

Thank you for Participating in ABHS's Ministry!

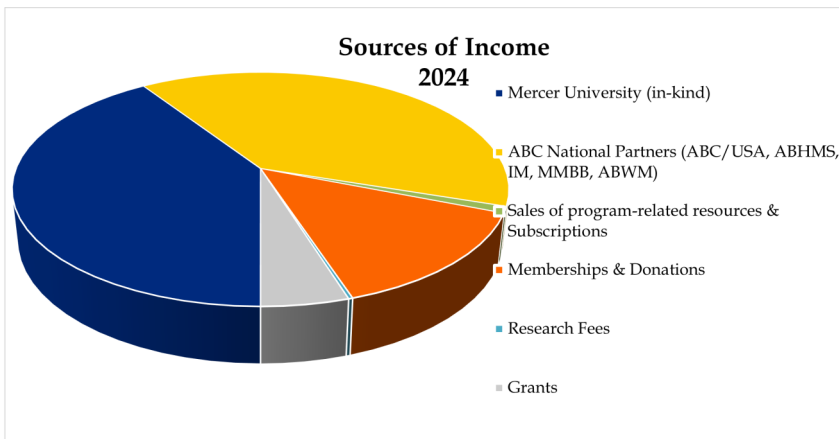
The Gospel writer Luke explained his motivation for writing: "so that you may know the truth concerning the things about which you have been instructed." (Luke 1.4) This reflects the motivation for ABHS's work: that Baptist ministry and mission may be presented truthfully.

Thanks to generous members and donors, ABHS accomplished numerous special projects last year. Your support in 2024 helped:

- ★ hold community scanning days to create an online archive of documents related to the internment of Japanese Americans during World War II. There are **19,290 pages/photos** in the collection, of which 12,863 come from ABHS collections;
- ★ celebrate **54 congregations'** milestones with Anniversary Certificates;
- ★ host 6 tour groups, some from the Atlanta area, others from as far away as upstate New York;
- ★ welcome over **75 visitors** and **27 researchers** on-site for 41 research days, and fulfill more than **38 Research-by-Mail** requests;
- ★ continue a collaboration with Ancestry.com, with over **334,168 pages** digitized. The first set of these, ABFMS missionary sailing cards and biographical files, is accessible on the Ancestry.com website;
- ★ upload **341,301 (!) files** to our digital preservation platform. You can browse these files (photos, documents, and audio recordings) online at <https://abhs.access.preservica.com/>;
- ★ digitize **53 reels** of microfilm and upload a total of **103 reels** of microfilm to the digital preservation platform;
- ★ inventory all Native American artifacts in the collections and submit a listing of ceremonial objects or items that potentially have cultural significance to the federal NAGPRA office.

Preserving records of historic events, providing access to materials that document people's lives and churches' ministries — this is the primary ministry of ABHS. With your help, we continue a Gospel ministry of truth-telling.

Funds to carry out this work come from institutional partners and individuals. We are grateful to Mercer University and President Bill Underwood for hosting ABHS on their Atlanta campus. We appreciate financial support from American Baptist Churches USA, International Ministries, American



Baptist Home Mission Societies, the Ministers and Missionaries Benefit Board, and American Baptist Women's Ministries, all of whose records of ministry we preserve and manage.

Thank you, members of and donors to ABHS, for your financial contributions! Together we are able to preserve, share, and celebrate a living legacy of centuries of American Baptist mission and ministry.

Annual Fund Donors

Thank you to these supporters of the Historical Society,
whose generosity enables us to continue our ministry.

