

ABOUT THE REPORT OF CHANGED RELATIONSHIPS OF LOCAL CHURCHES

BGM Item 14
Report of Changed Relationships
(BGM EC Item 15a)
11/2023

CHURCHES IN CHANGED RELATIONSHIPS (CICR)

The name *Churches in Changed Relationships* or CICR, for short, is often used when referring to this entire document under the more formal name of the *Report of Changed Relationships of Local Churches*. Here is the list of items in this document:

- * About the Report of Changed Relationships of Local Churches (*this document*)
- * Report of Churches that have Changed Regions
- * Status Counts per Region
- * Tally Sheet
- * Report of Changed Relationships of Local Churches (Includes *Table of Contents* on the last page)

THE CICR REPORTS CONTINUE TO BE AUTOMATED

EVERY REPORT COMES DIRECTLY FROM ABCIS - This means that every report has backing directly from the *ABCIS database*.

CHURCH STATUS DESCRIPTIONS - The descriptions report provides *information* on each Church Status group.

TALLY SHEET - This tally sheet provides *church counts* for the Church Status groups. This allows you to see *at a glance* the starting count of ABC churches, the changed church counts by status group, and the resulting ending count of ABC churches.

CHURCHES THAT CHANGED REGIONS - This report shows which churches changed regions during this reporting period.

STATUS COUNTS PER REGION - This report shows the counts of each relationship change, grouped by region.

CICR REPORT FORMAT

The *Report of Changed Relationships of Local Churches* report is a single document with contiguous page numbers, printed on white paper, and includes *quick reference markings* in the upper right-hand corner.

Because this report comes directly from the ABCIS system, it is fast and efficient to run. Its single column layout aligns the church names and other data nicely, making it easy for you to navigate through the list. It also includes church counts at the end of each church status group.

For those churches leaving ABC, this report now includes the REASON WHY they chose to leave, when available.

For merged churches, the church name, location city/state and the reason why they merged are provided, when available.

A WORD ABOUT "NO PASTOR ON FILE"

For churches that are no longer a part of ABC, for whatever reason listed (disbanded, dismissed, withdrawn, etc.), you should see in most situations 'No Pastor On File' in place of the pastor's name. This means the region correctly entered an end date for the pastor in the ABCIS system. For those that still list a pastor's name, we will alert the region that the pastor is still active, giving them the chance to either change it or keep it as is, depending on the specifics of each church/pastor situation.

QUESTIONS?

If you have comments or questions about these changes, or suggestions for improvement, please do not hesitate to contact me:

Stevens Jules
Associate ABCIS Coordinator
1-800-ABC-3USA, ext. 2106 or Stevens.Jules@abc-usa.org

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WHAT NORMALLY IS INCLUDED IN THE REPORT

The *Report of Changed Relationships of Local Churches* typically consists of churches that have one of these status categories:

- Been **Received** into membership by regions
- **Withdrawn** from regions
- **Disbanded** (have ceased to exist)
- **Merged**
- Been **Dismissed**
- Had **Corrections** made to them

It should be noted that there is no status category on the *Profile Change Report* form for reporting the **Transfer of a church from one region to another**. Instead, a separate report using church data from the *American Baptist Churches Information Systems* (ABCIS) database lists churches that have changed regions within the reporting timeframe.

Because the *Report of Changed Relationships of Local Churches* constitutes the formal legal record of ABCUSA member churches, information received *informally* is not included in the reports. A region can enter information about changes directly into ABCIS or submit a Congregational Profile Change report. These are the only two ways to change the official records.

For instance, if a church secretary called in a resident membership change, or wrote a letter to ABCUSA that a church had withdrawn, these changes would be reflected only when the church's region reports the changes to ABCUSA or enters the change into the database directly. This respects the Bylaws and Standing Rules of ABCUSA, outlining how churches enter and leave the denomination.

PROCEDURE FOR RECOGNIZING A CHANGED RELATIONSHIP

Churches affiliate with ABCUSA through regions, which serve as gatekeepers. Except in very rare instances outlined in the Standing Rules where action may be made directly by the General Board, church names appear on the *Report of Changed Relationships of Local Churches* because a change has been entered into ABCIS directly by the region or ABCUSA has received written instructions from the region notifying ABCUSA of a change in status. Usually, region action has already been taken when the report comes to the ABCUSA.

Every effort has been made to ensure accuracy, including an advance notice of the proposed report sent to every region where one or more churches are listed in changed relationship. Regions have been requested to verify the report and propose in writing any changes.

