

81126
American Baptist Churches of Rhode Island
PO Box 330 Exeter RI 02822-0503 - 800-294-6318
ABCORI Bi-Weekly E-Notes

Info@ABCORI.org
www.abcori.org
www.canonicus.org
www.johnclarke.org
[E-Note Guidelines](#)

THE WEEK AHEAD– this information is in the [Calendar](#) on the last page.

The ABCORI office is closed Thursday and Friday, November 27 & 28 for Thanksgiving Day

FROM LILIANA'S DESK

Today my desk happens to be in Puerto Rico. My husband and I arrived here on Friday and went to work for the whole weekend at a church in Cayey that had invited us to lead a retreat for married couples. There were 42 couples there; we had a full program with different dynamics, presentations and activities until Sunday night. In the end, we were exhausted but satisfied with the results. We saw people coming to Christ, couples recommitting to each other, laughter, and much, much love.

Now we are resting and ready to celebrate Thanksgiving with friends. And, as we look back to the wonderful experience, I've been thinking about the differences of the church of Jesus Christ around the World. If we look at the church in New England and the church in Puerto Rico we can observe all the cultural, theological and practical differences reflected, not only in worship, but also in the fellowship of the people. We are definitely different!

Yet, when we take a closer look, we can also see the similarities: our love for the Lord, our desire to honor God in our family life, and our commitment to serve Him is just the same. Perhaps what we could learn though is to be a little more open to talk about spiritual matters. It seems like New Englanders feel that these things are too private for us to discuss in public, so we keep them to ourselves.

If we could show our neighbors who we are in Christ, that would be a terrific revelation. We could love them with unconditional love; we could bless them with testimonies of God's power; and we could share the hope we have in Christ. In these difficult times, it is imperative that we come out of our shells and become an incarnate presence of faith and joy in our families, communities, and beyond.

When you sit to eat the Thanksgiving dinner this week, please do remember to give thanks for the spiritual life the Lord has grown in you.

FROM THE DIRECTOR OF ELDER CARE MINISTRIES – KATHY BLACK

Included [Here](#) is an article on the role of **THE LOCAL CHURCH AND THE HEALING OF VETERANS** returning home from war. This information, provided by Rev. Dr. Dan Cottrell, chaplain at the VA Hospital in RI, is timely for ministering to soldiers who are currently returning from the wars in the Middle East, as well as to those elder veterans who are reconciling their life experiences as they seek healing in their later years. Take a few moments to read more about the church's call to assisting in the healing of our vets. For more practical resources on this, contact Kathy Black at kathy@abcori.org and she will put you in touch with Rev. Cottrell. (Reprinted with permission from The Southern Illinoisan.)

CANONICUS NEWS:

Volunteer and help assemble the new **Prayer Walk** at Canonicus, this Saturday, November 29 from 9 to 11 am. Many hands will make light work of filling in the walk with pebbles. Please call Linda Bausserman at 949-4572 or email her at linbau@cox.net for more information.

HEALTHY CHURCHES – CONGREGATIONAL LIFE MINISTRIES

The Congregational Life Team [CLT] has been formed as part of ABCORI's new structure. Its task *is to empower and promote ministry within the congregations of our ABCORI churches*. Our team is ready to serve you, the churches and people of ABCORI. If you have an idea for a ministry or a passion to make a ministry happen, please contact us so that we can help connect you to resources and/or others who share similar passions. The purview of the Congregational Life Team includes ministries related to camp, youth ministry, the Annual Gathering, discipleship, Christian education, conflict management, church renewal, church administration, new church planting, and anything else that the congregations of ABCORI churches would like to see happen. We're here to serve you.

Debbie Guilmain, Betty-Rae Taylor, Ron Short, Diane Pomeroy, Leigh Johnson

Ruah (Spirit of God) Prayer Day – Extravagant Giving

Our Advent RUAH will consider the "stirring up of gifts within us" and the giving of these gifts to others. December 6, 9am – 3:30 pm. Tefft Chapel, Canonicus. Leaders Virginia Bradley and Janet Breckenridge. Cost: \$20. **Contact** Colleen at the ABCORI office 294-6318 x111

