

Stocks Report March 2007

Szatmarcseke Roma Baptism

It is always a time of great celebration when new Roma (Gypsy) believers are baptized. Other Roma Christians come from miles, or in our case kilometers, around to be present and participate in the service. They bring a word of encouragement, offer special music or a scripture verse, and rejoice in the new lives of the candidates.

During the summer we always hold our Roma baptisms in the river but over the winter we ask local HBU churches for use of their facility. Recently Ralph went to Nagyvarsany for an afternoon baptismal service of seven Roma from Szatmarcseke. It was the first time for this church to host a Roma group in their church. There are zero Roma living in this particular village dating back two decades to a time of conflict. During that time the local mayor threatened the Roma community and demanded that they leave. Since then, due to prejudice and discrimination, no Roma are living there. The local pastor and his congregation are not supportive of Roma mission work even outside of their village.

Against this backdrop we held the baptismal service. All went well for a while. The candidates gave testimonies, there was lots of Roma music, each candidate received a Bible and was prayed for by local leaders. Then came a time for greetings. This is a tradition and very meaningful as local leaders and churches give encouragement to the new believers. Instead of encouraging the group, the local pastor pointed out sin that was still evident in the lives of the new believers (smoking!). Then two of his elders got up and continued to harangue the candidates. Our new believers were stunned by their vehemence but gracefully remained silent.

To his credit, Jozsi Csuha (Roma Missions Coordinator for Hungarian Baptists) stood and spoke of the prodigal son who returned to his father, filthy and stinking from work with pigs. The father accepted him in his condition and rejoiced that his son had come home. Following the service several of us encouraged our Roma brothers and sisters. Gradually the spirit of celebration returned as they rejoiced that seven more of their brethren had found the Lord!

Great Possibilities in the Ukraine

Hungary shares a border with the Ukraine. Because of this there are many villages where Hungarian is widely spoken. Ralph recently visited there to research possible ministry projects. The Roma of the Ukraine live in absolute poverty.

As Ralph gazed across an empty lot strewn with trash, he noticed a group of boys playing a game. Upon observation it resembled "roller bat" (a game the Stocks boys used to play!). The usual equipment is a baseball bat and a baseball. These boys were using a broken plank for the bat and a short stick for a ball! Ralph can't wait to return to offer the real thing!

Hungarian Baptist Aid has helped to purchase a sizeable building to be renovated into a church for the Roma community in Mankacs. The building was built as a telephone communications center 20 years ago. Under communism there was a good bit of eaves dropping going on from this building. Imagine

how, with lots of renovation, the future sounds emanating from there will be praise songs and conversations with God! The building is in complete disrepair but the vision is for this to serve the Roma community not only as a church but as a kindergarten, bathing and washing center, and a clinic. Please pray that necessary funds might be found to begin this huge work. There will be many volunteer opportunities associated with this property. "Borst" anyone? There are many needs in this area and we seek to be creative as we attempt to meet those needs and to share the Good News of a God that loves this poverty stricken village. Please pray for God to show the way.

CBF Offering for Global Missions year-end needs

With four months to go in the fiscal year, supporters of CBF Global Missions have contributed \$3.84 million toward the \$6.32 million goal. Because the Offering directly pays for field personnel salaries, benefits and ministry expenses, we must reach the goal in order to keep field personnel on the field. Their ministries need your prayers and your support. Pray that we will reach the goal in the next four months. Pray that lives will continue to be transformed through the ministries of field personnel supported by this Offering. Pray that churches and individuals will give generously and the goal could be exceeded. (Excerpted from CBF Fellowship Bi-Friday, March 23, 2007)

Donations may be sent to:
CBF Global Missions Offering
P. O. Box 101699
Atlanta, Ga. 30392

Ralph & Tammy Stocks

New Spring Classes Beginning April 10th & 11th

Tuesdays, 6—7 PM

The Book of Galations
Led by Michael Usey

Wednesdays, 6:30—7:30 PM

Yoga with Sheila in the
Fellowship Hall

African Drumming in the
Sanctuary with Jyohni Burkett

Where's God in the Interruption?
Led by the Reverend Pam Strader
in the Parlor

Hey! What's for Dinner CPC Wednesday Night Fellowship

April 4, 2007
No Wednesday Night Activities!

