Heritage of Sharing 2012

HERITAGE OF SHARING
2012 Giving
“Share with God’s people who are in need. Practice hospitality.”

—ROMANS 12:13
Through Heritage of Sharing, MMBB Financial Services continues its rich tradition of charitable giving. What started out 100 years ago as donations of clothing and other handouts has evolved into a ministry that has provided more than $4 million in support to ABCUSA ministers, missionaries and lay employees in 2012. Your contributions to Heritage of Sharing make this ministry possible. In fact, since 1913 we have provided assistance of more than $248 million to those in need because of such contributions.

It is our honor to continue this tradition of giving through the Heritage of Sharing Campaign. MMBB’s annual appeal allows us to provide grants for living expenses, emergency assistance, educational grants for children of deceased and disabled members, and premium assistance for churches.

This year we highlight two stories that demonstrate MMBB’s commitment to promote interest in the better maintenance of the ministry. During October 2012, the greater New York area found itself in the throes of one of the most devastating hurricanes in recent history. Hurricane Sandy laid a path of destruction that cost billions of dollars and impacted individuals, homes, churches and the infrastructures of many communities. Among those affected were the Flemister House and the Reverend Edgir Jean. Both received support that allowed them to continue their ministries despite the storm. These grants made a difference.

I thank you for your generous contributions and look forward to continuing this vital ministry.

In His Service,

Louis P. Barbarin
Executive Director

Heritage of Sharing depends upon donors like you—but it would not be possible without the support and direction of the Annual Appeal Committee. MMBB Financial Services wishes to thank the following members of the 2012 Heritage of Sharing Annual Appeal Committee for the gift of their hard work and dedication throughout the year:

Rev. John D. Blythe
Rev. Dr. James A. Braker
Rev. W. Wayne Brown
Rev. Gordon W. Danielson
Rev. Dr. Sara E. Day***
Rev. Dale K. Edmondson
Rev. Donald R. Forden
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Rev. Dr. C. Richard Swanson
Rev. Carol E. Visser
Rev. Dr. Richard E. Visser

* Co-Chairs
** Founding Coordinator
*** Director
Heritage of Sharing Comes to the Aid of Hurricane Sandy Victims

When Super Storm Sandy devastated the New York-New Jersey-Connecticut area last fall your contributions to Heritage of Sharing allowed MMBB Financial Services to assist church workers and faith-based organizations, making it possible for them to continue ministry in the midst of chaos.

Here are just two examples.

The torrential rain and winds of Hurricane Sandy left New Jersey in a State of Emergency with downed trees, residential damage, power outages and lack of food, gas and water supply in most areas. The aftermath left Glenwood Baptist Church (NJ) Pastor, Rev. Edgir Jean, his wife and their three children temporarily moved from their home in the parsonage of the church.

Though the church building itself had minor roof damage, the uncertainty of when power, water and heat would be restored compelled Rev. Jean and his family to leave the parsonage for a few weeks. “During Hurricane Sandy, we were forced to relocate to two different (out-of-area) hotels in Harriman, NY, and Fairfield, NJ to find shelter,” explained Rev. Jean.

In response to the storm, MMBB reached out via email to ABCUSA Executive Ministers assuring them that we understood the significant devastation and urging them to let us know if they—or someone they knew—needed financial support during this time.

Rev. Dr. Lee B. Spitzer, Executive Minister and Senior Regional Pastor of American Baptist Churches of New Jersey passed along MMBB’s message to others via email and placed it on the ABCNJ Facebook page.

“We at MMBB knew many of our churches and pastors were dealing with loss due to the aftermath of the storm.”
—Rev. Dr. Sara Day

“MMBB has a lengthy and distinguished heritage of sharing generously with our American Baptist family. As I worked to meet the needs of our community, it was great knowing that I could refer people to MMBB,” shared Rev. Dr. Spitzer. “ABCNJ rejoices in its ongoing partnership with MMBB!”

