



January 26, 2021

Dear Colleagues in Ministry,

Greetings from your Mid-American Ministers Council! A new year means it is time to renew your Minister's Council membership. If you have not been a member before or have allowed your participation to lapse, this is a great time to join, or re-join.

Why become a member? For continuing education and fellowship, for access to a wealth of resources, and to be part of an organization committed to the support and advocacy of American Baptist clergy. Some of our significant programs include:

- **Prairie Pastor's Conference.** This wonderful conference is for ministers in Mid-America, the Dakotas, Nebraska, and Central Region. The theme for this year's conference is Catalyst: Building Uncommon Connections. This year the conference is a one day Zoom event on February 11 from 1-4pm CST. Prairie Pastor's Conference plans to resume in-person on March 28 - 30, 2022 in Omaha. Costs of this conference are subsidized for Ministers Council members.
- **Grand Junction Scholarships.** Members may receive funding for half the cost of a continuing education event, up to a \$250 scholarship. This is available once every two years.
- **Emergency Aid Fund.** Assistance is provided to ministers who find themselves in crisis situations as a tangible expression of the concern of fellow clergy. We invite you to include a contribution to this fund along with your membership dues.
- **Cluster groups.** The Ministers Council sponsors several collegial covenant groups in our region that meet regularly for fellowship, prayer, discussion, and mutual encouragement. We hope to begin more such groups.

Joining or re-joining is a bargain in 2021! All regional dues are waived this year. But the bigger reason to join the Ministers Council is to be a part of and help support the community of American Baptist ministers. Rather than adding this letter to the stack of stuff on your desk, I encourage you to go ahead and return the enclosed/attached membership form today!

Blessings,

Rev. Jay Thornton  
MABC Ministers Council President

## The Ministers Council - Mid-American Baptist Churches

☒ Yes, I wish to be a member of the Mid-ABC Ministers Council for **2021**

### Sliding Scale Membership Fee:

income of \$60,000+	\$100 National + \$0 Regional =	\$100 Total
\$25,000 - \$55,999	\$50 National + \$0 Regional =	\$50 Total
\$10,000 - \$24,999	\$25 National + \$0 Regional =	\$25 Total
under \$10,000 or retired	\$10 National + \$0 Regional =	\$10 Total
Life Members retired before 2014, students, newly ordained	\$0	

Amount enclosed: \_\_\_\$100 \_\_\_\$50 \_\_\_\$25 \_\_\_\$10 \_\_\_\$0

\_\_\_ I am also enclosing a contribution in the amount of \$ \_\_\_ to the Emergency Assistance Fund.

Name \_\_\_\_\_ email \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_ City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

*Please make check payable to **Mid-ABC Ministers Council** and mail to:  
Rev. David Schwechel, First Baptist Church, POB 423, Iowa Falls, IA 50126*

