



40th Annual Session
American Baptist Churches of the South
April 28 - May 1, 2010
Charlotte, NC

Equipping and Empowering Classes

1. “Got Style? “Personality Based Evangelism”

Dr. Jeffrey Johnson, National Ministries, Valley Forge, PA

Does sharing the Good News make you feel bad? Does certain evangelistic methods feel unnatural? Come and learn how to share your personal faith based upon your personality, so that what you say and what you do is in complement and not competition to your God ordained wiring. What will be shared will be for both Individuals and congregations. You will leave with things to use right away as well as take home and use later.

2. “Christian Understanding of Stewardship in an Age of Scarcity”

Dr. Leo Thorne, ABC/USA, Valley Forge, PA

The temptation during a time of scarcity is to think scarcity and act in ways that create scarcity. Our Christian Faith, however, connects us personally to a God of abundance. This interactive seminar will explore five best stewardship practices to help empower individuals and congregations grow as faithful and healthy stewards of a God of unlimited abundance.

3. “Short Term Mission Trips”

Mrs. Evelyn Hillman

“Go into ALL the world...” “Well, “you say, “I send money to those far-away places through my missions giving.” Perhaps, YOU would be of greater value! A short-tem mission trip would benefit YOU and OTHERS in the country to which you go.

- Who? (ALL are welcome, regardless of age, sex, education and etc..)
- Where? (Come and hear where your help is needed)
- How? (This workshop will explain EVERYTHING! Come learn for yourself, or so that you can help someone else).

4. “Facilities Planning Skillshop”

Dr. Benjamin Greene, Jr. ABEC, Valley Forge, PA

This session is designed to help churches with making investments, building responsibly and obtaining financing for church buildings. It will address issues of developing a plan for construction, acquisition and expansion of church facilities. In this session, you will be equipped and specific: expertise and guidance needed in planning and decision making; identifiable congregational and community needs; determination of ministry goals; development of accurate building budgets; proper selection of architect, a contractor and other building professionals.

5. “History Matters”

(Morning Session Only)

Dr. Adam Bond, Virginia Union University

This session will highlight the importance of history for local congregations. Many churches celebrate anniversaries for the congregations and/or the pastor. At some point during these events, someone shares the church’s or the pastor’s story to celebrate the wonderful work of God. This session considers the way in which this history tells us about the local church’s identity. What do we learn from the order of worship from 1970-1985? What did the pastor preach during that same period? Who were we during the civil rights struggle? The answers show congregational members what they have inherited, why they do what they do. Session leaders and participants will seek to see history as an opportunity to understand a person’s and/or congregation’s contribution to the world. Both participants and session leaders, moreover, will consider what denominational entities are in place to interpret and protect local church histories and narratives.