

Alabama Baptist Conference of the Deaf
Via Zoom meeting
May 30, 2026

Those in attendance:

Executive Board:

- Eden Westside Baptist Church – Jenn Ellis
- Meadow Brook Baptist Church – Treasurer, Paul Pitts
- First Baptist Church Prattville – Ray Sevie
- The Grove Church – Rickey Clemons
- New Deaf Church - Jenny Hutto

Others:

- SBOM – Steve Dye
- Former Board Members – Crystal Huffman & Jin Mayer

Prayer and open

Steve Dye called the meeting to order at 12:03p.m.

Steve Dye opened in prayer.

Special Announcement:

Ray Sevie shared that he has having some complications with his church, FBC Prattville. He has emailed several times and has asked for a sit-down meeting but no response. He wanted to ask the Board if they felt this was a conflict as him being on the Board. The members of the Board shared that if effort is there in trying to do right, Ray should remain on the Board. Also, it was encouraged that Ray continues to reach out to the leaders of FBC Prattville and as a backup, reach out to the leaders at Heritage Baptist Church in Montgomery.

Ray will give us an update on this when he finds out more information.

Old Business:

Schedule from 2026 ABCD was good, no changes needed.

Grove Church mentioned 3 things that needs to improve for future hostings.

1. Need to give each group a deadline for having their program and flyer together so we can get the word out earlier to the Deaf community. Need to start gathering info now for Interpreters, JrABCD, KidsABCD and try to have everything finalized by Oct/Nov or before that.
2. Need to improve communications between all groups and the Host Church. Need to know what each group's needs are ahead of time.
3. If Board member sees something is happening during the conference and a “rebuke / correction” needs to happen, it is encouraged for that Board member to address it privately or report to the pastor/leader who oversees that person who is causing issue.

New Business:

First Baptist Church Fairhope will be hosting ABCD 2027 is March 5-7th . Joshua made a flyer and emailed to everyone already.

After much discussion, Jenn Ellis accepted the role of Chairperson of the Board and Jens Hutto accepted the role of Secretary.

Conference Theme:

After much discussion, the Board decided the conference theme will be: "Mirror"
Scripture theme is from James 1:22-25

Pastor selections: (1) Jason Roop (AL)
(2) Ashton Luff (TX)
(3) Ethan White (moving soon)

Worship Leader: (1) Daniel & Lydia (AL)
(2) CJ & Casta (AL)

Joshua will ask the pastors & worship leaders to see if that accept or not and report to the Board as soon as he finds out. Once they accept, Jenn as the Chairperson will begin communications with the leaders to see what their needs are and report any changes if any.

Schedule for ABCD

We discussed about the weekend and would like to keep Sunday part of ABCD program. Joshua and Jenn needs to contact Boyd to see if this is possible.

Plan A: Can the ABCD pastor preach to the whole church on Sunday?

Plan B: Host the Deaf Worship with Deaf pastor in same room ABCD is hosted if possible

Teeshirts / Silent Auction:

We discussed about Teeshirts and designs. The Board decided to keep doing teeshirts for ABCD 2027. Mia Teague will design the shirt logo. Shirts at ABCD 2026 were \$25 each

We discussed about Silent Auction. The Board decided to keep doing the silent auction for ABCD 2027. We need to have someone to coordinate that. Who?

Hotels / Food:

We discussed about Hotels and Catering options for ABCD 2027. We need to ask Boyd to create a list of hotels in the area to provide for ABCD to promote on Facebook and website. As for catering, FBC Fairhope has its own cafeteria and could provide a low pricing catering. Jenn and Joshua will look into this.

Jenn Ellis wants to create a GroupMe chat with all the Board members for easier communication. Marco Polo is good but sometimes hard to find information and keep track of it. Steve emphasized that if you plan to talk about something important, type in a note what the topic is and then create a video with the information needed to share.

ILC 2026

It was discussed that in a proposal made by SBOM because to be fair to all locations and not to conflict with same locations hosting twice in a row, Eden Westside was schedule to host 2026 ILC.

Ray S mentioned that FBC Prattville already secured a date for October 10th for ILC.

Crystal H mentioned that is the same date as Pulse Check, so FBC Prattville needs to move their date.

Ray S mentioned that was the only date available at FBC Prattville. So, he will check with Heritage Baptist Church to see if they are available for either the November 7th or November 14th.

Plan A: Heritage Baptist Church hosted ILC 2026

Plan B: Eden Westside Baptist Church hosts ILC 2026

Plan C: ????

Upcoming Plan for ABCD and ILC from Board discussions

Year	ABCD Location	ILC (Impact Lives for Christ) Location
2025	Shocco Springs Conference	Birmingham Community Deaf Church
2026	The Grove Church, Madison, AL	First Baptist Church, Prattville, AL
2027	Fairhope, AL (First Baptist Church)	Mobile/Fairhope Area or Maybe Dothan
2028	Meadow Brook Baptist Church, B'ham	Eden Westside Baptist Church, Pell City
2029	Birmingham Community Deaf Church	The Grove Church, Madison, AL

Proposed Plan from SBOM was shared last year

Year	ABCD Location	ILC (Impact Lives for Christ) Location
2025	Shocco Springs Conference	Birmingham Community Deaf Church
2026	The Grove Church, Madison, AL	Eden Westside Baptist Church
2027	Fairhope, AL (First Baptist Church)	Montgomery area
2028	Montgomery area	Mobile area
2029	Birmingham area	Huntsville area
2030	Huntsville area	Birmingham area

Meeting adjourned at 1:52 p.m.

Rickey Clemons closed in prayer

****NEXT MEETING ON ZOOM ON SATURDAY JULY 25th at 12pm****

(Joshua will contact Boyd to see when we can visit the church, we may cancel ZOOM meeting and meet in person)

What we need to do before next meeting?

Joshua Huffman

1. Contact pastors and worship leaders to see if accept for ABCD 2027
2. Contact Boyd to see if can meet at church for Board to visit in August?
3. Contact Boyd to see if ABCD can meet on Sunday as well for the conference. Plan A or Plan B?

Jenn / Crystal:

1. Contact Kris Courson to start talks about Interpreting Workshop for 2027. If Kris cannot do it, ask if Nathan Burleson can step in?
2. Contact Boyd Eggers to encourage him to start making a list of hotels in the area. Make sure phone numbers and addresses are on list too.
3. Contact Boyd Eggers to see if church can send menu for catering options.
4. Contact Mia Teague to start developing a conference theme logo "Mirror" with scripture as well.
5. Contact Boyd Eggers about the expectations for childcare / nursery. Do we need to have our own volunteers or they will take care of it? If we have to provide our own, start thinking of people to ask to volunteer for this.
6. Ask if Mia Teague still interested in overseeing JrABCD? If yes, she needs to be involved in next meeting.
7. Ask of November 7th or 14th is available for potential ILC 2026 event but wait for Ray's response from his area before reserving.

Ray Sevie

1. Continue to contact FBC Prattville to have meeting to discuss future plans. If unable to, begin talks with Heritage Baptist Church immediately.
2. Communicate and confirm cancellation of October 10th for ILC.
3. Communicate with Heritage Baptist Church to see if November 7th or 14th is available for hosting ILC 2026 event. If unavailable, immediately let the board know so we can plan elsewhere.

MISC:

- Need someone to pray about taking over the duties for the website and Facebook to share the responsibility.
- Need someone to consider overseeing the silent auction and making sure items are paid for