

## Annual Gathering sponsorship helps make event accessible

by Jason Smith

For many of us, the Alliance of Baptists' Annual Gathering is a time of reconnecting with friends, learning ways to be better advocates for justice, and joining other like-minded Baptists in engaging with the Spirit's call. And, because the Alliance aims to live out the inclusivity and embrace of the gospel message, we are intentional about welcoming people of all backgrounds and situations to this yearly event.

As such, we offer free admission through scholarships to college, graduate and theological students, and workshop facilitators are offered reduced and complimentary registrations. On-site childcare for children five and under also is provided so parents can attend, and the Alliance covers ancillary expenses related to facilities used at the host site.

You are invited to help make the 2018 Annual Gathering April 26-29 at Harmony Creek Church in Dayton, Ohio accessible to all by becoming a sponsor. The theme is "Earth: Beloved Community," and sponsorships can be made through a gift of \$500 or more.

Details are available at <https://allianceofbaptists.org/assets/uploads/2018-AG-Sponsorship-Letter-2.pdf>, and if you would like to sponsor at a different level for a portion of the gathering please email me at [Jason@allianceofbaptists.org](mailto:Jason@allianceofbaptists.org). Sponsors will be listed in the program booklet and recognized publicly by name at the gathering.

As we learn how to become better stewards of creation and how to promote the earth as 'beloved community,' I give thanks for the ways in which your generosity promotes the Alliance as a space of welcome to all.

*Jason Smith is congregational engagement specialist for the Alliance of Baptists.*