

## **ASSOCIATION CREDENTIALS COMMITTEE**

The Association Credentials Committee will be composed of three ordained pastors and three lay persons. It shall provide oversight of the process that determines a candidate's readiness to be recognized by the American Baptist Churches of Pennsylvania and Delaware for certification, pre-ordination licensure, and ordination. The Committee shall follow the necessary ABCOPAD procedures, consulting with the sponsoring church and the Regional Pastoral Staff to ensure that the standards and process are known and understood. Committee orientation and required procedures for recognition are available through the ABCOPAD Region Office.

The Committee will grant a preliminary interview with each candidate who desires to receive recognition. The candidate's mentor is encouraged to assist in the process by being a supportive presence and clarifying questions and process. The Committee shall help the candidate make sure his or her recognition paper is in proper form. After the candidate meets the standards of recognition and his or her church is consulted, the Committee shall set a date, usually within sixty days, for examination by the Association Credentials Council.

If a candidate is properly granted initial recognition for Certified Lay Minister status, the Committee shall monitor his or her progress towards completing the required continuing education units to become certified for an indefinite period. Documentation of the attained units shall be sent to the ABCOPAD office when these requirements have been met.