

Alabama Baptist Historical Commission
2024 Ministry Report to Associations
Unveiling the past to enlighten the present and illumine the future.

The Alabama Baptist Historical Commission is dedicated to celebrating, preserving, and sharing the record of God's faithfulness to His people called Alabama Baptists. It is amazing to see His hand across the years in the life of our convention.

Anniversaries are important times of thanksgiving, celebration, and anticipation for the future in the lives of Alabama Baptists. Edna Beam, Homecoming Committee Chairman, Providence Baptist Church in Clayhatchee, Dale Association, created an excellent tagline for their 175th anniversary this year, "Celebrating the Past, Rejoicing in the Present, and Embracing the Future." The ABHC presents recognitions to churches, associations, the convention, and Alabama Baptist entities celebrating milestone anniversaries. We provide anniversary planning workshops across the state and are available to assist all 268 churches with milestone anniversaries in 2024 and 2025.

Preservation of original records are another important ministry of the ABHC through microfilming, which ensures that Alabama Baptist history will be maintained. It is offered free of charge to all Alabama Baptist State Convention churches, associations, entities, and the convention. Pick up and return of records to the Samford University library are also provided.

Additional areas of ministry are:

- Historical coloring/puzzle book, *200 years of God's Faithfulness through Alabama Baptists*, published in 2023 during Alabama Baptist State Convention's 200th anniversary.
- Photographic Survey of Alabama Baptist churches, adding approximately fifteen hundred church photographs this year which preserves the visual record of our places of worship.
- Serving Alabama Baptists through participation in 200 various events with the help of our enthusiastic commissioners from every district in the state.
- Encouraging churches to record the stories of God's Great Commission people through oral history interviews of Alabama Baptists' faith stories.

Our long-time executive director, Dr. Lonette Berg, retired at the end of 2023. She leaves a legacy that cannot be measured, and the impact of her dedication and commitment will never be forgotten. We are thankful for her 20 plus years of service and passing the baton with the organization in excellent shape. Wendy Westerhouse assumed the role in January 2024 and is beginning to learn about the work of the Commission and is thankful to inherit a sound and healthy ministry.



Thank you for your gifts through the Cooperative Program which supports these ministries that challenge Alabama Baptists to acknowledge our rich story and heritage. We are blessed and would love to hear how we can assist you!

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