

Capital Baptist Newsletter

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Inside this Issue

2
**The Church on the Plateau:
Part 2**

2
Wailing Women

4
Open Letter to DCBC

5
May is Foster Care Month

7, 8
Church Gifts

10, 11
Our Pastors...Our Cities

12
**Youth Ministry at
Paramount**

DCBC Calls New Executive Director/Minister

By Rev. Leslie Copeland-Tune*
Managing Editor

Following a 15-month search, the D.C. Baptist Convention (DCBC) has called Rev. Ricky O. Creech to serve as its next executive director/minister. The DCBC's Executive Board voted to approve the Executive Committee's recommendation to hire Rev. Creech during a special called meeting that was held on March 28. The vote passed by a majority with 35 yes to 28 no with one abstention.

Rev. Creech is a church strategy consultant and the former head of the Birmingham Baptist Association in Alabama. Having been appointed as the Association's youngest executive director in their history, Rev. Creech served the Birmingham Baptist Association from 1995 to 2006 and oversaw 158 churches. He has also served as interim pastor and provided consulting services to numerous congregations.

During his tenure as executive director—or what is known as director of missions in denominational life—he expanded the association's membership by bringing in dually-aligned African American congregations and assisting in the planting of inner-city GenX churches. He also came under fire for supporting a Birmingham church's call of a female senior pastor.

Rev. Creech has a passion for social justice and is an advocate for missional partnerships. He developed several need-meeting ministries, including a free health clinic in Alabama. Among his accomplishments was the creation of a disaster relief team that is now

the largest in the state of Alabama. He coordinated international and national disaster relief efforts, including at Ground Zero in New York after Sept. 11, 2001.

Most recently, Rev. Creech was minister of administration and missions at Oak Grove United Methodist Church in Decatur, Ga. He will begin his tenure at DCBC in April.

The DCBC's Executive Committee voted March 8 in a special session to accept the Search Committee's recommendation for Rev. Creech's appointment with a vote of 16 yes to five no with one abstention. The Executive Board was scheduled to vote on the Executive Committee's recommendation during a March 14 meeting. However, several Board members voiced concern about not having received enough information about Rev. Creech prior to the meeting.

The Search Committee, chaired by Rev. Dr. Ella Redfield, began looking for a new executive director/minister early last year, following the 2009 resignation of Rev. Dr. Jeffrey Haggray. Dr. Haggray served as DCBC's executive director/minister for eight years before leaving to become the first African American pastor of the 208-year-old First Baptist Church of Washington, D.C.

"We are excited about the gifts and background that Rev. Creech will bring to the D.C. Baptist Convention. He is a visionary, passionate leader and, we believe, the right person to move the Convention forward into the future," said Dr. Redfield.

The committee held town hall

Continued on page 3



District of Columbia Baptist Convention

One Faith. Many Cultures. Endless Possibilities.

The Church on Plateau: Part II

By Rev. Paul Clark, DCBC Interim Regional Minister

In part two of the series, Rev. Clark shares his wisdom about how churches can move forward and re-envision a new future after having been "on a plateau." Churches on a plateau are neither growing nor declining, but stagnant. Part I of this article can be found in the February/March issue of Capital Baptist.

A first step to re-envisioning a new future for your church is the recognition by observed data that the church has entered a cycle of the plateau. This is the stage for re-dreaming the dream. This is the time for seeking, searching and beginning to dream.

Next, the church on the plateau must use the plateau time to rethink and to clarify the mission, vision, beliefs, ministry focus and goals of the church. It's also a time for strategic planning, community and team building, outreach planning, celebration of successes (no matter how small) and review and evaluation.

A tired, weary band of church leaders will not have the energy to do the re-envisioning for the work of re-dreaming the dream. At these times, the plateaued church must learn how to recreate its energy and vitality. I would call this a period of Sabbath time in the life of a congregation.

Lyle Schaller, in his research on church growth, made the observation that the more the membership recalls the nostalgic memories of the past, the less likely the church membership will have the energy for new growth. Nostalgia is good in recalling history; but it is detrimental if we try to recreate and repeat the past.

Polarization happens when various groups and individuals do not accept the answers to questions that have been raised. The congregation will begin to form subgroups depending on whether or not they accept the answers.

The "dropout," that is a member who leaves, does not like the doldrums of the plateau or the stress or tension related to remaining on equilibrium without growth. Some members take the plateau or declining time to find a new church home.

As Bob Dale makes clear in his research on church growth, what is called for is a shift to a new dream, a dream that inspires hope and confidence and helps the congregation hear a call from God to do new ministry. From the summit of the plateau arises the stimulus of a new dream from God. The challenge of a new future calls forth the best in leadership and membership.

For life-giving and growing churches, when the nostalgic stage begins, the leadership of the church must begin the congregational process of re-dreaming the dream and re-discovering beliefs that lead to new and fresh goals. Thus, a new life cycle is initiated, one of calling forth growth beyond the plateau.

Wailing Women

By Rev. Elizabeth Hagan,
Pastor

Washington Plaza Baptist Church

(ABP) -- It sounds like the beginning of a bad joke -- an imam, a rabbi and a Baptist and an evangelical pastor spend 10 days together in Jerusalem -- but for me, this week, such is true.

On Jan. 16, I joined a delegation of peace to this war-torn land with the intention of visiting places where Jews, Christians and Muslims aren't normally found peacefully together, such as the Temple Mount, Hebron and Bethlehem.

One of the goals of this adventure is to visit holy sites of each of our faiths with the hope of seeing the religious conflicts of this land with fresh perspective.

Never would I have expected that the most segregated activity in a religious tradition different from my own would be one of the most spiritual activities for me in our journey so far. Yet when I met Jerusalem's Wailing Wall, I didn't want to leave.