April 11, 2007
Baked Ham
Kids: PBJ
Jell-O Salad
Potato Salad
Green Bean Casserole, Rolls
Strawberries and Ice Cream

April 18, 2007
Pork Chops w/Chili-Apricot Glaze
Squash w/Peppers
Penne Pasta w/Parmesan Cheese
Coconut Cream Pie

April 25, 2007
Sausage, Rice & Beans
Kids: Pigs in a Blanket
Mixed green Salad
White Chocolate Pecan Pie

Vegetarian Alert: To the extent possible, all meals will have a vegetarian counterpart or sufficient vegetarian sides to make a perfectly delicious meal.

Kid Alert: In addition to any meal made especially for you, peanut butter & jelly is ALWAYS an option!

Maundy Thursday & Good Friday Services

We will have a Maundy Thursday service on
April 5th, at 6:30 p.m. and a
Good Friday service at
Noon on Friday, April 6th.

Both of these services will be in the sanctuary.
Childcare will be provided for both of these
services for children 5 and under only in the
2 and 3 year-old room.

Greensboro News Release

Given the success of parking spot sales and its direct benefits to the ministries of College Park Baptist Church, The Finance Committee announces the groundbreaking ceremony for an anticipated seven story parking deck and mixed use facility (PDMUF) which is scheduled to open during the fall of 2008. The ceremony will be held in the lot adjacent to the Church Building this Saturday, March 31st at 7:00am. "The deck (PDMUF) will be integrated well into the overall comprehensive city plan and will serve the needs of the neighborhood and adjacent university for years to come." Explained an unnamed Greensboro Planner. Pastor Michael Usey could not contain his excitement over the site potentially becoming a stop on the newly unveiled Greensboro Subway System: "Imagine-we're just one stop above Yum Yums!", he exclaimed. The retail space portion of PDMUF has enjoyed a vigorous preleasing period with the following list of tenants already inking long-term pacts for the center:

- The Cravey Institute (a film study and gaming location which will feature independent filmmakers and continuous screenings of Jackass I and II);
- ACC (Accountants for Christian Counting lead by Phyllis Calvert and featuring guest lectures by Steve Lowrance Sr. on proper envelope completion and how to hit a flop wedge);
- WE'RE PACKIN' (a security firm headed by Bill Ingold, whose emphasis will be on training in the ethical use of violence in resolving parking deck confrontations);
- An announcement of the resumption of her counseling practice by Patsy Kendall after she learned of who the other tenants would be.

The facility has expansion plans eventually linking the deck via tunnels and over street bridges to both the Hayble's Hearth and Sonic restaurants. Future tenants who are close to finalizing plans include:

- The Sally Russoli Virtual Equestrian Center-replete with the authentic mechanical bull/horse from the film Urban Cowboy;
- A Discovery Channel Store Franchise to be operated by Chris Griggs;
- Everything's a Flamingo-a local boutique owned and operated by Juanita Lojko featuring local artisan-produced pink bird works and wind chimes from around the world;
- Wednesday's Sole Soul- an eclectic Christian based restaurant open Wednesday evenings only and serving a varied menu featuring culinary pioneer Lisa Shortt and such dishes as Hummus dogs and Calamari-On-A-Stick.

The deck will be crowned by a penthouse prayer chapel/banking center/ATM open twenty four hours a day all year long except for religious holidays. All parking bays will be equipped with a state of the art LCD monitor in order watch CPBC services form the comfort and security of your vehicle. Should trouble ever occur, there will be a Plaintiff's Rights kiosk located on the third level operated by S. Rogers, Attorney at Law for all of your accident reconstruction needs.

Please join your Church family this Saturday, March the 31st at 10:00am to celebrate this historic groundbreaking. Buy a courtyard level brick for only \$3000.00 or purchase a pen and ink rendering of the PDMUF signed by Donald Trump for only \$75.00 (Our hope is this drawing will be the Habitat holiday card this year!). This groundbreaking, having come from the Finance Committee, needs no second. See you Saturday!

Youth Skeptical of Choice of Summer Camp

There is a long history of the youth at College Park spending a week of their summer vacations serving the less fortunate. They have worked in nursing homes, ran summer camps, and sang at churches on the other side of the world. This summer Pastor Michael Usey has suggested a new service oriented camp that isn't garnering the same enthusiasm among our youth.

