



BOOK OF REPORTS OF THE 2022 SOUTHERN BAPTIST CONVENTION

prepared for the

**One Hundred Sixty-Fourth Session
One Hundred Seventy-Seventh Year**

meeting in

**Anaheim, California
June 14-15, 2022**

2022 CONVENTION OFFICERS

President

Ed Litton

First Vice President

Lee Brand, Jr.

Second Vice President

Ramon Medina

Recording Secretary

John L. Yeats

Registration Secretary

Don Currence

Acting Treasurer

Willie McLaurin

FUTURE SBC ANNUAL MEETING SITES

New Orleans, Louisiana – June 13–14, 2023

Indianapolis, Indiana – June 11–12, 2024

Dallas, Texas – June 10–11, 2025

Orlando, Florida – June 9–10, 2026

FOREWORD

What if every messenger used this Annual Meeting on the West Coast as an opportunity to take a metaphoric piece of chalk and draw a circle around our lives. Then with arms stretched out to the King who sits on heaven's throne, pray something like this: "Father, I declare that Jesus is the center of it all—invalidate me, change me, shape everything in this circle so people can easily see that all of me belongs to You."

Imagine hundreds of circles drawn all over the sidewalks entering the convention center and messengers humbly declaring Jesus reigns over everything—my heart, my words, my relationships, my fabricated agenda. Lord Jesus, be the Lord of all!

Historically, the high points of the Southern Baptist Convention are those moments when His people find their knees in total abandonment to His ways. When we look beyond our methods to lay hold of the heart of God, we've made the greatest impact on our culture and the world.

How quickly people can take a detour away from the cooperative vision of reaching lost people in this nation and the world by placing inordinate focus on the minutia of the organization and how we think it ought to be. We are not called of God to be church bureaucrats tinkering with ecclesiastical machinery or parliamentary procedures. We are called to be Gospel witnesses—plain and simple.

The Lord is much more willing to demonstrate His glory than we are willing to humble ourselves. What happens when we fall to our knees in desperate need of Him? What would happen if the conversations in the convention center were less about us and more prayer for every vendor, every convention center employee, every hotel clerk, every restaurant waiter and every person the Lord brings into our paths?

Your Book of Reports is your handy guide to the business of the Convention. You may also use the SBC app for the same information. You can reference reports, governing documents, and study the recommendations from the SBC Executive Committee. The reports give a snapshot of our cooperative ministries. Every report has some information worthy of celebrating. Other portions of the reports may encourage us to examine our hearts. The Lord may call on us to change our perspective because He desires to do something fresh—something that causes the world to marvel.

Organizations change when people do. We must call out to the Lord for such a time as this. Pray for the lost. Pray for laborers. Ask the Lord to make us His conduit of His resources so that the cooperative ministries transform lives and communities with the Gospel in our respective states, this nation and the world.

Since 1997, Southern Baptist messengers have given Sharon and me the incredible honor of serving as Recording Secretary. We've been honored and humbled to serve with the SBC Executive Committee staff and with all of you in the context and scope of the SBC cooperative missions and ministries. Thank you.

John L. Yeats

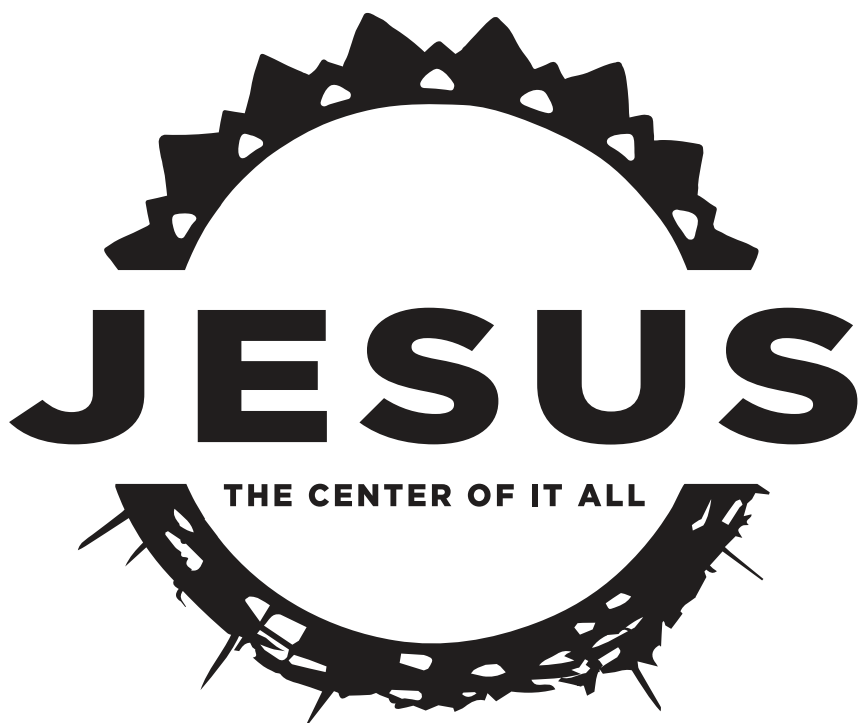
Recording Secretary of the Southern Baptist Convention

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Reviewed by: John L. Yeats, SBC Recording Secretary, assisted by Sharon Yeats*

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SBC ANNUAL MEETING | ANAHEIM | JUNE 14-15, 2022

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Ninety-Fifth Annual Report



SBC

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

901 Commerce Street, Nashville, Tennessee 37203

ROLLAND E. SLADE, Chairman

WILLIE McLAURIN, Interim President and Chief Executive Officer

The Southern Baptist Convention Executive Committee presents this ninety-fifth annual report.

There are 86 persons from 38 states and regions who are elected as members of the SBC Executive Committee.

The SBC Executive Committee met as follows during 2021-2022:

September 21-22, 2021	Nashville, TN
September 28, 2021	Video Conference Call
October 5, 2021	Video Conference Call
October 28, 2021	Video Conference Call
November 10, 2021	Video Conference Call
February 21-22, 2022	Nashville, TN

- Officers of the SBC Executive Committee** – The officers of the Southern Baptist Convention Executive Committee include its president, chair, vice chair, secretary, and the chairs of its four standing committees.

Willie McLaurin serves as its interim president and the other officers, as well as the chairs, vice chairs, and secretaries of the four standing committees are named below:

Chair: Rolland E. Slade, California

Vice Chair: Stacy S. Bramlett, Tennessee

Secretary: Monte L. Shinkle, Missouri

Committee on Convention Missions and Ministry

Chair: Andrew Hunt, Indiana

Vice Chair: Richard W. Spring, California

Secretary: Abbott J. (Jay) McCollum, New Mexico

Committee on Convention Finances and Stewardship Development

Chair: Harry C. (Archie) Mason, Arkansas

Vice Chair: Hoyt A. Savage, Nevada

Secretary: Dwight M. Easler, South Carolina

Committee on Convention Events and Strategic Planning

Chair: Erik D. Cummings, Florida

Vice Chair: Mark Stinson, Ohio

Secretary: Joshua D. (Josh) Bonner, North Dakota-South Dakota

Committee on Southern Baptist Relations

Chair: James W. (Jim) Gregory, Utah-Idaho

Vice Chair: Jeremy D. Morton, Georgia

Secretary: Micah Nix, Oklahoma

2. [^] **Cooperative Program Giving** - The giving record of Southern Baptists during the fiscal year October 1, 2019 - September 30, 2020, is as follows

	<u>2019 - 2020</u>	<u>2018 - 2019</u>	<u>% Change</u>
Total CP as a % of			
Undesignated Gifts ²	4.78%	4.82%	(0.04%)
Total Receipts ¹	\$ 11,526,598,340	\$ 11,640,670,559	(0.98%)
Total Undesignated Gifts	\$ 9,531,225,749	\$ 9,600,108,179	(0.72%)
Total Cooperative Program ²	\$ 455,553,027	\$ 462,299,010	(1.46%)
State Convention Share			
of Total CP ²	\$ 267,746,391	\$ 271,331,607	(1.32%)
SBC Share of Total CP ²	\$ 187,806,636	\$ 190,967,403	(1.66%)

3. [^] **Trends in Giving** - The following five-year record of gifts to Southern Baptist churches and through the Cooperative Program is as follows:

	<u>Total</u>	<u>%</u>	<u>Undesignated</u>	<u>%</u>	<u>Total</u>	<u>%</u>
<u>Year</u>	<u>Receipts ¹</u>	<u>Change</u>	<u>Gifts</u>	<u>Change</u>	<u>Program ²</u>	<u>Change</u>
2015-16	\$ 11,461,572,538	(0.73%)	\$ 9,216,198,700	0.67%	\$ 475,212,293	0.20%
2016-17	\$ 11,728,420,088	2.33%	\$ 9,518,527,051	3.28%	\$ 462,662,332	(2.64%)
2017-18	\$ 11,811,093,609	0.70%	\$ 9,601,534,950	0.87%	\$ 463,076,368	0.09%
2018-19	\$ 11,640,670,559	(1.44%)	\$ 9,600,108,179	(0.01%)	\$ 462,299,010	(0.17%)
2019-20	\$ 11,526,598,340	(0.98%)	\$ 9,531,225,749	(0.72%)	\$ 455,553,027	(1.46%)
Average Change 1980s		7.58%		5.10%		6.83%
Average Change 1990s		5.42%		4.91%		2.68%
Average Change 2000s		4.12%		4.82%		2.23%
Average Change 2010s		(0.21%)		0.71%		(1.16%)
Average Change Last 5 Years		(0.02%)		0.82%		(0.80%)

	<u>SBC</u>	<u>%</u>	<u>SBC</u>	<u>Total CP² as a % of</u>	
<u>Year</u>	<u>\$ Share of</u>	<u>Change</u>	<u>% Share of</u>	<u>Total</u>	<u>Undesig.</u>
	<u>Total CP ²</u>		<u>Total CP ²</u>	<u>Receipts ¹</u>	<u>Gifts</u>
2015-16	\$ 190,468,781	3.64%	40.08%	4.15%	5.16%
2016-17	\$ 191,948,826	0.78%	41.49%	3.94%	4.86%
2017-18	\$ 191,257,988	(0.36%)	41.30%	3.92%	4.82%
2018-19	\$ 190,967,403	(0.15%)	41.31%	3.97%	4.82%
2019-20	\$ 187,806,636	(1.66%)	41.23%	3.95%	4.78%
Average Change 1980s		7.98%	37.47%	8.55%	10.50%
Average Change 1990s		2.06%	37.04%	7.00%	8.73%
Average Change 2000s		2.22%	37.16%	5.38%	6.80%
Average Change 2010s		(0.15%)	39.34%	4.12%	5.22%
Average Change Last 5 Years		0.45%	41.08%	3.99%	4.89%

Notes:

1. Due to a change Lifeway made in the ACP information it requested for 2011, Total Gifts were not calculable. Therefore, Total Receipts are reported above for 2012-13 through 2019-20 for comparative purposes. Over the last 20 years Total Receipts averaged 7.25% more than Total Gifts.
2. For 2012-13 through 2019-20, in keeping with the Convention approved definition of The Cooperative Program, the Total Cooperative Program category does not include church contributions given directly to the national convention that are directed only to the national SBC CP Allocation budget.

[^] Sections 2 and 3 were prepared by the SBC Executive Committee based on information from the 2020 ACP Statistical Summary which was prepared by Lifeway Research, Lifeway Christian Resources (April 23, 2021). These sections will be replaced with 2021 figures when that data is received. At press time, the latest ACP figures were not available. Updated data will appear in the 2022 Annual, and if available in time for the SBC Annual Meeting, will also be printed in the 2022 SBC Bulletin.

4. **Cooperative Program Distribution** – Cooperative Program funds received by the Southern Baptist Convention were distributed in keeping with the action of the Southern Baptist Convention when the 2020-2021 Southern Baptist Convention Cooperative Program Allocation Budget was approved. The 2020-2021 SBC Cooperative Program funds distributed include funds received from state conventions and identified by them as Cooperative Program Allocation Budget funds.

	<u>2020-2021</u>	<u>2019-2020</u>
International Mission Board	\$ 96,823,210	\$ 97,241,319
North American Mission Board	\$ 43,773,080	\$ 43,962,104
Gateway Seminary	\$ 3,739,988	\$ 3,766,396
Midwestern Seminary	\$ 7,282,775	\$ 6,797,334
New Orleans Seminary	\$ 6,747,844	\$ 6,903,841
Southeastern Seminary	\$ 7,204,576	\$ 7,350,589
Southern Seminary	\$ 10,148,966	\$ 10,194,338
Southwestern Seminary	\$ 6,977,910	\$ 7,271,369
Historical Library and Archives	\$ 460,971	\$ 462,962
Ethics & Religious Liberty Commission	\$ 3,169,179	\$ 3,182,864
SBC Executive Committee and SBC Operating (Rounding Difference)	\$ 5,942,937	\$ 5,767,735
Grand Totals	<u>\$ 192,271,436</u>	<u>\$ 192,900,851</u>

5. [^] *** 2020 Southern Baptist Convention Statistical Summary** ⁽¹⁾ – A summary of the statistical record for the Southern Baptist Convention for 2019–20 is as follows:

(See page 9 for chart of Southern Baptist Statistics by State Convention.)

<u>Item/Statistic</u>	<u>2020</u>
State Conventions	41
Associations	1,114
Churches	47,592
Church-type Missions Operating ⁽²⁾	3,104
Total Members	14,089,947
Total Baptisms	123,160
Ratio of Baptisms: Total Members	1:114
Cooperative Program ⁽⁵⁾	See section 2 on preceding page or visit sbc.net/cp

*** Other 2020 Items – Not Asked by All State Conventions** ⁽⁴⁾

<u>Item/Statistic</u>	<u>2020</u>
Other Additions ⁽⁵⁾	112,953
Weekly Worship Average Attendance ⁽⁶⁾	4,439,797
Sunday School/Bible Study/ Small Group Average Attendance ⁽⁷⁾	2,879,130
Undesignated Receipts ⁽⁵⁾	\$ 9,531,225,749
Total Receipts ⁽⁸⁾	\$ 11,526,598,340
Total Mission Expenditures ⁽⁹⁾	\$ 1,046,655,912
Great Commission Giving ⁽¹⁰⁾	\$ 409,835,470

** Statistical records and data collection were dramatically affected by the COVID-19 global pandemic.*

NOTES

1. Data reported for the 2020 statistical year include adjustments to the totals for some non-reported items (from individual congregations) using data reported in prior years. Similar actions occurred in 2019.
2. Some state conventions no longer use the designation of church-type mission to categorize congregations that are not self-determining, self-sustaining and self-propagating. This practice has impacted the number of churches and church-type missions.
3. Cooperative Program as reported on the Annual Church Profile is not included in this table. Cooperative Program, based on the actual amount given through the state convention, is provided in the SBC Annual in the Executive Committee Annual Report.

NOTES (continued)

4. Totals for items in this table have incomplete data for 2020 due to the fact that not all state conventions asked the item or did so in a way not comparable with the standard definition. Thus, comparisons between the two years may not be appropriate. See the Notes in the 2019 SBC Statistical Summary for specific details to determine if a comparison is desirable.
5. Florida Baptist Convention, Baptist Convention of Iowa and the Baptist Convention of New York did not ask this item or the information necessary to obtain the item.
6. Florida Baptist Convention did not ask this item or the information necessary to obtain the item.
7. Baptist Convention of Iowa did not ask this item or the information necessary to obtain the item.
8. Baptist Convention of Iowa, Baptist Convention of New York, Florida Baptist Convention and the Georgia Baptist Mission Board did not ask this item or the information necessary to obtain the item.
9. Alabama State Board of Missions, Baptist Convention of Iowa, Baptist Convention of New York, Baptist General Convention of Oklahoma, Florida Baptist Convention, Georgia Baptist Mission Board and the South Carolina Baptist Convention did not ask this item or the information necessary to obtain the item.
10. Alabama State Board of Missions, Baptist Convention of Iowa, Baptist Convention of New York, Baptist General Convention of Oklahoma, Florida Baptist Convention, Missouri Baptist Convention and the South Carolina Baptist Convention did not ask this item or the information necessary to obtain the item.

Prepared by: Lifeway Research, Lifeway Christian Resources, One Lifeway Plaza, Nashville, TN 37234, April 23, 2021

[^] The preceding section will be replaced with 2021 figures when that data is received due to the fact that at press time, the latest ACP figures were not available. Updated data will appear in the 2022 Annual, and if available in time for the SBC Annual Meeting, will also be printed in the 2022 SBC Bulletin.

Church Plants, Replants, New Affiliates, and Campuses for 2021, SBC: 1,018**

Source: Reports from State Directors of Missions compiled by the North American Mission Board, Alpharetta, GA (see page 102); new SBC IDs created in SBC Workspace.

Note: 2010 was the first year a SBC ID # was required for each reported congregation. In 2019, there was a methodology change to capture new plants, affiliates, and campuses; they are now identified at the time the SBC ID is created in SBC Workspace. In 2021, partners reported 600 new church plants, 135 replants, 201 new affiliations, and 82 new campuses.

	<u>2021</u>	<u>2020</u>	<u>Change</u>	<u>Percent Change</u>
International Missionaries	3,592	3,558	34	0.9%
North American Missionaries	2,469 ⁽¹⁾	2,218* ⁽¹⁾	251*	10.2%*
— Chaplains ⁽²⁾	3,721	3,720	1	0.003%

⁽¹⁾ NAMB's missionary count fluctuates because most are church planters who rotate out five years after their church launches.

⁽²⁾ NAMB-endorsed chaplains serve in the military, hospitals, law enforcement, prisons, disaster relief, corporate workplaces, and other settings. NAMB provides ministry guidelines, training resources, and pastoral care for chaplains serving throughout North America and the world.

* NAMB's student missionary program was suspended in 2020 due to COVID-19 restrictions. This caused a drop in the overall missionary count.

6. **Special Missions Offerings** – Southern Baptists contributed a special missions offering total of \$182,434,780 through the SBC Executive Committee for North American and International Missions in 2020-2021. The record is as follows:

	<u>2020-2021</u>	<u>2019-2020</u>	<u>Amount</u> <u>Change</u>	<u>Percent</u> <u>Change</u>
Lottie Moon Christmas Offering				
for International Missions	\$ 123,285,813	\$ 123,237,630	48,183	0.04%
Annie Armstrong Easter Offering				
for North American Missions	\$ 59,148,967	\$ 43,502,420	15,646,547	35.97%
Total	<u>\$182,434,780</u>	<u>\$166,740,050</u>		

Note: As noted above, these totals reflect what was received only through the SBC Executive Committee for both mission offerings. These totals, along with what was directly received by the mission boards, resulted in the following complete totals: Lottie Moon Christmas Offering for International Missions - \$177.6 million; Annie Armstrong Easter Offering for North American Missions - \$66.5 million.

7. **Global Hunger Relief Funds** - Southern Baptists contributed a total of \$2,062,506 for global hunger relief through the SBC Executive Committee in 2020-2021. The record is as follows:

	<u>2020-2021</u>	<u>2019-2020</u>	<u>Percent</u> <u>Change</u>
Received by SBC Executive Committee	2,062,506	2,135,909	(3.44%)
Forwarded to International Mission Board	1,703,746	1,747,987	(2.53%)
Forwarded to North American Mission Board	358,760	387,922	(7.52%)

*** 2020 SBC STATISTICS BY STATE CONVENTION ¹**

SBC and State Conventions	Associations	Churches ²	Church-type Missions ²	Baptisms	Other Additions ³	Total Membership	Weekly Worship Avg. Attendance ³	Sunday School/Bible Study/Small Group Avg. Attendance ³	Total Receipts ³	Total Mission Expenditures ³
AL ⁽⁴⁾	75	3,228	29	6,650	10,582	794,151	226,004	161,714	\$ 680,369,905	Footnote 4
AK	4	88	27	229	172	11,347	5,714	3,901	\$ 12,536,387	\$ 2,250,240
AZ	13	472	1	1,478	1,318	79,769	38,470	23,932	\$ 79,099,754	\$ 9,947,027
AR	42	1,422	98	4,664	6,545	433,372	116,092	82,254	\$ 354,193,445	\$ 42,437,035
CA	29	1,777	504	4,564	2,141	401,253	173,628	61,496	\$ 149,435,456	\$ 19,050,735
CO	11	298	55	1,601	473	39,257	30,656	18,436	\$ 34,300,766	\$ 3,887,761
Dakota	6	79	5	151	157	3,508	3,023	1,806	\$ 6,025,938	\$ 887,416
FL ⁽⁵⁾	47	2,820	2	12,886	Footnote 5	839,550	Footnote 5	231,392	Footnote 5	Footnote 5
GA ⁽⁶⁾	89	3,395	121	10,136	9,908	1,285,536	451,088	285,925	Footnote 6	Footnote 6
HI-Pacific	7	124	8	208	478	11,645	6,521	3,476	\$ 17,730,038	\$ 2,410,400
IL	34	859	79	2,040	1,510	171,045	61,863	39,537	\$ 127,505,924	\$ 13,809,579
IN	14	385	62	652	518	72,188	30,470	17,695	\$ 62,549,852	\$ 6,074,032
IA ⁽⁷⁾	114	6	777	Footnote 7	14,057	16,090	Footnote 7	Footnote 7	Footnote 7	Footnote 7
KS-NE	12	323	129	1,067	512	83,133	37,486	19,407	\$ 96,949,470	\$ 8,114,470
KY	69	2,346		6,701	6,438	559,002	166,854	104,930	\$ 363,436,103	\$ 46,951,270
LA	38	1,427	184	5,616	4,562	477,091	147,711	86,447	\$ 355,295,480	\$ 34,182,734
MD-DE	11	465	15	578	550	76,742	27,788	16,728	\$ 82,890,476	\$ 9,356,687
MI	14	276	17	832	794	25,286	16,136	8,360	\$ 29,607,716	\$ 3,795,491
MN-WI	8	162	14	378	337	14,839	9,708	5,368	\$ 15,508,355	\$ 1,694,831
MS	65	2,055	20	4,733	5,747	508,959	158,572	117,289	\$ 456,332,326	\$ 49,704,947
MO	59	1,779	29	5,152	6,317	478,035	153,502	100,902	\$ 355,696,219	\$ 40,015,105
MT	5	123		420	331	8,586	7,165	4,024	\$ 14,804,573	\$ 1,832,462
NV	4	161	10	434	593	22,837	10,093	5,134	\$ 31,092,984	\$ 2,500,335
New England	7	355	3	1,082	350	32,639	27,958	14,060	\$ 21,998,288	\$ 2,790,567
NM	12	327	11	1,257	783	62,923	33,740	17,387	\$ 56,951,723	\$ 8,090,323
NY ⁽⁸⁾	10	527		791	Footnote 8	8,979	6,300	3,692	Footnote 8	Footnote 8
NC	78	4,179	160	8,122	8,490	1,090,130	359,362	228,827	\$ 919,304,177	\$ 100,768,391
Northwest	14	429	51	979	585	50,458	31,466	20,448	\$ 59,495,299	\$ 5,542,076
OH	15	635	72	1,669	1,365	61,299	37,828	25,108	\$ 78,940,193	\$ 9,730,334
OK ⁽⁴⁾	40	1,715	35	6,030	6,456	559,264	144,107	116,258	\$ 421,945,643	Footnote 4
PA-S. Jersey	8	282	28	528	482	18,676	13,904	7,991	\$ 24,526,941	\$ 2,736,821
PR	1	52		106	104	2,196	1,988	1,100	\$ 2,199,986	\$ 166,163
SC ⁽⁴⁾	42	2,016		5,698	6,070	490,456	192,289	123,162	\$ 448,692,108	Footnote 4
TN	65	3,083	76	9,492	11,414	866,291	256,504	165,972	\$ 778,826,720	\$ 92,352,851
TX ⁽⁹⁾	104	6,323	920	11,867	13,218	2,588,538	651,095	409,018	\$ 2,065,251,072	\$ 204,309,866
BGCT	96	4,350	911	8,814	10,764	1,987,755	467,329	293,509	\$ 1,544,968,193	\$ 158,604,639
SBTC	102	2,646	25	6,749	6,641	1,180,054	358,500	223,957	\$ 1,105,485,816	\$ 107,974,065
UT-ID	11	137	51	128	157	15,508	7,856	4,340	\$ 17,216,842	\$ 2,330,316
VA ⁽¹⁰⁾	41	1,882	27	2,898	3,227	466,787	133,434	79,798	\$ 389,787,468	\$ 38,368,434
BGAV	41	1,227	25	1,060	1,558	354,672	73,898	48,235	\$ 239,491,332	\$ 23,410,459
SBCV		732	2	1,994	1,875	128,080	65,885	35,663	\$ 170,082,991	\$ 17,066,042
WV	10	200	17	244	216	27,108	10,189	6,578	\$ 21,948,884	\$ 3,511,638
WY		93	5	212	181	6,096	2,945	1,531	\$ 7,349,628	\$ 1,082,363
Sub-Total	1,114	47,163	2,887	126,902	117,474	13,353,772	3,986,682	2,737,971	\$ 9,244,785,931	\$ 835,059,605
Adjustments ⁽¹¹⁾		429	217	(3,742)	(4,521)	736,175	453,115	141,159	\$ 2,281,812,409	\$ 211,596,307
Grand Total										
For SBC ⁽¹²⁾	1,114	47,592	3,104	123,160	112,953	14,089,947	4,439,797	2,879,130	\$ 11,526,598,340	\$ 1,046,655,912

NOTES:

- All information as of April 23, 2021. This entire table will be replaced with 2021 figures when that data is received due to the fact that at press time, the latest ACP figures were not available. Updated data will appear in the 2022 Annual, and if available in time for the SBC Annual Meeting, will also be printed in the 2022 SBC Bulletin.
- Some state conventions no longer use the designation of church-type mission to categorize congregations which are not self-determining, self-sustaining and self-propagating. This practice has impacted the number of churches and church-type missions.
- Total impacted by incomplete data from some state conventions. See body of table and notes for details. Care should be exercised in comparing SBC totals to previous years.
- Alabama State Board of Missions, Baptist General Convention of Oklahoma and the South Carolina Baptist Convention did not ask the following item or the information necessary to obtain the item: Total Mission Expenditures.
- Florida Baptist Convention did not ask the following items or the information necessary to obtain the items: Other Additions, Weekly Worship Average Attendance, Total Receipts and Total Mission Expenditures.
- Georgia Baptist Mission Board did not ask the following items or the information necessary to obtain the items: Total Receipts and Total Mission Expenditures.
- Baptist Convention of Iowa did not ask the following items or the information necessary to obtain the items: Other Additions, Sunday School/Bible Study/Small Group Average Attendance, Total Receipts and Total Mission Expenditures.
- Baptist Convention of New York did not ask the following items or the information necessary to obtain the items: Other Additions, Total Receipts and Total Mission Expenditures.
- Two state conventions exist within the state of Texas. The Texas summary line does not show the arithmetic sum of the two state convention figures, because some congregations are related to both state conventions, and their numbers are reflected in the totals for both state conventions.
- Two conventions exist within the state of Virginia. The Virginia summary line does not show the arithmetic sum of the two state convention figures, because some congregations are related to both state conventions, and their numbers are reflected in the totals for both state conventions.
- This line includes four types of adjustments to the data:
 - The removal of duplicate data caused by 843 congregations that are related to more than one state convention.
 - The removal of data from 139 congregations affiliated with a state convention but not related to the SBC.
 - The addition of data from 1,629 congregations affiliated with the SBC but not related to a state convention.
 - The addition of data carried forward from previous ACP reporting cycles for 16,340 congregations that did not report an item in 2019.
- Adjustments to the national totals (and some state convention totals) include data carried forward for non-reported items from data reports in prior years.
 - Totals include carried forward Total Membership from the last year the congregation reported it.
 - Totals include carried forward Weekly Worship Average Attendance and Sunday School/Bible Study/Small Group Average Attendance from the most recently reported data from the prior two years adjusted for the impact of COVID-19.
 - Totals include carried forward Total Receipts, Undesignated Receipts and Total Mission Expenditures from the most recently reported data from the prior four years.

Prepared by: Lifeway Research, Lifeway Christian Resources, One Lifeway Plaza, Nashville, TN 37234, April 23, 2021

* Statistical records and data collection were dramatically affected by the COVID-19 global pandemic.

SIGNIFICANT ACTIONS OF THE SBC EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

The following actions of the Southern Baptist Convention Executive Committee are reported for information.

1. **Brandon Porter, SBC Executive Committee Associate Vice President for Convention News** – In August 2021, Brandon Porter was named associate vice president for Convention News for the SBC Executive Committee. Porter directs the daily operations of *Baptist Press* and serves on the leadership team for the SBC Executive Committee. Prior to coming to the SBC Executive Committee, Porter served as communications director for the Kentucky Baptist Convention and editor of *Kentucky Today*.
2. **Review of SBC Entity Fund Raising Reports** – During its September 21-22, 2021, meeting, in accordance with Southern Baptist Convention Business and Financial Plan Article VI, Fund Raising Activities, the SBC Executive Committee received as information the fund-raising reports of the entities of the Southern Baptist Convention.
3. **Executed Contract with Guidepost Solutions** – During a special called Zoom meeting on October 5, 2021, the SBC Executive Committee adopted the following motion: "That the Executive Committee authorize our chairman to execute the contract with Guidepost that we received on October 1, 2021, which includes a waiver of attorney-client privilege in accordance with the action of the messengers to the 2021 Southern Baptist Convention."
4. **Approved separation agreements for Ronnie W. Floyd and Greg Addison** – On October 14, 2021, Ronnie W. Floyd announced his resignation as SBC Executive Committee president and CEO effective October 31, 2021. Floyd's decision to resign came after the SBC Executive Committee's October 5, 2021, action to waive the SBC Executive Committee's attorney-client privilege. As a result of this action, Floyd stated he could no longer fulfill his fiduciary responsibilities. Floyd was confirmed on April 2, 2019, as the seventh chief executive of the SBC Executive Committee. On October 15, 2021, Greg Addison, SBC Executive Committee executive vice president, notified Floyd of his resignation effective October 31, 2021. On September 8, 2020, Addison was approved by the SBC Executive Committee officers and tasked with working alongside Floyd to lead the SBC Executive Committee staff and coordinate convention policy and legal affairs for the SBC Executive Committee. During a special called Zoom meeting on October 28, 2021, the SBC Executive Committee considered and approved confidential separation agreements with Floyd and Addison.
5. **Election of Officers of the Board** – During a special called Zoom meeting on November 10, 2021, the SBC Executive Committee elected the following Officers of the Board. Harry C. (Archie) Mason was elected chairman of the Committee on Convention Finances and Stewardship Development, filling the vacancy created by the resignation of Robyn A. Hari. Andrew Hunt was elected chairman of the Committee on Convention Missions and Ministry, filling the vacancy created by the resignation of H. Robert (Rob) Showers. Chairman Slade appointed the following additional committee officer positions: Hoyt A. Savage as vice chairman and Dwight M. Easler as secretary of the Committee on Convention Finances and Stewardship Development; Richard W. Spring as vice chairman and Abbott J. (Jay) McCollum as secretary of the Committee on Convention Missions and Ministry.
6. **SBC Committee on Nominations: Florida Vacancy** – During a special called Zoom meeting on November 10, 2021, the SBC Executive Committee, acting ad interim for the Convention, elected Alvaro Cardozo, layman and member of Idlewild Baptist Church, Lutz, Florida, to serve as a member of the 2021-2022 SBC Committee on Nominations, filling an opening created by the resignation of Marta Treumann de Silva.

