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Annual Gathering

MAy 1-2, 2026

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Ephesians 2:19-22



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Our Hosts

We are honored to gather this year at **First Baptist Church of Worcester**, a vibrant, welcoming and affirming congregation located in the heart of Worcester, Massachusetts. As part of the American Baptist Churches USA and the TABCOM family, First Baptist Worcester is deeply rooted in a tradition of faith while actively engaging the needs of today's world.

At its core, First Baptist Worcester is committed to being a safe and inclusive space for all people—embracing individuals of every age, race, background, and life experience. The church's ministry reflects a strong dedication to justice, peace, and partnership in God's work, as seen through its affiliations with organizations such as the Alliance of Baptists, the Association of Welcoming and Affirming Baptists, and the Baptist Peace Fellowship.

This congregation lives out its faith through worship, spiritual formation, service, and the arts—creating opportunities for people to grow deeper in their relationship with God and with one another. Their guiding spirit reminds us that “we are vital to one another... partners in the expanding work of God's Spirit,” a vision that beautifully aligns with our theme of Building Bridges.

As our host, First Baptist Church of Worcester offers more than a place to meet—it offers a community that models connection, compassion, and collaboration. We are grateful for their hospitality and for the ways they embody the very bridges we seek to build together.



Rev. Brent Newbury
Pastor



Rev. Katherine Blaisdell
Minister for Prophetic
Witness & Justice



Wesley Hall
Minister of Music and the
Arts



Ray Stemply
Director of Operations &
Communication



Andrea Letourneau
Assistant Treasurer



Gayle Cecchi
Hospitality & Housekeeping



Mark Dorsey
Facilities Manager
Hospitality & Housekeeping

Friday Agenda

May 1, 2026

- 10:00am - 2:00pm New Pastor's Welcome & Orientation
- 2:30pm - 4:30pm Registration
- 2:30pm - 4:30pm Reception, "Bridges from the Past and to the Future"
Roger Williams impersonator available for the photo booth
- 3:30pm - 4:30pm Mental Health & Well-Being Mission Conversation

TABCOM Author Table
- 5:00pm - 6:00pm Dinner
- 6:00pm - 7:00pm Business Meeting
- 7:00pm Worship Service
Rev. Dr. Mary Day Hamel, TABCOM Executive Minister

Exhibit Hall/ Photo booth open
- After Worship Pick-up choir rehearsal--all are invited to learn a song for Saturday
worship

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Saturday Agenda

May 2, 2026

- 7:30am Registration
- 8:00am - 9:00am Continental Breakfast
- 9:30am - 10:30am Plenary Speaker
Rev. Kelly Fassett, UniteBoston
- 10:45am - 11:45am **WORKSHOPS**
1. *Welcoming the Stranger- When the World Wants to Turn Them Away* - Ray Schellinger
 2. *Pastoring the "Purple" Congregation* - Rev. Doug Scalise
 3. *Preserving Our Church Records* - Rev. Diane Badger
 4. *Strengthening Your Financial Future* - Magda Amargos
- 11:45am - 12:00pm Break
- Author table/ Exhibitors / Photo booth open
- 12:00pm - 1:15pm Lunch with Panel discussion: *Building Bridges to the Future... Churches with the courage to change.*
- 1:30pm - 2:45pm Closing Worship - Rev. Dr. J. Anthony Lloyd, Greater Framingham Community Church
- Pastor Recognition & Communion
- 3:00pm TABCOM Board of Directors meeting



American Baptist Churches USA Office of the General Secretary carries out three primary functions: gathering the denomination, supporting congregations, regions, and national organizations, and creating space for local and global issues.

We gather leaders, worshipers, clergy, and congregations from across the American Baptist family for national gatherings:

- The Office of the General Secretary leads and coordinates events; the planning is collaborative and guided by input from the wider ABC family
- Major events include the Biennial Mission Summit, Engage, the National Leadership Council (NLC) and National Executive Council (NEC) meetings, workshops, and webinars

We support our local congregations, regions, and national organizations:

- Provide clearing house services for all American Baptist fundraising
- Provide group tax-exemption for local churches
- Maintain a database of ABCUSA congregations
- Support regions and churches with their financial audits
- Guide the search process for regional executive ministers
- Orientation for the regional executive ministers
- Host forums and leadership trainings
- Provide resources for best practices

We create space for local and essential conversations:

- Throughout the history, the Office of the General Secretary has created space for sharing and disseminating information on issues with denominational impact.
- Clergy gatherings, NLC, NEC, Mission Table Conversations, Everyday ABC Conversations, webinars, and workshops are some of the ways we have fellowship and conversations.

