

QuickLinks

■ “Traces of the Kingdom”—the latest online issue of *The Christian Citizen* at www.abhms.org—explores contemporary issues, as they relate to today’s political climate and American Baptist thought.

■ Visit www.bpfna.org > Mobilize > Baptist Fair Trade Project to learn how to support small-scale farmers around the world, while fundraising for your organization via the sale of fair trade chocolate, coffee and other foods.



Volunteers needed for 2017 mission



Join American Baptist Home Mission Societies (ABHMS), as we serve as the hands and feet of Christ in mission across the United States. Licensed contractors are needed as well as both skilled and unskilled volunteers. Opportunities to perform routine office and grounds work will be offered in addition to hands-on construction work that counters the devastation wrought by natural disasters.

**Rebuilding, Restoring, Renewing...
Baton Rouge, La.; March 12-18 and 19-25**

In August 2016, Baton Rouge received more than 2 feet of rain within hours—an onslaught that resulted in severe flooding that damaged more than 150,000 properties. This effort is a partnership among ABHMS, American Baptist Churches of the South and American Baptist Men USA.

**Rebuilding, Restoring, Renewing...
Rainelle, W. Va.; June 10-17 and 17-24**

Rainelle and surrounding areas were flooded in June 2016 when 11 inches of rain fell in less

than two hours. Mission volunteer host First Baptist Church, Rainelle, accumulated nearly 5 feet of water during the flood. In addition to the church, ABHMS and the West Virginia Baptist Convention collaborate in this effort

**Coming Together for New Jersey...
Rebuild, Renew and Restore; July 8-15**

This year marks five years since Hurricane Sandy made landfall. Bringing with it 80-mph winds, the hurricane devastated New Jersey when it traveled from the Caribbean to the U.S. East Coast in October 2012.

**Rebuilding, Restoring, Renewing...
Muskogee, Okla.; July 16-22**

Volunteers are needed to help with general construction, routine office work and grounds maintenance at two American Baptist-related organizations: Bacone College and Murrow Indian Children’s Home. Bacone was flooded during the 2015 Christmas season.

**Home Mission: ‘Til the Work is Done,
New Orleans; July 30-Aug. 5**

Twelve years after hurricanes Katrina and Rita hit the Gulf Coast, residents continue their efforts to rebuild. This week of ministry will not only help those still experiencing the aftermath of the disaster but will also highlight the need for continued work and ministry in the region.

For additional information or to register for any of the opportunities, visit www.abhms.org > Ministries > Mobilizing Volunteers.

Join ABHMS for exciting Mission Summit events

ABHMS has planned a variety of events and activities for the 2017 Biennial Mission Summit June 30-July 2 in Portland, Ore.

Friday through Sunday, ABHMS will present “Space for Grace” in Innovators Hall, showcasing original works by Christian-influenced artists and performers.

Interactive ABHMS Learning Opportunities to be held Saturday afternoon are “On Earth as in Heaven: Discipleship in Action,” “Good News in a Changing Society” and “ABC to XYZ: A Multigenerational Conversation with Today’s Church Leaders.” ABHMS Learning Opportunities to take place on Sunday afternoon are “discipleSHIFT” and “God’s People Ending Poverty.”

ABHMS Executive Director Dr. Jeffrey Haggray will preach on the “Connected to



Each Other” theme at the 6 p.m. Saturday worship service.

Staff members will be on hand at the ABHMS booth in the Hall of Ministries, which is slated to be open 10 a.m.-7 p.m. Friday, 9 a.m.-7 p.m. Saturday, and 11 a.m.-5 p.m. Sunday.

For more about ABHMS’ Mission Summit offerings, visit www.abc-usa.org > Mission Summit.



Mission in America

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Baton Rouge is an example of ABHMS' commitment to rebuilding communities ravaged by natural disaster. Since Louisiana's



August 2016 flood, several ABHMS-coordinated volunteer teams from American Baptist Men USA have taken mission

trips to the area. And the mission continues with ABHMS-coordinated volunteer opportunities in Baton Rouge this March 12-18 and 19-25.

For more information or to register to volunteer, visit www.abhms.org > Ministries > Mobilizing Volunteers.

AMERICAN BAPTIST HOME MISSION SOCIETIES

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ABHMS stands with BJC in denouncing immigration executive order

As a cooperating member of the Baptist Joint Committee for Religious Liberty (BJC), ABHMS stands in solidarity with the BJC's statement related to President Donald J. Trump's recent executive order on immigration.

Calling the order a "back-door bar" on Muslim refugees, BJC Executive Director Amanda Tyler points out in the statement that it is part of Baptist DNA to stand with those who face religious persecution around the world—no matter



where they are or where they come from.

ABHMS Executive Director Dr. Jeffrey Haggray applauds Tyler's take on this "troubling" order that suspends visas for immigrants and

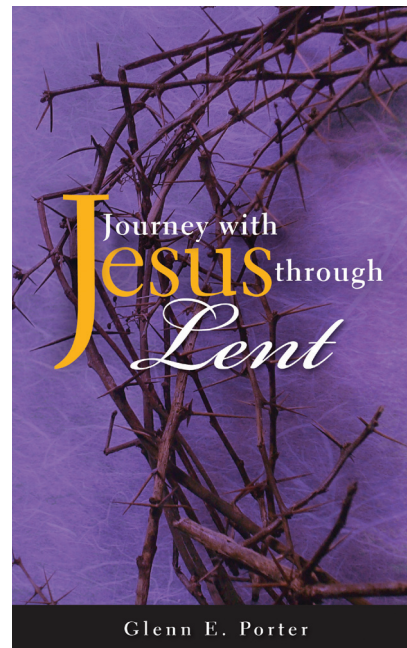
non-immigrants from seven Muslim-majority countries and halts a refugee resettlement program. A major focus of ABHMS' 20th-century ministry was refugee resettlement; the organization has resettled more than 100,000 individuals since the end of World War II.

With great concern about the implications of the executive order, Haggray said its ministry partner BJC "has the full backing of American Baptist Home Mission Societies" related to the recent assault on religious liberty.

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Devotional lends contemporary African-American perspective to Lenten tradition

Inspired by the need for a practical, spiritual resource that addresses the Christian calendar from an Afrocentric



perspective, pastor Glenn Porter wrote "Journey with Jesus through Lent."

"This book takes you on a faith pilgrimage for the sacred season of Lent," says Porter.

Based on the Gospel of Luke, this unique, prophetic and inspiring resource transforms the Lenten season experience by following Jesus' footsteps on the road to Jerusalem and the cross.

A perfect guide for congregational, family or individual use, "Journey with Jesus through Lent" consists of seven weeks of meditations, including an African proverb or other saying and Bible readings for Holy Week. Each week opens with a spiritual theme: Prayer, Fasting, Almsgiving, Bible Study, Service and Gratitude.

The book retails for \$12.99. To order from Judson Press, call 1-800-458-3766 or visit www.judsonpress.com.

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