AMERICAN BAPTIST CHURCHES OF WISCONSIN

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WWW.ABCOFWI.ORG

August 10, 2022

Dear Prospective Nominee,

It is my esteemed pleasure to invite you to consider being nominated to the Nominating Committee for the American Baptist Churches of Wisconsin! Your name has been suggested as someone who has the gifts, experience, and Christian witness requisite for effective gospel-centered ministry. We invite you to pray and discern God's will as you respond to this invitation.

Our region is a covenanting partnership of 59 congregations, united in American Baptist mission yet diverse in theological perspective and ministry contexts. We represent a rich ethnic and cultural heritage including African American, Chin, Karen, Hispanic, Native American, Chinese, and Euro-American congregations. The board exemplifies our diversity, and we affirm that diversity of culture, gender, and theological perspectives as ***gifts*** for ministry. Service on the Nominating Committee enables the region to meet the challenges of living into and through these gifts of diversity. You can use the following materials to learn more about the Region and service on the Nominating Committee.

If God's Spirit compels you to respond affirmatively to this nomination, we will welcome your unique aptitude, look forward to sustaining fructuous ministry in the ABC WI region, and seek to provide you with the resources, companionship, and support needed to serve effectively.

Thank you for your prayerful consideration,

Brandle C. Morrow
President, American Baptist Churches of Wisconsin

ABC WISCONSIN – REGION PROFILE

Mission Statement

American Baptist Churches of Wisconsin is a fellowship of persons, churches, and organizations drawn together in the love of God as known in Jesus Christ. We affirm our diversity of culture, gender, and theological perspectives as gifts for ministry. We covenant to share the gospel of Christ, encourage each other in our faith, and share our resources in witness and mission.

Strategic Vision

Through a visioning process, the Board of Managers has identified five themes that provide focus for the development of region ministries:

1. Education/Leadership Development
2. Camp Tamarack/Outdoor Ministries
3. Church Resourcing
4. Adaptability/New Ministries
5. Cross-Cultural Ministries

Ministry of ABC/WI Regional Office Staff (emails, bios, & photos available https://www.abcofwi.org/staff/)

- Regional Executive Minister — Rev. Mindi Welton-Mitchell
- Associate Regional Minister-Education — Rev. Dr. John Jones IV
- Associate Regional Minister–Camping — Rev. Carolyn Dugan
- Office Administrator — Ms. Maretta McMullen

To learn more about our Region, please review Region News and Events:

- Website: **www.abcofwi.org**
- Wisconsin Baptist (WB) bulletin insert: **www.abcofwi.org/newsletters/**
- Synergy (or "Synergy E-news") monthly electronic newsletter: **www.abcofwi.org/newsletters/**

ABC WISCONSIN – NOMINATING COMMITTEE - OVERVIEW

Function/Duties as stated in the Bylaws:

i. Solicits input about, actively seeks for, and communicates with potential persons to serve in the various positions within ABC/WI and to represent ABC/WI among our various partners.
ii. Prepares the annual slate of nomination for open Board and Nominating Committee positions for election at the Annual Meeting.
iii. Regularly provides a contact list of potential persons for service on ABC/WI committees, commissions, and collaboratives to appropriate Chair.
iv. Regularly provides to the Board President and the REM a contact list of interested persons for board service with ministry partners, such as the Board of General Ministries ABCUSA, Milwaukee Christian Center, and Project Focal Point.

Eligibility and General characteristics/skills desired of Nominating Committee members:

- Eligibility: Nominees must be members of ABC/WI member churches, be willing to adhere to the purpose and duties of the Nominating Committee as set forth by the Bylaws of ABC/WI, and act according to the best interest of ABC/WI as set forth by its conflict of interest policy.
- Growing in Christian discipleship and demeanor; familiar and aligned with an American Baptist expression of Christian faith.
- Interested in familiarizing oneself with ABC/WI mission and activities.
- Able to work within a collaborative setting, using skills such as active listening, respectful communication, holy discernment, and organization.
- Having healthy relationships and networks within the ABC/WI constituency and able to approach people identified during the nomination process with ease are preferable characteristics.

