

ABHS Welcomes New Archivist to Staff

Following a lengthy search process, the American Baptist Historical Society is pleased to announce that by the end of May, archivist Jill Sweetapple will join the staff. This was not an easy decision for the search committee, as there were several good applicants for the position.

Sweetapple has eight years of experience as an archivist, most recently at the Georgia Archives, where she has worked as a reference archivist. Prior to working at the state archives, Sweetapple oversaw the archives at the DeKalb (GA) History Center. In that capacity she gained experience processing archival collections and digitizing photographic negatives. As a contractor for Ancestry.com, Sweetapple digitized tax digests



and marriage records, making them available for genealogists. She also has done significant volunteer work at the Atlanta History Center and Georgia State University archives.

One of the things Sweetapple enjoys about working in an archives is discovering the collections — and at the ABHS archives and Samuel Colgate Historical Library, there's a lot to discover! She enjoys working on conservation of documents, and has had specialized training in book repair.

(Continued on page 3)

Join the Historical Society and Become a Time Traveler

The American Baptist Historical Society has developed a new membership program with a variety of benefits to members. Benefits offered include a discount on research-by-mail, tickets to the ABHS breakfast at the Biennial Mission Summit, and a private, behind-the-scenes tour of the archives.



One of the exciting new benefits available to ABHS members joining with a donation of at least \$51 is participation

in the Time Travelers program.

Time Travelers is a reciprocal membership program for historical museums, sites, and societies throughout the United States created by the Missouri History Museum in 1998. Currently, the Time Travelers program includes over 300 organizations in more than 40 states across the country. Members of these organizations can receive a variety of benefits and privileges, such as free admission, gift shop discounts, and more. A list of member organizations can be found at timetravelers.mohistory.org. ABHS recently joined the Time Traveler's network.

Members of ABHS at the Henry Lyman Morehouse Circle or higher can become Time Travelers. Join the Historical Society by sending in the form on page 7. Or sign up at our booth in the Hall of Ministries at the ABC Biennial Mission Summit, and receive an added surprise! ABHS memberships are good for the calendar year; join now to take greater advantage of membership benefits this year.

Rauschenbusch to be Remembered with Conference, Books

American Baptist Historical Society, Mercer University's McAfee School of Theology, and the Acadia Centre for Baptist and Anabaptist Studies (ACBAS) invite you to plan to attend an international scholarly conference in recognition of the centenary of the death of Professor Walter Rauschenbusch. Rauschenbusch was a Christian theologian and clergyman who is considered the father of the social gospel movement of the first two decades of the 20th century. ABHS, located on Mercer's Atlanta campus, houses the most extensive collection of Rauschenbusch family papers.

"The Legacy of Walter Rauschenbusch" will take place April 9-11, 2018, on Mercer University's Cecil B. Day Graduate and Professional Campus in Atlanta.

"It is truly exciting to be hosting this historic conference on Walter Rauschenbusch, one of the great Baptist scholars and activists of the 20th

century," said Dr. David Gushee, Distinguished University Professor of Christian Ethics and director of the Center for Theology and Public Life. "I look forward to an event that brings Rauschenbusch to life for Baptists and others who engage his work 100 years later. He is certainly immensely relevant to the challenges we face in both the culture and the church today."

Confirmed plenary speakers include Gary Dorrien, Darryl Trimiew, Paul Raushenbush, Paul Minus, Christopher Evans, William Brackney, David Gushee, and Wendy Deichmann Edwards.



Walter Rauschenbusch

The conference will coincide with the publication of a new critical edition of Rauschenbusch's works by Mercer University Press, edited by [Dr. William Brackney](#) of ACBAS and an international committee of scholars.

Check the [ABHS website](#) for information about registration for this conference.

Primary Source

is published quarterly by the American Baptist Historical Society

Priscilla E. Eppinger, Executive Director
Jan Winfield, Office Manager
Kay Eland, Financial and Subscription Secretary

Website: www.ABHSarchives.org

For Research appointments, donations to collections, reference desk, general questions: (678) 547-6680 or ABHSoffice@ABHSarchives.org

For ABHS memberships, American Baptist Quarterly subscription: (610) 768-2269 or Kay.Eland@abc-usa.org

Postal Address: ABHS, Mercer University, 3001 Mercer University Drive, Atlanta, GA 30341

Location: 2930 Flowers Road South, Suite 150, Atlanta, GA 30341

Volunteer Help Helps



Recently, Bob Dinwiddie, an archivist retired from Georgia State University, surveyed several of our unprocessed collections. Bob's work will help us develop finding guides

(indices), and indicates the amount of supplies and time needed to process the personal papers of Dorothy Trasker, Genevieve Sowards Sharp; Norman Abell, and Dan Fountain so that they will be accessible to researchers. Thank you, Bob!

