AMERICAN BAPTIST CHURCHES USA ANNUAL SUMMARY 2021



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A M essage from Karen Podsiadly

President, American Baptist Churches USA (2020-2021)



T wenty Twenty-One was a good year! As I reflect on 2021 and my last year of a COVID-19 presidency, I have an incredible amount of gratitude for every person and experience that made my term memorable. While the last two years

were unprecedented in many ways, most marked was me presiding over my first and last in-person Board of General Ministries meeting. The meeting was held in King of Prussia and in many ways allowed members of the Board to release a collective sigh, connect with persons we may have only met via Zoom, and carry out the ministry of ABCUSA in a more connected manner. To be in the same room, sneak a hug and witness the real time mannerisms and inflections in one another's voices was magical.

Much like the meeting, 2021 was a year filled with great connections and accomplishments, whether via Cvent, Zoom, MS Teams or in-person. Presiding over the first-ever online Biennial Mission Summit was nothing short of remarkable, learning as we went with the goal of providing participants an opportunity to connect in ways that we could have never imagined. Watching the way the family gathered was heartwarming and, quite frankly, allowed us to be creative in how we connected. During the year I also joined with the families of the American Baptist Churches of Connecticut at their Annual Meeting and the Iroquois Association of American Baptist Churches of New York State for their Fall Meeting. The first was online and recorded, and the latter was the first inperson visit I made with a region. Another highlight was participating in an Everyday ABC Conversation around the impact of COVID-19 on Higher Education, allowing me to connect a 30-plus year career in Higher Education with my passion for God's work through my role with ABCUSA.

Whether or not I was able to personally connect with regions, the year was filled with what felt like a great synergy, a coming together of our denomination for the selection of a General Secretary and discussions around how churches are responding to the double pandemic of COVID-19 and systemic racism. Of great note, and a part of the Intentional Interim Strategic Plan, was the election of Dr. C. Jeff Woods as General Secretary for a 2022-2023 term and the formation of the General Secretary Search Committee who would implement a process that was formalized at the November Board meeting for a new General Secretary to begin in 2024. The actions that occurred at that Board meeting in many ways set the table for the ABCUSA family to have conversations related to values, hopes and goals as a denomination and to seek God in identifying a leader that will assist the denomination as we continue to engage in mission and ministry for the healing of the world through the love of God.



Additionally at this Board meeting, we established the "Interpreting the Impact of COVID-19 on Congregations" Task Force to formally take up the cause of understanding how COVID-19 is affecting churches and communities and the ways in which ministry has and can change. We also passed a proposal to establish a Commission to continue the work that was so intently engaged by the Anti-Racism Task Force, whose efforts highlighted the necessary work of anti-racism through the year. The Task Force concluded their specific assignment through hosting, "The Prophetic Rhythm of Anti-Racism: A Virtual Symposium" and providing a list of resources.

Again, 2021 was a great year, and I am confident that the wind beneath our wings will allow ABCUSA to soar to new heights as we continue the great legacy of being one of the most diverse Christian denominations.

Your voice at the table...

About the Board of General Ministries

The Board of General Ministries is the governing body by which elected representatives from local cooperating churches of the 33 ABC regions shape policies and initiatives of ABCUSA. The President, Vice President, and Budget Review Officer are elected by local church delegates at each Biennial Mission Summit.

The Board, and the Board subgroups, with Jesus Christ at the center of its gatherings, engages in "worshipful work" as it carries out its envisioning, planning, missional, and fiduciary responsibilities.



Directors of the ABCUSA Board of General Ministries, November 6, 2021, King of Prussia, PA

A Message from Dr.C.JeffWoods General Secretary, American Baptist Churches USA



We had an incredible year of mission and ministry in 2021, and it was my honor to serve you as Interim General Secretary. We held our first-ever online Biennial Mission Summit, strengthened relationships among denominational

leaders, worked toward clarification of the mission of ABCUSA, and experimented with several initiatives.