I assumed I would greet the separation of sexes at the Wailing Wall with frustration, hurt and annoyance. As the only female in the group, I could imagine myself with tears in my eyes as I found my way alone to the "women's" portion of the wall. I anticipated an experience of sharing in the sorrows of the injustice and persecution that millions of my sisters have felt through the years of male-dominated and male-centered religious traditions.

As I walked through the former temple court into the quarters with the sign "Women" above it, however, I found tears welling up in my eyes for a completely different reason.

There was something incredibly holy that came upon me as I surrendered to whatever the experience could offer. The space felt incredibly safe and inviting, even though I was a Christian pastor dressed like an American tourist without a prayer book in my hands. I did bring, however, prayers folded up on small strips given to me in advance from friends in the United States.

Continued on page 3



Pictured above: Rev. Elizabeth and Kevin Hagan outside of the Wailing Wall in Jerusalem



Pictured above: Prayer requests from around the world are placed in the Wailing Wall

Upcoming Events

Sunday, April 24
Happy Easter!

Monday, April 25
Easter Monday
DCBC Office Closed

Saturday, May 7
Expanding Discipleship Workshop:
"Transforming Hearts for Discipleship"
9:30 a.m. – Noon
Baptist Building
1628 Sixteenth Street NW
Washington, D.C.

Monday, May 9
Executive Committee Meeting
1-3 p.m.
Baptist Building
1628 Sixteenth Street NW
Washington, D.C.

Saturday, May 14
"Set Free" Refresh Her Women's Retreat
8:30 a.m. – 3 p.m.
The Pennsylvania Avenue Baptist Church
3000 Pennsylvania Avenue, SE
Washington, D.C.

Thursday, May 19-Saturday, May 21
"Lord, As Families, Teach Us to Pray"
College of Prayer May Module
Ft. Foote Baptist Church
8310 Ft. Foote Road
Ft. Washington, MD

Mark Your Calendar:

Friday, June 10-Saturday, June 11
Grant Proposal Writing Conference
Baptist Building
1628 Sixteenth Street NW
Washington, D.C.

Wailing Women/Continued from page 2

Soon after placing the prayers in the wall, I felt a strong need to cover my head with my scarf and sit in one of the plastic chairs placed close to the wall. No one asked me to cover my head, but it seemed like the right thing to do.

As I looked upon the crowd of my sisters surrounding me with tears rolling down my cheeks, I was truly glad that no men were present. There are unique sorrows and worries in being a woman, and it felt right to grieve alongside those who understand that best.

There was an African woman kneeling and leaning toward the wall praying with a rosary. A Euro-American woman kissed the wall as if it were her long-lost lover. A woman with special needs embraced a teenage traveling companion, so overcome by sadness that she could hardly stand. A Jewish woman rocked back and forth with a prayer book in her hands with more devotion toward a holy book than I've ever seen toward a Christian text.

I left the Wailing Women of Jerusalem with a renewed sense that Christians in general get it all wrong when it comes to grief. Yes, because of Jesus we have hope in difficult circumstances such as the death of a loved one. Yet we still need from time to time to be in communities of those who will weep with us.

I began to wonder whether we might be wise to build "wailing walls" in our own centers of worship. While such monuments in parking lots or church gardens would not have the same kind of religious history as the Western Wall, might they provide similar life-giving communion for people in need of places to express their pain?

I believe more people than we realize are seeking this kind of sacred space. After all, Jesus said: "Blessed are they who mourn, for they will be comforted."

**This article first appeared in the Jan. 24th edition of Associated Baptist Press.*

Remembering Rev. Eric L. David, Sr.

By Rev. Leslie Copeland-Tune
Managing Editor

The leaders and staff of the D.C. Baptist Convention extend our warmest sympathy and prayers to the family of Rev. Eric L. David, Sr., who died on February 19. He was the pastor of West Hyattsville Baptist Church in Hyattsville, Md. A native of Liberia, West Africa, Rev. David had more than 30 years of experience in ministry, stretching across the Atlantic from Liberia, to Eastern Europe to North America. He was heralded for his gift of leadership and his unquenchable desire and dedication to preaching and teaching the word of God.

Rev. David was actively involved in the Liberia Baptist Convention and served as Interim President of Liberia Baptist Theological Seminary. He served as pastor to churches in Tennessee and Liberia. He was also assistant to the pastor at Second New St. Paul Baptist Church in Washington, D.C. and Executive Director of their Day Care Center.

Rev. David earned a bachelor's degree from the College of the Bible, American Baptist Seminary and a master's of divinity from Vanderbilt Divinity School in Nashville. He leaves behind a wife, Connie, five children and six grandchildren.



DCBC Calls New Executive Director/Minister

Continued from page 1

meetings, a pastor's forum and conducted a survey to gather input from DCBC members. It received more than 60 applications and interviewed seven candidates before selecting Rev. Creech.

The D.C. Baptist Convention is a cooperative of more than 150 member churches working together to strengthen Baptist congregations, promote diversity and advance God's kingdom in the Washington, D.C. metropolitan area. Founded in 1801, DCBC is aligned with American Baptist Churches USA, the Progressive National Baptist Convention and the Southern Baptist Convention. DCBC is also a member of the Baptist World Alliance, a fellowship of Baptist conventions and unions around the world.

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**Yvonne Shinboster Lamb contributed to this article*

From DCBC President

Open Letter to the D.C. Baptist Convention

By Yvonne Shinhoster Lamb, President

Greetings to you in the name of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.

God has been faithful to keep us together during our time of transition and challenge, as He has prepared us for the coming of our new Executive Director/Minister. This work that we do in the D.C. Baptist Convention is never more important than it is right now; together we can accomplish more for the Kingdom when we are truly “Churches United in Advancing the Emerging Work of God.”

