

## **REPORT OF THE PRESIDENT**

The Board of Ministries held six meetings during the year. Once again, we were hosted by the Canonicus Summer staff. We enjoyed a wonderful dinner and great conversations with the leaders and the teens as we ate among them. Thanks to the Canonicus staff for all they do to lead this wonderful ministry.

We are grateful for the involvement of the ABCORI ministry teams over the year. We are also excited to say that the teams that are active are providing valuable leadership in helping to plan congregational training, programs to support our pastors, and events to keep the teens active in their relationships and their faith. It is our hope and dream that all the ministry teams will share in our common ministry in 2018.

The All Church Worship was held at Ebenezer Baptist Church in September. The worship service featured our special guest the Rev. Dr. Jeffrey Haggray, Executive Director of our American Baptist Home Mission Societies. The Ebenezer Baptist Church Mass Choir led us in praise and worship to our Lord. We were also privileged to present gifts for those affected by hurricanes Harvey and Irma.

The finances of ABCORI were successfully managed by Tom Wiles, Mark Sjoberg, Nikita McCalister, Bob Butzier, and John Tucker. Finances can be “dry” and many times not looked upon as an exciting ministry to volunteer for the Lord. A special thanks goes to these volunteers. They take their ministry duties very seriously, and they understand that they play a big role in helping ABCORI to be good stewards of the blessings that God has provided.

A special thanks to all the administrative staff of ABCORI for all they do. They keep the “lights on,” and they keep things flowing between the churches. They help us to keep this wonderful organism called ABCORI growing closer and closer so that together—God can do wonderful things and reach Rhode Island with His love.

Yours in His Service,  
Carl H. Balark, Jr.