

COMPARISON BETWEEN ROCKY MOUNTAINS REGION AND EVERGREEN ASSOCIATION

Please note that there are more detailed answers to some of these questions provided in the FAQ document on the Discernment Team webpage.

	ABC ROCKY MOUNTAINS	ABC EVERGREEN ASSOCIATION
Member of American Baptist Churches USA	Yes	Yes
Focus Statement	ABCRM is a theologically, racially, ethnically, and culturally diverse association of churches committed to the autonomy and freedom of the local church and individual believer to utilize Scripture through the guidance of the Holy Spirit to live out lives of faith as followers of Jesus.	Being a culturally diverse people who are one in Christ and who value the liberties of our American Baptist Heritage, the Evergreen Baptist Association will build bridges between communities; provide resources to equip member churches to share and teach God's word; and translate our unity to the world.
Size	80 congregations	64 congregations
Locations	Mostly CO, a few in WY, NM, UT.	WA, CA, UT, ID, AK, CO and partner congregation in Venezuela. One of 2 non-geographic regions in ABCUSA.
Welcoming and Affirming	No, though some member churches are.	Member churches are allowed to make their own choice – region shows its support through appointment of LGBTQ+ individuals to leadership positions.
Ordination/recognition of LGBTQ+ candidates (otherwise fully qualified)	No – churches can do a local ordination but not recognized at the region level and above.	Yes – sexual orientation is not considered in making ordination decisions.
Organizational structure	Board made up of reps from geographic clusters, ABW president, reps to IM and General Ministries board, Mission and Ministry coaches for geographic clusters, officers and staff. Executive Committee.	Executive Committee. Board made up from representatives of each congregation. Ethnic caucuses (Asian, Black, Euro, and Hispanic) and consensus decision-making.
Regular meetings of member churches	Annual meetings.	Quarterly meeting of Association Board (representative from each church) – combined live and Zoom; Annual meetings.
Mission activities	Periodic international and regional region mission trips plus local church trips as well as partnerships with hundreds of local organizations.	International mission trip every other year plus local church trips as well as several regional and international projects.

	If we affiliate with EA, CBC would lose access to community service grants unless partnering with another ABCRM church. Mission trips would still be open to Calvary members.	
Support of ABC Missionaries	Yes, and Calvary could continue to support the IM Global Servants/Missionaries we choose to support if we move to Evergreen	Yes, plus Calvary could continue to support the IM Global Servants/Missionaries we choose to support if we move to Evergreen
Children/Youth activities	Salt and Light Youth Leadership Academy (Jr and Sr HS)	General support of children, family and youth support ministers in region. Looking to expand this area in the future.
Camps	Front Range Camp at Quaker Ridge Grand Mesa Baptist Camp Camp Wyoba Still available to CBC if we affiliate with EA.	Camp Bethel WA Camp Burton WA Cascade Meadows WA Ross Point ID See FAQ's and individual camp websites for more info.
Educational opportunities for ministers/staff	Yes If we affiliate with EA, CBC would lose access to some staff/clergy grants.	Yes Some continuing education scholarships.
Educational opportunities for churches	Yes	Yes
Participation in MMBB? (Ministers and Missionaries Benefit Board)	Yes	Yes