For more information visit: abc-usa.org

Friday Worship Program

Prelude

Welcome/ Announcements—Rev. Dr. Ron Bouthillette

Church Anniversaries—Rev. Diane Badger

Special Music—The Bell Choir of FBC Worcester

Now the Green Blade Riseth... arr. by Kevin McChesney

Prayer for Humanity... Linda Lamb

Dona Nobis Pacem... arr. by Margaret Tucker

Call to Worship—Rev. Miranda Kwon

Invocation—Rev. Dr. Ron Bouthillette

Hymn—#59 *Joyful, Joyful, We Adore Thee*

Celebration of Giving—Jennifer Sanborn

Offering/Offertory Prayer—Jennifer Sanborn

Offertory Music—Dr. Geoff Hicks

Scripture Reading—Rev. Robyn M. Mars

Hymn—#544 *The Church's One Foundation*

Introduction of Preacher—Rev. Dr. Ron Bouthillette

Message—Rev. Dr. Mary D. Hamel

Closing Remarks—Rev. Dr. Mary D. Hamel

Hymn—#426 *Blessed Assurance*

Benediction—Rev. Dr. Mary D. Hamel

Hymn of Unity—#393 *Bless Be the Tie That Binds*

Postlude



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Saturday Morning Plenary

Prelude

Welcome/ Opening Prayer—Rev. Dr. Ron Bouthillette

Hymn—#405 *The Solid Rock*

Introduction of Preacher—Rev. Dr. Mary D. Hamel

Message—Rev. Kelly Fassett

Hymn—#724 *Sing to the Lord of the Harvest*

Benediction—Rev. Dr. Ron Bouthillette

Announcements/ Grace—Rev. Diane Badger

Postlude

Saturday Closing Worship

Prelude

Welcome/ Announcements—Rev. Dr. Ron Bouthillette

Pastors Anniversaries/ Prayer of Remembrance—Rev. Diane Badger

Call to Worship/ Invocation—Rev. Dr. Mary Day Hamel

Hymn—#56 *Sing Praise to God Who Reigns Above*

Scripture Reading—Jennifer Sanborn

Special Music—TAG Choir—*I Need You to Survive*

Offering/Offertory Prayer—Jennifer Sanborn

Offeratory Music

Introduction of Keynote—Rev. Robyn M. Mars

Hymn—#362 *Wonderful Grace of Jesus*

Keynote Message—Rev. Dr. J. Anthony Lloyd

Closing Remarks—Rev. Dr. Mary D. Hamel

Communion Hymn—#353 *Grace Greater Than Our Sin*

Communion—Revs. Bouthillette and Hamel

Hymn of Unity—#393 *Bless Be the Tie That Binds*

Benediction—Rev. Dr. Ron Bouthillette

Postlude

I NEED YOU TO SURVIVE

Songwriter: David Frazier

performed by Hezekiah Walker and the Love Fellowship Choir

I need you, you need me
We're all a part of God's body
Stand with me, agree with me
We're all a part of God's body
It is his will, that every need be supplied
You are important to me, I need you to survive (Tell your neighbor)
You are important to me, I need you to survive
(Everybody look at somebody and tell them "I need you")

I pray for you, you pray for me
I love you, I need you to survive
I won't harm you with words from my mouth
I love you, I need you to survive



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Keynote Preacher



REV. DR. J. ANTHONY LLOYD

Rev. Lloyd is a dynamic preacher, visionary leader, and passionate servant of God whose life and ministry embody the call to build bridges across communities, cultures, and generations.

For more than three decades, Dr. Lloyd has faithfully served as Pastor of Greater Framingham Community Church in Framingham, MA, where he has led a vibrant and growing congregation rooted in the Word of God, the power of prayer, and the work of the Holy Spirit. Under his leadership, the church has expanded into a thriving, multi-faceted ministry impacting individuals and families throughout the MetroWest region and beyond.

Dr. Lloyd's ministry extends far beyond the local church. A gifted educator and mentor, he served as adjunct faculty at Gordon-Conwell Theological Seminary's Center for Urban Ministerial Education, where he equipped and inspired emerging leaders in areas such as leadership, evangelism, and faith development. His passion for raising up the next generation of leaders is a hallmark of his life's work.

