

Merrimack Valley

Berkshire

Central

Adoniram Judson

Samuel Stillman

Pioneer Valley

Boston South-West

Old Colony



The American Baptist Churches of
MASSACHUSETTS
TABCOM



Churches Partnering to Transform Lives and Communities

2018 ANNUAL REPORT

TABCOM seeks to add value
To the ministry to which God
Has called each congregation.
These are the reports and reflections
from the staff, officers and ministry teams for the year 2018

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Officers & Leadership 2018-2019

OFFICERS

Executive Minister: [Rev. Mary Miller](#)
President: [Rev. Gary Ludwig](#)
Vice President: [Paul Moore](#)
Treasurer: [Weimin Feng](#)
Clerk: [Barbara Drauschke](#)
Immediate Past President: [Annette Thomas](#)

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Elected	Representatives Nominated by Ethnic Communities
Rev. Atula Jamir ~ Lowell, Calvary Baptist	Hispanic Ministries Representative
Richard Lynch ~ Boston, Tremont Temple	Rev. Jackson Oliveira ~ Portuguese Speaking Ministries Representative
Jessica Merrill ~ South Hadley, Second Baptist	Rev. David Lee ~ Asian Ministries Representative
Pearl Morrison ~ Boston, People's Baptist	Rev. Jephthet Roseme ~ Haitian Ministries Representative
Sheila McCravy Ghazarian ~ Bedford, First Baptist	
Rev. Kevin Porter ~ Lowell, First United Baptist Church	
Rev. Joshua Cahan ~ Boston, Ruggles Baptist	

COMMISSION ON ORDAINED MINISTRY

Ministerial Preparation Committee: Rev. Stephanie Salinas, ~ First Baptist Church Westwood
Ministerial Standing Committee: Rev. Barbara Jean ~ Somerset, Somerset Baptist
Watchcare: Rev. Ellen Tatreau ~ Aquinnah, Community Baptist

MINISTRY TEAM CHAIRS

Administration & Finance: Dexter Bishop ~ Lynn, First Baptist
Mission & Stewardship: Kevin E. Porter ~ Lowell, First United
George Wright Fund Task Force: Paul Moore ~ Framingham, First Baptist

ASSOCIATION MODERATORS

Adoniram Judson: Rev. Eric Nelson
Berkshire: Rev. David Anderson
Boston South West: Rev. Howard McLendon
Central: Rev. Becky Tornblom
Merrimack Valley: Emily Leavitt
Old Colony: Rev. Baffour Nkrumah Appiah
Samuel Stillman: Rev. Tali Jamir

Executive Minister's Report

May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace as you trust in him, so that you may overflow with hope by the power of the Holy Spirit. (Romans 15:13)

Welcome to our Annual Gathering!

When you get an invitation to a wedding or other special event, sometimes it will include a opportunity for “Plus One.” This is meant to encourage you to bring your “significant other” along. This is our “Plus One” year for TABCOM. Having just celebrated our Golden Anniversary, we are now moving into the future with hope. We receive this, and all of our years, as a gift from God and strive to use it faithfully.

I embraced the theme of Overflowing Hope for this year because the hope we have in Christ is at our center. We may be a diverse Region in many ways, but in the words of the great hymn: “Our hope is built on nothing less, than Jesus’ blood and righteousness.” That hope is meant to fill us each day. But the hope we have in Jesus is not just for us. The scripture speaks of “overflowing hope.”

These are indeed challenging times for the Church and our world. Our nation has never been so divided, so angry. The role of the Church in our culture is in transition, and we know not where it is all going. Pretty much everything about Church as we have known it is up for grabs. It can be tempting to pull inward, to retreat into ourselves and into our churches at the precise time that we need to be moving out. We need to let the hope that we have in Jesus overflow into the world around us! In this era of dizzying change, when our methods are constantly evolving, we cling to our gospel purpose and trust that the Holy Spirit will continue to energize us to fulfill our calling.

I believe that American Baptists can make a unique contribution in the midst of it all. As THE MOST DIVERSE faith family in the USA, we continue to strive to reach out across whatever lines divide us to work together to share the hope in Jesus Christ that unites us.

The funding of our mission and ministry continues to be a challenge, as it is for many of our churches. In the near future we are expecting a major revision of our regional by-laws. We change, not for change’s sake, but for the most effective ministry in our Region, here and now.

Last year brought significant change in TABCOM. We have welcomed a number of new persons to the TABCOM staff:

John Page, Director of Stewardship and Finance
Nayda Aguila, Director of Missions

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Andrea Gauntlett, Administrative Assistant

As well as two part-time positions being funded from restricted funds:

Christine Keddy, Elder Ministry

Robyn Mars, Social Media Coordinator

How excited we are about our new leaders and their work on your behalf!

Three ministry priorities keep us focused at TABCOM: 1) Developing ministry leadership, 2) Equipping churches for outward (missional) focus, and 3) Diversity and inclusion. These are areas where we are focusing our ministry for this particular time in our service of Christ and the Kingdom.

What can we look forward to in 2019-20? Here is a “Preview of Coming TABCOM Attractions”:

- † A new partnership with Fresh Expressions, offering opportunities to equip churches for growth and renewal.
- † A new “TABCOM Day” for our churches (coming in late summer/early fall): an opportunity to tell the story of TABCOM’s mission in a dynamic way.
- † A new, “retooled” Church Leadership Day in January.
- † A workshop on Grant Writing for churches, and an increased role for TABCOM in connecting churches and leaders with grant sources.
- † A dynamic MissionWorks event in November ...and more!

On a personal note, I want to thank you all for your support in a year that has brought so much sadness to my family, in the death of my sister, brother-in-law, mother, and mother-in-law; all in about a year’s time. The hope of Christ has been made real to me in so many ways, and your encouragement and prayers have been such a blessing. On a positive note, I wrote and defended my dissertation this year, and will receive my D.Min. in just a few weeks! I want to share a special thank you to Marlene Gil, who has “held the fort” in untold ways in these months.

Serving Christ in Hope,

Rev. Mary D. Miller

Rev. (Dr.!) Mary Miller
Executive Minister

President's Reflection

April 2019

Dear TABCOM Family...

With joy and expectations I look forward to our Annual Gathering. My sincere hope and prayer is that each individual in our region will be renewed as we gather together.

As reflected in most of our lives, it's amazing how quickly the year has gone by. There has been a steep learning curve for me while serving as President of TABCOM.

Please be sure to take advantage of learning more about the ministry of the region by carefully reading this Annual Report.

The Board of Directors is as follows:

Rev. Joshua Cahan ~ Boston, Ruggles Baptist
Rev. Atula Jamir ~ Lowell, Calvary Baptist
Richard Lynch ~ Boston, Tremont Temple
Jessica Merrill ~ South Hadley, Second Baptist
Pearl Morrison ~ Boston, People's Baptist
Sheila McCravy Ghazarian ~ Bedford, First Baptist
Rev. Jose Nora ~ Jamaica Plain, First Hispanic Baptist
Rev. Jackson Oliveira ~ Hudson, Renewed Life Baptist Church
Rev. David Lee ~ Somerville, Community Baptist Church
Rev. Barbara Headley ~ Springfield, Zion Community Baptist Church
Rev. Kevin Porter ~ Lowell, First United Baptist Church
Rev. Jephthet Roseme ~ Everett, Eglise Baptiste Haitienne de Siloe

First and foremost the Board supports the core ministries of the region through staff and committees. These ministries include, while not intended to be an exhaustive list, the Annual Gathering, Mission Works, Grotonwood, and Oceanwood.

In addition, we have laid the groundwork for an envisioning Retreat, and introducing Fresh Expressions to the region. Collectively we have challenges and opportunity before us. Prayerfully may the Spirit of the living God empower and guide our efforts as we put our hand to the plow in this corner of the Kingdom, abounding in Hope.

Prayerfully in Christ,



Rev. Gary T. Ludwig
President

51st Annual Gathering ~ May 3-4, 2019

Administration & Finance

A & F, is a committee appointed by the Board of Directors with by law authority to conduct the operations of TABCOM.

This past year, 2018, A & F worked to stabilize TABCOM's financial picture. Solve several reality problems and help fill our open positions.

I wish to thank the A & F members and TABCOM staff for their support of the work we covered this past year. If we are able to continue it is our hope that our investments will close the gap between the decline in giving to TABCOM and the income needed to accomplish TABCOM's work.

Appointed Members 2018

Dexter Bishop, Chair, FBC Lynn

Fred Drauschke, Member, FBC Medford

Weimin Feng, Member, Treasurer TABCOM, FBC Wakefield

Rev. Dana Gosnal, Member, Peoples Baptist Church, Boston

Rev. Tali Jamir, Member, FBC Waltham

Rev. Eric Nelson, Member, Retired

Earl Norman, Member, FBC, Boston

Annette Rowell – Thomas, Member Past President TABCOM

Rev. Howard McLendon, Member

Rev. Gary Ludwig, ex-officio, TABCOM President

Rev. Mary Miller, ex-officio, Executive Minister, TABCOM

TABCOM STAFF

Ed Guerard Coordinator, Friends of Regional Ministries

Richard Wolf, Director A & F TABCOM, Camps and Conferences

Daniel Everitt, Director Grotonwood Camp & Conference Center

Kasandra Kane, Director, Oceanwood Camp and Conference Center

Jen Hayes, Horse Ministry

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Grotonwood

REPORT ON MINISTRY 2018

Staffing Changes

Previously we had one full time cleaner, which was inefficient. The cleaning demands at Grotonwood come in peaks and troughs. We have to clean and prepare up to 12 buildings, and 40 sets of bed sheets on a Sunday after breakfast, and have them ready for new guests who arrive Monday morning. This is an impossible task for one person. In 2018 we appointed a cleaning company, who bring a staff of 10 people, and are able to clean to much a higher standard and in less time. This has reduced our cleaning costs, improved the cleanliness at camp, and we are now able to have more space available in the week, allowing more guests to stay at camp.

We hired a second maintenance worker, Matt. Matt grew up on an apple farm and brings with him a wealth of horticultural knowledge, along with a lot of physical strength. Chris had worked for too long on his own, which wasn't good for the wellbeing of camp and most importantly Chris. Together Matt and Chris have overseen a whole host of physical improvements to camp, which will be covered in more detail later in this report.

Jorge Flores is the new Retreats Coordinator at Grotonwood. Previously a summer counselor he brings with him three years of camping experience along with a passion to see camp grow. We have started to see fruits of his labor already as show in the attached graphs.

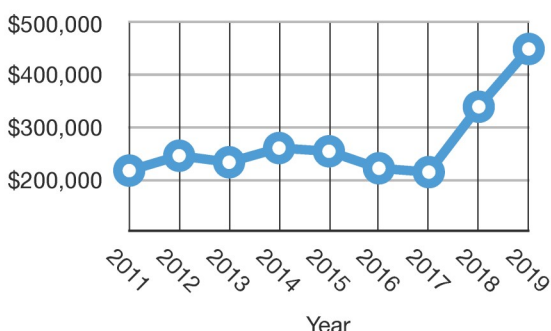
In the kitchen we have hired a Sous Chef for Daniel Kaleo, Kim Guerra. This has enabled Daniel to concentrate more on administration, planning and even have the odd day off!

