

Special Edition of News & Views—May 2020

ABW President's Report

Greetings Ladies of ABW Michigan. I hope all of you are doing well and enjoying this spring season. I also hope all of you are safe and healthy and taking precautions regarding the Coronavirus. Please be vigilant about keeping you and your family protected.

I hope you had a peaceful Easter and a wonderful Mother's Day.

At my home church, First Baptist Church of Detroit, we have suspended in-person worship services and meetings until further notice. The worship service on Sunday which consisted of Rejoice Singers and Pastor Turman's sermon, was streamed lived on Facebook and the church's website. I felt odd not getting appropriately dressed and driving to church. This has now become the new normal.

I hope any church who participated in Baptist Women's World Day of Prayer on Monday, November 5, 2019 had a successful event. I celebrated with the Metropolitan Detroit Association American Baptist Women and the Michigan Progressive Baptist Convention Women's Division.

Thank you for participating in the turkey fundraiser for Friendship House. Also, please continue to contribute to the teepee campaign for Camp Lael. The giving campaign for 2020 is supporting the people of Puerto Rico who were affected by an earthquake. You can read more information about the giving campaigns in the Secretary/Treasurer report.

I want to give a shout out to Immanuel Baptist Church in Ypsilanti Township. I was the guest speaker for their celebration of American Baptist Women on Sunday, February 23. My husband and I truly enjoyed the experience.

We have one new opening on our Region Executive Committee. The position of Coordinator of Publicity is open. Prudy Bannick has resigned from the position. We wish Prudy all the best and thank her for her years of service to ABW-MI. Please let me know if you would like to be considered for this position.

Rev. Sheree Clark has resigned her position as Chaplain. Sheree has a very busy schedule with completing her master's thesis and the requirements for candidates to complete for ordination in ABC-USA. Rev. Robyn Moore, pastor of First Baptist Institutional Church has been appointed the new Chaplain for ABW-MI. Please join me in welcoming Robyn to her new position.

We still have openings on the Region Executive Committee for Coordinator of Missions with Women and Girls, Coordinator of Young Adult Women and Coordinator of AB Girls. Please let me know if you are interested or know someone whom you think would be excellent for any position.

Our June conference/retreat has been canceled for 2020. We will have the conference/retreat in 2021. Stay tuned for more information.

I have been involved with the National American Baptist Women via conference calls for board meetings. I ask that you consider becoming a Vital Partner for National by giving regularly to National Support of American Baptist Women's Ministries. For more information visit the American Baptist Women's Ministries webpage at abwomensministries.org.

I would like to continue to spend time getting to know who you are so please feel free to invite me to ABW activities in your area and at your churches. Please call or text me at 248.808.4133. You may also email me at blgct2008@gmail.com. I want to hear what you think the future holds for ABW Michigan. As I near the completion of my first year as president I look forward to what the next two years have in store. I know they will be filled with excitement, expectations, and joy. I also know that with God all things are possible. We are in this journey together.

May God richly bless all of you.

Brenda Threatt, ABW President



Conference Statement

The conditions and implications of the Covid-19 Virus has brought considerable concern to people all over the nation and that includes the American Baptist Women of Michigan. Being mindful of the safety of all and complying with the state and CDC guidelines, we the American Baptist Churches Women's Conference Committee have decided to cancel the 2020 Conference previously scheduled for June 5-7, 2020. It is our plan to reconvene in late August of this year, with reviewing strategies to move forward with planning the 2021 Conference.



Additionally, we generally request donations to missions and scholarships during our conference. Please join the AB Women who are striving to be a continuous blessing in these areas of ministry. We ask that you still send your prospective donations to the regional office or treasurer so that the work in these areas may go forward. If you have any questions or concerns, please reach out to the ABW 2020 Chairperson, Rev. Dr. Robyn Moore at 248-252-7678 or at pastorFBIC@yahoo.com. As always, stay home and stay safe!

May God Bless you and Keep You!

Pastor Robyn D. Moore, Chairperson of 2020/21 Conference

A Note from Your Woman of the Year

Thank you so much for the honor of being Woman of the Year for our Michigan American Baptist Women. As I thought about our Annual conference, and the likelihood that it might be canceled, I thought about the fact that this is where we come together and often complete our commitments to our mission goals. So once I heard that we would indeed cancel our conference I immediately thought of our mission goals, our mission projects, our scholarship women and thought I would make this plea.