I have felt blessed over the last year-and a-half to be a part of a dedicated and God-filled body of believers who seek to live out their days doing Kingdom work in the Washington metropolitan region and beyond. The Convention’s rich diversity of churches—urban and suburban, small and large, mainstream and eclectic, racial and immigrant—allows us to see God’s hand at work in places and people beyond our own four walls. It gives us the opportunity to be in community with others and to strengthen and broaden our individual missions to fulfill the Great Commission. As believers, we are called to be in community with each other, connected and unified by our belief in the risen Savior. DCBC helps us answer that call.

During my tenure as vice president and now president of the Convention, I have had the opportunity to work with and pray with pastors and laypeople who are dedicated to serving in the Convention for the glory of God. The DCBC staff has been phenomenal in carrying out their duties and ensuring that the Convention continued to be a ready resource for our churches during this season of transition. Our interim executive regional ministers, initially Rev. Dr. Joseph Smith and now Rev. Paul A. Clark, have stood in the gap and provided much needed leadership. Please join me in commending their hard work.

It has been edifying to be joined together with you in carrying out the work God has assigned DCBC to do in the world. It has been challenging as well, but my faith in God has increased as I have strived to do what is best for the Convention. I was reminded earlier this month of the necessity of being vigilant about promoting unity in the body, even when there is disagreement

among us. The close vote on March 28 for the executive director/minister offers an opportunity for us to pause and reflect on what God is doing in our midst. It also shows that we have to make room for deeper discussions among the Convention leadership and for all of us to continue in relationship with each other as we begin this new season.

I recognize, too, from the grace-filled responses of some members that my recent comments in an Associated Baptist Press article upset some of you. I apologize and ask forgiveness for saying words that disappointed and indicated that I discounted the prayerful consideration that others gave to deliberations regarding our next executive director/minister. That was not the intent of my comments, but I do realize the impact they made. As a former journalist, I should have known better; as a fellow Christian, I should have done better.

Moving forward, I would ask that we all continue to pray that God’s will prevails in the work of the Convention and that we all continue to work together to accomplish the great things that God desires to do through us. I am excited about what is yet to come in the life of our 134 year-old Convention, which through Christ, can do exceedingly and abundantly beyond anything we can ever hope, think or imagine.

Please join me also in welcoming Rev. Ricky Creech who will begin his tenure on April 18. We are excited about the energetic and visionary leadership he will bring to the D.C. Baptist Convention. You will hear shortly about events the Convention will host for you to personally greet Rev. Creech.

Let’s together heed the words of the Apostle Paul who said, “stand fast in one spirit, with one mind, striving together for the faith of the gospel.”

Yours in Christ,
Yvonne Shinhoster Lamb
President, D.C. Baptist Convention





BLESSINGS

By Ellen S. Teague
Executive Director

D.C. Baptist Convention Foundation

Today's word is "gratitude". Webster's New World Dictionary describes it as "a thankful appreciation for favors or benefits received." Basically, it's a "thank you."

If you've ever done something nice for someone you know how good it feels to have them thank you. Recently, I've received some letters that I want to share with you. They come from some of our scholarship recipients:

"As I am about to approach midterms, I wanted to let you know that I have been having the best time learning in these classes. This program is no doubt quite challenging but it is also inspiring to be surrounded by quite motivated and intelligent professors and students alike. The gift from the Foundation lessens the financial burden while allowing me to focus more clearly on school. I greatly appreciate this financial gift...I will earn the best possible grades as one way to demonstrate my true appreciation."

"Thank you so much DCBC Foundation! I'd love to share stories of how God is using me throughout my seminary education. I've been one of the worship leaders for the past three semesters and elected to be the International Students President this semester. With what I have learned at school I can teach others more effectively. I'm much more confident sharing the Gospel and my heart burns more and more for lost souls. I want to be as much prepared as I can, so I can be a great tool in God's hands in the mission field."

"Thank you for your financial support. I could not have finished my degree without the DCBC Foundation. It has been a long journey, filled with academic rigor and self-discoveries. However, God has been faithful to place the right people in my life to encourage me and support me during this season of 'pruning.'"

"I am very appreciative of the support that the DCBC Foundation has given me during my matriculation in seminary. The scholarships awarded provided a substantial benefit during these economic crises. For that reason, I understand the need to be reciprocal towards other students. I will definitely make a monetary contribution to continue this scholarship fund."

These are statements from four of our scholarship recipients. One comes

from a brand new student, two from students who will be graduating this spring and the other falls somewhere in the middle. What they have in common is their expression of gratitude. Members of the DCBCF Scholarship Committee regularly experience that warm feeling that comes from helping someone and having that person express appreciation. In turn, the Foundation would also like to express appreciation. Without generous donations received over the years, we would not be able to provide this ministry. So, "Thank You!" donors. These words of appreciation from students are also for you.

Scholarship applications are currently being accepted for the 2011 Fall Semester. If you or someone from your church feels called to full time ministry and needs to attend seminary, have them contact the Foundation at 202.234.7194 or by email to ellen.teague@dcbaptist.org. And if you would like to assist in this ministry, please let us know – we will be very grateful!

DCBCF Scholarships Available for Seminarians

The D.C. Baptist Convention Foundation (DCBCF) is now accepting applications from seminarians who will be enrolled in an accredited seminary in the fall. DCBCF offers scholarships to seminary students from DCBC churches. To be eligible, students must meet the following criteria:

- Be enrolled as a full time student in an accredited seminary
- Be studying for a first graduate level degree in preparation for full time ministry
- Be currently or at time of enrollment a member of a DCBC participating church
- Maintain a grade point average or 2.75 on a 4 point scale or its equivalent
- Demonstrate financial need

For more information, contact Ellen Teague, DCBCF Executive Director at 202.234.7194 or by email at ellen.teague@dcbaptist.org. Applicants must submit an application with all required supporting documents by **May 1**, in order to be eligible for a Fall 2011 scholarship. To download an application visit www.dcbaptist.org.

