

Women Alive

Spring
2023

President

The difference between stumbling blocks and steppingstones is how you use them.

As I was preparing my last words for the newsletter, I found this quote, describes the last three years. Perfectly. We could have given up, instead we expanded our website to include Facebook and Instagram. We could have given up, instead we sent Christmas cards that first year! We could not have met in person, instead we had our first ever ABWM picnic at Grotonwood!

God always provides!

Dear Sisters,

I am overwhelmed with emotion as I complete my term as your president. I believe that God has given me much grace in these difficult years. We have all endured illness and loss, joys of our children and challenges of personal faith. I have learned to walk in faith and listened to the concerns of others, cried often and yes, stumbled. Sometimes I wonder where God was, yet he always caught me in his arms when I fell.

It says in 1 Corinthians 13:7a, "bears all things, believes all things, hopes all things, endures all things."

Women Alive!!

We are Alive in Christ Jesus our Lord! We believe in each other! We accept each other where we are! We have endured during a time so foreign to us and have done so with compassion for each other!

Thank you for your courage going with me on this journey. I will ever be grateful for your support.

Yours in Christian love,



Penny Mulloy
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Note: The AB GIRLS and AB Women's Ministries of MA Spring Conference is Saturday, June 3, 2023 from 9:15 AM to 3:00 PM. The First Baptist Church of Westwood will host. A registration form is available at the end of this newsletter and a flyer with more details is attached in the Women Alive newsletter email.

Treasurer

To all our American Baptist Women of Massachusetts— Happy Spring!

As I approach the end of my term as treasurer, it's a time to reflect on some of the rewards of being involved with other women of faith. Loving one another and serving in Christ's name is a gift from God that is full of blessings, only needing to be recognized. As in springtime, there is a promise from God of new growth, new life, so our ministries are enriched by the loving presence of all our members, physically or prayerfully, or both.

Kindness to our earth is critical. We can depend on what God has created and set in motion according to his order. We need to be involved in Creation Care.

Encourage our youth. Just as Paul did for Timothy, we need to nurture those young people in our midst. Remember that it was Timothy's mother Eunice and grandmother Lois who probably influenced Timothy in the faith at an early age.

I can't be remiss in mentioning again some of the ways you and other AB Women of Massachusetts can help keep alive the mission of our ministries. We have the Eight Steps of Giving as a guide to support the various aspects of the mission financially.

Eight Steps of Giving

Scholarship Fund

Camp Mission

State Project (Rizpah's Children)

State Support for ABWM

AB GIRLS

Friendship Fund

Women & Girls Mission Fund

plus contributions to a Partnering Ministry (MBMM or Grotonwood Bibles, for example)

We continued a second year of the state project—Rizpah's Children. (You will find the Biblical reference to Rizpah in 2 Samuel 21:1-10.) The Place in Norwich, NY has been identified by National Ministries as a partner organization that provides services and ministries to help children in poverty, and their families.

Please consider giving to State Support for ABWM, as that's the resource of funds for programming for our events. Not having enough funds means the event cost to the individual is increased.

A message from Paul to Timothy and us: "Grace be with you all." —1 Timothy 6:21b



Marilyn Glover
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Coordinator of Mission and Service



Our State Mission Project for the past two years has been Rizpah's Children which works at preventing poverty and hunger for children in the country. Poverty in the United States and Puerto Rico is now up to 16 million children who are living below the poverty level. So, we need to help to reduce poverty in the United States. These children need our help to survive. Please donate to this cause through the American Baptist Women of MA Eight Steps of Giving. Donations may be sent to

the American Baptist Women's Ministries of MA Treasurer, Marilyn Glover, 40 East Border Rd., Malden, MA 02148-1104. We greatly appreciate your support.

Jennifer Sten-Cromack
jenstenc@yahoo.com

Coordinator of AB GIRLS

Hello AB Girls!

I hope you are all enjoying the end of the school year and the upcoming summer season. As we prepare to gather once again for our conference in June, I want to take a moment to reflect on the importance of this time together.

As young women, we face so many challenges in today's world. From the pressures of social media to the stresses of school and family life, it can be easy to feel overwhelmed and lost. But when we come together in fellowship and worship, we are reminded of the power of God's love and the strength of our community.

