

Merrimack Valley

Berkshire

Central

Adoniram Judson

Samuel Stillman

Pioneer Valley Boston South-West

Old Colony



The American Baptist Churches of  
**MASSACHUSETTS**  
**TABCOM**



*Uniting and Equipping Churches to Make Disciples of Jesus*

2025

Annual

Report

TABCOM seeks to add value to the ministry to which God has called each congregation. These are the reports and reflections from the staff, officers and ministry teams for the year 2025.

# Table of Contents

EXECUTIVE MINISTER'S REPORT	04
DIRECTOR OF DEVELOPMENT REPORT	06
TABCOM 2025 FINANCIAL SUMMARY	08
ASSOCIATE EXECUTIVE MINISTER'S REPORT	10
GROTONWOOD REPORT ON MINISTRIES	11
OCEANWOOD REPORT ON MINISTRIES	14
MISSIONS MINISTRY REPORT	16
COMMUNICATIONS COORDINATOR REPORT	17
BOSTON SOUTH WEST REPORT	18
OLD COLONY ASSOCIATION REPORT	20
NATIVE AMERICAN LIAISON REPORT	20
PORTUGUESE LIAISON REPORT	21
TABCOM SCHOOL OF MINISTRY REPORT	22
MA AMERICAN BAPTIST INVESTMENT TRUST (MABIT)	23



# Executive Minister's Report

Welcome to the **Annual Gathering (#TAG2026)**, themed **"Building Bridges,"** inspired by the powerful words of Ephesians 2:19-22:

*"Consequently, you are no longer foreigners and strangers, but fellow citizens with God's people and also members of his household, built on the foundation of the apostles and prophets, with Christ Jesus himself as the chief cornerstone. In him the whole building is joined together and rises to become a holy temple in the Lord. And in him you too are being built together to become a dwelling in which God lives by his Spirit." (NIV)*

These verses are a profound reminder that we are being built together as a holy temple for the Lord. Our God is faithful, and He calls us to be bridge builders, connecting people with God and with one another. It's our purpose as Christians and as churches: to be a people of bold faith, resilient love, and unwavering commitment to the Gospel.

Our TABCOM statement of purpose is: *Uniting and equipping churches to make disciples of Jesus.* We have identified four areas of focus for our ministry:

- Equipping churches for fruitful ministry
- Developing and supporting church leaders for faithful service
- Connecting churches for local and global mission
- Celebrating churches' unity amid diversity.

Here are just some of the "New Things" happening in TABCOM:

- **Welcoming new churches!** We had **four additions to the family** in 2025/26: Chester Congregational Baptist Church in Chester, NH, where Teresa Rogers is Pastor; Strong Tower Church in Stoughton, Pastor Tennelle Woods; Evangelical First Haitian Baptist Church of Worcester and Evangelical First Haitian Baptist Church of Leominster, where pastoral leaders are Senior Pastor Lucien Myrthil and Pastor Colbert Gilles. We have several other churches "in process" to join the TABCOM family.
- New TABCOM Staff as we welcome **Jennifer Sanborn, our Director of Development!** Get to know Jennifer, who is our resident expert on all things related to stewardship and giving.
- Our, small but mighty, **Region Staff:** Associate Executive Minister Ron Bouthillette, Robyn Mars, Diane Badger, Jeff Ellis, Maria Reilly, and Miranda Kwon. I am especially grateful for their steady leadership during my medical adventures this year.
- Supporting our churches in implementing the **Safe Spaces ruling**, affirming that ABC/USA affiliated Churches are Safe Space communities and upholding the separation of church and state. Praying and acting with special concern for our immigrant churches in the unique challenges they are facing.
- Celebrating new beginnings in our family: the joy of welcoming newly ordained ministers to TABCOM, and new pastoral leadership in our churches. Our Region is

doing standout work in **calling, blessing, and equipping church leadership**. Our School of Ministry is a key pathway to ministry leadership, and we praise God for its growth.

- **Expanded TABCOM grants**, including our Elder Ministry grants, the George Wright Fund, and the establishment of a new fund for supporting church planting and re-planting.
- A priority to **support and encourage our pastors** and church leaders during these challenging days, including our yard sign project, Pastor Camp, and opportunities for coaching and connection.
- New directions at **Oceanwood Camp**, with a new business model and facility upgrades in process.
- Exciting growth in ministry and facilities at our **Grotonwood Camp**.

How grateful I am for the leadership of Chris McWhite as TABCOM president. He and all of our officers, the members of the Board of Directors, and all our volunteers serve with dedication and make a real difference for our mission. God bless you all! We are excited about our incoming new leaders, including our new president, Danielle Gantt.

Even in the current climate of uncertainty and with the challenges we all face, now more than ever, we are called to stand together in faith, unity, and encouragement. As the body of Christ, we are not alone—we are strengthened by one another and by the unwavering faithfulness of our God.

Serving Christ,

*Rev. Dr. Mary Kay Hamel*



**August 24-27, 2026**

# Director of Development Report

## Sharing Our Resources for Mission and Ministry Jennifer L. Sanborn, Director of Development

**Thank you**, TABCOM, for your warm welcome to the region, and for the gift of this new call! While I spent seasons of my growing up and young adult years in TABCOM churches, it is entirely different to learn the wider landscape of who we are and how we share in ministry. As I have visited churches, called and met with individuals, and researched the incredible work that preceded my arrival in mid-September, each conversation has added a piece to the puzzle I am (still!) putting together about the unique financial resources in our region and how they support leaders, congregations, and shared mission.

We stand on the **generosity of generations** before us—with the founding of our churches, the vision for associations and a region, the giving that created funds we still use for ministry today, and the care expressed in how these resources are invited and stewarded. In particular, I want to honor the decades of dedication from Ed Guerard. I met Ed only briefly while visiting your annual gatherings as an exhibitor for the American Baptist Home Mission Societies (ABHMS), but his voice is often in my ear. While I approach this work with my own gifts and with a somewhat different call, I am grateful to share values Ed espoused in his earlier annual reports: gratitude for donors first and foremost, valuing gifts of every size, and engaging each person as God’s unique creation. Plus, I share Ed’s love for encountering God in nature—especially our camp/retreat centers!

