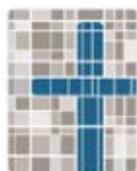


# Greater Impact ENDOWMENT



American  
Baptist  
Churches of  
Greater  
Indianapolis

*In partnership with*  
**American Baptist**  
**FOUNDATION**

## ABC of Greater Indianapolis

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**American Baptist Churches of Greater Indianapolis (ABCGI)** vision is churches helping churches to be the heart, hands, and feet of Christ. This includes building healthy and vital partnerships with our congregations, pastoral leaders, and our American Baptist Family.

## Greater Impact Endowment

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The *Greater Impact Endowment* was established in 2018 – making a gift will insure that **ABCGI** continues to expand and enhance ministries for future generations. The ministries and missions are supported through these funds:

- **Church Health Fund**
- **Leadership & Learning Fund**
- **Partnerships Fund**
- **Community Ministry Fund**

A small portion of each gift will go towards **ABCGI's** current needs and expenses, to help offset the costs of delivering these services.





## Church Health Fund

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Gifts designated to this fund are used to increase the vibrancy and capacity of our churches. Some initiatives are:

- Vision Discernment
- Listening Conferences
- Pastoral Searches
- Stewardship Development

When the previous pastor left in early 2016, Garden Baptist Church wondered if they had the will and the resources to move forward. Region staff helped them through a listening conference designed to help them assess their next steps, provided pulpit supply, and led them to the eventual call of Rev. Marie Wiese as their transitional pastor.

Pastor Marie guided them in dreaming a new future, and with the encouragement and resourcing of ABCGI staff, they began to grow in their attendance and especially in their vision. They are excited what God is now doing in their midst, and while celebrating their 150th anniversary in 2018, look to what God has in store next.



## Leadership & Learning Fund

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Gifts designated to this fund are used to create opportunities for current and future leaders. Some initiatives are:

- Training Events
- Continuing Education
- Spiritual Leadership Development

Rev. Eddie Smith accepted his first call out of seminary at age 39 and came to Indianapolis to minister at Tuxedo Park Baptist Church in June 2017. While Eddie brought a strong church background from his pre-seminary time, our region sought to provide him with the tools, experiences, and relationships that would help him succeed in his leadership.

A scholarship from ABCGI made Eddie's 2018 participation at the American Baptist Young Clergy Gathering in Chicago possible. Eddie got to know other younger pastors from ABCGI and from across the country. Strong colleague relationships are proven to be a large factor in sustaining pastoral ministry. Gifts to this fund provide opportunities for our leaders and pastors, like Eddie.



## Partnerships Fund

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Gifts designated to this fund are used to help churches work more effectively together. Some initiatives are:

- New Faith Communities
- Race & Diversity Training (Sacred Conversations)
- Mission Church support

Many congregations find that they have more building than ministry to fill it, and Emerson Avenue Baptist is no exception. So when searching for key allies for expanding our region's ministry with Spanish-speakers in Indianapolis, Emerson not only had the space, but the desire to serve in partnership with a new church. Iglesia Betesda was born!

But the partnership idea didn't stop there, and in fact, has kept growing. To date, Emerson shares its building with five congregations. Besides Betesda and Emerson's original multi-racial church, a Pacific Islander congregation, church in the African-American tradition, and a neighborhood ministry all worship in the church building—four sharing the Sanctuary on Sundays and one gathering on Tuesdays.



## Community Ministry Fund

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Gifts designated to this fund are used for neighborhood impact and partnerships. Some initiatives include:

- Edna Martin Christian Center
- Project seed funds

For over 75 years the Edna Martin Christian Center has been shining Christ's light with the under-resourced families of the Martindale-Brightwood neighborhood. As we shift away from mission "for" or "to" others and towards doing mission in true partnership, the Edna Martin staff are now our partners in regional youth ministry. Our Youth Meet event which started in 2017 is expanding to include service/mission projects, social activities, and leader training for all our churches' youth.

This fund also gives us the possibility of providing seed funds for emerging mission efforts as our local churches find new partners to impact their own neighborhoods.

## Ways to Give

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Your financial commitment is important for the initiatives supported by the *Greater Impact Endowment*. **American Baptist Churches of Greater Indianapolis** has teamed up with *American Baptist Foundation (ABF)* to provide creative “planned giving” options.

In addition to cash gifts, we strongly encourage other ways to give, and embrace:

- Gifts through Wills and Bequests
- Gifts of Stock
- Life Insurance designations
- Real Estate and Other Property
- Charitable Trusts and Gift Annuities

Together, we can find the best gift plan to benefit you, your loved ones and the *Greater Impact Endowment* mission and ministries.

### **In Appreciation**

As our way of saying thank you, supporters of the *Greater Impact Endowment* will be included in the *ABCGI Legacy Society*. If you desire that your gift be anonymous, please let us know.