

the ESSENGER

American Baptist Churches of Nebraska



April-May 2009

ABC/NE Date Data

Tri-Region Pastors Event
Sioux Falls
April 20-22

Volunteer Work Days at
Moses Merrill—May 3-9

Personnel Committee
April 30

Dept. of Professional Ministry
May 4

Dept. of Camps & Conferences
May 9

Dept of Mission and Dept. of Finance
May 16

ABC/NE Executive Committee
May 16

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EASTER BLESSINGS



**I am the resurrection
and the life**

*This year, allow the refreshing,
renewing blessings of the
resurrection to fill your life to
overflowing. Then share the joy
with others. It's good news!*

Speakers Announced For ABC/NE Family Reunion



Rev. Eddie Cruz

Rev. Eddie Cruz will be the keynote speaker for the ABC/NE Family Reunion (annual convention) September 18-20. Cruz is Assoc. Exec. Director for Mission Interpretation and Development for ABC's National Ministries.

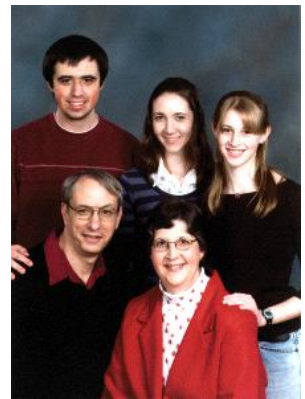
Born and raised in Chicago, Cruz is well acquainted with that city's mean streets. Even as a youth, he had the gift of leadership, but he was leading in the wrong direction as leader of a gang. God directed his steps, and, at 17, he walked into North Shore Spanish Baptist Church. There he met and was inspired by the words of Rev. Modesto Lopez, a man who, to this day, remains one of his heroes. "It was a transformational moment in my life, and I made the decision to change. It was difficult because there are always people in your life who don't want you to change," he says. "I faltered at times, but little by little, Christ kept stripping away the old

me." Rev. Cruz graduated from Judson College and Northern Baptist Seminary.

Duane Binkley will also speak at the Family Reunion. Duane and his wife, Marcia, serve Burmese ethnic Karen and Chin refugees both in the United States and Thailand. The Binkleys work with the tens of thousands of refugees coming to the U.S. while continuing to work with those still remaining in refugee camps along the Thai-Myanmar (Burma) border.

Duane has been working with ABC of Nebraska in helping connect with Karen refugees living in Nebraska. Currently Karen people are worshipping at both First Baptist Omaha and First Baptist Lincoln. The Omaha group has requested recognition as an ABC congregation.

The ABC/NE Family Reunion will be held at the Holiday Inn Convention Center in Kearney. The theme of the convention is "The Joy of the Lord."



Missionary Duane Binkley & family

From the Executive Minister Susan Gillies

TRANSITIONS

Life is composed of transitions. We grow. We learn. We age. And even when we have no desire to "transition," it happens anyway. New technology becomes old. My HGTV (home & garden) programs talk about "dated" kitchens and they look new to me. I become comfortable with my ultra modern cell phone only to learn it has become an antique.

But transitions can also be exciting. Growth at Moses Merrill is a great thing. Those of us who loved the Fullerton location have come to treasure Linwood. We see the ministry changing lives and we rejoice.

Pastors leave and we think "It will never be the same!" and then we come to realize it doesn't need to be the same. We are growing, the church is developing, God is with us.

I grew up in a church named Immanuel. It means "God with us." It's the greatest reminder as we deal with life's transitions. Nothing can separate us from the love of God.

With this issue of The Messenger we say "Farewell" and "Godspeed" to our Associate Executive Minister for Mission Development, Steve Bills. Steve served the ABC of Nebraska for a little over six years. Prior to serving the region, he was Minister of Outreach at First Baptist of Omaha.

We give thanks to God for the many ways Steve has enriched the ministry of our region. Certainly the most widely known is the ministry at the Sturgis Motorcycle Rally every summer. The ABC Emergency Services Center will continue its tremendous work as a joint project of ABC/NE and ABC of the Dakotas.