7. **Interim Legal Counsel Introduced** – On October 11, 2021, James P. (Jim) Guenther and James D. (Jamie) Jordan wrote Ronnie W. Floyd, SBC Executive Committee president and CEO, stating their desire for the law firm of Guenther, Jordan, & Price to withdraw from its role as legal counsel to the SBC Executive Committee and the Southern Baptist Convention. The decision was based on the SBC Executive Committee’s October 5, 2021, action to waive the SBC Executive Committee’s attorney-client privilege. Guenther began serving the SBC Executive Committee in 1966. He and the law firm Guenther, Jordan, & Price served the SBC Executive Committee and the Southern Baptist Convention for fifty-six years. On October 28, 2021, Ronnie W. Floyd reported to the SBC Executive Committee that Guenther, Jordan & Price agreed to provide counsel in an interim period. During a special called Zoom meeting on November 10, 2021, the SBC Executive Committee staff introduced Scarlett Singleton Nokes and Gene Besen of Bradley Arant Boult Cummings LLP (Bradley). Bradley is a national law firm retained on an interim basis to help in matters related to the third-party investigation of the SBC Executive Committee by Guidepost Solutions.
8. **Appointment of Willie McLaurin, SBC Executive Committee Interim President and Chief Executive Officer** – On February 1, 2022, the SBC Executive Committee Officers of the Board appointed Willie McLaurin to serve as interim president and chief executive officer of the SBC Executive Committee. During its February 21-22, 2022, meeting, the SBC Executive Committee ratified the action of the Officers of the Board in their appointment of Willie McLaurin granting him the rights, powers, duties, and benefits that pertain to the position and approved an adjustment in salary not to exceed his tenure as interim president. McLaurin has served as SBC Executive Committee vice president for Great Commission relations and mobilization since January 2020. Prior to joining the SBC Executive Committee staff, McLaurin served the Tennessee Baptist Mission Board for 15 years.
9. **SBC Executive Committee President Search Team** – During its February 21-22, 2022, meeting, the SBC Executive Committee, by ballot vote, selected the following six SBC Executive Committee members to serve as members of the SBC Executive Committee President Search Team: Mollie Duddleston (AR), Adron Robinson (IL), David H. Sons (SC), Philip J. Robertson (LA), Jeremy D. Morton (GA), and Mike P. Keahbone (OK). SBC Executive Committee Chairman Rolland E. Slade will serve as an ex officio member until a new chairman is elected June 13, 2022.
10. **SBC Executive Committee Issued Apology to Jennifer Lyell and Acknowledged Failures** – During its February 21-22, 2022, meeting, the SBC Executive Committee voted unanimously on a resolution with Jennifer Lyell that included a release of past, present, and future legal claims. SBC Executive Committee Chairman Rolland E. Slade released the following statement:

The SBC Executive Committee acknowledges its failure to adequately listen, protect, and care for Jennifer Lyell when she came forward to share her story of abuse by a seminary professor. *Baptist Press* failed to accurately report the sexual abuse Jennifer Lyell reported to two SBC entities and local Southern Baptist churches.

The SBC Executive Committee acknowledges its failures to Ms. Lyell, including the unintentional harm created by its failure to report Ms. Lyell’s allegations of nonconsensual sexual abuse were investigated and unequivocally corroborated by the SBC entities with authority over Ms. Lyell and her abuser. The SBC Executive Committee apologizes for all the hurt it has caused, is grateful for Ms. Lyell’s perseverance and engagement, and prays for her complete healing from the trauma she has endured.

11. **Approved separation agreement for Jeff Pearson** – On January 25, 2022, Jeff Pearson, SBC Executive Committee chief financial officer, submitted his resignation effective February 15, 2022. During its February 21-22, 2022, meeting, the SBC Executive Committee considered and approved a confidential post-employment agreement with Pearson. Pearson was named to the position on September 22, 2020, following the retirement of William E. (Bill) Townes.
12. **2022-2023 SBC Cooperative Program Allocation Budget** – (See **Recommendation 2**, page 39) During its February 21-22, 2022, meeting, the SBC Executive Committee adopted the Proposed 2022-2023 SBC Cooperative Program Allocation Budget in the amount of \$192,270,000 and will recommend the budget to the Southern Baptist Convention meeting in Anaheim, California, June 14-15, 2022, for adoption.
13. **2022-2023 SBC Executive Committee and SBC Operating Budget** – (See **Recommendation 3**, page 40) During its February 21-22, 2022, meeting, the SBC Executive Committee adopted the 2022-2023 SBC Executive Committee and SBC Operating Budget in the amount of \$8,335,000 and will recommend the budget to the Southern Baptist Convention meeting in Anaheim, California, June 14-15, 2022, for adoption.
14. **2022-2023 SBC Comprehensive Budget** – The 2022-2023 SBC Comprehensive Budget and a summary recap of entity operating budget totals are printed on page 23.
15. **Report of Audits of SBC Entities** – During its February 21-22, 2022, meeting, the SBC Executive Committee received as information the fact that the Committee on Convention Finances and Stewardship Development received and reviewed the 2021 required communications submitted to the SBC Executive Committee as outlined by Article XIII of the SBC Business and Financial Plan as well as the 2020-21 audited financial statements of the SBC Executive Committee as prepared by the firm of Batts Morrison Wales & Lee, P. A., and acknowledged that these audited financial statements were made a part of the official records of the SBC Executive Committee; and the SBC Executive Committee received as information the fact that the Committee on Convention Finances and Stewardship Development received and approved the management letter from Batts Morrison Wales & Lee, P. A.
16. **Loan Status Reports** – During its February 21-22, 2022, meeting, the SBC Executive Committee received as information, loan status reports from The Southern Baptist Theological Seminary, Southeastern Baptist Theological Seminary, and Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary. Southeastern Seminary reported its loan was retired as of June 2021. Southern Seminary and Southwestern Seminary will report their loan status to the SBC Executive Committee during its February 2023 meeting.
17. **Funding of the SBC Executive Committee Legal Fees Related to Independent Investigation** – During its September 21-22, 2021, meeting, the SBC Executive Committee adopted a recommendation from the Committee on Convention Finances and Stewardship Development that the legal fees and expenses incurred by the SBC Executive Committee related to the sexual abuse investigation be paid from the SBC Executive Committee's Operating Reserves, up to \$500,000. Once the expenses reached \$250,000, the Committee on Convention Finances and Stewardship Development were to be notified. Approval to expend Operating Reserves in excess of \$500,000 required further discussion and approval by the Committee. Prior to the February 21-22, 2022, meeting, of the SBC Executive Committee, legal fees had reached \$250,000. The SBC Executive Committee reconsidered the issue during its February 21-22, 2022, meeting and adopted a recommendation stating legal fees and expenses incurred by the SBC Executive Committee related to the sexual

abuse investigation would be paid from the SBC Executive Committee's Operating Reserves, up to \$2,000,000. The Committee on Convention Finances and Stewardship Development is to monitor these expenses monthly. Approval to expend Operating Reserves in excess of this \$2,000,000 would require further discussion and approval by the SBC Executive Committee.

18. **Funding for Guidepost Solutions Independent Investigation** – During its September 21-22, 2021, meeting, the SBC Executive Committee considered the matter of funding the independent investigation and adopted a motion that authorized funding Guidepost Solutions' estimate of \$1.6 million in a manner consistent with the source identified in the 2021 Southern Baptist Convention motion, through funds provided by the Cooperative Program. Upon review, the SBC Executive Committee's motion to fund the independent review from Cooperative Program funds violates the fundraising and non-profit regulations requiring funds to be expended in a manner consistent with the purposes for which they were raised. Cooperative Program funds are raised to support the state conventions, send missionaries, plant churches, provide seminary training, and defend religious liberties. During its February 21-22, 2022, meeting, the SBC Executive Committee rescinded its September 21-22, 2021, action and authorized funding the Guidepost Solutions (and organizations used by Guidepost for the independent review) estimate of \$2,000,000, or actual charges received by the SBC Executive Committee, in a manner consistent with the source identified in motion ("review shall be funded by allocations from the Cooperative Program"). Funding will be provided from the SBC Executive Committee's Operating Reserves generated from allocations from the Cooperative Program funds to the SBC Executive Committee.
19. **Ad Hoc Committee to be Appointed to Study Resolutions** – (See **SBC Referrals 5, 6, 7, and 10**, pages 18-19, 21) During its February 21-22, 2022, meeting, the SBC Executive Committee received a report from its Committee on Convention Missions and Ministry noting the committee had considered four motions referred to the SBC Executive Committee pertaining to SBC resolutions. The SBC Executive Committee approved the request of its Committee on Convention Missions and Ministry for its chair to appoint an ad hoc committee composed of previous Resolutions Committee members and others deemed familiar with the resolution process to study the matter and report back any recommendations to the Committee on Convention Missions and Ministry during their September 19-20, 2022, meeting. The SBC Executive Committee will report its final actions to the 2023 Southern Baptist Convention Annual Meeting.
20. **SBC Committee on Order of Business Vacancy** – During its February 21-22, 2022, meeting, the SBC Executive Committee, acting for the Convention ad interim, elected Palmer Williams, member of Redemption City Church, Franklin, Tennessee, for the remaining portion of a three-year term, 2022-2024, to fill a vacancy on the Committee on Order of Business created by the resignation of Allyson Todd.
21. **Election of Southern Baptist Foundation Trustees** – During its February 21-22, 2022, meeting, the SBC Executive Committee directed its interim president, as the agent designated to represent it as the Member of the Southern Baptist Foundation, to elect Craig Parker, Kentucky, and Tom Boyd, Tennessee, as directors of the Southern Baptist Foundation, for terms of office expiring 2025 and until their successors are elected, the terms to begin immediately upon their election during the Southern Baptist Foundation's annual members' meeting to be held in June 2022.

22. **North American Mission Board: Request for Approval of Ministry Statement Amendment** – (See **Recommendation 4**, page 41) During its February 21-22, 2022, meeting, the SBC Executive Committee adopted a recommendation to recommend the Southern Baptist Convention meeting in Anaheim, California, June 14-15, 2022, adopt an amendment to the ministry statements of the North American Mission Board.
23. **Study Shows No Conflicts of Interest in Relation to the Southern Baptist Convention and Its Executive Committee Having the Same Legal Counsel** – (See **SBC Referral 3**, page 18) During its September 21-22, 2021, and February 21-22, 2022, meetings, the SBC Executive Committee considered if there was a conflict of interest in relation to the Southern Baptist Convention and its Executive Committee having the same legal counsel. The SBC Executive Committee studied the relationship between the Convention and its Executive Committee as outlined in the SBC's Constitution and Bylaws and found no conflict of interest. In 1966, recognizing the uniquely structured relationship of the Convention and its Executive Committee, Porter W. Routh, executive secretary and treasurer for the SBC Executive Committee requested, James P. (Jim) Guenther begin providing legal counsel and consultation to the Convention and its Executive Committee. Over the last fifty-five years, this practice was continued. During its February 21-22, 2022, meeting, the SBC Executive Committee received as information that Friday, Eldredge & Clark, LLP of Little Rock, Arkansas, an independent firm with experience in Southern Baptist polity, was retained and conducted a review of whether or not there is an inherent conflict of interest in the Convention and its Executive Committee being represented by the same legal counsel. Their study also found no conflict of interest.
24. **Missions and Ministry Task Force** – During its February 21-22, 2022, meeting, the SBC Executive Committee dissolved the Mission and Ministry Task Force which was created during its February 21-22, 2021, meeting.
25. **SBC Parliamentarians: Contracts with C. Barry McCarty and Al Gage** – During its February 21-22, 2022, meeting, the SBC Executive Committee received as information that the SBC Executive Committee would secure the full execution of a contract with C. Barry McCarty, chief parliamentarian, and Al Gage, assistant parliamentarian, to serve during the annual meeting of the Southern Baptist Convention in Anaheim, California, June 14-15, 2022.
26. **Meeting Hall Expenses of the SBC Pastors' Conference** – During its February 21-22, 2022, meeting, the SBC Executive Committee requested the SBC Pastors' Conference reimburse the SBC Executive Committee \$100,000 for the year 2022 for its use of meeting space and the meeting hall and facilities at the annual meeting of the Southern Baptist Convention, requested a written financial report be provided by the SBC Pastors' Conference leadership by August 31, 2022, to the SBC Executive Committee for review during the September 2022 meeting, requested the SBC Executive Committee staff continue documenting the variable cost attributed to the SBC Pastors' Conference, and requested the SBC Pastors' Conference leadership promote and present the value of the Cooperative Program during its event.
27. **SBC Calendar of Activities Recommendations and Amendments** – During its February 21-22, 2022, meeting, the SBC Executive Committee approved the following recommendations for the 2027 SBC Calendar of Activities and amendments to the 2022, 2023, 2024, 2025, and 2026 SBC Calendar of Activities.

SBC CALENDAR OF ACTIVITIES 2027

JANUARY*Focus on Christian Discipleship*

- **January 3-10:** January Bible Study Week
- **January 17:** Sanctity of Life Sunday

FEBRUARY*Focus on Christian Unity*

- **February 7:** George Liele Church Planting, Evangelism, and Missions Sunday
- **February 21:** Focus on WMU Sunday
- **February 28:** Racial Reconciliation Sunday

MARCH*Focus on North American Missions*

- **March 7-14:** Week of Prayer for North American Missions and Annie Armstrong Easter Offering
- **March 14:** Church Planting Emphasis Day
- **March 28:** Easter

APRIL*Focus on Christian Evangelism*

- **April 4:** Baptism Sunday

MAY*Focus on Christian Education*

- **May 2:** SBC Seminary Sunday
- **May 6:** National Day of Prayer
- **May 16:** Children's Ministry Sunday
- **May 30:** Disaster Relief Sunday

JUNE*Focus on Local & State Missions & Ministries*

- **June 5:** Crossover Salt Lake City
- **June 6-7:** WMU Missions Celebration
- **June 8-9:** SBC Annual Meeting (Salt Lake City, Utah)
- **June 27:** Mission:Dignity Sunday

JULY*Focus on Christian Citizenship*

- **July 4:** Religious Liberty Sunday

AUGUST*Focus on Christian Service*

- **August 1:** Send Relief Sunday
- **August 8:** SBC Serve Sunday
- **August 22:** Global Hunger Sunday

SEPTEMBER*Focus on Next Generation Ministries*

- **September 18:** Children's Missions Day

OCTOBER*Focus on Cooperative Program*

- **October 3:** CP Sunday
- **October 17:** Day of Prayer for Associational Missions
- **October 24:** Student Baptism Sunday

NOVEMBER*Focus on Christian Compassion*

- **November 7:** Day of Prayer for Persecuted Church
- **November 14:** Orphans & Widows Sunday
- **November 28 - December 5:** Week of Prayer for International Missions and Lottie Moon Christmas Offering

DECEMBER*Focus on International Missions*

- **See end of November above**
- **December 25:** Christmas

AMENDMENTS

Personal Evangelism Day – Remove (*due to added monthly emphasis in April on evangelism as well as evangelism emphases surrounding Baptism Day and Student Baptism Day*)

- 2023 SBC Calendar of Activities – April 2
- 2024 SBC Calendar of Activities – March 24
- 2025 SBC Calendar of Activities – April 13
- 2026 SBC Calendar of Activities – March 29

28. **Best Practices for SBC Officer Nomination Speeches** – During its February 21-22, 2022, meeting, the SBC Executive Committee approved the following statement of position regarding nominating speeches for SBC Officers.

Southern Baptist Convention Executive Committee

Statement of Position

Regarding Nominating Speeches for SBC Officers

The Southern Baptist Convention Executive Committee recognizes autonomous messengers from autonomous churches have the right to include in nomination speeches whatever information is pertinent to the office for which they are nominating a fellow Southern Baptist. However, the Southern Baptist Convention Executive Committee also realizes certain information is important when making a decision for whom to vote. Southern Baptists have historically shown interest in a candidate's commitment to Cooperative Program giving, other cooperative giving, evangelism, and Convention involvement.

Therefore, the Southern Baptist Convention Executive Committee respectfully requests messengers who are making nomination speeches, prepare those nominations with diligence and provide as much relevant information as possible so that messengers are fully informed about whom they cast their ballot. The Southern Baptist Convention Executive Committee also respectfully requests messengers to diligently research announced candidates prior to nomination speeches and casting their ballots believing informed, wise voters are imperative to our cooperative work.

29. **Amendment of SBC Constitution, Article V, Section 2, Regarding Officer Election** – (See **Recommendation 1**, page 38) The SBC Executive Committee will recommend the Southern Baptist Convention meeting in Anaheim, California, June 14-15, 2022, take action, as the final of the required two consecutive annual meetings approvals (pursuant to SBC Constitution Article XIV) to amend SBC Constitution Article V. Officers, Section 2, to be effective upon the adjournment of the 2022 annual meeting.
30. **William E. (Bill) Townes, SBC Executive Committee Interim Chief Financial Officer** – In February 2022, it was announced that William E. (Bill) Townes who served as chief financial officer of the SBC Executive Committee until he retired December 31, 2020, agreed to fill the vacancy created by the resignation of Jeff Pearson for an interim period of four months.
31. **Luis Lopez, SBC Executive Committee Executive Director of Hispanic Relations and Mobilization** – On March 21, 2022, Luis Lopez was announced as executive director of Hispanic relations and mobilization for the SBC Executive Committee effective April 1, 2022. As executive director of Hispanic relations and mobilization, Lopez will focus on maximizing involvement and participation of Hispanic churches and church leaders across the Southern Baptist Convention. Prior to joining the staff of the SBC Executive Committee, he served as the Español and international director for Lifeway Christian Resources for 17 years. Most recently, he served for six years as the associate director of missions & ethnic work for Robertson County Baptist Association, Springfield, Tennessee.

MATTERS REFERRED BY THE CONVENTION

During the annual meeting of the Southern Baptist Convention in Nashville, Tennessee, June 15-16, 2021, the Convention referred the following motions to the Southern Baptist Convention Executive Committee for consideration, action, and report. The disposition of each referral is noted following its description in an adherence to SBC Bylaw 26B which states, in part, as follows:

“On all matters referred by the Convention, entities shall respond in writing at the close of their report in the Book of Reports and Annual, giving specific information on:

- (1) how the matter referred was considered;
- (2) how it was reported to the constituency; and
- (3) any actions on the matter taken by the entity or action proposed to the Convention.”

1. SBC Referral: To request Convention entities to examine the use of non-disclosure agreements (Items 75 and 102, Proceedings of the Southern Baptist Convention, June 15-16, 2021, SBC *Annual*, pp. 75, 83)

Motion: Brad Patterson, Texas

“That the Southern Baptist Convention request each entity to examine its use of non-disclosure agreements and report its findings to the messengers of the 2022 annual meeting of the Southern Baptist Convention in Anaheim, California, reporting said findings with particular attention to three areas: what is biblical justification for the use of non-disclosure agreements; how many non-disclosure agreements have been signed or agreed to in the last five years; and if non-disclosure agreements have been utilized, for what specific purposes were they utilized?”

SBC Executive Committee Action: The SBC Executive Committee reports that while non-disclosure agreements or confidentiality clauses are used in both for-profit and non-profit businesses as a standard practice and are considered a best practice of fulfilling one’s fiduciary obligation and stewardship to an organization, the SBC Executive Committee has never entered into an agreement for the sole purpose of creating a non-disclosure arrangement but has occasionally included confidentiality clauses or non-disclosure clauses in agreements as needed and within the scope and direction of its trustees who are duly elected by the messengers of the Southern Baptist Convention.

2. SBC Referral: To request that entities conduct certain audits and disclose financial details (Items 78 and 102, Proceedings of the Southern Baptist Convention, June 15-16, 2021, SBC *Annual*, pp. 76, 83)

Motion: Rick Hillard, Kentucky

“That the Southern Baptist Convention request beginning in 2023 that every 5 years each entity of the Southern Baptist Convention takes the steps needed to undergo a holistic and complete audit with specific disclosure of all details made public to any Southern Baptist no later than 30 days prior to the coinciding year’s annual meeting.”

SBC Executive Committee Action: The SBC Executive Committee reports that the SBC Executive Committee has an annual audit performed by an independent Certified Public Accounting firm which is hired by the trustees who are duly elected by the messengers of the Southern Baptist Convention. The audit is in accordance with the Business & Financial Plan, generally accepted auditing standards, and best business practices. The audit and the related financial disclosures are made available to the Southern Baptist Convention via the Southern Baptist Convention Annual published each year.

3. **SBC Referral: To ask the Executive Committee to study conflicts of interest in relation to the roles of legal counsel. (Items 12 and 103, Proceedings of the Southern Baptist Convention, June 15-16, 2021, SBC Annual, pp. 56, 83)**

Motion: Jay Adkins, Louisiana

“That the Executive Committee study and report back to this Convention at the 2022 annual meeting the question of whether or not there is an inherent conflict of interest in the Convention and the Executive Committee being represented by the same legal counsel.”

SBC Executive Committee Action: The SBC Executive Committee reports it considered the relationship between the Southern Baptist Convention and its Executive Committee as outlined in the Southern Baptist Convention’s Constitution and Bylaws and sees no conflict of interest regarding legal counsel. Further, during its February 21-22, 2022, meeting, the SBC Executive Committee received as information that Friday, Eldredge & Clark, LLP of Little Rock, Arkansas, an independent firm with experience in Southern Baptist polity, was retained and conducted a review of whether or not there is an inherent conflict of interest in the Convention and its Executive Committee being represented by the same legal counsel. Their study also found no conflict of interest. Therefore, the SBC Executive Committee declines further consideration of the matter.

4. **SBC Referral: To add a Fellowship Meal Sunday to the denominational calendar (Items 14 and 102, Proceedings of the Southern Baptist Convention, June 15-16, 2021, SBC Annual, pp. 57, 102)**

Motion: James Allen Murray, North Carolina

“Add a ‘Fellowship Meal Sunday’ to the SBC Calendar.”

SBC Executive Committee Action: The SBC Executive Committee reports that while it encourages churches to enjoy fellowship together, it declines to recommend a Fellowship Meal Sunday on the SBC *Calendar of Activities* because the calendar is intended to promote only particular emphases designed, directed, and resourced by Southern Baptist Convention entities.

5. **SBC Referral: To consider discontinuing the Committee on Resolutions (Items 18 and 103, Proceedings of the Southern Baptist Convention, June 15-16, 2021, SBC Annual, pp. 57, 83)**

Motion: Ted Traylor, Florida

“That the Executive Committee of the Southern Baptist Convention consider removing the Resolutions Committee from the legal documentation, bylaws, and annual function of the Convention.”

SBC Executive Committee Action: The SBC Executive Committee reports that it has approved the request of the Committee on Convention Missions and Ministry for its chair to appoint an ad hoc committee composed of previous Resolutions Committee members and others deemed familiar with the process to study the matter and report back any recommendations to the Committee on Convention Missions and Ministry during their September 19-20, 2022, meeting for consideration, and that the SBC Executive Committee will report its final actions to the 2023 Southern Baptist Convention Annual Meeting.

6. **SBC Referral: To provide messengers earlier access to proposed resolutions (Items 62 and 103, Proceedings of the Southern Baptist Convention, June 15-16, 2021, SBC Annual, pp. 72, 83)**

Motion: Robert White, South Carolina

“That the Executive Committee study the possibility of having the Resolutions Committee of the Southern Baptist Convention complete its report to the annual convention by May 1st annually in order that the resolutions to the annual convention be made available on the convention’s website 30 days prior to the Southern Baptist Convention’s annual meeting in order that messengers can have time to study and understand what they are being asked to support.”

SBC Executive Committee Action: The SBC Executive Committee reports that it has approved the request of the Committee on Convention Missions and Ministry for its chair to appoint an ad hoc committee composed of previous Resolutions Committee members and others deemed familiar with the process to study the matter and report back any recommendations to the Committee on Convention Missions and Ministry during their September 19-20, 2022, meeting for consideration, and that the SBC Executive Committee will report its final actions to the 2023 Southern Baptist Convention Annual Meeting.

7. **SBC Referral: To address committee amendments to resolutions proposed by messengers (Items 63 and 103, Proceedings of the Southern Baptist Convention, June 15-16, 2021, SBC Annual, pp. 73, 83)**

Motion: Charles Johnson, Kentucky

“To amend Bylaw 20, section 5, regarding the Committee on Resolutions. It currently reads as thus: ‘The Committee on Resolutions shall prepare and submit to each annual meeting of the Convention only such resolutions the committee recommends for adoption. Such resolutions may be based upon proposals received by the committee or may originate with the committee.’

The proposed change would add this additional statement: ‘Proposals received and accepted by the committee for adoption, should not be altered in such a way as would contradict the intent of the original proposal without the explicit consent of the author. Proposals originating with the committee, or proposals amended in such a way that they bear no substantial resemblance to the original, shall be signified as originating with the committee when presented for adoption.’”

SBC Executive Committee Action: The SBC Executive Committee reports that it has approved the request of the Committee on Convention Missions and Ministry for its chair to appoint an ad hoc committee composed of previous Resolutions Committee members and others deemed familiar with the process to study the matter and report back any recommendations to the Committee on Convention Missions and Ministry during their September 19-20, 2022, meeting for consideration, and that the SBC Executive Committee will report its final actions to the 2023 Southern Baptist Convention Annual Meeting.

8. **SBC Referral: To require inclusion of Cooperative Program information in nominating speeches (Items 64 and 103, Proceedings of the Southern Baptist Convention, June 15-16, 2021, SBC Annual, pp. 73, 83)**

Motion: Steven Bailey, Arkansas

“Requesting that Bylaw 10.C be amended to require the percentage of CP gifts given by each nominee’s church be included in nominating speeches.”

SBC Executive Committee Action: The SBC Executive Committee reports that the Executive Committee, believing the various elements of church activity such as number of baptisms and Cooperative Program giving by the churches of announced candidates will continue to be provided prior to each annual meeting through *Baptist Press*, and also via article compilations in the annual meeting phone app, declines to recommend amending SBC Bylaw 10C requiring any particular nominating speech content because the messengers are fully capable of using all publicly available information about any nominee to determine whether the content of any nominating speech is accurate, sufficient, and persuasive.

The SBC Executive Committee also considered and approved a statement of position regarding nominating speeches for SBC Officers, see SBC Executive Committee Significant Action #28 (page 16).

9. **SBC Referral: To allow international missionaries to vote by proxy at SBC meetings (Items 65 and 103, Proceedings of the Southern Baptist Convention, June 15-16, 2021, SBC Annual, pp. 73, 83)**

Motion: Nate Magloughlin, Texas

“That the SBC Executive Committee or a subcommittee formed by the Executive Committee with IMB representation explore a way to enable IMB and NAMB missionaries who live outside of the USA to vote via proxy at SBC annual meetings. This motion would require a bylaw revision, yet would be well received by the churches and missionaries who constitute a major voting block, yet have little say in Convention matters.”

SBC Executive Committee Action: The SBC Executive Committee reports that after significant review it declines to recommend the opportunity for remote participation in the annual meeting for the following reasons:

- there being no known model for web-based constituent participation in any similarly-sized, deliberative body, nor even in any state Baptist convention, it would be an inappropriate prioritization to divert missions’ offerings to fund and undertake the study and implementation of such technology as it would likely be substantial;
- the dependability of technology is susceptible to interruption or failure which could significantly and negatively impact the meeting, its actions, the trust of the Convention’s constituents, and the relationships of the parties involved and affected;
- the simplicity of conducting business at a single site is preferable to the complexity of doing so via innumerable off-site computer configurations;
- the Convention has a continuing interest in positively affecting various regions of America with as great a physical presence of Southern Baptists as possible during the Convention’s annual meetings and ancillary events such as Crossover;
- the present “public” method of casting ballots involves some level of “in-person” and “eye-witness” assurance that ballots have been received and cast only by qualified messengers, and is therefore preferable to any other system that would permit an individual to receive and/or cast a ballot privately and electronically from a remote location without accountability;
- ministry and service opportunities and resources are now well-conveyed by high exhibitor participation, which would decline if attendance were to become less concentrated; and
- fostering and strengthening relationships with and between various affinity groups that schedule their meetings to coincide with the Convention’s annual meeting is best accomplished by encouraging the physical presence of messengers.

10. **SBC Referral: To provide messengers earlier access to proposed resolutions (Items 66 and 103, Proceedings of the Southern Baptist Convention, June 15-16, 2021, SBC Annual, pp. 73, 83)**

Motion: Jason Wing, Ohio

“That the appropriate committees consider changing the appropriate bylaws, and providing the appropriate resources, so that resolutions presented at the annual meeting can be provided to messengers with more advanced notice, perhaps one week or more, if possible. I believe doing so would serve our messengers by allowing us to have more time to prayerfully consider the motions at hand, would provide the Committee on Resolutions more time to prayerfully craft the resolution statements, and would, Lord willing, ultimately serve to bring greater unity and biblical faithfulness to the Convention as a whole.”

SBC Executive Committee Action: The SBC Executive Committee reports that it has approved the request of the Committee on Convention Missions and Ministry for its chair to appoint an ad hoc committee composed of previous Resolutions Committee members and others deemed familiar with the process to study the matter and report back any recommendations to the Committee on Convention Missions and Ministry during their September 19-20, 2022, meeting for consideration, and that the SBC Executive Committee will report its final actions to the 2023 Southern Baptist Convention Annual Meeting.

11. **SBC Referral: To add a Sunday of Repentance to the denominational calendar (Items 67 and 102, Proceedings of the Southern Baptist Convention, June 15-16, 2021, SBC Annual, pp. 73, 83)**

Motion: Roy Youngblood, Texas

“That the Southern Baptist Convention, all entities, and churches unite for a Sunday of repentance over sin, fasting in humility, and prayer for the unity of the Holy Spirit within all aspects and organization of our Convention be added to the annual calendar of events.”

SBC Executive Committee Action: The SBC Executive Committee reports that it declines to recommend that a Sunday of Repentance be added to the SBC Calendar of Activities. The Committee further recommends that the intention of the messenger’s motion be incorporated into the SBC Executive Committee’s ministry of prayer and the Vision 2025 prayer initiative.

12. **SBC Referral: To make Nashville the permanent site for annual SBC meetings (Items 71 and 102, Proceedings of the Southern Baptist Convention, June 15-16, 2021, SBC Annual, pp. 74, 83)**

Motion: Gary LaRoy, Tennessee

“In light of the increased attendance created by bringing the annual meeting to Nashville and a desire to provide an opportunity for more churches to participate in the agenda of the annual meeting, I move that the Executive Committee form a study group from within its trustees to study the feasibility of making Nashville the permanent site for the Annual Meeting and also providing satellite locations throughout the country to allow attendees to fully participate in the annual meeting regardless of location or church size.”

SBC Executive Committee Action: The SBC Executive Committee reports that the Committee on Convention Events and Strategic Planning will continue the concentrated effort to choose locations that will allow Southern Baptists from across the country to participate in the Annual Meeting.

