American Baptist Women's Ministries

The Lamplighter

President's Corner...

Dear Sisters in Christ,

Last weekend we held the 81st Annual Colorado American Baptist Women's Conference at Calvary Baptist Church in Denver. Our speakers Nola Crooks and Rev. Sharon Buttry challenged us and blessed us with stories from their lives and ministries.

Each of us have a story uniquely crafted to our lives. Where will we go? What will we do? If we walk passionately and seek the Lord's guidance, the adventure is beyond what we can think or imagine.

We voted on a full slate of board members. I'm excited to see how our state board and committees work together this year. We have unique gifts and talents brought together at this time for this purpose. We also awarded three scholarships in the amount of $3,000.00 each for a total of $9,000.00 to be distributed from the Jane Loring Jones Scholarship funds. These girls are college sophomores who love the Lord and have clear vision and inspiration for their lives. I can't wait to see what they will do!

This is going to be a great year for ABWM. We have already been given the topic for next year's retreat. LOVE. Suzanne Johnston, our Personal Development Ministries Coordinator said this topic has been laid on her heart. Our world is lost and in need of true love that can only be found in the person of Jesus Christ and his saving grace and love.

Saturday, my home church of First Baptist Sterling is hosting a brunch in a local park for our women. We have invited the young ladies of our church to participate by leading in worship and with prayer and devotion. We plan to speak with them about leadership, and pledge to come alongside them with prayer and support as they face the ending of their high school years and on to college. Dr. Jamie Johnson, our Scholarship Chair will be speaking to them about the requirements for applying for the Jane Loring Jones Scholarship. And beyond that we will advise them of the Grant process, as well, for women over the age of 26 going into ministry.

Our new Executive Director of ABWM, Gina Jacobs-Strain greeted us with a video at conference. I have spoken to Gina by phone and it is her desire that all our churches nationwide begin to invite and include the young girls and college age women in our activities. I know that in my own church the women were very pleased that we will be having fellowship with the younger ladies.

And before I end this article, I must tell you that Gina Jacobs-Strain has consented to be our speaker for the 2019 State Conference. I am excited to meet her in person in July at the National Board Meeting and Conference to be held in Elgin, Illinois. It is an honor for me to serve as your State President. Where will we go and what will we do together this next year?

I am walking in blessings alongside you.

In Christ's Love,
LaRose Karr, President
970-580-4717
larosekarr@gmail.com

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Treasurer

It was an inspiring, enjoyable, and heartwarming Conference earlier this month with relevant break-out sessions and meaningful presentations from Nola Crooks and Sharon Buttry and joyful worship led by Kimberly Salico-Diehl. I always enjoy this time together with my American Baptist friends; it nourishes my soul!

Women attending the Conference were generous with their gifts to Love Gift in the total amount of $238.54. We also contributed $790.00 to be allocated among National Support, Women & Girls Mission Fund, State Support, Buttry IM Peace Ministries, the new State Project to assist women in Puerto Rico, and White Cross. Those gifts are forwarded to the appropriate agency in the proportions each woman designates on her offering envelope at Conference.

Remember that Love Gift's fiscal year is the calendar year, in contrast to the ABWM of Colorado fiscal year which is from June 1 of each year to May 31 of the following year. Your group or church can contribute to Love Gift by sending funds directly to American Baptist Churches of the Rocky Mountains (rather than to me as Treasurer of ABWM of Colorado).

Except for Love Gift, contributions to ABWM programs (such as Women & Girls Mission Fund, the 2018-19 State Project to assist women's ministries in Puerto Rico, National Support, and State Support) should be made payable to **American Baptist Women's Ministries of Colorado** (or some abbreviated version thereof) and mailed to me.

If you have any questions about this, feel contact me. I truly welcome calls at work 303-708-1300 x 206 any weekday from about 12 noon to about 6PM. Or you can usually reach me at home during the weekend at 303-688-3443, or email me if that's more convenient.

Thanks for all you do to support ABWM.

