

American Baptist Women of Maine



Fall Women's Day & Annual Meeting

Saturday, November 18th

At China Lake Baptist Camp

Cost: \$2 registration; \$8 lunch

9:00 – 10:00 Registration

10:00 – 12:00 "Give Thanks" & Annual Meeting

12:00 – 1:00 Lunch

1:00 – Closing Worship

**Please contact Secretary Barbara Anderson with # of women attending
from your church by 11/12**

Email: abwbarbara@gmail.com

Phone: 781-929-7226

Mission and Service - Lorna Hanson

WoW! It is October already! It seems the older I get the faster time flies. Well, since it is October, then it must be time to support the World Mission Offering. Does your church promote this annual offering that helps to keep our global servants (missionaries) sharing the love of Jesus in countries all around the world? Let me suggest some reasons for promoting this offering in your church.

God allows us to participate in what He is doing, which blesses our churches and inspires us to get involved in our own mission activities where we live and beyond.

Giving generously to missions is a necessity because the Great Commission is the driving force of our discipleship individually and as a church.

It is a blessing for us individually and as a church to have relationships with our global servants, because when we hear or read their stories and the ways God is using them to transform lives where they serve, we can feel as if we had a part in that work, even though it is God who is doing the transformation.

When we support the World Mission Offering, we are making it possible for street children in Goma, DRC to hear Bible stories and have something to eat. We are making it possible for medical missionaries to teach and work in clinics so that health care is available for those who need it. We make it possible for refugees in Eastern Europe to be safe. I encourage you to promote WMO in your churches. Look on the International Ministries website for more information.

Kristy Engel has a new assignment. She is leaving her global position of traveling all over the world to deal with medical crisis and preparing to go to Ukraine to work in a refugee center. The refugees have fled from eastern Ukraine where most of the war is raging and looking for safety in the western part of the country. She was led to this new assignment while on a short-term trip to Ukraine last spring. There is dire need for a medical person, and she was impressed with how well the refugees are caring for each other. Pray for Kristy as she prepares for this new assignment.

On a different note, I want to thank all of you who have reached out to me and my family with loving words and deeds as we grieve the death of our son, Rick. I feel your love and support and God's peace and comfort. I am blessed knowing Rick is with Jesus.

President-Elect –Cindy Richendollar

Greetings in The Lord.

Fall has come bringing a mixed bag of weather patterns revealing God's power & the blessings of the season. Change challenges us to put our full reliance on The One Who loves us, and created and controls all things.

I hope to see many of you come to our delayed "Summer Conference". It will be a one-day gathering at China Lake on Saturday, November 18. You will find details posted in this publication & other sources.

The new theme and project will be presented. The By-Laws, which are in this publication, will be reviewed and voted on.

Come for fellowship, worship, and some fun.

See you there !



THANKSGIVING

O Lord, with humble hearts we pray
Thy blessing this Thanksgiving Day
And ask that at table place,
Where grateful folk say words of grace,
That Thou will come to share the yield
Thy bounty gave to farm and field.
We pray thy love will bless, O Lord,
Each hearth, each home, each festive board;
And that Thy peace will come to stay
Where candles glow. Thanksgiving Day.

- Brian F. King



The Following pages contain by-law changes for your review, before the November 18th meeting at China Lake.

The AMW Board hopes to see you there

AMERICAN BAPTIST WOMEN'S MINISTRIES OF MAINE BY-LAWS

Article I

The name of this organization shall be the American Baptist Women's Ministries of Maine. It shall be affiliated with and promote the work of the national organization of American Baptist Women's Ministries. It shall also be affiliated with and be an integral part of the American Baptist Churches of Maine.

Article II— Mission Statement

In commitment to Jesus Christ as Lord and Savior and to the mission of the church, through the enabling of the Holy Spirit, the purpose of this organization shall be to provide opportunities for each woman to become and develop as God's person, through worshiping, working and witnessing in all areas of life, the home, the community, the nation and the world.

Article III — Participation

All women are invited to participate in American Baptist Women's Ministries.

Each woman is encouraged to participate **according** to her own needs, interests and gifts led by the Spirit of God.

