



August 1, 2017

The Rocky Mountain American Baptist

A Newsletter of the American Baptist Churches in the Rocky Mountain Region

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Storyline

Our Unfinished Story

THE GATHERING

AMERICAN BAPTIST CHURCHES OF THE ROCKY MOUNTAINS

SEPTEMBER 29TH - 30TH, 2017

FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH, FORT MORGAN, CO

Join us for this year's Annual Gathering

A crucial part of our common faith and practice as American Baptists are the stories of the Bible. Our Bible contains the stories of God's loving and on-going relationship with us—from our creation, to our separation, our attempts to draw close and regain our fellowship with God and finally our salvation through Christ and God's greatest display of love for us. But the story is not yet finished... not only are there the stories of the early church in our Scripture, but there are the stories of the promised kingdom and our being seated at Christ's banquet table. Overall it is a great story with many chapters, plots, twists and lots and lots of drama.

Isn't it great to know that we are a part of that storyline? Isn't it also great to know that this storyline, while knowing the ending, is not yet finished... that there is more to be written before the book is closed?



This then is the theme of this year's Gathering-- **Storyline: Our Unfinished Story**- a celebration of the great story of God's love for us and of our part in that on-going storyline. It is an opportunity to look back at our story not to hold on to the past, but to learn from it and to help create a better future... to advance the plot-line and not re-live it.

We have recruited a great team of speakers for this Gathering. Dr. Adam Bond is both a great historian, especially when it comes to our Baptist Heritage, and maybe even a better speaker. Dan Chetti and Pastor Hikmat will be telling The Story from another part of our world. Your help in doing the timeline exercise in your congregation and bringing the stories you encounter there will help to make The Story personal. I believe this Gathering is going to be historic—not just in content, but also in impact on our common life together. You don't want to miss it.

Preceding our Gathering will be two other events that focus on Storytelling... Dr. Mike Graves, renowned homiletician, will be leading a workshop on Narrative preaching and storytelling. This workshop is not just for preachers but for deacons, Sunday school teachers and anyone else who finds themselves called upon to relate the gospel in a meaningful way.

And then there is the annual Clergy Dinner (open to all) where we will see the story come alive through photos. Storytelling after all involves all of our senses, and National Geographic photographer, Ken Jenkins, tells the story in a unique way through his work.

We will be gathering at First Baptist of Fort Morgan because churches in smaller communities are a vital part of our storyline. We will have the opportunity to see how God is at work in Fort Morgan and in the many other small communities our member congregations serve.

So, make plans now to join us for this powerful event. We look forward to seeing and being with you at this, our annual reunion of the extended family of ABCRM.

In Christ,

Rev. Steven C. Van Ostran, D. Min.
Executive Ministre

Pre-Gathering Workshop

Thursday, September 28, 2017

10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

The Story Narrative Preaching

Open to clergy and lay persons

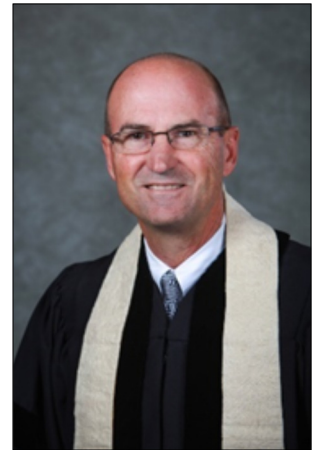
As we preachers know full well, sermons need to have substance, something worthwhile for people to hear on Sundays. But sermons also need to be creative and interesting. In this interactive workshop we will explore the merits of narrative preaching, sermons that are both substantive and engaging. Participants are encouraged to bring notes from a sermon-in-progress so that we can work on what it means to preach narratively.

Workshop Leader

Rev. Mike Graves, PhD

**Wm. K. McElvaney Professor of Preaching and Worship
Saint Paul School of Theology**

Mike Graves is an ordained minister in the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ), whose primary ministry has been teaching in seminaries. He has previously served on the faculty of Central Seminary. He also served a number of churches as interim minister and held two pastorates in Missouri and Texas.