The *Report of Changed Relationships of Local Churches* is reviewed by the Credentials and Caucus Committee. Through 1998, the *Report of Changed Relationships of Local Churches* was adopted by the General Board when it adopted the General Board Executive Committee's actions. By agreement at the November 1998 General Board meeting, the report now comes to the General Board from the General Board Executive Committee as a separate report for deliberation and action. Once the General Board gives its approval, the church's changed status is effective for its relationship with ABCUSA.

TIMING OF THE REPORT

Each report covers a timeframe which is specified in the report header on the actual *Report of Changed Relationships of Local Churches*; for example, the report start date and report end date may look like this: November 11, 2016 – June 11, 2017.

This report includes all changes entered directly (or submitted in writing) by regions during the report timeframe. The region may have taken its action before the start date but reported it to ABCUSA during this report period. Thus the status date may be outside the actual time period covered by the report; a new header line called the *Data Range* has been added to help better define the data timeframe.

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UNDERSTANDING THE VARIOUS CHURCH CHANGE STATUSES

Churches Received

- These churches are coming into affiliation with ABCUSA following region action. They may have been new church starts, departments of mother churches now seeking status as separate churches, churches that have previously been independent, churches formerly affiliated with another denomination, or churches seeking dual alignment.
- Churches are reported by the region. The church name, address, pastor, ethnicity, date of organization of the church, status date signifying when the region took action, and resident membership are reported. If any of this data is missing, it is because the region has not been able to provide it. Most often, the information omitted is a pastor's name or resident membership.

Churches Withdrawn

- These churches have decided at their own initiative to formally discontinue the relationship with ABCUSA. In some instances, the church's participation has been marginal or non-existent for a period of time prior to this decision. If a reason for the withdrawal is known, it is reported.

Churches Withdrawn From ABC to Remain With Transformational Ministries (Formerly ABC of the PSW)

- The American Baptist Churches of the Pacific Southwest (now known as *Transformation Ministries*) withdrew as a region from ABCUSA in 2006. Churches which were members of that region remain ABC churches unless and until they notify the national ABC offices in writing their intention to withdraw from ABC to remain with Transformation Ministries. Churches that have provided this formal notification are listed separately in the "Withdrawn" section of the *Report of Changed Relationships of Local Churches*.

Churches Disbanded

- These churches are characterized as disbanded because they have literally closed their doors and ceased to be a congregation. Generally, disbanding churches have extremely small memberships.

Churches Merged

- Merged churches are the result of two or more churches coming together to form one. Where churches merge, they are both American Baptist. Additional information indicates with what other church the merger occurred.

Churches Dismissed

- Dismissed churches are leaving the denomination by action of the region, rather than by initiative of a given church. However, generally these churches have been contacted on multiple occasions by the region, and are now being dismissed in order to keep the region membership statistics accurate. Often this occurs much like a local church's cleaning of its own membership roll, and reflects lack of interest on the part of the church now being dismissed. Regions, when they dismiss churches, are acting on the Common Criteria for Cooperating Churches, often including lack of participation in region events and lack of giving.

Churches With Corrections

- This page reports corrections of errors in coding of churches whose change in status was reported to the General Board on a previous report.

To see the specific counts of churches for the most recent reported timeframe for the Church Change Statuses listed above, see the attached **Tally Sheet** and **Churches in Changed Relationships pages** (you will find a Table of Contents on the last page)

American Baptist Churches in the USA	
CHURCHES IN CHANGED RELATIONSHIPS	
May 01, 2023 to September 30, 2023	
Starting Count	4742
Status Category:	
Disbanded	8
Dismissed	
Closed	4
Merged	
Merged - New Church Plant	
Received	
Received New Church Plant	
Withdrawn from ABC	5
Withdrawn from PSW	
Ending Church Count	4725

American Baptist Churches in the USA
CHURCHES IN CHANGED RELATIONSHIPS
Counts per Regional and Status Category
May 01, 2023 to September 30, 2023

Count of Church Status - Regional		Column Labels		Disbanded	Withdrawn from ABCUSA	Grand Total
Row Labels		Closed Mission				
Parent Company : ABC of Wisconsin				1		1
Parent Company : Mission Northwest					1	1
Parent Company : ABC of the Central Region				3		3
Parent Company : ABC of Nebraska		4				4
Parent Company : ABC of the Rochester/Genesee Region				1		1
Parent Company : ABC of the Rocky Mountains				3	2	5
Parent Company : District of Columbia Baptist Convention					1	1
Parent Company : Mid-American Baptist Churches					1	1
Grand Total		4		8	5	17

American Baptist Churches U.S.A.