A graduate of Houghton College, Dr. Lloyd earned his Master of Divinity from Gordon-Conwell Theological Seminary, where he received both the Benjamin E. Mays Fellowship and the Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Award for outstanding leadership. He later earned his Doctor of Ministry from United Theological Seminary, with a focus on preaching for social change—an emphasis that continues to shape his prophetic voice and ministry today.

Dr. Lloyd is deeply committed to community engagement and social transformation. He has served in numerous leadership roles across civic, educational, and faith-based organizations, including the United Way of Tri-County, Boys & Girls Club of MetroWest, Interfaith Clergy Association, and the United Baptist Convention. His work reflects a lifelong dedication to justice, unity, and empowering individuals to impact their communities for Christ.

A sought-after preacher, teacher, and conference speaker, Dr. Lloyd has ministered both nationally and internationally, leading pilgrimages and sharing the gospel across the United States, Africa, Europe, the Caribbean, and the Middle East.

At the heart of Dr. Lloyd's ministry is a deep conviction: that lives can be transformed by the power of Jesus Christ, and that the Church is called to be a place of healing, empowerment, and hope. His message continues to challenge, inspire, and unite all who hear him.

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Meet

RAY SCHELLINGER,

Global Consultant for Immigrants and Refugees

Ray works with IM global partners who provide food, shelter, legal aid, and education for displaced people and immigrants. He helps American Baptists better understand the realities of the border and the humanity of those seeking asylum.

Ray also equips congregations to move beyond headlines and discern how God may be calling them to respond. As your church engages in God's global mission, this is a meaningful way to connect locally. Ray would welcome the opportunity to visit, share, and explore how your congregation can participate through prayer, learning, and partnership. Contact Ray at ray.schellinger@internationalministries.org to begin the conversation.



international
ministries 



world
mission
conference

Friday Preacher

REV. DR. MARY DAY HAMEL



Dr. Hamel was called to serve as TABCOM’s executive minister in August 2015. From 2012-2015, Mary served as Associate Executive Minister of Mid-American Baptist Churches, a region serving churches in Iowa and Minnesota. She has held two long-term pastorates, at the First Baptist Church in Fredericktown, Ohio and Memorial Baptist Church in Indianapolis.

She holds a Doctor of Ministry from Central Baptist Theological Seminary, a Master of Divinity from Southern Baptist Theological Seminary, and a Bachelor of Science degree from Virginia Commonwealth University.

Mary has taught and consulted in the area of church conflict. She is certified by FaithTrust Institute to provide training in Clergy Ethics and Boundaries, which she teaches regularly. Mary is an officer of the Regional Executive Minister’s Council of ABC/USA. In 2025, she was appointed to the Commission on Safeguarding for the Baptist World Alliance.

In her free time, Mary enjoys travel, photography, swimming, and scuba diving. She “collects” US National Parks and visits at least one each year. Mary has two adult children, a beautiful granddaughter and a brand new grandson!



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Saturday Plenary Preacher

REV. KELLY FASSETT



Kelly has served as the Executive Director for UniteBoston since 2012 and has been the catalyst for UniteBoston's bridge-building work throughout Christians in the region.

She has a certificate in Christian Foundations from Gordon-Conwell Theological Seminary. She also graduated with her Masters of Divinity in Global and Community Engagement at Boston University in 2019, with certificates in Religion and Conflict Transformation as well as International Mission and Ecumenism.

Drawing on her expertise in conflict transformation, she consults with diverse congregations and organizations to facilitate 'Kingdom conversations' and structured gatherings that align collaborative mission with shared organizational goals.

Kelly and her husband Andrew are both ordained ministers with the American Baptist Churches of Massachusetts, live in an intentional Christian community in the Dorchester area, and attend Neighborhood Church of Dorchester. They have two daughters named Abigail and Elyse and enjoy spending time outdoors.

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Musical Director

Dr. Geoffrey Hicks



Dr. Hicks is a graduate of the New England Conservatory of Music (BM in composition, '76), the University of Massachusetts (Lowell), (MM in Pianist, composer, performer, lecturer, recording artist, arranger, and conductor; he is a musician of many talents.