May is National Foster Care Month...You Can Change a Lifetime!

All children deserve a safe, happy life. Young people in foster care especially need nurturing adults in their lives because their own families are in crisis and unable to care for them.

The Board of Church Representatives of the National Center for Children and Families (NCCF) salute the compassionate people who make a difference by serving as foster parents. Thanks to these unsung heroes, many formerly abused or neglected children and teens will safely reunite with their parents, be cared for by relatives, or be adopted by loving families.

Yet some children in foster care are less fortunate. NCCF provides professional and financial supports to healthy families who wish to help these youth overcome their childhood trauma, forgive adult betrayal, and reach their potential. No matter what their age, every young person in foster care benefits from a meaningful connection to a caring adult who leaves a permanent, positive, and loving imprint. To find out more about becoming a Foster Parent, call Rorree Tillman at 202-543-3217, ext. 156.

**Dwelling Together in Unity:
The Need for Fellowship Remains
Constant**

**By Rev. Starlette McNeill
DCBC Communications Associate**

The Ministers Fellowship has been in existence seemingly since the inception of the District of Columbia Baptist Convention, which formally organized in 1937, and it remains a programmatic mainstay. In the 1940s, the group met at the Baptist Building over home cooked meals and later, brown paper bag lunches. The gathering was small and the meetings informal but the benefits of the fellowship were and remain undeniable. Now housed within the Center for Ministerial Leadership, the Ministers Fellowship continues to meet in the Baptist Building on the fourth Tuesday of each month. Today, the meals are catered and there is a featured speaker each month—ranging from pastors to published authors to seminary professors. Still, the goal remains that of fellowship.

In recent years, the Ministers Fellowship has experienced an increase in participation despite the oftentimes lengthy commute and limited parking, two of the unavoidable realities of life in a major city (ours happens to also be the hub of the U.S. government and national security). Yet, for many, the traffic delays are worth the awaiting company, and the search for parking pales in comparison to the joy of finding a place where persons share a common call and passion for ministry. Because of the isolating nature of ministry, the need for fellowship among spiritual leaders remains constant as we commonly share the challenges and triumphs of the ministry of Jesus Christ.

In February, the DCBC ballroom was filled to capacity, running out of chairs to seat the pastors, associate ministers, and denominational leaders who came not for a presentation but for an opportunity to practice spiritual self-care with co-laborers in ministry. Rev. Dr. Kendrick Curry, Pastor of Pennsylvania Avenue Baptist Church and DCBC Vice President, provided a space for spiritual examination and reflection. It was an occasion when clergy weren't expected to have the answers but were invited to ask questions about their own spiritual life, to pray for one another and to worship God together. Year after year, participants in the monthly Ministers Fellowship reap the benefits of dwelling together in unity.

The next Ministers Fellowship will be held on Tuesday, April 26 at noon at the Baptist Building.

Refresh Her Women's Retreat To Be Held in May

“Set Free” is the theme of this year’s Refresh Her Women’s Retreat, which will be held on Saturday, May 14 from 8:30 a.m. until 3 p.m. The day will feature spiritual, physical, and emotional refreshment for women and girls, including worship, Bible study, music, a Missions Challenge, exercise, scrapbooking, fellowship, food and fun! There will also be a seminar especially for teenage girls.

In addition, this year Refresh Her participants are invited to bring jewelry items to donate for recycling. Women on the mission field can improve the lives of their families by turning unwanted items into saleable jewelry.

Sponsored by Baptist Women's Ministries, the Refresh Her Retreat costs \$15 (lunch is included). Please make reservations by May 10.

College of Prayer May Module Focuses on the Family

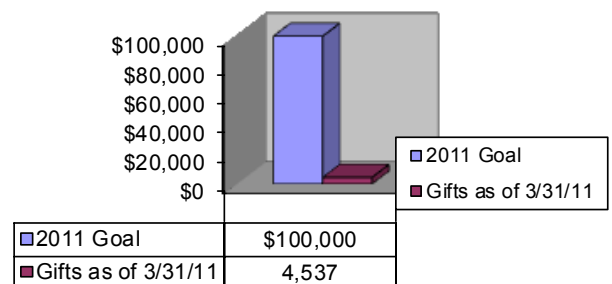
The focus of the 2011 College of Prayer (COP) modules is on the family and how to cultivate God’s presence in each of our homes. Families will be at the forefront of the teaching in the May module, which is titled, “Lord, as Families, Teach Us to Pray.” The module will be held May 19-21 at the Ft. Foote Baptist Church, 8310 Ft. Foote Rd., Ft. Washington, MD 20744. Bruce and Susan Bliss, who have been in pastoral ministry for almost 40 years, are the presenters in May. The COP’s commitment is to be biblical, practical and balanced. The cost for the module is \$125 by April 19 or \$150 afterward. Group discounts as well as discounts for spouses is available. For more information, call 202.265.1526 or visit DCBC’s website, www.dcbaptist.org.



Baptist Women are invited to the Refresh Her Women's Retreat on Saturday, May 14. Pictured on the right are participants from last year's Refresh Her activities.



