

Ministers Council of the Greater Bay Area - Annual Report 2014
By Allison Tanner, MCGBA President

2014 Executive Committee

President – Marie Onwubuariri (Jan-March) Allison Tanner (April-December)
Secretary – Tracy Freeman
Treasurer - Karen Yee
Senator - Allison Tanner
At Large – Larry Jay, Laurel Balyeat Morrison
ABSW Seminary Reps – Chuck Johnston and Doug Davidson
ABSW Liaison – Micky Holmes
MC At Large Contacts – Liliana DeValle and Kaie Choy-Wong

2014 Events

January 13-14 – Annual Retreat

Competence, Collegiality, and Centeredness, with Rev. Dr. Debora Jackson
27 people in attendance
Retreat Committee: Larry, Laurel, Chuck

October 27

ABSW Chapel Service
Chapel Service Committee: Chuck, Doug, Allison

2014 Report

The beginning of 2014 was marked by transition in the unexpected loss of our newly elected President, Marie Onwubuariri. Everyone was delighted that she was called to serve as the Executive Minister of the American Baptist Churches of Wisconsin. Allison stepped into the position of president.

We continued wrestling with how to best serve ministerial leaders that span multiple regions. It turns out that it currently does not make sense to host a Fall Gathering for MCGBA pastors, since our various regional affiliations host their own fall gatherings. In looking to 2015, we will plan three events for the year: a retreat in January (our signature event); a Spring Gathering (set for April 17); and a summer BBQ fellowship for ministerial leaders and their families. We continue to encourage open relationships with Ministers Councils of our various regional affiliations, and advertise events hosted by any region that are open to our larger constituency.

In the model of TIM groups, we continue to recognize the importance of affinity groups. Marie and Allison worked together to birth a support group for newer ABC ministerial leaders and seminarians called New Wineskins. This group met four times in 2014, and shows promise as a place for newer ABC ministerial leaders to connect, network,

fellowship and support one another. This group is in part the result of many years of discussion on how to encourage and engage a new generation of ABC ministerial leaders in the Bay Area.

We also connected with the retired ministerial leaders, who reported that they like to be included in events for all MCGBA members. They also relayed if anyone in that group wants to organize gatherings, they would take on the responsibility of pulling such an event together, requesting only that we support and advertise them in doing so.

In addition to our local news, the National Ministers Council voted in new By-laws and Standing Rules. These affect how national is organized, dues fee structures, and nomenclature. We are now encouraged to think of ourselves as a local chapter (formerly council) of the Ministers Council, and our local representative (formerly senator) will attend Annual Gatherings (formerly Senate) to serve as a liaison between our local chapter and our larger ABC Ministers Council identities.

As we look to 2015, our hope is to continue to grow our council through a focus on membership invitations and providing meaningful gatherings for our members. We are also focused on organizational stability, recognizing the ongoing need for a Vice President position to help with years of transition, as well as ensuring our Treasurer position is filled by someone with a specific skill set to keep the books. Our 2015 slate of officers, voted in at the 2015 retreat, are as follows:

President:	Allison Tanner (2015)
Secretary:	Tracy Freeman (2015)
Treasurer:	Michelle Holmes (2016)
Local Chapter Rep:	Doug Davidson (2018)
At Large Members:	Larry Jay (2015)
	Laurel Bayleat Morrison (2015)
	Karen Yee (2016)
	Barbara Jim-George (2016)
Seminary Rep:	Sydney Webster (2015)

Respectfully submitted,
Allison Tanner