Sharon Murphy
P. O. Box 866
Castle Rock, CO 80104
Murphy@SMurphyLaw.com

2017-18 Colorado AB Women's Ministries State Board

Scholarship

Greetings Sisters in the name of Jesus

This is a new chapter in the lives of our Jane Loring Jones scholarship recipients. As they return to college to complete their program, let us pray God's favor and blessing upon them. The scholarship committee awarded three Jane Loring Jones scholarships for the 2018-2019 school year totaling $9,000 ($3,000 for each recipient). Our 2018-2019 recipients are:

Angela Farley is a member of Faith Community Baptist Church in Denver, Colorado. She is attending Savannah State University, Savannah, GA. Angela is majoring in Mass Communication with a major in Journalism and a minor in Africana Studies.

Jennifer Lee is a member of Loveland Korean Church in Loveland, Colorado. She is attending Colorado State University, Fort Collins, CO. Jennifer is majoring in Biology.

Marissa Murdock is a member of New Hope Baptist Church in Denver, CO. She is attending Baylor University, Waco, TX. Marissa is majoring in Mass Communication Specialist with a minor in Public Relations.

Ladies let's give God all the praise and glory for being able to offer scholarships to women who desire to further their education and use their education to make positive changes in their chosen career..

Dr. Jamie D. Johnson
7661 E. Oxford Ave., Denver CO
jdjohn80014@yahoo.com
C 720-879-2700

"A GARDEN GALA" FUNDRAISER

Come to a wonderful dinner being served outside in the Courtyard of Gardens of Divine Hope. This is a Fundraiser for the church and will include dinner, music with Guitar and Saxophone, a fashion show presented and modeled by Lanell Designs. Barbara Pendleton, a member of Gardens of Divine Hope Church, will present her beautiful clothing line while you enjoy the music and food. There will be prizes and gifts.

We will be sitting around the Courtyard enjoying the flowers and scents of the Season. The event will take place at 1955 East Arizona Avenue in the beautiful Washington Park area of Denver, Colorado. The date is August 25th, 2018, Saturday and the time is from 6:00 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. Tickets are being sold in advance, $20.00 for Adults and $10.00 for Children. Contact Rev. Karen Schneider at reverendkarenwschneider@yahoo.com or call her at 720-308-8418. A PayPal account is also set up on Facebook for the event if you want to pay on line. Look for the "Garden Gala" event.

The monies will be going not only to the church but also to assist in our 15 Community Gardens.

Anybody can come, everyone is welcome, so bring friends and relatives.

Blessings, Pastor Karen Wray Schneider
720-308-8418

Date: August 25th, 2018
Day: Saturday Evening
Time: 6:00 p.m. to 8:30 p.m.

Gardens of Divine Hope Church
2833 South Colorado Blvd.
Denver, Colorado. 80222

Also, we will take Credit Cards for this event.

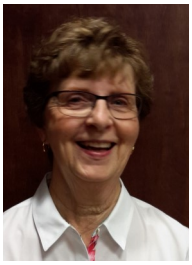
Check it out

Have you wondered what you can do to start or revive a ministry in your church? The book "Connecting Women" by Linda Lewsniewski has "how to get started" suggestions, web sites to get help, support and much more.

SCHOLARSHIP GIRLS

JANE LORING JONES

Love Gift



What a wonderful time of fellowship and learning we experienced at the annual conference. Aleta Purcell had us literally "bound together" as she dedicated our Love Gift offerings. As the new Love Gift chair, I find myself reflecting over the past 85 years of faithful support from American Baptist women putting coins and dollars into Love Gift boxes to support ministry and mission in the U.S. and around the world. The first Love Gift boxes were called Silver Boxes, illustrating that beneath every cloud there exists a silver lining. Therefore, we have silver boxes (and purple ones too) available for your coins and dollars to represent a special blessing in your life, of which we have so many! Coins add up to make many dollars! Keep your box on your kitchen counter or dresser and fill it with coins and dollars to express your thankfulness to God.

It has been suggested that these boxes be given out at every women's ministry event or meeting in your church or region. Or, to make Love Gift a church-wide offering, a large jar could be placed in the back of the church for "Pennies from Heaven for Love Gift" explaining the over and above blessing giving.

Even if your church does not have organized women's ministries, you can still participate in Love Gift. Let me know if you need boxes. I would be happy to send some to you. After 85 years, the work of Love Gift remains unfinished.

