

# 2019 ANNUAL SUMMARY

*Connecting People Who Care To Ministries That Matter*

So neither the one who plants  
nor the one who waters is anything,  
but only God, who makes things grow.

*1 Corinthians 3:7*  
*New International Version (NIV)*

<b>Greetings</b>	2
Letter from the Executive Director, Rev. Perkin Simpson	
<b>Strengthening Your Financial Future</b>	3
<b>American Baptist Member Spotlight</b>	4
ABCUSA General Secretary, Rev. Dr. Lee Spitzer	
<b>American Baptist Mission Spotlight</b>	6
Leading Children and Youth toward Christian Spirituality	
<b>2019 Financial Summary</b>	8
<b>American Baptist Ministry Spotlight</b>	10
Healing Trauma - American Baptist Churches of Metro New York	
<b>The Virginia and Gordon Palmer Trust</b>	12
2019 IM and MRC Grant Awardees	
<b>John Mason Peck Society</b>	13
<b>The Foundation</b>	16

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

Whether it be a tenderly cared-for potted plant on a window sill, or a random young sprout just beginning to exist, water is essential for GROWTH. In 1 Corinthians 3:7 is God's assurance the He is the source of our growth. As you review your life, no doubt you can celebrate how these words were fulfilled time and time again, and how you GREW in your faith journey.

For instance, you have been blessed with human relationships that have reflected God's love. You have experienced times of joy that went beyond mere happiness. You endured difficulties that had Easter's resurrection-morning results, especially during those challenging occasions when you felt you were living in "a sun-scorched land," still God's guidance and strength were present—even when your feelings took time to catch up to that fact. The Spirit's refreshment was "like a spring whose waters never fail."

As the GROWTH of a plant relies on water, so we celebrate how the Foundation's efforts through such programs as our Strengthening Your Financial Future (SYFF) have been a catalyst for GROWTH. The increased results of SYFF (see page 3) indicate what is happening to GROW the long-term sustainability of ministry and mission as we partner with American Baptist organizations and individuals to develop "well-rooted" planned giving logical steps that are easy to use. Please contact us for further information about this and other Foundation resources essential for long-term GROWTH.

These recent days throughout our nation, and the world, may have given you pause to wonder about your own personal GROWTH related to day-to-day living. That is certainly understandable. But I would remind you of photos we have seen over the years of flowers and other greenery surprisingly flourishing in the crags of rocks or even the small splits in concrete or blacktop. As those "miracles of GROWTH" can occur seemingly in abundance, so you—and the American Baptist ministries and mission endeavors you hold dear—can flourish because "the LORD will guide you always."

