

ABCORI OFFICE CLOSED THURSDAY AND FRIDAY FOR THE THANKSGIVING HOLIDAY

*Articles are due by December 1, for the next E-notes Extended addition.

IN OUR THOUGHTS AND PRAYERS

We ask your prayers for Joan (the mother of Chris Lussier, our Facilities Manager), her family, the attending Doctors and therapists, as Joan struggles to recover from a stroke.

FROM LILIANA'S DESK

It is not easy to sit at my desk today, because the message I must convey to you is not a jolly one. As you know, our ABCORI budget has been a source of stress for those of us who have been involved in planning for the future, even as we strive to figure out how to deal in the present for our ministry together. We all took pay cuts earlier this year and we eliminated the position, held by Nick, of Executive Chef/Food Service Manager. Yet, all those efforts were not enough to help us face the finances of 2010 with confidence. Instead, as the holidays approach, we had to make yet another difficult decision.

Last week Liz and I met with Matt Black to communicate to him that his position is going to be eliminated beginning January 1, 2010. We are absolutely devastated seeing Matt leave his work in the Region after almost 10 years of faithful service. Also, we are troubled by our addition of one more person to the growing unemployment list. Matt has been extremely gracious in taking the news and is currently helping us figure out some details, that only he knows, about technology in the office, website, emails, etc.

I am writing to you today, (and may repeat these words in a couple of weeks) in order to let you know that this decision was not made unilaterally by Liz or me. It was made in consensus with Personnel, Operations, and the Board of Ministries, and it was by no means an easy decision to make. Rather, it was one over which we agonized. It is not a reflection on Matt's performance, but is strictly based on budgetary limitations.

Matt has been a wonderful asset to ABCORI, helping in every capacity in which he has served. He's been great in maintenance, very effective in his role as Assistant Camp Director, and extremely helpful in technology areas, especially to me 😊. However, one of the ministries where Matt has excelled is his work with YMPT (Youth Ministry Planning Team). With his faithful guidance and perseverance, youth ministry in ABCORI has taken off. Matt will continue to help in this as a volunteer, and we truly appreciate it.

Let us all pray for Matt and Kathy Black as they find a new future. Let us be thankful for the privilege of serving God together, and let us ask God to heal our finances so we won't need to say goodbye to anyone else. In the midst of all this, may our hearts still be thankful for His grace and love.

HEALTHY PASTORS – PASTORAL LEADERSHIP MINISTRIES

A PROPOSED LENTEN STUDY: Please consider adopting M. Daniel Carroll's book, *Christians at the Border: Immigration, the Church, and the Bible*, for your Lenten studies. The Faith & Order Commission, of the Rhode Island State Council of Churches, is putting this forth. Details and supply information: [Here](#) A contact person for each judicatory and/or congregation is requested.

HEALTHY CHURCHES – CONGREGATIONAL LIFE MINISTRIES

PHENIX BAPTIST BECOMING A MISSIONAL CHURCH: Sunday morning, November 22, our Sunday school gathered in the fellowship hall and in the kitchen to prepare soup and sandwiches for distribution at the Harris fire station, in Phenix Square. Workstations provided a job for everyone from 3yrs. – 80+. Vegetables were cut, chicken chopped and pulled apart, soup broth simmered, tuna prepared, peanut butter and jelly spread, and sandwiches made and wrapped for transport, as we shared in fellowship around the tables. Many people donated food for this effort. After worship, about 25 folks went to the fire station to distribute the food. We set up a stove to keep the soup hot and tables for our sandwiches and other supplies such as to-go containers. People came in cars and on foot to try our fare. It was a wonderful time to serve and meet our neighbors. Our next soup & sandwich distribution will be on December 27th. If you would like to know more about this ministry, contact Judy Brown at Rudyjoy@verizon.net.

WHOLE GOSPEL – SOCIAL WITNESS MINISTRIES

HOMELESS FOR THE HOLIDAYS – your action is needed! For many Rhode Islanders and their children, the lack of available beds at shelters this winter, is growing worse. Come to a rally on Friday, November 27, at 11:00 a.m. and/or call the Office of the Governor (222-2080) to prioritize this basic human need. Information [Here](#)

13th Annual BUY NOTHING DAY WINTER COAT EXCHANGE - If you have a coat to give, please drop it off. If you need a coat, please pick one up. Friday, November 27 10-2PM, State House lawn (directly across from Providence Place mall) Rain/snow site: Cathedral of St John 271 North Main St.

OTHER NEWS ITEMS

VALLEY FORGE, PA (ABNS 11/21/09)—During the final General Board plenary session on Saturday, November 21, the ABCUSA General Board voted to adopt the 2010 budget presented by budget review officer James Ratliff. [\(Click to read more\)](#)

Support our family of ABCORI churches at these upcoming Events 2009			
Nov 29	3:00 p.m.	Cumberland-Lincoln Community Chorus	1 st in America
Nov 29	6:00 p.m.	5 th Sunday Hymn Sing and Pot-Luck	1 st North Kingstown Here
Dec 5		Bazaar	Chepachet Union
Dec 5		Bazaar	Central Baptist, Jamestown
Dec 5	9:30 – noon	Mini-Bazaar	Shawomet
Dec 5	3:00 p.m.	Cumberland-Lincoln Community Chorus	1 st Pawtucket
Dec 5	10 – 2:00 p.m.	Holiday Bazaar	John Clarke Retirement Ctr
Dec 5	9 – 2p.m.	Bazaar	Lakewood Baptist
Dec 5	9 – 3:00 p.m.	Winter Wonderland Bazaar	Phenix Baptist
Dec 6	6:30 p.m.	Candlelight Service & Brass Quintet	Phillips Memorial
Dec 6	2:00 p.m.	Christmas Piano/Organ Concert	Summit Baptist
Dec 12	9 – 10:30 a.m.	Cookie Sale	Georgiaville
Dec 20	3:00 p.m.	Community Messiah Sign	1 st Baptist Wickford
Dec 31	8pm – 1 am	‘Rock the Hall’ youth Event Flier	Norwood Baptist

The ABCORI Calendar			
November 26-27	ABCORI OFFICE CLOSED		Thanksgiving Holiday
November 27		Buy-Nothing Day Winter Coat Exchange	RI Statehouse lawn
November 27	7:00 p.m.	Providence Bruins KIDS HAT NIGHT	Dunkin Donuts Center
December 1	4:00 p.m.	Operations	N. Scituate Baptist
December 2	9:00 a.m.	Program Team	Lawrence
December 3	10 a.m. Ministers Council	12:30 p.m. SCOM	Lawrence
December 5	9 – 3:00 p.m.	Ruah – Advent Enchantments	Tefft Chapel Canonicus
December 5	4:00 p.m.	Youth Leadership Appreciation Dinner Here	Shaub Dining Lodge
December 8	12-1:30 p.m.	Providence Baptist Theological Circle	1 st East Greenwich
December 9	9:30 a.m.	Program Team	Lawrence
December 12	9:00 a.m.	ElderCare Ministry Search Team	Phillips Memorial