

Inside this issue:

Pat Reed, Coordinator of Mission & Service	2
In Memory of	2
Sandi McKee, Associate for Communication	4
Paula Costanza, Associate for Student Aid	5
Karen Dainty, Coordinator of Church & Community	6
Becky Jones, Treasurer	6
Area News	7
Nancy Johnson, Conference Chairman	10
Special Project	12
Nominating Committee	13
White Cross	13
National Events	14

Ripples Fall 2020 Edition

Sharon Farral, President

Soaring Higher—a lesson from nature

Crows were attacking a red-tailed hawk. They were like a gang of bullies circling their victim. The hawk didn't return the attack though it looked like with a swift rollover, he could have grasped one of the smaller birds and had a tasty snack. Instead, the hawk dodged and gave a flap or two with his powerful wings to gain a little more height. In ever-increasing circles the hawk soared higher and higher, until the crows gave up and flew away.

Life's problems can seem like a gang of bullies after us. People and situations 'peck' at us all the time. What do we do when we are surrounded by trouble? We can take a lesson from the red-tailed hawk. We don't have to use up our energy engaging with problem people or worrying about our circumstances. Instead, we can use our wings of faith to take us higher and closer to God. As we study God's Word and pray we remember the times in the past when God was there for us. 1 Thessalonians 5:18 tells us we are to give thanks in all things, in all circumstances. This act of gratitude reassures us that God is present in our situation (including COVID 19). We are in a spiritual battle every day while living inside these temporal bodies on this fallen earth. With God's help we can soar in the midst of all situations.

Ladies, remember God is with us at all times. It is difficult now for us to gather for board meetings. Area meetings, and even local church activi-



ties. Please do keep in contact through phone calls and emails. Barbara McKean has offered to assist groups with ZOOM for board meetings, mckean_b@msn.com. Our area executive ministers can also assist with this. We are going to have to be more creative in supporting our Special Project and Sallie Peck Scholarship fund.

We have some good webinars coming this fall from our national office. You can find these at www.abwomensministries.org. They are archived to be used at any time. I urge you to meet at church or in homes, in small groups, those who have the capability of viewing these sharing with those who do not have access to internet.

Each of you should look not only to your own interests, but also to the interests of others.

Philippians 2:4

Pat Reed, Coordinator of Missions & Service

Seems like I'm always finding a change to tell you about. As of now Dr. Steve and Nancy James have retired from their ministry in Haiti. Our replacement is Deliris Carrion-Joseph and Moises Joseph. They are starting a new ministry among Haitian, Central American and African migrants that have made their new home in Tijuana, Mexico. Moise is a business entrepreneur and Deliris is a pastor and occupational therapist. They have been invited by Vision de Migrante (Migrant's Vision), an organization formed by Haitian and Baptist Churches of the Regional Baja Convention interested in helping migrants. Moise and Deliris strongly believe at God uses us all wherever we live and that new opportunities are open to those who trust in the Lord. They will be using their skills and three different languages to help migrants and migrant communities to achieve their new beginnings.

A change has been made in Home Missions for the Great Rivers Region. We will now only be supporting Peoria Friendship House, Peoria, Illinois and the Bethel Neighborhood Center, Kansas City, Kansas as they are within the Great Rivers Region.

Brian and Lynette Smith will be going to Dominican Republic and Peter and Sarah McCurdy will be going to Mexico City as soon as air travel allows.

Seems like I'm always finding a change to tell you about.

In Memory of



Sue Wallick, Creekwood Baptist Church, Rockford, IL.
Area I Personal Development/Devotional Leader, Coordinator of Special Projects, Program and Love Gift
GRR ABWM Coordinator of Special Project and Love Gift

Our 2018-2019 Special Project of a Womens Dorm at North East India Christian University was named for

Sue Wallick and Ruth Peterson—Wallick-Peterson House.

Devoted to her Lord and a dear friend to her sisters in Christ.

