



# BETTER TOGETHER

Building up the Body of Christ

August 2022

Dear MABC Pastors, Church Leaders and Members of the Congregation,

I hope you will plan to join us in Pella, Iowa on Friday evening, September 30th through Saturday Lunch on October 1st for our 2022 Biennial Gathering. Enclosed in this mailing are a number of documents pertaining to the Biennial. There is a poster that I hope you will place on the church bulletin board. Make as many copies of the registration form as you need and please be sure to announce this event in upcoming newsletters and bulletin announcements. Workshop options and descriptions will be made available shortly.

Our Biennial planning committees are hard at work getting ready for our time together.

We will also be conducting region business on Saturday morning and it will be important to have delegates from all of our churches present. If you have questions about any of the information enclosed in this mailing, please don't hesitate to contact me.

Peace,

*Jacqueline L. Saxon*

Rev. Jacqueline L. Saxon  
Executive Minister



2400 86th Street, Suite 15, Des Moines IA 50322-4380  
515-278-1411 • FAX 515-278-5865 • [exec@mid-abc.org](mailto:exec@mid-abc.org)

**American Baptist Churches of Iowa and Minnesota**



**Mid-American Baptist Churches Biennial Gathering 2022**  
**“Better Together: Building Up the Body of Christ”**  
INDIVIDUAL REGISTRATION FORM  
One Registration Form Per Person

**Registration and fees should be postmarked no later than  
Friday, September 23, 2022**

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_

E-Mail \_\_\_\_\_

Church Name \_\_\_\_\_

City/State of Church \_\_\_\_\_

Please check appropriate box:

Adult Delegate     Adult Participant    \*Please check if childcare is needed  Ages \_\_\_\_\_

**\*For child care needs and specifics, please contact the Region Office for information and details.**

---

<u>Registration Fee</u>	<u>Cost</u>	<u>Amount Enclosed</u>
Adult (includes Saturday Celebration Lunch*) <input type="checkbox"/> *I will need a vegetarian meal	\$25.00	\$ _____
Ministers Council Dinner (Friday night before worship) <b>***change of venue - the dinner will be held at First Baptist***</b>	\$10.00	\$ _____
	Total Amount enclosed	\$ _____

---

Make check payable to Mid-ABC 2022 Biennial Gathering  
Mail to: Mid-American Baptist Churches  
2400 NW 86th Street Suite 15  
Des Moines, IA 50322

**Registration and fees should be postmarked no later than Friday, September 23, 2022**

# BETTER TOGETHER

Building up the Body of Christ

## Schedule of Events

### Friday, September 30th

4:30 p.m. Registration Opens at FBC Pella  
 5:30 p.m. Minister's Council Dinner  
 7:00 p.m. Opening Worship and Communion  
 Preacher Rev. Sharon Koh, ABCUSA International Ministries  
 9:00 p.m. Fellowship Time

### Saturday, October 1st

8:30 a.m. Registration Opens at FBC Pella  
 8:45 a.m. Gathering Music  
 9:00 a.m. Opening Worship  
 Bible Study led by Rev. Toya Richards, Global Servant  
 Business Session  
 Workshops - two sessions of workshops will be available  
 Group Photo  
 12:30 p.m. Celebration Luncheon

### Lodging places in the area:

<b>Baymont by Wyndham</b>	<b>641-628-0085 /800-293-0718</b>	<b>2104 Washington St</b>
<i>A small block of rooms reserved under the name of Van Haften \$129</i>		
<b>Country Inn &amp; Suites</b>	<b>641-620-1111</b>	<b>315 Roosevelt Rd</b>
<i>A small block of rooms reserved under the name of Van Haften \$144</i>		
<b>Americinn by Wyndham</b>	<b>844-268-5759</b>	<b>910 W 16th St.</b>
<b>Royal Amsterdam</b>	<b>641-620-8400</b>	<b>705 E 1st St.</b>
<b>Super 8</b>	<b>641-732-2046</b>	<b>105 E Oskaloosa St.</b>
<b>Grandstay Hotels and Suites</b>	<b>641-628-4853</b>	<b>2508 Bos Landen Dr</b>

# BETTER TOGETHER



Building up the Body of Christ

## Delegate instructions and Information

**While we are together, we will need to conduct some regional business and therefore we need delegates to be present throughout our Gathering and especially on Saturday morning for the Business meeting.**

**In order to conduct the business we will need a Quorum of our churches to be present and represented which is to at least 20% according to our Bylaws. Currently, that number needs to be at least 23.**

In a separate attachment you will find the number of delegates each congregation has been allotted for the 2022 MABC Biennial Gathering. .

