

Retired
Ministers+
Missionaries
Offering
2014

building a culture of community and inspiration

“We remember before our God and Father your work produced by faith, your labor prompted by love, and your endurance inspired by hope in our Lord Jesus Christ.”

— 1 Thessalonians 1:3

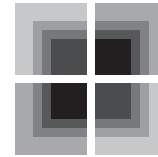
In this passage, Paul expresses his affection for the new converts in Thessalonica. He is encouraged by their faith and strong sense of community. He urges them to show appreciation for those who provide leadership for their faith journey. The recognition that we are touched and inspired by a minister or leader as we grow deeper in our faith and then become an inspiration to another is woven into the fabric of our Christian identity from our earliest traditions.

The roots of RMMO go back to the mid-1930s, when American Baptist congregations received a Communion Fellowship Offering on the first Sunday of each month to support retired ministers, missionaries, and their widowed spouses within their churches. In 1977 American Baptist Churches USA launched the Retired Ministers and Missionaries Offering (RMMO) to continue this appreciation of God’s service.

Your church’s offering makes it possible to provide emergency assistance in times of crisis and to send a “Thank You” check to those who are eligible. Through your generous giving in 2013 we provided \$1,141,295 in assistance and “Thank You” checks to over 3,350 people. Our goal for 2014 is \$1.2 million.

We will receive RMMO on _____.

Please help us reach our goal of _____ this year. R949



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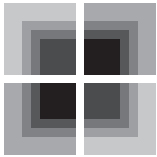
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the importance of RMMMO

Following God's call does not come without certain sacrifices. Retired ministers, missionaries and their widowed spouses often have limited options for adequately planning for the future. Medical problems, moves or the death of a spouse can also cause these leaders to find themselves far from the church family that once supported them.

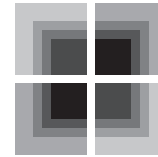
RMMMO provides financial support for the retired ministers, missionaries and widowed spouses who have helped build our churches. The assistance provided by RMMMO restores that lifeline and ongoing connection to the ABC family. Like anyone else, retired ministers and missionaries experience anxiety and worry when unforeseen expenses arise. RMMMO exists to alleviate the stress and hardship of unexpected expenses.

RMMMO recipients have used their funds to:

- Pay for medical expenses not typically covered by Medicare; expenses that include hearing aids, dental services and vision care
- Pay for emergency medical procedures for themselves and their families
- Purchase prescription medication not covered under health insurance
- Make emergency home repairs

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RMMO

In 2013, thanks to your generosity, contributions to RMMO totaled more than \$1.1 million. RMMO recipients often tell us about the difference your gift makes in their lives. Sometimes your gift is the answer to an urgent prayer. Other times it is a heartwarming reminder that the American Baptist Churches still love and support those who gave so much to the church. But every time they receive emergency assistance or a Thank You check, the retired ministers, missionaries and widowed spouses pause to say...

... Providing in my time of need

“At our age, there seem to be more and more dental and medical emergencies. These unexpected expenses can really put a drain on our resources. Thank you for your generous support. It is encouraging to know that we have a place to turn when these unexpected financial situations arise.”

— Retired Minister in Vermont

... Helping me to carry on

“In every way I am benefited. I wouldn’t be able to carry on without it.”

— Retired Minister in California

... Getting me back on the road

“My husband and I appreciate so very much the help you gave us. We were able to pay our car insurance, so now I am free to drive. I don’t know how many of us need your help, but I am sure we are not the only ones to feel so grateful.”

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