Candlelight Christmas Concert – Come to the annual Candlelight Christmas Concert at Phillips Memorial Baptist Church, Sunday, **December 7**. Usher in the Christmas season with the sound of voices, bells, harp and organ. The evening begins at 6:30 pm with harpist Terri Viveiros. At 7:00 pm, the concert will feature Phillips Music Ensembles. Admission is free. (A freewill offering will be taken to help with concert expenses.) Childcare will be provided. Phillips Church is handicap accessible. After the concert, there will be refreshments in the fellowship hall. Phillips Memorial Baptist Church is located at 565 Pontiac Ave. in Cranston. For directions, or for more information, call 401-467-3300 ext 1. Or see us online at www.phillipschurch.org

Festival of the Nativity – Display of 240 crèches, sale of crèches and SERRV gifts, greens workshop, photos of children with Holy Family, senior luncheon, outdoor living nativity. Dec. 6, 7, 10 and 13. See flier [Here](#) for schedule At Wakefield Baptist Church, 236 Main St, Wakefield.

Organ/Piano Christmas Concert – Presented by Sharon St. Martin & Evie Hopkins Mann – Sunday, December 7, 2008, 2:00pm – Summit Baptist Church, 1176 Victory Highway, Greene, RI – Donation: \$10.

Christmas Coffee House: Please join the worship band Kyrie Road of First Baptist Church in Wickford, 44 Main Street, North Kingstown, for a Christmas Coffee House, December 6th, 4-5:30pm. Come sing Christmas carols and have refreshments and then stroll through historic Wickford Village for the Festival of Lights activities. [Flyer](#)

Open Messiah Sing: Part I and the Hallelujah Chorus, Sunday, December 7th at 7pm, First Baptist Church in Wickford. Come and sing the beloved choruses of Handel's Messiah. Bring your own scores if you have them. Admission will be a canned good for the North Kingstown Food Pantry. [Flyer](#)

WHOLE GOSPEL – SOCIAL WITNESS MINISTRIES

Congdon Street Baptist Church TUTORIAL PROGRAM

...continues for the school year 2008-2009. The focus of the program is to develop wholesome, educated, well-rounded citizens at the Elementary and Middle school levels. Our church began as the African Union Meeting and Schoolhouse Society in 1819 with a focus on establishing a place for people of color to worship God in dignity, and to obtain secular education for their children; this tradition continues. **Volunteers needed!** Download a printable copy of our flyer at the following link: [Here](#) or contact -Congdon Street Baptist Church, 401-421-4032 Sister Phyllis Powers Director of Tutorial Program ministry E-mail: info@csbchurch.org

12th Annual BUY NOTHING DAY – Winter Coat Exchange – Friday, November 28, 10 – 2PM
If you have a coat to give, please drop it off; if you need a coat, please pick one up at 4 sites:

- **RI State House** lawn (Rain/snow site: St. Patrick's School, 244 Smith ST. Providence)
- **Pawtucket**, Blackstone Valley Visitors Center, 175 Main St.
- **Newport**, St. Paul's Church, 12 West Marlborough St,
- **Wakefield**, St. Francis Church, 114 High Street (10 am - noon)
- **Woonsocket**, St. Ann's Arts & Cultural Center, 84 Cumberland St

A Christmas Concert to benefit the Rhode Island State Council of Churches will be held on Sunday, December 14, 2008 at 3:30 p.m. at the First Baptist Church, East Greenwich featuring Prism of Praise. Everyone welcomed, a free will offering will be taken.

WHOLE WORLD – EVANGELISTIC WITNESS MINISTRIES

Seeking your Mission trip, local project, revival...information to share in this space

OTHER EVENTS

KIRK WHALUM TO PERFORM IN PROVIDENCE – Friday, December 19, 2008

For the second year in a row, Trinity Restoration Incorporated [TRI] will be hosting the REBORN Gospel & Jazz Holiday Concert at the historic Trinity United Methodist Church, located at 375 Broad Street in Providence, Rhode Island. Tickets for the REBORN concert are \$35 and can be purchased on-line from Art Tix (ArtTixRI.com), or by calling 401-228-3630. Doors will open at 6:30 PM and the performance begins at 7:00 PM. Flyer [HERE](#)