Steve provided staff support for the ABC/NE Department of Mission and, along with Dave Lundholm, the Department of Church Vitality. He was certified in evangelism as a "Got Style" trainer. He encouraged stewardship in our churches. He was a leader in the Building Bridges Campaign. He staffed local church pastoral search committees. For many years he was registrar for the annual ABC/NE Family Reunion. And, he did a multitude of tasks that never make it to any formal job description. These we will probably miss the most!

We will miss his energy, his passion for helping people find Jesus, his versatility and flexibility. We will miss(?) his jokes and horrible puns. Coffee break will be a bit dull.

Steve's new ministry is as Executive Minister of the ABC of Oregon. His office is in Portland.

Godspeed, good friend. God is with you and with us in this transition. Immanuel!



From the "departing" Associate Executive Minister Steve Bills

The Wind of Change is Blowing

As many deduced from my article in the February/March issue of The Messenger entitled "Life is But a Series of Transitions," the wind of change is blowing. By the time this issue reaches your mailboxes I will have assumed my new responsibilities with the American Baptist Churches of Oregon.

When we arrived in Nebraska a dozen years ago we were greeted by a church family that did everything in its power to make that transition smooth, enjoyable, and rewarding. First Baptist Church of Omaha was, and is, a gracious family of committed followers of Jesus Christ desiring to make a significant impact on its world. When Trudi and I worshipped there last week we were again reminded of the special place it is, and of the special people who make it so.

Almost immediately after getting settled in at FBC/O I was privileged to participate in the wider ABC/Nebraska family through my involvement in its departments and boards. It was there that I began to appreciate more fully the breadth and depth of our American Baptist heritage and family.

A few years later, when the opportunity arose for me join the staff of our region, it became my good fortune to work even more



closely with colleagues who have made going to work never really seem like work. Each of them have taught me a great deal and have helped to shape me into someone significantly different than the person I was when I arrived.

This last month has been a wonderful time of reminiscing as

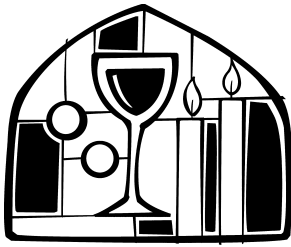
Trudi and I have prepared to transition to the next stage in our journey. We are blessed to have been here, and are strengthened for the adventure that lies before us by the people and experiences that we have known in Nebraska.

ABC of Oregon is a region very similar to ABC of Nebraska. There are about the same number of churches and members. There is a strong appreciation for the ministry of camping. The culture and values feel very

familiar. And because of the influence that you all have had on us, as we influence them, the similarities will become even more evident.

Thank you all for being a significant part of our journey. May God's richest blessings be upon each of you.





Pastors Invited to Tri-Region Event

“Leaders Who Last”

ABC Pastors in Nebraska, the Dakotas and Mid-America (MN, IA) will gather in Sioux Falls, SD, April 20-22. The reason is the Tri-Region Pastors Continuing Education Event. This year's theme is: *Leaders Who Last: Sustaining Yourself and Your Ministry.*”

Speakers include Margaret Marcuson and Dr. David May. An ABC pastor, Marcuson speaks and writes on leadership and works with faith leaders nationally as a consultant/coach through her company Marcuson Leadership Circle, based in Portland, Oregon. David May has taught at Central Baptist Theological Seminary since 1994. He also serves as an Adjunct Doctoral faculty member for the Univ. of Missouri-Kansas City interdisciplinary program in Religion. He has distinguished himself as a popular speaker, Bible teacher, and preacher.

This gathering is sponsored by the regions and the region Ministers Councils. Registration is made through the region office.

Kachin People From Across the USA Gather at Moses Merrill

Memorial Day Weekend, Moses Merrill Camp & Conference Center will host a gathering of Kachin people from across the country. The First Kachin Baptist Church of America in Omaha will host this 13th Kachin Christian Family Camp. It is the second time the camp has been held at Moses Merrill.

During the weekend, the group will travel to Oakland, NE, to honor missionary Ola Hanson. Dr. Hanson and his wife served the Kachin people for 40 years. The Hansons are buried in the Oakland cemetery. The Kachin people will replace the grave marker on the Hanson gravesite with a new marker incorporating Kachin symbols. The dedication service at the Oakland Cemetery will take place at 3pm Saturday afternoon.

