

ABC+CPC



The Central Pacific Coast B•a•p•t•i•s•t

American Baptist Churches of the Central Pacific Coast . . .
resourcing, empowering and equipping congregations to discover and fulfill
their unique mission in their neighborhood . . . and around the world.

Volume 77 No. 2

Winter 2014

Speakers Announced for Mission Summit 2015

The Biennial Mission Summit Planning Team is excited to announce the speakers and additional events for Mission Summit 2015, June 26-28, 2015, in Overland Park, Kansas. Rev. Dr. Amy Butler, senior minister of the historic Riverside Church in New York City, will preach during the Friday evening service. Rev. Dr. A. Roy Medley, general secretary of American Baptist Churches USA, will bring the message on Saturday evening during a celebration of his fourteen years as General Secretary. Rev. Dr. Aidsand F. Wright-Riggins III, executive director of the American Baptist Home Mission Societies, will speak during the Sunday morning time of worship. The Sunday evening service will be highlighted by speaker Rev. Dr. Don Ng, president of the American Baptist Churches USA and the first Asian-American to serve in this role. The theme of the 2015 event will be "Share the Journey."



The Biennial Mission Summit will again feature Mission Summit Conversations, which were introduced at the 2013 event. Over 1000 people attended the Mission Summit Conversations in 2013,

which provided a new and exciting opportunity for American Baptists from across the country to come together to discuss vital ministry challenges. This model is similar to the one featured at our Annual Meeting.

The planning team is working to make this event even bigger and better than in 2013. New this year there will be an opportunity for young preachers to be highlighted during a Festival of Young Preachers. There will be added opportunities for prayer, hymn sings, Bible study, and fellowship. Be sure to plan to attend additional events occurring before and after the official Mission Summit dates – check the schedule to make sure you don't miss out.

Local Churches Invited to Sponsor the Mission Summit!

For Mission Summit 2015, churches are invited to register as sponsors, which will lower the fees for persons from these sponsoring churches. If your church registers as a sponsoring church of the Biennial Mission Summit, members of the church can individually register at the discounted rate of \$40 per person. Sponsoring churches will also be listed on the Mission Summit website and in the event Program Book. If your church is not a sponsor, church members will pay an individual registration fee of \$165.

Register your church as a sponsoring church before February 6, 2015! Registration for church sponsorship will close at this date and individual registration will open.

Church Sponsorship for Mission Summit 2015 will be based on average worship attendance for each church, as follows:

1. Churches of fewer than 100 – \$220
2. Churches of 101-200 – \$385
3. Churches of 201-500 – \$550
4. Churches of more than 500 – \$715
5. Church Booster – \$1000

Visit www.americanbaptists2015.com for Biennial details and to register your church as a sponsor today.



A Word From Our President

Rev. John Nichols

As I write a short thought this evening for our newsletter, I was just listening to the Grand Jury's verdict concerning the tragic police shooting in Ferguson, Missouri. Months of heartache and violence and peacemaking have taken place.

I listened as one radio news program interviewed a pastor in Ferguson who had made his church a safe place and he and other clergy trained folks in their congregations to help calm folks.

The church is still needed in our world.

Recently caregivers of the Ebola crisis have risked or lost their lives caring for people who contracted this horrible disease. Many are men and women of faith sent by mission agencies.

The church is still needed in our world.

We gathered together, people of different ages, different languages, different histories, different ethnic backgrounds-- churches from northern California and Oregon and worshipped one Lord together and talked about our concerns and dreams for ministry. And focused our minds and hearts on justice, mercy and walking with humility before God. We did this with a great sense of unity and togetherness.

The church is still needed in our world.

We have a great task before us as the churches of ABCCPC to move forward and reach and touch our deeply broken and divided world with the Gospel.

Our churches are still needed in our world.

We need to come together as never before to build up the work and ministries of our churches. Whether small and struggling or large and robust -- we have a job to do! Let's do it and let's do it together!

So you know, ABCCPC is in need of your financial support! It is critical! Camp Arrah Wanna may not survive the next year. Do you believe in its ministry? Are you willing to help? That is critical, too. It's not simply a plea-- it is a call to action! (see page 4)

You and your church are still needed in our world!

