

AGG
2020
Romans 12:2

American Baptist
Churches of Wisconsin
176th Annual Gathering
SATURDAY
OCTOBER 10, 2020



ZOOM
Virtual
Platform



PROGRAM

rootedness collaboration growth transformation
Together Living Faithfully Through Christ Today

PROGRAM OVERVIEW

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 9, 2020 7-8 PM TEST YOUR TECH INFORMAL FELLOWSHIP NIGHT

This will be a great time to get into the spirit of the Annual Gathering as well as test your technology and ask any Zoom orientation questions you may have. All Annual Gathering participants will receive the Zoom credentials to join this session.

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 10, 2020

9:00-10:00 AM | ANNUAL MEETING | For delegates

A session for delegates to include elections of new members to the Board of Managers and Nominating Committee members, reports from the region staff and Board officers, and general updates and announcements regarding our regional family.

10:15-11:45 AM | Select 1 from 5 options WORKSHOPS

A – COVID Changes "Idea-Swap" – presented by Commission on Congregational Mission of ABC Wisconsin. *Members of the Commission will form a panel, sharing how their different churches (and organizations) have adapted and changed in response to the COVID crisis (both success and failure). This sharing will then be opened up to participants in the workshop. Commission members on the panel will include: Rev. Walt Hoshaw, pastor, First Baptist Church, Beloit; Rev. Terry West, Associate Minister, New Hope Missionary Baptist Church, Milwaukee; Rev. Mark Weisser, pastor, First Baptist Church, West Allis. Other participants on the panel will be: Dianna Brophay, Summer Camp Director, Camp Tamarack Transformed; and Rev. Holly Anderle, pastor, First Baptist Church, Racine.*

B – Bible Study on "Transformation" – presented by Rev. Dr. Demetrius Williams, pastor, Community Baptist Church, Milwaukee. *Dr. Williams will be sharing reflections on the theme of "Transformation" through a Biblical lens, drawing on particular examples from both the Hebrew Bible and the New Testament. The transformation of characters will be highlighted. Workshop participants will be invited to discuss the transformation seen in these Biblical narratives, with an eye for what might be applied to their own lives.*

C – Reshaping Church: Learning from Unplanned Transformation – presented Rev. Dr. Angela Jackson of Central Baptist Theological Seminary and Rev. Dr. Ircel Harrison (blog here) of Pinnacle Leadership Associates. *How is your church responding to the unexpected events and increasing volatility in our world? Are you energized and ready for a new, still emerging season of ministry together? What happens when a pandemic, a liminal season, or a crisis lasts much longer than you expected? Join us as we consider these questions and explore practical tools for reflecting on unpredictable experiences, processing them in community, and using them to grow more fully into your unique expression of the Body of Christ.*

D - Baptist History and Polity: The Associational Principle - presented by Rev. Dr. Pam Durso, president, Central Baptist Theological Seminary. *What is the Baptist "Associational Principle"? Why do we Baptists relate to one another in the way that we do? All Baptist churches have "autonomy," but many choose to work together. Why? Dr. Durso will provide a brief historical account of this important principle for how Baptists "do" church. Workshop participants will be invited to reflect upon a) why this principle is so important to church life and b) how this principle might be embodied and embraced in new and unique ways today.*

E - BURMESE Bible Study on "Transformation" – Cancelled.

12:15-12:45 PM | LUNCH SPEAKER

Rev. Dr. C. Jeff Woods, Interim General Secretary of American Baptist Churches USA
Hear greetings and a word on transformation from Interim General Secretary Dr. Jeff Woods, including a brief update on the wider family of American Baptist Churches USA. Feel free to "bring your lunch to the Zoom Room!"

1:00-1:45 PM | Select 1 from 3 options FACILITATED CONVERSATIONS

Intimate Conversations about Important Matters. This will be an opportunity to share your thoughts on a topic in a small group setting, but it is also an important opportunity to develop the essential skill of LISTENING.

A – Racial Justice facilitated by Rev. Walter Lanier, pastor, Progressive Baptist Church, Milwaukee
How are you personally and/or as a faith community engaging in the work of racial justice? What resources might you need from the ABC Wisconsin network? What collaborations are emerging/might emerge?

B – Post-COVID Emerging Ministries facilitated by Rev. Betsy Perkins, pastor, First Baptist Church, Delavan.
All churches have had to pivot during the pandemic. What ministry approaches and activities have been helpful to you and your churches in pursuing your mission and how might these be further developed post-pandemic? What profound changes are you beginning to see or wondering about might emerge in the future? What are your emerging ministry needs?