Institutional Supporters

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American Baptist Women's Ministries
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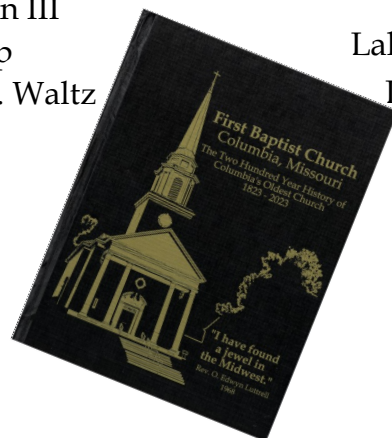
(Continued on page 3)

** indicates 2024 member of ABHS Board of Managers

Annual Fund Donors

(Continued from page 2)

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Church Anniversaries January - March 2025

We celebrate the faithful ministry of American Baptists and their pastors! The following churches have notified ABHS that they are celebrating anniversaries this quarter:

219 Years

First Baptist Church of Trenton, Trenton, NJ; Rev. Calvin Nadir Powell, pastor

205 Years

Seekonk Memorial Baptist Church, Seekonk, MA; Rev. Delphain Demosthenes

200 Years

First Baptist Church of Westwood, MA; Rev. Catherine M. Miller, pastor

175 Years

Upper Merion Baptist Church, King of Prussia, PA; Rev. Daniel Au, pastor

150 Years

Tabernacle Baptist Church, Hope, RI; Rev. Michael Mercier, pastor

100 Years

Bethany Baptist Church, Clarkdale, AZ; Larry Jackson, pastor

If your church is celebrating a significant anniversary, notify ABHS and request a certificate. We want to celebrate with you!

Supporting Congregations

Brewster Baptist Church, Brewster, MA
Calvary Baptist Church, Norristown, PA
First Baptist Church, Ann Arbor, MI
First Baptist Church, Dayton, OH
Lake Ave. Memorial Baptist Church, Rochester, NY
Lakeshore Ave. Baptist Church, Oakland, CA
Market Street Baptist Church, Zanesville, OH
Myanmar Baptist Church, Glendale NY
North Shore Baptist Church, Chicago, IL
Oil Creek Baptist Association, Centerville PA

American Baptist HISTORICAL SOCIETY

From the Archives

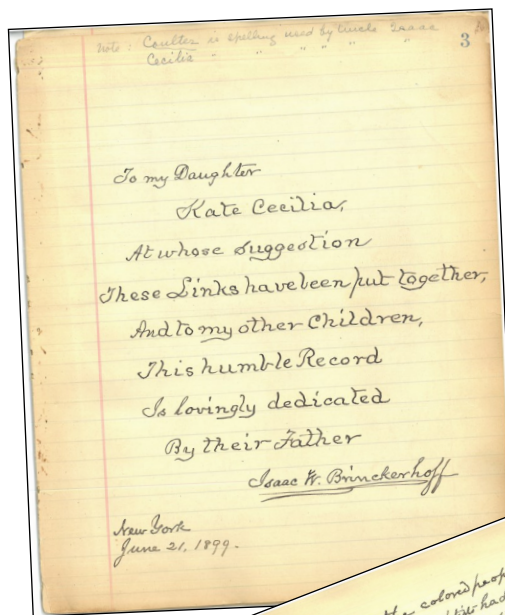
Highlights of 2024 Donations

Bringing our legacy to light

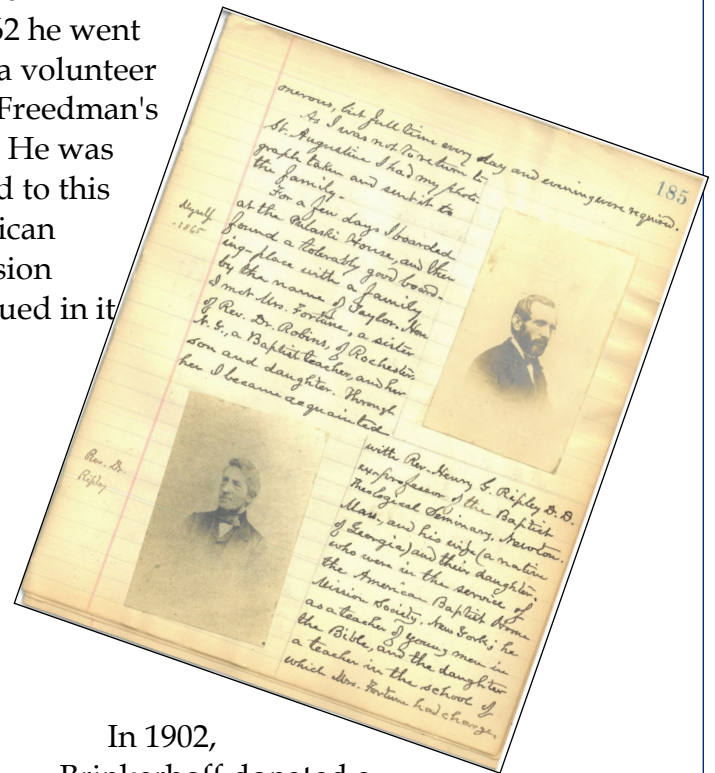
Thank you, donors to ABHS collections!

