



***We Are
United In Mission***

**ABC/NE
MISSION HANDBOOK**



How YOUR American Baptist Church makes a difference!

In addition to the ministry you do in your own
congregation and neighborhood,
you are also part of what

Nebraska Baptists are doing United in Mission:

Caring for and about God's children everywhere

Sharing the Love of Jesus Christ

with strangers AND friends

Offering a cup of cold water to the thirsty

and food and clothing to the homeless

All in the name of Jesus Christ

WE ARE UNITED IN MISSION!

ABC/NE MISSION STATEMENT

**American Baptist churches in Nebraska
are joined together
As a Region in a covenant partnership (ABC/NE) to:
Encourage, challenge, and empower one another
To be transforming Christian communities in the world.**

In order to understand how we intend to carry out this mission, consider the following notes of explanation:

Covenant partnership: a linking of autonomous churches into a cooperating regional structure within the American Baptist Churches USA.

Encourage: to encourage pastors, other professional church leaders, congregations and their leaders; to encourage self-care and continuing education and growth; to encourage and support congregations in times of transition, search, interims, conflict, and other times of need.

Challenge: to consistently raise up new possibilities for ministry.

Empower: to identify needs; to provide resources, services, and training; to link congregations where there is a need with one that has a resource; to help congregations be in relationship with one another and with others in the ABC-USA and the broader Christian community.

Transforming Christian communities: transforming individuals through the experience of new life in Christ; transforming congregations to be renewed communities for the worship of God, caring and mission; transforming the world through mission, outreach, witness and working together.

Affirmed by the ABC of Nebraska
at its annual meeting at Kearney, NE, Sept. 8, 2001

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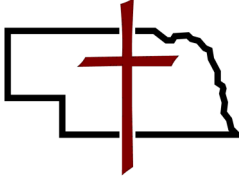
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* funded in part by United Mission





ABC/NE Churches Helping Churches*

Over 50 churches in Nebraska seek to be resources to each other, encouraging, motivating, praying and caring. Region staff seek to assist churches in making connections with other churches. But, the real creative energy comes from local churches coming up with great ways to make connections with other churches.

How are Churches Helping Churches?

- Joint worship services, educational events, and retreats
- Leading Bible school for another church
- Helping with mission trips
- Help with maintenance projects
- Pulpit exchanges
- Random acts of kindness!

ABC Emergency Services Center*

An annual ministry at the August Motorcycle Rally in the Black Hills of SD. The ABC Emergency Services Center is located in Deadwood but the staff of volunteers works throughout the area to respond as the hands and feet of Jesus to persons in crisis.

ABC churches in the Dakotas and Nebraska operate this ministry. Volunteers are needed each year—for a day or two or for the entire 10 days.



For more information: www.sturgisaid.com

Mission in Nebraska



MOSES MERRILL CAMP & CONFERENCE CENTER*

Starting in 1943, Nebraska Baptist children, youth and adults attended camps and conferences at Camp Moses Merrill at its original location outside of Fullerton, Nebraska. With a growing need for larger and more modern camp facilities, a new location was purchased in 1972 overlooking the Platte River valley near Linwood, NE, and giving us 568 acres on which to develop a new Camp Moses Merrill. Thousands of volunteer hours went into the development of this wooded land as it has grown into a year-round facility known as Moses Merrill Camp & Conference Center.

WARD CONFERENCE CENTER brings together facilities that fulfill the needs of seminars, conferences, retreats, weddings, worship services and much more.

FRIENDSHIP CHAPEL is the worship center for the summer camping program, is used for weddings and large groups as well as Advent services and Easter Sunrise services that draw in neighbors who enjoy coming to worship in this lovely facility. Sunday morning worship services are held at Friendship Chapel from Memorial Day to Labor Day.

CALVARY LODGE provides 11 hotel-style sleeping rooms that can accommodate 3 or 4 people per room. The rooms are available for personal retreats as well as family reunions and housing for conferences.