Structure Overview

- The Nominating Committee consists of 8 voting members, including two at-large Board members, plus six individuals who shall be elected by the voting delegates at the Annual Meeting.
- The elected six members shall be divided into three two-member classes, each serving a staggered three-year term. One class shall be elected by vote at the Annual Meeting each year. Terms shall be from the close of the Annual Meeting at which the member is elected until the close of the next Annual Meeting at which the term expires.
- Committee members, other than the two at-large Board members, may serve a one three-year term, or an unexpired term followed by one three-year term, after which they shall not be eligible for re-election until one year has elapsed.
- The Chair shall be selected annually within the committee.
- Meetings: Meets minimally two times a year. Quorum shall be five voting members.

ABC WISCONSIN – NOMINATING COMMITTEE
Nominations Process: NEXT STEPS!

1. To help you better respond to this invitation, direct questions to any of the following persons:
    a. 2023 Nominating Committee Contact: Rev. Kenneth Cutler
    Email: gmzpastor@att.net Phone: (414) 871-5673
    b. Region Office Contact for logistics about nominating process:
    Rev. Mindi Welton-Mitchell, Reg. Ex. Minister | mindi.wm@abcofwi.org | (262) 207-4202
    Rev. Dr. John Jones, ARM-Education | john.jones@abcofwi.org | (414) 412-2746
2. If you are agreeing to this nomination, please complete the following four forms:
    a. Expectations
    b. Leadership Profile Form
    c. Conflict of Interest Policy Form
    d. Background Check Release Form

    And return the originals to the ABC/WI Regional Office:
    Deadline: **Monday, 9/19/22**
    Email: abcwi.office@abcofwi.org -or- Fax: (262) 782-7573 -or-
    Mail: ABC/WI 15330 Watertown Plank Road, Elm Grove, WI 53122-2340

    Please retain a copy for your continued reference or request photocopies from the region office.
3. Confirmation of nomination:
    a. If the Nominating Committee puts forth your name for the slate, you will be contacted *no later than* the end of September.
    b. In the meantime, please consider attending the 178th Annual Gathering on Saturday, October 8, 2022 held at First Baptist Church, Beloit (and virtually), especially the Annual Meeting session at 11:15 AM when elections and installation of newly elected and appointed individuals will take place. Registration information is available at www.abcofwi.org.
    c. Please save the dates for 2022-2023 Board meetings, found on the Expectations form in this packet.
4. If you are declining this invitation, please notify the person that gave you this packet as soon as possible.

ABC WISCONSIN – NOMINATING COMMITTEE – EXPECTATIONS

Primary Responsibilities	Minimal Level of Performance
1. Know and abide by the duties and eligibility of committee members.	This information is defined in the ABC/WI Bylaws, which are readily available on the ABC/WI website and/or through the regional office.
2. Attend regular meetings of the committee. (Phone and/or video conference are typically available for those who cannot attend in person; mileage reimbursement at IRS volunteer rate is given.)	This committee typically gears up during the summer months in preparation of the Annual Meeting, meeting potentially minimally three times between June and September. The work of "scouting" or recruitment is best performed year-round, however.
3. Participate in committee discussions and decision-making	Prepare in advance of meetings for discussions and decision-making by reviewing pre-meeting materials and self-educating on the issues posed to the committee as needed. Responsibly follow through on committee decisions and action items when applicable.
4. Serve as a community ambassador for and representative of the ABC/WI	Proactively reach out to individuals who show an interest in ABC/WI and have the potential to serve in a region capacity, nurturing such individuals yourself or referring them to appropriate persons. Stay up-to-date on region news and activities, so that when it comes time to discern leaders, you are able to make informed decisions.
5. Comply with Conflict of Interest Policy	In particular, avoid any favoritism or bias when engaging the work of the committee.

I am aware that this committee member position description is an expression of good faith and provides a common ground from which committee members can operate. With the information provided in additional materials describing the organizational mission and activities, I have a comfortable level of understanding of what is expected of a Nominating Committee member. With my signature below, I accept the nomination to the Nominating Committee of ABC/WI, and if elected and upon joining the committee, and annually thereafter, I shall take stock of my involvement, and re-commit to appropriate ongoing activities as a condition of continued committee participation.