C – 2020 – Stories of Faith facilitated by Rev. Jason Mack, pastor, Underwood Memorial Baptist Church, Wauwatosa.
How has your faith been tested, stretched, and/or strengthened during 2020? In this session, participants will be invited to a time of story-telling and story-listening. Each will be invited to share a story of faith from 2020 in small groups. Emphasis will be on listening and hearing each other's stories without comparison to one's own story. Listening prompts will be offered to help develop the enriching skill of listening, fostering appreciation for one another's journey.

2:00-3:00 PM | CLOSING WORSHIP

Worship this year will be online, like so many of our churches in this strange season. It will include music from various corners of the state, preaching from ABC/WI Regional Executive Minister, Rev. Dr. Marie Onwubuariri, and comments from ABC/WI President, Rev. Fred Oaks.

TECH SUPPORT: (262) 782-3140 (SATURDAY 8:45-3:00)

ZOOM INFO: abcofwi.org/2020/09/10/ag-zoom-info/



**176th Annual Gathering
of the American Baptist Churches of Wisconsin
October 10, 2020 | Closing Worship**

PRE-SERVICE IN MEMORIAM SLIDESHOW

Accompaniment Song: "One Day Some Day" Written by Chris Crain, used with permission

WELCOME AND CALL TO WORSHIP

*Cathy Muro, Member of the ABC/WI Board and Program Committee
Home Church: Immanuel Church Brookfield*

OPENING CONGREGATIONAL SONG: BE THOU MY VISION Arranged by Ascend the Hill

Immanuel Church Brookfield Praise Team

OPENING PRAYER WITH LORD'S PRAYER

Rev. Max Ramsey, Pastor, Immanuel Church Brookfield

*Our Father, in heaven, hallowed be your name.
Your kingdom come. Your will be done, on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread.
And forgive us our debts, as we also have forgiven our debtors.
Lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil,
For yours is the Kingdom, and the power, and the glory forever. Amen*

INTRODUCTION OF VIDEO PRESENTATION AND PREACHER

*Mr. Jose Faz, ABC/WI Treasurer/Board Member
Home Church: Iglesia Bautista Renacer, Racine*

VIDEO PRESENTATION: AMERICAN BAPTIST CHURCHES WISCONSIN 2014-2020

Accompaniment Song: "They Say" Written by Chris Crain, used with permission

MUSICAL OFFERING: YOU ARE Written by Kirk Franklin

Levite's of Zion Praise Team, Mt. Zion Baptist Church, Madison

SERMON

Rev. Dr. Marie Onwubuariri, ABC/WI Regional Executive Minister

CONGREGATIONAL SONG: YOUR WAY, YAHWEH by Jeremy Camp

Immanuel Church Brookfield Praise Team

CLOSING WORDS

Rev. Fred Oaks, ABC/WI President of the Board of Managers

SENDING SONG: LOVE CHANGES EVERYTHING by Red Rocks Worship

Immanuel Church Brookfield Praise Team



SCRIPTURE REFERENCES

“Therefore, I urge you, brothers and sisters, in view of God’s mercy, to offer your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and pleasing to God—this is your true and proper worship. Do not conform to the pattern of this world but be transformed by the renewing of your mind. Then you will be able to test and approve what God’s will is—his good, pleasing and perfect will.”
Romans 12:1-2 NRSV

“I pray that out of his glorious riches he may strengthen you with power through his Spirit in your inner being, so that Christ may dwell in your hearts through faith. And I pray that you, being rooted and established in love, may have power, together with all the Lord’s holy people, to grasp how wide and long and high and deep is the love of Christ, and to know this love that surpasses knowledge—that you may be filled to the measure of all the fullness of God.”
Ephesians 3:16-19 NRSV

Be Thou My Vision

Arranged by Ascend the Hill

Be Thou my Vision, O Lord of my heart;
Naught be all else to me, save that Thou art.
Thou my best Thought, by day or by night,
Waking or sleeping, Thy presence my light.

Be Thou my Wisdom, and Thou my true Word;
I ever with Thee and Thou with me, Lord;
Thou my great Father, I Thy true son;
Thou in me dwelling, and I with Thee one

Riches I heed not, nor man's empty praise,
Thou mine Inheritance, now and always:
Thou and Thou only, put first in my heart,
High King of Heaven, my Treasure Thou art.

