

TOWER TOPICS

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Niagara Falls, New York



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First Baptist Church

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May 2017

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<p>Do you have your anniversary banquet ticket?</p>	<p>1</p> <p>Phillip and James, Apostles</p> 	<p>2</p>	<p>3</p> <p>12:15 Inasmuch Luncheon</p>	<p>4</p>	<p>5</p> <p>Cinco de Mayo</p> 	<p>6</p> <p>175th Anniversary Banquet 5:30 PM – Doubletree 401 Buffalo Ave. Tony Campolo, speaker</p>
<p>7 175TH ANNIVERSARY SERVICE</p> <p>10:00 Pre-service Fellowship 11:00 Festival Service with Holy Communion 12:15 Anniversary Reception</p>	<p>8</p>	<p>9</p>	<p>10</p> <p>7:00 Diaconate/ Trustees Meeting</p>	<p>11</p>	<p>12</p> <p>10:00 Men's Coffee Time</p> 	<p>13</p> <p>10:00 Mrs. Kathleen Ordiway's Graduation from CRCDS</p>
<p>14 FIFTH SUNDAY OF EASTER</p> <p>10:00 Continental Mother's Day Breakfast 11:00 Divine Worship Mrs. Kathleen A. Ordiway, preaching</p> 	<p>15</p> <p>Matthias, Apostle</p>	<p>16</p>	<p>17</p>	<p>18</p>	<p>19</p> <p>10:00 Men's Coffee Time</p> 	<p>20</p>  <p>Armed Forces Day 10:00 AM to 3:00 PM Sacred Sites Open House</p>
<p>21 SIXTH SUNDAY OF EASTER</p> <p>10:00 Pre-service Fellowship 11:00 Divine Worship Mrs. Kathleen A. Ordiway, preaching <i>Third Sunday Food Collection</i> 12 Noon to 3:00 PM Sacred Sites Open House</p>	<p>22</p> 	<p>23</p>	<p>24</p>	<p>25</p>	<p>26</p> <p>10:00 Men's Coffee Time</p> 	<p>27</p>
<p>28 ASCENSION SUNDAY</p> <p>10:00 Pre-service Fellowship 11:00 Divine Worship Ms Catherine Chambers, preaching</p>	<p>29</p> 	<p>30</p>	<p>31</p>	<p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 175 years is a long time. Let's all celebrate our church's faithfulness over the years with our Anniversary Banquet and the Festival Service on Sunday, May 7, 2017, as we look forward to the next 175 years!</p>		



May Birthdays

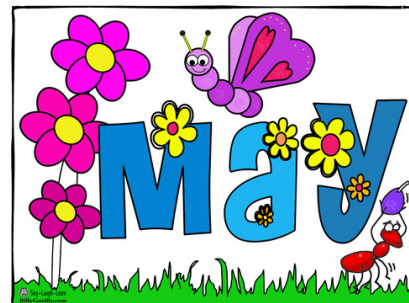
12	Toby Ordiway
13	Mary Metke
15	Janet Kundl
18	Cindy Ward Duke
19	Jon Baxter
23	Hazel Baxter
30	Tyler Ordiway



PLEASE CONTINUE TO PRAY for John Swindlehurst, Sara Gromniak, Margaret Payne, Mark Williams, Jr., Patricia Smeal, Janet Keebler, Celia Krasinski, Neal Jacobs, Gladys Lewis, our Church family, our missionaries, especially Carmella Jones, our Country and all those who serve our Country.

Do we have Your Birthday?

If your birthday doesn't appear on our list, please call the office (716-282-4666) to let us know your special date so we can include it.



