



**Rev. Joan C. Friesen**  
*Executive Minister*  
abcgiexec@gmail.com

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To the NEC: Lee Spitzer, Louis Barbarin, Jeffrey Haggray, Sharon Koh, Gina Jacobs-Strain  
From: Joan Friesen, REMC President

Friends,

At our April REMC meeting, the Executive Ministers gathered spent time talking about how we can deepen our partnership and collaboration with our national bodies in order to more effectively work together for God's mission as American Baptists. At that time we acknowledged the unforeseen consequences of the 2011 change in ABC by-laws that no longer have us interacting with your Boards on a regular basis.

To that end, we are asking for an invitation to send representatives with voice but no vote to your Boards and to the NEC, and as a group we have asked the following persons to serve from now until the end of 2019.

Board of General Ministries	Yvonne Carter
ABHMS Board	Al Fletcher
International Ministries	Paul Gibson
National Executive Council	Joan Friesen

We believe this need for better collaboration to be so vital that REMC will pay for the expenses of our representatives that you or their region would be unable to cover. Our hope is that you also would find such benefit in our contributions that your nominating committees would recruit an REMC member to be officially a member of your Board and that Executives who are near your meeting sites would be invited to interface with your Board members in some way.

Thanks for your consideration. I'd be happy to discuss this with any of you and look forward to your response. Blessings on your ministry with us.

Sincerely,

Joan C. Friesen  
Executive Minister

*Churches Helping Churches to be the Heart, Hands & Feet of Christ*

1100 West 42<sup>nd</sup> Street, Suite 218  
Indianapolis IN 46208  
317-484-9327  
www.abcgi.org