

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

2021 ANNUAL BUSINESS MEETING
MAY 1, 2021

T **gether**
in the
Race...

Therefore, since we are surrounded by such a great cloud of witnesses, let us throw off everything that hinders and the sin that so easily entangles. And let us run with perseverance the race marked out for us, Hebrews 12:1

THE AMERICAN BAPTIST CHURCHES OF MASSACHUSETTS

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MASSACHUSETTS



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Churches Partnering to Transform Lives and Communities

2020 ANNUAL REPORT

TABCOM seeks to add value
To the ministry to which God
Has called each congregation.
These are the reports and reflection
from the staff, officers and ministry teams for the year 2019

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Officers & Leadership 2020-2021

OFFICERS

Executive Minister: [Rev. Dr. Mary Miller](#)
President: [Rev. Daryn Bunce Stylianopoulos](#)
Vice President: Rev. Josh Cahan
Treasurer: [Weimin Feng](#)
Clerk: [Barbara Drauschke](#)
Immediate Past President: Rev. Gary Ludwig

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Elected	Representatives Nominated by Ethnic Communities
Rev. Doug Scalise Brewster, Brewster Baptist Church	Hispanic Ministries Representative
Darryl Hamilton Jamaica Plain, First Baptist Church	Portuguese Ministries Representative
Sabrina Ozit Medford, West Medford Baptist Church	Asian Ministries Representative
Rev. Barbara Headley Springfield, Zion Community Baptist Church	Haitian Ministries Representative
Pearl Morrison Boston, People's Baptist	
Rev. Kevin Porter Lowell, First United Baptist Church	
Ramona Farley Taylor Dorchester, Metropolitan Baptist Church	

COMMISSION ON ORDAINED MINISTRY

Ministerial Preparation Committee: Rev. Stephanie Salina, ~ First Baptist Westwood
Ministerial Standing Committee: Rev. Barbara Jean ~ Somerset, Somerset Baptist
Watchcare: Rev. Ellen Tatreau ~ Jamaica Plain, First Baptist

MINISTRY TEAM CHAIRS

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

ASSOCIATION MODERATORS

Adoniram Judson: Rev. Eric Nelson/
Berkshire: Rev. David Anderson
Boston South West: Rev. Dr. Andre' Morgan
Central: Rev. Valeria Schmidt
Merrimack Valley: Emily Leavitt
Old Colony: Rev. Baffour Nkrumah Appiah
Pioneer Valley Association: Rev. Theresa Temple
Samuel Stillman: Rev. Lisa Deely-Smith

Executive Minister's Report

Executive Minister's Report

The Lord your God goes with you; he will never leave you nor forsake you. (Deuteronomy 31:6)

What a year. A Facebook friend reported that her young son said, “You know, Mom, we are living through a chapter of the social studies book.” How right he is.

This is now going to be our second virtual Annual Gathering. COVID-19 has brought with it no small measure of grief and chaos. We are beginning to have a sense that “the end is in sight”, but we do not yet know exactly how the story will end.

But God’s people have stepped up. How blessed I have been to see our TABCOM churches pivoting to new methods for worship and ministry in “these unprecedented times.” We have all embraced the new reality of virtual worship and Zoom meetings. Even as we return to our sanctuaries, we know that things will be different. WE are different.

I have witnessed extraordinary ministry in our churches this year. In the face of significant trials, God’s people in TABCOM have been generous and compassionate and creative. Well done, faithful servants!

Likewise, your TABCOM staff has pivoted as events have been canceled, and much of our Regional work “went virtual.” Events like MissionWorks, Church Leadership Day, and the Annual Gathering were successfully held online. Committees and Associations have moved forward with online meetings. We have even moved through six ordinations (councils and services) in a virtual or hybrid format. Who would have believed it?! We miss gathering in person but God has blessed us to continue Kingdom work despite it all.

In response to the pandemic, we have provided a number of virtual and written resources. My projects have included “Coffee with Mary,” Re-opening Conversations, virtual clergy gatherings, meetings with ethnic caucuses, and numerous written updates, videos, etc. I produced four “guest sermon” videos; I wrote a COVID-related article, published by Christian Citizen. I have visited more churches virtually than I ever could in person. I have participated in weekly Zooms with Mass Council of Churches & Heads of Judicatories, and weekly Zooms with REMC (ABC Executive Ministers). COVID has brought us into a time of unprecedented collaboration. The members of our staff have each provided excellent resources in their areas of focus.

Your TABCOM staff has been AMAZING and has been recognized both in Massachusetts and in the national ABC family for creative and pro-active ministry during these months!

2020 has also been a “year of reckoning” in the US in the area of Racial Reconciliation. TABCOM staff produced a collaborative statement and invited participation in an online sharing project. We are looking ahead to opportunities for learning and action in the months to come. I am reminded of a meme that went around (unattributed): “Some are posting on social media, some are protesting in the streets, some are donating silently, some are educating themselves, some are having tough conversations with friends and family. A revolution has many lanes – be kind to yourself and to others who are traveling in the same direction.”

We continue to work with developing new leaders for the church of the future, and the last year has brought a number of exceptional folks into our TABCOM family. We have also seen a number of retirements and said goodbye to precious friends.

I want to share these special thank-yous:

Stephanie Salinas who represented TABCOM on the Board of General Ministries, ABC/USA. Stephanie is leaving us for a new ministry in Florida. Doug Scalise has agreed to complete her term on the Board of General Ministries.

Pearl Morrison, rotating off the Board of Directors after three terms.

Darrell Hamilton (Board of Directors) who is leaving MA for a new ministry in Washington, DC.

Jonathan Singer (Commission on the Ministry) is moving to a new pastorate in Iowa.

Nathaniel Smith, rotating off the Commission on the Ministry after three terms

Among the sad and tragic legacies of COVID, there is this: a crisis affords us with the opportunity to think carefully about our priorities as the church of Jesus Christ. Kathleen Norris, reflecting on the meaning of “crisis,” said this: “The Greek root of the word crisis is ‘to sift’ as in, to shake out the excesses and leave only what’s important. That’s what crises do. They shake things up until we are forced to hold on to only what matters most. The rest falls away.”

Whatever the next year brings, we plan to be in the midst of it, bringing our churches the very best in resources and support. And may we all remember that even when we are feeling overwhelmed, God’s love for us is sure and strong, and the Holy Spirit is with us to enable us to faithful service.

Serving Christ our Lord,



Rev. Dr. Mary Miller, Executive Minister

TABCOM Core Report

2020 Annual Report

Considering the many challenges that we all dealt with in 2020, due to the Global pandemic, the CORE operating budget ended in positive territory. We finished the year in the black 25,543.11 as compared to 2019 (-51,326.95) where we finished in TABCOM Core. We like many other organizations around the country, were highly impacted by effects of Covid 19 and had to make careful cutbacks so that we could maintain and survive. We did have some staff layoffs and the TABCOM staff made necessary shifts to do ministry from home. That coupled with first round of PPP money we were able to finish the year in the black. We were extremely grateful.

In addition, considering that every church had to readjust for 2020, TABCOM churches contributed 178,024.29 to U/M Missions giving as opposed to (201,576.14) in 2019. And although there is a difference of 23k, we give thanks that through the pandemic, our churches continued to support the mission and purpose of TABCOM. We don't take this for granted, and celebrate you for your continued faithfulness.

We saw a slight decline in MMF giving this year as we totaled 8,706.56 as opposed to 10,387.63. Again this is a slight decrease, but in light of the pandemic, we are grateful for the continued support.

We also saw an increase in the property income. This year we took in 81,555, as compared to 71,995 from 2019 an increase of almost 10k. This helped to offset some of the loss in the core budget.

At the annual meeting it was voted that TABCOM would not seek to get an audit but would seek to have an annual review and third party financial oversight. With that said, I did engage Stolberg to let them know that we would proceed with completing the financial review after the pandemic had settled (this was around last August). They have been recently engaged this year to complete this process.

Our Cash remains pretty solid, as a result of the growth in cash held for others in the current liability accounts. Although there were some reductions in accounts receivables as well as accounts payables, our investments saw significant growth.

Our invested funds overall saw significant increase due to market performance. Our property fund is now around \$2,068,181 as compared to last year where it was 1.2 million, showing that fund has grown 953k. In light of other property transactions over the next few years, it is possible that this resource may exceed \$3M, allowing a managed draw to help fund TABCOM ministries.

Lastly, many of you know that I've been called to serve as the Senior Pastor of Mount Olive Baptist Church, Hackensack, NJ. It has been my pleasure to serve this TABCOM region, and work with the TABCOM staff to serve you in season and out of season. We have been able to weather the storms together, and witness God do amazing things. I thank you for your time, your love, patience, and friendships along the way. We will continue to do great things in the name of Jesus, and I encourage you to keep giving and keep serving!

Respectfully Submitted,
Rev. Dr. John O. Page

2020 Annual Report

	TOTAL		
	JAN - DEC 2020	JAN - DEC 2019 (PY)	CHANGE
52000 Coordinators & Contract Staff			
52140 Contract Services	20,144.54	16,625.95	3,518.59
52142 Contract Services Expenses	506.95	1,448.35	-941.40
Total 52000 Coordinators & Contract Staff	20,651.49	18,074.30	2,577.19
52248 Misc Contributions and Funds	1,000.00	8,016.93	-7,016.93
52435 Public Relations Brochure		2,035.93	-2,035.93
52610 WEBSITE	709.88	695.88	14.00
53060 WMS&D Missionworks	1,425.00	1,176.95	248.05
53061 Annual Gathering	1,854.65	3,945.16	-2,090.51
54045 Legal Fees		3,650.00	-3,650.00
54055 Insurance	17,428.71	11,254.04	6,174.67
54080 A&F BAD DEBT	-2,307.45	4,320.20	-6,627.65
55060 Events & Workshops	4,200.00		4,200.00
56000 Office & Administration			
53030 Office Expense	16,568.38	16,737.27	-168.89
54005 Telephone	9,457.16	8,980.20	476.96
54010 Office Equipment		1,918.00	-1,918.00
54060 Auditing		16,237.50	-16,237.50
54065 Bank Charges & Other Fees	992.90	1,073.24	-80.34
Total 56000 Office & Administration	27,018.44	44,946.21	-17,927.77
59900 OTHER EXPENSES			
59905 Extra ordinary Expenses	10,319.20	1,171.80	9,147.40
Total 59900 OTHER EXPENSES	10,319.20	1,171.80	9,147.40
65000 Payroll Taxes	15,717.58	17,020.47	-1,302.89
66000 Payroll Expenses	6,657.35	4,193.71	2,463.64
Total Expenses	\$461,503.23	\$473,287.11	\$ -11,783.88
NET OPERATING INCOME	\$23,543.11	\$ -51,326.95	\$74,870.06
Other Income			
15101A TransFORM-Fund Activity ABF	90,093.07	82,517.52	7,575.55
15105T TransFORM-REC/Disbursed ABF	11,451.99	13,138.27	-1,686.28
15110A FUND Activity -ANTS & Burmese ML 02581	3,676.55	3,857.17	-180.62
15130A Fund Activity AB FDN Endowmwnt	1,643.19	1,129.43	513.76
15140A Fund Activity Messiah Bapt Jubilee	105.34		105.34
15145A Fund Activity Deware Fund	3,643.33	3,989.14	-345.81
C02075A Fund Activity 02075 AB Women	-3,535.51	11,296.08	-14,831.59
C02075T Rec/Dis 02075 AB Women		0.16	-0.16
C02076A Property Fund 02076 Activity	198,828.07	151,503.78	47,324.29
C02076T Property Fund 02076 Rec/Disb	-45,131.71	81,653.95	-126,785.66
C02110A Hunt Fund Activity	-144.24	3.76	-148.00
C02110T Hunt Fund Transactions	0.00		0.00
C02111A Charles Benevolent	-143.96	3.76	-147.72
C02111T Charles Benevolent Tran.	7,500.00		7,500.00
MAB017A Fund Activity A B Elder Ministries	130,905.90	151,639.04	-20,733.14
MAB017T Rec/Dis A B Elder Ministries	-24,000.00	-36,000.00	12,000.00
MAB018A Fund Activity Charlestown Fund	196,381.04	208,458.45	-12,077.41
MAB018T Rec/Dis Charlestown Fund	-58,554.70	-16,250.00	-42,304.70
MAB030A Fund Activity Church & Society	41,428.64	46,175.01	-4,746.37
MAB030T Rec/Dis Church & Society	-12,000.00	-16,000.00	4,000.00
MAB046A Fund Activity NEBC/046	16,007.29	17,453.66	-1,446.37
MAB046T Rec/Dis NEBC/046		-40,000.00	40,000.00
Total Other Income	\$558,154.29	\$664,569.18	\$ -106,414.89
Other Expenses			
Reconciliation Discrepancies	0.40	0.07	0.33
Total Other Expenses	\$0.40	\$0.07	\$0.33
NET OTHER INCOME	\$558,153.89	\$664,569.11	\$ -106,415.22
NET INCOME	\$581,697.00	\$613,242.16	\$ -31,545.16

