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**ABCORI Bi-Weekly E-Notes**

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[www.abcori.org](http://www.abcori.org).

[www.canonicus.org](http://www.canonicus.org)

[www.johnclarke.org](http://www.johnclarke.org)

[E-Note Guidelines](#)

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

**IN OUR THOUGHTS AND PRAYERS**

All our Pastors, Seminarians, church members, family members, staff and friends struggling with and recovering from colds and the flu.

**FROM LILIANA'S DESK**

It is obvious that God is doing a new thing. I came back from Atlanta and the New Baptist Covenant about ten days ago. To understand fully the magnitude of that meeting, I needed time to let it percolate through my soul. Friends, this was by far the best conference I have ever attended, and believe me, I have had my share of conference attending experiences. Go to my Blog, at [www.abcori.net](http://www.abcori.net) or ([click here](#)) for the details.

Let me share with you that I believe this is the beginning of a new Baptist movement in America. Forty-five Baptist groups gathered to praise God and reclaim our heritage. They agreed on a number of ministry priorities: the poor, the hungry, the homeless, the children, the immigrants, the persecuted, the captives, and everyone else who may represent "the least of these."

The speakers ranged from ordained clergy to laity, Baptists all. Their messages invited us to unity, reconciliation, and healthy pride in our identity. As a clear principle by which we live in this world, they reminded us of separation of Church and State, as well as soul liberty and freedom to interpret Scriptures. The stage was an affirmation of the ministry of all believers. This is just the beginning; we have our work cut out for us!

God is definitely doing a new thing among us also in Rhode Island. In the next few weeks, you will receive a copy of our proposed new Mission and Structure. Together and according to the heart of God, we have worked hard to accomplish our goal of setting a clear sense of direction for our churches. We think we've got it. You will have the last word. The core of this new vision is to engage Christ-centered ministries. Very close to the New Baptist Covenant's focus, our new focus will be to resource one another so we can best serve our communities.

**CALL TO MEETING – All Pastors and Local Church Delegates for March 3, 7PM**

Mailed today, to Pastors and church moderators. [Please contact your delegates](#). Make sure they know about and [are planning to attend](#) the two Annual Gathering Meetings (Session-A Business; Session-B Gathering). Car pool for fellowship. Guests may attend.

**NOTES FROM LIZ**

**2008 'Indescribable' CAMP PROGRAM NEWS ~ Attention All Youth Leaders...Please let your youth groups know that our Overnight Camp programs will begin Week One of camp this summer on Sunday, June 22<sup>nd</sup>!** Hasbro has agreed to switch their Asthma Camp program from Week One to Week Two (July 4<sup>th</sup> week). This means we'll have both Day Camp **AND** Overnight Camp programs in full swing right from the start! **FIVE** overnight programs during Week One are offered: Discovery, Fishing, SK8, Sports & LIT 1. Visit our website at [www.canonicus.org](http://www.canonicus.org) for dates and descriptions of all camp sessions, as well as some exciting new programs this year such as **Girl Power Camp** (overnight) and **Golf Camp** (day camp). 2008 camp brochures will be sent out very soon.

**CAMPERSHIPS for 2008** ~ In March, all churches will receive specially marked 8½ x 11 envelopes containing Campership Application information from both Canonicus and the Alumni Association. It is important that each church [designate one adult](#) to receive this packet and coordinate disseminating this time-sensitive information to the youth. Thank You!

**ELDER CARE MINISTRY IN NORTHERN RI**

Congratulations to volunteers from Greenville Baptist Church for completing the Simeon's Ministry training seminar! Six women from the church joined two residents and four staff members from the Village at

Waterman Lake to learn more about the spiritual needs of elders, especially those challenged by dementia. Together the volunteers, residents and staff committed to providing regular worship services for those elders who are no longer able to get out to their home churches. The first worship service is scheduled for March, in time for the Easter celebration. Thank you to everyone at Greenville and the Village for your dedication to providing for the spiritual needs of elders in long-term care. *Kathy Black, Director of Elder Care Ministries*

#### **FRONT DESK PHONE UPDATE (correction)**

We continue to look for volunteers to help on Tuesdays and Wednesdays. If you get the automated answering service, press # 5, to get the staff directory for faster service. Thank you for your understanding.