Executive Minister Susan Gillies reports the first time she met Kachin Pastor Gam Lahpai, he told her the grave marker for Ola Hanson was not adequate. “He explained that the Kachins would raise money to erect a more fitting memorial for the man who gave the Kachins an alphabet and translated the scriptures for them.”

A large portrait of Ola Hanson hangs in Calvary Lodge in the Ward Conference Center at Moses Merrill.



First Kachin Baptist Church leaders, guided the dancers at a traditional Kachin dance at Moses Merrill several years ago. This dance will be reenacted this year. Expected times for the dance are 9am on 5/23 and 1pm on 5/24. Everyone is invited.

Karen Church Leaders Request Affiliation with ABC/NE

Large numbers of Karen people have settled in Omaha and Lincoln. Karens are another Burmese tribal group from a different part of Burma from the Kachins. The group currently worshipping at FBC, Omaha, have requested recognition as an ABC congregation. The name of the church is American Baptist Karen Congregation. They will be welcomed into the family at the Family Reunion in September.

AB Women's Ministries & ABGirls Look Toward Annual Conference



Women and girls from across Nebraska will gather at Moses Merrill for their annual conferences June 5-7.

The conferences provide time for fellowship, learning, and fun along with special times of worship. The conferences are open to women and girls from

ABC/NE churches and their friends.

This year Moses Merrill will feature its famous salad buffet for the women. Recipes will be available for the wide array of salads. Manager MaryBeth Robertson says, “We’ve been reviewing dozens of church cookbooks to find the best salad recipes.”

The featured speaker will be Jane Smith, Tulsa, OK.

To register, contact Moses Merrill 1-402-666-5639.

ABC Trivia (answers on page eight)

1. Who was Adoniram Judson? A. an ABC/NE region exec, B. former president of ABC/NE, C. missionary, C. ABC-USA President.
2. How many wives did he have over the course of his life? A. one, B. two, C. three, D. four.
3. Which of the following is a book about him? A. Leading Baptists, B. A Light to the Nations, C. To A Golden Shore, D. Preaching Today
4. What was his affiliation before he became Baptist? A. Catholic, B. Methodist, C. Congregational, D. Episcopal
5. What made him switch affiliations? A. Better pay, B. An invitation in worship, C. reading the Bible, D. He liked the people better.



FBC Kearney Group Travels to Holy Land

A group of 40 people mostly from FBC, Kearney, traveled to the Holy Land in February. They spent 4 days in Egypt and 10 days in Israel. The group was led by Pastor Stan and Pam Murdoch. Highlights of the trip included a baptism service for 22 of the travelers. While this picture is too small to pick out folks you know, it does give an idea of the entire group. More information about the trip can be found on the church website. There is a link at www.abcnebraska.com

Riverside Names Pastor Emeritus

The congregation of Riverside Baptist Church voted to make the Rev. Harland T. Minscer Pastor Emeritus. A formal presentation and reception was held in February.

Pastor Beverly Melchor-Young approach the region with questions about how to establish a pastor emeritus. Following discussions, the church took the necessary action.

Rev. Minscer has completed a number of Interim Pastor assignments and will probably continue that work. But when he is "home" he will be at Riverside.

What Is a Pastor Emeritus?

Generally, a pastor emeritus is a retired pastor who is honored with this title after having served a congregation for at least 10 years. Often the pastor will have been retired and away from the church for 5 years before the honor is bestowed. The title is honorary and does not include specific expectations. Because each case is unique, Region staff can assist a church thinking about taking this action. There are many variations on this practice. It is good to have a letter of understanding between the pastor emeritus and the church. Again, Region staff can assist.

NATIONAL MINISTRIES CALLS ABC FAMILY TO JOIN IN 'MOBILIZATION TO END POVERTY'

Thousands of Christians will gather April 26-29 in Washington, D.C., to raise awareness about poverty. Hosted by Sojourners, the "Mobilization to End Poverty" represents one of the largest anti-poverty coalitions today: Lead sponsors include Convoy of Hope, ONE, Wesley Theological Society, World Vision and National Ministries, American Baptist Churches USA. National Ministries invites American Baptists across the country to join in this historic effort.