TABCOM

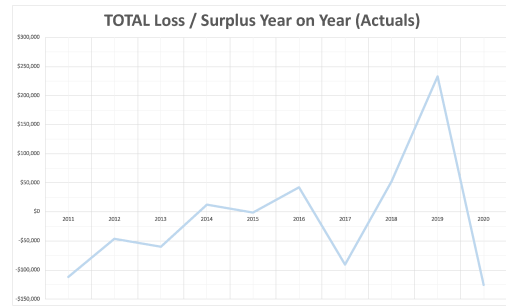
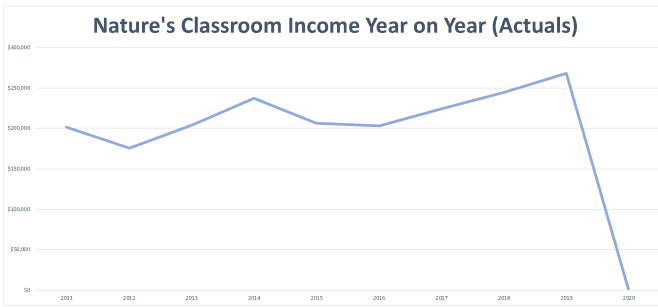
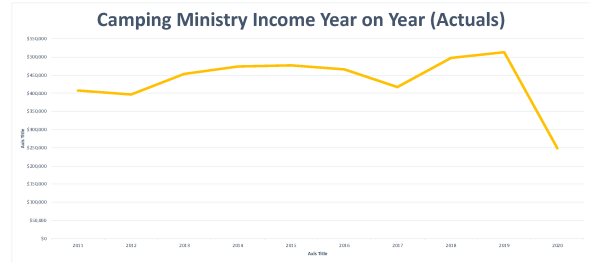
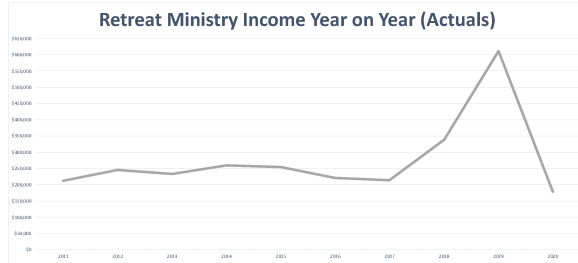
Profit and Loss

January - December 2020

	TOTAL		
	JAN - DEC 2020	JAN - DEC 2019 (PY)	CHANGE
Income			
41000 REGULAR U / M INCOME			
41005 Rev UM Allocation to Region	178,024.29	201,576.14	-23,551.85
Total 41000 REGULAR U / M INCOME	178,024.29	201,576.14	-23,551.85
41010 Um Receipts America for Christ	8,706.56	10,387.63	-1,681.07
41018 FORM Undesignated	13,432.00	6,575.00	6,857.00
41019 FORM Core	23,303.50	37,791.04	-14,487.54
41020 B Rev MMF General All	24,101.60	29,628.93	-5,527.33
41021 Insitutional Support	460.66	127.00	333.66
41025 Rev G Wright Fund Core	36,273.00	30,559.50	5,713.50
41070 REV GRANTS	61,348.07		61,348.07
41091 Events / Annual	3,799.45	250.00	3,549.45
41094 Property Income	81,555.48	71,995.68	9,559.80
41095 Other Rev	1,814.55	2,764.66	-950.11
42500 RESTRICTED CONTRIBUTIONS			
42550 New Community(Connexians)	696.04	697.56	-1.52
Total 42500 RESTRICTED CONTRIBUTIONS	696.04	697.56	-1.52
49900 Investd Funds Draw	100.00		100.00
49906 Extraordinary Income	40,714.90	25,000.00	15,714.90
49910 Investment Income	627.20	300.00	327.20
49920 American Baptist Foundation REV	10,089.04	4,307.02	5,782.02
Total 49910 Investment Income	10,716.24	4,607.02	6,109.22
Total Income	\$485,046.34	\$421,960.16	\$63,086.18
GROSS PROFIT	\$485,046.34	\$421,960.16	\$63,086.18
Expenses			
51035 Regular Staff Salaries Exp			
51036 Salaries Regular	158,333.33	156,896.84	1,436.49
51025 FORM	11,159.64	11,432.01	-272.37
Total 51036 Salaries Regular	169,492.97	168,328.85	1,164.12
51037 Housing	102,472.83	78,536.39	23,936.44
52110 Employee Medical & Retirement1	65,269.79	52,440.33	12,829.46
52120 Staff EXPENSE ACCTS	9,858.64	34,233.55	-24,374.91
51026 FORM Expenses	9,620.90	12,282.57	-2,661.67
54088 Boards & Committees	412.50	3,406.08	-2,993.58
Total 52120 Staff EXPENSE ACCTS	19,892.04	49,922.20	-30,030.16
52125 Regular Staff Developement	-299.25	3,557.76	-3,857.01
Total 51035 Regular Staff Salaries Exp	356,828.38	352,785.53	4,042.85

Grotonwood Report on Ministry 2020

2020 Annual Report



Grotonwood Balance Sheet	
As of December 31, 2020	
ASSETS	
Current Assets	
Bank Accounts	
10000 Main Street Bank	67,276.96
10010 BOA Checking	0.00
10500 Citizen Reserve	10,172.46
20020 Grotonwood Savings	0.00
Total Bank Accounts	\$ 77,449.42
Accounts Receivable	
11000 Accounts Receivable	33,454.38
Total Accounts Receivable	\$ 33,454.38
Other Current Assets	
11050 Store Inventory	11,816.84
12000 Undeposited Funds	0.00
14000 Prepaid Insurance	0.00
14100 Prepaid Miscellaneous Expenses	2,293.98
14200 Employee Loan	0.00
14300 Credit Card Receivables	0.00
Inventory Asset	0.00
Total Other Current Assets	\$ 14,110.82
Total Current Assets	\$ 125,014.62
Other Assets	
16000 Cell Tower-Investment-ML	296,682.16
17000 Buildings	7,722,453.65
Total Other Assets	\$8,019,135.81
TOTAL ASSETS	\$8,144,150.43
LIABILITIES AND EQUITY	
Liabilities	
Current Liabilities	
Accounts Payable	
20000 Accounts Payable	123,681.93
Total Accounts Payable	\$ 123,681.93
Other Current Liabilities	
25000 Deferred Income	48,004.22
26000 Reserved Deposits	49,103.85
26010 Camp Fees Reserved	0.00
29000 Capital Improvements Reserve	16,508.69
29500 Memorial Lodge Fund and Gifts	5,129.99
29505 Memorial Garden Maintenance	3,845.47
Total Other Current Liabilities	\$ 122,592.22
Total Current Liabilities	\$ 246,274.15
Long-Term Liabilities	
28000 LMA	0.00
28500 Main Street Bank Loan	497,057.19
Total Long-Term Liabilities	\$ 497,057.19
Total Liabilities	\$ 743,331.34

Grotonwood Profit and Loss	
January - December 2020	
Income	
41006 STORE Income	\$3,344
41015 Revenue Conferencing	\$174,248
41500 Total Camping Income	\$248,613
42015 FORM	\$60,339
43000 RECURRING REVENUE	\$56,303
49900 MISC INCOME	\$81,061
Total Income	\$623,907
Expenses	
51000 TOTAL SALARIES	\$305,682
52000 TOTAL ADMIN	\$33,569
52035 Utilities	\$72,348
53000 TOTAL KITCHEN	\$44,239
54000 TOTAL MAINTENANCE	\$81,069
54100 Housekeeping	\$9,861
55000 TOTAL INSURANCE	\$35,987
56000 TOTAL PROMOTION	\$1,247
57000 Total Camping Program Expense	\$140,744
57040 Conference Supplies	\$802
58000 TOTAL MISC EXPENSE	\$12,528
58007 Store	\$1,159
58008 Store Sales Taxes.	\$87
59915 Interest payment	\$16,884
70000 Bad Debts	\$7,045
Total Expenses	\$763,252
Net Operating Income	-\$139,345

2020 started off so well. We had a record number of retreat guests in January and February,

with very strong bookings for the whole year, our Youth Winter retreat welcomed 32 youth, with over a third coming from TABCOM churches and our staff attended a three day camp fair conference to improve our knowledge and skills. On the way back from that conference things started to change. Natures Classroom called as they were no longer sure if they would be able to make it for the spring season and Project New Hope called to cancel their retreat for the upcoming weekend. From this point on COVID threw a blanket of uncertainty over everything we were planning at camp. We chose to work with our retreat partners and offered to move dates to another time for no charge and, if wanted, we would refund any deposits for those who were not ready to choose another date. For summer camp we studied the State's COVID dashboard and guidance carefully, daily. We were encouraged to see that overnight camp would be allowed in Phase 3. We continued staff and camper recruitment.

Campers were reviewed by our health staff. Those at risk weren't able to join us for summer camp. They were refunded or transferred to 2021.

