

2017 Calendar

September:

17: **Installation Service for Rev. Patty Bilyeu - Area Minister for Areas II and IV - 4:00 p.m. FBC Greenville, IL**

28: **Minister's Conference**
Chesterfield, MO

29 - 30: **GRR Annual Assembly**
Chesterfield, MO

October:

13 - 14: **ManCamp: Roots Lake Springfield Baptist Camp**

14: **Professional Boundaries Course**
ABC-GRR Resource Center, Springfield, IL

New Area Minister Contact Information

Rex Rogers, Areas I & III

Email: rex@abcgrr.org

Phone: 779 - 207 - 9188

Patty Bilyeu, Areas II & IV

Email: patty@abcgrr.org

Phone: 618 - 694 - 8860

Patty Bilyeu Installation Service

You are invited to the installation worship service of **The Rev. Patty Bilyeu** on **Sunday, September 17 at 4:00 p.m. at Greenville First Baptist Church.** Members and pastors of Area II and Area IV churches of the ABC GRR will be participating as we celebrate God's calling and Patty's response to follow God's leading into serving as GRR Associate Minister with primary responsibilities to churches of Areas II and IV.



GRR Website

E-mail GRR Webmaster, **Richard Ricks: revrick4@comcast.net**

Mainstream Contact Information

Send your stories of mission and ministry. Please also send the names of new members to:

**Linda Ricks
232 Devron Circle
East Peoria, IL 61611**

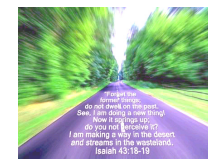
Ricks4LR@comcast.net



The Mainstream

News of Ministry and Mission

American Baptist Churches of the
Great Rivers Region



God's New Thing

September 2017 No 1

Email: debbie@abcgrr.org
Online edition now interactive

web: www.abcgrr.org

50th Annual Assembly of American Baptist Churches of the Great Rivers Region

What Is Difficult About God's New Thing?

Isaiah 43:18,19

Friday, September 29 -
Saturday, September 30, 2017

DoubleTree by Hilton Hotel
16625 Swingley Ridge Road
Chesterfield, MO

Registration Information: Assembly Registration Fee: \$20.00

Register online or download registration form @ www.abcgrr.org

Speakers:



Dr. Marvin A. McMickle is President, Director of the Doctor of Ministry Program & Professor of African American Religious Studies at **Colgate Rochester Crozer Divinity School** in Rochester, NY



Dr. Lee Spitzer is the newly elected General Secretary of **American Baptist Churches USA**

Schedule:

Friday, September 29:

Clergy Spouses Luncheon 12:00 Noon - Speaker: **Dr. Lee Spitzer**

Business Session: 2:00 p.m.

Opening Session: 2:30 p.m. - Speaker: **Dr. Marvin McMickle**

GRR Mission/Ministry Banquet: 5:00 p.m. with speakers:

Dr. Lee Spitzer

& **Brian and Lynette Smith**

are **preparing to serve in Haiti** in partnership with the Haitian Baptist Convention.



Evening Session: 7:00 p.m.

Speaker: **Dr. Marvin McMickle**

Special Reception: 8:45 p.m.

Saturday, September 30:

Breakfast Meetings: 8:00 a.m.

American Baptist Men:
Mac Shotwell - Speaker

American Baptist Women's Ministries, **Brian and Lynette Smith** - Speakers

GRR 50th Annual Gathering

Schedule: (continued)

Breakfasts

Alternative Ministerial
Education (AME) -
Paul Maitland - Speaker

Workshops: 9:30 a.m.

Closing Worship: 10:45 a.m.
Speaker: **Dr. Marvin McMickle**

Ministers' Conference

"Dealing With Conflict"

Speaker: **Dr. Karl Slaikeu**
is an internationally recognized psychologist, mediator and negotiation expert based in Austin, Texas



**DoubleTree Hotel
Chesterfield, MO**

Thursday, September 28, 2017

1:00 p.m. - 5:00 p.m.

This is a FREE conference for pastors and pastoral staff. Registering helps us have your seat and meal ready. Also, there are 0.4 CEU's available. This is a separate registration from the Annual Assembly.

Paul Rollet Available for Speaking

Paul Rollet, missionary to the Philippines, is in the region through October. He is available to speak at Region churches - especially in central Illinois. His weekends are mostly full but he is available during the week. Contact him at pjrollet@gmail.com.

ManCamp: Roots 2017 Retreat

Lake Springfield Baptist Camp will hold a Men's Retreat on **October 13 & 14, 2017. ManCamp: Roots** will be led by **Rev. John Parrish and Rev. Patrick Embley**, with worship music provided by **Brendan Parrish**.

ManCamp invites all men and men-in-training to attend and experience spiritual growth and renewal, a time to make new friends and to do some fun, male-oriented activities. Men-in-training (ages 15 & under) must be accompanied by a parent or guardian. ManCamp will begin Friday at 5:30 p.m. and conclude at 4:00 p.m. on Saturday.

Registration Options:

\$40 - Entire weekend including dorm/bunkhouse style lodging

\$30 - Entire weekend without lodging

\$25 - Saturday only

Multiple people attending from the same household? Pay full price for the first person and take \$5 off each additional person.

Pastors Attend for Half Price

Register online at:
www.lsbconline.com

Lake Springfield Baptist Camp
5878 Iron Bridge Road
Chatham, IL 62629
Phone: 217-670-2356

If you have them, please bring gloves, chainsaws and/or rakes for our Saturday activity.

A Word From Paul Gibson, ABCGR Executive Minister



IT'S HERE. OUR 50TH Annual Assembly of American Baptist Churches of the Great Rivers Region is right around the corner.

There is still time for you to join us in a great and inspiring gathering in Chesterfield, Missouri. Maybe you can only make it for a day. Well, do just that. Every day will be wonderful. Hope to see you there.

HURRICANES!!!! I think we have had enough. As I am writing this Hurricane Irma is just finishing up her devastation. In the days ahead we will be hearing of ways in which we can help out with recovery from Irma, as well as what we have already heard about Harvey. **The best way to give is still through One Great Hour of Sharing or through American Baptist Men.** Both groups will get every dollar you give to the places it is most needed. We already have three groups from our region scheduled to go. More opportunities will come in the days ahead. Some of our churches already have connections to people, groups, and churches in the damaged areas and are working directly with them. Do whatever you can, the need is great.

MISSION TRIPS: If your church is planning a mission trip in the coming year, please let us know at the regional office. I would like to be a part of one of those trips, and I am encouraging our area ministers to consider joining one also. Let us know where you are going, when,

and what you will be up to. **First Baptist Church in Elgin has two planned to Ghana in 2018.** They shared a bit about that when I preached there this past Sunday. By the way, I had a great time with them.

I also was able to attend a 175th anniversary dinner at **First Baptist of Dixon** this past Saturday. A big shout-out to **Rachel and Bunyan Cocar** for the great things that are happening in Dixon.

Besides the hurricanes, we also had the start of NFL games this past week. **Wouldn't it be a nice thing if the NFL decided to donate one dollar from every ticket sold to a hurricane relief fund. They seem to have quite a bit of money so I'm sure this wouldn't ruin them.** Just a thought.

Remember, be rightly related to God and find your joy there, and out of you will flow rivers of living water. Be a vessel that God can pour His love through.

LET IT FLOW,

Paul

American Baptists are encouraged to help those affected by hurricanes Harvey and Irma by giving to OGHS. Click on link or go to abcgrr.org home page.