

ABHS at the 2021 Biennial Mission Summit

When it was announced that the American Baptist Biennial Mission Summit was to be held online rather than in-person, ABHS quickly began preparing. The usual biennial preparations were no longer in play — we didn't need a large display that could be seen across an exhibit hall; we wouldn't be hosting a catered breakfast; we didn't need to box up and ship brochures, samples of the *American Baptist Quarterly*, newsletters, or T-shirts and other items bearing the ABHS logo. Instead, we thought long and hard about what attendees at an online convention might find interesting. What more pertinent than an exploration of American Baptist conventions? Digital archivist Jenny Manasco spent weeks researching Baptist conventions, beginning with the first Triennial Convention of 1814.



This resulted in an online exhibit on over 100 years of American (Northern) Baptist Conventions. [Explore 100 years of American Baptist Conventions online.](#)

With a convention theme of “Imagine,” we invited those who attend the ABHS breakfast to “Imagine — the ABHS Biennial Breakfast at Your Kitchen Table.” This year there were no worries that a catered breakfast would not conform to various dietary restrictions of those who are gluten or lactose intolerant, of vegetarians or diabetics. Attendees to the ABHS event brought their own snacks and enjoyed online some elements of the program that they've come to expect and enjoy. After a welcome by the president of the ABHS Board of Managers, Jonathan Malone, attendees

witnessed the [presentation of the George D. Younger Award for Excellence in Local Baptist History](#) — awarded this year to



George Younger Award presentation to Ms. Laura Durling, chair of FBC Trumansburg's anniversary committee, and Rev. Dennis Christiansen, pastor.

First Baptist Church of Trumansburg, NY — and heard about the ABHS membership program. Appearing via pre-recorded video, [Rev. Senator Raphael Warnock](#), pastor of Ebenezer Baptist Church in Atlanta, was this year's [virtual] speaker. If you missed the ABHS event in June, don't despair: the [video clips are available on the ABHS Vimeo channel.](#)



Rev. Dr. Jonathan Malone has fun with history

Another highlight of the 2021 Biennial Convention was a workshop by Jonathan Malone, who told the stories of Joanna P. Moore, Virginia Broughton, and Rev. Masahiko Wada. [Take a look at Jonathan's video online.](#)

ABHS staff prepared several other online exhibits, some interactive, others as video recordings. These presentations are all available to you online.

(Continued on page 6)

ABHS Welcomes Our New Administrative Assistant, Jean McDaniel



The friendly new voice answering calls to ABHS is Jean McDaniel, who joined the ABHS team in June. Jean is a Georgian – born in Macon and raised in Tucker (part of the metro Atlanta area). She studied

at Valdosta State University – as she says, as far from home as she could go while remaining at a Georgia school – and graduated *magna cum laude* with a B.A. in Political Science.

For over 22 years Jean worked as a consultant to a college and university administrators software users’ group. She served as their office manager, conference planner, bookkeeper, membership/exhibitor/sponsor coordinator, and more. Jean enjoyed working with higher education administrators, and encouraging exhibitors to become conference or organization sponsors.

Jean is looking forward to getting to know ABHS members and supporters, assisting with the *Primary Source* newsletter, working with researchers, and helping the many American Baptist congregations celebrating anniversaries with their anniversary recognitions.

Primary Source
is published quarterly by the
American Baptist Historical Society
Priscilla E. Eppinger, Executive Director
Caroline Crowell, Head of Archives & Special Collections
Kay Eland, Financial and Subscription Secretary
Denise Hanusek, Rare Book Cataloguer
Jenny L. Manasco, Digital Collections Specialist
Jean McDaniel, Administrative Assistant
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For ABHS memberships or *American Baptist Quarterly* subscriptions: (610) 768-2269 or Kay.Eland@abc-usa.org
Postal Address: 3001 Mercer University Drive
Atlanta, GA 30341
Location: 2930 Flowers Road South, Suite 150
Atlanta, GA 30341

Church Anniversaries July – September 2021

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

250 years
John Corbly Memorial Baptist Church, Garards Fort, PA; Gary Whipkey, pastor