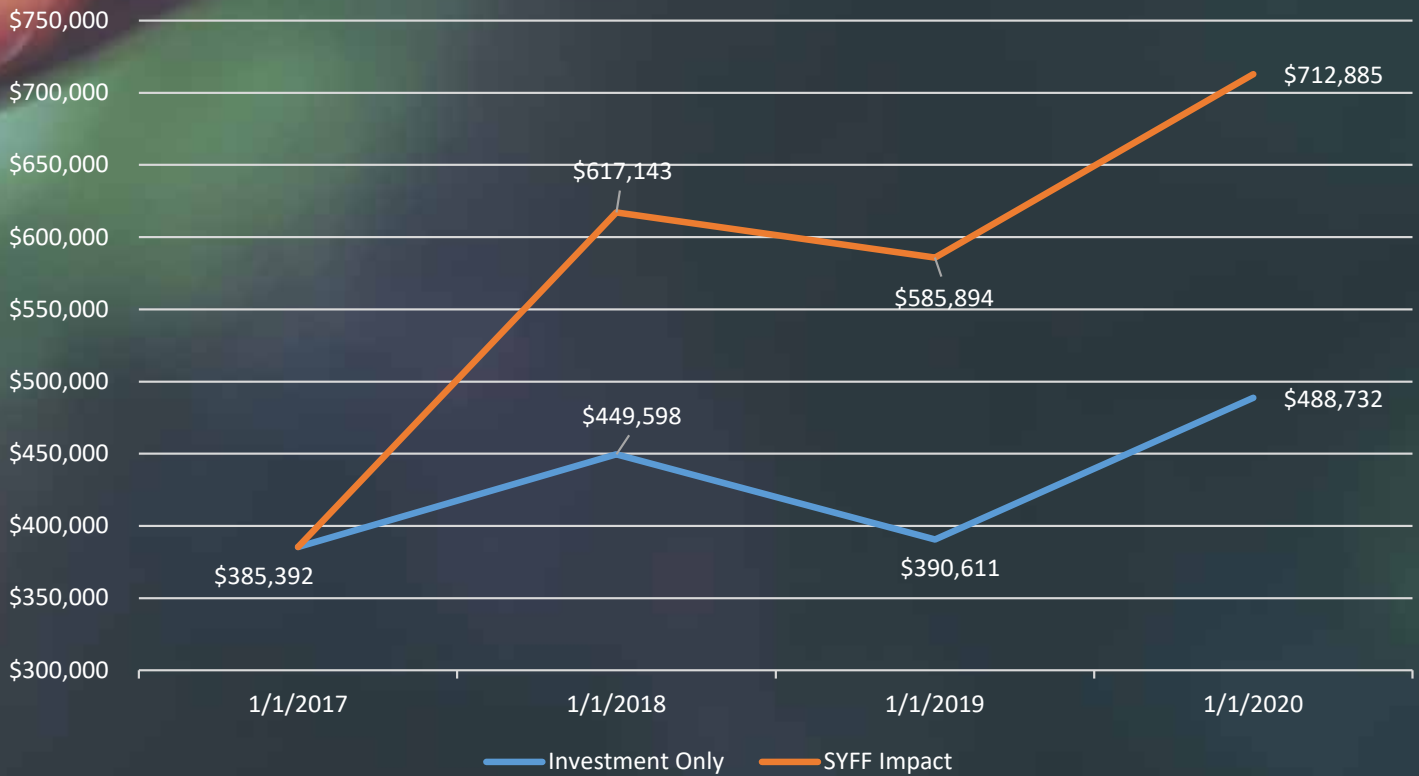
Yours in Christ,

*Perkin*

Rev. Perkin Simpson

Executive Director

## SYFF Participant Account\*



Year	Beginning Balance	Additional Gifts	Distributions	Annual Return	Ending Balance
2016	\$ 372,933	\$ (4,685)	\$ -	3.35%	\$ 385,392
2017	\$ 385,392	\$ 158,841	\$ -	16.66%	\$ 617,143
2018	\$ 617,143	\$ 322,367	\$ -	29.97%	\$ 585,894
2019	\$ 585,894	\$ 485,894	\$ -	43.28%	\$ 712,885

*\*This data comes from an actual SYFF participant account. The growth, compared to investment returns alone, are due to additional gifts made by donors to the fund each year.*



Everyone has a life story. For Christians that story becomes our testimony of how God has led us to grow in our faith journey and our commitment to serve the Body of Christ. This is certainly true of those who are on the Foundation's Board of Directors. One of them has been the Rev. Dr. Lee B. Spitzer. Lee retired on December 31, 2019, from his position as the General Secretary of the *American Baptist Churches, USA (ABCUSA)*. In that role as leader of our faith family Lee strengthened existing ministries like women in ministry and ecological justice, launched new initiatives such as the Golden Rule 2020 civil discourse campaign, worked on creative church planting, published pastoral letters on a diverse range of topics, and oversaw the relocation of ABCUSA's Board of General Ministries office from the Valley Forge, Pa. Mission Center to a new ministry home nearby. But how did he grow to be such a leader?

Lee was born into a Jewish home. Yet he did not fully understand that Jesus was the Messiah, promised in the Jewish scriptures, until he read the first chapter of the Gospel of Matthew when he was 14 years old. Lee says, "Verse 21 changed my life, for the angelic announcement to Joseph convicted my heart: 'She (Mary) will give birth to a son, and you are to give him the name Jesus, because he will save his people from their sins.'"

Lee served for more than two decades in pastorates at the First Baptist Church in Lincoln, Nebraska, the Seaview Baptist Church in Linwood, New Jersey, and the First Baptist Church in East Providence, Rhode Island. In 2003 he became the Executive Minister and Senior Regional Pastor of the American Baptist Churches of New Jersey, serving for 14 years. Throughout those ministries and as General Secretary, Lee shared his passion for being mission-focused by equipping followers of Christ to share their faith across the spectrum of venues—locally, regionally, and nationally as well as globally. He has taught and spoken to groups in South America, Europe, and Asia, and led mission teams to places like the Philippines.

