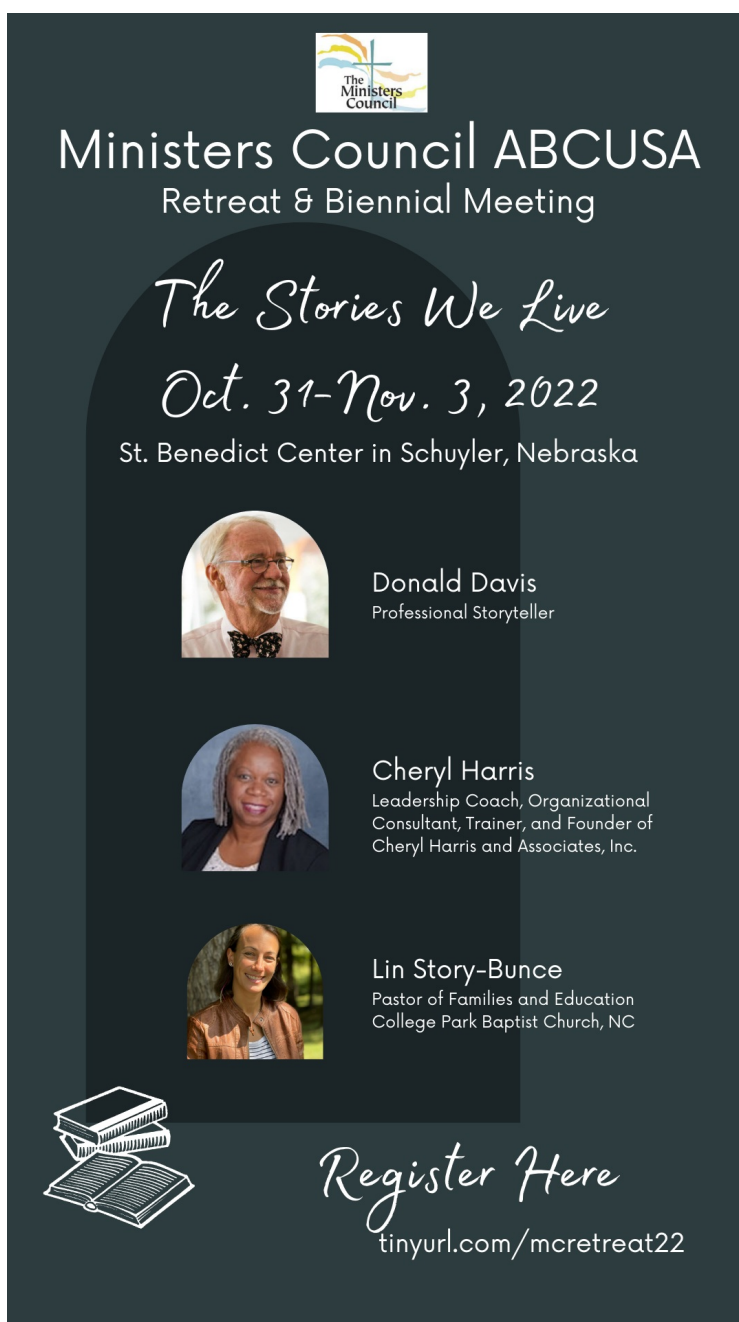


Together in Ministry



Collegiality * Competence * Centeredness


September/October 2022 Newsletter





The poster features the Ministers Council logo at the top. Below it, the text reads: "Ministers Council ABCUSA Retreat & Biennial Meeting". The main title is "The Stories We Live" in a cursive font, followed by the dates "Oct. 31-Nov. 3, 2022" and the location "St. Benedict Center in Schuyler, Nebraska". Three speakers are listed with their photos and titles: Donald Davis (Professional Storyteller), Cheryl Harris (Leadership Coach, Organizational Consultant, Trainer, and Founder of Cheryl Harris and Associates, Inc.), and Lin Story-Bunce (Pastor of Families and Education, College Park Baptist Church, NC). At the bottom left is an icon of a stack of books with one open. At the bottom right is the text "Register Here" with the URL "tinyurl.com/mcretreat22".


Ministers Council ABCUSA
Retreat & Biennial Meeting

The Stories We Live
Oct. 31-Nov. 3, 2022
St. Benedict Center in Schuyler, Nebraska

 Donald Davis
Professional Storyteller

 Cheryl Harris
Leadership Coach, Organizational
Consultant, Trainer, and Founder of
Cheryl Harris and Associates, Inc.

 Lin Story-Bunce
Pastor of Families and Education
College Park Baptist Church, NC

 Register Here
tinyurl.com/mcretreat22

Registration Deadline is October 10th!
Click graphic above for more information and to register.

Remember Chapter Representatives' costs underwritten by 50/50 split
between National and Local Chapter
(additional funds available if necessary)

Contact ministerscouncil@abc-usa.org for more information.

Events and Webinars



3rd thursdays **mc live**
WEBINAR SERIES

October 20, 2022

8:00 pm Eastern

Rev. Erica Van Brakle

Director of MinistrElife and the American Baptist Personnel

Services at American Baptist Home Mission Societies.

"Join us for an informative session on the promises of ministrElife 2.0." Learn more [HERE](#)

SAVE THE DATES...Watch for more details!