Lina Del Rio is our new Office Administrator and Adult Program Coordinator. Lina has two years of camping experience and is an amazing asset. Exciting improvements have been put in place for the summer program, which are detailed later in this report.

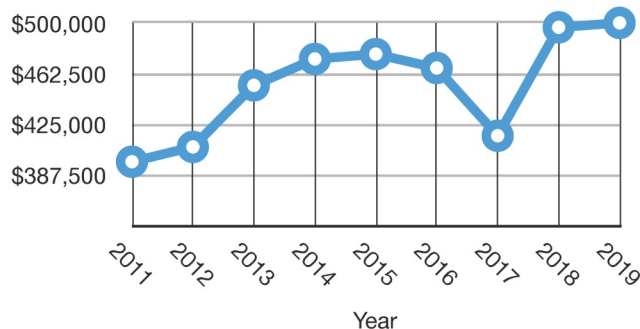
Ongoing professional development is something that all our staff are encouraged to undertake, and in 2018 every full time member of staff attended at least one seminar, trade show or worked towards a new qualification related to their role.



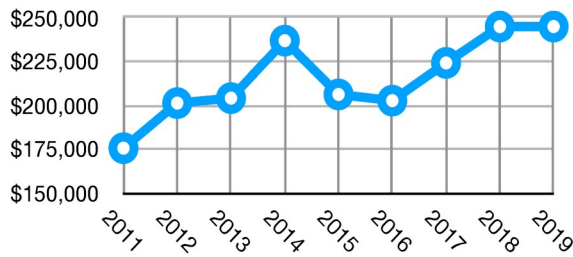
Retreat Income Generated



Camping Income Generated



Nature's Classroom Income Generated



Summer Camp and Program Changes

New programing launches include:

- 18-30's Camp for Adults with Disabilities
- 1-2-1 Camp for adults requiring additional assistance with their activities of daily living,
- Trips for youth overnight campers
- Trips for Day Campers
- Two Day Camp programs - Day Camp Alpha and Omega

Improved programming

- Adult Trips weeks now include two new activities, making each week different
- Each existing adult camper has been assessed and recommended to a certain camp program.
- Themed weeks for youth overnight camping
- Each camp has their own tailored message time with two-week rotation.
- Outside guest speakers for daily devotions with our overnight youth.
- Military Camp expanded to 100 children in 2018, with 140 already booked for 2019.
- Each camp has their own tailored message time with two-week rotation.
- Investment into Segways, beach equipment and facilities
- All camp worship and skit, with two week rotation
- Cultivate is being renamed to Elevate, and is being moved to the February school vacation week
- Fall Vacation our weekend for adults with disabilities continues to grow, and is a great way to attract new to camp campers with a taster weekend

Improvements for staff

- A day and a half of for all staff each week
- Reduced cleaning responsibilities
- More planned weekend activities
- Clearer staff rules, and detailed process manual
- All staff chapel service every Sunday morning with guest Pastors.

Royal Family Camp. Our existing relationship with Royal Family Camp has enabled their annual camp to grow to record numbers. We now have a second week at the end of summer booked.

Christmas at Grotonwood. More than 450 people attended this fun, free event, which was engaged the local community and many of our TABCOM churches and friends.

Open House. Despite the rain nearly 300 people attended in 2018 to see the changes made to camp and take advantage of the on the day discounts and free cookout.

We will be exhibiting for three days at The Abilities Expo in Boston Convention Center



Retreats

2018 saw the highest level of income generated by retreats since electronic records began in 2011. Physical improvements to buildings, fantastic food and service, along with flexibility have enabled this growth. Jorge is fluent in English and Spanish and this has helped more Hispanic churches attending camp. We introduced a standard pricing structure to ensure transparency and fairness.

Grotonwood Profit & Loss 2017 vs 2018

	2017 Actual	2018 Actual	Change	2019 Budget
Income				
Store Income	\$9,208	\$15,911	\$6,703	\$15,527
Revenue Conferencing	\$214,016	\$339,289	\$125,273	\$300,000
Natures Classroom	\$224,197	\$244,877	\$20,680	\$230,000
Total Camping Income	\$416,340	\$496,732	\$80,391	\$500,059
Other Contribution Income	\$100		-\$100	
FORM	\$34,575	\$26,848	-\$7,726	\$20,001
Recurring Revenue	\$28,020	\$45,640	\$17,620	\$54,578
Misc Income		\$722	\$722	
Total Income	\$926,455	\$1,170,018	\$243,563	\$1,120,165
Expenses				
Total Salaries	\$315,467	\$345,050	\$29,583	\$340,000
Total Admin	\$31,881	\$46,737	\$14,856	\$44,000
Utilities	\$100,082	\$127,862	\$27,780	\$117,000
Total Kitchen	\$129,050	\$118,142	-\$10,908	\$118,000
Total Maintenance	\$89,325	\$103,318	\$13,993	\$97,000
Housekeeping		\$4,921	\$4,921	\$8,000
Total Insurance	\$43,241	\$44,328	\$1,087	\$42,000
Total Promotion	\$4,114	\$5,055	\$940	\$755
Total Camping Program Expense	\$272,834	\$261,854	-\$10,980	\$255,000
Conference Development	\$4,065		-\$4,065	
Conference Supplies		\$1,024	\$1,024	
Total Misc Expense	\$695	\$20,055	\$19,360	\$12,000
Store	\$6,465	\$18,030	\$11,565	\$17,600
Store Sales Taxes.	\$65	\$76	\$11	
Interest payment	\$20,881	\$21,449	\$569	\$21,000
Total Expenses	\$1,018,164	\$1,117,902	\$99,737	\$1,072,355
Net Operating Income	-\$91,709	\$52,117	\$143,826	\$47,226



Facility Improvements

- A new Fitness Room in the basement of Prescott Lodge
- Dining Hall Restrooms have been completely remodeled
- Prescott Lodge soft furnishings have been purchased - wall art, coat hooks, mirrors and luggage racks
- Landscaping works begun outside Prescott Lodge, including Memorial Garden
- New Flooring in Going Lodge
- New Roof on the Country Store and Judson Lodge
- Complete renovation of Red Lodge
- New water heater in the Directors House
- New beds and mattress in two of the Judson Cabins
- Three of the 1694 Office rooms have been remodeled along with new furniture.
- Three furnaces have been replaced in the Main Dining Hall
- The Main Dining Hall Foyer has been renovated
- New tables and chairs in the Main Dining Hall
- Internet network has been reworked to reduce costs and improve performance
- New ADA accessible play park, climbing frame and swings installed
- New plants and bulbs across camp
- The beach has been widened, and Lifeguard hut built
- The main well has been upgraded, which supplies water to the center of camp.
- Trees have been removed around camp to improve the condition of buildings, and to make trails more accessible.
- Bathroom remodeled in the Gym Lounge
- Family Center cabins and Dining Hall completely remodeled with new furniture, roofs, windows, doors, furnaces, siding and bathrooms.
- Planning permission granted for a 4' x 5' sign on the main road before camp (119).

Grotonwood Balance Sheet 2017 vs 2018

	2017	2018	Change
Short term Asset / Liability Ratio	0.89	0.88	
ASSETS			
Current Assets			
Bank Accounts			
Main Street Bank	\$ 108,387	\$ 87,705	\$ (20,682)
BOA Checking	\$ 9,832	\$ -	\$ (9,832)
Citizen FC Cabin Reserve	\$ 228	\$ 50,456	\$ 50,229
Grotonwood Savings	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Total Bank Accounts	\$ 118,447	\$ 138,161	\$ 19,714
Total Accounts Receivable	\$ 69,527	\$ 52,881	\$ (16,646)
Other Current Assets			
Store Inventory	\$ 13,063	\$ 10,511	\$ (2,552)
Undeposited Funds	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Prepaid Insurance	\$ -	\$ 0	\$ 0
Prepaid Miscellaneous Expenses	\$ 11,095	\$ 2,465	\$ (8,630)
Employee Loan	\$ 3,500	\$ 8,430	\$ 4,930
Credit Card Receivables	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Inventory Asset	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Total Other Current Assets	\$ 27,658	\$ 21,406	\$ (6,252)
Total Current Assets	\$ 215,632	\$ 212,448	\$ (3,184)
Other Assets			
Cell Tower-Investment-ML	\$ 294,670	\$ 258,876	\$ (35,794)
Buildings	\$ 7,722,454	\$ 7,722,454	\$ -
Total Other Assets	\$ 8,017,124	\$ 7,981,330	\$ (35,794)
TOTAL ASSETS	\$ 8,232,756	\$ 8,193,777	\$ (38,978)
LIABILITIES AND EQUITY			
Liabilities			
Current Liabilities			
Total Accounts Payable	\$ 140,885	\$ 55,910	\$ (84,975)
Other Current Liabilities			
Deferred Income	\$ 48,493	\$ 77,776	\$ 29,283
Reserved Deposits	\$ 36,349	\$ 32,284	\$ (4,065)
Camp Fees Reserved	\$ -	\$ 925	\$ 925
Capital Improvements Reserve	\$ 1,126	\$ 71,567	\$ 70,441
Memorial Lodge Fund and Gifts	\$ 14,481	\$ 2,620	\$ (11,861)
Total Other Current Liabilities	\$ 100,448	\$ 185,171	\$ 84,723
Total Current Liabilities	\$ 241,333	\$ 241,081	\$ (253)
Long-Term Liabilities			
LMA	\$ 93,381	\$ 95,948	\$ 2,566
Main Street Bank Loan	\$ 540,747	\$ 527,457	\$ (13,290)
Total Liabilities	\$ 875,461	\$ 864,485	\$ (10,976)

Our mission at Grotonwood is to see “Lives transformed and hearts renewed.”

In 2018 Over 370 adults with disabilities, 500 children and an additional 3,750 people through conferences and retreats experienced a place away from the busyness of school, work and home. Away from the distractions of TV, internet and phone they worshipped together, grow closer to Christ and took time for renewal and growth in our awe inspiring and peaceful outdoor setting. This is only possible through the support of our staff, volunteers, donors and our TABCOM churches. Thank you.

Danny & Breeze Everitt

Oceanwood

NEBC / Oceanwood 2018 Ministry Updates & Financial Reports



In 2018, the ministries of Oceanwood thrived, and there were valuable lessons learned to help guide the financial future to increased sustainability.

Ministry Updates

For the first year the family camp programs (Single Parent Family Camp, Family Work Camp, Family Vacation Camp, and Grandparent Camp) were scheduled to occur the same week. This composition allows us to better accommodate and serve families looking for a Christian Camp experience. Overall, the schedule change proved to be beneficial. There are obstacles moving forward, including Family Work Camp not currently having an individual/family to spearhead that particular family camp program. The future will likely see that program shift to a weekend event to address the challenges of the length of the camp week. We will continue to revise our offerings to meet the needs of families.



Our summer ministry also expanded to include a scholarship program aimed at veteran families and their children. It was a new program for 2018 and we look forward to offering it again in 2019 and improving! We were blessed to host Project New Hope twice throughout our summer months and will be doing so again in 2019.