Our most significant development event in 2025 was receiving **the bequest of Ralph A. Earle**, an investment of care for our ministries that nearly doubled our TransFORMation Fund and will provide support for TABCOM, Grotonwood, and Oceanwood in perpetuity. We give thanks to the Earle Family and to Susan Joy Earle-Murray who continues to steward this legacy, as well as to the American Baptist Foundation for their partnership with Ed in envisioning an endowment through which individuals, families, and churches can share in a faith-focused legacy. The Earle family contributions have had a significant material impact on our ministries, and they have also had a spiritual impact, providing for all of us a model of trust in giving what God has given us for the greater good.

We give thanks for the **annual giving of Friends Of Regional Ministries (FORM)**, with total contributions depicted below. More than 100 individuals and families made a personal offering through FORM to TABCOM and our associated ministries in 2025. For us, money immediately becomes ministry, and you have had a hand in all of the reported activities sitting alongside this report. While we experienced a decrease in both donors and donations in 2025, this was to be anticipated with the gap in communication and personal connection. We want to acknowledge all of you who gave gifts to FORM before you were even asked because it is part of your spiritual and financial practices. In 2026 we will continue the work of reconnection and invitation with those with whom we might have lost touch, and we will be inviting new donors in new ways to strengthen annual financial support for our ministries. In addition to annual fund giving, we celebrate particular successes like the funds raised to preserve the original 1847 scroll, “A Resolution and Protest Against Slavery,” an historic document inspiring our actions today. We will continue to identify and invite your giving for such initiatives.

TransFORMATION Fund:	\$928,202
TABCOM Core:	\$22,847
School of Ministry:	\$7,830
Preserving Baptist History:	\$18,549
Grotonwood Operations/Camperships/Capital Projects:	\$136,032
Memorial Garden:	\$730
Oceanwood Operations/Camperships:	\$17,843
<b>TOTAL giving to FORM:</b>	<b>\$1,132,033</b>

While this report has focused in years past exclusively on FORM giving, my call is also to work with congregations to reimagine their financial lives and inspire giving for our shared ministries as American Baptists. Of the approximately 230 congregations associated with TABCOM in 2025, 109 contributed to offerings that support **ministry and mission in our region, country, and the world**. In the year to come I'll be reaching out to those congregations who haven't recently given to provide any information needed about the value of our associational giving, as well as extend support related to the financial life of the congregation. We want to offer special thanks to those who might have given for the first time, resumed giving after a pause, or generously increased their giving, recognizing the power of ministry partnerships in this time.

United Mission Basics:	\$221,113
ABW Love Gift:	\$3,804
America for Christ:	\$39,020
World Mission Offering:	\$35,167
Retired Ministers/Missionaries Offering:	\$45,494
One Great Hour of Sharing:	\$56,475
Institutional Support (e.g., seminaries):	\$7,139
Specifics (e.g., mission centers/objectives):	\$41,579
Mass. Mission Fund (i.e., region offering):	\$13,406
Targeted Giving (e.g., missionaries):	\$21,329
Miscellaneous objectives:	\$4,770
<b>TOTAL mission giving (beyond FORM):</b>	<b>\$489,296</b>

The numbers above represent many hours of gift processing, and I want to extend my thanks to Maria Reilly who is a daily partner in ensuring we receive, acknowledge, and use these gifts wisely and well. I love being part of the TABCOM staff! A year ago I was standing at the back of your annual meeting as a visitor from ABHMS. While I heard Rev. Dr. Mary Hamel announce a new development role, it was only later that the Spirit and some colleagues prompted me to consider this call. I hope you'll be open at this gathering and beyond to how the Spirit might invite you to give and to serve. Praise God from whom all blessings flow!

Peace,



# TABCOM 2025 Financial Summary

TABCOM has had another strong fiscal year with a balanced budget. We continue to be blessed with a healthy stock market resulting in continued increases in our core investment funds. TABCOM has managed its annual investment draw rate that will allow us to remain sustainable well into the future. Our Property Fund which provides TABCOM with distributions to support our operating budget including our Missions work has increased in value to \$6.4 million. Mission giving from member churches stabilized during 2025 ending a period of declining amounts. During 2025 TABCOM received approximately \$150K in donations to support our critical Missions work. Other noteworthy changes to our invested funds includes a very generous gift from the estate of Ralph Earle. The gift doubled the value of our Transformation Fund to \$2.3M. Thanks to the great work of Danny Everitt---TABCOM and GrotonWood received an IRS payroll tax refund. TABCOM's portion of the refund amounted to \$270K. Lastly in 2025 funds related to the sale of land gifted to TABCOM was invested in our Plantings Fund which supports several TABCOM initiatives including Ron Bouthillette's work to assist troubled churches that have the potential to reestablish their economic viability.

TABCOM has hired Jennifer Sanborn as our new Director of Development. Jennifer will continue to develop relations with potential private donors continuing Ed Guerard's legacy. In addition, Jennifer will spearhead TABCOM's efforts to apply for grants from large private foundations. Also, Jennifer is working to improve our communications with potential donors including member churches. Packaged, these initiatives will enhance TABCOM's long-term financial strength and ability to better support our member churches and expand our Missions work.

TABCOM has reached out to our member churches to financially assist them with numerous economic challenges. During 2025 TABCOM received \$25k from the George Wright Fund that was distributed to several churches looking for financial assistance with various projects and/or ministry programs. Examples include assisting a church with the cost of replacing weathered siding and helping paydown a member church's large utility to avoid the shut off service.

Working with MassSave, TABCOM has worked to find opportunities for churches to materially reduce their energy consumption through the installation of weatherization measures, heating and cooling controls and energy efficient lighting retrofits. MassSave has been able to offer significant incentives to reduce the cost of installing the energy efficient upgrades and, in many cases, the net cost to the church has been zero.

TABCOM also materially assisted a member church in the eviction of a tough tenant who began to not pay rent and abused the parsonage. With our assistance, we have a court order to evict them on June 1st and ready the parsonage for sale to help financially prop up

the church's finances.