Margene Hamilton, Love Gift Chair
2669 S. Johnson Cir.
Lakewood, CO 80227
wemhamil@yahoo.com

Love Gift activity

Rev. Sharon Buttry

Mission and Service

I thoroughly enjoyed the American Baptist Women Ministries State Conference on June 8th and 9th.

I want to thank all of the women who brought items for the "Blessing" bags. We filled about fifty bags and each woman took at least two bags with her to be given to a person who is currently without a home. This can be done by giving one to a person on the street corner or giving them to a shelter to give to those who stay with them. Each person and or church can decide how they would like to disburse the bags. I pray that the "Blessing" bags will be a ministry that will continue.

Our State Project for 2018-2019 is Puerto Rico. The Baptist women of Puerto Rico have supported American Baptist Women Ministries and now they need our support. One of the ways we are going to do this is by giving some of the money for hygiene kits that would include tampons, pads, adult diapers among other things. These are items that we are easily able to buy and some of them still have difficulty doing this.

Our goal is $2,000 It is a goal that I know we can reach. I also know the women in Puerto Rico will appreciate our gift of financial assistance.

Becky Worford
8644 East Dartmouth Avenue
Denver, Colorado 80231
(303) 751-8823
beckygene@comcast.net

INVITATION

Betty Moseley will be turning 90 in July
and we will be having a party to celebrate this milestone.

We'd love for all her Colorado ABWM friends to come help us celebrate!
Hosted by her children – Bill and Jami Moseley, Terry and Tom Myers.
Please contact me by Messenger or my email if you have any questions!

Thank you! Terry
myersbulgaria@msn.com

Betty Moseley's 90th birthday party
Saturday, July 28th
Come and go between 1:00 – 4:00 p.m.
At Betty's home
2817 Wakanda Drive
Fort Collins, CO 80521

No gifts please; just a card if you like!
Come help us celebrate!
Hosted by her children –
Bill and Jami Moseley
Terry and Tom Myers

White Cross

Greetings from your White Cross chair,

If you were at ABWM conference last weekend at Calvary Baptist Church in Denver, you might have seen a slide show sent to us by International Ministries. If you would like the program to use with your church, just email me. There are 2 versions, one is longer and one has been edited, with fewer pictures. There is a script for the shorter version, which I will also share.

I gave the association chairs a packet of materials and will be working on the requests soon. The requests will be very similar to last years', sending again to Stewart Community Baptist Church in Carson City, Nevada. Please remember to include all church members and friends in helping to reach our Overland and Overseas goals. IM has suggested a state Overseas goal of $3300. Your State Board has suggested that the amount be divided between Tom & Terry Myers in Bulgaria and "Mama" Kehomi in Haiti.

Questions? I will try to answer.....send me an email.

Blessings,
Fran Lambert
lambdf@comcast.net
970-294-4294

New International Ministries address:

International Ministries
1003 W. 9th Ave., Ste A
King of Prussia
PA 19406-1210

A Message from Our National Western Coordinator

My son Rick asked me recently what I was up to, My answer was "well Sandy asked me to write a Blog. I said yes of course because I don't know how to say no. So first I need to find out what a Blog is." He is used to that answer so he laughed, " It is wonderful at my age to learn new things. He gave a program on Human Trafficking recently and was surprised to learn I knew something about that too. It is amazing what you learn in Women's Ministries isn't it?

My project is *John 20:1-18.*. It's the story of Christ Resurrection. Put yourself in Mary Magdalene's shoes for a moment. She goes to the tomb to pray and finds the tomb empty . Thinking the body of Jesus had been stolen she runs to tell someone and finds Peter and the other disciples. They don't believe her. How many times have you, especially when you were a child, had people not believe you. It's very disheartening. It took Jesus several times to convince them himself. It took Jesus three times to convince Thomas it really was him. (That's where the words "Doubting Thomas" came from, I think).

Jesus said "*Peace be with you . As the father has sent me, even so I send you*: *Receive the Holy Spirit. If you forgive the sins of any, they are forgiven. "* That's pretty powerful.