Our camp for youth living with disabilities had its third summer, and we are elated with the feedback from the community on the deep need and appreciation for the program. We were also blessed to have American Youth Campers return for a third summer and bring youth campers from China to experience Christian camping at Oceanwood!

The Oceanwood Equestrian Center continues to set forth initiatives that are focused on community, relationship building, and faith. The Oceanwood Equestrian Center staff has fostered an environment of respect, love, compassion, and education through practices in ridership and Christianity. Below is a list of Equestrian Center highlights for 2018:

- 1) 2018 Horsemanship Camp: The Equestrian Center was proud to serve 58 Horsemanship Campers, over 145 Youth and Day Campers, as well as over 100 PNH Retreat participants, family campers, and individuals living with disabilities. This past Summer proved to be the best in terms of community involved and exposure for The Equestrian Center. To align better with Oceanwood's mission and continued goal of building a community centered on respect and love; programming within the Horsemanship Camp was altered completely...and forever! Instead of an end-of camp Horse show on Saturday mornings, a new initiative known as "Kindness Day," rolled out on Friday mornings. Horsemanship Campers, adorned in their riding gear on their favorite mounts, safely and responsibly rode their steeds into Ocean Park neighborhoods to deliver kindness letters and kindness rocks to our neighbors. The feedback from our supporters and community has been beyond positive and has generated





increased interest in Horsemanship Camp & Ministries. This new Horsemanship model will be continued for upcoming seasons with future kindness opportunities to include beach clean up, soup kitchen food collection, and plant seedling deliveries just to name a few! Oh... did we mention that our Kindness Day horse ministry made the local paper?!?!?!?

2) Horsemanship Lessons: Along with the positive number of campers served, the Equestrian Center's seasonal horsemanship lesson program and Equine Assisted Activities (i.e., therapeutic riding) from late April - late November continued. There was a 15% decrease in lesson activity due to poor riding conditions (i.e., flooding and ice) due to a lack of a covered riding area.

3) Acquisition of Elsa: In April 2018, The Oceanwood Equestrian Center adopted the Greatest Of All Time (G.O.A.T.) goat, Elsa! This



large white gem has proven to be an AMAZING opportunity to expose Oceanwood and all of its ministries to a larger radius of people as Elsa is mobile and easily loads into the Oceanwood 15-passenger van! Elsa debuted at the Kittery School System's Career Day, OOB Community Connections Street Fair, Saco Maine Street's Pumpkin Harvest Festival and Oceanwood's Summer Camp Programming in 2018!



Continued opportunities within the Oceanwood Equestrian include:

- 1) Apprentice Instructor Program: a program in which potential instructor candidates must attend four classroom trainings, successfully complete a 10-page written exam, complete 150 hours of shadow hours/sample teaching, & successfully pass a riding exam.
- 2) Rec Trotters - a 4-week partnership program with Old Orchard Beach Recreation Department to expose OOB youth to horsemanship and the ministries at Oceanwood.
- 3) Horsemanship Club with Thornton Academy - a 4-week program designed to introduce Saco and international high school students to horsemanship.
- 4) OOB Physical Therapy Department & OOB Life Skills partnerships: an Equine

Assisted Activities opportunity, funded completely with generous donations, offering OOB elementary thru high school students living with disabilities the opportunity to work with the Oceanwood herd in a structured and nurturing environment.

Worthy of Acknowledgment:

Along with providing a year-round ministry, continued staff development, and herd maintenance & training, the Oceanwood Equestrian Center had some other notables in 2018, including:

- *Christmas Caroling in Ocean Park



- *continued partnerships & invitations to OOB & OP parades with our herd
- * public exposure including:
 - ⇒ Massachusetts Equine Affaire (4 day event)
 - ⇒ Old Orchard Beach Chamber of Commerce Board Member election
 - ⇒ Saco Main Street Harvest Festival
 - ⇒ Oceanwood Christmas Spectacular
 - ⇒ Oceanwood Mentorship Ministry

On the Horizon for 2019:

- 1) Horsemanship Counselor-In-Training (CIT) Ministry: Following the established structure of Oceanwood's Leadership Development Program, the Horsemanship CIT Ministry offers equine enthusiasts a faith-based, 5-week experiential summer camp. Graduates for the two summer long program may sit for two exams (written and riding) and are considered for future summer employment at the Oceanwood Equestrian Center.
- 2) Raise your Hands and Hearts Bottle/Can Drive: Monies raised by can/bottle donations will go towards ministry and programming at the Oceanwood Equestrian Center. Special THANKS to our local businesses: The Boardwalk Grille, Cafe 64, & Starstruck Video for kicking off the drive. Additionally, a round of applause to Isabella Chute & Family for collecting 45 bags! Did we mention that Isabella is only 5? Way to go little one!
- 3) Wisdom Walkers: a morning walk with our herd geared towards our senior citizen population. Instead of walking through the malls, suggest a walk in the woods and/or our riding ring with our herd! An opportunity to focus on mind, body and spirit in a laid back, accommodating environment.
- 4) Farm Friends: a program set to take place late Summer/early Fall. An opportunity for families with young children to take part in "touch a pony, goat, etc", join the Audubon Society for guided and educational nature walks on Oceanwood's trail system, and explore spirituality within our Oceanwood community.
- 5) WOW - Women's Oasis Retreat: this NEW and utterly AMAZING women's retreat is set to kick off at the end of Sept/early Oct. We are honing down on our speakers and activities with a focus on mind, body, and spirit!
- 6) Oceanwood Equestrian Center Online Newsletter: first edition scheduled for release in late May, 2019!



Financial Report

2018 concluded in the red with a shortage of camper revenue and increase in program expenses. It has become evident over the years camper recruitment, church involvement, and investing in summer ministry staff and activities is a critical piece to the ministry that requires dedicated role in the year-round staff model. We are diligently addressing the needs and look forward to implementing solutions in 2019. Looking at the larger picture, it is clear that the ministry of Oceanwood is on the correct path and continuing to serve more people in a time where our ministries are needed more than ever.

New England Baptist Council								
Profit and Loss								
January 2011 - December 2018								
	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018
Income								
41000 OPERATING INCOME	\$ 1,852	\$ 1,385	\$ 1,139	\$ 848	\$ 1,201	\$ 1,280	\$ 1,323	\$ 4,826
41006 Store income	\$ 4,144	\$ 5,770	\$ 7,801	\$ 9,901	\$ 7,568	\$ 7,191	\$ 5,701	\$ 5,095
41015 C&C Revenue Conferencing	\$ 100,051	\$ 151,823	\$191,212	\$177,915	\$215,367	\$217,772	\$246,320	\$241,565
41025 C&C Rv Natures Classroom	\$ 173,289	\$ 160,816	\$195,185	\$183,262	\$171,571	\$216,025	\$226,916	\$220,555
41500 Camping Income	\$ 147,417	\$ 165,853	\$170,112	\$207,876	\$188,708	\$222,140	\$244,570	\$211,393
41505 Horse Program Income					\$ 3,435	\$ 8,613	\$ 15,381	\$ 8,765
42000 OTHER CONTRIBUTION INCOME	\$ 17,820	\$ 5,041	\$ 6,588	\$ 5,882	-\$ 418	\$ 67		
42015 FORM	\$ 62,232	\$ 73,103	\$ 23,567	\$ 20,470	\$ 41,908	\$ 36,546	\$ 32,756	\$ 41,845
Total Income	\$ 506,669	\$ 564,209	\$597,165	\$606,154	\$ 629,341	\$ 709,634	\$ 772,968	\$ 734,042
Expenses								
51000 TOTAL SALARIES	\$ 106,897	\$ 144,094	\$187,359	\$169,669	\$258,671	\$238,415	\$256,663	\$248,681
52000 TOTAL ADMIN	\$ 19,808	\$ 30,194	\$ 28,076	\$ 28,572	\$ 31,493	\$ 26,173	\$ 24,278	\$ 24,004
52035 C&C Utilities	\$ 53,486	\$ 55,456	\$ 57,864	\$ 67,871	\$ 61,473	\$ 54,929	\$ 58,524	\$ 69,713
53000 TOTAL KITCHEN	\$ 143,250	\$ 119,049	\$122,280	\$110,283	\$120,788	\$128,141	\$133,077	\$126,856
54000 TOTAL MAINTENANCE	\$ 49,628	\$ 39,425	\$ 38,317	\$ 47,888	\$ 23,280	\$ 29,514	\$ 35,040	\$ 33,383
55000 TOTAL INSURANCE	\$ 37,936	\$ 34,750	\$ 37,307	\$ 26,421	\$ 22,956	\$ 42,437	\$ 19,442	\$ 24,796
56000 TOTAL PROMOTION	\$ 6,889	\$ 10,528	\$ 9,415	\$ 11,624	\$ 8,693	\$ 9,743	\$ 11,015	\$ 10,501
57000 Total Camping Program Expense	\$ 118,728	\$ 87,724	\$100,316	\$114,987	\$156,826	\$196,442	\$193,511	\$237,161
58007 Store Expense	\$ 28	\$ 5,725	\$ 5,446	\$ 8,199	\$ 9,809	\$ 9,793	\$ 5,890	\$ 3,938
59000 Facilities / Housekeeping								\$ 8,839
Total Expenses	\$ 545,469	\$ 529,368	\$588,221	\$588,053	\$ 695,435	\$ 737,056	\$ 738,587	\$ 793,842
Net Operating Income	-\$ 38,801	\$ 34,841	\$ 8,944	\$ 18,101	-\$ 66,094	-\$ 27,422	\$ 34,381	-\$ 59,800

TABCOM Core

Operating income for 2018 was largely within budget range, with a small rebound in United Mission contributions. The fall off in FORM for CORE was offset by MMF. Going forward, the budget contemplates added support in MMF from Churches. The Property Income line, the draw from the mortgage and TABCOM funds from property sales, remains at \$50,000, however as this fund grows, there is a potential for the draw to grow in future years.

On an overall total basis, the CORE operating budget ended up in positive territory. This is almost exclusively a consequence of reduced staff expense with open staff positions. Throughout the year the Stewardship position was open, and the finance position was open for the second half of the year. Finance functions continued through the balance of 2018 and into 2019, operating on a volunteer basis.

In addition to the positions in our Regular Staff Salaries, are two that are funded by grants drawn from designated invested funds. These allow the expansion of our ministries, and an application of these funds within the guidelines established for them.

All positions are now filled, and the budget of expense in 2019 anticipates the current model. While 2018 was a positive financial year, as the staff model now in place continues, the impact on the budget for 2019 shows a deficit. To minimize, or overcome this, added support will become needed.