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 tell aspects 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.



Isaac W. Brinkerhoff (1821-1910) was an American Baptist minister and missionary. In 1862 he went to Beaufort, SC as a volunteer with the National Freedman's Relief Association. He was later commissioned to this work by the American Baptist Home Mission Society and continued in it until 1874.



In 1902, Brinkerhoff donated a small collection of diaries and tracts related to his missionary work in the South to ABHS. In his autobiography, "Links of a Life in Fourscore Years," dedicated to his children, Brinkerhoff tells the stories of his life and ministry, weaving together photographs and clippings of notable companions and places in his many journeys. Scott and Ann Mingledorff donated this manuscript.

Donors of Personal Papers

Robin Campbell and Marion Riley: Robert C. Campbell certificates and awards
Nick and Deborah Carter: additions to RG 1631 Alice Pickford Brockway and RG 2032 Leavenworth Family Papers
Joyce Christison: records of James Christison
Ron Cooper: Grace Cooper photo albums and scrapbook
Christine Dudley: additions to MP091 Cope Family collection
Sybil Eppinger: additions to Paul Eppinger Papers
Elizabeth Leigh Divine Gruber: RG 2031 George Washington Anderson Papers

Lorna Hansen: Richard Buker artifacts from Burma
Thomas and Kathryn Hinke: Emma Brodbeck papers
Scott and Ann Mingledorff: additions to RG 1484 Isaac W. Brinckerhoff Papers
Paul Nicholas: Samuel Green and John Bates correspondence
Harry B. Parrott Jr.: Parrott Family Papers
Mariann Shae: RG 2030 Shae Family Papers
Robert E. Smith: additions to RG 1590 Robert E. Smith Papers
Florence Wright: additions to RG 1520 Sidney Hollingworth

"RG" stands for "Record Group."
"MP" stands for "Missionary Papers."

Donors of Materials pertaining to Institutional work

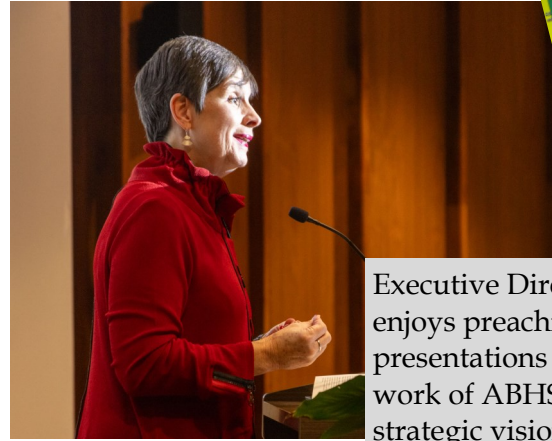
ABC Wisconsin: 180th Annual Gathering Program
Harriet Arnold: Antioch Baptist Church, San Jose, CA, 130th Anniversary Book
Aspire Network: ABC-PSW Materials
Baptist Temple Rochester, NY: church records
Berean Baptist Church, Harrisville, RI: 150th Anniversary Program
Garth Brokaw: American Baptist Homes and Caring Ministries
First Baptist Church Hays, KS: digitized church records
First Baptist Church Columbia, MO: Church history
Genealogical Forum of Oregon (Courtney Clements): FBC Seventh and Fulton Streets, Chester PA bulletin
Gurrola Baptist Foundation: ordination photos of Rev. Susan Hernandez
International Ministries: slides of missionaries
Judson Press: Journeys; Addicted to Hurry
Lowville Baptist Church, NY: 200th Anniversary records