The new summer camp just starting this year is called the Camp Cleantheuseyard. Classes range from Weeding and Mowing to Removing the Family of Possums from the Shed. An advanced class cleaning off the Back Porch will be offered to seniors in high school who sign a liability waiver.

Charles Dodson

Parking Shortage Resolved

Have you noticed lately how difficult it is to find a parking spot on Sundays? We have been inundated with visitors since Jerry Falwell and Pat Robertson spoke glowingly about College Park on their TV shows.

The Deacons have been discussing this parking shortage for the past 17 monthly meetings and have agreed on a plan developed by Denver Lennon. The parking shortage is exacerbated by UNCG students parking in our lot while exercising at the gym across the street. Denver's plan uses UNCG as the solution to our problem.

We have entered into an agreement with UNCG to purchase the parking lot immediately across the street from College Park and to purchase the gym. This provides all the parking space we will need until the rapture comes.

The plan calls for tearing down the gym and paving that area. This will increase the number of Church parking spaces from the existing 103 to 1,724. Tim Lowrance will monitor student parking to ensure that no one parks illegally.

Tammy Shaney will tear down and remove the gym with her Bobcat. She may need one B & G Saturday workday to assist her. Bill Ingold and Dan Cottrell will stripe the lot.

John Eagles and Phyllis Calvert will handle obtaining the \$4 Million line of credit to purchase the UNCG property. We will repay this loan through the increased parking spaces we can rent out and by increasing the annual parking fee from \$250 to \$2,200.

Although we have already completed the purchase of the UNCG property, Barry Shoemaker will present the entire plan to the Church next Wednesday night for rubber-stamping.

Parking Lot

Dear Michael,

As you know, our Deacon team has spent over 14 months discussing our parking, or rather, lack of parking situation. We have brainstormed and we have walked off the parking lot and we have beat our heads against each other, trying to come up with solutions to our problem. So, as Deacon chair, I am requesting that all members of College Park begin riding motorcycles to church each and every Sunday and Wednesday night. I think this should take affect immediately, after giving our members time to shop for the perfect bike, of course. I think this goal can be reached in 7 to 10 working days. It would surely be great if, since many of us will be buying new bikes, all bikes purchased can be bright pink as in our flamingo mascot. This will certainly help Tim and the gang monitor who is sneaking into our parking lot and who is really attending our church meetings. Of course, this will allow 2/3 more parking for guests, visitors, and possible new members for we can park 3 motorcycles for every 1 car. I understand that some of our teenagers and some of our church elders may be upset at the thought of driving a pink Hog to church on Sunday morning, especially those with thoughtful ensembles that include hats, however, I wont lift up my Harley boot from this issue any longer.

Respectfully submitted,
Barry E. Shoemaker
Deacon Chair 2007-2047

100th Anniversary Reveals Secret Plan of Church Founders

During College Park Church's 100th Anniversary in 2006, church members scrutinized hundred of historical documents, and came up with a surprising discovery. After looking at the original blueprints, a small area under the pulpit, which is currently used for storage was actually originally intended as a high power water pump. This caused some confusion, but the minutes from a deacons meeting shortly before construction of the current sanctuary began cleared the matter up. College Park has a commitment to the ancient Greek concept of Slapri folo, roughly translated rushing waters of life. To this end we will leave space in our current worship hall so that when funds become available, future generations can install the equipment necessary to carry out our vision .

And what exactly is that vision? This summer College Park will start a Capital Campaign to bring the dreams of our founders true. In December 2007, we will break ground on two water slides that will splash down into the baptistery. The first will be a near vertical drop from the top of the steeple, where the candidate for baptism will reach speeds up to 45 miles per hour before landing in the pool. For the faint of heart, a second slide will intertwine tastefully through the pipes of the organ, and provide a milder family friendly immersion. A contest to name the two slides will be held in the fall.

George Spelvin

Memoir for Lynn Sasser’s Mother who died March 19 in Chapel Hill

Fay Dark Pickard: Wouldn’t Be That Fun?

When Fay’s granddaughter Caitlyn was young, she once said to Fay, “Wouldn’t be that fun?” meaning, I suppose, “Wouldn’t **that be** fun?” thinking of some future mischief Fay and Caitlyn could get into together. Fay took her role as coconspirator with her grandkids seriously. Wouldn’t be that fun?