American Baptist Churches Information Systems
CHURCHES IN CHANGED RELATIONSHIPS

May 01, 2023 to September 30, 2023

Church Status - Regional	Regional Status Date	ID	Name	Billing Address 1	City	State/Province	Billing Zip	Category Profile Type	ABCIS Pin	Church Ethnicity	Founding Year	Primary Subsidiary
sed Mission	5/4/2023	4455	Cozad Karen Baptist Spinu Church, NE, Cozad	609 E 9th St	Cozad	NE	68130	Church	166966	Asian Pacific	2016	Parent Company : ABC of Nebraska
sed Mission	5/4/2023	4637	Iglesia Cristiana Emmanuel, SD, Yankton	1522 W Broadway	Yankton	SD	57078	Church	190039	Hispanic		Parent Company : ABC of Nebraska
sed Mission	5/4/2023	6006	Judson Baptist Church, NE, Lavieta	8517 Park View Blvd	Lavieta	NE	68128	Church	3881	Euro-American	1966	Parent Company : ABC of Nebraska
sed Mission	5/4/2023	9490	Miracle Hills Community Baptist Church, NE, Omaha	11244 Blondo St	Omaha	NE	68164	Church	7893	Multi-Racial	1952	Parent Company : ABC of Nebraska
banded	5/28/2023	1771	First Baptist Church, KS, Cawker City	PO Box 311	Cawker City	KS	67430-0311	Church	2872	Euro-American	1984	Parent Company : ABC of the Central Region
banded	7/31/2023	2277	Forest Hills Baptist Church, AR, Bella Vista	PO Box 3029	Bella Vista	AR	72715-0029	Church	7371	Euro-American	1989	Parent Company : ABC of the Central Region
banded	7/23/2023	1896	The United Church, KS, Oberlin	109 N Griffith Ave	Oberlin	KS	67749-3010	Church	3099	Euro-American	1970	Parent Company : ABC of the Central Region
banded	9/25/2023	2043	The Baptist Temple, NY, Rochester	1101 Clover St	Rochester	NY	14610	Church	4485	Euro-American	1834	Parent Company : ABC of the Rochester/Genesee Region
banded	5/7/2023	7959	Evanson Baptist Church, WY, Evanson	1925 W. Elenta	Evanson	WY	82930	Church	5889	Euro-American	1889	Parent Company : ABC of the Rocky Mountains
banded	5/31/2023	4538	Reconcile Church, CO, Rifle	PO Box 695	Rifle	CO	81650	Church	190075	Euro-American	2018	Parent Company : ABC of the Rocky Mountains
banded	6/15/2023	10339	Sombra Del Monte Christian, NM, Albuquerque	2525 Vermont	Albuquerque	NM	87110	Church	6526	Euro-American	1952	Parent Company : ABC of the Rocky Mountains
banded	8/9/2023	4602	Milwaukee Syn-Chin Baptist Church, WI, Milwaukee	3761 S. 20th Street	Milwaukee	WI	53221	Church	191792	Asian Pacific	2019	Parent Company : ABC of Wisconsin
hdrawn from ABCUSA	6/15/2023	7970	First Baptist Church, WY, Lusk	Third & Elm	Lusk	WY	82225	Church	5999	Euro-American	1919	Parent Company : ABC of the Rocky Mountains
hdrawn from ABCUSA	6/15/2023	9444	Smoky Hill Baptist Church, CO, Aurora	18315 E Smoky Hill Rd	Aurora	CO	80015	Church	7842	Euro-American	1991	Parent Company : ABC of the Rocky Mountains
hdrawn from ABCUSA	6/1/2023	3872	University Baptist Church/Baltimore, MD, Baltimore	3501 N Charles Street	Baltimore	MD	21218	Church	154471	Multi-Racial	1977	Parent Company : District of Columbia Baptist Convention
hdrawn from ABCUSA	5/7/2023	1709	First Baptist Church, IA, Mount Pleasant	100 E Webster St	Mount Pleasant	IA	52641-2659	Church	2907	Euro-American	1843	Parent Company : Mid-American Baptist Churches
hdrawn from ABCUSA	5/1/2023	4928	Twin Falls, Kingdom Church	910 Shoshone Street E	Twin Falls	ID	83301	Church	2214	Euro-American	1904	Parent Company : Mission Northwest