Please prayerfully consider the donations you would have made at DeWitt, and of the money you are not spending to go to conference, and if you are so blessed please send in your donations for our missionaries, our mission project, our region project, our scholarship fund and for our ABWM in general!

I know there are many demands of our personal money, we ourselves have contributed to several food banks in our area, as I am sure you have also. But please consider that as we are blessed we are called to bless others. The ABWM is a small but mighty group of blessed women, so let's put it together and meet or even exceed our goals!

Thank you for prayerfully considering this request.

Stay healthy, Stay safe.

Love and Peace to all,

Carolyn Grapentine

2019 Women of the Year

Send your donations to your area treasurer or to

Laurel Reed, 624 Narrow Way, Clarklake, MI 49234

Scholarship Report

Scholarship recipient and a member of “Silly & Sass” Sheree Gidcomb Clark will graduate with her Master of Divinity this summer. Congratulations!

Because there will be no conference this year, the ABW Board approved the following scholarship amounts of \$700 for four recipients.

We have renewed the awards for our other three current scholarship recipients: Miranda Brooks of Crosspointe Meadows Church in Novi, Trinity Scott of Galilee Baptist Church in Kalamazoo, and Luisa Tittle of First Baptist Church of Ypsilanti.

We have one new recipient: Rachel Good. She is the daughter of American Baptist missionaries Jon and Amanda Good, in Hungary. She considers her home church to be Covenant Baptist Church in West Bloomfield. She intends to begin her undergraduate work at University of Debrecen in Hungary.

Upon receiving notice of her scholarship award, Rachel sent this note: “Thank you so much for this scholarship! It is an answer to my prayers about God's plan for my life. I believe that through this he is opening doors for me and my mission here. I am so honored to be chosen to receive this gift. It is a great blessing to me!”

Here is a photo of Rachel visiting a castle in Hungary, and below the article is a link to a video that she created recently as well. (You may need to download this document by holding the control button while you click on the link to download. It takes several minutes and is only available until June 1, 2020. Word file also sent with link.)

Even though we are not meeting at conference this year, we still need to fund our scholarship recipients, and I ask everyone to please consider designating some money for these recipients. Information on how to pay is elsewhere in this newsletter.

Thank you.

Lori Zupan



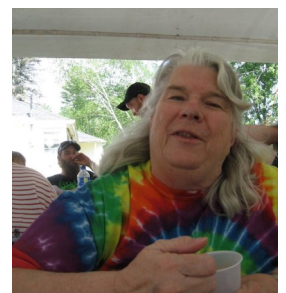
Click to Download
Rachel Good.mp4
454.6 MB

Coordinator of Publicity

Prudy Bannick has resigned the position of Coordinator of Publicity. We thank her for her years of service to ABW and as Coordinator of Publicity.

If anyone is interested in taking over this position, please contact Brenda Threath at 248-808-4133.

Duties for this position are outlined in the Secretary/Treasurer's Report in this newsletter.



Coordinator of Women & Girls Mission Fund

ABC-MI Region Transitional Pastor Leadership Group (MLG) and
American Baptist Women MI. Zoom Internet Technician (I.T.)

Dr. Vanessa E.P. Gkant, P. O. Box 3755, Southfield, MI 48037-3755
dr.ghant@gmail.com 248-470-6348



The transitional Pastor Ministry Leadership Group meetings are Zoom meetings. All of our Zoom meetings are held in Lansing in our region office on the mentioned below dates. The non-Zoom members and Zoom members we meet the first Friday monthly at 10 a.m. Our 2020, Zoom meeting dates are April 3rd, May 1st and June 5th, Aug. 7th. Once our Lansing office, forward us an email a Zoom link will be forward.

Currently our Zoom technicians are working on plans to support the various Out-Reach Ministries in our region.

Due to the technical skills many of our youth, young women, and seniors has access to a Zoom link. if you do not have access and you have an interest. Please contact me and I will advise to you the downloading process from the internet. For further Zoom info. Drop me an email at dr.ghant@gmail.com. Please keep in mind. There are several technical links available. I plan to write some Zoom guidelines soon.

