

ANNUAL REPORT 2015

a year of making spaces for grace



cultivating leaders

equipping disciples

healing communities

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space for grace

three life-changing days

American Baptist Home Mission Societies' national conference, Nov. 4-7, 2015, filled the Hilton Los Angeles Airport hotel with hundreds of American Baptists hungry to listen and learn, discuss and debate, what it means to live out Christian faith in the midst of today's racial, religious and cultural diversity.

Ultimately, the lesson of Space for Grace was that differences need not divide us. As Christians, we are called to extend the hand of fellowship to those we deem different, bringing the healing grace of God's love to those who are isolated, disenfranchised, alone. That is the heart of Jesus' agenda for us.

And that's the heart of what we do at American Baptist Home Mission Societies. Along with creating Space for Grace, we brought spaces of grace and healing throughout the year to thousands across the United States and Puerto Rico.

In these pages, we share that story.



To say I was pleased with "Space for Grace" would be an understatement. ... This was the absolute best conference I have ever attended in my life.'

Rev. Dr. Barbara Jim-George, Transforming Ministries Group, Oakland, Calif.



Space for Grace left me with a deep appreciation for the speakers and their boldness to speak a much-needed and long overdue truth.'

Sandi Vélez, Bridges/Puentes Prison Ministry, N.C.



Such a blessed event! Thank you for all that you do for us. God bless you!'

Joseph Gurrola, First Hispanic Baptist Church, Lompoc, Calif.

statement of the executive director

we are confident God has called us to serve at such a time as this

As the new executive director of American Baptist Home Mission Societies (ABHMS) and CEO of Judson Press, I am pleased to present ABHMS' 2015 Annual Report.

The opportunity to join the staff of this life-giving and life-changing mission agency—which has been spreading the Christian gospel throughout the United States and Puerto Rico for close to two centuries—raises my regard for those individuals and institutions who have contributed to Christian discipleship, justice and the creation of the Beloved Community here on Earth. ABHMS' ministries are made possible by many gifted individuals, contributors and partners. I sincerely thank our board of directors, led by Dr. Clifford Johnson, the leadership team, our staff and all who support ABHMS in countless ways.

Our staff and mission partners will long remember 2015 as a turning point for mission engagement and recommitment. We will recall 2015 as a time of significant change, considering the retirement of Dr. Aidsand F. Wright-Riggins III after 24 years of dedicated and distinguished service. Transitions such as this one provide an occasion for reflection about how far we have come in advancing God's mission through our service, strategic initiatives and collaboration with diverse partners.

... He has anointed me to bring good news to the poor. He has sent me to proclaim release to the captives and recovery of sight to the blind, to let the oppressed go free' Luke 4:18 (NRSV)

This publication, like any attempt to report on ABHMS' mission engagement, barely scratches the surface in communicating the scope of our staff/partner relationships and the connection between the organization's generosity and the transformation it generates in the world. Looking back on 2015, the complexity and effectiveness of ABHMS' connections were evident in the amazing spiritual event, Space for Grace, held in Los Angeles. We hold forth that experience as the kind of event we hope to sponsor again in the future.

Serving alongside our partners, ABHMS seeks—through human and financial resources—to share the gospel and answer God's call to live out Christian faith, as we support and encourage change in America and Puerto Rico that increasingly resembles the vision of Beloved Community that God desires. In the following pages, you will find snapshots of ABHMS mission engagement; I urge you to remember that so much more remains to be shared.

As we explore future opportunities for life-changing engagement, we will continue seeking clarity of ABHMS' mission and vision in a constantly changing world—one that presents new challenges as well as opportunities to today's church. We are discovering, through ongoing internal and external conversations, the need among American Baptists to connect partners, cultivate leaders, equip disciples and heal communities. This emphasis aligns with ABHMS' mission reaching back to 1824.

Take a few moments to reflect on the content of these pages; then join with us in imagining the ways in which we can continue empowering American Baptists to cultivate passionate leaders and equip disciples who impact our ever-changing society with the gospel that heals and transforms.



Blessings on our shared journey,

Jeffrey Haggray

Dr. Jeffrey Haggray
Executive Director

statement of the treasurer

your generosity makes it possible for ABHMS to share God's boundless grace



You will be enriched in every way for your great generosity, which will produce thanksgiving to God through us.' 2 Corinthians 9:11 (NRSV)

A story of grace and generosity is embedded in ABHMS' 2015 major revenue sources. This story tells the testimony of individuals touched and enriched by the grace of God, then inspired to leave legacies of generosity that would bless those in need, both in and beyond their lifetimes, through the ministries of the Home Mission Societies.

Support and revenue sources totaled \$19,941,587 in 2015, \$358,377, or 1.8 percent lower, than the prior year. Investment and endowment income made up 75.8 percent of this total, continuing to be our most stable source of funding.

Matured gifts from individuals who named ABHMS in their wills or created charitable gift annuities or trusts are reflected in legacies and related income. ABHMS received \$1,267,621 in legacy gifts, \$807,450, or 175 percent higher, than the prior year.

Other contributions totaled \$1,267,599 compared to \$204,034 in the prior year. Included in this amount is \$1,050,000 in grant funding from Lilly Endowment Inc.'s National Initiative to Address Economic Challenges Facing Pastoral Leaders. These funds will enable ABHMS to establish "In Support of Excellence," a program utilizing education, professional coaching and collegial support groups to help alleviate the economic challenges and related stressors faced by American Baptist pastoral leaders.

Operating expenses totaling \$12,151,791 remained flat, considering a decrease of \$16,189 from the 2014 total. Total administrative services expense increased slightly, primarily from several staff retirements and the related costs of transitioning to new leadership. Total net assets—a gauge of an organization's long-term financial strength—decreased 5.2 percent from 2014 or \$9,556,251, primarily because of an increase in net unrealized losses on investments.

The Common Investment Fund's annualized return, net of fees, was -1.8 percent, compared to its -0.4 percent benchmark. Year-to-year market volatility can be expected. However, ABHMS' Finance Committee and Investment Advisory Council continue to pursue a well-managed strategy that emphasizes long-term results through a well-diversified portfolio: Considering three-year, 10-year and "since inception" markers, the portfolio's annualized returns, net of fees, were 8.3 percent, 6.4 percent, and 9.7 percent, respectively.

ABHMS remains committed to faithful stewardship of the funds entrusted to our care. As you read through the pages of this report, you will find stories of individuals, congregations and communities who have been transformed by our ministries focused on cultivating leaders, equipping disciples and healing communities.

We are grateful for the generous support of American Baptist individuals and congregations who make our ministry possible—past, present and future. Whether through gifts of time, talent or treasury, your generosity is causing others to give God praise, as they experience God's boundless grace through the Home Mission Society's ministries.



With gratitude and enduring hope,

Michaele D. Birdsall, CPA
Treasurer and Chief Financial Officer

cultivating leaders

strong leaders advance the

In 2015, American Baptist Home Mission Societies **awarded \$330,000 in scholarships** to 219 undergraduate, 93 seminarian, seven graduate and eight doctoral students.

Ninety-eight new ministry professionals enrolled in American Baptist Personnel Services (ABPS), which supported 30 American Baptist regions by completing 326 database searches for candidates to fill open ministry positions and creating more than 12,000 candidate profiles for search committees.

Centro de Capacitación para Líderes del Siglo XXI (CECALI XXI), or “Training Center for 21st Century Leaders,” was implemented in California, Arizona and Illinois. The project **trained 129 Latino pastors and lay leaders**, providing practical tools for effective ministry that is transforming churches and communities.

