

PRESIDENT'S REPORT/SEARCH COMMITTEE

The June Board of General Ministries meeting was held prior to the Biennial Mission Summit in San Juan, Puerto Rico. During the meetings the Beloved Community Action Group led us in small group activities designed to enhance interpersonal relationships and encourage us to grow into the beloved community.

The Rev. Kathryn Choy-Wong led board members in a workshop based on her book, Building Lasting Bridges, An Updated Handbook for Intercultural Ministries. Members of the board were given a copy of the book. The Rev. Choy-Wong was honored at the Biennial Mission Summit by receiving the Cora and John Sparrowk President's Award.

New board members participated in an orientation session acquainting them with the responsibilities of board membership. The board received reports from officers and the credentials and caucus committee.

We were blessed with incredible worship led by Chaplain Cedric Jones and guitarist Matt Toupin. Worship was enriched by a volunteer choir.

The BGM meetings were immediately followed by the Biennial Mission Summit. The Biennial provided many opportunities for worship, study, and fellowship. We were challenged by powerful preaching, and spirit-inspired worship. The Biennial theme, "For Such a Time as This," guided the preaching and teaching and was reinforced throughout the Biennial activities.

During the Sunday afternoon business meeting officers and board members were elected for the 2024-2025 biennium. Additionally, two by-law amendments were approved.

**President: The Rev. Nikita McCallister
Vice President: Mr. Tom Ross
Budget Review Officer: Mr. Paul Higgins**

On August 22, my wife Janet and I had the privilege of visiting the Office of the General Secretary in King of Prussia. Our visit that day was to personally thank the staff for the outstanding work they accomplished in planning and implementing the Biennial Mission Summit. The staff of OGS is also responsible for the migration of all computer records to Net Suite. These projects are accomplished while maintaining the day-to-day functions of the office.

It is virtually impossible to calculate the number of hours staff have given to these, and many other assignments. Staff often sacrifice family, vacation, and holiday time to assure that the work of the Office of the General Secretary is done and done with excellence.

They deserve our prayers and support. In the words of Jesus' parable, "Well done!"

As president, it is my responsibility to chair the ABCUSA Nominating Committee. When it becomes necessary to call a General Secretary, the nominating committee becomes the search committee. In cooperation with the BGM the search committee has been actively engaged in the very confidential process of building a position description, collecting data, and interviewing candidates for this important role in our denominational life.

We are incredibly grateful to Dr. C. Jeff Woods for agreeing to serve in the role of General Secretary as the committee searches for the person God has prepared to be the next General Secretary of ABCUSA. Dr. Woods has provided inspired leadership, pastoral care, and deep commitment to Christ, the church, and the ABC family. We are very grateful for his committed service.

The search committee has made a conscientious effort to seek God's will in this discernment process. We sense your prayers and we believe that God is working in this process. Please continue your prayers on behalf of the task we have been assigned.

Respectfully submitted,

Jim Wolfe