Nominee's Name Printed Nominee's Signature Date

ABC WISCONSIN
LEADERSHIP PROFILE FORM

Please type or write legibly:

Your Name:		Date:	/ /
Position:	ELECTED: ☐ Board of Managers At-Large ☐ Nominating Committee		
Full Mailing Address:			
Phone contact(s):	Home:	Work:	Mobile:
Email address:			
ABC/WI Church membership (inc. city):			
The answers to these next four questions help the nominating committee in its efforts to work toward inclusive representation of various groups within our regional family.			
Racial/Ethnic Self-Identity:		Gender:	
Age Group:	☐ Teenager ☐ 18-35 ☐ 36-49 ☐ 50-65 ☐ Over 65		
Ministry Category:	☐ Clergy/Vocational Minister ☐ Layperson		
For the next 3 questions, use additional paper if needed and attach to this page.			
Why are you interested in serving in this position? (assumes you are familiar with position description)			
What gifts, passion, experiences, etc. would you bring to this position?			
Are there any other considerations we should know that may strengthen or hinder your service to ABC/WI?			

ABC/WI values collaborative ministry among our clergy and laypersons. We encourage persons to share about their service within the ABC/WI region with their local faith community.

For clergy: Does your congregation support you in this nomination? ☐ Yes ☐ No

For laypersons: Does your pastor support you in this nomination? ☐ Yes ☐ No

AMERICAN BAPTIST CHURCHES OF WISCONSIN
CONFLICT OF INTEREST POLICY

POLICY: It is the policy of American Baptist Churches of Wisconsin ("ABCW") that all Officers and members of the Board of Managers, Commissions, and Committees (collectively, including Officers, "Member") shall scrupulously avoid any conflict between their own respective individual interests and the interests of ABCW in any and all actions taken by them on behalf of ABCW. Such individuals shall not use their position of leadership to give enhanced, or unfair, advantage to business relationships, to further their own personal interests or that of any related interested individual or organization.

In particular Members shall avoid transactions with ABCW in which they have a personal direct or indirect financial interest or in which they are shareholders, members, partners, officers or directors of an entity contracting with ABCW.

In the event that any such Member or a member of such person's immediate family has such a potential conflict of interest, that person shall promptly disclose the material facts of such conflict or transaction to the Board of Managers as a matter of record.

When any such conflict of interest becomes relevant to any subject requiring action by the Board of Managers or any of its Commissions or Committees, such Member having a conflict shall not vote on the subject with respect to which the conflict of interest exists, shall not attempt to influence the vote of any other Member, and shall not be counted in determining the quorum for dealing with such subject. A Member who is excluded from voting because of such conflict of interest shall briefly state the nature of the conflict and answer pertinent questions of other Members when such Member's knowledge of the subject will assist the Board, Commission, or Committee.

After such disclosure is made and the Board, Commission, or committee has had the opportunity to ask pertinent questions, a vote should be taken with the action carried by a majority of disinterested Members, who must constitute a quorum. Minutes of the meeting shall reflect that such disclosure has been made, that such Member abstained from voting and that the Member was not counted in determining the quorum for addressing such subject.

PURPOSE: The purpose of this conflict of interest policy is to protect ABCW's interest when it is contemplating entering into a transaction or arrangement that might benefit the private interest of an individual in a decision-making capacity within ABCW. This policy is intended to supplement but not replace state laws governing conflicts of interest applicable to ABCW.

Printed Name:_____

Signature:_____ Date:_____

ABC WISCONSIN – BACKGROUND CHECK RELEASE FORM

Serving on the Board of Managers for ABC Wisconsin (ABC/WI) is an honor and a responsibility, as outlined in the Bylaws. The ABC/WI Board of Managers, exercising due diligence in performing legal and fiduciary responsibilities, will conduct a background check for all persons the nominating committee places onto the Slate of Board nominees for election. This background check will be conducted with any law enforcement agency or judicial agency considered appropriate. The Board also reserves the right to conduct a "recheck" at the start of each subsequent term for Board members serving a second sequential term.

The information obtained in this check will be held in confidence. The Regional Executive Minister (REM) will review the report. Should the REM have any concerns from the report, those concerns will be shared with the nominee and Personnel Committee of the Board as appropriate.

Please note that written permission and release is required by the law enforcement agencies before any information is shared. Please complete, sign, and return this form after reviewing this information.

Legal Last Name					
Legal First Name					
Middle Name		Aliases			
Current Street Address					
City		State		Zip Code	
Email Address					
Primary Phone #		Alternate Phone #			
Birthplace (City/State/Country)					
Birthdate (mm/dd/yyyy)		Social Security #			
Driver's License #		State		Exp. Date	

Have you ever been convicted of a felony? Yes or No

Explanation, if Yes:

All information herein is accurate to the best of my knowledge. By signing below, I give consent for a background check to be conducted by ABC Wisconsin.

Signature _____ Date _____