“I love to tell the story” is a hymn familiar to and beloved by many. At the American Baptist Historical Society, we love to tell the story, too. Baptist ministry is predicated on the belief that the story of God’s love did not end with Jesus, but continued throughout history. The story of God’s love continues today, and into the future. The mission of ABHS is to care for documentation of the story so it may continue to be told. Here are some of the ways that the American Baptist Historical Society helped people tell the ongoing story of God’s love in the past year:

• In 2017 we hosted 36 researchers telling the stories of Evan Jones, a missionary to the Cherokee people in the early 19th century; the earliest Baptist missionaries to the Lahu people of Myanmar and ownership of property held by Baptist entities prior to the military takeover in the 1950s; and the yellow-fever epidemic in 1770s Philadelphia, among others.

• We responded to 25 research-by-mail requests from people wanting to tell the stories of Ricardo Cifre, missionary in Spain; the Mather School in South Carolina; ABHMS funding of an 1885 church building in Burnet TX; and Soshin School in Japan and its founder, Charlotte Brown.

• We developed an electronic resource for congregations to help them keep and tell their own stories.

• The ABHS display at the ABC/USA Biennial Mission Summit in Portland and the ABHS fall lecture event told the story of ministry among Japanese-Americans interned during World War II and challenged attendees to prevent such injustice from happening again.

• We are working with our ABC/USA partners to assist them in keeping records of their ministries, across the country and around the world.

Dozens of people support ABHS in its story-keeping and story-telling mission. In this issue of Primary Source, we have the privilege of expressing our boundless appreciation for those who have contributed financially in the past year.

But our gratitude does not stop there. We are thankful for donors of materials documenting Baptist stories. Donations to the archives expand and deepen resources available to those researching, writing and telling the story.

Contributors to the At Your Fingertips campaign support our digitization project. In order to make more of the ABHS collections accessible to people at a distance, and to preserve contemporary electronic documents, ABHS initiated the At Your Fingertips campaign in 2014. We are nearing our campaign goal of $550,000, and appreciate every dollar given.

Thank you for helping tell the story!
Louise Cecelia Fleming (1862-1899) was the first black woman appointed to the mission field by the Women’s American Baptist Foreign Mission Society and the first female medical missionary ever sent by Baptists. She served as a missionary to Congo from 1886 until 1899.

Fleming was born into slavery in January 1862 in Hibernia, Florida. Her father left to fight with the Union Army; Lulu would never see him again. Her mother saw her through her early education.

Fleming was converted at a revival in 1876 and would later reflect, “I was a missionary like Andrew of old from the day I found the Lord.” This zeal for the Lord shone through her as a school teacher in St. Augustine, Florida where a

Dr. Kellsey, pastor of the Sixth Avenue Church in Brooklyn, New York, was so impressed by her teaching of a Sunday school lesson that he offered to help her attend college. A group of women from Kellsey’s church supported Fleming’s studies at Shaw University in Raleigh, North Carolina. She graduated as class valedictorian in 1885 from the “Estey Seminary Course.”

In 1886, the Women’s Baptist Foreign Missionary Society invited her to be their first representative to the Congo. She accepted the call and set sail on March 17, 1887, arriving at Palabala, Congo, on May 23, 1887. There, she served as a teacher and worked with girls on the mission station. Hard times, however, befell Fleming as illness required her to return to the U.S. in 1891. Fleming would use her time in the U.S. to devote herself to medical studies at the Women’s Medical College in Philadelphia. She remained in the U.S. until 1895 when Grace Baptist Church of Philadelphia supported her return to Congo. During her second term, she served at Irebo as a medical missionary and then at Bolengi, where she married the Rev. James, however, little is known about their marriage.

Her missionary journey and life were cut short as she was struck with African “sleeping sickness.” Lulu Fleming died on June 20, 1899 at the Samaritan Hospital in Philadelphia. Dr. Fleming’s legacy is one of compassion and endurance. She continuously testified to Jesus Christ despite her humble origins and many obstacles. Her story and legacy tell us regardless of background or station in life, one can freely respond to God’s calling. Fleming’s story is preserved at ABHS where we bring our legacy to light.
Annual Fund Donors
Thank you to these supporters of the Historical Society, whose generosity enables us to continue our ministry.