If you have time to volunteer at ABHS, contact us.

Torbet Prize Open for Submissions

The Torbet Prize is awarded annually by the American Baptist Historical Society for the best essay in any area of Baptist history. The prize includes a check for \$500; the winning essay will be published in a future issue of the *American Baptist Quarterly*.

ABHS established this prize named after Robert George Torbet (1912-1995) to encourage young scholars in the field of Baptist History. Torbet taught church history at Eastern Baptist Theological Seminary (now Palmer Seminary), served as dean and church history professor at Central Baptist Theological Seminary, and as Associate General Secretary for Ecumenical Relations of the American Baptist Convention.

The guidelines for the Torbet Prize are:

- Author has not already published a major scholarly work.
- Entries should be no more than 25 double-spaced pages (excluding endnotes).
- Manuscript must be formatted in accordance with the Chicago Manual of Style.

Entries must reach ABHS by September 1, 2017, either electronically (ABHS@ABHSarchives.org) or by mail: American Baptist Historical Society, Mercer University, 3001 Mercer University Drive, Atlanta, GA 30341.



Research Snapshot

One of our recent researchers was [Mike Rechten](#) from Waveland, MS. For his master's thesis Mike is researching the splitting of Protestant churches into north and south and the effect of this split on southern states prior to the U.S. Civil War. This was his first visit to the ABHS archives, and he explored the card catalog to see what resources we have available. "The importance of churches splitting is not given as an important, key event, but probably has a lot of significance in the secession of the south," Mike explained as he looked for sermons and letters in the ABHS archives.

Archivist

(Continued from page 1)

Prior to earning an M.A. in Library and Information Studies from Florida State University, Sweetapple had a career in television, working for Turner Entertainment Networks in the broadcast operations center, and at CNN/Sports Illustrated.

As Head of Archives and Special Collections, Sweetapple will be responsible for the care and management of the American Baptist Historical Society's archival collections, including the official records of American Baptist Churches/USA partners, personal papers, manuscripts and other historical records and objects in a variety of media, including maps, audio visual materials,



photographs, rare books, and artifacts. The Archivist interprets these and other special collections through reference consultation and exhibitions. She will also provide advice and training to ABC/USA denominational partners concerning the organization and retention of records to preserve the heritage of the denomination.

If you attend the American Baptist Churches Biennial Mission Summit in Portland next month, you'll have the opportunity to meet Jill Sweetapple in person. Please welcome her warmly to the American Baptist community!

American Baptist Responses to Injustice During WWII

Seventy-five years ago, reacting to the attack on Pearl Harbor, Hawai'i, President Franklin Roosevelt signed Executive Order 9066, authorizing the exclusion of people from areas considered militarily sensitive. The Executive Order mentioned no specific group nor did it suspend due process of law. However, it was used specifically to remove and incarcerate Japanese-Americans living on the west coast and Aleuts of Alaska without any evidence of disloyalty to the United States or collaboration with "the enemy."

One hundred twelve thousand civilians of Japanese ancestry, of whom seventy thousand were U.S. citizens by birth, were gathered at temporary detention centers, mostly fair grounds, race tracks, or stables. From there they were sent to relocation centers, where they could apply to be relocated to the interior of the U.S. Most of those detained were not relocated but spent the remainder of the war years in what were, effectively, concentration camps. Japanese-

Americans were required to leave their homes with but a few days' notice, taking only what they could carry. Unscrupulous businessmen took advantage of the situation to acquire property, businesses, and homes at cut-rate prices from Japanese-Americans required to relocate.

In the summer of 1942 William B. Lippard, editor of *Missions: An International Baptist Magazine*, visited four of the temporary Japanese Assembly Camps and one of the Relocation Centers. He reported on his trip in the November, 1942, issue of *Missions*, noting that the article was subject to censoring by the War Department. The only photos permitted were those taken by the Army Corps and shared with visitors.

