

## Join ABCOPAD Ministers Council Today!

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Cell \_\_\_\_\_

Email \_\_\_\_\_

Date of Ordination (if applicable) \_\_\_\_\_

Church Name \_\_\_\_\_

Church Address \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Church Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Years at Present Church \_\_\_\_\_

### ABCOPAD Ministers Council Dues are:

- \$35 for Individuals

### National Ministers Council Dues are on a personal income sliding scale

- \$55,000+..... \$100
- \$25,000 - \$54,999 \$50
- \$10,000 - \$24,999 \$25
- < \$10,000 \$10

Both ABCOPAD and National dues are Payable **online** at [abcopad.org](http://abcopad.org) see Pastoral Leadership / Ministers Council

Or, **mail** form with check, payable to:

**ABCOPAD MINISTERS COUNCIL**

c/o Pastor Deborah A. Loessy

201 Edgebrook Dr.

Roaring Brook Twp, PA 18444

## Centered in Christ Competent in Ministry Colleagues in Community

These words summarize our vision for the ABCOPAD Ministers Council. We live this vision by promoting collegial relationships and sponsoring continuing education events. We pursue this vision because we know:

- The importance of collegial support
- That Ministry is extremely difficult
- Learning new skills is necessary to remain an effective pastor
- Lone Rangers can often burn out

In addition to this we pursue this vision to carry on the legacy we have received from our colleagues who have gone before us. (See the inside page for historical highlights of Ministers Council such as educating congregations on adequate compensation, developing ordination standards, code of ethics and Together in Ministry Program)

Lastly, we pursue this vision because we care for our colleagues in ministry.

We look forward to partnering with you in ministry!

*"I am convinced that priests and ministers, especially those who relate to many anguishing people, need a truly safe place where they can share their deep pain and struggles with people who do not need them, but who can guide them ever deeper into the mystery of God's love." -Henry J. M. Nouwen+*

## Welcome to ABCOPAD Ministers Council

## OUR VISION Centered in Christ Competent in Ministry Colleagues in Community



The Ministers Council is our professional association. It is the only organization in ABCUSA life which is solely dedicated to supporting and advocating for our ministerial leaders.

## Ways we are living the vision of your ABCOPAD Regional Ministers Council

- Sponsoring **Pastor's Retreats** with ABCOPAD region staff
- **Discounts** for Minister Council Members who attend Spring Pastors Retreat
- Sponsoring Prayer Summits, Pastor Appreciation Banquets and Continuing Education Events
- Encouraging participation in collegial ABCOPAD LLC **support groups**
- Building on the foundations of the previous generations, we also seek to advocate for ministers' needs today in our varied and challenging climate. Current projects underway include reviewing our Code of Ethics for possible revisions and convening clergy committed to Health Care/Access/Advocacy.
- Directly responding to your questions and needs E-mail us at: [Ministerscouncil@abcopad.com](mailto:Ministerscouncil@abcopad.com)



### Executive Committee members

**President** - Rev. Christopher Davis  
Blanchard, PA

[pastorchris@lbc4god.comcastbiz.net](mailto:pastorchris@lbc4god.comcastbiz.net)

**1st Vice President** - Rev. Cheryl Filson  
Mansfield, PA [cherylfilson@hotmail.com](mailto:cherylfilson@hotmail.com)

**2nd Vice President** - Pastor Mark Schollaert  
Monongahela, PA

[pastor.mark@firstbaptistmon.org](mailto:pastor.mark@firstbaptistmon.org)

**Treasurer** - Pastor Deborah Loessy  
Roaring Brook Twp., PA  
[debbie.loessy@gmail.com](mailto:debbie.loessy@gmail.com)

**Secretary** - Rev. David Barrett  
Taylor, PA - [Tylr1086hsd@gmail.com](mailto:Tylr1086hsd@gmail.com)

**Local Chapter Rep to National**  
Rev. Christopher Davis

**At Large (Northeast)** - Valerie Black  
Clarks Summit, PA  
[Vblack2004@yahoo.com](mailto:Vblack2004@yahoo.com)

**At Large (Southeastl)** - Rev. David Branecky  
West Chester, PA [pastordave@bcwc.org](mailto:pastordave@bcwc.org)

**At Large (Central)** - Rev. Kelly Legg  
Camp Hill, PA - [pastorkdl@gmail.com](mailto:pastorkdl@gmail.com)

**ABCOPAD Staff Liaison** -  
Rev. Dr. Frank Frischkorn  
Mechanicsburg, PA [ffrischkorn@abcopad.com](mailto:ffrischkorn@abcopad.com)

### History Highlights of the Ministers Council

#### **1935-1944**

Ministers Council Organized  
Code of Ethics Adopted  
Ordination Standards Proposed

#### **1955-1964**

1st Professional Magazine Published  
Pilot Placement Plan  
Certified Lay Ministers Program Established

#### **1965- 1974**

New Code of Ethics Developed  
Supports creation of "Center for Ministry"  
Partner in developing ABPS  
Became an advocate for women in ministry

#### **1975-1984**

Advocated open listing of vacant church positions  
Green Lake Together in Ministry Conference

#### **1985- 1994**

Changed Code of Ethics in response to ethical dilemmas around areas of abuse and confidentiality  
Adopted Sexual Harassment Guidelines  
Healthy Marriages, Pastors to Pastors, New Humanity & Over 50 Tasks Forces active  
Revision of Minister / Church Agreement in response to tax changes  
Compensation Task Force Publishes Compensation Workbook

#### **1995- 2003**

Developed web-site  
PRC Training Video Produced  
Updated compensation workbook with MMBB

#### **2004-2013**

Launched Together in Ministry groups with over 1,100 participants supported by \$3 million in Lilly Grants.

#### **2015**

Ministries Team - Network of Chapter Reps formed

#### **2018**

Local Chapter Revitalization Report  
Clergy Health Initiative  
Sustaining Pastoral Excellence Initiative

#### **2019**

Subsidized 2019 Small Church/Big Deal Pastor Retreat

#### **2020**

Membership (Year of Jubilee) to over 350 ministers