

Hopes and Dreams

List compiled at BGM June 2017 Meeting

- Greater geographical diversity through new churches.
- Greater sense of how each church and partner matter to the whole.
- A clear understanding of who we are as American Baptists.
- That we not be afraid/fear controllers
- Missional/share our resources
- Able to celebrate our differences
- That we see ABC as a gift to the world to be revolutionaries.
- To be proud to be an American Baptist
- Emphasis on evangelism
- Excitement about ABC-USA at local church level.
- Revitalization of local churches.
- Church voice is an important one for peace.
- Return to intentional discipleship.
- Renewed commitment to the hope of the whole Gospel.
- Work for peace – continued conversation education
- Build connections with Muslims in our communities.
- Called to renewal
- Live into the gift of diversity
- Better way of organizing mission trips - better connections
- Better understanding of What United Mission is.
- Local churches commitment to organizations- local, regional, national.
- Sustained effort toward conversations first among ourselves – Who we are and how we are changing.
- Ecumenical/Interfaith communications
- Millions of lives transformed.
- Small churches valued
- Bringing Christ to youth
- Sharing the ministries in the community that make us a beloved community.
- ABC relates better to local churches and to children in a more effective ministry.
- ABC to have board meetings on cruise ship.
- To have more ideas/thoughts for churches to use for community programs for growth.
- ABC to be a prophetic voice to our society.
- ABC to be an inclusive witness in our country.
- ABC may be a place where all God's gifts in all God's people may be fully accessed, embraced, and utilized for all God's good.
- Care for local churches.
- Become the diversity that we say we are.
- For us to wake up spiritually
- New growth in our churches.

- Part of a multi-religious conversation (talk to others who are not ABCUSA)
- Spiritual Growth
- More involvement in the local church with their understanding of ABCUSA.
- More resources for churches.
- More young adults in church
- That our regional ministers feel appreciated and empowered.
- BGM and Staff appreciate each other and demonstrate that love towards each other.
- Greater geographical diversity through new churches.
- A greater sense of how each church and partner matter to the whole.
- A clear understanding of who we are as American Baptists.
- To be non-conforming
- Overcome our financial issues (denominationally)
- Better job communicating our identity
- Continue to make progress on overcoming trust issues and healing our denomination.
- More conversation on our commonalities vs. differences
- Exercise creativity
- More purposeful church and pastor networking
- Continue being prophetic while being pastoral.
- Engaging more professional laity.
- Healthy congregations
- Overcome Bible illiteracy with the new generation.