May 3 — Wednesday

12:15 PM Inasmuch Luncheon

May 6 — Saturday

5:30 PM 175th Anniversary Banquet

May 7 — Sunday — Festival Service

10:00 AM Pre-service Fellowship

11:00 AM Festival Worship with Holy Communion

12:15 PM Anniversary Reception

May 10 — Wednesday

7:00 PM Diaconate/Trustees Meeting

May 13 — Saturday

10:00 AM Kath Ordiway's Graduation from CRCDS

May 14 — Sunday — Fifth Sunday of Easter

Mother's Day

10:00 AM Continental Mother's Day Breakfast

11:00 AM Divine Worship

Mrs. Kathleen A. Ordiway, preaching

May 20 — Saturday

10:00 AM – 3:00 PM – Sacred Sites Open House

May 21 — Sunday — Sixth Sunday of Easter

10:00 AM Pre-service Fellowship

11:00 AM Divine Worship

Mrs. Kathleen A. Ordiway, preaching

Third Sunday Food Collection

12 Noon – 3:00 PM – Sacred Sites Open House

May 28 — Sunday — Ascension Sunday

10:00 AM Pre-service Fellowship

11:00 AM Divine Worship

Ms Catherine Chambers, preaching

Kathleen Ordiway's Graduation Invitation

The Trustees, Faculty and Graduating Class
of

COLGATE ROCHESTER CROZER
DIVINITY SCHOOL

announce

THE COMMENCEMENT EXERCISES

Saturday morning, the thirteenth of May

Two thousand and seventeen

at ten o'clock

Asbury First United Methodist Church

1050 East Avenue

Rochester, New York



Commencement Speaker

The Reverend John F. Floberg

Rector of the Standing Rock Episcopal Congregation of

St. James', St. Luke's and Church of the Cross

Notes



EASTER AND HOLY WEEK are behind us now and leave a memory of a well done Good Friday service with soul searching messages from seven highly gifted preachers and outstanding music to illuminate those thoughts. A brilliant sunny Easter Sunday service capped the season with over 50 in attendance. We enjoyed the company of several families from near and far while the fragrant flowers, uplifting hymns and lighted candles celebrated the Day of Resurrection.

We move now toward our big Anniversary celebration at the Hilton Doubletree on May 6 with guest speaker, the **Rev. Tony Campolo**. Dr. Campolo is an author, speaker and councilor. The evening will be followed by the Festival Service on May 7 with four pastors: Kath Ordiway, Rev. Dr. Brian Brown, Rev. Donald Lawrence, and Rev. Mark Breese, to lead our worship. Following the service will be a light luncheon with a special anniversary cake and exhibits from our history in women's ministry, LIFE program, photos of former pastors, and books of collected memorabilia. Tours of our updated building will also be available.

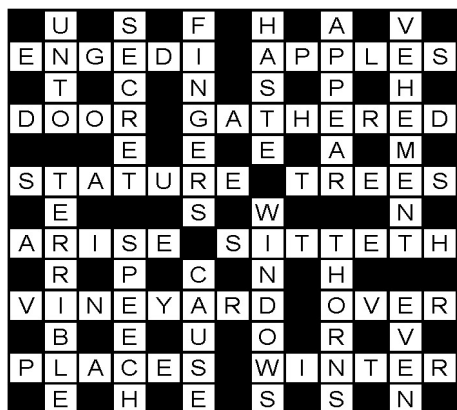
May also brings us to Mother's Day. A day to worship with friends and family will start at 10:00 AM with light breakfast fare available in the Friendship Room for all.