Those same vast settings for ministry are what the Foundation helps donors to support from the local church to mission around the world. Lee observes, “Over the past two decades, it has been a privilege to utilize the resources that the American Baptist Foundation offers to churches, regions and our national partners. ABF has enabled countless donors to provide legacy gifts that energize mission throughout our American Baptist family. I know that ABF will play a significant role in supporting American Baptist mission for decades to come.”





## 2019 Multi-Region Corporation Palmer Grant Awardee

### Leading Children and Youth Toward Christian Spirituality

The Leading Children and Youth toward Christian Spirituality project was started by the D.C. Baptist Convention (DCBC) Burma Work Group. The DCBC Burma Work Group is a cross-cultural group made up of American Baptists, including African Americans and European Americans, as well as refugees born in Myanmar.

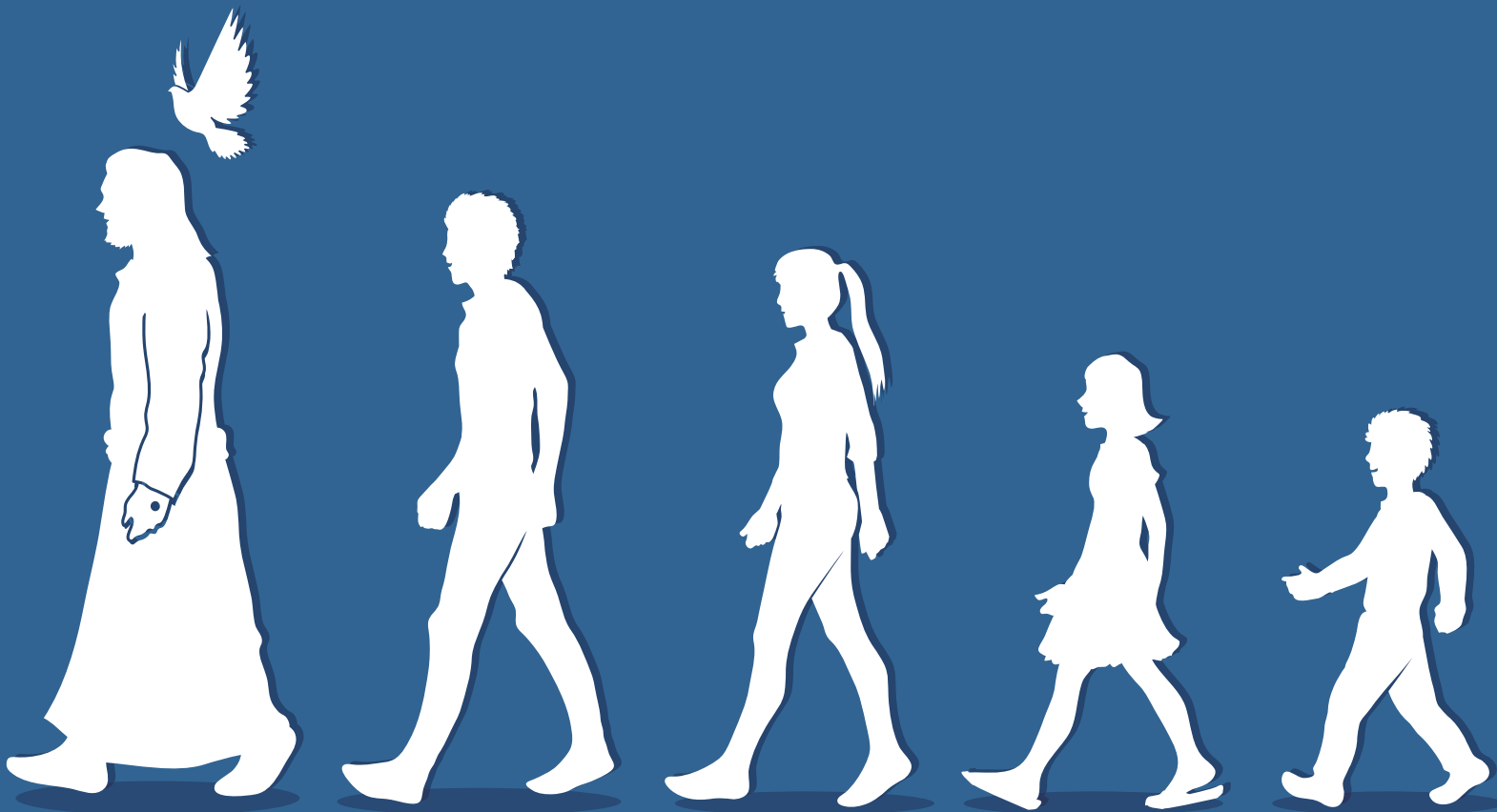
After being closed for approximately 50 years, Myanmar recently became open to assistance from outside groups. Since then, the DCBC has demonstrated God's presence by supporting 11 churches in the region, providing assistance to immigrant families and children traumatized by abuse, displacement and ill treatment. These families have also seen their environment change from a tribal, agrarian society to a more diverse and developed culture. Further assistance is needed to sustain this environment.



