

Retired
Ministers &
Missionaries
Offering
2019

Honoring the Service of God's Servants



"Now we ask you, brothers and sisters, to acknowledge those who work hard among you, who care for you in the Lord and who admonish you. Hold them in the highest regard in love because of their work."

— 1 Thessalonians 5:12-13 (NIV)

In this scripture, Paul pleads with members of the church to value and acknowledge leaders of the church as messengers of Christ. Respect of church leadership is essential for the health of individual believers and the entire congregation.

Beginning in the mid-1930s, American Baptist congregations received a Communion Fellowship Offering on the first Sunday of each month providing financial assistance to the denomination's elderly ministers, missionaries and their widowed spouses. In 1977, American Baptist Churches USA officially launched the Retired Ministers and Missionaries Offering (RMMO) to continue this tradition.

We will receive RMMO on _____.

Please help us reach this year's goal of _____.

R969

Retired
Ministers &
Missionaries
Offering
2019

Honoring the Service of God's Servants



"Now we ask you, brothers and sisters, to acknowledge those who work hard among you, who care for you in the Lord and who admonish you. Hold them in the highest regard in love because of their work."

— 1 Thessalonians 5:12-13 (NIV)

In this scripture, Paul pleads with members of the church to value and acknowledge leaders of the church as messengers of Christ. Respect of church leadership is essential for the health of individual believers and the entire congregation.

Beginning in the mid-1930s, American Baptist congregations received a Communion Fellowship Offering on the first Sunday of each month providing financial assistance to the denomination's elderly ministers, missionaries and their widowed spouses. In 1977, American Baptist Churches USA officially launched the Retired Ministers and Missionaries Offering (RMMO) to continue this tradition.

We will receive RMMO on _____.

Please help us reach this year's goal of _____.

R969

Honoring the Service of God's Servants



Lift up your stories of retired pastoral leaders, missionaries and their widowed spouses who have been a source of God's abundant generosity and care. Sharing your thoughts below is a way to honor those who serve.

Honoring the Service of God's Servants



Lift up your stories of retired pastoral leaders, missionaries and their widowed spouses who have been a source of God's abundant generosity and care. Sharing your thoughts below is a way to honor those who serve.

Why is RMMO Important?



RMMO provides financial support to retired ministers, missionaries and their widowed spouses who have helped build and sustain our churches. Thank You checks, as well as emergency financial assistance, are made possible by the contributions of American Baptist congregations. The financial assistance restores that lifeline and ongoing connection to the ABC family.

Rooted in thankfulness, RMMO acknowledges the individual acts of support and faith that recipients have shown to their congregations and communities.

We will receive RMMO on _____.

Please help us reach this year's goal of _____.

Why is RMMO Important?



RMMO provides financial support to retired ministers, missionaries and their widowed spouses who have helped build and sustain our churches. Thank You checks, as well as emergency financial assistance, are made possible by the contributions of American Baptist congregations. The financial assistance restores that lifeline and ongoing connection to the ABC family.

Rooted in thankfulness, RMMO acknowledges the individual acts of support and faith that recipients have shown to their congregations and communities.

We will receive RMMO on _____.

Please help us reach this year's goal of _____.

Why is RMMO Important?

Every contribution makes a difference. These heartfelt expressions of appreciation for the offering reiterate the importance of sustaining the mission.

“The MMBB Thank You check is gratefully received as I face increased medical expenses and yearly housing costs. I cherish the memory of more than forty years pastoral service and warm fellowship in our churches and regional work. I am 92 years old and continue to teach a weekly Bible class of 31 senior citizens.”

— Retired Pastor from Harrisburg, PA

“My main income comes from you and I was very grateful for the gift and do thank you. This area was having a huge storm when the gift came, and it was a blessing on a dark day of heavy snow with good days ahead.”

— Retired Widow from Altoona, PA

“In our retirement we are grateful for your financial expertise. We are always thankful for the RMMO check each year. It is always a blessing to know our ABC family loves us and appreciates the many years we served our Lord.”

— Retired Couple from Wichita, KS



Recipients of Thank You checks express gratitude not only for the gift but for less tangible benefits, such as evidence of God’s providential care, encouragement, hope and assurance that they have not been forgotten by their ABC family.

Why is RMMO Important?

Every contribution makes a difference. These heartfelt expressions of appreciation for the offering reiterate the importance of sustaining the mission.

“The MMBB Thank You check is gratefully received as I face increased medical expenses and yearly housing costs. I cherish the memory of more than forty years pastoral service and warm fellowship in our churches and regional work. I am 92 years old and continue to teach a weekly Bible class of 31 senior citizens.”

— Retired Pastor from Harrisburg, PA

“My main income comes from you and I was very grateful for the gift and do thank you. This area was having a huge storm when the gift came, and it was a blessing on a dark day of heavy snow with good days ahead.”

— Retired Widow from Altoona, PA

“In our retirement we are grateful for your financial expertise. We are always thankful for the RMMO check each year. It is always a blessing to know our ABC family loves us and appreciates the many years we served our Lord.”