Intercultural Ministries provided planning and coordination services to the Haitian Alliance for its leadership planning meeting and ABHMS staff presentations at a Karen women’s conference as well as a gathering of seven New Jersey Asian churches for sharing ministries and fellowship.

CECALI training helps new church serve community



The Rev. Jaime Flores and his wife, Andrea, planted a new church in February 2015 in Indianapolis, Ind. By the end of the year, Iglesia Bautista Betesda had an average Sunday attendance of 35. The church launched an English as a Second Language (ESL) program that quickly grew to 79 registered participants, with average weekly attendance ranging from 35-40 students. The program is so successful that it’s considered a model by local media and governmental officials. CECALI training, provided by ABHMS, helped Flores to understand the importance of community ministries like ESL classes, he says.

March 23, 2016

Dear American Baptist Home Mission Societies:

2015 was a year of changes and hope for me. I started my first semester at an American university and, even though I felt insecure and had many concerns, I know our God has never abandoned me. My heart was filled with joy when I received an email notification that I had won a scholarship. This has been a valuable help for me, since it allowed me to pay for books each semester and a portion of the tuition cost. Thanks to this scholarship, I will be able to attend classes this summer and, with God’s will, get closer to my goal of graduating next year. But, more than anything, this scholarship has helped my parents and me to remember that we are not alone, that we have brothers in faith that have supplied our necessities. This scholarship reminds me that God is faithful. He never, ever fails in His promises. It reminds me every day that we should not be satisfied with an Ishmael when He promised us Isaac.

God bless you richly and abundantly,
Violeta Mora

Delegates journey to southeast Asia in name of peace, justice

A delegation of eight people from a number of American Baptist regions and American Baptist Home Mission Societies, together with Karen Baptist Churches USA and Chin Baptist Churches USA, took part in a “peace and justice” advocacy trip in January and February 2015.

The group visited the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees in Kuala Lumpur and Bangkok and traveled to Myitkyina, Kachin State, to visit four Internal Displaced People (IDP) camps, where more than 100,000 refugees are seeking refuge. In a meeting with the Kachin State minister (governor) in Myitkyina,

mission of faith communities

delegation members expressed concerns about the IDP camps and requested action toward “peace and justice” for those displaced. U.S. embassies in Bangkok and Rangoon were additional important stops, where the group shared concerns about continuous human rights violations, urging embassy pressure on the government to end violations.

During time with 1991 Nobel Peace Prize winner Daw Aung San Suu Kyi in her Parliament office, delegates engaged in dialogue about the country’s ethnic persecution, the political state and the November election.

Sharing burdens, lightening the load

At a presentation to a clergy association about advance directives and hospice, the Rev. Kathleen Busby, an American Baptist-endorsed hospice chaplain, talked about end-of-life decisions, weaving religious, spiritual and cultural beliefs into how one moves through the process of determining the types of interventions an individual may wish to receive prior to death.

A pastor started to cry. After having spent the past hour talking about death, he found himself so filled with emotion that he needed to share the fact that three of his congregants had been shot and killed over the preceding five months. He didn’t know with whom to speak about his grief; as a pastor, he wanted to remain strong for his congregants but often didn’t know where to turn. Other clergy—including a rabbi and a Buddhist monk—chimed in, talking about the burdens they carried. Busby listened, facilitated and suggested possible resources. Then she led the group in prayer as they shared each other’s burdens, lightening their loads and recognizing the cost of discipleship, as it were. It was truly a blessing because each was healed in some small way that day.

More than 600 chaplains and pastoral counselors, endorsed through ABHMS, bring hope and healing in countless settings.

Bringing spiritual guidance to a combat zone

In the Joint Task Force (JTF) section of Guantanamo Bay, Cuba, that provides housing and security for detainees, American Baptist-endorsed Navy Reserve Commander Gary Bennett, JTF Command Chaplain, oversees and leads chaplains representing more than 10 different Christian denominations. He ensures the representation and practice of faith for all service men and women and detainees in accordance with military guidelines and First Amendment rights for faith and religion.

One of his greatest and most challenging responsibilities is to provide spiritual guidance and support to the service men and women—including prison guards,



Judge Advocate General’s Corps members, military psychologists and doctors, enlisted staff and officers—who experience great emotional and psychological stress and challenges while serving in the combat zone. To meet their spiritual needs and to facilitate spiritual

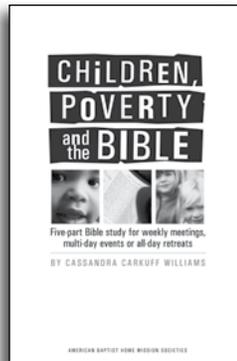
growth, Bennett conducts and oversees several church services, multiple Bible studies throughout the week, morale-building activities and worship services.

equipping disciples

broadening the understand

In 2015, American Baptist Home Mission Societies offered Missional Church Learning Experience community presentations to 40 participants in three in-person sessions and four virtual sessions. Missional church presentations were also shared through preaching, speaking and workshop engagements with more than 1,500 people in Massachusetts, Rhode Island, Michigan, Illinois and Pennsylvania.

More than 5,000 2015 Discipleship Planning Guides were mailed to regions and churches: “The Bible—A Light for Our Path,” included a month-by-month planning calendar, the Revised Standard Lectionary, Christian education tips and resources, articles from experts about teaching the Bible to children, and a litany for Christian Education Sunday in Chinese, Spanish, English and French. More than 400 additional requests were filled.



The five-part Bible study “Children, Poverty and the Bible” continues to be a popular resource in support of ABHMS’ “Justice for Children” efforts: More than 330 requests for the study were filled in 2015.

The 52 free downloadable Workshops for Church Life and Leadership garnered more than 2,000 unique page views. Designed for small groups and leadership training at the congregational, associational and regional levels, the workshops are available in Spanish, French and Karen as well as English.

The top 10 workshops downloaded in 2015 were:

- “The Identification and Use of Spiritual Gifts in the Disciple-making Church”
- “Reading the Bible with Integrity”
- “Church Leadership Development”
- “The Deacon as Servant-Leader”
- “Growing Persons”
- “Planning Discipleship Formation/Christian Education”
- “Evangelism and Discipleship in Youth Ministry”
- “Leadership as Enabling”
- “Strategies to Move the Small Church Forward”
- “Child Abuse Prevention in Churches”

ABHMS distributed more than \$5,000 in American Baptist Women’s Ministries’ Refit contributions to church planters and organizations in four American Baptist regions.

About three dozen churches implemented the “Got Style” evangelism method in six American Baptist regions. More than 30 “Got Style” workshops were conducted on local, association and region levels across the country, and the “Got Style” personality-based process was further developed for use in the ABPS search process to examine the complement and contrast of potential candidate and congregation matches.

Michigan church ‘better as a result of MCLE model of prayer, planning, implementation’

by the Rev. Dr. Alex Pickens III

University Baptist Church, East Lansing, Mich.

Our Missional Church Learning Experience (MCLE) project, “Balancing Your College Life,” gathers Michigan State University students around food, worship and the Word on Sunday nights.

The ongoing missional emphasis has produced a seminarian now studying at Duke, a Ph.D. candidate at Purdue and a doctor of ministry graduate from Northern Baptist Theological Seminary. Also, our “Balancing Your College Life” coordinator took lessons learned from this work and began a career as an elementary educator in the Detroit area.