June 19 we had our inspection by the Board of Health and was given our license for Day and Overnight Camp.

June 21 summer staff arrived and began their two week quarantine.

Friday July 3, two days before camp was due to begin, Massachusetts announced that overnight summer camps had been moved to Phase 4. Staff had to be let go, campers had to be phoned, schedules had to be changed. However, seven staff and two nurses decided they would like to stay and volunteer for the summer. This enabled us to expand our Day Camp and launch a Day Camp for adults with disabilities, putting our newly purchased vans to good use.

Over the summer we welcomed over 200 campers and had zero cases of COVID-19! This experience has helped us have confidence in a successful summer for 2021.

COVID-19 and lack of guests at camp enabled us to expand our ministry into other areas throughout the year.

From March to May we had the opportunity to partner with the MBMM to deliver School meals to low-income families in Lowell, MA.

We provided free activity packs, which could be collected from our parking lot. They included books, bible stories/studies, games, puzzles, color therapy worksheets and fun craft projects (with materials included).

We held Zoom and Facebook live events such as camp fire worship, cooking with Kaleo and Kim and many more.

We had two Fall Vacations for adults with disabilities in order to welcome the same number of campers, but in a smaller group size.

Blanchard Hall was completely repainted and remodeled inside, Prescott Lodge was fully painted inside, Fellowship Hall ceiling was repainted, Family Center Cabins were repainted inside, The Gym Lounge was repainted inside and had the flooring replaced, All the windows in the Main Dining Hall have were repainted, Blanchard Hall outside woodwork was repainted, the Craft Room was completely renovated, the Hill to the beach was repaved, the Clinic was

2020 Annual Report

completely painted inside and the floors sanded and refinished, Funbrellas were installed at the beach, 300 Grotonwood face masks were made, donated Christmas gifts were given out to local families, and many more activities that I may have forgotten.



Grotonwood Budget 2021 Proposals

SCENARIO 1 (Balanced) - Based On Retreats Booked With Deposits Paid, No Overnight Summer Camp, Natures Classroom Returning In Fall
 SCENARIO 2 (Best) - Based On Retreat Upswing After Summer, With Summer Camp, Natures Classroom Returning In Fall
 SCENARIO 3 (Worst) - No Retreats, No Summer Camp, No Natures Classroom

2020 Annual Report

	Scenario 1 - Balanced	Scenario 2 - Best	Scenario 3 - Worst
Regular Income			
Cell Tower	\$21,000	\$21,000	\$21,000
52a&b	\$33,600	\$33,600	\$33,600
TOTAL	\$54,600	\$54,600	\$54,600
Potential Income			
Retreats	\$226,025	\$333,745	\$0
Camping	\$55,500	\$300,000	\$0
	\$153,000	\$153,000	\$0
FORM	\$36,000	\$116,000	\$36,000
TOTAL	\$470,525	\$902,745	\$36,000
TOTAL INCOME	\$525,125	\$957,345	\$90,600
EXPENSES			
Salaries	\$240,000	\$240,000	\$100,000
FORM Expense	\$12,000	\$12,000	\$12,000
Phone	\$4,800	\$4,800	\$4,800
Office	\$1,800	\$1,800	\$1,800
Computer	\$1,200	\$1,200	\$1,200
Oil	\$7,750	\$7,750	\$4,000
Electric	\$20,500	\$20,500	\$13,000
Gas	\$10,500	\$10,500	\$4,000
	\$6,850	\$6,850	\$0
Kitchen Summer	\$8,325	\$45,000	\$0
Kitchen NC	\$22,950	\$22,950	\$0
Kitchen Retreats	\$33,904	\$50,062	\$0
Maintenance	\$42,000	\$42,000	\$12,250
Insurance	\$36,000	\$36,000	\$36,000
Camping	\$46,000	\$336,000	\$24,000
Mortgage	\$20,400	\$20,400	\$20,400
TOTAL	\$514,979	\$857,812	\$233,450
PROFIT/LOSS	\$10,146	\$99,533	-\$142,850

2020 Oceanwood/ NEBC Annual Report

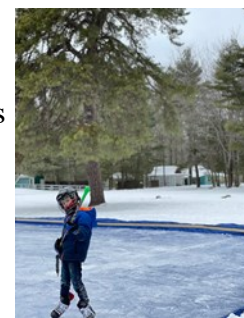
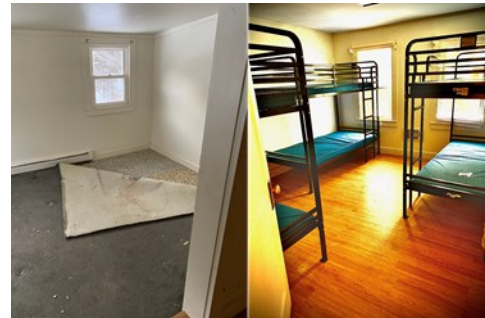


2020 Annual Report

Reflecting on the last year at Oceanwood, I was amazed by what immediately jumped to the forefront of my mind. The strength and solidarity that emerged from this incredible community will be the facet of the year that forever validates the impact and importance of what we do.

In this time of disconnection, our ministry was able to shine and be a critical and positive presence. Instead of lamenting the losses of the programs we were unable to run due to the pandemic, this report will focus on all of the moments that made 2020 memorable!

- ◇ New roof on Holt Lodge & Sweezy
- ◇ Renovated interior of Mitchell Hall, there is no more carpet in the building and there are brand new beds!
- ◇ Remodeled the Royal Ambassador Dining Hall restrooms Hosted multiple blood drives for the **American Red Cross** to help address the severe shortages they encountered.
- ◇ We received funding in both rounds of the **Paycheck Protection Program**, the first round we were also granted full forgiveness (this has not opened up yet for the second round). These funds total \$140,000.
- ◇ We were so fortunate to receive a grant from the **Maine Economic Development Committee** for \$100,000 (the maximum award amount available!)
- ◇ We had amazing picnic tables made to accommodate safe distancing while dining outdoors that will transform into **wheelchair accessible picnic tables!**
- ◇ **Christian Youth Conference** gathered an incredible group of skilled and hardworking volunteers to do a Fall work weekend.
- ◇ We created a brand new program in September called **Oceanwood Camp Classroom**, where we serve kindergarten through 8th grade students and provide a safe and social place to do their remote learning and compliment their academic schedule with camp activities and life skills.
- ◇ We received an award from the Biddeford & Saco Chamber of Commerce for "**The Most Resilient Organization**" of the year!
- ◇ We ran our **Day Camp** this summer in an effort to support families and provide access to childcare, social & emotional support, and immerse our campers in a Christian community that focused on healing and connecting throughout our summer.
- ◇ The **Friends of the Regional Ministry (FORM)** and Ed Guerard rallied a critical amount of support to enable the Camp Classroom program to take flight and to provide scholarship support through our summer ministry into the remainder of the year. This is particularly necessary as we saw an increase in financial needs from families due to pandemic impacts.



2020 Annual Report

Overall, the staff at Oceanwood consistently just asked “what can we do to help” and the answers presented themselves in ways we couldn’t have imagined! The Camp Classroom program was created as a 3 month pilot program and every single family opted to maintain enrollment for the entire school year, so we are going until June of 2021! We are also elated to announce we will be running all of our standard summer programs (at an altered schedule to allow for safe and sustainable camp cohorts).



We did endure the heartbreak of having to close the Horsemanship Ministry due to the unforeseeable pandemic impacts coupled with pre-existing financial constraints. All of the wonderful herd was rehomed responsibly into either similar programs or happy retirement homes and no animals were sold.



Financially, between grants, federal funds, and the enormous generosity of our community, we were able to maintain our operations and do some of the much needed facility upgrades. With public health making positive strides, we can envision a more robust year for 2021 and begin to address pre-pandemic debts acquired.

Please see our Profit and Loss statement and Balance Sheet attached and we cannot thank the TABCOM community enough for their unwavering support of Oceanwood’s ministry!



2020 Annual Report

New England Baptist Council	
Balance Sheet	
As of December 31, 2020	
	Total
ASSETS	
Current Assets	
Bank Accounts	
10015 Checking Peoples	75,102
Petty Cash and Payroll Disbursement	146
Total Bank Accounts	75,249
Accounts Receivable	
11000 Accounts Receivable	24,147
Total Accounts Receivable	24,147
Other Current Assets	
11050 Store Inventory	2,606
Total Other Current Assets	2,606
Total Current Assets	102,002
Other Assets	
14005 Security Deposits - Utilities, etc.	279
16100 NEBC Invest Activities	214
16525 Employee Loan	4,379
17000 Buildings	3,254,180
17100 Capital Improvements	-674
Total Other Assets	3,258,378
TOTAL ASSETS	3,360,380
LIABILITIES AND EQUITY	
Liabilities	
Current Liabilities	
Accounts Payable	
20000 Accounts Payable	101,003
Total Accounts Payable	101,003
Other Current Liabilities	
25000 Deferred Income	88,538
26000 Reserve Deposits	73,853
26532 Camp Ashmere Donated Funds	100,000
Camp Classroom Deposit Payments	7,402
Total Other Current Liabilities	269,793
Total Current Liabilities	370,796
Long-Term Liabilities	
26530 LMA Charlestown Fund Loan	194,584
26531 Loan Advance from Contributed Funds	65,000
Total Long-Term Liabilities	259,584
Total Liabilities	630,380
Equity	
30000 Opening Balance Equity {4}	1,154,534
30020 Opening Balance-Real Property	3,242,140
31500 FORMTemp. Restricted Net Assets	-6,916
32000 Unrestricted Net Assets	-1,405,480
Prior Year Transactions Adjustment	-31,138
Net Income	-223,141
Total Equity	2,730,000
TOTAL LIABILITIES AND EQUITY	3,360,380

2020 Annual Report

New England Baptist Council	
Profit and Loss	
January - December 2020	
	Total
Income	
41000 OPERATING INCOME	173,035
41006 Store income	974
41015 C&C Revenue Conferencing	31,785
41500 Camping Income	69,989
41505 Horse Program Income	8,343
42015 FORM	88,076
Total Income	372,202
Gross Profit	372,202
Expenses	
51000 TOTAL SALARIES	197,884
52000 TOTAL ADMIN	28,209
52035 C&C Utilities	53,009
53000 TOTAL KITCHEN	21,877
54000 TOTAL MAINTENANCE	19,232
55000 TOTAL INSURANCE	43,274
56000 TOTAL PROMOTION	19,051
57000 Total Camping Program Expense	62,416
57006 Horse Program Expense	87,364
58000 TOTAL MISC EXPENSE	12,328
58007 Store Expense	682
59000 Facilities / Housekeeping Expenses	555
66000 Payroll Expenses	635
Total Expenses	546,518
Net Operating Income	174,316
Wednesday, Jan 13, 2021 09:38:41 AM GMT-8 - Accrual Basis	

