# Supporting MMBB members' resilience to serve

Since 1911, the Ministers and Missionaries Benefit Board of American Baptist Churches (MMBB) has had one enduring mission: to promote interest in the better maintenance of the ministry. From our historical roots in grantmaking, MMBB has grown to provide pensions and, over time, 403(b) plans and annuities to our members.

To support the resilience of members serving in the current church landscape, MMBB is launching the **Good Shepherd Annual Appeal.** Gifts to the new appeal support financial education, personal and pastoral well-being offerings, and emergency assistance for individual MMBB members and church employers. Experienced MMBB staff attuned to the needs and concerns of clergy lead these efforts, a distinctive and highly personal aspect of our ministry.

To celebrate the 20th anniversary of Heritage of Sharing, MMBB is memorializing our grantmaking roots through the creation of the **Heritage of Sharing Legacy Fund.** This fund is managed as an endowment and will provide emergency assistance grants to eligible MMBB members in perpetuity.



#### Office of Advancement

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### Scan below to give online



### **MMBB** mission

To promote interest in the better maintenance of the ministry

The Ministers and Missionaries Benefit Board of American Baptist Churches (MMBB) is a not-for-profit corporation organized under the laws of the State of New York and recognized by the Internal Revenue Service (IRS) as a tax-exempt religious organization described in Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code.

MMBB encourages donors to seek advice from their tax advisors in connection with gifts. Donors are responsible for making any required IRS, state, or local tax filings.

Charitable gifts to the MMBB Good Shepherd Annual Appeal will be divided among financial and pastoral well-being initiatives and educational offerings at the discretion of MMBB.



## Giving for the good of MMBB members

### **Introducing in 2025**

An exciting way to support the MMBB ministry Good Shepherd Annual Appeal

And to celebrate the 20th anniversary of Heritage of Sharing Heritage of Sharing Legacy Fund

### **Good Shepherd Annual Appeal**

Gifts to the Good Shepherd Annual Appeal support financial and pastoral well-being initiatives and educational offerings to strengthen MMBB members' resilience to serve. Our outcomes-based efforts help clergy better position themselves to sustain their vocations, strengthen their congregations, and maintain outreach ministries in their communities.

Initiatives and offerings funded by the Good Shepherd Annual Appeal include:

### Personal and pastoral well-being

### To help clergy thrive in their vocations

- Pathways to assistance for pastoral and behavioral health support, such as coaching and counseling, help clergy address their own crises of grief, loss, change, conflict, leadership transitions, and other challenges of congregational life
- Skill development helps clergy cultivate a reservoir of strength and strategies to handle future hardships

### **Emergency assistance**

### To provide relief from overwhelming financial stress

- Need-based grants help qualifying MMBB members recover from unforeseen financial hardship
- Broad support allows for grants for medical, dental, and behavioral health costs; eyeglasses and hearing aids; nursing care; income replacement during periods of unemployment; and damage from natural catastrophes

### **Financial education**

### To help MMBB members achieve and sustain lifelong financial wellness

- Content is delivered by qualified individuals with in-depth knowledge and understanding of MMBB member concerns
- Short- and long-term cohort-based educational offerings provide peer support and help alleviate isolation
- Conference-based seminars meet clergy where they are already gathering
- Custom MMBB content educates clergy on their tax status and related benefits, such as the housing allowance and 403(b)(9) church plans
- Self-paced online learning supports individual financial literacy
- As needed financial education and best-practice support help church administrators succeed in their roles

To give to the 2025 Good Shepherd Annual Appeal, please visit **mmbb.org/giving.** 

Charitable gifts to the MMBB Good Shepherd Annual Appeal will be divided among financial and pastoral well-being initiatives and educational offerings at the discretion of MMBB.

### Heritage of Sharing Legacy Fund

Coinciding with the 20th anniversary of the launch of the Heritage of Sharing Annual Appeal, MMBB has established the Heritage of Sharing Legacy Fund. Seed-funded with an anonymous legacy gift of more than \$600,000, this fund will provide emergency assistance to eligible MMBB members in perpetuity.

This principal and all subsequent gifts will be retained and invested. An annual drawdown based on MMBB spending policy will be used toward emergency assistance for eligible MMBB members. Donors can contribute outright cash gifts or legacy gifts to the new fund.

To give to the Heritage of Sharing Legacy Fund, please visit

mmbb.org/giving.

