

Engage 2025 INFORMATION SHEET



Who is Eligible to Attend Engage 2025?

- Seminarians in their second or third year
- Pastors ordained by other denominations, hired by American Baptist churches
- Lay ministers, licensed ministers, chaplains, and specialized ministry persons who have not yet attended the Engage program

Is there Economic Support Provided for Engage 2025 Participants?

Yes! For all Engage participants, the denomination will cover:

- Biennial Mission Summit registration fee.
- Up to four nights of housing, based on shared occupancy of two Engage participants per room. This is the equivalent of the cost of two room nights per person.
 - Another Engage participant may be requested as a roommate, or a roommate will be assigned.
 - Single rooms or shared rooms with persons not attending Engage may be obtained if the participant pays the difference in room cost. (The Engage program pays for a maximum of 2 room nights per person.)
- Meals provided
 - Special group meals for Engage participants will be determined once the Biennial a Mission Summit schedule is finalized. These meals will be automatically included when you register. We expect to gather for 3 meals together on-site.
 - Engage participants will also receive an automatic credit of a preset amount which will be applied when any meals available through the Biennial registration are selected.
 - There will be a predetermined meal allowance provided for each participant outside of the credit provided within registration. This allowance will be a reimbursement after the event provided detailed receipts accompany the expense form. More information about receipt requirements will be distributed onsite along with the expense form.

Seminarians will receive a travel reimbursement of \$200 following the event.

Our expectations of all Engage participants

- Be willing to Engage when we gather together onsite in Omaha, Nebraska.
- You are required to view a series of videos produced by our partner organizations before June 30, 2025.
- You must be able to attend the entire Engage event which begins on Thursday, July 3, 2025 at noon and concludes on Sunday, July 6, 2025 at the conclusion of worship at 8:30 PM.
- You are expected to attend and participate in each scheduled Engage session during the event.
- We expect that you would attend the four worship services held during the biennial as no other programming conflicts with the plenary sessions.
- Complete and submit the evaluation Sunday afternoon.

All of this information and benefits are available to Engage participants for a \$100.00 registration fee as your investment toward all you will receive through Engage 2025. Seminarians and pastors are encouraged to reach out to their Regional Executive Ministers for information on additional resources.

Can I represent my church as a voting Delegate at the Business Session?

Yes, you may also serve as a voting Delegate representing your church at the Biennial Mission Summit. There is an Engage Delegate registration option that recognizes you as your church Delegate. Your local church would need to provide you with their PIN # which is used to verify that you have been selected to serve in this capacity. Speak to your church pastor to learn more.

I have questions. Where can I get more information?

Join us on Zoom, Thursday, November 14, 2024 between 3:00-4:00 PM ET for an informal session where you can ask questions. <https://ministrelife.zoom.us/j/9420076454?omn=95078344871>

You can also contact Engage@abc-usa.org with any questions you may have.

Red sessions-Biennial

Engage schedule shaded in green

	Thursday, July 3	Friday, July 4		Saturday, July 5		Sunday, July 6		
7:00 AM	Theologians Conference, Ministers Council Gathering, REMC Continuing Education	Breakfasts	ABWM Women's Day	Breakfast with Recap Game	Breakfasts	Breakfasts	AMOs Session	
7:30 AM								
8:00 AM				Break		Coffe & Recap Game 8-8:45am		
8:30 AM								
9:00 AM				Partner Session 3	Workshops		Plenary	
9:30 AM								Engage select mental health workshop
10:00 AM						Break		
10:30 AM				Partner Session 4				
11:00 AM				MMBB Luncheon		ABHMS Luncheon	IM Luncheon	
11:30 AM								
12:00 PM	Welcome to the Family Luncheon							
12:30 PM								
1:00 PM		Picnic	Plenary Session - begins with Call to Order	Mission Summit Conversations and Workshops	Workshops	Engage attend ABC Basics		
1:30 PM								
2:00 PM	BREAK							
2:30 PM	Partner Session 1							
3:00 PM	BREAK							
3:30 PM	Partner Session 2							
4:00 PM					AMOs Session	Regroup, Evaluations		
4:30 PM								
5:00 PM	BREAK			Dinners		Dinners		
5:30 PM	Dinner with REMC presentation							
6:00 PM			Meet Up					
6:30 PM								
7:00 PM	Black Caucus Worship	Fireworks downtown		Plenary		Plenary		
7:30 PM								
8:00 PM								
8:30 PM								
9:00 PM								
9:30 PM								
10:00 PM								

ENGAGE 2025 SCHEDULE



THURSDAY, JULY 3, 2025 – 12:00-7:00 PM

12:00-2:00 PM – **Welcome to the Family Luncheon**

- The meal will be conducted as a progressive dinner with 3 courses/phases. For each course/phase, the participants will sit at different tables with different people. Each course/phase will include a different portion of the meal, such as salads, main course, and dessert, and each course/phase will include a guided table talk and presentation of one of our 3 E's. The purposes will be as follows.
- Introduce ENGAGE! Focusing on the 3 E's.
 - **Educate** – Help participants learn who we are as American Baptists. Who are the major players? What do they do? What is their story?
 - **Embrace** – How can our participants join with our partners in what they are doing for the Lord? How can our time, talents, and treasures be most fully and properly ENGAGED in what these great ministries are doing and offering?
 - **Exalt** – Celebrate what God is doing and the privilege of participating together in these various ways.
- Briefly introduce our major partners (They will each speak in depth at specific sessions focusing on them).
- Introduce participants to each other.