National Capital Area Missions Offering (NCAMO) 2011 Contributions



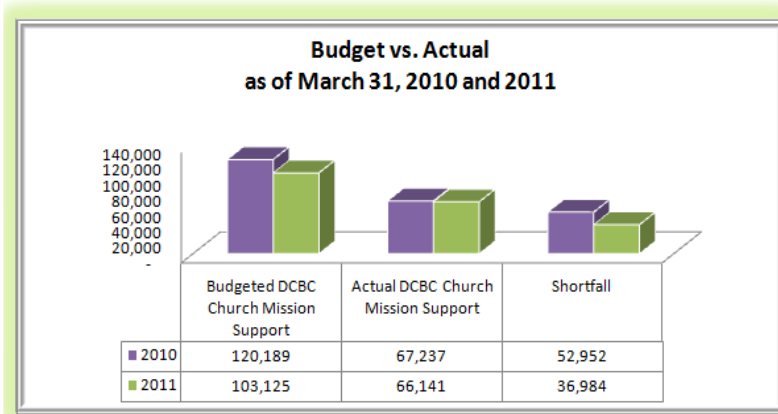
D.C. Baptist Convention
Church Mission Giving
 For the Three Months Ended March 31, 2011

Churches	DCBC - 65% Coop - 35%			100% Designated							YTD Total Gifts
	Unified Coop	SBC Coop	ABC Unified	PNBC	DCBC	SBC	ABC	NCAMO	BWA	Misc.	
Agape Baptist Church	-	-	-	-	-	2,000.00	-	-	-	-	2,000.00
Agape Bible Christian Fellowship	-	-	-	-	200.00	-	-	-	-	-	200.00
Alafia Baptist Church	-	-	-	-	250.00	250.00	-	-	-	-	500.00
Calvary Baptist Church	-	-	-	-	1,250.00	-	750.00	-	500.00	2,000.00	4,500.00
Carmody Hills Baptist Church	-	-	-	-	500.00	-	-	-	-	-	500.00
Chin Baptist Mission Church	-	-	-	-	5,000.00	-	4,000.00	-	-	-	9,000.00
Commonwealth Baptist Church	-	-	-	-	249.99	-	-	-	-	-	249.99
Covenant Baptist United Church of	-	-	-	-	1,250.00	-	-	-	-	-	1,250.00
East Washington Heights Baptist	-	-	-	-	-	-	1,200.00	-	-	-	1,200.00
Emanuel, Iglesia Bautista	-	-	-	-	90.00	-	-	-	-	-	90.00
First Baptist Church/Camp Springs	-	-	-	-	2,500.00	682.00	1,007.00	-	-	-	4,189.00
First Baptist Church/Front Royal	-	-	580.00	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	580.00
First Baptist Church/Gaithersburg	-	-	-	-	1,418.00	-	6,047.00	124.00	1,269.00	249.00	9,107.00
First Baptist Church/Georgetown	-	-	-	-	500.00	-	-	-	-	300.00	800.00
First Baptist Church/Silver Spring	-	-	-	-	5,780.42	-	2,440.58	920.00	-	-	9,141.00
First Baptist Church/Upper Marlbo	-	-	-	-	166.00	-	-	-	-	-	166.00
First Temple Hills Baptist Church	-	-	-	-	101.24	-	-	-	-	-	101.24
Forest Heights Baptist Church	-	-	-	-	681.00	681.00	-	-	-	-	1,362.00
Fort Foote Baptist Church	-	-	-	-	17,186.00	3,568.00	-	130.00	-	-	20,884.00
Fort Washington Baptist Church	-	-	-	-	600.00	300.00	-	-	-	-	900.00
Heritage Baptist Church	-	-	-	-	1,176.00	-	-	-	-	-	1,176.00
Luther Rice Memorial Baptist Chur	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1,400.00	-	-	1,400.00
Montgomery Hills Baptist Church	-	-	-	-	-	-	4,518.56	1,569.00	-	-	6,087.56
Mt. Airy Baptist Church	-	-	-	-	150.00	-	-	-	-	-	150.00
Nations United Baptist Church	-	-	-	-	1,686.39	3,934.94	-	-	-	-	5,621.33
New Creation Baptist Church	-	-	300.00	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	300.00
Nineteenth Street Baptist Church	-	-	-	-	500.00	-	-	-	-	-	500.00
Paramount Baptist Church	-	-	-	-	200.00	-	-	-	200.00	-	400.00
Pennsylvania Avenue Baptist Chur	-	-	-	-	1,793.50	1,025.00	-	-	-	-	2,818.50
Purity Baptist Church	-	-	-	-	500.00	-	-	-	-	-	500.00
Ravensworth Baptist Church	-	-	-	-	1,746.00	-	570.00	-	-	1,425.00	3,741.00
Temple Baptist Church	-	-	-	-	300.00	-	-	-	-	450.00	750.00
Trinity Baptist Church	-	-	-	-	728.91	3,152.81	-	-	-	-	3,881.72
Twinbrook Baptist Church	-	1,366.16	182.00	-	187.00	2,365.00	35.00	340.35	-	-	4,475.51
University Baptist Church/College	-	-	-	-	-	-	1,013.00	-	-	1,003.00	2,016.00
Vienna Baptist Church	-	-	-	-	3,425.00	-	3,852.84	-	-	-	7,277.84
Wisconsin Avenue Baptist Church	436.00	-	-	-	-	246.00	-	-	-	-	682.00
Sub-Total	436.00	1,366.16	1,062.00	-	50,115.45	18,204.75	25,433.98	4,483.35	1,969.00	5,427.00	108,497.69
Missions & New Church Starts	DCBC - 65% Coop - 35%			100% Designated							YTD Total Gifts
	Unified Coop	SBC Coop	ABC Unified	PNBC	DCBC	SBC	ABC	NCAMO	BWA	Misc.	
Clinton Korean Baptist Church	-	-	-	-	50.00	-	-	-	-	-	50.00
Faith Shepherd Baptist Church	-	-	-	100.00	100.00	-	-	-	-	-	200.00
Lai Baptist Church	-	-	2,000.00	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2,000.00
Power House Baptist Church	-	-	-	-	50.00	-	-	-	-	-	50.00
Primeira Igreja Batista de Gaithers	-	-	-	-	450.00	-	-	-	-	-	450.00
Salem Gospel Ministries (Baltimore)	-	-	-	-	100.00	-	-	-	-	-	100.00
Sub-Total	-	-	2,000.00	100.00	750.00	-	-	-	-	-	2,850.00
TOTAL	436.00	1,366.16	3,062.00	100.00	50,865.45	18,204.75	25,433.98	4,483.35	1,969.00	5,427.00	111,347.69