John

Ministers Council of Oregon Learning Event

Being, listening, disengaging and just letting go are often difficult in pastoral ministry. The Ministers Council would like to invite you to take time to step out of your normal schedule and consider "Who You Are as a Spiritual Leader?" Participants will have the opportunity to consider several articles that discuss leadership style issues, then gather with colleagues to share what those articles said to you. We will share meals around a common dining table. A lot of time will be set aside for reflection, being, listening and giving you an opportunity to disengage from your normal routine.

The Ministers Council is offering an event to nine colleagues who would like to gather on February 2-4, 2015 at the Trappist Monastery in Lafayette Oregon. This beautiful location has nine guest rooms with a single bed. This will be an opportunity for shared times of conversation and quiet times of reflection.

The cost for this event totals \$150 which includes great snacks to supplement the vegetarian meals provided by the monks, a room with a bed for two nights, showers, soap, trails to hike on, great times together, discussion leader/ curriculum, and why not . . . a discount!

So, because we are grateful for each one of you the cost will be \$89.00. In order to reserve a spot please send a \$20 non-refundable deposit made out to Ministers Council to:

Grant Park Baptist Church, Attn.: Gregg and Associates A&A, 2728 NE 34th Ave., Portland, OR 97212.

Little Church on the Prairie

The Story of the West Union Baptist Church

By Shirley Geisler, ABCCPC Administrative Officer



I had a little knowledge that ABCCPC owned a “little (church) on the prairie”, but all it took was the vision of the old, history-filled, white clapboard church coming into my view, for me to develop a fondness for it, the surrounding cemetery, and the historical roots of our American Baptist family. This church was built in December 1855 and is known as “the oldest Baptist church west of the Rockies”.

For years Wayne Bridges, FBC of Portland, has been our voice to the pastor and congregation of the Church of Christ who currently hold Sunday morning services in the building. Wayne obviously has a great heart for ministry, and he has demonstrated that admirably in his love and care for this church and her property. He continues to do this!

Recently several trees had to be removed along the roads bordering two sides of the

property, as they were interfering with the PGE lines. PGE worked with us in making this decision, has performed the necessary removal, and offered to replant trees in place of those removed. They gave us good recommendations of trees from which to choose; trees that would provide beauty, but not grow too fast or too big.

Wayne and I met with four neighbors in 2014, walked the property together and selected the trees. Those trees have now been planted!



The church building needs paint. Also the inside could use a good cleaning. For those ABCCPC churches that are close by, perhaps some collaborative ministry opportunities await us here!

Our American Baptist heritage is rich; and this building and the names of the families represented in the surrounding cemetery are just one part of that heritage! And it is one part of what makes me be proud to be an American Baptist!

The Board of Ministry of the American Baptist Churches of the Central Pacific Coast is contemplating experimenting with a more interactive Spring Missions Conference model for 2015. They are thinking about having two conferences, one at each end of the region. Each conference would have a hands-on project for able-bodied participants in addition to the traditional mission speakers and field reports. At this point in the planning process, we are investigating the possibility of engaging the participants in the Portland-area conference in a work project at the West Union Baptist Church.

URGENT **ARRAH WANNA NEWS**

CAMP ARRAH WANNA, INC. - VOLUME NO. 7 - ISSUE NO. 1 - FALL 2014

Dear Friends of Camp Arrah Wanna,

Camp Arrah Wanna is a powerful, dynamic, and fruitful ministry that welcomes thousands of campers and guests each year to our beautiful, forested facility. 73 years ago, Arrah Wanna was dedicated to God and His kingdom work, starting a ministry of service that, since then, has served well over 200,000 people of all ages, and from countless backgrounds, in the name of our almighty Lord. Today, we are proud to say that we continue to serve more and more people each year, and hold the same mission of Christian service: helping people experience the transforming power of God's love and find support through healthy relationships and activities.

Although the ministry at Arrah Wanna continues to grow and move forward, the financial burden of maintaining an old facility, plus the rising costs of food and operational utilities, has made it impossible for us to make ends meet. We cannot raise our rental fees to meet these excessive costs and also continue as a viable ministry, serving campers and families from all parts of the socioeconomic scale.