It is our pleasure and our responsibility to build upon the great legacy of previous American Baptist leaders such as Martin Luther King Jr., Walter Rauschenbusch and Helen Barrett Montgomery, persons who responded courageously to the opportunities before them. On February 1, 2021, we received news of a military coup taking place in the country of Myanmar where our first missionaries began service in 1807. Since receiving the horrific news, our Burma Refugee Commission has held regular prayer meetings, initiated grassroots advocacy efforts, and empowered local individuals to meet with U.S. Representatives and Senators, White House staff, and United Nations personnel. We remain heartbroken by the events on the ground in Myanmar and, at the same time, hopeful for results that have already led to the distribution of 55 million dollars in Humanitarian Aid from government appropriations, the introduction of the Burma Act bill, and constant words of encouragement to our Burma diaspora community.

The Myanmar crisis was not the only crisis claiming our attention. As the effects of the Global Pandemic escalated, we pivoted directions and hosted our first-ever virtual Biennial Mission Summit with the highest event rating in over ten years. The National Executive Council extended a commendation to all staff and volunteers who turned dreams into reality. In further responding to the pandemic, ABC Regional Executive Ministers met bimonthly to strategize and share emerging practices of congregational creativity, the National Executive Council shared information about telecommuting and supportive staff practices, and participation in the White House Community Corps yielded present-day vaccination updates to share across the ABC.

Racial injustices propelled the Anti-Racism Task Force and its three subgroups (focusing on perspectives of and for individuals, congregations, and institutions) to identify quality resources and host "The Prophetic Rhythm of Anti-Racism" symposium in October. Amidst swirling climate change, the Creation Justice Network continued its educational and advocacy efforts, and ABC proudly cast an affirmative vote as a member of the National Council of Churches governing board to approve the product of a four-year project: The New Revised Standard Version – Updated Edition, sponsored by Friendship Press with General Secretary Emeritus A. Roy Medley serving as president of the organization. Other "firsts" included a video children's storybook reading by the members of the National Executive Council, an ABCUSA Christmas concert, and the launching of an ongoing series of "Everyday ABC Conversations" inviting American Baptists to engage in meaningful dialogue around timely topics.

> No one leads in a vacuum. This fact heightens rather than lessens the in portance of our work together.

In November 2021, the Board of General Ministries adopted three priorities for ABCUSA, namely gathering the denomination; supporting congregations, regions, and national organizations; and creating space for local and global issues. Financially, ABCUSA is on solid footing due to the receipt of a second Paycheck Protection Program loan, early payoff of our building promissory note, and a rise in United Mission income over 2020.

No one leads in a vacuum. This fact heightens rather than lessens the importance of our work together. We are on this great ABC journey because of those who came before us, and we give our best for those who come after us.

About the ABCUSA Office of the General Secretary

overned by the Board of General Ministries, the ABCUSA Office of the General Secretary serves as ${f J}$ the ${\it central \, connecting \, organization}$ for the denomination, maintaining an infrastructure for American Baptists to network and pursue shared mission with one another.

We serve our congregations and partner organizations through three important mission functions:

GATHERING

the denom ination.



Our interdependence as Baptists compels us to the meaningful exchange of ideas, learnings, and gifts as well as shared worship, discernment, experimentation, and implementation on matters that inform our overarching mission and contextualized ministries.

When we gather American Baptist leaders, worshippers, and staff, we intentionally plan with input from across the ABC family.

SUPPORTING

congregations, regions, and nationalorganizations.



undergirded by preparatory and organizational activities that are often unseen but no less part of the mission of God.

We offer direct and indirect administration, services, and consultancy to our partners in support of the various forms of mission happening throughout the ABC.

CREATING SPACE

for bcaland gbbalissues.



We provide opportunities for information sharing, focused action, and networking on important topics through committees, task forces, commissions, and ministry teams, always with a commitment to apply a denomination-wide lens.

