

QuickLinks

■ The Rev. Dr. Patricia Murphy, ABHMS interim director of Chaplaincy and Specialized Ministries, is serving with the RISE Mentorship Network. [Read more at abhms.org > Mission Stories.](#)

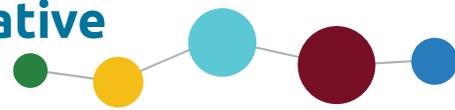
■ May's "Discipleship Matters" bulletin insert features a giving lesson for children, while June's edition includes a litany for Children's Day. Download them at [abhms.org > Publications & Resources.](#)

■ As of April 23, ABHMS has raised \$1,093,610.74 for Puerto Rico's restoration. Learn more at [abhms.org > Rebuilding, Restoring, Renewing Puerto Rico.](#)

■ ABHMS urges American Baptists to join in solidarity with and speak out on behalf of refugees. Find out how at [abhms.org > Newsroom.](#)



ABHMS convenes collaborative gatherings in California



American Baptist Home Mission Societies (ABHMS) convened an aligned action network meeting and other collaborative gatherings with new and historic partners March 15-17 at American Baptist Churches of Los Angeles, Southwest and Hawaii's (ABCOFLASH) conference center at First Baptist Church of Glendale, Calif.

Thursday's aligned action network meeting was attended by partners from churches,



campus and community ministries in Arizona, California, Colorado, Hawaii, New Mexico, Oregon and Wyoming.

Participant the Rev. Kevin Doi, founding pastor of Epic Church, Fullerton, Calif., says that the meeting "presented a crucial shift in how to think about ministry: From focus on scale and growth of one's own organization—organization-centered—to advancing the field of mission, regardless of who gets credit—mission-centered."

Friday morning's "Defending the Undocumented and Supporting Healthy Reentry" workshop featured a video conference with Noel Anderson, Church World Service's national grassroots coordinator.

In addition, Melvin Valiente, pastor of First Baptist Church of Maywood, Calif., discussed ministering to Southern California's undocumented community through the Matthew 25 network. He told the story of Noé Carias, a pastor held in ICE detention for 60 days until Matthew 25 network's advocacy led to his release.

On Friday afternoon, the Rev. Jamaal Nelson, director of ABHMS' "In Support of Excellence" program, led the "Unleashing Pastoral Excellence by Lifting the Burden of Debt" workshop.

"More than 15 pastors from across ABCOFLASH came together in community to equip themselves and one another as even stronger stewardship leaders," Nelson says. "They discussed ways to align church mission, vision and values to the budget."

On Friday and Saturday evening, more than a dozen diverse young adults participated in the "Empowering Young Intercultural Leaders" workshop hosted cooperatively by ABHMS' Intercultural Ministries and Emerging Leaders program. The event featured leadership techniques and wide-ranging discussion geared toward young church leaders who work with multicultural groups.

To register for updates about ABHMS' aligned action networks, visit [abhms.org > About Us](#) and then scroll to the bottom of the page and click "Register."

ABHMS leads volunteer rebuilding efforts in Texas

Volunteers from Ottawa (Kan.) University; First Baptist Church (FBC), Manhattan; FBC, Salina, Kan.; and St. Paul's Baptist Church, West Chester, Pa., rebuilt homes and engaged with homeowners in Houston and Beaumont during ABHMS' "Rebuilding, Restoring, Renewing...Texas" effort March 18-25.

They helped to address the devastation wrought when Hurricane Harvey made landfall on the Texas coast in 2017. Bringing 130 mph winds and torrential rain, the hurricane resulted in flooding, power outages, downed trees and signs, major property damage, displaced residents, injuries and fatalities.

Volunteer teams also worked in Houston in January and earlier in March. Additional efforts in Houston will take place June 17-24 and 24-30.



To see additional photos from the effort, visit [abhms.org > Mission Stories.](#)

For information about volunteering, contact Victoria Goff, ABHMS associate director of Mission Advancement and Passionary Movement and national coordinator of Volunteer Mobilization Ministries, at vgoff@abhms.org or 800.222.3872, x2449.



