



### AN EDUCATIONAL MINISTRY

#### THE AMERICAN BAPTIST CHURCHES OF PENNSYLVANIA & DELAWARE

Every Saturday, with the exception of a couple months in the summer, up to a dozen students gather from all over the region from the comfort of their own home ONLINE to participate in an educational experience known at the Academy of Christian Training and Service, formerly known as the *Church Leadership Institute*. It started over twenty years ago at one location, grew to three sites, and now is totally online utilizing the latest technology.



The online model, launched in 2012, allows our own ABCOPAD staff as well as local pastors, to exercise their gifts of teaching as instructors while staying literally right where they are. The new model also allows ACTS to access the expertise of American Baptist leaders outside ABCOPAD across our country, without having them or our students travel to a distant site each week, saving everyone time and money. Classes can now be held regardless of weather or distance. All instructors have an earned a graduate degree, many with their doctorates.

There are three tracks of study. Individuals take two years of twelve classes to become Certified Lay Ministers (CLM). Others take Christian Studies courses for personal enrichment. Some of these even come back to become CLM's. The school also has had a Youth Ministry Track. The student body is quite diverse; inclusive of gender, age, ethnicity, country, and geography.



Our graduates are serving as pulpit supply, solo pastors, associates and assistant pastors, youth ministers, missionaries, as well as individuals in their own churches supporting the work of their pastors.

**Thank you for your generous support of ABCOPAD's Partners in Ministry, as we educate and equip the next generation of church leaders.**

#### *You can give in one of three ways:*

1. Through your local congregation's weekly offering, by designating your gift to ABCOPAD-Partners in Ministry.
2. Through ABCOPAD's Online Giving option, available on the regional website ([www.abcopad.org](http://www.abcopad.org)). Your church can receive credit for your gift.
3. Send your personal check (made out to ABCOPAD) to ABCOPAD PO Box 421 Hatboro, PA 19040.

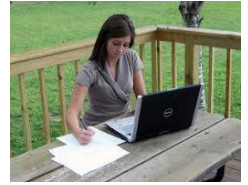
For more information about ACTS, check out: <https://actschristianleaders.wordpress.com/>  
***Who knows, maybe you will be our next student,  
or maybe right now we are training your next pastor!***



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