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American Baptist Home Mission Societies  
Connect. Cultivate. Change.

2019 Annual Report

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American Baptist Home Mission Societies  
Connect. Cultivate. Change.

Cultivating leaders

Equipping disciples

Healing & transforming communities

## With great gratitude, we serve

It is because of the generosity of thousands throughout more than a century-and-a-half of ministry that American Baptist Home Mission Societies has been answering God's call to meet the needs of those at the margins, those who so often feel lost and forgotten.

ABHMS continued that ministry in 2019—once again, thanks to the support of countless volunteers, donors and prayer warriors. We developed programs that encouraged and strengthened Christian leaders, created resources that stretched and challenged the understanding of what it means to be a disciple of Christ and sponsored volunteers who rebuilt homes in the wake of devastating hurricanes. The networks of ministries that we support across the United States and Puerto Rico

transformed communities by bringing hope to children and families struggling in poverty, individuals facing incarceration, addiction and mental illness, and so many more.

The list of ministry needs is never-ending. But our ministry is never-ending as well. Your gifts and your prayers ensure that we continue to bring transformative resources to Christian leaders and healing mission to the vulnerable among us—feeding the hungry, clothing the naked and welcoming the stranger in our midst.

With your support, American Baptist Home Mission Societies promises those on the margins they will never be forgotten.



**...for I was hungry and you gave me food, I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink, I was a stranger and you welcomed me, I was naked and you gave me clothing, I was sick and you took care of me, I was in prison and you visited me.”**

—MATTHEW 25:35-36



## From the president

**“Thanks be to God for all the gifts of service, talent and time received in 2019; may they be harbingers of hope and promise ... .”**

American Baptist Home Mission Societies celebrated the service and tenure of the Rev. Dr. Clifford Johnson and Wendy Hagn as board president and vice-president, respectively, at our November 2019 meeting. Both had agreed to extended terms of office in order to smoothly see the Home Mission Societies through a great number of transitions.

We are indebted to their service and heart for the work of ABHMS and the broader American Baptist family. Each helped to shepherd the organization through the search process for and installation of a new executive director, as well as the sale of 588 N. Gulph Rd., purchase of 1075 First Ave. and relocation into our new Learning and Mission Building (LAMB) in King of Prussia.

Dr. Johnson holds the distinction of serving as board president longer than any other person. To commemorate his steady leadership, wisdom and commitment, the Visitor Hub in the Leadership and Mission Building was named in his honor (see page 28). What a fitting distinction for one known for his hospitality and grace! Please make a point to note the plaque in his honor, next time you visit the building, in the Rev. Dr. Clifford Johnson Visitor Hub.

Much effort and planning during 2019 went into preparation for hosting ABCUSA regional executive ministers at the Leadership and Mission Building early in 2020 to provide an orientation to ABHMS mission and build important partnerships for ministry.

We have a strong board of committed and capable members, and all current members have begun their tenures under the leadership of Dr. Jeffrey Haggray. Members share his vision for mission and discipleship, and already partner in meaningful ways with the staff and our local communities to bring this mission to fruition.

Thanks be to God for all the gifts of service, talent and time received in 2019; may they be harbingers of hope and promise for 2020.



A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Jamie Washam".

Rev. Jamie Washam  
President, Board of Directors  
Pastor, First Baptist Church in  
America, Providence, R.I.

# with great gratitude



## From the executive director

As this 2019 annual report heads to publication, our world is suffering through the COVID-19 pandemic. ABHMS joins our nation in praying for healing and recovery throughout the world.

We have convened an emergency roundtable with American Baptist partners at the national and regional levels to ascertain the developing needs and resources across the United States and Puerto Rico. A One Great Hour of Sharing emergency offering appeal has launched to give American Baptists and others a means of supporting emerging ministry responses.

Amid these challenging times, we are releasing this report highlighting 2019 ministry milestones. In doing so, we give thanks for the many ways that our ministry continues to impact communities and individuals.

We give thanks for the new Leadership and Mission Building in King of Prussia. The purchase and renovation of the new mission facility was a wise and bold investment in ABHMS' future mission on the part of our board of directors. In addition to functioning as the base of operations for ABHMS and Judson Press—and for ministry partners the American Baptist Extension Corporation and American Baptist Women's Ministries—the LAMB has quickly become a vital state-of-the-art center for networking, innovation, leadership empowerment and gathering for our ministry partners.

We give thanks for ministrElife, the professional networking platform for American Baptist religious professionals, which also hosts American Baptist Personnel Services. This innovative technology platform connects

countless professionals serving in mission nationally and globally, expanding possibilities for online learning, virtual communities, employment searches and much more.

Finally, we give thanks for the individuals who faithfully serve on ABHMS' board of directors. We have recently welcomed several talented and dedicated new directors, and ABHMS is well-positioned for continued ministry progress. We are especially blessed with the leadership of our new president, the Rev. Jamie Washam, pastor of First Baptist Church in America, Providence, R.I.

In closing, we sincerely thank all our mission partners, donors and friends for believing in our mission and for continued support as we endeavor to fulfill God's call for ABHMS.



A stylized, handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Jeffrey Haggray".

Dr. Jeffrey Haggray  
Executive Director

**“We sincerely thank all our mission partners, donors and friends for believing in our mission and for continued support ... .”**

# Who is God calling us to be? What is God calling us to do?

We give thanks for the newly adopted ABHMS missiological priorities, shaped and proposed by our professional staff and approved by the board of directors. These priorities clarify and articulate the underlying theological assumptions that inform our ministry practices and priorities, rooted in our historic mission to America and the Christian gospel.

The statements corroborate ABHMS mission to prepare Christian leaders—both lay and pastoral—by

training them to share the gospel of Jesus Christ in the ever-changing American context. Our tools and resources help lay persons function faithfully in the community and the church. And ABHMS lives out the Luke 4:18 mandate to heal and preach the liberating gospel of Christ to all people, including those who are marginalized and disfranchised, as we partner with others to transform communities adversely impacted by natural disasters, disease, poverty, violence, injustice and more.

## Missiological Priority #1

Identify, cultivate, support and connect pastors, innovators, creators and leaders

## Missiological Priority #2

Support and explore Christian faith formation from infancy through adulthood

## Missiological Priority #3

Create opportunities for collaborative action related to societal trends and missional issues, including various expressions of what it means to be the Body of Christ

## Missiological Priority #4

Partner with and equip persons with tools of leadership, social action, public witness and advocacy to address the fears and systemic injustices that are generated by the increasing diversity in our nation

## Missiological Priority #5

Partner with diverse ethnic, cultural and language groups to foster a movement to eradicate all forms of racism, to provide quality resources and training for indigenous and culture-specific leadership development, to create space for intercultural engagement and model an environment that exemplifies diversity and inclusivity

thank

## ministrElife:

Connecting ministry professionals across the United States and Puerto Rico

American Baptist Home Mission Societies launched ministrElife, its digital platform developed specifically for ministry professionals, at the 2019 ABCUSA Mission Summit in Virginia Beach.

One thousand volunteers participated in the ministrElife testing phase prior to the Mission Summit. At the Summit, 500 users came aboard, giving the platform population a total of 1,500 at the end of June. By the end of 2019, ministrElife users totaled 2,500—an increase of 67 percent.

This online community, focused on the needs of ministry leaders, includes American Baptist Personnel Services, expanding the capacity of that service with cutting-edge communication tools and networking opportunities.

By the end of 2019, ministrElife users totaled 2,500—an increase of 67 percent.

ministrElife features include the opportunity to form communities of like-minded professionals around shared interests; a job board that connects clergy with new ministry opportunities; virtual meeting rooms powered by Zoom; podcasts, webinars and study materials for continuing education; and easy-to-access applications for scholarships and grants.

“

**Thank you! This [ministrElife] is a huge help to our church!”**

**– ZACHARY BARTELS**

After three years of development, ministrElife launched with excitement and fanfare at American Baptist Churches USA's 2019 Mission Summit, where hundreds of American Baptists registered on the spot.



you



# Leadership Empowerment

Broadening the Lilly Endowment's three-year support of **clergy financial literacy** initiatives and a 2019 Lilly sustainability grant, ABHMS was selected by the Consumer Financial Protection Bureau to receive technical support and training on a financial well-being toolkit, "Your Money, Your Goals."

This initiative broadened support of clergy financial health and wholeness. Thirty-five-plus ministry partners and ABHMS staff were trained to integrate the kit—adaptable for people living with disabilities, native populations and speakers of languages other than English—into a variety of congregational and community ministries.

**Chaplaincy, Pastoral Counseling and Specialized Ministries** developed a three-phase plan to more significantly connect and cultivate these communities of ministry professionals to combat denominational isolation. Implementation of phase one focused on creating communities of engagement on the ministrElife platform.

