

**REPORT OF THE FINANCE COMMITTEE
TO THE BOARD OF GENERAL MINISTRIES
JUNE 2014**

Following is an overview of the work of the Finance Committee:

1. Legacies and Gifts

The following legacies and gifts have been received for ABCUSA.

June 2013 – May 2014

● American Baptist Foundation	\$52,643.58
● FCGF	400.00
● Schutt Estate	<u>13,276.02</u>
Total	\$66,319.60

2. Region Return Percentage Exceptions

Under the current provisions of the Common Budget Covenant, Regions may retain up to 65% of United Mission for their operations. The Finance Committee monitors compliance. There are no exceptions for 2014.

3. Roblee Fund Grant and Roberts Fund

The Roblee bequest to the Northern Baptist Convention (now American Baptist Churches) stated a preference for income to be used for medical and educational work outside the United States. For 2015, the Finance Committee approved a request for distribution of \$200,919 on a 5% percentage draw based on a 12 quarter rolling average. The distribution for the Roberts Fund was approved for a distribution of \$4,979 on a 5% percentage draw based on a 12 quarter rolling average.

4. Review of Common Investment Fund and American Baptist Foundation Investment

The Committee received oral and written presentations and reports from the Treasurer for the Common Investment Fund, presented by the Director of Investments, and the Executive Director of the American Baptist Foundation in June 2014 and reviewed the performance, investment philosophy, and asset allocation of the funds under management.

5. ABCUSA Treasurer's Report

The Committee reviewed the Report of the ABCUSA Treasurer, including:

- Building Update
Bequests and Gifts
- Transformed By The Spirit – Reviewed financial status of TBYTS
- ABMS Report as of 12/31/2013 and 4/30/14

- The Financial Statements for ABCUSA, Mission Resource Development, Representative Process, the Biennial and the Denominational Emphasis (Transformed by the Spirit) for the period ending April 30, 2014.

6. Review of Regional Audits

At the June 13, 2014 meeting, the Finance Committee reviewed the requirements in the Standing Rules and the Common Budget Covenant and Operating Guidelines for regions to provide ABCUSA with an annual audited financial statement, review, compilation or other financial statement that was submitted to the Regional Boards. The Committee will follow up.

7. Audit

The Finance Committee met by conference call with our external auditors, the Accounting Firm of Tait Weller, in their role as the Audit Committee of ABCUSA, to review the 2013 audited financial statements. The auditors reported a clean audit and an unmodified opinion.

8. Budget

The Finance Committee met to review the proposed budget timeline and approval process for 2015.

9. Caucus Funding Guidelines

At the request of the Credentials and Caucus Committee, the committee reviewed existing caucus funding guidelines adopted in 1998. The committee developed suggested wording changes to be presented to the Credentials and Caucus Committee. Work will also take place to suggest better procedures for caucuses to report on their use of funds received from the Representative Process portion of the ABCUSA budget.

10. Future Responsibilities

The Committee discussed its future responsibilities, with particular emphasis on investments and adequate funding.

Submitted by:

Paul Higgins, Budget Review Officer; Robin Crouch, Beryl Hornberger, Charity Matic and Don Ng; Absent: Danny Jack

Alan Musoke, ABCUSA Associate General Secretary for Finance/CFO/Treasurer

June 13, 2014