



Dakota Baptist

October-December, 2011

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ABC-USA is encouraging all of its partners to join in a spiritual endeavor called "Transformed by the Spirit." Twenty two other regions have engaged as well as a couple of national boards. Several other regions are already engaged in a similar process. In this adaptive change process we will seek to address a significant ministry issue that we do not currently have an answer for. This ABC-USA venture intersects with the results of our ABC Dakotas discernment results.

Spiritual Leadership
Strengthen Relationship with God
Do Faith

I have identified the strengthening of the exercise of spiritual gifts in ministry as our churches greatest challenge which we do not currently have an answer for.

The capacity to accomplish ministry in the local church, is getting folks to use their spiritual gifts. God gifts individuals in a congregation with spiritual gifts which will address the ministry needs that the church is called to. ABC Dakotas will seek to develop a process and provide tools for the local church to identify persons who desire identifying and using their spiritual gifts. These individuals will receive training to work in a team context and with accountability to church.

Our ABC Dakota Region Policy Board Executive committee will form Ministry Challenge Team. They will be tasked to Identify and develop a process for local churches to identify potential layer of new persons who are willing to use the spiritual gifts God has given them. We will offer our churches a process to train newly identified persons to understand their spiritual giftedness, to work as a team and assist Local church engage new workers.

A new layer of persons serving each local church will:

Empower local church to accomplish its mission
Assist Breaking out of Status Quo
Bring new eyes
Enhance Implementation
Help the church to stay engaged for life of ministry

We don't know what the process will look like or how it can be delivered to the local church. But God knows. We hope to have this team in place before the end of January 2012. Please be in prayer with us to find God's leadership in this discovery process. It will be a new thing, but it will be a good thing because God loves his church.

Riley Walker
Executive Minister

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We hope to take a group from the Dakotas to this event. Please contact Larry Lang at 605/335-4315 or Ruth Skar at 701/453-3568 if you are interested, or would like more information. This event will be in Washington DC, July 24-28, 2012. We are looking for students and chaperones to attend.

Immerse, the national gathering of American Baptist youth, will feature high-energy and transformative worship coupled with hands-on mission experiences, small group discipleship opportunities and interaction with members of the American Baptist family from across the nation. Sponsored by American Baptist Homes Mission Societies, the event is for high school and college-age youth.

What Does It Mean To Be Immersed...

Our desire is that each young person leaves Immerse with his or her HEART connected to God, MIND pondering faith and how it compels service to God and community, and SOUL at peace with itself but at war with injustice. As a participant returns home, he or she will begin actively seeking and asking others "What can I DO next?"

Immerse is for youth, ages 14-19, who are entering at least freshman year of high school. A youth may also attend if he or she is entering freshman year of high school but will not be 14 until after the conference. Immerse welcomes youth of all ecumenical walks of faith. One adult chaperone must be sent to Immerse per five youth. If at least one youth in a group is female, then at least one chaperone must be female. If at least one youth in a group is male, then at least one chaperone must be male.

The **\$399 cost for each youth participant and each adult leader includes housing, food and program.** Online registration will begin on Oct. 15, 2011. No onsite registration will be offered. All registrations must be fully paid by May 15, 2011.

For more information , email: Immerse2012@abhms.org

Like us on Facebook at Immerse: 2012 Gathering of American Baptist Youth

Follow us on Twitter at Immerse2012

www.abhms-immense2012.org

Spiritual, missional, reflective, connective, experiential and fun!!

BE FREE Ministries

Thank you for your continuing advocacy and support for Be Free. I have attached a list of ways individuals/ churches/ organizations can help us. It is very current and whatever way you can assist us is greatly appreciated!

HOW YOU CAN HELP:

1. PROVIDE personal care items for our outreach bags. We distribute regular size products. Our current needs are for: shampoo, conditioner, deodorant, body wash, tooth paste, lip balm, hand cream, tampons and panty liners. We welcome inexpensive products such as Suave and VO5.

2. DONATE hats (new), gloves, mittens, scarves, warm socks, for the women we serve. Any extras will be shared with Center of Hope or Volunteers of America, our ministry partners in the Sioux Falls area. Contact Ashley @ 605-413-3084 or email ashley.befree58@gmail.com. for more information or to schedule a drop-off.