## Answering the question ... What do Christian leaders need to keep growing and evolving?

A two-year integrative program for missional entrepreneurs, **Co-Creators Incubator**, was launched. The inaugural cohort fostered a spirit of collegiality and collaboration among six entrepreneurs creating innovative ministries in the name of Jesus, while providing resources to enhance their ministries. Each received a \$3,000 seed grant, hands-on training at two summits in King of Prussia, mentorship from an interdisciplinary team and monthly virtual meetings with experts to help their ventures flourish and grow.







**It was not until I came across American Baptist Home Mission Societies' Co-creators Incubator grant that I had the opportunity to invest resources into what a robust creation justice ministry could look like in the American Baptist denomination. Not only was there financial support, but the Co-Creators Incubator also provided mentors, networking opportunities, brainstorming sessions and spiritual grounding. The Christian community needs new spaces like this to explore new ways to be the church in the world today."**

**– REBECCA DRISCOLL, 2019 CO-CREATOR  
MINISTER FOR CREATION JUSTICE, AMERICAN BAPTIST CHURCHES USA**

## Leadership Empowerment **Impact at a glance**

- Endorsements for chaplains in healthcare, military and community chaplaincy increased by 80 percent
- 35-plus ministry partners and ABHMS staff trained to integrate a financial well-being toolkit into congregational and community ministries
- \$18,000 in seed grants given to six mission entrepreneurs creating innovative ministries in the name of Jesus

◀ The first group of missional entrepreneurs nurtured by the Co-Creators Incubator included (l. to r.): Alyssa Vasquez, Suzanne Kershaw, Tony Gapastione, Aria Kirkland-Harris, Rachael Lawrence and Rebecca Driscoll.

# Discipleship Ministries

... responsive to the times,  
reflective of authentic Christian  
discipleship, guided by quality  
educational theory and practice

Discipleship Ministries developed resources and worked with partners exploring and experimenting with new models of ministry in 2019 to equip Christian disciples in the changing cultural landscape.

The annual **Discipleship and Christian Education Guide**'s focus was Christian Discipleship: The Journey of a Lifetime, which reflects ABHMS' goal to support faith formation throughout the human life cycle. More than 5,000 copies were sent to regions, churches and individuals.

More than 1,000 print copies of another popular resource, **A Matter of Stewardship: Eco-justice in Biblical Perspective**, were requested. This Bible study,

grounded in biblical scholarship and guided by principles of transformational education, was also downloaded at [abhms.org](http://abhms.org) countless times.

**“Congregation and Context: God’s Mission for Today”**—a workshop providing congregational training and tools to encourage increasing awareness of the world outside the church—was attended by more than 70 Latino pastors from ABC of New Jersey Hispanic Convention.

Approximately 200 American Baptists benefited from another workshop, **“Church Trends,”** that looked at the dramatic societal and cultural shifts affecting the church along with ministries that have successfully navigated the seismic changes. As participants shared ideas and opportunities for reaching people outside their congregations, one church considered the trend showing significant disengagement of teenagers from the church. The outcome was an intergenerational group of adult mentors and young people who work together on mission opportunities to build stronger relationships and keep the youth engaged.



**“Reminded me that leading people to faith begins by building relationships with people first.”**

**“Was helpful and thought provoking. It made me think. I will continue to pray.”**

– CHURCH TRENDS WORKSHOP PARTICIPANTS



## Discipleship Ministries Impact at a glance

- More than 5,000 annual Discipleship and Christian Education Guides were sent to regions, churches and individuals
- 62 Church Life and Leadership workshops were available for download at [abhms.org](http://abhms.org) in English, Spanish, French and Karen
- More than 1,000 Bible studies—one on stewardship and eco-justice, another on children and poverty—were requested and distributed
- Several hundred American Baptists attended workshops that addressed keeping the church viable in these changing times



# Healing & Transforming Communities

Healing & Transforming Communities launched its **first Freedom School** in 2019 at Philadelphia's Somerset Academy Early Learning Center, sponsored by that organization in collaboration with ABHMS and the Children's Defense Fund (CDF). It was one of 181 CDF program sites offered in 97 cities across the United States.

More than 60 children and youth, ages 5–15, attended the six-week summer school, where they learned to love books, celebrated themselves and enjoyed field trips that expanded their life experience. CDF data indicate that by fifth grade, summer learning loss can leave low-income students two-and-a-half to three years behind their peers. Freedom schools close those gaps for children living in economically challenged situations.

At the closing celebration at ABHMS' Leadership and Mission Building, Freedom School participants met internationally renowned artist Moe Brooker, who shared his story of growing up in Philadelphia drawing superheroes in chalk on the city sidewalks.

## Engaging the power of Christian love to change the world

ABHMS staff, who served as Freedom School volunteers, provided backpacks filled with supplies for the upcoming school year. Also, ABHMS partnered with Somerset Academy to sponsor three interns who traveled to Tennessee for training and worked at the Freedom School. Judson Press donated a series of children's books to Somerset's children's library.

The Freedom School was made possible in part by an American Baptist Foundation Palmer Grant along with ABHMS funding, a Rizpah's Children grant and a grant from the Philadelphia School System.



More than 60 children spent six weeks in the summer of 2019 at ABHMS' first Freedom School in Philadelphia learning to love reading and books.



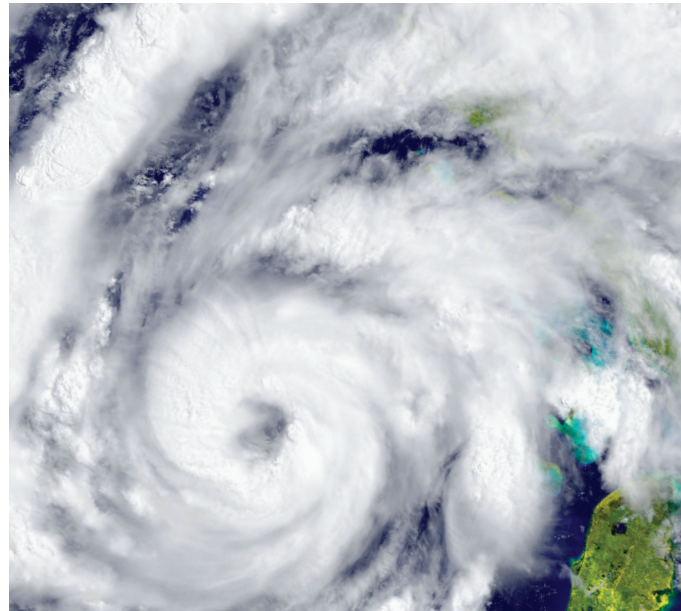
# with great gratitude

## Supporting families and seniors in Florida

In comparison to news headlines generated by hurricanes Maria and Irma, Hurricane Michael, which hit Panama City, Fla., in 2018, was a sleeper storm. Few people heard about it, but the devastation left behind still wreaks havoc with residents' lives.

"It's disheartening when you spend all your life growing up in a city that you no longer recognize at night because everything is gone," one resident told ABHMS Volunteer Coordinator the Rev. Kadia Edwards.

Believers In Christ Outreach Ministries, which received a 2019 ABHMS grant, is meeting the needs for relief and recovery by providing diapers, formula, clothes and essential baby items to young families along with offering Depends, Ensure, bed garments, support stockings and more to seniors. The ministry also cooks a daily meal for seniors, despite the unrepaired damage sustained to its building by Michael.



## Healing & Transforming Communities Impact at a glance

- Close to 300 volunteers served from New Jersey to Alaska and all points in between in mission opportunities ranging from disaster relief rebuilding efforts to office work in ABHMS' Leadership and Mission Building
- 11 Rizpah's Children partners, with support from ABHMS, served more than 2,000 children in programs that strategically address poverty in the United States
- 25 Community Outreach Ministries throughout the United States and Puerto Rico—which received grant funding totaling \$179,500—provided services for senior citizens, families, immigrants and individuals with mental and emotional health challenges as well as the chronically homeless
- Grants totaling \$119,500 supported Rizpah's Children partners and other programs addressing issues related to children in poverty

# Intercultural Ministries

Encouraging intercultural engagement among diverse people that moves beyond mutual respect to genuine relationship building

The first “**Intercultural Institute for Emerging Leaders**” was attended by 43 young people aged 21-39 from various ethnic and cultural backgrounds. The institute provided hands-on, in-depth experience at engaging others across cultures; facilitated building ministry alliances across cultural boundaries; and promoted strategies to impact Christian leadership across the United States and Puerto Rico.

Thirty-plus American Baptists from eight different ethnic groups participated in the **Asian Leaders Consultation & Summit II** created to enhance spiritual and leadership development, discuss mission in the church and community, cultivate intergenerational ministries and nurture future leaders.

