

**American Baptist Churches in the U.S.A.**

**BOARD OF GENERAL MINISTRIES  
Proposed Agenda: November 14-16, 2013**



**Crowne Plaza  
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King of Prussia, PA 19406  
Ph: 610-265-7500; Fax: 610-265-4076**

**Ruth Clark, President  
Donald Ng, Vice President  
James R. Ratliff, Budget Review Officer  
Frank Christine, Jr., Past President**

**“American Baptists Serving as the Hands and Feet of Christ”**

**Scripture Focus:** *“As God’s chosen ones, holy and beloved, clothe yourselves with compassion, kindness, humility, meekness, and patience. Bear with one another and, if anyone has a complaint against another, forgive each other; just as the Lord has forgiven you, so you also must forgive. Above all, clothe yourselves with love, which binds everything together in perfect harmony. And let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts, to which indeed you were called in the one body. And be thankful. Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly; teach and admonish one another in all wisdom; and with gratitude in your hearts sing psalms, hymns, and spiritual songs to God.”*

**Colossians 3:12-16**

**Thursday, November 14, 2013: 2:00 p.m. – 9:00 p.m.**

*A Lunch Buffet is available in Stirling’s Restaurant from 12:00 p.m. – 1:30 p.m.*

The ABC Officers will gather from 7:00 a.m. – 9:00 a.m. for a breakfast meeting in the Devon Room.

The BGM Executive Committee will meet from 9:00 a.m. -1:30 p.m. in the Radnor Room. Lunch will be served.

**PLENARY I (2:00 p.m. - 5:30 p.m.); Independence North**

*Tasha Wilson, ABC of the Rochester/Genesee Region, and Felipe Candelaria, Iglesias Bautistas de Puerto Rico, will be serving as Tellers for this meeting. Nancy O’Neill, ABC of Wisconsin, will be ministering to us through her gift of music during this meeting.*

1. Welcome and Call to Order ABC President Ruth Clark, presiding
  
2. Announcements and Introductions  
  
*During this time we will welcome Richard Hanson (elected in June), from ABC of Maine and Kelly Legg, ABC of Pennsylvania and Delaware, who is being nominated as a new BGM At-Large Director. We will also welcome ABC vice-president elect Judy Fackenthal.*
  
3. BGM Worship Jeffery L. Savage, BGM Chaplain  
  
*Lighting of the Christ Candle*
  
4. Consent Agenda President Clark  
  
**Proposed Action:** To approve the November 14-16, 2013 Proposed Agenda and the June 18-20, 2013 minutes of the Board of General Ministries (meeting held in Overland Park, KS).
  
5. Report of the Nominating Committee/Election of New Member President Clark  
  
Election of At-Large Directors of the Board of General Ministries  
*The Board of General Ministries is composed of At-Large Directors, Special Directors and Ex Officio Directors. There are 33 At-large Directors, one from each ABCUSA Region, elected by the Biennial Delegates. Any vacancy for an At-large Director “may be filled by a majority vote of the Board of General Ministries on nomination of the ABCUSA Nominating Committee.”*  
  
**Proposed Action:** To elect Kelly Legg, ABC of Pennsylvania and Delaware, as an At-Large Director (class of 2016) as nominated to the Board of General Ministries.
  
6. Report of the President Ruth Clark
  
7. Joint Ministry Updates President Clark, General Secretary Medley  
  
  - Chin-Karen Consultation, Sept. 25-26, 2013 in Chicago
  - 588 Associates, LP Real Estate Council Meeting, Oct. 16-17, 2013
  - World Council of Churches Assembly, Oct. 30-Nov. 8, 2013 in Busan, Korea
  - Mission Table, Nov. 11-13, 2013 in Green Lake
  