Participants will share in education, worship, community and activism, meeting with Congressional leaders and learning how to be more effective locally. National Ministries "boldly joins arms" with other lead partners in this movement, says Executive Director Dr. Aidsand F. Wright-Riggins III. "Since 1832, one of the highest missional priorities of The American Baptist Home Mission Societies, which carries out mission today as National Ministries, has been to address the needs of those living at the margins of our society who are so vulnerable to socioeconomic variables that can render them destitute."

Through participation in the "Mobilization to End Poverty," National Ministries joins with others in raising a collective voice with and on behalf of people in our communities struggling with the negative effects of poverty.

Because National Ministries is a sponsoring partner of the mobilization, American Baptists can register at www.sojonet/mobilization/abc for the reduced rate of \$199. More information about the mobilization is available at www.sojonet

Book of Timothy



"This is my third funeral today. I'm auditioning preachers."

Nola's Take Five . . .

Ideas from Nola Oberhelman
ABC/NE Christian Education Consultant

Take five helps for unspoiling children:

1. Commit to the task.
2. Be the boss.
3. Say exactly what you mean.
4. Don't bargain.
5. Give less.

from Richard Bromfield's *How To Unspoil Your Child Fast*

Parkside Hosts Recognition Service for Two Ordinations

A service was held March 8 at Parkside Baptist Church in Omaha to give ABC/NE recognition to two ordinations. The Rev. Dr. Onnie Drain, Pastor of Parkside and Rev. Dylon Young, Associate at Strangers Rest Missionary Baptist Church in Bellevue were honored for completing the process of obtaining ABC recognition of their ordinations. The two had worked with the ABC/NE Dept of Professional Ministry to fulfill the requirements.

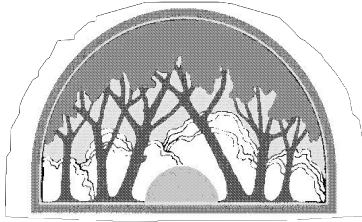
The speaker for the service was the Rev. Dr. Michael Friday of New Life Baptist in Bellevue. The choir from New Life sang, as did the children of Rev. Young, and Anne Soderlund of Parkside.

It's Scholarship Time . . .

ABC/NE students considering the Univ. of Sioux Falls should contact the region office. Trustee Floretta Ward will recommend them for Trustee Scholarships.

Pastors or persons seeking to become ABC pastors may apply for Carpenter Scholarships for seminary. Funds are limited. Contact the Region Office.

Seminarians may also apply for the AB Men's Scholarship. Go to www.abcnebraska.com and click on American Baptist Men.



Moses Merrill News

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BREAKTHROUGH!

Summer 2009 at Moses Merrill Will Be Awesome!

At Moses Merrill Camp & Conference Center, the highlight of the year is the summer camping program for children and youth. Weeklong camps are offered for all age groups: Junior (grades 4-6), Middle High (grades 7-9), and Senior High (grades 10-12). Also offered are two Music & Drama (MAD) Camps.

In addition to the weeklong camps, two weekend Primary Camps orient children entering grades 2 & 3 (and their parents) to a camp setting. Primary Camp prepares youngsters for the camp adventures that await in years to come!

Camp programming is designed to provide everyone with a complete experience that includes all the traditional recreational activities such as hiking, swimming, and horseback riding, along with organized times of study and worship.



2009 THEME:

BREAKTHROUGH!

This year at camp, the theme is Breakthrough! Each camper will be invited to "breakthrough" to new ways of seeing people and situations. Each will have the opportunity to "breakthrough" to a new level of Bible understanding, Christian friendships and spiritual growth.

The purpose of Moses Merrill's ministry is simple - to lead our young people into a personal relationship with Jesus Christ, and to challenge them to develop spiritually and as individuals. The ministry is intentionally relational, focusing on one's relationship with God, with one's self, and with others. Wholesome relationships are encouraged and nurtured, and life-long friendships are common!



Volunteers are needed:

- Cabin leaders at camps
- Maintenance & building helpers
- Caring for plants and shrubs
- Kitchen helpers
- Office workers

Contributors are needed:

Camp scholarships — there are children & youth who want to come to camp but don't have the money. Could you help?

