



**BOARD OF GENERAL MINISTRIES**  
**JUNE 20-22, 2023**  
**AGENDA**

**Meeting Site:** Sheraton Puerto Rico Hotel  
 200 Convention Boulevard  
 San Juan, Puerto Rico, 00907  
 Phone: 787-993-3500

**Officers:** Jim Wolfe, President  
 Michelle Nickens, Vice President  
 Paul Higgins, Budget Review Officer  
 Jeff Woods, General Secretary

**Parliamentarian:** Bill Frederickson

**BGM Chaplain:** Cedric Jones

*Please remember to sign the BGM attendance sheet.*

**Tuesday, June 20, 2:00 p.m. – 4:45 p.m.: BGM Plenary; Bahia 2**

*For all who arrive in time, a buffet breakfast will be served in the San Geronimo Room from 7:00 a.m. – 8:30 a.m. and lunch from 12:00 p.m. – 1:30 p.m. in the San Geronimo Room. Breakfast vouchers are not needed.*

1. Welcome and Call to Order Jim Wolfe, Presiding, ABC President
2. Opening Worship/Lighting of the Christ Candle Cedric Jones, BGM Chaplain
- Sharing the ABCUSA Focus Statement Unison  
*American Baptist Churches are missional congregations that nurture devoted disciples of Jesus Christ who live their lives in mission and ministry for the healing of the world through the love of God.*
3. Becoming a Beloved Community Segment
4. General Consent Agenda Items Jim Wolfe

**Written Reports Posted Prior to the Meeting**

- A. Reports from ABCUSA & AMOs
- B. Special Directors to Other Boards
- C. Professional Ministries Team – Jeff Woods
- D. Burma Refugee Commission – Florence Li

**Proposed Action:** To approve by general consent the Minutes of the Board of General Ministries Meeting dated November 4-6, 2022 and to receive the designated reports identified on the agenda.

5. Report from the ABCUSA General Secretary Jeff Woods

6. Report from the ABCUSA Nominating Committee Jim Wolfe

Election of At-Large Director of the Board of General Ministries

*The Board of General Ministries is composed of At-Large Directors and Ex-Officio Directors. There are 33 At-large Directors, one from each ABCUSA Region, elected by the Biennial Delegates. Any vacancy for an At-Large Director may be filled by a majority vote of the Board of General Ministries on nomination of the ABCUSA Nominating Committee.*

**Proposed Action:** To elect Douglas Hill for the vacancy in American Baptist Churches of Pennsylvania and Delaware, as an At-Large Director (class of 2024) as nominated to the Board of General Ministries completing the term of Christopher Hamilton.

7. Report from the ABCUSA President Jim Wolfe

8. 2023 Biennial Mission Summit Tina Kiernan  
*Tina Kiernan, the 2023 Biennial Mission Summit Coordinator will join the board meeting at 4:30 PM on Tuesday, June 20.*

9. 2023 ENGAGE! Jeff Woods

10. Report of the Budget Review Officer Paul Higgins  
a. Year to Date Financials through April 2023  
b. 2022 Audit

**Proposed Action:** To accept as recommended by the BGM Finance Committee, the Auditor's Report on the 2023 ABCUSA Audited Financial Statements for the years ended December 31, 2022 and 2021.

11. Report of Actions of the Executive Committee Michelle Nickens

12. Report of the Credentials and Caucus Committee Michelle Nickens, Chair of the CCC  
Report of Changed Relationships

**Proposed Action:** To receive as recommended by the BGM Executive Committee, the Report of Changed Relationships of Local Churches (document 1205:1:6/23).

13. Mission Resource Development Presentation Robin Stoops

14. General Secretary Search Committee Update Jim Wolfe

15. American Baptist Women's Ministries Jim Wolfe

16. World Relief Committee Janice Fletcher

17. Standing Rules Committee Janice Fletcher

18. Additional Agenda Items  
*(Agenda Items not addressed at the end of the Plenary Session, will continue to the next day's agenda)*

19. Recess of BGM Plenary

**DINNER, 5:00 p.m. – 6:30 p.m.; San Felipe Room**

**BGM VESPERS, 6:30 p.m. – 7:15 p.m.; Bahia 2**

**Wednesday, June 21, 9:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.; BGM Plenary; Bahia 2**

*A BGM buffet breakfast will be served from 7:00 a.m.-8:30 a.m. in the San Felipe and San Cristobal Room. We are pleased to be joined by the Board of International Ministries for breakfast. The BGM Finance Committee will meet for breakfast from 7:00 a.m.-8:30 a.m. in the Luna Boardroom. The CCUIR will meet for breakfast from 7:00 a.m.-8:30 a.m. in Sol Boardroom.*

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| 20. Reconvening/Announcements  | Jim Wolfe, Presiding  |
| 21. Lighting of the Christ Candle/Prayer   | Chaplain Cedric Jones |
| 22. Becoming a Beloved Community Segment   |                       |
| 23. Continuing and additional agenda items<br>(Agenda Items not addressed at the end of the Plenary Session, will continue to the next day's agenda) |                       |

**LUNCH, 12:00 p.m. – 1:30 p.m.; San Felipe Room**

24. Recess of BGM Plenary
25. New Board Directors Orientation: *An orientation for new BGM directors (Note: All BGM Directors are welcome to attend.) (Bahia 2, 2:00 p.m. – 3:00 p.m.)*
26. Convening of BGM in Action Groups (3:00 p.m. – 6:00 p.m.)

BGM Finance Committee	<b>San Geronimo</b>
Christian Unity & Interfaith Relations	<b>Bahia 2</b>
Becoming a Beloved Community	<b>Laguna 1</b>
Communicating ABC Identity	<b>Bahia 1</b>

**ALL BOARD DINNER GATHERING, 6:30 p.m. – 8:30 p.m.; San Felipe and San Cristobal**

**Thursday, June 22, 9:00 a.m. – 11:30 p.m.; BGM Plenary; Bahia 2**

*A BGM buffet breakfast will be served from 7:00 a.m.-8:30 a.m. in the San Felipe and San Cristobal. We are pleased to be joined by the Board of International Ministries for breakfast.*

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| 27. Reconvening/Announcements            | Jim Wolfe, Presiding  |
| 28. Lighting of the Christ Candle/Prayer | Chaplain Cedric Jones |
| 29. Presentation by Katie Choy Wong      |                       |

30. Becoming a Beloved Community Segment

31. Regions Ministry Update

Soozi Whitten Ford

32. Continuing and additional agenda items

33. Action Group Reports/Proposals

BGM Finance Committee

Christian Unity & Interfaith Relations

Becoming a Beloved Community

Communicating ABC Identity

Paul Higgins

Raimundo Barreto

Emmett Dunn

Bonnie Higgins

34. Closing Worship and Holy Communion

Chaplain Cedric Jones

35. Prayer and Adjournment

President Jim Wolfe

**LUNCH, 11:30 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.; San Felipe**