

News Briefs
November 2011
Latest News, Announcements & Vignettes

November reminds us to consider God's grace and mercy as well as all of our blessings:

“Yes, everything is for your sake, so that grace, as it extends to more and more people, may increase thanksgiving, to the glory of God.” (2 Corinthians 4:15, NRSV)
“As you therefore have received Christ Jesus the Lord, continue to live your lives in him, rooted and built up in him and established in the faith, just as you were taught, abounding in thanksgiving.” Colossians 2:6-7

Baptist Women's World Day of Prayer

Today is the Baptist Women's World Day of Prayer. Join Baptist women in about 130 countries around the world who will be praying today. In the Washington, D.C. metropolitan area Baptist women will gather at 10:30 a.m. for a special worship service followed by fellowship and lunch at East Washington Heights Baptist Church, 2220 Branch Ave., SE, Washington, D.C. 20020. Click [here](#) for a flyer with more information.

135th Annual Meeting Evaluation

Thank you for your attendance at our 135th Annual Meeting. We would love to hear from you! If you did not have the opportunity to submit your evaluation of the Meeting, please click [here](#) to access the form and return the completed form by Monday, November 14 by mail to DCBC, Attn: AM Evaluations, 1628 16th Street NW, Washington DC 20009; by fax to (202) 667-8258; or by email to margarita.pinto@dcbaptist.org.

Open Enrollment for Health and Dental Insurance

All member churches of the D.C. Baptist Convention (DCBC) are eligible for coverage under the DCBC group health and dental plans with Aetna. The group plans provide health, dental and prescription drug coverage. With Aetna, we the have the option of selecting from three different health plans and two different dental plans. Open enrollment takes place this month--November. If your church is interested or needs additional information please contact Lashanor Doolittle at (202) 265-1526, ext. 203 or lashanor.doolittle@dcbaptist.org.

Annual Church Report

Annually, each member church of DCBC is asked to submit an Annual Church Report/Profile (ACR). The ACR plays an important role in the life of the Convention and that of our member churches. Not only does the report provide the Convention with information about the church's attendance, ministry offerings, participation in Vacation Bible School (VBS), new converts, ministry leaders, financial data, notifications of deceased members and a snapshot of highlights from the past year; but, it also allows us to report on the strength of the Convention to our national

partners. Some of which use the information we provide to determine the level of financial assistance they will give to the Convention to support our work in offering services and trainings to our churches. We still need your reports to tell the story of what the Lord is doing in the lives of the DCBC churches. To date, we have received 31 reports—only 20 percent from our member churches. If you have not completed your report, please [click here](#) to access the ACR. Please return completed reports by December 15. The Convention staff is available to provide assistance. Contact the office at 202.265.1526.

The College of Prayer will meet November 10-12 at Fort Foote Baptist Church. This is the second module in the second year curriculum, "Lord, As Husbands and Wives and Families, Teach Us to Pray." We are happy to welcome Rev. Dr. Fred A. Hartley, founder of the College of Prayer, and his wife, Sherry, to lead this exciting module. For more details or to register, [click here](#).

Office Closed

The D.C. Baptist Convention office will be closed on Friday, Nov. 11 for Veteran's Day and Thursday-Friday, Nov. 24-25 for the Thanksgiving holiday.

New Baptist Covenant II Meets in Atlanta

The New Baptist Covenant will meet Nov. 17-19 in Atlanta to continue the work Baptists from around the country began in 2007 to live into Jesus' Luke 4 mandate to "bring good news to the poor, proclaim release to the captives and recovery of sight to the blind, to let the oppressed go free and to proclaim the year of the Lord's favor." Second Ponce de Leon Baptist Church in Atlanta, GA will serve as NBCII's anchor site, hosting worship services and breakout sessions that will be broadcast via satellite to various host cities across the nation. Rev. Dr. Carroll Baltimore, president of DCBC denominational partner the Progressive National Baptist Convention; Dr. Marian Wright Edelman, executive director of the Children's Defense Fund; and, Dr. Tony Campolo, professor emeritus of Eastern University (PA), social activist and media commentator on religious issues; are among the keynote speakers at the event. Host cities will provide additional programming and coordinate a day of local missions opportunities on Saturday, Nov. 19. To find out more information about this significant event in Baptist life, visit www.newbaptistcovenant.org.

Church Starting Support Group

There will be an informal meeting and lunch for those engaged in starting new churches on Monday, November 7 from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. at the Baptist Building, 1628 Sixteenth St., NW, Washington D.C. [Register here](#).

Church Bulletins:

PABC Brings "Living" Christmas Tree to Washington, D.C. The Pennsylvania Avenue Baptist Church will present "For Unto Us A Child Is Born" on December 2-4 at the church. Featuring a unique blend of vocal music, orchestra, drama, and dance, the highlight of this worship experience is a wooden replica of a Christmas tree that

stands over six tiers tall! Among the “decorations,” will be approximately 40 men and women who will sing the best of the season’s music while standing within the structure of the tree, thus bringing the tree to “life!” More information about performances and how to get tickets is available by clicking [here](#) or by calling the church at 202.584.1500.

