

THE WEEK AHEAD– See the [Calendar](#) on the last page

From the Executive Minister

“Do not forsake me, O LORD;
O my God, do not be far from me;
Make haste to help me,
O Lord, my salvation” (Ps.38:22)

As our brothers and sisters, neighbors and friends have been violated by the senseless act of terror earlier this week in Boston, I have longed for them to find words for their prayers. And I have been overwhelmed by the need to turn to God on their behalf.

It has been heartening to hear the consistent call of our pastors and churches for prayer for the individuals and families directly impacted by the marathon bombing. By Monday evening and Tuesday morning dozens of e-mails were calling us to prayer and encouraging us to join together for worship and ministry in response to our neighbors' pain. We invite one another into prayer not because it is the “only thing we can do,” but because it must be the first and most consistent thing we do. It is through our prayer that we most clearly discover we can best participate in God's ministry of healing and wholeness in our broken world.

Our prayers are answered not only as God performs acts of redemption, justice, and renewal; but also as God forms us into Christ's image. When we pray for others, we join God in the ministry of intercession and reconciliation. We also open ourselves to God's shaping presence.

It is often noted that communities (and nations, perhaps) are at their best in times of crisis. It often seems to be true. However, the reality is that whenever we look upon our neighbors with love and concern, we are at our best.

It is hard to look at the pain and suffering of our neighbors. But when attacks of evil become so evident we find we cannot look away. At such times we recognize our opportunity to pray and to act as friends and neighbors . . . as the hands and feet of Christ.

I confess, my response to these acts of hatred and terror have included a significant dose of anger. At such a time it is hard to pray “for my enemy.” These are the times when the Psalms are so often a faithful prayer book. When I am overcome by anger or fear or terror, the Psalms provide the language that bring me back into a recognition of God's presence and my need.

And so we pray:

“Do not forsake our neighbors in Boston, O LORD;
O my God, do not be far from them;

Make haste to help them,
O Lord, our salvation" (Ps.38:22)

All Church Worship

Congregational Life is excited to announce details for the All Church Worship on April 28. Rev. Tom Wiles will be the keynote speaker. The music artistry of Steve Martorella, the FBCIA Choir, and Mt. Hope Praise & Worship team highlight the afternoon. See attached poster for more specifics.

Parking is available as follows: RISD lot on the corner of North Main and Waterman across from the bus tunnel; RISD lot across from 48 Waterman just up the hill from Benefit St.). Also a lot on the corner of Steeple Street and North Main that doesn't charge on Sundays.

[Poster](#)

[Bulletin Insert](#)

Around Our Churches

Oak Lawn Community Baptist Church, home of the original May Breakfast, will hold their 146th May Breakfast on Wednesday, May 1, 2013 from 6 to 11 AM. Adults: \$7.00, Children (12 and under): \$4.00. Our traditional menu of clam cakes, scrambled eggs, ham, cornbread, apple pie, coffee & juice is served family style. Come along and bring a friend.

88th Annual May Breakfast to be held Saturday May 4, 2013 at Norwood Baptist Church, 84 Budlong Ave, Warwick, RI 02888 from 7-10 a.m. served by wait staff. The menu will include eggs cooked to order, bacon or ham, home fries, and baked beans. There also will be cereal, muffins, rolls, pies, juice, coffee, tea or milk. Featured will be a sale of all occasion gift baskets and candy-filled May baskets. Ticket prices; \$8.00 for Adults; \$ 4.00 for Children ages 5-12 yrs. Children 5 and under are our guests! The church is handicapped accessible. Reservations suggested for parties of 5 or more. Tickets may be purchased at the door. CALL 401-941-7040 or email NorwoodBaptist1@gmail.com

Warwick Central Baptist Church 3270 Post Road, Warwick will be holding its 38th Annual May Breakfast on Saturday, May 4, from 6:00 -10:30 am. All you can eat menu includes fruit salad, scrambled eggs, pancakes, sausage, ham, home fries, baked beans, muffins. cereal, coffee, tea , milk and Juice. May Baskets will also be available. Adults \$8.00.children 5-12 \$4.00 and children under 5 free.

Phenix Baptist Church Spring Rummage/Yard Sale Saturday, May 4, 2013 8:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m. Phenix Baptist, 2 Fairview Avenue West Warwick, RI

Phillips Memorial Baptist Church, 565 Pontiac Ave., Cranston will be holding its annual May Breakfast on Saturday, May 4, 7:00 – 10:00 AM. Breakfast served on china plates and includes: Traditional RI Johnny Cakes, scrambled eggs, baked beans, ham, fruit pies, juice, coffee and tea.

Adults \$8.00 – Children 10 and under \$4.00. Beautiful handmade May Baskets filled with home-made cookies and candy will be on sale.

