

**REVISED**



**BOARD OF GENERAL MINISTRIES  
NOVEMBER 15-17, 2024**

**FINAL AGENDA**

**Meeting Location:** Alloy Hotel King of Prussia  
301 West DeKalb Pike  
King of Prussia, PA 19406  
Ph: 610-337-1200

**Officers:** Nikita McCalister, President  
William Poland, Vice President  
Paul Higgins, Budget Review Officer  
Gina Jacobs-Strain, General Secretary

**BGM Chaplain:** Doug Scalise, MA

**Parliamentarian:** Bill Frederickson

**Friday, November 15, 2024**

*For all who arrive in time, a breakfast buffet will be served from 7:00 a.m. – 9:00 a.m. in the Fusion Room.  
Lunch buffet will be served from 12:00 p.m. – 1:00 p.m. in the Steelwork BC Room.*

*Please remember to sign the BGM attendance sheet.*

**Friday, November 15, 2024, 2:00 p.m. – 5:30 p.m. – BGM Plenary - Steelwork BC**

1. Welcome and Call to Order Nikita McCalister, ABCUSA President
2. Opening Worship/Lighting of the Christ Candle Doug Scalise, Chaplain  
Prayer Triads Beloved Community

**Sharing the ABCUSA Focus Statement**

Unison

*American Baptist Churches are missional congregations that nurture devoted disciples of Jesus Christ who live their lives in mission and ministry for the healing of the world through the love of God.*

**Sharing the ABCUSA Confidentiality Statement**

*Believing that confidentiality is essential to the worshipful work of the Board of General Ministry of the ABCUSA, and integral to its reputation and integrity, I covenant to uphold it in practice and principle.*

**Proposed Action:** Approve minutes of the Board of General Ministries Meeting dated June 12-14, 2024, and approve the agenda for the Board of General Ministries Meeting for November 2024

3. General Consent Agenda Items Nikita McCalister

Written Reports Posted Prior to the Meeting

- a. Reports from ABCUSA & AMOs
- b. Special Directors to Other Boards
- c. Commissions

4. Confidentiality Presentation Paul Higgins and Bill Frederickson
5. Beloved Community (20 minutes) - has been moved to Item #2
6. Report from ABCUSA President Nikita McCalister
7. Report from the ABCUSA General Secretary Gina Jacobs-Strain
8. 4:00 PM Annual Meeting of the American Baptist Historical Society Priscilla Eppinger
9. Regional Ministries Report C. Jeff Woods
10. Report from the ABCUSA Nominating Committee Nikita McCalister

Proposed Action : (1 officer) Election of At-Large Directors of the Board of General Ministries  
*The Board of General Ministries is composed of At-Large Directors and Ex-Officio Directors. There are 33 At-large Directors, one from each ABCUSA Region, elected by the Biennial Delegates. Any vacancy for an At-Large Director may be filled by a majority vote of the Board of General Ministries on nomination of the ABCUSA Nominating Committee.*

**Proposed Action:** To elect **DAVID GRUMMON** as at Large Director for ABC of the Central Region (filled vacancy for 2025) as recommended by the ABCUSA Nominating Committee

11. BGM Picture (location to be determined)

*DINNER, 6:00 p.m. – 7:30 p.m.- Hammer & Fire Restaurant in Alloy Hotel*

**Saturday, November 16, 2024, 9:15 a.m. – 4:00 p.m. - BGM Plenary - Steelwork BC**

*Breakfast buffet will be served from 7:00 a.m. – 9:00 a.m. in the Fusion Room.*

*Lunch buffet will be served from 12:00 p.m. – 1:00 p.m. in the Hammer & Fire Restaurant.*

12. Welcome and Call to Order Nikita McCalister
13. Opening Worship/Lighting of the Christ Candle Doug Scalise, Chaplain

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| 14. Board Orientation /Confidentiality Workshop ( 45 minutes) | C. Jeff Woods      |
| 15. Standing Rules Committee                                  | Janice Fletcher    |
| 16. 2025 Biennial Mission Summit                              | Gina Jacobs-Strain |
| 17. American Baptist Women’s Ministries                       | Jim Wolfe          |
| 18. Report of the Budget Review Officer                       | Paul Higgins       |
| a. Year to Date Financials through September 2024             |                    |
| b. 2025 ABCUSA Budget   |                    |
| 19. Report of Actions of the Executive Committee              | Nikita McCalister  |
| 20. Report of the Credentials and Caucus Committee            | Bill Poland        |

*Lunch buffet, 12:00 p.m. – 1:00 p.m. Hammer & Fire Restaurant*

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| 21. Reconvene and Relight Candle   | Nikita McCalister |
| 22. <u>Sharing the ABCUSA Focus Statement</u>  | Unison            |
| <i>American Baptist Churches are missional congregations that nurture devoted disciples of Jesus Christ who live their lives in mission and ministry for the healing of the world through the love of God.</i> |                   |

Sharing the ABCUSA Confidentiality Statement

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| 23. Report of Changed Relationships  | Alan Musoke       |
| <b>Proposed Action:</b> To receive, as recommended by the BGM Executive Committee, the Report of Changed Relationships of Local Churches (document 1205:1:11/24) and to forward the report to the Board of General Ministries. |                   |
| 24. President’s Nominations and Appointments<br>Awards (Sparrowk President’s Award and Mowbray Ecumenical Awards)  | Nikita McCalister |
| <b>Proposed Action:</b> To be discussed  |                   |
| 25. Mission Resource Development   | Wendy Clemmer     |
| 26. World Relief Committee   | Janice Fletcher   |
| 27. Beloved Community Celebration  |                   |

28. Additional Agenda Items

*(Agenda Items not addressed at the end of the Plenary Session will continue to the next day's agenda)*

29. Recess of BGM Plenary/Convening of BGM in Action Groups (3:30 p.m. – 5:30 p.m.)

BGM Finance Committee	Summit 3 Room
Christian Unity & Interfaith Relations	Summit 4 Room
Becoming a Beloved Community	Summit 2 Room
Communicating ABC Identity	Summit 8 Room

*DINNER, 6:00 p.m. – 7:30 p.m.- Hammer & Fire Restaurant*

**BGM VESPERS, 7:30 p.m. – 8:30 p.m. – Steelwork BC**

**Sunday, November 17, 2024, 9:15 a.m. – 12:00 p.m. - BGM Plenary - (Steelwork BC)**

*Breakfast buffet will be served from 7:00 a.m. – 9:00 a.m. in the Fusion Room.*

*Lunch buffet will be served from 12:00 p.m. – 1:00 p.m. in the Hammer & Fire Restaurant.*

30. Reconvening/Announcements Nikita McCalister

31. Lighting of the Christ Candle/Prayer Doug Scalise, Chaplain

Sharing the ABCUSA Focus Statement Unison  
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32. Action Group Reports/Proposals/Reports Committee Chair

BGM Finance Committee	Paul Higgins
Christian Unity & Interfaith Relations	Chaks Zadda
Becoming a Beloved Community	Emmett Dunn (or designee)
Communicating ABC Identity	Bonnie Higgins

33. Recognition and Prayer for Outgoing Officers Nikita McCalister & Gina Jacobs-Strain

34. Recognition of Retiring Directors Nikita McCalister & Gina Jacobs-Strain

- Annie Field (8 years, 2017-2024)
- Janice Fletcher (8 years, 2017-2024)
- Bonnie Higgins (10 years, 2015-2024)
- Cedric Jones (8 years, 2017-2024)

35. Closing Worship and Holy Communion Doug Scalise, Chaplain

36. Prayer and Adjournment Nikita McCalister