Lastly, another example of TABCOM's financial assistance to a member church, is the legal assistance in readying a parcel of land that TABCOM has stewarded for almost 100 years. The Church was hoping to build a new sanctuary on this land in the future. However, TABCOM's research showed the land is located next to protected public water wells which would render construction difficult and expensive. TABCOM and its attorney worked with the Town to negotiate a tentative deal to sell the land to the town's water department at a very competitive price. The church will use the proceeds to fund a long term endowment that can be tapped in the future if a need does arise for a new sanctuary. TABCOM will receive 10% of the proceeds as a generous gift to create a special fund to assist other churches experiencing short term financial difficulties.

We hope during 2026 TABCOM will be blessed with the resources to continue offering assistance to member churches and grow our Mission programs.

In His Service,  
Jeff Ellis,

# Associate Executive Minister's Report

This has been an interesting year in church relations. My job description focuses on “search and call”, church renewal and revitalization and leadership issues. Within the scope of that job description is to assist our churches to make difficult decisions. I also have the annual “Leadership Day” in my responsibilities.

Our recent leadership day was a huge success. Our theme was “*Building Bridges*” and we had Dr. Virginia Ward as our speaker. Dr. Ward and her husband Larry recently retired from local church ministry in Cambridge. Dr. Ward served as the dean of the Boston campus of Gordon Conwell Theological Seminary for many years. Dr. Ward’s experience in the area of building bridges is extensive. She made an enormous impact on those that attended.

In the area of “search and call”, we have had openings filled and pastors leaving. Our churches that are seeking a full-time pastor have an interim and some are voting on a new pastor soon. Our part-time churches are more of a challenge. I try to find an interim for them and/or speakers.

Assisting churches to discern their health as a church has become a huge need. I am pleased to announce that we have one of those churches involved in our Moving Ahead program. Unfortunately, in the discernment process, churches have acknowledged their need to bring their history and ministry to a close and some are selling their buildings. Many of our churches can no longer afford their buildings.

It has been my privilege to serve TABCOM in this capacity. I enjoy working with Dr. Hamel and the rest of our staff. Let us pray for our local churches in these unsettled times.

Yours,  
Dr. Ronald Bouthillette

# Grotonwood Report on Ministries

## Statement of Activity 2025

	Jan 1 - Dec 31 2025	Jan 1 - Dec 31 2024	Change
<b>Income</b>			
Store Income	\$31,850	\$34,247	-\$2,396
Revenue Conferencing	\$848,820	\$756,362	\$92,458
Natures Classroom	\$240,642	\$277,188	-\$36,546
Total Camping Income	\$898,295	\$828,127	\$70,168
Friends Of Regional Ministries	\$38,128	\$18,674	\$19,453
Recurring Revenue	\$35,300	\$54,600	-\$19,300
<b>Gross Profit</b>	<b>\$2,093,034</b>	<b>\$1,969,198</b>	<b>\$123,837</b>
<b>Expenses</b>			
Total Salaries	\$419,338	\$371,370	\$47,968
Total Admin	\$32,504	\$34,892	-\$2,188
Total Utilities	\$130,928	\$124,104	\$6,824
Total Kitchen	\$470,411	\$389,039	\$81,372
Total Maintenance	\$166,538	\$176,682	-\$10,145
Total Housekeeping	\$88,167	\$84,349	\$3,818
Total Insurance	\$49,643	\$52,583	-\$2,940
Total Promotion	\$2,669	\$18,314	-\$15,645
Total Camping Program Expense	\$638,167	\$591,018	\$47,150
Conference Supplies	\$7,021	\$9,272	-\$2,251
Total Misc Expense	\$10,300	\$900	\$10,000
Store	\$10,028	\$43,005	-\$32,977
Store Sales Taxes	\$229	\$123	\$106
Interest Payment	\$16,746	\$17,384	-\$638
Debt Repayment	\$9,896		\$9,896
Purchases	\$550	\$571	-\$21
Conference Development		\$74	-\$74
<b>Total For Expenses</b>	<b>\$2,053,134</b>	<b>\$1,912,879</b>	<b>\$140,255</b>
<b>Net Operating Income</b>	<b>\$39,900</b>	<b>\$56,319</b>	<b>-\$16,418</b>