January - December 2018	2018	2018	over Budget	2019
	Actual	Budget		Budget
Income				
41000 REGULAR U / M INCOME	213,036	205,000	8,036	213,035
41010 Um Receipts America for	9,833	8,000	1,833	9,840
41018 FORM Undesignated	10,142	10,000	142	10,140
41019 FORM Core	19,433	30,000	-10,567	19,433
41020 B Rev MMF General All	42,490	30,000	12,490	42,490
41025 Rev G Wright Fund Core	35,672	32,000	3,672	35,600
41094 Property Income	50,000	48,500	1,500	50,000
41095 Other Rev	2,874	2,262	612	2,874
42500 RESTRICTED	686		686	685
49900 Investd Funds Draw		20,000	-20,000	1,192
49910 Investment Income	7,574	20,000	-12,426	6,791
Total Income	391,739	405,762	-14,023	392,080
Gross Profit	391,739	405,762	-14,023	392,080
Expenses				
51035 Regular Staff Salaries Exp	277,198	355,000	-77,802	340,000
52000 Coordinators & Contract Staff	13,472	15,000	-1,528	13,600
52248 Misc Contributions and Funds	7,518	5,000	2,518	7,518
52605 INTERNET ACCESS	570		570	570
52610 WEBSITE	3,504	750	2,754	3,504
53060 WMS&D Missionworks	-5,797	100	-5,897	2,000
53061 Annual Gathering	2,920	2,500	420	2,920
54045 Legal Fees	5,000		5,000	5,000
54055 Insurance	8,186	10,000	-1,814	8,186
56000 Office & Administration	30,207	15,000	15,207	30,207
59900 OTHER EXPENSES	2,748		2,748	3,000
59910 Braintree Expenses	347		347	0
65000 Payroll Taxes	11,630	12,000	-370	12,100
66000 Payroll Expenses	2,581	1,500	1,081	2,581
Total Expenses	360,083	416,850	-56,767	431,186
Net Operating Income	31,656	-11,088	42,744	-39,106

Cash remains quite strong, resulting from a positive 2018, and significantly as a result of the growth in cash held for other in the current liability accounts. There has been a significant improvement in Accounts Receivable as well, allowing a corresponding reduction in accounts payable.

Invested funds had a decrease in value due to the market conditions, particularly as the year drew to a close.

The Other Invested Funds group did, however see a significant increase as a result of the deposit of proceeds from the sale of property. This value of the account for TABCOM now exceeds \$1M, and with the addition of the Milton Street mortgage, we see this as a growing resource for TABCOM. In light of other property transactions over the next two years, and the consolidation of the Milton Street Mortgage into invested funds, it is possible that this resource may exceed \$3M, allowing an increased managed draw to help fund TABCOM operating budget for ministries.

TABCOM		As of Dec 31, 2018	As of Dec 31, 2017	Change
ASSETS	Short Term Asset / Liability	1.44	1.24	
Current Assets				
Total Bank Accounts		201,606	120,352	81,253
Total Accounts Receivable		116,385	164,571	(48,186)
Total Current Assets		317,991	283,549	34,442
Other Assets				
15000 TransFORMaTION -ABF EF1645		617,229	617,143	86
15200 20 Milton St Mortgage		800,000	800,000	0
15500 Invest for ANTS Hispanic-02581		25,151	26,490	(1,339)
Total 16500 Other Investment Funds		3,114,890	2,760,646	354,245
Total Other Assets		4,557,270	4,204,278	352,992
TOTAL ASSETS		4,875,261	4,487,827	387,434
Liabilities				
Current Liabilities				
20000 Accounts Payable		9,214	42,518	(33,304)
Total Accounts Payable		9,214	42,518	(33,304)
Other Current Liabilities				
21053 Deaf Ministries Reserve		1,824	1,566	257
21055 Ghana/African Amer Scholarship		130	130	0
21058 George R. Wright Fund		22,913	13,041	9,872
21059 Grants reserve		17,058	18,108	(1,050)
21060 Peaceseekers/Lesette Wright		250	250	0
21062 Creation Care Ministries		24,781	24,315	467
21065 Pioneer Valley Assoc Dues		1,406	1,396	10
21070 School in Ministry		72,560	60,132	12,428
21074 Mission Adventures Reserve		13,883	13,883	0
21075 China Trips reserve		1,155	1,155	0
21076 Mission Trips Misc		2,377	2,377	0
21085 Misc Events Reserve		10,922	9,773	1,149
21095 Seelam, Issac		706	906	(200)
21096 Haber, Roger		164	164	0
21100 Pappas Scholarship		11,297	11,297	0
21115 Invest Draw funding		1,331		1,331
21500 Temp. Restricted Account		5,752	5,752	0
21501 Hispanic Scholarship / ANTS		17,600	17,600	0
21503 Laura Deware-Jones		959	959	0
21504 Withman Church Sale		(1,650)	(1,650)	0
21506 Transformation Reserve		13,138	6,439	6,700
21508 New Bedford Sale		5,000		5,000
Total 21500 Temp. Restricted Account		40,799	29,100	11,700
24000 Payroll Liabilities		(2,148)	(2,280)	133
Total Other Current Liabilities		221,408	185,313	36,096
Total Current Liabilities		230,622	227,830	2,791
Total Liabilities		230,622	227,830	2,791

Friends of Regional Ministries

In 2018 the “Friends of Regional Ministries” received donations of \$457,844 bringing the total of their support since this program was introduced in 2003 to \$4,214,262. That’s a lot of money and more importantly, THAT’S A LOT OF MINISTRY!

Sixty-seven percent of the 2018 donations were designated for Grotonwood; twenty-three percent for Oceanwood; and ten percent for “helping TABCOM help churches.”

In addition to providing camperships and supporting the operational budgets, a large portion of the camp support was used to make the camps more inviting and friendly to persons with disabilities, the growing edge of the camp ministry: five accessible bathrooms; a playground with swing sets that can accommodate wheelchairs; a ramp so that campers using walkers and wheelchairs can participate in the horse program; a fund to purchase a wheelchair accessible bus...

There are more than 700 individuals, churches, and organizations on the current donor list and in 2018, 121 of them made donations of \$500 or more, and of that number, 20 gave \$5000 or more. More importantly, however, is the fact that there is a growing network of people who know more and care more about TABCOM and Grotonwood/Oceanwood.

The TransFORMATION Fund, started in 2008 as an endowment funded by the Friends of Regional Ministries, passed the \$600,000 mark towards its goal of \$1,000,000 at which time the earnings will be used for TABCOM and the camps. This fund is managed by the American Baptist Foundation and they have been very helpful resourcing individuals and churches in estate planning and endowment building.

The year was not without challenges, however, the greatest of which was the “aging” of our donor base. Approximately 70% of F.O.R.M. donors are age 65 or older. In 2018 five of our significant donors passed away and their combined giving in the last 12 months was \$200,000. New donors are coming on board at a much lower giving level.

In keeping with the goal of “Friend” raising as well as “Fund” raising, FORM staff visited 96 donors in 2018 bringing the total number of donors who have been visited to over 400. These visits, along with personal notes sent on every communication, are part of the goal to value the donor more than the donation.

As we continue to build the Friends of Regional Ministries, we thank God and we thank our “friends” for their generosity and for partnering with us as we seek to help TABCOM help churches and to provide Christian camping experiences.

Ed Guerard, Coordinator

George Wright Fund

The George Wright Fund distributed \$23,000 to four churches to help pay down mortgage principal. Grant recipients were The Baptist Church of All Nations, Common Street Spiritual Center, First Baptist Church of Fitchburg, and First Baptist Church of Hanson. Several applications are pending for 2019.

Churches with mortgage debt are encouraged to find out if they qualify for this grant. Information about the George Wright Fund is on the TABCOM website in the resources section.

Respectfully Submitted,
Mary Miller
for Paul Moore, Region Vice President

Massachusetts American Baptist Investment Trust

Feb 16, 2019

Dear MABIT Investor,

Please excuse the delay in sending along Brian Dixon's final letter to you as Chair of the Board of Trustees. While I was focused on personal and family health issues, I assure you your requests were handled within 24 hours of their receipt.

As Brian stated, there have been changes on the Board this year. Russell MacLeod was called home in January 2018. Brian has moved to warmer retirement climates and Irv Morgan stepped down from the Board. I'm pleased to announce the Rev Dr Richard Haley has accepted a position on the Board. The Board is especially appreciative of the years of dedicated service provided by Brian and Russell.

Please note there were delivery delay issues with each of the two withdrawal requests I've processed since assuming the role as Chair. Merrill Lynch requires a receipt signature with their default delivery services. One delay was a result of minimal church office coverage and the other was the inability to deliver a signature-required letter to a PO box. So, I will want to confirm the easiest and most efficient check delivery method to suit your situation when you request a withdrawal.

The Board suggests you consider reviewing your risk tolerance and asset allocation based on your current risk comfort level. Additionally, you might want to consider reviewing which potential products and services are screened out as not socially responsible for investments. For example, one church was recently surprised that defense contractors, genetic engineering and contraception were excluded areas. Merrill Lynch can provide a list of the current exclusions.

The Board will be meeting with Merrill Lynch's Barcomb Group this month for our winter update on the state of the economy and MABIT. Thankfully there have been some market improvements so far this year to help offset the fourth quarter downturn in 2018.

Lastly, if there is anything I can do to help assist you with any transaction or if you have any questions about your MABIT investment(s), do not hesitate to contact me. See the contact information at the bottom of this letter.

Respectfully yours,

David F. Lambert
MABIT Board of Trustees, Chair

Board of Trustees

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First United Baptist, Lowell
lambert@mit.edu
978.459.6959

Bengt Hermanrud, Secretary
Community Baptist, Medford

Weimin Feng
First Baptist, Wakefield

Rev. Dr. Richard Haley
First Calvary Baptist, Andover

Robert Williams
First Baptist, Acton

51st Annual Gathering ~ May 3-4, 2019

Area Ministry Services

If I were to choose a word to characterize the situations most of our churches are facing and for which they are seeking support the word would be *transition*. Clergy and churches are not exempt from the things that effect society as a whole. As many people are putting plans into place for retirement so are the pastors of many churches. This provides a natural time of looking at how God has blessed the current ministries of pastors and people, as well as how God is guiding the church's future ministries.

The times of transition are the times of deep challenges and great possibilities for God's Spirit to be at work. The conclusion, as well as the beginning of a pastoral ministry is a tender moment. It is at these tender moments that the people of God can be most vulnerable and the most reliant on God's presence. It is tempting to rush transitions and not take the time for careful and prayerful discernment. None of us would want to use decades old appliances to cook our food, and when we seek to purchase a car we are careful to assess our current needs as well as the costs. The body of Christ also needs to be thoughtful about the future and be willing to live into it. Throughout TABCOM, churches are seeking God's guidance as they try to understand which ministries need to continue and which ones need to end. Across associations in TABCOM, church leaders and the clergy are seeking to be faithful to the Great Commission and the Great Commandment.

These times of transition are also bringing about new commitments to serve in the ministry of the Gospel of Jesus Christ. This year there have been many ordinations and many clergy seeking ministerial standing with the American Baptist Churches of Massachusetts. It is encouraging to see women and men responding to the call of God on their lives. It is a privilege as church members and clergy examine these candidates for ordination, and listen to their Spiritual journeys. Those that attend the ordination councils, and services, and the installations and anniversaries of churches leave encouraged and hopeful for the future of the body of Christ.