Through your generous contributions to United Mission and designated giving,

the Office of the General Secretary pursues our shared mission by providing the following to our congregations and partners:

- ✓ Biennial Mission Summit
- ✓ National Executive Council
- ✓ National Leadership Council
- ✓ Mission Table | Mission Summit Conversations
- ✓ Orientation to American **Baptist Life**
- ✓ American Baptist Caucuses
- ✓ Women in Ministry national conference
- Management of United Mission and designated mission giving, including One Great Hour of Sharing relief funds
- ✓ Official registry of cooperating churches and professional ministry leaders
- ✓ Stewardship resources
- ✓ Interim Ministry support
- ✓ Accessible church pathway for 501(c)3 exemption
- ✓ Connecting to faith-based networks beyond the ABC

- Learnings from the global 1 COVID-19 pandemic
- Networks and actions related to creation justice, anti-racism, Burma-diaspora concerns, ecumenical and interfaith engagement
- ✓ Relevant Everyday ABC Conversations

This is just a sampling; learn more through our website at www.abc-usa.org.

United in C Togethe

U nited Mission is a simple, yet intentional, way that American Baptists contribute to a shared financial fund that is designed and used for mission and ministry that has impact across the whole American Baptist family. With a large portion of each United Mission contribution directly funding the mission and ministries of a church's corresponding regional entity and ABCUSA (which includes the Office of the General Secretary and the Board of General Ministries), both of which are accountable to and informed by our member congregations, United Mission funding supports efforts on all levels of our denomination as well as on our shared mission fields. A portion of United Mission also supports services provided by American Baptist partners.

Whether congregations and individuals give to United Mission via regularly-scheduled budgeted contributions throughout the year or special periodic remittances, your faithfulness shows your commitment to being United in Christ + Together in Mission as an entire American Baptist denominational family.



Other Institutions and Partners include: American Baptist Historical Society, American Baptist Home Mission Societies, American Baptist Women's Ministries (Love Gift), American Baptist Men, International Ministries, and Career Centers.

The Mission Initiative Fund provides funds for launching new ministries and denomination-wide mission activities that are beyond normal operating budgets. Under the United Stewardship Plan, one percent of gross United Mission dollars is allocated to this Fund.



2021

snapshot of United Mission:

Total United Mission received:

\$6,343,239

+1.05% from 2020

previous years:

2020	6,277,390	-9.44% from '19
2019	6,931,866	-1.17% from '18
2018	7,014,244	-4.15% from '17
2017	7,318,191	-7.25 from '16

Total churches contributing:

1,646

32.7% of American Baptist churches

Contributions from 'first-time' churches:

\$56,486

received in 2021 from 65 churches who had not contributed to UM from 2017-2019 (avg. per church = \$869)

Imagine...

- \Rightarrow if the number of first-time UM-supporting churches double each year for the next 5 years,
- \Rightarrow giving on average \$869 annually each, using the 2021 first-time church average,
- \Rightarrow an additional \$1.8 million would be raised for mission across the ABC by 2025, a 28% increase over 2021.
- \Rightarrow this would <u>still be less than 50%</u> of American Baptist churches contributing to United Mission.
- \Rightarrow Imagine if we had 100% churches giving to UM!

D id You Know?

Pid you know that one of the five minimum qualifications of the common criteria for cooperating American Baptist churches is "financially support the mission of the American Baptist Churches USA at a responsible level?" One easy way to fulfill this is by contributing to United Mission annually.

One example of how being a cooperating American Baptist church supports your local ministry and mission efforts:

 Did you know that by being a cooperating
 American Baptist church, you may be eligible to be covered under ABCUSA's group tax exemption status for 501(c)3 organizations through a simple application process?

- In 2021, 2,720 American Baptist churches were covered under ABCUSA's Group Tax Exemption status.
- 1,610 of these congregations did not support United Mission.
- How valuable is it to your church to be a
 legitimate charitable organization in order to advance your mission?