In February of 2002, the Geoffrey Hicks Quartet entertained hundreds of guests at the John F. Kennedy Library in Boston, to celebrate Senator Edward M. Kennedy's seventieth birthday, in an evening celebration that also featured cellist Yo-Yo Ma.

Dr. Hicks has performed as a singer/pianist at most major Boston Hotels, including the Westin Hotel, the Ritz-Carlton, Le Meridien, the Copley Plaza, the Charles Hotel (in Cambridge), and many others. He has also conducted several choral groups; including the New England Conservatory Youth Chorale, the Rosie's Place Jazz Choir, the Nativity Prep Boy's Choir of Roxbury, and many more. Familiar with such performance facilities as Boston's Jordan Hall, Symphony Hall, the Hatch Shell, the Tsai Performance Center, Carnegie Hall, and the White House, he has performed before congressmen, presidents, and several international dignitaries.

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Workshop Facilitator

PASTORING THE “PURPLE” CONGREGATION

Leading a “purple church” means shepherding a congregation where political diversity is real, visible, and often deeply felt. In this workshop, we’ll explore practical ways leaders can cultivate trust, Christ-centered unity, and meaningful dialogue among people who see the world differently.

We’ll discuss how we can navigate difficult conversations, reduce polarization, and foster a community where Jesus—not politics—shapes our shared life. Whether you’re a pastor, ministry leader, or engaged layperson, this session will offer hopeful, practical guidance for leading faithfully in divided times.



REV. DOUG SCALISE

Born in Boston and raised in Brookline, MA, Doug Scalise is the son and grandson of pastors.

Doug and his wife Jill have been married since 1989 and began serving at Brewster Baptist Church on October 1, 1995.

They have two grown sons, Nathan, who is married to Zoe, and Greg, who is married to Marci.

Doug graduated cum laude from Colby College '86 in Waterville, Maine where he double majored in American Studies and History and Boston University

School of Theology '89 (Master of Divinity in Biblical and Historical Studies).

He earned his Doctor of Ministry degree in Preaching from Northern Baptist Theological Seminary in 1999. Doug’s primary ministry interests are preaching, leadership, equipping people to discover and use their spiritual gifts in ministry, spiritual formation, and making disciples.

Several themes at the core of Doug’s philosophy of ministry are sharing God’s love, grace, and mercy and the joy we have in Jesus while serving God and others.

Outside of BBC, Doug enjoys playing baseball with the Orleans Pirates in the Veteran’s Baseball League of Cape Cod in the spring and fall and supporting the Brewster Whitecaps in the Cape Cod Baseball League. Doug likes watching the Red Sox, Patriots, Bruins, and Celtics, movies (especially comedies and classics), reading good books, going for long walks with Jill, and spending time with family and friends.



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Workshop Facilitator

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MAGDA AMARGOS, CGPA



Magda is the Donor Advisor and TABCOM Liaison for the American Baptist Foundation.

She has been a member of the Spanish-American Baptist Church in Union City, New Jersey for 30 years.

She graduated with a Finance Degree from the New Jersey City University.

Magda was a member of the Board of the American Baptist Churches, USA and represented them in the Finance Committee of National Ministries and Rainbow Acres. She worked as a Retirement Benefits Consultant for the Ministers and Missionaries Benefit Board.

She has an extensive history of work with ABC churches and regions helping them develop solid financial plans to secure the future of the ministry.

Workshop Facilitator

PRESERVING OUR CHURCH RECORDS

If your church is like most churches, you have acquired a lot of records, historic items and photographs through the years. How do you make sense of it all? How do you organize it? What is the best methods for preserving these records and what should be kept and what can be tossed? This workshop will teach you how to preserve your church records and make order out of chaos.

REV. DIANE BADGER

Rev. Diane L. Badger is an ordained American



Baptist Minister. She graduated from Eastern Nazarene College with a Bachelor's in Business Administration. She served in Nonprofit Administrative and Financial positions for nearly twenty years prior to being called to the pastoral ministry. She received her Master of Divinity from Andover Newton Theological School in May 2009 and was ordained that same year. While still at seminary, Rev. Badger was called to be the pastor of Community Baptist Church of Marion, Massachusetts and served there until 2014. During that time, she also served as a hospice chaplain on Cape Cod.

Rev. Badger served on the Executive Board of the Old Colony Baptist Association for nearly 30 years.