200 years
Deer Creek Baptist Church, Tell City, IN; Randy McNeely, interim pastor
First Baptist Church of Syracuse, Jamesville, NY; Min. David L. Harris, Jr., pastor

175 years
Adams Village Baptist Church, Adams, NY; Rev. Gary S. George, pastor

152 years
Wheat Street Baptist Church, Atlanta, GA; Rev. Joseph C.T. Flippin, pastor

151 years
First Baptist Church, North Platte, NE; Rev. Clint Walker, pastor

125 years
Alpha Baptist Church, Deputy, IN; Stan Carroll, pastor

100 years
Emmanuel Baptist Church, Sioux Falls, SD; Rev. Brett Best, pastor
First Baptist Church of Denham, Winamac, IN; Lynda Hosek, pastor
First Baptist Church, Mobridge, SD; Gary Street, pastor
Lakeview Baptist Church of Battle Creek, Battle Creek, MI; Rev. Paul Prochazka, pastor

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



Audiotape Digitization in Process



Digital Archivist Jenny Manasco has spent most of the summer preparing audio tapes for digitization. The 1300 tapes are part of the archives of the ABCUSA Office of the General Secretary, and hold recordings of the 1953-1971 annual American Baptist conventions as well as of conferences held at the American Baptist Assembly at Green Lake, WI. At the completion of this project, these recordings will be accessible via the ABHS website.

Metadata for every tape must be typed into a spreadsheet. This includes recording dates, details of each convention session, speakers’ names, and the number of reels for each separate convention or conference session.

ONE object per line	Object Unique Identifier(s)	Number of Original Media Units	Program Unique Identifier	Original Format	Original Recording Date/Interview Date [yyyy-mm-dd]	Title	Description/Interview Summary/Conclusion of Conversation	Speaker	Performer	File Name Root
1	GP29 au0052	1	1964-05-22 Morning	Reel	1964-05-22	1964 Atlantic City, NJ, Tape 31				GP29 au0052
24	GP29 au0053	1	1965-05-19 Morning	Reel	1965-05-19	1965- San Francisco, CA, Tape 1	address	Eleanor Hull		GP29 au0053
25	GP29 au0054	2	1965-05-19 Evening	Reel	1965-05-19	1965- San Francisco, CA, Tape 2	Opening, Local committee, offering	Henry Pitney Van Dusen		GP29 au0054
26	GP29 au0055	2	1965-05-19 Evening	Reel	1965-05-19	1965- San Francisco, CA, Tape 3	Address			GP29 au0055
27	GP29 au0056	5	1965-05-20 Morning	Reel	1965-05-20	1965- San Francisco, CA, Tape 4	sermons	Richard E. Boddie		GP29 au0056
28	GP29 au0057	5	1965-05-20 Morning	Reel	1965-05-20	1965- San Francisco, CA, Tape 5	General Council, discussion of convention frequency			GP29 au0057
29	GP29 au0058	5	1965-05-20 Morning	Reel	1965-05-20	1965- San Francisco, CA, Tape 6	Discussion continued and vote, Dahlberg award			GP29 au0058
30	GP29 au0059	5	1965-05-20 Morning	Reel	1965-05-20	1965- San Francisco, CA, Tape 7	Christian Education report			GP29 au0059
31	GP29 au0060	5	1965-05-20 Morning	Reel	1965-05-20	1965- San Francisco, CA, Tape 8	address	Gerhard Spiegel		GP29 au0060



The tapes are then rehoused in new plastic cases to better protect them during transit. Each case is labelled with an identifying number. Most of the tapes need some degree of rewinding before they can be put into the new cases.

Tapes from each convention session are then wrapped together as a set and numbered. This will keep them from shifting during transportation and provide guidance as to the organization of digital files. Finally, they will be packed in shipping boxes and sent to George Blood, LP, where they will be digitized.



Council on Library and Information Resources

In addition to donations to ABHS’s *At Your Fingertips* campaign, this project is supported by a *Recordings at Risk* grant funded by The Andrew W. Mellon Foundation and administered by CLIR.