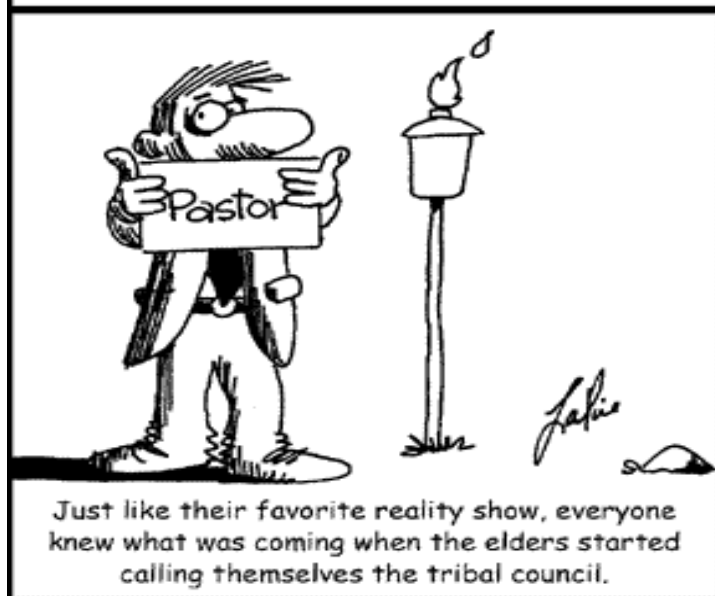
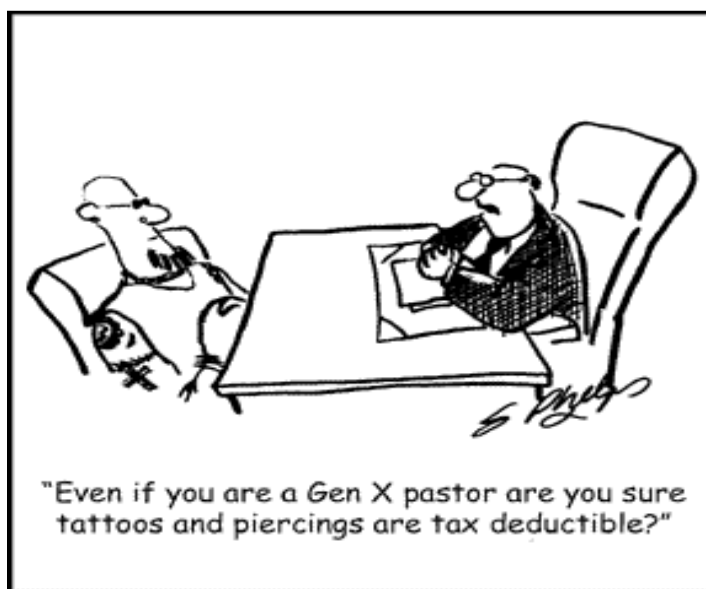
A couple more events planned for May will be an Open House for architectural tours on May 20 and 21 and a Work Day conducted by the youth of Ransomville Baptist Church on May 27. Several youngsters will be beautifying our landscape with flowers and foliage. If you'd like to volunteer to assist with any of these activities, please see Donna or Kath.

Donna Flood

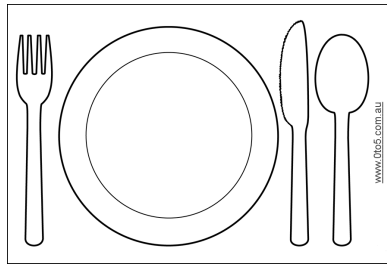
Last Month's Crossword Answers

Song of Solomon





CHURCH 175TH ANNIVERSARY BANQUET



Saturday, May 6, 2017

at the

Doubletree Hotel

401 Buffalo Ave, Niagara Falls, NY

5:30 Cash bar — 6:30 Buffet Dinner

\$36 per person

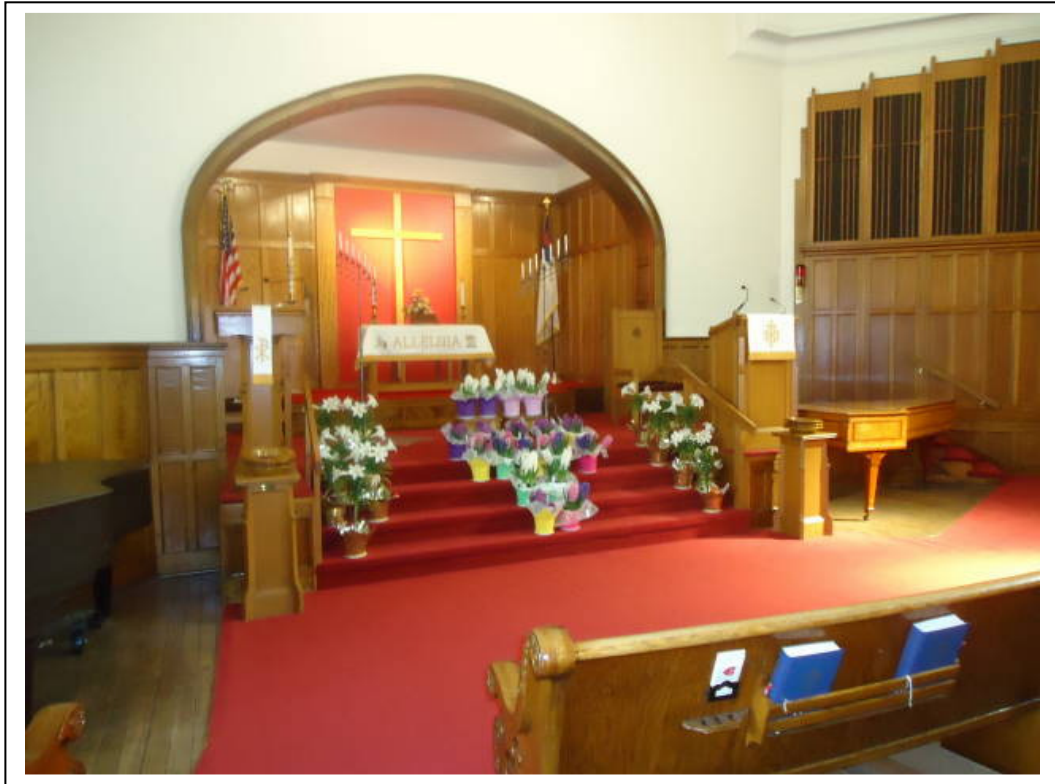
Tony Campolo to Speak at Anniversary Dinner