Article IV — ~~the Board~~

~~Section 1~~ **Executive Board**

The following officers make up the Executive Board:

President

President-Elect

Secretary

Treasurer

Assistant Treasurer/**Registrar.**

~~Coordinator of Personal Development Ministries~~ **Personal and Spiritual Development**

Coordinator

~~Coordinator of Church and Community Ministries~~ **This position will be eliminated at the end of present term and some duties will be moved to Coordinator of Mission and Service**

Coordinator of Mission and Service

~~Section 2~~ **Additional Coordinators**

~~There shall be the following additional coordinators on the Board:~~

~~Coordinator of White Cross and World Relief~~ **This position will be eliminated at the end of the term. Some duties will be moved under Coordinator of Mission and Service**

~~Coordinator of Educational Gifts of Love~~ **This position will be eliminated at the end of term and duties will be with secretary and the Executive Committee.**

Administrative Assistant *

Coordinator of Conference (appointed yearly)*

Chair of Nominating Committee and at least two other members (appointed annually).*

These are non-voting members of the Executive Board.

Section 3 ~~2~~— Association Presidents

~~The eleven~~ Association presidents shall be members of the Board.

Section 4 ~~3~~— Ex Officio

The following may be ex officio members of the Board ~~A~~ representative of the ABCOM staff, the Administrative Assistant, ~~the delegate to Church Women United. The President of the Minister's Wives Fellowship and the Chair of the Nominating Committee.~~ **Any** past president shall serve as a consultant upon request of the ~~Board~~ **Executive Board.**

Section 4— Election and Appointment

The Board shall be elected at the annual meeting at Summer Conference upon nomination by the Nominating Committee or by nomination from the floor. The exceptions shall be the Coordinator of Conference and the chair of the Nominating Committee, who are appointed by the Board annually.

In year one the board members to be elected are:

President

~~Coordinator of Personal Development Ministries~~ **Coordinator of Mission and Service Ministries**

Nominating committee member

In the next year the board members to be elected are:

Secretary

Personal and Spiritual Development Coordinator

~~Coordinator of Church and Community Ministries~~

~~Coordinator of White Cross and World Relief~~

Nominating committee member

In the following year the board members to be elected are:

President-Elect

Treasurer

Assistant Treasurer/**Registrar**

Coordinator of Mission and Service Ministries

Nominating committee member

~~Coordinator of Educational Gifts of Love~~

Vacancies which occur between elections shall be filled by the Executive Committee upon recommendation by the Nominating Committee and be subject to the ratification by the ~~Board~~ **organization** at the next **annual** meeting.

Section 5 — Term of Office

The term of office shall be three years beginning and ending at Summer Conference. No member of the Board shall be eligible to hold the same office for more than one term. Board members may not serve more than one term of three years without an interval of at least one year between offices. The exceptions will be ~~Members at Large and~~ Presidents of association who will not be required to take a year off before assuming a new office **and the Assistant Treasurer/Registrar**. The year served as President-Elect shall not affect the term of office of the President. A woman elected to fill a vacancy for two years or more of an unexpired term shall be considered to have served a full term.

Section 6

Honorary membership on the Board may be conferred upon those whom the Board wishes to honor for distinguished service.

Those women of the state who are serving on any of the national boards or councils of ABC/USA shall be associate members of the Board without vote or expenses.

Article V — Meetings

The Annual Meeting of this organization shall be held at the Summer Conference. During Board meetings one third of the Board shall constitute a quorum. The organization may hold such other meetings as are deemed advisable by the Board.

Article VI— Duties of Officers

Section 1 — ~~Administrative Officers~~ ***Executive Board***

The President shall:

Plan and preside at all meetings of the ABW Ministries of Maine.

Be the official representative to ABCOM and in-state interdenominational groups.

Be a member of the national Board of ABW Ministries

Appoint committees not otherwise specified in the bylaws.

In accordance with suggestions received from the national ABW Ministries President, coordinate and promote plans and policies affecting this organization.

Promote ABCOM meeting and other events.

~~Give guidance to her association counterparts.~~

As ~~immediate~~ past president be a consultant to the Board upon request.