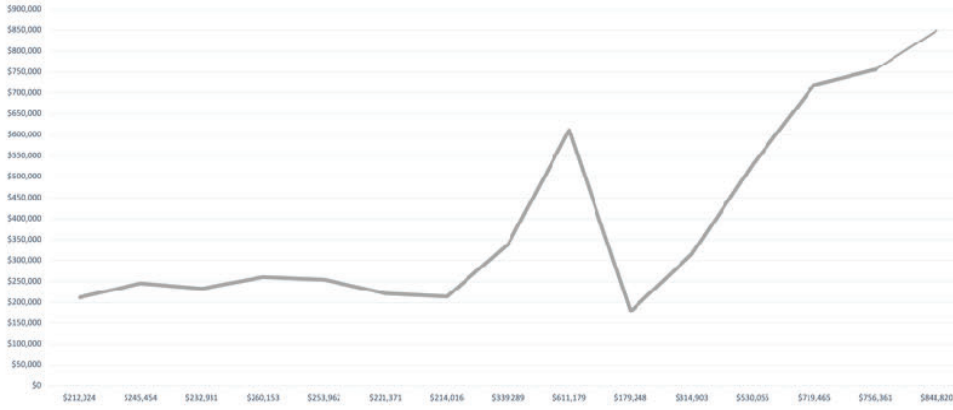


## Statement of Financial Position

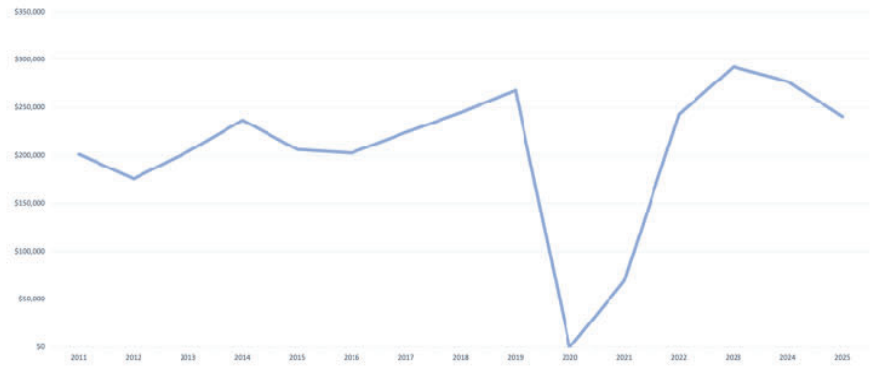
	As of December 31, 2025	As of December 31, 2024	\$ Change
<b>Assets</b>			
<b>Current Assets</b>			
Total for Bank Accounts	\$314,172	\$365,465	-\$51,292
Total for Accounts Receivable	\$59,893	\$39,929	\$19,763
Total for Other Current Assets	\$56,276	\$33,320	\$22,956
Total for Current Assets	\$430,141	\$438,713	-\$8,573
Total for Other Assets	\$7,846,948	\$7,846,948	\$0
<b>Total for Assets</b>	<b>\$8,277,089</b>	<b>\$8,285,660</b>	<b>-\$8,573</b>
<b>Liabilities</b>			
Total for Accounts Payable	\$59,456	\$29,723	\$29,733
BBSU for Scholarship	\$0	\$0	\$0
Deferred Income	\$58,956	\$61,031	-\$2,075
Reserved Deposits	\$113,038	\$98,957	\$14,081
Camp Fees Reserved	\$78,030	\$56,859	\$21,172
Capital Improvements Reserve	\$265,953	\$182,152	\$83,801
Memorial Garden Maintenance	\$26,506	\$30,587	-\$4,081
Other Current Liabilities	\$560,655	\$447,203	\$113,452
<b>Total for Current Liabilities</b>	<b>\$620,113</b>	<b>\$476,928</b>	<b>\$143,187</b>
<b>Long-term Liabilities</b>			
LMA	-\$3,600	\$147,342	-\$150,742
PPP Loan	\$0	\$0	\$0
Draw down from Investment	\$40,000	\$40,000	\$0
Main Street Bank Loan	\$414,107	\$431,950	-\$17,843
<b>Total for Long-term Liabilities</b>	<b>\$450,507</b>	<b>\$619,093</b>	<b>-\$168,586</b>



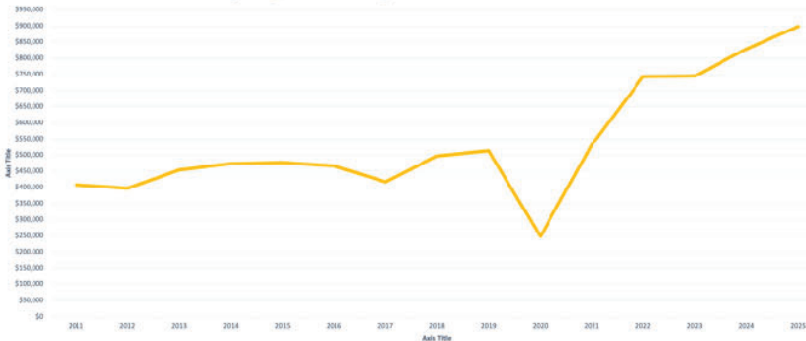
### Retreat Ministry Income Year on Year



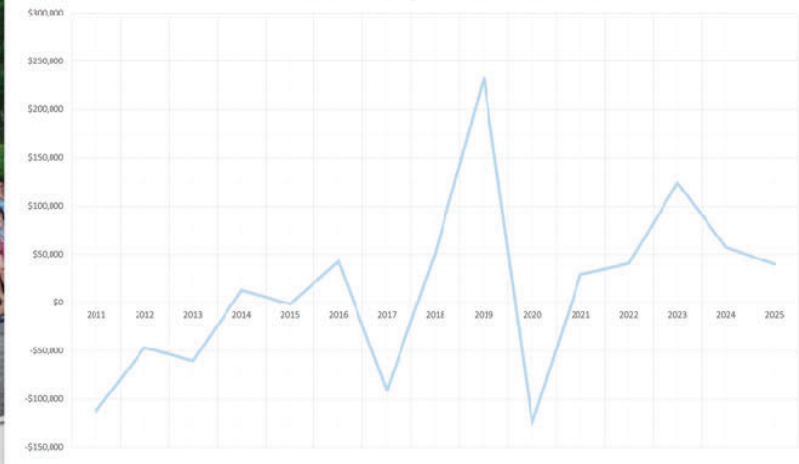
### Nature's Classroom Income Year on Year



### Camping Ministry Income Year on Year



### TOTAL Loss / Surplus Year on Year



## Retreats Ministry

Grotonwood remains a cornerstone for spiritual renewal within the TABCOM family. We are thrilled to report that more groups than ever are seeking a place for retreat and restoration on our grounds. However, we have reached a "Tetris" point—our demand has officially outpaced our capacity.

To continue providing high-quality service, modern facilities, and nourishing meals to all who seek them, we need to expand. We are envisioning a new accommodation space to meet this demand, a project estimated at \$5 million. While we don't have these funds today, we know our community serves a big God. Is there a person, a family, or a congregation in the TABCOM community called to help us make this vision a reality?

## Camping Ministry

Our summer camping program—the heart of our ministry—has once again exceeded our greatest expectations. Guided by our "Fixer Upper" theme, campers and staff alike dove deep into spiritual nourishment through worship and community. To keep the experience fresh and accessible, 2025 saw the addition of several exciting upgrades including a fresh climbing wall and new activities to keep our campers engaged.

**Record Growth:** For the fifth consecutive year, we achieved our highest recorded income, with attendance surpassing any summer since our electronic records began in 2011.

**Meeting Specialized Needs:** Demand for our 1:1 Day Camp and Adults with Disabilities programs is soaring and small changes will be made for the 2026 season to allow more campers to attend, especially in the first week of camp.

**Looking Ahead:** To meet this hunger for ministry, we will continue our extended season into 2026 summer season from eight weeks to nine.

