

News Briefs  
December 2011  
Latest News, Announcements & Vignettes

“For unto us a Child is born  
Unto us a Son is given;  
And the government will be upon His shoulder.  
And His name will be called  
Wonderful, Counselor, Mighty God,  
Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.”  
Isaiah 9:6 (NKJV)

During this Advent Season, may you have renewed hope, joy and peace. We wait with expectation of the wondrous works God will perform!

#### Clergy/Business Employment Summit

There will be a Clergy/Business Employment Summit from 9-11 a.m. on Wednesday, Dec. 7 at Israel Baptist Church, 1261 Saratoga Ave., NE, Washington, D.C. The event is sponsored by The Jobs Coalition, D.C. Chamber of Commerce and Wednesday Clergy Fellowship. Representatives from various business industries will be on hand to present and dialogue about the employment picture in the D.C. metropolitan area. Please call 202.291.5711 to register to attend.

#### 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 35 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 Thursday, Dec. 15. The Convention staff is available to provide assistance. Contact the office at 202.265.1526.

#### Ministers Fellowship Christmas Celebration

Ministers are invited to join us for a Christmas Fellowship and Celebration at noon on Tuesday, Dec. 13 at the Baptist Building, 1628 Sixteenth Street, NW, Washington, D.C. 20009. It will be a time to catch up with colleagues and friends and perhaps meet those new to our fellowship or who you have not met before. For more

information or to RSVP, contact Rev. Starlette McNeill at 202.265.1526, ext. 209 or via email at [starlette.mcneill@dcbaptist.org](mailto:starlette.mcneill@dcbaptist.org).

#### Office Closings

The D.C. Baptist Convention will be closed from Thursday, Dec. 22 through Monday, Jan. 2. Our office will open on Tuesday, Jan. 3. Wishing you a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year!

#### Tax Return Preparation Service/Opportunity

The D.C. Baptist Convention has partnered with the Internal Revenue Service's Volunteer Income Tax Assistance (VITA) program to provide "free" tax return preparation for individuals. We are excited to serve our community and our member churches with this vital service. If you are interested in volunteering to assist with tax return preparation or are in need of the service, please contact Lashanor Doolittle at 202.265.1526, ext. 203. No experience is required and the IRS and/or partner organizations will provide all necessary training.

#### DCBC Churches Invited to NCCF Meeting

The Board of Church Representatives (BoCR) of the National Center for Children and Families (NCCF) will have a lunch meeting on Tuesday, Jan. 12 at 11 a.m. at the NCCF campus, which is located at 6301 Greentree Road in Bethesda, Md. The featured speaker is Dr. Sheryl Brisset-Chapman, NCCF's executive director. The BoCR is asking for the participation of all DCBC member churches in supporting this meeting and its mission to serve homeless families and those in crisis in the Washington, D.C. metropolitan area. If your church is not represented on the BoCR, please select/appoint one or two members of your congregation to attend the BoCR January luncheon. For more information or to RSVP for the luncheon, contact Lorraine Harris at 301.572.7736 or Bonnie Jorgensen at 301.649.4804.

#### New Church Starting Class Begins

The annual New Church Starting class begins on Tuesday, Jan. 10 from 6:30-8:30 p.m. and continues for 14 sessions. The class will be held at the Baptist Building, 1628 Sixteenth Street, NW, Washington, D.C. This is a master's level course, open to both clergy and lay people, which will provide powerful tools for beginning congregations in a healthy way. For more information, contact [robert.cochran@dcbaptist.org](mailto:robert.cochran@dcbaptist.org) or 202.265.1526.

#### Medley Installed as President Elect of Ecumenical Body

Rev. A. Roy Medley, general secretary of American Baptist Churches USA, was elected president elect of the National Council of the Churches of Christ in the USA (NCC) in November by the NCC Governing Board meeting in Chicago. Medley will begin serving as President elect on Jan. 1, 2012 and will succeed to the presidency on Jan. 1, 2014. He will serve as president through Dec. 31, 2015. Founded in 1950, the NCC is the leading ecumenical witness in the United States with 37 member denominations, including ABCUSA, the Progressive National Baptist Convention and

four other Baptist denominations. For more information visit, [www.abc-usa.org](http://www.abc-usa.org) or [www.nccusa.org](http://www.nccusa.org).

#### Church Bulletins:

##### Moving Clearance

Streams of Hope (First Baptist Church/Wheaton) is moving on Thursday, Dec. 15. They still have some kitchen equipment and office furniture that they would give to a church that could use them. Interested churches should contact [info@sohonline.org](mailto:info@sohonline.org) or 301.949.6585.