All past presidents will be able to consult with the committee upon request.

The Secretary shall:

Record and circulate the minutes of the meetings within three weeks.

Be custodian of the organization's records.

Keep a roll call of attendance by the board members.

Maintain up-to-date bylaws, recordings **and** amendments in red ink noting date of change and page number in the minutes where the amendment was approved.

Handle correspondence as directed.

~~Compile the annual report and directory with by-laws of the organization.~~ ***This duty is being moved to Administrative Assistant.***

Send notices of all meetings of the Board.

Immediately following annual meeting, submit a list of Board officers and addresses to the Executive Director of national ABW Ministries.

Make and receive applications for Educational Gifts of Love and be prepared to present to the Executive Board.

~~Give guidance to her association counterparts.~~

The Treasurer shall:

Have a general oversight of the finances under the direction of the ~~Board~~ **Executive Board**.

Be responsible for receipt, banking and disbursement of all funds

Present a financial report at each meeting of the Board.

Have books ~~audited~~ **independently reviewed** annually.

Chair the Finance Committee (Executive Board) in preparing a budget for the organization.

Present the proposed annual budget to the Board.

Promote giving to National, State Support, scholarship and state project.

File the appropriate paperwork with the State once a year for the nonprofit status.

The Treasurer shall appoint two people not on the board to count all money received during conference, spring rallies and other events where money is involved and give report to Treasurer. This could be Assistant Treasurer and one other person.

~~Give guidance to her association counterparts.~~

The Assistant Treasurer/**Registrar** shall:

~~Promote giving to National and State Support, Leadership Development, Endowment Fund, and State Project.~~

~~Fill in for the Treasurer as necessary.~~

~~Prepare a list of Potential subscribers for Administrative Assistant and collect subscription money. This position will be changed when the term ends.~~

Receive, compile list of registrations that are received for our annual Summer Conference.

Shall relate and coordinate with Administrative Assistant numbers needed for directories.

Shall keep updated list of association contact information.

Shall collect and deposit money given for registration, directory and Potential.

Shall be on bank account and backup the Treasurer if needed.

The ~~Coordinator of Personal Development Ministries~~ **Personal Development and Spiritual Growth Coordinator** shall:

Identify and promote resources related to this area of ministry which are designed to provide opportunities for each woman to become and develop as God's person:

~~Deepening her faith (spiritual grow~~

~~Developing her gifts (spiritual gift development)~~

Identify and promote resources related to provide opportunities for each woman to build God's faith community.

Develop relationships with others (relationships).

Becoming a more effective Christian disciple and steward (discipleship)

Encourage the inclusion of these ministries in programs and activities.

Promote Christian conferences, retreats and seminars for personal growth.

Chair the Spring Rally (Executive Board) and oversee planning and promotion.

Promote Love Gift and publishes the giving of Love Gift

Promote and provide various reading articles and books for Christian women.

Serve as Chair of the Summer Conference at least one year of her term.

Shall serve as President in the event that the President is unable to attend a meeting or in the event she has to step down. This would only be until the Nominating Committee could find a replacement.

~~Be a member of the Scholarship Committee.~~

~~Be a member of the Conference Committee.~~

The ~~Coordinator of Church and Community Ministries~~ shall:

~~Identify and promote resources related to this area of ministry, which is designed to provide opportunities for each woman to build God's faith community.~~

~~Developing relationships with others (relationships)~~

~~Serve the community (faith community)~~

~~Study issues of concern and meet physical and spiritual needs of others in families and the community (community outreach)~~

~~Encourage the inclusion of these ministries in programs and activities.~~

~~Promote the annual ABCOM meeting.~~

~~Be a member of the Scholarship Committee.~~

~~Be a member of the Conference Committee.~~

~~Give guidance to her association counterparts.~~

The Coordinator of Mission and Service shall:

Identify and promote resources related to this area of ministry which is designed to provide opportunities for women to serve God's world *and faith community*.

Study issues of concern (Christian citizenship) *and meet physical and spiritual needs in families and the community (community outreach)*.