Oh, God, be my everything, be my delight
Be, Jesus, my glory My soul's satisfied
Oh, God, be my everything, be my delight
Be, Jesus, my glory My soul's satisfied

My Jesus, You satisfy (4x)

High King of Heaven, my victory won,
May I reach Heaven's joys, bright Heaven's Sun!
Heart of my own heart, whatever befall,
Still be my Vision, O Ruler of all. (2x)

O God be my everything, be my delight
Be Jesus my glory, my soul satisfied (2x)

Your Way, Yahweh

by Jeremy Camp

Your church is beautiful
Your church is broken
But you are holding us
Together in your arms

At times we are shaken
But never forsaken
Jesus you're making us more like who you are

Purify our hearts
teach us how to walk in your way, Yahweh

More of who you are
Tear down every wall in your way, Yahweh

Bind us together
We're stronger together
We will see greater things
When your kingdom comes
Come Lord Jesus

Purify our hearts
teach us how to walk in your way, Yahweh

More of who you are
Tear down every wall in your way, Yahweh

God of hope, God of peace
You will never leave us
God who loves, God who keeps
You will always lead us Home
Home (x3)

Purify our hearts
teach us how to walk in your way, Yahweh

More of who you are
Tear down every wall in your way, Yahweh

Lead us home (x3), Home
Lead us home (x3), Home

ANNOUNCEMENTS

FEEDBACK SURVEY:

Our hope for the Annual Gathering is that it will be a time of fellowship, learning and inspiration that is shaped not only by the Program Committee and regional staff, but also by all who attend. We also hope you will experience something that you will be inspired to take back to your communities.

To this end, all attendees are encouraged to participate in the Feedback and Reflection Survey designed to help the planners assess the event, to give you an opportunity to shape future gatherings, and to encourage you to take time for self-reflection for the purpose of your own discipleship.

Please use the link below to fill out our online survey no later than Friday, October 16, 2020 Thank you. bit.ly/ag2020survey

SUPPORT ABC WISCONSIN GIVING

To give online, go to bit.ly/ag2020giving by 7 PM Sat 10/10/20 or support the work of American Baptists through your local church mission giving.

SAVE THE DATES:



177th ABC Wisconsin Annual Gathering

Friday-Saturday, October 8-9, 2021 | Location TBD



Planning Is Underway for a **Virtual 2021 Biennial Mission Summit.**

This may be your opportunity to experience this denomination-wide gathering for the first-time!
Stay tuned for updates.

The Executive Committee of the American Baptist Churches USA Board of General Ministries said it will seek to hold an in person Biennial Mission Summit in Puerto Rico in 2023.

APPRECIATIONS

PROGRAM COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Ruby Jackson (Chair, Board VP)	Milwaukee, Metropolitan
Grady Iang (Board Rep)	Greenfield, Carson Chin
Jane Mathison (Original Local Host Rep)	Honey Creek, Community
Cathy Muro (Board Rep)	Brookfield, Immanuel
Kim Drost (ABWomen)	West Allis, First
Eric Lundquist (Ministers Council)	Waukesha, First
Franklin Onwubuariri (ABMen)	Brookfield, Immanuel
Jim Carlson, John Jones, Marie Onwubuariri	Staff
Fred Oaks (Ex-officio, Board President)	Waukesha, First

REGISTRATION TEAM/TECH TEAM

Staff: Jim Carlson, Kim Drost, John Jones, Marie Onwubuariri, Reshma Zadda

Biak Chaung	Greenfield, Carson Chin
Kenneth Cutler	Milwaukee, Greater Mt. Zion
Byron Johnson	Milwaukee, Progressive
Kurt Kaufman	Green Lake, Federated
Eric Lundquist	Waukesha, First
David Perkins	Delafield, First
Richie Zadda	Waukesha, First

ABC/WI STAFF

Dianna Brophy	Summer Camp Director (Temporary)
Jim Carlson	Hispanic Community Liaison
Kim Drost	Assistant Minister—Camping: Facilities and Guest Services
John Jones	Associate Regional Minister—Education
Elaine Mueller	Office Housekeeper
Marie Onwubuariri	Regional Executive Minister
Reshma Zadda	Administrative Assistant (Temporary)
Toya Richards	Communication Specialist (Contractor)
Kris Tontis	Accountant (Contractor)

IN ADDITION... We would also like to thank the following people who contributed to this historic virtual event: those who promoted the gathering through your video reflections, C. Jeff Woods for being our lunch speaker and all our ministry partners for their video greetings, all workshop and conversation facilitators and panelists, Chris Crain for his musical contributions, Immanuel Church Brookfield Worship Team, Madison Mt. Zion Baptist Church music ministry, all closing worship participants, Byron Johnson for editing the closing worship video, all of our region committee members and individual volunteers who do behind the scenes work to make all the components of our annual gatherings come together. **LASTLY, THANK YOU TO ALL OF OUR ATTENDEES – FOR YOUR PATIENCE AND WILLINGNESS AS WE HAVE TRANSFORMED TOGETHER SO THAT THE MISSION OF A RELEVANT AND ENGAGING WITNESS FOR JESUS CHRIST WOULD CONTINUE.**



An annual event of the American Baptist Churches of Wisconsin