

With deep gratitude and profound respect, MMBB honors the remarkable career of Dr. Louis P. Barbarin, CPA, who served as Chief Executive Officer for 12 years. A steady guide and trusted leader, Louis devoted more



than two decades to advancing MMBB's mission. He cared deeply for the well-being of clergy, lay church workers, missionaries and their families, and worked to ensure the organization was prepared to serve future generations. His leadership left an indelible mark on MMBB and on everyone who had the privilege to work alongside him.

Louis joined MMBB in 1998 as assistant treasurer and later served as treasurer, chief financial officer, and deputy executive director before assuming the role of chief executive officer on March 1, 2013. After 27 years of dedicated service, he retired on August 31, 2025.

As CEO, Louis led MMBB with a clear vision of being "a premier financial services ministry in the free church community, providing comprehensive solutions for its members and employers on the journey to and through retirement." Under his leadership, MMBB significantly expanded its support of pastoral leaders through financial wellness and mental health initiatives, supported by more than \$5.2 million in grants from Lilly Endowment Inc.

Louis also guided major operational and technological advancements to enhance service efficiency and the member experience. These included investments in

advanced customer relationship management and data systems, a transition to Fidelity recordkeeper for the MMBB retirement plan including the introduction of the NetBenefits® platform, a Roth 403(b) option, a redesigned logo and website along with the launch of the Member Portal. MMBB further improved accessibility by expanding website functionality and communications to include Spanish-language support.

To strengthen MMBB's retirement offerings, Louis oversaw the addition of Vanguard Target Date Funds (TDFs), making it easier for members to save for retirement through well-diversified, single-fund investment options aligned with anticipated retirement dates.

During the Covid-19 pandemic, Louis's steady and compassionate leadership ensured a seamless transition to remote operations while maintaining continuity of essential services for ministers, churches, and faith-based organizations.



Under his leadership MMBB launched transformative initiatives, including the Strategic Pastoral Excellence Program (SPEP), MMBB Cares, and comprehensive Financial Wellness Programs.

Throughout his tenure, MMBB enhanced member education and engagement through the Tomorrow newsletter and other publications covering topics such as clergy tax issues and identity protection, while expanding outreach through social media, electronic billing, and Spanish-language resources.

Louis was a passionate advocate for church plan benefits. Through the Church Alliance, he served on the steering committee as vice chair and as chair of the Tax and Retirement workgroup. He also served on the board of the Church Benefits Association, where he was the first chair of the CFO topical interest group and planning chair for the 2020 annual meeting.

Beyond MMBB, Louis served as chair of the Interchurch Center Board and served on the Board, as well as the Finance and Pension Committees, of the Kendal Corporation. His prior volunteer service includes Habitat for Humanity of Chester County, The American Baptist Foundation, ABCON Credit Union, and Trinity Press International.

Prior to joining MMBB, Louis served as deputy executive director and treasurer of the American Baptist Board of Education and Publication. His earlier professional experience includes roles as controller and acting vice president of finance at Cheyney University of Pennsylvania and a career at the accounting firm KPMG.

Louis holds a Bachelor of Science in Accounting and a master's degree in finance from The Pennsylvania State University and completed the Advanced Management Program at Harvard Business School. He was awarded an honorary doctoral degree in 2021 by the Berkeley School of Theology and is a licensed certified public accountant in New York and Pennsylvania. Louis is a member of St. Paul's Baptist Church in West Chester, Pennsylvania.

Louis leaves a lasting legacy of service, innovation, and faithful leadership that will continue to shape MMBB for years to come. The impact of his leadership will be felt across generations through the programs, systems, and values he helped build. His contributions have left an indelible mark on the organization and on all who had the privilege of working with him.