Contact your ABC Regional Office -or- Tina Kiernan, United Mission Coordinator at ABCUSA, at

<u>purces@abc-usa.org</u> or x2322 to inquire about:

- United Mission educational and promotional materials
- ✓ United Mission recognition certificates
- ✓ your church's historical giving and trend for United Mission giving and other American Baptist Mission Support
- ✓ 501(c)3 tax exemption





American Baptist Churches USA BIENNIAL MISSION SUMMIT An Online Experience June 24-26, 2021

The American Baptist Churches USA 2021 Biennial Mission Summit met online June 24-26,

2021, with over 1,000 attendees and 150 additional staff, exhibitors, and presenters participating in the first-ever online event. Inspired by the event's theme, *Imagine*, speakers and leaders fostered spaces and invited participants to work toward unity, experience healing, and foster hope while envisioning new possibilities for ministry and communities. American Baptists logged on to the online event platform from all across the country and around the world.

The online "Attendee Hub" provided numerous opportunities for participants to gather for Worship, experience dynamic workshops, view recordings in the

on-demand library, and interact with American Baptist Caucuses, partners, and organizations in a virtual exhibit hall. Karen Podsiadly, ABCUSA president for the 2020-2021 biennium reflected, "As I sit and reflect on all that occurred during the first-ever online biennial, the following scripture is brought to mind:

'God can do anything, you know—far more than you could ever imagine or guess or request in your wildest dreams! He does it not by pushing us around but by working within us, his Spirit deeply and gently within us.' Ephesians 3:20-21, The Message."

Podsiadly noted that over the course of the three-day event, "Not only did the planning team allow God to use them, the crew who brought the experience alive, and each person who attended did so as well. It was exciting to witness our ABCUSA family gather for the excellent preaching, workshops, conversations, and exhibit booths. It has been so filling to hear from so many of the family that they felt connected and are looking forward to seeing one another in person for the 2023 Biennial Mission Summit in sunny Puerto Rico."

We invite you to visit <u>www.americanbaptists2023.com</u> to view Worship recordings from the 2021 online event! This website will also be updated with information about the 2023 Biennial Mission Summit as it becomes available.

2021 ORIENTATION TO AMERICAN BAPTIST LIFE

N avigating the American Baptist denomination can be a complex endeavor. How does it work to:

 \Rightarrow be autonomous yet interdependent?

A Christmas Concert

From American Baptist Churches USA

- \Rightarrow engage in God's work in the world locally, regionally, nationally and internationally?
- ⇒ claim diversity in culture, theology, geography, generation, and other ways, yet be committed to grow in Christian discipleship and witness together?
- ⇒ serve within and be served by multiple American Baptist-related organizations that are not hierarchical in structure yet connected by covenant?

And how does one find one's "home" within a history in the making and a family of faith of over one million believers?

In the Spring of 2021, various leaders from across the denomination set an imagined banquet table and invited seminarians, pastors new to the denomination and anyone who wanted a re-orientation. Together, a picturesque map was laid out to help with navigating questions like those above and simply presenting the various gifts of ministry and opportunities within the ABC.

This orientation happens nationally every two years and more frequently in some regions. To view the recordings of the 2021 Orientation to American Baptist Life, visit our website at <u>www.abc-usa.org/otabl</u>.

Featuring American Baptist celebrations from across the country, this video concert offered by the ABCUSA Office of the General Secretary aired on Sunday, December 19, 2021.



The shift to online platforms gave us the opportunity the gather together as a denomination during a time when we often do not have the chance to do so — the celebration of the birth of Jesus Christ!

SUPPORTING

Chestnut Street Baptist Church Endowm ent

The Office of the General Secretary administers the Chestnut Street Baptist Church (Philadelphia, PA) Endowment, which was established in 2019 with the sale of the assets of this church. Throughout 2021, the first round of grants, awarded to five Pennsylvania-based congregations or American Baptist partner organizations, funded projects focusing on the following ministries, which were in alignment with the fund's purpose of supporting Asian immigrants and Asian Ministries:

- ✓ Church planting and community outreach
- ✓ Leadership development, clergy spiritual care

✓ COVID recovery training

✓ Sunday School, youth, and conference programming



Baptist-Muslim Dialogues

S ince 2009, ABCUSA has sponsored several national and regional gatherings to foster dialogue and understanding among Baptists and Muslims. The last in-person national event was held in Green Lake, Wis. in 2018. As a follow-up for those participants, a virtual meeting was held in March 2021 to share learnings and discuss efforts in local contexts since the 2018 gathering. In addition, Amanda Tyler, executive director of the Baptist Joint Committee for Religious Liberty, led a presentation and discussion on "Issues of Religious Liberty of Concern" to both communities, with a particular look at Christian Nationalism. This virtual meeting surfaced a need for resources that would support local leaders as they seek to expand the dialogues within their congregations and communities.