8. Report of the General Secretary A. Roy Medley
  
9. BGM Directors to Other Boards President Clark  
  
**Proposed Action:** To elect Jim Wolfe as BGM Director to the Board of ABHMS

**Proposed Action:** To elect Vivan Martindale as BGM Director to the Board of IM

**Proposed Action:** To re-elect Bill Frederickson as BGM Director to the Board of MMBB

10. President's Nominations and Appointments for 2014-2015

Ruth Clark

**PRESIDENT'S NOMINATIONS**

*The ABCUSA President, in consultation with the General Secretary, shall nominate not more than three members of the Board of General Ministries for election by the BGM to serve as members of the **BGM Executive Committee**.* President-elect Ng presents the following nominations for service on the BGM Executive Committee:

Camille Brown  
Wesley Roberts  
Tasha Wilson

**Proposed Action:** To elect the President-elect's nominees as members of the BGM Executive Committee.

*The ABCUSA President shall nominate a **Parliamentarian** to serve during sessions of the Board of General Ministries, to be elected by the BGM.* President-elect Ng has nominated:

Dennis Johnson

**Proposed Action:** To elect Dennis Johnson as BGM Parliamentarian

*The ABCUSA President, in consultation with the General Secretary, shall nominate two (2) Directors of the BGM for service on the World Relief Committee, with election by the Board of General Ministries.* The following nominations are presented for service on the **World Relief Committee**:

Shirley Fair  
Danny Jack

**Proposed Action:** To elect the President-elect's nominees as members of the World Relief Committee

*The ABCUSA President shall nominate for election by the BGM, six (6) persons for service on the **Committee on Christian Unity and Interfaith Relations**.* The following have been nominated:

June Totten  
Ruth Clark  
Ernest Jones  
Jonathan Malone  
Hopeton Scott  
Mo Khan

**Proposed Action:** To elect the President-elect's nominees as members of the Committee on Christian Unity and Interfaith Relations

*The ABCUSA President, in consultation with the General Secretary, shall nominate three or four Directors to serve as members of the Standing Rules Committee, to be elected by the Board of General Ministries. The following are nominated:*

Julia Bebeau  
Kay Farley  
Alan Rudnick

**Proposed Action:** To elect the President-elect's nominees to the Standing Rules Committee

### **PRESIDENT'S APPOINTMENTS**

*There shall be an ABCUSA (National) Nominating Committee consisting of the ABCUSA President, the ABCUSA Immediate Past President, three persons appointed by the Regional Executive Ministers Council ("REMC"), the intercaucus president and six representatives from the Board of General Ministries (three clergy and three laity). Members of the Committee shall be elected or appointed . . . during the year of each Biennial Meeting of Delegates for a term of two years commencing on January 1 next following the date of their election or appointment. The President-elect appoints the following:*

Andy Arndt - Laity  
Camille Brown - Clergy  
Elisai Echevarria - Laity  
Bill Frederickson - Clergy  
Dianne Steelman - Clergy  
Koreen Villers – Laity

For information: 2014-2015 President – Don Ng; Immediate Past President – Ruth Clark, Intercaucus President – Kenneth Kho; REMC – John Williams, James McJunkin, Jr., Samuel Chetti

**Proposed Action:** To recognize the appointments of the six directors of the BGM to the Nominating Committee

*The ABCUSA President, in consultation with the General Secretary, shall appoint 7 persons for Service on the Biennial Program Committee, to be confirmed by the Board of General Ministries.*

Susan Gillies (2017), Chair  
Reg Mills (2015) – Past Chair  
Steve Bills (2019) – Vice Chair  
Aye Aye Thaw (2017)  
Leslie Braxton (2015)  
Felipe Candelaria (2017)  
Audrey Davidson (2015)

**Proposed Action:** To confirm the appointments by the President-elect to the Biennial Program Committee

*Standing Rule 11.6.1 (Credentials and Caucus Committee) Membership* The individuals Serving as members of the Executive Committee pursuant to Article XI, Section 3 of the Bylaws shall also be the members of the Credentials and Caucus Committee.