November 17, 2022

8:00 pm Eastern

Rev. Lauren Ng

December 15, 2022

8:00 pm Eastern

Rev. Sarah McCloy

[Join Zoom Meeting](#)

Spiritual Care Week | October 25-31, 2020 | Collaborative Health Care: Chaplains

Relevant and Responsive in Times of Crises Spiritual Care Week: October 23-29, 2022 Theme Interpretation . The role of Spiritual Caregivers was exemplified during the COVID 19 pandemic!

www.spiritualcareweek.org



Relevant and Responsive—A Chaplain's Perspective

by Rev. Dr. Sarah Fogg

Spiritual care providers have long labored in diverse settings—prisons, long-term care facilities, prisons, hospitals, military settings, businesses, and nursing homes. Under Spiritual Care Week's 2022 banner, "Relevant and Responsive," from October 23-29, many of these institutions will recognize and honor the contributions of their chaplains, pastoral counselors and others who collaborate with team members to ensure holistic care.

The week can be an opportunity for team members in healthcare settings to express their appreciation for the chaplains among them, especially those who care for patients and families in very challenging areas like pregnancy loss. Pregnancy loss can be difficult for staff members and physicians as well. Often labor and delivery nurses are in the same age cohort as the patient; physicians may have chosen their specialty area, in part at least, because it's usually a

happy place within healthcare until the tragedy of pregnancy loss occurs.

[Read More](#)



Code of Ethics: Ongoing Opportunities for Discussion of Revisions

NEXT Q&A SESSION
Thursday, October 13th
9am Pacific/11am Central/12pm Eastern

Our summer info sessions have sparked enriching conversation and enabled some of our remaining chapters who have not yet voted to get some traction

for that work this Fall! Our October Q and A session will be Thursday, October 13th at 9am Pacific/11am Central/12pm Eastern. See Zoom info at our website [here](#).

Rev. Jacki Belile (from the Revisions Subcommittee) and Rev. Dr. Corey Fields, a committed Ministers Council member and pastor at Calvary Baptist Church in Newark, DE, will share about the process, content, and ratification status.

Has *your* chapter voted yet on the ratification of our [proposed revisions](#)*? Or, do you serve in an area without an established chapter and desire conversation about the content and process underway? Join members of the Leadership Team in ongoing opportunities to learn more. Contact ministerscouncil@abc-usa.org to arrange a presentation before your chapter's vote. Per our bylaws, the ratification process must be complete by December 31, 2022.

*The document was approved at the national business meeting held November 19, 2020. These Q&A sessions are to raise awareness of the project, receive feedback that can be incorporated in the Learning Guide and other settings, and familiarize people with the ratification process. The document being voted upon is being ratified by Chapter votes and is not subject to further editorial revisions. Corey recently authored this [support letter](#) as we approach the deadline for ratification, December 31, 2022.

Membership Has Its Value

by Rev. Dr. Randolph T Miller

Christian ministry is not for the faint of heart. The isolation can be profound, and the tasks and responsibilities of ministry can be overwhelming and complex. It is a sacred entrustment requiring a deep sense of call, long term commitment and rigorous discipline.



Prior to ministry, I was a clinical social worker credentialed in the Academy (ACSW) and Certified by the State of Illinois. These credentials required not only membership in the NASW, but also annual fees to the state, post graduate supervision for two years, adherence to the Code of Ethics, on-going continuing education, and peer review. All this was in service of cultivating a higher standard of professional competence.

[Read More](#)

Chapter News

Newsletter Help

The Chaplains and Pastoral Counselors chapter of the Ministers Council is still looking for help in producing their occasional newsletter. If that could be you, or you know someone to recommend, please contact Sarah Fogg at sarahfogg4@gmail.com.



Do you have Chapter News or Events to share? Challenges or lessons? Rev. Atula Jamir, Ph.D., coordinates the bi-monthly meetings of our chapter representatives.

For more information contact jamiratula@yahoo.com. Please send news for the November newsletter to ministerscouncil@abc-usa.org by October 27.

ABC Announcements

Congratulations to the distinguished individuals who received the ABHMS's Office of the Ecclesiastical Endorser 2022 national-recognition ministry awards for merit as leaders in chaplaincy and specialized ministries: Ch, Col (sel) Ronnelle Armstrong, U.S. Air Force; CH (LT) Kadin Williams, U.S. Navy; **Rev. Patricia Ann Ray, BCC**; and **Rev. Joy Freeman, BCC**. Read more [here](#).

American Baptist Churches USA seeks nominations for the Luke Mowbray Ecumenical Award, which recognizes an individual for outstanding ecumenical work at the local, state, national or international level, either as a volunteer or paid professional. This award will be presented at the American Baptist Churches USA (ABCUSA) 2023 Biennial Mission Summit in San Juan P.R., June 23-25, 2023. The deadline for nominations is **October 14, 2022**. Read more [here](#).

The keynote speakers have been announced for the 2023 Biennial Mission Summit, to be held June 23-25, 2023 at the Puerto Rico Convention Center in San Juan, Puerto Rico! Read more [here](#).

With thankfulness to God the Board of Directors of the American Baptist Foundation (ABF) is pleased to celebrate its unanimous vote for a new executive director, the Rev. Dr. Christine Roush, who will begin her position on October 1, 2022. Read more [here](#).

Reminders

We are committed to an exchange of chapter news, as well as announcements of personal and communal milestones and prayer requests. For inclusion in the September issue, send these to ministerscouncil@abc-usa.org by August 27.



How to reach us:

- Phone: (610) 314-7837
 - Office Hours: Tuesdays and Thursdays from 8:00am-12:00pm Pacific Time
-

Stay connected

- Visit us at our **website**.
- Join us on **Facebook**

The Ministers Council | c/o 6080 N. Angus St., Fresno, CA 93710

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