Study and promote the ABC outreach mission (mission education)

Meet physical and spiritual needs in our nation and God's world **by promoting American Baptist omHomHom Home Mission directives and International Ministries projects when needed** (mission involvement)

Encourage the inclusion of these ministries in programs and activities.

Assign Special Interest Missionaries to the ~~associations~~ **Board** and endeavor to strengthen the relationship between the women and the missionaries.

Be a member of the Conference Committee.

~~Give guidance to her association counterparts.~~

Be responsible for gathering information for the membership from American Baptist Home Mission Society and American Baptist International Ministries and sharing with American Baptist Women.

~~Section 2 — Additional coordinators~~

~~Coordinator of White Cross and World Relief shall:~~

~~Be responsible for distributing and receiving the White Cross requests to the associations received from the Boards of the International and National Ministries.~~

~~Be responsible for the promotion of White Cross.~~

~~Give guidance to her association counterparts.~~

~~Coordinator of Educational Gifts of Love shall:~~

~~Promote interest in and giving to the Educational Gifts of Love fund.~~

~~Make applications for Educational Gifts of Love widely available.~~

~~Receive applications for Educational Gifts of Love.~~

~~Present applications to the Educational Gifts of Love Committee.~~

~~Report to the Board the recommended applicants for Educational Gifts of Love.~~

~~Give guidance to her association counterparts.~~

The Coordinator of Conference shall:

Oversee the planning of conference including the choice of goals and purpose, theme and scripture, program and leaders.

Allot time in conference for annual business meeting.

Chair the Summer Conference Committee.

Prepare an estimated budget for summer conference expenses.

~~Section 2 - Administrative Assistant~~

~~The Administrative Assistant shall:~~

~~Be responsible for compiling, editing, printing and distributing the newsletter, **Potential** three times annually.~~

~~Perform other such functions as directed by the President.~~

~~Administrate the webpage and make sure that it is updated monthly.~~

Compile the ~~annual report and~~ directory with by-laws of the organization. (Annual reports are not necessary.)

Prepare and print the trifold using the current theme from National for the Summer Conference

~~Be a member of Executive Board but with no voting power.~~

~~Be appointed by the Executive Board.~~

The Chair of Nominating Committee shall:

Be in continual contact with other nominating members

Work throughout year to make sure that positions that are coming up for election are filled.

Compile list with members of the committee and give to the Board by spring meeting.

~~Article VII~~

~~Section 1 — Duties of the Board~~

~~The Board shall:~~

~~Transact all official business between meetings of the organization and shall plan necessary financing of the programs.~~

~~Appoint the members of the Nominating and Conference Committees.~~

~~Appoint other such committees as are deemed necessary.~~

~~Set aside time at each regular meeting of the Board for the various committees to meet.~~

Section 2 — Duties of the Executive ~~Committee~~ **Board**

The Executive ~~Committee~~ **Board** shall:

Have all the powers of the Board between meetings of the Board, except such powers as shall be reserved by the Board.

Be the members of the Finance Committee.

~~Be the members of the Spring Rally Committee.~~

Include a staff member of the ABCOM as designated by the Executive Minister as an ex-officio member.

Have all actions and recommendations ratified by the Board.

Meet at stated times and at the call of the President. Four members constitute a quorum.

Appoint the Conference Coordinator, the Administrative Assistant and the Chair of the Nominating Committee.

~~Appoint a representative to the Women's Legislative Council of Maine.~~

Article VIII— Committees

Section 1- Nominating Committee

The Nominating Committee shall consist of not less than three nor more than five women representing different associations. ~~One member of the committee will be a Board Member at Large.~~

This committee will present annually a slate of nominees for office. They shall prepare a ballot to be voted upon by the organization at the annual meeting.

This committee shall recommend to the Board nominees to fill any vacancy which may occur between elections.

They shall make every effort to avoid naming any of its members for election to office.

Section 2— Conference Committee

The Conference Committee shall consist of five or more members ~~of the Board, plus others~~ as designated, who will serve with the Coordinator of the Conference to plan the Summer Conference. ~~The Coordinator of Church and Community, Coordinator of Mission and Service shall be two of the required members of this committee.~~ The Registrar becomes an official part of the Conference Committee upon appointment.

