



# The Lamplighter



Happy New Year 2025!

I am writing to you from snowy Boulder on the last day of January. I hope you all are warm and well.

Our ABWM board met via Zoom last week and has decided to encourage everyone to Join the Rudd Empowerment Center's First Webinar Series: Empowerment Series – How’s Your Health? Last week, our Newsletter Editor, Yvonne Whisenhunt, emailed information with the link for registration. [Click here to Register](#) This is a free program beginning Monday, February 3, at 5 PM Mountain time and continues each Monday evening for the rest of the month. This program

is in place of our Winter Retreat this year.

See more about the Rudd Empowerment Center in the newsletter.

On Monday, March 3, 2025, at 5 PM, I would like all participants to meet on Zoom for a follow-up session. Please send me ([emtorpy@gmail.com](mailto:emtorpy@gmail.com)) your name and email address so I can include you in the conversation. This is a time to see everyone and share about the program.

The Board encourages you and your church to participate in Restoration Outreach Programs’ Bean Bowl. See flyer.

I will be attending the Western Section Zoom “What’s Up” meeting on February 13, 2025. This is an opportunity to meet other state and region leaders. We get to hear about their organizations, activities, and events.

I know this article jumps from one thing to another but that is because there are many opportunities for us all to be a part of being together with our Sisters-in-Christ.

I am going to Women’s and Girls Day on July 4th, 2025 in Omaha, Nebraska. The Rev. Kay Farley is the speaker. I want to support her and meet ABWM’s new Executive Director and staff. I have talked with several of them over the phone and seen them via Zoom. I am excited to see them in person and hear more of the plans for ABWM going forward. See more information.

On a personal note, Thank you all for the prayers, cards, and messages to me and my family on the passing of my husband, Dan. Most days are okay, some aren’t but each day is precious and I am grateful for all the love shared.

Blessings to each and every one of you,

Estelle Torpy, ABWM of Colorado  
[emtorpy@gmail.com](mailto:emtorpy@gmail.com)

303 588 4878

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Please go to the ABWM National website; there is new information available.

<http://www.abwomensministries.org>

The 2025 ABWM Theme continues: "Be Strong, Be Courageous!".

[Explore our newest newsletters – Elevate, Empower, Equip, and A Message from Our Executive Director.](#)

### 2025 WOMEN AND GIRLS' DAY

American Baptist  
**Women's**  
MINISTRIES

# WOMEN AND GIRLS' DAY

*Building God's Community*

**FRIDAY, JULY 4, 2025**

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**CHI CONFERENCE CENTER  
OMAHA, NEBRASKA**

**REGISTER AT [WWW.ABWOMENSMINISTRIES.ORG/EVENTS](http://WWW.ABWOMENSMINISTRIES.ORG/EVENTS)**

**Women and Girls' Day 2025: Building God's Community**  
**Friday, July 4, 2025 | Omaha, NE | 9 AM – 2 PM**

This year at Women and Girls Day, we gather under the inspiring theme of Building God's Community.

Together, we will explore what it means to rise to new challenges, rebuild after difficult seasons, and restore hope and unity in our communities of faith. This is a day for women and girls to unite, empower one another, and work toward a shared vision of God's inclusive, transformative love in the world.

## MISSION AND SERVICE

Hello! Glory to God in the highest! God has taken care of us--even in sunshine or rain. O give thanks to the Lord and love one another. God extends His mercy and forgiveness. God provides and protects his children. All of the Mission and Service Ministries need monetary donations to provide gracious substance. Our love can sprout and bloom people like a sweet bouquet of flowers!

Be strong; be courageous. Our goal from June 1, 2024, to May 31, 2025 is to raise \$2,000.00. We need to focus on supporting the "Building Beloved Community and Developing Leaders' funds. We can do this! Join us as we serve and impact lives in the United States. We build people. Love never fails. Respect each other. Please make checks out to Colorado ABW Ministries. Designate it "National Support." Help to renew our Sisters in Christ! The encourager needs encouragement. We can overcome this world with Jesus! Taste and see that the Lord is good. Psalm 34:8.

We encourage you to help people who are hungry through the RESTORATION OUTREACH PROGRAMS with a BEAN BOWL. In honor of the Big Game, we are collecting "beans for a bowl" for our Food Bank! Listen, bags of Dry Black and Pinto Beans will be collected on or before **February 16**. Beans can be dropped off at ROP or picked up within a 30-mile radius. Arrange with Rev. Mary Tellis, 720-940-9178, to deliver your beans to ROP or to have them picked up.