Another part of transition is conflict. Disagreement is healthy and helps us grow in our understanding of living our faith. During the past year I have become convinced of not only the gifts of the Spirit for church growth but also need for the fruits of the Spirit to be cultivated too. It is encouraging to see churches in transition using the fruits of the Spirit as their guide while they go about vision casting and calling new pastoral leadership. I see churches growing mature disciples in vibrant communities. One of the observations of the Pew study of churches in the USA is that unresolved conflict and constant tension depletes the vitality of a congregation and is the most frequent identifying marker of a weak and declining church.

I am encouraged by the fact that churches are putting a focus on discipleship and spiritual formation when seeking church growth. I think the fruits of the Spirit are important markers of the progress of our spiritual journeys of becoming more Christ-like. In this season of transition, church members and pastors that are thriving are those who are willing to meet their challenges with creativity and faithfulness.

Association Resource Coordinators and Association Executive Committees have been listening to the challenges and joys of the member churches and their pastors. Just as congregations regularly need to ask if they are accomplishing the mission God has given them, TABCOM's Associations have also asked these questions. We are blessed in Massachusetts to have many skilled and gifted leaders in TABCOM Churches. The willingness of Association church members and their pastors to mutually bless one another helps each church be a bit more faithful, and a bit more joyful.

The search and call process is a significant part of an Association Coordinator's ministry. Coordinators partner with the Conference of Baptist Ministers when addressing the best possible way of navigating the transition between settled pastors. For several decades the materials offered by our denomination to help churches during the search and call process have remained essentially the same, as has the technology used to facilitate the process. This summer all that is changing. American Baptist Home Mission Society (ABHMS) has been beta testing a completely new protocol. The official roll out of the new search and call system will be this summer at the Biennial Mission Summit in Virginia Beach. It is called **ministrElife**. It is a very ambitious undertaking. Following the Biennial, the Coordinators of each Association will have the opportunity to learn to use the new system so they can continue to offer quality assistance to churches searching for new pastoral leadership.

The changes that effect every church also effect how Associations and TABCOM works to help churches and their leaders. All of us are prayerfully seeking to be shaped and formed by the grace of God to be every more useful to Christ's kingdom. Our Team of Coordinators has been blessed by very committed and skilled team members. This year two of our team will be retiring. I want to take the opportunity on behalf of TABCOM, the other Coordinators, and the members of their Associations to thank them. The Reverends Jim Hinds and Bob Smith will be retiring this summer and both are moving to other states. They have been faithful servants. They are creative, experienced and trustworthy, and it has been a joy to serve alongside them. As Rev. Hinds leaves the Central Association he is overlapping with the Coordinator who will serve going forward. We welcome to the team the Reverend Valeria Schmidt, pastor of Trinity Church of Northborough. The Pioneer Valley Association has benefited from having Co-Coordinators. As the Association and TABCOM assess the ministry needs in Pioneer Valley we are grateful that the Rev. Theresa Temple will continue to serve the Association.

I would like to conclude my report by saying that although there are many changes taking place, I am humbled and blessed to serve with such a faithful and committed team.

Respectfully Submitted,

(The Rev.) Marlene Gil
Associate Executive Minister of Congregational Relations

2018 Association Resource Coordinators

Adoniram Judson Rev. David Kilpatrick
dkilpat@umich.edu ~ 617-799-0705

Berkshire Rev. David Anderson
davezone68@hotmail.com ~ 413-652-4179

Boston SouthWest Rev. Moreen Hughes
mphug@msn.com ~ 978-373-6052

Central Rev. Jim Hinds
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Central Rev. Valeria Schmidt
trinitypastorvaleria@gmail.com ~ 717-860-8873

Merrimack Valley Rev. Jim Leavitt
pastorjimleavitt@comcast.net ~ 508-954-8034

Old Colony Rev. Marlene Gil
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Pioneer Valley Rev. Robert Smith
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Pioneer Valley Rev. Theresa Temple
miraclechild46@comcast.net ~ 413-315-3158

Samuel Stillman Rev. Charles Hightower
hightower.charles@gmail.com ~ 617-694-6316

Adoniram Judson Association

Here is my seventh annual report as Area Ministry Coordinator for the Adoniram Judson Baptist Association.

It has been a busy year as I have met with Pastors, churches, search committees, and Deacon Boards. I have met with a number of search committees who are seeking interim and/or permanent pastors. These include Washington Street Baptist Church in Lynn, First Baptist Church Wakefield, Immanuel Baptist Church in Ipswich, and First Baptist Church, Melrose. Melrose is now ready to begin searching for their settled Pastor.

I have also taken several Pastors and Interims to lunch to discuss issues/concerns with them.

I have attended all the meetings of the Judson Association Executive Board and work closely with them concerning the business of the Association. I have also attended the meetings of the various Area Ministry Coordinators as well as the training meeting TABCOM held.

Let me close by saying that I am available to answer questions, meet with church leaders and/or pastors, and to assist in any other ways I can. I can best be reached by cellphone: 781-820-0847 or email: dkilpat@umich.edu

Respectfully submitted,

Rev. Dr. David M. Kilpatrick

Adoniram Judson Baptist Association, Coordinator

Berkshire Association

The Berkshire Baptist Association remains TABCOM's smallest association with 8 churches involved. Our churches represent the two larger cities in the County, Pittsfield and North Adams and are then scattered throughout our hill towns and the town of Great Barrington.

Over the last year the association convened a team to revise and rewrite the by-laws of the association. That process saw visitation take place with all of our churches and a close look at who we are now as opposed to years ago when the by-laws were written. Our by-laws were paired down from six pages to three pages. The current document better reflects who we are currently as an association of churches here in the Berkshires.

The frequency of our gathering together as sister churches has decreased in recent years, going from two meetings annually to one. That said there is a real desire to see our gatherings again increase offering our churches opportunities for fellowship, worship, equipping and ministry together.

Most of our churches have a significant mission focus with our congregations supporting a variety of missionaries and ministries overseas. Some of these projects are denominational endeavors while others are not. Our little collection of churches are connected with ministries in Burkino Faso, Pakistan, Thailand and more. One church will be sending a team to Thailand later in 2019 for a two-week mission experience.

While many of our churches are small, pastored by bi-vocational or "retired" pastors there is great ministry taking place throughout the Berkshires. We are all exploring ways to continue to reach our area with the Gospel of Jesus Christ while meeting the needs of our neighbors. A host of social issues are being met by volunteers in our congregations including support for a pregnancy center, local soup kitchens, local food pantries and areas of housing and bullying.

Our greatest challenge is remaining connected to the overall TABCOM family. Being out in the western frontier or the Pacific coast of TABCOM our connection has waned in recent years. That is a challenge that we continue to discuss and explore together in our conversations.

The Berkshire Baptist Association

Boston South West Association

The Boston South West Association comprising of 39 churches in the Greater-Metro Boston Region, saw significant vitality and participation of our constituent churches during the past year, as we reached out to reclaim our churches and encourage our pastors. Our focus centered around rediscovering and redefining our purpose as an association within the TABCOM family.

The Executive Council, with its moderator Rev. Dr. Howard McLendon met monthly, with the exception of the summer months, offering support to one another and strategizing as to how we can most effectively meet the needs of our churches and pastors. Dialogue was also had around the relevancy of the association and best practices for attracting and retaining millennium clergy and the retention of these age groups in our churches.

In order to help determine what would be most beneficial and how we could support each other, an online survey was developed and conducted by the executive council and powered by surveymonkey.com. Some of the questions dealt with ...

- Congregation's greatest joys
- Congregation's greatest challenges
- Obstacles preventing from greater participation into BSW Association, and
- How the association can be of greater assistance to the congregation.

It is our hope that the results would help guide our dialogue and planning as we move forward in the community.

The Association held its Annual Meeting on April 14 hosted by the First Baptist Church in Wollaston and its Fall Meeting on October 27 hosted by the Twelfth Baptist Church in Roxbury. Both meetings reflected the eagerness of our churches to engage with the association and each other, as was evident in attendance and participation. This was done while carrying out our mission through worship, fellowship, education and outreach. Each meeting had workshops and presentations facilitated by persons who are experts in their fields. The association continued the work of being mission-minded as was evident by its fall offering going to support FBC Wakefield that was devastated by fire.

A vibrant part of the association continues to be the Committee on Ministry, meeting monthly with Chairperson, Rev. Ashlee Weist-Laird. This year...

- Seventeen candidates received pre-ordination licenses, representing Concord, Morning Star and Roslindale Baptist and were entered into the ordination process:
- Ordination councils were called by FBC Jamaica and Peoples on April 28 for Jacqueline Dyer and May 20 for Ashley Anderson to which I was in attendance:
- Ordination services were held at FBC JP and Peoples on September 30 and December 9 (I was honored to give charge to candidate on September 30).

First Baptist Church in Dorchester entered into pastoral covenant relationship with Rev. Dana Gonsal, and his instillation service was held on Sunday evening, April 29. I was honored to represent and bring greetings from TABCOM and the Association.

Metropolitan Baptist Church in Dorchester extended the call to Rev. Dr. Steven Neville, who was also installed during a Sunday evening service on September 23. Greetings and remarks were given on behalf of TABOM and the Association.

51st Annual Gathering ~ May 3-4, 2019

God continues to add to the body as He desires, indicative by the inquiries made and information given to eight ordained clergy from varying denominations and Baptist bodies, seeking standing with TABCOM and ABCUSA. Most now serving or affiliated with ABC churches.

Rev. Brenda Fluker, our association's treasurer has been in communication with all pastors, gently reminding some and encouraging all of our financial obligations to the Association and to TABCOM. We have seen some improvement in giving as a result of this surge.

Throughout the year, this coordinator offered continued support and assistance to one of its churches during the resignation of its pastor, transition to interim ministry and formation of a pastoral search committee.

Ongoing support was given to clergy/pastors in the areas of clergy compensation, retirement, short-term financial support, sabbaticals, pulpit supply, interim ministry, and membership retention.

Calls were made to all pastors/churches who have not been active participants at any of our ordination councils, association meetings or TAG meetings. Those with whom we have lost touch.

Another accomplishment for 2018 was in the area of maintaining our website and FaceBook by our web master, Rev. Greg Sakal. Pastors have been encouraged to send information relevant to the life of their congregations to Greg. We have also posted information pertaining to TABCOM and the association. This is another way we for us to offer support to one another.

This association was also represented quarterly at the board meetings for the Conference of Baptist Ministers.

As I move forward in service to this association it has been done in collaboration with our Executive Minister, Rev. Mary Miller and our Associate Executive Minister for church relations, Rev. Marlene Gil.

I am encouraged at the progress that continues to be made with the spiritual life of the association and pray that the Lord will direct our path as we seek to carry forth our mission of reaching souls for Christ and that of being a light in this dark world.

Respectfully Submitted,

Rev. Dr. Moreen P. Hughes,
Boston South West Associational Resource Coordinator

Central Massachusetts Association

51st Annual Gathering ~ May 3-4, 2019

What is a regional ministry coordinator? That is a fair question. Based on corporate models of the 1950s, Area Ministers were available for advice on pastoral and relational issues, participated in celebrations at congregations, and were also available for pulpit supply. They encouraged congregations and pastors alike to participate in association-sponsored meetings, educational opportunities, and TABCOM events.

