



Our surveys reveal countless people in need of Jesus' love and healing touch. It's a difficult challenge, but we believe that as American Baptists working together, we can make a difference by supporting the 2010 America for Christ Offering (AFC). This special annual offering is normally collected in March, but will be accepted at anytime during the year when it's convenient for your church.

This year's theme ~ *"With Willing Hands: Connect. Care. Celebrate"* ~ is a powerful reminder that Jesus' public ministry was all about connecting and caring for people in need. Through the work of National Ministries, which is supported by the AFC offering, we can participate with our Lord in connecting, caring and celebrating the power of the Gospel:

- As people come to know the saving grace of Jesus Christ;
- As children in poverty are reached through the Penny Project;
- As youth, children and adults grow in discipleship;
- As communities are changed through Christian centers;
- As we increase church vitality through the Church in Mission trainings; and
- As we help to support and relocate refugees into churches and communities.

The AFC offering strengthens our churches by providing support to our pastoral counselors and chaplains, designing leadership workshops and conferences, promoting excellent discipleship resources through Judson Press and providing opportunities for churches, individuals and youth groups to participate in home mission through Volunteer Ministries.

The financial goal for 2010 is \$2,010,000.00. The specific breakdown of your mission giving dollar is:

**Program Ministries: 65%**

- American Baptist Homes & Caring Ministries
- Campus Ministries Chaplaincy & Pastoral Counseling Services

- Children in Poverty (CIP)
- Christian Centers (NAP)
- *The Christian Citizen* Magazine
- Church Transformation
- Disciple-making Church Conferences & Seminars
- Emerging Leaders
- Intercultural Ministries
- Judson Press Discipleship Resources
- Missional Church Learning Experiences
- National Evangelism Team (NET) Associates
- Networking Communities of Practice
- New Church Planting Resources
- Partnerships with ABCUSA Colleges & Seminaries
- Prisoner Reentry Refugee Resettlement Initiatives (to date more than 100,000 refugees placed)
- Volunteer Ministries
- *And much more...*

**Ministry Support Services: 35%**

- Personnel & Overhead
- Ministry Support Services
- CIF Management Fees & Other Development

We are encouraged this year to come alongside our sister & brother American Baptists “with willing hands” to connect, care and celebrate. Please join me in giving generously to the America for Christ Offering 2010 and help us reach our goal. Together we can touch and change lives for the cause of Christ and make a difference.

*“For the love of Christ urges us on... 2 Corinthians 5:14-15*

National Ministries staff, missionaries and ambassadors are available to make strategic visits to regions and clusters of churches to tell the story of home mission and encourage American Baptists to support AFC. They would like to connect with Regions in meaningful ways. You may also explore serving opportunities by visiting the website at [www.nationalministries.org](http://www.nationalministries.org) and click on the “GIVE/SERVE” button at the top left-hand side of the page. If you are interested in having a guest speaker, if you have any questions or I can help you in any way, please don’t hesitate to contact Debbie Hart at the Region Office

by calling 800.632.2953 ext. 221 or [dhart@abc-mi.org](mailto:dhart@abc-mi.org). You may see more information on the AFC website at <http://www.nationalministries.org/afc/index.cfm>. Thank you and God bless you!

“For the love of Christ urges us on...”

2 CORINTHIANS 5:14-15