If you need information, please go on-line at [www.ropserves.org](http://www.ropserves.org).

Let's do this! Keep Praying! Keep Standing! Keep Pressing! Keep Serving! Keep Praising!

Seeking His Face,



Flora Young  
Coordinator of Mission and Service Ministries  
[florayoung23@gmail.com](mailto:florayoung23@gmail.com)





In honor of the Big Game, we are collecting  
"beans for a bowl" for our Food Bank!

Bags of Dry Black and Pinto Beans will be  
collected on or before **February 16.**

Beans can be dropped off at your church!

  
RESTORATION  
OUTREACH PROGRAMS



[www.ropserves.org](http://www.ropserves.org)



### *A Word from the Director...*



Welcome to the Rudd Empowerment Center information page! We are thrilled to launch this new initiative of American Baptist Women's Ministries, which is focused on advocacy, empowerment, and leadership development for women and girls. Through tangible, practical, and relevant resources, the Rudd Empowerment Center will offer women and their families a community of caring partners, who will strategically accompany them as they pursue healthy, productive, and holistic paths forward. Below we provide the historical basis for the "REC," as well as our mission, vision, and programming focus. Stay tuned for upcoming events and opportunities to engage!

We look forward to all that the Lord will bring to pass through our work together!

Blessings and Peace,

Rev. Dr. Chris Smith,  
Director, Rudd Empowerment Center

## Love Gift

January 2025

"They said to each other, 'Were not our hearts burning  
Within us while he was talking to us on the  
Road and explaining the Scriptures to us?'"

Luke 24:32

Greetings to each and everyone in this blessed year of 2025. Remember the story in the book of Luke about two disciples on the road to Emmaus who met a stranger along the way. "He then beginning with Moses and all the prophets, he interpreted to them the things about himself in all the Scriptures... They urged him strongly to 'Stay with us...' So, he went in to stay with them. When he was at the table with them, he took the bread, blessed, and broke it... Then their eyes were opened, and they recognized it was [Jesus,] but then he disappeared from their sight.

"They said to each other, 'Were not our hearts burning within us while he was talking to us on the road and explaining the Scriptures to us?'" Luke 24:27-32

Do we experience a similar burning in our hearts when we hear the truth of Scripture? Our Love gift offerings help American Baptist Women Ministries (ABWM) to share the Good News of Jesus in our region, throughout our nation, and in all the world. By giving, we can help others experience a burning heart of Scripture.

ABWM asks all individuals and churches to consider giving a donation to **Love Gift**. The **Love Gift** offerings support international and national missions, and 65% is returned to the region for local missions, ministries, and training. Donations can be given through your church. Designate the offering to **Love Gift**. The church's treasurer will complete the necessary form and send the donation to the ABCRM regional office. This process awards your church credit. Thank you for your over and above generosity.



For more information contact

Joan Anderson, Love Gift chairperson: [joananderson2@yahoo.com](mailto:joananderson2@yahoo.com)

Grace and Peace of Jesus upon you all!

January 2025

### Revisiting White Cross

White Cross giving has long been a favorite part of American Baptist Women's Ministries. A check sent from one of our Colorado churches to our State ABWM treasurer to disburse for "White Cross" reminds us that other AB women may be unclear about how to support White Cross now.

There are no longer requests sent to churches to support specific ministries, but these ministries still have needs. Now, it is up to us to decide where to send White Cross support. We need to go to appropriate websites to find information on our White Cross giving options and to guide our decisions.

For international projects, "Overseas White Cross," one can go to the International Ministries website, <https://internationalministries.org>. Across the top of the home page, find the Ways to Support menu bar, and under that click on White Cross. You can learn more about White Cross internationally there. You can click on **Find a Project** to learn about many specific projects. If you click on **Download Project List**, you will find 19 broadly defined areas of the world where there are many needs. There will be guidance there about various ways to give.

The tradition of "Overland White Cross", within the United States and Puerto Rico, is carried on by **Operation Planting Hope (OPH)**, under American Baptist Home Mission Societies (AHMS): <https://abhms.org/ministries/healing-communities/operation-planting-hope/>. There you will learn which ministries (e.g. neighborhood centers, native American ministries, immigrant ministries, Rainbow Acres, etc.) are eligible for "white cross" support through OPH. Click on the name of any ministry listed to go to their website to learn more about what they do and how to give. Some of these websites may indicate what the ministry's needs are.