MIKE GRAVES

Cost: includes book *The Story of Narrative Preaching* and lunch

Early Bird (by August 25)

\$45.00 (book in hard copy)

30.00 (book in Kindle [email] format)

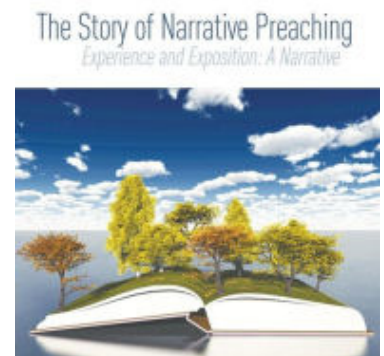
After August 25

\$60.00 (book in hard copy)

45.00 (book in Kindle [email] format)

Location:

**First Baptist Church
16756 County Road 18
Fort Morgan, CO 80701
Phone: 970.867.7383**



***For additional information,
contact ABCRM at 303.988.3900***

Clergy Appreciation Dinner

**Thursday, September 28, 2017
6:30 to 8:30 p.m.**

at the

**Country Steak Out Restaurant
19592 E. 8th Ave., Fort Morgan, CO**

**ABCRM Regional Clergy and Spouse
attend at no cost
(for registered/paid Gathering participants)**

**\$25.00 per person for:
Non-Clergy, Non-Gathering Registered Clergy, and
Non Gathering Clergy Spouses (those not registered)**

(TICKETS ARE REQUIRED AND MUST BE OBTAINED IN ADVANCE)

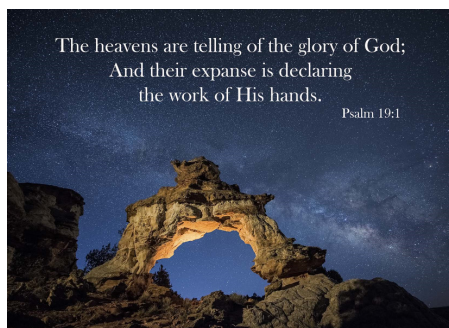
Entertainment

**Ken Jenkins
National Geographic Photographer
Speaker and Entrepreneur**

“Don’t Lose the Wonder”



Ken is a National Geographic award winning photographer capturing images of God creation. He has a Garrison Keillor delivery and his devotional thoughts are amazing. He was recently in Alaska for a Pastor’s conference and just did the Wilderness Wildlife Week in Pigeon Forge attended by 30,000+. His Heaven and Nature Sing program is the highest attended session of the entire week. He speaks and shares slides. You will love him and his amazing photography.



Senior High Camp at Wyoba

This year at Camp Wyoba was another excellent year. God showed up in a big way and reached our campers. This is what He's been doing for years. This is what happened to me after attending this summer camp in between my 7th and 8th grade year. Each summer I have returned in order to have that Camp Wyoba experience, which is really a God-love relationship. We had a few brand-new conversions as well as many (actually most campers) rededications to the Lord during camp. These were conversations that were camper led, meaning they came to us and let us know how God was working in their life.

I am a huge believer in summer church camps. I promote FCA summer sports camps. I promote YoungLife camps. But the biggest one on my list is Camp Wyoba. In my mind, there is not a better camp. Camp Wyoba is the best kept secret around! I would invite any kids to spend a week at Camp Wyoba! We may not have all of the crazy amusement park / adventure course stuff, but what happens each summer is amazing. Kids come from around the state and out of state to meet with other friends and make new friends and grow in Christ.

This summer may have had some distractions, but it was another great week at Camp Wyoba. The kids up here are in a safe environment. The team that assembled for High School Camp was an amazing group of leaders that came together and spent many hours encouraging and building up the campers that are here. One of the great things that happened this summer was the power of the "one on one*" conference with a camper. Many powerful conversations were had and many kids were set free from the things that the world has them captured in. We give the glory to God! He gives us victory after victory and we have seen it summer after summer. The High school team was top-notch and was led by the speaking of Jason King. He has done a great job of breaking through the fluff of life and getting to the power of a relationship with Christ and why it is so important. He models Christ first and world second mentality that we are trying to teach these campers.

