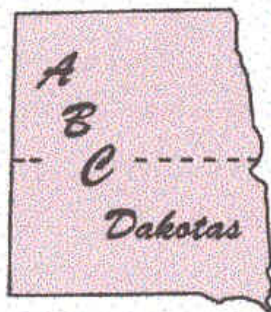




**2009
Dakota Mission
Conference**



May, 2009

To the American Baptist Churches of the Dakotas

Greetings in the Name of the Lord:

I have had the privilege of serving with Cheryl Wiebers and Mary Yonker on a committee to plan the upcoming Region **Mission Conference** which will be held **September 18-20, 2009**, at **Camp Bentley**, Drake, ND. We want to invite you and the members of your church to participate in this wonderful opportunity to meet some outstanding leaders in missions.

Our theme this year is **“Serving as the Hands and Feet of Christ”**. Throughout the weekend we will feature both regional and international ministries through the speakers who have accepted our invitation to be with us. **Dr. Deborah Bingham Van Broekhoven**, Director of the American Baptist Historical Society, will be speaking to us, as most of our churches in the Dakotas began as missions. The ABHS is the oldest Baptist historical organization (founded in 1853) with the largest and most diverse collection of Baptist historical material, some of our holdings are of irreplaceable value to the church and the nation. Others who will be sharing with us are: **Rev. Susan Omanson**, who will be speaking about her work in Thailand with missionary Annie Dieselberg, and their effort to battle sex trafficking; **Dr. Riley Walker** will be telling of his recent trip to India; **Alyssa Holmen**, an MSU student will be speaking about her trip with Campus Crusade to Taiwan; **Vitali Yuchkovski** will share his work with Russian Missions; and **Rev. Michele Bradley** from the Church of Hope in the SD Women’s Prison in Pierre, will speak of her ministry to those who are incarcerated.

Enclosed in this mailing you will find copies of the registration material and a poster to help promote the information regarding the Mission Conference with your congregation. Please make copies of the registration material...perhaps as a bulletin insert for your congregation’s convenience. Please note that there are housing options if you do not want to experience the “camping” environment.

Pastors, please set the example by registering early for the conference and encouraging your people to do so as well. We look forward to greeting you at Camp Bentley, September 18-20.

In Christ,

Ruth Skar

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