**The above items may be dropped off at our downtown office...Sioux Falls Ministry Center on 11th St., between 1st and 2nd Avenue.

3. REFER at-risk women to the Be Free office...we are here to help! If they are single or non-custodial mothers and meet our ministry guidelines, we may have room for them at the new **Be Free Home**. At the very least, Nancy Reagan our "**Breaking Free**" coordinator will help them through community resourcing. She is an expert and has already made a huge difference in the lives of over 300 women! Contact Nancy @ n.reagan@voa-dakotas.org. for more information or to schedule an appointment.

4. SPONSOR a woman sheltered in our Be Free Home. We must cover their costs until they are employed and able to pay their housing fee. Some women are unable to work when they first enter our program because of trauma or other challenging circumstances. One month - \$300, or \$75 a week, or \$10 a day...WE NEED FINANCIAL DONATIONS TO KEEP THE DOORS OPEN! See the donation page on our website – www.befree58.org. We are a 501c3 non-profit affiliated with American Baptist Churches of the Dakotas so all properly noted donations are tax deductible.

Susan Omanson

BE FREE Ministries

www.befree58.org

(605)261-6183

Cecelia Dachtler, our ABCD president-elect, is leading a group focused on spiritual and leadership growth.

We identified a group of women who entered ministry about the same time here in the Dakotas. They have had a couple of telephone meeting and a weekend retreat, and Cecelia is encouraged and excited to be leading this program.

I look forward to what God is doing in this faithful and talented group.

Riley Walker
Executive Minister

Region Youth Events for 2012

The Judson Student Life Conference and Junior High JAM dates and locations have been set for the upcoming year.

Presidents Day weekend, **February 17 – 20, 2012** is the date for the **Judson Student Life Conference** hosted at Camp Judson. The theme for the event is **"HARD FAITH."** **Dennis Thum**, campus pastor and professor at the University of Sioux Falls, will be the **featured speaker**. Sessions will focus on defining what faith is and why it is so hard to apply that faith in practical, everyday circumstances. There will be a mission/service element planned for Saturday and Sunday will include worship and game activities that will be sure to break a sweat and crack a smile. Registration information, posters, schedules and other necessary forms will be forth coming. **Cost for the event is \$85 per person.**

Junior High JAM has been set for March 23 – 25, 2012. First Baptist in **Ipswich** will be the **host church** for the event. As always, there will be great group activities, an awesome speaker, rockin' worship and much more. **Cost for this event is \$60.** Registrations and posters will be available soon.

As always, should you have any questions, contact Larry Lang at 605-335-4315, or e-mail him at larrylang@hotmail.com, or contact the ABCD region office.



ABMen Disaster Relief, West Virginia



First Baptist Church, Bismarck, ND

Flood Relief Volunteers
Serving
Immanuel Baptist Church
Minot, ND



Wisconsin group and friends

Volunteer Flood Recovery Help at Immanuel Baptist Church, Minot ND

In the midst of all the turmoil and devastation that came with the Mouse River flood, God has done amazing things through Immanuel Baptist Church.

Minot has had help from many people across the nation this summer. The Immanuel Baptist Church family has been blessed with some of these volunteers. The ABMen Disaster Relief Team brought a group of 16 volunteers from West Virginia in August. A former Immanuel member brought a group of 15 volunteers from Wisconsin. We also had 18 volunteers from our ABC sister congregations in Bismarck, Bottineau, Glenburn, Kief, Powers Lake, and Stanley. In September, the ABMen Disaster Relief Team made a second trip from West Virginia with 9 volunteers. Many from our own church family have also helped work in flooded homes. The group from West Virginia was housed at Immanuel Baptist Church. The Wisconsin group stayed at Camp Bentley and at Immanuel. There were 21 women of Immanuel who volunteered to cook, bake, and serve the groups during their stay here. They were fed very well and had numerous goodies provided for them. They told us, *"We get treated well everywhere we go, but Immanuel has treated us exceptionally well!!"*

During the periods that the volunteer work was organized through Immanuel, we logged 4441 volunteer manhours and were able to gut out 13 homes. These are just the volunteer hours and homes that were organized through the church. Many in our congregation have spent numerous additional hours on their own homes, homes of family members, and homes of church family members.

