

The Retired Ministers and Missionaries Offering  
RMMO *connects generations*



remember with LOVE  
give with GRATITUDE

### *2010 Widow's Mite Award*

*This year, for the first time, American Baptist Churches USA selected two churches to receive the Widow's Mite Award. Niantic Baptist Church in Niantic, Connecticut and Crossroads American Baptist Church in Northglenn, Colorado are the two recipients of the 2010 Widow's Mite Award. Both churches were selected for their exemplary giving patterns, taking into consideration the church's size and years of participation in the offering.*

#### **Niantic Baptist Church**

Niantic Baptist Church has demonstrated its caring spirit by helping those in need for more than 100 years—and the congregation embraces RMMO as another opportunity for giving. “It is an amazing recognition that a small church in our financial position can still have a big impact in ministry,” notes Rev. Jill Harvey, Niantic’s pastor.

The sight of Rev. Harvey at the pulpit with a glass vase full of M&M’s® is something the congregation looks forward to every first Sunday of December when she launches RMMO month. She urges the congregation to contribute generously towards the RMMO to meet a monetary goal by the Sunday before Christmas. As an incentive, she promises to share the M&M’s® with the congregation during worship if they meet the goal...but she also threatens to eat them all if the goal is not met in time. “Many retired clergy live off little money, so that extra check means a lot to them. We work hard together to continue the good work—and have a little fun with the candy to boot,” noted Rev. Harvey.

Looking ahead, Rev. Harvey says, “Instead of figuring out how to become a big church, we are figuring out how to be the best small church by reaching out to others—and giving.”

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*Jesus said, “Truly I tell you, this poor widow has put in more than all of them; for all of them have contributed out of their abundance, but she out of her poverty has put in all she had to live on.” - Luke 21.3-4*

## *RMMO Connects Generations*

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For the LORD is good; his steadfast love endures forever, and his faithfulness to all generations. — *Psalm 100:5*

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#### **Crossroads American Baptist Church**

Crossroads American Baptist Church celebrated its 50th anniversary in June. "Our culture is serving others, with no expectation," notes Rev. Dr. Kim Skattum, Crossroads' senior pastor. "We serve and love them first, then share about Christ."

Crossroads promotes RMMO in November and collects the offering over Thanksgiving weekend or during the Thanksgiving service. They promote RMMO through letters from retired ministers within the congregation expressing thanks for the offering. Rev. Dr. Skattum reads them during the service and posts them on the church website. "We let people know what RMMO means. Simply put, people give because there is a need," noted Rev. Dr. Skattum.

For Rev. Dr. Skattum, the RMMO is also personal: he attributes the completion of his doctorate degree to a retired minister in his church who encouraged him. "To give this tangible offering is an honor!" he exclaimed.

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The Ministers and Missionaries Benefit Board (MMBB) promotes and administers the RMMO and distributes Thank You checks on behalf of American Baptist Churches USA.