



Evergreen Notes

Volume 20, Issue 8



Queen Anne Baptist Church Becoming an Anti-Racist Church

Through the work of our Evergreen Association of American Baptist Churches, and the American Baptist Churches, USA, Queen Anne Baptist Church has begun the work of becoming an anti-racist church. This is a work in progress.

Queen Anne Baptist Church has roots among the Swedish and German Baptists in Seattle. The congregation's racial and ethnic makeup has changed over the years and is shifting from being a predominantly Euro-American church to having members and leaders who are Asian, Black, Latinx, and of other racial and ethnic backgrounds.

But we are a work in progress. For our white members, we are engaging in ways of becoming an anti-racist church. It is not enough to say we are not racist. We must work to dismantle the sin of racism in our society and culture, and especially in our church.

Currently, our work involves these areas:
Education- We hold a monthly [Book Discussion](#) (or Video Discussion; click the link to see the list of books we have read together) in which we engage authors of color, mainly Black, Indigenous, and Asian. Our reading and conversations lead us to action, such as providing our Children's Church resources with images of Jesus other than white and providing curriculum and books with a variety of cultural representation. Education has also led to changes in our worship service in the liturgy and music we use.

Representation- Besides our Children's Church materials, we are consciously looking at the art in our building, especially art that depicts Jesus, and looking to support Black artists and Black representations of Jesus. This year, our Leadership Council purchased a new picture of Jesus titled "The Messiah," created by Cecil "Creed" Reed Jr. for our parlor.

Support for Black and People of Color Busi-

nesses-We are currently ordering takeout meals for our monthly meal support for [New Horizons Youth Ministries](#) during this Covid time. We are choosing to support restaurants owned by Black Business Owners and other people of color and have partnered with Fats Chicken and Waffles in the Central District to provide one meal a month. This way, we support homeless youth in Seattle with delicious food, supporting a Black woman owned business (and the New Horizons staff tell us there are never any leftovers when we provide this meal).

Worship and Liturgy- We are choosing more prayers and liturgy written by Black, Indigenous, and other People of Color to use in our worship service.

We are continually looking to grow in our own understanding of how racism and white supremacy have been perpetuated by the church. We are working to actively engage and dismantle it in our church and society.

Rev. Mindi Welton-Mitchell, Senior Pastor
Queen Anne Baptist Church

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Pray for Churches Seeking Pastoral Leadership

- ♦ *Fairview Community Church*
- ♦ *Mount Zion Baptist Church*
- and
- ♦ *Filipino-American Christian Fellowship (FACF)*

Social Media Corner—Platforms Besides Facebook

Rev. Mindi Welton-Mitchell



Mindi Welton Mitchell

What other platforms should your church be using, besides Facebook?

First, let me caution you not to take on more than you can handle. If you are a small church and you have a Facebook page, be sure you are using it to the best of your ability. Facebook is still the number one social media site, and by now, every church should have an active Facebook page.

But if you're looking to expand, here are two options I recommend:

NextDoor: NextDoor works a lot like Facebook does, but you are only available to connect with the people in your neighborhood and up to ten surrounding neighborhoods. If you live near the church, this is an excellent way to engage your neighborhood and know what is going on. However, each neighborhood-run NextDoor is different. Some will allow churches to share events without an issue, but others will put the same restrictions on churches as they do other businesses. You can either join as an individual or as a business. However, if you join as a business, you are limited in

that you cannot post until someone recommends you. It's easier to share what is going on if you are a pastor or church member in the neighborhood of the church.

Instagram: Instagram is primarily for sharing photos and short videos. Instagram can connect directly with Facebook, so you can post on Instagram and have it also go to your Facebook page. It is an incredibly popular site and where many folks go if they are leaving Facebook. You can share photos with Scripture verses, or thoughts on the sermon, or events you are holding. It is a great way to engage visually, and individuals as well as businesses can have the same type of account.

In the short time I have been the Social Media Ministry Associate, things have changed quickly. When I began, Twitter was still a hot platform and I would have recommended that pastors and churches get on Twitter, but it has become more of an individual platform and it doesn't work well for engaging and promoting ministry.

It also depends on your area, and you might do a survey of folks around you to ask what platform they use. When I was

pastor in Burien, NextDoor worked very well—neighbors engaged on it often, and as the pastor I was able to share about church events. However, now that I am in Queen Anne, NextDoor is primarily a place where people are promoting their businesses, and there is little individual engagement. Instagram is more in use by both individuals and community groups, and we have had more success there.