Betty Peabody, Elgin First Baptist Church

Vannye Beaconson, Elgin First Baptist Church

Ruth Waite, Elgin First Baptist Church

Jean Ward, Elgin First Baptist Church

Nancy Ashworth, Grace Baptist Church, KCMO

Always willing to help anyone in need.

Judith Lee, Grace Baptists Church, KCMO

Jackie Villanueva, Grace Baptist Church, KCMO

We will miss her beautiful voice and sweet presence.



Barbara Miller, First Baptist Church, Moline, IL

Co-leader of ABWM

Kitchen Committee Chair

Missions Rep on Church Council

Parish Nurse



Barb Chaney, First Baptist Church, Moline, IL

Program Chair

Missions



Julie Rodell, First Baptist Church, Moline IL

Barbara Monkman, Area III

Asset. Conference Chair 1992 & 1993

Member of Area III Board



Jean L. Kiger, Third Baptist, St Louis

She spent almost 60 years caring for babies in her church.

In Memory...



Sandi McKee, Associate for Communications

We have lost friends and loved ones, church services have been cancelled, meetings and conference have been cancelled, everyone is wearing masks, COVID19 has separated us, no handshaking or hugging, people have lost jobs, fires are raging out west, hurricanes are threatening the Gulf Coast, there is racial tension in our cities. This has been a long, sad, confusing, lonely, contentious year. I've heard several people say that they would like to be done with 2020 and move on to 2021 RIGHT NOW! Seems like there is something to fear no matter which way we turn.

But from II Timothy ,”...*God has not given us a **spirit of fearfulness**, but one of power, love, and sound judgment.* “ We hear the same sentiment in I John 4:18 and Romans 8:15 and Philippians 4:6-7.

My prayer for our ABWM and all of us is that we don't let fear become a prison where we can't see and communicate God's love, that fear doesn't make us lose focus on the tasks that God has set before us, that fear doesn't make us deaf to what God would have of us, that we don't let fear become an obstacle in our way to God and our fellow man.

Let us use this scary year for God's purposes. Not out of fear of what can go so wrong but out of the gifts that God has given us. Let us love harder. Let us care more. Let us open our eyes to see what God has put in front of us. Let us give of our better selves. Let us reach outward to all those around us. Let us search inward to hear the voice of God. As sisters in Christ we can accomplish much.

Paula Costanza, Associate for Student Aid

Proverbs 22:6

Train up a child in the way he should go and when he is old, he will not depart from it.

Applications for the ABW Student Aid/Scholarship fund can be found at http://www.grrabwministries.org/docs/sallie_peck_scholarship_student_aid_7-16-18.pdf

This Scholarship is available to students active in an ABC GRR (American Baptist Churches of the Great Rivers Region) church and want to attend a school or seminary affiliated with ABC (American Baptist Churches). **The deadline is May 1st** and no application will be accepted after that date (to provide fair distribution of funds available).

The amount of given in scholarships will depend on the amount of funds available at the time of July conference and how many have applied and been accepted. This varies from year to year. Each recipient must be contacted or they must let us know if they want continued support. As long as they are still attending and making passing grades they will be granted continuing scholarship. They may have a scholarship for 4 years undergraduate and 3 years seminary but must request each year.

2020-2021 Recipients

Emma Loeppky

Judson University

5027 Orchard Ave.

Rockford, IL 61108

ph.: 815.200.7212

D.O.B.: 10/22/1998

eloepky98@gmail.com

Noah DeLong

Olivet Nazarene

506 Ninth Avenue

Mendota, IL. 61342

ph.:815.538.2520

D.O.B.: 9/23/2001

noahdelong25@gmail.com

Kaylie Malenius

Judson University

805 Holiday Dr.

Champaign, IL. 61821

ph.: 217.372.1785

D.O.B.: 5/21/2000

kaylie.malenius@gmail.com

These are the lives that have been impacted by your generosity. Please consider promoting the Student Aid Scholarship program in your area by handing applications to prospective students, so we may support the future generation. It will be greatly appreciated.

