

President's Report
June 2018

In my second report as your president of the American Baptists Churches - Board of General Ministries, I'm going to address two major issues.

The first would be the building issue. Subsequently, I realize that there are two matters. One is the property that we presume to sell, our current Mission Center; and the property that we intend to buy for our new offices.

We called for two extraordinary sessions of the whole board in the past month of March, when we decided unanimously to purchase a new space for our new Mission Center. On the other hand, we also unanimously agreed to complete the sale process of the current Mission Center along with our partners, ABHMS, BIM and MMBB.

The second issue is our Mission as an OGS representative. I was able to participate in several meetings according to my responsibilities.

(BMSPT) - Biennial Mission Summit Planning Team, we are working hard to provide a unique time of gathering in a different, enjoyable venue, focusing on our mission and providing tools to be more effective in the different scenarios. We met at Virginia Beach last March, and then in Puerto Rico with Annie Marcucci working ahead with the venue of 2021 in San Juan, P.R. We really want to present a special celebration for the whole family, where we realize our diversity but celebrate our unity.

(NLC) - National Leadership Council, met at Green Lake Conference Center, Wi. last March 2018. This was a great experience where we had the opportunity to not only share our vision, but also to envision the ministry of our partners around the room.

(ABC-USA Hispanic Caucus) - I was invited to New York City in April to share our experiences after Hurricane Maria left a trail of devastation in Puerto Rico and the Caribbean. Also, we were able to explain the strong support that we had already received from our partners (ABHMS and OGS).

I'm still in collaboration with ABHMS in all of the work that takes place in Puerto Rico, not as part of our region, but on behalf of ABC-USA Board of General Ministries. That includes the search process for a Liaison person for the next five years that works in connection with ABHMS, Puerto Rico and OGS.

Finally, on the administrative side of this board, I began the process of conducting the first year appraisal of our General Secretary, Rev. Dr. Lee Spitzer. This is going to be a very inclusive, collaborative and growing period, where we definitely seek for a healthy process, in order to be stronger and better.

Thank you all for your prayers, texts, emails and good thoughts.

In Jesus Christ,



Josué D. Gómez-Menéndez
President