We are blessed to have such dedicated individuals serving on the Board.

**Advent Prayer—Waiting**

John A. Jones IV, Associate Regional Minister-Education

I ran into a friend at Target the other day. She was pregnant, 7 days past the due date. I tried to be encouraging, but it was more in spirit than in words, because I know how hard it is to wait, especially for something so wonderful and precious. I also know that I don’t know what it feels like to be 9+ months pregnant. So I kept my words to a minimum.

Advent is the season of the church that encourages us to embrace the counter-cultural practice of waiting. In the midst of a busy holiday schedule and the demands of modern life, waiting is an act of faith. We don’t know when or how, but we know that something precious, a gift from God, is on the way.

Waiting might seem unproductive. But with the eyes of faith, people of faith know that the gift of inspiration is coming. We just don’t know when or how.

Perhaps you find yourself waiting, whether for good news like the birth of a child, for medical test results to help you know what your future looks like, or for the slow process of healing. Waiting is a thoroughly human experience that reminds us of God’s sovereignty and goodness. Inspiration is coming.

This Advent season, try to pay attention to the process of waiting. What can it teach us about God and about ourselves?

**Highlights from the November 2, 2019 Board of Managers Meeting**

◊ Under the leadership of Board President, Fred Oaks, our new Board of Managers had a very engaging meeting on November 2 at the region office. Board members each shared something unique they contribute to ministry and to the Board work. We also had an energetic conversation about the opportunities and rewards of being a part of region ministry. Some responses included opportunities to shape church, lead a revolution, listen to those outside the church, coming alongside those who are grieving, implementing new ideas for a diverse population, the reward of authentic relationships, and being co-collaborators with God.

◊ Board members were oriented to the region work under the new bylaws and received their committee assignments.

◊ The Board approved the 2020 budget with expenses of $639.1K, a decrease of $15.8K from the 2019 budget. Expenses are supported by United Mission and America for Christ giving, mission support from AB Home Mission Societies, organizational and individual designated gifts to region ministries, income to Camp Tamarack and CENTRAL Wisconsin, investment income, bequests, honorariums to region staff for work-related ministries, and occasional grants.

**IS YOUR CHURCH/ORGANIZATION REPRESENTED IN THE 175th STORY POSTER HISTORICAL ARCHIVE?**

If your church’s or organization’s story was not represented at the ABC/WI 175th Anniversary Celebration, you have until December 31, 2019 to submit your story poster in order to be included in the booklet that will go into our historical archives.

Go to abcfwi.org to view instructions for this ‘9520 Project.

**December American Baptist Special Offering**

Retired Ministers & Missionaries Offering 2019

This year’s theme, Honoring the Service of God’s Servants uplifts the generosity, grace and tireless work of retired ministers, missionaries and their widowed spouses and families who have dedicated their lives to serving the body of Christ.

**Region Office Holiday Hours**


**With Sympathy**

Please join us in prayer for Brandle C. Morrow, Sr. and his family, ABC/WI Board Member and Pastor of Milw, Metropolitan Missionary, after his father, Deacon Emeritus Bobby C. Morrow, passed into eternal life on Nov. 8. Services were held on Nov. 16 at the Tabernacle Community Baptist Church in Milwaukee.

**Camp Tamarack**

Winter Youth Retreat
Fri-Sat, Jan 24–26, 2020

“Vision” – is yours 20/20 on God?

This is a time of fellowship and programming for youth in 7th-12th grades. We spend time in Bible Study using various learning methods, playing games, and enjoying the space of Camp.

Go to Camp Facebook page or www.camptamarack.org starting in November for registration details.

**SAVE THE DATE**

176th ABC/WI Annual Gathering
Fri-Sat, October 9-10, 2020
Community Baptist Church
Honey Creek, WI
Rev. Jane Mathison, Pastor

15330 Watertown Plank Road, Elm Grove, WI 53122-2340
Phone: 262-782-3140 or Toll Free: 1-800-311-3140; Fax: 262-782-7573
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