This MCLE work—inspired by the training offered by ABHMS—has also birthed projects in other parts of the church. The largest and most radical result was suspension of the church constitution. We realized that our governance structures weren’t helpful in providing the flexibility required by the MCLE model. When we held the benefit of “Balancing Your College Life” against the benefit of continuing with our same governance structure, we voted to suspend the constitution. Our vote launched a second MCLE season of prayer, fasting, listening and discernment. After months of living in Christian community, listening to our neighbors and praying for the Holy Spirit’s dominance in our lives, a different governance model was discovered.

ding of what it means to follow Jesus

Through a reading list provided by the MCLE program, we connected with John Kaiser's book "Winning On Purpose: How to Organize Congregations to Succeed in Their Mission," and adopted Kaiser's model of governance with great results. Many questions remain unanswered, and much work remains to be done. We are, however, better as a result of the MCLE model of prayer, planning and implementation.

Gospel study with 'missional twist' impacts faith communities, neighborhoods

In collaboration with the Rev. Sam Brink, minister of Church Resources and Mission Support for American Baptist Churches of Wisconsin, ABHMS created and implemented the "Mission from the Gospels" resource and leadership training program in several regions, associations and churches across the United States, including New York, Wisconsin, Kansas, Minnesota and Ohio.

This study of the gospels with a "missional twist" has impacted faith communities and their neighborhoods. In American Baptist Churches of New York



State's Capital Area Baptist Association, churches formed mission teams that studied and applied the teaching of the gospels in and with their neighboring communities. As part of the training, the association created six teams. Each team explored and engaged in mission together within these focus areas: partnering with the Saratoga Spring race track ministry; creating health care kits; partnering with an urban congregation's food ministry; creating a clearinghouse

ministry to connect people in need with resources; and creating a community meal ministry. Each team has access to "seed money" from the association.

"The needs are great," said the Rev. George Stefani, association leader. "The size of the need can paralyze people. So we tend not to do anything. But Jesus said, 'Go and see what you have to give.'" The association is attempting to do just that as it listens to neighbors in need and reflects on the teachings of the gospels.



How many of my American Baptist colleagues knew about "A Matter of Stewardship: Eco-justice in Biblical Perspective"? I didn't. Take a gander; great stuff here. And if you did use and liked it, please tell the folks at ABHMS! We need more stuff like this!

Rev. G. Travis Norvell, pastor,
Judson Memorial Baptist
Church, Minneapolis, Minn.
(posted on Facebook)

healing communities

we believe the power of

During 2015, Volunteer Mobilization Ministries **facilitated the placement of more than 650 volunteers**—who served 3,245 days—across the United States. Close to 240 volunteers logged more than 7,100 hours during ABHMS' annual "Home Mission: 'Til the Work is Done" in New Orleans, still recovering from the devastation wrought by hurricanes Katrina and Rita. These volunteers, representing 28 churches, colleges and universities in 20 states and Puerto Rico, completed more than 40 projects, including cleaning and tagging 80-plus storm drains on a 2½-mile stretch of road. In a joint effort of ABHMS and American Baptist Churches of New Jersey, 60 volunteers logged close to 2,400 hours during the two-week "Coming Together for New Jersey...Rebuild, Renew and Restore" work weeks, a Hurricane Sandy recovery effort.

Disaster Response Ministries **awarded One Great Hour of Sharing (OGHS) Emergency Disaster grants totaling \$58,000** that assisted local churches and regional offices responding to natural disasters, including flooding and mudslides in the Pacific Northwest, fires in California, damage from extreme



winter storms in Massachusetts, Michigan and Wisconsin, and flooding in Wyoming, New York and Ohio. ABHMS also assisted a church vandalized in Nebraska and provided assistance to two Massachusetts camps, Grotonwood and Oceanwood. Other American Baptist regions receiving assistance included Central Pacific Coast, Growing Healthy Churches, Northwest, Rocky Moun-

tains, Massachusetts, Michigan, Nebraska, New York State, Ohio, Pennsylvania and Delaware, and Wisconsin. Grants awarded to national partners Church World Service and American Baptist Men USA assisted in their respective response as well.

OGHS Domestic Development Grants distributed by Disaster Response Ministries totaled \$280,907.84. Examples of ministries that received funds include: Community organizers in Massachusetts and Ohio addressing low-wage issues and immigration; a community mission organization in New York focused on strengthening faith services; hunger, shelter and refugee/immigration programs in the Growing Healthy Churches, Nebraska, Ohio and Pennsylvania and Delaware regions; support of construction of a new well and filtration system at Redwood Glen Camp and Conference Center within American

Baptist Churches of the Central Pacific Coast region; and kitchen and classroom expansion along with an anti-hunger project at two ABHMS-related Christian centers in Billings, Mont., and Peoria, Ill.

Twenty-one Justice for Children grants totaling \$48,500 were awarded in 2015. The projects—from Maine to Florida to California and many points in between—addressed a breadth of needs, including mentorship of children



of incarcerated parents, after-school programs and summer camps. One of the recipients, Warrensville Road Community Based Center of Life, Maple Heights, Ohio, received funds for its after-school program and Children's Defense Fund Summer Freedom School program.

Through this outreach of Warrensville Road Community Baptist Church, 70 youth ages 8-18 learned to set high learning goals and develop and visualize plans for their future through vision boards.

Ex-offender Re-entry Ministries presented 12 workshops attended by more than 250 participants in eight regions. "Train the trainer" certifications—preparing participants to train more trainers for church and community re-entry ministries—were earned by 21 individuals. As part of the Interfaith Criminal Justice Coalition, ABHMS participated in eight advocacy efforts supporting prison reform. Two camps for children of incarcerated parents—in Ohio and California—ministered to 38 children with support from ABHMS.

At the American Psychiatric Association's annual meeting in Toronto, Canada, ABHMS helped to launch two new mental health resources for faith leaders: "Mental Health: A Guide for Faith Leaders" and a "Quick Reference Guide." These resources were developed through the Mental Health and Faith Community Partnership, which ABHMS helped establish through its involvement with the Interfaith Disability Advocacy Coalition, a program of American Association of People with Disabilities.

of Christian love can—and will—change the world

The light I never saw coming

by Jade Burnett, student, Franklin (Ind.) College

When I stepped into the stifling August heat on my first day in New Orleans, I had no idea that, by the end of the week, my thirst for the Holy Spirit would be quenched.

I pray for God's presence in my life, but when He shows Himself, I often find myself fighting His plan. My idea of a mission trip is drastically different now compared to prior to my New Orleans experience. I used to think that, by going on a mission trip, I would become somewhat of a messiah for people in need of saving; and to achieve this status, I would perform immense acts of work, such as rebuilding destroyed homes.

I learned quickly that my plans for the mission trip and the plans God had already determined for me were far from congruent. If I wanted to be like Jesus, I had to do what He did, which was serve others unselfishly in love.

By learning to see the spiritual value in doing less "glorious" tasks—such as painting a front porch railing or pulling weeds from a garden—God showed me that what matters most it is not the size of the work you do, but rather the spirit with which you do it.

Ephesians 2:10 says that, as Christians, we are called to do the tasks that God has planned for us. By carrying out His will, we not only please Him, but we also shine His light into the darkest places of the Earth. I pray that the work I did in New Orleans will be eternal proof to those I served that I represent a God whose very essence is love.



