

**Installation of Officers**  
**2015-2017 Ministry Focus "See . . ."**  
*By Nola Crooks*

It is traditional to have some sort of formal service of blessing of newly elected officers into their leadership roles; this is termed an "installation." This installation is based on the 2015-2017 ministry focus of AB Women's Ministries, "See . . ." As each women's and girls' ministry is structured differently, you may need to adjust the list of officers below to fit the needs of your leadership team.

**Supplies:** For each officer to be installed you will need to have a magnifying glass. You can purchase them in the party favor section of Walmart or at dollar stores, as well as online (such as Amazon and Oriental Trading Company). The inexpensive ones are about \$5.00 for a dozen.

Attach the magnifying glass to a piece of colored or white cardstock with glue or rubber cement, or by cutting two parallel lines in the cardstock and sliding the handle of the magnifying glass through the slits.

Write the title of the installation service and date on the card stock, or print labels with the information on your computer and label the card stock.

**Possible song choices:**

Be Thou My Vision (Standard Hymn)  
Open the Eyes of My Heart (Paul Baloche)

## **The Installation**

*Hymn, optional*

**Opening prayer:** Holy God, the one who sees us as we are and cares for us, leads us, and, most of all, loves us: We gather together today, praising and thanking you for who you are: the one who sent your Son to save us. We pray that we reflect your love, mercy, and grace in our leadership to your people. Amen.

**Scripture Reading: Psalm 139:1-14**

*Invite the officers being installed to come forward and stand in a semi-circle facing the gathered.*

**Words of Installation**

Today we are called to install and commission the officers that God has called to leadership.

We see from the psalms that God knows each of us intimately and leads us to work for God's purpose. *[Addressed to the officers]* You are part of the ongoing generations of women, faithfully answering the call from God for leadership in American Baptist Women's Ministries. May God lead you to "see . . ." your courage, boldness, creativity, and innovation as you provide leadership in your elected role.

*Invite each officer forward as you speak the conferring blessing to that person and give her a magnifying glass.*

President: As president, you must carefully see... God's leading for your ministries. Seek God's vision as you plan, preside at meetings, and implement the work of your ministries. Encourage, enrich, and challenge the women of our organization to serve one another with wisdom, patience, understanding, and love.

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[www.abwministries.org](http://www.abwministries.org)  
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**Secretary:** Vision is important to a secretary. It is you who must see... and record decisions and information that are important to the ministries of our organization. A secretary must almost exhibit God's patience, commitment, and beauty in her work. Develop our American Baptist Women's Ministries by serving with friendship, a caring spirit, and love.

**Treasurer:** The ability to use knowledge to see... and direct our financial path using God's wisdom is critical to a treasurer. Your character, integrity, and honesty are vital to our organization and we ask that you envision our financial paths using God's judiciousness.

**Mission with Women and Girls Coordinator:** Your vision of the empowerment of women and girls in the U.S., Puerto Rico, and around the world, provides us guidance and inspiration. You help us see... the path before us to which God has called us in ministry.

**Personal Development Ministries Coordinator:** It is your spiritual vision that helps the women of American Baptist Women's Ministries develop to the potential that God will see... for us. It is that sacred commitment to Christ that will enable our organization to continue in the direction sanctioned by God.

**Church and Community Ministries Coordinator:** Your passion for women and girls to develop a strong faith in God allows you to see... what God envisions in each one of us. In your position, use that vision to create a path of growth in faith and service in each one of us.

**Mission and Service Coordinator:** As Mission and Service Coordinator, you are endowed with a vision to see... where God needs us to show God's love here on earth. Help the women of American Baptist Women's Ministries follow God's leading in service and love by sharing the opportunities for mission and service.

**AB GIRLS Coordinator:** You have a special gift to see... with unique vision the present and the future of American Baptist Women's Ministries. It is in the relationships you develop with AB GIRLS that you will lead these young women in growth and transformation as they reach the full potential that God has in store for each of them.

**Young Adult Women's Ministries Coordinator:** Your care and concern for younger women helps us to see... ways in which we can build bridges of relationship across generations, growing our ministry in the name of Jesus Christ.

**White Cross Coordinator:** Your compassion and desire to serve have gifted you with a vision to see... where God needs the gifts of God's people. May your vision help you as you communicate the needs of missionaries locally and internationally through our churches, enabling every one of us to respond to God's calling.

**Love Gift Coordinator:** You are charged with sharing God's vision that allows everyone to see... the need for supporting our denomination with funding. God will gift you with imagination and creativity as you inspire each one of us to give through Love Gift support.

**Coordinator of Events (Conference):** As coordinator (or chair) of our conference you will bring forth what God envisions and wants to see... in order to refresh and rejuvenate the women of the American Baptist Church. You will need to reflect God's wisdom, grace, and strength as you prepare the events and activities of the ministries.

**Scholarship Committee:** You are equipped to see... God's vision in discerning the young women uniquely gifted to serve in the future, reflecting God's wisdom in seeking young women who show promise, optimism, joy, and faith for a future serving Christ.

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**Nominating Committee:** It is your position that requires you to see... and seek God's vision for the future officers for our ministries. The women you seek are women who embrace the vision of American Baptist Women's Ministries and are called by God to serve.

**Resources Coordinator:** As you seek God's vision to see... the resources that will inspire and develop the faith of the women in our organization, may God's vision lead you as you communicate the vision of our organization with our resources.

**Historian:** Seeking God's discernment to see... what should be preserved for our future generations of our ministry is your duty. These records will allow the future generations of American Baptist Women to comprehend God's leading of our generations.

**Closing prayer:** God, our creator, we ask that you bless each officer as she continues on her journey of leadership. May you give them the ability to see... your vision with clarity and sharpness that will allow us to focus the mission of American Baptist Women's Ministries. We pray that we will see... the shoulders of the women who have led us in the past; see... the women who are leading us now with wisdom, strength and grace; and that we will see... the women in the future, that our work may inspire and prepare the way for them. May we share your love through our work. In the name of your given son, Jesus Christ, we pray, amen.

*Closing Hymn, optional*

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