Technology is constantly in flux, and new social media platforms are developing all the time. Some of them fade very quickly (anyone here on Ello?) and some stick around for a long time (I really don't need any more invitations to Linked In, thank you!) My advice is to stick to one or two that work well for you and your congregation, and to learn as much as you can about how to use them to engage the community around you.

Blessings,
Rev. Mindi Welton-Mitchell
NEW EMAIL: media@ea-abc.org

Sharing the Evergreen Way!
Facebook: www.facebook.com/evergreenabcusa
Twitter: @EvergreenABCUSA
Instagram: @EvergreenABCUSA
Hashtags: #ebaabc #IamEBAABC

Register NOW, for Baptist Peace Fellowship Summer Conference!!

BPFNA-Bautistas por la Paz is an expansive network of peacemakers from Canada, Mexico, Puerto Rico, the United States and beyond. Our annual Summer Conference is our largest gathering and one that brings together these peacemakers to gain new skills, inspiration and rejuvenation to continue the work of peace rooted in justice.

Summer Conference planners are expanding on what was learned in 2020 to create 40 Days with BPFNA (July 20-August 28) a special experience which culminates with the International Virtual Conference on August 28th, **United States:** 2 PM PDT / 3 PM MDT / 4 PM CDT / 5 PM EDT. Registration available at <https://www.bpfna.org/register-main>

Congratulations, Rev. Dr. Johnny J. Youngblood who received his Doctor of Ministry Degree as an Inaugural Adam Clayton Powell, Jr. Fellow of the New York Theological Seminary while serving as Senior Pastor of the Martin Luther King, Jr., Memorial Baptist Church!



FAN Seeking Policy Engagement Director

As the Faith Action Network continues to celebrate our tenth birthday this year, the FAN Governing Board is pleased to announce FAN's public policy work, will continue under the leadership of a Policy Engagement Director, with that search process beginning now. Interested candidates can send a resume and cover letter to apply@fanwa.org.

Rev. Carol Jensen, Co-Chair, FAN Governing Board

SBU Active Clergy & Spouse Dinner Cruise is ON!

WHEN: Tuesday, August 17, 2021

Ship: The Lady Mary, Argosy Cruises—AGC Marina Lake Union

1200 Westlake Ave. N., Seattle WA 98109

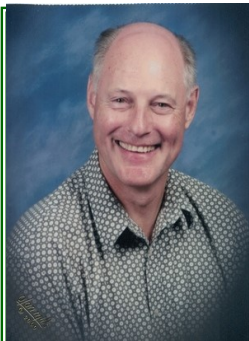
Boarding: 6:30 PM | Departure: 7:00 PM | Event Ends: 10:00 PM

Invitations have been sent to Seattle Baptist Union Member Churches.

If your church is a member of SBU and you did not receive an invitation, please contact Clem at 253-859-2226 or clem@ea-abc.org

Registration Details coming next week.





Barry Briscoe Dies Peacefully

September 23, 1943 - June 7, 2021

Renton, WA: Barry Don Briscoe, age 77, passed away peacefully June 7, 2021 at Day View Adult Family Home.

Barry was born September 23, 1943 in Spokane, WA, the middle of five children born to Robert and Laura Lee (Mohn) Briscoe.

Barry grew up in Spokane, WA, and spoke fondly of spending summers at Newman Lake. He attended Washington State University and graduated in 1965 with a Bachelor of Science in Mathematics. While at WSU, he met his wife of 55 years, Anne Marie Strom of Toppenish, WA. The newlyweds settled in Seattle, WA where they began a family and Barry began a long career for The Boeing Company. He completed his MBA at Seattle University before his work took the family to Chantilly, Virginia, where they hosted family and toured the many museums and monuments around the nation's capital. Eventually, he returned to the Seattle area and lived in Kent while finishing out his 33-year career with Boeing as a Senior Principal Scientist.

Barry was known for his gregarious nature, meticulous planning, and lifelong love of learning. He made lasting connections wherever he went; there wasn't a family vacation where we didn't bump into someone he knew along the way. Barry was very active at Kent First Baptist where he taught Sunday school, sang in the choir, and played softball with both of his sons.

Later he was a founding member of Burien Community Church in Burien, WA and he was instrumental in the founding of Evergreen Baptist Association. He was a music lover, especially jazz and big band. He studied music later in life, attending jazz band camps, and playing trumpet in both the Boeing Jazz Band and WSU Alumni Band. His love for his beloved Cougs never waned, and he rooted for them for several years as a season ticket holder. Barry was also a soccer enthusiast, which took many forms: coaching his sons, cheering on the Seattle Sounders, and serving as a referee at multiple levels for over 20 years. In retirement, Barry enjoyed traveling Europe with Anne, using his planning skills to build detailed itineraries, finding a new appreciation for wine, and scratching his itch for learning about the world. He was an avid reader and history buff who always had some new biography on his nightstand to read.