Area Resource Coordinators do much the same ministry, with a couple of major differences: we do not serve full-time in this position, and most coordinators also serve as church pastors. Obviously, we cannot come to visit on Sunday mornings, but we are available to assist your congregation and your pastor.

It has been a pleasure to serve as the ARC for Central Association. I retire from ministry as of June 30, 2019, and will relocate to Keene, NH. Over the last four years, I learned much and shared much with area churches: installations, retirements, pastoral searches. I firmly believe in the gain from participating with other congregations – associating. ABC USA and TABCOM have some excellent resources that churches need to know about, and should be encouraged to utilize.

The Rev. Valeria Schmidt (info below) will take on this ministry as Jim retires. If you would like to ask questions about what to do in any given church-related situation, please call. We will assist you as best we can – drawing on various resources within TABCOM. We will also refer you to others who can help. Coordinators are also the primary contacts for churches in the search process for an interim or settled pastor.

WE ARE A RESURRECTION PEOPLE –LET US REMEMBER AND REJOICE IN THIS!

In Christ's Love,
Rev. Jim Hinds

Pastor (retiring), First Baptist Church in Gardner

Incoming ARC

Rev. Valeria Schmidt

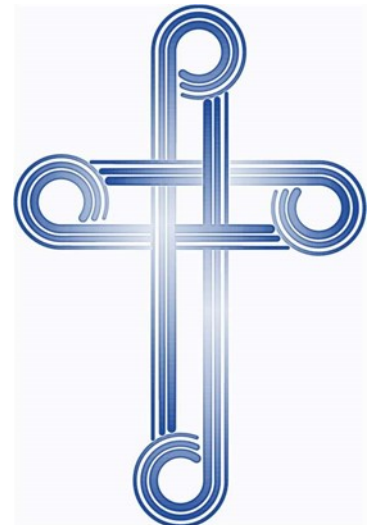
Pastor, Trinity Church of Northborough

23 Main Street, Northborough

508-393-8156 / 717-860-8873

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Area Resource Coordinator, CMBA, TABCOM



Merrimack Valley Association

The past year has been fairly similar to last year my time as the Interim Pastor at Weston has continued. This has meant that I am not able to visit churches on Sundays, but I can still be in communication with our association pastors. In addition, the Area Resource Coordinators continue to be the primary search consultants for each association.

At the time of my report for our 2017 Fall Meeting, there were two area churches that were in the search process. Calvary Baptist in Haverhill has called the Rev. Kenneth Young to be their settled pastor and he began serving the church on January 1st. The other church, First United Baptist has said their good byes to two interim pastors and welcomed the Rev. Dr. James Sinclair as their settled pastor. He began his ministry with the church on September 17th.

We have also had one pastor retire this past year as Rev. Dr. Ed Bacon concluded his ministry with North Billerica Baptist Church as of June 30, 2018. He and his wife moved back to Maine to enjoy some well-earned rest. In addition, Rev. Richard Norwood, pastor of Faith Chapel, formerly Chelmsford Street Baptist Church passed away in the Spring. Subsequently the church turned to an outside person to assist them following Rev. Norwood's death, and they have since notified the Executive Board of their decision to withdraw from the association and continue as an independent congregation. I have worked with the Executive Board to communicate with the leadership regarding the Association's process for finalizing the withdrawal. At the October 2018 meeting, the delegates approved Faith Chapel's request to disassociate from The Association and from TABCOM. In November, North Billerica Baptist called Rev. Jana Yeaton to be its Interim Pastor.

I continue to attend the meetings of the Executive Board and the thrice annual meetings of the coordinators. I feel that connections that had been made at the time of last year's report have been strengthened, and is evidenced by increased attendance at some of the association events. I look forward to the coming year and working with the new pastors and the established pastors as we continue to work to build the body of Christ in the Merrimack Valley.

Rev. James W. Leavitt

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Old Colony Association

The Old Colony Baptist Association (OCBA) has 50 member churches, and two clergy groups that meet monthly from October to June. There are also several clusters of churches who work together on various projects, or combine for special worship services.

The two clergy groups as well as the cluster relationships mirror some of the historic associations that combined to form the OCBA. The previous Barnstable Association mirrors the geographical locations of the clergy group's participants. As in most Associations, the OCBA churches and clergy are diverse racially, ethnically, and theologically. Some congregations would more readily see themselves as evangelical and others would consider themselves to be mainline. Dually aligned churches most often share a relationship with the United Baptist Convention and the American Baptist Churches, USA (ABCUSA). There are also three federated churches. Two of which participate in the United Church of Christ (UCC) and ABCUSA and one that is active with three denominations, ABCUSA, UCC, and United Methodist. The Association leadership is already working on putting together the history of the Association for the 200th Anniversary Celebration. Rev. Diane Badger was excited to find a newspaper article from 1822 mentioning that churches from the Warren Association would be forming an association which eventually became known OCBA.

With almost a 200 year history it would be tempting to focus on what God has done instead of what God wants us to do. I am blessed to work with such a committed and creative Executive Committee. The Baptist Distinctive of the Association Principal is lived out in several ways. Clergy are encouraged to participate in one of the two existing clergy groups or form a new group that will offer support, skill building, fellowship, accountability and prayer. We seek to identify and support best practices of church governance, and provide current information. The Association has a subscription to access the most current information from ChurchLawAndTax.com and our Treasurer is ready to research questions from member churches. The Association is represented regularly to the Conference of Baptist ministers of Massachusetts, the Massachusetts Baptist Charitable Society, and the TABCOM Nominating Committee. Thanks to the work of the Old Colony Baptist Women's White Cross Coordinator churches support the mission work of our denomination by gathering specific items requested by ABC Missionaries on the field. The Association's Committee on the Ministry meets with candidates seeking ordination first following their receipt of their Pre-Ordination License, and then following the completion of the TABCOM Ministerial Preparation process to help the candidate prepare for their ordination council.

Although printed copies of Association communications are available, like most of our member churches we minimize the sending of material through the mail and have reaped the cost savings of using our FaceBook page, our email program and our web-site to communicate with OCBA churches and clergy.

The Association is blessed by all but 4 of our Association Churches paying their yearly dues. This affords us the opportunity to offer grants that supply seed money for new ministries or projects to help strengthen the ministry of a local church. Churches who are financially unable to pay their yearly dues may make a lesser contribution, or ask the Association to pay their dues for them for the current year.

OCBA focuses on three main events per year. In January of 2018 the Association Breakfast was hosted by Messiah Baptist Church of Brockton. The Rev. Dr. Mary Day Miller was our featured speaker, and presented an introduction to appropriate clergy and church leadership boundaries and ethics for the local church. The Spring Conference is a daylong opportunity to host a noted speaker and author that addresses a current day topic that aids in church growth, or discipleship. This conference is co-sponsored by the Conference of Baptist Ministers, and open to all of TABCOM. In 2018 First Baptist Church of Hanson hosted the Spring Conference featuring Rev. Dr. Deborah Jackson speaking on Leadership Development. During the Fall, a member church hosts a day long mission project. This is a hands on project to help a sister church accomplish a task related to their church campus that they would not be able to accomplish without the assistance of sister churches. People of every age and skill level are encouraged to come. It is an intergenerational day including skilled people who work in trades as well of

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those who help with gardening and keep the coffee hot and plentiful. The day begins with devotions by the pastor of the host church. Although the host church supplies lunch and refreshments during registration, the Association reimburses the church for costs, and pays for materials used on site for the day.

Messiah Baptist Church has several members attending the TABCOM School of Ministry, and having pre-ordination licenses. OCBA participated in two ordination councils and services. First Baptist Attleboro ordained Rebecca Driscoll, and First Baptist Hingham ordained Michael Dickenson in 2018. The Rev. Stephen Trimble was installed as the settled pastor of First Baptist Church of North Attleborough and Cynthia Correia was installed as the settled pastor of Community Baptist Church of Marion. First Baptist Church of Abington called the Rev. Stephen Sandeen as pastor. Continuing in pastoral search is United Parish of Carver, and First Baptist Church of Fall River. We also grieved with the First Baptist Church of Mansfield at the death of their pastor, Rev. Dr. Rollin Karnhem and seek to support Community Baptist Church of Marion as they entered into a new period of transition. Brewster Baptist Church requested materials and a meeting to discuss the process for obtaining Ministerial Standing with ABCUSA, and the process for ABC recognized ordination.

The work of the OCBA includes so much more than the work of the Executive Committee or of its Coordinator. I am grateful for the leaders who serve and the church members and clergy who take the Association Principal to heart. Their willingness and commitment to associating with one another in ways that are mutually supporting is the life blood of our Association.

Respectfully Submitted,

Marlene Gil
Old Colony Resource Coordinator

Pioneer Valley Association

The Pioneer Valley Baptist Association (PVA) has been in the process of rebuilding for a few years. The Association is unique because it includes rural, and urban areas, and cities and towns with public and private colleges and universities. We have found that we are more effective serving the churches and pastors in this association by using a co-coordinator model. This has allowed each of us to work from our strengths and offer assistance developed by our individual experiences in ministry.

In addition to visiting pastors and churches we have begun a clergy group that meets monthly for lunch, fellowship and prayer. Pioneer Valley does not have a formal Executive Committee and this group functions as an informal leadership team as well as a supportive accountability group of peers. We are blessed by the participation of clergy who are newer to ministry in the Pioneer Valley, those who have been serving for some time as well as those who are retired.

We have begun having Association Meetings at least once per year, and we are intentional about inviting each other and our congregations to anniversary celebrations and special services. This has opened us to different worship experiences and different traditions that are very much a part of our various host churches. We have held prayer meetings to pray for PVA church ministries and their communities. We have also gathered at the invitation of the Shutesbury Baptist Church to join a special prayer meeting for the persecuted church.

In October of 2018 the First Baptist Church of Holyoke celebrated its 215th Anniversary.

The Second Baptist Church of South Hadley has a TABCOM School of Ministry graduate who is pursuing ordained ministry. The Association's Committee on the Ministry was reestablished in 2018, and is working with her and several other candidates. Although some of us are familiar with the process of a ABCUSA recognized ordination, most of us have needed to review the requirements, so we can support all who are now responding to the call of God on their life to be set apart for ministry.

As Coordinators we meet with our counterparts from the other TABCOM Associations, TABCOM Executive Minister and TABCOM Associate Executive Minister to discuss the common experiences of Associations and Churches and give input to TABCOM regarding emphases that effect churches. We work to help churches who are experiencing conflict and transition. Pastor Bob most often meets with churches who are involved with search and call.

During 2018 Second Baptist of South Hadley, Central Baptist Church of Westfield, First Baptist Church of Agawam, Granville Federated and the Shutesbury Baptist Church sought God's guidance for their vision and the pastoral leadership to partner with the church to put these visions into action. Pastor Theresa has helped give a sense of order, to what can be a messy process. She has been instrumental in developing ties and deepening relationships with the churches in Springfield. She undergirds the Association's work with prayer and uses her gifts in administration to move the Association forward.

