving regularly to the BWA as well as to Baptist World Aid, its humanitarian and relief arm which supports global disaster relief and other projects.

According to its vision statement, "The Baptist World Alliance is a global movement of Baptists sharing a common confession of faith in Jesus Christ, bonded together by God's love to support, encourage and strengthen one another, while proclaiming and living the Gospel of Jesus Christ in the power of the Holy Spirit to a lost world."

The DCBC is a cooperative of more than 150 member churches working together to strengthen Baptist congregations and advance God's kingdom in the Washington, D.C. metropolitan area. DCBC is triply aligned with American Baptist Churches USA, the Progressive National Baptist Convention and the Southern Baptist Convention. It is the fourth state or regional Baptist convention in the U.S. to be accepted as a member body of the BWA, following the acceptance of the Baptist General Association of Virginia, the Baptist General Convention of Texas and the Baptist General Convention of Missouri.



District of Columbia Baptist Convention