For many years, donations from our loyal supporters have helped cover our expenses. For this, we are SO thankful! Along with these gifts, various grants have made it possible for us to upgrade parts of our facility, and even provided scholarships for many of our ABC campers. We truly would not be doing the work we do without people like you who support this place: a place that is held dear by so many people and has changed countless lives for Christ.

Unfortunately, we find ourselves at a crossroads today. The current, while still generous, financial gifts are not enough. The donation of volunteered time by hundreds of people, and the growth we have seen over the years, has sustained us until now, but they cannot cover the gap for the future. Camp Arrah Wanna is facing a very momentous fiscal challenge. In order to confidently say that we will still be serving people in a year from now, we need your help in accomplishing a VERY big goal...

Continued on Pg. 2

How many phone calls will it take...

.....
 We're hosting a PHONE-A-THON in order to reach our goal of raising \$160,000 and securing 1,000 pledges for 2015

FRIDAY + SATURDAY, DECEMBER 5-6

But don't wait until then to contribute! We will be calling everyone on our contact list who hasn't sent a gift/pledge by December 1st... will you be on our calling list?



.....
... to keep Camp Arrah Wanna open for the long-haul?



Continued from Pg. 1

In order to keep the doors to CAW open for the long-haul, our goal is to raise \$160 thousand in donations by December 31st, AND also secure 1,000 monthly or quarterly pledges for 2016. Believe me, we know that is a LOFTY goal! We also know that our God is HUGE! He has blessed us beyond measure, and we know he will provide for our needs if CAW is meant to continue forward in ministry.

Will you prayerfully consider giving a gift now, AND following it up with a monthly pledge for 2016 and beyond? Will you help us ensure that Camp is able to continue providing a rich, memorable, and spiritually powerful camping experience for your children, grandchildren and great-grandchildren? If there ever was a time that Camp needed you most, it's now.

If you are not able to give today, don't worry - you will have another opportunity VERY shortly. We are hosting a CAW PHONE-A-TYON December 5th & 6th, and each person on our contact list, if they have not sent a gift and/or pledge by December 1st, will receive a phone call from one of our lovely volunteers.

Many people have the misconception that if they can't give "big money", then their gift won't help. That is simply NOT true. There are over 1,600 people on our contact list, and it is growing as we speak. If 1,000 of those people each gave \$50-\$100 today, and \$20-\$50 per month starting in January, then we would be WELL on our way to securing the financial future of Camp Arrah Wanna and God's ministry here. Will you please consider being one of those 1,000 people?

In His service - Laura Young, Executive Director



**Yes! I want to provide support for
Camp Arrah Wanna, Inc.**

All donations are tax deductible.



Camp Arrah Wanna, Inc. - Page

Like Us on Facebook



Name: _____ Phone: _____

Email: _____

Mailing Address: _____

Enroll me as a Camp Arrah Wanna Financial Partner! I will support camp now with a gift of \$ _____ and continue with a monthly gift of \$ _____.

I would like to increase/continue my current pledge and give \$ _____ on a monthly basis.

I am enclosing a one-time gift in the amount of \$ _____

Donate online by clicking our "Donate Now" link on: www.camparrahwanna.org

Longer Winter Camp

We're hosting ONE, BIG, LONG-WEEKEND this year for Winter Camp! All ages will enjoy some worship together, but have program activities and Bible studies with their own age groups. It's going to be a GREAT weekend of exploring the theme *Don't Stop Believin'* and studying what the Bible says about God's promises in the book of Job

JANUARY 16-19, 2015 FRIDAY-MONDAY

\$180 for High School & Middle School
\$140 for Elementary

\$10 DISCOUNT for registration forms in the CAW office on or before December 8th (\$150 / \$130)

Find Info & Forms on our website too:

www.campparrahwanna.org/programs



2015 DATES TO KEEP IN MIND

2015 Summer Camps

High School: July 6-10
Middle School: July 20-24
Elementary: July 27-31
Primary: July 24-26

Adult & Family Camp

August 28-31, 2015

Camp Reunion & Open House

Sunday, August 30, 2015

CAMP BOARD SEEKS VOLUNTEER MEMBERS

By Tom McClellan
President

CAW is led by a volunteer Board of Directors comprised almost entirely of ABC-CPC church members. The group includes people with an incredible heart for the life-changing ministry of Camp and a personal devotion to protecting its natural beauty and preserving its facilities. It's a "labor of love" that demonstrates the true meaning of stewardship by drawing upon our time, talents, and financial resources.

