

AMERICAN BAPTIST WOMEN IN MINISTRY & TRANSITION MINISTRIES

ABWIM

Vision: ABWIM seeks the full participation and full partnership of men and women in ministry in which both women and men are able to fully utilize their God-given gifts and fully live out their God-given call.

Some Highlights:

- The first ever ABWIM Annual Appeal has been fully launched in collaboration with the Annual Appeal Steering Committee and Ken Marsenburg, Director of Development. We have reached the minimum goal of \$50,000 and are on our way to the challenge goal of \$100,000.
- “Sisters in Service,” an initiative in Metro Chicago bringing together lay and ordained women in ministry to support and empower each other in service continues to grow with an event in May and a follow-up event planned for the fall.
- Plans are underway for a return trip to the Republic of Georgia as part of the “Breaking Barriers, Building Bridges,” project, a project initially funded by a Palmer Grant. This initiative and partnership with AB Women’s Ministries continues to grow.
- A new issue of WomenWord focused on mentor stories has been developed in for the Biennial.

Transition Ministries

The goal of Transition Ministries ABCUSA is to partner with regions in resourcing churches during times of transition in a way which enhances their ministry and empowers them to journey into the future as vibrant missional congregations.

Our mission is to provide intentional interim ministers who are adept and experienced in leading churches through transitions. These interim pastors guide the congregation on a journey which involves celebrating their history, clarifying their identity, articulating their mission, and moving into a fruitful future.

As this ministry resource continues to develop from what was formerly Interim Ministries, we have begun to offer training events. In a unique partnership with the Center for Congregational Health, we are able to offer high quality, standard training for intentional interims. As part of this partnership, Rev. Dr. Larry Swain is serving on a volunteer basis as the Transition Ministries Training Coordinator. To date, we have offered Level 1 trainings in ABC Ohio, ABC Indiana/Kentucky in partnership with Greater Indianapolis, ABCOPAD and ABCNYS. Plans are underway for trainings in ABCOTS as well as exploring possibilities for a Level 2 trainings.

In such times unique resources are needed. **Transition Ministries ABCUSA** serves as the hands and feet of Christ, connecting with regions and congregations in ways that move mission and ministry forward.

In both of these ministry resource areas –ABWIM and Transition Ministries—I am thankful for the wisdom, guidance and support of Susan E. Gillies, Interim General Secretary, the ABCUSA Leadership Team, the ABWIM Advisory Team and the Board of General Ministries—without whom none of this could happen. Thank-you! --Patricia P. Hernandez, National Director ABWIM and Transition Ministries