Previously she served on the board of the Conference of Baptist Ministers in Massachusetts (CBMM) and MABIT (Massachusetts American Baptist Investment Trust). Since August 2021, Rev. Badger has worked for The American Baptist Churches of MA (TABCOM) as the administrator for the Commission on Ordained Ministry ushering candidates for ordination and standing through the maze of paperwork and requirements to be ordained and receive standing in the American Baptist Churches.

Rev. Badger also oversees the archives for TABCOM; organizing and cataloging our rich Baptist history and training churches on how to preserve their church records.

Workshop Facilitator

WELCOMING THE STRANGER - WHEN THE WORLD WANTS TO TURN THEM AWAY

As People of Faith we understand the Biblical call to welcome the stranger is repeated throughout scripture, from the Torah to the prophets to Jesus' very own descriptions of those he placed at his right hand and invited into eternal life, "I was a stranger and you welcomed me." Yet at a time when more people have been forced from their homelands than at any other period in history, the world is failing, and even Christians are failing, at providing welcome, giving protection and caring for those who are seeking to find home again. Walls are being built and human beings are being dehumanized and demonized.

This workshop does not focus on all that is wrong, but rather seeks to lift up examples of those who are getting this right, spotlighting churches (and other houses of faith) which are creating community, protecting their neighbors, and advocating for just policies and laws. Despite the challenges, this workshop is an offering of hope. We will examine what we are doing, and what more is it that each of us can do to ensure that we welcome with dignity and compassion those who God puts in our path. We will share concrete ways in which we can each stand up for the most marginalized and truly make differences.

RAY SCHELLINGER



As the global consultant for immigrants and refugees, Ray works with our global partners and International Ministries (IM) colleagues who are providing food and shelter, legal aid, and education for displaced people and immigrants. He offers training and financial resources to strengthen their programs and ministries.

Ray leads several weeklong "Immigration Immersion" experiences each year on the Mexican/US border. These experiences provide the opportunity for American Baptists to better understand the reality of the border, the humanity of those who come there to seek asylum, and the ways that US immigration policies affect our most

vulnerable neighbors.

He also offers workshops for churches who would like to strengthen their efforts to welcome the stranger and to sponsor asylum seekers and refugees.

Special Guest

ROGER WILLIAMS: A voice for religious freedom

Few figures in American history embody the Baptist commitment to freedom of conscience more fully than Roger Williams. A 17th-century minister, theologian, and founder of Rhode Island, Williams was a bold and often controversial voice in his time. He challenged the religious and political authorities of the Massachusetts Bay Colony, insisting that faith must never be forced and that the church must remain separate from the state.

Because of these convictions, Williams was banished in 1635—forced to flee into the wilderness in the dead of winter. Yet from that hardship came a revolutionary vision. In 1636, he founded Providence as a refuge for those seeking what he called “liberty of conscience,” establishing one of the first places in the Western world where individuals could practice their faith freely without fear of punishment.

Williams’ ideas were radical for his day: he believed that civil government should not control religious belief, and that all people—including those of different faiths—deserved the freedom to worship according to their conscience. His writings and leadership helped lay the groundwork for what would later become a cornerstone of American democracy: religious liberty and the separation of church and state.

For Baptists, Williams is not only a historical figure but a spiritual ancestor—one who reminds us that faith must be freely chosen, never imposed, and that true devotion to God includes respect for the conscience of others.

BRINGING HISTORY TO LIFE: John McNiff as Roger Williams

We are especially honored to welcome John McNiff, a distinguished historical reenactor who brings the story of Roger Williams vividly to life.

A Rhode Island native and retired National Park Service ranger, McNiff served at the Roger Williams National Memorial, where he developed a deep expertise in Williams’ life and legacy. His background includes decades of work in public history, archaeology, and theatrical performance, allowing him to present Williams not just as a distant figure, but as a living voice speaking into our present moment.

For nearly 50 years, McNiff has been involved in historical reenactment, combining scholarship with storytelling to engage audiences of all ages. His portrayal of Roger Williams highlights not only the historical facts, but also the human story—the courage, conviction, and faith that shaped one of the most important advocates for religious freedom in history.

Through this unique presentation, we are invited to encounter our Baptist heritage in a dynamic and memorable way—reminding us that the struggle for religious freedom is not just history, but an ongoing calling.