The unequivocally positive perspective Lippard gave of relocation was roundly criticized by some readers. A letter to the editor relates, "To say that I was disappointed is putting it mildly. I was and am simply sick. . . . I am glad you admitted that you could not draw a brighter picture of Japanese morale. . . . Much too long we have closed our eyes and have forgotten most of the injustices done our minority groups." (*Missions*, January, 1943, p.3)

Another reader sympathized, "Everyone will appreciate that your visit to the Japanese evacuation camps was through the issuance of a government pass, and that anything you wrote about your visit necessarily



Transfer to Minidoka Relocation Center
(RG 1051 ph08)



Wors
Official P

had to be scrutinized. You could write only what the government approved." (*Missions*, January, 1943, p.4)



Mess Hall at Relocation Center
Official U.S. Signal Corps Photo (RG 1051 ph03)

Internees, or "colonists," as they preferred to be called, included Baptist pastors and graduates of divinity schools and the Baptist Missionary Training School. Along with home missionaries and foreign missionaries who were re-appointed after returning to the U.S. before the outbreak of war, they ministered inside of the relocation centers. The Home Mission Societies also assisted people in finding jobs and housing so they could move out of relocation centers to permanent communities in the interior of the country.



Worship service at Japanese Assembly Camp in Santa Anita, CA
Photograph, Signal Corps, United States Army (RG 1051 ph01)

Post this page on your church's bulletin board. When you use information from "From the Archives" remember to give credit to the American Baptist Historical Society.

Join the Historical Society and Become a Time Traveler

| Membership Circles (Memberships are for the calendar year) | Annual Gift of |
|---|--------------------------|
| Ann Hasseltine Judson Circle | \$1-50 |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ★ subscription (digital or print) to <i>Primary Source</i> | |
| Henry Lyman Morehouse Circle | \$51-125 |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ★ subscription (digital or print) to <i>Primary Source</i> ★ participation in "Time Travelers," reciprocal museum/archives program http://timetravelers.mohistory.org/ | |
| Lulu Fleming Circle | \$126-250 |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ★ benefits listed above, plus ★ 1 hour of "Research-by-mail" discounted by 50% ★ listing as donor in annual report | |
| Jitsuo Morikawa Circle | \$251-500 |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ★ benefits listed above, plus ★ Baptist history publication -- potluck! ★ pair of tickets to Biennial breakfast | |
| Samuel DeWitt Proctor Circle | \$501-1000 |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ★ benefits listed above, plus ★ subscription to <i>American Baptist Quarterly</i> discounted by 50% ★ pair of tickets to an invitation-only dinner prior to annual lecture | |
| Helen Barrett Montgomery Circle | \$1001-5000 |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ★ benefits listed above, plus ★ private archives tour (subject to staff availability) | |
| Samuel Colgate Donors | \$5001 & above |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ★ benefits listed above, plus ★ 2 hours free consultation with staff archivist | |
| Living Heritage Society | inclusion in estate plan |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ★ inclusion on a special plaque in ABHS Reading Room | |

American Baptist Historical Society giving circles are named for some of our significant Baptist forebears. Learn about these honorees in upcoming issues of *Primary Source*.

Join us in Portland!

At the end of June, the American Baptist Churches, USA, and its associated mission agencies will host the biennial mission summit, and we'll be there!

Highlights of the Mission Summit include catching up with old friends, and making new ones. You'll be inspired by worship each evening and on Sunday morning. In the Hall of Ministries you can learn about the multitude of ways American Baptists are engaged in ministry, and meet denominational leaders and missionaries. Gatherings for breakfast, lunch, and dinner offer opportunities to learn about and support ABC-related groups: the Roger Williams Fellowship, Baptist Peace Fellowship, and the Committee on Christian Unity and Interfaith Relations, seminaries and colleges, caucuses, and others.

ABHS will have an exhibit in the Hall of Ministries. You can meet staff and members of the Board of Managers there, and at breakfast on Sunday morning. Sunday evening worship will include a ceremonial signing of the ABC Presidents' Bible. We hope to see you there!

Bring your books for repair!

Do you love old books, and fret when their covers begin to come apart?

Do you have treasured volumes on your shelves that you don't dare open for fear they will fall to pieces in your hands?

Never fear, Paul Reeder is here!

Again this year, Paul Reeder will set up his book repair shop at the ABHS booth in the Hall of Ministries at the ABC/USA Biennial Mission Summit. For a nominal donation, Paul will repair your book(s). All proceeds will support the ministry of ABHS.



Executive Director Priscilla Eppinger to speak at ABHS Breakfast

Friends of the American Baptist Historical Society will gather for breakfast in the Portland Convention Center on Sunday, July 2, at 7:15 a.m.