FULLERTON ROOM recalls the beginnings of Moses Merrill Camp at Fullerton, NE. This conference room can be set up for seminars, retreats, leadership training sessions and serves as a gathering place for family reunions. A serving kitchen is available for preparing refreshments for groups.

continued

CABIN AREA

Ten cabins with bathrooms (4 with kitchenettes), provide housing for up to 100 people. **Weaver Hall** serves as the dining room and inside activities site for the summer camping programs.

CAMPING

Camping areas for tents and RV's with water, sewer and electrical hook-ups provide places for family vacations, reunions and for those who just want to get-away for a few days or a few weeks. The camping loop has a bath house with showers.

RECREATION

Recreational areas include a swimming pool and bath-house, tennis court, baseball diamond, hiking trails and horse-back riding trails.



Callender House offers two floors with three bedrooms, gathering area, kitchenette, and bathroom on each floor. Each floor can sleep 10 people. During the summer, Callender House is used for summer staff housing. From September through mid-May, Callender is available for small family reunions and retreats.

Palmyra Building offers two meeting rooms with a kitchen and two restrooms. Each meeting room has a fireplace. The larger room can accommodate 50; the smaller room can accommodate about 35 depending on the needed set-up for each event. Just beyond Palmyra is a natural amphitheatre. When combined, Callender House and Palmyra Building provide comfortable lodging and meeting space for family reunions and retreats. Palmyra is available for day use also.



Moses Merrill Camp & Conference Center offers Christian hospitality to all denominations and non-profit organizations.

continued

SMITH AMPHITHEATRE is adjacent to the cabin area, and is used for outdoor worship, Bible study, concerts, talent shows and spring, summer and fall weddings.

HOPEVALE – a quiet place for prayer, personal meditation or small group worship will be available in 2010. This special place will commemorate the hiding place used by American Baptist missionaries in the Philippines during World War II. Those missionaries, including Nebraskan Jenny Adams, were martyred but held strongly to their faith until the end.

THE ACTIVITY PAVILION – yet to be named and yet to be built, there are plans underway for an outdoor pavilion that will be used for a variety of activities.

OTHER BUILDINGS—Staff housing includes Overlook House, Valley View House, and Parkgrove Lodge. The Visitor Center houses the camp office. The Maintenance Barn is the hub of facility care. Weichleman Building, located near Weaver Hall, is used as a nurses station during the summer camping season and guest housing in the fall, winter and spring.

Moses Merrill seeks to meet the needs of all who come looking for a place to rest, to learn and to grow in their spiritual lives. Just like its namesake, the mission of Moses Merrill is to share the Good News!

CHILDREN AND YOUTH CAMPS

A highlight of every year is the summer camping program for children and youth. This vibrant and exciting ministry focuses on spreading the Gospel message within a camp environment. In addition to the “fun” parts of camp, these future leaders become grounded in a strong message of the joyful, redemptive love of Jesus Christ. The young people are encouraged to grow in their faith, to ask questions and seek answers. Many find Jesus for the first time.



Moses Merrill Phone:
1-402-666-5639

www.campmerrill.com



AMERICAN BAPTIST WOMEN'S MINISTRIES*

Background

American Baptist Women's Ministries became a national organization in 1951, with the formation of the National Council of American Baptist women. But women's ministries in our American Baptist family began long before 1951. For well over a century, women have been strong partners in the American Baptist family – raising money for missions at home and abroad, sending missionaries, and ministering in local churches and communities.

Through the years, women have shaped their ministries to meet emerging needs. The Woman's Baptist Society, organized in 1871 (the forerunner of the Woman's American Baptist Foreign Mission Society), focused on women in other lands. The Woman's American Baptist Home Mission Society, formed in 1909, centered on evangelism and ministry with persons in need in the United States.

Conference and Retreat

AB Women's Ministries in Nebraska holds an annual conference in June and a fall retreat. These special events, open to all women, are informational, inspirational, and fun!

Ministry For and By Girls

The World Wide Guild was established in 1915 to train, inspire, and empower girls for Christian ministry and leadership. In 1992, AB Women's Ministries affirmed and accepted all responsibility for the girls' ministry and organized it as AB Girls. The mission of American Baptist Women's Ministries is to provide vision, training, and resources to women and girls in American Baptist churches.

