American Baptist Churches of Nebraska Regional Profile

11244 Blondo St. Omaha, NE 68164 www.abcnebraska.com



<u>Mission Statement</u>: Churches Helping Churches – Encouraging, challenging, and empowering one another to be transforming Christian communities in the world.

<u>Demographics</u>: There are 64 churches within ABCNE. In addition to Euro-American, we also have Kachin, Karen, Hispanic and Nigerian congregations. The region spreads over 473 miles reaching from one end of the state to the other. Also included are Kachin churches who have requested to align with ABCNE from: Florida, North Carolina, South Dakota, Tennessee and Texas.

Governing Structure:

- Operates under a Constitution, last amended in 2016
- Annual Meeting of Church Delegates and Representatives
- 21 Member Leadership Team

<u>History</u>: The first missionaries to Nebraska were Moses and Eliza Merrill in 1832. The Nebraska Baptist State Convention was officially formed in 1867. The first Kachin Baptist Church in America was founded in Omaha, NE in 2002.

<u>Moses Merrill Camp & Conference Center</u>: Camp Moses Merrill was established in 1943 in Fullerton, NE and moved to its present site by Linwood, NE in 1976. The camp has continued to update and expand their facilities. The camp and conference center are utilized year-round for summer camps, guest groups, meetings and retreats by ABCNE and other organizations.

<u>American Baptist Men</u>: AB Men are an active group with many shared work projects, especially at Moses Merrill Camp and Conference Center. There is an annual Men's Retreat and the men are involved in providing scholarships for seminary students.

<u>American Baptist Women</u>: AB Women are a vital part in the mission work in the Nebraska region. The AB Women host an annual June conference and are known for raising funds for mission projects. The women also provide scholarships to young college-bound women.

Current Staff Configuration:

- Executive Minister (Currently filled by Transitional Executive Minister)
- •____Associate Executive Minister (Currently filled part-time by an ABCNE pastor)
- •___Administrative Staff at ABCNE Region Office
- •___Director of Moses Merrill Camp and Conference Center
- •___Facilities Manager at MMCCC
- •___Administrative Staff at MMCCC
- Seasonal Staff at MMCCC