Barry is survived by wife, Anne, sons Kevin (Carol) of Kent, WA and their children, and Mark of Beaverton, OR and his daughter, Avery; brothers Roger and Dennis, and sisters Judy Larsen and Bonnie Dalton.

A small graveside service is planned for close family at Hillcrest Burial Park in Kent, WA. Donations can be made to Burien Community Church in his name.

Camp Burton Has a Summer Schedule!
Interested? Go to campburton.com and investigate!

Please go online to www.ea-abc.org and click on "Give" to donate.

We are grateful for your continued support!

Churches Challenged to give to United Mission-Watch God Work!

The following letter was sent to each member church in the region during the month of June. Thank you so much for your overwhelming response. Those still contemplating your response, still have time:

⁴In all my prayers for all of you, I always pray with joy ⁵because of your partnership in the gospel from the first day until now, ⁶being confident of this, that he who began a good work in you will carry it on to completion until the day of Christ Jesus. Philippians 1:4-6

Dear Sister Churches of Evergreen:

We thank you for the many ways you have supported Evergreen and in turn supported the American Baptist Churches USA. As a reminder of some of the annual giving opportunities that you might share with your congregations, we have listed a summary. If you do not receive information about each of these offerings through the mail, please contact region support staff Clem at clem@ea-abc.org or 206-852-0396.

Also included for your use (and please make as many copies as you'd like) is the United Mission Receipt Form. Each time you give through United Missions a receipt attached to a new giving form will be sent to you – the receipt for your records and the new form to be used the next time you send a gift to United Mission. We encourage member congregations to consider tithing to United Mission and watch God work in your lives!

America For Christ Offering: “For the purpose of equipping the Saints”, Isaiah 49:10

Thanks to America for Christ Offering contributions, American Baptist Home Mission Societies supported communities distressed by the devastation of COVID-19, helped families who lost homes to floods, wildfires and storms. ABHMS also aided children living on the edge of poverty.

One Great Hour of Sharing: “They will neither hunger nor thirst. The searing sun and scorching desert winds will not reach them. For the Lord in His mercy will lead them beside cool waters.”

Isaiah 49:10 One Great Hour of Sharing is administered by the World Relief Committee of the Board of General Ministries ABCUSA. It facilitates emergency relief disaster rehabilitation refugee work and development assistance.

World Mission Offering: “I was once blind, but now I see “, Mark 28:22-26

The World Mission Offering celebrates and supports the ministries that God is using to transform the world. Highlights of this mission include Discipleship, Economic Development, Peace and Justice, Education, Health and Wellness among just a few of the priorities that provide a window into what God is doing worldwide through global servants, volunteers and international partners.

Retired Ministers and Missionaries Offering

The Retired Ministers and Missionaries Offering originated in the mid-1930's to support retired ministers, missionaries, their widowed spouses and elderly clergy within their churches. Please help us honor these faithful servants!

Each gift, monetarily and/or prayerfully, is much appreciated.

In His Service,
Financial Development Committee

Sandy Stice, Co-Chair
Japanese Baptist Church

Bob Fukano
Japanese Baptist Church

Jackie Williams
Grace Baptist Church Tacoma

Karen Martinez, Co-Chair
C.C Ebenezer

Ken Curl
MLK Jr., Memorial Baptist Church

Frank L Lowe
New Beginnings Christian Fellowship

Happenings Around the Region

*******American Baptist Women's Ministries of the Pacific Northwest** —Save the date because the ABWM/PNW Conference will be held October 1-3, 2021 in Yakima, WA. **Hooray!** The new ABWM theme is **"Let the Walls Fall Down" with Ephesians 2:14 as the Scripture.** The Mission project is **American Baptist Women's Ministries** and the Mission Speaker is the Rev. Dr. Christine Smith, the new National President for ABWM. The Bible Study leader is the Rev. Dr. Barbara Reid.

