



American Baptist Churches of New Jersey

609-587-8700 170 Elm Street, Westfield, NJ 07090 www.abcnj.net

Rev. Miriam Méndez, Executive Minister and Senior Regional Pastor

August 2026

Dear ABCNJ Pastors and Leaders,

God is still at work—and calling us to move forward together! As we continue to witness God's faithfulness across our churches and communities, we are grateful for the opportunity to gather as one ABCNJ family to celebrate our **56th Annual Session and 196 years of ministry in New Jersey!**

The Annual Session will be held on **Saturday, October 3, 2026**, at **Alpha Baptist Church, 15 Rose Street, Willingboro, New Jersey**, where the **Rev. Dr. Danny E. Scotton, Sr.**, serves as Senior Pastor. We are delighted and grateful for Alpha Baptist Church's hospitality.

This year's theme, **"Together in God's Work: Rooted in Christ, Rising in Hope,"** is grounded in **1 Corinthians 3:5–11** and **Colossians 2:6–7**. As we gather for worship, fellowship, learning, and celebration, we will be reminded that our strength comes from being deeply rooted in Christ and that our hope is found in God's ongoing work among us.

Our Annual Session journey begins even before we gather in person. From **September 28–30**, we invite you to join our three-part online Learning Series. These webinars are intentionally designed to guide us from the formation of the leader to the formation of the church and ultimately to the church's faithful witness in the world. Together, these sessions will prepare our hearts, deepen our faith, and equip us with practical tools to serve Christ more effectively in our congregations and communities. We encourage every pastor, ministry leader, and church member to join us as we grow together in God's mission.

Registration and complete information about the 2026 Annual Session are available on our website at <https://www.abcnj.net/annual-session-2026>.

Our Opening Worship Celebration and Annual Business Meeting will begin at 9:00 a.m. on Saturday, October 3. Delegates must register and attend **in person** to be eligible to vote at the business meeting. The **2026 Delegate Form is enclosed**. Please complete the form and return it by email to as2026@abcnj.net or by mail to: **ABCNJ - Attention: Annual Session Delegates**, 170 Elm Street, Westfield, NJ 07090. Please note that submitting the Delegate Form does not register an individual for Annual Session. All delegates and participants must complete their registration online at <https://www.abcnj.net/annual-session-2026>.

If you are unable to attend the in-person gathering but would like to participate in the online Learning Sessions, you are welcome to register for the **Webinars Only** option through the same registration page.

This year's Annual Session is not just an event but an invitation to renewal in Christ, community strength, and inspiration for God's mission. In the weeks before the gathering, we will share resources and opportunities to help us prepare our hearts for this collective journey. We look forward to celebrating God's faithfulness, encouraging one another, and rising together in hope for the future God is creating.

Together in God's Work,

Rev. Dr. Miriam Méndez,
Executive Minister and Senior Regional Pastor

Rev. Timothy Joyce
ABCNJ President

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2026 Annual Session
Saturday, October 3, 2026

Delegate Form

(Please type or print clearly)



Church Name: _____		
ABCNJ Association: _____		
Delegate Full Name	Email	Phone

The voting members of the American Baptist Churches of New Jersey shall consist of:

*"Delegates from each constituent congregation on the basis of three for each congregation, plus one delegate for each one hundred members or major fraction thereof above the first two hundred as reported in the most current annual statistics report. Churches shall be entitled to only three delegates if they did not report in the previous year."
(Article III, Section 3 (a), ABCNJ By-Laws revised March 12, 2011)*

A signature of the church clerk or pastor certifies that the names listed below are duly elected delegates to the Annual Session of ABCNJ to represent the church.

() Pastor () Church Clerk

(Please Print Name)



Complete this form and email it to ABCNJ at AS2026@abcnj.net or mail it to ABCNJ (Attention: Annual Session Delegate Form) **170 Elm Street, Westfield, NJ 07090**. Delegates must attend in person to be eligible to vote at the business meeting. **All delegates must register online:** <https://www.abcnj.net/annual-session-2026>