

Board of Managers Welcomes New Members

The Historical Society Board of Managers welcomed six new members this year, bringing fresh perspectives and energy to its Annual Meeting in September. These new members visited the Historical Society for an orientation last spring. They bring a wide array of experience, knowledge, and interests that will further the mission of the Society, and complement those who continue on the Board.



Douglas Avilesbernal serves as Executive Minister of the Evergreen Association and lives in Kent, WA. "I firmly believe that we understand our world better when we are steeped in our history," Doug says. "As a

Baptist pastor, I feel I owe it to those I am called to serve to know as much of our faith heritage as I can. . . . I also know that our life as Baptists and our prophetic voice as neighbors must be informed and supported by the work of scholars who dig deep into who we have been to help us understand better who we might become as we navigate our world and struggle with our inherited prejudices and biases.

"All the above and so much more make me keenly interested in our Baptist history and births a strong desire within me to contribute in any way I can to the preservation and research of who we, non-conformist, have been and will become."

Melva Gray was a Manager at the time ABHS moved to Atlanta, and has returned to work with ABHS again. She reflects, "I am happy to be back on the Board of Managers. As a non-historian and non-academic person I look at the collection and organization from the perspective as a regular church-goer interested in our stories from the past. It is also special to return to the Board during our 10-year



anniversary of the move to and collaboration with Mercer University. I served during the time when the decision to move and where to move was made. It is rewarding to see how the work and archives have flourished over the recent years." Gray lives in Indianapolis and has extensive experience in the areas of finance and budget.

Mark Harden looks forward to being part of the larger ABC/USA community. As former president of Ashland seminary in Ohio, he has an interest in the *American Baptist Quarterly*. "As most academics in seminary theological education, I am deeply interested in the history of the Church. I am interested in Baptist history, particularly as it relates to American Baptist and African American religious history. My doctoral research involved a historical study of African American clergy spouses. I have also taught missions and church studies of various ethnicities from historical perspectives in seminary. Serving on the Board will provide me with an opportunity to further engage and make contributions to preserving important knowledge about the past," he explained.



Travis Norvell pastors Judson Memorial Baptist Church in Minneapolis, MN. His decision to attend Colgate Rochester Crozer Divinity School was influenced by ABHS's presence on the CRCDS

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Church Anniversaries

October – December

We celebrate the faithful ministry of American Baptist Congregations and their pastors! The following churches and pastors mark anniversaries this quarter:

225 Years

First Baptist Church of Saratoga Springs, NY;
Rev. George Stefani, pastor

200 Years

Sandy Ridge Community Baptist Church,
Stockton, NJ; John Valiant, Jr., pastor
Scaffold Lick Baptist Church, Lexington, IN;
Rev. David L. Culley, pastor
First Baptist Church of Rochester, NY; Rev. Brent
Bowden, pastor
The First-Park Baptist Church, Plainfield, NJ;
Rev. Rufus McClendon, Jr., pastor

185 Years

The First Baptist Church of Chicago, IL;
Rev. Dr. Jesse M. Brown, pastor

180 Years

First Baptist Church, Howell, MI; Rev. Herbert C.
Wilson, Jr., pastor
First Baptist Church, Fredericktown, OH;
Rev. Timothy Mohon, pastor (March, 2018)

175 Years

Georges Road Baptist Church, North Brunswick,
NJ; Rev. Dr. Norman Walter, pastor
First Baptist Church, Waynesburg, PA; Rev. Dr.
Edward Peirce, pastor (July, 2018)
Bedford Baptist Association, Bedford, IN; Jordan
Morris, moderator

150 Years

St. Luke Baptist Church, Berryville, VA;
Rev. Delbert R. Pope, pastor
Springdale Baptist Church, Marysville, OH;
Rev. C. Rorke Warne, pastor
Shiloh Baptist Church, Columbus, IN; Ancel
Harden, pastor

125 Years

Berean Baptist Temple, Bridgeton, NJ;
Rev. Kenneth James Scovell, pastor
Central Baptist Church, Atlantic Highlands, NJ;
Rev. Dr. George Hancock-Stefan, pastor

100 Years

Good Shepherd Baptist Church, Richmond, VA;
Rev. Dr. Sylvester T. Smith, pastor
Mt. Olive Baptist Church, Akron, OH; William C.
Bunton, pastor

35 Years

Cornerstone Missionary Baptist Church,
Cleveland, OH; Rev. Dr. Earl Simpson, pastor

25 Years

New Covenant Baptist Church, Pottstown, PA;
Melody Walden, pastor

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

Have you included the American Baptist Historical Society in your will?