A memoir is cross between a sermon and a eulogy. At a funeral, a sermon is not quite the right note, since at Christian funerals, we seek to celebrate how a particular person, Fay Dark Pickard, channeled God’s love and wild mercy to us. Nor is a eulogy the exact fit either, since we worship this afternoon the God whom Fay served so ably. A mix between the two is best, in my opinion, since we celebrate Fay’s bright light among us, and how we felt closer to God and life when we were with her.

We read Psalm 121, a song that speaks of a trust that can sustain us in the wild journeys of life, and the journey that life is itself. This Hebrew song is one of unqualified trust in God’s help, which is a good theme for Fay’s life, trusting in God’s help, for she both needed and provided it to others around her.

Born in Pittsboro in `37, she and her younger sister Bunny were raised in Raeford, NC. Her dad owned an Esso gas station, and she grew up in the wonderful rural setting: picking cotton—there are picture of her picking when the cotton was taller than she—and swimming in the pond, after checking for water moccasins. They were faithful members of a Baptist church there, and she early on wanted to be a missionary. If you were a woman and you wanted to help people back then, you’re options were somewhat limited: teacher, missionary, nurse.

She went to Chapel Hill in 1955, where she earned her BA in nursing in 1959, and a Masters in 1968. She was dating his roommate when she met her future husband; they were married 28 years, from 1962-90. Early on he was drafted in the Navy, and served as a doctor in New York and in Port Smith, before they returned and settled in Chapel Hill. She started as floor nurse, as she thought all nurses should begin; she loved working on the renal ward, before she found her way to admin. She worked her way up in the UNC hospitals, eventually serving as the first chairperson of the department of Nursing for UNC hospital. She would also proudly serve as adjunct faculty in the med school there too, a rarity for nurses anywhere, and an appointment that speaks of her brilliant mind and hard work.

She raised 4 children: Mary Gwen, Lynn, Chris, and Walt. Fay had a brouhaha with her mother over not carrying on the family name Dorcus in Mary Gwendolyn, an argument her oldest daughter and her granddaughter, Caitlyn, are very glad that Fay won. Lynn, Jeff, Adam, and Daniel are the ones I know best, and it’s beyond me how these two Carolina Blue women married rabid red NC State fans—perhaps it is God’s sense of humor. Chris was named for Christopher Robin, A.A. Milne’s son who was made famous in the Pooh stories. I suppose Walt should be happy he wasn’t named Eeyore. (Wouldn’t be that fun? Maybe not.)

One of the coolest accomplishments of Fay’s well-lived life was that she was one of the founding members of NC-AHEC, North Carolina Area Health Education Centers. These were centers placed in larger cities, intimately to provide up-to-date health education to nurses in far-flung places, but AHEC has grown far beyond that. In Greensboro, AHEC provides education and training to anyone you can think of in the health care field, and their ministries is invaluable, keeping providers up to date with the latest research and practice in medical advancements. Fay helped write the original funding proposals for AHEC, and was statewide director at one time.

Fay had many passions: reading, the beach, sports, cats, gardening, Southern cooking, the farmer’s market, and much more—all of which she loved sharing with her children and her six grandkids. Fay had a deep love of reading; she was a true bibliophile. She gave Caitlyn many books, like Robert Frost, saying you have to read this. She’d take her granddaughter to Barnes and Noble’s and spend \$100 or more on a huge stack of books. She adored NC authors like Faye Gibbons. At the beach, she’d read what she called “Twinkie books,” books you could look up from and admire the beach and lose your place. She bonded with her grandson Adam over the Loch ness monster, and having traveled to Scotland, she told him all about catching a glimpse of Nessy. Predictably, Adam has beaucoo books on Nessy.

Fay loved all sports, especially Carolina sports—basketball, women’s soccer, you name it. Most especially, she loved watching her kids and grandkids play sports. Fay was probably most happy surrounded by her family, or perhaps when she was at the beach. She started going to Portsmith Island, many years ago when it was just a fishing village, where she would seashell or sit and read, or fish. She worked for the beach’s well being too. The beach was more than a place of rest from her hectic life and raising 4 children; the beach had religious significance for Fay, and there she connected with God. Fay was a private person about her faith, maybe because of her strict upbringing, but she was person of faith. She taught Lynn to pray, and probably the others as well, but then trusted them enough to find their way in the world, and their own faith. The Rev. Susan Alred, the former minister at Aldersgate UMC, should be giving this memoir, for it is she who knew this side of Fay best, but Susan is wrestling with Alzheimer’s. It is at this beach that Fay’s ashes will rest, with a tablespoon that will go back to Raeford.