— Retired Couple from Wichita, KS



Recipients of Thank You checks express gratitude not only for the gift but for less tangible benefits, such as evidence of God’s providential care, encouragement, hope and assurance that they have not been forgotten by their ABC family.

Lifting Up the Legacy



The offering honors the anonymous gift in 1981 of a Vietnamese woman who was worshipping with the First Chinese Baptist Church of Fresno, CA. Having no prior knowledge of the meaning of the offering but connecting with the words of gratefulness suggested on the offering envelope, she slipped off her wristwatch, her only possession of value, and placed it in the envelope. This act of gratitude reflects the spirit of thankfulness and generosity Jesus talks about in Luke 21: 1-4. This sacrifice inspires us all to remember those who faithfully labor in the Lord at churches and faith-based organizations.

It's the sacrifice and generosity of congregations like yours that make it possible to provide emergency assistance in times of crisis and to send a Thank You check to those who are eligible.

In 2018, your generosity provided \$1,024,706 in financial and emergency assistance and Thank You checks to over 3,497 RMMO recipients. Our goal for 2019 is \$1.2 million in contributions.

We will receive RMMO on _____.

Please help us reach this year's goal of _____.

R971

Lifting Up the Legacy



The offering honors the anonymous gift in 1981 of a Vietnamese woman who was worshipping with the First Chinese Baptist Church of Fresno, CA. Having no prior knowledge of the meaning of the offering but connecting with the words of gratefulness suggested on the offering envelope, she slipped off her wristwatch, her only possession of value, and placed it in the envelope. This act of gratitude reflects the spirit of thankfulness and generosity Jesus talks about in Luke 21: 1-4. This sacrifice inspires us all to remember those who faithfully labor in the Lord at churches and faith-based organizations.

It's the sacrifice and generosity of congregations like yours that make it possible to provide emergency assistance in times of crisis and to send a Thank You check to those who are eligible.

In 2018, your generosity provided \$1,024,706 in financial and emergency assistance and Thank You checks to over 3,497 RMMO recipients. Our goal for 2019 is \$1.2 million in contributions.

We will receive RMMO on _____.

Please help us reach this year's goal of _____.

R971

Lifting Up the Legacy

Continuing the annual tradition of the RMMO legacy can make retirement a little easier for those servants of God who in so many ways share God's love. Hear from a retired pastor who has generational ties to the ABC family and advocates for remembering RMMO.

"At this year's annual Baseball Hall of Fame induction ceremony in Cooperstown, New York, Mariano Rivera was honored for his extraordinary achievement as the best relief pitcher in history. He was the first player to be unanimously elected to The Hall of Fame. A committed and generous follower of Christ, Mariano humbly and publicly gave thanks to God.

Now it's time for our annual RMMO to honor and give thanks for God's servants who have served us. It is a team effort among our churches, pastors and missionaries. The RMMO is an exercise in gratitude and generosity. Our family has been blessed with three generations of pastors who have served God and seen the good works of faithful and generous Christians and church members for many, many decades. As my father used to say, 'Let us make this the best year ever.'"

-Vic & Doug Scalise

Lifting Up the Legacy

Continuing the annual tradition of the RMMO legacy can make retirement a little easier for those servants of God who in so many ways share God's love. Hear from a retired pastor who has generational ties to the ABC family and advocates for remembering RMMO.

"At this year's annual Baseball Hall of Fame induction ceremony in Cooperstown, New York, Mariano Rivera was honored for his extraordinary achievement as the best relief pitcher in history. He was the first player to be unanimously elected to The Hall of Fame. A committed and generous follower of Christ, Mariano humbly and publicly gave thanks to God.

Now it's time for our annual RMMO to honor and give thanks for God's servants who have served us. It is a team effort among our churches, pastors and missionaries. The RMMO is an exercise in gratitude and generosity. Our family has been blessed with three generations of pastors who have served God and seen the good works of faithful and generous Christians and church members for many, many decades. As my father used to say, 'Let us make this the best year ever.'"

-Vic & Doug Scalise



Victor F. Scalise

Rowayton, CT, First Baptist Church, Greenfield, MA and The Calvary Baptist Church of Lowell, MA 1938- 1973 (Deceased). Total years of service: 50.

Rev. Dr. Victor F. Scalise, Jr.

(pictured, left)
The Baptist Church in Brookline, United Parish 1960- 1977 and 17 interim ministries. Total years of service: 50.

Rev. Douglas Scalise

(pictured right)
Prospect Hill Baptist, PA 1989-1995 and Brewster Baptist Church 1995- 2019, Total years of service: 30.



Victor F. Scalise

Rowayton, CT, First Baptist Church, Greenfield, MA and The Calvary Baptist Church of Lowell, MA 1938- 1973 (Deceased). Total years of service: 50.

Rev. Dr. Victor F. Scalise, Jr.

(pictured, left)
The Baptist Church in Brookline, United Parish 1960- 1977 and 17 interim ministries. Total years of service: 50.

Rev. Douglas Scalise

(pictured right)
Prospect Hill Baptist, PA 1989-1995 and Brewster Baptist Church 1995- 2019, Total years of service: 30.