Kansas Historical Society: North Topeka Baptist Church
Office of the General Secretary: Board of General Ministries Executive Board Meeting Minutes March 2022-December 2023
Genevieve Peterson: church histories (Delaware, Ohio, Mass., Illinois)
Shiloh Baptist Church, Cleveland, OH: 175th Anniversary records
Carolyn Thomas: Easton Preston United Baptist Church Ladies Auxiliary programs

Donors to ABHS Living Heritage Endowment

Diane B. Adams
Stephen & Wendy Brockert
Stuart W. Campbell
Rev. James Davison
Martha E. Fairfield
Larry L. Greenfield
Lloyd A. Harsch
Deborah & Harold VanBroekhoven
John W. Woodbury

Here's an overview of the ministry that your donations fund:



Executive Director Priscilla Eppinger enjoys preaching and giving presentations on Baptist history and the work of ABHS. She is responsible for strategic vision as well as day-to-day aspects of organizational management.

Account	Amount	Balance	Notes
100 - American Baptist Historical Society (ABHS)	1,000.00	1,000.00	
101 - American Baptist Historical Society (ABHS)	1,000.00	1,000.00	
102 - American Baptist Historical Society (ABHS)	1,000.00	1,000.00	
103 - American Baptist Historical Society (ABHS)	1,000.00	1,000.00	
104 - American Baptist Historical Society (ABHS)	1,000.00	1,000.00	
105 - American Baptist Historical Society (ABHS)	1,000.00	1,000.00	
106 - American Baptist Historical Society (ABHS)	1,000.00	1,000.00	
107 - American Baptist Historical Society (ABHS)	1,000.00	1,000.00	
108 - American Baptist Historical Society (ABHS)	1,000.00	1,000.00	
109 - American Baptist Historical Society (ABHS)	1,000.00	1,000.00	
110 - American Baptist Historical Society (ABHS)	1,000.00	1,000.00	

Financial Clerk Gusmar Chavarría records donations, processes invoices for payment, and manages subscriptions.



Archivist Mariah Hamby catalogues archival collections and ensures that can be easily found and retrieved. Mariah also assists researchers, curates exhibits from ABHS collections, and leads tours of the archives for special groups.



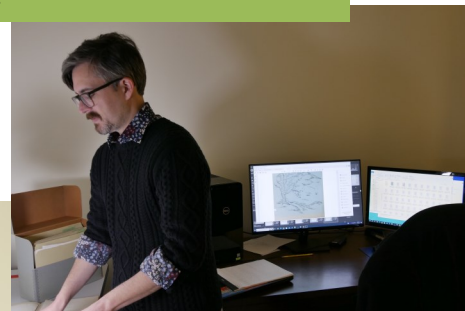
ABHS provides resources for local congregations and publishes a scholarly journal.



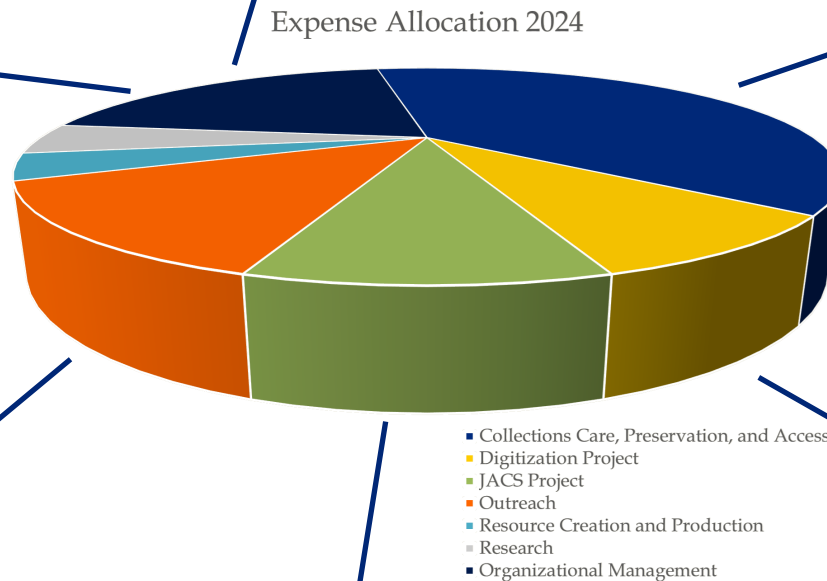
Administrative Assistant Jean McDaniel prepares mailings, facilitates research requests, sends out church anniversary certificates and posts to social media.