2:00-2:30pm – **Break**

2:30-3:30pm – **Partner Session 1** – Each partner session will be broken into three parts.

- Part 1 – Community Conversation – To start each session, we will take 10-15 minutes to get to know 4-5 participant in the group. We will invite them onto the stage and will ask some basic biographical questions. The goal is to help them feel like true participants and partners and not just students.
- Part 2 – Partner Presentation – Each partner will be given 30 minutes to tell their story. This is their chance to educate participants on who they are, what they do, and why it matters. They should also briefly touch on ways participants can ENGAGE with them moving forward. This Partner Presentation will occur at the podium. Participants will be encouraged to write down questions that they think of during the partner presentation.
- Short break to collect questions from participants.
- Part 3 – Participant Engagement – We will transition to a talk show format with up to three representatives from the presenting partner on stage with our talk show host. The Host will ask the questions to the panel submitted by participants during the break.

3:30-4:00 PM – **Break** (time will be adjusted if Session 1 runs long)

4:00-5:00 PM – **Partner Session 2**

5:00-5:30 PM – **Break** (time will be adjusted if Session 2 runs long)

5:30-7:00pm – **Dinner followed by REMC Presentation**

- After the Engage group has dinner, we will be joined by persons who are attending the REMC Continuing Education event for dessert. REMC President Al Fletcher will share how your regional executive minister and your region office are great resources and highlight some of their work and ministries. Mary Hamels will share about the importance of and regions' requirements for clergy and specialized ministers to have region-approved training in clergy boundaries and misconduct.

FRIDAY, JULY 4, 7:00-11:30 AM & 4:00-6:00 PM

7:00-8:00 AM – **Breakfast and Recap Game (think ABC Jeopardy)**

- We will take pieces of information from the preceding day's sessions and input it into the Jeopardy format. The goal will be to recap what we learned with some levity as we open the day. All of the answers will be actual answers the partners have presented and the questions will be questions that have been asked.

8:00-8:30 AM – **Break** (time will be adjusted if Session 1 runs long)

8:30-9:30 AM – **Partner Session 3**

9:30-10:00 AM – **Break** (time will be adjusted if Session 1 runs long)

10:00-11:00 AM – **Partner Session 4**

Intentional break in the program so Engage participants can attend the MMBB Luncheon (11:30 AM-1:30PM), Welcome Session (2:00-2:30 PM), Plenary Session (2:30-4:00 PM) and Family Picnic (4:30-6:00 PM).

6:00-7:00 PM – **Meet Up**

- Engage participants will come together for an opportunity to make plans for the evening.

SATURDAY, JULY 5, 9-11:30 AM & 1:30-5:00 PM

8:00-8:45 AM – **Recap Game (think Family Feud)**

- Similar to Friday's breakfast session, we will take pieces of information from the preceding day's sessions and input it into the Family Feud format. The goal will be to recap what we learned with some levity as we open the day. All of the answers will be actual answers the partners have presented and the questions will be questions that have been asked.

8:45-9:30 AM – **Break** (The room must be emptied before 9:00 AM so this room can be refreshed for the ABC Basics Workshop beginning at 9:30 AM.)

9:30-11:00 AM – **Mental Health workshop**

- All Engage participants will select one of the mental health workshops offered at this time.

Break in the schedule so Engage participants can attend the ABHMS Luncheon and an afternoon workshop or participate in the Mission Summit Conversations.

4:00-5:00 PM – **Presentation of Additional ABC Organizations**

- During this session, our other minor partners, who still do major work, will have an opportunity to share with Engage participants. Two or three of the five organizations invited to this session. Each will be given 12-15 minutes to speak about their ministry and participants' questions will be asked similar to the Partner sessions.

SUNDAY, JULY 6, 2:00-5:00 PM

7:30-8:30 AM – **Presentation of Additional ABC Organizations**

- During this session, our other minor partners, who still do major work, will have an opportunity to share with Engage participants. Two or three of the five organizations invited to this session. Each will be given 12-15 minutes to speak about their ministry and participants' questions will be asked similar to the Partner sessions.

2:00-3:30 PM – **Engage will attend the ABC Basics Workshop**

- Engage participants automatically be registered for the ABC Basics workshop Attendance is required at this session.

4:00-5:00 PM – **Final Recap and Wrap-Up and Completion of Evaluations**

- Final gathering of the group to remind them of how they can connect with ABC organizations and their local region office, answer any questions, and ensure that all Engage participants complete the Event Evaluation. ABCUSA Expense Vouchers will be distributed at this time as well.

*We would love to have a representative from each partner present at each session if possible. If questions arise about a partner we want to be able to ENGAGE the participants with said partner rather than just with us.