



Top: Rev. Rick Mixon

Above: Rev. April Baker

Randle R. Mixon Award for Christian Service

Rev. April Baker—Glendale Baptist Church

The Randle R. Mixon Award for Christian Service is given to an individual clergyperson whose work has helped to increase the inclusion of sexual minorities within Baptist bodies and has served to advance the cause of justice by educating congregations and organizations about sexual minority and gender identity issues.

This year's award goes to Rev. April Baker, Co-Pastor of AWAB member congregation Glendale Baptist Church (glendalebaptist.org), Nashville, TN. Rev. Baker joined the pastoral staff of Glendale in 2002, fresh from a stint in the corporate world and twelve years out of seminary. Rev. Baker is

married to Deborah and together they find great joy in the outdoors. When indoors, she can often be found at her loom trying a new weaving pattern or creating something to use at home or give as a gift.

The gift of Rev. Baker's life and testimony to God's inclusive love for all is an inspiration to many throughout our larger Baptist family. Rev. Baker once served on the Steering Committee for American Baptists Concerned, the pre-cursor to AWAB. Additionally, she has been very active in The Alliance of Baptists and the Baptist Peace Fellowship of North America/Bautistas por la Paz.

AWAB Board Member Emeritus Rev. Rick Mixon says of Rev. Baker, "April is a consummate pastor who embodies the ideals of servant leadership. She is compassionate, wise, prophetic, and collegial in both her vision and practice of ministry. It is a joy for me to know her as colleague and friend."

As with the MacNair Award, AWAB will formally present the Mixon Award to Rev. Baker at Glendale Baptist Church at a yet-to-be determined date.