Through the Leading Children and Youth toward Christian Spirituality project, the 2019 MRC Palmer Grant will assist DCBC in facilitating:

- cross-cultural sharing of Christian thought and experience between U.S. pastors and faculties and potential pastors (students) in Myanmar.
- cross-cultural sharing of Christian thought and experience to immigrant children assisting in their spiritual development and Christian formation, including identifying and sharing new approaches for engaging immigrant children and their families for the purpose of spiritual development.

This project will hopefully lead Baptists to efficiently use resources and benefit the people of Myanmar living in the U.S. to those still residing in their country. Given the responsibility of leading cross-cultural ministries and spreading the word and love of Christ with limitless boundaries, ABF takes this opportunity to recognize DCBC and their mission of bringing healing and recovery to those who have experienced trauma through immigration.



During our years of ministry, *American Baptist Foundation (ABF)* has managed charitable trusts, gift annuities, endowments, donor advised funds, investment accounts, and other planned giving assets. A long tenure of prudent administration and investment management continues to help us ensure that the needs of our donors, members, and other *ABF* partners in ministry and mission are met. Note the following financial highlights for 2019 (pre-audit).

**\$155.9 million** in **total assets under management**

**\$8.1 million** in **income distributions to our donors and income beneficiaries**

**\$597,696** in **final distributions to ministries**

## Life Income Agreements

Life income agreements allow donors to establish gifts that also produce income for themselves or designated individuals, usually for life. At the end of 2019, ABF managed agreements included:

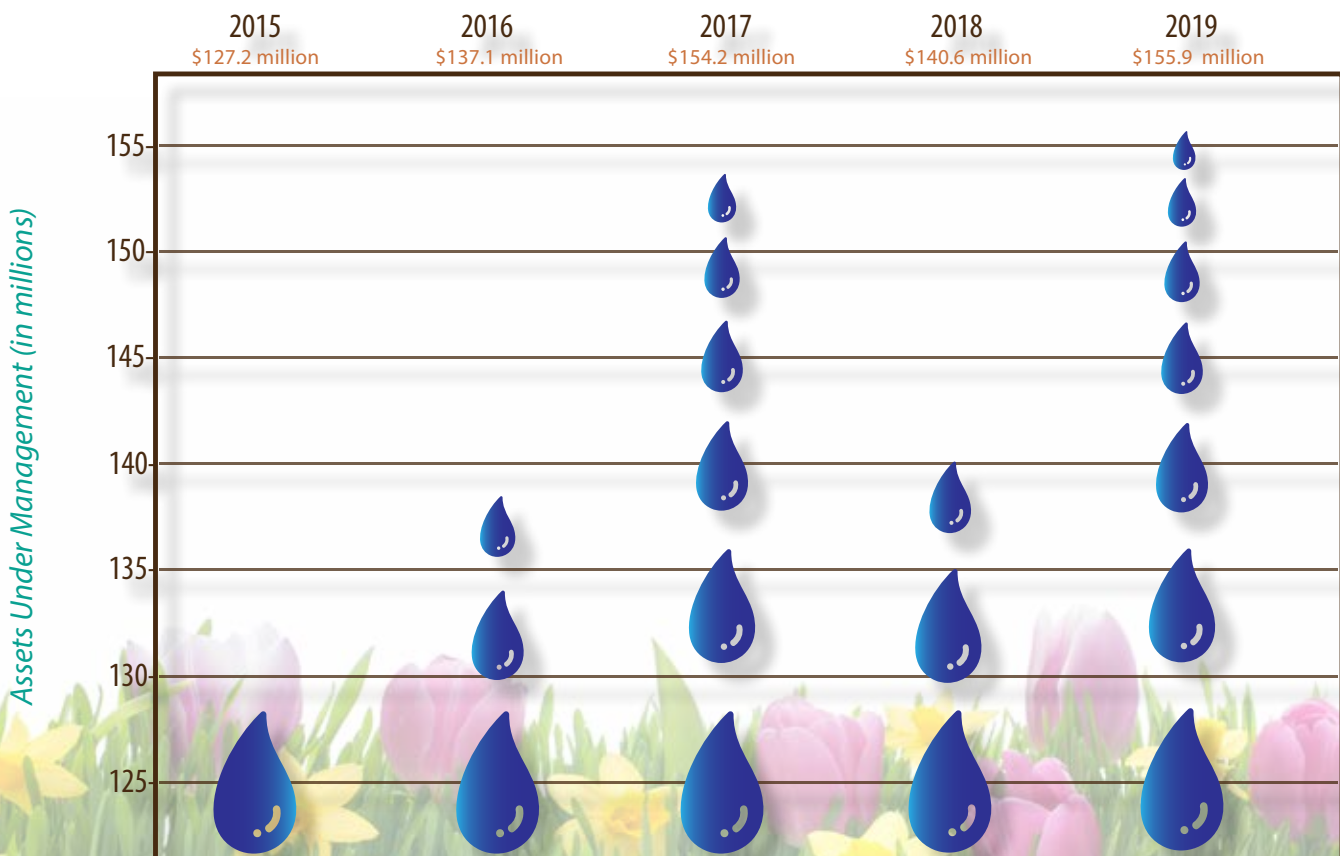
**Charitable Trusts – 93 trusts managed totaling \$25.2 million**

**Charitable Gift Annuities (CGAs)– 400+ CGAs managed with \$8.3 million held in reserves**

**Other Agreements Managed for ABF Partners – 28 accounts totaling \$683,809**

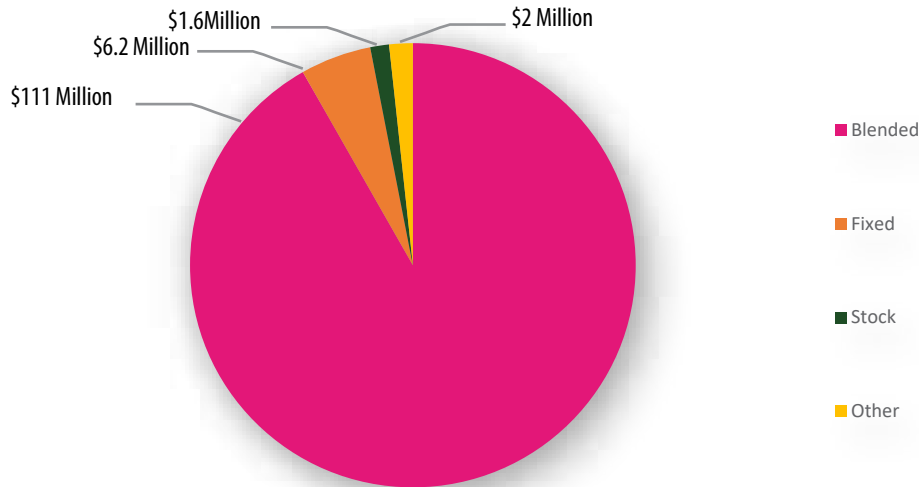
## Assets Under Management

*Financial Summary Year*



## Investments and Endowments

American Baptist Foundation’s investment and endowment platform consists of three active and professionally managed investment options. Total investment and endowment assets managed as of December 31, 2019 were **\$120.9 million**, including an estimated **\$118.9 million** specific to the investment and endowment platform.