I am willing to help anyone wanting assistance in walking through either of these processes to learn how we can continue to support White Cross.

Rev. Mary Beth Mankin, Secretary  
307-399-7769 Mobile phone  
[mbmankin545@gmail.com](mailto:mbmankin545@gmail.com)



## *JLJ CORNER*

Grace and Peace to you in the name of Jesus

Ladies the Jane Loring Jones Scholarship applications for the 2025-2026 school year will be on the ABCRM website in March and can be downloaded and completed. The scholarship applications are due May 5. There are two Jane Loring Jones applications on the website:

1. First time applicants and 2. Renewal applications.

The American Baptist Women Ministerial Grant Application is also on the website.

The Ministerial Student Grant is to assist consecrated Christian women to further their education to prepare for ministerial leadership. Graduate students who are contemplating going into the ministry should consider applying for this grant.

Ladies let us give God all the praise and glory for being able to offer scholarships and grants to women who desire to further their education.

Both applications are available from the website below.

<http://abcrm.org/ministries/abwm/colorado/>

*Dr. Jamie D. Johnson*

*720-879-2700*

*jljscholarship@gmail.com*



## The Jane Loring Jones Scholarship

### Description and Criteria

The American Baptist Women's Ministries of Colorado annually award the Jane Loring Jones Scholarships to young women who are members of ABCRM churches in Colorado, NM, and Utah.

- Women under the age of 26 on July 1 of the granting year, planning to attend an accredited college or university on a full-time basis (12 credit hours or more) and studying for an AA or BA/BS degree may apply.
- The selection process will consider the applicant's GPA, class standing, ACT/SAT scores, references, personal video, and activities.
- The scholarship is awarded annually, allocated and paid each academic period, and sent directly to the educational institution to be credited to the student's account. The scholarship applies to tuition, room and board, plus any additional institutional expenses.
- The scholarship provides \$4,000 to residential students attending non-American Baptist colleges and universities.
- The scholarship provides \$2,000 to non-residential students attending non-American Baptist colleges and universities.
- The scholarship provides \$4,000 to students attending American Baptist colleges and universities.

DEADLINE for the application is by the due date. Jane Loring Jones application is found on the ABCRM.org website.

Note: "Academic Period" includes a semester, trimester, quarter, or other period of study.



## YOUR GIVING SUPPORTS THIS & SO MUCH MORE!

- Bible Study and spiritual formation workshops, studies during ABWM region/state conferences, workshops, retreats, and national conferences
- Scholarships for women and girls to attend college, seminary, & trade schools
- Scholarships for women and girls to attend ABWM, denomination and events related to mission/ministry events
- Grants for American Baptist churches and organizations that support ABWM mission/ministries
- Leadership training for women and girls in your church, area, and region
- Free webinars, Fall & Winter
- Speakers for conferences, retreats, and program resources
- Hi e-Steam for AB GIRLS; Bible Study, spiritual formation and S.T.E.A.M.
- Workshop, webinars and gatherings for Young Adult Women's Ministries and AB GIRLS
- Domestic Violence Training and Certification Workshops (CEUs provided)
- Building Beloved Communities in ABWM regions/states
- Cultural Competency Awareness learning opportunities

[www.abwomensministries.org/give](http://www.abwomensministries.org/give)

**American Baptist Women's Ministries**  
 1075 First Ave STE C-210  
 King of Prussia, PA 19406  
 (610) 768-2288  
<http://www.abwomensministries.org/>

**ABHMS Address:**  
 American Baptist Home Mission Societies  
 1075 First Ave.  
 King of Prussia, Pa. 19406  
 Phone: 888.79.ABHMS  
[ABHMS.org](http://ABHMS.org)

**International Ministries address:**  
 International Ministries  
 1003 W. 9th Ave., Ste A  
 King of Prussia  
 PA 19406-1210  
[Internationalministries.org](http://Internationalministries.org)

### Share the Lamplighter!

Send name & email address to Yvonne Whisenhunt at [Yvonne.ABW@gmail.com](mailto:Yvonne.ABW@gmail.com) Include "Send Lamplighter" in the subject line.

New email address? Remember to send your new email address to [Yvonne.ABW@gmail.com](mailto:Yvonne.ABW@gmail.com)

The Lamplighter email list is **not** shared with any other organization.

*Yvonne Whisenhunt*, Colorado ABWM Editor

### **DID YOU KNOW?**

Colorado ABWM has a Facebook page?

Click the link below:

[Colorado AB Women's Facebook](#)