



American Baptist Churches of Pennsylvania & Delaware

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Dear ABCOPAD Pastors, Treasurers, and Mission Advocates:



I can still remember my first day taking Greek at seminary. Dr. Glen Koch was our Greek professor and he had us open our nice new Greek New Testaments. As I gazed at this foreign language with strange characters and symbols, I thought to myself, “How will I ever learn this language?” It was very overwhelming. Clearly the message captured by those Greek symbols was important, but to learn how to read this new language would be a challenge. (Maybe you’ve had a similar

experience learning a new language?) Fortunately Dr. Koch was a skilled and patient teacher, guiding all the students in his class to begin to learn how to read the message contained on the pages.

While it may not be Greek, for some of us looking at a complex budget, line items and numbers on a spread sheet might as well be a foreign language. Perhaps we find ourselves saying “It’s all Greek to me!” We know that the information captured on those spread sheet pages is important but it is simply beyond us to understand them. We could use an instructor to help us unlock the meaning poured out on the page.

With that in mind, a team of ABCOPAD Officers and Staff Members have been hard at work creating what we are calling a “Narrative Budget.” It is our hope that this budget will be a useful tool in better understanding how the Region operates. By design it is short and hopefully uses language easy to understand. The Narrative Budget is an attempt to share the story of ABCOPAD’s ministry with our partners throughout the Region.

Like Greek class, it might be helpful to have an instructor who can explain the details. Our Regional Staff as well as ABCOPAD Board Members are ready to help. Also, in the next few months a multimedia presentation will be prepared that will hopefully provide an even better way to understand the ABCOPAD Regional Budget.

As a partner in ministry, we don’t want the budget to be Greek to you. Please use this tool to better understand how ABCOPAD works. Know we are committed and ready to help our entire Regional family answer Jesus’ call to share the Gospel and grow as his disciples.

God Bless,

Mark

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