Tony Campolo is professor emeritus of sociology at Eastern University and a former faculty member at the University of Pennsylvania. For 40 years, he led the Evangelical Association for the Promotion of Education, an organization which he founded to create and support programs serving needy communities. More recently, Dr. Campolo has provided leadership for the progressive Christian movement, Red Letter Christians as well as, for the Campolo Center for Ministry, a program which provides support to those the church has called to full-time ministry. He has written more than 35 books and can be found blogging regularly on tonycampolo.org and redletterchristians.org. Tony and his wife Peggy live near Philadelphia and have two children and four grandchildren.



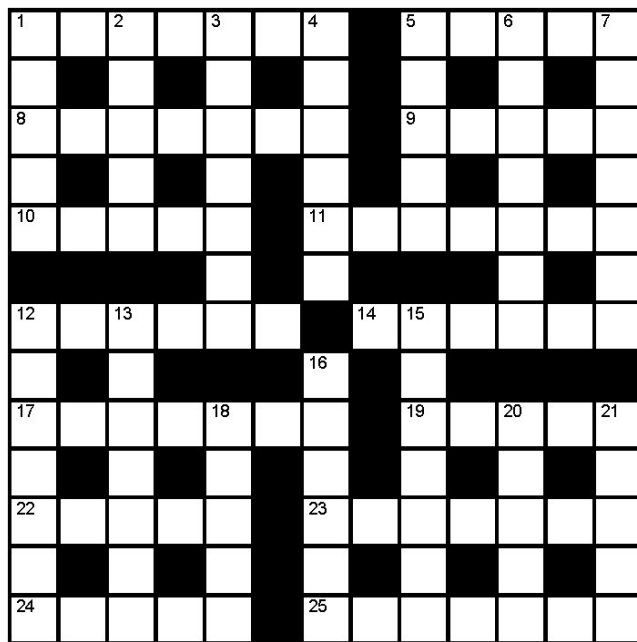
Continued on page 11 . . .

The Easter Celebration was made beautiful with 32 plants.



Bible Crossword Puzzles (King James Version)

Isaiah



Across

- 1 The mountain of the Lord's house shall be this. Is 2:2 (7)
- 5 "Also I ____ the voice of the Lord, saying, Whom shall I send, and who will go for us?" Is 6:8 (5)
- 8 This shall be rolled together as a scroll. Is 34:4 (7)
- 9 The waters of this place shall be full of blood. Is 15:9 (5)
- 10 "Thou shalt say unto it, Get thee ____." Is 30:22 (5)
- 11 "I will make thee an ____ excellency, a joy of many generations." Is 60:15 (7)
- 12 "Let us eat and drink; for to ____ we shall die." Is 22:13 (6)
- 14 Wild beasts of the desert shall meet with wild beasts of this place. Is 34:14 (6)
- 17 Sennacherib king of Assyria dwelt in this place. Is 37:37 (7)
- 19 "____ and sing, ye that dwell in dust: for thy dew is as the dew of herbs, and the earth shall cast out the dead." Is 26:19 (5)
- 22 "And righteousness shall be the girdle of his ____, and faithfulness the girdle of his reins." Is 11:5 (5)
- 23 The vile person will speak this. Is 32:6 (7)
- 24 "Woe unto them that are wise in their own eyes, and prudent in their own ____!" Is 5:21 (5)