During 2019, new accounts were added to the investment and endowment platform. A total of **\$4.26 million** in new contributions were received for new and existing accounts. The 2019 Blended, Fixed and Stock portfolio returns were **19.21%**, **6.17%** and **25.2%**, respectively — finishing in line with their respective benchmarks of **19.06%**, **6.80%**, and **26.71%**.

### Investment Performances\*\*

	2019 Y-T-D	2018	2017	2016	2015	2014	3 YR	5 YR	10 YR
<b>Blended Portfolio</b>	19.21%	-10.34%	16.66%	5.97%	-2.19%	4.04%	8.51%	5.86%	7.00%
<b>Benchmark***</b>	19.06%	-8.09%	14.27%	7.36%	-0.79%	4.94%	8.41%	6.36%	7.67%

\*\* Performance figures are net of ALL fees, including administrative fees. Benchmarks do not include administrative fees. ABF utilizes Socially Responsible Investment (SRI) screens (no Alcohol, Firearms, or Tobacco). Benchmarks do not.

\*\*\* Bench: S&P 500 (25.2%)/Russell 2500 (15%)/MSCI AC World (19.8%), Barclay’s Intermediate Government (40%).

### Investment Performances\*\*

	2019 Y-T-D	2018	2017	2016	2015	2014	3 YR	5 YR	10 YR
<b>Fixed Portfolio</b>	6.17%	0.99%	2.56%	1.67%	0.72%	3.33%	3.24%	2.42%	2.86%
<b>Benchmark***</b>	6.80%	1.65%	2.14%	2.08%	1.07%	3.12%	3.53%	2.75%	3.16%

\*\* Performance figures are net of ALL fees, including administrative fees. Benchmarks do not include administrative fees. ABF utilizes Socially Responsible Investment (SRI) screens (no Alcohol, Firearms, or Tobacco). Benchmarks do not.

\*\*\* Barclay’s Intermediate Government (100%).

### Investment Performances\*\*

	2019 Y-T-D	2018	2017	2016	2015	2014	3 YR	5 YR	10 YR
<b>Stock Portfolio</b>	25.12%	-13.12%	21.23%	8.80%	-2.82%	3.85%	11.08%	7.84%	9.13%
<b>Benchmark***</b>	26.71%	-14.41%	23.20%	9.82%	-2.27%	6.15%	11.83%	8.61%	10.6%

\*\* Performance figures are net of ALL fees, including administrative fees. Benchmarks do not include administrative fees. ABF utilizes Socially Responsible Investment (SRI) screens (no Alcohol, Firearms, or Tobacco). Benchmarks do not.

\*\*\* Bench: S&P 500 (42%)/Russell 2500 (25%)/MSCI AC World (33%).



## **2019 Multi-Region Corporation Palmer Grant Awardee** Healing Trauma - American Baptist Churches of Metro New York

The Healing Trauma Ministry project was started by the American Baptist Churches of Metro New York (ABCMNY), a multicultural, multi-lingual community of churches. ABCMNY is comprised of 180 congregations in the New York City area who embody a unique expression of the American Baptist tradition in the United States (U.S.).

The project was born out of an increasing reality, not only in the NYC area, but throughout the U.S. and around the world that trauma is a consequence of the escalation (at least our awareness of it) of violence, unchecked aggression, and social and emotional isolation. As the Body of Christ, the church is called to be a place of healing. Yet, the church at times unwittingly perpetuates unhealthy practices that repel people and impede faithfulness.

The Healing Trauma project therefore seeks to help reverse the effects of trauma and provide ways for persons to respond to trauma, to enable healthy disciples who bear witness of Christ's healing. The 2019 MRC Palmer Grant Award will assist ABCMNY through their Healing Trauma project to:

- conduct 8 educational experiences in the region within the 8 counties 5 boroughs and surrounding counties of the greater NYC area.
- provide spiritual, social and therapeutic techniques that individuals might use to mitigate experienced trauma so that people and churches affected by trauma may move forward.

ABF takes this opportunity to recognize ABCMNY and their Healing Trauma Ministry for building communities of faith motivated by the call of Christ and joining together with other communities of faith for mission in the greater NYC community, the United States, and across the globe.