From Camp Cat:

I love spring! It is great to see camp come to life. I like having more people around. May 3-9 are Work Project Days. I really hope you'll come. You can paint or plant flowers or repair things or clean or cook or entertain me. Usually the people who come for Work Days are the most interesting people.

I want to remind you to get the kids in your church signed up for summer camp. We sure appreciate those who can provide scholarships.

We had some coyote visitors during the winter but I think they are gone now. I really have to stay alert when they are here. The deer and turkey don't bother me. We had a stray dog here for a few days. Yuk! Clarence had to feed me on the deck of his house. The deer didn't like it either and went deeper into the forest. But the dog has now gone to a good home in Fremont and things are back to normal. Life is good. Come see me! —Camp Cat



From the Associate Executive Minister Dave Lundholm

I Lost My Job...Does God Still Love Me?

I haven't told this story to many people. I think it's time to tell it now. When I graduated from UNO in 1971 my career path was clear. My life work was to be an Air Force officer. I was commissioned as a second lieutenant and was promoted to first lieutenant eighteen months later. I was right on track for my future. Then in 1975, I was notified that as part of the reduction in force at the end of the Vietnam War my services were no longer needed. I had not only lost my job but my career, my future.

I was in total panic. I thought about going back to UNO to complete a graduate degree in psychology but every time my thoughts turned to that direction I was frozen just as if I was having some kind of anxiety attack. I thought about applying for a civil service job in personnel (the same kind of job I was doing in the Air Force) but when I did once again, panic.

I was stuck so I went to talk to my pastor. After I explained my situation, the first words out of his mouth were "Have you ever considered the ministry?" I responded "No," and that was (I thought) the end of the conversation.

Over the ensuing weeks, when I thought of UNO, I panicked. When I thought of civil service, I panicked. But when I thought of ministry, absolute peace came. For me, the loss of my job meant the beginning of a life-work of ministry. For me, the loss of my job was an expression of God's love to me guiding me to a much better and rewarding life than I could ever have imagined.

So I believe that if you have lost your job, God loves you so much that God will guide you to a future that is much better than the one you had in mind.

In John 10:10 Jesus says "...I have come that they may have life, and have it to the full." We can trust that promise even when we've lost our job.



Christian Camping . . .

It's Important . . . to YOU!

Nowadays, there are all kinds of camps. A child or young person can attend day camp, week-long camp, all-summer camp. They can go to basketball camp, computer camp, Y-camp, biology camp, math camp, arts camp, etc. Many of these are terrific experiences. But they are not substitutes for Christian camps like Camp Merrill.

Here are testimonies from Camp Merrill veterans:

"Camp Merrill played a large role in my making a decision for Christ at age 13 and enhanced the seeds of faith my home church had sown. At 19 I accepted a call to ministry while serving as a Camp Counselor (Group Leader) in 1984 - Bob Molby was the Coordinator." — Rev. Kevin Walden, Miracle Hills, Omaha

"Camp Merrill is one of our greatest opportunities to combine stewardship and evangelism, would you give \$240 to reach a young person for Christ, thankfully our people have responded with a resounding yes!!!!" — Rev. Robin Stoops, FBC, Norfolk

"Camp Merrill was a part of my childhood and youth, from what may have been the first years of Camp at Fullerton, NE. Friendships begun there stayed with me through my college and adult years ... one even remains now into my 70s. But, while these were very important, the growth in my thinking on faith issues was critical. While I grew up in a deeply Christian home, active in Sunday School and Church activities, the experience of Camp brought an intensity of relationship with my Savior that was exceptional." — Judie Gillies Heller, member, Benson, Omaha

"Camp Moses Merrill has been a tremendous outreach and ministry for our local church. Several of our youth have begun a walk of faith at camp and others have brought unchurched friends so that they too might be enriched by the fun, and fellowship, and encounter the redemptive power of Christ through the Bible Study, personal discipleship, and the clear signature of God in the beauty of the camp itself.

