



# ABCOPAD Biennial Leadership Conference

## RENEWAL FOR THE 21<sup>ST</sup> CENTURY CHURCH

**October 17-19, 2024**  
**Blair County Convention Center**

### SCHEDULE OF EVENTS (Subject to Change)

#### **Thursday, October 17, 2024**

Prayer Room Open.....	8 a.m. – 10 p.m.
Registration / Exhibits / Vendors .....	1 p.m.
Hotel Check In .....	3 p.m. – 4 p.m.
Welcome Session and Worship Music .....	4:15 p.m. – 5 p.m.
Buffet Dinner / Exhibits / Vendors .....	5:10 p.m. – 6 p.m.
<b>Opening Session with Rev. Dr. Michael Beck.....</b>	<b>6:30 p.m.</b>

**A New Mission Reality** - The first session will examine cultural shifts, phenomenon of decline, “spiritual but not religious,” “faith unbundled” and an introductory explanation of the changed landscape. We will explore the idea of “Divine Love Triangle,” the three essential relationships of congregational life derived from the life of God: pastor(s), congregation, community. We will unpack the “arranged marriage” and the concepts of “(re)missioning,” “growing the center, experimenting on the edge” and “imaginative gridlock”.

**Table Exercise:** What is Church?

#### **Friday, October 18, 2024**

Prayer Room Open.....	7 a.m. – 10 p.m.
Breakfast Buffet (Optional) .....	8 a.m.

**ABCOPAD Vision Statement:** To Build Healthy Partnerships with Churches, Pastoral Leaders and the Wider ABC Family to Fulfill Christ’s Mission in Our World.



# Friday, October 18, 2024, Continued



Session 2 with Rev. Dr. Michael Beck ..... 9 a.m.

**The Five Congregational Personality Types** - Every congregation has a unique personality in the same way a human does. Just like no person is exactly the same, so neither are any two congregations. Yet, just as psychologists can condense hundreds of unique personality traits into the big five categories, so too, can congregations be understood through five congregational personality types. While there are a multitude of unique variations, the types give us a framework through which every congregation can grow in maturity. The congregational types are the communal embodiment of the five basic personality dimensions described by psychologists as the Five Factor Model. Biblically, these five personality dimensions correlate with the fivefold gifting Jesus bestows upon the church for her upbuilding, called the APEST typology—Apostle, Prophet, Evangelist, Shepherd, Teacher (Eph 4:7–13).

### These are the Five Congregational Personality Types:

1. **Proclamation Centered:** This congregation values truth (ἀλήθεια) and loves growing and sharing in quality teaching and preaching.
2. **Outreach Centered:** This congregation values service (διακονέω) and embodying the good news in word and deed. They live to serve those outside the community.
3. **Generosity Centered:** This congregation values singleness/generosity (ἀπλότης) and uses its resources to invest in ministries that make a kingdom impact.
4. **Fellowship Centered:** This congregation values community (κοινωνία) and loves to be together and nurture one another.
5. **Healing Centered:** This congregation values wholeness (ιάομαι) and the manifestation of Jesus' life in the world, seeking to be a community where people experience healing.

### Table Exercise: Identifying Your Type

Clergy Gathering for Pastors Age 50 Or Under ..... 12 p.m.

Lunch and Activity on Your Own ..... 12 p.m. – 3:30 p.m.

Box Lunch Available for Purchase (Convention Center) / Optional ..... 12 p.m. – 1 p.m.

### On-Site Bible Study or Go Out on Your Own – Outing Idea List will be Provided

ABCOPAD Women's Ministries Mission Box Lunch with ..... 12 p.m. – 3 p.m.

- **Brian and Lynette Smith**, Global Servants to the Dominican Republic and Haiti and
- **Rev. Rick Bunker**, Race Track Chaplaincy of America – PA – **Open to Both Men and Women**

Return to the Convention Center ..... 3:30 p.m.

Welcome Back ..... 4 p.m.

- A Word from Mr. Bryon Luke, ABCOPAD President
- A Word from Mrs. Lori Jennings, ABCOPAD Vice President
- 2025 Vision and Beyond ..... Rev. Mark Mahserjian-Smith, ABCOPAD Regional Executive Pastor

## Friday, October 18, 2024, Continued



Dinner ..... 5:10 p.m.

**Session 3 with Rev. Dr. Michael Beck**..... 6:30 p.m.

**Starting Something New** - We will explore Fresh Expressions and the Blended Ecology from the Biblical blueprint of Luke 10:1-9. How do we start something new that reaches new people, in new places, and in new ways? Who will lead these new experiments? How do we reorganize the church to allow for this kind of work? Stories of what this can look like from the ground will be shared.

**Table Exercise:** Marshmallow Tower

**Installation of ABCOPAD Regional Executive Pastor Mark Mahserjian-Smith**..... 8:45 p.m.

**Reception with ABCOPAD Regional Executive Pastor Mark Mahserjian-Smith**..... 9:15 p.m.

## Saturday, October 19, 2024

Prayer Room Open ..... 8 a.m. – Noon

ABCOPAD Business Session / Partners in Ministry Offering ..... 9 a.m.

**Session 4 with Rev. Dr. Michael Beck** ..... 9:30 a.m.

**The Power of the Dark Side** - The early church embodied all five types at some level, they devoted themselves to the apostles' teaching (proclamation centered), to deep communal life (fellowship centered) breaking of bread and sharing all things in common (generosity centered), the prayers and wonders (healing centered), they cared for the poor and vulnerable and the Lord was adding outsiders to their numbers daily (outreach) (Acts 2:42-47).

A healthy, growing church in Acts expressed all these characteristics, but this is exceedingly rare among congregations today. Many congregations have little awareness of their personality type or what motivates them to do what they do. Every single community on earth (rural, urban, suburban, digital, etc.) needs healthy, compassionate pastors and congregations to love them toward the fullness of God's kingdom. Every congregation has a distinct heart, which is a unique expression of Christ. That heart can be either healthy or sick.

The ideal state of health for a congregation is to mature "to the measure of the full stature of Christ" (Eph 4:13). This would include embodying at some level each of the five personality types. However, this is more a lifelong journey of grace than a destination at which we arrive. Once we understand the five types and see our growth areas (dark side), we have a spiritual framework for growing more fully toward maturity and flourishing.

**Table Exercise:** Dream Storm and Dream Napkin

Closing Thoughts from President Bryon Luke and Vice President Lori Jennings

Communion ..... 11:30 a.m.

Closing and Dismissal ..... 12 p.m.

Benediction