Special Mission Projects

As happens in most Regions, Nebraska Baptist Women select a special mission project for special fund-raising efforts over a two-year period. There will be some occasions when the project will run for only one year. There are many different projects that have been blessed by the generosity of the women of Nebraska through the years. The current project is to raise funds to assist with the education of our missionary children. These children and youth usually go far from their families to have access to education, and these funds will help with those expenses.



WHITE CROSS — Hands-on mission

American Baptist women, challenged by the needs of medical missionaries in 1919, started rolling bandages to be used in the hospitals and medical clinics in all parts of the world. This grew out of overseas work that the women began as early as 1827 when a missionary in Burma asked American and English women to supply school items.

Today, White Cross supplies have progressed far beyond bandage rolling and school items. Through the mission of **National Ministries** (our American Baptist Home Mission Societies), Overland White Cross materials go to 56 authorized mission sites, including children's homes and Christian Center work in Alaska, ministries with Native Americans in Arizona, Nevada, Montana and Oklahoma, Neighborhood Action Centers throughout the U.S., Race Track ministries, New Church plants, Asian and Hispanic ministries with community outreach programs and churches in Puerto Rico. For American Baptist Women in **NEBRASKA**, gathering White Cross supplies also offers a chance to visit the places where the materials will be used. These recent White Cross Convoy sites have included Montana and Oklahoma where the travelers are given a warm welcome and time to meet the people and see the places where White Cross will make a difference in the lives of others.

Through the ministries of **International Ministries** (our American Baptist Foreign Mission Society), White Cross supports the work of our missionaries and mission partners in 19 countries, such as Bulgaria, Cambodia, Republic of Congo, Haiti, India, the Philippines and Thailand, helping programs of education, evangelism, community service and medical care. Because of tariffs in some countries, much of the overseas White Cross means sending financial donations rather than specific items.

While each church is given a list of assigned items, the women also have optional items they are able to send to many sites – school kits, baby layettes and health kits go to places where disasters have occurred. Some churches have taken on White Cross as a church project instead of just a women's project. AB Girls have also taken on White Cross projects as part of their work.



LOVE GIFT

A long beloved tradition in American Baptist Women's Ministries, LOVE GIFT, is an over-and-above offering that supports American Baptist mission and ministry. Begun during the Great Depression, the denominational family faced a huge deficit. The women in American Baptist churches across the nation challenged one another to raise enough funds to cover that deficit. They rose to meet that challenge and then some!

Today, Love Gift is an extra gift to the United Mission support of the American Baptist family. Through Love Gift, missions and ministries in the United States and Puerto Rico and around the world are able to reach out to millions of God's people. An amount equal to 15% of Love Gift is used to support the national organization of American Baptist Women's Ministries. Love Gift is a gift from the heart.

Love Gift Tomorrow

Love Gift has great potential to empower American Baptist mission in this new century. If your church does not have organized women's ministries, you can still participate in Love Gift!

- Meet with your Region's Minister of Mission Support to discuss and plan your Love Gift promotion.
- Include your pastors in the plan. Involve church families.
- Order free Love Gift materials (call 1-800-4-JUDSON or visit www.abwministries.org/store).
- Plan a first-time Love Gift event this year and build on it next year.
- Set a congregational goal for Love Gift. Share your church's plan with other American Baptists at workshops, annual meetings, Fall & Spring Rallies, ABW Ministries Conferences, etc.

The story of Love Gift remains unfinished. By giving to Love Gift, American Baptists play a vital role in the continuing work of American Baptist Churches at home and abroad. And the best is yet to come!

...(adapted with permission from Unlimited Ideas for Love Gift II, article on page 1 by Mary Beckwith.)



AMERICAN BAPTIST MEN

American Baptist Men of Nebraska is an opportunity where all men can be a part of mission and ministry in unique ways. All men are welcome to become a part of ABM/NE whether the local congregation has a men's organization or not. Membership dues are only \$10.00 annually, with the membership year beginning with the annual Men's Conference at Moses Merrill Camp & Conference Center. That conference is held in August with a guest speaker and many other activities. The conference is the time when the Layman of the Year award is presented. The men present the Clergy of the Year award at the Family Reunion held each September. Men are encouraged to make nominations for both awards, with the ABMen's Board of Directors determining the honorees.