Many Blessings,

Paula Costanza

*Please pray for
Emma, Noah, and
Kaylie*

Karen Dainty, Coordinator Of Church and Community

A big thank you to Barbara McKean for serving as our Coordinator of Church and Community for the last several years and we welcome Karen Dainty as our new board member. She has been elected to be our Coordinator of Church and Community for the next 3 years.

**Welcome Karen
Dainty**

Becky Jones, Treasurer

Please remind your Treasurers to send all dollars thru your Area ABWM Treasurer. Please DO NOT send your dollars directly to the Region Office. Our region project to raise \$15,000 for National Support ends at the end of July so please remember to send your donations in to reach your area treasurer by the middle of July. Let's all help support Camp Ochomogo!

Judy DeRolf, Area I

We will have a board of managers zoom meeting on September 14th from 10-12 noon and then our fall festival meeting again by zoom on October 17th. Our speaker for the meeting on the 17th is Karen Schultz. She is the Chicago area City Director for Refuge for Women, a national network of safe, restorative after care homes for women who have been sexually exploited and trafficked.

Joan Leitzen, Area III

Using Secret Place, August 18, 2020

Romans 18:26-27

Likewise the spirit helps us in our weakness.

With so much evil in the world, what can we do? We feel helpless. Saying we will pray sometimes sounds trite, but is it?

Paul tells us that we have help when we pray. God sends the Holy Spirit to dwell in us. The Holy Spirit acts as a translator to interpret words we cannot express. Paul also says that we should present our requests to God and be at peace. What a tall order. Many of us do not like to ask for things. But God knows our request, even before we ask, wants to hear our voice.

So be bold. Ask God, with the help of the Holy Spirit, for what you need and what family, community, nation and world needs. Your prayers will be heard and you will find peace.

God bless and be safe.

*...we have help when we
pray.*

Linda Watson, Area IV President

Greetings from Area IV

Our Personal Development Coordinator from Area IV is Shirley Pressgrove. She always has an uplifting Devotion for our Board Meetings and Rallies. I wanted to share one of her Devotions at our Area IV Board meeting in 2019.

7-Ups:

Wake Up: Decide to have a good day.

Dress Up: Put on a Smile.

Shut Up: Say only nice things and LISTEN!

Stand Up: Stand up for what you believe. Galatians 6: 9-10

Look Up: Look up to the Lord.

Reach Up: Reach up to the Lord. Proverbs 5:6-7

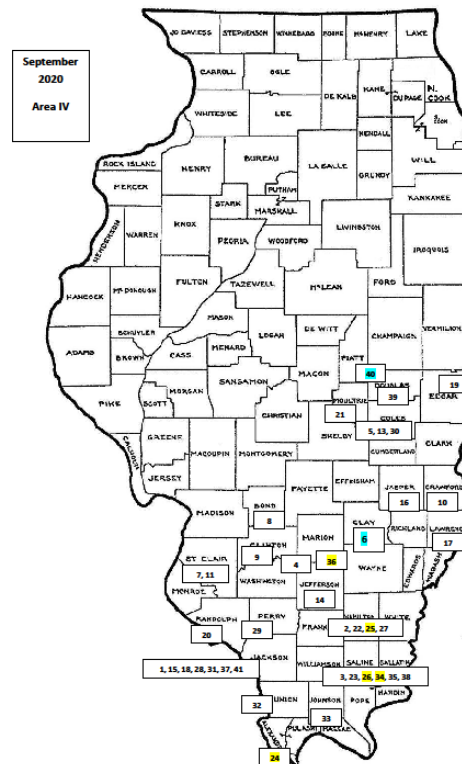
Lift Up: Pray about everything.