Fay was a woman who could be in charge. Men who would help her unload or move things were said to be doing the “Miss Fay Shuffle.” If she had a dark side, it was she could at times be more an administrator than a mom; however, with 4 children, this may have been necessary. She was more than that to her grandkids, who all called her Gaga. Fay knew how to nurture relationships: she still lunched with her nursing classmates from her time at Carolina. It was Fay who started getting the whole family together 4 times a year at least, to celebrate birthdays and the like. She adored animals, birds (watching and feeders), and in particular cats. Fay was the only one to get along with her last cat, Belle, a.k.a. Beelzebub or Psycho Cat.

Fay was tough. She survived an acrimonious divorce in 1990, and lung cancer 20 years ago. Even at the end she didn’t take much pain medicine, just half a tablet at night. There is more to say about Fay’s love for gardening—she was always buying flowers, for seafood, for jazz music, and for Southern cooking with her own healthy twist.

What Fay knew is that the sweetest of life is giving hers away to others. She did this in a myriad of ways—in her nursing; in her love for education; in her beginning things like this family and AHEC that are larger than her life; in her passionate love of beauty, animals, and sports, in her deep investment in her children and their families, and her sister’s family as well. The very difficult thing about the death of someone like Fay, who has lived so large and so well, is that she leaves a huge hole in all those many whom she touched and loved. But I tell you this; many, many people live longer than her 69 years, but don’t live with a tenth of her energy, passion, gusto, and love. Fay grabbed life by the throat. She lived well, and I give thanks to the “Maker of heaven and earth” for her shining life. And who knows, but that Fay is waiting on a beach on a distant shore, toes in the sand, reading some Twinkie book, looking up occasionally to see who might be coming, and to meet us there when we cross over? Wouldn’t be that fun?

Michael Usey

Search Committee

The Associate Minister Selection Committee is delighted to announce that we have made a conditional offer of employment to Reverend Rachel E. Luck. Rachel is currently completing a two (2) year CBF Minister-in-Residence Program at Trinity Baptist Church in Madison, Alabama.

Rachel has experience in youth and children’s ministry, educational ministry, and as a chaplain associate at Moore Regional Hospital.

Her certification and educational background is as follows:

- Bachelor of Arts in Religion – Campbell University – December, 2001
- Clinical Pastoral Education (one unit), Moore Regional Hospital, August, 2004
- Certificate of License – Buies Creek First Baptist Church – November, 2004
- Master of Divinity – Campbell University Divinity School – May, 2005
Certificate of Ordination – Buies Creek First Baptist Church – June 2005

Rachel’s interests include guitar, piano, history, travel, and the arts. She is single with two cats.

To learn more about Rachel, the Associate Minister Selection Committee will be making a presentation to the congregation during the Sunday School hour on April 8, 2007.

Rachel will travel to Greensboro on the weekend of April 13th and will participate both in the Youth Sunday School Program on April 15th and the worship service that follows. Immediately following the worship service, a reception will be held in the Fellowship Hall so each of you can personally meet Rachel.

On Sunday, April 22nd, a specially called business meeting will be held immediately following the worship service to vote on her employment with College Park.

We hope that you will be able to attend some, if not all, of these functions. Should you have any questions regarding the selection process, please contact any member of the Selection Committee. Committee members are: Matt Lojko (Chair), Anna Rogers, Amy Lowrance, Adam Team, Terri Ramsey, Patsy Kendall, and Michael Usey.



