



# Metrolines

An e-publication of the Philadelphia Baptist Association

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**Metrolines** is published 4 times yearly - December/January, March/April, June and September/October. Send articles and/or pictures to Janet Reedy ([jhreeedy@philadelphiabaptist.org](mailto:jhreeedy@philadelphiabaptist.org)). Inclusion of materials is at the discretion of PBA staff.

## 311th Annual Meeting Saturday, May 5, 2018



The **311<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting of the Philadelphia Baptist Association** will be held on May 5, 2018. We will gather at the Bethlehem Baptist Church of Spring House PA, where The Rev. Charles Quann is pastor. The day will begin at 8:15 am with registration.

The focus of the year's meeting is Praise and Worship through Music and the Arts.

Our Plenary Speaker is The Rev. Dr. Wendell J. Mapson, Jr., Pastor of Monumental Baptist Church in West Philadelphia. Dr. Mapson will set the tone for the day as we reflect on the ministry of Christian Music and the Arts in the life of our congregations.

The order of the day is changed this year. We will begin with our business meeting. The plenary session, workshops, worship, and fellowship luncheon will follow.



The worship service will feature music and drama in praise of our Christ.

Please place the date on your calendars and bring your friends to the event. Complete details and registration will be available soon.

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# Missiological Conversation

First Annual Event April 19, 2018

Register thru this [link](#) for the first annual clergy conversation.

This first annual clergy conversation is sponsored by the Philadelphia Baptist Association (PBA) and the PBA Ministers Council. Clergy and church leaders are invited to join the first annual Clergy Missiological conversation about what we do, why we do it and how it's done (mission) in the name of Jesus Christ.

**Date:** April 19, 2018 - 9:00 am

**Time:** 9:00 am - 2:30 pm

**Location:** St. Paul's Baptist Church  
One Hagerty Boulevard, West Chester, PA 19382

**Cost:** \$45.00

(Registration deadline: April 11<sup>th</sup>)

There will be two speakers to help us investigate our concern for the Christian moral compass across the Nation and in Metro-Philadelphia. They will reflect on the theme "**Her Faith, Her Lens!!**" (Matthew 15:21-28; Mark 7:27-28)

**National: The Rev. Marvin A. McMickle, Ph.D.,** President, Director of the Doctor of Ministry Program & Professor of African American Religious Studies, Colgate Rochester Crozer Divinity School.



**Metro-Philadelphia: The Rev. Leslie D. Callahan, Ph.D.,** Pastor, Saint Paul's Baptist Church, Philadelphia; served on the faculty of the University of Pennsylvania and New York Theological Seminary.

## Key Features of our Annual Missiological Conversations

- The focus of our conversation is helping our clergy and congregations to understand what it means to be a faithful presence in the broken places in our society/world.
- The PBA Ministers Council will serve as conveners (host) of the Annual Conversations with the help of a steering committee of PBA Clergy.
- PBA pastors/clergy have direct input in the direction, design, and implementation of the annual event.

- PBA pastors/clergy are to be invited to serve as presenters of the strategies and/or mission models to be employed on the specific topics addressed.
- The conversations will promote networking and mutual support for clergy across the region, leading missional congregations.
- Keynote speakers (local or national) and/or panels will be invited to set the tone for the conversations at the annual event.
- Networking is promoted among the clergy to implement (make operational) the learnings garnered from the conversations. The conversations are not focused on controlling outcomes.

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## Third Annual Mission Cafe

Saturday, March 3, 2018



In spite of the inclement weather, fifty people gathered for the Third Annual PBA Passion for Mission Caf  Experience on Saturday, March 3, 2018 at the First African Baptist Church in Sharon Hill, PA, where the Rev. Dr. Richard Dent is pastor. The theme this year was "Jesus and the Millennials".

Participants were inspired and challenged by the presenter of the day, Dr. John Gray, pastor of the Goodwill Tabernacle Baptist Church and educator with vast experience in reaching millennials for Christ. Dr. Gray assisted the participants in understanding the millennial generation, and asked what the church's responsibility to the next generation is. Attendees were challenged to hold within their own churches an engagement session with millennials asking and discussing how millennials can be involved in the church and what will be the involvement level be.



## Third Annual Passion for Mission Cafe

**First African Baptist Church**  
Sharon Hill, PA

**SATURDAY, March 3, 2018**

### "Jesus and the Millennials"

Millennials, who are they? What is their worldview? How does the church engage them?



Presenter:

**Rev. Dr. John E. Gray** is the Senior Pastor of the Goodwill Tabernacle Baptist Church in Philadelphia, PA. He also serves as Assistant Dean of the School of Education at Stockton University in Pomona, NJ. Dr. Gray stands at the forefront of the movement for mentoring youth and young adults.





**"Jesus and the Millennials"**  
Matthew 5:3-10



Helping Millennials become believers who are:

- *Foot in Spirit* - Practice humility recognize their need for Christ Jesus.
- *Slowburners* - Practice empathy, are concerned for others, & are aware of the impact of their own actions on the lives of others.
- *Steele* - Practice controlled power and calm assurance in the face of violence and chaos.
- *Merciful* - Practice loving forgiveness.
- *Pure in Heart* - vigorously investigate and search for truth-listen well to others.
- *Peacemakers* - Practice reconciliation and are willing to work for justice over the long-haul.
- *Persecuted* - Witnesses willing to face suffering for the cause of truth and justice (sharing the Gospel).