* *note- all "one on one" meetings were kept in the open and not in a closed or alone space. (We do a great job of keeping Camp integrity a priority).*

The summer of Camp Wyoba 2017 will be remembered as one where God met people (myself included) here at Camp and furthered our relationship with him. There is something great about getting away from the rigors of life and being able to focus on Him. Satan and all of his distractions were to no avail. I hope the best for each camp that comes here. Holy Spirit meet and move through Camp Wyoba as you have for many years. Thank you for your support of Camp Wyoba to make a difference in the life of each camper.

In Christ, best regards,

Cody M. Hansen
Camp Wyoba Senior High Director



Gardens of Divine Hope Church Community Gardens

Gardens of Divine Hope Church had the honor of receiving a Curtis Park Grant for community service. The significance of this grant involved working with schools and churches in developing community gardens and to harvest these gardens with the intention of giving the produce to the hungry and most needy in the schools, churches and communities.

As we progressed through the process, we contributed not only in providing soil nutrients, seeds and tools for the community gardens but we actually become very involved in the construction, set-up, and design of the gardens. The whole purpose of this grant was to implement Community Involvement. This was accomplished not only through collaborating with different schools and churches, but it was promoted through our churches attendance at numerous PTA meetings, conferences, and special meetings to set up agendas and organizational charts for construction and planting of the gardens. I, as pastor, was asked to be on three boards regarding the gardening projects.

The community gardens provide a wonderful way for people to work together, get to know each other, and build relationships. It is also a time for children to learn to plant and to understand God's creation as he has offered this gift. Denver Urban Gardens and Slow Kitchen Foods collaborated with us as well.

Because of attendance at numerous PTA meetings, we were able to introduce the church to many people. As a result, we had attendance at our Easter services this year from families who didn't have a church, some who hadn't been inside a church before, and hadn't been introduced to the gospel at all.

Those churches and schools involved in this 3-year process included:

- Columbine Elementary
- Metro Caring
- Oakland Elementary
- Schmitt Elementary
- St. Paul's United Methodist Church
- University Park Elementary
- Valverde Elementary
- Washington Park United Methodist Church

Gardens of Divine Hope is still working with Columbine in getting their community garden constructed. We are still in communication with Schmitt Elementary and University Park in pursuing their gardening efforts.

Blessings
Pastor Karen Schneider



Oakland Elementary





Schmitt Elementary



University Park Elementary

Pine Street Church Welcomes New Pastor

The Members and Friends of Pine Street Church, formerly First Baptist Church of Boulder, are thrilled to welcome the **Reverend J. Andrew Daugherty** as their new Senior Pastor. Andrew began his ministry at Pine Street Church on June 20, 2017.



After a national search process that included pastors from more than twenty states, the Pastoral Search Committee, through much prayer and discernment, God's constant encouragement, as well as the great care provided by the Region's Mike Oldham. . . we were indeed blessed to find our new pastor literally "in our own backyard!"

Andrew comes to us from Calvary Baptist Church of Denver where he has served the past four years as Executive Pastor. He is a young pastor with a strong and diverse educational background and a wide range of pastoral leadership experience.

A diverse educational background has given Andrew a solid foundation that he continues to build on:

- † Bachelor of Arts degree at Belmont University, Nashville (2000)
- † Master of Divinity at Wake Forest University (2003)
- † Center for Congregational Health, Winston Salem, NC (2012)
- † Doctor of Ministry degree at Columbia Theological Seminary (currently completing)

- Andrew's leadership experience began early in his career in a two-year *Pastoral Resident Program* at Wilshire Baptist Church, Dallas, TX, a wonderful church known as an excellent training ground for exceptionally talented young pastors (2004-06).
- Moving from Dallas to start a new church, Christ Church in Rockwell, TX, provided additional opportunities to grow in pastoral skills and perspectives as the founding pastor (2006-10).
- As the *Minister of Faith Formation* for the Myers Park Baptist Church, Charlotte, NC, he served as the senior spiritual educator of a 2100-member ecumenical church (2010-13).
- Four years ago, Andrew was called to join the staff of Calvary Baptist Church working with his friend, the Reverend Anne Scalfaro and the dear folks of Calvary.