I volunteered at the hospital for about 20 years. ." One day I met a new volunteer and the first thing she said to me was "I understand you are a Christian and I just want you to know that I have done some really bad things in my life and I know God won't forgive me" I looked at her and was stunned. First I didn't know I had that reputation and second that she was so adamant that God wouldn't forgive her. Was she testing me? What was going on? So I looked at her and said Jesus forgave you when he died on the cross. "Oh, not me." she said. "I have done some really bad things." It doesn't matter how bad you have been, God forgives you. All you need to do is ask him. After that we had customers coming in and didn't have time to talk. Unfortunately I never saw her again. I have prayed for her often and wondered how she was. Sometimes we can't convince others that God forgives. We just need to pray for them.

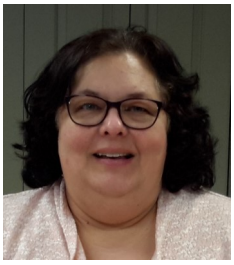
My Pastor spoke of how important it is to remember those "quiet" ones. The ones who stay at home a lot, don't get involved in anything and don't talk to many. I thought of my sister Judy. Some of you may know that she went to be with Jesus in December. Someone told me once if someone sneezed around Judy she would send them a "Get Well" card. How cool is that. If you know someone who is a "quiet one" send them a "Thinking of you" card or give them a phone call. Judy will look down on you and smile.

"Peace be with you"
Jackie Arnold
Coordinator of the Western Section.

Hands-on Mission Projects on the National ABWM Website

We often receive questions about hands-on mission projects for women and girls; sometimes we receive information in the office about projects that we want to be able to share with you as well. To make it easier for you to find this information, we've added a new page to our website. When you go to www.abwministries.org and hold your cursor over Mission Focus, you'll see "Hands-on Projects" appear at the bottom of the menu options. Click on it to find several great ideas! Some hands-on projects may be time-constrained so bookmark the page and check back frequently.

Personal Development



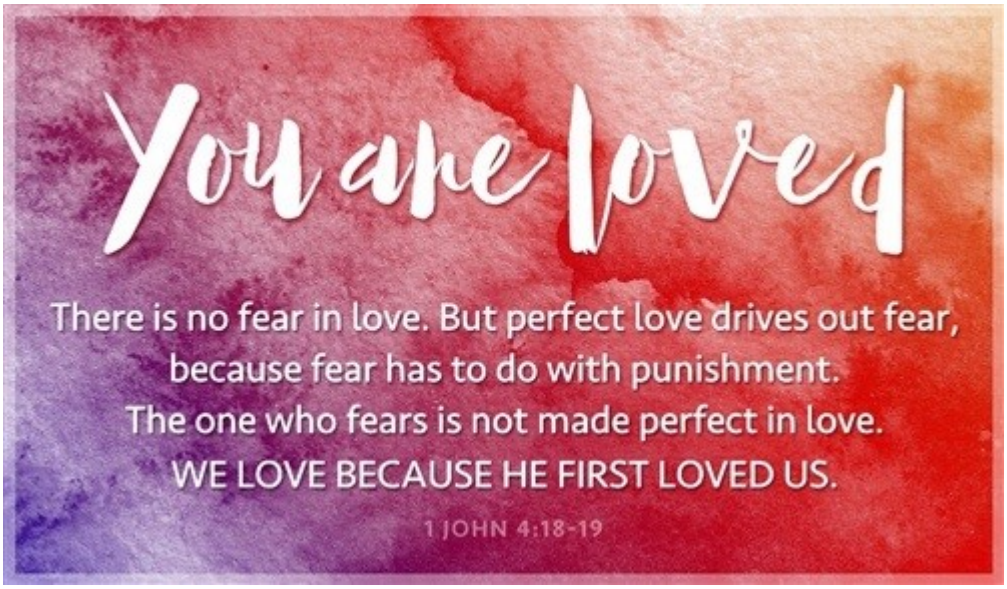
It was wonderful to see so many people again at the 2018 Conference. A verse that stuck out to me during the conference was Matthew 11:28-30 (MSG) "Are you tired? Worn out? Burned out on religion? Come to me. Get away with me and you'll recover your life. I'll show you how to take a real rest. Walk with me and work with me—watch how I do it. Learn the unforced rhythms of grace. I won't lay anything heavy or ill-fitting on you. Keep company with me and you'll learn to live freely and lightly."