Finding a way past pain to healing, hope

At the ABHMS-supported Los Angeles camp for children of incarcerated parents, staff witnessed sad and insecure children transformed into artists, singers and performers. The children laughed, shared stories and, most of all, made friends. Brother and sister Carlos and Maria, whose parents are incarcerated, became good friends with siblings Tyrone and Shamika, whose father is in prison. After returning from camp, Carlos and Maria asked their grandmother whether their friends could join them for Sunday dinner. Tyrone and Shamika's mother agreed to the shared meal. Such friendships are crucial for children's healing.

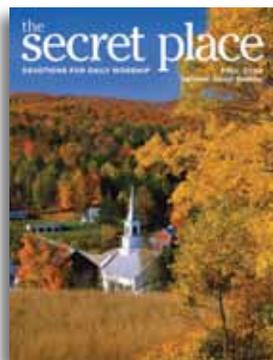
I pray that the work I did in New Orleans will be eternal proof to those I served that I represent a God whose very essence is love.'

Jade Burnett

Judson Press

In 2015, the Judson Press bookstore and exhibit traveled to 14 locations, including national and regional events, and 18 American Baptist regions participated in the “Regional Rewards” program, awarding 10 percent of online retail sales to churches in their regions.

Judson Press published four quarters of “Judson Bible Journeys for Adults,” the American Baptist-written Christian education curriculum, in 2015, **providing study books to more than 16,000 students.**



Judson Press published four quarters of “The Secret Place,” **its devotional guide with a worldwide readership of more than 250,000** in standard, large print and Braille editions. Each daily devotion includes a Scripture passage, an original meditation and a brief prayer written by Christian writers across the nation.

Thanks to more than \$2,000 in customer donations for shipping, Judson Press **sent close to 6,000 free copies of “The Secret Place” and Bibles to prisoners and others in need.**

Free webinars hosted in 2015 included:

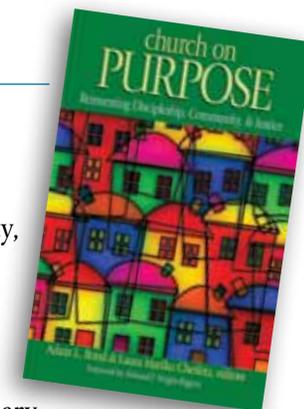
- “In Defense of Religious Liberty,” facilitated by Dr. Marvin McMickle, author of “Pulpit & Politics: Separation of Church & State in the Black Church”
- “Budgeting for the Holidays & Beyond,” facilitated by Shayna Lear, author of “Money on Purpose: Finding a Faith-Filled Balance”
- “Six Essentials for Parents to Leaving a Strong Legacy,” facilitated by Sharon Norris Elliott, author of “Boomerangs to Arrows: A Godly Guide for Launching Young Adult Children”
- “Creative Ways to Raise Ministry Funds for the New Year,” facilitated by Joy F. Skjegstad, author of “7 Creative Models for Community Ministry”
- “Design Your Community Ministry Program from Scratch,” facilitated by Joy F. Skjegstad, author of “7 Creative Models for Community Ministry”
- “Spiritual Practices for Effective Leadership,” facilitated by Debora Jackson, author of “Spiritual Practices for Effective Leadership: 7 Rs of Sanctuary for Pastors”

Gift certificates were provided to 220 students who received ABHMS scholarships.

“The Spiritual Art of Raising Children with Disabilities” by Kathleen Deyer Bolduc (Judson Press, 2014) received two awards: an Illumination Book Award that recognizes exemplary titles written and published with a Christian worldview, and the Eric Hoffer Award, one of the largest international book awards for small, academic and independent presses.

2015 releases

- “Church on Purpose: Reinventing Discipleship, Community, & Justice,” edited by Adam L. Bond* and Laura Mariko Cheifetz (2015–16 “ABC Reads” title)
 - “Sisters of Scripture: Mentors in Womanhood” by Billie Montgomery/Cook
 - “Spiritual Practices for Effective Leadership: 7 Rs of Sanctuary for Pastors” by Debora Jackson*
 - “The Pastoral Caregiver’s Casebook,” Volumes 1-4, edited by John J. Gleason*
 - Vol. 1: “Ministry in Relationships”—relational challenges with self, others and God
 - Vol. 2: “Ministry in Crises”—ministry encounters in physical and psycho-emotional crises
 - Vol. 3: “Ministry in Health”—pastoral care around physical and mental health concerns
 - Vol. 4: “Ministry in Specialized Settings”—including prisons and hospitals
 - “Reclaimed: Faith in an Emerging Generation” by Denise Janssen*
 - “Here I Am: Faith Stories of Korean American Clergywomen,” edited by Grace Ji-Sun Kim (crowd-funded in part through a successful Pubslush campaign)
- *indicates American Baptist author

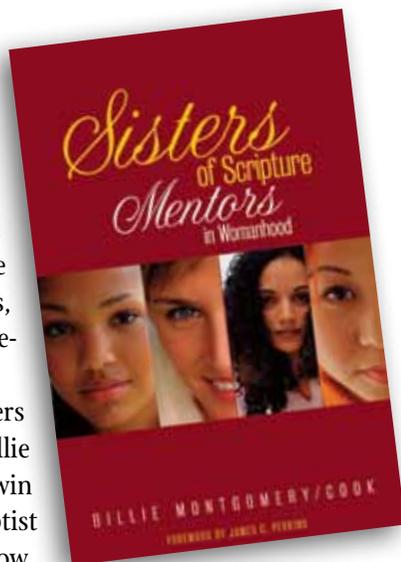


Highlighting heroines

“You cannot imagine my excitement and surprise that I had won the Sisters of Scripture Essay Contest,” said Tiffany Amber Saunders, 20, of Bellerose, N.Y., on learning she would receive a \$1,000 scholarship.

Contestants modeled their essays on “Sisters of Scripture: Mentors of Womanhood” by Billie Montgomery/Cook (Judson Press, 2015). To win the contest, Saunders, a member of Antioch Baptist Church of Corona, Queens, N.Y., wrote about how her Sunday school teacher, Ms. Miranda, resembles the biblical “Deborah,” reminding her that “no task is too difficult for God to handle.”

The \$1,000 scholarship award was announced at ABHMS’ Space for Grace conference in November 2015, in honor of Elva S. Riggins, a public school and Christian educator. Judson Press and American Baptist Women’s Ministries co-sponsored the contest, also presenting a \$500 scholarship to Michelle Payne, Bronx, N.Y. Payne is a member of Canaan Baptist Church of Christ, Harlem, N.Y.



I love to lead this class [“Judson Bible Journey for Adults”]. Over the years, it has helped me to grow in the knowledge of the Bible—not what it says; instead, what it means.’

Art Munson



**So grateful to
“The Secret Place”
for helping my
brother find our Lord.’**

Linda Williams

Youth give mission a lift

When youth from First Baptist Church, Olathe, Kan., showed up at Overland Park in June to help Judson Press lift and move boxes at its bookstore during the ABCUSA Mission Summit, they were also able to give an upcoming mission trip a financial lift.

The youth used the monies earned to help pay their way the following month to Los Angeles, where they cooked food at shelters and played bingo at nursing homes, among other mission service activities.