13. **SBC Referral: To refer to the Convention as The Great Commission Baptist Convention (Items 74 and 103, Proceedings of the Southern Baptist Convention, June 15-16, 2021, SBC Annual, pp. 75, 83)**

Motion: Philip Nelson, Illinois

“Due to the long history of unbiblical racial practices of many of our churches in our history, we repent of such sins by confession and encourage the adoption of the name of Great Commission Baptist Churches. I move that from this day on we refer to our Convention of churches as The Great Commission Baptists. Because we must always be reforming until heaven is our eternal home, I believe such reforming behavior as the adoption of this new name will make it clear that we no longer want the sins of the past to set our future.”

SBC Executive Committee Action: The SBC Executive Committee reports that it enthusiastically affirms the 2012 action of the Southern Baptist Convention which provided for churches, entities, and organizations in friendly cooperation with the Convention to utilize the descriptor “Great Commission Baptists” to indicate their relationship and cooperation with the Southern Baptist Convention, viewing the descriptor “Great Commission Baptists” fully in keeping with our Southern Baptist Convention identity, and although, the SBC Executive Committee declines to consider changing the legal name of the Southern Baptist Convention, it will continue to utilize the descriptor “Great Commission Baptists” in its communications and publications.

14. **SBC Referral: To rename the Southern Baptist Convention (Items 77 and 103, Proceedings of the Southern Baptist Convention, June 15-16, 2021, SBC Annual, pp. 76, 83)**

Motion: Christopher Benavides, Texas

“In the continued spirit of unity and in light of the increasing ethnic and geographical diversity of churches in the SBC and proliferation of churches in the SBC network around the world, I would like to make a motion to amend Article I of the Constitution to rename the Southern Baptist Convention to the Great Commission Baptists. I know we would never lose our roots by changing the name but to be more and more reflective of the brothers and sisters around the world that share our same convictions is the reason why I would like to propose the name change.”

SBC Executive Committee Action: The SBC Executive Committee reports that it enthusiastically affirms the 2012 action of the Southern Baptist Convention which provided for churches, entities, and organizations in friendly cooperation with the Convention to utilize the descriptor “Great Commission Baptists” to indicate their relationship and cooperation with the Southern Baptist Convention, viewing the descriptor “Great Commission Baptists” fully in keeping with our Southern Baptist Convention identity, and although, the SBC Executive Committee declines to consider changing the legal name of the Southern Baptist Convention, it will continue to utilize the descriptor “Great Commission Baptists” in its communications and publications.

COMPREHENSIVE SUMMARY OPERATING BUDGET

	<u>2022-2023*</u>	<u>2021-2022*</u>	<u>2020-2021*</u>
Convention Operating Budget	\$ 8,335,000	\$ 8,600,000	\$ 10,841,443
International Mission Board	273,700,000	262,200,000	249,002,000
North American Mission Board	122,820,000	122,820,000	139,104,025
Lifeway Christian Resources	229,205,000	222,300,000	210,764,000
GuideStone Financial Resources	108,200,000	99,100,000	91,400,000
Gateway Seminary	12,275,000	12,275,000	12,000,000
Midwestern Seminary	31,728,000	29,808,000	25,169,000
New Orleans Seminary	23,796,689	21,851,538	21,551,221
Southeastern Seminary	30,672,810	31,017,540	30,300,960
Southern Seminary	50,418,484	48,126,414	38,245,516
Southwestern Seminary	37,367,884	34,456,000	30,478,953
Ethics & Religious Liberty Commission	3,571,355	3,912,200	3,164,712
Historical Library and Archives	503,000	501,200	491,288
TOTAL OF ALL BUDGETS	<u>\$ 932,593,222</u>	<u>\$ 896,967,892</u>	<u>\$ 862,513,118</u>

* Actual budget years will vary within each convention year

SBC EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE AND SBC OPERATING BUDGET SUMMARY

	<u>Proposed Budget 2022-2023***</u>	<u>Budget 2021-2022**</u>	<u>Actual 2020-2021*</u>
I. STATEMENT OF INCOME			
Cooperative Program	\$ 5,742,893	\$ 5,675,020	\$ 5,742,937
Designations	260,000	260,000	258,061
Lifeway Christian Resources		-	-
Interest/Dividends	540,000	558,000	2,262,499
Global Relations	-	356,800	356,948
Vision 2025	200,000	200,000	200,000
Cost Recovery (Annual Meeting, SBC Life, etc.)	1,380,000	1,340,000	1,561,754
Other Income	212,107	210,180	580,381
TOTAL INCOME	<u>\$ 8,335,000</u>	<u>\$ 8,600,000</u>	<u>\$ 10,962,580</u>
II. SUMMARY OPERATING BUDGET	<u>2022-2023***</u>	<u>2021-2022**</u>	<u>2020-2021*</u>
Convention Administration Expenses			
SBC General Operations		\$ 622,300	\$ 623,712
-- Global Evangelical Relations			
SBC Committees		110,000	38,680
SBC Annual Meeting		1,000,000	1,780,027
SBC Building Management		847,700	811,235
SUBTOTAL	<u>\$ 2,500,500</u>	<u>\$ 2,580,000</u>	<u>\$ 3,253,655</u>
Executive Committee Operations Expenses			
Administration & Financial Operations		\$ 1,867,290	\$ 2,504,729
Strategic Leadership Development		542,761	354,904
Executive Committee Meetings		250,000	794,758
Great Commission Relations & Mobilization		1,593,500	1,492,003
Convention Communications		1,766,449	2,027,216
Other Designated Expenditures			414,177
SUBTOTAL	<u>\$ 5,834,500</u>	<u>\$ 6,020,000</u>	<u>\$ 7,587,788</u>
Other non-cash year-end adjustments			
TOTAL EXPENSES	<u>\$ 8,335,000</u>	<u>\$ 8,600,000</u>	<u>\$ 10,841,443</u>

* Source: Actual 2020-2021 Year-End Financial Statements

** Source: SBC Operating Budget approved September 2021

*** Source: Estimates for 2022-2023 based on projected income

INTERNATIONAL MISSION BOARD

STATEMENT OF INCOME	2023 ⁽³⁾	2022 ⁽²⁾	2021 ⁽¹⁾
Cooperative Program	\$ 97,600,000	\$ 95,700,000	\$ 96,823,000
Lottie Moon	170,100,000	160,500,000	162,760,000
Other Income	<u>6,000,000</u>	<u>6,000,000</u>	<u>8,149,000</u>
TOTAL	<u>\$273,700,000</u>	<u>\$262,200,000</u>	<u>\$267,732,000</u>
CP as a Percent of Total Income	35.66%	36.50%	36.16%

⁽¹⁾ Based on audited financials for unrestricted contributions and other income.

⁽²⁾ Amounts based on budget.

⁽³⁾ Amounts based on estimates. Cooperative Program increase of 2% over 2022. LMCO increase of 6% over 2022.

ENTITY SUMMARY OPERATING BUDGET	2023 ⁽³⁾	2022 ⁽²⁾	2021 ⁽¹⁾
Personnel Support	\$ 216,791,000	\$ 213,986,200	\$ 213,074,000
Global Engagement	16,500,000	16,200,000	12,785,000
President's Office	4,022,000	3,943,500	3,596,000
Marketing and Communications	10,000,000	22,000,000	2,861,000
Mobilization	835,000	819,000	632,000
Logistics, Finance, Travel & Meetings	15,713,000	15,405,000	7,773,000
Human Resources	863,000	846,300	1,524,000
Training	1,734,000	1,700,000	583,000
Technology Solutions	<u>7,242,000</u>	<u>7,100,000</u>	<u>6,174,000</u>
TOTAL	<u>\$273,700,000</u>	<u>\$262,200,000</u>	<u>\$249,002,000</u>

⁽¹⁾ Amounts based on audited actuals.

⁽²⁾ Amounts based on budget.

⁽³⁾ Amounts based on estimates.

NORTH AMERICAN MISSION BOARD

STATEMENT OF INCOME	FY 2023*	FY 2022**	FY 2021
Cooperative Program	\$ 44,840,000	\$ 44,840,000	\$ 43,773,080
Annie Armstrong	60,750,000	60,750,000	66,515,423
Unrestricted Gifts	5,630,000	5,630,000	6,135,843
Investment & Interest	9,900,000	9,900,000	48,824,635
Other	1,700,000	1,700,000	1,167,864
Total Budgeted Income	<u>\$122,820,000</u>	<u>\$122,820,000</u>	<u>\$166,415,845</u>
Restricted Gifts Received****			<u>\$ 15,349,531</u>
Total Income	<u>\$122,820,000</u>	<u>\$120,820,000</u>	<u>\$181,766,376</u>
CP as a Percent of Total Income	36.50%	36.50%	24.00%

* Estimates provided for FY23

** Approved budget for FY22

**** Restricted gifts are not included in the fiscal operating budget.

ENTITY SUMMARY OPERATING BUDGET	FY 2023*	FY 2022**	FY 2021
Church Planting	\$ 61,794,821	\$ 61,794,821	\$ 73,101,916
Evangelism and Relief	18,735,664	18,735,664	31,491,344
Missions Ed. & Opportunities	10,892,324	10,892,324	9,124,689
Sending and Leadership	8,902,069	8,902,069	8,804,339
Administration	<u>22,495,122</u>	<u>22,495,122</u>	<u>16,581,737</u>
Total Expenses	<u>\$122,820,000</u>	<u>\$122,820,000</u>	<u>\$139,104,025</u>

* Estimates provided for FY23

** Approved budget for FY22

LIFEWAY CHRISTIAN RESOURCES

	<u>2022-2023</u>	<u>2021-2022</u> ⁽¹⁾	<u>2020-2021</u> ⁽²⁾
Revenue			
Product Sales	\$ 191,205,000	\$ 182,100,000	\$ 180,935,000
Events & Services Sales	22,880,000	20,800,000	17,162,000
Other Operating Revenue	<u>15,120,000</u>	<u>14,400,000</u>	<u>16,540,000</u>
Total Revenue From Operations ⁽³⁾	<u>\$ 229,205,000</u>	<u>\$ 217,300,000</u>	<u>\$ 214,637,000</u>
Costs and Expenses			
Product Costs/Operating Expenses	<u>\$ 229,205,000</u>	<u>\$ 222,300,000</u>	<u>\$ 210,764,000</u>
Total Costs and Expenses	<u>\$ 229,205,000</u>	<u>\$ 222,300,000</u>	<u>\$ 210,764,000</u>
Funds Provided From Operations	0	(5,000,000)	3,873,000
	0.0%	-2.3%	1.8%
Net Realized/Unrealized Reserve Fund Income	500,000	700,000	(72,000)
Pension/Postretirement Credit/Other	(5,000,000)	(12,000,000)	77,993,000
Other Adjustments	0	0	7,947,000
Donated Activity	0	0	79,000
Discontinued Operations (Lifeway Stores, Ridgecrest)	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>(2,491,000)</u>
Inc (Dec) in Unrestricted Net Assets	<u>\$ (4,500,000)</u>	<u>\$ (16,300,000)</u>	<u>\$ 87,329,000</u>
Inc (Dec) in Temporarily Restricted Net Assets	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>7,000</u>
Inc (Dec) in Net Assets	<u>\$ (4,500,000)</u>	<u>\$ (16,300,000)</u>	<u>\$ 87,336,000</u>

⁽¹⁾ Information is based on 2022 budget which was approved by trustees August 24, 2021.

⁽²⁾ From audited financial statements.

⁽³⁾ Per accounting guidelines, total revenue from operations excludes Ridgecrest which was sold in December 2020.

GUIDESTONE FINANCIAL RESOURCES

	<u>2022*</u>	<u>2021**</u>	<u>2020</u>
Statement of Income			
Operating Revenue	\$ 130,000,000	\$ 124,000,000	\$ 144,000,000
Net Investment Income			
Retirement Servicing	1,000,000	-	1,000,000
Insurance	2,000,000	1,000,000	4,000,000
Mission:Dignity	2,000,000	4,000,000	4,000,000
Other Reserves	<u>33,000,000</u>	<u>58,000,000</u>	<u>18,000,000</u>
Total Income	<u>\$168,000,000</u>	<u>\$187,000,000</u>	<u>\$ 171,000,000</u>
Entity Summary Operating Budget			
Retirement Servicing	\$ 67,400,000	\$ 62,300,000	\$ 58,600,000
Insurance	39,200,000	35,300,000	31,400,000
Mission:Dignity	<u>1,600,000</u>	<u>1,500,000</u>	<u>1,400,000</u>
Total	<u>\$108,200,000</u>	<u>\$ 99,100,000</u>	<u>\$ 91,400,000</u>

* Projected

** Unaudited

GATEWAY SEMINARY

	<u>Proposed*</u> <u>2022-2023</u>	<u>2021-2022</u>	<u>2020-2021</u> <i>Amended by Board Action</i>
INCOME			
Educational and General:			
Tuition and Fees	\$ 4,057,286	\$ 4,156,271	\$ 3,670,615
Endowment and Investment	2,950,700	2,791,500	2,999,925
Cooperative Program	3,500,329	3,564,312	3,634,909
Other Gifts	846,000	877,699	847,478
Other Income	<u>93,116</u>	<u>84,378</u>	<u>205,893</u>
Total Educational & General	11,447,431	11,474,160	11,358,820
Auxiliary Enterprises	<u>681,648</u>	<u>674,840</u>	<u>641,180</u>
Total Unrestricted & Auxiliary Revenue	12,129,079	12,149,000	12,000,000
Restricted Transfers	145,921	126,000	-
TOTAL INCOME	<u>\$ 12,275,000</u>	<u>\$ 12,275,000</u>	<u>\$ 12,000,000</u>
CP as Percent of Total Income	28.5%	29.0%	30.3%

	<u>2022-2023</u>	<u>2021-2022</u>	<u>2020-2021</u>
EXPENSE			
Educational and General:			
Instruction	\$ 4,922,723	\$ 4,884,307	\$ 4,762,453
Academic Support	580,727	729,406	529,695
Student Services	1,047,361	1,026,259	1,010,269
Institutional Support	3,270,636	3,266,860	3,248,093
Libraries	680,426	726,376	713,714
Plant Operations & Maintenance	<u>1,492,261</u>	<u>1,387,514</u>	<u>1,507,259</u>
Total Educational & General	11,994,134	12,020,722	11,771,483
Auxiliary Enterprises	<u>280,865</u>	<u>254,278</u>	<u>228,517</u>
TOTAL EXPENSE	<u>\$ 12,275,000</u>	<u>\$ 12,275,000</u>	<u>\$ 12,000,000</u>

* Budget Pending Approval by Board of Trustees

MIDWESTERN BAPTIST THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY

	<u>2022-2023</u>	<u>2021-2022</u>	<u>2020-2021*</u>
STATEMENT OF INCOME			
Cooperative Program	\$ 7,872,000	7,536,000	5,890,000
Student Fees	19,389,000	18,289,000	15,543,000
Other Gifts	710,000	477,000	474,000
Auxiliary Enterprises	2,772,000	2,659,000	2,668,000
Other Income	<u>985,000</u>	<u>847,000</u>	<u>594,000</u>
TOTAL INCOME	<u>\$ 31,728,000</u>	<u>\$ 29,808,000</u>	<u>\$ 25,169,000</u>
CP as Percent of Total Income	25%	25%	23%

	<u>2022-2023</u>	<u>2021-2022</u>	<u>2020-2021*</u>
ENTITY SUMMARY OPERATING BUDGET			
Instruction	\$ 9,365,894	9,287,293	7,784,141
Administrative and General	6,975,616	5,847,623	5,385,566
Student Services	2,298,961	2,036,190	1,490,184
Operations and Maintenance	2,187,303	1,946,610	1,727,429
Auxiliary Enterprises	1,150,226	1,190,284	1,091,680
Capital Expenses & Reserves	9,750,000	9,500,000	5,890,000
Debt Retirement	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>1,800,000</u>
TOTAL EXPENSES	<u>\$ 31,728,000</u>	<u>\$ 29,808,000</u>	<u>\$ 25,169,000</u>

* 2020-2021 budget was revised lower by MBTS' Trustees in May 2020 in response to the COVID-19 pandemic and associated financial uncertainty.

NEW ORLEANS BAPTIST THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY

STATEMENT OF INCOME	<u>2022-2023*</u>	<u>2021-2022</u>	<u>2020-2021</u>
Student Fees	\$ 10,115,000	\$ 9,500,000	\$ 8,121,750
Cooperative Program	6,686,689	6,601,538	6,385,814
Other Gifts	1,250,000	1,200,000	1,280,000
Endowment Income	275,000	275,000	500,000
Other Income	3,300,000	2,195,000	3,200,000
Auxiliary Income	<u>2,170,000</u>	<u>2,080,000</u>	<u>2,063,657</u>
TOTAL INCOME	<u>\$ 23,796,689</u>	<u>\$ 21,851,538</u>	<u>\$ 21,551,221</u>
CP as a Percent of Total Income	28.10%	30.21%	29.63%

ENTITY SUMMARY OPERATING BUDGET	<u>2022-2023*</u>	<u>2021-2022</u>	<u>2020-2021</u>
Academic	\$ 9,218,860	\$ 9,836,974	\$ 10,052,080
Administrative and General	4,279,573	4,031,083	3,594,874
Maintenance	2,200,000	2,200,000	2,200,000
SUBTOTAL EDUCATION AND GENERAL	15,698,433	16,068,057	15,846,954
Auxiliary Expenses	8,098,256	5,783,481	5,704,267
Student Aid	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>
TOTAL	<u>\$ 23,796,689</u>	<u>\$ 21,851,538</u>	<u>\$ 21,551,221</u>

* Projected

SOUTHEASTERN BAPTIST THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY

STATEMENT OF INCOME	<u>2022-2023*</u>	<u>2021-2022**</u>	<u>2020-2021**</u>
Cooperative Program	\$ 7,025,722	\$ 7,015,740	\$ 7,390,188
Student Fees	14,181,755	15,162,876	13,774,620
Auxiliary Enterprises	5,354,550	5,273,820	5,234,292
Other Gifts	1,475,000	1,400,004	1,300,008
Investment Income	2,454,988	2,003,856	2,345,604
Miscellaneous	<u>180,795</u>	<u>161,244</u>	<u>256,248</u>
INCOME TOTALS	<u>\$ 30,672,810</u>	<u>\$ 31,017,540</u>	<u>\$ 30,300,960</u>

CP as a Percent of Total Income	23%	23%	24%
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ENTITY SUMMARY OPERATING BUDGET	<u>2022-2023*</u>	<u>2021-2022**</u>	<u>2020-2021**</u>
Administrative & General	\$ 4,881,533	\$ 4,726,728	\$ 4,601,880
Auxiliary Expenses	4,342,691	5,111,256	4,892,496
Capital Expenditures	1,200,000	1,152,912	1,100,004
Instruction	12,373,806	12,225,636	12,202,956
Institutional Advancement	3,230,162	3,182,172	3,107,700
Plant Operation	3,145,504	3,158,040	3,025,056
Student Services	<u>1,499,114</u>	<u>1,460,796</u>	<u>1,370,868</u>
TOTAL OPERATING EXPENSES	<u>\$ 30,672,810</u>	<u>\$ 31,017,540</u>	<u>\$ 30,300,960</u>

* Projected Budget

** Approved Budget

SOUTHERN BAPTIST THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY

STATEMENT OF INCOME	<u>2022-2023*</u>	<u>2021-2022**</u>	<u>2020-2021**</u>
Educational and General:			
Tuition and Fees	\$ 25,113,070	\$ 24,983,996	\$ 20,232,270
Cooperative Program	10,000,000	9,300,000	7,043,400
Other Gifts	3,200,000	3,000,000	2,170,000
Endowment and Other Investment Income	4,047,105	3,949,242	3,967,298
Other Income	<u>1,279,525</u>	<u>1,211,346</u>	<u>1,293,002</u>
Total Educational and General	43,639,700	42,444,584	34,705,970
Auxiliary Enterprises	<u>6,778,784</u>	<u>5,681,830</u>	<u>3,539,546</u>
TOTAL INCOME	<u>\$50,418,484</u>	<u>\$ 48,126,414</u>	<u>\$38,245,516</u>
CP as Percent of Total Income	19.8%	19.3%	18.4%

ENTITY SUMMARY OPERATING BUDGET *	<u>2022-2023</u>	<u>2021-2022</u>	<u>2020-2021</u>
Educational and General:			
Institutional Support	\$ 15,171,162	\$ 14,414,850	\$ 10,039,284
Instruction	10,602,101	10,547,711	9,648,233
Academic Support	1,988,214	1,926,412	1,940,684
Student Services	5,708,698	5,426,700	4,779,219
Student Financial Aid	1,448,296	1,325,848	1,237,140
Operation and Maintenance of Physical Plant	<u>6,164,498</u>	<u>5,652,155</u>	<u>4,756,616</u>
Total Educational and General	41,082,969	39,293,676	32,401,176
Auxiliary Enterprises	<u>4,778,154</u>	<u>4,279,501</u>	<u>2,486,265</u>
Debt Service and Capital Appropriations	<u>4,557,361</u>	<u>4,553,237</u>	<u>3,358,075</u>
TOTAL OPERATING EXPENSES	<u>\$ 50,418,484</u>	<u>\$ 48,126,414</u>	<u>\$ 38,245,516</u>

* Projected Budget

** Approved Budget

SOUTHWESTERN BAPTIST THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY

	<u>2022-2023</u>	<u>2021-2022</u>	<u>2020-2021</u>
Revenue			
Educational & General			
Net Tuition and Fees	\$ 13,112,402	\$ 14,571,000	\$ 13,824,310
Cooperative Program	7,080,000	7,000,000	6,120,000
Private Gifts	3,682,543	2,750,000	1,442,250
Endowment	6,671,000	4,000,000	3,982,143
Other Operating Sources	<u>212,200</u>	<u>400,000</u>	<u>164,500</u>
Total Educational and General Revenue	30,758,145	28,721,000	25,533,203
Total Auxiliary Revenue	<u>6,609,739</u>	<u>5,735,000</u>	<u>4,945,750</u>
Total Revenue	<u>\$ 37,367,884</u>	<u>\$ 34,456,000</u>	<u>\$ 30,478,953</u>
CP as a Percent of Total Income	19%	20%	20%
Expenses			
Academic and Student Services	\$ 17,602,110	\$ 13,500,000	\$ 11,949,570
Institutional Support	10,010,359	10,500,000	9,427,666
Operation of Physical Plant	<u>5,409,900</u>	<u>5,944,265</u>	<u>5,569,483</u>
Total Educational and General Expenses	33,022,369	29,944,265	26,946,718
Total Auxiliary Expenses	3,845,515	4,011,735	3,091,775
Depreciation/Capital Expenses	<u>500,000</u>	<u>500,000</u>	<u>440,459</u>
Total Expenses	<u>\$ 37,367,884</u>	<u>\$ 34,456,000</u>	<u>\$ 30,478,953</u>

ETHICS & RELIGIOUS LIBERTY COMMISSION

	2022/2023	2021/2022	2020/2021
STATEMENT OF INCOME	<u>Projected</u>	<u>Budget</u>	<u>Actual</u>
Cooperative Program	\$ 3,169,155	\$ 3,150,000	\$ 3,169,179
Other Support	74,000	74,000	63,850
Event Related Income	248,000	248,000	10,188
Project and Other Related Income	80,200	80,200	62,417
Reserves (2020/2021)			
PPP (2019/2020)	0	360,000	0
TOTAL	<u>\$ 3,571,355</u>	<u>\$ 3,912,200</u>	<u>\$ 3,305,633</u>
CP as a Percent of Total Income	88.7%	88.7%	95.9%
(not counting reserves/PPP)			

	2022/2023	2021/2022	2020/2021
SUMMARY OF OPERATING BUDGET	<u>Projected</u>	<u>Budget</u>	<u>Actual</u>
Salaries & Benefits	\$ 2,338,270	\$ 2,679,115	\$ 2,476,838
Travel	286,055	286,055	143,249
Executive Office	88,350	88,350	138,833
Events & Strategic Initiatives	343,129	343,129	87,369
Business & Finance	177,120	177,120	157,797
Communications/External Affairs	272,511	272,511	127,838
Public Policy & Research	65,920	65,920	32,788
TOTAL	<u>\$ 3,571,355</u>	<u>\$ 3,912,200</u>	<u>\$ 3,164,712</u>

HISTORICAL LIBRARY & ARCHIVES

	Proposed	Budgeted	Actual
STATEMENT OF INCOME	<u>2022-2023</u>	<u>2021-2022</u>	<u>2020-2021</u>
Cooperative Program	\$ 460,900	\$ 455,500	\$ 462,676
Interest	32,000	31,700	29,670
Microfilm/Duplication	8,000	12,500	9,219
Designated & Miscellaneous	2,100	1,500	2,046
TOTAL INCOME	<u>\$ 503,000</u>	<u>\$ 501,200</u>	<u>\$ 503,611</u>
CP as Percent of Total Income	92%	91%	92%
SUMMARY OF OPERATING BUDGET	<u>2022-2023</u>	<u>2021-2022</u>	<u>2020-2021</u>
Personnel	\$ 368,600	\$ 369,200	\$ 360,086
Office Expenses/Equipment	55,500	60,700	71,012
Outreach/Promotion	6,000	7,000	6,352
Acquisitions	5,500	8,500	4,758
Preservation/Microfilm	15,700	14,400	8,292
Travel/Employee Development	5,700	5,200	2,068
Information Services/Digitization	40,500	30,500	34,211
Contingency/Miscellaneous	3,000	2,700	4,509
Advisory Board	2,500	3,000	0
TOTAL BUDGET/EXPENSES	<u>\$ 503,000</u>	<u>\$ 501,200</u>	<u>\$ 491,288</u>

**FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
OF THE ENTITIES OF THE SOUTHERN BAPTIST CONVENTION
AND THE SOUTHERN BAPTIST CONVENTION OPERATING BUDGET
(Total Assets, Liabilities, and Net Assets for Fiscal Year ended 2021)**

GUIDESTONE FINANCIAL RESOURCES OF THE SOUTHERN BAPTIST CONVENTION, as of
December 31, 2021 (unaudited)

Assets	
Investment in Funds	\$ 18,481,000,000
Notes Receivable from Participants	114,000,000
Other Assets	<u>39,000,000</u>
Total Assets	<u>\$ 18,634,000,000</u>
Liabilities and Net Assets	
Restricted Insurance Reserves	\$ 65,000,000
Other Liabilities	59,000,000
Participant Accumulations & Fund Balances	<u>18,510,000,000</u>
Total Liabilities and Net Assets	<u>\$ 18,634,000,000</u>

In compliance with Article XIII B of the Southern Baptist Convention's Business and Financial Plan, along with the other financial data pertaining to GuideStone Financial Resources for the most recent fiscal year, the chair of GuideStone Financial Resources' board submitted a signed statement attesting that the board's officers confirm the existence of the conditions itemized in subparts 6a through 6c of that article. (See page 192)

INTERNATIONAL MISSION BOARD, as of September 30, 2021

Assets	
Current Assets	\$ 5,507,000
Investments	432,148,000
Investments – Restricted	218,528,000
Property and Equipment	15,940,000
Other Assets	<u>5,475,000</u>
Total Assets	<u>\$ 677,598,000</u>
Liabilities and Net Assets	
Current Liabilities	\$ 11,792,000
Post-retirement Benefit Liability	119,780,000
Net Assets without donor restrictions	322,023,000
Net Assets with donor restrictions	<u>224,003,000</u>
Total Liabilities and Net Assets	<u>\$ 677,598,000</u>

In compliance with Article XIII B of the Southern Baptist Convention's Business and Financial Plan, along with the other financial data pertaining to the International Mission Board for the most recent fiscal year, the chair of the International Mission Board's board submitted a signed statement attesting that the board's officers confirm the existence of the conditions itemized in subparts 6a through 6c of that article. (See page 192)

LIFEWAY CHRISTIAN RESOURCES, as of September 30, 2021

Assets	
Current Assets	\$ 216,225,000
Fixed Assets, net	7,255,000
Other Noncurrent Assets	30,789,000
Total Assets	<u>\$ 254,269,000</u>
Liabilities and Net Assets	
Current Liabilities	\$ 28,481,000
Long-term Liabilities	8,083,000
Post-retirement Benefit Liability	171,487,000
Net Assets without donor restrictions	46,041,000
Net Assets with donor restrictions	177,000
Total Liabilities and Net Assets	<u>\$ 254,269,000</u>

In compliance with Article XIII B of the Southern Baptist Convention's Business and Financial Plan, along with the other financial data pertaining to Lifeway Christian Resources for the most recent fiscal year, the chair of Lifeway Christian Resource's board submitted a signed statement attesting that the board's officers confirm the existence of the conditions itemized in subparts 6a through 6c of that article. (See page 192)

NORTH AMERICAN MISSION BOARD, as of September 30, 2021

Assets	
Current Assets	\$ 2,867,664
Investments	222,645,768
Investments – Restricted	5,482,214
Beneficial Interest in Trusts	66,023,610
Church Loans, net	75,232,484
Property and Equipment	111,592,711
Other Assets	7,354,190
Total Assets	<u>\$ 491,198,641</u>
Liabilities and Net Assets	
Current Liabilities	\$ 9,055,052
Post-retirement Benefit Liability	47,496,306
Net Assets without donor restrictions	353,630,549
Net Assets with donor restrictions	81,016,734
Total Liabilities and Net Assets	<u>\$ 491,198,641</u>

In compliance with Article XIII B of the Southern Baptist Convention's Business and Financial Plan, along with the other financial data pertaining to the North American Mission Board for the most recent fiscal year, the chair of the North American Mission Board's board submitted a signed statement attesting that the board's officers confirm the existence of the conditions itemized in subparts 6a through 6c of that article. (See page 192)

GATEWAY SEMINARY, as of July 31, 2021

Assets	
Current Assets	\$ 6,815,635
Investments	63,185,596
Beneficial Interest in Split Interest Agreements	7,515,591
Property and Equipment	<u>53,242,614</u>
Total Assets	<u>\$ 130,758,436</u>
Liabilities and Net Assets	
Current Liabilities	\$ 1,244,239
Post-retirement Benefit Liability	5,810,066
Net Assets without donor restrictions	90,378,885
Net Assets with donor restrictions	<u>33,325,246</u>
Total Liabilities and Net Assets	<u>\$ 130,758,436</u>

In compliance with Article XIII B of the Southern Baptist Convention's Business and Financial Plan, along with the other financial data pertaining to Gateway Seminary for the most recent fiscal year, the chair of Gateway Seminary's board submitted a signed statement attesting that the board's officers confirm the existence of the conditions itemized in subparts 6a through 6c of that article. (See page 192)

MIDWESTERN BAPTIST THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY, INC., as of July 31, 2021

Assets	
Current Assets	\$ 11,595,817
Investments	18,458,947
Property and Equipment	42,284,591
Beneficial Interest in Perpetual Trusts	<u>328,205</u>
Total Assets	<u>\$ 72,667,560</u>
Liabilities and Net Assets	
Current Liabilities	\$ 3,149,234
Net Assets without donor restrictions	60,426,961
Net Assets with donor restrictions	<u>9,091,365</u>
Total Liabilities and Net Assets	<u>\$ 72,667,560</u>