Legacy giving is one way of supporting ABHS with future giving. Let us know of your plan, and we'll add you to the Living Heritage Society!

Primary Source

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campus and its collection of Rauschenbusch family papers. When asked about his vision for ABHS, he said, "I am a strong advocate for the preservation and blossoming of American Baptist tradition."

Richard Swindle was instrumental in bringing the ABHS archives from Valley Forge to Atlanta. As vice-president of the Mercer University Atlanta campus, he shaped the agreement between ABHS and Mercer



University, and oversaw the renovation of the building to make it suitable for housing archives. Now retired, he is still involved in the life of the Historical Society. "My vision is for ABHS to be seen as relevant and useful, not just to the Baptist community, but more broadly," he explains.

James Wolfe serves as pastor of First Baptist Church, Pontiac, Illinois, and as a Director of the American Baptist Home Mission Societies. He stated, "It is an honor to be part of the Board of Managers of the



American Baptist Historical Society. The society has stewardship responsibilities for the histories and stories of those who have preceded us in ministry and shaped us to be who we are today. The stories are as diverse as those who lived them, and describe who we are today in our cultural, ethnic, and theological diversity. To be an American Baptist means, in part, to celebrate our history and diversity as we live into God's vision for who we are to become."

ABC Theologians' Conference "Incarnation and Identity"

The [2019 ABC/USA Theologians' Conference](#) will take place on June 20 at the Virginia Beach Convention Center.

Doctoral students, academics, and pastors are invited to submit proposals for presentations; watch for the Call for Papers detailing submission instructions.

Research Snapshot

Christopher Allison came to the archives with an unusual request: He wanted to see artifacts connected with Ann Judson, one of the first Baptist missionaries from the United States. Collegiate Asst. Professor at the University of Chicago, Allison looked through eight boxes of Judson artifacts, as well as many of the books about Ann Judson's life. He is writing a book entitled *Protestant Relics: Capturing the Secret Body of Early America*. On the [ABHS YouTube](#) channel you can hear Allison explain the meaning of one of the artifacts that belonged to Ann Judson.



(Search YouTube for American Baptist Historical Society, then look at the "Researchers" playlist.)

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 editor Curtis Freeman (CFreeman@div.duke.edu) as soon as possible.

Upcoming Themes	Submit by:
Reception of Evangelical Mission in India	Dec. 1, 2018
Celebrating Women in Ministry: biblical, theological, and historical reflections, upon the occasion of the 40th anniversary of American Baptist Women in Ministry	Mar. 1, 2019
On Foreigners and Neighbors: biblical, theological, ethical, and historical perspectives on immigration and hospitality	June 1, 2019
Baptists in Rhode Island	June 1, 2019

From the Archives

Remembering the Hopevale Martyrs, 75 Years Later

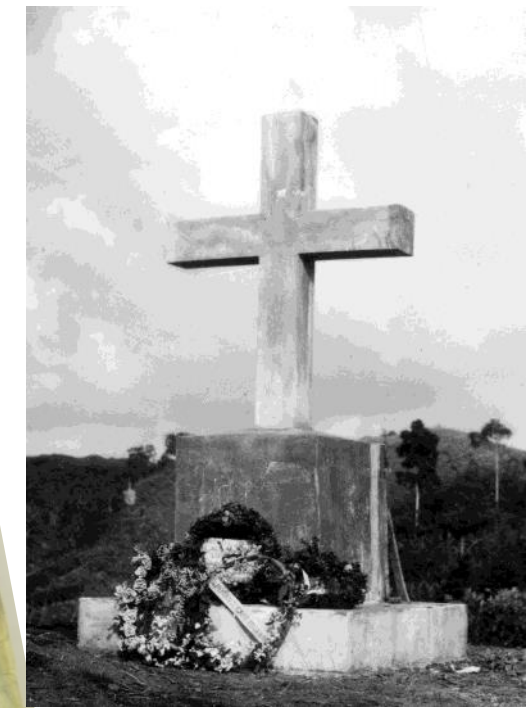
In December, 1941, less than 12 hours after the attack on Pearl Harbor, Japan attacked the Philippine Islands. Very soon after, Japanese troops landed in the Philippines.

