RMMO 2026

Promotional Guide

The light shines in the darkness and the darkness has not overcome it.

— John 1:5 (NIV)



RMMO celebrates, thanks, and lifts up our servant leaders. Originating in the mid-1930s as the Communion Fellowship Offering, it became known as the Retired Ministers and Missionaries Offering (RMMO) in 1977. The RMMO funds collected by your church are distributed as Thank You checks. Recipients include retired ordained ministers and commissioned missionaries who have devoted 15 years or more to ABCUSA, as well as surviving spouses. A certain portion of funds is also allocated for direct emergency assistance.

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See **abc-usa.org/rmmo** for PDFs (in English and Spanish) and social media files.

Guide to Your Promotional Materials

Your box of resources includes the following items, with quantities determined by the box code associated with your church.* Materials are also available online as printable PDFs at abc-usa.org/rmmo.

2026 Promotional Guide

This guide will assist you and your RMMO committee in planning for RMMO2026, educating your congregation, and announcing this year's theme: "Be the Light." See Your Planning Worksheet on p. 8 to help organize your team and tasks.

Social Media Content

Please visit **abc-usa.org/rmmo** to download ready-to-post social media content that makes promoting RMMO online easy!

RMMO2026 Poster (available in English and Spanish)

Create a prominent display with the poster. Call attention to the poster each week through announcements during worship, Sunday school, and in newsletters or on social media platforms.

Printed Bulletin Insert (available in English and Spanish)

Use this bulletin insert as an educational resource in worship, in your newsletter, and during fellowship hour, meals, and meetings.

Offering Envelopes

Distribute envelopes generously. Include them in a letter from your pastor to all members and friends, in pews, and in Sunday bulletins. Put envelopes in several places to make it easy for people to give when it is most convenient.

Need more?

To order additional quantities of any printed materials, please send an e-mail to RMMO@mmbb.org.

*Update Your Box Code

Based on information that you provide, your church is assigned a box code for each ABCUSA denominational offering. Box codes are stored in your church record in the NetSuite database at the Office of the General Secretary. This code determines the materials the church will receive for each ABCUSA denominational offering. To find out your box code for RMMO, update the code and/or your church's contact and mailing information, please contact your regional office.













Promotion Checklist

Thank you for planning and conducting RMMO in 2026. Below is a guide to help you begin planning for RMMO Sunday. Start preparing to educate and inspire your congregation, as you unveil this year's theme: "Be the Light." See Your Planning Worksheet on p. 8 to help organize your team and tasks.

Plan

- ☐ Identify RMMO committee members, including youth, and schedule a first meeting.
- ☐ With your leadership team, set a realistic yet challenging offering goal.
- ☐ Encourage your congregation to reflect on John 12:36a, John 1:5 or Psalm 112:4 and how our pastors and missionaries give witness to the light in all of us.
- ☐ Plan to receive the offering on **RMMO Sunday, December 6**, or another date that works for your congregation. Put this date on your church calendar.
- ☐ Familiarize yourself with each of the promotional pieces.



Educate and Inspire

- ☐ Begin receiving gifts:
  - — Place offering envelopes in the pew racks each week.
  - — If possible, set up online giving through your church's website to supplement in-person giving.
- ☐ Include announcements and testimonials in your newsletter.
- ☐ Download the suggested social media posts provided online at **abc-usa.org/rmmo** and post them repeatedly on your church's social media pages.
- ☐ Invite a retired minister to deliver a guest sermon. Extend the message in a children's service or to a youth group.
- ☐ Host a virtual or in-person talk/visit from a retired missionary about their mission experiences. Extend the message in a children's service or to a youth group.
- ☐ **Sunday, November 29 (Testimony Sunday):** Share stories of generosity during Thanksgiving weekend services and announce that RMMO Sunday is one week away.
- ☐ Invite youth to speak about how clergy and missionaries have touched their lives.
- ☐ Display the offering poster in a prominent place. Set up a visual display to track the offering. Update your display each week.
- ☐ Enclose bulletin inserts in weekly bulletins.



Commemorate

RMMO Sunday, December 6:

- ☐ Preach to John 12:36a, John 1:5 or Psalm 112:4.
- ☐ Invite church members or guests to share why RMMO is important to them.
- ☐ Collect the RMMO offering.
- ☐ Plan a post-service celebration to continue to share stories and celebrate guest speakers.

Celebrate

- ☐ Announce progress toward your fundraising goal to the congregation and celebrate their generosity.
- ☐ If you did not meet your goal, celebrate what you have received and announce that you have set aside one or two more Sundays for people to give.
- ☐ Invite members of the congregation to share why they give and how they are celebrating the older adults in their family during the holiday season.
- ☐ **Sunday, December 20:** Offer an additional opportunity for congregants to give to RMMO.
- ☐ Provide a fundraising update and set a final deadline for donations.

Send In Your Gift

Mail

Send a check payable to ABCUSA with the name of your church to:

American Baptist Churches USA/
Mission Resource Development
PO Box 851
Valley Forge, PA 19482-0851

Online

1. Go to **abc-usa.org/give** and click on the "Give Online Now" button at the center of the page.
2. For "Fund," select, "Denomination-wide Giving."
3. For "Sub Fund," select, "Retired Ministers and Missionaries Offering."
4. Provide your church name in the "Comment" box.