Our Area IV Board will have a ZOOM Meeting on September 12, 2020. I think I have a plan for anyone without Internet Access. I will have the speaker phone next to the PC microphone. That way, anyone can participate in the audio.

Our Areas are experiencing declining participation from churches. Also, we do not have positions filled on our boards. On Area IV Board, we have one lady willing to take two positions. Brandy Trussell is our Coordinator for Student Aid and ABGIRLS. She is so amazing! She teaches at an elementary and is working on her Masters. Our board is blessed with wonderful ladies who love to serve and since our Revised Bylaws permit unlimited terms when necessary, these ladies step forward with a welcomed, "Yes, I will be glad to serve."

I would like to share a map and list of Area IV Churches. I include this in my newsletter to the churches. I also include it in a display for our rallies. I pray we can all have safe rallies in 2021.

Blessings,
Linda



Area IV Churches				
CHURCH	ADDRESS	CITY	ST	ZIP
1 Boskydell Baptist Church of Carbondale	3518 Boskydell Road	Carbondale	IL	62901
2 First Baptist Church of Benton	201 S Main Street P.O. Box 576	Benton	IL	62812
3 First Baptist Church of Cambria	Washington & Popular St P.O. Box 397	Cambria	IL	62915
4 First Baptist Church of Centralia	319 E Second Street	Centralia	IL	62801
5 First Baptist Church of Charleston	2800 University Drive	Charleston	IL	61920
6 First Baptist Church of Flora	293 E Third Street	Flora	IL	62839
7 First Baptist Church of Freeburg	1031 S State Street	Freeburg	IL	62243
8 First Baptist Church of Greenville	218 E South Avenue	Greenville	IL	62246-1820
9 First Baptist Church of Highland	2709 Popular Street P.O. Box 421	Highland	IL	62249
10 First Baptist Church of Hutsonville	209 N Pleasant Street P.O. Box 97	Hutsonville	IL	62433
11 First Baptist Church of Marissa	501 N Main Street	Marissa	IL	62257
13 First Baptist Church of Mattoon	1804 S Ninth Street	Mattoon	IL	61938
14 First Baptist Church of Mount Vernon	1600 Salem Road	Mount Vernon	IL	62864
15 First Baptist Church of Murphysboro	401 North 15th Street	Murphysboro	IL	62966
16 First Baptist Church of Newton	201 S Church Street	Newton	IL	62448
17 First Baptist Church of Olney	420 E Chestnut Street	Olney	IL	62450
18 Camp Creek Baptist Church of Murphysboro	613 N Fifth Street	Ava	IL	62907
19 First Baptist Church of Paris	201 S Central Avenue	Paris	IL	61944
20 First Baptist Church of Percy	202 S Fourth Street P.O. Box 395	Percy	IL	62272
21 First Baptist Church of Sullivan	215 E Harrison Street	Sullivan	IL	61951
22 First Northern Baptist Church of West Frankfort	1502 E Oak Street	West Frankfort	IL	62896
23 Grand Avenue Baptist Church of Carterville	116 W Grand	Carterville	IL	62918
24 Mighty Rivers Regional Worship Center	224 11th Street	Cairo	IL	62914
25 Mulkeytown Baptist Church	7619 Main St	Mulkeytown	IL	62865
26 Northern Baptist Church of Creal Springs	506 South Line Street	Creal Springs	IL	62922
27 Palestine Baptist Church of Whittington	12408 State Hwy 37	Benton	IL	62812
28 Pate Chapel of Murphysboro	3481 W Grange Hall Rd P.O. Box 69	Murphysboro	IL	62966
29 Central Baptist Church of Willisville	913 Broadway P.O. Box 203	Willisville	IL	62997
30 Pleasant Grove Baptist Church of Humboldt	14447 Cooks Mill Road	Humboldt	IL	61931
31 Sato Baptist Church	5472 Beaucoup Road	Ava	IL	62907
32 Shiloh Baptist Church of Cobden	356 Water Valley Road	Cobden	IL	62920
33 Walnut Grove Baptist Church of New Burnside	16445 US Hwy 45 N	New Burnside	IL	62987
34 Warder Street Baptist Church of Marion	205 E Warder Street P.O. Box 868	Marion	IL	62959
35 Washington Avenue Baptist Church of Johnston City	9th and Washington St P.O. Box 98	Johnston City	IL	62951
36 White Swan Baptist Church of Woodlawn	16988 N White Swan Lane	Woodlawn	IL	62898
37 Cottage Home Baptist Church of Carbondale	3571 Grassy Road	Carbondale	IL	62901
38 Crainville Baptist Church of Carterville	806 Marion Street	Carterville	IL	62918
39 First Baptist Church of Arthur	120 E Park Street P.O. Box 46	Arthur	IL	61911
40 First Baptist Church of Atwood	231 N Illinois Street P.O. Box 797	Atwood	IL	61913
41 First Baptist Church of Ava	208 S Russell Street P.O. Box 185	Ava	IL	62907
Closed	have no active ABW			