A **retreat for Asian-American women** provided support and sought to build equality and equity for women in ministry. About 20 ordained pastors, retirees, support raisers, new moms and volunteers attended to strengthen their callings to embody Jesus as they carry out his ministry.

**Native American Ministries** provided coordinator services to the Oklahoma Indian American Baptist Association’s annual Youth Bible Assembly. The summer camp offered programs and resources to equip youth with a deeper understanding of God and to connect with other youth. Twenty-five youth participated in the camp, a crucial outreach program for Native American Ministries as it seeks to offer prevention and recovery opportunities that fight poverty, physical abuse, sexual abuse, substance abuse and mental health problems, now at crisis levels in Native American communities.

First Crow Indian Baptist Church, Lodge Grass, Mont., celebrated the dedication of its new church building with **Native American Ministries** providing the keynote speaker. This event noted the church’s long journey to the new building, following destruction of the previous church by catastrophic flood in 2011. The church now can provide crucial ministry to the Lodge Grass community and the Crow Reservation.

**Latino Ministries** collaborated with the American Baptist Churches of Indiana & Kentucky region and regional leaders to provide Latino-Anglo Bridgebuilders training that identified and expanded understanding of the obstacles that impede intercultural relationships and fostered integration through hospitality, reconciliation and mission. Facilitation provided by Latino Ministries during the training, attended by 25 American Baptists, covered key definitions of racism, manifestations of discrimination and racism, and Latino racial conflict in the United States, among others.



# thank you



**The growth I personally experienced by interacting with my Latino brothers and sisters is incredible. ...I discovered the vast and complicated chasm that naturally exists because of language and culture. ...The concept of building bridges accomplishes the first step of seeing individual people as they are seen, and loved, by God. With that vision, a new connection is made that supercedes language and culture. With that connection, a new commitment is engendered. This new commitment compels us to work for and seek wholeness and peace.”**

– REV. DR. BRUCE E. COCHRAN, REGION MINISTER  
AMERICAN BAPTIST CHURCHES OF INDIANA & KENTUCKY  
PLANNING TEAM MEMBER, LATINO-ANGLO BRIDGEBUILDERS TRAINING

## Intercultural Ministries Impact at a glance

- A dozen Latino leaders participated in ABHMS' Your Money, Your Goals training in Chicago
- Native American Ministries supported ministry with the Lodge Grass community and the Crow Reservation, where the poverty and unemployment rates in 2019 were 31.5 percent and 24 percent, respectively; Crow churches are a vital resource and a beacon of hope in the tribal community
- Close to 200 American Baptists participated in programs ranging from bridge-building training and a Native American summer camp to gatherings of Asian American leaders and the Intercultural Institute for Emerging Leaders

◀ More than three dozen young Christians, aged 21-39, participated in the “Intercultural Institute for Emerging Leaders” at the Leadership and Mission Building where they built ministry alliances across cultural boundaries.



# Public Witness & Advocacy

ABHMS reimagined its Public Witness & Advocacy ministry in 2019 through the missiology project that clarified the theological and practical assumptions guiding our mission. A new definition emerged:

Public Witness & Advocacy reclaims the evangelical fervor expressed by Jesus' "love of neighbor," embodied historically by ABHMS, in advancing liberation, justice, welcome and unconditional love for all people—created in God's image and entitled to equal opportunity and respect in civil society—by advocating public policies that protect and promote these values as human rights of all people.

Recognizing the limited capacity of ABHMS staff to be the hands and feet on the ground engaged in mission like our home missionaries were a century ago, Public Witness & Advocacy moved more fully into connecting partners in 2019, along with developing and promoting technological, financial and instructional resources to support their witness and advocacy.

We celebrate that countless mission partners—individuals, congregations and organizations—are answering the call to engage with our priority issues: advancing



human rights; defending democracy; ending poverty, violence, mass criminalization and incarceration, and human trafficking; and promoting creation care.

Our foremost tool for expanding public witness and advocacy is *The Christian Citizen*. This online magazine invites and features diverse contributors who create timely

Reclaiming the evangelical fervor expressed by Jesus' "love of neighbor" by advocating public policies that protect and promote the human rights of all people

content about issues of the day for a wide-ranging audience. Along with the two print issues published annually, the magazine launched a podcast—Justice. Mercy. Faith—in 2019, producing 13 episodes.

ABHMS is emerging as a strong partner and benefactor of diverse partners committed to high-quality public witness leadership. We partnered with Sojourners as a sponsor of "The Summit"—a three-day gathering at Washington D.C.'s Gallaudet University that brought together several hundred faith leaders for intense instruction, networking and lobbying on Capitol Hill.

ABHMS also contributed as a sponsor to the "Ending Mass Incarceration" conference at Ebenezer Baptist Church in Atlanta. This conference gathered more than 1,000 participants from across the United States for critical analysis of the mass incarceration crisis in America. Participants learned about the complexity and severity of the large-scale criminalization of people of color in America along with strategies for making a difference in empowering victims—in many instances winning their release.

Refugee and immigration advocacy for migrant workers and asylum seekers continues through State Department visits and providing financial support to American Baptist churches and other related entities working with these populations, along with collaborating with ecumenical partners such as Church World Service.





**We celebrate that countless mission partners are answering the call to engage with our priority issues: advancing human rights; defending democracy; ending poverty, violence, mass criminalization and incarceration, and human trafficking; and promoting creation care.”**

## Public Witness & Advocacy Impact at a glance

- Partnered with Sojourners as a sponsor of “The Summit”
- Partnered with Ebenezer Baptist Church as a sponsor of the “Ending Mass Incarceration” conference
- Visitors to The Christian Citizen website tripled, increasing from 9,011 in 2018 to 30,940 in 2019
- Subscribers to The Christian Citizen Weekly—an e-newsletter featuring the magazine’s best content—grew 40 percent, and the publication earned two DeRose Hinkhouse awards of merit from the national Religion Communicators Council

## Judson Press

Judson Press published nine books, four quarters of The Secret Place daily devotional guide and four quarters of Judson Bible Journeys for Adults (both teacher guides as well as student books) in 2019.

The publisher also awarded 85 personal Baptist libraries to graduating American Baptist seminarians; provided The Secret Place to 200 American Baptist college students who received ABHMS scholarships; and donated 100 Bibles and books to incarcerated citizens.

The Judson Press Ministry Award was presented to Dr. J. Alfred Smith Sr. in recognition of his lifelong relationship with Judson and American Baptist Home Mission Societies.



Dr. J. Alfred Smith Sr.

Publishing books and resources that cultivate Christian leaders and equip disciples



### There's ministry in books

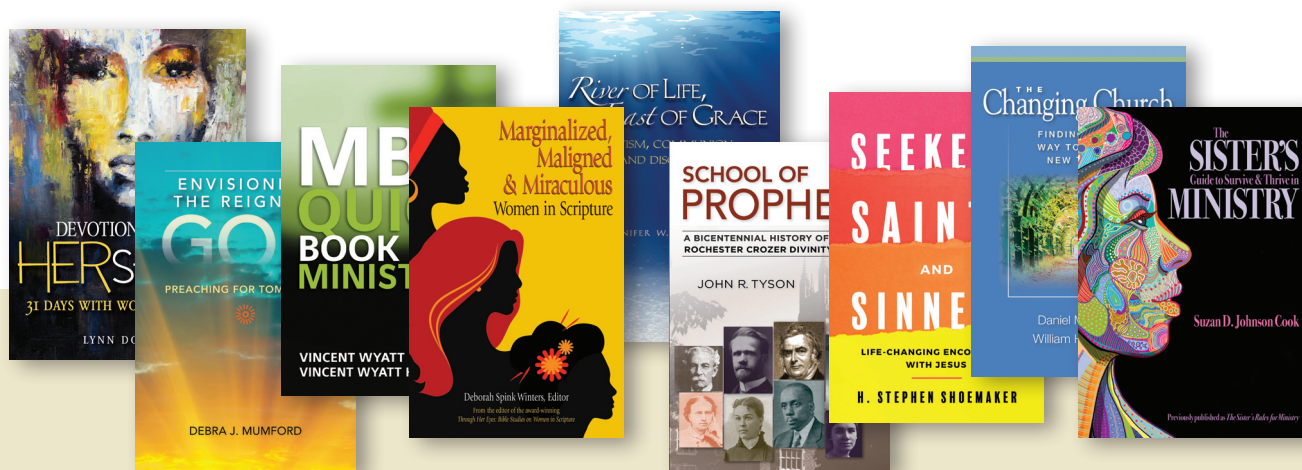
At the Hampton (Virginia) Ministers Conference, Gale Tull, Judson Press marketing associate, noticed a security guard returning again and again to the Judson book table, picking up the same book, putting it down, picking it up, putting it down.