Invite Youth to Energize Your Efforts

The voices of our youth are powerful. Their voices and testimonies can provide compelling witness to the influence of caring adults who listen, guide, and mentor.

Plus, they are full of energy! And they know the social media landscape. Let their insights and ideas help you promote RMMO in novel ways.

- ☐ Invite youth to join your RMMO planning committee.
- ☐ Download the suggested social media posts from **abc-usa.org/rmmo** and have youth participate in scheduling and posting online content.
- ☐ Supplement the content provided with personalized messages from youth thanking ministers or missionaries who have made a difference in their lives.
- ☐ Have youth speak during services leading up to RMMO Sunday.
- ☐ Discuss during Sunday School or Bible Study.
- ☐ Encourage youth groups to write letters or draw pictures of thanks to ministers or missionaries and post them alongside the RMMO poster in a prominent location.



Be Savvy With Social Media

Consider these suggested Facebook, LinkedIn, and Instagram posts to help jumpstart your social media promotion.

Facebook

Your gift to RMMO2026 goes toward Thank You checks and direct emergency assistance to ABCUSA clergy and missionaries who have served. Give generously for those who have been the light in your life during times of darkness. Give at church or online at abc-usa.org/give.

The pastors, missionaries and leaders who have served ABCUSA churches and ministries have bestowed on us numerous blessings through their service. Through giving to RMMO2026, together, we remember each of them in the form of a Thank You check and/or direct emergency assistance. RMMO2026: Be the Light. Give at church or online at abc-usa.org/give.

Instagram

Give generously for those who have been the light in your life during times of darkness. RMMO2026: Be the Light. Give at church or online at abc-usa.org/give.

Celebrate, thank, and lift up our servant leaders. RMMO2026: Be the Light. Give at church or online at abc-usa.org/give.

Suggested Hashtags

#RMMO
#RMMOgiving
#RMMO2026
#RMMOBetheLight
#abc-usa.org/rmmo

Instructions for Giving Online

1. Go to **abc-usa.org/give** and click on the "Give Online Now" button at the center of the page.
2. For "Fund," select, "Denomination-wide Giving."
3. For "Sub Fund," select, "Retired Ministers and Missionaries Offering."
4. Provide your church name in the "Comment" box.



Your Planning Worksheet

With suggested milestones.

PLAN

Identify committee members _____

_____

_____

_____

Planning meeting _____

_____

EDUCATE and INSPIRE

Hold a Testimony Sunday. Share stories of how the RMMO has made a difference in retired pastors' lives _____

_____

COMMEMORATE

December 6, RMMO Sunday _____

Hold additional collections _____

Announce progress and give thanks _____

_____

CELEBRATE

Mail your gift _____

Tasks

- ☐ Download resources at **abc-usa.org/rmmo**
- ☐ Set fundraising goal
- ☐ Place envelopes in pews
- ☐ Set up online giving
- ☐ Schedule guests to give testimony
- ☐ Encourage reflection on John 12:36a, John 1:5 and Psalm 112:4
- ☐ Post on social media
- ☐ Schedule announcements
- ☐ Use bulletin inserts
- ☐ Display poster
- ☐ Engage youth
- ☐ Involve children/ Sunday School
- ☐ Plan sermon for RMMO Sunday
- ☐ Provide fundraising updates
- ☐ Host celebration

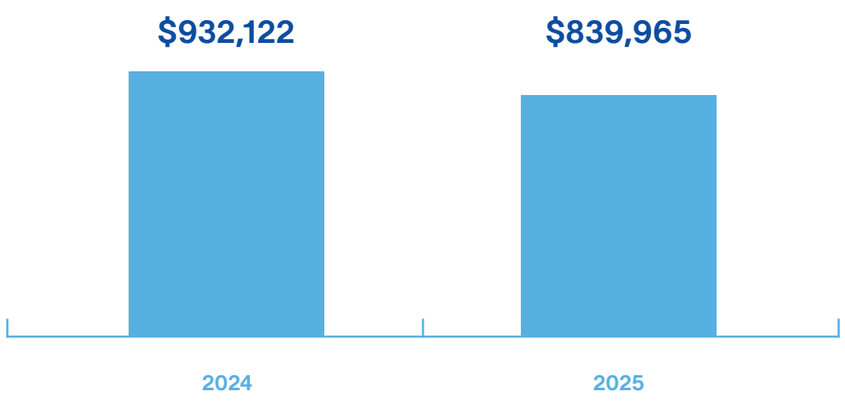
2025 RMMO Financial Report

How your gifts thanked our retired clergy and missionaries.

The 2025 offering receipts totaled $839,965, a decrease of 9.8% when compared with the 2024 receipts of $932,122.

Of this amount, $319,186 was made available to meet immediate emergency and special financial needs. The balance of the receipts was distributed by MMBB on behalf of American Baptists in the form of Thank You checks; 3,306 checks were distributed in 2025 ranging from $50 to $240. The average check was $152. Since 1980, eligible retired ABC lay employees have received comparable Thank You checks from MMBB's legacy funds. In 2025, a total of $102,079 was distributed to 866 recipients for this purpose.

Offering Receipts Total



Please note: MMBB receives an administrative fee to partially offset the cost of administering the offering.

ABCUSA
PO Box 851
Valley Forge, PA 19482

MMBB Financial Services
475 Riverside Drive, Suite 1500
New York, NY 10115-0032