Your donation \$\$\$ at work

From the Archives

110 years of American Baptist Conventions



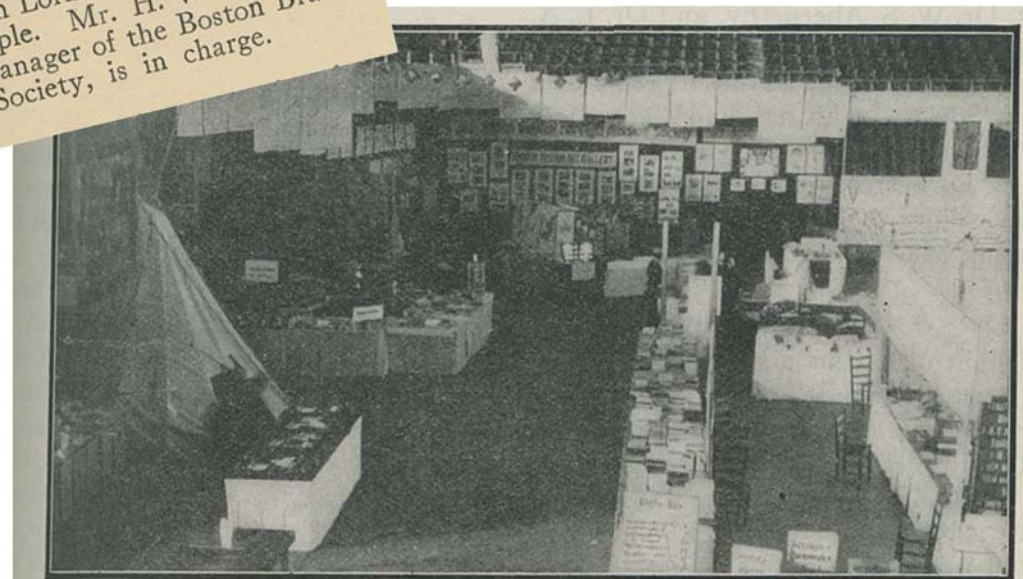
TWO VISITORS FROM THE FAR EAST WHO ARE HERE FOR THE NORTHERN BAPTIST CONVENTION MEETING.



From China is Dr. Sien-Mei Wu, left, and Miss Ma San Tin, right, is from Burma. Dr. Wu is a graduate of the Shanghai Women's Medical College, and Miss Tin has a degree of philosophy from the Judson college at Rangoon. Dr. Wu is to take a postgraduate course this fall at the Jefferson hospital at Philadelphia. Miss Tin will study in education at Columbia university. They were guests yesterday at the Woman's American Baptist Foreign Mission Society meeting at the Hotel President. They will remain for the meeting of the Northern Baptist Convention next week. They are shown in native costume.