One vital ministry for ABM/NE is disaster relief. The trailer which holds all the equipment is housed at Moses Merrill and can be hauled to the site of any disaster – flood, tornadoes or storm damage – by a truck or large pick-up. The men are working to establish organizational positions throughout the state so relief efforts can begin as soon as the need is known. The men encourage churches to recognize the availability of this ministry. Often a local congregation can send in relief workers before other agencies have been "cleared" for this work. Jason Workman of Omaha is the state emergency services coordinator and has connected with other disaster organizations, including FEMA.

ABM/NE has long supported seminary students through two annual scholarships of \$1,000 each. Interested seminary students should submit applications to the ABMen's Board of Directors for review of eligibility and award. Donations to the scholarship fund are always welcome. Application forms are available at the men's page of the Region's web site, www.abcnebraska.com, where all other membership and nomination forms are available.

**OUR MEN AT WORK TO SHARE THE GOOD NEWS
AND LOVE OF JESUS CHRIST WITH OTHERS**

MORE WAYS TO SHARE IN MISSION AND MINISTRY IN NEBRASKA

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INTERCHURCH MINISTRIES OF NEBRASKA*

ABC/NE churches, through their support of United Mission and through their volunteer service, working in partnership with other denominations provide needed ministries across the state. Interchurch Ministries of Nebraska enables us to expand our “reach” in being the hands and feet of Jesus, giving help to our brothers and sisters in need right here in Nebraska.

Key Ministries of IMN:

Returning Military Programs in NE

IMN seeks to find ways to respond to the needs of returning military personnel. The current emphasis is contained in the Suicide Prevention grant:

Suicide Prevention

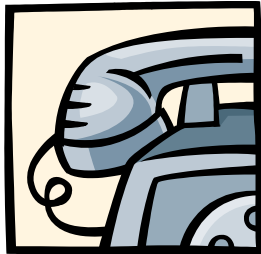
IMN and the Univ. of NE Public Policy Center are partnering with the NE Dept. of Health and Human Services on a 3-year grant to implement best practices to prevent youth suicide. Suicide is the second leading cause of death for Nebraska’s youth ages 15–19. IMN is working with a special portion of the grant focused on the families of returning military. IMN’s primary responsibility with the grant is to find ways to connect with **returning military personnel** and their families and to provide training and resources to denominations and congregations.

Rural Response Hotline (see next page)

Health Ministry This is the promotion of health, healing and wholeness as part of the mission and ministry of a faith community to its members and the community it serves.

Others: Interchurch Ministries of Nebraska assists member denominations in responding to a variety of needs in Nebraska. A number of the programs of IMN are funded in part through grants and have a limited lifespan. This gives IMN the flexibility to respond to needs as they arise.

ABC/NE participation in IMN is funded in part by United Mission



Nebraska Rural Response Hotline

In the early 1980s, financial pressure and related legal and emotional stress reached a crisis stage for many Nebraska farm families. As land values plummeted, debt piled, and foreclosures reached a record high, Interchurch Ministries of Nebraska (IMN) took action. In March 1984, IMN began forming a coalition not only of its member church denominations, but also of agencies and organizations with a direct interest in confronting rural hardship.

Representatives of the coalition realized from the beginning that the underlying problems leading to the crisis would not be solved overnight, nor would the groups be able to provide funds to troubled farmers. But they know they could garner the human and financial resources to help provide sound financial and legal counsel when requested, and to respond to families with needs for emotional and spiritual support.

The plan grew quickly because of the crisis nature of the problems and the coalition's commitment to service. Church representatives, and representatives from the Farmers Union, National Farmers' Organization, Nebraska Department of Agriculture, Nebraska Legal Services, Women in Farm Economics, the UN-L Ag Extension Division; and lenders worked closely to build the response network and make it available to anyone in Nebraska agriculture.