“MMBB was very generous and gave us $1,000 dollars to help defray the cost of the relocation. We were very grateful for their assistance during that time of trial.”
—Rev. Edgir Jean

The timing could not have been better, Rev. Jean shared his situation with Rev. Spitzer who encouraged him to contact MMBB for help. In an email Rev. Jean wrote to Rev. Spitzer, “If we could have some assistance with the cost of relocation, we would really appreciate it. It seems that our power restoration may take at least two weeks and I need to ensure the safety of my children and wife.”

MMBB responded to the request immediately. “We at MMBB knew many of our churches and pastors were dealing with loss due to the aftermath of the storm. Our goal was to let our ABC family know that MMBB walks beside you and that we would be happy to help,” Rev. Dr. Sara Day acknowledged.

Rev. Jean recounts, “MMBB was very generous and gave us $1,000 dollars to help defray the cost of the relocation. We were very grateful for their assistance during that time of trial.”

One moment can change everything and an unanticipated circumstance needs immediate attention. Fortunately, the church has since been repaired and Rev. Jean and his family are settled back home.

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housing plus special support services for those who are homeless and affected by health and addiction issues. Sponsored by the American Baptist Churches of Metro New York, Flemister House employs 26 staff members to provide meals, weekly activities and most importantly—a safe place to call home for its 50 residents.

“We coordinate and deliver the related assistance our residents need along a continuum of care that includes access to medical care and treatment options, critical counseling/crisis intervention, substance abuse counseling, independent living coaching and advocacy to benefits and entitlements,” Rev. Timothy Mitchell, social worker and executive director of Flemister House, explained. “This home is a stepping stone for many who receive supportive services and then ideally move on to independent living.”

Flemister House was in flood zone A, the area below 39th street in Manhattan that is most prone to flooding—and it ended up completely under water after Hurricane Sandy.

Anticipating the disaster, all Flemister House residents were evacuated the day prior to the hurricane; a few staff members stayed to monitor the building. Thankfully no one was hurt, but the aftermath was shocking. The building was badly damaged. The basement was totally submerged and four feet of water flooded the first floor of office space. The boilers, electrical system and switchboards were destroyed. The van used for resident transportation was also destroyed. With no heat or electricity, Flemister House was uninhabitable until February 2013. During that period, Rev. Mitchell arranged for housing for residents, but this meant putting other bills on-hold.

Rev. Mitchell notified vendors that payment of some bills might be delayed. The letter explained the current state of affairs and uninhabitable conditions of Flemister House.

Shortly after, Rev. Mitchell received an unanticipated, but very welcome response from MMBB Financial Services. “MMBB said we do understand and we will cover two months of your premium payments. The one thing we did not want was to lose service so this payment break allowed us to think about recovery.” This meant that Flemister House could continue offering benefits to his staff while meeting its critical care needs under these strained circumstances.

This is just one organization affected by Hurricane Sandy, but in truth this one story is truly about 76 residents and staff affected by the storm.

In 2012, a year where tragedy struck the east coast with Hurricane Sandy so many who never needed assistance before were affected and left desperate for help. Thanks to your generous support, MMBB had the ability to provide relief to both families and organizations when they needed it most.

What Heritage of Sharing Means

Each year, the Heritage of Sharing program receives many notes of thanks. Many of these inspiring acknowledgements reflect the deep gratitude of those from our ABC family who Heritage of Sharing has supported; others come from donors. Here’s a sample.

“The received annual grant check helps me economically, psychologically and even spiritually. This financial assistance makes it possible for me to serve as a volunteer.”

— A retired pastor in Florida

“Please place this check in your fund to help those you help in your work. Christians in our ABC have helped me for the last 52 years and I’m most thankful.”

— A retired pastor in Illinois

“My mother and I wish to thank MMBB for granting our request for funds for this next year. The generosity has made it possible for her to pay her living expenses for her care and safety. We ordered the threshold ramp and are using it.”

— A widow in California

“In these uncertain times it is so comforting to know that MMBB is always ready and willing to help people in need.”