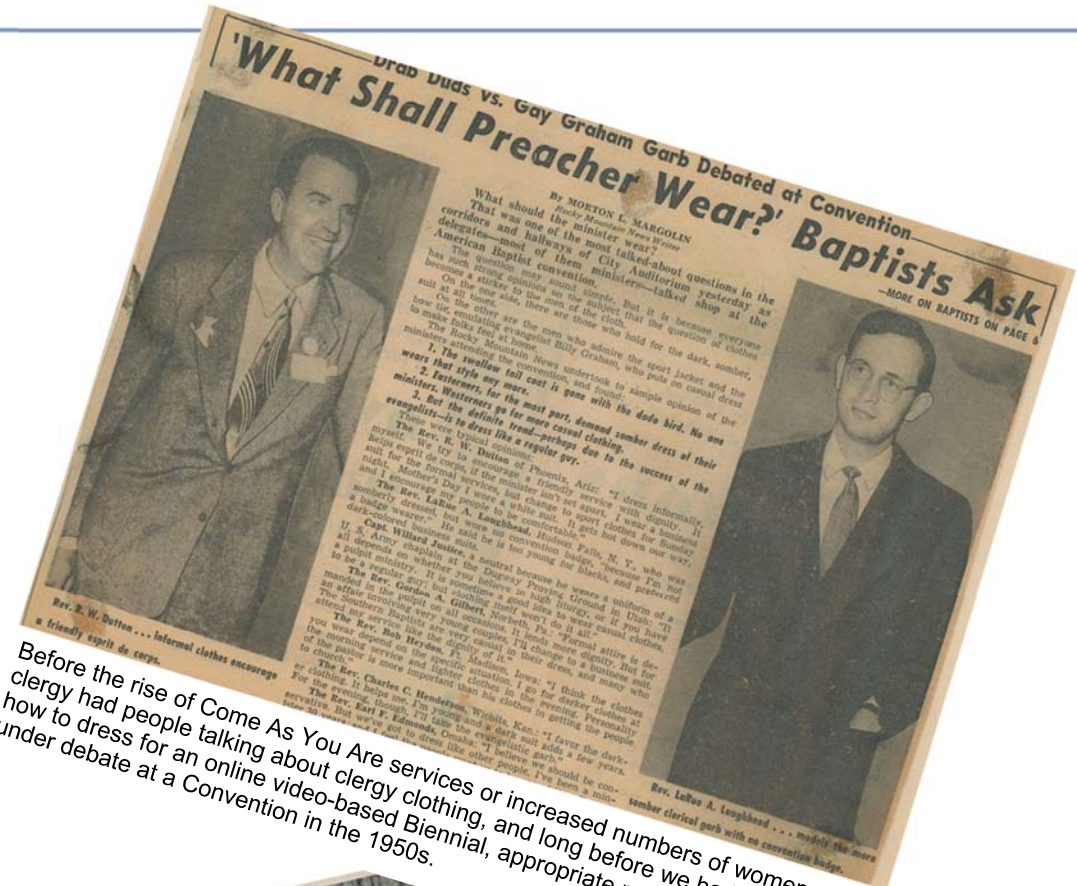
The women above were identified as Dr. Sien-Mei Wu, from China, and Miss Ma San Tin, from Burma.

A note book and pencil for use during the Convention will be given to any delegate calling at the exhibit of the American Baptist Publication Society, in Lorimer Hall, basement of the Temple. Mr. H. V. Meyer, the genial manager of the Boston Branch of the Society, is in charge.



THE HOME AND FOREIGN MISSION AND PUBLICATION SOCIETY EXHIBITS: A NOTABLE DISPLAY BY THE SOCIETIES, LARGELY PATRONIZED

Many elements of convention life have remained the same over the years. Even the earliest convention meetings included exhibit halls where the Societies set up informative displays, and some even gave away 'swag'.



Before the rise of Come As You Are services or increased numbers of women clergy had people talking about clergy clothing, and long before we had to decide how to dress for an online video-based Biennial, appropriate pastoral attire was under debate at a Convention in the 1950s.



Historical pageants, dramatic readings, and plays were nearly always a part of the program during the first half-century of conventions. The 1940s included a portrayal of "Paul" dictating the "Letter to Titus" to "Aristarchus" (above). A dramatic portrayal of Helen Barrett Montgomery in 1997 (right) showed that some things hadn't changed very much.




Biennial Mission Summit Recap

(Continued from page 1)

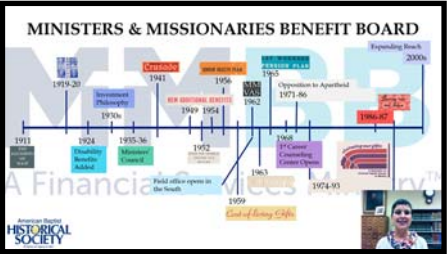
Have you ever wondered how ABCUSA became the denomination we are today? [Explore Highlights of the Office of the General Secretary and the denomination called American Baptist Churches.](#)

[Hear some stories from the archives of International Ministries](#) (American Baptist Foreign Mission Society).



Since 1832, the American Baptist Home Mission Societies have emphasized bringing marginalized groups to the table. Navigate on your own through [Stories from the archives of the American Baptist Home Mission Societies](#) or watch the [ABHMS stories video](#).