Videos were then recorded with A. Roy Medley, general secretary emeritus, and Raimundo Barreto, chair of the Board of General Ministries Committee on Christian Unity and Interfaith Relations (CCUIR), that can be used for individual or group reflection and discussion. Clips of these videos were incorporated in a group session offered via the Office of the General Secretary virtual booth as part of the 2021 Biennial Mission Summit online experience. Learn more about the CCUIR and access these videos for your use at www.abc-usa.org/baptist-muslim-dialogue.

GENER⊕SITY PROJECT



0 nline D evotional Series

S everal American Baptist local and national leaders shared weekly online video, audio, and written devotions for the 2021 Lenten and Advent seasons. This resource connects our denominational family as individuals express how God is moving within their unique ministry context. Congregants often follow these series for their own personal devotional time, and some churches incorporate these resources into their weekly worship services.

AdventSeason 2021

G eneral Secretary Jeff Woods was proud to be a part of a recording with the members of the National Executive Council, telling the story "You are Special" by Max Lucado, with illustrations by Sergio Martinez. The children's storybook, read by NEC members, has a message for all ages.



The Generosity Project is an Office of the General Secretary initiative which examines the challenge of stewardship in the 21st century and looks at learning how to re-frame the conversation around stewardship. As a part of the Generosity Project, we held three webinars in 2021:

- ⇒ "We Are Better Together: Cooperative Stewardship," held on April 8 featuring several local pastors, considered the question: What if we engaged in a kind of "cooperative stewardship" with other congregations and worked together in covenantal partnership? [pictured above]
- ⇒ "Financial Stewardship in an Era of Covid" was presented on July 15, providing practical approaches when wondering what the pandemic will mean financially for churches going forward.
- ⇒ "Stewardship of Space: Thinking Beyond the Sanctuary," offered on November 17, was led by two local pastors who shared from experience how congregations can explore ways church families can think outside the sanctuary and outside of Sunday morning when it comes to use of and sharing of their buildings and creating intentional communities within them.

These recordings, along with other resources, are available at <u>www.abc-usa.org/generosityproject</u>.

CREATING SPACE

A Call to Prayer for M yanm ar

A merican Baptist missionary service in this country dates back to July 13, 1813, when Ann and Adoniram Judson landed in the port of Rangoon to begin their service. Over the years as these missionaries and others served as the hands and feet of Christ, God caused growth, to the point where today, there are nearly as many Christians that are a part of the Myanmar Baptist Convention as there are American Baptists in the United States.

This is a people who have endured much strife. As a result of that strife, we have helped to settle many refugees fleeing religious persecution. Over the last few decades, American Baptists have received 80,000 immigrants and refugees from Myanmar.

In January 2021, the Burma military seized control of the country, which put the country in great persecution that continues today. We called upon American Baptists to pray and engaged in many advocacy avenues: calling for the release of detainees and calling for the government to recognize the law and the democratic process. As a part of the Call to Prayer, we shared information about the conflict that continues in Burma, sample prayers, litanies and other resources that could be used by local churches to lift up these needs.

We asked American Baptists to pray and to serve, as we did the same. We know that prayer makes a difference.

The Burma Refugee Commission is a joint effort coordinated out of the ABCUSA Office of General Secretary and includes representatives of the American Baptist Home Mission Societies, International Ministries, the Regional Executive Ministers Council, Burmese Baptist Churches USA, Chin Baptist Churches USA, Chin Baptist Association of North America, Kachin Baptist Churches USA, Kachin American Baptist Association, and Karen Baptist Churches USA.

OP1

We created a space on the ABCUSA website where interested persons can continue their education and advocacy for our Burma diaspora family related to the current sociopolitical situation in Myanmar. Additional educational and worship resources, as well as calls to action, are added to this page as they become available.