Oceanwood 2021 Budget Proposals

2020 Annual Report

	A	B	C	D
3		BEST CASE	MID-LINE	ROUGH PICTURE
4				
5	Income			
8	Total 41000 OPERATING INCOME	\$22,273	\$22,273	\$22,273
9	41006 Store income	\$2,250	\$1,750	\$1,500
10	41015 C&C Revenue Conferencing	\$85,000	\$60,000	\$38,000
14	Total 41500 Camping Income	\$208,000	\$165,600	\$126,000
15	Nature's Classroom	\$60,000	\$45,000	\$30,000
16	42015 FORM	\$78,000	\$78,000	\$78,000
17	Total Income	\$455,523	\$372,623	\$295,773
19	Expenses			
26	Total 51000 TOTAL SALARIES	\$193,068	\$155,924	\$119,532
34	Total 52000 TOTAL ADMIN	\$27,186	\$22,053	\$17,806
40	Total 52035 C&C Utilities	\$48,823	\$48,823	\$48,823
56	Total 54000 TOTAL MAINTENANCE	\$18,434	\$14,297	\$14,447
62	Total 55000 TOTAL INSURANCE	\$42,675	\$42,675	\$42,675
65	Total 56000 TOTAL PROMOTION	\$14,900	\$10,800	\$10,800
74	Total 57000 Total Camping Program Expense	\$76,753	\$66,751	\$38,753
75	57006 Horse Program Expense	\$2,150	\$2,150	\$2,150
78	Total 58000 TOTAL MISC EXPENSE	\$9,368	\$8,468	\$9,368
79	58007 Store Expense	\$3,500	\$2,500	\$2,500
80	59000 Facilities / Housekeeping Expenses	\$555	\$555	\$555
81	Total Expenses	\$470,179	\$399,127	\$323,557
82	Net Operating Income	-\$26,656	-\$38,504	-\$39,784

Missions and Elder Ministry Report 2020

As the global pandemic continues to challenge all of us in our various ministry contexts, I am pleased to report that TABCOM Missions and Elder Ministry continues to “pivot” and meet the challenge.

Virtual Mission trips through International Ministries, ABHMS and Boston City Mission have kept me “traveling “! I have had the blessing of visiting Beirut, Latvia, Russia, Ukraine, and Montgomery Alabama!! I have also been blessed to virtually worship with many of the churches in our region. I continue to be available for supply preaching and church visits especially as we move into 2021.

1. Things are in the works with my friends in Puerto Rico for a virtual mission trip!!! More info to follow- but we have had a few planning meetings with the ABHMS Puerto Rico team and it looks like it is shaping up to be a great offering.
2. I presented to the International Ministries staff on my observations during the recent virtual trip to Eastern Europe. These virtual trips have allowed me to make many more connections with other Mission Minded pastors and lay people within ABCUSA.
3. Now that I have been fully vaccinated with both vaccines, I am able to do some careful visiting. My first visit was down to see Ketly Pierre- the IM Global servant that we have been hosting. Ketly continues to do very well with her treatment at Dana Farber and is able to visit churches virtually as they are counting this part of her stay as her home assignment time. The interview that I did with her for Boston Praise Radio is available in the current TABCOM notes. If you do not get TABCOM Notes, please email me (keddy@tabcom.org) and I will make sure that you get on the distribution list! I also hope to visit with some of our Boston Southwest churches that are doing food programs and help with those distributions. I continue to be very involved at the Association level, by serving on the Boston Southwest Executive Committee.
4. I also plan on doing some shifts at First Baptist Jamaica Plain in the kitchen now that I have been fully vaccinated. I am excited to be back to participating in their wonderful meal distribution program
5. TABCOM Voices, our new monthly show on Boston praise radio, has been launched!! We are doing it in a magazine format. We have an hour slot on Sunday in the late afternoon and we will break it up into three 20 minute segments. Each month there will be a different theme. Last month our theme was women in ministry for Women’s History Month. The theme for this month showcases our camps. You can see the broadcast link on our TABCOM website.
6. I worked with local organizations to help equip some MA nursing homes with masks and supplies to help entertain elderly residents while they have been confined to their rooms (in the earlier stages of the Pandemic). I am always available if you know of any TABCOM church members who need support in their residential facility. I would love to be able to do more of this outreach work and believe that I am underutilized in this area. So please reach out!!
7. I have started a video series for TABCOM Elder Ministry. The first two videos have been posted in the TABCOM notes. It is also posted on our TABCOM Elder Ministry Facebook page. I am going to do some tutorials on how to start keeping a memory book that we can hand down to our families to keep our stories alive. When we are able to meet again in person, I would like to do this as a live group with a group of seniors. But meanwhile we can get started online!!! I have also used this time to send out cards and letters to our retired pastors and to participate in various online workshops regarding Elder Ministry issues. In addition, I have been keeping in touch with my colleagues who are working in nursing homes and supporting them in any way that I can.

8. Something that I am especially proud of is our first Virtual Missionworks Conference which happened in October 2020. We had excellent attendance and ran some informative and supportive workshops, experienced Spirit filled worship and prayer, and gathered together to support and celebrate the mission that our local churches have accomplished during the pandemic. I would like to thank Rev. Darrell Hamilton, from FBCJP, for his wonderful guidance on the technical aspect of this program. One of the things we have noticed as a regional staff, is that our offerings have been very well attended when they have been online. We will continue to find ways to reach out to our congregations virtually, even once we are gathering in person again.
9. Our Leadership Training Day, in January, was also held virtually and was a wonderful event where we again offered support and resources for our local congregations. I was blessed to be able to offer two workshops that day, one on Spiritual Support for Caregivers, and the other on the importance and mechanics of Virtual Missions. All of the workshops were well attended and our technical support from Rev. Leroy Mahoney, Senior Pastor at FBC Saugus, assured that things ran very smoothly.
10. In the summer of 2020, after the murder of George Floyd, I was convicted that I needed to become more actively involved in the work of anti-racism within our churches and our communities. Part of this involves my participation in an Interfaith Clergy Anti Racism Fellowship, which meets via zoom every Wednesday afternoon at 3 PM. We have been meeting regularly for about 10 months now. The group is made up of Christian clergy and Jewish rabbis from the Boston area. Participation in this group has been instrumental in my growth as an advocate for anti-racism education and activism.
11. Last, but definitely not least, I have been incredibly moved and inspired by my most recent experiences , participating in Boston City Missions Pilgrimage for Truth and Justice to Montgomery Alabama. This was also a virtual trip. It took place over four weeks and was very much like a class in terms of time commitment and homework. Oh how I learned about what I needed to learn and what I do not know!! We met for two hours on Saturday mornings in our large group of 20 people, and we met in smaller learning pods during the week. It has been an amazing experience.

It has been an extreme blessing to serve TABCOM in 2020/2021.

Still pivoting,
Rev. Christine Keddy
TABCOM Director of Missions and Elder Ministry Coordinator

Creation Care Introduction/Report

Greetings!

My name is Rev. Rebecca Driscoll and I am honored to begin serving TABCOM as the regional Minister for Creation Care. There couldn't be a better time to begin serving with this ministry in Massachusetts than the month of April which is also known as Earth Month. It is a time of deeper reflection on our relationship with the earth and how we can best embody God's call to be faithful stewards of creation.

As American Baptists, we have a commitment to, and a legacy of, being the hands and feet of Christ. We value ministry programs focused on restoring justice and reconciling relationships. We emphasize the good news of the Gospel and the abundant, resurrected, everlasting life it gives.

One of my favorite examples of rebirth and the restoration of life that we can participate in is the cycle of the compost pile. The compost pile takes our rotten, moldy, dead food and transforms it into nutrient rich, abundant, living soil. When we participate in the life cycle of the compost pile, we are restoring life and affirming our role as co-caretakers of the earth with the God of creation.

As an ordained minister and a former park ranger, the intersection of faith communities and creation care has been a significant point of reflection for me. As a member of the American Baptist Home Mission Societies' inaugural Co-Creator Incubator cohort, the American Baptist Women in Ministry Intern in the Office of the General Secretary, and with the support of the ABC Creation Justice Network, that reflection turned into the formation of the ABC Minister for Creation Justice Position.

I served in this role from October 2019 until March of 2021. During that time I worked closely with the ABC Creation Justice Network to host and facilitate interactive online devotionals for Advent and Lent, co-led a climate ambassador training program with our ecumenical partner Blessed Tomorrow, offered a four-part summer webinar series entitled, "Praying with Creation: Sabbath, Lament, Restoration/Resiliency, and Resurrection," and launched the ABC Creation Justice Congregations Conversations Series. To watch the recordings of the summer webinar series or listen to the Creation Justice Congregations Conversations please visit the ABC Creation Justice Network's webpage (www.abc-usa.org/creation-justice).

I am excited to return to Massachusetts where I grew up, attended seminary, served First Baptist Church, Attleboro as an associate pastor, and was ordained. It is a blessing to serve alongside TABCOM congregations. Many TABCOM congregations have discerned that God is calling them to ministries of creation care. Across the region, congregations have added solar panels to their roofs, planted community gardens, added creation care initiatives to the messages they share with their wider community, hosted Bible studies, added creation justice to their VBS curricula, and so much more. Some congregations are just beginning to explore the possibilities of creation care ministry. No matter where your congregation is on your creation care ministry journey, know that I am grateful for you and am excited to hear your story.

As we continue to get to know each other, I will be hosting a series of online devotional times inspired by the book *Earth Gospel: A Guide to Prayer for God's Creation* by Samuel Hamilton Poore. Dates and times will be announced shortly.

I look forward to serving alongside you in ministry.

Peace and Blessings,

Rev. Rebecca Driscoll
TABCOM Minister for Creation Care

Communication Coordinator Report

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.

I cannot believe that it has been 3 years since I started with TABCOM in this part-time position and I am still learning my way around.

As always my **Mission** is to increase awareness of TABCOM events in keeping with the spirit of spreading the Good News of the Gospel of Jesus Christ, I facilitate spreading, not only TABCOM events but TABCOM churches events and community activities.

My **Goal**—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 a year this has been! Although the virus might have slowed us down some, the work of Christ and His Church continues. This goes to show that we may not be in our buildings but the Church still lives and thrives but in new and exciting ways.

I continue to organize and send out the TABCOM Notes <https://tabcom.org/tabcom-notes/> and Half Notes <https://tabcom.org/tabcom-halfnotes-2/> each month and I hope and pray that the information that has been shared, has helped some of you during the past year. If you are not receiving these newsletters in your email, please email me at robyn.mars@tabcom.org and I will gladly add you to our mailing list.

With the help of my colleagues on TABCOM staff, we have gotten the information out to you, not only through the newsletter but on FaceBook <https://www.facebook.com/theamericanbaptistchurchesofmassachusetts/>, via the website at <https://tabcom.org/>, Twitter <https://twitter.com/TabcomMa> and Instagram page <https://www.instagram.com/tabcom189/>.

