

## QuickLinks

■ At its March meeting in Caguas, Puerto Rico, ABHMS' board of directors attended Iglesias Bautistas de Puerto Rico's annual gathering dinner, where they honored the Rev. Dr. Roberto Dieppa Báez, whose term as executive minister is coming to a close. Get the full story at [www.abhms.org](http://www.abhms.org).

■ At Tyson Food Inc.'s annual general meeting in Springdale, Ark., in February, ABHMS garnered growing support for a resolution that urges the food company to adopt a water-stewardship policy. For details, visit [www.abhms.org](http://www.abhms.org).



■ The Christian Citizen magazine has gone digital. Its 10 online issues will be supplemented by biannual print editions that feature highlights of the digital publication. Read the latest online issue at [www.abhms.org](http://www.abhms.org) > The Christian Citizen.



## Mission in America

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**Executive Director**  
Dr. Jeffrey Haggray

**Editor**  
Susan Gottshall

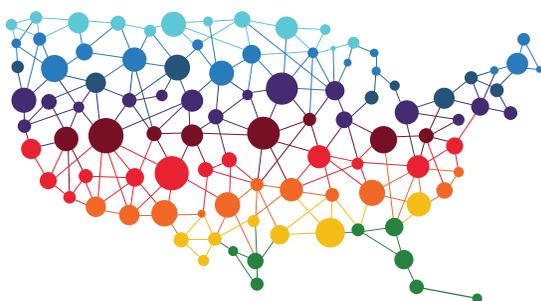
**Writer**  
Nadine Hasenecz

**Art Director**  
Danny Ellison

## ABHMS sets new course for mission: Connect. Cultivate. Change.

ABHMS announces a new framework—**Connect. Cultivate. Change.**—for meeting its mission to cultivate leaders, equip disciples and heal communities across the United States and Puerto Rico.

The approach features the creation of **aligned action networks** of American Baptists in geographic clusters throughout the United States and Puerto Rico for sharing



assets, resources, and actionable ideas to be transformed into ministries that meet human needs.

“By connecting with historic partners, developing new partners and connecting partners with each other, the aligned action networks will accomplish more than each partner could accomplish alone,” says ABHMS Executive Director Dr. Jeffrey Haggray.

In addition to implementing this network ministry model, seven national programs have been established:

- **In Search of Excellence**, supported by a grant from the Lilly Endowment, seeks to equip

American Baptist pastors and lay leaders with resources that ease financial burdens.

- **Discipleship** is building a network of highly-motivated agents of change who are broadening the understanding of what it means to follow Jesus.
- **Emerging Leaders**, a new program for empowering young adults, features scholarship opportunities that nurture the growth of American Baptist students and leaders.
- **Rizpah's Children**, an outgrowth of ABHMS' Justice for Children initiative, calls diverse partners to action in creating and delivering services to children in poverty.
- **Chaplaincy and Specialized Ministries** endorses, trains and supports American Baptist chaplains and pastoral counselors who serve in hospitals, prisons, race tracks and military settings.
- **Intercultural Ministries** offers resources and training that foster sharing and learning across cultures as an essential part of life together in Jesus Christ.
- **Public Witness and Advocacy** addresses a wide range of ethical, social and policy matters impacting the United States through Christ-centered messaging and advocacy.

ABHMS national program directors explain more, via video and print interviews, at [www.abhms.org](http://www.abhms.org).

## ABHMS, Judson Press announce additional Mission Summit events

ABHMS and Judson Press announce additional activities planned for the 2017 Biennial Mission Summit June 30-July 2 in Portland, Ore.

In addition to preaching at the 6 p.m. Saturday worship service, ABHMS Executive Director Dr. Jeffrey Haggray will present the Judson Press Award at an “Authors’ Meet and Greet” at 3:30 p.m. Friday in the Judson Press bookstore in the Hall of Ministries.

At 4:45 p.m. Saturday at Ministry Square, ABHMS will offer a ministry update, food and an Apple iPad Pro giveaway.