*Standing Rule 11.1.5 (Committees and Commissions of the Board of General Ministries) Chair:* Except where otherwise provided by the Bylaws or these Standing Rules, the Chairperson of each committee or commission of the Board of General Ministries shall be appointed from the membership of the respective committee or commission by the President in consultation with the General Secretary and shall serve until the expiration of the term of the appointing President. The following person has been appointed as the Chair of the Credentials and Caucus Committee:

Wesley Roberts (if previously elected)

*The ABCUSA president, in consultation with the General Secretary, shall appoint a Chair for the Standing Rules Committee, from the membership of the Committee, who shall serve until the expiration of the term of the appointing President.* The President-elect appoints the following as Chair:

Alan Rudnick (if previously elected)

*The ABCUSA President, in consultation with the General Secretary, shall appoint one of the BGM members of the World Relief Committee as Chair of the committee.* The President-elect appoints the following as Chair:

Shirley Fair (if previously elected)

**Proposed Action:** To recognize the appointments of the Chair of the Credentials & Caucus Committee, the Chair of the Standing Rules Committee, and the Chair of the World Relief Committee

**BREAK (3:45 p.m.)**

*Beverages will be available outside the meeting room.*

11. Break-out Session: Response Groups (4:00 p.m. - 5:30 p.m.)  
*The Board of General Ministries will adjourn to conduct focused ministry work through Response Groups. The full BGM will reconvene at 7:30 p.m., following dinner.*
- **Christian Unity & Interfaith Relations—Mifflin 106**  
*June Totten, Ruth Clark, Ernest Jones, Mo Khan, Jonathan Malone, (Hopeton Scott)*
  - **Congregational Renewal—Independence North**
  - *Don Ng, Jeff Woods, John Duckworth, Elisai Echevarria, Kay Farley, Bill Frederickson, Richard Hansen, Nancy O’Neill, Dean Parker, Koreen Villers, James Wolfe*
  - **Finance—Radnor**  
*Jim Ratliff, Alan Musoke, Paul Higgins, Beryl Hornberger, Charity Matic, Wesley Roberts*
  - **Mission Resource Development—DeKalb 206**  
*Frank Christine Jr., Leo Thorne, Robin Crouch, Dennis Johnson, Vivan Martindale, Alan Rudnick, Elmore Warren*

- **Missional Response—Devon**  
*Duh Kam, Roy Medley, Perla Belo, Shirley Fair, Danny Jack, Ray Jepson, Jim Thomason, Tasha Wilson*
- **Professional Church Leadership—Independence North**  
*Jeff Savage, Pat Hernandez, Andy Arndt, Julia Bebeau, Camille Brown, Felipe Candelaria, Mercy Johnson, Kelly Legg, Dianne Steelman, Wesley Sun, Amaury Tañón-Santos*

**BGM DINNER (6:00 p.m. - 7:30 p.m. in Independence South)**

*The Board of General Ministries and staff will enjoy dinner together at 6:00 p.m. in Independence South.*

**PLENARY II (7:30 p.m. – 9:00 p.m.); Independence North**

12. Reconvening the Board of General Ministries President Ruth Clark, presiding

*The Board of General Ministries will reconvene at 8:30 a.m., but will need to immediately recess for the Corporate Meeting of the American Baptist Historical Society.*

13. Convening of the Corporate Meeting of ABHS Trinette V. McCray, President

Call to Order of the Annual meeting of the American Baptist Historical Society

Action on ABC Nominating Committee Report

**Proposed Action:** *(election of board members)*

Election of ABHS Officers

**Proposed Action:** *(election of board members and officers)*

Report of the President

Trinette V. McCray

Report of the Executive Director

Deborah Van Broekhoven

*(Deborah is not able to be at this meeting. Her report will be submitted to you prior to the meeting along with reports from ABCUSA and AMO staff.)*

Other Business

Adjournment of the Annual Meeting of ABHS

14. Report of the BGM Finance Committee Jim R. Ratliff, Budget Review Officer

*This will be a one-hour session, to include ample time for questions/discussion prior to the vote on the 2014 Budget.*

- YTD Financials through September 2013
- 588 Associates, LP
- ABCUSA Budget

**Proposed Actions:** To adopt the 2014 Estimated income and the 2014 ABCUSA budgets for ABCUSA, Representative Process and Mission Resource Development.  
(Three separate actions are required.)

