**AMERICAN BAPTIST MISSION SUPPORT**

**EXPLANATION OF MISSION GIVING CATEGORIES**

 **UNITED MISSION**

 **United Mission**: These gifts support everything we do as American Baptists and 65% remains in the local region, providing primary support for the ministries of the region. The balance (35%) is shared with mission partners according to a covenant agreement – 5.1% is distributed to mission partners (i.e. International Ministries, American Baptist Home Mission Societies, AB Historical Society, ABMen, ABWM, etc.) and 29.9% supports American Baptist mission, ministry and identity through the American Baptist Churches USA Office of the General Secretary. This is the main giving stream for the Office of the General Secretary

 **Love Gift**: Gifts from local church American Baptist Women’s Ministries’ organizations, although men are welcome to participate. 15% of these contributions support the work of American Baptist Women’s Ministries and the remaining 85% is shared like United Mission (above).

**ANNUAL OFFERINGS**

 **America For Christ Offering**: Supports the ministries of American Baptist Home Mission Societies (2/3) and the local region (1/3), after a 12% promotional cost. Generally promoted and received in early spring.

 **World Mission Offering**: Supports the work of Global Mission through International Ministries. Contributions are used to support the work of International Ministries’ partners, projects, and global servants in over 70 countries around the world. May be designated. Generally promoted and received in the fall.

 **Retired Ministers & Missionaries Offering**: The Missionaries & Ministers Benefit Board (MMBB Financial Services) uses these gifts to provide emergency relief and “thank you” checks to retired ministers and missionaries (global servants). Generally promoted in December.

 **One Great Hour of Sharing Offering**: Gifts provide disaster relief and development assistance in the United States and overseas. Administered by the American Baptist World Relief Committee of the American Baptist Churches USA Board of General Ministries. May be designated. Generally promoted and received during the summer months, with the exception of disaster response which can happen at any time during the year.

**INSTITUTIONAL SUPPORT PROCESS**

 Gifts provide support for American Baptist-related institutions in the United States for their operating expenses. These institutions include seminaries, colleges, campus ministries, student aid for colleges and seminaries, retirement homes, hospitals, children’s homes, and the Green Lake Conference Center (American Baptist Assembly) in Green Lake, Wis.

**SPECIFICS**

 Gifts are used toward the support of both general and specific projects for regional, institutional, and national Boards. This can include projects identified by International Ministries’ global servants. These gifts provide additional monies beyond the budgeted dollars for these projects.

**TARGETED GIVING**

 These gifts are often the result of an appeal for support from national or regional boards. Salary support for International Ministries’ global servants is provided on this line.

 **CAMPAIGNS**

 These gifts are for campaigns conducted by recognized American Baptist institutions, regional organizations, and by national American Baptist organizations. Gifts to campaigns are over-and-above American Baptist Mission Support.

**MISCELLANEOUS OBJECTIVES**

 This category provides a channel for sending personal gifts to American Baptist global servants for their personal use. Other non-ABC related gifts should be sent directly to the organization. Gifts in this category are treated as “pass-through” gifts and are not tax deductible (if made by an individual).