Exhibitor List

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Ordinations

Walika Bradley Mohammad	December 14, 2025	Concord Baptist Church
Dan Johnson	March 1, 2026	First Baptist Church of Beverly

Standing Granted

Kevin Cunningham	December 11, 2025	First Baptist Church Bedford
Terry W. Dorsett	September 11, 2025	First Baptist Church Marlborough
Jennifer Layte	September 11, 2025	Pastoral Coaching
Rev. Steven McDonald		First Baptist Church of Scituate
Jocelyn Peirce	March 12, 2026	North Billerica Baptist Church
Tennelle Smith Wood	March 12, 2026	Strong Tower Christian Center

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Rev. Anthony Pappas
Rev. Larry P. Showalter
Rev. Lawrence Starr
Rev. Kenneth Swenson
Rev. Richard Wright

40 Years

Rev. Jeffery L. Brown
Rev. Dr. Kenneth R. Downes
Rev. Carlos Pereira
Rev. James Sinclair
Rev. Carole Snow-Asher

30 Years

Rev. Norma Anderson
Rev, Gerald Bell
Rev. Sean Dunker-Bendigo
Rev. Barbara Perryman
Rev. Kenneth Wallace

20 Years

Rev. Laura Ahart
Rev. Jacqueline Blue
Rev. Ryan Bradley
Rev. Jackson Oliveira
Rev. Glen Snowden

10 Years

Rev. Joshua Cahan
Rev. Remona Farley-Smith
Rev. Dana Gonsal
Rev. Darrell Hamilton
Rev. Christopher Lister
Rev. Jerrill Riggins
Rev. Martha Waite
Rev. Yaliang Zhao

2026-2027 Nominating Ballot

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

OFFICERS		
27 ¹	President	Rev. Danielle Gantt - Milton, Concord BC
27 ¹	Vice President	Rev. Amy Clark Feldman - Framingham, FBC
27 ²	Clerk	Barbara Drauschke - Medford, FBC
27 ³	Treasurer	Rev. Gary Ludwig - Hingham, FBC
27 ¹	Past President	Chris McWhite - Brockton, Messiah BC

BOARD OF DIRECTORS			
27 ²	Rev. Dr. David Wright - Boston, People's BC	27 ¹	Rev. Victoria Pina - Hanson, FBC
28 ³	Rev. Annie Belmer - Galilee Ministries	27 ¹	Christine Yancey - Roxbury, Twelfth BC
28 ³	Rev. Jeffrey Snyder - N. Andover, First Calvary	28 ²	Rev. Kevin Porter - Lowell, First United BC
27 ¹	Rev. Jerrie Shepard Matney	28 ¹	Rev. Lily Soh - Amherst FBC

ETHNIC REPRESENTATIVES TO BE RATIFIED		
28 ²	Carlos Mingéli - Jamaica Plain, Iglesia Reformada Emanuel	Spanish speaking representative
27 ⁸	Rev. Jackson Oliveira - Acton, Renewed Life BC	Portuguese speaking representative
28 ²	Rev. Yaliang Zhao - Woburn, FBC	Asian representative
27 ⁵	Rev. Jephthet Roseme - Everett, Eglise Baptiste Haitienne de Siloe	Haitian representative

BOARD OF GENERAL MINISTRIES	
28 ²	Rev. Dr. Doug Scalise - Brewster, Brewster Baptist

COMMISSION ON ORDAINED MINISTRY			
Ministerial Standing		Ministerial Preparation	
27 ¹	Rev. Jason Rutherford - Mass. Baptist Charitable	27 ²	Rev. Anita Farber-Robinson - Lynn, Zion BC
27 ³	Rev. Ashlee Wiest-Laird - Jamaica Plain FBC	28 ¹	Rev. Dr. Dana Gonsal - Dorchester FBC
28 ³	Rev. Jamie Spriggs - Northern Baptist Educ. Soc.	28 ¹	Rev. Jay Mulligan, retired
27 ¹	Rev. Karina Fontanez - Chelmsford FBC	27 ³	Rev. John Bio Asante - Milbury, New Creation BC
		27 ²	Rev. Debra Lee - Swansea/Warren RI - COOM Chair
		27 ³	Rev. Johnny Wilson, retired

APPOINTEES FROM THE CONFERENCE OF BAPTIST MINISTERS IN MASSACHUSETTS	
Rev. Barbara Jean, Chair- Somerset Baptist	Rev. Amy Clark Feldman
Rev. Lois Pinton - Methuen FBC	Rev. Diane Badger, Chair

Additional COOM representatives

Rev. Cheryl Moore, School of Ministry
 Rev. Dr. Mar Imsong, Mass. Baptist Multicultural Ministries
 Rev. Dr. Mary Hamel, TABCOM
 Rev. Dr. Ron Bouthillette, TABCOM

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.

