

Memo Regarding Use of Ministers Conference 2016 Excess Funds

DATE: May 18, 2018

FROM: The Board of Governors of the Ministers Council of ABCUSA via Darla ("Dee Dee") Turlington, President

TO: Office of the General Secretary/ Board of General Ministries, American Baptist Foundation, American Baptist Home Mission Societies, MMBB, and the Regional Executive Ministers Council (REMC).

The Proposal:

To direct the use of all funds left over from the 2016 Ministers Conference to support the denomination-wide event in 2020 celebrating the legacy of Women in Ministry and the 40th Anniversary of the birth of the Women in Ministry Project (which eventually became American Baptist Women in Ministry).

Background:

OGS/BGM, ABF, ABHMS, MMBBB, and REMC partnered with the Ministers Council to sponsor "The Wholistic Maintenance of the Ministry," a Conference for Ministerial Leaders held August 22-25, 2016, in Chevy Chase, MD. Each organization contributed financially to the project and MC Executive Director Debora Jackson oversaw the planning and execution of the Conference.

After paying all Conference expenses, there was a surplus of funds, which the MC Board placed with the American Baptist Foundation, where they have grown to a total of \$15,931.44 as of April 30, 2018.

These funds should be used for a purpose similar to their original intent. The denomination-wide gathering to celebrate ABC commitment to women and men as equal partners in ministry seems to us to be an appropriate occasion for release of the funds.

We would like to see them made available now, during the planning phase for the 2020 celebration.

Next Steps:

Leadership in each of the supporting organizations should discuss this proposal and approve or deny the release of the funds. The envisioning statement for the 40th Anniversary event is attached for your information. The Rev. Dr. Patricia Hernandez, Associate General Secretary for ABWIM and Transition Ministries, would be pleased to address your Executive Committees or Boards to answer any questions about the event.

Communication:

Please inform each of the partnering organizations of your decision (email addresses are above).