Eventually, Tull asked if he would like to take the book for a while and look at it. The guard took the book to a corner, read it for a long time, then returned it and thanked her.

"The last day, before I packed up, I felt a nudge from God and went over and asked if I could give him the book he was interested in," Tull says. The book was *Justice for Rizpah's Children: Radical Responses to Childhood Poverty* by the Rev. Dr. Marilyn P. Turner-Triplett.

"His eyes immediately teared up. 'Oh please, yes,' he said; 'and thank you, ma'am. You see ... I was one of those children.'"

# with great gratitude



## 2019 Judson Press book releases Impact at a glance

- *Devotions from HERstory: 31 Days with Women of Faith*, by Lynn Domina
- *Envisioning the Reign of God: Preaching for Tomorrow*, by Debra J. Mumford
- *MBA Quick Book for Ministers*, by Vincent Wyatt Howell and Vincent Wyatt Howell Jr.
- *Marginalized, Maligned & Miraculous Women in Scripture*, by Deborah Spink Winters, editor
- *River of Life, Feast of Grace: Baptism, Communion, and Discipleship*, by Jennifer W. Davidson
- *School of Prophets: A Bicentennial History of Colgate Rochester Crozer Divinity School*, by John R. Tyson
- *Seekers, Saints, and Sinners: Life-changing Encounters with Jesus*, by H. Stephen Shoemaker
- *The Changing Church: Finding Your Way to God's New Thing*, by Daniel M. Cash and William H. Griffith; Foreword by Soozie Whitten Ford
- *The Sister's Guide to Survive and Thrive in Ministry*, by Suzan D. Johnson Cook

# Rebuilding, Restoring, Renewing Puerto Rico

In 2019, two years after the devastation of Hurricane Maria, the multi-year initiative—Rebuilding, Restoring, Renewing Puerto Rico (RRR PR)—started work on rebuilding houses; in previous years, the focus had been on church buildings.

Working on houses proved to be more significant and meaningful for volunteers supporting the rebuilding efforts. In 2019, seven more teams and 163 more volunteers served in the RRR PR effort than the year before.

The work restoring homes has changed the lives of many families who were still struggling with Hurricane Maria's devastation. Because of this work, volunteers and ABHMS staff have witnessed God becoming real in the lives of people abandoned by “the system”—the governmental agencies charged with providing relief.

Elizandro is just one example of the life-changing work of RRR PR.

A diabetic, Elizandro lost his leg in the storm's aftermath because of an inappropriate diet caused by lack of available healthy food. The storm left his home severely damaged and partially destroyed, but he could not afford the repairs. And he could not afford to make

his home accessible by wheelchair. The government and the U.S. Federal Emergency Management Agency denied Elizandro any aid.

Thanks to the work of RRR PR, around 30 volunteers worked for 16 days in his home. Volunteers not only rebuilt Elizandro's house, they restored his dignity. ABHMS will continue to support reconstruction in Puerto Rico so that stories like Elizandro's continue to be heard.



About 30 volunteers worked for more than two weeks rebuilding Elizandro's house—restoring his home and, more importantly, his dignity.

## Rebuilding, Restoring, Renewing Puerto Rico Impact at a glance

- Restored 18 churches, five organizations and 67 homes with the help of volunteers
- 47 volunteer teams from 25 different states worked in the restoration effort
- 642 total volunteers traveled to Puerto Rico to repair the homes and lives of families still suffering from Hurricane Maria's destruction
- Close to \$120,000 raised to support rebuilding efforts



## Networking & training

### A strategy for extending mission and ministry

As ABHMS continued implementing its strategic networking ministry model in 2019, two “Converge” events invited American Baptist partners to identify potential opportunities for collaboration to address mission needs and maximize the reach and impact of ministries seeking to help individuals and families.

More than 100 American Baptist leaders attended the three-day gatherings in Liberty, Mo., and Cleveland. The Liberty event, at William Jewell College, was attended by leaders from Nebraska, Missouri, Illinois, Oklahoma and the Dakotas. The gathering in Cleveland drew leaders from Ohio, West Virginia, Michigan and New York.

With these gatherings, ABHMS has hosted network meetings related to each ABCUSA region, except Puerto Rico, since the launch of this strategy in 2017. Planning calls for a Puerto Rico gathering in 2021.



**[Through the workshops,] I was introduced to the breadth of resources ABHMS offers. The processes for discovery and exchange of information that were utilized helped me gain a lot very quickly. I am taking so much from this experience and look forward to the next.”**

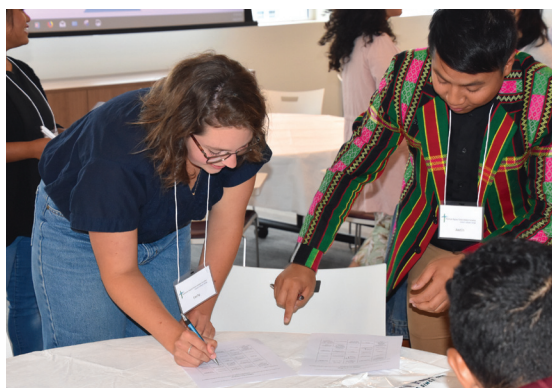
**– REV. DR. DIANTHIA GILMORE,  
CONVERGE ATTENDEE, CLEVELAND**



**Having the time to get to know people and discuss issues we are [facing] with each other was great. I would have liked more time for interaction because the interaction we had was most meaningful. ... The facilitators were excellent. The networking principles are what we need to practice.”**

**– REV. DR. STEVE NEAL,  
CONVERGE ATTENDEE, LIBERTY, MO.**

# Office of Development: How you can help



More than \$3 million in gifts, grants and bequests strengthened Christian leaders, supported development of discipleship resources and workshops, and delivered transformative ministries to many who live on society's margins

Donors are the lifeblood of American Baptist Home Mission Societies.

Of the \$3 million-plus contributed to the Home Mission Societies in 2019, 92 percent came from hundreds of people with a heart for ministry through individual contributions, the America for Christ Offering, One Great Hour of Sharing and legacy gifts, such as wills and trusts.

With great gratitude, we thank you for your generosity and your heart for helping us make a difference in the world.

In 2019, we launched The Passionary Fund, a new opportunity for individual giving. Named for those inspired through vision and compassion to work for justice and equity, this fund honors passionaries bold enough about mission to believe they can be the change they wish to see in the world.

Through contributions to this annual fund, you can support those ABHMS ministries that connect with your deepest passions. Do you want to ensure families living at the margins can feed their children? Do the stories of Puerto Rico residents still struggling to rebuild their lives after Hurricane Maria touch your heart? Do you want to see more intercultural resources and workshops that address the racial divide in our country?

Your gifts to The Passionary Fund make a difference for hungry children, residents of Puerto Rico, pastors and many more through these ministry areas: Leadership

Empowerment; Discipleship; Healing & Transforming Communities; Intercultural Ministries; and Public Witness & Advocacy.

No matter the size of your gift, it's priceless to American Baptist Home Mission Societies. With great gratitude for your continued support, we continue to serve.

## 2019 giving

Passionary gifts	\$511,383.24
America for Christ	\$682,907.44
One Great Hour of Sharing	\$497,946.01
United Mission	\$325,291.85
Grants	\$275,000.00
Volunteers	\$105,066.00
Endowments, legacies and trusts	\$1,050,741.66
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$3,448,336.20</b>

# Donors make a difference

## Shared blessings

“When we sold our building, the Lord blessed us with a decent sum of money. We hope that this [endowment] can be used to help another struggling pastor—that she can see there’s a bright side.”

— Rev. Chris Smith, Senior Pastor, Restoration Ministries of Greater Cleveland

## Third-generation American Baptist

“My wife and I are delighted to be able to help the work of the Lord through ABHMS. While there are innumerable worthy secular charities, we give to ABHMS because we want to make sure the world understands that all charity, in the literal sense of love for one’s neighbors, flows from God through his son, Jesus Christ. It’s important for the world to realize that love for one’s neighbors without the love of God is only half the story. ABHMS tells the rest of the story.”

