

*Partners in Ministry*  
*Fulfilling Christ's Mission in the World*



Being “new” at school, on the job or at church can be challenging and stressful. When someone is “new”, there is so much they don’t know, including where to turn for answers to the questions that are a normal part of being new.

For new pastors in ABCOPAD, this can be especially challenging. Of course, there are all the challenges that come with being new to a local church including learning everyone’s names and the various roles people play in ministry. Add to that the stress that exists if the local pastor comes from a tradition other than American Baptist, now needing to learn about this massive organization that accompanies the congregation they are now leading.



In November 2019, ABCOPAD launched its first online New Pastors Orientation in an effort to help new pastors in ABCOPAD. The New Pastors Orientation was a 2-session event with new pastors having an opportunity to meet full-time staff, Regional Ministry Associates and Auxiliary Ministry leaders to better understand all the resources available through ABCOPAD. While Ministry is NOT a business, there are similarities. On the website [thebalancecareers.com](http://thebalancecareers.com) Dr. Judith Brown wrote, “A well thought out orientation program, whether it lasts one day or six months, will help not only in the retention of employees but also in the increases in employee productivity. Organizations that have good orientation programs get new people up to speed faster, have better alignment between what the employees do and what the organization needs them to do, and have lower turnover rates.” ABCOPAD wants to see new pastors succeed and congregations thrive under new leadership.

When you support Partners in Ministry, you make it possible for **new ministries** like the Online **New Pastors Orientation** to be created and launched. You make it possible for Regional Staff to explore and develop new ways for us to do ministry together in partnership. Thank you for your gifts to Partners in Ministry.

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You can give to **Partners in Ministry**...

1. Through your local congregation’s weekly offering by designating your gift to ABCOPAD - *Partners in Ministry*.
2. Through ABCOPAD’s Online Giving option, available on the regional website ([www.abcopad.org](http://www.abcopad.org)). Your church can receive mission-giving credit for your online gift.
3. By giving through your mobile device ([www.abcopad.mobile](http://www.abcopad.mobile)).
4. By sending your check (made payable to ABCOPAD WMS) to:

**ABCOPAD**  
**P.O. Box 421**  
**Hatboro, PA 19040.**

**Thank you** for your giving to **Partners in Ministry** and for your partnership as we minister together in Pennsylvania and Delaware.

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**THE AMERICAN BAPTIST**  
**CHURCHES OF**  
**PENNSYLVANIA & DELAWARE**