ABHMS' luncheon at noon on Sunday will feature the “Connect. Cultivate. Change.” theme, emphasizing ABHMS' ministry with Native Americans. Speaker will be the Rev. Katherine Longhat, pastor of Watonga (Okla.)



Indian Baptist Church. In addition, the Suzan Johnson Cook Religious Freedom Award will be presented. Music will be provided by violinist Melanie Hill.

The Edwin T. Dahlberg Peace and Justice Award will be presented at the 6 p.m. Sunday celebration service.

For more information about ABHMS' Mission Summit offerings, visit [www.abc-usa.org](http://www.abc-usa.org) > Mission Summit.

Plan to participate in the “Rebuilding, Restoring, Renewing...Rainelle, W.Va.” volunteer mission June 10-17 and/or June 17-24. When 11 inches of rain fell in less than two hours last June, Rainelle and surrounding areas were flooded, and First Baptist Church



(FBC), Rainelle, accumulated nearly 5 feet of water. This effort is a collaboration of ABHMS, FBC and the West Virginia Baptist

Convention. For more information and to register to volunteer, visit [www.abhms.org](http://www.abhms.org) > Ministries > Mobilizing Volunteers.

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## Alaska church continues building renovations

Mount Pleasant Baptist Church, Fairbanks, Alaska, is renovating a building to be its permanent home, with support from Dr. Alonzo Patterson Jr., ABHMS coordinator of Alaska Ministries, and the congregation that he pastors.

As part of American Baptist Churches of Alaska, Mount Pleasant began meeting in 2005, moving from rental to rental, including a space at the National Guard Armory. In 2010, under the leadership of the Rev. Joe Blackburn, the church purchased and began renovating an old metal-framed warehouse. While the project has come far—the sanctuary and other rooms are currently in use—construction continues on classrooms and community rooms, as funds are raised.

Patterson’s church, Shiloh Missionary Baptist Church, Anchorage, donated more than \$65,000 to the renovation, while Shiloh’s men have donated construction materials and hands-on skills. In addition, Shiloh has fed and housed the construction volunteers.

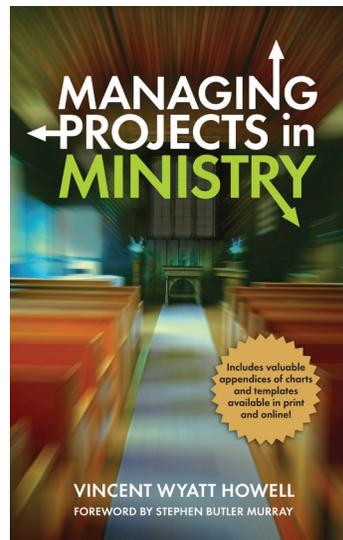
“The church [Mount Pleasant] purchased it [the warehouse] for the sum of three quarters of 1 million dollars, after having moved several times to find a place to worship. God led the church to purchase and renovate this building,” says Patterson. “The church made an effort to get a loan through a bank but did not qualify, so they sought resources within the state of Alaska—along with the genius of pastor Blackburn to develop resources—to transform this warehouse into a sanctuary for the Lord.”



Volunteers from Shiloh Missionary Baptist Church, Anchorage

## Author: Project management can benefit ministry

From redesigning a classroom to developing a new program, projects are part of ministry in the local congregational setting. Yet, many times, such work is not referred to as a “project,” and its management often varies.



In “Managing Projects in Ministry,” author Vincent Howell explains the fundamentals of project management and its usefulness in the church.

“If ministry is viewed as a project, then church work will closely align with the concept of project management,” Howell says. “Whether we call them ‘programs’ or ‘activities,’ if they are planned, organized and executed as a project, the church organization is in a much better position to achieve its objective, make use of its people’s gifts, and manage fruitful ministries with its limited resources.”

Learn how to apply the well-documented benefits of project management in your own ministry endeavors with a copy of “Managing Projects in Ministry.”

To order from Judson Press, call 1-800-458-3766 or visit [www.judsonpress.com](http://www.judsonpress.com). The book retails for \$15.99.

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