#### **BREAKFAST: FOR SOUTH COUNTY HABITAT FOR HUMANITY FUND-RAISER**

Saturday, Feb. 16 from 6:30-10:30 a.m., Wakefield Baptist Church, 236 Main Street, Wakefield. Scrambled eggs, pancakes, toast, muffins, donuts, bacon, sausages, juice, coffee -\$7 pp; kids ten and under \$3.50. Sponsored by the FaithBuild group of churches. Goal \$75,000 for the house going up in Charlestown. Currently have \$55,000 in gifts and pledges, but \$20,000 is still needed There'll be a bake sale and house pins.

#### **YOUTH MINISTRY NEWS AND INFORMATION**

**Youth Gathering:** The Youth Gathering is this Sunday February 17<sup>th</sup> at Calvary Baptist Church. As usual, we will start with a time for games and fellowship at 5:30pm followed by the program starting at 6pm. The program consists of contemporary Christian music, a video with small group discussion and prayer. A time for the youth to fellowship follows the program. If you would like to know more or need directions to Calvary Baptist please contact Matt Black at 401-294-6318 or [ympt@abcori.org](mailto:ympt@abcori.org).

**"More than a Week" (MTW) - National Youth Conference** Do you have a group going to Colorado for the American Baptist national youth conference? Do you have some youth that are interested and need a group to go with? Do you have no idea what I am writing about? Please check out the MTW link on our website [www.abcori.org](http://www.abcori.org) or contact Matt Black at 401-294-6318 or [ympt@abcori.org](mailto:ympt@abcori.org) to find out more information or just to let us know who is going. There are also some limited funds to help groups attend this life-changing event.

**Youth Ministry planning Team (YMPT)** The youth ministry planning team of ABCORI is currently looking for anyone who has a passion for youth ministry and would be willing to help plan and implement regional programs and event. Some of the programs already being overseen by the YMPT are the monthly Youth Gathering and upcoming leader workshop on youth and technology, and choosing youth representatives to the national Biennial. We are currently down to two members and need more to accomplish youth ministry for ABCORI. If you are interested in or would like more information, please contact Matt Black at 401-294-6318 or [ympt@abcori.org](mailto:ympt@abcori.org).

**Technology Workshop for Leaders of Youth** On April 5<sup>th</sup> the YMPT of ABCORI is sponsoring a workshop at Camp Canonicus. Peggy Kendall PhD, author of the book Rewired: Youth Ministry in the Age of IM and MySpace will lead this workshop. Our youth leaders will gain greater understanding of the technologies youth are using and the role it plays in their lives. More information is coming to your local church and to the ABCORI website.

#### **MISSIONS@ABCORI.ORG**

The Committee on Stewardship and Mission Support (CSMS) encourages you to use this e-mail address to communicate your mission news and mission questions to the greater ABCORI family. If your church is participating in a program or project, tell us about it. We can learn from you. If your church wants information about a program or project, ask us about it. In addition, we will keep a list of mission education and work trips that are sponsored by individual churches or a group of churches to places in this country and around the world. Eventually we want all this info shared on our website. That is our goal, so look for it down the road a bit. Meanwhile, share via e-mail and CSMS will pass along your input and questions.