I had the awesome opportunity to participate in our Leadership Training Day, held virtually on January 23, 2021. This was an event that offered several virtual workshops to address the challenges of ministry during COVID-19. The Lord allowed me to be able to teach a workshop entitled "Church Communications During COVID-19." We offered morning, afternoon and evening workshops. When I wasn't facilitating, I was blessed to be able to assist my Pastor, Rev. Leroy Mahoney from FBC Saugus, in making sure that everything ran without any glitches.

My prayer continues 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 2021 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 Communications Coordinator

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

Massachusetts American Baptist Investment Trust Report

MABIT
C/O TABCOM
189 Prescott St.
Groton, MA 01450

2020 Annual Report

MABIT has provided an investment service for TABCOM churches and partners allowing them to pool investment funds for 27 years. The pooling of funds allows for upgraded financial management services and reduced management fees.

MABIT offers three types of investment categories: equity, fixed income and equity dividend portfolios. Approximately 30 Massachusetts Baptist organizations invest via MABIT.

MABIT uses Merrill Lynch's Barcomb Group to provide professional fiduciary management services. The MABIT Board of Trustees meets with the Barcomb Group advisors three times per year to review the overall portfolio and discuss market issues. Socially responsible screening of investments is performed for all accounts. Each investor has complete control over their account's asset allocation and investment screening.

Despite the ~35% market decline in the first quarter of 2020, the DOW ended the year with a 7.3% gain. The overall MABIT portfolio returned an impressive 13.44%. The equity portion of the portfolio gained 16.47%. The fixed portion of the portfolio gained 7.5%, on par with Barclay's Aggregate Bond Index.

MABIT's equity dividend offering continues to pay a 4.5% dividend. MABIT's 2020 year-end balance was \$6,221,085.

Please note the portfolio's balance consisted of ~80% equities and 20% fixed rate funds at the year's close. The Board's long time recommendation is a 60/40% mix. The Board also recommends an annual review of portfolio balance, and avoiding emotionally based trade decisions.

The Board participated in an orientation session for newly ordained pastors, and led a TABCOM sponsored Zoom discussion regarding church investments.

Respectfully submitted on behalf of the Board, David F. Lambert

MABIT Board of Trustees

David Lambert, Chair
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mabit,trustee@gmail.com
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Rev. John Page
TABCOM

Associate Executive Minister's Report

2020 Annual Report

The role of Area Ministry Services is to support churches, church leaders and pastors. During 2020, our purpose did not change. The goals of being in relationship so that we can respond with resources that are relevant did not change. However, how Association Resources Coordinators, (ARCs) used many different tools to accomplish these things did. Early in the year, many of us had plans and ideas that for the most part were intentionally put on hold so that we could focus on the immediate needs of the churches and pastors we serve. The word that we employed most was pivot. Everyone needed to pivot to be effective and responsive.

The amount of creative solutions that were simply motivated by sharing the expansive love of Christ was inspiring to see. Like pastors, we found ourselves taking on responsibilities and learning new things that had not previously been a part of our ministries. For some of us who are not digital natives, the learning curve was quite steep. We worked hard to avail ourselves of learning opportunities that would fill in our gaps in knowledge and experience. We relayed information that we deemed reliable and accurate from sources that are trustworthy.

During the Spring and summer, I collaborated with other members of the TABCOM Staff, the ARCs, Liaisons, pastors and church leaders to assemble the people and information that we thought would help our churches. TABCOM family came together to present over 15 webinars. All was done on a volunteer or pro-bono basis. Frequently leaders worked with other leaders they had never met prior to sharing a screen.

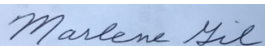
Initially, the pastoral search process moved very slowly if at all. Eventually, search committees found ways of working with church members and interim pastors to assess the church's needs, heal hurts, and seek the mind of Christ to determine the vision God has for them. We sought pastoral candidates with the skills to equip the church to live into that vision. Evaluating church finances to determine a level of compensation that is sustainable and just was hard when church income was not stable and many church members were facing their own financial uncertainty. These were faith stretching times, and in each case, God proved faithful.

Prior to 2020, pastoral search committees had begun embracing video calls and on-line information to better understand the skills and gifts candidates had to offer. I think the two biggest challenges were the limits on in-person interviews and neutral pulpits, where both the candidate and congregation were both physically present. None-the-less churches made progress and overcame these obstacles. Candidating weekends were creatively put together and new settled pastors were called to serve. ARCs offered many hours of consultation, and virtually attended many additional meetings with search committees to try to meet the known needs.

For those beginning a new ministry, getting to know the congregation and the broader community has taken more time and effort than originally planned. The tried and true counsel of not changing anything for one's first year did not apply because no part of church life was untouched by change.

During 2020, churches in TABCOM courageously met the challenges before them. My prayer is that each church, each association and each member of the TABCOM family apply what God has taught us during 2020. No matter how much we might yearn for a return to ministry that was in place at the beginning of 2020. God does not call us to go back, but to go to a new place that God will show us.

Respectfully Submitted,



(The Rev.) Marlene Gil, Associate Executive Minister for Church Relations

Adoniram Judson Baptist Association Report

David M. Kilpatrick, Coordinator

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

It has been a very difficult year with the COVID-19 pandemic and its effect on live meetings with various people. I have worked with a number of search committees who are seeking interim and/or permanent pastors. These include First Baptist Church Wakefield, Immanuel Baptist Church in Ipswich, and First Baptist Church, Melrose, Green Street, Melrose, Martin's Pond, North Reading.

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

I have attended all the meetings of the Judson Association Executive Committee and work closely with them concerning the business of the Association.

I also attended three virtual ordination councils and two ordination services.

I worked closely with the Rev. Dr. Esther Pearson from St. John's Baptist Church in Woburn as a Judson Association Liaison. She is working with churches, pastors, and individuals in the areas of counseling, conflict resolution, and workshops.

Currently, I am reaching out to the newer pastors in the Association to get to know them and to assess their involvement in the Association and TABCOM.

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

2020 Annual Report

Rev. Dr. Esther Pearson
Adoniram Judson Baptist Association Liaison



Praise God from whom all blessing flow! God has provided many opportunities to grow in Christ although it was a challenging year in reference to the Covid 19 Virus pandemic. With the closure and pause of churches to prevent the spread of the virus, gathering together of congregations and individuals was difficult. But God in His wisdom had already provided technology to assist churches to meet and fellowship remotely through Internet online technologies. These technologies assisted worship services, prayer meetings, business meetings and Christian education to continue although remotely.

In the role of Adoniram Judson Baptist Association Liaison, I accepted the responsibility to “Build Community” amongst the churches. To reach Pastors and Churches with prayer and requests to stretch beyond their present relationships with churches and expand those relationships among Pastors and Congregations to include churches in which they had not previously had fellowship within the past. The purpose being to unify, nurture and grow together in Jesus Name. This is certainly not to say there was a lack of unity, but to indeed widen the circle of Christ’s love and influence so that resources, giftings, and experience could be shared, and all be blessed because of it.

Building of Community began with letting the Adoniram Judson Baptist Association Churches know that the Association supported them and celebrated with them through contact with specially designed greeting cards for Holidays starting with Thanksgiving and then Easter. Plans to continue the cards by acknowledging special days in the ministry of the Pastor and life of the churches are planned, along with setting up pastoral gatherings so that new pastors can get to know one another. This helps build community and fellowship as the churches receive recognition that what is important to the churches is also important to the Association. I believe this will reap rewards of increased participation of the churches with one another and with the Association and increase the knowledge that the Association is there for them.

My role as Liaison also includes Biblical Counseling and Conflict Resolution, as well as, assisting the Judson Association Resource Coordinator. These services are available, and I look forward to working with the Pastors and Churches. It has been an honor to serve and to get to know everyone. Thank you to Rev. Marlene Gill, TABCOM Associative Executive Minister for Congregational Relations, for the opportunity to serve.

Rev. Dr. Esther Pearson
Liaison, Adoniram Judson Baptist Association

Berkshire Baptist Association Report

2020 Annual Report

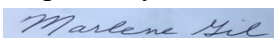
Massachusetts is not a large state when compared to many especially those outside of New England. Over the years I have had the opportunity to visit TABCOM pastors and churches in the Berkshires on very different occasions and with different purposes in mind in every season of the year. Although Fall is the one most talked about, I will agree with Mr. Elwood in the book Vegetable World by Charles Williams, “All the seasons have their pleasures.” and I would add all TABCOM churches have their unique mission.

The configuration of the coordinator position in BBA is a bit different than in other associations. The By-Laws of the Berkshire Baptist Association specifically includes a role for a representative of TABCOM, so at the request of the association leaders I often attend the BBA Executive Committee Meetings. The Rev. David Anderson provides the regular contact, and encouragement for pastor and churches and is at all the clergy gatherings. While taking on many of the responsibilities of a Coordinator he is also the Association Moderator, and I am blessed to work with him to strengthen the Association. Like all other associations the usual meetings and activities were up ended by the pandemic. Although we do not often think of the Berkshires as having urban areas, North Adams, and Pittsfield have very much the urban areas of the Berkshires and seek to do ministry that sharing the love of Christ in that context requires.

The following are a few snapshots of the BBA. One of the first parking lot services of which I was aware was livestreamed by the Berkshire Union Chapple, which is in just the picturesque place you would imagine. Great Barrington is the location of the association’s lone historic African American Church. Earlier in 2020 the Association was stunned and saddened when the church building of the Macedonia Baptist Church of Great Barrington was defaced. Pastors of BBA churches are primarily bi-vocational except for First Baptist Church, Pittsfield and First Baptist Church, North Adams. Ministry in the Berkshires has some commonality with that of Cape Cod. The issues of housing and consistent employment are stressors. I do not hear a lot of worry but it would be wrong not to mention these things because they are the metaphorical soil and weather of the vineyard where they serve.

The Berkshire Baptist Association has not met formally, but the relational connections have held and provided support. I am aware of several personal challenges about which the association pastors and churches pulled together to provide spiritual, emotional, and material support. The question that is ahead of the BBA is what are the ways the more intentional relationships of an association can be developed, to serve a useful purpose that supports the work of TABCOM churches and pastors in the area. There are only two tasks that are mandated to every association. (1) Be the means by which churches enter and exit the covenantal relationship with our denomination. (2) Work with TABCOM Commission on Ordained Ministry to support, guide and assess the readiness of those seeking ordination from association churches. In every other way the form of the association, its priorities and activities should reflect the purposes identified by the association member church leaders and pastors. As the limitations of in-person contact diminish it is my hope that in the coming year we may make headway in prayerfully addressing this question.

Respectfully Submitted,



(The Rev.) Marlene Gil, TABCOM
Associate Executive Minister of Church Relations

Boston Southwest Baptist Association Report

Rev. Dr. Moreen P. Hughes, Resource Coordinator

So do not fear, for I am with you; do not be dismayed, for I am your God. I will strengthen you and help you; I will uphold you with my righteous right hand. Isaiah 41:10

2020 was a year like no other for all of us! But in this season of the COVID-19, even as the pandemic exerted extreme pressure on many of our churches, we are grateful that God allowed our Association to work, and to thrive in ministry, as we partnered with our churches to do things differently.

