



May 27, 2009

Dear ABC/Ohio Pastor,

American Baptist Churches in Ohio have faithfully supported ministries in the American Baptist family through United Mission, the four special annual offerings, and ministry designations for many years. ABC/Ohio is one of the top ten mission giving Regions in the American Baptist Churches USA. We are profoundly grateful for every church who gives generously to support ABC missions, which includes the American Baptist Churches of Ohio.

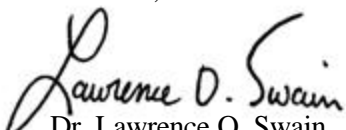
In recent years mission giving patterns have changed. Churches and individual donors want more choices in how they give. Rather than giving to general funds like United Mission that support the whole ministry, givers want to designate to specific ministries they are passionate about. The result is that ministries that depend on funding through general fund giving like UM suffer. This is true for ABC/Ohio. The American Baptist ministry that most closely serves you and your church has experienced a drastic drop in support while other ministries prosper as givers redirect their giving. Additionally, many churches in ABC/Ohio who benefit from this ministry do not give at all.

Therefore, to respond to these changes ABC/Ohio is launching the **“Buckeye Mission and Ministry Offering.”** This Region mission offering will provide individuals and churches who wish to specifically support ABC/Ohio a **NEW** way to do so. It will be especially helpful for churches that do not support United Mission, America for Christ, or support ABC/Ohio in any way. For churches that value special offerings rather than budget line items as a way to support ministries the **B.M.M.O.** will be the perfect opportunity.

The promotion packet you have received includes a beautiful 17” x 22” poster depicting current ABC/Ohio ministries that impact churches and the world for Christ, a sample bulletin insert, offering envelope, and response postcard. I urge every ABC/Ohio church to display the poster where your members can see its beauty and connect with its message. I also invite as many churches as possible to participate in receiving the offering at a time in 2009 that is convenient for your church. I only ask that you don’t receive the **B.M.M.O.** during the World Mission Offering time.

I am asking every ABC/Ohio church to return the postcard and let us know if you plan to receive the **B.M.M.O.** in 2009 and how many bulletin inserts and offering envelopes you need. When we receive your positive response we will send the materials you request immediately. I am praying for a generous outpouring of God’s abundance and your faithfulness to support the ministries of ABC/Ohio. Help us reach our goal of **\$30,000** in 2009. Remember every dollar given goes to ABC/Ohio ministries that impact the world for Christ! If you have questions call the office, or check out www.abc-ohio.org.

In Christ,


Dr. Lawrence O. Swain
Executive Minister

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