For just as the body without the spirit is dead, so faith without works is also dead. James 2:26 (NRSV)

Anti-Racism Task Force Gathers Us for Learning, Unlearning, and Relearning

Thile the 2020-2021 Anti-Racism Task Force was asked to collect and compile resources and curate a symposium, the members also continually invited American Baptists to intentionally learn (acquire knowledge), unlearn (step back to see things differently), and relearn (process and apply new knowledge and perspectives) in order to more fully engage in the active work of dismantling systems, privileges, and everyday practices that reinforce and normalize white dominance. Their work culminated in an online gathering of over 100 persons to consider the topic "Racism as a Public Health Crisis" as well as the "medicine" each has to offer. Several American Baptist leaders also presented papers on anti-racism and reparations. The task force has worked to position all levels of our denomination for this ongoing and necessary work.





Creation Justice N etw ork

The Creation Justice Network provides an ongoing platform for American Baptists to learn, discuss, and work on the stewardship of the earth and its resources.

The Network offered a Lenten Devotional Series entitled, "Creation Reflects: Earth, Sea and Sky" on three Tuesdays – February 23, March 9, and March 23, 2021 – with devotionals provided by Karyn Bigelow (earth), Rev. Tom Carr (water) and Rev. Rebecca Driscoll (sky). Additionally, Driscoll participated in the ABCUSA Lenten Reflection series, and offered a video reflection remembering the sabbath and returning to creation amidst the sight and sound of waves on the Massachusetts coast. Driscoll's role as ABCUSA Minister for Creation Justice ended on March 31, 2021, but she continues to serve on the Steering Committee of the Creation Justice Network alongside her pastoral and regional ministries. They also provided resources to event participants as an online exhibitor at the 2021 online Biennial Mission Summit.

S ince 2013, American Baptists have practiced Mission Summit Conversations at our American Baptist Biennial gatherings, with a purpose of providing a real-time opportunity for persons to engage in respectful dialogue about matters of importance. At the 2021 online Biennial Mission Summit, over 650 persons simultaneously participated in the Mission Summit Conversations.

In fall of 2021, ABCUSA launched a new series of quarterly one-hour dialogues entitled, "Everyday ABC Conversations." Offered in the same spirit as the Mission Summit Conversations, this series is an opportunity to engage in conversations that matter, beyond the Biennial Mission Summit.

The inaugural Everyday ABC Conversation, "Higher Education, the Global Pandemic, and Caring for the Needs of Students" held on October 13 featured presenters Dr. James Barry, president of Alderson Broaddus University, and Karen Podsiadly, director of Community Development at The College at Brockport (State University of New York) and president of ABCUSA (2020-2021). Each shared ideas around the topic, and attendees then took part in discussion in small groups.

The second conversation, "Soul Care @ Christmas" on November 30 was led by presenters Rev. Betty Wright-Riggins, an ordained American Baptist minister, and Rev. Judy Fackenthal, retired pastor and former president of American Baptist Churches USA (2016-2017), both certified spiritual directors who serve on the ABCUSA Spiritual Direction Team. Participants considered, "How is your soul as we enter this season of Advent and the celebrations associated with all of the expectations that the Christmas holidays bring? Are you joyful, full of expectation, or are you weighted down with disappointment, grief and loss?"

Each event saw over 60 American Baptists registered and brought an opportunity for rich conversation and time of community. Learn more about upcoming conversations here: <u>www.abc-usa.org/everyday-abc-conversations</u>.