Young Adult Empowerment Weekend at Canaan Baptist
Canaan Baptist Church in Washington, D.C. (1607 Monroe St., NW) is hosting a Young Adult Empowerment Weekend, Nov. 25-26, including a revival on Friday night and a day of workshops on Saturday. The theme for the weekend is “God Has a Plan and Purpose for Our Life” from Jeremiah 29:11-12. Rev. Larry McCray, pastor of Mt. Calvary Missionary Baptist Church in Temple Hills, Md. is the guest revivalist. Events on Saturday will begin with registration and a continental breakfast at 7 a.m. Topics will include: relationships for singles and couples, finances, social media, praise and worship, social justice and health. There will also be a panel discussion entitled, “Why Does it Hurt So Bad: Healing through the Pain, Seeking God’s Purpose.” For more information, contact Brandi Pearson at 202.997.4187 or via email at yamemowerment@yahoo.com.

More News...

Week of Prayer for International Missions. The week of November 28 through December 5 has been designated as the “Week of Prayer for International Missions” for American Baptist Churches USA and the Southern Baptist Convention. Churches can order World Mission Offering materials from ABCUSA headquarters in Valley Forge, PA. For more information, contact ABCUSA at 800.ABC.3USA. In addition, the SBC Convention Lottie Moon Christmas Offering materials will be mailed to churches by the second week of November. Contact Gail Lacy at 202.265.1526 for more information.

Lodging Needed for International Youth Conference
Host homes are needed for conference participants in The Children, Youth and A New Kind of Christianity Conference that is scheduled to take place May 7-10, 2012 at Calvary Baptist Church, 755 8th Street, NW, Washington, D.C. CYNKC will bring together leaders, ministers, volunteers, parents, and students from around the world to spark conversations about youth and children within a new kind of Christianity for the 21st-century church. Conference participants will be looking for families to host them during their time in the Washington, D.C. metropolitan area. If members of your church are interested in hosting conference participants, please contact Calvary Baptist Church at 202.347.8355 for more details. To find out more about the conference, visit <http://children-youth.com>.

Christmas Program at Gallaudet
Z: A Christmas Story will debut with three shows on Friday, December 2nd at 7:00 p.m., Saturday, December 3rd at 7 p.m. and Sunday, December 4th at 3 p.m. on the campus of Gallaudet University – Model Secondary School for the Deaf, located at

800 Florida Ave, N.E., Washington, DC 20002. Tickets are \$20 and can be purchased at www.uniteddeafministries.com or call 301-877-7564. This dynamic play for Deaf and Hearing actors, written and produced by Jeffery Bowden, focuses on the birth of Jesus and the birth of John the Baptist. "The primary goal is to share with the world the challenges and triumphs of the Deaf community, to bring to the stage biblical truths, and highlight inclusion for the purpose of unity and collective works," says Jeff Bowden.

Religious Liberty Essay Scholarship Contest

Entries are now being accepted for the 2012 Religious Liberty Essay Scholarship contest, which is being sponsored by the Religious Liberty Council of the Baptist Joint Committee. High school juniors and seniors can win up to \$1,000 for college by writing an essay exploring the role of religion in presidential campaigns. The complete topic, rules, and entry forms are available at www.BJOnline.org/contest. The deadline to enter the contest is March 15, 2012 (no email entries will be accepted. For more information, contact Cherilyn Crowe at 202-544-4226 or by e-mail at ccrowe@BJOnline.org.

Foster Parents Needed

The National Center for Children and Families (NCCF) has more than 50 children and youth who are currently waiting for a safe and nurturing home to call their own. For more information about becoming a foster parent, contact the Maryland Foster Care Recruiter at 301.365.4480, ext. 114 or the D.C. Foster Care Recruiter at 202.369.9330, ext. 25.

Wesley Accepting Applications for Doctor of Ministry in Church Leadership
Wesley Theological Seminary in Washington, D.C. is accepting applications for Doctor of Ministry in Church Leadership Excellence. The application deadline is Thursday, Dec. 1 for the May 2012 cohort. The program provides clergy the enhanced knowledge, skills, and motivation to increase congregational and denominational service, vitality, and growth. A serious engagement with contemporary secular leadership studies is held in tension with theology as participants examine the biblical, theological, and ethical foundations of ministry through the lens of leadership to enhance their own fruitful practice of leadership. For more information, prospective students may visit www.wesleyseminary.edu/doctorofministry or contact Dr. Lovett H. Weems, Jr., director of the Lewis Center, at 202.885.8621 or lovettw@wesleyseminary.edu.

Employment Opportunities

Vienna BC Youth Ministry Team Leader. Vienna Baptist Church is seeking an Interim Youth Leader/Minister to partner with the Youth Ministry Team (YMT) to lead and support the youth in their journey as followers of Jesus Christ: the inward journey of individual spiritual growth and the collective outward journey of mission and social justice. This interim position is part time (20 hours per week) and is required from November 2011 through at least August 2012. For more information, [click here](#).

ABCUSA Ministers Council Executive Director. The Ministers Council of the American Baptist Churches USA is looking for a new Executive Director. The Ministers Council is an autonomous, professional, multi-cultural organization of ordained, commissioned and lay Christian leaders within the American Baptist Churches in the U.S.A. The Executive Director of the Ministers Council is charged with maintaining and strengthening the health and vitality of the Ministers Council, a national organization with forty separate local Councils. For a complete job description, [click here](#).

Ministerial Intern. Olive Branch Community Church in Sandy, Spring, Md. is looking for a ministerial intern to serve during their weekly worship service on Sundays. There will also be opportunities to teach/develop classes and ministries. For more information, contact Pastor Donald Kelly at obcchurch@comcast.net.