To date, Immanuel has received \$70,018 in donated funds toward flood relief. These funds have come from various sources, including the ABC One Great Hour of Sharing offering, our ABC sister congregations, VBS offerings from First Baptist Church in Young America, Indiana and from Immanuel Baptist, the church Deacons Benevolence Fund, private donations from family and friends nationwide, and from our own church family. So far, the Diaconate Board has distributed \$59,000 to Immanuel families that have been affected by the flood. The Summersville Baptist Church of Summersville, West Virginia has also donated some very nice dinnerware to a flooded family.

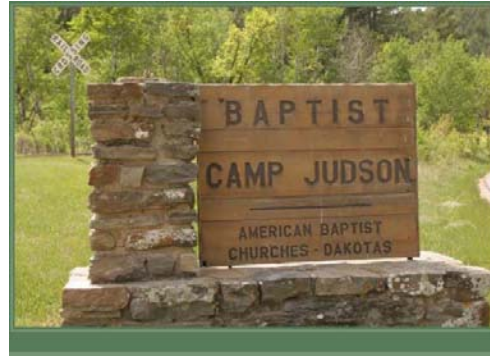
Thank you to everyone that has volunteered their precious time during this recovery process! Thank you to everyone that has donated financially to the recovery! And most importantly, Thank you to God for the wonderful blessings that He has provided during this time of turmoil! There are many, many people on the list to thank. And there are many thankful families in the Minot area. One of the families sent this thank you to us: *"I am blown away by all the help we got at the house today!! We got done what would have taken us 3 more weeks!! I am forever grateful!! Such a wonderful group of people! Thank you so very much!!"*

*Blessings,
Kim Haugen
IBC Secretary*

Ephesians 3:20-21: *"Now to Him who is able to do immeasurable more than all we ask or imagine, according to His power that is at work within us, to Him be glory in the church and in Christ Jesus throughout all generations, forever and ever! Amen."*

Camp Judson 2012 Dates

June 3-7	Project Camp
June 7-8	SD ABW Board meeting
June 8-10	SD ABW Conference
July 1-7	Family Camp #1
July 1-7	Adult Bible Conference
July 8-14	Junior Camp
July 8-14	Trail Camp
July 15-21	Junior High Camp
July 29-Aug. 4	Family Camp #2
Aug. 24-25	SD Men's Round-up



Camp Bentley 2012 Dates

May 28-June 1	Work Camp
June 1-3	ND Men's Round-up
June 8-10	ND ABW Conference
June 10-16	Senior High Camp
June 17-23	Junior High Camp
June 24-29	Junior Camp
July 6-8	Family Camp
July 13-15	Golf/Craft Camp
July 22-28	High School Camp



Strengthen Relationships with God

**He has shown you, O mortal, what is good.
And what does the LORD require of you?
To act justly and to love mercy
and to walk humbly with your God. Micah 6:8 (NIV)**



*ABC of Dakota's 11th Biennial
Emmanuel Baptist Sioux Falls
September 21-23, 2012*

Camp Judson Cabin Remodel



Camp Judson will have another newly remodeled cabin by next summer.

Cabin No. 2 is getting a facelift this winter, thanks to the time and talents of one eastern South Dakota congregation.

Members of Trent Baptist Church donated a week in early November to gut and begin remodeling the aging building.

Seven men and three youth made the trip. Three men started the project, and then another four men and their children arrived halfway through the week to finish it out.

Trent volunteers removed all the cabin's exterior walls and interior siding. They also took out the fireplace and existing bathroom. Once the old was out, it was time for the new. The group built the cabin's exterior walls, put up the rafters and shingled half of the roof. Thanks to the youngest volunteers, most of the nails were pulled from the wood.

Dave Knutson, who pastors the 150-or-so-member church southeast of Sioux Falls, said his congregation started mulling over the idea of adopting a cabin about two years ago.

"You don't to twist any arms to get people to come out to camp," he said.

Trent Baptist hopes to send another group of men after the first of the year.

Save this date!!

September 21-23, 2012

American Baptist Churches of the Dakota's Biennial

Emmanuel Baptist Church in Sioux Falls

Registration forms and more information will be coming soon.