

**THE BOARD
OF THE
AMERICAN BAPTIST CHURCHES OF MAINE
CODE OF ETHICS**

It is the intent of the American Baptist Churches of Maine to strive for the highest ethical conduct from all Board members and staff. Our leadership is particularly sensitive to individuals who hold management and governance positions of trust and confidence in fulfilling the mission and goals of the American Baptist Churches of Maine. These sensitive positions include officers, staff members, and members of the Board.

In an effort to achieve the highest standards of conduct, each officer, staff member, and Board member is requested to acknowledge (by signing) the following adopted Code of Ethics on the first Board meeting after the Annual Meeting of the American Baptist Churches of Maine each year. This acknowledgement will be kept on file in the office of the American Baptist Churches of Maine.

All officers, staff members, and members of the Board of the American Baptist Churches of Maine are required and expected to exercise the highest ethical standards of conduct and practice fundamental honesty at all times.

We, as American Baptist Churches of Maine, staff and Board members, dedicate ourselves to carrying out our mission to affirm, support and challenge congregations in their mission. We will do the following:

1. Recognize that the chief function of the American Baptist Churches of Maine's Board, at all times, is to serve the best interests of our constituency; to enact fiduciary duties and to encourage financial support for its mission.
2. Accept as a personal duty the responsibility to keep up to date on emerging issues and to conduct ourselves with professional competence, fairness, impartiality, efficiency, and effectiveness.
3. Respect the structure and responsibilities of the Board, provide them with facts and advice as a basis for their making policy decisions, and uphold and implement policies adopted by the Board.
4. Keep member congregations of the American Baptist Churches of Maine informed about issues affecting its mission.
5. Conduct our organizational and operational duties with positive leadership exemplified by open communication, creativity, dedication, and compassion.
6. Exercise whatever discretionary authority we have under the law to fund and carry out the mission of the American Baptist Churches of Maine.
7. Serve with respect, concern, courtesy, and responsiveness in carrying out our organization's mission.
8. Demonstrate the highest standards of personal integrity, truthfulness, honesty, and fortitude in all our activities in order to inspire confidence and trust in our activities.
9. Avoid any interest or activity that is in conflict with the conduct of our official duties.
10. Respect and protect privileged information to which we have access in the course of our official duties.
11. Strive for personal and professional excellence and encourage the professional developments of others.

Signature _____

Date _____

Names (please print) _____