- 25 "None shall be weary nor stumble among them ... nor the ____ of their shoes be broken." Is 5:27 (7)

Down

- 1 An ancient measurement equal to about a bushel. Is 5:10 (5)
- 2 "And it shall come to pass in that day, that the remnant of Israel ... shall no more ____ stay upon him that smote them; but shall stay upon the Lord." Is 10:20 (5)
- 3 "He maketh a god, and worshippeth it; he maketh it a graven image, and falleth down ____." Is 44:15 (7)
- 4 Isaiah prophesies this about Babylon: "Their children also shall be ____ to pieces before their eyes; their houses shall be spoiled, and their wives ravished." Is 13:16 (6)
- 5 This shall be taken away and eaten up. Is 5:5 (5)

- 6 Adrammelech and Sharezer escaped to this land. Is 37:38 (7)

- 7 "Then shall ye suck, ye shall be borne upon her sides, and be ____ upon her knees. As one whom his mother comforteth, so will I comfort you; and ye shall be comforted in Jerusalem." Is 66:12-13 (7)

- 12 One of the things that God will take away from the daughters of Zion. Is 3:22 (7)

- 13 "And your spoil shall be gathered like the gathering of the caterpillar: as the ____ to and fro of locusts shall he run upon them." Is 33:4 (7)

- 15 "Though your sins be as ____, they shall be as white as snow." Is 1:18 (7)

- 16 "The oxen likewise and the young asses that ear the ground shall eat clean provender, which hath been winnowed with the ____ and with the fan." Is 30:24 (6)

- 18 "Lord, in trouble have they ____ed thee, they poured out a prayer when thy chastening was upon them." Is 26:16 (5)

- 20 "He is come to ____, he is passed to Migron." Is 10:28 (5)

- 21 "In that day shall there be an altar to the Lord in the midst of the land of ____, and a pillar at the border thereof to the Lord." Is 19:19 (5)



Celebrating New York's Diverse Houses of Worship

SACRED SITES OPEN HOUSE MAY 20 & 21, 2017

Stained Glass: Windows on this World and the Next

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CAMP VICK

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2017 Gear up!

Introducing people to Jesus and equipping them to grow spiritually and minister to their world.

Ephesians 6:10-20



Camping time will be here before you know it. First Baptist Church provides "camperships" for children, youth or adults who wish to attend. There are also family camping times. The schedule is on the bulletin board and the Church office has all the necessary forms. Brochures are in the Friendship Room.

Church camping is a wonderful experience, the memories of which last a lifetime. Do you know worthy children or have grandchildren that would benefit from a week at camp? As part of our outreach, First Baptist can help.

Inquiries or questions? Contact: the church office, go to www.vpccministries.org
Email camp@campvick.com
Or call (716) 492-4494 or (315) 314-7460.

Happy camping!

ALASKA CHURCH CONTINUES RENOVATIONS



Top: Construction volunteers

Bottom: Mount Pleasant Baptist Church's sanctuary

Mount Pleasant Baptist Church, Fairbanks, Alaska, is renovating a building to be its permanent home, with support from Dr. Alonzo Patterson Jr., American Baptist Home Mission Societies (ABHMS) coordinator of Alaska Ministries, and the congregation that he pastors.

As part of American Baptist Churches of Alaska, Mount Pleasant began meeting in 2005, moving from rental to rental, including a space at the National Guard Armory. In 2010, under the leadership of the Rev. Joe Blackburn, the church purchased and began renovating an old metal-framed warehouse. While the project has come far—the sanctuary and other rooms are currently in use—construction continues on classrooms and community rooms, as funds are raised.

