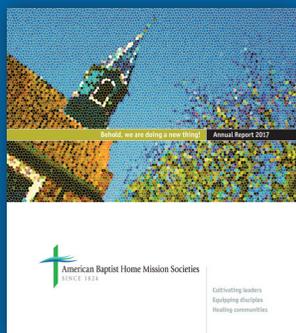


## QuickLinks

■ Thanks to ABHMS' Rizpah's Children ministry, JOYA Scholars will soon expand its reach. Read more at [abhms.org](http://abhms.org) > **Publications & Resources** > **Mission Stories**.

■ July's "Discipleship Matters" bulletin insert discusses creating "holy moments," while August's edition features tips for ensuring a smooth transition "B.A.C.K." to school. Download them at [abhms.org](http://abhms.org) > **Publications & Resources**.

■ ABHMS' annual report is available online at [abhms.org](http://abhms.org) > **Publications & Resources**.



## ABHMS to host Space for Grace 2018 urban retreat



Register now for American Baptist Home Mission Societies' (ABHMS) highly anticipated "Thy Will Be Done"-themed Space for Grace 2018 conference planned for Nov. 14-16 in Philadelphia.

Join faith leaders, community service leaders, social justice advocates and others considering critical issues facing Christians today in the 2½ day-conference at Loews Hotel in the heart of a top-10 largest U.S. city. This urban retreat will allow participants to engage with passionate speakers, workshop leaders and fellow participants in conversation about mission engagement and discipleship development as well as church and community transformation.

The national event will feature these inspirational keynote speakers:

- the Rev. Dr. Amy Butler, senior minister, The Riverside Church, New York City;
- Dr. Molly T. Marshall, president and professor of Theology and Spiritual Formation, Central Baptist Theological Seminary, Shawnee, Kan.;

- the Rev. Dr. Corey D.B. Walker, vice president, dean and Professor of Religion and Society, Virginia Union University, Richmond; and
- the Rev. Dr. Raphael G. Warnock, senior pastor, the historic Ebenezer Baptist Church, Atlanta.

More than two dozen workshops offer take-home ideas and skills for enhancing personal ministry. Focusing on the themes of "Leadership," "Discipleship" and "Healing and Transforming Communities," workshops range from "America's Changing Religious Landscape and the Future of Faith" and "Worship with Impact Beyond Sunday" to "Healing from Unnamed Fear of the Other."

Early-bird registration through Aug. 15—which includes three evening receptions, two lunches and two breakfasts—is \$229. Full conference cost after Aug. 15 is \$299.

Sponsorship and exhibitor opportunities are available.

■ **For more details or to register to attend, visit [abhms.org](http://abhms.org) > Space for Grace.**

## ABHMS thanks volunteers restoring Puerto Rico

ABHMS thanks volunteers who have been participating in various restoration projects across hurricane-ravaged Puerto Rico as part of the "Rebuilding, Restoring, Renewing Puerto Rico" initiative.

### Three teams volunteered at various times April 14-26:

- American Baptist Churches (ABC) of Massachusetts and West Virginia Baptist Convention — painting and roof replacement at Iglesia Bautista Berea, Yabucoa
- Lott Carey Global Christian Missional Community — window and roof replacement at Mision Bautista de Arroyo

### Six teams volunteered at various times May 20-June 2:

- Thomaston Baptist Church, Bordentown, Maine — painting at Iglesia Bautista Unida Vegas Farallón, Cayey; preparation work at Centro de Retiro Ruth Maldonado, Caguas

- Ebenezer Baptist Church, Atlanta — landscaping and fence repair at the center
- ABC of New Jersey and ABC of Pennsylvania and Delaware — cleaning at the center; painting at Iglesia Bautista La Esperanza, Caguas
- First Baptist Church (FBC), Bordentown, N.J. — landscaping and fence repair at Iglesia Bautista La Nueva Ebenezer, Cidra; electrical work at the center
- FBC, Greenwood, Ind. — landscaping at Iglesia Bautista Getsemani de Colinas Verdes, San Juan; flood clean-up at Iglesia Bautista Ebenezer de Levittown Lakes, Toa Baja



To view photos, visit [abhms.org](http://abhms.org) > **Publications & Resources** > **Mission Stories**. To register to volunteer, visit [abhms.org](http://abhms.org) and click "Learn More" in the "Volunteer!" box.