The Hotline responded to 4,703 calls in 2009, of these 2,380 calls were for mental health assistance. 3,089 vouchers for counseling were issued to farmers and ranchers, an increase of 450 vouchers from the previous year.

Mission in Nebraska

ABC OF NEBRASKA

For many years, ABC/NE has been composed of European–American and African–American churches. Currently there are 48 primarily European–American churches, 4 primarily African–American churches, 1 Kachin church, and 1 Karen church. In addition the ABC/NE churches host worship in other languages. In addition to those listed above, First Baptist–Lincoln hosts both Chinese and Karen congregations. Benson Baptist in Omaha has a worship service in Nuer for their Sudanese members. Sunset Hills in Omaha hosts a Karen congregation.

Burmese Tribal Groups in Nebraska

ABC/NE welcomes Burmese tribal people who have made a home in the state. These include Kachin, Karen, Chin and Karini people who have left or been driven from their homeland.

At the present time, ABC/NE has several worshipping groups. Two have been recognized as ABC/NE churches: First Kachin Baptist Church (meeting at Parkside Baptist in Omaha) and the American Baptist Karen Congregation (meeting at First Baptist Church in Omaha). There are also Karen worship services at Sunset Hills Baptist Church in Omaha and First Baptist Church in Lincoln. Miracle Hills Community Baptist Church in Omaha hosts a Chin worship service.

Karen Women's Ministry*

Htoo May, a Karen leader, is headquartered in Omaha. She travels the country helping establish Karen Women's Organizations. Funding for her work comes from ABC's International Ministries, ABC's National Ministries, The North American Baptist Women's Union and the Cooperative Baptist Fellowship. The ABC/NE provides her with office support. This is funded by United Mission.



Htoo May is sometimes available to speak in churches about the plight of Karen people. Contact the Region office to arrange a visit.

* funded in part by
United Mission



Volunteers in Mission*



This program of ABC's National Ministries benefits ABC/NE in three ways:

1. Pastor-to-Pastors. Currently two retired clergy provide support to our pastors with stipends from VIM. They connect with pastors to encourage and challenge them as well as walk with them during difficult times.
2. Emergency Service. Currently we have one position through VIM in Nebraska serving as a consultant for emergency services
3. Volunteerism. ABC/NE folks can sign up to serve as short or long terms volunteers in ABC mission and ministry locations.

Chaplains and Pastoral Counselors*

ABC's National Ministries provides the denomination with an endorsement process for chaplains and pastoral counselors. There are ABC hospital chaplains and Pastoral Counselors serving in Nebraska. There are also persons who grew up in ABC/NE churches who serve in other places.

We honor those who serve, especially during Chaplains and Pastoral Counselors Week in October.



Good Soil Project*



A few years ago, ABC/NE received a grant from ABC's National Ministries to encourage the ministry of small churches. Following the two year project, the churches involved decided to continue to meet to encourage, challenge and empower each other in their ministries.

AMERICA FOR CHRIST OFFERING

Sharing Christ across the United States and Puerto Rico

Each year Nebraska Baptists are given the opportunity to support the mission of the state with gifts to the **AMERICA FOR CHRIST OFFERING**. The Region's share of these special gifts is a critical component of all the work done by American Baptist in Nebraska. On-going programming for Moses Merrill Camp & Conference Center, leadership development for churches, outreach to those traveling to Sturgis for the motorcycle rally, assistance for pastoral searches, communications tools such as The Messenger and so much more. Together with UNITED MISSION, the AMERICA FOR CHRIST OFFERING enables us to be the hands, feet and face of Jesus in our communities and throughout the state. The AFC Offering is usually received in March but can be received at any time.

America for Christ –
The way we share Jesus with our neighbors



WORLD MISSION OFFERING

Each year Nebraska Baptists are given the opportunity to support American Baptist mission outside the United States with gifts to the **World Mission Offering**. The World Mission Offering (WMO) continues to give local churches a powerful and focused way to make their gifts count in critical areas of need in over 70 countries around the world. Each church's gifts make ministry possible among many of the forgotten people, those overlooked by others, those ignored by the mainstream news, but who, nevertheless, NEED and WANT to hear about the love of Jesus Christ. Gifts to WMO make God's love known to the farthest corners of the earth. The WMO Offering is usually received in October but can be received at any time.



