



# THE CBMM E-ZINE

EDITED BY THE REV. CHERYL HARRIS

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We are pleased to publish the CBMM quarterly E-Zine for American Baptist Ministers in MA. Our aim is to support you in fulfilling God's call to ministry. Produced in collaboration with you, for you, and all about you, we include inspiring prayers, professional development resources, and your joys and prayer requests.

We will publish the E-Zine four (4) times per year, on the third Friday of the month in November, February, May, and September.

Thank you to Rev. Maggie Lewis for the naming of our publication. The CBMM E-Zine, pronounced "ee-zeen" is a magazine distributed to users via email or the Web with a magazine-like quality.

## FROM OUR PRESIDENT

Beloved Easter people,

As we continue to bask in the Eastertide, I can't help asking: Is it possible to find joy in the midst of sorrow? Is it possible to be able to laugh and sing in the midst of weeping? Or feel satisfied while hungry? Can there be light in the deep darkness? Can we find life in what is dead? Find beauty in the ashes and rubble? The answer from our human perspective is a quick and resounding "NO." But these questions mark the fact that there is nothing impossible for God. The resurrection of our Lord Jesus Christ confirms it. Easter has given us hope—hope of new life; a new beginning; new moments.

Resurrection helps us to realize that that which is dormant within us can come to life.

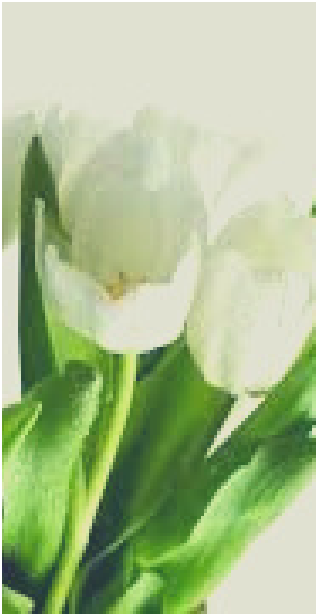
- Life can emerge from the death.
- Life awakens the beauty and creativity that is deep within each human soul.
- Life of the resurrected Christ heals.
- Life in Christ makes us aware of the presence of infinity and mystery in us.

Resurrection subverts all inconsistencies.

Resurrection is God's promise of the flourishing of life, a just and equitable world, where love and forgiveness can transform the world our home. Let us hold on to this powerful gift.

May the grace and power of Easter breathe new life into your soul each day.

*Atula*



# TABCOM ANNUAL GATHERING (TAG)

It was great to gather, in-person, for TAG 2022. Our annual partners' meeting was well attended, collegial and informative.

Doug Tatreau, surprised CBMM president, Rev. Dr. Atula Jamir, with a hand delivered presentation of two checks totaling \$26,000. Typically, the annual contributions are mailed to us, but Massachusetts Baptist Charitable Society, took the opportunity to publicly demonstrate their ongoing commitment and generous support of American Baptist Ministers in MA through CBMM.



CBMM continues to enjoy active, collaborative partnerships with MBCS, CCDM, MBMM, TABCOM and Northern Baptist Educational Society, all in service to the American Baptist Ministers in MA. Heartfelt gratitude to our partners and the devoted CBMM Board of Directors.

After offering enthusiastic gratitude, Atula presented CBMM's 2021 annual report of activities and accomplishments. Please view the annual report on our website.

We are pleased to report that our finances are in great shape. The net change in assets from year open to year end in 2021, is the best indicator of CBMM financial health. Our report displays a positive net change in assets of \$142,594.82.

Our 2021 expenses were lower than budgeted. In response to COVID 19, we placed a number of programs on hold or administered them virtually, resulting in lower costs. Additionally, we did not withdraw funds from our endowment fund, leaving the \$40,000 invested with the opportunity for growth.

Overall, it has been a good year.



One consistent lamentation we continue to hear is that clergy miss having a pastor to pastors. As you may recall, Michael Harvey, solely, fulfilled that role. With our new partnership structure, we have increased the number of clergy and professionals who can fulfill that ministerial need at no financial cost. CBMM pays for the service. Please see the message from Rev. Maggie Lewis, executive director of the Center for Career Development to learn how you can take advantage of the opportunities provided.

# FREE MINISTRY COACHING AVAILABLE TO CBMM MEMBERS

BY MARGARET LEWIS,  
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR CCDM

Easter has come and gone. Pastor, are you exhausted? Do you have a solid plan to take you to the end of the church year, helping you to finish strong?

Maybe there's a challenging issue brewing in your congregation and you could use some wise counsel as you navigate some choppy waters.

Or perhaps you're thinking about retirement but don't know when or how. You could use someone outside of your church to help sort out your thoughts.

Whatever it is, the Coaches at The Center For Career Development and Ministry (CCDM) are available for you. Meet four of them below.

Contact CCDM Executive Director, Maggie Lewis, at [exec@ccdmin.org](mailto:exec@ccdmin.org). She'll help you make the perfect match and get you started with a coach.

CBMM members may have up to five **FREE** sessions with a coach. Email us today!



## MEET THE CCDM MINISTRY COACHES



**Willard W.C. Ashley**



**Meg Hess**



**Hannah Anderson**



**Nicholas Munn**



# ABOUT CBMM

## DONATIONS & DUES

We welcome your material and spiritual support to the CBMM. You can send your donations electronically via our website, [www.conferenceofbaptistministers.com](http://www.conferenceofbaptistministers.com), or mail them to Conference of Baptist Ministers at 167 Prescott Street, Groton, MA 01450.



## OUR BOARD MEMBERS

Atula Jamir	President
Cheryl Harris	Immediate Past President
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## ACRONYM SOUP

Do you ever wonder what the acronyms mean?



# STAY TUNED FOR CBMM RESPONSES TO NEEDS YOU'VE IDENTIFIED

- Retired Clergy: CBMM has formed subcommittees to revive or develop a more robust ministry to retired clergy. We have heard your requests for a more structured process to help active clergy transition to retirement. You've also asked for ways that retired clergy can be involved in ministry after leaving the pastorate.
- Interim Ministry: We are in the process of re-assessing and re-energizing our interim ministry committee.
- Operations Manager: We celebrated Jana Yeaton's call to senior pastor of FBC Newton. A small group of CBMM board members have formed the search team. We received seven (7) applications and after some interviews, we are in the discernment process for the Operations Manager position. We expect to have an update in June.
- National Ministers Council:
  - National Ministers Council: Several chapters are reviewing the revised Code of Ethics. To date, seven (7) have voted on the new document. The goal is to receive all chapter responses by the end of December 2022. Once received, the Ministers Council will seek ratification.



"O God, thou mightiest worker of the universe, source of all strength and author of all unity, we pray thee for the workers of the nation. Teach them to keep step in a steady onward march, and in their own way to fulfill the law of Christ by bearing the common burdens."

**DENNIS JOHNSON,  
TO LIVE IN GOD: DAILY REFLECTIONS WITH WALTER RAUSCHENBUSCH**

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"History, despite its wrenching pain cannot be unlived, but if faced with courage, need not be lived again."

**MAYA ANGELOU,  
ON THE PULSE OF MORNING**