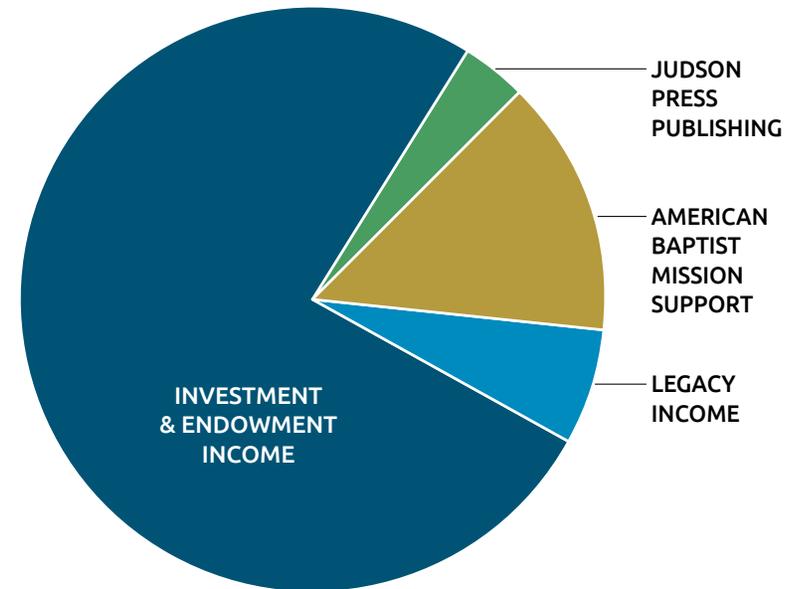
Lois Chiles, vice president of American Baptist Home Mission Societies’ board of directors, and 2015 Mission Summit local arrangements committee chair, arranged the partnership as “a great opportunity to work together in the name of Jesus Christ.”



2015 financial snapshot

ministry income sources

| | 2015 | % | 2014 | % |
|--|---------------------|---------------|---------------------|---------------|
| American Baptist Mission Support: | | | | |
| America for Christ | \$828,584 | 4.2% | \$894,679 | 4.4% |
| United Mission | 428,086 | 2.1% | 468,861 | 2.3% |
| One Great Hour of Sharing | 302,927 | 1.5% | 316,633 | 1.6% |
| Other contributions | 1,267,599 | 6.4% | 204,034 | 1.0% |
| Total ABMS | 2,827,196 | 14.2% | 1,884,207 | 9.3% |
| Legacies & related income | 1,267,621 | 6.4% | 460,171 | 2.3% |
| Investment & endowment income: | | | | |
| Investment, endowment & related funds | 15,011,419 | 75.3% | 16,990,357 | 83.7% |
| Mortgage income | 97,234 | 0.5% | 178,048 | 0.9% |
| Total investment & endowment income | 15,108,653 | 75.8% | 17,168,405 | 84.6% |
| Judson Press publishing | 738,117 | 3.7% | 787,181 | 3.9% |
| Total support and revenue | \$19,941,587 | 100.0% | \$20,299,964 | 100.0% |

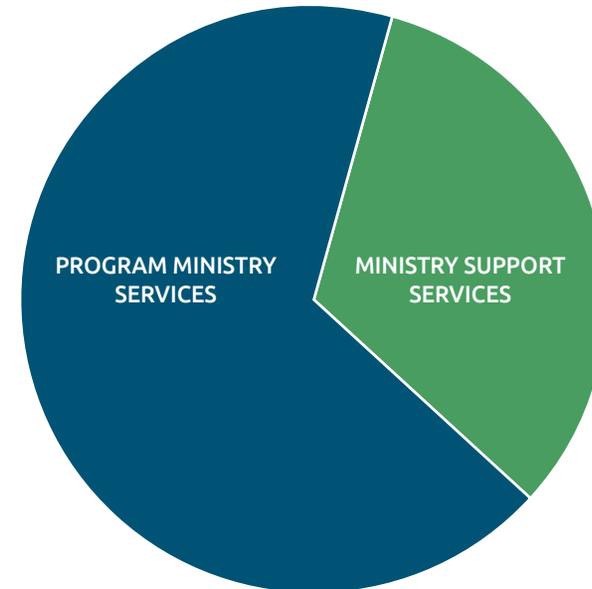


For a copy of American Baptist Home Mission Societies' audited financial statements, please visit our website at www.abhms.org or call 800-222-3872, x2465.

2015 financial snapshot

where ministry dollars were invested

| | 2015 | % | 2014 | % |
|---|----------------------|---------------|---------------------|---------------|
| Program ministries: | | | | |
| Missional life & missionary support & administration | \$4,732,837 | 38.9% | \$4,647,243 | 38.2% |
| Publishing ministries | 1,311,112 | 10.8% | 1,361,534 | 11.2% |
| Discipleship/transformation | 862,529 | 7.1% | 1,107,066 | 9.1% |
| Caring ministries/prophetic justice | 952,898 | 7.8% | 967,744 | 8.0% |
| Intercultural focus on discipleship & evangelism | 328,464 | 2.7% | 419,289 | 3.4% |
| Evangelism/new church planting | 41,644 | 0.3% | 18,334 | 0.2% |
| Total program services | 8,229,485 | 67.7% | 8,521,210 | 70.0% |
| Administrative support: | | | | |
| Ministry support services | 2,319,327 | 19.1% | 2,109,563 | 17.3% |
| CI management fees & beneficiary payments | 1,299,630 | 10.7% | 1,210,598 | 9.9% |
| Development | 303,349 | 2.5% | 326,609 | 2.7% |
| Total administrative support | 3,922,306 | 32.3% | 3,646,770 | 30.0% |
| Total program & administrative support expenses | \$12,151,791 | 100.0% | \$12,167,980 | 100.0% |
| Total income (loss) from operations | \$7,789,796 | | \$8,131,984 | |
| Net unrealized gains/(losses) on investments | (17,226,770) | | (5,949,109) | |
| Change in annuity beneficial interest & actuarial obligations | (119,277) | | 248,842 | |
| Change in net assets | \$(9,556,251) | | \$2,431,717 | |



common investment fund

money can be ministry

ABHMS' commitment to faithful stewardship includes investing assets with the goal of maximizing financial returns, while also utilizing our power as shareholders to hold corporations accountable to social and environmental concerns.

Through partnership with the Interfaith Center on Corporate Responsibility (ICCR), ABHMS has historically pressed companies such as General Electric, ExxonMobil and Tyson Foods Inc. to improve their sustainability practices and change the way they address environmental, social and governance risks. Through dialogue, we have helped to educate companies on their impacts and worked with them to devise and implement innovative strategies that have affected positive systemic change.

Change has not come overnight. But through faith and perseverance, ABHMS dares to believe that, in partnership with others, we can continue to impact the corporate world in ways that support sustainable development, which the UN defines as "meeting the needs of the present without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs."

Highlights of 2015 shareholder engagements include:

- ABHMS continues to engage with Tyson Foods Inc. on water stewardship because of a history of water contamination incidents—both within Tyson's own facilities and among contract farmers who raise animals. In 2015, we led other co-filers in a shareholder resolution calling for the company to implement a water-stewardship policy that outlines leading practices to improve water quality for all company-owned facilities as well as facilities under contract to Tyson. The resolution was supported by 10.8 percent of shareholders at Tyson's annual meeting. Collec-



tively representing \$2.6 trillion in assets under management, ABHMS and other Ceres investors requested disclosure through CDP Water. The company indicated that it will begin disclosing to CDP.

- Along with other entities, ABHMS co-filed a resolution requesting that ExxonMobil reduce greenhouse gas emissions in both operations and products. Additional ABHMS-led dialogues in February and March 2015 focused on emission reductions. Support for the resolution fell significantly, dropping to 9.6 percent from 22 percent in 2014. ABHMS will draft a follow-up resolution for 2016 that presents the moral case for action on climate change and asks the company to adopt a policy acknowledging the imperative to limit warming to 2 degrees Celsius.
- ABHMS continues to engage with major financial institutions to promote a culture of ethics and responsible risk management. Together with ICCR, ABHMS encouraged Bank of America to develop the business standards report "How We Live Our Purpose." In July 2015, investors participated in meetings with executives at the bank and reviewed a draft of the report to provide feedback before its planned March 2016 release.