April 1st Edition Looking Ahead

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|-------|----|---|
| April | 1 | Passion Sunday -
The Seventh Word—Spirit
Lilian Griggs Dedication |
| | 4 | No Wednesday Night Activities |
| | 5 | Maundy Thursday Service— 6:30 PM |
| | 8 | Easter (Bring flowers for flowering cross.)
Presentation of Candidate
in Sunday School |
| | 10 | Tuesday Night Bible Study on
Galatians Begins, 6—7 PM |
| | 11 | New Wednesday Night Classes Begin
♦ Yoga
♦ Drumming
♦ God & Interruptions |
| | 15 | Rachel Luck Visits
Cook for GUM |
| | 22 | Special Called Business Meeting—12 Noon
to call Rachel Luck as Associate Minister
Church Wide Picnic—
Country Park, Shelter #1, 4:30—7:30 PM |
| | 27 | Forever 39 Club—12 Noon |
| May | 6 | Youth Sunday |
| | 16 | Ralph Stocks Speaks |
| | 20 | Cook for GUM |
| | 25 | Forever 39 Club—12 Noon
Children's Choir Party—2:30 PM |

New Paper Banner Should Help Ease Financial Burden

Volunteers will be needed after church next Sunday to work on cutting out a new paper banner. The original paper banners are very popular and depict scenes of creation from around the world. The newest banner would be aesthetically pleasing and functional.

It will invoke the same visual style as the others and blend in seamlessly, but will feature tasteful, appropriate advertising. If your eyes wander during the sermon, you can reflect on the fragility of the polar ice caps, the diversity of the rainforest, or the fact that Pennzoil is the choice for 9 out of 10 mechanics. Other businesses signed up already include Yum Yum Hot Dogs, Jake's Diner, and Edward McKay. A controversial choice, Harper's, was finally allowed to advertise after it was discovered that it was the one at Friendly Center.

Alan Smithee

Usey Wins Kum Ba Yah Award

IAPSKBY (International Association for the Promotion and Singing of Kum Ba Yah) announced that the Rev. Dr. Michael Usey of Greensboro, NC, is the recipient of the first ever Kumby, an award recognizing outstanding contributions to the spread of Kum Ba Yah. "We think we've set the bar high with this first recipient," said Margaret Addlewhite, President of IAPSKBY. "Michael has demonstrated a lifelong love for this music, and certainly has been a leader in making sure that it is incorporated into nearly every worship service he leads."

When asked about reports that he actually cannot stand the song, Usey replied, "When I turned forty, the church gave me a party that had Kum Ba Yah as it's theme. Would they have done that if I hated it?" Usey added that he was so moved by the award that he is moving immediately to have it declared as the official song of College Park Church. He is also serving as the honorary chairperson of the IAPSKBY drive to create a worldwide chain of people holding hands and singing Kum Ba Yah. "I think we can make a real difference," he said. "This is the kind of global activism I can really get behind."

Parking Lot Paved at Last!

Thanks to the generosity of the Corleone family and Dan Cottrell, the entire parking lot is freshly paved. Late Saturday night, Anthony Corleone approached Dan, at church to fill the baptismal pool, about paving the bare spot where a tree once stood. According to Dan, Mr. Corleone said, "It's a shame about dat. You guys want it covered up?" Dan quickly pointed out that, with the church's strong ties to law enforcement, repaving the whole lot could be viewed as valuable public service. Mr. Corleone agreed, and Dan stayed to observe the work. "I don't see the need to dig out the tree roots-the person digging the hole was really sweating-but the Corleones insisted." The next day, Building and Grounds commented that the new payment "is so smooth you'd never know there was anything ever under there."

Bogus News

Every Member a Minister
 Lin Bunce, Interim Associate Minister
 Phyllis Calvert, Treasurer
 Jeremy Fox, Interim Associate Minister
 Rydell Harrison, Minister of Music & Worship
 Georgia Murray, Office & Media Manager
 Helen Morehead, Sexton
 Barry Shoemaker, Deacon Chair
 David Soyars, Organist
 Ralph & Tammy Stocks, Missionaries
 Katy Thomas, German Fraulein
 Michael S. Usey, Pastor

www.collegeparkchurch.com cpbcgbo@bellsouth.net

Sometimes I think we're alone in the universe, and sometimes I think we're not. In either case, the idea is quite staggering.

Arthur C. Clarke

A committee is a cul-de-sac down which ideas are lured and then quietly strangled.

Barnett Cocks

A great war leaves the country with three armies—an army of cripples, an army of mourners, and an army of thieves.

German Proverb

The first method for estimating the intelligence of a ruler is to look at the men he has around him.

Niccolo Machiavelli

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 An American Baptist Church
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Change Service Requested

**Non-Profit Organization
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