Nancy Johnson and Marilyn Koch, Conference Co-Chairs

**American Baptist Women's Ministries and AB G.I.R.L.S.
Great Rivers Region Annual Conference**
July 30, 31 August 1, 2021
PREMIER/Best Western 3559 College Avenue Alton, Illinois



Friday Night

Babbi Mason

The name Babbie Mason is synonymous with creative excellence in the Christian community. An award-winning singer-songwriter of Christian music, her ministry and career have blessed countless thousands for almost three decades. She is the daughter of a Baptist pastor, thus Babbie learned to serve others early in life. Babbi will also speak to the entire group on Saturday morning.

Marilyn & I are listing Prices for this event now, so you have an entire year for your church ladies to start saving for an Inspirational Weekend (Summer of 2021). AB Girls will be different. (Age Based)

**July 30 thru Aug 1
2021
PREMIER/Best
Western
Alton, IL**

- * **Full Time (2 Nights & 4 Meals)** Includes Friday evening, Saturday, and Sunday Programs
- * **\$180.00 for 2 persons to a room** Includes Friday evening, Saturday, and Sunday Programs
- * \$165.00 for 3 persons to a room Includes Friday evening, Saturday, and Sunday Programs
- * \$150.00 for 4 or more persons to a room Includes Friday evening, Saturday, and Sunday Programs
- * \$265.00 for 1 person to a room Includes Friday evening, Saturday, and Sunday Programs
- * \$67.00 Saturday Only Programs (Lunch & Dinner)
- * \$150.00 **Part Time** (Friday night room) Includes Friday & Saturday programs & meals on Saturday)
- * **\$25.00 Friday Night Only Seats Limited**

Hope to see all of you Next SUMMER! God Bless and Stay Healthy
Nancy & Marilyn

Biennial Mission Summit
June 25-27, 2021
San Juan, Puerto Rico

**Celebrating Ministering Women: Radical.
Redeemed. Ready**
June 15-18, 2022
Green Lake, Wisconsin

American Baptist
Women's
MINISTRIES

*Special Project, 2020-2021***\$15,000 for a pavilion over the basketball court at Camp Ochomogo.**

Camp Ochomogo,
Costa Rica

Ochomogo is the Baptist camp in Costa Rica. Our \$15,000 goes toward the construction of a pavilion over the basketball court. This would provide relief from the hot sun, useable on rainy days, shade for Bible study, available for kids' games, and for larger group meetings. The pavilion would enable much more efficient use of the basketball court. GRR has had a partnership with the Baptists of Costa Rica for many years. Currently our missionaries Sue Hegarty and Ruth Vindas are serving in that area.

Nominating Committee

Do you have a passion for the work that the ABWM is doing? Would you like to serve on the Region ABWM Board or do you know someone who would be great to nominate?