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** indicates 2017 member of ABHS Board of Managers
From the Archives

Highlights of 2017 Collections Donations

Kathleen Worley donated items that had belonged to her grandmother, Prudence Worley, who, with her husband, Robert, went to China as a missionary in 1903. The photo album donated by Kathleen Worley is unique due to the extensive notes included. Photographs with good documentation are invaluable to researchers of all kinds.

Neil Sowards added to the collection for his mother, Genevieve Sharp Sowards. The 2017 addition includes many scripture tracts, including some from India, Burma and Japan.

Elsa Rapp donated this small photograph album from Old Oak Farm (NY City Mission Society).

Kathleen Worley donated items that had belonged to her grandmother, Prudence Worley, who, with her husband, Robert, went to China as a missionary in 1903. The photo album donated by Kathleen Worley is unique due to the extensive notes included. Photographs with good documentation are invaluable to researchers of all kinds.

Post this page on your church’s bulletin board. When you use information from “From the Archives” remember to give credit to the American Baptist Historical Society.
At Your Fingertips Donors

We are grateful to these supporters, whose contributions will help us to preserve digital archives and put them At Your Fingertips!

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List shows cumulative totals for this multi-year campaign.

^ indicates donors who contributed in 2017.

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Thank you, donors to ABHS collections!

Documentation of ministry takes many forms. Some are meeting minutes, membership registers, or financial records. Other materials are more personal, like photos and letters. All provide pieces of the story of Baptist ministry and mission, and the variety of ways that God continues to work in the world.

We appreciate those who donated materials last year.

Donors of Materials pertaining to Institutional work
Susan Elmore (Chapel Car Grace)
Margaret L Prine (ABC Presidential papers)
Elsa M. E. Rapp (Old Oak Farm)
Terra Heights Baptist Church, Topeka, KS
Carol Thompson (Baptist Missionary Training School)

Donors of personal papers
Paul Bailey (Ward & Bertha Bailey)
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Robert Hudson (autographs)
Keiko Rich (Mark Rich papers)
Neil Sowards (Genevieve Sharp Sowards)
Robert Tiller
Kathleen Worley (Prudence Worley)
Katherine Zartman (Alice Ford Harper)

Church Anniversaries

January – March

We celebrate the faithful ministry of American Baptist Congregations and their pastors! The following churches and pastors recently marked anniversaries:

200 years
Third Baptist Church, Center Strafford, NH, Rev. Harold L. Muzzey, Jr. Pastor

150 Years
First Baptist Church, Vermillion, SD, Rev. Elmer “Sandy” Aakre, pastor

100 Years
Flagler Baptist Church, Flagler, CO, L. Mark De Wett, pastor
Queen Anne Baptist Church, Seattle, WA, Rev. Mindi Welton-Mitchell, pastor

75 Years
New Hope Institutional Baptist Church, Tarrytown-on-Hudson, NY, Rev. Dr. John H. Gilmore, pastor

25 Years
Eglise Baptiste de la Nouvelle Naissance, Spring Valley, NY, Rev. Philippe W. Antoine, pastor

If your church is celebrating a significant anniversary, request a certificate from ABHS.

Research Snapshot

Bill Montgomery, from Austin (TX) Community College, was searching for information about St. John’s Association, an African-American association formed in 1867. In the early 20th century the Association founded a training center and orphanage. “Possibly the first community college in the area,” he called it, since the property is now part of Austin Community College. Montgomery is developing an exhibit showing the history of the property and how it has been used to “uplift the community.”

Bulletin inserts available:
ABHS offers bulletin inserts for Black history month (February), women’s history month (March), and Baptist heritage Sunday (May 6). Download these resources from our website, ABHSarchives.org/for-churches/.
Gifts in Memory of:

Jack Allen
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Mrs. Phyllis Mild Belles
Marvin and Edwina Mitchell
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Dr. Malcolm G. Shotwell
Arthur G. Thomas
Harriet Lawrence
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Carol Thompson
Harold L. Twiss
Mrs. Phyllis W. Twiss Jr.