At Conference, we will be exploring the theme of celebration! We will study scripture, engage in meaningful discussions, and participate in fun activities that help us grow in our faith and our relationships with one another.

As we celebrate, let's remember the words of Ecclesiastes 3:4, which tells us that there is "a time to weep and a time to laugh, a time to mourn and a time to dance." Let's embrace the joy and laughter that come with celebration and give thanks to God for the blessings in our lives!

I am so excited for what this summer has in store for our group, and I encourage each and every one of you to join us on this journey. Whether you are a long-time member or a newcomer, you are welcome here. We are all sisters in Christ, and together we can support and uplift one another as we navigate the challenges and joys of life.

I look forward to seeing you all soon!



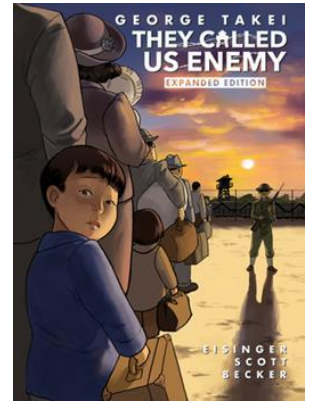
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News

You may remember a few years ago American Baptist Women's Ministries was awarded a New Baptist Covenant Grant initiating new community building opportunities as part of their Building Beloved Community Ministry. This ministry brings women from American Baptist related churches with diverse cultural and ethnic backgrounds together to build relationships, collaborate, engage in multicultural dialogue, and strategize together towards a shared ministry project. The project focuses on outreach, collaboration, and will also serve as a model for future ABWM Beloved Community projects in different regions and Massachusetts received one of the grants.

The AB Women's Ministries of Massachusetts Beloved Community group completed the specifications of the grant, and the women opted to continue meeting. They are hosting a book discussion on Saturday, June 10th from 10 AM to Noon in the TABCOM conference room located in the lower level of Prescott Lodge (Grotonwood Camp and Conference Center).

Join us for a discussion of George Takei's book, "*They Called Us Enemy*," a memoir recounting George Takei's childhood imprisoned within American concentration camps during World War II. Space is limited so register early. Books may be purchased from any number of places: Amazon, e-bay (used), or Barnes and Noble. It can also be downloaded through kindle. Contact Marilyn Glover at glovermarilyn46@gmail.com or 781-322-5631.



Association News

The First Baptist Church in Saugus will host the **Adoniram Judson** Women's Spring Celebration and Annual Meeting on May 20th beginning at 9 AM.

Meeting: Report from Board Members



Program: Rev. Rebecca Driscoll, Creation Care Minister for TABCOM will present a program about how we can be better caretakers of our environment. She will also discuss how churches can assess their own buildings regarding energy efficiency. Come to hear how this new program can positively impact our congregations and our churches in Massachusetts.

We will be planting seeds of different types of herbs to take home. These seeds, and eventually plants, will be living symbols of our planet earth that is our home. *We will begin with registration, \$6 per person, at 9:00 AM. Breakfast will be served at 9:30 AM and the program will begin around 10:30 AM. We ask that each church pay dues of \$10 per year.