In compliance with Article XIII B of the Southern Baptist Convention's Business and Financial Plan, along with the other financial data pertaining to Midwestern Baptist Theological Seminary for the most recent fiscal year, the chair of Midwestern Baptist Theological Seminary's board submitted a signed statement attesting that the board's officers confirm the existence of the conditions itemized in subparts 6a through 6c of that article. (See page 192)

NEW ORLEANS BAPTIST THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY, as of July 31, 2021

Assets	
Current Assets	\$ 3,712,574
Investments	84,458,403
Investments – Held in Trust	3,428,953
Property and Equipment	<u>17,874,535</u>
Total Assets	<u>\$ 109,474,465</u>
Liabilities and Net Assets	
Current Liabilities	\$ 1,698,275
Net Assets without donor restrictions	42,709,673
Net Assets with donor restrictions	<u>65,066,517</u>
Total Liabilities and Net Assets	<u>\$ 109,474,465</u>

In compliance with Article XIII B of the Southern Baptist Convention's Business and Financial Plan, along with the other financial data pertaining to New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary for the most recent fiscal year, the chair of New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary's board submitted a signed statement attesting that the board's officers confirm the existence of the conditions itemized in subparts 6a through 6c of that article. (See page 192)

SOUTHEASTERN BAPTIST THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY, as of July 31, 2021

Assets	
Current Assets	\$ 21,744,263
Investments	40,765,714
Beneficial interest in split interest agreements	7,357,190
Property and Equipment	<u>35,298,685</u>
Total Assets	<u>\$ 105,165,852</u>
Liabilities and Net Assets	
Current Liabilities	\$ 3,204,895
Post-retirement Benefit Liability	12,332,032
Loan Payable	3,509,900
Net Assets without donor restrictions	35,735,133
Net Assets with donor restrictions	<u>50,383,892</u>
Total Liabilities and Net Assets	<u>\$ 105,165,852</u>

In compliance with Article XIII B of the Southern Baptist Convention's Business and Financial Plan, along with the other financial data pertaining to Southeastern Baptist Theological Seminary for the most recent fiscal year, the chair of Southeastern Baptist Theological Seminary's board submitted a signed statement attesting that the board's officers confirm the existence of the conditions itemized in subparts 6a through 6c of that article. (See page 192)

SOUTHERN BAPTIST THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY, as of July 31, 2021

Assets	
Current Assets	\$ 45,134,286
Investments	90,053,292
Investments – Held in Trust	28,219,642
Property and Equipment	61,653,189
Other assets	<u>519,338</u>
Total Assets	<u>\$ 225,579,747</u>
Liabilities and Net Assets	
Current Liabilities	\$ 8,094,274
Notes Payable	19,426,763
Post-retirement Benefit Liability	4,813,092
Net Assets without donor restrictions	83,124,802
Net Assets with donor restrictions	<u>110,120,816</u>
Total Liabilities and Net Assets	<u>\$ 225,579,747</u>

In compliance with Article XIII B of the Southern Baptist Convention's Business and Financial Plan, along with the other financial data pertaining to the Southern Baptist Theological Seminary for the most recent fiscal year, the chair of the Southern Baptist Theological Seminary's board submitted a signed statement attesting that the board's officers confirm the existence of the conditions itemized in subparts 6a through 6c of that article. (See page 192)

SOUTHWESTERN BAPTIST THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY, as of July 31, 2021

Assets	
Current Assets	\$ 7,675,803
Investments	1,397,602
Investments – Restricted	166,996,723
Property and Equipment	130,649,704
Other Assets	<u>603,476</u>
Total Assets	<u>\$ 307,323,308</u>
Liabilities and Net Assets	
Current Liabilities	\$ 3,312,649
Post-retirement Benefit Liability	1,327,445
Notes Payable	16,280,384
Liability Under Annuity Contracts	11,620,565
Net Assets without donor restrictions	110,687,488
Net Assets with donor restrictions	<u>164,094,777</u>
Total Liabilities and Net Assets	<u>\$ 307,323,308</u>

In compliance with Article XIII B of the Southern Baptist Convention's Business and Financial Plan, along with the other financial data pertaining to Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary for the most recent fiscal year, the chair of Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary's board submitted a signed statement attesting that the board's officers confirm the existence of the conditions itemized in subparts 6a through 6c of that article. (See page 192)

SOUTHERN BAPTIST HISTORICAL LIBRARY AND ARCHIVES, as of July 31, 2021

Assets	
Current/Other Assets	\$ 197,630
Investments	1,133,171
Property and Equipment	<u>918,850</u>
Total Assets	<u>\$ 2,249,651</u>
Liabilities and Net Assets	
Current Liabilities	\$ 24,500
Post-retirement Benefit Liability	451,001
Net Assets without donor restrictions	1,703,442
Net Assets with donor restrictions	<u>70,708</u>
Total Liabilities and Net Assets	<u>\$ 2,249,651</u>

In compliance with Article XIII B of the Southern Baptist Convention's Business and Financial Plan, along with the other financial data pertaining to the Southern Baptist Historical Library and Archives for the most recent fiscal year, the chair of the Southern Baptist Historical Library and Archive's board submitted a signed statement attesting that the board's officers confirm the existence of the conditions itemized in subparts 6a through 6c of that article. (See page 192)

ETHICS & RELIGIOUS LIBERTY COMMISSION, as of September 30, 2021

Assets	
Current/Other Assets	\$ 1,336,126
Investments	1,845,187
Property and Equipment	498,480
Total Assets	<u>\$ 3,679,793</u>
Liabilities and Net Assets	
Current Liabilities	\$ 152,550
Post-retirement Benefit Liability	402,760
Net Assets without donor restrictions	2,350,593
Net Assets with donor restrictions	773,890
Total Liabilities and Net Assets	<u>\$ 3,679,793</u>

In compliance with Article XIII B of the Southern Baptist Convention's Business and Financial Plan, along with the other financial data pertaining to the Ethics & Religious Liberty Commission for the most recent fiscal year, the chair of the Ethics & Religious Liberty Commission's board submitted a signed statement attesting that the board's officers confirm the existence of the conditions itemized in subparts 6a through 6c of that article. (See page 192)

SBC EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE AND SOUTHERN BAPTIST CONVENTION OPERATING BUDGET, as of September 30, 2021

Assets	
Current Assets	\$ 1,653,057
Investments	16,362,862
Property and Equipment	3,180,588
Other Assets	1,647,527
Total Assets	<u>\$ 22,844,034</u>
Liabilities and Net Assets	
Current Liabilities	\$ 4,226,416
Post-retirement Benefit Liability	3,714,888
Net Assets without donor restrictions	12,202,204
Net Assets with donor restrictions	2,700,526
Total Liabilities and Net Assets	<u>\$ 22,844,034</u>

In compliance with Article XIII B of the Southern Baptist Convention's Business and Financial Plan, along with the other financial data pertaining to the SBC Executive Committee of the Southern Baptist Convention for the most recent fiscal year, the chair of the SBC Executive Committee of the Southern Baptist Convention's board submitted a signed statement attesting that the board's officers confirm the existence of the conditions itemized in subparts 6a through 6c of that article. (See page 192)

**Summary of Compliance of Section XIII B6
of the Southern Baptist Convention's Business and Financial Plan**

The statements of the chairs of each entity's board confirming that the officers of their board can attest to the matters prescribed by Section XIII B6 of the Business and Financial Plan have been received by the Executive Committee. (Editor's note: See the provisions of the pertinent section at page 192)

Contributions by State

Cooperative Program Allocation Budget Receipts
Southern Baptist Convention Executive Committee
October 1, 2020 - September 30, 2021

Contribution Sources	2020-2021	2019-2020	% Change
Alabama	19,115,014.76	18,596,427.36	2.79
Alaska	123,945.24	120,235.87	3.09
Arizona	1,375,253.39	1,231,350.89	11.69
Arkansas	9,461,353.51	9,416,297.23	0.48
California	2,277,035.45	1,801,279.45	26.41
Colorado	727,688.78	682,976.94	6.55
Dakota	104,866.48	116,842.61	(10.25)
Florida	15,184,241.21	14,427,772.94	5.24
Georgia	15,430,284.18	15,983,266.99	(3.46)
Hawaii Pacific	220,187.49	259,825.75	(15.26)
Illinois	2,023,916.41	2,308,052.15	(12.31)
Indiana	732,731.60	796,379.48	(7.99)
Iowa	575,831.79	424,478.00	35.66
Kansas-Nebraska	846,529.43	806,970.87	4.90
Kentucky	9,910,704.05	9,676,637.91	2.42
Louisiana	6,430,488.50	6,492,679.97	(0.96)
Maryland-Delaware	1,536,506.97	1,607,542.66	(4.42)
Michigan	351,406.14	325,469.05	7.97
Minnesota-Wisconsin	266,389.43	241,587.13	10.27
Mississippi	11,148,905.22	12,020,666.93	(7.25)
Missouri	5,876,671.32	5,906,463.01	(0.50)
Montana	190,176.75	188,487.33	0.90
Nevada	421,356.56	461,129.54	(8.63)
New England	207,954.36	201,281.12	3.32
New Mexico	961,998.94	1,067,236.08	(9.86)
New York	225,480.65	248,169.41	(9.14)
North Carolina	11,761,700.33	11,549,062.67	1.84
Northwest	561,388.23	588,066.08	(4.54)
Ohio	2,088,471.75	2,445,763.98	(14.61)
Oklahoma	10,320,739.39	10,147,706.26	1.71
Pennsylvania-South Jersey	312,056.24	310,237.93	0.59
Puerto Rico/Virgin Islands	9,704.85	11,112.17	(12.66)
South Carolina	10,856,098.82	10,809,812.38	0.43
Tennessee	14,190,756.48	15,854,334.59	(10.49)
Texas - BGCT	9,876,346.22	9,892,609.32	(0.16)
Texas - SBTC	15,620,847.90	14,504,293.35	7.70
Utah - Idaho	241,501.09	231,996.01	4.10
Virginia - BGAV	884,433.27	855,545.87	3.38
Virginia - SBCV	4,772,092.04	4,595,757.52	3.84
West Virginia	488,398.53	492,602.20	(0.85)
Wyoming	64,468.44	108,228.69	(40.43)
Subtotal	187,775,922.19	187,806,635.69	(0.02)
Churches & Individuals	4,495,514.09	5,094,215.49	(11.75)
Grand Total:	\$ 192,271,436.28	\$ 192,900,851.18	(0.33)

2020-2021 Disbursements
Southern Baptist Convention Executive Committee

	Cooperative Program Allocation Budget	Percent of CP	Designated	Percent of Designated	Total Gifts	Percent of Total
International Mission Board	\$ 96,823,210	50.41%	\$ 129,024,045	67.61%	\$ 225,847,255	58.99%
North American Mission Board	43,773,080	22.79%	60,816,244	31.86%	104,589,324	27.31%
Gateway Seminary	3,739,988	1.95%	27,538	0.01%	3,767,526	0.98%
Midwestern Seminary	7,282,775	3.79%	45,640	0.02%	7,328,415	1.91%
New Orleans Seminary	6,747,844	3.51%	41,823	0.02%	6,789,667	1.77%
Southeastern Seminary	7,204,576	3.75%	53,089	0.03%	7,257,665	1.90%
Southern Seminary	10,148,966	5.28%	68,502	0.04%	10,217,468	2.67%
Southwestern Seminary	6,977,910	3.63%	121,734	0.06%	7,099,644	1.85%
Historical Library and Archives	460,971	0.24%	2,042	0.00%	463,013	0.12%
Ethics & Religious Liberty Commission	3,169,179	1.65%	12,513	0.01%	3,181,692	0.83%
GuideStone Financial Resources	-	0.00%	38,677	0.02%	38,677	0.01%
SBC Executive Committee and SBC Operating	5,742,937	3.00%	606,423	0.32%	6,349,360	1.66%
Total Cooperative Program Allocations	\$ 192,071,436	100.00%	\$ 190,858,270	100.00%	\$ 382,929,706	100.00%
SBC Executive Committee Vision 2025	200,000		0		\$ 200,000	
TOTAL	\$ 192,271,436		\$ 190,858,270		\$ 383,129,706	

SBC EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATIONS TO THE SOUTHERN BAPTIST CONVENTION

Recommendation 1: Amendment of SBC Constitution, Article V, Section 2, Regarding Officer Election – Final Vote

The Southern Baptist Convention Executive Committee recommends the Southern Baptist Convention meeting in Anaheim, California, June 14–15, 2022, act in the final of the required two consecutive annual meeting approval to amend SBC Constitution Article V, Section 2, regarding officer election to be effective upon the adjournment of the 2022 annual meeting as follows:

(Addition of text is indicated by underline, and deletion of text is indicated by ~~strikethrough~~.)

Article V. Officers

2. The officers shall be elected annually and shall hold office until their successors are elected and qualified. The term of office for the president is limited to two (2) years, and a president shall not be eligible for re-election until as much as one (1) year has elapsed from the time a successor is named. ~~The first vice president shall be voted upon and elected after the election of the president has taken place, and the second vice president shall be voted upon and elected after the election of the first vice president has taken place.~~ No person may simultaneously be a candidate for two offices.

The final amended version would read as follows:

Article V. Officers

2. The officers shall be elected annually and shall hold office until their successors are elected and qualified. The term of office for the president is limited to two (2) years, and a president shall not be eligible for re-election until as much as one (1) year has elapsed from the time a successor is named. No person may simultaneously be a candidate for two offices.

Recommendation 2: 2022-2023 SBC Cooperative Program Allocation Budget

The Southern Baptist Convention Executive Committee recommends the Southern Baptist Convention meeting in Anaheim, California, June 14-15, 2022, adopt the 2022-2023 SBC Cooperative Program Allocation Budget in the amount of \$192,270,000 as follows:

2022-2023 SBC CP ALLOCATION BUDGET PROPOSAL

	Proposed 2022-2023 Budget <u>Allocation</u>	Proposed 2022-2023 % of Total <u>Allocation</u>
<u>World Mission Ministries</u>		
International Mission Board	\$ 96,822,487	50.41%
North American Mission Board	<u>43,772,753</u>	<u>22.79%</u>
Total: World Missions Ministries	<u>140,595,240</u>	<u>73.20%</u>
<u>Theological Education Ministries</u>		
Seminaries:		
Gateway	3,500,329	1.82%
Midwestern	7,920,926	4.12%
New Orleans	6,686,689	3.48%
Southeastern	7,027,175	3.66%
Southern	10,406,160	5.42%
Southwestern	<u>6,560,465</u>	<u>3.42%</u>
Total Seminaries	42,101,744	21.92%
Historical Library and Archives	<u>460,968</u>	<u>0.24%</u>
Total: Theological Education Ministries	<u>42,562,712</u>	<u>22.16%</u>
<u>Christian Ethics & Religious Liberty Ministries</u>		
Ethics & Religious Liberty Commission	<u>3,169,155</u>	<u>1.65%</u>
<u>Facilitating Ministries</u>		
GuideStone Financial Resources	0	0.00%
SBCEC & SBC Operating Budget	<u>5,742,893</u>	<u>2.99%</u>
Total: Facilitating Ministries	<u>5,742,893</u>	<u>2.99%</u>
<u>Church Enrichment Ministries</u>		
Lifeway Christian Resources	<u>0</u>	<u>0.00%</u>
Total: 2020-2021 Program Allocation Budget	\$ <u>192,070,000</u>	<u>100.00%</u>
Special Priority Allocation:		
SBC Vision 2025 Initiative	\$ <u>200,000</u>	
Total	\$ <u>192,270,000</u>	

Any overage of gifts received above the Cooperative Program Allocation Budget will be distributed to the distributees in accord with the percentages approved for them in the Cooperative Program Allocation Budget, and that such a distribution of overage continue until duly amended.

Recommendation 3: 2022-2023 SBC Executive Committee and SBC Operating Budget

The Southern Baptist Convention Executive Committee recommends the Southern Baptist Convention meeting in Anaheim, California, June 14-15, 2022, adopt the 2022-2023 SBC Executive Committee and SBC Operating Budget in the amount of \$8,335,000, as follows:

SBC EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE AND SBC OPERATING BUDGET SUMMARY

	Proposed Budget	Budget	Actual
	<u>2022-2023***</u>	<u>2021-2022**</u>	<u>2020-2021*</u>
I. STATEMENT OF INCOME			
Cooperative Program	\$ 5,742,893	\$ 5,675,020	\$ 5,742,937
Designations	260,000	260,000	258,061
Lifeway Christian Resources	-	-	-
Interest/Dividends	540,000	558,000	2,262,499
Global Relations	-	356,800	356,948
Vision 2025	200,000	200,000	200,000
Cost Recovery (Annual Meeting, SBC Life, etc.)	1,380,000	1,340,000	1,561,754
Other Income	<u>212,107</u>	<u>210,180</u>	<u>580,381</u>
TOTAL INCOME	<u>\$ 8,335,000</u>	<u>\$ 8,600,000</u>	<u>\$ 10,962,580</u>
II. SUMMARY OPERATING BUDGET	<u>2022-2023***</u>	<u>2021-2022**</u>	<u>2020-2021*</u>
Convention Administration Expenses			
SBC General Operations		\$ 622,300	\$ 623,712
-- Global Evangelical Relations			
SBC Committees		110,000	38,680
SBC Annual Meeting		1,000,000	1,780,027
SBC Building Management		<u>847,700</u>	<u>811,235</u>
SUBTOTAL	<u>\$ 2,500,500</u>	<u>\$ 2,580,000</u>	<u>\$ 3,253,655</u>
Executive Committee Operations Expenses			
Administration & Financial Operations		\$ 1,867,290	\$ 2,504,729
Strategic Leadership Development		542,761	354,904
Executive Committee Meetings		250,000	794,758
Great Commission Relations & Mobilization		1,593,500	1,492,003
Convention Communications		1,766,449	2,027,216
Other Designated Expenditures			<u>414,177</u>
SUBTOTAL	<u>\$ 5,834,500</u>	<u>\$ 6,020,000</u>	<u>\$ 7,587,788</u>
Other non-cash year-end adjustments			
TOTAL EXPENSES	<u>\$ 8,335,000</u>	<u>\$ 8,600,000</u>	<u>\$ 10,841,443</u>

* Source: Actual 2020-2021 Year-End Financial Statements

** Source: SBC Operating Budget approved September 2021

*** Source: Estimates for 2022-2023 based on projected income

Recommendation 4: North American Mission Board: Request for Approval of Ministry Statement Amendment

The Southern Baptist Convention Executive Committee recommends the Southern Baptist Convention meeting in Anaheim, California, June 14-15, 2022, amend the mission statement and ministry statements of the North American Mission Board be amended as follows:

(Addition of text is indicated by underline.)

NORTH AMERICAN MISSION BOARD
of the Southern Baptist Convention

MISSION

The North American Mission Board exists to work with churches, associations and state conventions in mobilizing Southern Baptists as a missional force to impact North America with the Gospel of Jesus Christ through evangelism and church planting.

MINISTRIES

1. **Assist churches in planting healthy, multiplying, evangelistic Southern Baptist churches in the United States and Canada; and provide specialized, defined and agreed upon assistance to the International Mission Board in assisting churches to plant churches for specific groups outside the United States and Canada.**

Work in partnership with churches, associations, and state conventions, and the International Mission Board to start new congregations with a priority to reach population centers and underserved people groups; lead a missional movement to encourage Southern Baptist churches to become church planting congregations.

2. **Assist churches in the ministries of evangelism and making disciples.**

Equip Southern Baptists for faithful evangelism; encourage churches in evangelism and discipleship; implement direct evangelism projects; prioritize spiritual awakening; develop an evangelism strategy for reaching North America with the Gospel.

3. **Assist churches by appointing, supporting and assuring accountability for missionaries serving in the United States and Canada.**

Appoint, approve, support and supervise missionaries assigned to accomplish the ministries of NAMB; endorse chaplains; enlist and assist bi-vocational ministers in mission service.

4. **Assist churches by providing missions education and coordinating volunteer missions opportunities for church members.**

Develop organizations, services, and materials for establishing, enlarging, and improving missions and ministry learning and involvement experiences in churches; assist in volunteer mission involvement.

5. **Assist churches by providing leadership development.**

Equip pastors for effective congregational leadership, contextual evangelism, and church planting; connect pastors to pastors through leadership development; encourage pastors as they serve in diverse congregational settings.

6. **Assist churches in relief ministries to victims of disaster and other people in need.**

Provide appropriate assistance and coordination in service to state Baptist conventions, when multi-state and national disaster responses are needed; coordinate with federal

government as well as national disaster relief entities to ensure good response coordination on behalf of Southern Baptist Disaster Relief; direct and assist Christian social ministries.

7. Assist churches in reaching and mobilizing college and university students in the United States and Canada.

Promote the advancement of college and university ministry efforts in evangelism, discipleship, churchmanship, leadership development, and missions mobilization through collaborative partnerships.

The final amended version would read as follows:

NORTH AMERICAN MISSION BOARD
of the Southern Baptist Convention

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Promote the advancement of college and university ministry efforts in evangelism, discipleship, churchmanship, leadership development, and missions mobilization through collaborative partnerships.



901 Commerce Street, Suite 600, Nashville, Tennessee 37203

WILLIE McLAURIN, Interim Chair

WARREN PEEK, President

*“...Serving Him together, shoulder to shoulder.”
Zephaniah 3:9*

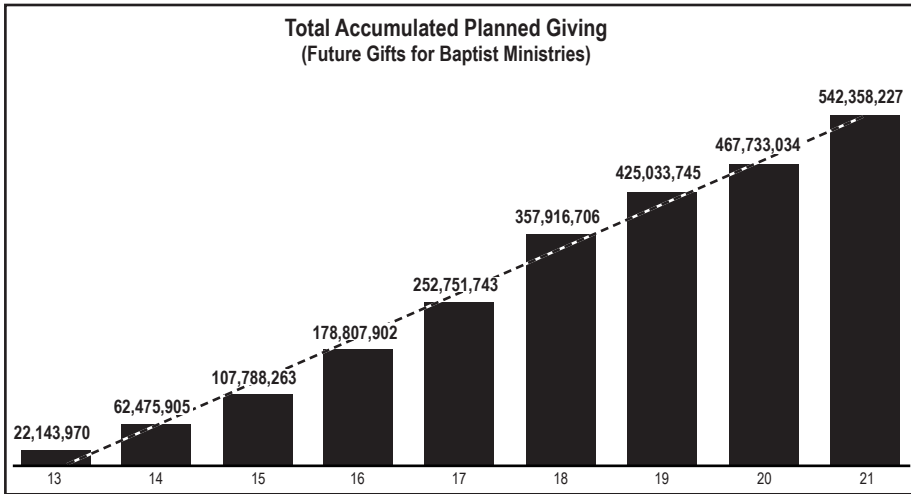
The Southern Baptist Foundation is celebrating its 75th anniversary! This milestone was reached only because of God’s continued blessings and the partnership we have with our wonderful clients. Believers stepped out in faith 75 years ago to establish the Foundation to help manage and distribute donations that strengthen Southern Baptist ministries and we are honored to continue what they started.

The Foundation provides services that enable individuals and families the opportunity to accumulate and preserve wealth, shelter estates from paying more taxes than necessary, and make both temporal and eternal impact through generosity. Over \$5 billion has been distributed since our inception. The Foundation is committed to serving your vision, your mission, and your values as we continue to follow the Great Commission. We are ready to assist in discerning God’s purposes for the resources He has entrusted to you, provide counsel about the most effective planning techniques to achieve these goals, and assist you in the completion of these plans.

It is clear throughout the Bible that we are to give generously. In the book of Exodus, we see the Israelites generously giving materials and time to build the tabernacle. Move forward in the Bible and in Malachi 3:10-12, giving is the one thing God tells us to test him in. In the New Testament, God gave us His only Son because He loves us so much and that Son died on a cross for us. “For God so loved the world that He gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in Him shall not perish but have eternal life” John 3:16.

We understand that generosity is one of the greatest acts of worship. For believers, giving is more than a financial act. When faith and finances align, the multiplying power of generosity transforms the world. That is why the Foundation offers a full range of estate planning services to assist believers in providing for their families and supporting Christian organizations either during one’s lifetime or by will. Our team of legal and financial experts will ensure that your customized giving strategy meets your objectives. Nothing gives us greater joy than helping individuals and families discern the purposes and goals God has laid on their hearts and then developing a plan to fulfill those goals.

The Foundation’s estate planning initiative formally launched in 2013 and continues to be incredibly successful. Through this program, the Foundation has been able to consult with over 2,800 different individuals and families. Over \$540 million in future gifts will be generated for Baptist causes through these estate plans.



Believers integrating biblical stewardship in their financial lives can transform the world and estate giving can have a powerful impact for God's kingdom. If only 10% of the more than two million Southern Baptists who are currently over age 65 (about 202,000) tithed from their estates to SBC Great Commission causes, the Convention would receive an additional \$5 billion for kingdom purposes over the next 20 years. The eternal value of the number of new missionaries sent and people engaged for the Gospel is beyond measure.

We believe that every Christian should have the opportunity to participate in quality estate planning as an act of stewardship. Our desire is that the resources and services offered by the Southern Baptist Foundation bring glory to our Lord and result in the advancement of His kingdom. Can you imagine the impact if God's people developed plans that resulted in releasing billions of dollars to kingdom work in the next generation?

We also provide high-impact, biblically-responsible investing that supports Christian entities and ministries. Our prudent, socially-screened investment funds deliver long-term results that are consistent with our spiritual mandate. We invite everyone to compare the performance of their investments with those of the Foundation. Our clients know that by partnering with the Foundation, we are transforming the world together through biblical stewardship.

2021 was indeed a rollercoaster ride as the pandemic continued to touch almost every area of our lives. On the bright side, there have been – and continue to be – many opportunities for kingdom impact. The Southern Baptist Foundation was blessed with a strong year and we praise God for this. We pledge to continue to seek God's wisdom as we make decisions regarding the investments and management of assets placed with us. Thank you for your confidence shown to us each day; we count it a privilege and a joy to serve God and all Southern Baptists—serving Christ together for 75 years!

GENERAL BOARDS

One Hundred and Fourth Annual Report



GuideStone®

Financial Resources

5005 LBJ Freeway, Suite 2200, Dallas, Texas 75244

JOHN HOYCHICK, JR., Chair

D. HANCE DILBECK, JR., President and Chief Executive Officer

INTRODUCTION

2021 was the “Year of Beginning Again” for GuideStone. 2021 was just that for many of our churches, learning to adapt to the COVID-19 pandemic. It was a time of reinvention in the way we carry out the business of ministry as our team transitioned fully to a hybrid working environment, working some in the office and some remotely. It was a year of beginning again with our transition of leadership for the President and Chief Executive Officer. In beginning again, we found four components that we were to consider: our privilege, our purpose, our potential, and our passions.

It is difficult to overstate the year for Mission:Dignity— more than \$11 million was given by more than 10,000 donors. The total donors and total amounts given were records. More than 2,500 individuals (66% are widows) from more than 1,900 households received assistance, which is an increase of 85 households, or 5%, year-over-year. We give thanks to the Lord for His provision through His people— foundations, faithful individuals, Sunday school classes, and local churches that have captured His vision to care for retired pastors and their widows.

Despite continued anxiety about inflation and renewed COVID concerns with the appearance of the Omicron variant, the S&P 500® Index posted its seventh consecutive quarter of gains, finishing the fourth quarter up 11.03%. Negative performance in November was offset by strong gains in October and December. Seasonality and robust earnings were the primary drivers of market movement during the quarter and served to lift equities to multiple, all-time highs over the most recent three-month period. The S&P 500® closed up 28.58% for the year, hitting 70 all-time highs in 2021— the second-most ever in a calendar year.

Volatile world events on top of an election year produced higher market volatility and lower market returns than was the consensus prediction for 2022. These anticipated headwinds include tighter monetary policy, lower fiscal stimulus, and less robust earnings and economic growth, with each of these challenges potentially having a negative impact on investor sentiment. Together, a combination of these and other catalysts, including sticky inflationary pressures and potentially higher taxes, could create a difficult environment for returns next year.

Under the leadership of Dr. Chu Soh, chief insurance officer, 2021 also brought expanded product offerings for our customers. More than 20 new products were added, including richer plans as a response to certain group needs and more affordable medical options. This significant cross-functional effort involving multiple systems and vendors tackled seven times the products added from the prior year.

Beginning in 2021, state convention retirement contributions are no longer made monthly. Instead, state conventions may elect to make a one-time, discretionary contribution to participants’ Church Retirement Plan before the end of the year based on eligibility requirements as determined by each state convention. During the 4th quarter, the Pre-Retirement team

worked with our state conventions to successfully implement and support this new annual discretionary contribution process.

2021 saw the launch of “The Prayer Code: 40 Scripture Prayers Every Believer Should Pray” (also available in Spanish as “La Clave De la Oración: 40 oraciones de las Escrituras que cada creyente debería orar”). The twelfth book in the best-selling Code series helps pastors, Bible study leaders, and individuals walk through the truths found in some of the most-loved prayers found on the pages of Scripture. About 3 million copies of the Code series of books have been sold with all author royalties and proceeds benefiting Mission:Dignity. 2022 will see the launch of “The Promise Code: 40 Bible Promises Every Believer Should Know.”

PROGRAM REPORT

The Program of Management of Retirement Accounts

The Program of Management of Retirement Accounts has as its objective making available retirement plans for all ministers and all other full-time Southern Baptist denominational workers. The objective is accomplished through a combination of plans.

Following is the statistical report of the retirement plans as of December 31, 2021.

Church Retirement Plan – At the end of 2021 there were 17,382 active churches with a total of 49,229 active participants.

403(b)(9) Retirement Plan – A total of 437 agencies and institutions provided retirement plans for their employees. A total of 39,384 employees comprise active participation in these agencies’ plans.

Ministers and Chaplains Plan – The Ministers and Chaplains Plans enrolled 25 during the year.

Qualified Plans – GuideStone Financial Resources provides IRC 401(a) qualified plans as an alternative for use by Southern Baptist Convention organizations when IRC 403(b) approaches do not meet their needs. This includes 401(a) defined benefit and 401(k) defined contribution plans. At the end of the year, there were five qualified plan employers serving 77 active participants.

Voluntary Retirement Plan – The Voluntary Retirement Plan records 717 participants with an account balance at the close of 2021.

Retirement Income Paid to Participants

The heart of GuideStone’s ministry is our recipients. Annuity benefits were paid to 23,508 participants/beneficiaries in 2021. Systematic withdrawal payments were paid to 18,807 participants.

The Program of Ministers’ Financial Assistance

Since 1918, GuideStone has been on a mission to help retired ministers and denominational workers, as well as their spouses and widows live with dignity in their retirement years. The Mission:Dignity ministry is at the heart of that endeavor. Over 60% of Mission:Dignity recipients are widows of pastors and one in four is over the age of 85.

Individuals who meet guidelines for income, assets, and 10 or more years of paid Southern Baptist service are eligible for \$225 per month if single, or \$300 per month if married. Applicants who meet the additional guidelines of poverty-level income and 25 or more years of ministerial service are eligible for \$450 per month if single, or \$600 per month if married. These amounts will increase in 2022.

Mission:Dignity assisted a total of 1,955 households in 2021. A total of \$8,834,237 was paid out in financial assistance in 2021, compared to \$8,072,459 in 2020. Mission:Dignity granted \$1,309,185 in one time Emergency Grants in 2021. Christmas gift checks of \$400, a tradition since 1945, were mailed to eligible recipients in early December.