ONE GREAT HOUR OF SHARING

Sharing Resources, Changing Lives

Through **One Great Hour of Sharing**, we care for God's treasures. By sharing some of our earthly treasure—our money, our time, our energy—aid is sent when disaster strikes. Refugees receive help in the long term as they rebuild their lives. People receive education, health care, tools, seeds, and resources to improve their communities.

One Great Hour of Sharing funds are used both in the USA and around the world. In the past, help came to Nebraska after ice storms and tornadoes. In 2010 OGHS is deeply involved in relief efforts in Haiti.

The OGHS Offering is usually received in June but can be received at any time.

RETIRED MINISTERS AND MISSIONARIES OFFERING

REMEMBER with LOVE
GIVE with GRATITUDE

Since 1935, American Baptists have contributed to special offerings received in their churches for retired ABC ministers and missionaries or their widowed spouses. The Retired Ministers and Missionaries Offering (RMMO) was established in 1977.

Through this annual offering, American Baptist congregations say thank you in a tangible way to the denomination's retired ministers and missionaries or their widowed spouses.

The offering provides them with:

- Emergency and other financial assistance, based on financial need; and
- "Thank You" checks, based on 15 or more years of ABC service.

The RMMO is taken by most ABC congregations each year in December.

THE MISSION DEPARTMENT OF ABC/NE ENCOURAGES SUPPORT OF THESE LOCAL CHURCH OUTREACH MINISTRIES

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Some churches have developed special ministries that have touched the hearts of their people. Congregations and individuals wishing to support these ministries are able to do so by contacting the individual churches.

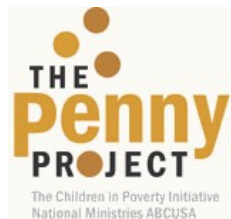
BENSON BAPTIST CHURCH, OMAHA, NE has a significant number of Sudanese members. So Benson Baptist now holds three worship services each Sunday, two in English and one in Sudanese. Pastor Paul Marine was invited to go to Sudan to meet



the families of many of those in Omaha. After prayer, Pastor Marine and Jon Mayo, a member of Benson, traveled to Sudan and met the people of the village, forming friendships that led to a stronger bond between the villagers and the people of Benson Baptist Church. The people of Benson Baptist began to discuss what they might do to be of help to their brothers and sisters in Sudan. As the villagers started a day care center, Benson Baptist started to raise money to purchase needed supplies for that center. Benson supports the day care center with money raised over and above their regular mission support. American Baptists across Nebraska are invited to participate in this ministry with prayer support and, when and if possible, with over and above financial support for this work. Contact person is Pastor Paul Marine, 402-551-1512.

THAILAND SCHOOL PROJECT

FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH, KEARNEY, NE is undertaking a project to build a school in Thailand. They are working with missionary Mike Mann on this project and are excited about it because the children will not only learn to read and write, but will have the opportunity to know about Jesus and His saving grace as well. The school will also be teaching parents, most of whom are refugees, to speak Thai and some basic reading and writing skills. At this time, few of the children are educated; and the ones who are must walk two hours through the jungle on Sunday, live in a drab dorm until Friday, then walk back through the jungle to their homes for the week-end. An education for both children and parents means the opportunity to be able to earn a living, support their families and put an end to the current exploitation of the uneducated and poverty-stricken. The cost of the project is \$46,000 per year for three years, for a total of \$184,000. Contact persons are Tom and Angie Gillming, 308-468-6154.



THE PENNY PROJECT is an idea that came from a youth group in an American Baptist Church in New Hampshire. They were concerned about the children living in poverty in our country. They discovered that 14,000,000 children are living below the poverty line in the United States and Puerto Rico. That youth group decided to raise 14,000,000 pennies; one to represent each child. They are asking all American Baptists to help with this project.

