

7001:12/74

**AMERICAN BAPTIST POLICY STATEMENT ON
PRIMACY OF THE LOCAL CHURCH**

As American Baptists we affirm that the mission of Christ is given visible expression in and through the local churches. The American Baptist Churches USA is the creation of local churches of like faith and order. It exists to be a resource to the churches in their implementation of Christ's mission locally and to be a major organizational vehicle through which the churches engage in His mission beyond their communities.

Adopted by the General Board of the American Baptist Churches - December 1974
Modified by the Executive Committee of the General Board - March 1996
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