The *Virginia & Gordon Palmer Jr. Trust (VGPT) of the American Baptist Foundation* seeks to support priority ministries in partnership with our members: *American Baptist Home Missions Societies (ABHMS)*, the *Multi-Region Corporation (MRC)*, and *International Ministries (IM)*.

The *Virginia and Gordon Palmer, Jr. Trust* was created in 1999 as a permanent endowment to the *American Baptist Foundation*. The Trust is to be administered by the Foundation in accordance with established guidelines and principles. For 2019, the Foundation administered two grant cycles: *International Ministries (IM)* and the *Multi-Region Corporation (MRC)*.

## **International Ministries (IM)**

As of the date of publication of this Annual Summary, details of 2019 IM Palmer Grant Awardees is no yet available.

## **Multi-Region Corporation (MRC)**

### **American Baptist Churches New York State**

*Preparing the Church for God's Future*

### **Iroquois Baptist Association**

*Project Issachar*

### **First Baptist Church**

*Church Outside a Building*

### **Mid-American Baptist Churches**

#### **Calvary Baptist Church**

*Prodigal Public House Partnership*

### **Cleveland Baptist Association**

*Ohio Leadership Academy/Cleveland Cohort*

### **DC Baptist Convention**

*Leading Children & Youth toward Christian Spirituality*

### **ABHMS/American Baptist of the South**

#### **Congregational Ministry Context and Faith**

*Formation Project*

### **American Baptist Churches of Metro New York**

*Healing Trauma*

### **Philadelphia Baptist Association**

*Promoting Cultural Humility in PBA Congregations*

### **The Baptist Worship Center**

*The Mission Zone*

### **American Baptist Churches of Maine**

#### **ABCOM/ABC of Puerto Rico**

*Pulpit Exchange - Discipleship Initiative*

### **American Baptist of Greater Indianapolis**

*Thriving in Bivocational Ministry*

### **American Baptist Churches of Ohio**

*Preparing Next Generation Leaders*

### **American Baptist Churches of the Central Region**

*Vantagepoint 3*

### **American Baptist Women's Ministries**

*Building Bridges and Gateways to Girls' Futures*

### **American Baptist Churches of Pennsylvania & Delaware**

*Recognized Pulpit Speaker Trainings*

### **West Virginia Baptist Convention**

*Leadership Development Initiative*

### **American Baptist Churches of Nebraska**

#### **First Baptist Church Hastings**

*Gather Grand Island*

#### **United Faith Community Church**

*Israel Ministry*

### **American Baptist Churches of Rhode Island**

#### **First Baptist in Hope Valley, RI**

*The Refuge*

### **American Baptist Churches of the Dakotas**

#### **Church of Hope**

*Church from the Inside Out*

### **American Baptist Churches of Rocky Mountains**

#### **Crossroads Church**

*We Have A Mission*

### **American Baptist Churches of Metro Chicago**

#### **Lake Street Church of Evanston**

*The Passion Project: Finding our Callings in a 21st Century World*

#### **The Community Church of Wilmette**

*Emerging Communities Cohort*

### **American Baptist Churches of Massachusetts**

#### **First Baptist Church in Jamaica Plain**

*First Friday Open Mic*

### **American Baptist Churches of Michigan**

*Addressing The Unique Needs of Bi-Vocational Pastors*



The *John Mason Peck Society* was established in 1996 as a way to acknowledge all those —past and present— who have worked with the Foundation to remember American Baptist ministry and mission in their charitable estate plans.