##### Antioch Baptist Church Men's Ministry Weekend

The Men's Ministry of Antioch Baptist Church in Washington, D.C. invites all men to fellowship on Saturday, Dec. 10 beginning at 8:30 a.m. with breakfast followed by a workshop with Rev. Charles Russell from Mt. Pleasant Baptist Church as the facilitator. On Sunday, Dec. 11, beginning at 3:30 p.m., the men of Antioch will present a Men's Day Musical with Pastor Paige Harris from Temple of Praise in Washington, D.C., as the worship leader. The church is located at 1105 50th Street, NE, Washington, D.C. All are welcome to attend this service. [Click here for a flyer.](#)

##### Christmas Candlelight Carols Concert at FBC-DC

The First Baptist Church of the City of Washington will host a free Christmas Candlelight Carols concert on Sunday, Dec. 11 at 4 p.m. The concert will begin with an instrumental prelude, followed by the procession of choirs at 4:30 p.m. The entire community is welcome to attend this concert, which has been an annual event at FBC for 55 years. For more information, contact Yolanda McCain, Coordinator of Youth Programs & Communications at 202.387.2206, ext. 239 or via email at [ymccain@firstbaptistdc.org](mailto:ymccain@firstbaptistdc.org). [Click here for a flyer.](#)

#### More News...

##### Second Mondays at Wesley Explores Religion in Public Education

The role of religion in public schools will be examined during "Second Mondays at Wesley" on Dec. 12 at noon at Wesley at Mount Vernon Square, 900 Massachusetts Ave., NW, Washington, D.C. Charles Haynes, who is the director of the Religious Freedom Education Project at the Newseum and a senior scholar at the First Amendment Center is the guest speaker. There will be a box lunch at the door for \$10 when reserved in advance. To RSVP call 202.885.8630 or email [events@weselyseminary.edu](mailto:events@weselyseminary.edu).

##### Orientation for DCBC Leaders

Mark your calendar! There will be an orientation for all D.C. Baptist Convention Team and Committee Leaders on Thursday, January 19 from 6:30-8:30 p.m. The location is TBA. This is a great opportunity to meet fellow D.C. Baptists while

learning about the role and responsibilities of DCBC leaders. Dinner will be provided. Please RSVP by Tuesday, January 17. For more information or to RSVP call DCBC at 202.265.1526.

#### Crossing Cultures Workshop

There will be a "Crossing Cultures Workshop" on Saturday, Jan. from 9:30 a.m. to 2 p.m. at the Baptist Building, 1628 Sixteenth Street, NW, Washington, D.C. This workshop is an effort to help prepare churches and congregations of the D.C. Baptist Convention for their future efforts in ministering cross-culturally, whether here in the United States or abroad. Make reservations at [www.dcbaptist.org](http://www.dcbaptist.org) or 202.265.1526.

#### Spiritual Gifts Seminar

A "Spiritual Gifts Seminar" will be held on Saturday, Feb. 4 from 9:30 a.m. to noon at the Baptist Building, 1628 Sixteenth Street, NW, Washington, D.C. 20009. This is an annual workshop, sponsored both by the Center for Congregational Health, Evangelism and Discipleship (CHED) Team and the Center for Church and Community Ministries Team through which believers can begin to discover their spiritual gifts. The intent is that as people discover their spiritual gifts, they will then put them to work within the local church and the larger community as a means of sharing the Good News of Jesus Christ and calling others to faith in Jesus. Explore the nature of spiritual gifts and their purposes in both the life of the believer and the life of Christ's churches. Make reservations at [www.dcbaptist.org](http://www.dcbaptist.org) or 202.265.1526.

#### 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>.

#### 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.BJConline.org/contest](http://www.BJConline.org/contest). The deadline to enter the contest is March 15, 2012 (no email entries will be accepted. For more information, contact Cheryl Crowe at 202-544-4226 or by e-mail at [ccrowe@BJConline.org](mailto:ccrowe@BJConline.org)).

## Employment Opportunities

Vienna BC Youth Ministry Team Leader. Vienna Baptist Church in Vienna, Va. 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 needed through at least August 2012. For more information, [click here](#).

Pastor. Oak Hall Baptist Church in Sandston, Va., about 15 minutes outside of Richmond, Va. is seeking the person God has called to be our next pastor. Seeking an experienced Southern Baptist pastor with a passion for sharing the gospel with all people. Candidates with an accredited seminary degree preferred. Send resume: Pastor Search Committee, 1877 Old Hanover Rd., Sandston, VA., 23150 or email [lonnie333@verizon.net](mailto:lonnie333@verizon.net) no later than Jan. 15, 2012.

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](#).