The ABCORI Calendar			
Items highlighted in yellow indicate additions or changes to the calendar			
Nov 27&28		Thanksgiving – ABCORI office closed	
Nov 28	10 – 2:00 p.m.	12 th Annual Buy Nothing Day – Coat Exchange	sites throughout RI
Nov 30		1 st Sunday in Advent	
Nov 30	7:00 p.m.	5 th Sunday Hymn Sing	1 st N. Kingstown, Allenton
Dec 2	5:30 p.m.	AG09 planning team	Community Baptist, Newport
Dec 3	1:30 p.m.	Social Witness Team opportunity	Community Baptist Ch. of Providence
Dec 4		Ministers Council & SCOM	Lawrence
Dec 6	9 – 3:30 p.m.	RUAH – “ <i>Extravagant Giving</i> ”	Canonicus
Dec 9	10:00 a.m.	EMSC	Motter
Dec 9	noon	The Providence Baptist Theological Circle	1 st East Greenwich
Dec 11	10:00 a.m.	Budget Committee	Lawrence, Canonicus
Dec 11	6:30 p.m.	All Ministry Teams meeting	Lawrence, Canonicus
Dec 16	1:00 p.m.	BiRST	RI
2009			
Jan 4	4:00 p.m.	Ordination Council – Toni DiPina	Congdon St. Baptist
Jan 6	1 – 2:30 p.m.	Consultants Group	Lawrence, Canonicus
Jan 6, 2009	7 – 9:00 p.m.	BOM	Mt. Pleasant Baptist
Jan 8	5 – 9:30 p.m.	Interfaith Power & Light conference Flyer	La Salle Academy, Prov.
Jan 10	9:30 – 3 p.m.	Financial Planning for Christians Seminar	Grotonwood in MA
Jan 19	7:00 a.m.	25 th Annual MLK Jr Scholarship Breakfast	Rhodes on the Pawtuxet
Jan 24	1:00 p.m.	SPNM Spelling Bee Fund Raiser	Calvary
Jan 25	4:00 p.m.	Ordination – Toni DiPina	Congdon St. Baptist
Jan 27	4:00 p.m.	BFRI – (snow date Jan 29)	N Scituate
Jan 31	8:30–3:30 p.m.	Spiritual Growth Retreat ABWomen and Girls	Meadowwood
Feb 24	7 – 9:00 p.m.	Board of Ministries	North Foster Baptist
Feb 25		Ash Wednesday	
Feb 28	9 – 3:30 p.m.	RUAH	Canonicus
March 2	7:00 p.m.	Annual Business Meeting (Session A)	First, East Greenwich
March 6-7		MissionWorks	Leominster, MA
March 21	8:30-3:00 p.m.	ABW Spring Meeting	1 st Pawtucket
March 28	9 – 3:00 p.m.	Missional Churches	Shaub, Canonicus
April 14	7 – 9:00 p.m.	Board of Ministries	North Scituate
April 18	9 – 3:30 p.m.	RUAH	Canonicus
April 24-25		Annual Gathering (Session B)	Newport Churches

June 5-6	Fri – Sat.	ABW Annual Conference	Canonicus
October 3	9 – 3:00 p.m.	Missional Churches	Shaub, Canonicus
October 24	2:30-8:00 p.m.	ABW Fall Statewide Missions Meeting	TBA
October		World Mission Conference ABC-USA	New Hampshire
Support our family of ABCORI churches at these upcoming Events			
		Advent Season	
Dec 6 –13	flyer Here	Festival of the Nativity programs	Wakefield Baptist
Dec 6	4-5:30 pm	Christmas Coffee House	1 st Baptist, Wickford
Dec 7	2:00 pm	Organ/Piano Christmas Concert	Summit Baptist, Greene
Dec 7	6:30 pm	Candlelight Christmas Concert	Phillips Memorial, Cranston
Dec 7	4-5:30 pm	Messiah Open Sing	1 st Baptist, Wickford
Dec 14	3:30 pm	RISCC benefit concert	1 st Baptist, East Greenwich
		Dinners, Bazaars/Holiday Fairs	
Dec 6	11:30-1:30	Christmas Luncheon	Central Baptist, Westerly
Dec 6	9 – 1:30pm	Christmas Fair	Central Baptist, Jamestown
Dec 6	10am – 2pm	Bazaar at John Clarke Retirement Ctr	Middletown, RI
Dec 6	9 am	“Christmas by the Bay”	1 st East Greenwich
Dec 6	10am – 3pm	Christmas Bazaar	Chepachet Union
Dec 6	8am – 2pm	Church Bazaar	1 st West Warwick
Dec 6	9am – 3pm	Bazaar with a Breakfast and a Lunch	Phenix Baptist
Dec 6	9am – 3pm	Advent Bazaar	Spring Green, Warwick
Dec 6	9am – 2pm	Christmas Bazaar	People’s Baptist
Dec 13	8am – 3pm	Holiday Book & Media Sale	Warwick Central
Dec 13	9am – 11am	Christmas Cookie Bake Sale	Georgiaville Baptist