

Partners in Ministry Fulfilling Christ's Mission in the World



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I grew up in an independent Baptist church, accustomed to facing challenges and solving problems, or not, on our own. My first five years as a pastor were at an American Baptist church in Michigan; but in that time, I never met with anyone from the Association or Region; we functioned as an independent church, as I know a number of ABCOPAD churches do also. When I moved to Franklin, PA in 2012 all that changed. Not because I envisioned myself as someone who would work with, and eventually for, ABCOPAD, but because our local Association and this particular Region offered something I, to modify a line from a Disney princess song, "never knew I never knew." Here I found fellowship, support, encouragement, educational opportunities, sympathy, mentorship and in good time, friendship. Can a pastor function in ministry on his/her own without these denominational supports? Yes, they can, I know because I have, but now knowing there is a better way, I'd rather not have to try. We're better together.

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