Misc Column: Gifts for JBCC, BJCPA, CBF, Bapt Sr Adults, & National Chr Children & Family

D.C. Baptist Convention Church Mission Giving

For the Three Months Ended March 31, 2011 *(continued)*



Comparative Analysis
The 2011 actual DCBC church mission support was **35.9%** or **\$36,984 below** the budgeted amount.

Number of Supporting Churches

Total Contributing Churches/Missions & New Starts:	43
Total Non-Contributing Churches:	73
Total Non-Contributing Missions/New Start	40

Non-Contributing Churches as of March 31, 2011

3 Strands Community Church	Georgetown Baptist Church	Rivers Of Joy Bible Fellowship Church
Agape Life Ministries Inc.	Getsemani, Iglesia Bautista	Riverside Church
Antioch Baptist Church/DC	Greenbelt Baptist Church	Saint Mary's Baptist Church
Bethel Baptist Church	Hahnuri Baptist Church	Saint Matthews Baptist Church
Brazilian Baptist Church	Hillandale Baptist Church	Saint Paul Baptist Church
Broadneck Baptist Church	Hillcrest Baptist Church	Second Baptist Church of Washington /NW
Broadview Baptist Church	Holy Comforter Baptist Church	Second Baptist Church SW
Brookland Union Baptist Church	Iglesia Bautista De Washington	Shiloh Baptist Church
Brookmont Baptist Church	Israel Baptist Church	Solid Rock Missionary Baptist Church
Calvary Burmese Baptist Church	Johanning Temple of Praise	Spirit Of Peace Baptist Church
Canaan Baptist Church	Metropolitan Baptist Church	Streams of Hope @ fbcw
Capitol Hill Baptist Church	Metropolitan Outreach Ministries	Takoma Park Baptist Church
Central Baptist Church	Morning Star Baptist Church	Temple Missionary Baptist Church
Chevy Chase Baptist Church	Mt. Carmel Baptist Church	The First New Horizon Baptist Church
Christian Family Baptist Church	Mt. Gilead Baptist Church	The People's Community Baptist Church
Church in Bethesda	Mt. Jezreel Baptist Church	Third Baptist Church
Clifton Park Baptist Church	Mt. Moriah Baptist Church	United Baptist Church
Cresthill Baptist Church	Mt. Vernon Baptist Church	University Baptist Church/Baltimore
Dayspring Community Church	National Baptist Memorial Church	Upper Room Baptist Church
Eglise Baptiste Du Calvaire	New Samaritan Baptist Church	Village Baptist Church
Fellowship Baptist Church	Parker Memorial Baptist Church	Washington Plaza Baptist Church
First Baptist Church Of the City of Washington DC	Rehoboth Baptist Church	West Hyattsville Baptist Church
First Baptist Church/Hyattsville	Renaissance Baptist Church	Zion Baptist Church
First Baptist Church/Southeast	Resurrection Baptist Church	
Full Life Ministries (Kingdom Baptist Church)	Ritchie Baptist Church	

Non-Contributing New Church Starts/Missions Churches* as of March 31, 2011

Balm in Gilead Ministry	Olive Branch Community Church, Inc.	First Haitian Baptist Congregation
Beloved Community Church	Pavilion of God Baptist Community	Glory Baptist Church (Korean)
Buffalo Baptist Church	Redeemed Christian Worship Center	Greenbelt Vietnamese Baptist Church
Centerpoint Baptist Church	Redeemed Life Christian Center	International Christian Church
Church of Restoration, The	United Christian Church Worldwide	Korean Baptist Church Of Faith
Disciples of Christ Baptist Church	United States Siyin Baptist Church	Mision Bautista Hispana-Hyattsville
Emmanuel Eritrean Church	Word and Spirit Baptist Church	Mission Internationale Pour La Grande Moisson
Evangelical Missionary Church	Word for Life Church Ministries	Nations United Alexandria Campus
Greater Faith Missionary Baptist Church	Buenas Nuevas de Salvacion	New Life Congregation
Liberation Temple	Calvary Hispanic Baptist Mission	Peniel Evangelical Church
Lighthouse Christian Church	Chin Bethel Church	River City Baptist Church
LightHouse Ministries	Clifton Park Baptist Church Hispanic Mission	Salem Gospel Ministries (Silver Spring)
Lion of Judah Community Baptist Church	Eglise Baptiste de La Foi	
Marvelous Light Christian Worship Center	Falam Baptist Church, Maryland	

*Some give through their affiliated church

News Briefs



*Pictured (left):
Rev. Kip Banks,
pastor of East
Washington Heights
Baptist Church in
Washington, D.C.
was awarded a
sabbatical grant*

Church & Staff News

Banks Receives Coveted Sabbatical Grant, Minister Ordained

Rev. Kip Banks, pastor of East Washington Heights Baptist Church (EWHBC) in Washington, D.C. was awarded a clergy sabbatical grant from the Lily Endowment's Clergy Renewal Program. Barbara Johnson-Cox, a minister at EWHBC, was also ordained in March.

Clifton Park Launches Christian Academy
Clifton Park Baptist Church (CPBC) in Silver Spring, Md. will launch a Christian academy, beginning with an affordable, high-quality summer program and a full-day early learning program in September of 2011. CPBC was awarded an estate grant from the D.C. Baptist Convention to assist with the launching of the academy.