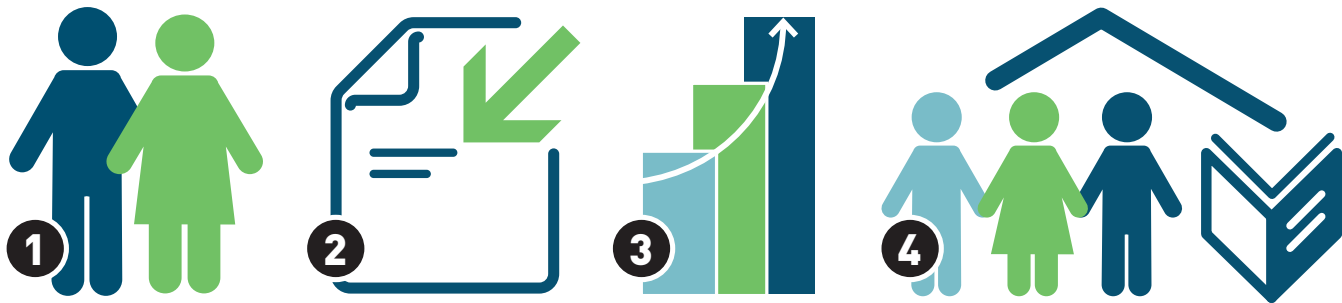
— Gregory Lavorgna, Esq.

## Why I give

“God’s kingdom goal of peace on Earth—where ecological wholeness and social justice come together in reverence for life, interdependence with life and stewardship of life—was the light guiding ABHMS in my 30 years of ministry with American Baptists. I hope my contribution will further this goal in the future.”

— Rev. Dr. Owen Owens, Retired ABHMS Director of Ecology & Racial Justice

## How giving works



1. Passionary donates check, cash, annuity or property to Office of Development
2. Office of Development allocates gift to ministry area, according to passionary’s wishes
3. Allocation increases resources available for Empowering Leaders, Equipping Disciples and Healing & Transforming Communities
4. More children participate in Freedom Schools; more roofs are rebuilt in Puerto Rico; more pastoral enrichment programs are offered; more discipleship resources are created, to name just a few ministry examples

To support ministries across the United States and Puerto Rico, contact Vincent Dent at 610.768.2420 or [vincent.dent@abhms.org](mailto:vincent.dent@abhms.org) or visit [abhms.org/GIVE\\_NOW](http://abhms.org/GIVE_NOW) to make financial contributions. To donate your time as a volunteer contact Kadia Edwards at 610.768.2449 or [kadia.edwards@abhms.org](mailto:kadia.edwards@abhms.org).



# thank you

With great gratitude, American Baptist Home Mission Societies acknowledges these 250 top-giving churches that supported our mission in 2019.

## **ABC of the Central Pacific Coast**

Iglesia Bautista Fuente de Vida, Richmond, Calif.  
Portola Baptist Church, San Francisco, Calif.  
First Baptist Church, Astoria, Ore.  
Cedar Hills Baptist Church, Portland, Ore.  
First Baptist Church, Portland, Ore.  
Grace Baptist Church, Portland, Ore.  
Calvary Baptist Church, Salem, Ore.  
First Baptist Church, Springfield, Ore.

## **ABC of the Central Region**

First Baptist Church, Coffeyville, Kan.  
First Baptist Church, Colby, Kan.  
De Soto Baptist Church, De Soto, Kan.  
First Baptist Church, Gardner, Kan.  
First Baptist Church, Hays, Kan.  
Countryside Baptist Church, Hutchinson, Kan.  
First Baptist Church, Leavenworth, Kan.  
First Baptist Church, Louisburg, Kan.  
First Baptist Church, McPherson, Kan.  
First Baptist Church, Minneapolis, Kan.  
First Baptist Church, Olathe, Kan.  
First Baptist Church, Ottawa, Kan.  
First Baptist Church, Salina, Kan.  
First Baptist Church, Topeka, Kan.  
West Side Baptist Church, Topeka, Kan.  
Wellsville Baptist Church, Wellsville, Kan.  
Meridian Avenue Baptist Church, Wichita, Kan.

## **ABC of Connecticut**

First Baptist Church, Branford, Conn.  
Noank Baptist Church, Groton, Conn.  
Central Baptist Church, Hartford, Conn.  
Community Baptist Church, Manchester, Conn.  
Niantic Baptist Church, Niantic, Conn.  
First Baptist Church, West Hartford, Conn.

## **ABC of the Dakotas**

First Baptist Church, Bismarck, N.D.  
Immanuel Baptist Church, Minot, N.D.  
Bethel Baptist Church, Powers Lake, N.D.  
First Baptist Church, Burke, S.D.  
Union Baptist Church, Burke, S.D.  
First Baptist Church, Sioux Falls, S.D.

## **ABC of the Great Rivers Region**

Upper Alton Baptist Church, Alton, Ill.  
Sato Baptist Church, Ava, Ill.  
First Baptist Church, Carthage, Ill.  
First Baptist Church, Chrisman, Ill.  
First Baptist Church, Cottage Hills, Ill.  
First Baptist Church, Decatur, Ill.  
First Baptist Church, Elgin, Ill.

First Baptist Church, Fairbury, Ill.  
First Baptist Church, Mattoon, Ill.  
First Baptist Church, Moweaqua, Ill.  
First Baptist Church, Murphysboro, Ill.  
First Baptist Church, Peoria, Ill.  
First Baptist Church, Pontiac, Ill.  
First Baptist Church, Rantoul, Ill.  
Kane Baptist Church, Shipman, Ill.  
Central Baptist Church, Springfield, Ill.  
Selma Baptist Church, Festus, Mo.  
First Baptist Church, Kansas City, Mo.  
Grace Baptist Church, Kansas City, Mo.  
Second Baptist Church, Saint Louis, Mo.  
University Heights Baptist Church, Springfield, Mo.

## **ABC of Greater Indianapolis**

First Baptist Church, Franklin, Ind.  
First Baptist Church, Greenwood, Ind.  
Chin Baptist Churches USA Inc., Indianapolis, Ind.  
Church of the Master, Indianapolis, Ind.  
First Baptist Church, Indianapolis, Ind.

## **ABC of Indiana and Kentucky**

McDoel Baptist Church, Bloomington, Ind.  
Badger Grove Community Baptist Church, Brookston, Ind.  
First Baptist Church, Columbus, Ind.  
Memorial Baptist Church, Columbus, Ind.  
First Marion Baptist Church, Commiskey, Ind.  
Hayden Baptist Church, Hayden, Ind.  
Metee Baptist Church, Lucerne, Ind.  
First Baptist Church, Madison, Ind.  
First Baptist Church, Petersburg, Ind.  
First Baptist Church, Plainfield, Ind.  
First Baptist Church, Richmond, Ind.  
First Baptist Church, Rochester, Ind.  
First Baptist Church, Salem, Ind.  
First Baptist Church, Sullivan, Ind.

## **ABC of Los Angeles, Southwest and Hawaii**

Atherton Baptist Church, Hawthorne, Calif.  
First Baptist Church, Pasadena, Calif.  
First Baptist Church, Redlands, Calif.  
Evergreen Baptist Church, Rosemead, Calif.  
First Baptist Church, Tustin, Calif.

## **ABC of Maine**

Court Street Baptist Church, Auburn, Maine  
First Baptist Church, Bar Harbor, Maine  
United Baptist Church, Saco, Maine

## **ABC of Massachusetts**

Brewster Baptist Church, Brewster, Mass.  
Hope Baptist Church, Hyde Park, Mass.  
First Baptist Church, Lexington, Mass.  
Green Street Baptist Church, Melrose, Mass.

## **ABC of Metro Chicago**

North Shore Baptist Church, Chicago, Ill.  
Second Baptist Church, Evanston, Ill.  
Community Baptist Church, Warrenville, Ill.

## **ABC of Metro New York**

Parkchester Baptist Church, Bronx, N.Y.  
Lenox Road Baptist Church, Brooklyn, N.Y.  
Elmhurst Baptist Church, Elmhurst, N.Y.  
Union Baptist Church, New York, N.Y.  
Scarsdale Community Baptist Church, Scarsdale, N.Y.  
First Baptist Church, White Plains, N.Y.

## **ABC of Michigan**

First Baptist Church, Ann Arbor, Mich.  
First Baptist Church, Davison, Mich.  
Burton Baptist Church, Grand Rapids, Mich.  
Calvary Baptist Church, Livonia, Mich.  
Aurelius Baptist Church, Mason, Mich.  
First Baptist Church, Midland, Mich.  
Michigan Avenue Baptist Church, Saginaw, Mich.  
Bethel Baptist Church, Southgate, Mich.  
Covenant Baptist Church Bloomfield, West Bloomfield, Mich.

## **ABC of Nebraska**

Arthur Baptist Church, Arthur, Neb.  
First Baptist Church, Fremont, Neb.  
First Baptist Church, North Platte, Neb.  
Sunset Hills Baptist Church, Omaha, Neb.