#### **THE BIG READ-"To Kill a Mockingbird" Kick-off Event: "Protecting Mockingbirds"**

As part of the National Endowment for the Arts, Big Read program, the Keynote speaker will be Dr. Bernard LaFayette, Jr., Scholar-in-Residence and Director of the Center for Peace and Non-Violence URI. This kick-off event is February 20, 2008, 7-9pm, Warwick Public Library. Dr. LaFayette will discuss the context of power and justice issues introduced in "*To Kill a Mockingbird*". A brief artistic presentation of music and readings will precede the talk. This engaging program, followed by open discussion, is open to all! Help us make it meaningful for many. <http://www.neabigread.org/events.php>

#### **ATTENTION MISSION-MINDED FOLK... BE A HOLY ROLLER!**

A White Cross Bandage Workshop Saturday, March 1, from 9:30 am to noon, Lakewood Baptist Church, 255 Atlantic Ave, Warwick. Learn how to make White Cross rolled bandages for our missionaries. Bring any used cotton or cotton-blend sheets you have. RSVP - Phone Janet Chermers at 737-5622 or email Nancy Bancroft at [Nanbanc@Verizon.net](mailto:Nanbanc@Verizon.net) by February 28 if you plan to attend.

**LEADERSHIP WEEKEND 2008 - REPAIRING, RESTORING, REVIVING – ISAIAH 58: 7-12**

March 7 & 8, at Community Baptist Church, Newport. "...to help train, develop and encourage all leaders to make the most of their callings." and featuring some of New England's most dynamic pastors and preachers Contact Minister Lauri Smalls at 401-265-4321 or [lesmalls@yahoo.com](mailto:lesmalls@yahoo.com) ([www.cbcnewport.com](http://www.cbcnewport.com) )

**MISSIONWORKS 2008 – OUT OF AFRICA – STORIES AND SONGS – WEEKEND EVENT**

March 7-8, at the Best Western Royal Plaza Hotel, Fitchburg, MA. Message by Bill Clemmer - Ghana Mission Explosion project – workshops...more! For information, contact TABCOM's Carol Champagne at 781-320-8100x101 or (CTRL+click) MISSIONworks Flyer • and MISSIONworks Registration

**THE 6<sup>TH</sup> ANNUAL SOUTH PROVIDENCE NEIGHBORHOOD MINISTRIES BENEFIT CONCERT**

... Sunday, March 9 at 3:00 pm, Phillips Memorial Baptist Church, 565 Pontiac Avenue, Cranston. A musical extravaganza with performances from RIUMA. The Rhode Island Methodist Conference Children's Choir, St. Matthew's Church Choir, the Henry Barnard School Chorus, Greenville Vocal Ensemble, Arlyn Valencia, Violinist, Martha Sobaje, organist and the SPNM kids. All are welcome. Support this vital community outreach organization through a free-will offering and by bringing canned goods for the SPNM Food Pantry. A reception will follow the concert. We invite those who can, to bring a tray of cookies, brownies or pastries to share at the reception. Attached is a poster for the concert, please pass it along and post in all churches.

**PIANIST/ORGANIST AND CHOIR DIRECTOR**

Seeking a Pianist/Organist and Choir Director: Cross Mills Baptist Church, Charlestown, RI. This is a paid position with vacation. If interested please contact Reverend Paul Rollins at 397 - 2764 or 741 - 7285.

**ADULT CHOIR ROBES AVAILABLE**

The Pleasant Street Baptist Church, Westerly, RI, has choir robes: 10 Green with Yellow scarf and 15 Blue, all adult sizes. Call 401-596-1923 to arrange pick-up.

**YOU CAN CARPOOL TO THE SPIRITUALITY & STEWARDSHIP EVENT FOR APRIL 5**

If you would like to attend on Saturday, April 5 and wish to carpool please, call Linda Martin at the ABCORI office 294-6318, extension 103 or you can send electronically to [linda@canonicus.org](mailto:linda@canonicus.org). If there is enough interest, we may be able to get a van or use the camp van.

The Spirituality & Stewardship Event: Friday April 4, and Saturday April 5, 2008, at the Crowne Plaza Hotel, 10 Lincoln Square, Worcester, MA. Online registration is quick and easy: visit [www.umfne.org](http://www.umfne.org). Questions? Call Chris McGuire at 1-800-595-4347 x102 or email [chrism@umfine.org](mailto:chrism@umfine.org).

