

President's Report  
March 2018

This is my very first report as your president of the American Baptists Churches - Board of General Ministries. It is a privilege, as well as a big responsibility. I want to dedicate my first words to the ones who certainly make this journey easier. I want to thank Judy, Dean, Paul, Dennis, Zina and Lee. Also, a word of gratitude to Kathy Jachowski for all the things she does for this family.

Over the past two and a half months, I was able to participate in a very important meeting at Valley Forge, with our partners of ABHMS. The building issue took the head lines of our work over the past weeks. Following those meetings, two letters, two special meetings were conducted to deal with our future on the matters of our new offices.

In the last weekend of January, I was with Lee in my own region, Puerto Rico, working alongside our partners ABHMS in the initiative call: Rebuilding, Restoring, Renewing Puerto Rico. This is a relief effort to work with our churches in Puerto Rico that were severely damaged by the path of Hurricanes Irma and Maria, last September 2017. Lee's performance was really great, and the idea of connecting churches in the main land with Puerto Rico will be an open window facing the biennial meeting of 2021 in San Juan, P.R.

I was also calling from ABHMS to participate in all the of the work that takes place in Puerto Rico, not as part of our region, but on behalf of ABC-USA Board of General Ministries. That includes the search process for a Liaison person for the next five years that work in connection with ABHMS, Puerto Rico and OGS.

As part of the BMSPT (Biennial Mission Summit Planning Team), we are working hard to present in a kindly different venue a unique time of gathering, mission centered and working scenario that continues bringing strength and unity to this family.

Thank you all for your prayers, texts, emails and good thoughts.

In Jesus Christ,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Josué D. Gómez-Menéndez', with a stylized flourish at the end.

Josué D. Gómez-Menéndez  
President