Learn the interesting [story of how the Ministers and Missionaries Benefit Board](#) came into being, and



Research Snapshot— Melvin Miller

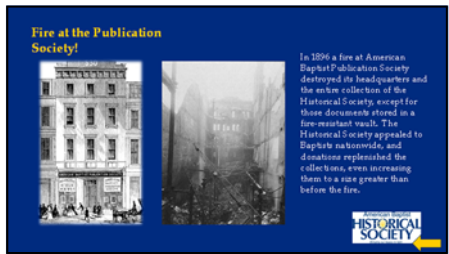
Rev. Melvin Miller, a pastor from St. Paul, MN, is working on two research projects: the Black Baptist church in Minnesota, and the role that American Baptist Home Mission Societies played in the founding of Historically Black Colleges and Universities. Rev. Miller describes ABHS archives as “a treasure trove.” [Hear him tell about his visit to ABHS](#) on the ABHS Vimeo channel.



how it developed through the 20th century.

[Survey the growth of ABHS](#), from its 1853 beginnings, through the disastrous fire of 1896, to the consolidation of collections at our current site in Atlanta.

[We invite you watch a video about ABHS](#) and to explore all of these exhibits via the ABHS website. www.ABHSarchives.org.



Support ABHS into the Future

Many people would like to support the work of ABHS, but don’t have discretionary money available. Please consider supporting ABHS outside of your current funds. Do you make your philanthropic gifts via a donor-advised fund? Add the American Baptist Historical Society to the organizations designated to receive a gift from your DAF!

Legacy giving is another way of supporting ABHS outside of current funds. ABHS annually receives a gift from the estate of Mrs. C.R. (Roberta) Tidland. We are so grateful to Mrs. Tidland for having included ABHS in her estate plans! Let us know of *your* plan, and we’ll add you to the Living Heritage Society. To discuss the possibilities, contact Priscilla Eppinger, Executive Director.

Join the Historical Society and Become a Time Traveler

American Baptist Historical Society membership circles are named for some of our significant Baptist forebears.

Membership Circles (Memberships are for the calendar year)	Annual Gift of
Ann Hasseltine Judson Circle	\$1-50
★ subscription (digital or print) to <i>Primary Source</i>	
Henry Lyman Morehouse Circle	\$51-125
★ subscription (digital or print) to <i>Primary Source</i> ★ participation in “Time Travelers,” reciprocal museum/archives program http://timetravelers.mohistory.org/	
Louise “Lulu” Cecilia Fleming Circle	\$126-250
★ benefits listed above, plus ★ 1 hour of “Research-by-mail” discounted by 50% ★ listing as donor in annual report	
Jitsuo Morikawa Circle	\$251-500
★ benefits listed above, plus ★ pair of tickets to Biennial breakfast	
Samuel DeWitt Proctor Circle	\$501-1000
★ benefits listed above, plus ★ Baptist history publication -- potluck! ★ subscription to <i>American Baptist Quarterly</i> discounted by 50%	
Helen Barrett Montgomery Circle	\$1001-5000
★ benefits listed above, plus ★ private archives tour (subject to staff availability)	
Samuel Colgate Donors	\$5001 & above
★ benefits listed above, plus ★ 2 hours free consultation with staff archivist	
Living Heritage Society	inclusion in estate plan
★ inclusion on a special plaque in ABHS Reading Room	



Yes! I/We want to join the American Baptist Historical Society.

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Under what name(s) would you like your donation to be acknowledged?

Membership \$ _____

American Baptist Quarterly subscription: \$50/annually \$ _____

Add \$75/year for postage to Canada, \$100/year to other non-US countries

Gift to Endowment \$ _____

Total enclosed \$ _____

Make checks payable to ABHS and send to: ABHS, 1015 W. 9th Ave., King of Prussia, PA, 19406. 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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INSIDE
*Online exhibits and
interactive presentations
available*

American Baptist Quarterly Call for Papers

ABQ is the scholarly journal published by ABHS. Established and emerging scholars are invited to propose papers written from original research. Articles and essays should be between 6,000 and 10,000 words.

If you are interested in proposing a paper for one of the upcoming issues, please contact editor [Curtis Freeman](mailto:CFreeman@div.duke.edu) (CFreeman@div.duke.edu) as soon as possible.

Upcoming Themes	Deadline for article submission
Theological Reflections on Pandemic	30 Dec 2021
Seeing the Sacred in a Secular Society	15 Feb 2022
21st-Century Reformations: New Forms of Ministry for a Changed World	31 Mar 2022
Bible Translations, Old and New	31 May 2022

Our Vision

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