We Love Our Volunteers!

Many thanks to those who gave of their time and energy. The various tasks accomplished further the mission of ABHS.

Garth Brokaw
Paul Reeder
Bob Dinwiddie
Deborah Van Broekhoven
Mitch Homma
Harold Van Broekhoven

If you have time to volunteer at ABHS, contact us. Whether a few days per year, or several days each month, we can use your support of Baptist history!

American Baptist Quarterly

Call for Papers

ABQ is the peer-reviewed journal of the American Baptist Historical Society. Both established and emerging scholars are invited to submit papers written from original research. Articles and essays should be between 6,000 and 10,000 words. If you are interested in submitting a paper for one of the upcoming issues, please contact the editors Curtis Freeman (CFreeman@div.duke.edu) and Laura Levens (Laura.Levens@bsk.edu) as soon as possible.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Upcoming Themes</th>
<th>Submission deadline</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Baptists and the Holocaust; papers on related themes of Christian theology and Israel, Anti-Semitism, Supercessionism, etc. are welcome.</td>
<td>June 1, 2018</td>
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<td>The Legacy of Martin Luther King, Jr.</td>
<td>Sept. 1, 2018</td>
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<tr>
<td>Reception of Evangelical Mission in India</td>
<td>Dec. 1, 2018</td>
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Join the Historical Society and Become a Time Traveler

American Baptist Historical Society membership circles are named for some of our significant Baptist forebears. Learn about these honorees in this and upcoming issues of Primary Source.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Membership Circles (Memberships are for the calendar year)</th>
<th>Annual Gift of</th>
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<tr>
<td>Ann Hasseltine Judson Circle</td>
<td>$1-50</td>
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<td>subscription (digital or print) to Primary Source</td>
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<tr>
<td>Henry Lyman Morehouse Circle</td>
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<td>Louise “Lulu” Cecilia Fleming Circle</td>
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<td>1 hour of “Research-by-mail” discounted by 50%</td>
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<td>listing as donor in annual report</td>
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<td>Jitsuo Morikawa Circle</td>
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<td>benefits listed above, plus</td>
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<td>Baptist history publication -- potluck!</td>
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<td>pair of tickets to Biennial breakfast</td>
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<td>Samuel DeWitt Proctor Circle</td>
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<td>benefits listed above, plus</td>
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<tr>
<td>subscription to American Baptist Quarterly discounted by 50%</td>
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<td>pair of tickets to an invitation-only dinner prior to annual lecture</td>
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<td>Helen Barrett Montgomery Circle</td>
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<td>benefits listed above, plus</td>
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<td>private archives tour (subject to staff availability)</td>
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<td>Samuel Colgate Donors</td>
<td>$5001 &amp; above</td>
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<td>benefits listed above, plus</td>
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<td>2 hours free consultation with staff archivist</td>
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<td>Living Heritage Society</td>
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<td>inclusion in estate plan</td>
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Yes! I/We want to join the American Baptist Historical Society.

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Make checks payable to ABHS and send to: ABHS, P.O. Box 851, Valley Forge, PA 19482-0851.

To use a credit card go to our website: www.ABHSarchives.org.

ABHS is a 501(c)(3) organization; your membership is tax-deductible to the full extent of the law. ABQ subscriptions are not tax-deductible.
ABHS receives decades’ worth of Baptist stories

With the change office locations of American Baptist Churches, USA, our mission partners are depositing hundreds of boxes of records of ministry at the American Baptist Historical Society. ABHS maintains the official archives of the Office of the General Secretary, International Ministries, the American Baptist Home Mission Societies, American Baptist Women’s Ministries, and others. Missionaries’ newsletters and correspondence, manuscripts and curriculum from Judson Press, documentation of leaders’ prophetic stands on contemporary issues, recordings of biennials . . . all this and more are in the care of ABHS.

Our Mission

The American Baptist Historical Society, as a premier religious historical society, advances Baptist identity, promotes historical literacy, and thereby inspires spiritual and social transformation.