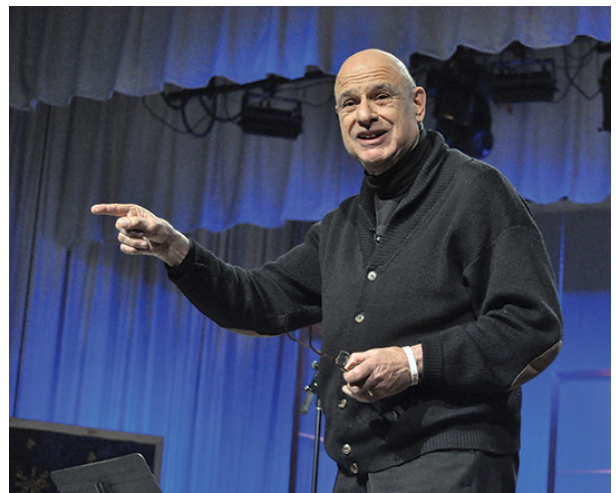
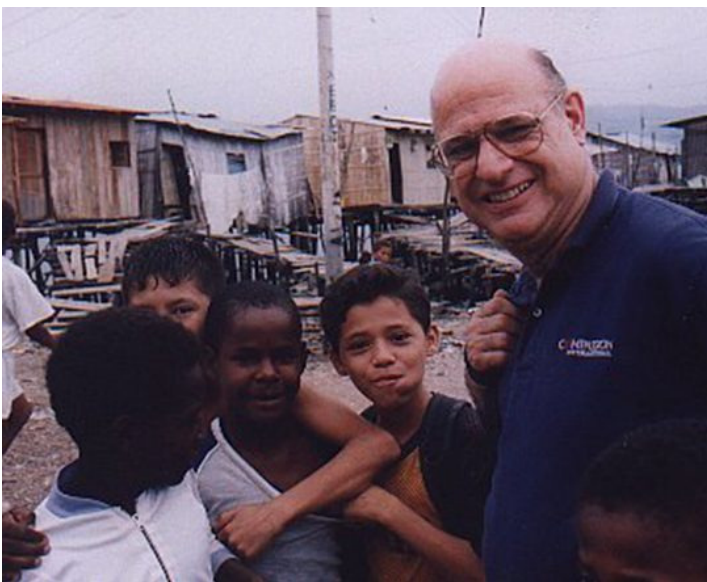
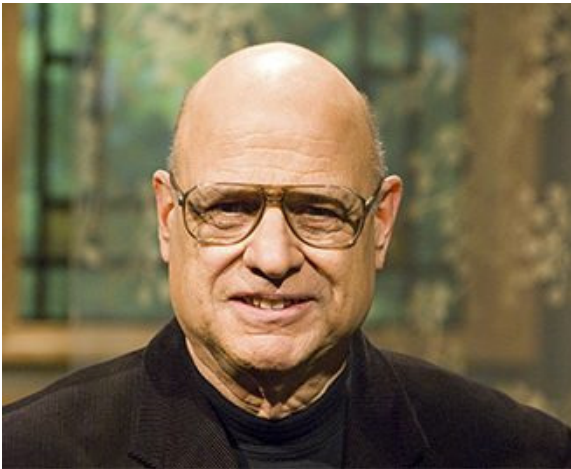
Patterson's church, Shiloh Missionary Baptist Church, Anchorage, donated more than \$65,000 to the renovation, while Shiloh's men have donated construction materials and hands-on skills. In addition, Shiloh has fed and housed the construction volunteers.

"The church [Mount Pleasant] purchased it [the warehouse] for the sum of three quarters of 1 million dollars, after having moved several times to find a place to worship. God led the church to purchase and renovate this building," says Patterson. "The church made an effort to get a loan through a bank but did not qualify, so they sought resources within the state of Alaska—along with the genius of pastor Blackburn to develop resources—to transform this warehouse into a sanctuary for the Lord."

Tony Campolo to speak at Anniversary Banquet, con't . . .

In November 2012, Tony Campolo received a Lifetime Achievement Award from the National Youth Worker's Convention. The wording on the award is: "Award of Lifetime Achievement is proudly presented to Tony Campolo who has defined and courageously pioneered what it means to encourage, care and lead students, possessing the qualities that inspire us and provoke us to continue the journey into the future with boldness and confidence. As a result of Tony's life of ministry and leadership he has left a legacy of encouragement and hope to youth workers and students everywhere."

When the presentation was given, a great mention of Tony's work with Compassion International was made and Compassion asked to be able to say thank you to Tony for the lifetime of child sponsorships he has helped to make possible. [At this link](#), is the thank you video.



ABHMS sets new course for mission: Connect. Cultivate. Change.