— A retired lay member in Washington

“I am very grateful for the monthly grant that I receive from the MMBB. I want to thank you very much. My resources are limited in retirement and the renewal grant helps provide money for medications and travel back and forth to doctors, hospitals, rehab and keeps food on the table.”

— A retired pastor in Massachusetts

“Thank you to the committee in charge of the Emergency Assistance for providing me with this gift. It has helped relieve the stress brought on by my illness and the mounting bills incurred. I have always been proud to be a member of MMBB. Knowing that you care not just about our future, but even what presently may be happening in our lives is even more rewarding. I pray God’s continued blessings upon each of you as you continue to minister to others in this way.”

— A pastor in Ohio

“Thanks so much for the financial assistance, we are so very blessed!”

— A pastor from Florida

“Enclosed is my check. I wish it could be more. I want to thank all that you have done for me. I thank God each day for you. I just got out of the hospital and at 90 years—I’m pokie slow. God Bless.”

— A widow from Ohio.
Assistance Provided in 2012

In 2012, over $4 million was provided in grants and gifts to our members, pre-retired and retired, clergy and laity, all who have dedicated their lives to the needs of their faith-based organizations. The kinds of grants are detailed in the diagram below.

Heritage of Sharing Needs You

Since 2005, ABC retirees have contributed over $2 million through the annual Heritage of Sharing appeal. The help you extend provides a lifeline that often keeps a colleague from the brink of despair. Your generous support provides blessings to those who have dedicated their lives to our American Baptist Family.

Making a Gift of Retirement Assets

Many wise donors are now using their retirement account remaining balances and assets as they plan their deferred charitable gifts. Here’s why this is a particularly effective strategy: Retirement account assets left to family members (other than your spouse) may be subject to higher taxation than other types of assets.

By using retirement account assets for your deferred charitable giving—and leaving different types of assets to family members—you may be able to reduce taxes that otherwise would be imposed on those assets and leave more to your intended beneficiaries.

Ways You Can Donate

- Contribute to MMBB’s annual appeal. Checks may be made payable to Heritage of Sharing; we also accept major credit cards or you can donate online at www.mmbb.org/HeritageofSharing
- Consider making a memorial gift to honor a friend or loved one.
- Include MMBB Financial Services in your will.
- Name MMBB Financial Services as the beneficiary of a retirement/IRA account.
- Name MMBB Financial Services as the beneficiary of a fully-funded life insurance policy.

For more information, contact The Rev. Dr. Sara Day at 800.986.6222, x8003 or sara.day@mmbb.org.
DEDICATE YOUR GIFT—Consider making a gift “in memory of” or “in honor of” a loved one, friend or ministerial colleague. When you pay tribute to a special person with a gift, you will be making a difference in the lives of American Baptist clergy and lay staff as well as expressing your love and appreciation for a special person in your life.

Names which are italicized represent those who have made generous donations on behalf of those whose names are marked in bold.

Virginia E. Acito
Mr. James R. Acito
The Reverend John Agria
Ms. Rose Agria
Robert E. Allen
Mrs. June B. Allen
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Mr. Thomas S. Holcomb, Jr.
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Ms. Elizabeth Blinn Drown
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Mrs. June L. Eddy
The Reverend William Houston Boothe
Mrs. Ruth Ann Boothe
Cecil Carder
Mr. Clark Gregory
The Reverend Charles William Butler
Mrs. Rosalind Butler
Dr. Herschel Caldwell
the Reverend James E. Merlin
The Reverend Walter R. Camp
The Reverend and Mrs. George W. Rothery
The Reverend Dr. Relland P. Clark
the Reverend Charlotte A. Getchell
Audley M. Bruce
the Reverend Raymond H. Carter
The Reverend Dr. Charles William Butler
Mrs. Rosalind Butler
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Mrs. Margaret A. Cochran
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Mrs. Dorothy B. Cole
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Mrs. Saas Jo Compton
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the Reverend Richard P. Cook
Rose A. Cook
Mr. and Mrs. David L. Cook
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Mrs. Rosemary G. Chandler
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Lois Blankenship
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Dr. Kenneth D. Blazier
Mrs. Ruth Elaine Blazier
The Reverend Roger D. Blinn
Ms. Elizabeth Blinn Drown
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The Reverend Roy A. Medley
the Reverend and Mrs. William A. Harrel