Dec. 31, 2015, Common Investment Fund snapshot

Market value of assets under management:
\$201,264,887

Annualized return, net of fees:
-1.8%

Target benchmark:
-0.4%

Historical Common Investment Fund unit value (2006-2015)

| | | | |
|------|--------|------|--------|
| 2006 | 333.34 | 2011 | 295.15 |
| 2007 | 350.04 | 2012 | 317.75 |
| 2008 | 240.03 | 2013 | 371.97 |
| 2009 | 284.84 | 2014 | 379.04 |
| 2010 | 311.10 | 2015 | 355.03 |

Investment management

Investment advisor:

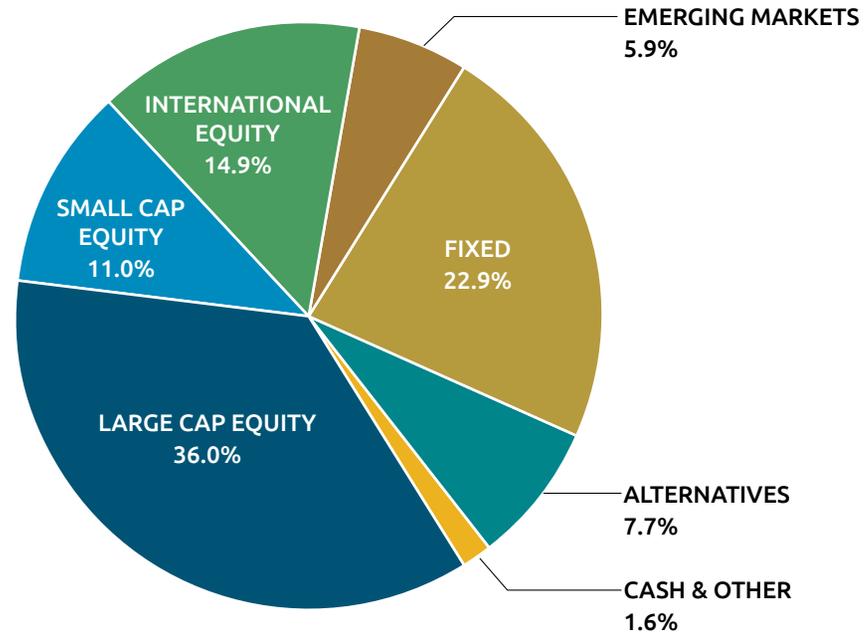
Colonial Consulting Corp. Inc., New York City

Investment managers:

Atlanta (Ga.) Capital Management Co. LLC
Baillie Gifford Overseas Ltd., Edinburgh, Scotland
Bogle Oppourtunity Fund II SRI, L.P., Lower Newton Falls, Mass.
Colchester Global Investors Inc., New York City
Cross Harbor Institutional Partners II, Boston
Eagle Capital Management LLC, New York City
Garcia Hamilton & Assoc., Houston, Texas
Heartwood Forestland, Chapel Hill, N.C.
KDP Asset Management Inc., Montpelier, Vt.

Lazard, New York City
Owl Creek Socially Responsible Investment
Fund Ltd., Toronto
Patron Capital IV, London
Prentiss Smith & Co. Inc., Brattleboro, Vt.
Sankaty Senior Loan Fund, Boston
State Street Global Advisors, Boston
Vulcan Value Partners LLC, Birmingham, Ala.

Asset mix



Since 1975, American Baptist Home Mission Societies has invited American Baptist churches and related institutions to participate in the Common Investment Fund. For more information, contact the treasurer's office at 800.222.3872, x2385.

america for christ offering 2015

American Baptist Home Mission Societies acknowledges the **250 top-giving churches** that supported the America for Christ Offering 2015. *Thank you!*

ABC of Alaska

Shiloh Missionary Baptist Church Anchorage, Alaska
Community Baptist Church Cordova, Alaska

ABC of the Central Pacific Coast

Portola Baptist Church San Francisco, Calif.
Antioch Baptist Church San Jose, Calif.
First Baptist Church Cottage Grove, Ore.
First Baptist Church McMinnville, Ore.
Eastwood Baptist Church Medford, Ore.
First Baptist Church Portland, Ore.
Grace Baptist Church Portland, Ore.
Calvary Baptist Church Salem, Ore.

ABC of the Central Region

First Baptist Church Arkansas City, Kan.
First Baptist Church Chanute, Kan.
First Baptist Church Gardner, Kan.
First Baptist Church Horton, Kan.
Judson Baptist Church Kansas City, Kan.
First Baptist Church Lawrence, Kan.
First Baptist Church Louisburg, Kan.
First Baptist Church Manhattan, Kan.
First Baptist Church Milton, Kan.
First Baptist Church Minneapolis, Kan.
First Baptist Church Olathe, Kan.
First Baptist Church Ottawa, Kan.
First Baptist Church Overland Park, Kan.
First Baptist Church Paola, Kan.
Prairie Baptist Church Prairie Village, Kan.
First Baptist Church Scott City, Kan.
First Baptist Church Topeka, Kan.
West Side Baptist Church Topeka, Kan.
Meridian Avenue Baptist Church Wichita, Kan.
Community Baptist Church Tulsa, Okla.

ABC of Connecticut

First Baptist Church Branford, Conn.
First Baptist Church Essex, Conn.
Noank Baptist Church Groton, Conn.
Niantic Baptist Church Niantic, Conn.
Second Baptist Church Suffield, Conn.
First Baptist Church West Hartford, Conn.

ABC of the Dakotas

Liberty Baptist Church Balfour, N.D.
First Baptist Church Bismarck, N.D.
Immanuel Baptist Church Minot, N.D.
Bethel Baptist Church Powers Lake, N.D.

First Baptist Church Aberdeen, S.D.
First Baptist Church Lucas, S.D.
First Baptist Church Sioux Falls, S.D.
Trent Baptist Church Trent, S.D.
First Baptist Church-Elizabeth Circle Watertown, S.D.

ABC of the Great Rivers Region

Sato Baptist Church Ava, Ill.
Bethel Baptist Church Colchester, Ill.
First Baptist Church Cordova, Ill.
First Baptist Church Decatur, Ill.
First Baptist Church Edwardsville, Ill.
First Baptist Church Galesburg, Ill.
First Baptist Church Greenfield, Ill.
First Baptist Church Greenville, Ill.
First Baptist Church Highland, Ill.
Pleasant Grove Baptist Church Humboldt, Ill.
First Baptist Church Jerseyville, Ill.
Kane Baptist Church Kane, Ill.
First Baptist Church Mattoon, Ill.
First Baptist Church Minonk, Ill.
First Baptist Church Moline, Ill.
Muncie Baptist Church Muncie, Ill.
First Baptist Church Oak Park, Ill.
First Baptist Church Peoria, Ill.
First Baptist Church Pontiac, Ill.
First Baptist Church Rantoul, Ill.
Central Baptist Church Springfield, Ill.
First Baptist Church Kansas City, Mo.
Grace Baptist Church Kansas City, Mo.
University Heights Baptist Church Springfield, Mo.