Project Archivist Brice Bongiovanni is the primary archivist working on the JACS project.



Digital Archivist Jenny Manasco oversees ABHS digital archives, digitizing primary documents and managing the digital preservation platform. When off-site researchers request copies of documents, Jenny creates and sends digital copies.



Gifts have been given in Memory of:

Tom Bailey

Janet L. Bailey

Jaimie M. Blakney

Travis and Phyllis Lyday

Richard & Helen Louise Bowser

Louise Schmaltz

Beverly Carlson

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Deborah Van Broekhoven

Marty & Tracy Dexter

In gratitude and celebration of

their 200th anniversary on

December 23,2024

Brewster Baptist Church

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

Legacy giving is one way to support ABHS into the future. Your bequest will help ensure professional preservation and increased accessibility of historical materials for generations to come.

Please let us know if you plan for your estate to include a gift to ABHS.

Donors of Books and Pamphlets to the ABHS reference library:

ABA/Green Lake Conference Center: misc. Baptist pamphlets/publications

Central Baptist Theological Seminary: Church histories and rare book collection

Melanie Chow: JEMS (Japanese Evangelical Missionary Society) books

Stephanie Colton: books

Soozi Ford: Adoniram Judson letter and Maria Creek Baptist report

Ruth Leine: Third Baptist Jubilee Celebration
Atlantic City, NJ 1964 photograph; books

Elaine and John Olley: "A Journey in Love: The First Forty Years"

Lydia Schultz: BYPU Rally Ontario photograph

Virginia Smith: A New Baptist Church Manual

Diana Sowards: History of Baptists in Myanmar
vol. 2

Reid Trulson: WABFMS publications



Grace Mabel Cooper (1907-1978) was an American Baptist Foreign Mission Society missionary to Banza Manteke, Congo from 1935-1949. Her nephew, Ron Cooper, donated this scrapbook and a photo album.

2024 Donors to JACS Project

American Baptist Home Mission Societies
ABC of LA, the Southwest, and Hawaii

Laura H. Austin

Brokaw Charitable Fund

Mitch Homma & Stephanie Stone

North Shore Baptist Church

Roberta L. Stephens estate

Richard V. Swindle

A Resilient Faith: Japanese American Baptists during World War II

A century ago, Northern Baptists had developed active ministries with Japanese families in the US. When, following the attack on Pearl Harbor, President Roosevelt authorized the exclusion of people of Japanese descent from the West Coast, entire congregations and communities were forcibly removed to internment camps in

other states. Some well-known American Baptists, including Paul Nagano, Yosh Nakagawa, Herb Tsuchiya, Jitsuo Morikawa, and Tai Shigaki were incarcerated with their families.

ABHS archives hold records of those who ministered among Japanese Americans: Japanese and Japanese American pastors, missionaries from the Home Mission Societies who had been appointed to serve Japanese American congregations and Christian centers, and International Ministries missionaries to Japan who returned to the US during the war years and ministered among internees.

In 2023 ABHS received a grant of \$119,153 from the Japanese American Confinement Sites (JACS) program of the US National Park Service to fund creation of an online archive of records that document the experience of Japanese American Baptists and the work of Northern Baptists who assisted those who were interned and incarcerated during World War II. ABHS was required to raise \$59,577 to match the grant at a ratio of 1:2. Thanks to those listed above, we received the funds required to proceed with the project.