Submitted by, Dr. Vanessa E.P. Gkant

Convent Baptist Church, 5800 West Maple Road 248.855.9191 West Bloomfield, Mi 48322

ATTENTION

PLEASE take a minute and look through your directory.

If you should find any changes or corrections, **PLEASE** contact me right away by mail at 624 Narrow Way, Clarklake, MI 49234-9300 or email lreed4624@comcast.net. The deadline for changes is July 15, 2020.

Thanks,

Laurel Reed, Editor

DIRECTORY CHANGE

Church Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____

Zip: _____ Phone: _____

Cell: _____

Email: _____

Contact Name: _____

Mailing Address If Different:

Special Edition of News & Views – May 2020

Secretary/Treasurer's Report

Best wishes and good health to one and all.

We are publishing this special edition to notify are our ABW sisters about the current state of affairs.

Our annual conference/retreat originally scheduled for June 5-7, 2020 has been cancelled. The 2021 date will be June 4-6. There are no other weekends available in May, June or July.

Even though we cannot meet due to COVID-19, we still would like to give you the opportunity to support our various concerns for which we usually take offerings at conference. Those offerings are for women's scholarships, general conference, women & girls fund and special interest missionaries.

The special missions project for 2019-2020 was for Camp Lael to replace their tipi. Our goal was \$2500. At present we are nowhere near meeting that goal.

The special missions project for 2020-2021 is a \$2500 goal for Puerto Rico Hurricane Relief.

We also usually get renewals for News & Views subscriptions at conference. **The new publication months will be August, November, February & May starting with the next issue.**

Here are several ways you can make your offerings and/or renew your subscriptions:

By mail: Send one check for the total amount you plan to give. Include the form enclosed to indicate which offerings you'd like them allocated to along with your subscription renewal form for News & Views if applicable. **Mail to Laurel Reed, AB Women's Ministries, 624 Narrow Way, Clarklake, MI 49234.**

On-line three ways: With all of these ways, please e-mail a picture or a scan of the forms to **ABWMSEC@gmail.com** so that we know how the funds are to be allocated.

- a. To pay on **Venmo**: Search for @Laurel-Reed-5 to make your payment. The funds will be transferred to the ABWM-MI account at no additional charge.
- b. **Zelle Pay** to abwmsec@gmail.com.
- c. To pay on **PayPal**: Search for paypal.me/ABWMMI or go to PayPal website and indicate you want to pay abwmsec@gmail.com. Choose option to pay friends or family since we aren't producing any goods. PayPal will add a nominal fee for processing on both ends (Ex. To pay \$22, you will be charged \$22.97 and ABW will receive \$21.78).

The News & Views subscription forms will be forwarded to the new Coordinator of Publicity.

Our 2020 conference project was to be knitting or crocheting hats for kids or adults being treated for cancer. We will be doing this same project in 2021. I can email patterns for hats to anyone wanting to get a head start on this project.

Only virgin yarn graded 9-12 (Caron brand for example), can be used for the Cancer recipients. The reason for this is because chemo makes the skin really thin and anything but the softest yarn will cut the skin. One place that takes them is Maggie's Wigs 4 Kids of MI based out of St. Clair Shores.

Should you rather use another quality of yarn, the hats can go to other hospitals, senior centers and homeless shelters.

If there is anyone who doesn't knit or crochet, they are also accepting 48x60 knotted blankets to keep patients warm when transporting to and from chemotherapy.

Another impacted item is the Woman of the Year. The form that was on the website prior to today had the wrong street address to send the forms to which may be why Brenda hasn't received any nominations. Corrected forms are included for both 2020 and 2021. The new deadline for 2020 is September 30, 2020 and the Woman of the Year will be announced at the 2021 conference along with the 2021 Woman of the Year. The deadline for 2021 is April 15, 2021. Please send in your nominations by the two deadlines.



