



MINISTERS COUNCIL NEWS YOU CAN USE – PLEASE SHARE WITH YOUR NETWORKS

Joe Kutter, Acting Executive Director

July 2010

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<http://www.ministerscouncil.com/Periodicals/Publications.aspx>

~THE NEW NORMAL * PRE-BIENNIAL* JUNE 23-24* SAN JUAN, PUERTO RICO

Some things in ministry are eternal. They never change. But the context within which we do ministry has changed dramatically and there is no going back. Our current environment is THE NEW NORMAL.

The Ministers Council (Dr. Jeff Savage and Dr. Joe Kutter) with its partners from Regional Ministries (Dr. Jeff Woods), Women in Ministry (Rev. Holly Bean), The Generosity Gang (Rev. Soozie Whitten Ford), and Interim Ministries (Rev. Jamie Munroe) will present a two part pre-Biennial program that focuses on **THE NEW NORMAL**. We will gather Thursday afternoon, June 23 for our first three hour session and again Friday, June 24 for our second session.

We have tentative agreements with two outstanding leaders and hope to announce their names within a matter of days. Check the www.ministerscouncil.org for updates.

Plan to be with us in San Juan.

~WOMEN IN MINISTRY WEBPAGES

The American Baptist Women in Ministry (ABWIM) office is happy to announce the the ABWIM pages on the American Baptist web site are now much easier to visit. All you need to do is go to www.abwim.org. We are excited that you now have easier access to our web pages and plan to update them on a regular basis.

On Friday, July 23, 2010 an appeal for Phoebe's Purse was mailed to American Baptist women in ministry. Enclosed with it is our new ABWIM brochure. We hope for an enthusiastic and generous response! Please contact the ABWIM office (joyce.lake@abc-usa.org or holly.bean@abc-usa.org) for additional copies of the mailing.

Don't forget that Rev. Chris Smith's blog at <http://shepastor.blogspot.com> is regularly updated. Be sure to check it out and join the conversation, to "learn from, lift and encourage one another."

~TWO NEW JUDSON PRESS TITLES FOR CHURCHES

[Church Programs & Celebrations for All Generations](#) by Rachel Gilmore is a comprehensive resource for every church that seeks ideas for bringing together believers of all ages and backgrounds. With 30 complete programs and free additional online material, there's something for liturgical days, traditional church events, Hallmark holidays, outreach programs, and cross-cultural celebrations.

Sam O'Neal, Managing Editor of SmallGroups.com for Christianity Today International noted, "At a time when churches are deluged with a variety of rehashed and recycled resources, Rachel Gilmore offers us something new. Even better, she offers something that is both practical and fun, useful and user-friendly."

[Deacons in Today's Black Baptist Church](#) is the latest by prolific Judson Press author and ABC pastor Marvin A. McMickle. McMickle explores the scriptural basis and historical context for the deacon ministry, and addresses the related practical issues, including:

- Personal qualities of a deacon
- What the ministry entails
- Relationship between pastor and deacon
- Training, terms of service, and women in deacon ministry

Models of contemporary deacon ministry, illustrated by case studies, provide a twenty-first century look at this first century ministry.

Rev. Dr. Julius R. Scruggs, president of the National Baptist Convention, USA, wrote in his foreword, "Deacons in Today's Black Baptist Church is a gem mined from sound biblical truth and crisp theological understanding, polished by the practical experiences and insights gleaned from the author's more than three decades of pastoral ministry."

Both books are available from Judson Press by calling 800-458-3766 or visiting www.judsonpress.com. Save 20% when you order online!

~INTERNATIONAL MINISTRIES ANNOUNCES THE PASSING OF BELOVED MISSIONARY

International Ministries announces the passing of beloved missionary Rosa Iris Morales on Wednesday, July 28, 2010. Iris courageously battled cancer since 2007 and died peacefully surrounded by family and friends in a hospital in Houston Texas.

[\(Click to read more\)](#)

<http://www.abc-usa.org/Resources/AmericanBaptistNewsService/tabid/79/articleType/ArticleView/articleId/178/International-Ministries-Mourns-Loss-Of-Iris-Morales.aspx>

~CHRISTIAN COMPUTING MAGAZINE – *Jim Sheldon*

The first issue of Christian Computing Magazine (CCMag) was published January 1989. CCMag has helped to keep its readers informed on software, services and other areas of technology, pertaining to how it relates to the Christian community, the church and ministry. To subscribe to this free online magazine click on the link below.

<http://www.ccmag.com/page/index.php?pageid=1>

~EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES

The search for a new Executive Minister for ABC of Nebraska has officially opened. The search committee would invite your nominations be sent to either Jeff Woods (jeff.woods@abc-usa.org) or Onnie Drain (onniedrain@cox.net). In either case, the person nominated would need to submit a letter of interest and an ABPS profile or resume (profile preferred) to Rev. Onnie Drain by August 15, 2010. To view the job description please click on the link below.

<http://www.ministerscouncil.com/documents/NEEXMIN10.pdf>

~GENEROSITY, AN E-RESOURCE FOR PASTORS AND CHURCH LEADERS

GENEROSITY, an American Baptist e-resource for pastors and church leaders on topics related to financial stewardship and faithful discipleship. [Read the current issue>>](#)

For information on this resource and how to subscribe please click on the link.
www.generousdisciples.com

~WHAT DO YOU DO WITH YOUR MONEY?

Pastoral leaders need to pay attention to their own personal finances. If we can be thoughtful about personal money management, it will help our leadership in stewardship and church finances. You can't lead others where you haven't gone yourself. Does this mean that you have to get yourself together completely before you can lead people to work on their own financial issues? No. But you have to be honestly working on your own life with money.

To read more click on the link - <http://margaretmarcuson.com/blog/?p=560>

To subscribe to the newsletter go to Marcuson Leadership Circle - leaders practicing an easier, more effective way to lead – and sign up.

Company Website: <http://www.margaretmarcuson.com/>

~REMEMBER US!

When planning your estate, please remember The Ministers Council.

~HELP US KEEP YOU INFORMED

The hard reality about this newsletter is this: Our email mailing list is not as complete as we would wish. But you can help and your help we ask. Please forward this to your constituencies and friends. Most months, there is something helpful and when there is not, the delete button is only about an inch away and there will be little imposition impressed upon your friends. We appreciate your help. *Joe Kutter*

THE MINISTERS COUNCIL OWNS THE DOMAINS www.ministerscouncil.org AND www.ministerscouncil.com. IF YOUR BROWSER ENCOUNTERS DIFFICULTY IN OPENING ANY OF THE LINKS IN THIS NEWSLETTER, GO DIRECTLY TO THE WEBSITE AND/OR FEEL FREE TO CALL THE OFFICE FOR SPECIFIC NAVIGATION DIRECTIONS TO LOCATE THAT LANDING PAGE ON THE SITE.

~SIGN UP FOR FUTURE ISSUES OF NEWS YOU CAN USE FROM THE MINISTERS COUNCIL

Sign up for future issues of the monthly Ministers Council newsletter by replying to this message from the email address to which you wish issues to be sent. Add the newsletter email address to your address book so that future newsletters will not go into your spam filter.

If you have news, ideas, events or websites from your Ministers Council to share with colleagues, please email to joe.kutter@abc-usa.org. The more we share with one another what works, the stronger we will all be.

~MINISTERS COUNCIL CONTACT INFORMATION

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Join the Ministers Council through your local constituent council. Contact information is posted on www.ministerscouncil.org under the WHO WE ARE link.