

Together in Ministry



Collegiality * Competence * Centeredness

May 2019 Newsletter



Peace Sunday - May 12, 2019

"Peace I leave with you; my peace I give you. I do not give to you as the world gives. Do not let your hearts be troubled and do not be afraid." - John 14:27

PEACE BE WITH YOU

Peace Sunday/Mother's Day is on Sunday, May 12, 2019 in the US, Canada, Puerto Rico and Mexico. It is a day that celebrates and supports the peacemaking work done by Baptist churches.



To help raise awareness and visibility of peacemaking efforts in your congregation check out the materials available for Peace Sunday at:

<https://www.bpfna.org/peace-sunday>

President's Update

Our President, Rev. Dr. Dee Dee Turlington wrote and shared this gift with the attendees of April's webinar on "Jubilee."

A PARABLE FOR MINISTERS COUNCIL JUBILEE

By Rev. Dr. Darla Turlington, President

Ministers Council is like a canoe,
dug out of a strong tree trunk decades ago,
when the need of traveling together was
obvious.



It wobbles a bit when the paddlers' change places,
but sinks into making a ripple in the ABC river when
occupants work in unison.

[Read more](#)

Upcoming Events/Webinars



JUNE 20, 2019
10 AM - 4:30 PM
VIRGINIA BEACH CONVENTION CENTER
\$20 INCLUDES LUNCH & SNACK

The Ministers Council
Collegiality/Centeredness/Competence
AMERICAN BAPTIST CHURCHES USA

SAVE THE DATE

Download flyer **[here](#)**

See Annual Meeting Schedule for Chapter Reps, June 18-19,
at: **www.ministerscouncil.com**

"MC Live" Monthly Webinar: May Jubilee reflections with Specialized Ministers of Chaplains and PCs

*Join us each month for a rich time of sharing in best practices,
resources and fellowship.*

On May 9th we continue our "Servants of the Jubilee" series with a time of reflection with our specialized ministers. Retired chaplain Sarah Fogg, therapist and pastoral counselor Elizabeth Ritzman and others will discuss the themes of Jubilee in relation to the ministry settings of chaplaincy, counseling, spiritual direction etc. Join us!

See Call-In Info: [**Here**](#)

NATIONAL WEBINAR ON CHAPTER STARTS & RESTARTS

Do you want to connect more deeply with colleagues nationally and/or locally? Has your local Ministers Council chapter been inactive or defunct for a time short, or long? Interested in virtual connections where local ones don't exist? Join colleagues in similar boats on this national webinar hosted by Leadership Team member Rev. Jacki Belile. Jacki is the Coordinator of Membership and Chapter Development.

Topic: Chapter Support & Revitalization

Time: May 6, 2019 3:00 PM Central Time (US and Canada)

See Call-In Info: [**Here**](#)

LOOKING AHEAD - June 13, 11:00am, will be a time of prayer and reflection for a successful Mission Summit and Ministers Council gatherings.

See Call-In Info: [**Here**](#)

CLERGY HEALTH CARE ADVOCACY PROJECT

How can we work together to ensure the most accessible and affordable support for clergy health? Both in it's broadest conception, as well as in terms of health insurance products, WE CARE! A team of your colleagues have met a number of times in last year, shared ideas and needs electronically, and hold a vision for improved advocacy in this arena. The next call for updates and visioning will be held

Monday, May 6th at 5pm Central Time.

See Call-In Info [HERE](#).

Chapter News



You are invited to dinner, conversation and fellowship with endorsed chaplains and pastoral counselors at the ABC Mission Summit by the Sea as our guest on Thursday evening, June 20, from 6:00 to 8:00 pm. This time together will give us the opportunity to discuss our concerns and hopes for making our chapter of the Ministers Council relevant to our current needs, as well as an opportunity to know one another better.

Dinner is complimentary but registrations are required. Please respond to Rev. Sarah L. Fogg, Treasurer, at sarahfogg4@gmail.com.

Guest Essay from Rev. Dianthia Gilmore

Sabbath Rest

A time alone,
From earth's groans.
A time to reflect;
Drawing inward to recollect.
Intentional slowing,
To God's heart, we are knowing.
A second, hour, or day,
Perhaps, a week or months to stay.
Whenever, how long, let us enter today.

Created by Dianthia Gilmore (2014)

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



National Update

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED FOR OUR AUDIT

Ministers Council ABC-USA is seeking 2-3 individuals (auditors) to perform an internal financial audit on their 2018 records. All interested parties please contact the Ministers Council at info@ministerscouncil.com

THANK YOU to colleagues who held and hosted



our space for Lenten Prayer this year: Carolyn Dugan, Rebecca Driscoll, Jacki Belile, Dee Dee Turlington, Charlotte Myers.