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ABHMS continues its pursuit of home mission via collaborative gatherings—the most recent held in April in Massachusetts with partners from New England. In addition to an aligned action network meeting, workshops included “Briefing on Immigration and Refugees,” “Achieving Financial Peace” and “Growing Trends of Chaplaincy and Specialized Ministries.”

“I was heartened by the number of leaders who attended. It demonstrates that the ‘associational principle’ of Baptists is alive and well,” said the Rev. Dr. Debora Jackson, director of Lifelong Learning at Yale Divinity School.

To register for updates about aligned action networks, visit [abhms.org](http://abhms.org) > About Us, then scroll to the bottom of the page and click “Register.”

AMERICAN BAPTIST HOME MISSION SOCIETIES

Mission in America

## ABHMS workshop promotes immigration justice

During ABHMS’ “Defending the Undocumented” workshop in March at First Baptist Church (FBC), Glendale, Calif., 40 ABHMS partners from across the Western United States learned about the challenges that immigrants encounter.

Melvin and Ada Valiente, co-pastors at FBC, Maywood, Calif., shared about helping to launch “Matthew 25 of Southern California/Mateo 25 del Sur de California,” a network of faith-based organizations and individuals who, according to the website, pledge to “stand with and defend the vulnerable in the name of Jesus,” as one arm of the national Matthew 25 Movement.

The pair discussed the group’s support to the family of Noé Carias, an Echo Park, Calif., pastor who was detained for

59 days after a regular check-in with ICE.

Carias, 42, is an undocumented Guatemalan immigrant who has been in the United States since age 14.

Group members accompanied Carias to

another check-in on Maundy Thursday. Carias was released with a stay of deportation, returning home to be with his family and to continue pastoring in the community.

Melvin Valiente said that, when the faith community surrounds an undocumented person with a network of support and demonstrates the individual’s value to the community, ICE tends to act more compassionately.



Above: Noé and Victoria Carias with Ada and Melvin Valiente at ABHMS’ March “Defending the Undocumented” workshop in Glendale, Calif.

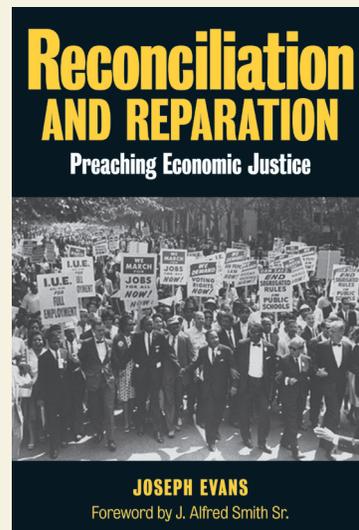
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## Book sounds clarion call to preach economic justice

“Effective twenty-first-century preaching is prophetic when it addresses closing the income and wealth gap,” asserts the Rev. Dr. Joseph Evans in “Reconciliation and Reparation: Preaching Economic Justice,” a new book

from Judson Press (May 2018).

In the face of growing inequities in the United States and global economies, Evans, dean of Morehouse School of Religion, Atlanta, has issued a clarion call to preachers to disturb the status quo and cause meaningful, thoughtful conversations about biblical preaching that envision economic



justice as the ethical imperative for the 21st century, particularly for people of African descent.

Written from a preacher’s perspective and grounded in solid scholarship, this new resource proclaims an ethical imperative for economic justice and its meaning for the church and those who preach in prophetic pulpits around the world.

ISBN 978-0-8170-1796-8

paper, 6 x 9, 168 pages, \$18.99

Also available as e-book ISBN 978-0-8170-8187-9

Order at [judsonpress.com](http://judsonpress.com).

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