Mission in America

Copyright © 2018
American Baptist Home Mission Societies
P.O. Box 851
Valley Forge, PA 19482-0851

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

Join ABHMS in Philadelphia Nov. 14-16 for the “Thy Will Be Done”-themed national “Space for Grace” event that seeks to examine critical priorities, opportunities and mission challenges confronting the church today. Keynote speaker will be Walter Brueggemann, an Old Testament scholar and prolific author who is considered among the most influential Bible interpreters of our time.

Space for Grace 2018

THY WILL BE DONE

November 14 – 16, 2018

Loews Hotel, Philadelphia

AMERICAN BAPTIST HOME MISSION SOCIETIES

Mission in America

American Baptist Home Mission Societies
P.O. Box 851
Valley Forge, PA 19482-0851

Nonprofit Org.
U.S. Postage
PAID
Southeastern, PA
Permit No. 167

ABHMS garners 9 awards from Religion Communicators Council

During its 2018 conference in Atlanta in April, the Religion Communicators Council presented ABHMS with nine awards for projects completed in 2017.

“Best of Class” was awarded for the webcast series “6,100 miles, Seven Days: On the Road with ABHMS Disaster Response,” for which Susan Gottshall, associate executive director of Communications, documented the sights and sounds encountered as ABHMS Disaster-response Ministries assessed the damage and connected with survivors and first responders on the ground in hurricanes Harvey-, Irma- and Maria-ravaged areas from Louisiana and Texas to Florida and Puerto Rico.

For “Best of Class” awards, one piece of work from each award category is judged to be the best of all submissions in that category. In addition to Gottshall, the award recognized each member of the department for his or her contribution to the project: Joshua Kagi, social media specialist; Danny Ellison, creative designer; Nadine Hasenecz, senior writer/editor; and Sue Peterman, administrative assistant. In addition, the webcast series received an “Award of Excellence” in the Digital Media category.

Periodicals

In the “E-magazine” category, Curtis Ramsey-Lucas, editor of The Christian Citizen, received an “Award of Merit” for The Christian Citizen online. In the “E-newsletter” category, Gottshall, Ellison, Hasenecz and Kagi garnered an “Award of Excellence” for the “News and Notes” monthly electronic newsletter.

Graphic Design, Art and Photography

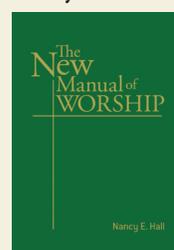
In the “Photography, Digital, Series” category, Gottshall received an “Award of Merit” for the series of photographs published with the hurricane damage-assessment travelogue.

Digital Media

Gottshall and Kagi won an “Award of Excellence” for a single webcast interview with Jack Cobb, national relief coordinator for American Baptist Men, who led a group of volunteers in post-Hurricane Harvey cleanup in Lake Charles, La. The pair

Treasured worship resource updated

Just in time for seminary graduations and Mother’s and Father’s Day gift-giving, Judson Press has released a newly revised 50th anniversary edition of the classic



“The Manual of Worship,” originally authored by John Skoglund.

The new edition, aptly titled “The New Manual of Worship,” is the work of Nancy E. Hall, associate professor of Ministry and Congregational Music and director of Contextual Education at

American Baptist Seminary of the West, Berkeley, Calif. Hall collaborated with Skoglund on the 25th anniversary edition in 1993.

Featuring numerous updates, the volume introduces 20 new services, commemorating special days and diverse themes, significant church events and milestones in people’s lives. This edition includes new recommendations for related worship music as well as a section about planning integrated and inspired worship services.

Perfect for new and seasoned ministers, worship leaders and seminarians, this comprehensive and practical guide is ideal for churches that value contemporary perspectives on time-honored liturgies.

Available for \$19.99 at judsonpress.com or by calling 800-4-JUDSON.

JUDSON PRESS
PUBLISHERS SINCE 1824

also received an “Award of Merit” for a single webcast interview in which the Rev. Laura Ayala, pastor of First Baptist Church of Rio Piedras, Puerto Rico, spoke of the devastation wrought by Hurricane Maria.

In the “Individual Blog Entry” category, Ramsey-Lucas received an “Award of Excellence” for “Sauntering in Jordan: Finding Peace and Purpose from Amman to Aqaba,” while Gottshall garnered an “Award of Merit” for “Pieces of Debris, Pieces of Lives,” also about hurricane devastation.