Use the Pennies for Children in Need

You are invited to gather pennies in your congregation; count them, report the amount raised to Rev. David Lundholm, then send the money to a homeless shelter or another service in your community that assists children in poverty. Here in Nebraska, if you don't have a local project, your pennies can be donated to the Region to be used for camp scholarships for children living in poverty. A number of our Nebraska churches are already working on this project.

Use The Penny Project to Raise Awareness

The Penny Project is a good way to raise awareness of poverty issues here in Nebraska where over 56,000 children are living in poverty. It is also an excellent way to help children raise money to help other children.

For more information, visit www.nationalministries.org and click on the Penny Project, or call the Region Office, 402-556-4730. You can watch the progress of the Project at the National Ministries web site.

Penny Project Deadline: Summer 2011

ANNUAL OFFERINGS

| | |
|---|--|
| AMERICA FOR CHRIST—AFC | Mission in the United States and Puerto Rico 1/3 of this offering goes to ABC/NE ministry |
| Retired Ministers & Missionaries Offering — RMMO | Gifts to persons who served as ministers and missionaries. |
| One Great Hour of Sharing — OGHS | Emergency relief and development |
| World Mission Offering — WMO | Mission outside the US and Puerto Rico |

UNITED MISSION

Basic contribution from each church

(suggested amount a tithe of budget)

Supports ABC/NE & ABC-USA

65% to NE and 35% to ABC-USA, including:

International Ministries

National Ministries

The representative process

Office of the General Secretary.

Some describe it as a triple-tithe from ABC/NE to ABC-USA.

Mission in the USA*

As part of American Baptist Churches USA, National Ministries answers God's call to live out Christian faith and transform individuals, congregations and communities through developing Christ-centered leadership, networks and programs committed to witness and evangelism, social justice, discipleship and mission work across the United States and Puerto Rico.

This means that more than 1,300 mission partners, working with National Ministries, minister to those in need — emotional, physical, financial and spiritual — every day as **chaplains and pastoral counselors, refugee sponsors, directors of Christian centers, volunteers and new church planters**. These mission partners are on the front lines of faith, bringing God's love to those who need it most: families trapped in poverty, older folk struggling with illness and loneliness, pastors planting churches in growing neighborhoods, Sunday school teachers and youth ministers guiding and encouraging children to grow in faith.



AND

Mission outside the USA*



American Baptist International Ministries, organized in 1814, is the oldest Baptist Mission agency formed in North America. We serve with more than **2,500 short-term missionaries** annually, bringing U.S. and Puerto Rico churches together with **partners in 76 countries** in cutting-edge ministries that tell the good news of Jesus Christ while meeting human needs.

ISP

Institutional Support Process

ISP is set up by American Baptist institutions agreeing to cooperate in raising, collecting, and distributing voluntary contributions by American Baptist congregations through a set of covenants. Local churches may choose to support these institutions – by entering gifts on the ISP line on the monthly mission report form.

The institutions listed below are those specifically connected to ABC/NE.

In Nebraska:

Roger Williams Fellowship A campus ministry based at FBC, Kearney.

Maplecrest Care Center Connected with American Baptist Homes of the Midwest, Maplecrest is located in Omaha.

In Our Area:

Central Baptist Theological Seminary Shawnee, KS

Ottawa University

Ottawa, KS

University of Sioux Falls

Sioux Falls, SD

National:

Bacone College

Muskogee, OK

Kodiak Baptist Mission

Kodiak, AK

Murrow Indian Children's Home

Muskogee, OK

Rainbow Acres

Mesa Verde, AZ

Who We Are

3/10/10

American Baptist Churches of Nebraska Churches & Missions

Churches/Missions

Senior Pastors:

