

Report from Special Director to American Baptist Home Mission Societies
May 21, 2021

I attended the virtual meeting of the American Baptist Home Mission Societies Board on November 16, 2020. The main point of which BGM should be aware is that the Rev. Karen Yee has been appointed as the American Baptist Home Mission Societies representative to the ABCUSA Finance Committee, a position which had previously been vacant.

ABHMS has remained active in its ministries through the pandemic, offering a National Emergency Roundtable, virtual clergy retreat, and a One Great Hour of Sharing offering focused specifically on COVID relief. In a time of social and political unrest, ABHMS offered “Souls to the Polls” resources to encourage and facilitate voting, as well as resources on Faith and Activism and Justice Dialogues.

In November, the Board also approved two resolutions regarding its relationship with Bacone College. The resolutions support the transfer ABHMS’ reversionary interest in Bacon College campus property to the Muskogee Creek Nation. This will enable Bacone College to move forward in its efforts to be a Tribal College.

ABHMS finances remained robust through the pandemic. While income decreased as anticipated, expenses did, as well. At the same time, ABHMS looks to increase paid subscriptions to MinistreLife, which will be imperative in order to support this important ministry moving forward.

It remains a privilege to liaise between these two Boards, both filled with talented and dedicated servants working to collaborate in gospel ministry. I hope that in my capacity I will be able to continue to assist in facilitating strong communication and collegiality between these two Boards.