Andrew is also involved and engaged in matters of faith on a national level. He is a *National Board Member* of the Baptist Joint Committee for Religious Liberty, Washington, DC. Andrew is also a *Contributing Religion Blogger* for the Huffington Post, New York, NY.

Andrew is a single parent of two beautiful children who are the center of his life. All know him as a devoted father to daughter, Addison (8), and son, Aidan (6). Andrew enjoys writing, reading, trying new restaurants, Denver Broncos football, Chicago Cubs baseball, and anything that involves his two young children.

Larry VanSpiell
Pine Street Church

A Summer Retreat for American Baptist Girls 2017

A Summer Retreat is planned for AB Girls ages 7 to 19, and their Mothers/Grandmothers for August 4-6, 2017, for all to enjoy the last days of Summer before returning to school. The Retreat will be held at the Hotel Elegante at 2885 S. Circle Drive, Colorado Springs, CO and an exciting list of activities is planned.

The following agenda is in place:

- Bible Study
- Conversation
- Small Groups
- Hiking
- Swimming
- And a visit to the World Arena and United States Olympic Complex

It will be a time for the girls in the Colorado RM Region to get to know each other.

Costs will be reasonable for Mothers/Grandmothers and girls. Tentative pricing will be \$50.00 to \$75.00 a day. (We will be doing some room share to cut costs). Bring friends and introduce them to the Gospel.

For information and registration, contact Reverend Karen Schneider at reverendkarenwschneider@yahoo.com or call at 720-308-8418.

American Baptist
Women's
MINISTRIES

Blessings
Pastor Karen
Gardens of Divine Hope Church

ABCRM Pastor's Night at the Rockies Game



- ♦ Friday night, August 18th (Colorado Rockies vs. Milwaukee Brewers)
- ♦ Game start 6:40 pm
- ♦ **Must purchase tickets by August 2nd**
- ♦ Cost \$12 a ticket for ABCRM Pastors
- ♦ Each pastor may purchase an additional ticket for their spouse (or guest)
- ♦ Online registration can be made using the link below.

<https://pastor-s-night-at-the-rockies-game-abcrm.echurchevents.com/step1>

Free Portable Stage

Consists of 9 decks, each one 8 ft. by 4 ft.
Detachable legs 22 inches long
Together it makes into a stage 12 ft. x 24 ft. or they can be built into other configurations or used separately

Not interested in letting go of this stage in parts. Please take the whole thing. There are some legs of shorter lengths to "stair step".

The stage receiver must arrange transportation. Each deck weighs about 70 lbs. For more information, call Charlie Clark 720.244.7732.

Calendar

August

- 4-6** AB Girls Retreat
- 10-11** Willow Creek Global Leadership Summit
- 11-13** Wyoming Women's Retreat at Camp Wyoba
- 13** FBC, Lander Honors Pastor Scott Engelhart
- 18** ABCRM Pastors Night at the Rockies Game
- 18-22** Wyoba Solar Eclipse Rentals
- 28** Empower the Small Church Webinar #2
- 30** Mission Committee Meeting

September

- 4** Labor Day
- 9** Wyoba Board Meeting
- 28** Pre-Gathering
- 28** Clergy Appreciation Dinner
- 29-30** Annual Gathering



The Back Pew – Jeff Larson



Karl's natural worship style of hands raised, and passionate singing to God made uptight Bert very uncomfortable. **PASSIVE WORSHIP IS AN OXYMORON. Mark 12:30**

*The Rocky Mountain
American Baptist*
is published by the
American Baptist Churches
of the Rocky Mountains
www.abcrm.org

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*This newsletter is published
on the 1st of each month.*

*The deadline for submissions
is the 20th of each month.
Send submissions to
akeys@abcrm.org*

*Reprint permission is granted
to ABCRM churches.*



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