



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

Joe Kutter, Executive Director

April 2012

Click here to view this message as a webpage:
<http://www.ministerscouncil.org/Periodicals/Publications.aspx>

~NEED MONEY FOR COLLEGE?

Christian Community Credit Union's ***Focused on the Future*** Scholarship Program is awarding \$30,000 in scholarships this year. To qualify, applicants need to be members of the Credit Union and enrolled in 12 units or more for undergraduate students; 8 units or more for graduate and post-graduate students at any college, university or seminary.

For more information or to obtain an application please click on the link below. **Applications are due by April 30, 2012.**

<http://www.mycccu.com/personal/checking-savings/student-accounts/scholarship-2.html>

~NEW HAPPENINGS AT BACONE COLLEGE: CALLINGS AMERICAN BAPTIST PARENTS AND STUDENTS

There is something new happening at Bacone College. Scholarships are waiting for you. 100% of tuition, room and board is available NOW!!

Bacone is an American Baptist related college. Many ABC congregations have supported its initial mission to provide quality education opportunities to Native Americans. Bacone has now reaffirmed its commitment to American Baptist and expanded its' mission to embrace ABC local church, region and/or national staff member's children.

The scholarship available for enrollment in fall 2012 is called, CHRISTIAN LEARNING WORK COMMUNITY SCHOLARSHIP.

Bacone provides a full complement of majors from which students can choose. The teaching staff and administrators are steeped in compassion and dedicated to providing excellent academic experiences. Bacone is a highly diverse environment. Students worship together weekly and are exposed to worship that is inclusive of the ethnic, cultures represented. Bacone also provides an opportunity for student's to participate in local church service projects. The enthusiasm of Bacone is evident in their sport teams and pep rallies.

Bacone is a unique place, a place where students can grow culturally, spiritually and academically. It is a place where the love of God is openly expressed and the spirit of God hovers. It is a place where young men and women can discover their talents and express their gifts.

Visit Bacone online at bacone.edu or contact Rev. Dr. Leroy Thompson, Asst. Vice President of Church Relations at 918-360-9694 or by email thompsol@bacone.edu. Or contact Rev. Betty Wright-Riggins at revbetty@gmail.com or by cell at 918-942-3795.

~SCHOLARSHIPS FOR YOUTH CONFERENCE

American Baptist Home Mission Societies (ABHMS) announces the availability of a limited number of financial need-based scholarships for youth to attend Immerse, the 2012 national gathering of American Baptist youth. The application deadline is **May 3, 2012**. Adults are asked to encourage a young person to apply for the scholarship if that young person shows financial need and interest in attending the event.

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

~MINISTERS COUNCIL NOW ACCEPTING CREDIT CARD PAYMENTS

Ministers Council can now accept credit card payments. If you would like to join Ministers Council and pay by credit card, you can access the form at the link listed below or call the Ministers Council office at 1.800.222.3872, extension 2334.

<http://www.ministerscouncil.org/Join/documents/CreditMembershipForm2012FINAL.pdf>

~INTERNATIONAL RELIGIOUS FREEDOM GROUP MEETS AT THE MISSION CENTER

Secretary of State Clinton's Sub-Working Group on International Religious Freedom, Stability, and Democracy met at the American Baptist Churches USA (ABCUSA) mission center in Valley Forge, PA on Tuesday, April 17.

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

~ABHMS SEEKS VOLUNTEERS FOR ECUMENICAL WORK WEEK

American Baptist Home Mission Societies (ABHMS) invites individuals and groups to participate in "Here until the Work is Done VI," Ecumenical Work Week, Aug. 5-11, in New Orleans. Volunteers will rebuild homes, churches and communities that were destroyed by Hurricane Katrina in 2005.

Jobs include painting, laying sheet rock, cutting grass and running errands. Construction skills are not required; unskilled workers will be supervised and directed on the job. The week will also include worship opportunities with people of faith from across the United States.

Those who can attend only part of the week are welcome. All ages are invited, but youth and youth groups are particularly encouraged to participate.

Round-trip transportation costs to New Orleans are the responsibility of volunteers. Additional costs include lodging (\$30 per night) and registration (\$25 per person; youth under 12 free). Scholarships are available.

Those who cannot volunteer in New Orleans can support the effort by doing the following:

- making a financial contribution,
- sponsoring a participant,
- helping to spread the word and
- praying for participants and full restoration of the Gulf Coast.

Launched by the National Council of Churches in 2007, Ecumenical Work Week has been coordinated by ABHMS since 2010.

Registration and skills-assessment forms must be completed and returned to ABHMS by July 6. The forms and additional information are available at www.abhms.org or by contacting Victoria Goff, ABHMS national coordinator of Volunteer Ministries, at Victoria.Goff@abhms.org or 1-800-222-3872, x2449.

~MOTHER'S DAY IS MAY 13

For the special mom in your life, consider a gift subscription to *The Secret Place*, our popular daily devotional. For Mother's Day, Judson Press is offering a free copy of *Songs of Miriam: A Woman's Book of Devotions*, with every two-year subscription. We'll also include a personalized gift acknowledgement card. Two-year subscriptions start at just \$11.45. **Enter code MIRIAM** in the promotion/discount code box on the online [order form](#) or call 800-458-3766 and mention this special offer!

~AN UPDATED CLASSIC

For the 50th anniversary of its original publication, Judson Press has released the second revised edition of [A Baptist Manual of Polity and Practice](#).

Edited by American Baptist minister David Gregg, the new edition of this Maring and Hudson classic responds to profound shifts in Baptist polity, as well as new challenges to the Baptist faith. It also reflects changing models of ministry and freshens the book's general style and tone.

Read Roy Medley's [foreword](#) and Gregg's [preface](#) to the 2012 edition.

This 350 page book retails for \$29.99. To order, visit www.judsonpress.com or call 800-458-3766. Save 20% when you order online!

~CHURCH LEADERS NEED TO BE THE GROWN UPS – Margaret Marcuson, *Marcuson Leadership Circle*

When my kids were teenagers I developed three rules for parenting teenagers:

1. Don't take it too seriously.
2. Don't take it personally.
3. Pay more attention to your goals for yourself than your goals for them.

These rules might apply to congregational life as well. I'm not saying churches are adolescent (although most churches have some adults who act that way). But all churches face some times of heightened anxiety where leaders can find it challenging to deal with the reactivity in themselves and others.

Let's take a look at how these might apply for church leaders: To read more click on the link below.

<http://margaretmarcuson.com/blog/?cat=22>

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.