

**A Brief Report on the February 2009 Bartimaeus Institute:
Transgressing Social Boundaries of Race, Class & Gender
(A Study of Mark 4-8)**



Two dozen folk attended the February Institute, thanks to another strong contingent from Cookman United Methodist Church in Philadelphia. Our Word and World colleague Kyle (*right*) was a terrific work-study intern, holding together all the complicated logistics with Elaine. *Left top to bottom: Doris and Donna; Esther, Mark and Faith; Robert, Allen and Eric; Steve, Shawn and Merilee.*



We focused on Mark 4-8, looking at Jesus as a boundary-crosser and wrestling with race, class and gender issues, in Jesus' world and in ours. *Right top to bottom: Acting out the story of Jairus' daughter and the woman with the flow of blood (Mk 5:21ff); Jesus (Faith) meets the woman (Jan).*



The Sabbath time on Wednesday was a highlight, featuring several Cookmanites taking their maiden voyage on a surfboard in the cold winter waters of Emma Wood State Beach (*below Donna, Ched & Aaron*), and a great barbecue at Elaine and Ched's home (*right*)!