We invited individuals and families to share materials and held community scanning days in June, 2024. The online archive is open to the public at <https://abhs.access.preservica.com/archive>. We invite you to browse through these documents.

The ABHS exhibit at the 2025 ABCUSA Biennial Mission Summit in Omaha will feature the JACS project. Come see us there!

Primary Source

is published quarterly by the
American Baptist Historical Society

Brice Bongiovanni, Project Archivist

Gusmar Chavarria, Financial Clerk

Priscilla E. Eppinger, Executive Director

Mariah Hamby, Head of Archives and Special Collections

Jenny L. Manasco, Digital Collections Specialist

Jean McDaniel, Administrative Assistant

Website: www.ABHSarchives.org

Contact us at : (678) 547-6680 or

ABHSoffice@ABHSarchives.org

Postal Address: 3001 Mercer University Drive
Atlanta, GA 30341

GPS Location: 2930 Flowers Road South, Suite 150
Atlanta, GA 30341

Participants in community scanning days:

Shizuko Akasaki

Cynthia Kawanami Copeland

Margie Ono Jones

Shigeko Miyamoto

Larry Naritomi

Chizuko Nomura

Henry Oga

Yetsuko Saguchi

Naomi Sasano

Rick Taira

Kazuko Tanaka

Susan Tawa

Mayumi Zacher

Evergreen Baptist Church of Los Angeles, CA

Gardena Valley Baptist Church, Gardena, CA

Japanese Baptist Church, Seattle, WA

Special thanks to JBC, GVBC and Atherton Baptist Home for hosting the community scanning days.

Join the Historical Society and Become a Time Traveler

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



**Yes! I/We want to support the
American Baptist Historical Society
by becoming a member.**

Please Print

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Donations of \$100 or more may be given as a tribute.

This donation is given ☐ in honor of ☐ in memory of

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Total enclosed \$ _____

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To use a credit card go to our secure
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use this QR code:



ABHS is a 501(c)(3) organization; your
membership is tax-deductible to the full extent of
the law. *Foundations* subscriptions are not tax-
deductible.

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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	
★ Baptist history publication -- potluck!	
★ pair of tickets to Biennial breakfast	
Samuel DeWitt Proctor Circle	\$501-1000
★ benefits listed above, plus	
★ subscription to <i>Foundations</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	

PRIMARY SOURCE

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Torbet Prize

Emerging scholars are invited to submit essays in any area of Baptist history for the Torbet Prize competition.

Each year ABHS invites essays from authors who have not already published a major scholarly work. The Research and Publication Committee of the ABHS Board of Managers serves as judges, and the winning essay is eligible for publication in an upcoming issue of *Foundations* and its author awarded a cash prize.

Entries should be no more than 25 double-spaced pages (excluding notes) with citations following the *Chicago Manual of Style*. Send entries to ABHSoffice@ABHSarchives.org. The submission deadline for the next award is September 1, 2025.

Robert George Torbet (1912-1995) was an American Baptist historian and educator. His significant contributions to Baptist research and publication led the American Baptist Historical Society to establish a prize in his honor to encourage development of young scholars in the field of Baptist history studies.

George D. Younger Award Open for Nominations

The George D. Younger Award will be presented at the 2025 ABC/USA Biennial Mission Summit in Omaha, Nebraska. Events or projects completed in 2023 and 2024 eligible for nomination should promote Baptist history in the local community or region, including but not limited to:

- ✳ church anniversary celebrations,
- ✳ congregational or regional histories,
- ✳ oral history projects.

Nominations and supporting materials must be received by ABHS no later than April 1, 2025. For submission guidelines go to <https://abhsarchives.org/for-churches>.

George Dana Younger (1926-2001) was a lifelong enthusiast for Baptist history. Along with his congregational and regional ministry, he served as editor-in-chief of the Historical Society's journal, represented the Baptist World Alliance at the United Nations, and taught Baptist history and polity. Seeking to continue his legacy of encouraging others to share their own part in Baptist history, in 2004 the ABHS Board of Managers created the George D. Younger Award.