## Facility Improvements started or completed in 2025

MIT has been demolished and a new two-story duplex has been built on the old foundation. This will provide staff housing for 2 families.

Air conditioning has been added to the meeting rooms in Blanchard Hall.

The gym climbing wall has been repainted.

The hay cart was refurbished and the tractor was replaced by a vintage 1942 Ford 2N.

Gates have been added to the pathways at Loomis Lane end of camp.

A deck has been added to the Annex off of the Main Dining Hall.

## Pavilion Update

The foundations have been laid and the frame is almost complete. The snow has put a pause in the construction, but will continue as soon as the snow melts.

## Staffing Updates

Sarah Macy joined as the Assistant Summer Camp Director and brings with her a wealth of knowledge in disability services and grant writing - she has already raised \$12,000 for five new beach wheelchairs.

Thank you to all our supporters who volunteered their time or contributed towards our capital improvements or campership fund. We couldn't do all that we do without your faithful prayers, financial contributions and the gift of your time.

Lots of love and appreciation - Danny, Breeze, Ocean, Alpine and all the Grotonwood staff!



# Oceanwood Report on Ministries

## New England Baptist Council

Balance Sheet  
As of December 31, 2025

	TOTAL
<b>ASSETS</b>	
Current Assets	
Bank Accounts	
10020 Chase x3912	164,384
10030 Live Oak Savings	10,247
<b>Total Bank Accounts</b>	<b>\$174,631</b>
Accounts Receivable	
11000 Accounts Receivable	6,209
<b>Total Accounts Receivable</b>	<b>\$6,209</b>
<b>Total Current Assets</b>	<b>\$180,840</b>
Fixed Assets	
15500 Land	2,111,700
17000 Buildings	1,283,549
18000 Vehicles	5,770
<b>Total Fixed Assets</b>	<b>\$3,401,019</b>
<b>TOTAL ASSETS</b>	<b>\$3,581,859</b>
<b>LIABILITIES AND EQUITY</b>	
Liabilities	
Current Liabilities	
Credit Cards	
22000 Chase Credit Card x2545	13,778
<b>Total Credit Cards</b>	<b>\$13,778</b>
Other Current Liabilities	
25000 Deferred Income	4,573
26000 Reserve Deposits	12,922
<b>Total Other Current Liabilities</b>	<b>\$17,494</b>
<b>Total Current Liabilities</b>	<b>\$31,273</b>
Long-Term Liabilities	
26530 LMA Fund Loan	322,511
<b>Total Long-Term Liabilities</b>	<b>\$322,511</b>
<b>Total Liabilities</b>	<b>\$353,783</b>
Equity	
30000 Opening Balance Equity {4}	1,279,006
30020 Opening Balance-Real Property	3,329,408
31500 FORM Temp. Restricted Net Assets	-6,916
31600 Prior Year Transactions Adjustment	-31,138
32000 Unrestricted Net Assets	-1,371,384
Owner Contribution	306,291
Net Income	-277,192
<b>Total Equity</b>	<b>\$3,228,076</b>
<b>TOTAL LIABILITIES AND EQUITY</b>	<b>\$3,581,859</b>

# New England Baptist Council

## Profit and Loss

January - December 2025

	TOTAL
<b>Income</b>	
41000 Revenue	
41001 Retreats	403,354.81
41002 Events	1,270.00
41010 Bach House Rental Revenue	5,236.00
41020 J1 Rentals	8,585.13
41201 Natures Classroom	214,721.89
42015 FORM	15,820.36
<b>Total 41000 Revenue</b>	<b>648,988.19</b>
42000 Other Contribution Income	
42030 Donations	1,500.00
42035 AB Home Missions	2,293.89
<b>Total 42000 Other Contribution Income</b>	<b>3,793.89</b>
42500 RESTRICTED CONTRIBUTIONS	
42501 GW TransFORM	36,407.15
<b>Total 42500 RESTRICTED CONTRIBUTIONS</b>	<b>36,407.15</b>
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>\$689,189.23</b>
<b>GROSS PROFIT</b>	<b>\$689,189.23</b>
<b>Expenses</b>	
50000 KITCHEN EXPENSES	114,481.01
50100 Leased Equipment	1,642.14
51000 SALARIES	290,765.84
52000 ADMINISTRATION	62,630.50
52035 UTILITIES	96,497.90
53000 REPAIRS & MAINTENANCE (Kitchen)	47.41
54000 REPAIRS & MAINTENANCE (NON Kitchen)	266,825.99
55000 INSURANCE	39,703.08
56000 PROMOTION	4,696.98
57000 PROGRAMS	44,733.93
59000 FACILITIES / HOUSEKEEPING EXPENSES	15,147.12
<b>Total Expenses</b>	<b>\$937,171.90</b>
<b>NET OPERATING INCOME</b>	<b>\$ -247,982.67</b>
Other Income	\$247.35
Other Expenses	\$29,456.66
Net Other Income	\$ -29,209.31
<b>NET INCOME</b>	<b>\$ -277,191.98</b>

# Missions Ministry Report

The year of 2025 challenged almost all of us collectively and individually, as the church and as individual members of the church, to take courage and walk by faith, not by sight—especially in solidarity with the oppressed, the vulnerable, and the marginalized. Throughout the Scriptures, God tells us not to oppress or mistreat the foreigner/sojourner/alien residing among us—they are immigrants and refugees in the midst of us. Inarguably, the church ought to engage with the inequalities and injustices of the world into which we are sent. Undoubtedly, the mission of the church is a downward, as well as outward, movement in solidarity with the least in our society, with those who are found at the margin of the society.

From the beginning of the year, there were numerous nation-wide and state-wide meetings and info sessions, hosted by ABCUSA, ABHMS, AAABC, MBMM, and other Christian non-Profit organizations, on how to help those in dire immigrant situations and ensuing daily challenges in our cities and faith communities. I, along with my colleagues, not only attended many of those meetings but gathered and relayed any helpful info and resources to the pastors, lay people, and the churches of TABCOM.

