

**AMERICAN BAPTIST
RESOLUTION ON CHURCH IDENTIFICATION**

Inasmuch as it is important that visitors and guests know the organizations with which our churches are affiliated, we recommend that all churches, including new churches and church plants, make known their relation to the American Baptist Churches USA and councils of churches.

Adopted by the American Baptist Convention - 1962
Affirmed as an American Baptist Churches Resolution by the Executive Committee of the General Board - September 1982
Modified by the Executive Committee of the General Board - September 2002
(General Board Reference # 8103:9/82)
Modified by the Executive Committee of the General Board - September 2006

POLICY BASE

Statement of Purpose of American Baptist Churches

American Baptist Churches in the U.S.A., as a manifestation of the church universal, bears witness to God's intention to bring redemption and wholeness to all creation. American Baptists believe that God's intention can be sought and followed in local congregations and other gatherings of Christians and in associational, regional, national and world bodies as they receive from one another mutual counsel and correction. Since Jesus Christ is the head of the church, each body of Christians, seeking to order its life in accordance with the Scriptures under the guidance of the Holy Spirit, has a proper responsibility under God for maintaining its life of worship, witness, and ministry.

American Baptist Churches in the U.S.A. acknowledges that it shares a common faith in Christ with churches which may be quite different from it in history, polity and practice. Consequently, it seeks to share with them a common ministry and to express it faithfully.