A number of American Baptist missionaries had continued their ministry, despite warnings through the summer and fall of the likelihood of war. They were joined by missionaries to Japan who had left that country, as instructed by the American Baptist Foreign Mission Society.

For more information, go to our online catalog, [Archivesspace](#). In the search bar enter MARTYRS

A group made up primarily of educators and health-care workers on the island of Panay fled into the mountains in April, 1942. There, they established a refuge that they called "Hopevale," building several thatched structures for housing, and creating an outdoor chapel. (There is a replica of the "Cathedral in the Glen" at Green Lake Conference Center.) Local pastors and church members provided the missionaries with food and other supplies.

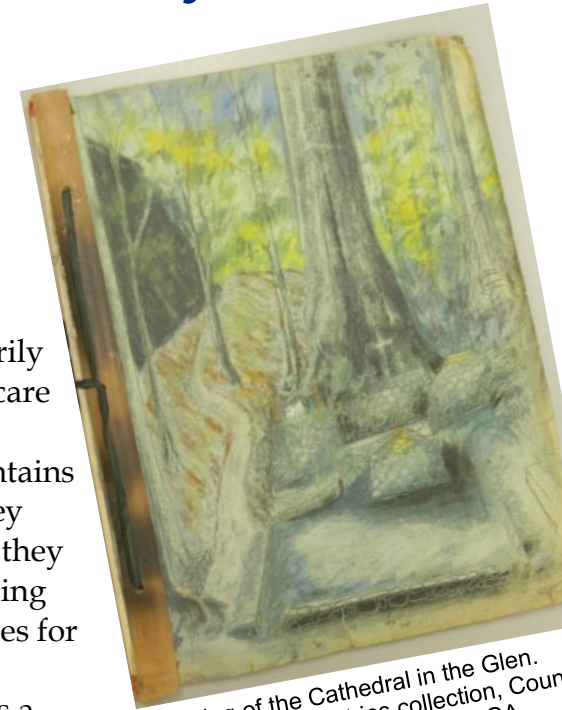
After eighteen months, their hiding place was disclosed. The residents of Hopevale were beheaded by Japanese military on December 20, 1943.



This cross marks the site where the remains of the Hopevale martyrs were buried. The inscription reads, "Be thou faithful unto death, and I will give thee a crown of life. Rev. 2:10" Photo from International Ministries collection, Country Files, Box 99 ABHS, Atlanta, GA.



Missionaries martyred at Hopevale, at right from top to bottom: Jennie Clare Adams, Dorothy Antoinette Dowell, Signe Amelia Erickson, Frederick W. Meyer, Ruth Meyer, Francis Rose, Gertrude Rose; bottom row, from left: James Howard Covell, Charma Covell (missionaries to Japan), Louise and Erle Rounds with son, Erle Douglas.



Drawing of the Cathedral in the Glen. International Ministries collection, Country Files, Box 101, ABHS, Atlanta, GA.



A memorial was dedicated in 1993 at Central Philippine University, upon the 50th anniversary of their deaths. Photo from Winnifred Stanford Papers, MP122, ABHS, Atlanta, Georgia.



NOTES FROM THE SCRAPBOOK OF A
PANAYAN MOUNTAINEER,
MANUGBULOG DIXLEY
AVIAN ARIAS
IN THE
RHYTHM OF THE RIVULET
A BIRD IN EVERY MEASURE
IN THE WILDS OF THE ULA-UGAN

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8. SPENCER, FERTIG, FISHERMAN
9. THE BATH HOUSE
10. ROSE, TRIST
11. CLARY (HOUSE #2)
x End of the pipe to the spring
(Minor trails not shown)
SKETCH MAP OF BARRIO HOPEVALE
By C. S. & J. H. G.

International Ministries' collections include two copies of a memory book kept by the martyrs during their time at Hopevale. It includes diary entries, hymns, a map of their compound, recipes, and drawings, and documents their attempt to live as normally as possible while in hiding.

Hopevale memory book, International Ministries collection, Country Files, Box 101, ABHS, Atlanta, GA.

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.