Staff Reflection

...And A Little Child Shall Lead Them A Reflection from Lisa

“Jesus reminds us that a child will lead us. Often, we find inspiration in the most unlikely places.”



It was one of the rainiest weeks in April and my youngest son said to me, “Mom, don’t forget I volunteered to help clean the watershed this weekend and remember you have to come with me”. I looked at my son with dread and at that moment thought to myself, “Outside is so wet and mucky. There is absolutely no way they are going to allow a bunch of 7th graders at the watershed this weekend”. I was optimistic that there was going to be a reschedule date so I placed the biggest smile on my face and said, “Thank you for reminding me!”

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

Through the Looking Glass with your Member Services Coordinator

"Calling all Local Chapter Representatives!
The 2019 Annual Meeting registration forms are now available [here](#). Please complete and email to info@ministerscouncil.com



ALL MEMBERS INVITED TO JOIN US!
Contact info@ministerscouncil.com with any questions.

If you have not joined or renewed your membership for 2019, please consider doing so today by going to the “Membership” tab on the Ministers Council [website](#).

Milestones & Prayer Requests

Charles and Marie Mercer have been named the 2019 co-recipients of the Cora and



John Sparrowk President's Award. The award will be presented at the Biennial Mission Summit, June 21-23, 2019, on behalf of the Board of General Ministries.

Wesley Roberts, distinguished pastor of People's Baptist Church in Boston will receive the Daniel Sharp Award for excellence in Ministry at the TABCOM Annual Gathering on May 3rd. He will also be the Keynote Preacher for the event

Matthew Rasure, member of the CBMM board, received his PhD from Harvard in April. He is also the pastor of the First Baptist Church of Medford, MA and the President of the Board of Directors of our partner organization, the Center for Career Development and Ministry.

Kathleen O'Goley will be ordained at Second Baptist Church in South Hadley, MA on May 19.

Stephen Sanden was installed as the pastor of First Baptist Church of Abington, MA. He had served some years ago as the pastor of Kingston Baptist Church, so we welcome him back to CBMM.

Richard Haley is retiring as the pastor of the First-Calvary Baptist Church in North Andover, MA on May 5. He continues to be a wise presence on the Executive Committee of the CBMM Board of Directors at this critical time.

Robert P. Smith will be retiring as the pastor of the First Baptist Church of West Springfield, MA this summer. He has served faithfully there for many years, and is also a Coordinator for TABCOM in Pioneer Valley Baptist Association.

James Hinds is retiring as the Pastor of First Baptist Church in Gardner, MA. Jim has also served as TABCOM Coordinator for Central Baptist Association.

Milton Ryder –A Celebration of Life will be held on May 18 at 1 pm at Williston-Immanuel United Church

in Portland, Maine, where Milton was an active member. May 18 would have been his 82nd birthday. Milton served since 1995 as the Treasurer of the Conference of Baptist Ministers in Massachusetts, and was last year's recipient of the Daniel Sharp Award.



Denton Lotz died on April 23. Please pray for Janice and the family and friends.

Pastor Lotz (January 18, 1939 -- April 23, 2019) was the Senior Pastor of [Tremont Temple](#) Baptist Church in [Boston](#) from 2007 to 2017. He was the general secretary of the [Baptist World Alliance](#) from 1988 to 2007.

We rejoice at the installation of **Rev. Dr. Sandra L. DeMott Hasenaur** as Executive Minister serving the Rochester Genesee Region.

We anticipate with joy the installation of **Rev. David Gregg** as Executive Minister serving the American Baptist Churches of Metro Chicago. The Celebration of Installation will be held May 19th.

We pray in solidarity with colleague **Joyce Morin** in a time of housing stress and vulnerability. "I have need for living space. Will be out of this place by the end of the week. I have a place for a few days, but I expect I will be in a shelter within a week. I have applications for three apartment buildings, but the waiting list is long.

ABC Announcements



ABHMS welcomes AAABC, Asian Baptist leaders at its Leadership and Mission Building.

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

Launching of “Beach Break” – A youth conference at the 2019 Biennial Mission Summit. This year we are doing a new thing! While the adults are enjoying the Biennial Mission Summit, the youth will take part in a dynamic conference designed with them and for them.

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

MMBB Financial Services – Don't miss this opportunity to partner with MMBB Financial Services and the ABC family for the Summit by the Sea, the 2019 Biennial Mission Summit in Virginia Beach, VA, June 21-23! MMBB encourages attendees to participate and engage within the ABC denomination at one of the MMBB events.

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

Reminders



How to reach us:

- By phone: (610)314-7837
- By email: info@ministerscouncil.com
- Address: 221 S. High Street, West Chester, PA 19382
- We can generally be reached in the office on Tuesdays and Thursdays (emails and voicemails will be responded to during this time)



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