Like most, every congregation had to go digital when COVID-19 forced churches to leave their buildings. Churches with an online presence before the Coronavirus hit, had a shorter learning curve than churches that were forced to go on line overnight. But all Pastors have expressed their trust in God and the leadership of the church; their ability to adapt to the many changes as they continue to be in tune with the vision and mission of the church.

During this year of uncertainty, I had the opportunity to communicate frequently with most Pastors, as well as connect with churches through their office representatives.

The Executive Board met consistently the second Tuesday of each month to carry forth the business of the association and to offer support to one another.

The Association was able to meet for its Spring and Fall meetings during Zoom, with participation from a significant number of our member churches.

BSW was able to sponsor two Zoom seminars entitled – “Adaptive Leadership During the Pandemic” for our clergy members.

During the month of February 2020 the association contributed \$1,000.00 toward the sponsorship of two clergy to attend a mission trip to Puerto Rico.

Pastoral changes within the Association:

Franklin Federated has a new full time Interim – Rev. Marlayna Schmidt (UCC).

Pastor Charles Eastman resigned effective April 19, 2020.

Ordination Council:

Hyunwoo Koo – First Baptist Church, Jamaica Plain – October 10, 2020

Ordination Services:

Kelly Fassett – River of Life Church in Jamaica Plain - April 25, 2020

Hyunwoo Koo – First Baptist Church, Jamaica Plain – November 22, 2020

Instillation Services:

First Hispanic Church in Jamaica Plain – Pastor Rubenia Placios – March 28, 2020.

First Baptist Church in Norwood – Min. Veronica Truell – October 18, 2020

Retirements:

Pastor Tom Griffith – River of Life Church in Jamaica Plain - July 12, 2020.

The Executive Council for Boston Southwest has seen some changes in its organization structure:

Moderator	Rev. Dr. Andre` Morgan
Vice Moderator	Rev. Dana Gonsal
Treasurer	Rev. Dr. Jacqueline Dyer
Asst. Treasurer	Ms. Nancy Terp Elder

We are excited about the future, and nearly every church I’ve spoke to seems to be looking forward with hope and excitement to what God is going to do next.

Respectfully Submitted,
Moreen P. Hughes, D. Min.

Central Baptist Association Report

2020 Annual Report

COVID-19 has now been with us for over a year. Many of our churches are worshipping virtually, using different formats: pre-recorded services, YouTube, Zoom, or Facebook live. Some have been gathering in person, socially distanced and wearing masks, and others have gathered outdoors as long as the weather permitted. I know all pastors and church leaders are doing what they can to stay connected to their members and their community. Some are able to see this as an opportunity to reevaluate what it means to “be the church.” Do we only identify as our building or is there more that makes us a church? Where is God’s spirit leading us in all of this? As the possibility of re-opening church buildings seems to be drawing closer, this is a time to think about what we truly value and where God is calling us to invest our energy and resources. I invite all of you to have these conversations in your congregation.

Our monthly clergy group meets on the third Tuesday of each month, from 9:30 – 11:00, on Zoom. All Central Association pastors are welcome. (Please email me for the login information.)

I have been in touch with all Central Association Pastors individually, offering support and prayer, have forwarded pertinent information to all churches, and connected with the leadership of Marlborough, Bolton, Gardner and Sturbridge.

Please know I am here for all of you: clergy and laypeople, with any questions or concerns you may have. However, I will be on sabbatical from April 12 – July 18. I will be in touch with pastors and congregations to let them know whom they may contact during my absence.

Thank you all for your faithful witness to the Church of Jesus Christ, and the hope we have in him.

May God bless all Central Association churches, leaders and pastors, and the ministry you are doing!

With Gratitude and Hope,
Rev. Valeria Schmidt
Central Association Area Resource Coordinator
trinitypastorvaleria@gmail.com
717-860-8873

Congregational News

- ◇ We currently have several churches in transition in Central Association:
- ◇ Rev. Leroy Dixon serves as interim minister of the First Baptist Church of Gardner.
- ◇ Richard Kirk serves as interim of the First Baptist Church of Marlborough.
- ◇ Rev. Rich Robison serves as interim at the Baptist Church of Grafton.
- ◇ Rev. Gretchen Switzer resigned from her position as designated term pastor of the Federated Church of Sturbridge and Fiskdale in February.
- ◇ Rev. Patience Stoddard resigned from her position of interim at the First Parish of Bolton effective June 30, 2021.
- ◇ After much research by several TABCOM staff we have reason to believe the Federated Church of Ayer closed in the spring of 2020.

Please pray for these congregations, their search committees, boards, and their pastoral leadership for God’s Spirit to strengthen, comfort and guide them.

Central Association has its own Facebook page. “Like” and follow us!

Merrimack Valley Baptist Association Report

Report of the Association Resource Coordinator – Merrimack Valley Baptist Association

Rev. James Leavitt

April 23, 2021

2020 Annual Report

Over the period of the current pandemic, most of the association churches have been doing remote worship only, with a few doing a combination of in-person and on-line, and a couple that were in-person due to the small size of the congregation.

When the pandemic struck, there were two churches in the search process that were working on their church profiles, but the process was slowed to a crawl by the pandemic. In December, North Billerica Baptist Church had completed their profile and I got it uploaded to MinistreLife and started to send them profiles of potential candidates. Then in January 2021, First Calvary Baptist Church, North Andover completed their profile and have started to receive profiles of potential candidates. In both cases I also met with the search committees of both congregations to review what was in a pastoral profile and subsequently assisted with mock interviews with the committees.

Zoom meeting times for clergy to gather have now started on a regular schedule on the third Tuesday of the month at 10:30 AM. However, it seems that there may be “zoom fatigue” as the meetings have only had two or three attendees, beyond myself. We will be restarting our breakfast gathering for the association clergy that can attend on the last Tuesday of April 2021, but there will be a limit of 6 people able to attend due to the ongoing restrictions.

Currently in the works is scheduling a time for a prayer meeting for the people of Myanmar, probably via zoom. In addition, a letter will be sent to the association churches, with information on what is happening in that country, based on reports that Rev. Dr. Ko Ko Lay has been able to receive from people there, included will be ways to support the people that are struggling under the current military rule.

Old Colony Baptist Association Report

2020 Annual Report

The area encompassing the Old Colony Baptist Association is South Eastern Massachusetts. In magazines it has now been renamed the South Coast of Massachusetts, Cape Cod and the Islands. The name change does indicate that the population of the area has been changing and growing. The impact of commuter rail is felt and the exponential growth of small cities and towns with new housing, new residents, and new opportunities for church ministry were the things that were on my mind as I worked with pastors and church leaders as 2020 began. Little did I know that the changing South Coast would be a different world beginning in the Spring of 2020. At that time any look into the future even the immediate future morphed into an odd experience of everything changing all at once while other things did not change soon enough. Day-to-day ministry was radically different from one week to the next, while the pandemic that caused these changes seemed to drag on ad infinitum. The things that everyone did not learn in seminary became the subject of crash courses in technology, remote communications, and the push to be faithful in very fluid circumstances.

As the pandemic lockdown began, the Old Colony Baptist Association set aside about \$2,000 to be used for emergency, immediate needs of pastors and churches. Several churches were given various amounts to bridge a gap until on-line giving could be established and the monies of the Payroll Protection Plan could be received. The Messiah Baptist Church of Brockton worked quickly and hard to obtain approval from the Massachusetts Small Business Association to be a participating financial institution. This was particularly helpful to our small churches who were unfamiliar with the financial record requirements and/or did not have well established relationships with local banks or credit unions. The Association Executive Committee sought to remain aware of special or difficult circumstances that OCBA pastors and churches were experiencing. One church experienced nearly all of the working members of the church losing their income during lockdown, and made available cash to families to help with rent and food. Other Churches saw the need for their food pantries and hot meal programs increase to astonishing levels. Churches creatively put together distributions that met COVID requirements, and still got food to those who needed it. Some churches combined their ministries with other local churches and food distribution sites, others found that there were no meal sites in their community on given days and added additional days to be sure people could receive at least one meal per day.

Just about every pastor became a broadcaster. Some used Facebook or Facebook live, and Zoom. Others recorded worship and uploaded the service to YouTube and other platforms. Some congregations responded to the Spiritual crises of their communities by producing daily devotions, others made regular use of phone trees and church-ins. Bible Studies and Prayer Meetings moved to prayer lines and Zoom. Churches put together Sunday School packages for families, and distributed communion for Communion Sunday. The response of even the smallest churches in Old Colony implemented changes quickly so they could continue serving Christ. Some congregations and communities felt the impact of the virus itself more severely than others. Brockton, New Bedford, Fall River and Hyannis became hot spots for infection and hubs for medical treatment.

The OCBA has historically held two monthly clergy gatherings, one on Cape Cod and the other near the convergence of route 24 and 495. This Spring pastoral leadership changes, and the pandemic use of Zoom for meetings led to the groups combining for a regular 3rd Thursday lunchtime book discussion and prayer time via Zoom. The group has been a good source of prayer, support, helpful advice, and mutual blessing for those who attend. As an association we will need to determine the use of Zoom for clergy meetings, and what opportunities for in-

person gathering will be scheduled. Unfortunately, the combined group has had very sparse participation from pastors from Cape Cod Churches although I and the executive committee members have been in contact, with Cape Church leaders individually.

The rhythm of our three yearly meetings was changed to a combined January Breakfast Meeting with each of us providing our own breakfast and gathering using Zoom. The Rev. Dr. Michael Friday, Interim Pastor of Messiah Baptist Church was our speaker, and presented on his book Lead Us Not Into Dysfunction. The presentation was excellent, and left us all with much to ponder. The Rev. Hazel Patterson, Pastor, Restoration Baptist Church, Brockton led us in a powerful season of prayer. The necessary business of the Association was also conducted at that event.

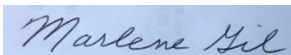
OCBA Executive Committee became proficient enough to hold two ordination councils. Minister Nikki Hightower and the Rev. Barbara Burrill both were recommended to proceed with ordination by their respective councils. Rev. Burrill was ordained by the Brewster Baptist Church on October 3rd while following all of the recommended COVID protocols. During the summer Brewster Baptist Church called the Rev. Joe Greemore as Worship Pastor, and First Baptist Church, Fall River called the Rev. Jamie Spriggs as their Settled Pastor.

First Baptist Attleboro was able to give a heartfelt send off to their retiring pastor, the Rev. Cheryl Harris using Zoom with recorded and written tributes at the conclusion of 2020. On December 27th First Baptist Church, Brockton, the Rev. Melanie Towel, Pastor merged under the leadership of Redeeming Grace Evangelistic Ministries International, the Rev. Dr. Gide Demosthene, Pastor. Community Baptist Church, Marion has become New Life Christian Church, and has added an affiliation with New Life Christian Ministries, Bishop Dr. Orlando Harris, Pastor.