There were many great and helpful discussions and forums on the immigrant/refugee issues as well. In fact, attending one such forum at Gordon-Conwell Theological Seminary led me to connect with Dr. Butner, the main speaker of the event and a professor at Gordon-Conwell. He had recently published a book *Jesus the Refugee*. He was invited to lead a workshop “*Refugee Ethics and Ministry in a Shifting Policy Landscape*” at MissionWorks. Many attendees expressed appreciation for the timely topic as well as the in-depth talk on the issue.

Inseparable from the issues of social justice is economic justice. I heard from many non-profit Christian organizations helping those in need that as the marginalized—including the immigrants/refugees—were pushed even farther to the edge of society, donations dropped and declined as well. I engaged in talks with Ms. Grady-Harper, the founder of Boston Faith Justice Network, and learned about how her ministry has been impacting the lives of “the disinherited”—as Howard Thurman puts it—by moving individuals with personal religious commitment to transformative action in the Greater Boston area. We invited her to share more with a larger audience; she led a workshop “*Imagining a Sacred Economy: Living into God’s Abundance*” at MissionWorks.

Engaging in talks with the leadership at Emmanuel Gospel Center (EGC) has always been productive as they help local churches, ministries, and leaders create a more equitable, connected, and thriving community with their collaborative approach. Ms. Cagua-McAllister from EGC was invited to lead a workshop “*Shalom-Seeking Eyes for Faithful Churches*” in which attendees were dynamically engaged to understand others’ perspectives better, even those with “opposing” views. Such an approach is critical for our conversation with one another for our collective future as we seek to further the kingdom of God.

It was apropos that the theme of the 2025 TABCOM MissionWorks was “*Walk by Faith, Not by Sight.*” It culminated from taking time and listening to others on how they “walk” in their lives. As followers of Christ, we do not lose hope, no matter what, and walk by faith, not by sight. Let us continue in our mission works faithfully!

Respectfully,  
Rev. Miranda M. Kwon  
Director of Missions, TABCOM

# Communications Coordinator Report

*“Write the vision; make it plain on tablets, so he may run who reads it.”– Habakkuk 2:2*

In today’s rapidly evolving world of media and technology, communication is no longer simply about sharing information—it is about creating connection, visibility, and meaningful engagement across multiple platforms. As Communications Coordinator, I continue to steward TABCOM’s digital presence in ways that reflect both our mission and the changing landscape around us.

Throughout 2025, I remained responsible for producing TABCOM Notes and HalfNotes twice monthly in collaboration with colleagues, ensuring that timely news, ministry highlights, and important updates reach our churches. These publications continue to serve as a vital link across our diverse and vibrant TABCOM family.

In addition, I maintained and updated TABCOM’s website and social media platforms, including Facebook and Instagram, using these tools to share stories, promote events, and highlight the work of our churches in real time. As digital communication continues to expand, these platforms remain essential for extending our reach and strengthening community connections.

I warmly invite our churches and associations to share what God is doing in your communities. Whether it is a special event, ministry milestone, outreach effort, or celebration, I would love to highlight your work across our communication platforms. Please feel free to email me at [robyn.mars@tabcom.org](mailto:robyn.mars@tabcom.org). If you or members of your congregation would like to be added to our email distribution list to receive our TABCOM newsletters, emails and other updates, you are also encouraged to reach out.

Recognizing the growing importance of accessibility, user experience, and visual storytelling, we are now preparing for a comprehensive website revamp. This effort will focus on improving navigation, enhancing design, and creating a more engaging and user-friendly experience that better serves both our churches and the wider community.

I also supported TABCOM events throughout the year through communication, design, and technical assistance, ensuring that our gatherings—whether in-person or hybrid—were well-promoted and accessible.

It is a privilege to serve in this role during such a dynamic time in communication. I look forward to continuing to explore new tools, adapt to emerging technologies, and strengthen the ways we share the good news of what God is doing through TABCOM.

In His Service,  
Rev. Robyn Monique Mars  
Communications Coordinator, TABCOM  
Pastor, First Baptist Church in Framingham

# Boston South West Association Report

The Boston Southwest Association is the agency for strategic planning and programming on matters of concern to the 32 churches which are a part of The American Baptist Churches of Massachusetts (TABCOM) and ABCUSA.

The purpose of the Association is to:

- Promote fellowship among churches.
- Affirm community held beliefs, provide counsel and assistance to constituent churches.
- Establish structure to help with theological education, and guidance within the ordination process as set forth by TABCOM & ABCUSA.

The mission of the Association is for churches to connect, support and assist one another. In short, to do the work that one church alone could not do.

In recapitulating the events of the past year, I am delighted to report that God's plans for our association continues to unfold as we follow his leading. With the leadership of our Executive Board and Chairs of Committees, we were able to meet monthly via Zoom with Rev. Dr. André Morgan serving as our Moderator and Assistant Moderator, Rev. David Wright.

- The goal of the Executive Committee is to continuously seek God's direction as we serve the churches within our Association.

At the beginning of the year, I reached out to all the churches within the association, and made connections with most for our good and welfare check-in. It was a pleasure talking to those pastors with whom I was able to connect or with someone representing the church. Great to hear about what God is doing in his vineyard.

Our Spring meeting and luncheon was convened at Concord Baptist Church in Milton. The Rev. James Fripp was our keynote speaker after which we were able to engage in dialogue, have our business meeting and end with lunch.

Our Fall meeting was at the First Baptist Church of Norwood. It was a blessing to be with our brothers and sisters in Norwood and their newly elected Pastor, Rev. John Amos, who served as our keynote speaker, which was followed by our business meeting and lunch.

BSW Committee on Ministry, chaired by Rev. James Fripp, continues to be an active and vibrant part of our association, guiding the 10 candidates who are in the ordination process. We were blessed to have the ordination service for Walika Bradley Muhammad at Concord Baptist Church of Boston in Milton. Great to see those in attendance including our Executive Minister, Rev. Hamel and many other pastors and church representatives.

Congratulations to People's Baptist Church upon the call and installation of Rev. Art Gordon and family, as their newly elected Pastor. The Rev. Dr. Conley Hughes was the installation preacher. It was a glorious occasion with religious, civic and political representation and participation.