To approve the ABCUSA Budget for the General Secretary's office for 2014.

To approve the ABCUSA Representative Process Budget for 2014.

To approve the ABCUSA Mission Resource Development Budget for 2014.

15. Office of Development Updates Ken Marsenburg

*Following this time, the BGM meeting will be recessed until Friday morning.*

**Friday, November 15, 2013: 9:00 a.m. – 9:00 p.m.**

**BREAKFAST BUFFET (7:00 a.m. - 9:00 a.m. in Stirling's Restaurant)**

**PLENARY III (9:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.); Independence North**

16. Reconvening the Board of General Ministries ABC Vice President Don Ng, presiding

17. Devotional Jeffery L. Savage

18. Concerns and Celebrations

19. Biennial Mission Summit Vice President Ng  
-June 21-23, 2013 Celebration  
-2015 Biennial Mission Summit Planning Meeting (October 29-November 1, 2013)

20. Report of June 19, 2013 Joint Board Meeting Vice President Ng  
*Following this agenda item, BGM will meet for Response Group work.  
BGM will reconvene for the afternoon session at 1:30 p.m.*

21. Break-out Session: Response Groups (10:30 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.)

- **Christian Unity & Interfaith Relations—Mifflin 106**  
*June Totten, Ruth Clark, Ernest Jones, Mo Khan, Jonathan Malone, (Hopeton Scott)*
- **Congregational Renewal—Berwyn**  
*Don Ng, Jeff Woods, John Duckworth, Elisai Echevarria, Kay Farley, Bill Frederickson, Richard Hansen, Nancy O'Neill, Dean Parker, Koreen Villers, James Wolfe*
- **Finance—Radnor**  
*Jim Ratliff, Alan Musoke, Paul Higgins, Beryl Hornberger, Charity Matic, Wesley Roberts*
- **Mission Resource Development—Wayne**  
*Frank Christine Jr., Leo Thorne, Robin Crouch, Dennis Johnson, Vivan Martindale, Alan Rudnick, Elmore Warren*

- **Missional Response—Devon**  
*Duh Kam, Roy Medley, Perla Belo, Shirley Fair, Danny Jack, Ray Jepson, Jim Thomason, Tasha Wilson*
- **Professional Church Leadership—Independence North**  
*Jeff Savage, Pat Hernandez, Andy Arndt, Julia Bebeau, Camille Brown, Felipe Candelaria, Mercy Johnson, Kelly Legg, Dianne Steelman, Wesley Sun, Amaury Tañón-Santos*

**LUNCH BUFFET (12:00 p.m. – 1:30 p.m. in Stirling’s Restaurant)**

**PLENARY IV (1:30 p.m. – 4:30 p.m.); Independence North**

22. Reconvening of the Board of General Ministries
23. The Beloved Community Katie Choy Wong

**BREAK (3:30 p.m.)**

24. Report of the Executive Committee President Clark
- September 12-14, 2013 Executive Committee Meeting in San Francisco
  - BGM & BGM EC Future Meeting Dates and Venues, 2014-2015
  - Conference Call, October 9, 2013 (Transition Ministries)
  - November (588 Associates, Personnel Manual)

*The BGM meeting will be recessed for dinner.*

**BGM DINNER (5:00 p.m. - 6:30 p.m. in Independence South)**

**PLENARY V (6:30 p.m. – 9:00 p.m.); Independence North**

25. Reconvening the Board of General Ministries
26. Report of the Intercaucus Amaury Tanon-Santos, Intercaucus President
27. Report of the Credentials and Caucus Committee Wesley Roberts, Chair

*The Board of General Ministries will receive a report from the BGM Executive Committee, which convened as the Credentials and Caucus Committee at its meeting on Nov, 14.*

Report of Change of Relationships

**Proposed Action:** To recognize the changed relationships of local churches as recorded in the Report of Changed Relationships of Local Churches dated June 8, 2013 to November 6, 2013.