Donations from churches and individuals provide the funding for the Mission:Dignity program. Fully 100% of direct annual gifts received by GuideStone Financial Resources is used to provide financial assistance to retirees in need and is not utilized for any of GuideStone's operating expenses or overhead.

The Program of Insurance Plans and Related Services

GuideStone Financial Resources administers an insurance program that includes life, long-term disability, personal accident, accidental death and dismemberment, and medical coverage for employees of churches and agencies, and products for seminary students.

The following is the 2021 statistical report of the insurance plans (excludes non-Southern Baptist entities):

Life Claims – \$20,012,725

Disability Claims – \$6,974,815

Dental Claims – \$11,186,526

Medical claims (including pharmacy) – \$255,545,495

Personal Plans:

Personal Plans Employee Term Life Plans – A total of 13,710 members actively participated on December 31, 2021, a decrease of 752 since the same time last year.

Personal Plans Disability Plans – A total of 1,008 members participated in the Short-Term Disability Plans and 4,056 members participated in the Long-Term Disability Plans.

Personal Plans Medical Plans – Members covered totaled 5,154, a decrease of 356 since the same time last year.

Personal Plans Supplemental AD&D Plan – Members covered totaled 2,272.

Personal Plans Accidental Death and Dismemberment – Members covered totaled 5,123.

Personal Plans Dental – Members covered totaled 7,303.

Premium Waiver – The Personal Plans employee life plans had 200 members.

Group Plans:

Group Plans Employee Term Life Plans – A total of 29,169 members were covered on December 31, 2021, an increase of 81 since the same time last year.

Group Plans Medical Plans – A total of 19,021 members were covered.

Group Plans Dental Plan – A total of 9,304 members were covered in a dental plan.

Group Plans Disability Plan – A total of 1,930 members participated in the Short-Term Disability Plans, and 11,147 members participated in the Long-Term Disability Plans.

Group Plans Supplemental AD&D Plan – Members covered totaled 3,731.

Group Plans Accidental Death and Dismemberment Plan – Members covered totaled 7,771.

Premium Waiver – The Group Plans employee life plans had 191 members.

Property and Casualty Insurance Program

The GuideStone Property and Casualty Program provides broad property and casualty coverages for eligible Southern Baptist churches and entities. Those coverages include property and liability, worker's compensation, commercial auto, and foreign missions and travel. An important aspect of the program is providing ministry protection education and resources for churches and ministries. The related distribution affiliate, GuideStone Agency Services, now serves over 1,780 clients with a premium volume of over \$48 million at the end of 2021.

MATTERS REFERRED BY THE CONVENTION

The Convention referred the following items to GuideStone Financial Resources during the Annual Meeting of the Southern Baptist Convention in Nashville, Tennessee, June 15–16, 2021, for consideration, action, and report back to the next annual meeting.

1. SBC Referral: To request Convention entities to examine the use of non-disclosure agreements (Items 75 and 102, Proceedings of the Southern Baptist Convention, June 15-16, 2021, *SBC Annual*, p. 75, 83)

Motion: Brad Patterson, Texas

“That the Southern Baptist Convention request each entity to examine its use of non-disclosure agreements and report its findings to the messengers of the 2022 annual meeting of the Southern Baptist Convention in Anaheim, California, reporting said findings with particular attention to three areas: what is biblical justification for the use of non-disclosure agreements; how many non-disclosure agreements have been signed or agreed to in the last five years; and if non-disclosure agreements have been utilized, for what specific purposes were they utilized?”

Response: GuideStone provides its products and services in a competitive setting and engages in standard commercial practices with its vendors, suppliers, and the ministries it serves. Non-Disclosure Agreements (NDAs) are commonly required to protect confidential participant data or proprietary business information. GuideStone is often required to agree to an NDA when negotiating with vendors for goods and services. GuideStone often uses NDAs in contract negotiations to protect information that is required by law to be kept confidential. In the last five years, GuideStone has entered into 114 NDAs exclusively in connection with agreements with vendors, suppliers, or the ministry organizations GuideStone serves. GuideStone biblically justifies its use of NDAs as a necessary tool in the current economic environment to satisfy its responsibility as a good steward of the resources and obligations committed to its ministry. (Psalm 24:1; Colossians 3:23-24).

2. SBC Referral: To request that entities conduct certain audits and disclose financial details (Items 78 and 102, Proceedings of the Southern Baptist Convention, June 15-16, 2021, *SBC Annual*, p. 76, 83)

Motion: Rick Hillard, Kentucky

“That the Southern Baptist Convention request beginning in 2023 that every 5 years each entity of the Southern Baptist Convention takes the steps needed to undergo a holistic and complete audit with specific disclosure of all details made public to any Southern Baptist no later than 30 days prior to the coinciding year’s annual meeting.

Response: GuideStone is committed to financial integrity and throughout its history has annually provided the Southern Baptist Convention with the results of an independent audit of its financial statements. GuideStone currently offers its products and services through a complex organizational structure due to numerous legal, regulatory, and tax considerations. GuideStone conducts its operations using several affiliated corporate entities, all of which were approved in accordance with the Southern Baptist Constitution during the last twenty years. Similar to other banks, financial institutions, and market participants, GuideStone’s fiscal year ends on December 31. Year-end accounting of benefits, claims information, and other financial results requires approximately four weeks to complete after the end of each fiscal year and are reported on a consolidated financial statement. GuideStone’s Board of Trustees has delegated to its Audit Committee the responsibility to provide oversight of the preparation of GuideStone’s financial statements and its internal and external audit functions.

The Audit Committee annually selects an external auditor to perform an independent audit of GuideStone's consolidated financial statements. GuideStone's current independent auditor is PricewaterhouseCoopers, one of the largest accounting firms in the world. The complexity of GuideStone's organization requires substantial effort by our external auditor to plan, perform, and report on the results of an audit plan that requires testing millions of dollars in transactions, valuing billions of dollars of assets, and requires several months to complete. The results of the independent audit, therefore, are not available 30 days in advance of an SBC Annual Meeting. GuideStone's consolidated financial statements; however, along with the results of GuideStone's independent audits, are published each year in the SBC Annual as they have been since 1920.

One Hundred Seventy-Sixth Annual Report

3806 Monument Avenue, Richmond, Virginia 23230

CHUCK POURCIAU, Chair
PAUL CHITWOOD, President

INTRODUCTION

The Lord blessed His people with a vision of His throne in heaven, and that vision is IMB's vision: A multitude from every nation, tribe, people, and language knowing and worshipping our Lord Jesus Christ (Revelation 7:9-10). He has given us a foretaste of His victory through this vision! We find hope in this vision and we find purpose in this vision. And we praise the Lord for allowing us to work in His task, telling all we reach with the good news of His great redeeming love. As it is written in Isaiah 52:7, "How beautiful are the feet of those who preach the good news!"

For 176 years, Southern Baptists have sent missionaries to proclaim the Gospel of hope among the nations through the International Mission Board. In fact, IMB's very mission is to serve Southern Baptists in carrying out the Great Commission to make disciples of all nations. Together, we get to be part of the most important work in the entire universe.

While Southern Baptists work in nearly every country of the world, the IMB prioritizes getting the Gospel to those who have yet to hear. Some have claimed that only 3% of all missionaries and 1% of all mission dollars are used among the unreached. That can never be said of IMB missionaries nor can that be said of Southern Baptists' generous gifts through the Cooperative Program (CP) and the Lottie Moon Christmas Offering® (LMCO). I'm pleased to report that 91% of IMB missionary teams are engaging unreached people groups and the overwhelming majority of IMB financial resources are spent among the unreached.

That is especially important right now with our world in the shape it is in. These have been difficult days. With deaths related to COVID-19 continuing to mount across the U.S. and around the world, and with death and the fear of death paralyzing people worldwide, the good news of the Gospel is the world's greatest need. Getting the good news to those places where it hasn't been heard is difficult during a pandemic. Churches across the Convention who typically engage in short-term global mission trips were grounded for more than a year. Yet, with literally tens of thousands of Southern Baptists who would have been sharing the Gospel overseas on these trips unable to go, our witness among the nations has not been silenced because your full-time, overseas IMB missionaries continued their work.

In the midst of this global pandemic, we've continually heard good news reports from all around the globe. Last year, IMB personnel reported more than 144,000 people coming to faith in Jesus Christ and nearly 87,000 following the Lord in baptism. More than 18,000 new churches were planted and nearly 21,000 pastors received sound, theological training.

This work could continue in a locked-down world because Southern Baptist missionaries have invested their lives full-time on the mission field — which is only possible because of your faithful support through both CP and the LMCO. We hit an exciting milestone in 2021 as Southern Baptists gave a cumulative \$5 billion to Lottie Moon since the offering began in 1888; and last year, you exceeded the goal with your gifts of \$177.6 million in the 2020-21 offering campaign. You also faithfully give through the Cooperative Program which is necessary to both fund field work and undergird our vital support systems with \$96.8 million in CP gifts in

2020-21. I want to sincerely thank you for giving and holding firm on the financial lifeline for Southern Baptist international missions.

We are driven by the urgency that much remains to be accomplished until together, under the power of Christ, we can continue to welcome the multitudes before His throne. Because of that urgency, I also want to honestly tell you — we need you to continue to give, and if more people are going to hear the Gospel, we need to increase our collective gifts so we can send more missionaries to reach the lost.

And because we still have work to do, we have a target to increase the number of frontline missionaries by 500 over the next five years. To make that happen, we need to get the word out. We need to call out the called and encourage every pastor and preacher across the Southern Baptist Convention to call out the called.

The need has never been greater. Now is the time to send more of those beautiful feet spreading good news. The nations are waiting — we must go!

Paul Chitwood
President

MINISTRY GOALS AND ACCOMPLISHMENTS

(SBC entities present ministry reports to the Executive Committee each February relating to their ministry assignments [SBC Bylaw 18E]. At their request, the following content is provided from the 2022 Ministry Report of The International Mission Board.)

Ministry Statement: Assist churches by evangelizing persons, planting Baptist churches, and nurturing church planting movements among all people groups outside the United States and Canada; and, provide specialized, defined and agreed upon assistance to the North American Mission Board in assisting churches to reach unreached and underserved people groups within the United States and Canada.

For the IMB, 2020 was a year of incredible challenge marked by God’s grace-filled response through IMB missionaries, staff, and Southern Baptists. In spite of the many difficulties of 2020, the missionary task advanced forward around the globe, resulting in new ways of carrying out the Great Commission when being together in person was not legal or possible. IMB reports robustly on these endeavors in a publicly available report, which can be downloaded or read online at [IMB.org/ASR](https://www.imb.org/ASR).

Following a call to action by IMB President Paul Chitwood, missionaries began to adopt portfolios of 20 Southern Baptist churches per missionary unit to reach out to churches which do not currently support the IMB. This effort is proving to be a great way forward in reconnecting churches and missionaries. Inspired by our focus on the Revelation 7:9 vision of “a multitude from every language, people, tribe and nation knowing and worshipping our Lord Jesus Christ,” the renewal of relationships between missionaries and churches is a key part of the essential foundation of all we do as Southern Baptists to carry out the Great Commission and make disciples of all nations.

Ministry Statement: Assist churches in sending and supporting Southern Baptist missionaries and volunteers by enlisting, equipping, and enabling them to fulfill their calling.

In the last year, the Assessment, Deployment, and Training Teams of the IMB processed (to the point of approval for deployment) 154 long-term missionary candidates and 221 mid-term missionary candidates for missionary service. This team also introduced a new Missionary Development portal to enhance the application process and worked with the IMB’s medical department to change the vendor and process for medical clearance, resulting in a more

streamlined assessment and deployment process for Southern Baptists' international missionary service. The team trained 337 new adult missionaries and their 133 children in Field Personnel Orientation, and further trained 353 adult missionaries and their 246 children in Stateside Assignment Conferences. The Training Development Team completed numerous training and publication projects as well, including Team Associate training and student training. They also conducted Foundation for Missions trainings in several locations around the country.

Ministry Statement: Assist churches and partners to mobilize Southern Baptists to be involved in international missions through praying, giving, and going

Despite COVID's impact on the traditional means of engaging and mobilizing Southern Baptists (conferences, annual meetings, etc.), IMB mobilization grew from 7,440 to 12,500 engagements with Southern Baptist leaders, leading to 1,500 unique opportunities to advance in praying, giving, going, and sending. Partnership opportunities, including short-term mission trip requests, were highlighted via outbound promotion to U.S. churches, state conventions, local associations, and other partnering agencies. At least 311 new, multi-year, church-to-field partnerships were started to better serve strategies to engage people groups within the IMB's nine Affinities.

With a goal to re-establish relationships between IMB missionaries and the 47,000 Southern Baptist churches, the IMB officially rolled out the Church Connection Strategy in 2021. An initial pilot group of missionaries provided the support needed for a successful evaluation in Fall 2020. In February 2021, 50% of field personnel, including all field leaders, were each given an assignment of 20 churches to establish a connection between the church and the IMB. Personnel were trained and equipped in the early stages of their onboarding to research and engage the churches under their stewardship. The final 50% of personnel received church-connection assignments in October 2021.

February 7, 2021, marked the first celebration for the annual George Liele Church Planting, Evangelism, and Missions Day. The day was added to the SBC calendar after a motion from the floor of the 2019 SBC Annual Meeting in Birmingham, Alabama. The day also meant the launch of a month-long "Heroes of Faith" editorial strategy to share stories of African American missionaries. Additionally, the month brought about the first George Liele Scholarship to encourage the expansion of international missions knowledge and experiences among Black and African American Southern Baptist churches. Churches across the SBC were invited celebrate, pray, give, and go in honor of the legacy of George Liele.

With the addition of ethnic church and student mobilizers in 2020, engagements of non-Anglo Southern Baptist churches greatly increased in 2021. The IMB reported nearly 1,800 engagements with church leaders in meetings, preaching opportunities, and events across the country. In IMB's mobilization strategies — including events and communications — we diligently worked to increase presenting opportunities and information in multiple heart languages, including American Sign Language, Mandarin Chinese, Korean, and Spanish. Numerous videos and prayer resources were included, as well as the IMB's premier mobilization piece for 2021, the Global Impact Guide.

To better support churches and the church connection strategy, the IMB is adding a West Coast Mobilization Strategist to work with key churches and university ministries in that region. Mobilization also grew the network of advocates who help mobilize Southern Baptist churches on behalf of the IMB. This includes new IMB trustees, WMU leaders, missionary alumni, missionary parents, donors, and state convention leaders. One highlight of this effort was the 2021 National Parents Retreat held at the International Learning Center in Rockville, Virginia. More than 150 parents of current missionaries attended the event, which focused on celebrating the work of their children, equipping for mobilization, and having fellowship with other parents.

In 2021, 17 part-time student mobilizers from 12 states helped recruit the next generation to greater missions involvement. Three of those part-time mobilizers were focused on engaging African American, Asian, and Hispanic next generation-focused churches and ministries. The combination of these efforts helped diversify the Mobilization Team at the IMB and will help diversify the church partners and missionaries of the future.

The promotion for REV 7:9, a missions movement for 18-25-year-olds, began at the 2021 Collegiate Week. In this event series, the IMB will call together young adults to consider how to take a next step in obedience to reaching the nations with the Gospel. Four, one-day events are planned for 2022 in Kentucky, Louisiana, Florida, and Oklahoma, all before a major three-day conference, in Nashville, Tennessee.

In 2021, the IMB's Mobilization Team launched a series of Associational Cohorts for the purpose of equipping associational leaders (AMS/DOMs) around the country to better understand the IMB, the missionary task, and pathways and partnerships for their churches to grow in missions involvement and support. A study published in 2018 by the SBCAL reported that the associational leader is the closest denominational entity to the local church. The IMB recognizes the significant efforts of associational leaders as they partner with church staff to see Southern Baptists reaching their communities and the nations with the Gospel.

Pipeline development for future missionaries continues to be a significant focus for the IMB. In 2021, the organization launched a new, student-centered pipeline development center which connects university students at Liberty University to the IMB as well as local Southern Baptist churches for prayer, equipping, and fellowship throughout their application process. This adds to three other missionary development pipelines in Georgia, Texas, and Florida. At state convention annual meetings, the IMB held information breakout sessions on pathways and the process to apply for short-term, mid-term, and long-term service.

A key area in which IMB mobilizes Southern Baptists is through the development of volunteer opportunities, systems, and processes that serve both field strategy and the local church. The Church Success Center connects with hundreds of Southern Baptists each week via phone calls, email, and chat looking to serve in some manner through the IMB. This team can be reached at info@imb.org.

In 2021, the IMB surveyed Southern Baptist churches and field personnel to assess the need to develop packaged volunteer opportunities for high school groups. As a result of that survey, a new initiative called "Go Impact" will roll out in 2022 with 26, one-to-two-week projects serving within the strategy of IMB personnel around the world.

Southern Baptist churches have long sent volunteers to serve on mission through the IMB. "Go Method" is a volunteer tool developed and implemented in 2021. The tool helps churches and field personnel manage teams well, identify when and where teams are serving, protect everyone involved with the project, and then follow-up with those volunteers and churches in an intentional manner. The Field Partnerships and Pathways Team gives leadership to these initiatives and can also be reached at info@imb.org.

The IMB returned to in-person Sending Celebrations in May 2021 after holding several virtual celebrations in 2020. These events celebrate newly appointed missionaries, while also challenging Southern Baptists to commit to pray and reflect on whether they may be called to go. The celebrations, available by livestream, inspire Southern Baptist churches to understand their role in sending new missionaries and to pray for the work God has prepared in advance for them among unreached peoples and places. More than 200 appointees were honored in the four Sending Celebrations that were held throughout 2021.

Throughout the year, the IMB's Communications Teams sought to inspire and challenge Southern Baptists to greater missions involvement, while also reporting on their investments in international mission efforts. Working with media-trained missionaries around the world, the team produced more than 200 news and feature stories on IMB.org, expanded information available about each Affinity's work, and produced more than 400 videos, including Cooperative Program promotion and reports from the mission field. IMB social media channels (Facebook, Twitter, and Instagram) feature multiple, daily updates about how God is at work around the world and how Southern Baptists can be a part of that work.

IMB's Global Research Team released a public Annual Statistical Report (IMB.org/ASR) which represented work done by IMB personnel and their missions partners in 2020. The report contains data from all nine IMB Affinities and reports on the six components of the missionary task, centered around abiding in Christ: entry, evangelism, discipleship, healthy church formation, leadership development, and exit to partnership. The Global Research Team took great care to provide accurate numbers that represent the IMB's commitment, and, as the Apostle Paul advised, to not report upon the work done outside of the sphere apportioned to us by the Lord (2 Corinthians 10:12-18). The report was a targeted effort to provide Southern Baptists a report of God's work among the people groups of the world — work completed through Southern Baptists' commitments to pray, give, go, and send.

In 2021 Cooperative Program promotion, IMB contributed stories of how God is at work on the mission field to the "CP Stories"/"52 Sundays" resource. In our promotion of the 2021 Lottie Moon Christmas Offering® (LMCO), we reinforced how every dollar given by Southern Baptists supports the work of roughly 3,600 IMB personnel on the mission field to reach the "multitudes" referenced in Revelation 7:9. The IMB sent three LMCO direct mailers to Southern Baptist churches; 43,239 of each English-language LMCO direct mailers, as well as 4,518 of each of the language-specific direct mailers. Additionally, 3,500 LMCO DVDs were created to be distributed through the IMB's Church Success Center. The DVDs included videos in four languages: English, Korean, Mandarin Chinese, and Spanish.

The IMB also distributed Week of Prayer materials, including more than 2 million English-language prayer guides, as well as 103,708 language-specific prayer guides. Week of Prayer materials distributed also included more than 80,000 posters and over 3 million offering envelopes covering four languages. Numerous digital downloadable resources, including graphics, PowerPoint slides, bulletin inserts, and more were available in four languages online.

The IMB also printed more than 70,000 English-language Global Impact Guides. This resource includes missionary stories of God's work around the world, global highlights of what has been accomplished in the past year, and opportunities for churches and individuals to be involved in God's mission 365 days a year. IMB also printed 7,250 language-specific Global Impact Guides.

The Woman's Missionary Union (WMU) and the IMB worked together to mobilize churches to pray for the nations during the annual Week of Prayer for International Missions. The week of prayer focused on the ways God is at work around the world through the work of Southern Baptist missionaries in Panama, Czech Republic, Asia, the Middle East, and West Africa.

Ministry Statement: Assist churches in fulfilling their international missions task by developing global strategies, including human needs-based ministries, and providing leadership, administrative support, and financial accountability for implementation of these strategies.

Send Relief partners with IMB personnel to provide training, expertise, consultation, and resources to implement compassion ministries. All in support of the missionary task, Send Relief work includes responses to acute needs due to disasters, as well as long-term chronic needs from issues such as poverty, hunger, and injustice.

For fiscal year 2021, IMB, in partnership with Send Relief, has impacted over 1.2 million people in over 4,800 communities internationally. Over 911,000 people have received food assistance; 132,477 received healthcare support; more than 1,100 have received job skills training; and almost 39,000 people have benefited from clean water or improved sanitation. Through these efforts, more than 1,700 previously closed areas have been opened, offering the hope of the Gospel to those who have not heard. Through these compassion ministries, over 37,000* came to faith and 134* churches were started.

Many parts of the globe which have great human needs are also in desperate need for the Gospel, but people in these areas lack easy access to the Gospel. Send Relief plays a strategic role for the IMB to not only meet critical, physical needs, but also to gain access to these difficult places for the spread of the Gospel and church planting.

**These numbers represent work with both IMB field personnel and non-IMB partners. IMB numbers may also be included in IMB's Annual Statistical Report (IMB.org/ASR), so these results are overlapping, not in addition to that official count.*

Based on the listed Ministry Assignment, what opportunities or challenges do you see on the horizon from 2022 and beyond that would necessitate changes, or new directions, in how you are accomplishing the above Ministry Assignment?

Ministry Statement: Assist churches by evangelizing persons, planting Baptist churches, and nurturing church planting movements among all people groups outside the United States and Canada; and, provide specialized, defined and agreed upon assistance to the North American Mission Board in assisting churches to reach unreached and underserved people groups within the United States and Canada.

Unparalleled challenges of the global COVID-19 pandemic and mounting opposition to mission efforts in Asia resulted in great displacement of our mission force. A large number of field personnel were forced to permanently relocate from the mainland in East Asia to other parts of Asia and to other locations globally. Such a forced relocation is traumatic. Our Lord, using Southern Baptist and IMB resources, continues to work to reset and bring care to the missionaries and their families affected by these events. Simultaneously, COVID-19 forced a large number of missionaries to take temporary assignments in the U.S. until governmental and medical issues could be resolved. Southern Baptist churches, and particularly many individual Southern Baptists, provided places for missionaries to live and met other critical needs as together we responded to these unexpected challenges.

However, this set of challenges also opened the door to new ways of advancing the missionary task around the world. Digital technologies allowed Southern Baptists to find new ways to reach out to the lost with the Gospel of our Savior. Social media tools that continue to be developed are key to our ability to accelerate the missionary task in many places around the globe. Technological advances have radically changed our ability to communicate internally across the IMB and have helped maintain operations in the midst of security and pandemic conditions which previously would have immobilized the work of the IMB.

Even where travel restrictions affect personnel, technology has allowed the IMB to continue to train and work together with national partners in the missionary task. We encourage our global mission partners and our sister Baptist organizations to develop sending churches and to prepare to send missionaries to join teams across the world. Relief projects in response to COVID-19 have allowed Southern Baptists to demonstrate the Gospel to unreached peoples, many of whom are refugees, through our workers in hundreds of places around the world.

As missionaries stay connected to Southern Baptist churches and organizations, local churches benefit from their cross-cultural experience. Many churches have requested training and

assistance in knowing how to enter in Gospel-centered relationships with people from around the world who are settling in communities around the U.S. These relationships have potential to reach back into homelands and provide new avenues to advance the Gospel around the world.

Unforeseen challenges have pulled us into 21st century opportunities to advance the missionary task and clearly reveal our need to work cooperatively. Together, Southern Baptists can respond to both expected and unexpected challenges. What often seems like a closed door now opens new horizons that our next generation of missionaries will use and improve to advance the Gospel to every nation and all peoples, tribes, and languages.

The IMB continues to develop city leaders to engage both global and regional cities around the world. City leaders find new ways to understand urban settings and to plan comprehensively to engage all segments and peoples in cities. They find that urban areas require multiple models of church structures. At the same time, in the midst of new models, solid, Gospel proclamation, evangelism, and discipleship continue to be essential for life transformation and healthy church planting in both urban and in more rural settings.

Southern Baptist churches and missionaries take seriously the privilege to serve the Lord together across political, cultural, linguistic, pandemic, and spiritual barriers and complications. The Great Commission unites us as we join our Lord in seeking the lost and seeing His name glorified as men, women, boys, and girls entrust their lives to Him.

Assist churches in sending and supporting Southern Baptist missionaries and volunteers by enlisting, equipping, and enabling them to fulfill their calling.

In addition to continuing to assess, deploy, and train new missionaries, as well as providing ongoing training for existing missionaries, the Assessment/Deployment and Training Team is still actively engaged in developing missionary pipelines within Southern Baptist churches and associations. We continue to streamline our processes and develop new training modules to advance the work of the IMB, including an updated edition of "Foundations" (the booklet which describes the IMB's understanding of what a missionary is and what a missionary does) and a companion guide to "Foundations" which will serve churches sending missionaries through the IMB.

Assist churches and partners to mobilize Southern Baptists to be involved in international missions through praying, giving, and going.

The IMB's Mobilization Team will continue to focus on increased engagement with Southern Baptist pastors and churches. Research has shown that missions is an identity of the church led by its pastor, not simply an activity outsourced to the IMB. We are finding that for many churches today, the IMB is one of many options considered by mission-minded churches seeking to get involved in international missions. As the official international sending agency of the Southern Baptist Convention, the IMB wants Southern Baptist pastors to prefer the IMB as the primary organization to partner with in praying, giving, and going to the nations. To accomplish that, we are committed to working tenaciously to build strong relationships, enhance service levels, and promote more field-to-church interactions with the 47,000 Southern Baptist churches in the U.S.

COVID-19 continues to have a profound impact on most ministry areas in local Southern Baptist churches. One area that continues to be a deficit is planning international mission trips to advance the Gospel overseas. An average year will see thousands of volunteers go to work with IMB missionary teams in fulfillment of the Great Commission. However in the past year, geopolitical issues, unforeseen COVID-19 variant spikes, and fears among church members to travel internationally dashed the hopes of missions leaders to return to the work alongside IMB missionaries.

Knowing there will continue to be an impact of the virus on mobilizing Southern Baptists, IMB will continue to create virtual experiences and connections between churches and field teams so that Southern Baptists don't lose focus on how God is at work now, and to encourage continued praying and giving. Additionally, the IMB is planning to grow our presence through an events strategy which will reach more markets across the U.S. over the next three years. As a part of the strategy, church leaders will be able to learn about the IMB, the missionary task, and ways to take a next step in missions support or partnership.

GO Experience

We recognize that many churches want to be engaged on mission through the IMB, but they need a "first step." In 2022, the IMB plans to work with field leadership to assess and develop entry-level experiences in gateway cities. These experiences will strategically connect churches with missionaries, include hands-on ministry opportunities, and train volunteers. These experiences also will be supported logistically by the IMB.

Data Management and Process

With a commitment to increase relationships with churches, including opportunities for churches, we recognize the critical importance of a deeper understanding of how each church is involved in international missions through praying, giving, going, and sending. Developing centralized and comprehensive ways to collect and process this information allows IMB to better serve Southern Baptist churches and partners and celebrate how God is using Southern Baptists to reach the nations.

One opportunity that lies before the organization is a solid set of 2025 targets to increase relationships with Southern Baptists which lead to more sending and support over the next five years. With these targets, IMB leadership has skillfully cast a vision for how Southern Baptists can reach these goals together. With one focus, the organization is working in a team-of-teams approach. A prime example is the birth of the church connection strategy. In this strategy, the organization aims to greatly expand its number of relationships with Southern Baptist churches, as missionary units proactively engage a portfolio of 15-20 churches in addition to their partner churches. The aim is for greater Southern Baptist involvement in praying, giving, going, and sending by leveraging the voices of our missionaries to share how God is at work among their teams and the people groups they engage.

Having identified that inflation is outpacing revenue in the SBC, IMB leadership is pursuing an aggressive strategic growth plan to ensure that it can sustain support of both current and future IMB missionaries and achieve its 2025 targets.

Assist churches in fulfilling their international missions task by developing global strategies, including human needs-based ministries, and providing leadership, administrative support, and financial accountability for implementation of these strategies.

The needs of people around the world will only increase and thus continue to grow the need for strategic engagement of human needs and lostness by the IMB. As the IMB leads Southern Baptists in the push toward the remaining unreached and unengaged peoples of the world, field personnel will encounter more and more physical challenges such as poverty, hunger, effects of conflict, etc., among those who need to hear the Gospel. The continuing effects of the COVID-19 pandemic add additional challenges but also more opportunities in 2022 and beyond. Indicators point to growing hunger needs around the world as a result of the pandemic. Increased needs like this, combined with limits on travel and restrictions designed to prevent the spread of the virus, bring new opportunities for creative response and re-thinking engagement with compassion ministry. They also bring with them new hurdles on how to implement responses, connect with people, and meet needs in light of these restrictions and the predicted peaks and valleys of the pandemic.

MATTERS REFERRED BY THE CONVENTION

The Convention referred the following items to the International Mission Board during the Annual Meeting of the Southern Baptist Convention in Nashville, Tennessee, June 15–16, 2021, for consideration, action, and report back to the next annual meeting.

1. SBC Referral: To request Convention entities to examine the use of non-disclosure agreements (Items 75 and 102, Proceedings of the Southern Baptist Convention, June 15-16, 2021, *SBC Annual*, p. 75, 83)

Motion: Brad Patterson, Texas

“That the Southern Baptist Convention request each entity to examine its use of non-disclosure agreements and report its findings to the messengers of the 2022 annual meeting of the Southern Baptist Convention in Anaheim, California, reporting said findings with particular attention to three areas: what is biblical justification for the use of non-disclosure agreements; how many non-disclosure agreements have been signed or agreed to in the last five years; and if non-disclosure agreements have been utilized, for what specific purposes were they utilized?”

Response: THAT IMB uses NDAs and confidentiality provisions when negotiating contracts with new vendors and service providers to facilitate and evaluate the suitability and capabilities of these parties. At times IMB also includes standard confidentiality provisions in other types of agreements to protect private or sensitive IMB information, such as information about IMB’s data privacy and security measures, donors, intellectual property, personnel, partners, and other proprietary information that is essential to our operations but should not be published or widely distributed. IMB’s use of NDAs and confidentiality provisions may also be necessary to comply with applicable law. IMB’s use of NDAs and confidentiality provisions enables us to faithfully protect and deploy the resources entrusted to us.

2. SBC Referral: To request that entities conduct certain audits and disclose financial details (Items 78 and 102, Proceedings of the Southern Baptist Convention, June 15-16, 2021, *SBC Annual*, p. 76, 83)

Motion: Rick Hillard, Kentucky

“That the Southern Baptist Convention request beginning in 2023 that every 5 years each entity of the Southern Baptist Convention takes the steps needed to undergo a holistic and complete audit with specific disclosure of all details made public to any Southern Baptist no later than 30 days prior to the coinciding year’s annual meeting.”