The following region board positions need to be filled:

Coordinator of Young Adult Women – Position Open - Duties

- Plan and set goals for programming
- Implement ways to learn what churches are doing in this area
- Provide board feedback
- Offer input for Annual Conference, Fall Fling and Area Meetings
- Attend conferences and participate in national events
- Encourage your women to participate
- Submit newsletter articles

Coordinator of AB Girls – Position Open - Duties

- Provide opportunities for girls to deepen their faith
- Develop a committee to assist in promoting AB Girls
- Provide board feedback
- Oversee planning of events
- Attend conferences and participate in national events
- Submit newsletter articles

Coordinator of Publicity – Position Open - Duties

- Publish the regular newsletter of the American Baptist Women of Michigan using all available resources not less than four times a year (Aug., Nov., Feb. & May).
- Oversee the American Baptist Women's Ministries Region website.
- Create and publicize promotional materials for the American Baptist Women's programs.
- Utilize all forms of media and technology to promote the ministry.
- Perform other duties as deemed necessary to her office.

The Coordinator of Mission with Women and Girls – Position Open - Duties

- Visualize, plan and set goals for the programmatic piece of the organization's ministries with women and girls.
- Studies issues relating to the oppression of women and girls in the U.S. and worldwide, keeping the Board informed.
- Develop ministries and encourage women and girls to:
 - Worship God.
 - Grow spiritually.
 - Develop spiritual gifts.
 - Care for one another.
 - Reach out to others.
- Determine the resources required for delivering the program (financial, human, spiritual, material resources, etc.) and work to provide them.
- Oversee the planning of events for Women and Girls.
- Offer input for Annual Conference, Fall Fling, and Area Meetings.
- Submit newsletter articles.
- Perform other duties as deemed necessary to her office.

Please contact Brenda Threatt at 248-808-4133 or contact your area president if you are interested in any of these positions.

The newly appointed board chaplain is Rev. Dr. Robyn D. Moore. We look forward to her service.

If you have any changes to the directory, please submit those as well. The deadline for directory changes is July 15, 2020. You may mail changes to Laurel Reed, AB Women's Ministries, 624 Narrow Way, Clarklake, MI 49234 or email lreed4624@comcast.net or abwmsec@gmail.com.

For those who remember Phyllis Christopherson from Olivet Baptist Church and would like to get in touch with her, here is her new contact information: Phyllis Christopherson, Vista Springs, 200 W. Edgewood Blvd, Apt. 121, Lansing, MI 48911, 518-657-4139.

Respectfully submitted by Laurel Reed

American Baptist Women's Ministries

Offering/Subscription Payment Information 2019-2020, 2020-2021

Name: _____ Phone: _____

Email: _____

Address: _____

Please only send one check and indicate how the funds should be allocated here:

News & Views Subscription(s) Aug. 2020 until May 2021 \$ _____

Women's Scholarships \$ _____

General Conference \$ _____

Women & Girls Fund \$ _____

Special Interest Missionaries \$ _____

Special Missions Projects: Goal \$2500 each

2019 Camp Lael Tipi Fund \$ _____

2020 Puerto Rico Hurricane Relief \$ _____

Other: _____ \$ _____

TOTAL: \$ _____

Payment by: _____ Check # _____ Venmo to @Laurel-Reed-5

_____ PayPal (paypal.me/ABWMMI or pay abwmsec@gmail.com)

_____ Zelle Pay to abwmsec@gmail.com

American Baptist
Women's
MINISTRIES
OF MICHIGAN

AREA REPORT FORM

FROM: _____ DATE: _____

ADDRESS: _____ AREA: _____

Please make all checks payable to ABW MINISTRIES OF MI.

Enclosed check for special funds as follows:

Region Support	\$ _____
Scholarship	\$ _____
Special Mission Project	\$ _____
Special Interest Missionaries	\$ _____
Women's & Girl Fund	\$ _____
Refit Fund	\$ _____
National Support	\$ _____
Leadership Development	\$ _____
Endowment Fund	\$ _____
.....	\$ _____
Camp Lael	\$ _____
Higher Ground at Lake Louise	\$ _____
Miscellaneous	\$ _____
.....	\$ _____
TOTAL	\$ _____

MAIL TO: Laurel Reed
624 Narrow Way
Clarklake, MI 49234-9300

Delivery via U.S. Mail 2020-2021

News & Views Renewal / Sign-Up

Subscription runs from August 2020 to May 2021

Cost \$12 (4 issues plus directory)

- ☐ Please Renew my subscription
☐ Sign Me Up
☐ I would like to give this subscription as a gift
(Given by) _____

