

President's Report – March 2024

Since being installed as the President-Elect of the American Baptist Churches USA in San Juan, Puerto Rico on June 25, 2023 (where I celebrated with twenty-six of my family members), I have spent my time as an active disciple and proclaimer of the message of Jesus Christ.

I have had the pleasure and opportunity to gather, support, preach, and engage with a number of *Board of General Ministries (BGM) directors*, their congregations, regional entities, and other partner and ecumenical organizations. Here are some of the highlights:

President-Elect (June 2023-December 2023)

Local Church Life:

- July 30, 2023 – Preached at the Second Baptist Missionary Baptist Church in Battle Creek, MI - Pastor Rev. William J. Wyne, Jr.
- October 14, 2023 – Participated in Homegoing Service at Brewster Baptist Church, Brewster, MA. for my mentor, Rev. Dr. Victor Scalise; and the father of ***BGM Chaplain, and Pastor Rev. Dr. Doug Scalise.***
- October 22, 2023 – Preached at the Second Baptist Church, San Antonio, TX – Men's and Women's Day ***BGM Director, and Pastor Rev. Dr. Robert Jemerson.***
- November 12, 2023 – Preached at the Calvary Baptist Church in Detroit, MI, Pastor Rev. Lawrence Foster, – Men's and Women's Day.

Denominational Impact & Beyond

- July 9, 2023 – Preached for the Michigan Progressive Baptist Convention held at the Hartford Memorial Church in Detroit, MI, Pastor Rev. Christian Adams.
- November 3, 2023 – Meet Staff ABCUSA & attended Appreciation Celebration for Rev. Dr. Jeff Woods.
- November 27, 2023 – Preached chapel service for Colgate Rochester Crozer Divinity School with Post-Chapel Conversation Forum: *"The Centrality Of Joy"*

President (January 2024-March 2024)

Local Church Life:

- January 7, 2024 – Preached at the Friendship Baptist Church, Detroit, MI
- January 26, 2024 – Virtual Interview for ABCUSA Day at St. Luke Missionary Baptist Church. Charlotte, NC - ***BGM Director and Pastor, Rev. Dr. Clifford Matthews Jr.***
- February 11, 2024 – Preached at the Historic Second Baptist Church of Detroit– Pastor, Rev. Lawrence Rodgers – Year of Celebrating 188th Anniversary
- February 18, 2024 – Preached at Galilee Missionary Baptist Church, Kalamazoo, MI ***BGM Director and Pastor, Rev. Dr. Tamara Scott*** – Leading Lady Appreciation Day 2024

Regional Engagement:

- January 25, 2024 – Virtual Forum - One of seven featured ABCUSA Women in Leadership presenters for The Cleveland Baptist Association's Ministers Council - ***BGM Director, Rev. Dr. Thomas Gilmore, President***
- February 13, 2024 – “Better Together Zoom Conference - The American Baptist Churches USA: A Perspective” Rev. Nikita McCalister- American Baptist Churches of Michigan

In March I will also attend the Executive Board Meeting in San Francisco, CA, March 7-9th; bring greetings to First Baptist Church of Philadelphia, PA, March 10th; Ministers and Missionary Benefits Board (MMBB) Conference in Philadelphia, PA, March 10-11th; The National Leadership Council (NLC) in Orlando FL, March 11-14th; the Prairie Pastors Conference in Omaha, Nebraska (ABC Nebraska), March 19-20; and visit more churches.

In addition to the aforementioned activities I have been in communication with the staff including welcoming our new General Secretary Rev. Dr. Gina Jacobs-Strain; sending a Thank You gift arrangement to Mrs. Kathy Jachowski for her many years of service to ABC-USA; as well as involved in other duties of governance deemed necessary (i.e. Biennial Chairs Meeting, Biennial Planning Team Meeting, Legal Consultation, etc.).

I look forward to stimulating more engagement and communication of the wonderful things that are occurring in American Baptist Life in my tenure. I especially, want to hear and share more stories of the activity of God in each of our lives. I know and believe that the Spirit is moving among American Baptists!

In Christ's Service,

Rev. Nikita McCalister,
President, ABC-USA