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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
TOTAL giving to FORM:	\$1,132,033

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
TOTAL mission giving (beyond FORM):	\$489,296

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
Income			
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
Gross Profit	\$2,093,034	\$1,969,198	\$123,837
Expenses			
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
Total For Expenses	\$2,053,134	\$1,912,879	\$140,255
Net Operating Income	\$39,900	\$56,319	-\$16,418

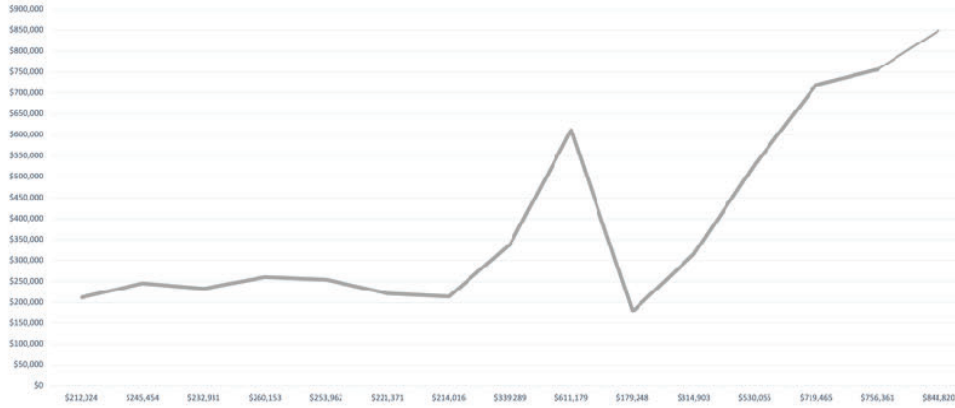


Statement of Financial Position

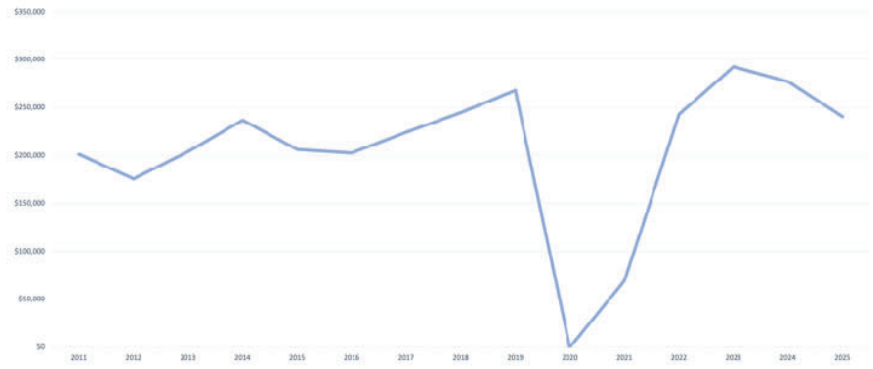
	As of December 31, 2025	As of December 31, 2024	\$ Change
Assets			
Current Assets			
Total for Bank Accounts	\$314,172	\$365,465	-\$51,292
Total for Accounts Receivable	\$59,893	\$39,929	\$19,763
Total for Other Current Assets	\$56,276	\$33,320	\$22,956
Total for Current Assets	\$430,141	\$438,713	-\$8,573
Total for Other Assets	\$7,846,948	\$7,846,948	\$0
Total for Assets	\$8,277,089	\$8,285,660	-\$8,573
Liabilities			
Total for Accounts Payable	\$59,459	\$29,723	\$29,736
BBSU for Scholarship	\$0	\$0	\$0
Deferred Income	\$58,959	\$61,031	-\$2,072
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	\$26,508	\$30,587	-\$4,081
Other Current Liabilities	\$560,655	\$447,203	\$113,452
Total for Current Liabilities	\$620,113	\$476,928	\$143,187
Long-term Liabilities			
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
Total for Long-term Liabilities	\$450,507	\$619,093	-\$168,586



