

Response to Theologians Commission Report March 7, 2022

Thank you for your report of the Theologians Commission

We appreciate seeing the previous accomplishments of your commission as well as your future suggestions. We also look forward to seeing your response to the purpose and responsibilities document that has been distributed to each ABC task force and commission.

In response to your request for support from ABCUSA, we are offering the following:

One: Database of ABC Theologians and grad students in theological fields:

We would be happy to distribute a survey/response form through ABC regions, seminaries, and other appropriate channels asking persons to self-identify as an ABC Theologian as well as maintain a contact list of these persons if the Theologians Commission would be willing to design the survey based upon the questions that you believe should be included in the survey. Future potential integration of this list into existing databases will need further discussion. How this list will be used/shared probably needs to be decided prior to finalizing the survey so that individuals are informed prior to voluntarily submitting their information.

Two: Theologians Conference:

If you would like to hold a Theologians Conference in conjunction with the ABCUSA Biennial, we would be happy to supply space (as a part of the reserved Biennial space), register persons as part of the Biennial, and fund \$1,000 for a speaker honorarium and an additional \$1,000 for a graduate student fellowship. Unfortunately, we do not fund program planning or programming itself for ABC commissions and our expectation would be that the registration fee would cover these costs.

Three: Synergy between the Theologians Commission and BGM:

We would welcome theological reflections by persons associated with the Theologians Commission to be presented at future BGM meetings, Everyday ABC Conversations, and perhaps dialogues with ABC Executive Ministers and pastors on your suggested topics, including, but not limited to: creation care, missiology, anti-racism, and the practice of the ordinances of baptism and communion in a socially-distanced pandemic-friendly manner.