



## **ABCOTS DEFINITIONS**

**Annual Meetings:** The yearly scheduled gathering of cooperating churches for the purpose of worship, growth, fellowship, communication and for conducting the business of the Region.

**Area:** Geographical location for assignments of cooperating churches.

**Auxiliary Organizations:** Groups, which are inter-region in nature, but complementary to the Region's purposes and programs.

**Commissions:** Groups of persons responsible for carrying out Region ministries specifically assigned to them.

**Cooperating Churches:** Member congregations in good standing.

**Delegates:** Representatives from cooperating churches of the Region who are entitled to vote at an annual meeting or area meeting.

**Executive Committee:** Region Board officers who are responsible for carrying out the work of the Region between annual meetings.

**Executive Staff:** The Executive Minister, Area Minister, Minister of Mission Development, and other professional staff persons as deemed necessary.

**Program Board:** The group in each Area consisting of the Area officers and committee chairpersons who are responsible for overseeing programming within the Area.

**Region:** The American Baptist Churches of the South (ABCOTS).

**Region Board:** The group composed of the area-elected members; Board of Ministries members of the ABC/USA from the Region; officers; region-elected members; and the presidents of related organizations responsible for conducting business for the Region between annual and special meetings.

**Related Organizations:** Organizations of people from the cooperating churches which further the mission of the Region and give tangible evidence of supporting the Region's purpose and programs.

**Task Force:** A group formed for a specific objective that is determined by the appointing group and is usually achievable within a short period of time and is non-recurring and narrow in scope. The task force membership is determined by the president of the Region in concert with the Executive Committee.