Also at the end of the conference we lifted our concerns and fears to Jesus, the solution and answer to everything. I am so happy and honored to be a part of the ABWM of Colorado!

I am looking forward to planning the 2019 retreat. **Save the date of February 22 and 23, 2019!** So far our theme will be Love. As we discovered at our last retreat, there are many people out there searching for love and a place to belong, if they only knew the true love of God. We do not have a location yet for the retreat, but look for more information to come.

Thanks,

Suzanne Johnston
303-549-0397
Suzanne@Johnstonmail.com



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Check out the AB Women's Ministries Website!

Ever wonder what is going on with AB Women's Ministries? Who your national officers are? What resources might help you to plan a program or promote AB Women's Ministries?
Go exploring… See what you can find… Help someone else learn about it…

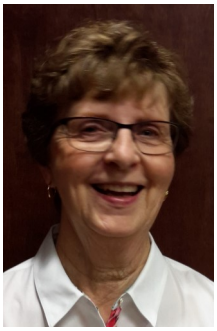
Check out the AB Women's Ministries website at
www.abwministries.org

Additional Board Members

Alice Cole

Carol Howe

Chris Oldham



Margene Hamilton

Yvonne Whisenhunt

Carol Cook

Mary Beth Mankin

Board member's pictures not available:

Connie Mion
Flora Young

Share the Lamplighter!

Do you know of someone who would like to receive their own copy of the Lamplighter? Send their name & email address to me at Yvonne.ABW@gmail.com with "Send Lamplighter" in the subject line.

Yvonne Whisenhunt, Editor

Vital Partners

Our ministry with women and girls can't happen without you!
Will you become a **vital partner** in our vital ministries?

Vital Partners are individuals or groups that give regularly ($120 or more per year) to National Support of American Baptist Women's Ministries. **Vital Partners** give monthly, quarterly, or annually, and they may also set up automated giving by direct withdrawal from their bank account or credit card. Vital Partners have a vision for the future of AB Women's Ministries and financially support our work with women and girls. Your support of national AB Women's Ministries, whether great or small, collectively makes possible great things!

"Training leaders, deepening my relationship with God and other women, and growing and expanding my gifts are part of the reasons that I love AB Women's Ministries and support Vital Partners." (Dianne from Iowa)

As a **Vital Partner** in this ministry, your support will

- **Develop** strong and exciting ministries with girls, building courageous and enthusiastic disciples of Jesus Christ.
- **Build** a ministry dedicated to growing leadership skills in women, so they can create, plan, and implement ministry visions.
- ***Empower*** American Baptist Women's Ministries to reach new heights in envisioning programs, producing resources for your ministries, and expanding ministries for young adult women.
- ***Ensure*** the future of American Baptist Women's Ministries; today's funding reaches tomorrow's leaders!

"Anything we can do to strengthen AB Women's Ministries is important.
Our gifts will impact the next generation!"
(Jan from South Dakota)

Vital Partners Yearly Giving Levels

Inspired by our mission statement, "AB Women's Ministries is a Christ-centered ministry with a commitment to encourage and empower women and girls to serve God," AB Women's Ministries recognizes these Vital Partner yearly giving levels:

$120 - $499	Sustaining Partner
$500 - $999	Encouraging Partner
$1000+	Empowering Partner

Become A Vital Partner

To make a gift by credit card, click here to give a one-time gift from your credit card (Visa, MasterCard, American Express, or Discover).

Give Online

To make a gift by paper check, please mail it with your completed Vital Partners Pledge Form to: AB Women's Ministries, PO Box 851, Valley Forge, PA 19482. A receipt will be sent to you by email or regular mail. Please provide your email address.

To give monthly or quarterly automatically from your bank account, please complete the "Automated Giving Plan" on the Vital Partners Pledge Form and mail it to: AB Women's Ministries, PO Box 851, Valley Forge, PA 19482.
A receipt will be sent to you by email or regular mail. Please provide your email address.