How we do things will go through another change this year as Pastor Bob retires and moves to Connecticut. His willingness to be a caring, encouraging, authentic presence has set the tone for our Association's work. Going forward we will need to assess the best way of building on the foundation we have. We are continuing to build relationships and try the things we think will strengthen and encourage member churches. Our desire is not to recreate what some of us fondly remember, but instead find the ways that we can encourage and support one another in today's world while we serve Jesus Christ.

The Reverends Bob Smith and Theresa Temple
Co-Association Resource Coordinators.

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Samuel Stillman Association

For the year 2018, the SSA ARC has continued to visit churches as requested as well as follow-up with pastors and churches who may not be active within the association. The SSA ARC has also continued to reach out to the pastors within SSA to be a resource as needed.

Over the past year, the SSA ARC has primarily focused on providing support and encouragement to churches within the Samuel Stillman Association who are going through the process of searching for a pastor. Several (3) SSA churches were in the midst of pastoral search processes over the past year; in which the SSA ARC either met with their pastoral search committees on an ongoing basis and/or provided resources such as ABC candidate profiles.

During 2018, one of our sister churches, Trinity Baptist Church, called a settled pastor. In instances when the settled pastor was either on vacation and/or unable carry out the responsibilities of their office for a temporary amount of time, as requested the SSA ARC referred ministers for pulpit supply.

The SSA ARC met with 9 pastors throughout the year to provide counsel as requested. In instances where the pastor and church needed some assistance in resolving conflict, the SSA ARC as requested, served as a mediator and/or directed the parties to mediation resources available within TABCOM.

The SSA ARC attended all but one scheduled and/or specially called SSA executive board meetings, the SSA Annual Meeting, the SSA Fall Meeting, and TABCOM Annual Gathering over the course of the past year.

Additionally, the SSA ARC met with a local area minister from a different denomination who pastors a church located within the SSA geographical area, who expressed a desire to explore the possibility of some type of affiliation with the SSA.

Finally, the SSA ARC continues to pray for all of the SSA sister churches to grow both spiritually and numerically as they carry on the Great Commission and express the love of Jesus Christ within their communities.

Yours In Christ,
Rev. Charles Hightower Jr.
Associational Resource Coordinator
Samuel Stillman Association

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Haitian Liaison

My ministry as a the Haitian Liaison worked alongside the ministry of the Haitian American Baptist Ministers Association (HABMA) under the leadership of Rev, Daniel Auguste. This first year gave me the opportunity to get to know many pastors in the Haitian community. I participated in many HABMA meetings and shared with the pastors the TABCOM Notes and Half Notes. We encourage one another with the Word of God.

In the beginning of the year we had our first Unity Worship Service, and we are hoping to continue having it every year. We are also planning to have a gathering during the summer in the form of a picnic, not only to enjoy a moment together but also to witness to the lost.

The greatest regret I have is that our meetings are not well attended. I'm hoping that many more pastors get the chance to participate and share their ideas, needs, and blessings with us.

Rev. Veronique Lapaix
Eglise Baptiste Eben Ezer

Hispanic Liaison

Dear Friends,

Blessings to you in the Name of our Lord Jesus Christ!

For those of you who do not yet know me, I am Rev. Jose Nora, the Hispanic Liaison of our denomination in the Massachusetts region.

One of my functions is to visit churches and be in communication with them in case they need any help. I had participated in some of our events and on special occasions, pulpit supply. I also help with resources for Hispanics and other minorities such as: creating training centers for workers and discipleship, getting Bibles, books, sound equipment, projectors, and computers.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me by e-mail at rev.josenora@gmail.com

Blessings,

Rev. Jose Nora
Hispanic TABCOM Liaison

Native American Liaison

I am very honored to be the Liaison to the Native American people here in Massachusetts. As of now I primarily work with the Wampanoag people of Aquinnah. They are some of the kindest, hardworking, and faithful people I have ever worked with.

This past Spring through the Fall we were busy working to make the 325th anniversary of the Community Baptist Church a reality. This took many hours of planning. Many people from the Tribe, TABCOM, community and the congregation helped, and it was a wonderful success.

In the spring, we had a work day at the church which over 40 people from the Tribe, TABCOM and our Vineyard Haven congregations participated. We were able to scrape, sand, and paint, most of the outside of the building and paint all of the inside.

In the fall, we celebrated the 325th Anniversary as the oldest continual Native American Congregation in North America. In spite of very inclement weather, it was a great success.

We had in attendance at least five Native American tribes represented. Donald Robertson traveled all the way from Western N.Y. to be with us. The food, music and stories were all Native American.

Throughout this past six-months, we have been busy working with the town of Aquinnah, and other agencies to do the necessary repairs to the parsonage. This building was donated by one of the tribal members years ago to be used for the housing of a pastor for their church. It has been used for several things, even as the Tribal headquarters while they were building their new facilities. Over the years, the building has fallen in disrepair, The property is beautiful, it overlooks to the South and the open ocean.

Many more things can and will be done. We need specially to work with the children of the community. Aquinnah can feel isolated from the rest of society, that is good and bad. Fortunately we have a wonderful women named Melissa, who has a great heart for the children.

I am so thankful I for my wife Cindy, who has been a blessing and encouragement, she also helps provide music each Sunday for our worship service.

Respectfully submitted

Dr. Leo D. Christian

The Rev. Dr. Leo D. Christian

TABCOM Liaison to the Native North American Peoples

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Portugese Speaking Liaison

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It is a privilege to act as a Liaison to the Executive Minister for the Portuguese-Speaking community. It is a voluntary position, with the freedom that it entails, but it also comes with some natural demands and challenges, considering the fact that we, liaisons, already have our time committed to other ministries. There is no power involved, but only service. And – thank God – there is no better source of contentment than serving.

As a Liaison, I have a two-way road: I represent TABCOM in the Portuguese-Speaking community, and at the same time I represent the community before TABCOM. Though I normally act at the request of one of the parties upon some specific need, issue, or situation, I also try to promote, through different events, and with the help of Rev. Jackson Oliveira and Rev. Miguel Ribeiro da Silva (both members of our Caucus' Executive Committee), a better understanding and relationship between TABCOM and our Pastors and churches. To this end contributes our participation in different denominational activities and those within the Brazilian community. Here is a list of cases and situations attended to last year:

1. Personal participation and incentive to others to participate in different regional (especially the Annual Gathering) and national denomination activities (Space for Grace Conference, Intercaucus, etc.).
2. Met with the leadership of a church to provide requested advice and guidance regarding their relationship with a Brazilian leader and his church.
3. Recommended and introduced a new Pastor of a Brazilian church to the ABC host church's leader.
4. Sought to help a Pastor in crisis both directly and providing information about other sources of help.
5. Provided advice and encouragement to a Pastor in his ordination recognition process.
6. Following up the process of affiliation of a Pastor and his church to TABCOM/ABC.
7. Meeting with the President of the Conference of Ministers of the National Baptist Convention of Brazil, Rev. Filipe Espindola, at a Brazilian church in Worcester.
8. Helped to promote the Brazilian meeting during the Annual Gathering with Rev. Simonal Lima, of New Jersey.
9. Coordination of the process of examination and ordination of two Brazilian candidates to the Ministry from Rev. Elias Meireles' church, The Renewed Baptist Church of Framingham.
10. Encouraged our community to get involved in two workshops last year, one about depression and suicide prevention (called by the Brazilian Consulate) and another in Framingham about immigration, promoted along with Rev. Salvador Orellana's office.

I am thankful to TABCOM (and more directly to Rev. Dr. Mary Day Miller) for allowing me this space for service within the family. It is my prayer and hope that our community will grow stronger and more engaged in the Christian mission and our denominational ties.

In the love of Christ, our Lord, I humbly submit the present report.

Rev. Dr. Dalton H. Said
April 23, 2019

Social Media Coordinator

Dear Sisters and Brothers.

I greet you in the name of the Jesus Christ, our Lord & Savior,

*You who bring good news to Zion, go up on a high mountain.
You who bring good news to Jerusalem, lift up your voice with a shout,
lift it up, do not be afraid; say to the towns of Judah,
Here is your God!" Isaiah 40:9*

First and foremost, I thank God and I give Him all of the glory, honor and praise.

Not only am I brand new to TABCOM, as of 12/2/18, but it is my understanding that this is a brand new position and with any new beginnings there is a learning curve. Therefore, please be patient with me as I am still learning my way around TABCOM.

My **Mission** as the TABCOM Social Media Coordinator is to increase awareness of TABCOM events which enable and support our member churches. In keeping with the spirit of spreading the Good News of the Gospel of Jesus Christ, this position will facilitate spreading the good news of what TABCOM is doing, and fostering increased participation in church events and community activities.

My **Goal** is to increase communication between TABCOM and its member churches as well as with the wider Church and surrounding communities.

My **Purpose** is to serve as advisor to others to help ensure that information on all pertinent activities that are planned or in progress are shared, as suitable, with the members of TABCOM and the community at large.

What has been accomplished between 12/2/18 and now?

- ◇ The FaceBook page <https://www.facebook.com/theamericanbaptistchurchesofmassachusetts/> has been updated.
- ◇ The website at <https://tabcom.org/> has been revamped.
- ◇ We have a Twitter page <https://twitter.com/TabcomMa> as well as an Instagram page <https://www.instagram.com/tabcom189/>.
- ◇ TABCOM Notes <https://tabcom.org/tabcom-notes/> and TABCOM Half Notes <https://tabcom.org/tabcom-halfnotes-2/> have been upgraded.

My prayer is to be able to attend more of the TABCOM churches events so that I can take photos and videos to share on social media and to get to know all of you.

I pray that 2019 will allow us to communicate more effectively and to boldly share the Good News of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ.

Respectfully Submitted,

Min. Robyn M. Mars
TABCOM Social Media Coordinator

“

I can do ALL things through Christ who gives me strength.”

Deaf & Hard of Hearing Ministry

TABCOM Deaf & Hard of Hearing Ministry changed its name this past year to New England Deaf & Hard of Hearing Ministry as it was pointed out to me that since I serve the entire New England region and not just the state of Massachusetts, it would make sense to have a name that reflected that. I was busy over this year coordinating ASL interpreters upon request and facilitating consultations at local churches. I also offered two workshops for Christian interpreters, one on helping clergy and church leaders understand the role of the interpreter and the other on analyzing frozen text for Christian settings. I also ran a workshop at the Annual Gathering on Accommodating Hard of Hearing People in churches.

I ran a Deaf Awareness Sunday at River of Life Church and I continued with discipleship of a deaf/blind woman, who is like a modern -day Helen Keller. Alpha Omega Deaf Church in Providence, RI hosted a statewide prayer meeting in April, sponsored by New England Deaf & Hard of Hearing Ministry. I also had the chance to interpret for an ordination in Sturbridge for a deaf pastor who is now a Reverend!

I am grateful to those who supported me this past year both in finances and in prayer, as well as participating in the events that were planned.