Area: ☐ Central ☐ North ☐ MDA ☐ West

PLEASE PRINT CLEARLY

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____

Zip: _____ Cell: _____

Home Phone: _____

Church: _____

Email: _____

Please make checks payable to:

ABW Ministries, MI

Send to: Laurel Reed
624 Narrow Way
Clarklake, MI 49234-9300
abwmsec@gmail.com

U. S. MAIL

Delivery via Email 2020-2021

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(Given by) _____

Area: ☐ Central ☐ North ☐ MDA ☐ West

PLEASE PRINT CLEARLY

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____

Zip: _____ Cell: _____

Home Phone: _____

Church: _____

Email: _____

Please make checks payable to:

ABW Ministries, MI

Send to: Laurel Reed
624 Narrow Way
Clarklake, MI 49234-9300
abwmsec@gmail.com

EMAIL

American Baptist Women of Michigan 2021 Woman of the Year Award

Tell us about the woman you are nominating. You may include your response in the spaces below or write your response in a narrative which includes this information. Use as much space as you need to introduce us to your nominee. Please feel free to use the back of the form if you need more room.

Name of Nominee: _____

Church/Area: _____

How does she contribute to God's kingdom?

What has she done to further God's kingdom?

Why are you nominating this person?

Why is she worthy of this award?

Nominator Information:

Name: _____

Church/Area: _____

Phone: _____ Email: _____

Return to the region president by April 15, 2021:

**Brenda Threatt
22715 Kenwyck Dr
Southfield, MI 48034-4765**



ELIGIBLE RECIPIENTS: Any girl who is a member of an American Baptist Church in Michigan, who gives evidence of a call to follow the teachings of our Lord Jesus Christ whether in a secular position or in ministry shall be eligible. We are all called to be ministers for Jesus wherever we are.

Applicants must complete and sign this application and also provide the following additional data:

1. Letter of recommendation from your pastor.
2. Statement of Christian experience/call to ministry.
3. Brief statement of your vocational expectations and goals.

SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATION FORM

NAME _____ DATE OF BIRTH _____
(PLEASE PRINT FULL NAME - NO NICKNAMES)

HOME ADDRESS _____

PARENT'S NAMES _____ HOME PHONE _____

NAME OF HOME CHURCH _____

CHURCH ADDRESS _____ PASTOR _____

HIGH SCHOOL _____ YEAR GRADUATED _____

COLLEGE YOU ARE ENROLLED AT _____

MAJOR _____ YEAR _____

IS YOUR FAMILY ABLE TO HELP YOU FINANCIALLY? _____

IF SO, WHAT PERCENT CAN THEY PROVIDE? _____

DO YOU EXPECT TO WORK WHILE IN SCHOOL? _____

CAN AND WILL YOUR CHURCH PROVIDE FINANCIAL HELP? _____

STATE SPECIFICALLY ANY OTHER SOURCES OF INCOME AVAILABLE, SUCH AS YOUR OWN SAVINGS, OTHER SCHOLARSHIPS, ETC. _____

GIVE NAMES OF TWO (2) PEOPLE OTHER THAN FAMILY AS REFERENCES:

NAME: _____ NAME: _____

ADDRESS: _____ ADDRESS: _____

I recognize that this scholarship is a gift from the American Baptist Women's Ministries of Michigan for the purpose of helping me prepare myself for whatever God would have me do with my life. I pledge myself to sincere preparation and eagerly seeking to know and to follow His will. I understand that should God call me to serve in a Christian vocation, I will plan to serve in the American Baptist Churches, USA.

SIGNATURE OF APPLICANT

DATE

*PLEASE ENCLOSE A **NON-PROFESSIONAL PICTURE** OR A PICTURE THAT CAN BE REPRODUCED WITHOUT HAVING TO HAVE COPYRIGHT PERMISSION. IF POSSIBLE, PLEASE INCLUDE THE NEGATIVE OR EMAIL A DIGITAL VERSION TO loriz@tsshhome.com.

This application and the additional data sheets are to be **returned to the Scholarship Coordinator before the deadline, March 1.**

Mail completed information to: **Lori Zupan, 581 Canterbury Dr., Saline, MI 48176.**