Membership Circle: Helen Barrett Montgomery



Helen Barrett Montgomery was a woman ahead of her time who was first at many things, but always maintained her humility. Born July 31, 1861 in Kingsville, Ohio to A. Judson Barrett and Emily Julia Barrows Barrett, Helen was the eldest of three children. Educated

at Wellesley College she married and resided in Rochester, New York for the majority of her adulthood. Montgomery never forgot her Baptist roots, but often participated in ecumenical activities. From her earliest days at Wellesley College, she strove to “do some good for others.”

After graduating Wellesley College in 1884, Montgomery taught at Rochester Free Academy for a year, and then was co-principal at Wellesley Preparatory School in Philadelphia for two years. She returned to Rochester in 1887 to marry William A. Montgomery, a businessman who owned North East Electric Company, which later became a division of General Motors. She and her husband consecrated their lives to God’s work and committed to giving generously to their church, Lake Avenue Baptist Church of Rochester, where A. Judson Barrett, Helen’s father, pastored.

At her church, Montgomery began a women’s Bible class which she taught for forty-four years. She had often preached in her father’s place and upon his death in 1889, she filled the pulpit until the church was able to call a new pastor. In 1892, at the age of 31, Montgomery was licensed to preach by Lake Avenue Baptist Church, three years after her father’s death.

With the encouragement of Susan B. Anthony and Mary Lewis Gannett, Montgomery became involved in public service beginning with her election in 1893 as first president of the Rochester Women’s Educational and Industrial Union, organized to address the interests of working women and children in Rochester. Her involvement in

the Good Government Movement for Civic Reform led to her election to the School Board, the first woman elected to public office in Rochester, twenty-one years before women’s suffrage. Montgomery was also elected president of the New York State Federation of Women’s Clubs. In 1898, she helped raise funds in order to convince the University of Rochester to allow women to attend. Through the years, she was engaged in the movement to win suffrage for women and campaigned for temperance.

Montgomery also became interested in mission work and in 1906 wrote a study of missions in the Pacific Islands, and a history of fifty years of women’s foreign mission work. In 1913-14, Montgomery toured the world, studying and encouraging the women of Asian countries and documented these travels in *The King’s Highway* (1915), which sold over 160,000 copies.

She advocated for an international day of prayer which became the World Day of Prayer, an ecumenical laywomen’s movement begun by the Federation of Women’s Boards of Foreign Missions (of which Montgomery became president).

Elected President of the Northern Baptist Convention in 1921, the first woman to serve as president of any Protestant denomination in the United States, Montgomery presided over a convention on the precipice of division over the choosing of a creed. Under her wise and thoughtful leadership, the disagreement was settled and division, avoided.

Always mindful of the common people that God called her to serve, she wrote a translation of the scriptures in such a way that all could understand. Published by the American Baptist Publication Society in 1924, the *New Testament in Modern English* pushed her to the distinction of being the first woman to have translated the entire New Testament from Greek into English.

Helen Barrett Montgomery followed God in both private and public life, in her finances, in her church, into the community around her and to the world, pressing on towards the prize of the high calling of God.

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*.



Now's the time to renew your membership for 2019!

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To use a credit card go to our website: www.ABHSarchives.org, and select "Give now."

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.

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Living Heritage Society	inclusion in estate plan
* inclusion on a special plaque in ABHS Reading Room	

PRIMARY SOURCE

American Baptist Historical Society

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INSIDE
*Remembering the
Hopevale martyrs, 75
years later*

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ABHS Celebrates 10 Years at Mercer University

Ten years ago they were cutting ribbons; this year we were cutting cake!

In 2008 ABHS consolidated its collections housed at Rochester, NY, and Valley Forge, PA to a single site in Atlanta. We appreciate the collegiality and support from Mercer University.



Executive Director Priscilla Eppinger, Board of Managers member and former Mercer vice-president Richard Swindle, and Executive Director Emerita Deborah Van Broekhoven prepare to cut the anniversary cake.

Join us in
Virginia Beach!



You can benefit from ABHS at the ABC/USA Biennial:
Exhibit Hall: come learn about the ABC of the South
Workshop: Making Sure 'Born-Digital' is 'Born-Again': The Salvation of Your Church's Story
Breakfast: a celebration of *At Your Fingertips*

at YOUR
FINGERTIPS