Congratulations Rev. Williams!

In May, Streams of Hope@FBCW in Wheaton, Md. will celebrate the 20th Anniversary of their pastor, Rev. Dr. Ed Williams.

Positions Available at DCBC Churches

Dayspring Community Church in Lanham, Md. is seeking a Minister of Music. Contact Pastor Cynthia Turner at 301.580.6533 or via email at dayspringnet@aol.com. Applications may be emailed (preferable) or snail-mailed to: Dayspring Community Church, 9300 Annapolis Road, Suite 105, Lanham, MD 20706.

Forest Heights Baptist Church in Oxon Hill, Md. is seeking a part-time Secretary and a Christian Choir Director to lead a 15-member choir. Interested applicants should email resume to fprather@verizon.net or fax resume to 301.839.1721.

More information about these and other positions is available on DCBC's website, www.dcbaptist.org, under Employment Opportunities.

Elliff Elected IMB President

Thomas (Tom) D. Elliff was elected International Mission Board president March 16 at the IMB trustees meeting in Dallas. Elliff, 67, a longtime pastor, Southern Baptist Convention leader and former missionary, will lead one of the largest evangelical missions agencies in an era of rapid change at home and around the globe. He succeeds Jerry Rankin as president of the mission board, which serves Southern Baptists and the 5,000 missionaries they send worldwide. Rankin retired July 31, 2010, after 17 years as IMB president. Executive Vice President Clyde Meador has served as interim president during the search for a new leader.

PBS Series Focuses on Forgiveness

WETA-TV, a PBS affiliate, will air *Forgiveness: A Time to Love and a Time to Hate* in April. Acclaimed writer, producer and director Helen Whitney explores the applications and limitations of the concept and practice of forgiveness through a compelling range of stories, from personal betrayal to global reconciliation after genocide. Divided into two 90-minute acts, the film airs beginning Sundays, April 17 and 24 at 10 p.m. EST. A Facilitators Guide and video is available for communities of faith to host discussions on the issue. For more information, visit www.weta.org or www.fetzer.org/loveandforgive.

BWA Day Emphasizes being 'In Step with the Spirit'

The Baptist World Alliance has designated April 30-May 1 as BWA Day. This year, BWA is emphasizing their desire to keep "In Step with the Spirit." BWA Day began in the 1920's and was meant to be a day of worship for Baptists to pray for one another and contemplate the unity in Christ we have within our global family. Rev. Myra Blyth of Regents College in Oxford, UK has prepared the materials for BWA Day worship services. The worship materials include sermon notes, worship folder inserts and order of worship suggestions for services and can be found in the events section of the website at www.bwanet.org.

Expanding Discipleship Workshop "Transforming Hearts for Discipleship"

On Saturday, May 7 there will be an Expanding Discipleship conference that focuses on the theme "Transforming Hearts for Discipleship." The keynote speaker will be Claude King, Discipleship Specialist at LifeWay Christian Resources. King has authored numerous books including "Come to the Lord's Table," and "The Call to Follow Christ." Workshops will be led by Claude King, Annette James and Gloria Jenkins. To register or find out more information, contact DCBC at 202.265.1526 or visit www.dcbaptist.org.

Grant Proposal Writing Conference

The D.C. Baptist Convention will host a Grant Proposal Writing Conference, June 10-11 at the Baptist Building, 1628 Sixteenth Street NW Washington, D.C. Find out how to identify and secure grants to support ministry efforts. Details on speakers and how to register will be posted on DCBC's website, www.dcbaptist.org, in May.

Blume 2011: WMU National Acteen Conference To Be Held in July

The WMU National Acteen Conference "BLUME 2011" will be held July 13-16 at Disney's Coronado Springs Resort in Orlando. The conference provides teenage girls and collegiate young women with a four-day focus on missions. To find out how to join the DCBC group, contact Rev. Arleen Anderson via email at revaba@comcast.net. For more information or to register, visit the Blume website at www.blumeforgirls.com.

Leland Receives \$267,000 to fund Virtual Campus

The John Leland Center for Theological Studies has received gifts totaling \$267,000 to fund the new "Virtual Campus" that will transform the way students, faculty, staff and friends interact with the school. The gifts include a \$200,000 pledge from an anonymous donor. The new system, which should be fully functional by the end of this year, will help tie together all of Leland's sites around Virginia where masters or diploma classes are offered.



*Pictured above and in the background of the photo with Dr. Green is The Castle at the Smithsonian Institution Building in Washington, D.C.
Photo Credit: Charles F. Lee*

Rev. Dr. W. Henry Green

Pastor
Heritage Baptist Church
Annapolis, MD

What do you most enjoy about doing ministry in the Washington, D.C. metropolitan area?

I have been the pastor of Heritage Baptist Church in Annapolis for the past 12 years and each year I discover a new reason why I love ministry in this region of the world. We are blessed to be surrounded by the rich history of our nation and, in Annapolis, to be close to the Chesapeake Bay, the United States Naval Academy, and the oldest, still functioning, state capital in the country that served as our nation's capital for nine months and is where General George Washington resigned his commission to become the first president of the United States. Naval Academy sports, Maryland sports, golf, the Ocean, the Bay, the Mountains, and the metropolitan opportunities that are simply not available in other places make this region second to none.

What are the unique challenges of ministering in the D.C. metropolitan

area?