There are 6 congregations currently pastored by Interim Ministers. First Baptist Hyannis is being served by the Rev. Rob Killefer, Messiah Baptist Church by the Rev. Dr. Michael Friday, First Baptist Church Mansfield by the Rev. Peter Brown, First Baptist Attleboro by the Rev. Ellen Tatreau, the Federated Church of Edgartown by the Rev. Charlotte Wright and the Federated Church of Norfolk by the Rev. William R. Main. First Baptist Church Plymouth, Union Baptist Church, New Bedford and Renewed Baptist Church, Vineyard Haven are presently using a combination of preachers from the congregation, ministerial staff along with pulpit supply beginning at the time their settled pastors submitted their resignations.

Although this is my report, it is filled with the efforts, the result of much prayer and intentional collaboration between TABCOM, OCBA, and member churches. It is a blessing to share in Christ's work with brother and sister Pastors, Ministerial Staff, Church leaders and Church members.

Respectfully submitted,



(The Rev.) Marlene Gil
Association Resource Coordinator
Old Colony Baptist Association

Pioneer Valley Association Report

Greetings in the Name of our Lord and Savior, Jesus the Christ.

The Pioneer Valley Association of Churches have, like many of our Churches and Associations everywhere, endured much during this season of disruption, fear and chaos for our brothers and sisters, by the Covid-19 virus. But through it all, as the song goes by Andre Crouch “I’ve (we’ve) learned to trust in Jesus, I’ve (we’ve) learned to trust in God, through it all, I’ve (we’ve) learned to depend upon His Word.” (*Italics mine*)

The Pioneer Valley meetings have consistently been one of coming together with area Pastors, Ministers and Ministry Leaders to share their experiences, challenges and joys within their congregations. The PVA meetings that we once held on the fourth Friday at 12 noon of each month was changed to the fourth Monday and the time changed to 6:30 PM with the hope of incorporating more members in the conversations. This has been a blessing with our meetings being enriched by those who otherwise would not have been able to attend. We have conducted these meetings through Zoom.

Some of the topics we have discussed are:

- ◇ Adaptive Leadership and Incorporating Technology – What Do We Do Now?
- ◇ The Shift in Expectations – What Does Kingdom Growth look like and How do we measure it.
- ◇ Envisioning What Church Will Look Like – a workshop conducted by Rev. Dr. Karen Rucks Walker.
- ◇ Looking at Covid as an Opportunity and a Challenge and the possibilities of a New Awakening.

During each of our monthly meetings there is a time of Sharing Words of Encouragement by one of the Pastors or Ministers. So far, we have had for January, Rev. Kathleen O’Goley, Central Baptist Church of Westfield. February, Minister Bernard Smith, Bethlehem Community Baptist, Holyoke. Upcoming Words of Encouragement will be: April, Rev Joe Greene, Second Baptist of South Hadley: May, Rev. Dr. Johnny Wilson, Granville Federated Church, Granville and June, Minister Francine, Greater New Life Christian Center, Indian Orchard.

We ask your continued prayers for The Pioneer Valley Association as we continue to seek God’s wisdom, in obedience to the Holy Spirit’s leading as He prepares us, as Churches United in the Pioneer Valley for the building up of each other as we await the Kingdom of God.

In His Service.
Prayerfully submitted,

Rev. Theresa Temple
Pioneer Valley Coordinator

Samuel Stillman Association Report

2020 Annual Report

2020 was a very challenging year for churches and clergy. We experienced the health crisis, loss of life, restrictions, and operational changes of the COVID-19 pandemic. At the same time we experienced economic disruption, heightened White Supremacy and racial attacks, and the intense political divisions of the presidential election. In the midst of this chaos, the Stillman Association stood strong. Our bonds across differences are more important than ever. Our support for each other is more important than ever. In unity there is strength. This is especially true for our Christian community, for whom, ultimately, our strength comes from our relationship with God and “the joy of the Lord” we can experience in that relationship and with each other.

As the ARC, I am the liaison between the Stillman Association and TABCOM. TABCOM has been especially important this year in sharing resources and offering training and support on issues related to COVID-19 and the racial pandemic. I attended a large number of meetings and trainings and shared information from them as well as information from the Massachusetts Council of Churches, the federal government, and other sources with Stillman clergy.

I supported local churches and clergy with prayer, preaching, and consultation. In addition to my private prayer for our association, individual prayer, and two group prayers for clergy, in 2020 I represented the Stillman Association in prayer services at Source of Light International and Lincoln Park Baptist Church. In addition, in 2020 I preached in three Stillman churches, provided individual consultation to several clergy, and, with Rev. Marlene Gil, consulted to a church group.

Much of my work is with churches who are seeking an interim pastor or are in a pastoral search. During 2020, eight Stillman churches were in transition between settled pastors. Two began the year with interims, three gained interims at the beginning of the pandemic, one was on the cusp of calling an interim at the end of the year, two had strong pastoral search committees with whom I worked closely, and, in the fall of 2020 West Acton Baptist completed their pastoral search process by calling Rev. Leah Goodwin. Congratulations to the church and to Rev. Goodwin! In December I developed a compensation spreadsheet for pastoral search committees which has already proven useful.

My work with the Stillman Executive Committee in 2020 included supporting the Moderator, participating in meetings, strengthening the grant process, providing logistical and writing support to a grantee, and facilitating the work of the Nominating Committee. This created a strong foundation as we moved into 2021.

God bless us all as we move forward.
Respectfully submitted,

Rev. Dr. Loretta Saint-Louis
Association Resource Coordinator
Samuel Stillman Association

Haitian Liaison Ministry Report

During the year 2020 my work with the Haitian Pastors continued, despite the pandemic alongside the ministry of the Haitian American Baptist Ministers Association (HABMA) under the leadership of Rev, Daniel Auguste. We met virtually on Zoom and Google Meet about every three months. During those meetings we prayed for and encouraged one another.

At every meeting I got the opportunity to share information from the TABCOM Notes/ Half Notes. I also did my best to encourage my brothers and sisters to remain in compliance with the established authority of the country regarding COVID 19.

We participated virtually in the convention held by the Haitian Alliance of Haitian Baptist Churches, USA (based in New Jersey) in November. In February, just before COVID we also met with a delegation from the Haitian alliance from New Jersey for an organizational meeting. Rev. Joseph Lys, Pastor of Eglise Baptiste de Sion welcomed us and on that day the New Jersey delegation got to meet Rev. Dr. Miller and Rev. Gil. We were nevertheless saddened to hear of the passing of Rev. Dumont's daughter (NH) and many other pastors from New England who succumbed to COVID.

Attendance at our meetings increased a bit and we hope to continue to use the virtual technology even after the pandemic. Many pastors also attended Baptist Polity and Boundaries in Ethics classes toward completing the requirements for standing. Hopefully we will get to meet face to face again for our annual Unity Worship service (January) and start a new tradition of an annual picnic during the summer.

Blessings!
Rev. Veronique Lapaix
Eglise Baptiste Eben Ezer

Portuguese Liaison Ministry Report

We all know how exceptional the year 2020 was for us all, both as individuals, families, churches and our society as a whole. The pandemic, which is still prevalent nowadays, has substantially changed the routine of our lives.

Most of our ministries have been led to operate on a survival mode. This is true for the Brazilian community in 2020. Churches were limited in their operation, sometimes closed, then open again, and often operating via Zoom.

There is not much to report, in terms of community activities, during this pandemic season. However, a couple of major activities deserve mention.

We were able to hold two Zoom meetings with Brazilian pastors during the pandemic high season last year to talk about the pandemic and its effects in their lives, families and churches. The sharing of information, experiences, ideas and suggestions proved to be very relevant to the group and a source of encouragement to all.

The other activity had to do with a crisis that surfaced between a pastor and his church. Initially he sought me for advice on the problems he was facing. I came to know later he also talked with other colleagues about the issue. A meeting of Brazilian pastors with him was held via Zoom, with the participation of Rev. Marlene Gil. Representatives of the church also sought to communicate with Rev. Marlene and me to tell their side of the story. Finally, Rev. Marlene and I held a meeting, along with other Brazilian pastors and the president of the Brazilian Caucus, Rev. Jackson Oliveira, at the church, with the presence of the pastor and the members of his church. Realizing that the great majority of the members did not give him the support he needed to continue his local ministry as their pastor, the pastor decided to publicly announce his resignation. A sad and unavoidable ending that could probably have been prevented had the pastor and the church sought help years ago when the problem was still manageable.

Another meaningful event that affected my wife and I last year was the fact that we both contracted the Covid-19 virus at the end of November, beginning of December. In spite of our age and health condition (we are both diabetic), we only had light symptoms. It was clearly the manifestation of God's grace. We praise the Lord for his goodness and deliverance.

I am also thankful to God and TABCOM for the opportunity I've had to serve in this Liaison ministry so far. Please remember to keep our Brazilian community of pastors and churches in your prayers.

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

Rev. Dr. Dalton H. Said
April 22, 2021

New England Deaf & Hard of Hearing Ministry

Anne Freeman, Coordinator

Greetings in Jesus' name!

I want to start off by thanking those who have been supportive of my efforts in Deaf ministry this past year, both financially and in prayer.

This past year has been challenging due to the COVID 19 pandemic and most things had to be offered via Zoom. Most of us at this point are familiar with the mixed blessing of this technology, but when all is said and done, I am grateful for it as it allowed Deaf ministry to continue! Many churches with either Deaf leadership or interpreters ministered with the use of various platforms like Zoom, and would not have been able to otherwise.

In January and February, two workshops on the Alexander Technique were offered to interpreters, led by musician Brittany Karlson. This ergonomic method helps keep repetitive motion injury at bay, which is to an epidemic proportion among interpreters. I also consulted with a local church considering providing access via sign language interpretation in their congregation.

A Deaf Blind woman and I met monthly in person, for discipleship. It was a new experience for me to sign everything into someone's hands regarding the bible as she uses tactile sign language. She seemed to thoroughly enjoy our times together!

When the lockdown occurred, I set up weekly prayer meetings to be run by Deaf leaders in American Sign Language. These all went very well and it was impressive to see such good leadership!

In the summer, I started a Community of Learning for Christian interpreters. We meet quarterly with a guest presenter and address various aspects of interpreting we face while working in Christian settings, such as interpreting abstract concepts and cochlear implants and the impact they are having on the Deaf Community.

In the fall, I co-led a workshop on negotiation in Deaf ministry with a colleague, Sarah Vaughn Smith. She was a pleasure to work with!

Respectfully Submitted,
Anne Freeman
Coordinator, New England Deaf & Hard of Hearing Ministry
TABCOM

2020 Annual Report

Native American Ministry Report

God is doing amazing things here at Community Baptist Church of Gay Head (Aquinnah). I can't help but laugh sometimes when I think of His comedic timing though.

Our wonderful former Pastor Dr. Leo Christian, who departed our congregation last year, spent his few years at our church guiding us toward envisioning *revival* and *growth*. And we were ripe for both when a pandemic suddenly struck, and effectively put the kabosh on *all public gatherings* -- let alone Sunday worship!