Response: THAT IMB engages an outside firm to do a thorough annual financial audit. The firm conducts this external audit using GAAP principles and conducts these at an arm’s length to insure the integrity of the data. These audits are presented to the IMB Board of Trustees at the first meeting following the completion of this audit. This finalized audit is submitted annually to the SBC Executive Committee as required in the SBC Business and Financial Plan (Financial Reports Section), and a Statement of Income and Annual Budget for IMB is published in the annual SBC Book of Reports. As has been our practice, details of the audit may be requested by any Southern Baptist by direct written request to IMB.

3. SBC Referral: To enhance ministries to the Deaf (Items 79 and 102, Proceedings of the Southern Baptist Convention, June 15-16, 2021, *SBC Annual*, p. 76, 83)

Motion: John Blackmon, Georgia

“In light of the fact that there are approximately 11 million Deaf people in the United States and only 2-4% consider themselves Christian; and being inspired by the faithful work of the IMB in the recognition and attention given to the Deaf affinity group among the peoples of the world since 2009, I move that the Convention request the trustees of Lifeway Christian Resources and the North American Mission Board to research and report on the feasibility of a partnership to produce and provide access to resources for existing Deaf ministries and future work among Deaf peoples in the United States, to include but not be limited to theological education, discipleship materials, print, video, and other resources prepared in and by individuals skilled in ASL. Such access and preparation would aid such ministries in reaching this specific people group and equip those skilled and called to reach this people group.”

Response: In order to provide a comprehensive response, the three entities that received this motion from the SBC—Lifeway, IMB, and NAMB—have collaborated in our response to the Southern Baptist Convention. With the ministry our three entities are already involved in, in addition to what others within our Southern Baptist family are doing, a variety of resources exist for churches who have an existing ministry or want to begin a ministry to the Deaf community, including theological education, discipleship materials, translation services, and evangelism resources. According to a Southern Baptist Conference of the Deaf directory of churches, there are about 40 Southern Baptist Deaf churches, 23 Deaf missions, about 45 churches with Deaf ministries and nearly 30 churches with interpretive ministries registered with the group. There are 11 million in the U.S. who consider themselves Deaf or have serious difficulty hearing and nearly 70 million Deaf people around the world.

Explore the Bible: Deaf, published by Lifeway, is written by hearing-impaired writers using text with simplified language to facilitate signing American Sign Language (ASL). Lifeway is developing a digital library of “Explore the Bible: Deaf” that will be available for free by Summer 2022 at Lifeway.com/ExploretheBibleDeaf, along with links to other resources and ministries for the Deaf. Lifeway also provides captions on many of our video discipleship products, as well as captions and interpreters at a number of our events.

NAMB is a sponsor for **RID (Registry of Interpreters for the Deaf)**, which is a national registry of certified interpreters since 1986. NAMB does this in partnership with the state conventions for the Deaf ministries and their interpreters. NAMB also sponsors workshops every year for Alabama, Florida, Georgia, Kentucky, Mississippi, North Carolina, Tennessee, and Texas. Professional Interpreters for the Deaf must be certified, and they must earn a certain number of Continuing Education Credits (CEU’s) each year to maintain their certification. In this capacity, NAMB plays a key role in helping to equip Deaf interpreters who can serve Southern Baptist churches.

The **SBCD (Southern Baptist Conference for the Deaf)** website has information about their annual conference where workshops are held (sbcd deaf.org).

The **SBCD directory of churches** is online at sbcd deaf.blogspot.com, with pins marking locations for Deaf churches and missions.

The **Deafway Bible App**, offers sign language translations of Bible stories by Deaf translators. The app was developed by Deaf Pathway Global, a non-profit venture established by a partnership between IMB and Brentwood Baptist Church. To learn more about Deaf Pathway Global, visit deafpathway.com where you can download the Deafway Bible App for iPhone or Google Play.

The **Deaf Theological Center** in Brentwood, Tennessee, has been training Deaf for missions and ministry since its launch in 2014. Through a partnership between IMB, Union University in Jackson, Tennessee, the Southern Baptist Conference for the Deaf, Brentwood Baptist Church, and Brentwood Baptist Deaf Church, Deaf believers can receive customized seminary-level training for missions and ministry. Classes are offered in hermeneutics, Old Testament, New Testament, doctrine, and missiology.

Through the partnership, IMB provides instructors, customized course delivery and financial support for missionaries and their families; Union provides a customized academic program, academic oversight and credit hours at a special rate; and Brentwood Baptist and its Deaf Church provide meeting space, instructors, housing, and other services.

For more information on IMB's work among the Deaf people, visit www.imb.org/Deaf.

ANNUAL STATISTICAL REPORT BASED ON 2020 DATA*Global summary reflecting work in calendar year 2020, reported in 2021***Evangelism**

How many people heard a **Gospel witness**? **769,494**

How many people had an **opportunity to respond** to Christ? **576,395**

How many who received a Gospel witness do you believe are **seekers**? **151,512**

How many who heard a Gospel witness became **new believers**? **144,322**

How many believers were **baptized**? **86,587**

Healthy Church Formation

How many **total groups** intending to become churches are meeting now? **48,082**

How many **new groups** were formed that intend to become churches? **11,333**

How many **new churches** were formed? **18,380**

How many 1st-, 2nd-, and 3rd-generation and higher **churches** are **meeting now**? **78,368**

How many 1st-, 2nd-, and 3rd-generation and higher **churches** have **ceased to meet**? **2,385**

Note: In some cases, churches cease to exist as people change locations or as members are absorbed into other congregations. In other cases, IMB personnel lose direct contact with the work and consequently have no interaction to be able to include them in the totals.

How many **baptized believers met** in groups or churches? **496,832**

Discipleship

How many people met in **on-going Bible studies**? **353,860**

How many people are being **personally mentored**? **56,175**

Leadership Development

How many men have received practical **pastoral training**? **20,750**

How many people received **training** to start **new churches**? **55,304**

How many individuals received **advanced theological education**? **51,101**

How many believers were trained in **other training opportunities**? **91,614**

The International Mission Board's Annual Statistical Report (ASR) contains the most accurate information for the stated reporting period available at the time of publication. Figures reported are for work related to IMB personnel and their close, indigenous baptistic partners only. Since 2009, the ASR no longer includes reports from partner conventions and unions. Major movements and baptistic church planting partners that are self-sustaining and require only occasional guidance and assistance from IMB personnel are removed from the statistics annually. This is a cause for celebration but can result in some statistics being different from earlier reporting periods.

After publication, the Board's Global Research Department continues to process both new and revised reports as field personnel continually strive to provide the most accurate picture of the Board's work and influence during the given reporting period. New or revised reports may be submitted for a variety of reasons, including typographical errors in the original report, newly received or corrected information, clarification of reporting categories, etc.

All analyses utilize the most current data for the reporting period available at that time, including any new and revised reports submitted since publication. Thus, subsequent ASRs will reflect corrected data and may differ from previously published reports. For current data regarding a given reporting period, including the latest revisions, contact the Global Research Information Center (info@imb.org).

Lifeway

One Lifeway Plaza, Nashville, Tennessee 37234

MISSIE BRANCH, Chair

BEN MANDRELL, President and CEO

Greetings from Lifeway Christian Resources. It's my honor to bring this report on the work of our organization and share what God is doing as we partner with churches to make disciples of Jesus Christ.

Throughout the past year, we have sensed God's blessing and have watched Him work through Lifeway to help support churches as they rebounded from the pandemic and began to regain a sense of normalcy. We saw many churches joyfully re-engage in ministry activities in 2021 that had to be sidelined or altered for a season due to the pandemic. At the same time, churches began evaluating their next steps. Lifeway has continued to strategically adapt to meet the needs of today's churches while also positioning them for future ministry.

The COVID-19 pandemic certainly brought a fair amount of challenges to Lifeway. But God has brought us through the pandemic stronger than we were before. I'm proud to report that Lifeway is on solid, financial ground and in a sustainable position for the future. As we look back at this past year, we have much to be grateful for, and we have much to be excited about for the future of Lifeway. In our ministry report, you'll find more details about our work this past year, but I'd like to take a moment to share some highlights.

Lifeway kicked off 2021 with a major rebrand—unveiling a new look, a new logo, and a refresh of our website. Our new logo nods to our 130-year history of print, our commitment to a digital future, and our renewed focus on designful experiences. We're seeing huge, forward motion in our efforts to create a website that makes it easy to find the tools you need and provides you with an overall great experience.

Recently, Lifeway landed on Newsweek's list of Best Online Shops. It's an honor to be recognized by our customers as one of the best places to shop online. This recognition reflects the hard work by our IT and Marketing teams to improve the user experience at Lifeway.com and to refresh our brand. But we're not done. You'll continue to see site improvements and new features as we simplify and improve the online journey at Lifeway.com.

We're also making great strides in finding ways to serve churches outside the South. We have historically served the Southeastern U.S. very well, but we know there are many churches outside the Southeast who minister in very different contexts. We intend to increase our reach and influence in the under-resourced regions of the North, East, and West.

We are intentionally designing our new line of NextGen curriculum to be used by churches we don't currently serve. The goal is to design an experience that will help churches engage those in their neighborhoods who are far from God, many of whom have little or no background in the faith or may have had no exposure to church. We are intentionally designing this new resource to reach and appeal to new people in new places and we are excited about bringing this resource in 2023.

Helping churches reach the next generation is a priority for Lifeway. We praise God that our summer camps—CentriKid, Student Life, and FUGE—were able to reopen in dozens of locations across the U.S. this year after being sidelined due to the pandemic in 2020. This year, Lifeway Summer Camps hosted more than 88,000 kids and students with more than 1,400

placing their faith in Jesus for salvation. In addition, campers gave nearly half a million dollars in offerings to support the work of the International Mission Board and the North American Mission Board.

Obviously, 2021 was not without its challenges. Our Lifeway India team dealt with significant supply shortages, shipping delays, and nationwide shutdowns due to COVID-19. But praise God, they were able to work through those challenges and release the “Telugu Study Bible,” a resource that has been completely conceptualized, developed, and translated by local Indian pastors, theologians, and ministry leaders. I’m honored our team was able to create and publish this much-needed resource.

One of my highlights this past year has been spending time with pastors and church leaders across our Convention. From West Virginia to Alaska and places in between, I’ve had the honor of meeting face-to-face with leaders on the front lines of ministry and hearing how God is working through the local church to transform lives and communities. It’s vital for Lifeway to stay closely connected to church leaders and we are committed to finding ways to pour into pastors through relationships and resources.

One way we’ve begun to connect with leaders and their families is through “The Glass House” podcast, a project my wife, Lynley, and I launched last fall. Each episode features conversations with people in the trenches of ministry life, exploring the unique challenges of pastoral life and encouraging steadfastness in ministry. My heart is for Lifeway to be seen as more than a resource provider, but to be seen as a true partner in ministry.

For 130 years, Lifeway has been providing tools for teaching the Bible, discipleship, and spiritual growth. I’m proud that our team can continue that legacy and serve churches by creating trustworthy experiences that fuel ministry. I want to thank you, Southern Baptists, for your encouragement and for your partnership. We love resourcing the local church and we want to walk beside you as you fulfill Jesus’ call to go and make disciples.

I hope this ministry report will reflect the ways Lifeway has locked arms with churches to bring people to Christ and raise up disciples who live on mission for the glory of God.

Gratefully,
Ben Mandrell

MINISTRY GOALS AND ACCOMPLISHMENTS

1. Assist churches in the development of church ministries.

Sunday School

As Lifeway continues to embrace a fully remote work environment, 2021 became the first, full year Lifeway’s publishing teams worked off-campus. The work of the publishing teams continued from various locations across the country. Team members worked from anywhere—home offices, coffee shops, and other remote locations. Collaborative technology platforms allowed for the Lifeway team to design trustworthy experiences that fuel ministry. With the advent of COVID-19 vaccines, Lifeway was hopeful that churches would once again see an in-gathering of church members. Early indications were that people were returning to the church, and then COVID-19 variants made headlines and growth slowed. The fall months brought new challenges because of global supply chain issues and teams worked diligently to adjust, delivering some products to printers earlier than normal to make sure the church had the resources it needed.

In September 2021, The Gospel Project began its fourth cycle. Lifeway’s publishing teams provided groups and group leaders with new content and new designs in this fourth iteration of Lifeway’s Christ-centered Bible study for all ages.

In cooperation with the Ministry Grid team, ongoing Bible studies for all age groups were placed in that digital tool. Churches were able to subscribe based on attendance tiers, getting their Bible studies delivered to them from the Ministry Grid platform. Convenience, a desire from churches to purchase an increasing number of digital products, and ease of delivery made this option a popular one for church leaders.

Future Plans — Explore the Bible, one of Lifeway’s most popular, ongoing studies for adults, will begin a new nine-year cycle in September 2023; its current nine-year study plan through all 66 books of the Bible ends in summer 2023. The adult version of Bible Studies for Life also began initial work on its new scope and sequence, and a product refresh will take effect in September 2023. Publishing teams continue to enhance eBook experiences for customers as more people look to digital curriculum to meet their needs. 2022 will be the year that customers will be able to purchase ongoing curriculum in eBook form with a pre-buy feature that will deliver it to them one month prior to first-use Sunday.

Discipleship

Serving the church through discipleship resources and training remains at the very core of what Lifeway seeks to accomplish. To that end, in the past year, Lifeway has focused on creating clear, simple ways to help churches prepare their people to make disciples, use technology, and work toward a digital future to make content more accessible.

To better serve and train a scattered church during a global pandemic, Lifeway has hosted multiple, well-attended webinars and Facebook Live events, written articles to help church leaders continue discipleship through their groups, and transitioned ongoing curriculum and training to the new Ministry Grid online platform to better facilitate digital distribution. In fall 2021, we completed a series of seven monthly webinars called ReStart Groups. These monthly webinars were created and led by Lifeway’s director of Sunday School and open to all leaders. They were designed to help churches restart groups in the fall.

In 2021, Lifeway released its streaming platform, Lifeway On Demand. The launch of this platform provides a snapshot of the future for Lifeway short-term discipleship studies and makes disciple-making content much more accessible to churches while providing greater flexibility for groups. Lifeway On Demand allows certain titles to be streamed using technology like Roku, AppleTV, Fire TV, Google Chromecast, etc. In this model, specific Bible study books will include access to the companion videos.

In addition, Lifeway has focused on providing helpful content to disciple-makers through our “Group Answers” podcast, which has continued to see exponential growth, and an entirely overhauled blog presence for adult small group leaders of any variety. Content for the blog and the podcast is curated by and from small group experts and practitioners. These steps have been taken as a way to be more “by the side” of small group leaders and spiritual difference-makers. Adult blog content and the podcast can be found at [Lifeway.com/groups](https://www.lifeway.com/groups).

Lifeway Kids updated one of its most popular discipleship resources, “I’m a Christian Now,” with new, downloadable, 60-minute, kids and family sessions. “Good News” is the newest release in the classic line of discipleship resources, TeamKID (Kids in Discipleship). “TeamKID: Good News” will take preschoolers and kids on a journey through the four Gospel books that tell us about who Jesus is and why He came.

Lifeway continues to serve tens of thousands of churches through our primary ongoing curriculum lines, Explore the Bible, Bible Studies for Life, and The Gospel Project that facilitate discipleship through theology, Scripture, and life application. This past year, Lifeway also released a new podcast called “Lifeway Bible Studies” podcast. This podcast features audio from popular Bible studies, with additional commentary and discussion questions at the end for individual or group use.

Finally, classic discipleship studies from Lifeway like “Experiencing God” and “Masterlife” and more recent studies like “Foundations” and “Battle Plan for Prayer” continue to provide great value for deep discipleship experiences in the church.

Future Plans — Future, short-term study releases include Dan Darling’s “Spiritual Gifts,” Vance Pitman’s “Proverbs,” the new “Storyteller” series, and “Following Jesus in the Digital Age” in addition to the just released “Stories Jesus Told” by Daniel Fusco and a study of Ecclesiastes written by Barnabas Piper. Training will continue through ReGroup webinar series in addition to other training opportunities.

Lifeway will continue making content available through Lifeway On Demand and migrating backlist titles into this new platform. Lifeway will also continue to seek new discipleship training opportunities and strategic partnerships in order to educate churches and leaders on how flexible Bible study resources can help move people into greater engagement with God’s Word, regardless of how or where their groups are meeting.

Leadership Development

Lifeway Leadership’s key initiatives in 2021 focused on equipping churches with using Ministry Grid for digital access to ministry training and Lifeway’s four lines of ongoing Bible study curriculum. These Bible study lines include The Gospel Project, Bible Studies for Life, Explore the Bible, and YOU.

With over 8,000 churches on the platform, the Lifeway Leadership team sees great momentum with churches using Ministry Grid as a digital solution for discipleship, training, and development resources. Many churches use the customization features of Ministry Grid to share their own content and resources along with Ministry Grid’s 700-plus training courses. To train and equip Ministry Grid churches in best practices for using the tool, the Lifeway Leadership team hosts two weekly live demonstrations.

The Lifeway Leadership team also serves 17 churches and organizations through white label versions of Ministry Grid, which allows additional customization of the tool. Some of the notable SBC-affiliated users include Bellevue Baptist Church, Idlewild Baptist Church, Baptist General Convention of Texas, and Mississippi Baptist Convention.

Lifeway Leadership continues its partnership with Southeastern Baptist Theological Seminary (SEBTS) to host 10, free, digital courses on Ministry Grid, which includes more than 8,400 users.

Lifeway Leadership also continues its partnership with the Ethics & Religious Liberty Commission (ERLC) and hosts the video lessons and downloadable workbook for “Becoming a Church that Cares Well for the Abused” on Ministry Grid. This free access allows churches and individuals to track a user’s completion and fulfills step five of the Caring Well Challenge, an initiative of the ERLC and the SBC’s Sexual Abuse Advisory Group.

Lifeway Leadership has also partnered with the North American Mission Board to expand the church planting and multiplication resources offered at NewChurches.com.

Lifeway Leadership continues to see success in Leadership Pipeline coaching as an underlying philosophy and framework for leadership development. The team led Leadership Pipeline coaching virtual events for many churches and organizations in 2021.

Lifeway Leadership has also continued partnering with Josh Patterson and Kevin Peck to launch two Strategic Learning Communities. One cohort met virtually and two cohorts met in-person to grow in executive and organizational leadership.

The team also continues to see success with the Lifeway Leadership Podcast Network, which includes “5 Leadership Questions” by Todd Adkins and Chandler Vannoy; “Unseen

Leadership” by Chandler Vannoy and Mike Kelsey; “Ask Me Anything” by J.D. Greear; “The Ron Edmondson Leadership Podcast” by Ron and Nate Edmondson; “Group Answers” by Chris Surratt and Brian Daniel; “The One Ministry Question Podcast” by Todd Adkins, Daniel Im, and Dan Iten; and “The One Thing” by Scott Sanders and Derek Hanna.

Future Plans — The Lifeway Leadership team plans to continue to add features and enhancements to Ministry Grid to provide church leaders with a digital solution for volunteer training, ongoing Bible studies, and resources for development and discipleship.

Worship and Music Ministry

Since the Southern Baptist Convention’s 2021 annual meeting, there have been many new and exciting developments for Lifeway Worship, the church music and church supplies arm of Lifeway Christian Resources. Here are just a few of the highlights.

Broadman Supplies enjoyed another record year of growth serving churches through our extensive line of communion supplies, bulletins, evangelistic tracts, and more, in North America and around the world. Our Lifeway OneSource church administration program also continued to show growth with diverse offerings of church services including Church Buses, Church Signs, Prospect Services, Envelope Services, and many other solutions for churches. Lifeway Worship Music continues to offer new choral and congregational music for churches of every size. Particular emphasis has been given this year to releasing more digital music content for church choirs and congregations. Lifeway Worship also released dozens of new playlists through all the major digital streaming providers, including iTunes Music, Spotify, Pandora, TuneCore, and many others, greatly increasing the amount of Christian music content created by Lifeway Worship on these platforms. Lifewayworship.com released hundreds of new Spanish language songs on the site, making it one of the largest, digital providers of Spanish language music content.

Future Plans — Broadman Supplies is releasing a new and improved, prefilled communion cup with improved packaging that is easier to open and will soon offer multiple bread options. This new cup is specifically designed to improve the communion experience for churches.

Christian Education

Every ongoing publishing team (Kids, Students, and Adults) continued to learn new ways to provide training for church leaders in 2021. Because in-person events did not take place in the early months of 2021 due to the pandemic, training shifted online. The Restart Groups series of webinars for pastors and church leaders was led by Lifeway’s director of Sunday School, Ken Braddy, which provided practical help at the time churches were restarting groups and calling their people back to worship and Bible study. Participants who engaged in the Restart Groups webinars took part in webinars such as How to Enlist and Train Workers, 5 Steps for Building a Disciplemaking Ministry, Teaching with Style, and other topics that gave them training and encouragement as the church sought to regather groups that had been dispersed during the pandemic.

The annual Sunday School support booklet, “Building a Disciplemaking Ministry: The Timeless Principles of Arthur Flake for Sunday School and Small Groups,” released as 2021 began. The book chronicled the life and ministry of Arthur Flake and his famous five-step formula for growing a healthy, Bible-teaching ministry. Pastors and church leaders found new hope and insights into processes and principles for growing teaching ministries in their churches during the global pandemic. Curiously, Arthur Flake began his work at the Sunday School Board (now called Lifeway Christian Resources) in 1920, just as the country emerged from the global Spanish Flu Pandemic that took place from 1918-1919. His principles for Sunday School growth helped usher in decades of growth in the SBC.

The Lifeway Kids team recommended new ways for churches to conduct time-honored ministries such as Vacation Bible School in an online environment. Suggestions were also

provided so churches could take VBS materials and safely conduct age-appropriate studies in backyards and other locations. Parents were encouraged to consider conducting a family VBS using the materials provided by Lifeway. Christian education continued even during a difficult and dangerous pandemic.

The ETCH Conference returned to an in-person event in October 2021, having moved to a virtual event in 2020 as a response to the pandemic. In 2021, hundreds of leaders gathered at Forest Hills Baptist Church in Nashville to learn from top kids ministry and student ministry leaders.

Zac Workun led training efforts for the Student Publishing Team. Together with other Lifeway student team members, advisory boards were implemented that reached more than 300 student pastors with the goal of gaining feedback related to existing products and discovering new innovations that would help student pastors reach the next generation. The Essentials Roadshow also took place under Workun's leadership. These one-day, regional events reached student leaders in four states, often in lesser-established regions. The Youth Ministry Booster matched 500 youth pastors in an online learning community built around a cohort-Mastermind model.

Future Plans — Conferences will once again become more prevalent as the pandemic subsides. Lifeway's Essentials conferences, so named because they focus attendees' attention on essential practices of Sunday School and discipleship ministry, began in-person meetings in late 2021. More in-person events are planned for 2022 and beyond, while online versions will reach church leaders who cannot travel to an on-site event. The Black Church Leadership & Family Conference will be held live at the Ridgecrest Conference Center in July 2022. Webinars, podcasts, learning cohorts, virtual events, and in-person conferences will continue to be developed to meet the changing needs of churches and church leaders. At the same time, publishing teams are developing a new line of curriculum to reach churches that have needs Lifeway can meet as they reach the unchurched in many locations around the country.

Evangelism

Lifeway continues to position evangelism as a crucial component of its publishing strategy. By keeping existing evangelism resources in front of churches through consistent messaging and developing new concepts and titles, Lifeway is taking measures to ensure that evangelism and evangelism strategies maintain their rightful place as a core discipline. "Three Circles" by Jimmy Scroggins, which is available for adults as well as teens, walks through the three circles evangelism strategy to help believers discover just how simple sharing the Gospel can be.

In terms of training within the mandate to evangelize, Lifeway emphasizes evangelism in specific webinar series throughout the year. "Building a Disciplemaking Ministry," "Breathing Life into Sunday School," "Restarting Groups," and "3 Roles of a Group Leader" all include a heavy focus on evangelism. In addition, the 2022 book "Breakthrough: Creating a New Scorecard for Group Ministry Success" focuses on the need for evangelism in and through groups as an aspect of effective group life. One quarter of the book focuses on this important obligation.

Every issue of Bible Studies for Life and Explore the Bible includes an evangelism session that is very intentional in calling the reader to place faith in Christ. The leader guides also instruct leaders to invite group members to place their faith in Christ. While The Gospel Project doesn't follow this same pattern, each session includes Christ crucified and resurrected as the focus and intent of the Scriptures, calling on all people to believe in Him and encouraging believers to share this good news with others.

"Something Needs to Change" by David Platt is a powerful message that focuses on reaching unreached people groups with the Gospel. This small-group Bible study experience points out the need to take the Gospel message of Jesus into unreached regions. Specifically pointing to the Himalayan areas of the Gast, "Something Needs to Change" makes it clear that even though

the mountains have proclaimed God's creation for generations, there are still fewer than 100 believers among the millions of inhabitants, showing the need for Christians confessing Jesus as Lord as the only way to reach these unbelievers.

"Marks of a Disciple" by Dean Inerra examines six, helpful measurements to test whether or not we're growing spiritually. This is not a punch card checklist, but rather a group of traits distilled from Scripture that should be evident in the life of a follower of Jesus. In addition to topics like the spiritual disciplines, generosity, and theological groundedness, is a heart for evangelism. This last small group discussion of "Marks of a Disciple" focuses on Jesus' command to share the Gospel story, be a witness for Him, and lead people to Jesus.

Lifeway continues to provide training resources to assist churches in reaching the millions of people in the U.S. and Canada who have no relationship with Jesus Christ. The video-enhanced resource "Tell Someone: You Can Share the Good News" by Greg Laurie encourages believers to share the Gospel by sharing Jesus' story and their own story of how Jesus changed their lives.

Lifeway continues to prioritize evangelism through its summer camp ministries by clearly presenting the Gospel to teenagers and kids and by training teenagers through mission opportunities and evangelism track times how to share their faith.

Sharing the Gospel with kids is one of the most important elements of kids ministry. "The Gospel: God's Plan for Me" study presents the Gospel story in kid-friendly language with applicable Scripture verses. It includes information about how to respond to the Gospel, pages to guide parents in at-home conversations, and downloadable leader content.

"What is a Christian? Answers for Kids" is an eight-week activity book for kids that helps them answer questions about becoming a Christian. This study includes questions about God, Jesus, sin, the Gospel, becoming a Christian, heaven, baptism, and the Lord's Supper. An included parent section equips parents to have conversations with children who are asking questions about the Gospel. "What is a Christian?" can be used in a class setting at church or in a home environment to help kids work through their questions related to what it means to be a Christian and how to receive God's gift of salvation.

To model presenting the Gospel to kids, kidsministry101.com provides several video examples of how to talk to kids about becoming a Christian.

Another way that Lifeway Kids is helping parents evangelize their own children is through new "At Home" digital resources available for churches to distribute to families through Ministry Grid. Simple to access and easy to use, "At Home" provides families with weekly worship experiences, videos, prayer prompts, and family activity ideas.

"Share Jesus Without Fear," revised edition, presents a simple and relational approach to witnessing that underscores dependence on God's power for the results. Birthed out of the radical life-transformation of its author, Bill Fay, "Share Jesus Without Fear" teaches believers how to navigate a witnessing conversation in everyday situations. Lifeway has released additional "Share Jesus" tools to equip believers to share their faith: the "Share Jesus Without Fear" app and "Share Jesus Without Fear Scripture and Question Cards." Many churches also continue to experience great success with "FAITH Evangelism," highlighted at Lifeway.com/faith.

"Go & Tell Kids Mission Trip VBS" is an easy-to-use, transportable VBS designed to help mission trip teams host a Vacation Bible School anywhere in the world. Simple visuals, 100-plus recreation games, and five sessions of Gospel-centered content equip volunteers to explain the Good News to kids in any context.

In order to equip churches emerging from COVID-19 lockdowns, as well as to assist kids ministries still not meeting fully in person, Lifeway Kids pivoted from “Kids Ministry from Anywhere” (Lifeway.com/kmfa) to “Ready, Reset, Go” (kidsministry.lifeway.com/readyresetgo). The “Ready, Reset, Go” web page provides free eBooks and a free Go Time Kit to help churches relaunch their ministries and disciple kids in new ways.

Vacation Bible School is the largest outreach to unchurched kids in a given year for 78% of churches hosting VBS, according to Lifeway Research. In fact, 69% of American parents will encourage their child to participate in a VBS event at a church they don’t attend if they are invited by a friend. Since the opportunities for evangelism, discipleship, and relationship-building that can take place in one week of VBS might take half a year for a Sunday School teacher, Lifeway provides churches with evangelistic VBS and Backyard Kids Club curriculum materials.

To meet the challenges presented by COVID-19, for the first time in recent history, Lifeway supported two primary VBS themes in 2021: “Concrete and Cranes” from 2020 and “Destination Dig,” released for 2021. For 2022, Lifeway is releasing “Spark Studios: Created in Christ. Designed for God’s Purpose.” Preschoolers, kids, students, and adults will learn that God’s creativity didn’t stop in Genesis. The Master Artist is working to redeem, reclaim, and transform us—His creation—to the design He planned for us.

Marriage and Family Ministry

Lifeway continues to resource churches in family ministry through the publication of quality family and devotional magazines. Included are:

- “HomeLife” — Focused on faith, family, and life; monthly magazine with articles and fresh ideas for families, marriages, and personal development.
- “Mature Living” — A monthly magazine focusing on the spiritual and personal needs of adults, from boomers to seniors.
- “ParentLife” — A monthly magazine offering biblical and relevant content; each issue offers practical help with insights written especially for parents.
- “Journey” — Monthly devotional magazine for women with content that is substantive but not overwhelming for busy schedules; now available through digital subscription.
- “Stand Firm” — A monthly devotional guide for men with daily encouragement and small group questions that fit into a man’s busy schedule; now available through digital subscription.
- “Open Windows” — A quarterly devotional guide featuring individual daily readings and selected Scripture passages (also available in large print); also includes a prayer guide that focuses on praying for missionaries serving through the International Mission Board.

Churches use these resources to help families realize and prepare for the fact that life happens between Sundays. While these magazines provide wonderful leisure reading, they also hit difficult topics of life from a strong, biblical perspective.

Lifeway Global

Lifeway Global continues to develop a unified strategy to better serve global churches and individuals, anchored by our market-leading publishing lines: Bible and Reference, Trade Books, Leadership Resources, Women’s Resources, Kids Resources, On-Going Curriculum, and Short-Term Studies. Lifeway Global enjoyed another record year in 2021, achieving MAC for the first time in four years, and impacting more than 4 million lives in more than 160 countries through print, digital, licensing, and training.

Contextualization continues to be a strategic imperative for Lifeway Global. To that end, we have indigenous staff in Delhi, Mexico City, Cali, and Guatemala City. Our publishing ministry is primarily focused on indigenous authors, including key Hispanic communicators: Miguel

Núñez, Sugel Michelén, Wendy Bello, and Pati Namnún. Key Indian authors include: Stanley Mehta, Rajiv Chelladurai, Sam Verghese, Joel Gummadi, and PC Matthew. In 2021, Lifeway reached a milestone as we acquired our 60th global author.

