

PRESS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

MINISTERS COUNCIL ADOPTS NEW STRUCTURE FOR MISSION, ELECTS NEW LEADERSHIP

Contact:

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West Chester, PA, 11/21/18 -- Two dozen Representatives and members of the Board of Governors met November 12-14 in Philadelphia, PA, at the Annual Meeting of the Ministers Council ABCUSA.

Representatives received reports about local chapters' activities, the renewed emphasis on "Together in Ministry" Covenant Groups, MC Live Webinars and financial reports signalling a stabilizing foundation for sustainable mission.

They approved By Laws changes that will return the Council to its original largely voluntary leadership mode, with each Officer of the national Leadership Team assuming oversight of an area of responsibility.

Beginning January 2019 the following Officers will serve as the Leadership Team (formerly the Board of Governors):

- Darla Turlington – one year as President, overseeing the national office and staff
- Randolph Miller - one year as Vice President, overseeing national representation at denominational and regional activities (then becoming President for 2 years),
- Shane Kinnison - Treasurer, overseeing finances and fundraising
- Cheryl Harris – Secretary, overseeing communications
- Atula Jamir – Coordinator of Chapter Representatives Team
- Dan Hopkins – Coordinator of Together In Ministry Program
- Jacki Belile – Coordinator of Membership and Chapter Development
- Patricia Hernandez (ex officio) – American Baptist Women in Ministry

Attendees also approved a move from annual to biennial meetings, with decisions yet to be made on whether the Biennial would fall on even or odd numbered years and reallocation uses of money saved by eliminating this meeting. Those, and other decisions, will be discussed in the coming months and decided at the 2019 Meeting, Wednesday, June 19, at Virginia Beach, VA, preceding the ABCUSA Mission Summit.

The Board presented a balanced budget for 2019, made possible because of staff and office changes, and announced two streams of financial support for Together In Ministry groups. Inquiries about support for existing or new collegial groups should be directed to Rev. Dan Hopkins at missionsdan@hotmail.com.

"The Ministers Council is committed to fiscal responsibility and renewed focus on local chapters and activities, while maintaining enough of a national presence to be engaged in advocacy for ministerial leaders," says President DeeDee Turlington. "We invite you to be part of these significant changes and priorities by beginning or renewing your membership, initiating a TIM group with colleagues, donating to Ministers Council on Giving Tuesday November 27th, and following us via newsletters and Face Book."

Find out more about all of these opportunities on our website, www.ministerscouncil.com.

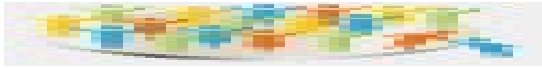


On Tuesday, November 27 the Ministers Council is joining in the international day of nonprofit giving known as "Giving Tuesday." You will receive special Giving Tuesday invitations via email.

Collegiality. Centeredness. Competence. These are the guiding lights of the Ministers Council of the American Baptist Church. Please consider making a gift to the National Ministers Councils Annual Fund to help these values become lived out through your colleagues.

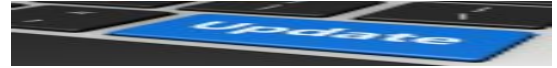
You can conveniently give via PayPal [here](#).

Reminders



Membership Renewals:

Dues are now being received for 2019 membership. You can submit your renewal by accessing ministerscouncil.com and selecting the “join here” option.



Chapter Updates:

Please remember to **inform** the national office of all updates/changes to Chapter officers and addresses.



How to reach us:

- By phone: (610)314-7837
- By email: info@ministerscouncil.com
- Address: 221 S. High Street, West Chester, PA 19382
- We can generally be reached in the office on Tuesdays and Thursdays (emails and voicemails will be responded to during this time)



Stay connected

- Visit us at www.ministerscouncil.com
- Join us on **Facebook**
- Consider signing up for our monthly newsletter by selecting "subscribe" on the home page of the website

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