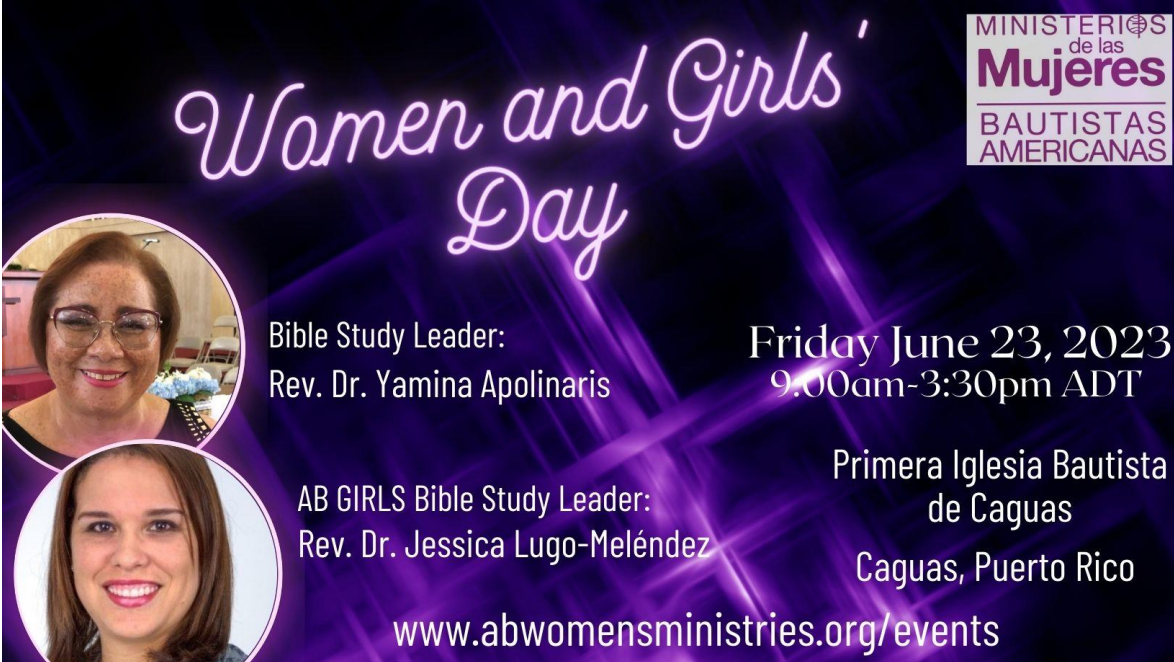


We will have the directions to make The Little Dresses for Africa (pillowcase dresses) and we will have examples. If you have suggestions for programs and/or outreach ideas for The Judson Women's Association, please share your thoughts.

To let us know you are coming to this event, please call or e-mail Marilyn Glover at 781-322-5631 or glovermarilyn46@gmail.com.

Pat Fish
AB Women's Ministries
Judson Association

National News



Women and Girls' Day

MINISTERIOS de las **Mujeres**
BAUTISTAS AMERICANAS

Bible Study Leader:
Rev. Dr. Yamina Apolaris

Friday June 23, 2023
9:00am-3:30pm ADT

AB GIRLS Bible Study Leader:
Rev. Dr. Jessica Lugo-Meléndez

Primera Iglesia Bautista de Caguas
Caguas, Puerto Rico

www.abwomensministries.org/events



Women and Girls Conference
July 18-21, 2024
in Roanoke, Virginia

MISSION FOCUS: 2023 Mission Focus: Racial Justice

When ABWM's national board selected the 2023 mission theme of Racial Justice to follow the 2022 Mission Theme of Real Acceptance, they decidedly kept us on a path of alignment. This inspiring theme can be a catalyst for deepening our unity, examining our inner being, and urging us to actualize our mission, vision, purpose, and core values in our programming. This theme informs both our individual and collective well-being because racial justice is a matter of the soul for every believer.

Mailing Removal Request: If you would like to stop receiving the *Women Alive* newsletter and have your address removed from our mailing list; email your request supplying your name and email address to abwmass@gmail.com.

www.ABWomensMinistriesMA.org

American Baptist
Women's
MINISTRIES
of Massachusetts

Spring Conference

Saturday, June 3, 2023

9:15am – 3:00pm

First Baptist Church, Westwood
808 High Street, Westwood, MA

Name: _____ Age (if AB GIRL): _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip Code: _____

Phone: _____ Email: _____

Church Name: _____ Association: _____

Please Check One:

Registration: \$35

AB GIRLS Registration: \$25

Checks should be made payable to **AB Women's Ministries of MA**
Please mail your Registration Forms & Payment to:
Marilyn Glover, Treasurer, 40 East Border Rd., Malden, MA 02148-1104.

AB Women's Ministries of MA reserves the right to use photos taken of members for publicity, including but not limited to posting on our website & in print/email promotional materials. Consent is given for using names and photos by AB Women's Ministries of MA; it is expressly understood that names and photographs will not be used for any other purpose without further written consent.

Signature: _____

Date: _____



Deadline: May 29, 2023