In *Biblias Holman*, we launched “Centrada en Cristo,” a 365 devotional Bible for women with more than 50 Hispanic writers. At B&H, we launched a series of 12 small books called *Easy Readings*, which cover topics such as prayer, anxiety, suffering, and productivity. This series was awarded by ECPA for having the best covers.

Last year was also a solid year for Spanish ongoing curriculum, launching the new “UNIDOS” series, which is an adaptation of *Bible Studies for Life* for the Hispanic audience. We experienced another year of growth in Spanish kids publishing, with numerous illustrated books, such as “The Lightlings” and “The Priest With Dirty Clothes.” We continue to expand our market-leading, Spanish Bible program, anchored by the RVR60 and NVI texts. In 2021, we started a new strategy that focuses on ministry to the global Spanish-speaking church. This implies a more significant and comprehensive contextualization of our resources. Our new “*Projecto Evangelio para niños*” is our first resource that offers contextualized music, exercises, activities, and guidelines that better suit not only Hispanic churches in the U.S., but across Latin America. Lifeway will continue to innovate around customer engagement—especially on proprietary platforms like Lifeway.com.

Future Plans — Lifeway Global will expand its leadership in Spanish publishing with the introduction of the “*Thematic Study Bible*,” edited by Dr. Miguel Núñez. This will be our flagship study Bible for the foreseeable future. We will also launch the “*Fisher of Men Leadership Bible*,” which is designed to equip pastors and leaders in discipleship.

2. Assist churches in ministries to college and university students.

Lifeway continues to serve churches seeking to reach and equip college students with the Gospel of Jesus Christ. There are almost 23 million college students in North America and churches are continuing to seek ways to reach and equip this important segment of our population. Lifeway provides churches and collegiate ministries with resources that will assist in making disciples of Jesus among college and university students.

Ongoing curriculum provides churches with trustworthy resources that give college students the opportunity to study the Scriptures in small groups, Sunday School, or on their own. *Bible Studies for Life – Young Adult*, *Explore the Bible – Daily Discipleship Guide*, *The Gospel Project*, and *YOU* all address relevant and crucial issues of how the Scriptures intersect with the lives of college students. Whether the starting point in these groups is life, the text, or theology, the various lines of curriculum that Lifeway offers for college ministry will help students grow in their walk with Christ.

Short-term studies continue to be produced by Lifeway that are great for college students. These short-term studies are ideal for semester small groups and retreat settings. A variety of authors and subjects are considered extremely relevant to the life of college students and young adults. These titles can be found on [Lifeway.com/en/bible-studies/young-adults](https://www.lifeway.com/en/bible-studies/young-adults) and recently include “*Anxious*” by Scarlet Hiltibidal, “*With Us in the Wilderness*” by Lauren Chandler, “*Stories Jesus Told*” by Daniel Fusco, “*Encountering God*” by Kelly Minter, “*Romans 8*” by Noe Garcia, “*Ecclesiastes: Finding Meaning in a World of Passing Pursuits*” by Barnabas Piper, and “*He’s Where the Joy Is*” by Tara Leigh Cobble.

National Collegiate Ministry Summit. Lifeway partnered with the Baptist Collegiate Network to host the National Collegiate Ministry Summit in May 2021 with over 500 in attendance.

Future Plans — Short-term studies will continue to be offered that are relevant to issues that young adults and college students are facing within their culture. Some studies planned in the next year include: “From Beginning to Forever” by Elizabeth Woodson, a study on Philippians by Juan Sanchez, and “Spiritual Gifts” by Dan Darling.

3. Assist churches with Christian schools and homeschool ministries.

A biblical philosophy of education to guide the training of children and youth is presented in “Kingdom Education: God’s Plan for Educating Future Generations, 2nd edition.” This resource provides the driving principles that shape essential biblical education services and resources to Christian schools, churches, and families.

“The Gospel Project for Kids: Home Edition” is designed to help families—whether they homeschool or engage in traditional education—supplement biblical education and child discipleship.

Lifeway’s Student Ministry continues to provide “CharacterQuest” Bible curriculum for Christian schools and homeschools.

Future Plans — Lifeway continues to provide consultation to schools and churches related to a wide range of topics about Christian school and homeschool education.

4. Assist churches with ministries to men and women.

Men’s Ministry

Our culture is confused about what it means to be a man. Even notions of masculinity have, in many corners, become toxic. In this context, Lifeway released the “Kingdom Men Rising” Bible study. This release from the Lifeway adult publishing team speaks truth into a poorly defined and disoriented culture about the purpose and future of masculinity from a biblical perspective. In this Bible study, men are challenged to wrestle honestly with the unique questions and circumstances they face today. It invites men deep into their own stories to reveal the true expression of masculinity—God’s intent. Over the last year, this has been one of Lifeway’s most popular Bible studies across all ministry areas, a good sign that Lifeway is reaching men with timely messages.

Last fall, Lifeway released “Make the Call: A 40-Day Experience for Men” from former college football coach Mark Richt. This release can be adapted to either a small group, an individual devotional context, or both. It has been curated for today’s mobile and ever-changing lives of the men we serve. “Make the Call” has been developed to help men gain biblical wisdom for life’s decisions, clarify what’s most important, and grow in communion with God and community with other believers.

“No More Excuses” by Dr. Tony Evans continued to be popular with men and men’s groups throughout 2021. This study was not only popular with adult men but has now been adapted for a student context. This Bible study experience challenges men to get off the sideline and engage in the crucial areas of life. This study includes a discussion guide for D-groups and uses historical figures from Scripture to develop topics like “No More Hiding Behind Your Past,” “No More Going through the Motions,” and “No More Standing on the Sidelines.”

Based on the popularity of “No More Excuses,” Lifeway also developed and released a 90-day devotional for men. “No More Excuses: A 90-Day Devotional for Men” challenges men to lay down their excuses, stop compromising, and fight to be a man of character and commitment. Each day, men engaging in this content will find a Scripture verse, short devotion, and thought-provoking question to help them find purpose, meaning, and direction in life and become the man God has called them to be. Because of the popularity of this devotional, Lifeway Students adapted a version for students that is currently available.

In 2019, Lifeway released the feature documentary “Kingdom Men Rising” and it remains available through various streaming platforms. “Kingdom Men Rising” wrestles honestly with the unique questions and circumstances men face today. Matters of addiction, sex, race, and passivity are addressed from a biblical perspective. “Kingdom Men Rising” takes a journey that challenges men to rise above cultural or “toxic” masculinity to biblically defined examples.

Future Plans — Lifeway Men continues to provide biblically trusted resources, most notably “Kingdom Man” and “No More Excuses” and six volumes of “33 The Series” with Authentic Manhood, but also studies that meet the needs of men such as “Marks of a Disciple,” “Help My Unbelief,” and “John 1-3.” Lifeway Men plans to release two additional Bible studies over the next year in addition to developing digital solutions to meet the growing demand for content available via mobile technology.

Women’s Ministry

Lifeway Christian Resources and the Women’s Event and Publishing Team continue to equip and minister to women across the country and beyond with multiple live events and resources for a diversified audience, both to the SBC and other women of faith.

After rescheduling many of our spring 2021 events to the fall due to COVID-19 concerns, we were able to reach over 130,000 women through our live and digital events. We held three simulcast events in fiscal year 2021: Living Proof Live Simulcast with Beth Moore in October 2020, Lifeway Women Live Simulcast in April 2021, and Going Beyond Simulcast with Priscilla Shirer in September 2021. These simulcast events reached over 113,500 women. Another 17,000 women attended one of our live events: Lifeway Women Live, Glory with Jackie Hill Perry, and Going Beyond Live with Priscilla Shirer.

We had a year full of releases from the short-term Bible study team. These included: “Elijah” by Priscilla Shirer, “With Us in the Wilderness” by Lauren Chandler, “Complement” by Jamie and Aaron Ivey, “Seek First the Kingdom” by Christine Hoover, “God of Deliverance” by Jen Wilkin, “How Much More” by Lisa Harper, “He’s Where the Joy Is” by Tara-Leigh Cobble, “Encountering God” by Kelly Minter, and “Never Alone” by Jeannie Cunnion. A study for Advent (“Our Hope Has Come”) was also released from the Lifeway Women team.

Lifeway Women offered its first paid Online Bible Study in January 2021, in partnership with Going Beyond Ministries, featuring Priscilla Shirer’s “Elijah” Bible Study. This offering allowed women to study “Elijah” together using an enhanced Online Bible Study platform that included an embedded reader and additional video functionality. Priscilla Shirer also provided bonus content to help lead the women through the study. We had over 33,000 women from all over the world participate in this first-of-its-kind study. During the first week of study, women from 92 countries logged onto the Online Bible Study platform.

The 2021 Lifeway Women Leadership Forum was held in November 2021 with both live and virtual attendees. More than 900 women participated in this training. Lifeway Women was also able to train more than 10,000 women in 2021 through our You Lead Events, You Lead Virtual, You Lead Monthly Webinars, and training done in partnership with state conventions.

Lifeway Women continued to expand its social media reach through Facebook, Twitter, Instagram, and its blog, Lifewaywomen.com. In 2021, the blog had over 3 million total page views and over 700,000 users. The Lifeway Women’s Facebook page had over 207,000 followers, along with 72,000 Twitter and 251,000 Instagram followers.

The Lifeway Women app has had over 25,000 downloads since its launch in August 2020. This app provides free plans that correspond with our Bible Studies and allows women to form groups within the app to study together. It also includes a few paid plans that contain all of the

content from a Bible Study. This app also makes it easy to listen to the Marked podcast and read the latest news from Lifeway Women.

Future Plans — Lifeway Women will continue to offer the multi-platform Lifeway Women Live event as well as events with Priscilla Shirer and Jackie Hill Perry. A cruise with Lysa TerKeurst will take place in 2022.

The publishing pipeline for 2022 includes plans to publish the following women's Bible studies: "God of Freedom: Exodus (Part 2)" by Jen Wilkin, "In View of God's Mercies" by Courtney Doctor, "The Bible in a Year" by Kandi Gallaty, "The Gospel on the Ground" by Kristi McLelland, "Isaiah" by Melissa Spoelstra, "Amos" by Jennifer Rothschild, "From Beginning to Forever" by Elizabeth Woodson, and an update and re-release of "Ruth" by Kelly Minter. Lifeway Women will also release a new Advent study titled "The Wonder of Advent" that features video and music from Adrienne Camp.

5. Assist churches through operation of Conference Centers and Camps.

CentriKid, Student Life, and FUGE returned to hosting in-person events in 2021 with great success. We knew it was going to be an exciting summer of camp from the very first moment as our staff and church attendees arrived on location, ready for the fun, relationships, and life-change that happens each year through camp ministry. In summer 2021, more than 1,400 campers placed their faith in Jesus for salvation. Additionally, kids and teenagers gave \$445,068.30 in offerings to support the work of the International Mission Board and the North American Mission Board.

Summer 2021 wasn't without its challenges due to COVID-19, but the work of our teams at Lifeway, including our COVID-19 task force, implemented many new policies and worked diligently throughout the summer to provide a healthy and safe environment for attendees, staff, and location personnel.

Future Plans — In 2022, Lifeway plans to host FUGE Camps in 26 locations across the nation, CentriKid camps in 22 locations, Student Life in 32 locations, and Student Life Kids in seven locations.

The Lifeway camps team continues to monitor COVID-19 and work to keep campers healthy and safe. The aforementioned COVID-19 Task Force, composed of experienced, full-time camp staff and the Lifeway camps ministry team, is working closely with host locations, the Centers for Disease Control, and other local health organizations.

In April 2020, Lifeway's Board of Trustees authorized a recommendation for the organization's executive team to pursue viable options for the disposition of Ridgcrest Conference Center and Summer Camps. Lifeway's transfer of the conference center and camps to the Ridgcrest Foundation was completed by December 30, 2020. Lifeway continues to use Ridgcrest for events including student camps, kids camps, and the Black Church Leadership and Family Conference.

6. Assist churches through the publication of books and Bibles.

B&H Publishing Group publishes trustworthy books that impact children, teens, adults, families, churches, and God's work around the world. In 2021, B&H made significant contributions to Christian publishing, such as the bestselling books "Holier Than Thou," "Life," and "Make the Call."

B&H also partnered with Midwestern Baptist Theological Seminary president Jason K. Allen in publication of the work "Letters to My Students, Vol. 2: On Pastoring." B&H is helping assist the church in understanding complex issues through the publication of books like "Cannabis and the Christian" by Todd Miles, "Gun Lap" by Robert Wolgemuth, and "Restarting the World" by H. Norman Wright with Bryn Edwards.

Key titles published for children include: “The Moon Speaks” by Jason Duesing, “When I Hold You” by Ashley Huffstutler, and the “Prince Warriors Anniversary Boxed Set” by Priscilla Shirer.

As churches continue to acclimate to a regular cadence of regathering after the pandemic, B&H is focused on addressing church needs by meeting with local church pastors to anticipate the needs of churches. B&H understands that as the world has changed, churches have changed too. B&H is honored to partner with others throughout Lifeway and across the denomination to produce resources that address timely needs in the context of work in the SBC.

B&H Bible & Reference — Holman Bibles publishes Bibles, commentaries, and reference titles in order to support individuals of all ages in their understanding of Scripture. In 2021, Holman Bibles continued the strategic initiative of developing CSB awareness and growth in the market—seeing incremental gains month after month and being recognized by the ECPA as one of the top two fastest-growing translations year over year. In addition to marketshare recognition, the ECPA also awarded the “CSB Tony Evans Study Bible” and the “Tony Evans Commentary” the bronze award for each exceeding unit sales of 100,000.

Other notable 2021 releases and contributions in the CSB portfolio included the release of “CSB Men of Character Bible” by well-known author Gene Getz, three “CSB Notetaking Bibles” co-branded with “Hosanna Revival,” and the “CSB Student Study Bible.”

Future Plans — Looking forward to 2022, other key releases for Holman Bibles will include the “CSB Lifeway Women’s Bible,” the “CSB Explorer Bible for Kids,” the “CSB Adorned Bible,” and the release of NASB text Bibles with the updated 2020 text, as well as new CSB and KJV text editions in various trim sizes for both the trade and mass market.

To continue to serve both church and lay leaders in their understanding of Scripture, the Holman Reference team continues to release commentaries and reference titles that edify and equip God’s people, most notably the “Christ-Centered Exposition” series, the “New American Commentary” series, and the recently released “Christian Standard Commentary” series. New editions of both the “Christ-Centered Exposition” series and the “Christian Standard Commentary” series have seen additional releases in 2021, with more to follow in 2022.

B&H Academic — B&H Academic publishes trustworthy textbooks and classroom resources for colleges and seminaries that can also be used in homeschool classes, church education contexts, and individual study. In 2021, we released 20 new titles. Notable among these were “Historical Theology for the Church,” edited by Jason Duesing and Nathan Finn, and a new edition of “Telling God’s Story” by Preben Vang and Terry Carter. Both books are designed to be used as the primary assigned text in a relevant course.

B&H Academic also published a festschrift in honor of longtime SBTS professor of Old Testament Duane Garrett, “The Law, the Prophets, and the Writings.” Also published was the PhD dissertation of former GuideStone president, O. S. Hawkins, entitled “In the Name of God.” Hawkins’ dissertation was completed at SWBTS and compares the colorful lives and enduring legacies of Dallas-Fort Worth pastors J. Frank Norris and George W. Truett and was B&H Academic’s top-selling new release of 2021.

A couple of younger authors wrote two of our most unique titles in 2021. “Apatheism” by SBTS PhD candidate and Alabama pastor Kyle Beshears guides readers into effective evangelism among the growing numbers of people who don’t reject the Gospel so much as feel indifferent toward it. “The Method of Christian Theology,” by Williams Baptist University administrator and NOBTS associate professor Rhyne Putman, offers need-to-know information before beginning theological study, in particular what theology is and how one ought to go about it.

Future Plans — Looking ahead to 2022, B&H Academic aims to uphold our commitment to professors, students, and other readers by publishing theologically faithful, high-quality, scholarly resources that bring glory to God and serve the church. We look forward to creating more supplemental resources for professors that make it easier to use our books in the classroom, to completing the seven-volume “Lost Sermons of C. H. Spurgeon” series, and to releasing two, strong, biblical counseling resources, “The Gospel for Disordered Lives” and “Counseling Women.” From student ministry to church communications to logic, Calvinism, or a biblical approach to free will, B&H Academic will tackle a variety of subjects for which professors and readers need sound resources.

7. Assist churches through the operation of Lifeway Christian Stores.

During fiscal year 2021, millions of individuals and tens of thousands of churches, both domestically and internationally, were served through Lifeway’s online store at Lifeway.com. In January, Lifeway began a significant update and refresh of its branding and website and introduced improved experiences at Lifeway.com to help church leaders find ministry resources they need to be more effective in the work they do.

Website improvements included improved search capabilities, product personalization (i.e., Bible imprinting and more), new gift-giving capabilities, and an autoship feature allowing customers to set up an automatically recurring order on a schedule that works best for them. Lifeway.com makes it easy for churches to manage orders of curriculum, periodicals, and church supplies with an autoship function. Churches can browse curriculum for the current cycle, manage orders, and receive discounts on qualifying orders. Churches interested in learning more about this program should visit Lifeway.com/churchordering or call Lifeway’s Customer Service Center at 800-458-2772.

In fall 2021, Lifeway.com was recognized on Newsweek’s list of Best Online Shops 2022, landing at No. 5 in the category of media (e.g., books, CD, DVD, software).

In addition to Lifeway.com, Lifeway interacts with customers in a variety of channels and multiple touch points including our Customer Service Center, as well as external channels that help customers interact with our resources.

Southern Baptists have access to Lifeway material through channels such as the Amazon Marketplace, retail chains such as Walmart, Books-a-Million, and Mardel Stores, and a network of more than 500 independent Christian retailers in 45 states who serve as authorized Lifeway dealers. Through these channels, Lifeway has extended its reach to new markets and more customers.

Future Plans — Lifeway will continue to serve and provide our resources at competitive prices through our online store at Lifeway.com and our Customer Service team, as well as provide Lifeway Stores at regional and national events. Customers will continue to see improvements at Lifeway.com throughout 2022 including the launch of a virtual Bible store.

8. Assist churches through church architecture consultation and services.

Visioneering Studios is proud to be Lifeway’s strategic partner in providing comprehensive architecture, planning, and construction services for churches, nonprofits, and other organizations nationwide. Visioneering Studios serves as a trusted partner and guide for organizations looking to launch their visions and make a greater impact.

Through this dynamic resource, Lifeway connects churches, associations, state conventions, and denominational entities with an expanded array of services, including development advisory services, master planning, architecture, development, wayfinding, environmental graphics, interior design, and construction services. Visioneering’s truly integrated project approach allows them to engage each project uniquely—serving their individual people, place, and passion.

Visioneering Studios offers churches a “Budget Savvy Guarantee”™ on every design. This groundbreaking approach guarantees that Visioneers will: design to a target budget, leverage dollars for maximum impact, and price-check throughout the design process.

Visioneering Studios has full-service, multi-disciplinary studios in Santa Ana, CA; Nashville, TN; and Dallas, TX.

While continuing to work with their 2020 clients, Visioneering had the privilege to begin working with over 100 churches and nonprofit organizations in 2021, including Capshaw Baptist, Hulen Street Church, First Baptist Hammond, Centerpoint Church, Fort Caroline Baptist Church, History Dome, First Baptist Sevierville, Long Hollow Baptist Church, Whittier Area Community Church, among many others. In total, Visioneering worked in 22 states and 80 cities throughout 2021.

In 2021, Visioneering Studios kicked off nearly a dozen new construction projects while completing several new builds including Whittier Area Community Church and Evangel Church.

Like many churches, Whittier Area Community Church (Whittier, CA) launched in a school gym and grew into their own space. In the 1970s, they moved into their own space. This year, Visioneering Studios built a new worship sanctuary and chapel, updated their kid’s spaces, and remodeled the church offices. Evangel Church is the largest church in Bismarck, ND. Their vision of being a light to the community became the inspiration for Visioneering’s design process, with a new 1,500 seat worship center, expanded preschool and kid’s ministry space, daily coffee shop, and plaza open to the public with an entry tower that would spill light out into the community.

Visioneering Studios partnered with The Legacy International Center in San Diego, CA, to create its one-of-a-kind 4-D History Theater Dome. This unique experience sets a high bar for excellence, previously unseen in its sector. The centerpiece experience of the newly opened center is the unique 100-seat, 4-D motion History Dome Theater designed to transport visitors to the ancient Holy Land of Jerusalem. The theater is equipped with state-of-the-art motion sensory seats (used for the first time in North America) and a seamless 360-degree immersive screen to fully capture the audience’s attention.

In 2009, Centerpoint Church (Murrieta, CA) was growing but out of space; they thought they were going to have to scrap plans to build their new 1,000-seat worship center due to the financial recession. Instead, Visioneering Studios helped the church produce a multi-year phasing and expansion plan. This included building a new, smaller, more affordable worship center, which could be expanded in the future. 2021 was the conclusion of the 12-year campus build-out plan, with the completion of the worship center expansion to 1,200 seats, new tech facility, chapel, and additional parking. Visioneering Studios is thrilled to have completed four phases, over 12 years, with Centerpoint Church and help them launch their vision into reality.

Future Plans — In 2022, Visioneering Studios celebrates its 20-year anniversary and continues to be dedicated to providing services to churches and nonprofits utilizing its diverse team of real estate professionals, developers, architects and designers, financial analysts, and construction professionals to steward all of their client partners’ assets, including facilities, budgets, time, and each unique story, vision, and mission. In addition to churches, Visioneering continues to expand services to nonprofits including private schools like Chapman University and Armstrong Elementary.

Visioneering Studios is thrilled to now be helping churches activate their property seven days a week by leveraging unused land for commercial development. This new ministry helps the church development community while increasing revenue. With nearly 18 potential development

projects in the pipeline, Visioneering Studios Real Estate is now one of the nation's leaders that can secure a source of funding for the church's mission without losing focus, non-profit status, or their minds.

You can reach a team member of Visioneering Studios at (888) 539-1957. Visioneering can also be found on Facebook (search VisioneeringStudios), Twitter (@theVisioneer), Instagram (@VisioneeringStudios), and on our website at VisioneeringStudios.com.

9. Assist churches in capital fundraising.

As the consulting arm of Lifeway, Auxano navigates church, ministry, and denominational leaders through innovative and collaborative processes to reach breakthrough clarity on their growth challenges. Areas of focus range from visionary planning and discipleship alignment to leadership development and generosity initiatives.

As a key "on-the-ground" resource for Lifeway, Auxano not only works directly with church teams across the country but also is able to provide Lifeway with insight of what ministry leaders are facing day to day. In doing so, Auxano is part of the Lifeway team that is building a nimble, integrated approach to address the most important discipleship and growth issues of churches as we look to the future. This includes a variety of ways to grow customer acquisition, client nurturing, and resource influence. Examples in 2021 include:

- Virtual and in-person services to a wide variety of vision clarity and capital campaign clients, including church plants, small churches averaging fewer than 200 in worship, mega-churches averaging 3,000-10,000+ in worship, and multi-campus churches.
- Process development design for the "Exponential" national network including new tools for a nine-part Multiplication Operating System and six-phase Multiplier's Journey.
- Design of cutting-edge Auxano Assessments such as:
 - Engagement survey (how people are assimilating in the church)
 - ViewPoint survey (what congregations currently think about their church's identity and future)
 - Mind the Gap survey (the degree to which church discipleship approaches are actually working and how to improve them in real-time)
 - ChurchNext survey (how people think the pandemic will affect their future church involvement)
 - Generosity assessment (how people perceive their involvement in building a culture of generosity)
- Facilitation of innovative national, regional, and local webinars/meetings throughout the pandemic to help leaders navigate practical challenges and increase passion for the church's mission among all of their people
- Launch of cutting-edge capital campaign and generosity consulting tools to posture our services as both proven and entrepreneurial
- Partnerships with Visioneering, Kingdom Analytics, and MortarStone to provide clients with integrated solutions for church fundraising, architecture, and congregational giving analytics

Future Plans — 2022 will see the launch of a deeply aligned series of discipleship resources, processes, and other tools that Auxano is developing with Lifeway and B&H. The approach will give church leaders what they need when they need it to respond to challenges in realizing their vision.

10. Assist churches by conducting research and compiling statistics.

Lifeway Research released a variety of significant research studies in 2021. These included surveys of pastors and churchgoers on challenges and ministry amidst COVID-19, polling about

the views of pastors and/or churchgoers on race relations, gender change, life's meaning and purpose, endorsement of political candidates, worldviews, and pastor attrition.

LifewayResearch.com was redesigned to provide insights on how to understand and navigate changes in today's ministry context while regularly providing new research on the church and culture. This website, designed to serve pastors and church leaders, is on course to reach more than 2 million page views in 2021.

The SBC Annual Church Profile (ACP) for 2020 showed the impact of COVID-19 on SBC congregations. The Southern Baptist Convention had declines in several key measures including the number of congregations, average worship attendance, membership, and baptisms. The number of churches affiliated with the Southern Baptist Convention grew by 62 from 2019, but the number of church-type missions declined by 504. Average worship attendance decreased 15.44%. Reported membership declined 3%. Southern Baptists also experienced a decline in baptisms, down 47.76% to 123,160.

Future Plans — Lifeway Research will release research studies in 2022 on the greatest needs of pastors, evangelistic conversations, impact of COVID-19 on ministry, racial reconciliation, modern-day idols, mental illness, suicide, religious liberty, and the theological beliefs of Americans.

MATTERS REFERRED BY THE CONVENTION

The Convention referred the following items to Lifeway Christian Resources during the Annual Meeting of the Southern Baptist Convention in Nashville, Tennessee, June 15–16, 2021, for consideration, action, and report back to the next annual meeting.

1. SBC Referral: To request Convention entities to examine the use of non-disclosure agreements (Items 75 and 102, Proceedings of the Southern Baptist Convention, June 15-16, 2021, *SBC Annual*, p. 75, 83)

Motion: Brad Patterson, Texas

“That the Southern Baptist Convention request each entity to examine its use of non-disclosure agreements and report its findings to the messengers of the 2022 annual meeting of the Southern Baptist Convention in Anaheim, California, reporting said findings with particular attention to three areas: what is biblical justification for the use of non-disclosure agreements; how many non-disclosure agreements have been signed or agreed to in the last five years; and if non-disclosure agreements have been utilized, for what specific purposes were they utilized?”

Response: Lifeway Christian Resources is committed to ethical contracting policies and procedures with accountability to and governance by the Lifeway Board of Trustees. The term “non-disclosure agreements” can encompass certain types of agreements or provisions that confer an obligation of confidentiality on one or more parties. Lifeway utilizes common confidentiality agreements or confidentiality provisions in commercial contracts to protect confidential and proprietary information, allow parties to conduct the proper due diligence and share information, and to comply with local and federal privacy laws and regulations related to data protection and personal private information (i.e., PII, PHI, PCI). The Bible speaks in many places about the need to conduct business honestly and honorably, as a good steward, and with wisdom. A few applicable verses include Leviticus 19:11; Deuteronomy 25:13; Proverbs 11:1; Matthew 7:12, Luke 16:11.

2. SBC Referral: To request that entities conduct certain audits and disclose financial details (Items 78 and 102, Proceedings of the Southern Baptist Convention, June 15-16, 2021, *SBC Annual*, p. 76, 83)

Motion: Rick Hillard, Kentucky

“That the Southern Baptist Convention request beginning in 2023 that every 5 years each entity of the Southern Baptist Convention takes the steps needed to undergo a holistic and complete audit with specific disclosure of all details made public to any Southern Baptist no later than 30 days prior to the coinciding year’s annual meeting.

Response: Lifeway Christian Resources is committed to financial fidelity and accountability and operates within the guidelines of the SBC Business and Financial Plan. To that end, Lifeway has an annual audit conducted by an independent, certified public accounting firm selected by the Lifeway trustee audit committee. The annual audit is in accordance with the Business and Financial Plan and generally accepted auditing standards. The report from the auditor is submitted to and reviewed with the Lifeway trustee audit committee and includes an executive session with the auditors without any Lifeway employees present in which committee members can ask questions of the auditor. Lifeway forwards the external auditor’s entire audit report to the Executive Committee to be made public and published in the Convention Annual. Lifeway’s annual audited financial statements are available in the SBC Annual which can be found at www.SBC.net.

3. SBC Referral: To enhance ministries to the Deaf (Items 79 and 102, Proceedings of the Southern Baptist Convention, June 15-16, 2021, *SBC Annual*, p. 76, 83)

Motion: John Blackmon, Georgia

“In light of the fact that there are approximately 11 million Deaf people in the United States and only 2-4% consider themselves Christian; and being inspired by the faithful work of the IMB in the recognition and attention given to the Deaf affinity group among the peoples of the world since 2009, I move that the Convention request the trustees of Lifeway Christian Resources and the North American Mission Board to research and report on the feasibility of a partnership to produce and provide access to resources for existing Deaf ministries and future work among Deaf peoples in the United States, to include but not be limited to theological education, discipleship materials, print, video, and other resources prepared in and by individuals skilled in ASL. Such access and preparation would aid such ministries in reaching this specific people group and equip those skilled and called to reach this people group.”

Response: In order to provide a comprehensive response, the three entities that received this motion from the SBC—Lifeway, IMB, and NAMB—have collaborated in our response to the Southern Baptist Convention. With the ministry our three entities are already involved in, in addition to what others within our Southern Baptist family are doing, a variety of resources exist for churches who have an existing ministry or want to begin a ministry to the Deaf community, including theological education, discipleship materials, translation services, and evangelism resources. According to a Southern Baptist Conference of the Deaf directory of churches, there are about 40 Southern Baptist Deaf churches, 23 Deaf missions, about 45 churches with Deaf ministries and nearly 30 churches with interpretive ministries registered with the group. There are 11 million in the U.S. who consider themselves Deaf or have serious difficulty hearing and nearly 70 million Deaf people around the world.

Explore the Bible: Deaf, published by Lifeway, is written by hearing-impaired writers using text with simplified language to facilitate signing American Sign Language (ASL). Lifeway is developing a digital library of “Explore the Bible: Deaf” that will be available for free by

Summer 2022 at Lifeway.com/ExploretheBibleDeaf, along with links to other resources and ministries for the Deaf. Lifeway also provides captions on many of our video discipleship products, as well as captions and interpreters at a number of our events.

NAMB is a sponsor for **RID (Registry of Interpreters for the Deaf)**, which is a national registry of certified interpreters since 1986. NAMB does this in partnership with the state conventions for the Deaf ministries and their interpreters. NAMB also sponsors workshops every year for Alabama, Florida, Georgia, Kentucky, Mississippi, North Carolina, Tennessee, and Texas. Professional Interpreters for the Deaf must be certified, and they must earn a certain number of Continuing Education Credits (CEU's) each year to maintain their certification. In this capacity, NAMB plays a key role in helping to equip Deaf interpreters who can serve Southern Baptist churches.

The **SBCD (Southern Baptist Conference for the Deaf)** website has information about their annual conference where workshops are held (sbcd deaf.org).

