

OTABL report

The 2021 Orientation to American Baptist Life (OTABL) is underway. Pastors new to ABCUSA, seminarians preparing to join us someday soon, and those who simply want a “refresher course” are welcome to join us for six online sessions. The dates and times for the session are noted below. This year OTABL has adopted a table as our primary metaphor. We have invited all who will come to join us around a table of fellowship, where we will sample the offerings of our denominational family. We hope to entice people with “tastes” of ABCUSA, so much so the participants will come back, often, for full meals of information, participation, and education. Another highlight of the 2021 OTABL is the American Baptist Historical Society will present introductory moments for OGS, IM, ABHMS and MMBB, sharing with our participants the long and faithful history of our denominational partners. Finally, each session will include a moment of worshipful reflection, valuable information, opportunities to get to know one another’s gifts, as well as moments of levity and laughter. The costs have been kept as low as possible and the invitation shared as widely as possible. We thank the Regional Executive Ministers who have raised their hands to be mentors (you know who you are) and our planning team: The Rev. Lisa Harris (ABHMS), the Rev. Mark Click (REM, OHIO), the Rev. Douglas Avilesbernal (REM, Evergreen), the Rev. Sandra Hasenauer (REM, Rochester/Genesee) and the Rev. Marc Kirkoff (IM). All are still welcome to join us at the OTABL Table.

- March 4/Opening Session and Office of the General Secretary
- April 15/ Ministers and Missionaries Benefit Board
- April 29/American Baptist Home Mission Society
- May 13/International Ministries
- May 27/Regional Executive Ministers Council and EMinistry Life
- June 10/American Baptist Women’s Ministries and American Baptist Historical Society

Respectfully Submitted

Reverends Judy Fackenthal and Zina Jacque, Co-Facilitators