Come enjoy good food and fellowship, and hear Executive Director Priscilla Eppinger's vision for the Historical Society. In addition, this year's George D. Younger Award for Excellence in Local and Regional Baptist History will be presented at this time.

Tickets for the ABHS Breakfast are available on the [ABC/USA Biennial Mission Summit](http://www.abc-usa.org/biennial-mission-summit) website.

Resources for Biennial

ABHS has several issues of the *American Baptist Quarterly* that inform the conversations and learning opportunities at the Biennial. Back issues may be purchased for \$15, which includes postage.

To order, email ABHSoffice@ABHSarchives.org.

March, 1994: *Japanese American Internment*

March, 1997: *Spirituality*

June and September, 1998 : *Serious Injustices I & II (Japanese-American Internment)*

June, 2000: *The Black Baptist Experience in America*

Dec., 2000: *Beyond Mere Toleration*

Sept., 2001: *Leadership Diversity, Global Concern, Celebrating 50 years of ABWomen's Ministries*

Dec., 2001: *Ministerial Leadership Commission: The Quality Difference in ABC Ministries*

Summer, 2008: *The Other: and Community Responsibility*

Spring, 2009: *Baptist-Muslim Dialogue Part I*

Summer, 2009: *American Baptists as Agents of Transformation*

Summer, 2012: *Baptists and the Spirit*

Fall, 2012: *Baptist-Muslim Dialogue Part II*



Church Anniversaries

March – May

We celebrate the faithful ministry of American Baptist Congregations and their pastors! The following churches and pastors recently marked anniversaries:

225 Years

South Woodstock Baptist Church, Woodstock: Mr. Robert Beckwith
Cornerstone Baptist Church, Danielson, CT: Rev. Erica Wimber Avena

200 Years

Central Christian Church, Danbury, CT: Rev. Stephen Tickner
First Baptist Church, Wallingford, CT: Rev. Dr. Douglas Valentine
First Baptist Church, Cambridge, MA: Rev. Henry Johnson, Jr.

175 Years

First Baptist Church of Niagara Falls, NY: Rev. Dr. Brian Arthur Brown and Mrs. Kathleen A. Ordiway
First Baptist Church, Jamaica Plain, MA: Rev. Ashlee Wiest-Laird

150 Years

First Baptist Church, Gloucester City, NJ: Mr. Richard Gehret
McMinnville First Baptist Church, McMinnville, OR: Rev. Erika Marksburly
First Baptist Church, Blossburg, PA: Rev. Maurice Entwistle and Rev. John Shypulefski.

125 Years

Fidelity Baptist Church, Cleveland, OH: Rev. Dr. Thomas W. Gilmore

100 Years

Zion Baptist Church, Brooklyn NY: Dr. M. Marquette Peace, Jr.
Mt. Olive Baptist Church, Hartford, CT: Rev. Dion J. Watkins

75 Years

Bethlehem Baptist Community Church, Holyoke, MA: Rev. Paula Alexander

25 Years

Evangelical Baptist Church of New Jerusalem, Bridgeport, CT: Rev. Widvinx Alceus
Renewed Baptist Church, Framingham, MA: Rev. Elias Mereiles

If your church is celebrating a significant anniversary, [request a certificate](#) from ABHS.



Yes! I/We want to join the American Baptist Historical Society.

Please Print

Name _____

Email _____

Address _____

Telephone _____

Birthdate _____

Under what name(s) would you like your donation to be acknowledged?

Membership \$ _____

American Baptist Quarterly subscription:
\$50/annually \$ _____

Add \$20 for postage to Canada, \$40 to other countries

Additional gift to Annual Fund or Endowment \$ _____

Additional gift to *At Your Fingertips* Campaign \$ _____

Total enclosed \$ _____

Make checks payable to ABHS and send to:
ABHS, P.O. Box 851, Valley Forge, PA 19482-0851.
To use a credit card go to our website:
www.ABHSarchives.org.

ABHS is a 501(c)(3) organization; your membership is tax-deductible. *ABQ* subscriptions are not tax-deductible.

Non-Profit
Organization
U.S. Postage
PAID
Southeastern, PA
Permit No. 167

PRIMARY SOURCE

American Baptist Historical Society
P.O. Box 851
Valley Forge, PA 19482-0851

INSIDE:
*New Staff Member
Visit us at the
Biennial in Portland!*



Our Mission

The American Baptist Historical Society, as a premier religious historical society, advances Baptist identity, promotes historical literacy, and thereby inspires spiritual and social transformation.

See you in Portland!