Our small congregation, often in the single digits on Sunday mornings, had just finished reading Rainer's "Autopsy of A Deceased Church" when we were forced to resort to Zoom services. We shared digital space with our sister church in Vineyard Haven, worshipping together online for those first few weeks of lockdown when everything seemed novel but surely temporary! How providential it was that in these shared worship experiences, God laid the groundwork for a renewed expression of kinship between our two congregations, even as His Spirit soon led our congregation to re-establish our independence and peaceably break away from our formal partnership with that ministry.

When Rev. Dr. Leo announced his departure, the congregation called me to the ministry. This would be the first time in perhaps over a century that our little church in Aquinnah has had its own dedicated pastor. The congregation agreed that this was the change for which it was time. Though I was just the music minister, Rev. Dr. Leo encouraged my call to pastoral ministry from the moment I started worshipping with the church in 2017. In September of 2020, the congregation gave me their vote of confidence and called me in faith.

In a year where public gatherings have been cause for fear and trepidation in our little Island community, our church has become a special and safe gathering place for those who are ready and hungry for fellowship. Early on, even as the spectre of the pandemic loomed overhead, I was on fire for outreach ministry. Starting in May of 2020, I led Sunday night "Drive-In" outreach concerts from the porch of our chapel for the general public. As of this writing, our Sunday night audience has grown to almost 100 heads -- a third of Aquinnah's population, and perhaps more than anyone has seen on our church grounds in two generations. We see new faces here and there on Sunday mornings -- some are becoming more and more familiar as they return week after week. God is good!

As our community is praying, and working, for revival, we honor our legacy as North America's longest-standing Native American-founded church. We believe that the unique historical witness of this church is a lighthouse of hope and inspiration as our nation searches her soul for the key to racial reconciliation. We, like Simon Peter, are steadfast that the key is Christ and no other, so we keep to our post -- "Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the words of eternal life!" (Jn. 6:68) -- and look to our God, Who has committed to us the message and ministry of reconciliation (2 Cor. 5:18f).

This generation of disciples in Aquinnah is committed to honoring our church's legacy, and honoring the inheritance we have received from those who have come before. We also seek to honor the Wampanoag Tribe, whose federal recognition is founded on the history of this very church. We must be good stewards of this legacy. In the same spirit, we have committed ourselves to the renewing the inheritance that is our parsonage. Now that our church is walking in faith towards independence and growth, we know that a resident pastor will be the most expedient for the fulfilment of our church's mission, now and in the future. The renovation of our parsonage is a crucial step in this direction, so that we may offer housing to future generations of ministers and their families -- especially on an Island in a perpetual housing crisis.

We look forward to where God is leading us. We have faith in His guidance: we have

“confidence in what we hope for” and though we cannot see the future, we have “assurance about what we do not see” (Heb. 11:1). In our own way, we feel about our church and its future the way the Apostle John felt about his community: “what we will be has not yet been made known. But we know that when Christ appears, we shall be like him, for we shall see him as he is.” (1 Jn. 3:2). May it be so. Amen.

Sean McMahon. April 23, 2021.

Please make your contribution to our historic church’s renewal efforts here: <https://cbcghaq.wordpress.com/>

Grace and Peace,

“Praise be to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us in the heavenly realms with every spiritual blessing in Christ. For he chose us in him before the creation of the world to be holy and blameless in his sight.” (Ephesians 1:3-4)

It is by the grace of God that I have the opportunity to share with you how much the Lord has blessed us to this day. As you already know the struggles that a small church experience. Praying Strong All Tribes House has been a small outreach native American Ministry initiative in Mashpee, Cape Cod. For the last twenty years as a bi-vocational pastor I have the privilege to be a part of this ministry in many capacities. Our church has been small since the beginning but with a full commitment with the ministry among the native people.

The Native American people are people of great spirituality but some of them have their own view of the gospel and not many of them have the full understanding of the work of Christ. The load of teaching, encouragement, prayer and witness are a must. For the last few years we have been bombarded with many issues related to the major tribe’s political and emotional situation which has affected many in our surroundings, however the Lord has sustained us and blessed our church.

The last year has been full of many challenges we all are facing regarding the pandemic since we stopped in-person meetings in March 2020. It’s an ongoing situation. We will be resuming after Memorial Day weekend, on the expectation that we all be vaccinated. Our worship has been through Zoom. We are working very hard to keep up the on- line participation. Our worship style is very traditional with a great embrace of the multicultural face in our group as a representation of the many tribes across the nation. We are very glad to be a part of the American Baptist Churches and TABCOM and to serve the Lord Jesus here on Cape Cod. Your prayers are welcome for our ministry and native people.

In His name,
Rev. Miguel Ribeiro DaSilva, Pastor
Praying Strong All Tribes House
(An Native American Ministry Initiative) Mashpee, Ma 02649

School of Ministry Report

2020 Annual Report

As with everything else, 2020 was a challenging time for the TABCOM School of Ministry. After holding our first session live in February, we went to Thursday evening Zoom format facilitated by Minister Olga Tines for our remaining Spring sessions. In the Fall we were able to return to our regular time format, Friday evenings and all day Saturday, albeit still by Zoom.

2020 was the third year in our three year cycle and we focused on Leadership. Improving our administrative management occupied the first of sessions, then we shifted to creative leadership , and finished up with the joy and challenge of entrepreneurial leadership. We were privileged to have Revs. Atu White and Ryan Bradley give particular leadership to our students. We had 15 students participate and four graduated --remotely--in November.

"We must have done something right" because the Lord has blessed us with two dozen students for 2021, our largest class ever. For the first time we had to limit enrollment! Our theme for the current year is Foundations: Spiritual, Biblical and Theological. We hope to return to live sessions in September.

We note with joy that at least four of our graduates have received pastoral calls, and a number of others are serving in roles of increased responsibility within their congregations. Persons interested in exploring or enrolling in the TABCOM School of Ministry for the Spring session 2022 can contact me at 508-272-8822.

Anthony G. Pappas
PO Box 1454
Block Island, RI 02807

Commission on Ordained Ministry Report

Reporting: Reverend Adrienne R. Berry-Burton, COOM Chair
June 2020 – May 2021

Committee on Ministerial Preparation- Rev. Diane Badger, Chair
Ministerial Standing Committee - Rev. Barbara Jean, Chair
TABCOM Office Support: Min. Robyn Mars

Committee Members:

Ministry Preparation: Rev. Diane Badger, Chair, Rev. Paula Alexander, Rev. John Bio Asante, Rev. Adrienne Berry-Burton, Rev. David Lee, Rev. Jonathan Singer, Rev. Nathaniel Smith and Rev. Ellen Tatreau, Watch Care.

Ministerial Standing Committee: Rev. Barbara Jean, Chair, Rev. Marlene Gil, Rev. Mar Imsong, Mr. Richard Jefferson, Rev. Mary Day Miller, Executive Minister, Rev. Catherine Miller, Rev. Jay Mulligan, and Rev. Sheila Sholes-Ross

*And how are they to proclaim him unless they are sent?
As it is written, "How beautiful are the feet of those who bring good news!"
Romans 10.15*

It has been a pleasure to work with the members of the COOM to advance the Christ centered profession of ordained ministry. It is our charge and our honor to assist those who are called to ordain ministry, and to help our congregations receive the best candidates who will serve worthily as disciples of Christ. Standards have been advanced and the process of confirming records is ongoing. We are affirming The Ministers Council of the American Baptist Churches' Code of Ethics. We are asking anyone who seeks to preach or lead in a TABCOM church to sign the Code of Ethics and meet our written standards for ordained ministry. Faith, excellence and compassionate service go hand in hand.

This has been a year of challenges and new ways of being in service together. Electronic video calls reached across regions and associations as we serve together. From June 2020 to May 2021 the committees have worked with 18 candidates and their supporting congregations, along with the TABCOM church associations. There is a diversity of candidates that mirrors our region's population and many cultures. The faith, congregational experiences, creativity and academic training of each successful candidate speaks well of our future as a very bright promise. I have a great appreciation for the commitment of these leaders and volunteers, and the many shared years of faith and knowledge.

In the Joy of the Lord,
Reverend Adrienne Berry-Burton

2021-2022 Nominating Ballot

Date is when the term ends; superscript is number of consecutive terms. **Names for election are in bold.**

OFFICERS

22 ¹	President	Rev. Daryn Stylianopolis—Needham, FBC
22 ¹	Vice President	Rev. Josh Cahan, Boston—Ruggles Baptist
22 ¹⁶	Clerk	Barbara Drauschke—Medford, FBC
22 ¹²	Treasurer	Weimin Feng—Wakefield, FBC
22 ¹	Past President	Rev. Gary Ludwig—Hingham, FBC

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

23 ¹	Chris McWhite—Brockton, Messiah Baptist	22 ¹	Sabrina Ozit—Medford, West Medford Baptist
23 ¹	Rev. Annie Belmer—Lynn, Zion Baptist Church	22 ²	Rev. Dr. Barbara Headley—Springfield, Zion Community Baptist
23 ³	Kevin Porter—Lowell, First United Baptist Church	22 ¹	Rev. Dr. Wesley Roberts—Boston, People's Baptist
23 ¹	Rev. Chuck Mosher—Hancock, Hancock Baptist	22 ¹	Rev. Dr. Remona Farley—Dorchester, Metropolitan Baptist Church

ETHNIC REPRESENTATIVES TO BE RATIFIED

23 ¹		Spanish speaking representative
22 ³	Rev. Jackson Oliveira—Acton, Renewed Life Baptist Church	Portuguese speaking representative
23 ¹		Asian representative
22 ²	Rev. Jephthet Roseme—Everett, Eglise Baptiste Haitienne de Siloe	Haitian representative

Board

General Ministries—Rev. Dr. Doug Scalise, Brewster, Brewster Baptist Church

of

COMMISSION ON ORDAINED MINISTRY

*indicates those members that are appointed by the Conference of Baptist Ministers

Ministerial Standing

22 ¹	Rev. Catherine Miller—Allston, Hill Memorial Church
23 ³	Rev. Jay Mulligan—North Oxford, FBC
23 ²	Richard Jefferson—Newton, Myrtle Baptist
22 ³	*Rev. Barbara Jean—Somerset, Somerset Baptist
22 ¹	Rev. Dr. Sheila Sholes-Ross—Pittsfield, FBC

Ministerial Preparation

22 ³	Rev. Ellen Tatreau—Weymouth, MA (retired)
22 ¹	Rev. Dr. Paula Alexander—Holyoke, Bethlehem Baptist
23 ²	Rev. John Bio Asante—Milbury, New Creation Baptist
22 ¹	Rev. Diane Badger—Mansfield, FBC
22 ¹	Rev. David Lee—Somerville, Community Baptist Church

APPOINTEES FROM THE CONFERENCE OF BAPTIST MINISTERS IN MASSACHUSETTS

22 ³	*Rev. Barbara Jean—Somerset, Somerset Baptist		*TBD
	*TBD		*TBD

Who to call for assistance

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