Respectfully Submitted,

Anne Freeman
Coordinator, New England Deaf & hard of hearing Ministry
An adjunct ministry of TABCOM

Director of Missions

Dear Sisters and Brothers,

For many of you, this is my first opportunity to reach out to you and introduce myself. My name is Nayda Aguila and I am so pleased to have this opportunity to share a bit about what excites me most about working in the Missions area at TABCOM.

I have visited some churches, attended some Association meetings and during the month of July we will be going to Puerto Rico on a mission trip. We will be helping to restore, rebuild and renew Puerto Rico after hurricane Maria. You still have time to sign up.

It is my hope to be able to talk to people about my experience and the importance of mission work in the U.S. and outside of the U.S.

I look forward to working alongside you to make a difference in the lives of those we serve. Together, I know we will continue to make hope possible.

Keep my family and I in your prayers.

Dios te bendiga,
Nayda

Elder Ministry

This year was my first year on TABCOM staff and it was such a blessing.

The bulk of the year was spent making connections and learning about our region.

I invited the Rev. Kathryn Palen, Associate Executive Minister for Eldercare Ministry in ABCORI, to present a workshop on issues in Elder Ministry at our Fall MissionWorks Conference, where I was a member of the planning team. The workshop was very well attended - we had around 30 participants.

I attended the Fall and Spring meetings of the Boston Southwest Association and was able to get information out about our new Facebook Group ([TABCOM Elder Ministry](#)) and our new Blog ([aginggracefullyliving.wordpress.com](#)). I handed out flyers and introduced myself at the Old Colony breakfast and gave a workshop on Intergenerational Ministry at the Fall meeting of the Samuel Stillman Association which was very well received. I was invited to preach on Intergenerational Ministry at First Baptist Needham, Berkshire Union Chapel, Messiah Baptist Church. I gave a workshop at the Catalyst Conference in North Adams, MA. I visited Avon Baptist Church and attended their monthly ministry lunch to for local seniors and wrote about it for our FB group. I have a list of future plans to visit many more ministries in our region. I visited the AWESOME Memory Café program at First Baptist Littleton. Each time I visit, I will write and post about it, as one of my main goals is for all of us in the region to be more aware of what our sister churches are doing for seniors in their local communities.

I will be presenting a workshop at TAG and also have set up a table so that Elder Ministry will be a visible presence at all TABCOM gatherings.

In addition to being involved with the various ministry events in our region, I also focused on making community connections, as I hope to be a bridge between the Church and local communities. I attended the annual HESSCO Conference at Lake Pearl in Wrentham. I met with Lina Arena DeRosa, director of the Westwood Council on Aging, to plan a number of partnership activities with First Baptist Westwood and the Westwood Senior Center- one of which will be an Intergenerational Summer VBS on the theme of food scarcity to happen this August 12th-16th.

I made connections and built relationships with the Medfield and Dover Senior Centers by attending a number of their programs. I meet twice a month to read inspirational messages to the group at "The Club" in Medfield- a memory care day program. I also participated in a memoir writing group for Seniors through the Dover COA- and plan to extend an invitation to the group to continue meeting to write down our family stories.

I regularly attended TABCOM staff meetings at Grotonwood, and plan to attend the Biennial this June in Virginia Beach.

It has been an amazing year of growth for me, both as a minister and a TABCOM staff member. Thank you so very much for the opportunity.

In His service,
The Rev. Christine Keddy
TABCOM Elder Ministry Coordinator
Keddy@tabcom.org

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TABCOM School of Ministry

The TABCOM School of Ministry has been providing high-quality, praxis-based training since 2012. Envisioned by Rev. Dr. Tony Pappas and Rev. Bruce Bardon with the conviction that, moving forward, pastoral leadership will become increasingly “tent-making,” composed of persons with a second, often secular, employ. Churches of tomorrow will need lay leaders who know their faith, are highly skilled, and give priority to God’s call on their life.

New models of pastoral leadership are emerging with less focus on credentials and formality of training, and more emphasis on quality functioning and practical effectiveness. Shortly after launching, Minister Olga Tines partnered with the school to work on program development.

Many TABCOM pastors have taught sessions bringing their expertise and breadth of experience. Each year of the three-year curriculum has a focus; foundations (biblical, theological, and understanding one’s call), communication (hermeneutics and homiletics), and leadership. Students can join at any point in the cycle.

Enrollment varies, but we typically average 15-18 students. Several of our students are in the Track Three Ordination process. Some graduates are serving in pastoral roles, others are in expanded roles in their home church. More information can be found on the TABCOM website.

Respectfully submitted,

Rev. Bruce Bardon

TABCOM By-Laws Task Force

2019 TABCOM Bylaws Task Force

TABCOM BOD has initiated a review and update of its Bylaws and Standing Rules to reflect changes to the organization over the past few years.

In addition, it is working to reflect its mission with more simplicity and focus than previously expressed.

The team is comprised of Barbara Drauschke, Dexter Bishop, Michael Harvey, Kevin Porter and Mary Miller.

The aim is to have a version to socialize to the TABCOM membership and present for the next annual meeting. If anyone has comments they would like to provide regarding the Bylaws or the Standing Rules, please send them to Kevin Porter at kep@tiac.net.

Kevin Porter

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Conference of Baptist Ministers in Massachusetts

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MA Baptist Investment Trust

Rev. Brian Dixon, brian.dixon117@gmail.com

MA Baptist Multicultural Ministries

Rev. Mar Imsong, *Executive Director*

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MA Council of Churches

Rev. Laura Everett, *Executive Director*

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www.masscouncilofchurches.org

MA Interfaith Power & Light

PO Box 590564, Newton Centre, MA 02459 ~ 617-244-0755 ~ www.mipandl.org

Ministers and Missionaries Benefits Board (MMBB)

475 Riverside Drive, Suite 1700, NY, NY 10115 ~ 800-986-6222 ~ www.mmbb.org

Northern Baptist Education Society

Rev. Roger Spinney, *Executive Secretary*

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Doug Tatreau, *Treasurer* ~ 781-664-4266 ~ dtatreau@comcast.net northernbaptisteducation.org

TABCOM Presidents

51st Annual Gathering ~ May 3-4, 2019

<u>YEAR</u>	<u>LOCATION OF MEETING</u>	<u>PRESIDENT</u>	<u>EXECUTIVE MINISTER</u>
1969	Newton Centre	Richard M. Owens	Ellis J. Holt
1970	Lowell First Baptist	Richard M. Owens	Ellis J. Holt
1971	Pittsfield First Baptist	Richard M. Owens	Ellis J. Holt
1972	Hyannis	Logan Massee	Ellis J. Holt
1973	Chicopee	Logan Massee	Ellis J. Holt
1974	Bedford, New Hampshire	Ruth E. Thompson	Ellis J. Holt
1975	Waltham	Ruth E. Thompson	Roscoe C. Robison
1976	Chicopee	Ernest Hatch Roscoe	C. Robison
1977	Boston	Ernest Hatch Roscoe	C. Robison
1978	Hyannis	Charles L. McEachern	Roscoe C. Robison
1979	Bedford	Charles L. McEachern	Roscoe C. Robison
1980	Worcester First Baptist	Albert B. Dean	Roscoe C. Robison
1981	Pittsfield First Baptist	Albert B. Dean	Roscoe C. Robison
1982	Danvers	Louis R. Beckwith	Roscoe C. Robison
1983	Chicopee	Louis R. Beckwith	Roscoe C. Robison
1984	Wenham	Lucille G. Craig	Roscoe C. Robison
1985	Worcester First Baptist	Lucille G. Craig	Roscoe C. Robison
1986	Newton Centre First Baptist	Henry C. Brooks	Roscoe C. Robison
1987	Pittsfield First Baptist	Henry C. Brooks	Roscoe C. Robison
1988	Lowell First United Baptist	Erma S. Ferrin	Roscoe C. Robison
1989	Hyannis	Erma S. Ferrin	Roscoe C. Robison
1990	Amherst	Dale Lock	Linda C. Spoolstra
1991	Boston First Baptist	Dale Lock	Linda C. Spoolstra
1992	Lowell First Baptist	Isaac Crawford, Jr.	Linda C. Spoolstra
1993	Pittsfield First Baptist	Isaac Crawford, Jr.	Linda C. Spoolstra
1994	North Falmouth	Donald B. Morris	Linda C. Spoolstra
1995	Boston Tremont Temple	Donald B. Morris	Linda C. Spoolstra
1996	North Falmouth	C. Jean Duecker	Linda C. Spoolstra
1997	North Falmouth	C. Jean Duecker	Linda C. Spoolstra
1998	Pittsfield First Baptist	Amber Sheibley	Linda C. Spoolstra
1999	Pittsfield First Baptist	Amber Sheibley	Linda C. Spoolstra
2000	Andover	Bradford H. Lyle	Linda C. Spoolstra
2001	Boston Leon de Juda	Bradford H. Lyle	Linda C. Spoolstra
2002	Sturbridge	Walter E. Cooper	Linda C. Spoolstra
2003	Brockton Mt. Moriah Baptist	Walter E. Cooper	Linda C. Spoolstra
2004	West Springfield	Barbara Sinclair Ward	Robert B. Wallace
2005	Mansfield	Barbara Sinclair Ward	Robert B. Wallace
2006	Boxborough	Conley Hughes, Jr.	Anthony G. Pappas
2007	Boxborough	Conley Hughes, Jr.	Anthony G. Pappas
2008	Fall River	Twila Wanamaker	Anthony G. Pappas
2009	Grotonwood	Twila Wanamaker	Anthony G. Pappas
2010	Pittsfield First Baptist	Kevin Porter	Anthony G. Pappas
2011	Norwood, First Baptist/ Fourpoints	Kevin Porter	Anthony G. Pappas
2012	South Hadley, Second Baptist	Ellen Tatreau	Anthony G. Pappas
2013	Four Points by Sheraton, Leominster	Ellen Tatreau	Anthony G. Pappas
2014	DoubleTree, Leominster	Jason Rutherford	Anthony G. Pappas
2015	DoubleTree, Leominster	Howard McLendon	Anthony G. Pappas
2016	DoubleTree, Leominster	Howard McLendon	Mary Day Miller
2017	DoubleTree, Leominster	Annette Thomas	Mary Day Miller
2018	DoubleTree, Leominster	Annette Thomas	Mary Day Miller
2019	DoubleTree, Leominster	Gary Ludwig	Mary Day Miller

51st Annual Gathering ~ May 3-4, 2019

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FRESH EXPRESSIONS Is Coming to TABCOM!

LEARN MORE how Fresh Expressions facilitates Church Renewal. Attend one of two workshops by Fresh Expressions staff during the TABCOM Annual Gathering. Also, you can check out

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FRESH EXPRESSIONS VISION DAY for TABCOM will be Saturday, September 7th, at Grotonwood. Be listening for details!

TABCOM/ABCORI MISSIONWORKS PLANNING TEAM

invite you to

MissionWorks 2019 ~ October 4-5, 2019

DoubleTree by Hilton, Leominster, MA

thank you

Special thank you to:

- Community Baptist Church of Somerville for sharing musicians and for financial sponsorship of our music.
- TABCOM ABWM for sponsoring our Annual Gathering Youth Event.
- Trinity Baptist Church in Arlington for sharing their musical talents.

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