We're currently recruiting to fill vacancies on the Board. We strive for a diverse blend of people from different churches and geographic areas. The group meets 3-5 times per year in Salem, Portland, at Camp, or via the web. We especially need people with skills and experiences in property management, fundraising, camping ministry, and nonprofit leadership. If you think you might be interested, please contact us via telephone or email. We'd love to talk with you about serving in this way!

The Board envisions a time where the Camp's operating expenses are completely covered by rental group fees, camper registrations, private foundation grants,

individual gifts, and local church support. We're not there yet, but we've made tremendous strides in the past few years, while also making critical long-term investments in the infrastructure (water, sewer, septic) and facilities (pool, bathhouse, Lodge, etc). There is much more to do, and we're making progress with each step that we take.

I'm so very proud to lead a group that is so committed to a common purpose and works so well together. Our Board cares deeply about ensuring that this beautiful place by the river is operated and maintained for God's glory and the Spirit's working inside everyone who visits. We're especially thankful for our employees who work so hard throughout the year to keep the buildings and grounds clean, register and support guest groups, and enable our youth summer/winter camps. We are blessed to have a great team working at Camp that ensures it's ready for our next visit to the mountain!

Please give prayerful consideration to serving as a volunteer on our Camp Board!

Home, Sweet Home!

by Mike Socia, Executive Director, Redwood Glen

How would you feel if Redwood Glen were to close its doors forever? Sounds terrible doesn't it?

Recently someone asked me, "How many people call Redwood Glen their home?" He was really asking how many people lived and worked at Redwood Glen on a year round basis. The question caused me to think about all the folks who have visited the camp over the years and had their lives affected significantly while on the grounds. Many guests consider Redwood



Glen their home. Each year thousands of people visit our friendly facilities, experience the awesome beauty of the redwood forest, and when combined with a powerful message of God's love, are spiritually changed. This has been happening for 56 years.

Although our water crisis is not over, we are making significant strides to guarantee quality potable water for the future of Redwood Glen. During the past five months, I have been so consumed with our water situation that I have not focused on

the Rooted for Renewal Capital Campaign which is so important to the sustainability of Redwood Glen.

If you remember, in October 2004, Growing Healthy Churches decided to sell Redwood Glen. In an effort to continue its vibrant ministry, the board of directors borrowed \$2,000,000 from a very generous local family trust to purchase this wonderful facility. On December 31, 2017, a balloon payment of \$1,300,000 will be due. The primary reason for the campaign is to repay that loan but to also do some much needed renovation. The fund-raising effort has now been in progress for more than a year and to date we have received \$86,191 in gifts with \$264,160 in pledges for a total of \$350,351 toward our goal.

We are now experiencing an urgency to rejuvenate the campaign.

How can you help?

- (a) Check out the "Rooted for Renewal" at <http://redwoodglen.com/about/Rooted.html>.
- (b) Give generously to the campaign.
- (c) Host an information party at your house or church.
- (d) Introduce one of the Redwood Glen staff to a potential donor.
- (e) Pass this information on to others who also call Redwood Glen their home.

God is not finished with us yet. We still have much ministry left to do. Please help support the Capital Campaign so you and others can call Redwood Glen home for many years to come. For more information, www.redwoodglen.com or email us at info@redwoodglen.com

The Latest on the Water Crisis at Redwood Glen

Labor Day capped the unofficial end of summer at Redwood Glen with a large and successful church family camp. The schedule then changed a bit to fewer mid-week groups with most of our usage on weekends. Water needs lessened somewhat and our water deliveries have been able to keep up with our needs. Yes, we still are receiving bulk water deliveries and will continue to do so until we get our water filtration system in operation. Your continued support continues to be very important to us. As a reminder, one load of water is 1,200 gallons and costs \$350. During this time of year, we need about 20,000 gallons of drinking water per week. (Continued on Page 7)

