



American Baptist Churches of Pennsylvania & Delaware

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REGIONAL VISION

*To Build Healthy Partnerships
with Churches, Pastoral Leaders
and the wider ABC Family to
fulfill Christ's Mission
in our world.*



Greetings in the LORD!

Think back to the moment that you gave your heart to Christ and accepted the gift of eternal life that He freely offers to us through His death at Calvary. If you're like us, there were some verses in Scripture that led us to that moment of decision, but also pointed us toward the life to come. A few of them were:

*¹⁶ For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son,
that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life. John 3:16*

*¹⁷ Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, the new creation has come:
@The old has gone, the new is here! 2 Corinthians 5:17*

*²⁰ I have been crucified with Christ and I no longer live, but Christ lives in me.
The life I now live in the body, I live by faith in the Son of God, who loved me
and gave himself for me. Galatians 2:20*

*The thief comes only to steal and kill and destroy;
I have come that they may have life, and have it to the full. John 10:10*

*⁸ For it is by grace you have been saved, through faith—and this is not from yourselves,
it is the gift of God—⁹ not by works, so that no one can boast. ¹⁰ For we are God's
handiwork, created in Christ Jesus to do good works, which God prepared in advance
for us to do. Ephesians 2:8-10*

Those verses speak about how our lives are supposed to change—how we are to look at the world differently and seek to be God's Instruments, God's Handiwork in the outworking of His Plan to reach a lost world with the hope of the Gospel. The life of a believer is to be a *great adventure*, engaged in the mission of faithfully proclaiming God's reign in our lives despite living in a world that speaks forth the exact opposite message. It is to be a life lived **At the Edge**.

The sad truth is that many of us have stepped back from the edge and are content to lead lives personally and corporately that are more about safety and security than they are about faithfully living for the One who was willing to give His all in our place. We've traded the great adventure for the great compromise—a life of living **At the Edge** in daily trust of our Heavenly Father for a life of trusting the savvy and smarts of the one who we see in the mirror each and every day.

God longs for more from us as His Children, and our hope is as we come together for this year's Biennial Leadership Conference in Altoona on October 18-20th that we will be open to hear once again His Call to live lives of faith **At the Edge**, trusting in the Father's provision to lead the way. Just as Lewis and Clark learned how to 'Canoe the Mountains' on their journey west when they encountered the Rockies, so we too need to learn to trust evermore in our God as we navigate the challenges of living a life of faith and witness in the 21st Century.

The 2018 Biennial Leadership Conference will be a time to consider what it means to live **At the Edge**...It will be a time filled with wonderful worship and fellowship, powerful teaching (by Dr. Charles Revis, Regional Executive Minister of Mission Northwest and Dr. Lee Spitzer, General Secretary of ABC/USA) and challenging workshops but it won't be complete unless you and your church family are with us.

We look forward to greeting you in Altoona as together we learn anew what it means to trust our God, **At the Edge**.

Longing to really live the life of faith,

Apryl

Mrs. Apryl Crownover-Glunt
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