Statement of Activities

For the years ending December 31, 2021 and 2020 2021 2020 Revenues, gains and other support: American Baptist Support Retained by ABCUSA \$ 1,941,456 \$ 1,820,217 880,492 Donations and other revenue 1,359,423 Endowments returns designated for current operations 1,167,146 1,478,094 Other 767 134 Total revenues, gains and other support 4,468,159 4,179,570 Expenses **Program Expenses** 2,825,648 2,240,638 Management and General 1,523,889 1,517,116 **Fundraising Activities** 200,156 209,424 **Total expenses** 4,549,693 3,967,178 Excess (deficiency) of revenue and support (81,534) 212,397 over expenses **Other Changes** PPP SBA Grant Revenue 619,959 Investment return in excess of amounts designated 1,710,222 for current operations 2,019,248 Other investment income and lease revenue 442,299 166,075 **Total Other changes** 2,805,282 2,152,521 Change in net assets 2,723,748 2,364,913

American Baptist Mission Support

American Baptist Churches USA received \$26,300,457 in 2021 through all American Baptist Mission Support. ABCUSA retained \$1,941,456 for operations and distributed \$24,359,001.



TH AN K YO U

In addition to the generous church contributions to United M ission, the following churches, organizations, family units and individuals gave gifts from January 1 through December 31, 2021 specifically supporting the mission work of the ABCUSA Office of the General Secretary and the Board of General Ministries through personal designations and or event-specific offerings.

COOPERATING CONGREGATIONS

First Chinese BC, San Francisco, CA Central BC, Springfield, IL University BC, College Park, MD West Henrietta BC, West Henrietta, NY Gibbon BC, Gibbon, NE Montgomery Hills BC, Silver Spring, MD First BC, Saint Albans, WV Market Street BC, Zanesville, OH South Parkersburg BC, Parkersburg, WV Ashland Avenue BC, Oregon, OH First BC, Burlington, VT Circle of Faith, Saint Petersburg, FL Emmanuel BC, Parkersburg, WV Luther Rice Memorial BC, Silver Spring, MD North Wales BC, North Wales, PA United BC, Mapleton, ME First BC, Milton, PA First BC, Bangor, ME New BC, Inc., Huntington, WV Central BC, Wayne, PA First BC, Wolcott, NY First BC, Silver Spring, MD First BC, Camp Springs, MD American BC, Lakeland, FL

First BC, National City, CA Parchment Valley BC, Ripley, WV Maryland BC (Tedim), Catonsville, MD Second BC, Saint Louis, MO Church in the Acres, Springfield, MA Main Street BC, Smithfield, VA United BC, Caribou, ME Seaview BC, Linwood, NJ Brewster BC, Brewster, MA First BC, Berkeley, CA First BC, Greenville, PA Reading Community BC, Reading Center, NY

O THER ENTITIES

Mendon F Schutt Family Fund-Minneapolis Fund Darla Dee Turlington Charitable Foundation Howard Church Estate Little Knife & S-Bar Endowment Fidelity-Mary Ann Hutcison Eva S. Emmons Rev. Trust Gurrola Baptist Foundation

123 IND IVIDUALS contributing from \$5 -\$4k+ each

BC= Baptist Church

earn more about the various ways to participate in United Mission, special annual offerings, and dother designated giving opportunities that are all part of American Baptist Mission Support at:

www.abc-usa.org/giving

"How do we go beyond mere words and give thanks, especially to God? We live the ways God has called us. We act kindly. We do justly. We are generous with our resources of time, talent, and treasure. We forgive. We give someone a chance. In these ways and more, we give thanks to God who calls us to love just the way God has already loved us. There is no better way to give God thanks."

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-Rev. Stacy Emerson, ABCUSA Stewardship Consultant, "Ways to Say 'Thanks'" -Generosity Project Blogpost



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American Baptist Churches USA Annual Summary 2021

ABCUSA Focus Statem ent

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.

Ways to stay informed and connected:

- ✓ Call us at 1-800-ABC-3USA
- Sign up to receive email communications from us at: <u>www.abc-usa.org/news</u>
- ✓ Attend the 2023 Biennial Mission Summit June 23-25, 2023 in San Juan, Puerto Rico
- Learn about our services and resources, ways you can serve, and gatherings you can participate in throughout the year on our website at:

www.abc-usa.org

Start planning now to attend...



AMERICAN BAPTIST CHURCHES USA BIENNIAL MISSION SUMMIT JUNE 23-25, 2023 SAN JUAN, PUERTO RICO

Continue to visit www.AmericanBaptists2023.com for updates ahead of the event.