## **ABC of New Jersey**

First Baptist Church, Bordentown, N.J.  
Cohansey Baptist Church of Roadstown, Bridgeton, N.J.  
Chesterfield Baptist Church, Chesterfield, N.J.  
Flemington Baptist Church, Flemington, N.J.  
First Baptist Church, Freehold, N.J.  
Union Baptist Church, Montclair, N.J.  
First Baptist Church, Morristown, N.J.  
Bethany Baptist Church, Newark, N.J.  
Iglesia Bautista Familia de Dios Inc., Parsippany, N.J.  
Spanish American Baptist Church, Union City, N.J.  
First Baptist Church, Woodstown, N.J.

### **ABC of New York State**

Emmanuel Baptist Church, Albany, N.Y.  
Moulton Memorial Baptist Church, Newburgh, N.Y.  
First Baptist Church, Penn Yan, N.Y.  
Tabernacle Baptist Church, Utica, N.Y.

### **ABC of Ohio**

Tabernacle Baptist Church, Chillicothe, Ohio  
First Baptist Church, Dayton, Ohio  
Spinning Road Baptist Church, Dayton, Ohio  
First Baptist Church, Holland, Ohio  
First Baptist Church, Hubbard, Ohio  
Grand Prairie Baptist Church, Marion, Ohio  
First Baptist Church, Middletown, Ohio  
Ashland Avenue Baptist Church, Oregon, Ohio  
Calvary Baptist Church, Rio Grande, Ohio  
Market Street Baptist Church, Zanesville, Ohio

### **ABC of Pennsylvania and Delaware**

First Baptist Church, Dover, Del.  
Calvary Baptist Church, Newark, Del.  
West Shore Baptist Church, Camp Hill, Pa.  
Lower Providence Baptist Church, Eagleville, Pa.  
Upper Merion Baptist Church, King of Prussia, Pa.  
First Baptist Church, Lancaster, Pa.  
Westgate Baptist Church, Lancaster, Pa.  
First Baptist Church, Lansdale, Pa.  
First Baptist Church, Meadville, Pa.  
Moreland Baptist Church, Muncy, Pa.  
New Britain Baptist Church, New Britain, Pa.  
Siloam Baptist Church, Norristown, Pa.  
Greenfield Baptist Church, North East, Pa.  
Parkesburg Baptist Church, Parkesburg, Pa.  
North Hills Community Baptist Church, Pittsburgh, Pa.  
Royersford Baptist Church, Royersford, Pa.  
Jackson Street Baptist Church, Scranton, Pa.  
Franklin Park Baptist Church, Scrickley, Pa.  
Christ's American Baptist Church, Spring Grove, Pa.  
Springfield Baptist Church, Springfield, Pa.  
First Baptist Church, Tarentum, Pa.  
Austinville Union Church, Troy, Pa.  
Windsor Baptist Church, Uwchland, Pa.  
First Baptist Church, Wellsboro, Pa.  
Franklin Union Baptist Church, Worthington, Pa.

### **ABC of Rhode Island**

First Baptist Church, Block Island, R.I.  
Oak Lawn Community Baptist Church, Cranston, R.I.  
First Baptist Church-Wickford,  
North Kingstown, R.I.

### **ABC of the Rochester Genesee Region**

East Penfield Baptist Church, Fairport, N.Y.  
First Baptist Church, Rochester, N.Y.

### **ABC of the Rocky Mountains**

Pine Street Church, Boulder, Colo.  
First Baptist Church, Colorado Springs, Colo.  
Calvary Baptist Church, Denver, Colo.  
Flagler Baptist Church, Flagler, Colo.  
American Baptist Church, Fort Collins, Colo.  
First Baptist Church, Grand Junction, Colo.  
First Baptist Church, Lamar, Colo.  
First Baptist Church, Sterling, Colo.  
First Baptist Church, Greybull, Wyo.

### **ABC of the South**

American Baptist Church of the Beatitudes  
(Circle of Faith), Saint Petersburg, Fla.  
First Baptist Church of Highland Park,  
Landover, Md.  
Mt. Calvary Baptist Church, Rockville, Md.  
Olive Grove Missionary Baptist Church,  
Littleton, N.C.  
Pullen Memorial Baptist Church, Raleigh, N.C.  
University Baptist Church, Austin, Texas  
Main Street Baptist Church, Smithfield, Va.

### **ABC of Vermont and New Hampshire**

New Hampton Community Church,  
New Hampton, N.H.  
First Baptist Church, New London, N.H.  
Middle Street Baptist Church, Portsmouth, N.H.  
First Baptist Church, Bellows Falls, Vt.

### **ABC of Wisconsin**

First Baptist Church, La Crosse, Wis.  
First Baptist Church, Madison, Wis.  
Bay View Baptist Church, Milwaukee, Wis.  
First Baptist Church, Racine, Wis.  
First Baptist Church, West Allis, Wis.

### **District of Columbia Baptist Convention**

University Baptist Church, College Park, Md.  
Pathways Baptist Church, Gaithersburg, Md.  
Montgomery Hills Baptist Church,  
Silver Spring, Md.  
Nations United Baptist Church, Silver Spring, Md.

### **Evergreen Association of ABC**

Lakeshore Avenue Baptist Church, Oakland, Calif.  
First Baptist Church, Olympia, Wash.

### **Growing Healthy Churches**

Pathway Community Church, Fremont, Calif.  
First Chinese Baptist Church, San Francisco, Calif.  
Community Baptist Church, San Mateo, Calif.  
First Baptist Church, Santa Clara, Calif.  
First Baptist Church, Stockton, Calif.

### **Iglesias Bautistas de Puerto Rico**

Iglesia Bautista Ebenezer, Gurabo, Puerto Rico

### **Mid-American Baptist Churches**

First Baptist Church, Boone, Iowa  
First Baptist Church, Davenport, Iowa  
Westover Baptist Church, Des Moines, Iowa  
First Baptist Church, Johnston, Iowa  
First Baptist Church, Marion, Iowa  
First Baptist Church, Oelwein, Iowa  
First Baptist Church, Pella, Iowa  
First Baptist Church, Waterloo, Iowa

### **Mission Northwest**

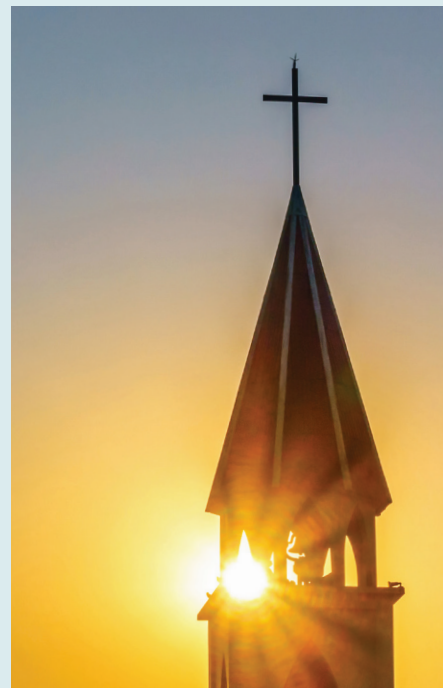
First Baptist Church, Payette, Idaho  
First Baptist Church, Twin Falls, Idaho  
Wyola Community Baptist Church, Wyola, Mont.  
Murray Baptist Church, Murray, Utah  
First Baptist Church, Kent, Wash.  
Spokane Valley Baptist Church,  
Spokane Valley, Wash.  
Sun Tower, Yakima, Wash.

### **Philadelphia Baptist Association**

Shiloh Baptist Church, Wilmington, Del.  
Grace Baptist Church, Blue Bell, Pa.  
First Baptist Church, Philadelphia, Pa.  
Central Baptist Church, Wayne, Pa.

### **West Virginia Baptist Convention**

Old Greenbrier Baptist Church, Alderson, W.Va.  
Bethesda Baptist Church, Barrackville, W.Va.  
First Baptist Church, Beckley, W.Va.  
Rock Grove Baptist Church, Camden, W.Va.  
Charleston Baptist Temple, Charleston, W.Va.  
Wilsonburg Baptist Church, Clarksburg, W.Va.  
Crab Orchard Baptist Church, Crab Orchard, W.Va.  
Sabraton Baptist Church, Dellslow, W.Va.  
Baptist Temple, Fairmont, W.Va.  
Willow Tree Baptist Church, Farmington, W.Va.  
Beulah Baptist Church, Grafton, W.Va.  
Fifth Avenue Baptist Church, Huntington, W.Va.  
Guyandotte Baptist Church, Jesse, W.Va.  
Shuck Memorial Baptist Church, Lewisburg, W.Va.  
Milton Baptist Church, Milton, W.Va.  
Hopewell Baptist Church, Mount Alto, W.Va.  
Indian Fork Baptist Church, New Milton, W.Va.  
First Baptist Church, Nutter Fort, W.Va.  
Emmanuel Baptist Church, Parkersburg, W.Va.  
South Parkersburg Baptist Church,  
Parkersburg, W.Va.  
First Baptist Church, Rainelle, W.Va.  
First Baptist Church, Ravenswood, W.Va.  
First Baptist Church, Saint Albans, W.Va.  
Gilboa Baptist Church, Spencer, W.Va.  
Liberty Baptist Church, Victor, W.Va.  
Vienna Baptist Church, Vienna, W.Va.  
First Baptist Church, Williamson, W.Va.  
First Baptist Church, Williamstown, W.Va.