<b>The ABCORI Calendar</b>			
<b>Items highlighted in yellow indicate additions or changes to the calendar</b>			
<b>2008</b>			
Feb 16	6:30-10:30 a.m.	Habitat For Humanity Breakfast	Wakefield Baptist
Feb 16	6:00 p.m.	Youth Group Chicken Dinner	Wakefield Baptist
Feb 16	9 – 3:30 p.m.	RUAH	Canonicus – Tefft Chapel
Feb 17	5:30 p.m.	Youth Gathering	Calvary Baptist
<b>Feb. 18</b>	<b>ALL DAY</b>	<b>ABCORI OFFICE CLOSED</b>	<b>PRESIDENT'S DAY</b>
Feb 18	6:00 p.m.	AB Women's Ministries Board	Phillips Memorial
Feb 19	2-4:00 p.m.	Think Tank	North Scituate
Feb 19	4:00 p.m.	S&A	North Scituate
Feb 20	3:30 p.m.	Annual Gathering Committee	Pleasant Street, Westerly
Feb 21	TIM, All staff, Executive Team		
Feb 26	9:30 a.m.	Committee: Together in Harmony	Phillips
Feb. 26	7-9:00 p.m.	In-Care Pastoral Program	1 <sup>st</sup> East Greenwich
Feb 27	9:30 a.m.	Personnel Committee	Lawrence Building
Feb 28	10:00 a.m.	Evangelism Team	Norwood Baptist

Feb 28	2:00 p.m.	Communications Task Force	Lawrence Building
March 1	9 – 12 p.m.	White Cross Workshop	Lakewood Baptist
March 2	1:30 p.m.	Ordination of Orlando Irizarry	Calvary
<b>March 3</b>	<b>7:00 p.m.</b>	<b>ABCORI Annual Meeting Session A</b>	<b>Phillips Memorial</b>
March 4	Consultant Group, Resource Team, CSMS		
March 6	ECMC....SCOM		
March 7-8		Leadership Weekend 2008	Community, Newport
March 7-8		MISSIONworks 2008	Fitchburg, MA
March 9	3:00 p.m.	SPMN Benefit Concert	Phillips Memorial
March 10	Properties Committee		
March 11	7:00 p.m.	RIBES	Allendale
March 13	Program Committee		
March 17	4:00 p.m.	Investment Committee	Phillips Memorial
March 31	6:00 p.m.	Investment Dinner	Warwick Central
April 1	Due date	2007 Annual Church Report	Mail or complete on-line
April 1	5:00 p.m.	New Life 2010	Community Providence
April 4 & 5	Friday & Sat. 8:00 a.m.	Spirituality & Stewardship biennial event	Crowne Plaza Worcester MA
April 5	9 – 3:00 p.m.	ABWMRI State Meeting	Memorial,- Seekonk
April 7	11:00 – 2:00 p.m.	Prayer Shawl Ministries Get-Together	North Scituate
April 12		Beaver Day	Canonicus
April 19	9 – 3:30 p.m.	RUAH	Canonicus – Tefft Chapel
April 21	6:00 p.m.	AB Women's Ministries Board	Phillips Memorial
April 22	7:00 p.m.	Board of Mission	Berean Baptist
<b>April 26</b>	<b>8 a.m. – 5 p.m.</b>	<b>ABCORI Annual Gathering Session B</b>	<b>Central Baptist--Westerly</b>
May 1	6:00p.m.	Volunteer Banquet	Shaub Lodge, Canonicus
May 5-7		Ministers Retreat	Block Island
May 17	11 a.m.-3 p.m.	Summer Camp Open House	Canonicus
May 31		Beaver Day	Canonicus
June 6 & 7		ABWM June Conference	Canonicus
June 22		Week One of Camp	Canonicus
June 22	4:30 p.m.	ABCORI Celebration of Faith	Calvary Baptist Church
Sept 19-21		ABCUSA World Mission Conf.	2nd Baptist--Suffield CT
Oct 4		Crop Walk	Goddard State Park Warwick
Oct 18	3 – 8 p.m.	ABW Fall Meeting	TBA