Section 3— Finance Committee

The Finance Committee shall be the Executive **Board**. Under the direction of the Treasurer they shall prepare an annual budget for presentation to the Board. They shall plan ways to provide financial support for the organization.

~~Section 4— Educational Gifts of Love Committee—~~

~~The Educational Gifts of Love Committee shall consist of the Coordinator of Church and Community Ministries under the direction of the Coordinator of Educational Gifts of Love. They shall review applications and recommend to the Board suitable candidates in accordance with the requirements of the application. A list of candidates shall be presented to the Board for ratification prior to the annual meeting and then to the full organization for vote.~~

~~Section 5— Spring Rally Committee~~

~~The Spring Rally Committee shall consist of the Executive Committee. Under the direction of the Coordinator of Personal Development they shall plan the program and promotion of the Spring Rally.~~

Article IX Associations

The American Baptist Women's Ministries of each Association within the state shall be affiliated with the American Baptist Women's Ministries of Maine.

Article X - Rules of Order

The rules contained in Robert's Rules of Order Revised, shall govern the organization in all cases to which they are applicable, and in which they are not inconsistent with the bylaws of the organization.

Article XI Amendments

These bylaws may be amended at any regular meeting of the organization by a two- thirds vote of the members present and voting. Amendments may be made upon recommendation of the Board or after receiving written notice of such a proposed amendment signed by at least ten members from not less than three associations. Such action shall have been announced at a previous meeting of the organization prior to the vote, or been published in the state newsletter at least thirty days prior to the meeting at which it is to be presented for action.

Last amended August 7, 2015

Standing Rules

- Administrative Officers and Coordinators elected to the Board shall be members in good standing of an American Baptist Church **of Maine**.
- Promote the goals and policies of the organization consistent with the mission statement.
- Attend all meetings of the Board as called in so far as they are able.
- Use and promote denominational and approved interdenominational literature and materials in their fields.
- Agree that a woman elected or appointed to fill a vacancy for two years or more or an unexpired term shall be considered to have served a full term.
- Agree that officers and coordinators with responsibilities in areas of work, in which state and committees or commissions are active, shall cooperate with these groups in which it is hoped they will be invited to become members or consultants.
- Keep an up-to-date roster of potential leaders throughout the State.
- Write for the **Potential** newsletter, (exceptions: Members at Large and ex-officio members.) Send to ~~Secretary~~ **Administrative Assistant**. Deadline for officer pages October 1, February 1, and June 1.
- ~~Submit an annual report to the Secretary by June 15th (exceptions: Members at Large and ex-Officio members.)~~



Personal Development - Carolyn Sweeny

Every time I write this letter, I feel like I'm preaching to the choir. I've probably said this before, but I am going to look at the word, "AWARE". As I get older, I find that I am not as aware of the things going on around me as I used to be. Maybe it's because there are so many people with illnesses and difficulties, that I just hear about it, say a prayer for them and life goes on. I feel I should take that next step to being more aware and send a card, make a visit, or even a simple phone call.

Another part of this is being more aware of how I react to the circumstances that I find myself in. For example, I was offended by what someone had said to me. Instead of reacting in a negative manner, I stepped back and made myself aware of the situation that I was in. I took what was said to me and brought it to God, and at the end of the day, I was glad that I reacted the way that I did, instead of the way I initially wanted to. Lastly, I need to be more aware of the way people react to me. It can be an eye-opener when you look at it from a different point of view, and it can be a real way of individual growth.

As you know, we canceled Summer Conference 2023, due to the sad passing of Rick Hansen. He will be dearly missed by everyone. Next year we will still have the Christmas theme, bring your cookie bowl to be auctioned off, something for silent auction, and an item to add to our shoebox ministry. More information to follow.

American Baptist Women of Maine

THE POTENTIAL

abwmaine.org

October 2023

Linda Deane

PO Box 76
Livermore Falls
Maine 04254

Make Plans to attend

**Fall Women's Day & Annual Meeting
Saturday, November 18th**



More information in Newsletter