# Financial snapshot

for calendar years ending Dec. 31, 2019, and 2018

<b>Revenue Gains and Other Support</b>	<b>2019</b>	<b>2018</b>
Contributions	3,448,336	2,932,719
Publishing sales, net	359,426	526,508
Investment-related income, including realized gains on sale of investments	12,120,759	20,042,966
<b>Total Revenue</b>	<b>\$15,928,521</b>	<b>\$23,502,193</b>
<b>Expenses</b>		
Mission services	8,928,086	8,662,163
Publishing ministry	1,251,605	1,341,564
<b>Total Program Expenses</b>	<b>10,179,691</b>	<b>10,003,727</b>
Administrative support	2,363,604	2,086,222
Common Investment Fund management fees and beneficiary payments	1,394,848	1,388,672
Development and fundraising	592,549	474,609
<b>Total Supporting Expenses</b>	<b>4,351,001</b>	<b>3,949,503</b>
<b>Total Expenses</b>	<b>\$14,530,692</b>	<b>\$13,953,230</b>
<b>Total Income (Loss) from Operations</b>	<b>1,397,829</b>	<b>\$9,548,963</b>
Net unrealized gains/(losses) on investments	21,156,366	(26,059,576)
Change in annuity beneficial interest & actuarial obligations	60,545	(37,513)
<b>Change in net assets</b>	<b>22,614,740</b>	<b>(16,548,126)</b>

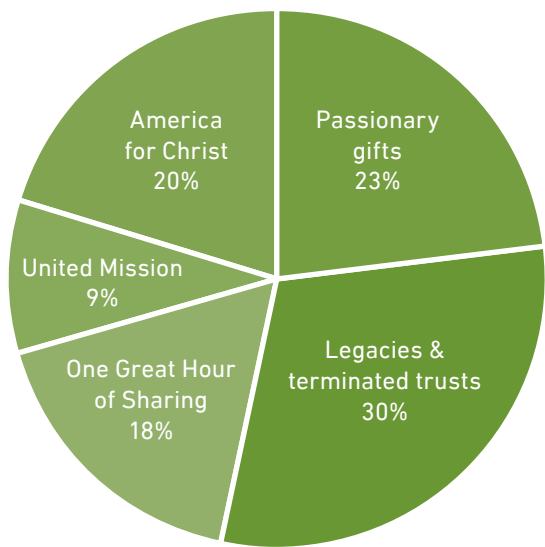


**We are deeply grateful for the ever-expanding network of faithful individuals and corporate mission partners whose generosity of time, talent and treasure make ABHMS' ministry possible."**

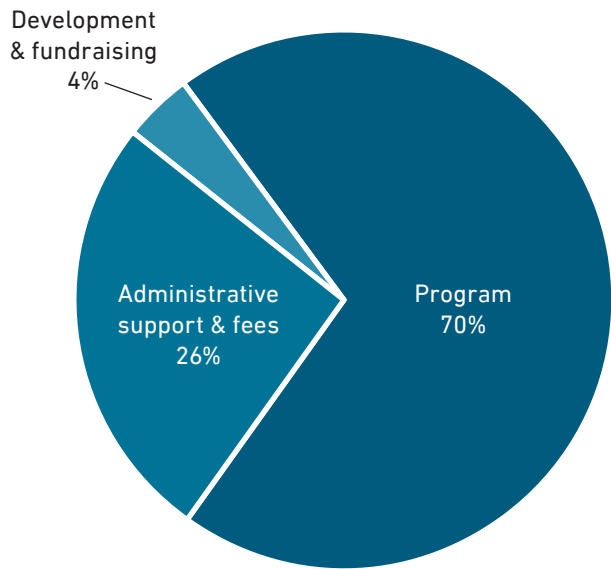
**– MICHAELE D. BIRDSALL, CPA  
CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICER/TREASURER,  
DEPUTY EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR**



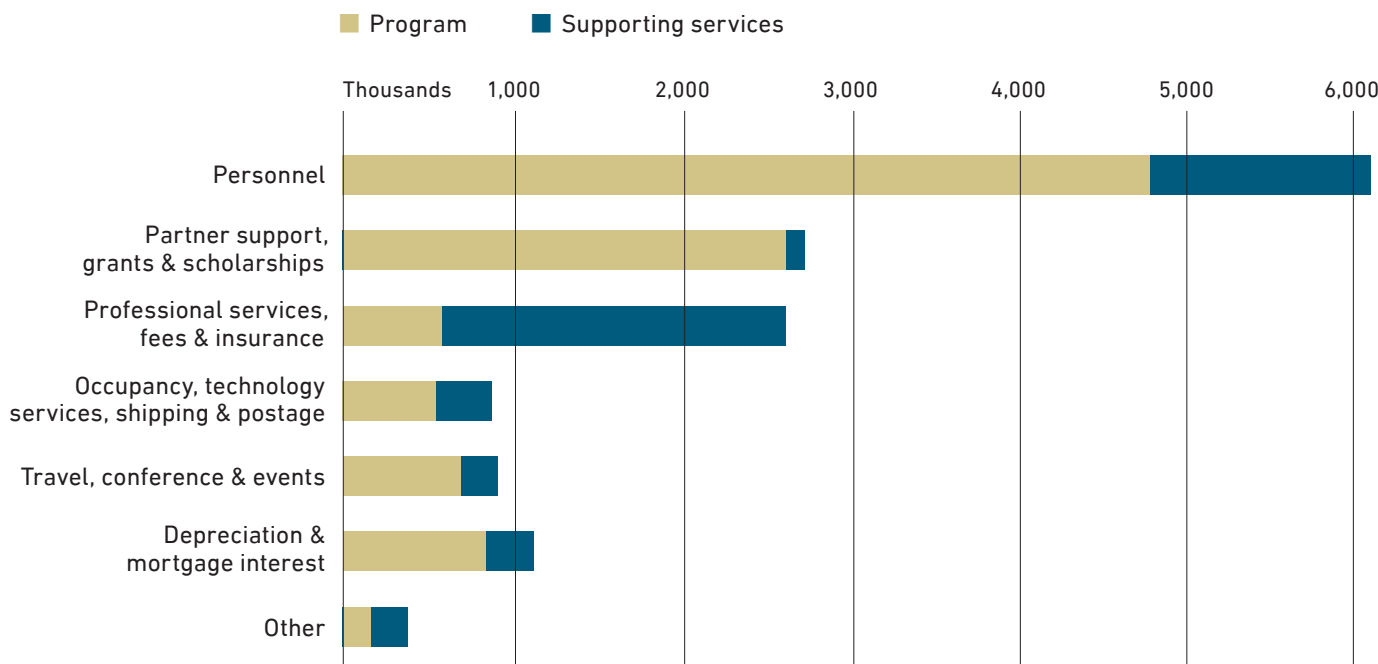
# 2019 contributions sources



# 2019 expense snapshot



# 2019 functional expense breakdown



# Common Investment Fund

Socially responsible investing (SRI) is a hallmark of American Baptist Home Mission Societies' Common Investment Fund (CIF). Through SRI, the Common Investment Fund seeks not only to maximize financial returns, but to use shareholder power to hold corporations in which ABHMS is invested accountable to just and equitable business practices related to social and environmental issues.

ABHMS' priority SRI issues include climate change, environmental justice, water stewardship, human rights, responsible financial practices and affordable drug pricing. Corporate engagement around these issues is planned annually in collaboration with ABHMS' Investment Advisory Council and our SRI consultant—Investor Advocates for Social Justice (formerly Tri-State Coalition for Responsible Investment).

In 2019—in partnership with members of the Interfaith Center for Corporate Responsibility (ICCR)—ABHMS pressed companies, such as Tyson Foods, Hershey's, Pfizer, and Wells Fargo, to improve management of environmental, social and governance risks:

Following multiple consultations with ABHMS and ICCR members about responsible financial practices, Wells Fargo issued a Business Standards Review report in 2019, addressing issues including foreclosures, governance and risk oversight, ethics, culture and financing of private prisons.

ABHMS co-filed a shareholder proposal with Chevron encouraging disclosure of due diligence efforts addressing risks related to the human right to water; the proposal received support from 31 percent of shareholders. The proposal addressed not only efficient use of water to mitigate scarcity, but also protection from pollution. Chevron has updated its human rights policy and strengthened its water statement, providing more disclosure on its water management and best practices.

