

SPACE FOR GRACE 2022

Meet Space for Grace’s speakers

Planned for Sept. 21-23 at the Westin Kansas City (Mo.) at Crown Center, this year’s Space for Grace: “Testify!” features a variety of inspiring speakers:



Amy Butler

Pastor Amy Butler leads National City Christian Church, Washington, D.C., as intentional interim senior minister. Before that, Butler served for five years as the seventh senior minister and first woman at the helm of The Riverside Church, New York City.



Eddie Glaude Jr.

Dr. Eddie Glaude Jr. is an author, political commentator and passionate educator who examines the complex dynamics of the American experience. He frequently appears in the media, as a columnist for TIME magazine and as an MSNBC contributor.



Miguel A. De La Torre

Dr. Miguel A. De La Torre serves as professor of Social Ethics and Latinx Studies at the Iliff School of Theology, Denver. His academic pursuit is focused on social ethics within contemporary U.S. thought, specifically how religion affects race, class and gender oppression.



Neichelle R. Guidry

The Rev. Neichelle R. Guidry, Ph.D., is dean of the chapel and director of the WISDOM Center at Spelman College, Atlanta. She is creator of “shepreaches,” a virtual community and organization that aspires to uplift African American millennial women in ministry.



Judy Fentress-Williams

The Rev. Judy Fentress-Williams, Ph.D., is in bi-vocational ministry in Alexandria, Va., as professor of Old Testament at Virginia Theological Seminary and senior assistant to the pastor for Teaching and Preaching at Alfred Street Baptist Church.



Kathy Khang

Kathy Khang is a writer, speaker and yoga teacher based in the north suburbs of Chicago. She is author of “Raise Your Voice: Why We Stay Silent and How to Speak Up” and an author of “More Than Serving Tea.”

Preceding Space for Grace Sept. 19-20, ABHMS will host a Spiritual Caregivers Conference for chaplains, pastoral counselors, spiritual directors and specialized ministers. Featured speakers are Drs. Pamela Cooper-White, Trace Haythorn, Kirk Byron Jones and Lt. Col. Ruth Naomi Segres.

ABHMS releases OGHS funds to ABC of Indiana and Kentucky in response to tornadoes

In response to December’s tornadoes and on behalf of American Baptist Churches USA, ABHMS has released \$7,500 in One Great Hour of Sharing (OGHS) disaster-relief funds to American Baptist Churches of Indiana and Kentucky. At least 38 tornadoes caused significant damage and tragic loss of lives in six states.



Financial contributions to support relief efforts can be sent through your local American Baptist church or donated online at abhms.org.

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



Mission in America

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MISSION BRIEF

ABHMS’ online Justice Dialogues will be held 2-3 p.m. ET on March 30 and April 27. The first is about “Care of the Earth—Our Responsibility and Response for the Well-Being of the Environment,” and the second focuses on “Mental Health within Homes, Congregations and Communities.” Justice Dialogues are for open discussion and encouragement, primarily among American Baptists who minister via healing and transforming communities. Learn more and register at <https://abhms.org/ministries/healing-communities/justice-dialogues/>.



NEWS BYTES

As a result of successful negotiations with Tyson Foods, ABHMS was joined by other shareholders of Tyson and members of the Interfaith Center on Corporate Responsibility in withdrawing a proposal intended



for the 2022 company proxy requesting a racial equity audit. Tyson agreed to all key terms of the proposal, including that the racial equity audit will be conducted by an independent third party. Read more at abhms.org.

Lilly Endowment Inc. has awarded a \$400,000 grant to ABHMS to extend the debt relief provided to clergy through the financial education program “In Support of Excellence.” The grant was made as part of the third phase of Lilly Endowment’s National Initiative to Address Economic Challenges Facing Pastoral Leaders. Learn more at abhms.org.

Readers who would like to receive Mission in America in Spanish should email Communications@abhms.org.

Mission in America

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ABHMS grants aid church with immigration ministry

Grants from ABHMS provide the resources for the immigration ministry at Iglesia Bautista Betesda, Indianapolis, where the congregation is living 1 Corinthians 13:13—“And now these three remain: faith, hope and love. But the greatest of these is love”—by helping immigrants who come to the United States, fleeing poverty and violence in their homelands.

According to the church’s pastor, the Rev. Jaime Flores, most of the immigrants the church aids are from Honduras. In 2021, the church helped 40 immigrant families by meeting transportation, translation, informational and financial needs.

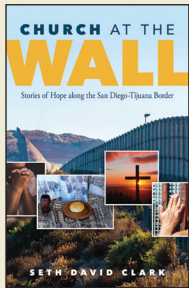
Flores, himself, has driven families to immigration hearings in Chicago. He recalls a mother with two daughters who immigrated to Miami before relocating to Indianapolis. When the family was summoned to appear before a Miami judge, Flores rented a car and drove them nearly 1,200 miles from Indianapolis to Miami where they were granted political asylum. In another instance, a family was summoned to a hearing in Houston. So Flores drove the family more than 1,000 miles from Indianapolis to Houston, where the case was won.



The Rev. Jaime Flores drove this mother and two daughters from Indianapolis to Florida for an immigration hearing. They are pictured with Flores’ wife, Andrea (far left).

JUDSON PRESS PICK

Book introduces readers to church on San Diego-Tijuana Border



“Church at the Wall: Stories of Hope Along the San Diego-Tijuana Border” tells the powerful story of Border Church, which meets at Friendship Park, where people from both the United States and Mexico have gathered each Sunday afternoon to share communion through mesh metal walls. Situated on the western edge of the border, it overlooks the Pacific Ocean.

Readers will get to know this remarkable international church community—and its distinctive expressions of theology, justice, righteousness and love—through the eyes of active participants.

The author is Seth David Clark, D.Min., an ordained American Baptist minister and lead pastor of First Baptist Church of National City, Calif. He also serves as the pastoral team’s U.S. director of Border Church.

To order, visit judsonpress.com or call 1-800-458-3766.