



AMERICAN BAPTIST CHURCHES OF THE SOUTH
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MINISTRY TO CHURCHES AND PASTORS

Definitions and Examples of Ministry Categories

Ministry to Churches

1. **Preaching and Teaching:** Preaching a sermon on a Sunday morning or other church event; leading a retreat or workshop; teaching a Bible study, health and faithfulness Bible studies, stewardship, mission or specialized presentation (minimum 18 minutes).
2. **Guidance and Assistance:** Providing guidance or advice for a congregation or one of its boards (small church initiative, health and faithfulness consultations and reports, strategic planning, interim ministry help, conflict resolution, search committees, missionary speaker deputation, financial assistance or advice, resourcing by office staff).
3. **Representing Region:** Attending or participating in a church's service or special event (non-preaching presence at ordinations, anniversaries, funerals, regular services or activities of the church). This includes times when we are asked to give a meeting from the region or a short (non-preaching) presentation.
4. **Region Event:** Church sends non-clergy members to events the region sponsors (Area meetings and Cluster AFC Meetings, Annual Session workshops, special events, and prayer meetings. Church participates in an ABC sponsored mission activity or hosts a regional event.

Ministry to Pastors

1. **Preaching and Teaching:** The pastor hears a staff member preach or teach in their church or as part of another church event; leading a retreat or workshop; teaching a Bible study, health and faithfulness Bible studies, stewardship, mission or specialized presentation (minimum 15 minutes).
2. **Guidance and Assistance:** Providing guidance or advice for a pastor (small church initiative, health and faithfulness consultations and reports, strategic planning, interim ministry help, conflict resolution, search committees, missionary speaker deputation, financial assistance or advice, resourcing by office staff). Phone calls by pastoral team qualify if the discussion is substantive and lasts for at least twenty minutes. Pastors served by the Pastor to Pastor ministry would be noted here (confidentially – the sheets will not indicate if due to privacy concerns).
3. **Fellowship (Representing Region):** Interacting with a pastor at a group event (pastors meetings, association meetings, etc.) or one-on-one (a conversation, meal, leisure activity) Phone calls do not qualify.
4. **Region Events:** Pastor attends events the region sponsors (Area meetings and Cluster AFC Meetings, Annual Session workshops, special events, and prayer meetings. Pastor participates in an ABCOTS sponsored mission activity such as a mission trip or leadership activity (Council, regional committees and task forces, servicing as a Pastor to Pastor).