- | | |
|---|--|
| 1. Albion | Rev. Barry McCormick |
| 2. Alliance | Rev. James Rowe |
| 3. Ansley | Interim Pastor Bill Regan |
| 4. Arnold | Rev. Irv Jennings |
| 5. Arthur | Rev. Benjamin Keene |
| 6. Beatrice | Rev. Theodora Boolin |
| Bellevue: | |
| 7. New Life | Rev. Dr. Michael Friday |
| 8. Strangers Rest | Rev. T.S. Gilliam |
| 9. Blair | Rev. Doug Russell |
| 10. Bridgeport | Interim Pastor Harland Minscer |
| 11. Broken Bow | Interim Pastors Rodger McDermott and Rev. Al Cole |
| 12. Chadron First | Rev. Brad Daniels |
| 13. Kenwood Chapel | Rev. Brad Daniels |
| 14. Chapman | Beth Gregory |
| 15. Columbus | Rev. Glenn Williamson |
| 16. Fairbury | open |
| 17. Fremont | Interim Pastor David Bender |
| 18. Gibbon | Rev. Gordon Paulsen |
| 19. Grand Island First | Rev. Dr. Charles Gregory |
| Grand Island has a Spanish language worship service with Pastor Enrique Contreras. The congregants are members of FBC. | |
| 20. Guide Rock | Pastor Floyd Richardson |
| 21. Hastings | Rev. Larry Harvey |
| 22. Holbrook | Pastor Dale Whitson |
| 23. Holdrege | Rev. Darren Stroh |
| 24. Juniata | Co-pastor Rev. Thomas Murray Co-pastor Herb Scott |
| 25. Kearney First | Rev. Stanley Murdoch |
| 26. Roger Williams Fellowship | Eric Wood |
| 27. LaVista – Judson Baptist | Rev. Matt Rappley |
| 28. The Gathering | |
| Lincoln: | |
| 29. Belmont | Pastor Mike Kidder |
| 30. First | Rev. Dr. Harry Riggs II |
| The church has a worship service in Karen. The church also hosts a Chinese congregation and a Russian congregation. | |
| 31. Second | Rev. Dr. Stephen Wisthoff |
| 32. Mason City | Rev. John Lewis |

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| 33. McCook | open |
| 34. Norfolk | Rev. Robin Stoops |
| 35. North Platte | Rev. Tom Wiles |
| Omaha: | |
| 36. American Baptist Karen Congregation | Rev. Nyunt Tin |
| 37. Benson | Rev. Paul Marine |
| Benson has a Sudanese worship service in the Nuer language with pastor Pal Ranlie Chuol. | |
| 38. First | Rev. Kip Mickelson |
| First is the host for #36. | |
| 39. First Kachin | Rev. Gam Lahpai |
| 40. King Solomon | Rev. A. J. Wagstaff |
| 41. Miracle Hills | Rev. Kevin Walden |
| The church has a worship service in Chin. | |
| 42. Mt. Nebo | Rev. Terry Arvie |
| 43. Omaha Underground | Travis Tabor |
| 44. Parkside | Rev. Dr. Onnie Drain |
| Parkside is the host for #39. | |
| 45. Shiloh | Pastor Vernon Washington |
| 46. Sunset Hills | Rev. Ron French |
| Sunset Hills has a Karen worship service with Pastor Kwe Htoo. | |
| 47. Oxford | Pastor David Hunt |
| 48. Scottsbluff | Rev. Jim Green |
| 49. St. Edward – Palestine Baptist | Pastor Carl Edwards |
| 50. Stella – Prairie Union Baptist | Pastor Art Chapin |
| 51. Superior | Pastor Floyd Richardson |
| 52. Tekamah | Rev. Dr. Brian High |
| 53. Riverside | Rev. Beverly Melchor-Young |
| 54. Union | Interim Rev. Jim Cummings |
| 55. Valley – United Faith Community | Rev. Carl Ratcliff |
| 56. Wayne | Pastor Douglas Shelton |
| 57. Wilsonville | Pastor Keith Theobald |
| 58. York | Pastor Barbara Johnson |

ABC Chaplains serving in Nebraska:

- Rev. Janice Blackmon, Lincoln
- Rev. Jim Cummings, Lincoln
- Rev. Dale Falk, Omaha
- Rev. Sanford Smith, Omaha
- Rev. Dale Pracht, Norfolk
- Rev. Tom Webb, Lincoln

Chaplain serving an ABC institution in Nebraska:

- Rev. Charlene Morris-Quarells, Maple Crest

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