The Magical Strings, a Celtic Harp and Hammer Dulcimer Duo on their east coast tour will perform at Warwick Central Baptist Church on Saturday, May 4, 2013 at 7:30pm. This will be an evening of beautiful acoustic instrumental music and we invite you to join us. Tickets are \$10.00 each and may be reserved by calling the church office at 739-2828 or purchased at the door. All proceeds will benefit mission and ministry projects at Warwick Central.

Olney Street Baptist Church, 100 Olney Street, Providence, invites you to its annual May Breakfast on May 4, 8 am – 11 am. Breakfast will include eggs, bacon, sausages, home fries, grits, biscuits, juice and coffee. Adults: \$5; Children 6-12: \$3; Children 5 and under eat free! Please join us for food & fellowship!

MAY BREAKFAST at First Baptist Church of North Kingstown, May 11, 6:30-10 a.m. What a delightful way to celebrate Mother's Day. Prices are unchanged from last year ... so come and enjoy breakfast, featuring johnny cakes home fries, ham, eggs, muffins, juice, coffee, and tea. Colorful May Baskets filled with delicious fudge and homemade candy are available for purchase. See attached [flyer](#) for details.

This year, the First Baptist Church in America, is observing the 375th anniversary of its founding in 1638 with a series of special preaching events. Dr. Walter Shurden kicked off the year-long series back on Reformation Sunday in 2012, and the next speaker will be the award-winning Dr. Carolyn Blivens preaching on "Being Woman, Being Baptist," on Sunday April 14 at 11 a.m. She will be joined by her husband, Dr. William Blivens, chair of the Religion Department of Carson-Newman University, who will lead the Sunday Adult Forum at 10 a.m. Everyone is invited and welcome to enjoy these presentations. On Sundays there is plenty of free parking on the streets and parking lots around the Meeting House at 75 No. Main Street, Providence.

Looking for that old hymn you love? Check out the Motter Resource Center at Canonicus. There are 60 different hymnals in the reference section. Also, while there, go downstairs and check out the "free" table and other "for sale" items. All books are still 75% off the internet price.

From Eldercare Ministries

The Office of Eldercare of ABCORI and Gentiva Hopice are sponsoring a "Prayer in the Park" on May 5, 2013 honoring and praying for Caregivers. Come join us for this first annual event. See attached [flyer](#).

The Alzheimer's Association of RI is holding its annual Caregiver Conference at the Crowne Plaza on June 25th. This is free for caregivers and is one of the best conferences of its kind in NE.

This event brings together more than 300 Alzheimer's caregivers, consumers, and health care professionals. This conference features nationally known keynote speaker and advocate, Stephanie Zeman, author of "*Kisses for Elizabeth*." In addition to Stephanie, we are offering 24 workshops presented by experts in the field of Alzheimer's care.

**Tuesday, June 25, 2013
Crowne Plaza Hotel
Warwick, RI 02886
8:00 a.m. - 4:15 p.m.**

[Click to download brochure with registration.](#)

From the Summer Camp Director

Don't forget, if you have a lawn sign for Camp, it is time to put it out! If you don't have one, there are a few left. They are \$24 each. Thank you for your support of our Summer Camp Ministry!!

Melanie Towle
Summer Camp Director

From our ABNS

VALLEY FORGE, PA (ABNS 4/18/13)—Registration has opened for the 2013 “Embrace the Cause” retreat sponsored by American Baptist International Ministries (IM) . This three-day event is designed for singles, families and couples who are considering a call to serve as global missionaries, and is scheduled for August 9 -12, 2013 at the Green Lake Conference Center in Green Lake, Wisconsin.

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

<http://www.abc-usa.org/2013/04/18/summer-2013-conference-for-those-considering-a-call-to-global-mission-service/>

For our Ministers

Greetings from the Ministers Council. To view the latest issue of the Ministers Council newsletter please click on the link below.

<http://www.ministerscouncil.org/Periodicals/documents/13AprNewslettervol55.pdf>

Ministers Council Retreat

RI Ministers Council Annual Block Island Retreat ... Tuesday and Wednesday May 14-15. If you'd like an extra day of R&R, you may also register for Monday May 13. We are excited that Rev. Debora Jackson, National Ministers Council President, will lead our retreat this year. Register early. The "season" starts on May 15, and we want to be sure you have rooms.

[Registration Form](#)

Church/Pastor Anniversaries

At our All-Church Worship on Sunday, April 28th at 3 PM at First Baptist of America, we wish to honor Pastor's anniversaries of Ordination and church anniversaries. Please submit your info to colleen@abcori.org as soon as possible.

South Providence Neighborhood Ministries

Music in May, a concert of Christian Music, with a casual buffet dinner and silent auction, on Saturday, May 4 at First Baptist Church, Wickford, to benefit South Providence Neighborhood Ministries. See [flyer](#) for details. Meal tickets available at the door, but a reservation call in advance will be most appreciated.