At camp many years ago we were asked at a camp fire to listen for the call of God to "full time Christian Service". I answered that call not having a clue that it would mean serving as Pastor in an ABC church in Nebraska. Maybe that is why I long to see our camps full of youth who might hear that same voice speaking to them." — Rev. Irv Jennings, Arnold

I never had the opportunity to go to camp as a child. When I was in my 30's a former youth minister at my church asked me to go as a cabin leader. I told him I didn't even know what I could do there when I'd never been as a youth. He encouraged me and said I would do great. I said yes and learned how to lean on God to get me through things and deal with children in a positive manner. It taught me Philippians 4:13. When things get tough in any situation, I know I can rely on him to get me through it. I fell in love with the camping experience and believe every person young and old should have the experience.

—Denise Nutter, member, North Platte

"My experience at Moses Merrill was one of experiencing servant leadership. We were there to serve those who were serving as program leaders. We were there to serve the campers and, through it all to serve with and alongside Christ as He gave Himself totally for all of us. We were there to be stewards of that wonderful place we call Camp Moses Merrill!

—Bob Molby, retired pastor

And why is Christian camping important to you? Wouldn't you like to live in a world with as many strong, healthy Christians as possible? Wouldn't you like to know that the children and youth in your church and in the ABC/NE have the very best training and growth opportunities for their lives of faith? **It does make a difference.**

Would you help someone attend camp this year? Contact camp or the region office.

LOCAL CHURCH NEWS . . . Featuring four ABC/NE churches

Benson Baptist Church Omaha, NE

Benson Baptist Church is a leading teaching church and the third largest American Baptist Church in Nebraska. It is located in the Benson area of Omaha.

The church was started by Christine Johnson as a Sunday School outreach in Benson.

Rev. Paul Marine has been pastor since 1996. He is also music director. Assistant Pastor Josh Klein began in 2008.

Benson Baptist is a leader in mission. **In 2008 it gave more than any other ABC/NE church to United Mission.** While, at the same time, it responded to multiple opportunities for mission on its own doorstep. The church operates a food pantry which serves over 200 families. The church also encourages members to find their own ministry in daily life. Several members are engaged in specific mission work.

Every Sunday at Benson, there are two worship services in English and one in Nuer for Sudanese immigrants. The church encourages a sister church in Nasir, Sudan.

The congregation puts great energy into children's ministry and senior's ministry . . . "and everything in between!"

Each year the church holds a Mission Fair. The Family Life Center is filled with displays and exhibits so that new (and old) members can learn about the variety of ministry opportunities and decide where they can join in.

The church is strongly committed to being the "hands & feet of Jesus" in both outside and inside the church.

Palestine Baptist Church St. Edwards, NE

The Church with A HEART FOR MISSION & LOVE TO SHARE:

That's what region staff think when they think of Palestine Baptist Church. This small church is one of three "open country" churches in the ABC of Nebraska. Located near St. Edwards, NE, the church building sits on a hill midst corn fields. Pastor Carl Edwards has served the church for over 11 years.

A special quality of this small congregation is that they are committed to the wider mission of Christ through our ABC/NE family. Palestine is #1 in total giving to Love Gift. It is #1 in per capita giving to United Mission. It is #1 in per capita giving to total American Baptist Mission Support.

In Love Gift, the congregation gives, per capita, more than four times what the #2 church gives. In United Mission, Palestine gives, per capita, 60% more than the #2 church.

From the beginning when Harriet Eliza Hanchett gathered family and neighbors in a sod house in 1879 to organize the church and Sunday School, Palestine Baptist has had a deep commitment to mission. From stories of filling missionary barrels with clothing for mission work in Omaha years ago, to vigorous support today of American Baptist mission work around the world, Palestine Baptist has always been about the Lord's business.



Strangers Rest Missionary Baptist Bellevue

Strangers Rest Missionary Baptist Church in Bellevue is one of the youngest churches in ABC/NE. Founded in 1998 as an outreach of Omaha's Salem Baptist by Rev. T. S. Gilliam, the church meets in a storefront location. The church focuses its efforts on outreach and the strengthening of each of its members in the faith. Revivals are an annual part of life at Strangers Rest.

Prior to planting Strangers Rest, Pastor Gilliam planted a church in Norfolk. It was there he met Frank Armstrong who was pastor at FBC, Norfolk. Armstrong encouraged him to consider becoming a part of American Baptist life. It took a few years but Pastor Gilliam decided affiliation with the ABC family was a positive step and Strangers Rest entered ABC/NE.