## Continues commitment to money as ministry

At the April 2019 Pfizer annual meeting, a proposal co-filed by ABHMS requesting disclosure of the integration of risks related to public concerns about drug pricing into Pfizer's senior executive compensation arrangements received a 28.7 percent vote. In November, ABHMS co-filed a proposal asking the company to assess the feasibility of incorporating public concern about high drug prices into senior executive compensation arrangements.



Strategic priorities of ABHMS' \$2 million Socially Responsible Mission Directed Fund were refreshed in 2019, resulting in several new investments. Newly identified financing priorities include opportunities in Puerto Rico and the southeast United States; opportunities to support pastors; and opportunities to support racial justice and environmental justice/climate change mitigation efforts. Providing underserved groups with access to capital is also a priority. Investments were made in the following funds to further these goals: Boston Impact Initiative; Chicago Trend; Up Community Fund; Sustain VC: Impact Fund II; Resilient Ventures Fund I L.P.; and Climate Investment Solutions Fund.

# Common Investment Fund snapshot

## December 31, 2019

Market value of assets under management: \$235,125,135

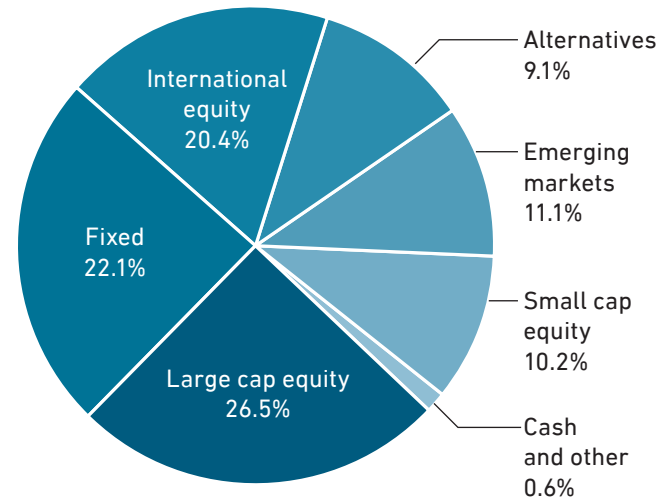
Annualized return, net of fees: (+21.2)%

Target benchmark: (+19.5)%

## Historical Common Investment Fund (CIF) unit value (2010-2019)

2010	311.10	2015	355.03
2011	295.15	2016	369.44
2012	317.75	2017	410.74
2013	371.97	2018	373.14
2014	379.04	2019	430.35

## Asset mix



## Investment management

Investment advisor:

Colonial Consulting Corp. Inc.

New York, N.Y.

Investment managers:

Atlanta Capital Management Co. LLC

Baillie Gifford Overseas Ltd., Edinburgh, Scotland

Bain Capital Senior Loan Fund, Boston

Bogle Opportunity Fund II SRI, L.P., Lower Newton Falls, Mass.

Colchester Global Investors Inc., New York City

Champlain Investment Partners, Burlington, Vt.

Cross Harbor Institutional Partners II, Boston

Eagle Capital Management LLC, New York City

Garcia Hamilton & Assoc., Houston, Texas

Heartwood Forestland, Chapel Hill, N.C.

Lazard, New York City

Owl Creek Socially Responsible Investment Fund Ltd., Toronto

Patron Capital IV & V, London

Vulcan Value Partners LLC, Birmingham, Ala.

Your investments can make a difference, too! ABHMS invites American Baptist churches and related institutions to participate in the CIF. For more information, contact the treasurer's office at 888.79.ABHMS.



# 2019 Board of Directors

## Officers

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Wendy J. Hagn | **VICE PRESIDENT**  
Rev. Dr. Leon E. Runner | **CORPORATE SECRETARY**  
Dr. Jeffrey Haggray | **EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR**  
Micheale D. Birdsall, CPA | **TREASURER**

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Rev. Sanetta Ponton  
Quinton Roman Nose  
Rev. Dr. Leon E. Runner  
Rev. Dr. Gary V. Simpson  
Rev. Jamie P. Washam  
Rev. Dr. James O. Wolfe III  
Rev. Karen T. Yee

## New board members



Rev. Laura Ayala



Rev. Douglas Harris



Dr. Barbara Ragland



Rev. Trevor Hyde



At the celebration of the Rev. Dr. Clifford Johnson's 10-year service as president of ABHMS' Board of Directors, Executive Director Dr. Jeffrey Haggray announced the Visitor Hub in the Leadership and Mission Building has been named in Johnson's honor.



**Just a quick note to say,  
'Great Discipleship and  
Christian Education Guide.'  
Just got it today. Your  
'Reflections on the Theme'  
is beautiful. ...Thanks so  
much for your ministry and  
your wisdom."**

– PASTOR DENNIS CHRISTIANSEN  
TRUMANSBURG (N.Y.)  
FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH

# thank you

“

**I am the communications coordinator for ABCCR and editor of the Central Region Life Newspaper. I found your article ‘ABHMS offers update regarding recovery from Puerto Rico earthquakes’ and thought it was a great piece. ABHMS has done an amazing job at offering support to those in need in Puerto Rico, and I would love to share this story with our readers ... .”**

**– KATHERINE CUNNINGHAM**



More than 125 American Baptists and ministry partners filled the Leadership and Mission Building for a festive celebration—"Welcome Home: Marking a Milestone in Mission"—dedicating ABHMS' new home in May 2019.

# Administration

## EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Dr. Jeffrey Haggray

## CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICER/TREASURER, DEPUTY EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Michael D. Birdsall, CPA

## PUBLISHER, JUDSON PRESS

Laura Alden

## GENERAL COUNSEL

Valoria L. Cheek, Esq.

## SENIOR ASSOCIATE, GRANTS, PARTNERSHIPS AND STRATEGY

Rev. Rothangliani Chhangte

## CHIEF DEVELOPMENT OFFICER

Vincent W. Dent Sr.

## DIRECTOR, INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY MANAGEMENT

Derrick G. Gilbert, MSCS, MBA, CBA

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Rev. Lisa Harris-Lee

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Linda Johnson-LeBlanc

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Laura Miraz, Ph.D., SPHR

## DIRECTOR, HEALING AND TRANSFORMING COMMUNITIES

Rev. Dr. Marilyn P. Turner-Triplett

with great gratitude



## More than \$1.7 million in grants and gifts supported partner ministries

In 2019, American Baptist Home Mission Societies supported American Baptist entities and ecumenical partners across the United States and Puerto Rico with grants and gifts totaling more than \$1.7 million. We are proud to support so many partners who share our vision for ministry in the 21st century and beyond.



Community Outreach Grants	\$160,580
Native American Ministries Grants	\$248,492
Asian, Haitian and Latino Ministries Grants	\$47,300
Refugee and Immigration Grants	\$35,500
Rebuild, Restore, Renew Puerto Rico	\$362,287
Scholarships	\$246,875
Continuing Education Grants	\$57,800
Contribution to Partners	\$143,225
One Great Hour of Sharing	
Emergency Food and Shelter	\$30,000
Development	\$138,500
Disaster Relief	\$305,000

WRITER & EDITOR  
Susan Gottshall

COPY EDITOR  
Nadine Hasenecz

PROOFREADER & RESEARCHER  
Sue Peterman

DESIGNER  
Danny Ellison

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American Baptist Home Mission Societies  
1075 First Ave.  
King of Prussia, PA 19406

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customerservice@judsonpress.com.



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Connect. Cultivate. Change.

IN TIMES OF HOPE AND CRISIS:

# ABEC: Building Relationships, Building Churches, Helping Investors Build Their Futures.



*Thank You.*

In this time of an unprecedented pandemic, thank you for allowing us to walk alongside you.

We are with our churches now and always. That's why institutions affiliated with the American Baptist denomination choose **ABEC Loans**. More than a lending organization, we offer specialized services, knowledge and answers. We are here to listen to what every church experiences and needs. And to respond.

We are here with our investors, too. Your investments in **ABEC Notes** not only help you save for your family's future, they allow us to make loans that help churches all across the country and in Puerto Rico build, renovate, and serve their communities.



To find out more, visit [myabec.org](http://myabec.org)  
e-mail: [info@myabec.org](mailto:info@myabec.org)  
or call today: 610-768-2232  
1075 First Avenue, Suite E-400  
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# mission statement

Partnering with American Baptists to  
promote Christian faith, cultivate Christ-  
centered leaders and disciples, and bring  
healing and transformation to communities  
across the United States and Puerto Rico



American Baptist Home Mission Societies  
Connect. Cultivate. Change.