Beaver Days At Canonicus

Our first Beaver Day was held this past Saturday and was attended by 28 participants from 11 churches. I would like to thank all the attendees for the hard work of moving, cutting and chipping trees and branches from the winter storms. Their help has made the maintenance crew's job that much easier and we are grateful. If you missed this Beaver Day don't worry there are still two more to come. I hope to see you there.

May 11 - Volunteers will open up and clean program areas throughout Canonicus

June 8 - Volunteers will make the final preparations for the first day of Camp and Staff Training

Although each day has its own focus there will be many projects for all skill levels. If there is a particular project that you or your group is looking to do we please let us know and we make the appropriate arrangements. Click [here for a flyer](#)

Advance registration is helpful!

Contact Matt Black ~ 294-6318 x107~ 215-4089 (cell)

email: matt@abcori.org

Invitation For Choirs

Greetings. I'm writing on behalf of the Biennial/Mission Summit Planning Committee to invite your church choir, and other singers in your church, to be involved in a very special opportunity to sing with Kansas City based composer Mark Hayes. Mark will direct his beloved anthem "To Love Our God" on Sunday night, June 23 at the Overland Park Convention Center with a choir of singers from around the ABC.

Please see the attached documents to sign up for this unique opportunity. And visit the Biennial/Mission Summit website to learn more about this historic meeting.

[Mass Choir with Composer Mark Hayes](#) [To Love Our God](#)

www.americanbaptists2013.org

Blessings,

Rev. Brad Berglund
Biennial/Mission Summit Worship Designer
Brad Berglund
Office: 720.489.8073

CONFERENCE FOR CHURCH MUSICIANS

The Conference for Church Musicians will be held July 13-20, 2013 at the Green Lake Conference Center. This will be 49th annual conference planned by The Fellowship of American Baptist Musicians. Conferees of all ages have the opportunity to work with nationally and internationally renowned clinicians in both ensemble and workshop settings. Workshops are designed to further educate and train those involved in church music leadership. In addition to daytime activities, the conference has six evening concert programs. The 2013 clinicians include: Marty Haugen-worship; Robert Hobby-adult choir; Timothy Waugh-youth choir; Vicki Hancock Wright-children's choir; Anna Laura Page-Handbells; Ernest Gross-instrumental; Jeremy Bankson-organ; Jan Corrothers-piano. Further information regarding the conference and registration is available on our website at www.fabm.com or by calling (812) 371-5390.

Baptist Peacemakers

The BPFNA is the recipient of a \$15,000 2012/2013 Palmer Grant award under the American Baptist Home Mission Society (ABHMS) grant cycle theme of "Discipleship: Engaging the 18 to 29 Years Old Community." We intend to use the funds to continue and expand the companioning

program that we launched at Peace Camp in 2012, where 9 pairs of companions were matched. Through this program, young adults are invited into a personal relationship with adults who are at a different place in their own lives. These older companions have already experienced much of what the younger adults are going through and, thus, they have the benefit of "looking back" and sharing their stories.

This year, we hope to double the number of active companions and we invite young peacemakers (age 18-29) to apply for one of the companion spots that will be funded for attending the 2013 summer conference.

If you will be between the ages of 18-29 on July 15, 2013, would like to attend peace camp in 2013 at Gonzaga University and would like to participate in the companioning program throughout the year and into summer conference (July 2014), we invite you to apply for consideration by completing an application by May 15, 2013.

You can find the application here:

<http://www.bpfna.org/companioning-app>

FEEL FREE TO SHARE THIS NEWS WITH ANY YOUNG ADULT YOU KNOW WITH A HEART FOR PEACE ROOTED IN JUSTICE!

MissionWorks 2013

If you missed MissionWorks 2012 you missed an exciting and inspiring time with our missionaries. The food, speakers, accommodations, workshops, fun and fellowship with brothers and sisters passionate about mission was outstanding. But I have some good news MissionWorks 2013 planning is already underway and the team is very excited about this year's theme and program. You will want to save the date October 18-19, 2013 at the Sheraton Four Points, Leominster, MA. Remember to mark your calendar today and look for more information to follow in the coming weeks.

The ABCORI Calendar 2012

Date	Time	Event	Location
2013			
April 20		AB Women's Ministries Spring	FBC, Hope Valley

		Gathering	
April 28	3pm	All Church Worship Sunday	First Baptist Church in America
April 27		Sabbath Time Retreat	Cottrell's Home
June 9	10 am	Annual Blessing of the Animals Service	Liberty Baptist Church
June 14-15		Annual Conference for Women and Girls	Canonicus
June 21-23		Amer. Baptist Mission Summit/Biennial	Overland Park/Kansas City
July 3	6:30 pm	AB Women's Ministries Board	Lakewood Baptist

If you have something for The E-notes, please send it to info@abcori.org.

Please use Arial 10pt font – Thank you