It is a particular joy to the church that one of their members, Rev. Dylan Young has not only been ordained by the local church but has been through the process of ABC recognition of his ordination administered by the ABC/NE Dept. of Professional Ministry. Rev. Young attended the Orientation to ABC Life Conference at Green Lake last October. He was honored at a special service of recognition of ordination held at Parkside Baptist in March.

Pastor Gilliam refers to the congregation as the CIA—"church in action." He says, "We're small but powerful!" Currently the church is engaged in Operation PAW. From seeing a lion on Discovery Channel, the church liked the image of disciples who are Practicing, Anointed and Witnessing, gently drawing in others. Gilliam says, "I say "anointed" because we can't do this ministry without the Holy Spirit." Amen!

First Baptist Church Chadron, NE

Located in the beautiful northwestern corner of Nebraska, First Baptist of Chadron has been ministering in its community since 1887.

The main church building is located within walking distance of Chadron State College. The church has frequently during its history been a place of spiritual development for college students. This history is being given new life by a new Bible study group. Recently the church began a ministry for college age students that includes a weekly Bible Study and a home cooked meal.

The men of the church have started a new men's group called "Building Men of Faith."

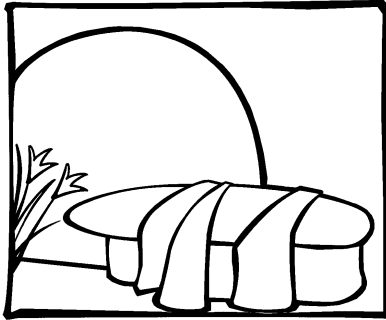
The women have added a group called S.O.S. (Serving others sacrificially by Serving our Savior) that is undertaking a mission outreach project every month.

Pastor Brad Daniels writes, "God is moving in mighty ways here in Chadron and the excitement level among the people here is ever increasing. We are truly looking forward to the next great thing God is going to do through us."

The church also is at work through a satellite church, Kenwood Chapel, located in another part of Chadron. The chapel has regular worship every Sunday and has been a part of the ministry of FBC for years.

The church believes in mission—regionally as well as internationally. **The church ranks in the ABC/NE top ten in both total giving to United Mission and per capita giving to UM.**

ABC/NE is alive and well through the ministry of Benson, Palestine, Strangers Rest and Chadron!



Spread the word:

WE ARE

PEOPLE OF THE

GOOD NEWS !!

Two New Reps Serve ABC/Nebraska

ABC/NE welcomes two representatives from denominational entities.

Paul Weers who was our representative from the American Baptist Foundation has become our representative of the Ministers & Missionaries Benefit Board (MMBB).

John Sundquist has been appointed our representative from the American Baptist Foundation.

Trivia Answers:

(from page three)

1. C. He was the first overseas missionary from America. He served in Burma.
2. C. 3 The first two died, the third outlived him.
3. C. *To A Golden Shore* (it's good, read it! A newer biography is *Trust God and Take Courage*.)
4. C. Congregational
5. C. He and his first wife read the Bible on the ship traveling to Burma. They became convinced they should be baptized and become Baptists.

ABC of Nebraska Staff

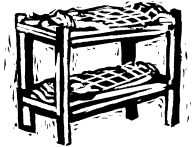
Executive Minister	Susan Gillies
Associate Executive Minister	Dave Lundholm
Director of Camping	Clarence Reiss
Manager, Moses Merrill Camp & Conference Center	MaryBeth Robertson
Camp Staff	Trudy Reiss, Barb Fisher Bob Schuelke, Denise Harris, Beverly Pacas
Office Manager	Sue Gammel
Office Assistant	Margaret Brown-Moore
Accounting Services	Jerry Buss
Christian Education Consultant	Nola Oberhelman
Church Life Consultant	A. J. Wagstaff
Pastor to Pastors (W)	Paul Kondy
Pastor to Pastors (E)	Dick Peterson
Emergency Services Consultant	Jason Workman

Camp Season is just around the corner . . .

Check out the details on p. 5

And at:

www.campmerrill.com



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