Redwood Glen Water Crisis (Continued from Page 6)

Our new filtration system is in the permitting process and preliminary plans are being made to construct a 10'X12' structure to cover it. We have just found out that our existing wells do not meet the new regulations for the annular seal that encases the well shaft. Our seal goes 30' down and the new criteria requires a 50' seal. This means that we will have to drill a new well and we are currently in conversation with a well drilling company. Every time we begin to move forward with this project, we hit a roadblock but God is not finished with us yet and is encouraging us to continue the battle. When this is finished, Redwood Glen will have quality potable water well into the future.

The costs are rising quickly however. It is now anticipated that the cost of the filtration system will be around \$50,000 and the drilling of the well about \$40,000. This is not to mention the fact that we are still purchasing bulk water to cover the needs of staff and guests. We have applied for state grants with no success to this juncture but we are hopeful that God will provide donors to move us ahead.

Again, the support of churches, individuals and organizations will be critical as we move ahead to eliminate our water crisis.

Please consider supporting Redwood Glen during our water crisis. Send a check, noted with "water", to Redwood Glen, 100 Wright Drive, Loma Mar, CA 94021.

If you interested in helping to financially underwrite our new water plant, please email us at info@redwoodglen.com.



Redwood Glen Summer Camping Theme: rethink Your Drink

In John 4, the Samaritan woman asks Jesus a question, "How do you quench your thirst? Kids today have lots of options for finding gratification: video games, dance classes, sports, the internet, cell phones, school, friends, and the list goes on.

In time, these things can seem dry and empty, and leave them thirsting for more. As he did for the Samaritan woman, Jesus offers

us something more, something better, something fulfilling — the gift of "Living Water" through a relationship with Him. This summer, we will discover how to find spiritual refreshment through Jesus Christ.

Is it time for you to "rethink your drink"?

Jesus answered, "But whoever drinks the water I give them will never thirst. Indeed, the water I give them will become in them a spring of water welling up to eternal life."

REDWOOD GLEN SUMMER CAMPS

- Discovery Camp (completing grades 2-5) = June 14-19
- Children's Music And Drama Camp (completing grades 2-5) = June 22-27
- Middle School Encounter Camp (completing grades 6-8) = June 22-27
- Jr. Adventure Camp (completing grades 4-6) = July 6-11
- Youth Music And Drama Camp (completing grades 6-12) = July 6-11
- Sr. High Camp (completing grades 9-12) = July 12-17 (EXTRA DAY!)

For more information, check out our website: <http://redwoodglen.com/summer/index.htm>.
Registration for camp opens in December. Questions? program@redwoodglen.com.

Workshop: Leading with Soul, Lasting through Advent
with Margaret Marcuson and Margaret Benefiel
December 15, 2014

Are you worn out by December?

In twenty-first century Western culture, church leaders are rewarded for their drive, decisiveness, productivity, and long work hours. Is church leadership a recipe for burnout? How can leaders last? There's a way to approach ministry that's sustainable: leaders can learn to focus on themselves and the resources they bring to their leadership rather than trying harder to help, fix or change others. What would it look like for a leader to cultivate the inner life, to step off the treadmill, to take time apart for personal reflection? What would leadership arising from a core of spiritual groundedness and compassion look like?

Outcomes:

- Learn what soulful leadership is, how it is manifested in practice, and the times you already have led with soul.
- Learn how to sustain yourself through the ups and downs of church life.
- Learn how to respond to challenges with clarity, calm, and creativity.
- Reawaken your dreams and learn how to make them become reality.
- Learn how individual and organizational transformation dovetail and support one another.
- Learn the power of gratitude in an organization.

Take a few hours for yourself this Advent. Join us for Leading with Soul.

- Monday, December 15, 9:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.
- Location: First Baptist Church of Portland, 909 SW 11th Avenue, Portland, Oregon
- Register at <http://smtx.co/1t5g3Yv>, or e-mail Margaret@margaretmarcuson.com, or call 503-701-7621 for more information

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