28. Transformed by the Spirit Update A. Roy Medley
29. Emerge: Baptist Witness in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century Vice President Ng  
Orientation to American Baptist Life/Ministers Conference
30. General Secretary: Reflections/Forecast and Prayer of Dedication A. Roy Medley
- The Board of General Ministries will hear from our General Secretary Roy Medley a retrospective of his past four years in leading this denomination forward, and will receive a forecast of his final two years, with his term ending in December 2015.*
- BGM will participate in a time of dedication for Roy as he begins his role as President of the NCC on January 1, 2014.*
31. Closing Communion/Adjournment until Saturday Morning Jeffery L. Savage

**Saturday, November 16, 2013: 9:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.**

**BREAKFAST BUFFET (7:00 a.m. - 9:00 a.m. in Stirling's Restaurant)**

**PLENARY VI (9:00 a.m. –12:00 p.m.); Independence North**

32. Reconvening the Board of General Ministries
33. Reports from Response Groups/Proposals for Action
- During this session the Missional Response Group will be reporting on their Oct. 24 conference call with Rev. Dr. Tyrone Pitts, Progressive National Baptist Convention and Mr. Jon Broyles, Coalition to Transform Advanced Care (C-TAC) about the possibility of becoming a sponsoring organization of C-TAC. There may be proposals presented from other Response Groups at this time.*
34. Recognition of Retiring Board Directors President Clark
- We will honor those who have served faithfully among us, sharing generously of time, talents and Christian love.*

Frank Christine, Jr.  
John Duckworth  
Ray Jepson  
Mercy Johnson  
Jim Ratliff  
Jeff Savage

35. Recognition of Retiring Officers President Clark, General Secretary Medley

*We will honor Frank, Jim and Jeff for their many years of faithful and committed leadership.*

Frank Christine, Jr., Past President

12 years: 6 years as GB Representative (2002-2007)

2 years as GB Vice President (2008-2009)

2 years as GB President (2010-2011)

2 years as BGM Past President (2012-2013)

Jim Ratliff, Budget Review Officer

13 years: 6 years as GB Rep (2001-2006)

7 years as Budget Review Officer (2007-2013)

Jeff Savage, Chaplain

4 years: 2 on GB as Ministers Council President (2010-2011)

2 years as BGM Chaplain (2012-2013)

Biennial/Mission Summit chair (2011 and 2013)

36. Recognition of retiring ABC president Ruth Clark General Secretary Medley

*In her role as ABC President for the 2012-2013 biennium, Ruth Clark has served the denomination with great distinction. Her love for the American Baptist family and her dependence on God has inspired those who have had the privilege to work with her. We will honor Ruth at this time for her faithful leadership and dedication to the mission and ministry of ABC and celebrate the fact that she will remain engaged in the work of BGM as past president.*

37. Commissioning of Myanmar Travelers Dennis Johnson

*Ruth Clark, Roy Medley, Don Ng and Jim Ratliff, along with other American Baptist leaders, will represent the American Baptist Churches USA family at the 200<sup>th</sup> year celebration of Myanmar Baptist Mission, begun in 1813 by Ann and Adoniram Judson. The celebration will be held in Yangon, Myanmar in December 2013. Following the celebration, Roy has been invited to extend his stay to make a second visit to the Chin Hills.*

*Using the biblical example of the early church in Antioch, the Board of General Ministries will commission these leaders for a God-directed journey.*

38. Prayer and Adjournment President Clark

*Next meetings of the BGM & BGM Executive Committee to be held June 11-14, 2014 in Green Lake, WI.*

**LUNCH BUFFET (12:00 p.m. – 1:30 p.m. in Stirling's Restaurant)**

*For those of you who do not have to rush off to the airport, please enjoy lunch in Stirling's Restaurant.*