We need a Secretary and a Coordinator of Special Projects/Love Gift. Please contact Sharon Farral or Linda Watson if you are interested.

Linda Watson, chair - IV

Sandi McKee - V

Judy DeRolf - I

Marcia Wimmer - Area II

Joan Leitzen - III

Do you have a
passion for the
work ABWM is
doing?



You can help today

Through White Cross programs in your church, you can provide much needed help. PRAY for children to be able to attend school, for people recovering from the trauma of forced labor, and for IM's global servants and partners promoting health and education, who are serving in these ministries. GIVE in support of White Cross projects. To see all White Cross projects, visit <https://www.internationalministries.org/white-cross/>. Thank you for supporting White Cross.

White Cross Overseas

International Ministries, also known as the American Baptist Foreign Mission Society, works cross-culturally to invite people to become disciples of Jesus Christ and to proclaim, through both word and deed, God's reign of justice, peace and abundant life for all creation. For more information, contact Zofia Dripps by email

zdripps@internationalministries.org or by phone at 610-768-2311. To give, go to <https://www.internationalministries.org/white-cross/>. Thank you for supporting White Cross.

White Cross Overland

Baptist Home Mission Societies seeks to empower American Baptists to nurture strong ministerial leaders and passionate Christian disciples impacting the United States and Puerto Rico with God's love. For more information on supporting White Cross here in the United States through the American Baptist Home Mission Societies, contact Rev. Kadia Edwards by email at Kadia.edwards@abhms.org or by phone at 610-768-2449.

**American Baptist Women
of the
Great Rivers Region
American Baptist Churches**

We are attempting to be good stewards of our resources. Therefore, we no longer send the 'RIPPLES' via U.S Mail. If you know of someone who does not have computer access, please print a copy and share it with them.

To submit an e-mail address to be added to the list
E-mail: abwgrr@yahoo.com

For more information go to:
www.grr-abwm.org

Mission

AB Women's Ministries is a Christ-centered ministry with a commitment to encourage and empower women and girls to serve God

Vision

Every American Baptist church shall have a vital women's ministry program that empowers women and girls to become and develop as God's person, build God's faith community, and serve God's world.

Purpose

As servant leaders, we serve American Baptist churches by encouraging existing vital ministries with women and girls and empowering churches to build such ministries.

**National Events
2020**

ABW Ministries Sunday	Sept 20
Hi-e.S.T.E.A.M. for girls	Oct 24
Baptist Women's Day of Prayer	Nov 2
World Community Day (CWU)	Nov 6
Life Lux Jazz 2020	Nov 5-9
Human Rights Celebration (CWU)	Dec 10



Check the website abwomensministries.org for more information and registration for webinars and events and to be informed of any cancellations.

FALL WEBINARS

Cheers (Drink to that) or Not: Let's talk about Alcohol and Drugs in the lives of Young Women

September 24, 2020 9PM EDT/6PMPST
Presenter: Dr. Lynda Morris Parham, Licensed Psychologist

Increasing Awareness and Knowledge with the Goal of Supporting Others

October 8, 2020 9PM EDT/6PM EST
Presenter: Jocelyn Cooper, Mercer Council on Alcoholism and Drug Addiction

A Call to Action: Addressing Unique Treatment and Recovery Needs of Women in Addiction

October 22, 2020 9PM EDT/6PM EST
Presenter: Dr. Brenda Edwards, Counselor Educator and Psychotherapist

Addiction in Context: A Public Health Framework

November 5, 2020 9PM EDT/6PM EST
Presenter: Dr. Onaje Salim, Board-Certified Counselor, Licensed Clinician

Equipping Families to Deal with Addiction

December 3, 2020 9PM/6PMPST
Presenters: Mary Ann Badenoch LPC, MAC, Marcia Lee Taylor, M.P.P, Patt Aussem, MA, LPC, MAC, NBCC, Partnership to End Addiction