



FAITH IN ACTION: TRACING A LEGACY OF LOVE

⁹ The human mind plans the way, but the Lord directs the steps. **Proverbs 16:9**

⁴ Show me Your ways, O Lord; Teach me Your paths. ⁵ Lead me in Your truth and teach me, For You are the God of my salvation; On You I wait all day long. **Psalms 25:4, 5**

THE PASTOR'S PEN

July 13, 2025

HIGHLIGHTING THOSE WE HELP AMERICAN BAPTIST COLLEGE NASHVILLE, TN

In 1913, the idea of a seminary for the training of Black Baptist members was formed out of a conversation between leaders of the all-Black National Baptist Convention, USA, Inc., and the all-White Southern Baptist Convention. The committees of both conventions met and recommended the following year that the school be established in Memphis, Tennessee. It was later decided to establish the school in Nashville.

American Baptist Theological Seminary opened its doors for the training of Christian workers on September 14, 1924.

The College has educated Civil Rights champions, national leaders and outstanding Christian ministers. The school's history during the 1960's and 1970's was lively with cultivating civil rights champions, national leaders and outstanding Christian ministers. Students from American Baptist College, such as Julius Scruggs, Bernard Lafayette, Jim Bevels, William Barbee and John Lewis served on the front line of the Nashville Student Sit-In movement for justice and change. Under the tutelage of then Professor J.F. Grimmett, the late the Rev. Kelly Miller Smith, and Rev Dr. C.T. Vivian, many of our students dared to sit down at lunch counters dramatically altering the quality of life for Americans living in the South. They sat, marched, and persevered through arrests and beatings before they were victorious in pursuit of justice and human rights. The campus itself was a popular command post for organizing and training students for social justice causes throughout the city at the time. American Baptist College can boast that a number of its students from that period have gone on to become major names in civil rights history and American politics.

In 1971, the school earned accreditation from the Association of Biblical Higher Education and its official name was changed to American Baptist College.

In 2013, American Baptist College was recognized by the U.S. Department of Education as one of the nation's Historically Black Colleges & Universities (HBCUs).

Last year, American Baptist College commemorated a century of providing Christian higher education.

The mission of American Baptist College, a Historically Black College with a liberal arts emphasis, is to educate, graduate, and prepare diverse students for Christian leadership, service, and social justice in the world.

PASTORAL TRANSITION

PASTORAL TRANSITION SCRIPTURES:

⁹ The human mind plans the way, but the Lord directs the steps.
Proverbs 16:9

⁴ Show me Your ways, O Lord; Teach me Your paths. ⁵ Lead me in Your truth and teach me, For You are the God of my salvation; On You I wait all day long.
Psalms 25:4, 5

PASTORAL TRANSITION PRAYER:

Dear God, In my mind, I make my plans, But I desire You, Lord, to direct my steps.

So, show me Your ways, O Lord; Teach me Your paths. Lead me in Your truth and teach me, For You are the God of my salvation; On You, I wait all day long.

As you show me, teach me and lead me, I will seek your will, I will trust your leading and I will follow your directing as I pray regarding our next pastor. In the name of Jesus, the Christ, Amen



PASTORAL TRANSITION TIMELINE



BIBLICAL SCRIPTURE REFERENCE

EXODUS 32:15-17, ⁵ MOSES TURNED AND WENT DOWN THE MOUNTAIN WITH THE TWO TABLETS OF THE COVENANT LAW IN HIS HANDS. THEY WERE INSCRIBED ON BOTH SIDES, FRONT AND BACK. ¹⁶ THE TABLETS WERE THE WORK OF GOD; THE WRITING WAS THE WRITING OF GOD, ENGRAVED ON THE TABLETS. ¹⁷ WHEN JOSHUA HEARD THE NOISE OF THE PEOPLE SHOUTING, HE SAID TO MOSES, "THERE IS THE SOUND OF WAR IN THE CAMP." (NIV)

The Pilgrim Rest Oasis *Sharing the Faith · Securing the Future*

Through faith God has given us the space to be an **oasis** in the middle of the city.

An **oasis** is a fertile spot in the desert where refuge, relief, and refreshment is found.

Be part of God's plan for Pilgrim Rest and this community.

Start contributing to the **Oasis** today!
Let's continue to make progress!



Thank you for your continued support of God's plan for us.

Beginning



Current



Your contribution can be dedicated to a specific activity or the Oasis, in general.

	Educational Enrichment	Technology Literacy	Athletics & Recreation	Performing Arts	Facility Innovation
\$500	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 15 Subject books for elementary (math, literature, history, etc.) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1 iPad 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 10 basketballs 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 10 art sets for aspiring artists 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> External security lighting to keep the street well-lit and safe
\$1,000	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 100 Summer Bridge books to help students retain learning during breaks 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 100 "learn how to code" kits for elementary students 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 10 tennis rackets 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 4 beginner saxophones or 8 beginner violins 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Camera security system to keep everyone safe
\$2,500	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 9 students can be challenged to excel using interactive problem-solving programs 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1 computer for graphic design and website creation 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 12 sets of golf clubs for children 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 10 Play Scripts with performance/ licensing fee and cast instructions 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Wireless PA system to easily communicate at the school
\$5,000	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1 smartboard to help teachers engage students in learning 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1 STEM lab cart of materials for a classroom with multiple activities 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 3-day Speed and Agility workshop for 15 young aspiring track stars 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 100 pairs of tap shoes for aspiring dancers 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Battery operated floor scrubber to keep the building looking its best
\$10,000	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1 trip for 15 students to visit 1 HBCU 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 100 Robotic kits to reinforce studies in STEAM subjects 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Open gym for 20 young people 1 X a week throughout the winter in a safe place 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 200 tickets to see Alvin Ailey Dance Company 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> LED light fixtures throughout the school to promote learning and natural light