Joan L. Wright
the Reverend Harry S. Wright

Beulah Wriston
Ms. Nancy L. Dobbs

Dr. and Mrs. William P. Young
Dr. and Mrs. Morris W. Lee
The Reverend Dr. George D. Younger
the Reverend Dr. Donald W. Shaner and
the Reverend Dorcas Diaz-Shaner

Blanche Youravish
Ms. Nancy L. Dobbs

The Reverend John C. Zuber
Ms. Doris Zuber Daneker

GIFTS FROM
TRUSTS/ESTATE
Louis D. T. Geery Trust
Ms. Florence J. Korb Trust
Florence L. Lundquist Estate
Bernard MacMacklin Fund
Charles Clifford McLaughlan Trust
Ida Mae McLaughlan Trust

The President's Legacy Circle
The President's Legacy Circle, initiated by MMBB executive director emeritus,
Dr. Gordon E. Smith, honors members and friends who have made deferred gifts
to MMBB. These include bequests, gifts annuities, retirement/IRA accounts, trusts
and life insurance policies.

W. Haydn & Ione Ambrose
Tom & Dianne Bayes
Betty Beanman
Jean Beaty
William & Susan Bingham
Bula Dell Blanchard Hames
John D. Blythe
Gary & Eleanor Bonnell
Gordon A. Boume
Giles Brown
Russell & Bernice Brown
Herbert & Terry Brownlee
Terry & Elizabeth Burch
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Jane Gahs Wilson
Marjorie A. Wilson
Charlotte Woodson

*joined in 2012

GIFTS OF ANY SIZE ARE GRATEFULLY RECEIVED, 100% TAX-DEDUCTIBLE—and can be structured as a bequest, a gift in memory and/or name of a loved one and more. Even small amounts go a long way to help others in need.

For more information, contact The Rev. Dr. Sara Day at 800.986.6222 x8003,
or by email at sara.day@mmbb.org.
Annual Appeal Gifts in 2012

Joyce Ballbach
Jorge Barahona
Louis P. Barbaran
Ron and Donna Barlow
Gary and Marti Barmore
Earl Barnett
Glenn and Sylvia Barrett
Rich and Lilian Barron
Omarr and Margaret Barth
Dorothy Bartlett
Jean Bartlett
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Nelson Basil
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Gilbert and Evelyn Beal
Betty Beanam
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William and Gloria Bells
Perla and Gaiath Belo
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Nastart and Clarice Brown
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Conrad and Catherine Browne
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Judith and Allan Budiantes
Vida Bucy
Bob Bunche1
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Betty Burge
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Bud and Mildred Carroll
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Hildred Cassel
Jeny Carr
Ken and Gloria Caueth
Phyllis and Don Chaffee
Alpheus and Bernadine Bright
James and Carol Biv
Mary and Trustin Bodhead
Harry Bronkar
Frank Brougther
Robert and Dianne Brouwer
Nastart and Clarice Brown
Hazel Brown
James andinda Brown
Ruth Brown
Shirley Brown
Conrad and Catherine Browne
Donald Churn
Elizabeth Clark
Jackie and Eva Clark
James and June Clark
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John and Cynthia Clements
Russell and Diana Clemetson
Thomas and Audrey Clifton
Charles and Myrtle Clinkenbeard
Dick and Gloria Clossom
Paul and Martha Coates
Bob and Pat Coats
William Cobb
Orlando and Wilian Coles
Ann Cole
Craig and Gary Colmer
Carlos Conde
Harlan and Charlotte Conner
Diane Conner
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David and Janet Cordell
Georgian Cordes
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Elaine Cortes
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Virginia and Jon Crawford
William and Jill Crawford
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