VALLEY FORGE, PA (ABNS 4/18/17)—In this Resurrection season that celebrates Jesus Christ's promise of new life, American Baptist Home Mission Societies (ABHMS) announces a new framework for its mission to cultivate leaders, equip disciples and heal communities across the United States and Puerto Rico.

This framework—Connect. Cultivate. Change.—looks to the future as it responds to the challenges facing Christian mission today, at the same time following in the footsteps of ABHMS' founding missionaries, who expanded Christian ministry into new, uncharted territory in the early 19th century.

A major focus of this new mission approach features the creation of **aligned action networks** of passionate American Baptist disciples in geographic clusters throughout the United States and Puerto Rico for sharing assets, resources, best practices, actionable ideas and passion for ministry to be transformed into ministries that meet human needs.

These networks will increase ABHMS' capacity to engage a greater number of organizations in mission in more regions of the country, thereby increasing opportunities to connect, cultivate and develop partners on new geographic frontiers and in newly emerging mission models. Seeking to collaborate on strengthening local ministries that cultivate leaders, equip disciples and heal communities, the networks will include not only American Baptist Churches USA (ABCUSA) regions, but also American Baptist-related colleges and seminaries, Christian centers, chaplains, emerging leaders, Judson Press authors, American Baptist Foundation, Ministers Council, American Baptist Men USA, American Baptist Women's Ministries, Women in Ministry and more.

"American Baptist Home Mission Societies seeks to lead the way in convening and connecting various Baptist partners into networks that address a wide range of mission needs and opportunities," says Executive Director Dr. Jeffrey Haggray, "because we believe the shared ministry models of the future will involve many partners thinking creatively about a combined inventory of assets, spiritual gifts, human and material resources, skill sets and more."

"We believe there is no shortage of resources, talent or passion when American Baptists combine gifts for the sake of God's ministry," Haggray continues. "Through collaboration—by connecting with established, historic partners, developing new partners and connecting partners with each other—the aligned action networks will accomplish more than each partner could accomplish alone, increasing ministry impact exponentially."

In addition to the implementation of this network ministry model, seven national programs—which will be featured weekly at abhms.org beginning April 25—have been established:

- **In Search of Excellence**, supported by a grant from the Lilly Endowment, seeks to equip American Baptist pastors and lay leaders with resources that ease financial burdens.
- **Discipleship** is building a network of highly-motivated agents of change who are broadening the understanding of what it means to be a follower of Jesus.
- **Emerging Leaders**, a new program for empowering young adults, features scholarship opportunities that nurture the personal and professional growth of American Baptist students and ministry leaders.
- **Rizpah's Children**, an outgrowth of ABHMS' Justice for Children initiative, calls diverse partners to action, commitment and collaboration in national networks that create and deliver services to children and families living in poverty.
- **Chaplaincy and Specialized Ministries** endorses American Baptist chaplains and pastoral counselors and provides training and support for these ministry professionals who stand on holy ground, serving in hospitals, prisons, pastoral counseling centers, race tracks and military settings.
- **Intercultural Ministries** offers resources and training that foster sharing and learning across cultures as an essential part of life together in Jesus Christ.
- **Public Witness and Advocacy** addresses a wide range of ethical, social and policy matters impacting the United States through Christ-Centered messaging and advocacy to both the church and the world.

The Christian Citizen magazine also has been injected with new life. While continuing its historic commitment to publishing diverse perspectives about faith and politics, and the relationship among discipleship, citizenship and personal witness, the publication has moved into the 21st century by going digital. Its 10 online issues will be supplemented by biannual print editions that feature highlights of the digital publication.

When The American Baptist Home Mission Society was established in 1832, its mission-minded founders sought to impact the United States with the Christian gospel. By the time the Northern Baptist Convention (predecessor to ABCUSA) was formed in 1907—75 years after the formation of the Home Mission Society and 83 years after the formation of the Baptist General Tract Society (now Judson Press)—the Home Mission Society had established churches, children's homes, seminaries, colleges, universities and a host of specialized ministries.

Today, ABHMS continues that legacy—seeking new and creative opportunities for cultivating Christian leaders and disciples from all walks of life to work for freedom, justice and the biblical ideals of Beloved Community—through expanding Christian mission into new frontiers of ministry models across the United States and Puerto Rico.