There are no challenges in ministry that are truly unique to any region. People are the same wherever you go. The only challenges are their status financially and their access to opportunity. Annapolis and The District of Columbia are unique in that way. This is both a blessing and a curse, in that while we are in the seat of power for both Maryland and the United States, we are surrounded with great wealth that follows the quest for power and alongside that wealth is great poverty. Annapolis has the largest per capita public housing community in the United States. We must continue to minister to "the least of these" while reaching those with the most with the message "to whom much is given, much is required." Affordable housing, education for everyone, a clean and healthy environment, jobs that pay a living wage, health care for everyone, and a safe community in which to live is not asking more than we truly are able to do as a society. The church must speak with a

strong prophetic voice to these concerns.

If you had to name a favorite landmark or place to visit in the D.C. metropolitan area, what would it be?

This is a hard one for someone who loves history. I would have to say the National Archives is my favorite. The documents that define us as a nation are exciting to see and reflect upon. It is humbling to remember that Baptists influenced the religious freedom we have and the civil corollary separation of church and state.

What is your favorite scripture?

"...[W]hat does the Lord require of you? To act justly and to love mercy and to walk humbly with your God." Micah 6:8 (NIV)

"We must continue to minister to 'the least of these' while reaching those with the most with the message 'to whom much is given, much is required.'"



*Pictured above and in the background of the photo with Chaplain Garcia is the Friendship Archway in Chinatown, Washington, D.C.
Photo Credit: Charles F. Lee*

Chaplain Saul Garcia

Pastor

Buenas Nuevas De Salvacio, Iglesia Bautista
Washington, D.C.

What do you most enjoy about doing ministry in the Washington, D.C. metropolitan area?

I enjoy sharing the Gospel on the streets of Washington, D.C.; I have done this for many years in my own language, which is Spanish. But the thing I enjoy the most is seeing the responses of the people when they listen to the Gospel and are receptive and open their hearts to receive Jesus Christ by faith.

What are the unique challenges of ministering in the D.C. metropolitan area?

One of the challenges is that D.C. is being transformed. Many buildings where Hispanics used to live have been remodeled and they have moved out of the city. Also, there are undocumented people and many have returned to their countries. Although I have kept in contact with them, they are not here and I can't minister to them

like I did before. But, I have referred them to churches where they live.

If you had to name a favorite landmark or place to visit in the D.C. metropolitan area, what would it be?

My favorite place to visit in D.C. is the National Mall because of its rich history, which motivates me to want to know more about American culture. It's a place where one can admire elegant monuments and museums; architecture that you don't see in other places. Also, the National Mall is a place where people of many nationalities and races come to visit throughout the year and this gives me an opportunity to share the good news of the gospel. It reminds me of the many people, particularly from South America, that I've reached with the gospel.

What is your favorite scripture?

Isaiah 61:1, "The Spirit of the

Lord God is upon me, because the Lord has anointed me to preach good tidings to the poor; he has sent me to heal the brokenhearted, To proclaim liberty to the captives, and the opening of the prison to those who are bound." (NKJV)

In the June/July issue of Capital Baptist:

- Q&A with Rev. Ricky Creech, DCBC's new Executive Director/Minister
- Missions Update
- Church Summer Camps
- Grant Proposal Writing Conference
- Our Pastors...Our Cities featuring Rev. Todd Thomason and Rev. Dr. Ed Williams
- And more...

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Periodicals

The Benediction

Equipping Our Youth for Life and Church Leadership

By Rev. Anthony Owens

Reverend Anthony Owens is the Minister to Youth and Young Adults at Paramount Baptist Church in S.E., Washington, D.C., where Reverend Ishmael Shaw is the Pastor. He writes about the importance of training our youth for both life and church leadership. Pictured on the right, youth from Paramount participate in a worship service.



“I view Youth Ministry as a continuing pendulum. My premise can be supported in Ecclesiastes 1:9 which states, ‘What has been will be again, what has been done will be done again; there is nothing new under the sun.’ Our youth are bombarded with all forms of temptation, such as substance abuse, illicit sex and gang involvement as well as many other temptations. Youth leaders are challenged to combat these temptations with the relevancy of the scriptures. I believe that we should keep our youth active in our churches with ministries that speak to the daily challenges they face, while making the worship experience progressive and interactive. Our youth are excited when they feel wanted and needed within our ministries. Essentially, they will look forward to coming to church when they know that their insights are cherished, allowing them to actively participate in the worship experience.

I have experienced firsthand the joys of hosting several youth retreats in our area. Through these experiences, I have witnessed the shackles of Satan being broken at various sessions that spoke to the challenges our youth face in their communities. Every youth retreat has ended with an altar call where many youth experience the power of God, leaving not a dry eye in the sanctuary.

In January, Paramount Baptist Church hosted its annual Youth Lock-In, entitled ‘All I Do Is Win.’ The scripture for this

event was from John 8:15-16, which states: ‘You judge by human standards; I pass judgment on no one. But, if I do judge, my decisions are true, because I am not alone. I stand with the Father, who sent me.’ Our youth tend to be judgmental and we wanted to address this during the lock-in. We had two sessions during the lock-in. One session, ‘Can You Beat His Giving,’ was facilitated by Minister Michelle Richardson-Patterson, an associate minister at Paramount. She spoke from this narrative: ‘In order to give unconditionally, we cannot judge or look down upon individuals who are less fortunate...[W]hen we have an opportunity to help others, we are in God’s will.’ In keeping with the cultivation of our youth, we also held a session facilitated by our youth leader, Mr. David Gause, entitled, ‘Put Me OnThe Program.’ Mr. Gause discussed sanctuary etiquette and decorum, where the youth had the opportunity to design a worship service. Youth were critiqued and they learned what should not take place in the sanctuary (i.e. talking during the service, no cell phone use, etc.).

I am thankful to Pastor Shaw for the opportunity to serve as the Minister to Youth and Young Adults at Paramount Baptist Church as well as for the growth I continue to witness in God’s youth. A great future awaits every young person as they stay close to God and their church.”