## John Mason Peck Members

Dr. Z. Allen and Conda Delite Abbott  
 Ralph and Bobby Adkins  
 Paul D. Aita  
 Helen S. Akers  
 Rev. Paul and Marge Albrecht  
 Edna E. Alexander  
 Eugene and Ellen Allen  
 Jean and Bob Allen  
 Margaret C. Alsen  
 Magda Amargós  
 W. Haydn and Ione Ambrose  
 David and Myrtle Anders  
 David and Donna Anderson  
 Eleanor P. Anderson  
 Charlie and Phyllis Angell  
 Rev. Victor G. Angulo  
 Fred A. Ansell  
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 Susan Austin  
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 Irene Baker  
 Doris E. Rice Barb  
 Ricky Barlow  
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 Dr. Sam and Sharon Bates  
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 Ronald E. Beard  
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 Rev. Gwen N. Bernstine  
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 Russell and Violet Bishop  
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 William T. and Sadie C. Bobb  
 Joe and Charlotte Boso  
 Dr. and Mrs. Robert Briggs  
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 Mabel I. Brockhoff  
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 Jack F. and Mary L. Brown  
 Rev. Carrie Bell Brown  
 Rev. Mason L. Brown  
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 John R and Lois J. Burbank  
 Opal L. Burtschi  
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 Paul and Rosemary Cantner  
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 Bruce and Carol Carr  
 Rev. Dr. Mark S. Caruana  
 Earl and Martha Caryl  
 Rev. Daniel D. and Gloria A. Castillo  
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 Everett and Sylvia Curry  
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 Stanley and Alice Jo DeFries  
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 John and Phyllis Ellis  
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 Carolyn and Lonnie Engram-Sullivan  
 Allen and Lavina Epp  
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 Dr. Robert and Dr. Loretta Fairchild  
 James P. and Martha E. Fairfield  
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 Laurena H. and Robert A. Fisher  
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 Mr. Harold L. Gardner  
 Lester and Pearl Garner  
 David L. and Linda K. George  
 Graeme C. George  
 Louis A. George  
 Ellen M. Gezork



## John Mason Peck Society

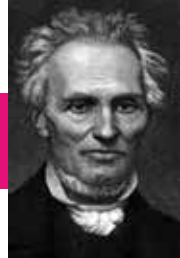
Ken Giacoletto  
Alice M. Giffin  
Gwen Gilbo  
Richard Gile  
Casey Gnage  
Brian and Joyce Gongaware  
James and June Goodness  
Phyllis Goodyear  
Robert and Isabella Gordon  
Mrs. Sally Gordy  
Geraldine Goss  
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Joe and Peg Greenlee  
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Ed and Joan Guerard  
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Susan Hall  
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Harry and Juanita Townsley  
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Walter Herndon  
Dorothy J. Herrin  
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Larry Huntley  
Clara Huse  
Joseph and Dinah Huse  
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Leroy James  
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Martha M. Jones  
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Chester and Margaret Jump  
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Jean T. Kellogg  
Dr. and Mrs. James N. Kent  
Natalie and Ronald Kerr  
Alberta H. Key  
Ken and Ina Killian  
Marion and James W. Kirkpatrick  
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Larry and Pamella Mason  
Carol Massón

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Marilyn J. Momose  
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Rev. and Mrs. Alan G. Newton  
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Luella C. Passage  
Miss May Pate  
Marcia Patton  
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Miriam Peterson  
Phyllis H. Plumpton  
Rev. Larry and Mrs. Linda Poelma  
Margaret T. and Fraser E. Pomeroy  
Rev. Frances E. Porter  
W. Hubert and Frances B. Porter  
Mrs. Linda E. Porter  
Margaret and Elmo Prine  
Ethel Rapp



## John Mason Peck Society



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Roland and Marion Reed  
Paul J. and Mary L. Reeder  
H. Ruth Reid  
J. Steven and Marilyn B. Reynolds  
John C. Reynolds  
William M. Riggs, Sr.  
Ed and Pat Ritzler  
Janet S. Roberts  
Robert H. and M. Joan Roberts  
Beth Rogers  
Wayne Rogers  
Adrian S. and Sharon S. Rogier  
William and Amena Rosenberger  
Marj Rosenblaum  
Helen Rowe  
Mrs. Rachel A. Ruiz  
Rev. Raul A. Ruiz  
Rev. Bud and Carol Russell  
Richard and Pamela Russell  
Heath and Betty Rutledge  
Alois L. Rutz Rutz  
John and Gladys Saint  
Marjorie Salmassy  
Anna F. Samples  
Paul R. and Dorothy Santrock  
Gary and Sandy Sawyer  
Marshall and Donna D. Schirer  
Rev. and Mrs. Ronald E. Schlosser  
Mr. and Mrs. William D. Schneck  
Rev. Harold and Estelle Schock  
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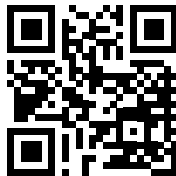
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