

**Report of Special Director to ABHMS
Jim Wolfe**

The Board of Directors of the American Baptist Home Mission Societies met November 13-15 in King of Prussia, PA.

President Dr. Clifford Johnson spoke of a recent ABHMS aligned action network meeting he attended in Philadelphia, noting that “everyone in the room was fired up, including myself” about the new mission strategy. “My work as president of this board continues to be very exciting,” he said. “The work of ABHMS is really on the cutting edge.”

Affirming the changing face of mission in his report, ABHMS Executive Director Dr. Jeffrey Haggray said, “God’s unfolding call is not limited to what we have known or previously done. As we look to the future, we follow God’s leading and renewed vision for our mission in America—perhaps one of the most challenging mission fields in the world.”

A report was received from the ABCUSA World Relief Committee noting the mission impact of organizations that received One Great Hour of Sharing grants awarded by ABHMS on behalf of the committee.

- **Cameron Community Ministries, Rochester, N.Y. (\$10,000 grant), served a variety of healthy, fresh food to more than 2,000 individuals in 2016.**
- **Bethel Neighborhood Center, Kansas City, Kan. (multi-year \$65,000 grant), has served more than 4,500 clients through healthy lifestyle programs, food assistance, English as a Second Language/citizenship classes and more.**
- **Lower 9 Resilient, New Orleans, La. (\$15,000 grant), is rebuilding a Lower Ninth Ward neighborhood with grant-supported ministries that included 19 construction projects and 24 community service projects in 2017.**

New board members: the Rev. Dr. Leon Runner, Lowville, N.Y.; the Rev. Karen Yee, Hayward, Calif.; the Rev. Dr. Conley Hughes Jr., Haverhill, Mass.; and the Rev. Jamie Washam, Lincoln, R.I.

At the closing dinner, Johnson and Haggray recognized retiring board members: Vice President Lois Chiles; the Rev. David Gregg; Antonio Lombardi; the Rev. Miriam Mendez; the Rev. Lauren Ng; Brazilian Thurman; and the Rev. Dr. James Wolfe III, a representative from the American Baptist Churches USA Board of General Ministries.