



Rev. Dr. Gina C. Jacobs-Strain
General Secretary
American Baptist Churches USA



Rev. Dr. Gina C. Jacobs-Strain was called as General Secretary of American Baptist Churches USA by the Board of General Ministries on November 4, 2023, and her service in this role began on February 1, 2024.

Dr. Jacobs-Strain's devotion to the Lord began in her elementary school years when she committed her life to Christ. She served as Executive Director of American Baptist Women's Ministries (ABWM) for six years. Under her guidance, ABWM introduced the AB GIRLS program, "Building Bridges and Gateways to Girl's Future/Hie-STEAM," an initiative connecting AB GIRLS Christian Curriculum with local STEAM providers, empowering girls to recognize God's creative potential within them. ABWM has also broadened its Beloved Community and Domestic Violence ministries and now offers seminars and webinars tailored for young adult women nationwide.

Dr. Jacobs-Strain has held various pastoral roles including Transitional Pastor at First Baptist Church of New Market in Piscataway, N.J., Interim Pastor at St. Paul Baptist Church in Atlantic Highlands, N.J., Associate Regional Pastor for Women in Ministry for American Baptist Churches of New Jersey (ABC-NJ), and serves as an Associate Minister of Christian Education at St. Paul Baptist Church in Montclair, N.J.

Rev. Jacobs-Strain has served as a guest speaker, preacher, workshop leader and Bible study leader for ABWM regions, ABC regions and ABCUSA. She has also been a guest preacher/lecturer at institutions such as Drew University Theological School, New Brunswick Theological Seminary, and ABC-NJ Academy. She contributed to the "Testify: ABC-NJ Devotional" book, co-launched the Christian Education Workshop Series, "Leading Interactive and Engaging Bible Studies (L.I.B.S. TM)" at the ABC-NJ annual Church Officers and Leaders Conference (COAL) and initiated a conversation series for clergy, "The Intersection of Leadership and Healing."

Rev. Dr. Jacobs-Strain earned a bachelor's degree in Psychology from Rutgers University and graduated Magna Cum Laude with a Master of Divinity degree from Drew University's Theological School. She was also honored with the Old Testament Studies Scholar Award from the Biblical Studies Department. She received a Certificate of Excellence from Palmer Theological Seminary & ABC-NJ Academy, and successfully completed the Nehemiah-Leadership Program. In May 2020, she attained a Doctor of Ministry from Duke University. She is married to Clifton Strain, and together they have three sons.

gina.jacobs-strain@abc-usa.org

800-ABC-3USA x2274