If more individuals register as delegates than you are allotted from the church, the delegates will be assigned based on the order that they registered for the Gathering, with additional names being held as alternates for your church. If you feel your number of delegates is in error, please contact the Region office.

**Please remember that all are welcome and encouraged to come to our Biennial Gathering, whether designated a delegate or not.**

From the Mid-ABC By-Laws:

### Section 3. DELEGATES TO THE ANNUAL AND SPECIAL MEETINGS OF THE REGION *(based upon ABCUSA's algorithm for allocating delegates to national gatherings and meetings)*

- 3.1 LOCAL CONGREGATIONS. Each cooperating local congregation shall have a minimum of two delegates, one of whom may be its pastor. Congregations may receive one additional delegate for each 50 persons in average worship attendance as reported on the previous year's Congregational Report Form. In addition, the church will receive one (1) additional Delegate if such Church's per capita giving to the American Baptist Mission Support (or any successor thereto) in the calendar year preceding the meeting equaled \$40, plus one (1) additional Delegate for each whole number multiple of \$30 of such per capita giving based on average worship attendance in excess of \$40 in such year; and one (1) additional Delegate for each whole number multiple of \$5,000 of such Church's total giving to the American Baptist Mission Support (or any successor thereto) in the calendar year preceding the meeting.
- 3.2 A congregation may designate an alternate for the delegate selected.
- 3.3 Each delegate shall represent only one church and have only one vote.
- 3.4 All officers of the Board of Region Ministries shall be delegates, ex officio with vote.



# BETTER TOGETHER

Building up the Body of Christ



How is your church demonstrating our Biennial Theme?

We are putting together a Powerpoint presentation using photos gathered from all of our churches. Take a couple of pictures of your church family demonstrating: **Better Together: Building up the Body of Christ**



Send your pics to the region office via email to [office@mid-abc.org](mailto:office@mid-abc.org) so we can include them in our *Better Together Presentation* at the Biennial! Be sure to include the full name of the church in your email correspondence with the region office and rename the .jpeg to include the name of the church.



# BETTER TOGETHER

Building up the Body of Christ

## Biennial Workshop Offerings

Workshops will be presented twice on Saturday morning  
So that you may choose two to attend.

### **Workshop #1a: "I'm Not Burned Out, but I'm Warm!?" (Part I)**

*Vicarious trauma, burnout, and compassion fatigue are the "hazardous substances" we are exposed to in the helping professions. The first session will focus on recognizing signs of burnout with compassion and grace, inviting participants to consider what patterns they might be caught in. The session will invite reflecting on strategies for self-care, boundary setting, and—in some cases—mourning what has been lost in these years of upheaval. Led by chaplains Yvette Jackson and Jeff Challberg*

### **Workshop #1b: "I'm Not Burned Out, but I'm Warm!?" (Part II)**

*The second session will draw on the concept of "mental toughness," which draws on sports psychology. Mental toughness, perhaps counterintuitively, includes a capacity to remain loose, letting go of mistakes, and remaining grounded in one's sense of enjoyment of their practice and skill. This session will invite participants to consider how they remain resilient, playful, and creative in ministry during stressful times.*

**Led by chaplains Yvette Jackson and Jeff Challberg**

***Please note that Workshop 1 is split into two parts and you are welcome to attend both sessions or choose only one along with another from the list below.***

### **Workshop #2: "Sawubona: We see you"**

*Join International Ministries' Global Servant Toya Richards, who is endorsed to serve in South Africa, as she shares on mission work that is rooted in a shared journey.*

### **Workshop #3: "We're All Televangelists Now: A Conversation About Online Ministry."**

*An interactive workshop on how our congregations are employing technology to make worship services more available to those who can't be there in person, and how to make this more participatory for those at home.*

**Led by Dave Russell, pastor at FBC Ames**

### **Workshop #4: Effective Youth Ministry with Smaller Groups**

*We'd all love a youth group of 50 kids, but the reality is that most church youth groups are much smaller, often containing 3-7 students. Can we still do powerful youth ministry with smaller groups? Absolutely! This workshop will look at ways to encourage smaller groups of students, will show ways to develop leadership skills in them, and will talk about games that will engage a limited number of kids. Led by Rob White, pastor at FBC Davenport and additional members of the Region Board Youth Committee.*

**Once registration has been received at the region office you will be sent a separate email confirmation along with the opportunity to choose the workshops you would like to attend.**