

Rev. Marsha Scipio Associate General Secretary for Missional Initiatives and Partnerships American Baptist Churches USA



Associate General Secretary for Missional Initiatives and Partnerships Rev. Marsha Scipio, brings a commitment to public service and social justice along with twenty years of non-profit management experience. She is responsible for

developing partnerships with organizations who share similar values to ABC and who can bring resources to our pastors and congregations. Scipio, an attorney, was born in Trinidad & Tobago and raised in Crown Heights, Brooklyn.

Prior to joining American Baptist Churches USA, Scipio was the Executive Director of the Berean Community & Family Life Center, the non-profit organization of the historic Berean Baptist Church in Brooklyn, NY. As the Executive Director, Scipio oversaw the completion of an affordable housing complex and the new Family Life Center, managed diverse health and wellness programs, partnered with other social service entities to facilitate community-wide health fairs, and directed youth development programs.

As the former Site Director of Legal Outreach, a non-profit law-related education program in Brooklyn, Scipio was able to expand the program to its full capacity through keen strategic planning, developing partnerships with members of the legal, educational, and social services community, while effectively managing the program's resources. Prior to working with Legal Outreach, Scipio developed a college and career leadership preparatory program for underserved youth in the South Bronx and East Harlem at the Supportive Children's Advocacy Network. At Georgetown University Law Center, she represented clients in Georgetown's Institute for Public Representation. She also worked at the New York City Administration for Children's Services in their Legal Division and at the United States Department of Justice, Civil Rights Division in the Educational Section.

After seven years at Legal Outreach, Marsha decided to follow the calling on her life to go into Ministry. Her interest in interfaith dialogue and cross-cultural ministry has led her to study preaching and religious dialogue in India, to engage in pastoral ministry and community development in Liberia at the historic Providence Baptist Church, to do missions in South Africa and Haiti, and to journey to Israel and Palestine territories to participate in Christian-Jewish interfaith dialogue. She is an Associate Minister at Berean Baptist Church under the leadership of Rev. Dr. Arlee Griffin, Jr., where she served as the Youth Pastor. Scipio is passionate about teaching and preaching God's Word. She is the Founder and Convener of Women Who Minister – a conference to empower and equip women to serve in ministry in the pulpit and the marketplace. She also serves on the Board of American Baptist Churches of Metropolitan, NY.

Scipio is a graduate of Yale University with a B.A. in Psychology and African American Studies. She earned an M.A. in Psychology from New York University, a Juris Doctor from Georgetown University Law Center, and a Master of Divinity from Princeton Theological Seminary. Scipio enjoys spending time with her family and friends, traveling and eating good food! Quoting her favorite poet, Maya Angelou, she says, "I wouldn't take nothing for my journey now!" Gratefully adding, "God's got this!"