

are willing to learn, experience and change with God; God will grace us with not only knowledge but also a deeper relationship with him - and in the end isn't that our ultimate goal?

When asked to talk about what these trips do for me - it's easy, they provide me with another way to talk with others about my faith and faith journey. What do these trips mean to me- another easy question - a chance to grow deeper with my Savior, be it in a construction site in Haiti, VBS in my hometown, or a make-shift lab in Nicaragua - every time you put yourself out there; God is right there as well.

I will warn you, putting yourself out there is hard but once you do, you will find yourself doing it over and over again regardless of the difficulty.

Why? Because it changes you."

Please place your offering envelope in your church's offering or mail a check made out to "American Baptist Churches NYS" with the form below directly to:

American Baptist Churches of New York State
5865 East Seneca Turnpike, Jamesville NY 13078
315.469.4236 Fax: 315.492.2369



www.abc-nys.org
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- I wish to support American Baptist Churches of New York State with this one-time gift of \$ _____
- I will support ABC/NYS through prayer that the gospel of Jesus Christ reaches worldwide.
- I would like more information on Region Mission Trips.
- Please add my email address to the ABC/NYS email updates:

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MISSIONS

American Baptist Churches of New York State wanted to hear stories of how the Region impacted individuals throughout the state and beyond. These are their stories, in their words. September Schaffer stepped out in faith years ago and ministered in Haiti as a part of the Region Mission Trip. Here is her story:

"What's the point if it doesn't change you?' This is the question that was asked of me at the end of my first mission trip with ABC/NYS, a question that has followed me as I have continued to go on now more than a half a dozen trips with the state and other groups and organizations.

It is impossible to come home from a mission trip the same person you left as. I am living proof of that, each time I board a plane with a backpack filled with granola bars, work jeans or scrubs - I return to my home a week or so later, so deeply and richly blessed, I can't imagine not having gone.

When an opportunity presents itself to you, I will give you the same advice my great-grandmother gave me - GO! You never know when the chance to do that trip, conference, educational retreat, workshop, etc. will come again. The opportunities that the Region offers are as diverse as we as a collective group are. I would encourage everyone to put themselves out there, when we