The Association was well represented at TABCOM's Leadership Day held at First Federated Church in Hudson, good to have met new brothers and sisters Christ. Thanks to Rev. Dr. Virginia Ward who served as keynote facilitator.

In partnering with other Old Colony Associations, we were pleased to co-host a refresher workshop on Ethics and Boundaries which was held at Concord Baptist and facilitated by Rev. Dr. Mary Hamel, our Executive Minister. Great material and excellent dialogue!

I was blessed to attend a luncheon meeting with other Association Resource Coordinators, held at Grotonwood and hosted by Rev. Dr. Ron Bouthillette at TABCOM's Headquarters in Groton. Thanks to Rev. Dr. Mary Hamel and Rev. Diane Badger who were also in attendance.

**There were some changes in our Association:**

Ebenezer Baptist Church of Boston is now a part of Old Colony Association due to their move to Abington, MA. Congratulations Ebenezer and Pastor Carlton Thompson on the completion and dedication of your new edifice.

Franklin Federated changed from BSW to Old Colony. They voted to move their membership to Old Colony since they are in closer proximity to the churches on the South Shore of Boston. It was done for easier accessibility to fellowship. We will miss our affiliate church.

Leon de Judah has experienced pastoral change. Congratulations to Pastor Mercedes Lopez-Miranda who has retired after serving the church for more than 35 years. She was with her husband Pastor Roberto Miranda (deceased) as Associate Pastor and after his death was called as lead Pastor for the past four years. The church has now called Associate Pastor; Rev. Samuel Acevedo as their Lead Pastor. We look forward to continued fellowship and will be praying for their continued leadership and ministry.

I am grateful for the opportunity to serve Boston Southwest Association and covet your prayers as together we continue to make disciples for Jesus.

In His Service,  
Rev. Moreen P. Hughes, D. Min.  
Association Resource Coordinator

# Old Colony Association Report

It has been nearly thirty years since I first started my ministry with the Old Colony Baptist Association. Each year has brought so many gifts into my life and this past year is no different.

We had our annual breakfast last spring at Messiah Baptist in Brockton and welcomed our Executive Minister, Rev. Dr. Mary D. Hamel as our speaker.

In October we held our fall mission workday at FBC Hanson and helped with various projects around the church. We also welcomed Ebenezer Baptist Church of Abington into the association. They had previously been located in Roxbury and have now moved to Abington. We have 1-2 more churches who will be joining us in 2026.

The board welcomed Rev. Charles Hightower as clerk, after many years as the treasurer doing double duty as both clerk and treasurer.

The Executive Board continues to support the ministry and missions of our member churches and our churches have remained very faithful in paying their dues in support of this ministry. We have provided scholarships to campers and stipends for ministry and mission projects.

After nearly thirty years of serving on the Board I find my time with you drawing to a close. I am relocating to be closer to family and will no longer be living in this part of the state. From back in the 1990s when Jim Grant and Ken Bowser first invited me to become clerk to the board, through the pandemic and our 200th anniversary and the many changes of ministers in our sister churches, I have enjoyed every minute serving the Old Colony Baptist Association. My prayers and best wishes out to you all.

Respectfully Submitted,  
Rev. Diane Badger

## Native American Liaison Report

The ministry on the island is going well with the church being served by Pastor Michael Gilman. It was exciting this year as the republication of the Algonquian Indian Bible by John Elliot was completed and distributed among the tribe. The Algonquian Indian Bible was the first Bible printed on American soil in 1663. I'm pleased to be presenting a copy to Diane Badger for the archives. Along with the Bible the Indian Grammar rule book was reproduced and a copy of this will be presented along with the Bible.

I have also had much contact with the church in Mashpee. I was privileged to be the speaker at the Annual Richard Bourne day the past two summers at the old Indian Meeting House. Richard Bourne was a missionary pastor to the native people and a great bond has been carried through out these many years. Bourne's work has continued to bear fruit for about three hundred and fifty years.

Respectfully submitted:  
The Rev. Dr. Leo D. Christian First Baptist Church of Vineyard Haven, MA

# Portuguese Liaison Report

I thank God for the privilege of still representing the Portuguese-Speaking Community (mostly made up of Brazilians) within TABCOM, after several years, though my energy level is no longer the same as before. This makes me think that perhaps it is about time for us to start searching for a new leader, a new liaison to our community. The present report is mostly based on the information I received from my colleague and friend, Rev. Jackson Oliveira, one of the leaders of our Caucus. I wholeheartedly thank him for his invaluable help.

As we look back over the past year, we notice the fact that we did not have as many organized activities involving Brazilian pastors and churches as we would have expected. In part this was due to the personal difficulties faced by our Caucus Regional Representative, who has needed some time off his ministerial duties. However, some activities involving the presence and participation of Brazilian Pastors can be mentioned.

We had some Brazilian pastors present at the ABC Biennial Mission Summit, held in Omaha, Nebraska, in June of 2025. That represented a very good opportunity for them to participate in the life of the ABCUSA, through fellowship and learning.

Another meaningful activity was the meeting of the Portuguese-Speaking Caucus in Kearny, New Jersey, on October 18, 2025. It represented a special moment for fellowship and exchange of information among the leaders and a time to reflect about the role of the Portuguese-speaking churches within the denomination.

It is also important to note that our Portuguese-speaking leaders are normally present, though in small numbers, at the TABCOM's Annual Gatherings and the meetings of different associations. It's an expression of their desire and commitment to remain connected with the denomination. It's also noteworthy to point out the involvement of Brazilian pastors with the MBMM ministry.

Aside from formal gatherings, the Brazilian pastors meet or call each other sometimes for different reasons. It could be for the celebration of a birthday or another personal situation. One pastor sometimes calls a colleague when in need of a pulpit supply or simply because he or she wants to reach out to a colleague in order to have his or her contact and friendship renewed.

This year the Portuguese-speaking American Baptist National Caucus (which started in Massachusetts) is celebrating its 25 years of existence. I had the privilege of being a member of its first Board de Directors, and served in this position for several years. This is certainly a good occasion for a formal celebration to be organized within the ABC Brazilian community. Hopefully it will happen.