If you have any questions, please call either Lorna Flannery (Conference Chair) or Gail Aita (ABWM/PNW President). **See you in October!**

*******Good Shepherd Baptist Church** invites you to join in celebrating its 60th Anniversary, Sunday, August 8, 2021 (masks required): Worship in sanctuary at 10:30 AM ; luncheon and social time outdoors/fellowship hall at 12:30 pm. RSVP appreciated by July 25, 2021 at gsbchurch@gsbchurch.com



Mary Phyllis Alexander Hasselblad, 90 years old at the time of her passing was born October 23, 1930 and died May 7, 2021. She was the wife of the Rev. Dr. Gaylord Hasselblad. Mrs. Hasselblad was a long time volunteer in the Evergreen office until her health failed.

A member of Seattle First Baptist Church, there was a "Time of Remembrance", Sunday, July 11, 2021. And the family will hold a service during the family reunion two weeks later.

Remembrances, instead of flowers may be sent to Rainbow Lodge Children's Programming.

Rev. Kenneth Franklin Weston, born September 11, 1935 in Monterey Park, California, passed away of natural causes on July 9, 2021 in Marysville, Washington.

In 1984, Ken began serving as the Regional Executive Minister of North Puget Sound for American Baptist Churches NW. And he served as a part of an interim leadership team at Japanese Baptist Church. Those who knew Ken will remember his sense of humor and infectious smile.

The family held a private graveside service.



Ministers Council Evergreen Chapter

The Ministers Council is the professional organization of all ABC clergy. It is a dues-paying organization, with national dues on a sliding scale based on income. Evergreen Association dues are \$25. To participate in the Evergreen Ministers Council, you need to be a member. However, the Evergreen Chapter accepts those with membership in the Northern California Ministers Council Chapter, the Chaplains and Pastoral Counselors Chapter, and the National Chin Chapter, so you do not need to pay dues twice.

Membership is annual. To join or renew your membership, please visit <https://www.ea-abc.org/ministers-council.html>. To learn more

about the Ministers Council, visit <http://ministerscouncil.com>.

The Ministers Council provides resources for clergy, including guidance on pastoral reviews, grant funds, continuing education opportunities, retreats, and more.

I have been your Ministers Council representative for the last two years. As of October 2021, I plan to step down. We would like to broaden the leadership of our council chapter to include representation from all caucuses in leadership. Our bylaws are out of date and need to be renewed. We do have resources available. Paul Schneider and Bianca Luna are our Retreat chairs and we hope to plan an in-

person retreat for clergy this next year (Note: this is not the same as the Leadership Retreat in the Evergreen Association. This is a time for clergy to have some rest and renewal).

If you are interested in learning more, or have questions about leadership, please do not hesitate to reach out to me.

Rev. Mindi Welton-Mitchell,
Evergreen Chapter Ministers
Council Representative,
media@ea-abc.org

(For those in the Bay Area/
Northern California, your
representative is Rev. Jim
Hopkins,
jim@labcoakland.org)



The Shift Conference September 25–26, 2021

THEME: Reconnect Reimagine Rebuild

Join us as we welcome some of the leading voices of our generation including Rev. Dr. Shareka Newton, Rev. Reginald Sharpe Jr, and Rev. Dr. Dominique Robinson.

For our night of entertainment help us welcome the one and only Michael Jr for a comedy show you will not want to miss!

For more information and registration, go to the conference and comedy show website: <https://www.theshiftconference.org/>



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#ebaabc

Return Service Requested

Evergreen Notes, the newsletter for member churches, ecumenical partners, national affiliates, and friends of the Evergreen Association of American Baptist Churches is published monthly.

Please submit articles by the 20th of the month prior to expected publication.

You are encouraged to copy and/or reprint information and articles for your congregation and community.



Rev. Douglas Avilesbernal
Executive Minister

Building Bridges, Resourcing Churches & Translating Our Unity

Calendar of Upcoming Event

Executive Committee continues to meet monthly on the second Thursday at 6:30 PM via Zoom during the Corona Virus pandemic.

Association Board Meeting, Quarterly:

August 14, 2021, 9:30 AM Zoom

Ministers’ Council pre-annual meeting gathering, Thursday, October 7, 2021. More details to follow.

Annual Meeting; Hybrid—In Person & Online — October 8-9, 2021, Olympia First Baptist Church.

Theme: Rooted & Repurposed; **Scripture:** Colossians 2:6-7; **Preacher:** Rev. Dr. Cheryl Dudley, Executive Minister Metro New York

SAVE THE DATES: Leaders Retreat, the weekend of February 11, 2022, at Camp Burton (Details to come)

Mission Statement

Being a culturally diverse people who are one in Christ and who value the liberties of our American Baptist Heritage, the Evergreen Baptist Association will

Build bridges between communities;

Provide resources to **equip member churches** to share Christ and teach God’s word; and

Translate our unity to the world.