

**AMERICAN BAPTIST CHURCHES OF RHODE ISLAND
BOARD OF MINISTRIES MEETING**

**JANUARY 9, 2022 – 5:30 P.M.
via Zoom and Conference Line**

Tonight's meeting was a joint meeting with the members of the members the Executive Minister Search Committee.

Attendance: Board of Ministries ~ President Beth Berry, Presiding; Doug Harris, Wendy Kiefer-O'Brien, David Coon, Jan Fletcher, Peggy Johnson, Clayton Lord, Bob Butzier, Judy Butzier, Jim Ellison and Ann McGloshen.

Executive Minister Search Committee ~ Meredith Eckel, Chair, Chris Wright, Erica Traub, Delphain Demonthese, Linda Bausserman(also a member of BOM), and Daniel Cottrell (also a member of BOM).

Prior to the start of the joint meeting, the Board of Ministries took up the matter of a \$25,000 gift left to the region from the Estate of (Rev.) Joyce Duerr. The following are steps that must be taken:

- Set up an account where the funds are now located;
- Transfer the assets to that account;
- Request distribution of the account to ABCORI;
- David (Treasurer) will sign the account application.

It requires a copy of a corporate vote authorizing him to take the above actions.

RESOLVED: That David G. Coon, Treasurer, be and hereby is authorized to execute applications for accounts, including, without limitation, for an account at Capital Group / American Funds, and to sell, transfer and/or deliver any and al stock, bonds, or other securities now or hereafter registered in the name of American Baptist Churches of Rhode Island.

Moved by Linda Bausserman. Seconded by Jan Fletcher. Approved Unanimously.

Report from the Executive Minister Search Committee

Meredith Eckel, Chair, gave a brief overview of the committee's work along with their interactions with the candidate being presented. Meredith stated the committee was unanimous in its decision to present Reverend Courtney Davis Olds as its' number one candidate for the position of Executive Minister for ABCORI. Meredith expounded on Rev. Courtney's spiritual gifts, her life's experiences and her articulate, open demeanor. All of which the committee believes make her an excellent fit for our region.

In meeting with the Board of Ministries President Beth Berry asked Rev. Courtney to give her viewpoint on the matter of the Season of Epiphany and the new thing that God is doing, to which she responded in a thoughtful and articulate manner. Please note that prior to our Zoom meeting we received a copy of Rev Courtney's bio, which allowed us to become somewhat acquainted with her. After speaking with her and giving time for the board members to ask questions, she left the meeting.

In our discussion, we found Rev. Courtney to be very open, and one who is confident in what she has accomplished in life thus far but believes she has more to offer to the world and wherever God places her. In spite of there not being a lot of questions from board members, we voted unanimously to extend the Call to Reverend Courtney Davis Olds, PhD, to be the next Executive Minister of the American Baptist Churches of Rhode Island.

Rev. Courtney was invited back into the meeting and made aware that the Board of Ministries along with the Executive Search Committee unanimously voted to extend the Call to her to be the new Executive Minister of ABCORI. Rev. Courtney graciously accepted the Call to serve as our Executive Minister.

When asked as to how soon she might be able to assume her duties, she was not able to give an exact date stating that the church she currently serves is in the process of being sold, and she feels compelled to stay in Philadelphia until this matter is settled, along with wrapping up some other personal things. She assured us that she is totally committed to serving in this new role that presents her with the opportunity to serve God's people in this place and at this time.

Several of the Search Committee members commented on their reasons for submitting Rev. Courtney's name as the perfect candidate to serve as the Executive Minister for our region at this time.

Doug commented that he would like to complete his service here by March 5, 2022.

Beth thanked Kathryn for taking care of the technology portion of this meeting so that she could conduct the meeting.

Respectfully submitted,

Ann McGloshen
Clerk.