

## UNITED MISSION

American Baptists are a people of mission. Mission describes who we are. Our United Mission ministry helps us be the hands and feet of Christ locally and throughout the world. United Mission unites us as American Baptists and helps us fund our total ministry. The total financial ministry of American Baptist Churches, USA is called American Baptist Mission Support (ABMS). The largest category of that support is called United Mission (UM).

United Mission allows the local church to join together with other American Baptist churches to do collectively what it cannot do on its own. The mission and ministry of ABCUSA depends upon the faithful support of UM by each local church.

UM supports our Region — which makes it possible for the region to provide more effective support for your church. With your UM giving, our region is able to provide:

- staffing for search committees;
- assistance resolving church conflicts;
- area ministers to maintain contact with individual pastors and with small groups of churches;
- resources to assist your church in growth and spiritual health; and
- education and training of pastors, youth and lay leaders in congregational empowerment.

UM Giving also supports:

- The Office of the General Secretary
- American Baptist Men
- ABC Information Services
- American Baptist Women's Ministries
- National Ministries
- International Ministries
- Colleges, Seminaries, Hospitals, etc.
- Career Centers
- Mission Resource Development
- American Baptist Historical Society
- American Baptist Personnel Services
- Orientation to ABC Life

Each ABCCONN church is a covenanting partner of ABCUSA and part of that covenant includes support of United Mission through your annual budget.

**THANK YOU for your support  
of United Mission.**

*"Like good stewards of the manifold grace of God, serve one another with whatever gift each of you has received."*

*I Peter 4:10, NRSV*

This brochure is provided by ABCCONN,  
90A N. Main St., West Hartford, CT 06107-1924  
Telephone: 860-521-5421  
E-mail: [abconn@abconn.org](mailto:abconn@abconn.org)

## American Baptist Mission Support (ABMS)



**UNITED MISSION  
and  
GIVING  
CATEGORY  
DEFINITIONS**

For questions contact:  
Accounting—Barbara Jarrett  
American Baptist Churches, USA  
P.O. Box 851  
Valley Forge, PA 19482-0851  
800-ABC-3USA X2145

or  
ABCCONN  
860-521-5421

## **GIVING CATEGORY DEFINITIONS**

### **UNITED MISSION**

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United Mission contributions provide the largest portion of support and are the very foundation for all American Baptist Mission. They are distributed on a percentage basis according to the covenant agreement between Region organizations, International Ministries, American Baptist Home Mission Societies (ABHMS), Ministers & Missionaries Benefit Board (MMBB), American Baptist Churches USA (ABCUSA, OGS), and career development centers. Regions receive on the average 65% of United Mission giving.

A. UNITED MISSION BASICS (UMB) - Gifts here support all parts of our national and international mission effort as American Baptists. These gifts are vital and basic to the work of all of our American Baptist family. UMB provides funding for most ministries such as new church planting, evangelism, cooperative Christianity, Christian education for youth, and national and international missions.

B. LOVE GIFT (LG) - American Baptist Women make over-and-above contributions to Love Gift. 15% of these contributions are used to support the work of American Baptist Women's Ministries, and the balance is divided in the same way as are gifts to United Mission Basics.

### **ANNUAL OFFERINGS**

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American Baptists promote and contribute to four annual offerings that provide financial support to the recipients in addition to support received from United Mission. The Annual Offerings are listed on lines AFC through RO on the Monthly Report of Mission Support form.

*“. . . give, and it will be given to you. A good measure, pressed down, shaken together, running over, will be put into your lap; for the measure you give will be the measure you get back.”*

*Luke 6:38, NRSV*

AMERICA FOR CHRIST (AFC). The America for Christ offering is divided two thirds for the work of Mission in America through National Ministries, and one third for the work of the region.

WORLD MISSION OFFERING (WMO). The World Mission Offering goes entirely for the work of Global Mission through International Ministries.

RETIRED MINISTERS & MISSIONARIES OFFERING (RMMO). The Retired Ministers & Missionaries Offering provides emergency relief and a “thank you” check to retired ministers and missionaries, administered by MMBB.

ONE GREAT HOUR OF SHARING (OGHS). The One Great Hour of Sharing Offering provides disaster relief and development assistance in the United States and overseas, administered by the American Baptist World Relief Committee.

REGION OFFERING (RO). Gifts given to the region to use at their discretion for the budget, or for a targeted purpose promoted by the region.

### **OTHER GIVING**

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INSTITUTIONAL SUPPORT (ISP). Gifts to American Baptist-related institutions in the United States that participate in the Institutional Support Process are for their operating expenses. These institutions include seminaries, colleges, campus

ministries, student aid for colleges and seminaries, retirement homes, hospitals, children's homes, and our national conference/training center (ABA) at Green Lake, Wisconsin.

TARGETED GIVING (TG). Gifts given as the result of appeals by a mission partner for support of the operating budget or special projects.

SPECIFICS (SPC). Contributions to budget participants that provide money over-and-above their allocation from the United Mission and annual offering contributions. Contributions for validated local ministries are also included in this category. Gifts for a missionary's personal use are NOT included here, but should be listed as a Miscellaneous Objective. Specifics should be cleared with the appropriate agency before making the contribution.

CAMPAIGNS FOR ABC WORK (CGN). These gifts are for campaigns conducted by recognized American Baptist institutions, by American Baptist Region organizations, and by national American Baptist organizations.

MISCELLANEOUS OBJECTIVES (MO). This category provides a channel for sending gifts to American Baptist missionaries for their personal use, as well as to the American Bible Society. Other non-ABC-related gifts should be sent directly to the organization. Gifts in this category are treated as “pass-through” gifts and are not tax deductible.