Based on Matthew 5:3-10



Mark your calendars for Saturday, May 5th at the Bethlehem Baptist Church in Spring House, PA for the PBA annual meeting when the conversation will continue.

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**PBA Ministers Council**

What happens in the life of a congregation, between the coming and leaving of the settled pastor *can be* the most significant moment of transformation and readiness for change. In reality, what happens in the intervening months/years determines, to a great extent, the legacy of the congregation. The Philadelphia Baptist Association (PBA) is preparing a set of guidelines for distribution to our entire membership that we hope will assist our congregations in making the most of the period of Pastoral Transition.

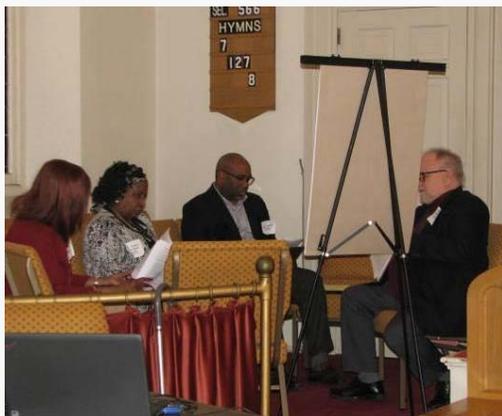


At the March 14<sup>th</sup> Ministers Council gathering at the PBA regional office the Rev. Dr. Marcia B. Bailey & the Rev. Dr. James E. McJunkin, Jr. presented the focus for the day entitled ***"Equipped to Serve: Guidelines for Pastoral Transition in the Philadelphia Baptist Association."***

PBA clergy were invited to join the conversation about the essential work of the "time between" and were asked to help to tailor and contribute to the document based on their experiences in preparing to leave or enter a new congregation. The purpose and goal of the discussion was that the guidelines help congregations to:

- Learn how a planned, effective time of transition can affect congregational health.
- Appreciate and/or build on the legacy of the pastor that is leaving and prepare for the future.
- Follow the Spirit's leading in the transitional period, understanding it as a sacred time of leaving the past and preparing to welcome the future that Christ has for the congregation.
- Appreciate the fact that autonomous congregations are responsible for the work of understanding the mind of the body, accessing needs of the community, and discerning the Lord's leading as they journey together.

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## Rebuilding, Restoring, Renewing Puerto Rico Update

Donations can be made through the PBA. Make checks payable to PBA and designate it for "Puerto Rico". Mail to PBA, 8711 Ridge Avenue, Philadelphia, PA 19128-2023.

In response to the devastating one-two punch leveled at Puerto Rico first by Hurricane Irma and then by Hurricane Maria, American Baptist Home Mission Societies (ABHMS), partnering with American Baptist Churches USA (ABCUSA), has launched a multi-year initiative, "Rebuilding, Restoring, Renewing Puerto Rico."

One hundred percent of donations go to relief efforts; no dollars are retained for administrative costs.

ABHMS is thrilled to share that the initiative's initial fundraising goal-\$1 million via One Great Hour of Sharing by March 30, 2018-was surpassed as of Feb. 9, 2018!

However, great need still exists in Puerto Rico, and ABHMS urges continued giving to help our brothers and sisters on the island.

"Within the next three to five years," Dr. Jeffrey Haggray, Executive Director, ABHMS, said, "we will work with our American Baptist partners to restore all 114 churches and nine missions in the Iglesias Bautistas de Puerto Rico as well as Corporacion Milagros del Amor and Seminario Evangelico de Puerto Rico."

The need in Puerto Rico is so great that



ABHMS is not designating specific volunteer work weeks on the island. Churches, other groups and individuals are urged to determine their own volunteer work weeks.

Volunteers can create their own work groups or contact ABHMS to be placed with a group. Cost of \$150 per person per week includes housing, food and supplies. Volunteers are responsible for round-trip transportation to Puerto Rico as well as transportation on the island.

For complete information or to download an application go to the [ABHMS website](#).

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## News and Notes

Around the Region

### Pastoral Transitions

**Rev. Dr. Darron D. McKinney, Sr.**, began his ministry with the Bright Hope Baptist Church in December 2017.



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## Upcoming Events

### April 2018

19 First Annual Missiological Conversation @ St. Paul's Baptist Church, West Chester

### May 2018

05 PBA 311th Annual Meeting @ Bethlehem Baptist Church of Spring House

09 PBA Ministers' Council @ PBA office building

### July 2018

13-15 ABW of PA & DE Conference @ Shippensburg University, Shippensburg, PA  
([www.abwmopad.org](http://www.abwmopad.org))

27-29 ABMen of PB & DE Annual Conference @ Shippensburg University, Shippensburg, PA  
([www.abmopad.org](http://www.abmopad.org))

### October 2018

20 Mission Banquet @ The Drexelbrook, Drexel Hill

## Contact Information

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Dr. James E. McJunkin, Jr., Executive Minister  
Rev. Julia Bruton-Sheppard, Program Facilitator, Communications & Leader Development  
Mrs. Rosalyn L. Martin, Executive Assisant  
Ms. Janet Reedy, Administrative Assistant

We encourage you to contact the PBA staff for more information on our programs and opportunities for service and ministry.

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