ABC of Greater Indianapolis

First Baptist Church Franklin, Ind.
First Baptist Church Greenwood, Ind.
Indianapolis First Baptist Church Indianapolis, Ind.

ABC of Indiana and Kentucky

First Baptist Church Aurora, Ind.
Avoca Baptist Church Avoca, Ind.
First Baptist Church Bloomfield, Ind.
First Baptist Church Columbus, Ind.
Memorial Baptist Church Columbus, Ind.
First Marion Baptist Church Commiskey, Ind.
Judson Baptist Church Kokomo, Ind.
Metea Baptist Church Lucerne, Ind.
First Baptist Church Madison, Ind.
Mill Creek Baptist Church Mill Creek, Ind.
First Baptist Church Mitchell, Ind.

Hayden Baptist Church North Vernon, Ind.
First Baptist Church Richmond, Ind.
First Baptist Church Rushville, Ind.
First Baptist Church Seymour, Ind.
First Baptist Church Terre Haute, Ind.
First Baptist Church Warren, Ind.
First Baptist Church Washington, Ind.

ABC of Los Angeles, Southwest and Hawaii

Poston Community Baptist Church Poston, Ariz.
Chinese Zion Baptist Church Los Angeles, Calif.
First Baptist Church Los Angeles, Calif.
First Baptist Church Pasadena, Calif.

ABC of Maine

Court Street Baptist Church Auburn, Maine
Penney Memorial United Baptist Church Augusta, Maine
Columbia Street Baptist Church Bangor, Maine
First Baptist Church Bar Harbor, Maine
United Baptist Church Caribou, Maine
First Baptist Church Mapleton, Maine
Ogunquit Baptist Church Ogunquit, Maine
United Baptist Church Saco, Maine

ABC of Massachusetts

Brewster Baptist Church Brewster, Mass.
Green Street Baptist Church Melrose, Mass.
North Billerica Baptist Church North Billerica, Mass.
First Baptist Church Pittsfield, Mass.
First Baptist Church Worcester, Mass.

ABC of Metro Chicago

North Shore Baptist Church Chicago, Ill.

ABC of Metro New York

Lenox Road Baptist Church Brooklyn, N.Y.

ABC of Michigan

First Baptist Church Ann Arbor, Mich.
First Baptist Church Birmingham, Mich.
First Baptist Church Holly, Mich.
Alpha Baptist Church Livonia, Mich.
First Baptist Church Midland, Mich.
Bethel Baptist Church Southgate, Mich.
First Baptist Church Tekonsha, Mich.
Covenant Baptist Church West Bloomfield, Mich.
First Baptist Church Ypsilanti, Mich.

ABC of Nebraska

Arthur Baptist Church Arthur, Neb.
First Baptist Church Fremont, Neb.

First Baptist Church
First Baptist Church
Sunset Hills Baptist Church

ABC of New Jersey

Osbornville Baptist Church
Cohansey Baptist Church-Roadstown
Chesterfield Baptist Church
Van Riper-Ellis Broadway Baptist Church
Flemington Baptist Church
First Baptist Church
Oaklyn Baptist Church
First Baptist Church
Iglesia Hispanoamericana
First Baptist Church

ABC of New York State

First Baptist Church
Delaware Avenue Baptist Church
Second Baptist Church
Kenmore Baptist Church
First Baptist Church
Tabernacle Baptist Church

ABC of the Northwest

First Baptist Church
Spokane Valley Baptist Church

ABC of Ohio

Springfield Baptist Church
Trinity Baptist Church
Karl Road Baptist Church
North Baptist Church
First Baptist Church
Grand Prairie Baptist Church
Newport Baptist Church
Bethel Baptist Church
Kings Creek Baptist Church
Perry Chapel Baptist Church
Calvary Baptist Church

ABC of Pennsylvania and Delaware

Christ Memorial Baptist Church
First Baptist Church
Calvary Baptist Church
Calvary Baptist Church
First Baptist Church
West Shore Baptist Church
Brandywine Baptist Church
Mooncrest Community Baptist Church
Lower Providence Baptist Church
First Baptist Church
Greenfield Baptist Church
Parkesburg Baptist Church
North Hills Community Baptist Church
First Baptist Church
Royersford Baptist Church

Kearney, Neb.
North Platte, Neb.
Omaha, Neb.

Brick, N.J.
Bridgeton, N.J.
Chesterfield, N.J.
Fair Lawn, N.J.
Flemington, N.J.
Freehold, N.J.
Oaklyn, N.J.
Pedricktown, N.J.
Union City, N.J.
Woodstown, N.J.

Ballston Spa, N.Y.
Buffalo, N.Y.
Edmeston, N.Y.
Kenmore, N.Y.
Macedon, N.Y.
Utica, N.Y.

Kent, Wash.
Spokane Valley, Wash.

Akron, Ohio
Canton, Ohio
Columbus, Ohio
Columbus, Ohio
Coshocton, Ohio
Marion, Ohio
Newport, Ohio
Springfield, Ohio
Urbana, Ohio
Warsaw, Ohio
Youngstown, Ohio

Dover, Del.
Dover, Del.
Newark, Del.
Allentown, Pa.
Bethlehem, Pa.
Camp Hill, Pa.
Chadds Ford, Pa.
Crescent, Pa.
Eagleville, Pa.
Lancaster, Pa.
North East, Pa.
Parkesburg, Pa.
Pittsburgh, Pa.
Punxsutawney, Pa.
Royersford, Pa.

Trinity Baptist Church
The Baptist Church
Franklin Union Baptist Church

ABC of Rhode Island

Phillips Memorial Baptist Church
North Scituate Baptist Church

ABC of the Rochester/Genesee Region

First Baptist Church
Greece Baptist Church

ABC of the Rocky Mountains

First Baptist Church
Highland Park Baptist Church
Harvey Park Baptist Church
American Baptist Church
First Baptist Church
First Baptist Church
First Baptist Church
First Baptist Church

ABC of the South

American Baptist Church
Whitestone Baptist Church
Mount Calvary Baptist Church
Watts Street Baptist Church
Martin Street Baptist Church
University Baptist Church

ABC of Vermont and New Hampshire

Bow Lake Free Baptist Church
First Baptist Church

ABC of Wisconsin

First Baptist Church
First Baptist Church
First Baptist Church
Bay View Baptist Church
First Baptist Church

District of Columbia Baptist Convention

First Baptist Church

Evergreen Association of ABC

Lakeshore Avenue Baptist Church
Panther Lake Community Church
First Baptist Church

Growing Healthy Churches Inc. (ABC of the West)

First Chinese Baptist Church
First Chinese Baptist Church
First Baptist Church

Mid-American Baptist Churches

First Baptist Church
First Baptist Church/Church of The Brethren
First Baptist Church
First Baptist Church

Scranton, Pa.
West Chester, Pa.
Worthington, Pa.

Cranston, R.I.
North Scituate, R.I.

Moorestown, N.J.
Rochester, N.Y.

Boulder, Colo.
Colorado Springs, Colo.
Denver, Colo.
Fort Collins, Colo.
Grand Junction, Colo.
Lamar, Colo.
Longmont, Colo.
Laramie, Wyo.

Lakeland, Fla.
Baltimore, Md.
Rockville, Md.
Durham, N.C.
Raleigh, N.C.
Austin, Texas

Strafford, N.H.
Bellows Falls, Vt.

Delavan, Wis.
La Crosse, Wis.
Madison, Wis.
Milwaukee, Wis.
West Allis, Wis.

Gaithersburg, Md.