As we go forward, we hope that, with God's help and the commitment on the part of our present leaders, we will be able to bring our community to thrive internally and have our connection with the denomination strengthened.

For the honor of Christ the present report is submitted.

Rev. Dr. Dalton H. Said

March 31, 2026

# TABCUM School of Ministry Report

Kevin E. Porter - Director of Administration

## Overview & Mission

The School of Ministry (SoM), a ministry of The American Baptist Churches of Massachusetts, continues its 15-year legacy of guiding individuals on their faith journeys. We provide a multi-dimensional learning environment that supports both lay leader training and a dedicated Pastoral Path.

## 2025 Student Impact

This year, the SoM supported a vibrant community of learners dedicated to spiritual and ministerial growth:

- Total Enrollment: 19 Students
- Graduates: 6 Students completed their three-year journey
- Ministerial Placement: From this year's cohort, 1 graduate has transitioned into the role of Pastor and 1 has been ordained as a Deacon.

## Curriculum & Learning Model

The curriculum operates on a three-year cycle, allowing students to start at any point. Currently the themes are focused on three core pillars:

1. Teaching Cycle: Focuses on biblical and theological foundations, spiritual disciplines, and personal reflection.
2. Preaching Cycle: Emphasizes message development, delivery, and worship leadership through intensive coaching and feedback.
3. Healing & Leadership Cycle: Centers on pastoral care, church growth, and developing spiritual gifts for community engagement.

## 2025 Key Achievements & Innovations

- Launch of Pastoral Track: We have officially launched a specialized track designed for deeper preparation and support for those called to pastoral ministry.
- Digital Expansion: To increase accessibility, we launched a new website and Facebook page. <https://www.tabcomschoolofministry.org/>
- On-Demand Learning: Video recordings of sessions are now available on the website for student review.
- Affordability: We maintained a feasible annual cost of \$2,200, ensuring our training remains being about 1/10 of traditional seminary rates.

## Testimonials

"The School of Ministry has been a life-changing journey that has transformed not only my understanding of God's Word but also my heart for serving Him and others." — SoM Student

## Contact Information

- Website: [www.tabcomschoolofministry.org](http://www.tabcomschoolofministry.org)
- Email: [thetabcomschoolofministry@gmail.com](mailto:thetabcomschoolofministry@gmail.com)
- Address: 189 Prescott Street, Groton, MA 01450

# MABIT Report

**Massachusetts American Baptist Investment Trust (MABIT)  
C/O TABCOM  
189 Prescott St., Groton, MA 01450**

MABIT has provided a proven investment service for TABCOM churches and partners, allowing them to pool investment funds for 30 years. The pooling of funds allows for upgraded financial management services and reduced management fees. MABIT offers three investment categories: Growth, Moderate and Conservative. Approximately 30 Massachusetts Baptist churches and TABCOM partners invest via MABIT. MABIT's current balance is \$9.4M.

MABIT is partnered with Merrill Lynch's Barcomb, Tanguay and Associates to provide professional fiduciary management services. The MABIT Board of Trustees meets with the Barcomb/Tanguay advisors three times per year to review the overall portfolio, MABIT product offerings and discuss market issues. Socially responsible screening of investments is performed for all accounts. Each investing church has complete control over its account's asset allocation.

The 2025 financial markets continued to bounce back from the tough losses in 2022. The bond market bounced back some from its record-breaking loss of 18.5% in 2022. The equity markets started off rough in 2025 primarily in reaction to tariffs, continued troubles with Ukraine/Russia and concerns about fed rates. The DOW dropped \$5T in value in two days. Despite the rough start, the equity markets performed well in 2025. 2025 ended with MABIT's highest portfolio balance with a \$1M gain in 2025. The overall portfolio gained 12.66% in 2025. A new contractor, PG Calc, was hired In January 2025 to improve sub-accounting and reporting services. Monthly statements are now delivered faster and directly via email.

The Board continues to advise investors to review their risks annually. Individual accounts are re-balanced quarterly with the new PG Calc services. The Board also recommends the Moderate investment option with a 60% equity and 40% fixed rate portfolio for most investors. Barcomb advisors are available to assist you.

The Board is sorry to say goodbye to Diane Badger due to her increased TABCOM responsibilities. Please refer potential trustee candidates to Dave Lambert.

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

## **MABIT Board of Trustees**

David Lambert, Chair First United Baptist, Lowell mabit.trustee@gmail.com 978.459.6959	Dr. Bengt Hermanrud Secretary Community Baptist, Medford	Rev. Dr. Richard Haley Treasurer Retired, Lowell	Weimin Feng First Baptist, Wakefield	Nelda Cronin, Esq. First Baptist Chelmsford
---	--	--	--	---

# SAVE THE DATES

**TABCOM Pastor Camp**  
**Monday, August 24-27, 2026**



**TABCOM Polity Course**  
**Saturday, September 26, 2026**

**TABCOM MissionWorks**  
**Saturday, October 3, 2026**

**TABCOM Annual Gathering**  
**April 30-May 1, 2027**  
**HOST: Grotonwood**

**GROTONWOOD**



**GROTON, MA**



**oceanwood**  
camp + conference center

**Grotonwood**  
**Camp & Conference Center**  
167 Prescott Street  
Groton, MA 01450  
Tel (978) 448-5763  
Email [office@grotonwood.org](mailto:office@grotonwood.org)  
URL [www.grotonwood.org](http://www.grotonwood.org)

**The American Baptist Churches**  
**Of Massachusetts**  
189 Prescott Street  
Groton, MA 01450  
Tel (978) 448-1445  
Email [tabcom@tabcom.org](mailto:tabcom@tabcom.org)  
URL [www.tabcom.org](http://www.tabcom.org)

**Oceanwood**  
**Camp & Conference Center**  
17 Royal Street (PO Box 7338)  
Ocean Park, ME 04063  
Tel (207) 934-9655  
Email [office@oceanwood.org](mailto:office@oceanwood.org)  
URL [www.oceanwood.org](http://www.oceanwood.org)