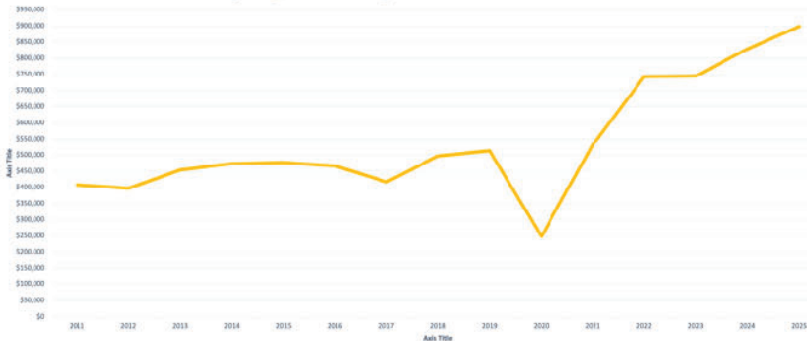
Retreat Ministry Income Year on Year



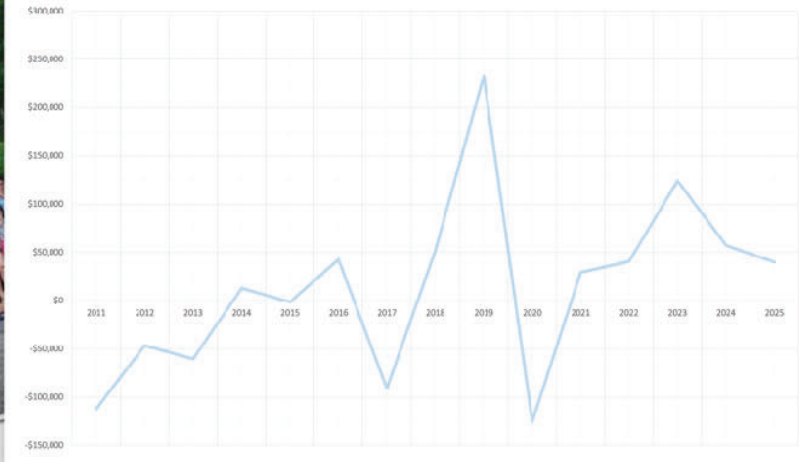
Nature's Classroom Income Year on Year



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
ASSETS	
Current Assets	
Bank Accounts	
10020 Chase x3912	164,384
10030 Live Oak Savings	10,247
Total Bank Accounts	\$174,631
Accounts Receivable	
11000 Accounts Receivable	6,209
Total Accounts Receivable	\$6,209
Total Current Assets	\$180,840
Fixed Assets	
15500 Land	2,111,700
17000 Buildings	1,283,549
18000 Vehicles	5,770
Total Fixed Assets	\$3,401,019
TOTAL ASSETS	\$3,581,859
LIABILITIES AND EQUITY	
Liabilities	
Current Liabilities	
Credit Cards	
22000 Chase Credit Card x2545	13,778
Total Credit Cards	\$13,778
Other Current Liabilities	
25000 Deferred Income	4,573
26000 Reserve Deposits	12,922
Total Other Current Liabilities	\$17,494
Total Current Liabilities	\$31,273
Long-Term Liabilities	
26530 LMA Fund Loan	322,511
Total Long-Term Liabilities	\$322,511
Total Liabilities	\$353,783
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
Total Equity	\$3,228,076
TOTAL LIABILITIES AND EQUITY	\$3,581,859

New England Baptist Council

Profit and Loss

January - December 2025

	TOTAL
Income	
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
Total 41000 Revenue	648,988.19
42000 Other Contribution Income	
42030 Donations	1,500.00
42035 AB Home Missions	2,293.89
Total 42000 Other Contribution Income	3,793.89
42500 RESTRICTED CONTRIBUTIONS	
42501 GW TransFORM	36,407.15
Total 42500 RESTRICTED CONTRIBUTIONS	36,407.15
Total Income	\$689,189.23
GROSS PROFIT	\$689,189.23
Expenses	
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
Total Expenses	\$937,171.90
NET OPERATING INCOME	\$ -247,982.67
Other Income	\$247.35
Other Expenses	\$29,456.66
Net Other Income	\$ -29,209.31
NET INCOME	\$ -277,191.98

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. 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

TABCOM 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
- Email: 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
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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

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