Oakland, Calif.
Kent, Wash.
Seattle, Wash.

Fresno, Calif.
San Francisco, Calif.
Santa Clara, Calif.

Boone, Iowa
Cedar Rapids, Iowa
Council Bluffs, Iowa
Davenport, Iowa

Westover Baptist Church
First Baptist Church
Altamont Baptist Church
First Baptist Church
First Baptist Church
First Baptist Church
Ollie Baptist Church
First Baptist Church
First Baptist Church
Woodbury Baptist Church

Philadelphia Baptist Association

Shiloh Baptist Church
Grace Baptist Church
Second Baptist Church of Germantown

West Virginia Baptist Convention

Old Greenbrier Baptist Church
Bethesda Baptist Church
First Baptist Church
Baptist Temple
Kanawha City Baptist Church
Wilsonburg Baptist Church
Crab Orchard Missionary Baptist Church
First Baptist Church
Beulah Baptist Church
Fifth Avenue Baptist Church
Guyandotte Baptist Church
Page Baptist Church
Shuck Memorial Baptist Church
Madison Baptist Church
Milton Baptist Church
Sabraton Baptist Church
Open Arms Baptist Church
First Baptist Church
Indian Fork Baptist Church
First Baptist Church
Emmanuel Church
South Parkersburg Baptist Church
First Baptist Church
First Baptist Church
First Baptist Church
Little Capon Baptist Church
First Baptist Church
Sutton Baptist Church
Vienna Baptist Church
South Fork Baptist Church
First Baptist Church

Des Moines, Iowa
Fairfield, Iowa
Harlan, Iowa
Indianola, Iowa
Johnston, Iowa
Lorimer, Iowa
Ollie, Iowa
Pella, Iowa
Waterloo, Iowa
Woodbury, Minn.

Wilmington, Del.
Blue Bell, Pa.
Philadelphia, Pa.

Alderson, W.Va.
Barrackville, W.Va.
Beckley, W.Va.
Charleston, W.Va.
Charleston, W.Va.
Clarksburg, W.Va.
Crab Orchard, W.Va.
Dunbar, W.Va.
Grafton, W.Va.
Huntington, W.Va.
Jesse, W.Va.
Kincaid, W.Va.
Lewisburg, W.Va.
Madison, W.Va.
Milton, W.Va.
Morgantown, W.Va.
Mount Nebo, W.Va.
New Martinsville, W.Va.
New Milton, W.Va.
Nutter Fort, W.Va.
Parkersburg, W.Va.
Parkersburg, W.Va.
Petersburg, W.Va.
Racine, W.Va.
Rainelle, W.Va.
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Saint Albans, W.Va.
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Vienna, W.Va.
West Union, W.Va.
Williamson, W.Va.

For a list of all churches that
donated to the AFC Offering 2015,
visit www.abhms.org > Give Now

america for christ offering 2015

home mission gifts rooted in service

The America for Christ Offering 2015 theme—“Discipleship: A Journey of Grace”—served to remind our American Baptist family that mission and ministry are rooted in service that manifests and extends the grace of God.

Redemptive grace is focused most clearly in the life, death and resurrection of Jesus Christ. We might refer to Jesus as *grace himself*, as *grace in the flesh*, as *grace walking around*. The grace of Christ can inspire us in transformative ways to change our awareness of ourselves and our potential as human beings, as well as our awareness of God’s gracious purpose for us, and through us, for all creation. This is the journey of grace available as spiritual power for the sake of others. Jesus exhibited this kind of power and challenges us to do the same.

Jesus’ public ministry was all about connecting with and caring for people in need. Through your giving, American Baptist Home Mission Societies plants seeds of hope and change that have a lasting impact on people and communities. Your generous support continues to build on a mission legacy that began in 1824. Your

unwavering partnership and gifts to ABHMS remain an integral part of our ministry as the caring heart, serving hands, going feet and prophetic voice of Jesus Christ—cultivating Christian leaders, equipping disciples and healing communities throughout the United States and Puerto Rico.

For more information about direct giving options to support home mission initiatives, visit www.abhms.org and click on “Give Now,” or call the Mission Advancement office at 800.222.3872, x2028.

legacy gifts offer the opportunity for generosity that supports ministry in perpetuity

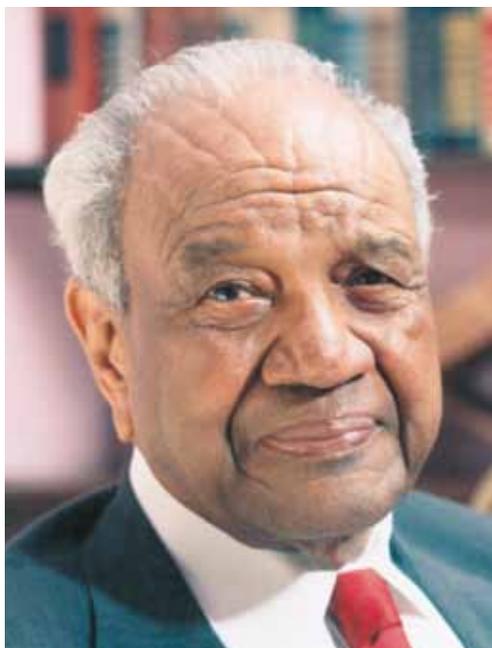
With deep appreciation, American Baptist Home Mission Societies acknowledges individuals and families who sustain our mission and ministries through a legacy gift to the American Baptist Foundation. A well-planned estate can provide present income for you or your family members and future income for family members, along with immediate income tax benefits and help with savings on capital gains taxes.

To include American Baptist Home Mission Societies in your will, ask your legal counsel to include this statement:

I give, devise and bequeath to the American Baptist Home Mission Society, a New York corporation with offices at Valley Forge, Pa., 19482, the sum of \$_____ (or indicate a percentage of a specific asset) from the residue of my estate for the use of said Society in carrying out its corporate purpose.



To learn more about planned gifts, contact the American Baptist Foundation at 800.222.3872, x2035.



in memoriam
Dr. Gardner C. Taylor
America's Preacher
1919 – 2015

In 2015, Judson Press designated a percentage of the proceeds from “The Words of Gardner Taylor” series to provide books to graduating American Baptist seminarians. One of Taylor’s greatest loves was helping those entering the ministry.

Judson Press held a special place in his [Dr. Taylor’s] heart since you published the majority of his work. Gardner was able to share himself as a fierce believer in and proponent of the Gospel for all who seek it.’

Mrs. Phillis Taylor

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Primera Iglesia
Bautista de
Guayanilla

“The loan granted by ABEC has allowed us to restructure our finances, which in turn has allowed us to focus on the mission and vision of our church.”

“ABEC nos permite enfocarnos en lo que es la misión y visión de nuestra iglesia.”

THE AMERICAN BAPTIST EXTENSION CORPORATION



To find out more about our products and services, please visit www.myabec.org
e-mail info@myabec.org
or call 1-800-222-3872 ext 2232

For more than 50 years, we've been helping church-related organizations plan and build – journeying with them every step of the process.

One of those churches is Primera Iglesia Bautista, Guayanilla, Puerto Rico, which serves a growing congregation of committed, enthusiastic people of all ages. Thanks to an ABEC Loan, the church has refinanced its mortgage and significantly reduced its monthly payment. Among other benefits, this has allowed it to hire a full-time pastor and bring the message of hope and peace to more segments of the community via social media and Internet radio.

What will your ABEC story be?

www.abhms.org