

QuickLinks

■ November's "Space for Grace" conference in Philadelphia included worship, workshops, performances, and an introduction to ministrElife, an ABHMS-created online platform for ministry professionals and lay leaders. Read more at abhms.org > [NewsRoom](#).

■ The 2019 Discipleship and Christian Education Guide includes activities, a planning calendar and Judson Press' Christian education catalog. Download it at abhms.org > [Publications & Resources](#).



■ At its November meeting, ABHMS' board of directors elected four new members. Learn more about them at abhms.org > [NewsRoom](#).



Mission in America

Copyright © 2019
American Baptist Home Mission Societies
1075 First Avenue
King of Prussia, PA 19406

Unless otherwise noted, information in Mission in America may be copied without permission. Printed on recycled paper.

Executive Director
Dr. Jeffrey Haggray

Editor
Susan Gottshall

Writer
Nadine Hasenecz

Art Director
Danny Ellison

AMERICA FOR CHRIST OFFERING 2019 lifts up ABHMS healing ministries

The theme of this year's America for Christ (AFC) Offering is "Healing Communities." Based on Galatians 6:9-10 ("Let us not become weary in doing good"), it reminds American Baptists of the Bible's mandate to offer restoration to people and places wherever and whenever possible. At this time of rampant loneliness, suicide, domestic violence, substance abuse and depression—coupled with unprecedented hurricanes, floods and wildfires—the healing power of Jesus Christ is needed more than ever.

Your generous gifts to AFC support a variety of American Baptist Home Mission Societies' (ABHMS) programs that focus on individual and community healing, including Community Outreach Ministries; Disaster-response Ministries; Immigration and Refugee Resettlement; Prisoner Re-Entry Ministries; the "Rebuilding, Restoring, Renewing Puerto Rico" initiative; Rizpah's Children; and Volunteer-mobilization Ministries.



These ministries undergird American Baptists who, in turn, serve as Christ's heart and hands, healing society's broken and downtrodden. Our congregations and networks of partners serve on the front lines, opening doors wide, providing services that feed the hungry, offer tutoring and support to children living in poverty, help rebuild lives and homes following disasters and devastation of all types, and so much more.

ABHMS healing ministries promise help for today and hope for tomorrow.

For more information and to access AFC resources, visit abhms.org and click on "Learn more" in the "America for Christ" box. To give, visit abhms.org, click the "Give Now" button and then choose "ABHMS America for Christ Offering" in the drop-down menu.

ABHMS continues to support post-hurricane rebuilding efforts on Puerto Rico

Through its "Rebuilding, Restoring, Renewing Puerto Rico" initiative, ABHMS continues to support the post-Hurricane Maria restoration of 48 American Baptist churches, schools and other entities on the island.

While 29 entities—including the Iglesias Bautistas de Puerto Rico regional office—received help from ABHMS via funds, materials or volunteers, nine academies received funds and 10 other entities received ABHMS community grants. A complete list is available at abhms.org > [Rebuilding, Restoring, Renewing Puerto Rico](#) > [Latest News & Updates](#).

After the September 2017 hurricane, the Iglesias Bautistas de Puerto Rico regional office was without power, water, Internet or phone. In January 2018, the staff worked on its annual meeting and closed its fiscal year

without electricity or Internet. The line that powers the offices wasn't fully restored until November 2018.

"Without the help of all the volunteers from American Baptist churches across the United States, it would have been difficult to help all our churches," said the Rev. Edgardo M. Caraballo, executive minister.

For information about volunteering in Puerto Rico, visit abhms.org > [Ministries](#) > [Mobilizing Volunteers](#) or send an email to abigail.molina@abhms.org.

Donations to One Great Hour of Sharing (OGHS) may be made via credit card online at abhms.org > [Give Now](#) or via check designated to "OGHS-Puerto Rico" and mailed to the attention of Kim Wilkins at American Baptist Home Mission Societies, 1075 First Ave., King of Prussia, PA 19406.

In response to the California wildfires, ABHMS, on behalf of American Baptist Churches



USA, has released \$5,000 in One Great Hour of Sharing Emergency Disaster-response funds to each of the following entities: First Baptist Church, Chico; Growing Healthy

Churches; and American Baptist Churches of Los Angeles, Southwest and Hawaii.

Donations can be made via your church or check designated to "OGHS-California Fires" and mailed to the attention of Kim Wilkins at American Baptist Home Mission Societies, 1075 First Ave., King of Prussia, PA 19406.

[Read more at abhms.org > NewsRoom.](#)

AMERICAN BAPTIST HOME MISSION SOCIETIES

Mission **in** America

ABHMS board holds ribbon-cutting ceremony at new facility

At its recent biannual meeting, ABHMS' board of directors celebrated the organization's move to new office space with a ribbon-cutting ceremony.

"With this ribbon cutting, we open these doors in a spirit of Christian friendship and welcome to all who will enter here in a spirit of love, peace, justice and community," said the Rev. Dr. Clifford I. Johnson, board president. "We especially welcome American Baptist Extension Corporation [ABEC] and American Baptist Women's Ministries [ABWM] as partners with us in this new facility."

In closing, Wendy Hagn, board vice president, prayed, "Eternal God, as we open the doors to this mission center, we



open our hearts to you. Go with us as we cross this threshold, that this mission center may always be filled with your presence."

ABHMS, ABEC and ABWM began operations at the new building on Oct. 29.

New mailing and delivery address:
1075 First Ave.
King of Prussia, PA 19406

Phone numbers of individual staff members remain the same.
Please note our new number: 888-79-ABHMS.

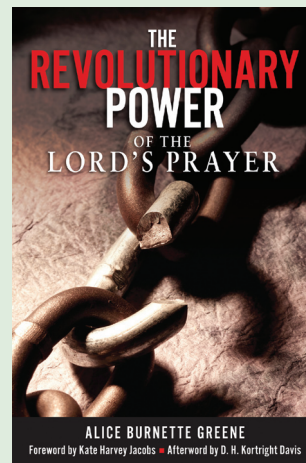
[Read more at abhms.org > NewsRoom.](#)

American Baptist Home Mission Society
 1075 First Avenue
 King of Prussia, PA 19406

Nonprofit Org.
 U.S. Postage
PAID
 Southeastern, PA
 Permit No. 362

ABHMS, Judson Press announce 2019-2020 'ABC Reads' selection

ABHMS and its publishing ministry, Judson Press, announce that "The Revolutionary Power of the Lord's Prayer" by Dr. Alice Burnette Greene has been named the "ABC Reads" book for 2019-2020.



ABC Reads highlights a Judson Press book that is appropriate for reading and discussion in small group settings as well as for individual study. The recommended book provides an opportunity for learning, sharing and growing in knowledge and faith in Sunday school

classes and Bible studies as well as with interested community groups.

While many Christians know the popular Scripture known as the Lord's Prayer, the true power of this deceptively simple yet significant model for prayer may go unrealized. In "The Revolutionary Power of the Lord's Prayer," Greene offers today's Christian disciples new understanding of the potency and impact that this prayer delivers and the transformative effect it can have for sharing God's love in the world.

The retail price is \$15.99. Save 15 percent on orders of at least 10 copies. Order at judsonpress.com or by phoning Judson Press customer service at 800.458.3766. Mention promo code "ABCREADS" when phoning or enter it in the discount box during online checkout.

Available from judsonpress.com / 800-458-3766

JUDSON PRESS
 PUBLISHERS SINCE 1824