The **SBCD directory of churches** is online at sbcd deaf.blogspot.com, with pins marking locations for Deaf churches and missions.

The **Deafway Bible App**, offers sign language translations of Bible stories by Deaf translators. The app was developed by Deaf Pathway Global, a non-profit venture established by a partnership between IMB and Brentwood Baptist Church. To learn more about Deaf Pathway Global, visit deafpathway.com where you can download the Deafway Bible App for iPhone or Google Play.

The **Deaf Theological Center** in Brentwood, Tennessee, has been training Deaf for missions and ministry since its launch in 2014. Through a partnership between IMB, Union University in Jackson, Tennessee, the Southern Baptist Conference for the Deaf, Brentwood Baptist Church, and Brentwood Baptist Deaf Church, Deaf believers can receive customized seminary-level training for missions and ministry. Classes are offered in hermeneutics, Old Testament, New Testament, doctrine, and missiology.

Through the partnership, IMB provides instructors, customized course delivery and financial support for missionaries and their families; Union provides a customized academic program, academic oversight and credit hours at a special rate; and Brentwood Baptist and its Deaf Church provide meeting space, instructors, housing, and other services.

For more information on IMB's work among the Deaf people, visit www.imb.org/Deaf.



4200 North Point Parkway, Alpharetta, Georgia 30022

ERIC J. THOMAS, Chair

KEVIN EZELL, President

At NAMB, it's all about the Gospel. The reason we do everything we do is to help Southern Baptists make disciples in North America and beyond. We carry out that mission through three primary ministry areas: Send Network, Send Relief, and Evangelism.

First, we want to thank Southern Baptists on behalf of all our missionaries for how you gave to North American missions in 2021. Thanks to your commitment and generosity, the Annie Armstrong Easter Offering reached another record high, coming in at \$66.5 million. This has been a big encouragement to our missionaries during times of such turmoil and uncertainty in our world. While we do not put our faith in money, this offering is a clear, tangible demonstration of God's faithfulness and provision. It also shows the generosity and commitment Southern Baptists have toward missions. So, thank you again and please know that every dollar of this offering is spent on the field and with the utmost care.

Send Network. We partner with Southern Baptists to help plant churches everywhere for everyone in North America through Send Network. In 2021, Southern Baptists started 1,018 new congregations which included 600 new church plants, 135 replants, 201 new affiliations and 82 new campuses. We rejoice in seeing an increase in church plants for two years in a row. More importantly, we take great encouragement that the four-year survival rate for church plants started through Send Network is at or above 80%. We are committed to helping churches plant churches that will be shining the light of the Gospel for decades to come.

In early 2022, it was a privilege to announce that, through a collaboration with GuideStone Financial Resources, we are able to provide first-year Send Network church planters with health benefits, survivor benefits, and a one-time \$1,000 donation to establish a retirement fund during their initial year planting. In addition, NAMB will provide one year of bookkeeping services as well as an online giving resource. All of this is added to the ongoing coaching, training, resourcing, and care that NAMB provides through Send Network. It is all made possible through Southern Baptist generosity.

We are so grateful for how God worked and for the perseverance of our church planters. The mission is moving forward! Please join us in praying that God would raise up more church planting missionaries. Currently, the biggest barrier that keeps us from planting more churches is the lack of qualified candidates.

Send Relief. Our partnership with the International Mission Board through Send Relief has been an incredible blessing. Now, Southern Baptists have a single, central place to go where they can serve on mission to carry out compassion ministry in North America or around the globe. And this ministry is growing. We now have 16 Send Relief Ministry Centers in North America with more coming in 2022. Not only do these centers give mission teams a place to serve, they also provide models for churches that want to start similar ministries in their own communities. Our dream is to see hundreds of church-based ministry centers in the years ahead. All of it is focused on meeting needs while sharing Christ.

Our Send Relief Serve Tour launched in 2021 with an event in Tulsa, Oklahoma. It was an incredible blessing to the community and an opportunity for local churches and volunteers to share Christ as they worked on homes and served their neighbors in multiple ways. More Serve

Tour events are coming in 2022 as we partner with state conventions, local associations, and churches to serve cities across the United States and share the hope of the Gospel.

Send Relief is actively serving refugees who have fled their homes in the Ukraine for safety. In addition, Send Relief supports Southern Baptist Disaster Relief efforts by providing meals, resources, and funding in times of disaster and crisis.

Evangelism and Leadership. Johnny Hunt is leading our evangelism team to serve Southern Baptists in greater ways than ever before. Our website includes dozens of free evangelism resources for pastors and churches. Our Who's Your One Tours connected with thousands of people in 2021, and more have been taking place in 2022.

Many pastors are hurting which means pastor care is more important than ever. Because of this, we increased the number of our Timothy+Barnabas events this past year. We will do the same in 2022 so we can help bring healing and encouragement to many more pastors in need.

There were so many other things to celebrate, but as I conclude, I want to remind you that NAMB is here to serve. Pastors are our number one customer.

At NAMB, it really is *all* about the Gospel and we are all about doing whatever it takes to help your church fulfill its Great Commission goals.

Thank you again for how you support our more than 6,100 missionaries and chaplains and thank you for your partnership in the Gospel.

Kevin Ezell
President

Eric J. Thomas
Chair

MINISTRY GOALS AND ACCOMPLISHMENTS

(SBC entities present ministry reports to the Executive Committee each February relating to their ministry assignments [SBC Bylaw 18E]. At their request, the following content is provided from the 2022 Ministry Report of The North American Mission Board.)

I. Assist churches in planting healthy, multiplying, evangelistic Southern Baptist Churches in the United States and Canada.

To reach people for Christ—and disciple them to reach others for Christ—North America must have strong, evangelistic, healthy churches. In addition to encouraging existing churches to be as healthy as possible, new churches are needed. These new churches require qualified church planter missionaries and the primary developer of these missionaries is the local church.

We are encouraging SBC churches to offer residencies, through which they can intentionally discover, develop, and deploy missional leaders and church planting teams. Thus far, there are 273 churches offering residency opportunities and we are seeking to identify more. This is an increase beyond the 58 churches that had residencies last year.

Along with encouraging residencies, we also continue to assist churches in the discovery and development of potential planters through the Send Network Multiplication Pipeline. This resource is designed for use in the local church to discover, develop, and deploy missional leaders, many of whom will move into church planting. This process is a great asset for the pastor who desires to see his church multiply in the future. This resource is greatly enhancing the efforts to raise up future generations of indigenous planters and team members in parts of North America where needs are greatest, especially as current and future plants gain a vision to become multiplying churches themselves. To date, 972 churches are implementing the Multiplication Pipeline and they have engaged 5,168 participants in Pipeline training.

Send Network continues to provide a clear pathway for SBC churches to utilize in deploying God-called believers across North America. The planting pathway provides a robust application and assessment process that allows churches to confirm the gifts, calling, and abilities of those they seek to send. During assessment retreats, the missionary candidate and his wife spend time with church and ministry leaders from the city or region where the church will be planted. Send Network's Planter Development team then takes the baton once an individual is endorsed by the Discovery team, providing the opportunity for orientation, training, coaching, and care for all SBC planters. In 2021, more than 300 individuals went through a Send Network assessment retreat with 74% of those approved to move toward planting a church.

Send Network Orientation took place with a combination of in-person and virtual meetings, and a total of 389 attended. During orientation, newly endorsed planters are informed of the vision and mission of Send Network and equipped to embody the network's shared values of family, multiplication, and restoration. Planters also receive critical information about being part of the Southern Baptist Convention and the importance of giving through the Cooperative Program and to the Annie Armstrong Easter Offering®. The entire orientation is led by church planting practitioners.

The training we provide enables planters to develop a contextual and missional strategy to engage their cities with the Gospel, make disciples, and plant healthy churches. Send Network coaches then walk alongside church planters and help them process the next steps to personal, familial, and church health.

In addition to our commitment to developing planters, we are also committed to developing church planting wives. When the spouse is flourishing, her impact on her husband and the church plant is transformational. Send Network provides care and has implemented a strategy to train and coach our planting wives. We also have a team of field staff and local churches that provide care to our church planting families so that every planter is appreciated, connected, and encouraged.

NAMB is working to provide all Send Network Planter Pathway tools and resources to be used by Send Network partners for their own process from assessment to care. Some of the benefits that partners are experiencing by using these tools and resources are:

- Planters get an excellent, seamless experience from application through their first years of planting using free, Send Network-provided resources and technology platforms at each stage of the journey.
- Convention saves money on systems and materials using Send Network's robust tools, processes, and personnel, rather than producing and maintaining their own.
- Use of up-to-date resources and platforms that are regularly upgraded to reflect the best training methods and technology.
- Promotion of local church planting efforts utilizing national Send Network brand recognition.
- Gain special access for their church planters at church planting and mission events.
- NAMB has Send Network partner agreements with many states outside the South. Three South state convention partners—Missouri, Virginia-SBCV, and Texas-SBTC—became Send Network partner conventions in 2021.

For additional statistics, see NAMB Ministry Inquiry 8, 9, 10, 12, 13, 16 and 19 found at sbc.net/wp-content/uploads/2022/01/NAMB-2022-Ministry-Inquiries.pdf.

II. Assist churches in the ministries of evangelism and making disciples.

“It’s all about the Gospel.” As evangelism is at the heart of everything NAMB does and it drives our church planting and compassion ministry strategy, we continue to encourage, equip, and inspire pastors to lead their churches to live on mission by sharing the hope of the Gospel in their communities. In 2021, under the leadership of Johnny Hunt, we provided opportunities and resources to maximize momentum in evangelism efforts.

Who’s Your One

Who’s Your One continues to be NAMB’s primary evangelism emphasis as every Christian is challenged to identify one person in their life who doesn’t know Jesus, pray for them, and seek out opportunities to share the Gospel with them. Who’s Your One began in 2019 and continues to gain momentum today as pastors are challenging their churches and next gen pastors are challenging their students. As of November 2021, nearly 44,000 people have gone to WhosYourOne.com to commit to praying for their one.

“Who’s Your One Everyday Evangelism Card,” a new resource in both English and Spanish and based on John 3:16, was released in January 2021 as a simple way of helping Christians share the Gospel with their one. Over 208,000 cards have been distributed so far. The “Who’s Your One Everyday Evangelism Tool” in both English and Spanish was also created to help Christians know where to begin when it comes to having Gospel conversations. More than 206,000 Everyday Evangelism Bundles (includes Everyday Evangelism Tool and Everyday Evangelism Card) have been distributed.

In Fall 2021, NAMB created the Who’s Your One prayer guide and bookmarks in Mandarin and have distributed them among Mandarin-speaking congregations upon request.

NAMB established a Who’s Your One Tour series in Fall 2019 to encourage, equip, and inspire people share the hope of the Gospel. The tour continued into 2021, with the following tour sites: Phoenix, AZ; Oklahoma City, OK; Ankeny, IA; Columbus, OH; Louisville, KY; Spartanburg, SC; Wake Forest, NC; Woodstock, GA; Birmingham, AL; and Sarasota, FL.

Overall total attendance for the Who’s Your One Tours included more than 14,900 people who attended Sunday night rallies and more than 5,770 who attended Monday morning evangelism trainings.

Free Resources

NAMB continues to offer free evangelism resources to help pastors lead their churches in evangelism, including the 3 Circles Kit, Best News Kit, Live This Evangelism Kit, and the Who’s Your One Kit. Since the launch of Who’s Your One, we have distributed a total of 35,000+ kits, 603,000+ prayer guides, and 2.2 million bookmarks to churches. In addition, NAMB also distributed 3,000+ Spanish kits, 19,000+ Spanish prayer guides, and 90,000+ Spanish bookmarks.

The Evangelism with Johnny Hunt podcast, which began in 2019, continues to gain traction with more than 97,000 downloads. The podcast provides practical training by interviewing national leaders and pastors who are doing evangelism well. The podcast is in its fourth season and has seen almost 14,000 downloads. “Weekly Encouragement from Johnny Hunt,” a weekly message from Pastor Johnny, continues to encourage pastors who are working tirelessly to lead their churches. Since its launch in Fall 2020, more than 4,400 have inquired about how to receive the message on their phones or in their inboxes each week.

Since 2020, NAMB has offered a free resource each quarter, typically a book, to pastors who request it. These books provide either equipping or encouragement for pastors.

Next Gen

NAMB continues to provide relevant next gen resources, such as a 30-Day Who's Your One student devotional for students and the "Next Gen on Mission" podcast, co-hosted by Shane Pruitt and Paul Worcester, for leaders. Audio is available on all podcast platforms, and video conversations have recently been uploaded to our GenSend YouTube Channel. We are gaining momentum with "GenSend Conversations"—messages and testimonies for students—with nearly 6,000 subscribers.

As of November 2021, Shane Pruitt, national Next Gen director, has spoken at 129 (in-person and online) events that included student camps, collegiate events, conferences, state convention and local association events, local churches, webinars, as well as evangelism and other trainings on reaching the next generation. Approximately 120,000+ attended those events with well over 10,000 decisions recorded that included professions of faith for salvation, desires to follow in baptism, and surrendering to the call of ministry or missions. Shane Pruitt was also interviewed for many podcasts, radio shows, articles, and training videos, and he wrote multiple articles on evangelism, Gen Z, digital Gospel invitations, and other related topics.

In 2021, Shane Pruitt and Clayton King also started the Youth Leader Coaching Network (YLCN), where more than 300 hundred youth leaders were coached through online coaching and an in-person, two-day gathering in Alpharetta, GA. These are semester-long trainings that will be provided twice a year—a spring semester and a fall semester.

NAMB launched the first ever SBC National Student Baptism Day on October 31, 2021. There was a great response by churches for the first year and the initiative should grow over the years as more churches become aware and participate.

NAMB dedicated \$5 million as an infusion of funds dedicated for student evangelism over the next four years. The Evangelism team has been working closely with state conventions and local churches to further our collective efforts in reaching college students and teenagers with the Gospel. NAMB also started a monthly, virtual gathering for all state convention student leaders. This is a time of encouragement and networking and has further facilitated an incredible sense of unity with these next gen leaders. Additionally, a new webpage, GenSend Conversations Series, provides a teaching series to student pastors and collegiate leaders.

Paul Worcester, national collegiate director for NAMB, has had numerous opportunities to train collegiate ministry leaders across the nation. Paul has been able to lead collegiate ministry training events for over 1,200 Baptist Collegiate Ministry (BCM) staff across the nation. Several state conventions—including Arkansas, Oklahoma, and Kentucky—brought Paul in to train all their staff for an entire day and collegiate church networks have also hosted him for trainings. More of these training events are being scheduled for 2022.

There were also numerous opportunities to speak at national collegiate conferences including Collegiate Summit, College Metro, and Collegiate Week as well as many virtual events including a webinar that the team at NAMB hosted called "Pursuing Spiritual Awakening on Campus" with 400 collegiate leaders registered. The focus of these training events are about how to create evangelistic momentum, develop a disciple-making culture, and raise up and send laborers into the harvest. It has been thrilling to see the fruit of these efforts as leaders are leading their students to be bold witnesses on university campuses.

In addition to official training events, there have been countless personal coaching conversations and meetings with key collegiate leaders, BCM state directors, and strategic partners. This year of serving and equipping collegiate leaders across the nation has helped build a strong platform for further development in the field of collegiate ministry in the years ahead.

Paul Worcester has also trained thousands of college students in evangelism this year. There is a movement of God taking place among college students who are embracing the Who's Your One Challenge and living on mission on campus. Paul joined as a co-host of the "Next Gen On Mission Podcast" with Shane Pruitt and the podcast is gaining momentum and engagement. In addition to our podcast, we were able to publish numerous free resources that collegiate ministry leaders are finding helpful.

In addition to evangelism training, our team is focused on mobilizing students towards the Go2 movement and calling out the called. One resource that we are helping develop is the SBCcalled.com website for those called into vocational ministry. We are currently in the process of developing several other resources for collegiate ministry leaders.

In early 2022, we are launching Multipliers Collegiate Coaching Network modeled after the Youth Leader Coaching Network with a select group of the top 100 collegiate ministry leaders from across North America. We also are bringing in the best practitioners to coach this group of collegiate leaders. Our goal is to encourage, equip, and network the top collegiate leaders across North America. This pilot year is invite-only and will include four, live, interactive Zoom calls and an in-person gathering at NAMB. Our vision is to rally together, celebrate all methods of collegiate reaching, learn from one another, and dream about how we can see a multiplication movement on every campus and beyond.

In August 2021, GenSend was moved to the Evangelism and Leadership team. This will further enable the equipping and mobilizing of students to share the hope of the Gospel. The team is working to create a pathway to equip students from middle school through immediate college graduates to live a life on mission through church planting and compassion ministries. The team will introduce the rebranding of its student outreach efforts as GenSend in January 2022. The goal of GenSend is to equip next gen leaders to equip their students to live life on mission from middle school through post-grad.

III. Assist churches by appointing, supporting and assuring accountability for missionaries serving in the United States and Canada.

NAMB's Send Network team has a comprehensive training resource for the local church to discover and develop future church planting missionaries. The Multiplication Pipeline provides three years of content that helps a coach in a local church train individuals who want to live lives on mission more intentionally and/or explore church planting. To date, 972 churches are implementing the Multiplication Pipeline and they have engaged 5,168 participants in Pipeline training.

NAMB's Send Network team continues to provide one of the most robust assessments of church planters. The online pre-assessment, followed by a two-day assessment retreat, provides critical feedback to Sending Churches which, in turn, allows them to have confidence in the sending or further development of their church planters.

During Send Network Orientation (one virtual and one in person), we inform new planters of the vision and mission of the network and equip them to embody our network's shared values. Our Send Network training helps new planters develop a contextual missional strategy for making disciples. Most recently, we have developed and deployed a strategy to train and coach our planting wives via training retreats. Throughout the planting process, NAMB utilizes a quarterly reporting tool which provides Sending Churches and other entities involved in a church plant a clear picture of the vitality of the plant.

As housing costs in large cities are a significant challenge that keep many missionaries off the mission field throughout the Send Cities and some other key areas, NAMB has made missionary

housing available to a limited number of missionaries on a short-term basis. A missionary may live in the home for up to 18 months as they are deployed or trained for deployment to their context. Increasingly, we are seeking to locate these homes near multiplying churches that are committed to regularly developing new church planters and planting churches throughout their city and region. As a planter launches his church and becomes more established, his family transitions out of NAMB's missionary housing so another missionary family can move in.

NAMB's planter and family care ministry walks along a church planting missionary and his family during the entire church planting process. One of the greatest dangers a missionary family faces is isolation, so we make it a priority to connect church planting missionaries with other missionaries in their area and other nearby churches. Events, resources, prayer, gifts, and encouragement are some of the many tangible ways our planter and family care ministry walk alongside church planting missionaries and their families, so they know they are never alone. During the pandemic, care events were shelved and connections were made through phone calls and other means.

NAMB provides similar supervision, oversight, and resourcing for missionaries serving in other capacities. A growing number of missionaries serve in Send Relief-related assignments. NAMB continually assesses its missionary categories and roles. Our goal is to have highly qualified missionaries who are keenly focused on our primary ministry areas of church planting and compassion ministry. Since most of our missionaries are involved with church planting, their tenure with NAMB ends once their church matures past the five-year mark. This results in fluctuation in NAMB's missionary count from year to year.

In 2021, Send Network launched two new resources. Send Network Español takes church planters through the entire application, assessment, and onboarding process in Spanish. This is a significant improvement for native Spanish-speaking planters and planter candidates. Newchurches.com provides a wealth of resources for church planters, sending churches, and anyone else who is interested in learning more about church planting. NAMB will continue to add new material to both of these new resources in 2022. In addition to these new resources, NAMB provided clarification on its church planter pastor policy.

IV. Assist churches by providing missions education and coordinating volunteer mission opportunities for church members.

The North American Mission Board provides mission education that brings awareness of needs and how to minister to and share Christ with those in need. NAMB's desire is that mission education will spark and grow a lifelong passion and advocacy for missions. As part of the Annie Armstrong Easter Offering® for North American missions, NAMB provides study lessons and videos for children, youth, and adults. "On Mission Magazine," NAMB's flagship publication, carries missions awareness, advocacy, and engagement features. Our annual prayer calendar not only equips Southern Baptists to pray for North American missionaries, it also informs them about where the missionaries serve, the types of ministries they lead, and their prayer needs.

Additionally, NAMB continues to circulate the "North American Missions Activity Book for Children" and resource Woman's Missionary Union (WMU) with missionary contacts for age-level curriculum materials produced by the auxiliary, as well as providing content review for WMU materials related to NAMB work. NAMB produces missions videos for use in Lifeway student camps and Vacation Bible School, as well as assists with other entity requests for materials to enhance missions awareness and education.

In addition to print, online, and video resources, NAMB provides experience-based mission education. Send Relief provides numerous opportunities to experience missions firsthand

through our ministry centers and ministry events. Through 16 different ministry centers, Send Relief has directly worked with 577 churches in the United States and Puerto Rico. Because of churches mobilizing and responding in support, Send Relief was able to see over 34,691 individuals mobilized to serve 204,171 people in their local communities.

Send Relief, through state Southern Baptist Disaster Relief partners, distributed more than 622,000 meals and shared the Gospel 5,041 times. Send Relief also helped catalyze churches to participate in a Day of Service in their local communities. There were over 2,320 churches that registered for the event and 103,000 backpacks distributed to local SBC churches for use in their Day of Service mission project.

As of November 2021, GenSend has had 686 students who participated in a GenSend Break event. With winter break opportunities, the final 2021 tally will be between 700 to 750 students mobilized through GenSend.

GenSend is partnering with Send Relief ministry centers to provide mission opportunities during student breaks as well as working with Send City locations to organize opportunities in their areas. These break opportunities provide groups information about GenSend experiences and help build the pipeline for GenSend Summer engagement.

Despite COVID-19 restrictions and challenges, as well as the inability to send students to 10 cities, GenSend Summer for 2021 had 269 students in 14 locations. This year we initiated a GenSend Semester in three locations (Pittsburgh, PA; Atlanta, GA; and Salt Lake City, UT) with plans to extend this opportunity into 2022.

Application for GenSend Summer 2022 aims to have at least 450 students serve in 30 locations.

Serve Tour

Send Relief has recently launched an exciting new missional experience, Serve Tour, with events in cities across the United States and, in coordination with multiple state conventions, has identified communities' most pressing needs by partnering with churches, local school staff, and government officials. These initiatives are driven by local churches and their extended ministry goals to have long-term impact within their communities.

As with all Send Relief efforts, service is given with the goal and intention of sharing Christ—our ultimate hope—through the process.

The insight these churches and local experts have provided create a unique opportunity for volunteers to have the most transformative impact possible through various community building and outreach projects. We want to make it as easy as possible for people to serve their neighbors in Jesus' name. Send Relief is helping coordinate by providing team trainings, prayer guides, debriefings, and rallies to help encourage volunteers to take their next step on mission. The first Serve Tour was held in Tulsa, OK, where Send Relief engaged with 47 churches and saw over 2,100 people and 427 families served. Other locations served include: Memphis, TN (February 24-25); Meridian, MS (March 18-19); Baltimore, MD (April 29-30); and Charleston, SC (May 14-15); with an additional tour to happen in Jacksonville, FL (September 16-17).

In support of Send Relief's efforts, NAMB provides hands-on mission opportunities through mission experiences, service projects, training events, online resources, and consultation. In addition, the Send Relief website provides ways churches and individuals can mobilize to volunteer and serve their communities by meeting tangible needs and sharing the Gospel.

V. Assist churches by providing leadership development

NAMB continues to make pastors our “#1 customer.” As we continue to effectively encourage and equip pastors, it will have an exponential impact on their churches and communities. NAMB has several opportunities that allow pastors to engage in leadership development.

Timothy+Barnabas Retreats and Getaways

Timothy+Barnabas (T+B) exists to encourage and invest in pastors and their wives as they faithfully minister to and share the Gospel in the places God has called them. The dual themes of instruction and encouragement always point to intentionally deepening the leadership capacity of our pastors. At a T+B event, pastors are taught by leading practitioners who are leading churches of all sizes from around the SBC. Additionally, Johnny Hunt, our primary teacher and leader at T+B, works to develop a program that will speak specifically to the lead pastor and his wife. As 2021 continued the challenging days of the pandemic, NAMB expanded its T+B offerings to allow more pastors the opportunity to be strengthened in the midst of difficult times. While a typical year would see eight T+B events, in 2021, we partnered with four state conventions (Texas-SBTC, Mississippi, Virginia-SBCV, and Louisiana) to host T+B “Getaways,” bringing the total T+B event count to 12. With these retreats and getaways, we had the privilege of ministering to 1,716 pastors and wives in 2021. Additionally, we encouraged pastors in south Louisiana about a month after Hurricane Ida impacted the Gulf Coast.

Timothy+Barnabas Institute

NAMB’s Timothy+Barnabas Institute (TBI) completed its first full class in 2021. A total of 143 pastors were coached and trained for two years by 16 experienced pastors in cohorts consisting of 8-10 pastors per group. These coaches, as well as their peers in the cohorts, helped pastors navigate ministry in the ever-shifting pandemic and national unrest. TBI helped pastors grow in their leadership ability. A couple of the graduates from this first TBI class are now ready to be coaches and will be utilized in the near future.

In addition, 17 participants and two coaches started their first year in TBI in 2021. Space was limited due to social distancing requirements. These 17 and their coaches have another full year of TBI in 2022.

New cohorts began in January 2022. As of December 2021, more than 65+ were registered. These participants have been paired with 15 experienced pastors who will coach them.

Replant

The Replant team organized various levels of Replant church leadership conferences in 2021 in which NAMB equipped leaders in replanting. The largest event was an annual training lab in March that continues to build on the strong history and positive momentum gained from partnering with associations and conventions. There were 215 associational mission strategists and their replanting/revitalization teams in attendance. The annual training focuses on equipping denominational leaders in consulting churches in need. This training is facilitated via a two-day, interactive, and intensive case study and group project format with two levels for those who repeat the training. The case studies are based upon real-life consultations with local churches and contain ACP data and church dynamics, history, and demographics. Associational mission strategists (AMS)/state directors of missions (DOM) and state leaders role-play as consultation teams who assess church case studies and make recommendations. These learning groups are region and ministry context specific which fosters real-life application for use in their setting upon their return to the field. The work culminates in a presentation of their findings and recommendations to learning cohorts composed of their peers.

The Replant Summit is a national conference for replanters, state and associational leaders, and replanters' wives. The theme for the 2021 conference emphasized replanting and revitalizing in difficult places and was our most successful to date with 116 attendees.

In addition to these events, regional and local trainings hosted by local associations and facilitated by NAMB's Replant team had more than 750 attendees. Additionally, NAMB has a national, online replant residency and six regional residencies focused on training and deploying replanters. Currently, 249 men are enrolled in our online 40-week training residency, along with another 64 who are in our regional residencies in NY, SC, NC, CO, MO, and OR.

In August 2020, NAMB launched an online Replanter Characteristic Survey on NAMB.net. This survey is designed to assess potential replanters on 13 core characteristics and competencies and provide an immediate result along with an online training track for areas in which coaching would prove beneficial. When appropriate, and as requested, potential candidates can be referred to our partners in the field for follow up and introduction to church opportunities. To date, close to 477 people have taken this survey.

For additional statistics, see NAMB Ministry Inquiry 12 and 13 found at sbc.net/wp-content/uploads/2022/01/NAMB-2022-Ministry-Inquiries.pdf.

VI. Assist churches in relief ministries to victims of disaster and other people in need.

Southern Baptist Disaster Relief (SBDR) continues to be a positive and constructive force for opening doors and avenues for sharing the Gospel and planting churches. State and local leaders continually seek to engage SBDR for long-term assistance in their communities. Send Relief also has a guide to assist churches in Disaster Response Ministry available on SendRelief.org as a downloadable resource.

In addition to the 26 state SBDR organizations that responded to crises in their own states during 2021, 32 responded to national natural disaster responses, for which Send Relief provided coordination and/or response supplies. In serving communities during these times, SBDR volunteers contributed to the statistics seen in the table to the right.

The SBDR network provides help, healing, and hope for disaster survivors, churches, and communities.

SBDR volunteers are all members of SBC churches across the nation serving in a ministry to meet needs of victims in times of disaster. Volunteers demonstrated the love of Christ in practical ways and shared the hope of the Gospel. These volunteers were willing to do whatever it took to share God's love with people who had experienced great loss and trauma. SBDR volunteers provided support to pastors and church planters during times when the survivors need encouragement and were open to the Gospel.

In many communities, SBDR has been able to secure housing at no cost for long-term projects. This is a tribute to the value community leaders see in the presence of Southern Baptists providing leadership to long-term recovery efforts. These open doors to housing enable Southern Baptists to assist residents and engage in opportunities that give a verbal witness to the Gospel with less expenditure of Cooperative Program dollars for volunteer support. As SBDR volunteers' investment in these communities provide a positive witness for Christ, local Southern Baptist churches are building rapport, perceived value, and significant community relationships that enhance the Great Commission.

SBDR Summary Activity Reported

(10/1/2020 – 9/30/2021)

Professions of Faith	735
Gospel Presentations	7,617
Volunteer Days - SBDR	93,248
Work Hours	574,710
Total Meals Prepared	966,735

Along with responding to crisis, Send Relief focuses on four other areas: strengthening communities, caring for refugees, protecting families and children, and fighting human trafficking. To strengthen communities, Send Relief mobilized 6,508 individuals and served 55,641 others. To help protect families and children, Send Relief mobilized 450 individuals and served 6,220 others. To fight human trafficking, they mobilized 320 people and served 1,619 others. To care for refugees, Send Relief mobilized 1,601 people and served 17,084 others.

Throughout the various avenues of Send Relief's activity in 2021, through ministry centers across North America, and through the activity of Journeyman missionaries, there were 622,000 meals served and 43,691 people who were mobilized to serve in some way. Even with the challenges of mandated social distancing, the Gospel was shared at least 5,045 times.

Based on the listed Ministry Assignment, what opportunities or challenges do you see on the horizon from 2022 and beyond that would necessitate changes, or new directions, in how you are accomplishing the listed Ministry Assignments?

I. Assist churches in planting healthy, multiplying, evangelistic Southern Baptist Churches in the United States and Canada.

The biggest challenge Southern Baptists face in the effort to plant more churches is the need to cultivate more church planters. It is critical that Southern Baptists add churches annually to keep up with population growth and stay ahead of church deaths. NAMB wants to help Southern Baptists add 5,000 new congregations by 2025. Our goal is to see 600 new church plants and 200 new replants each year. In addition, we anticipate that 100 new church campuses and 350 new SBC affiliations will be added each year. We work with churches and our other partners to assist in these efforts.

The continuing impact of the COVID-19 pandemic made the effort to raise up new church planters a more difficult challenge in 2021. The lingering effects of the pandemic made it more challenging, if not impossible, for many church planting candidates to take the next step on their journey toward planting a church. Just as many other facets of our society and culture, the pandemic and its related consequences will continue to impact church planting efforts far into the future.

Of those prospective planters who completed NAMB's online church planter pre-assessment, 74% scored high enough to receive an invitation to one of NAMB's assessment retreats. Of those who attended an assessment in 2021, 74% were approved to move forward as a church planter.

To turn this challenge into opportunity, we must help churches develop leaders who may one day become church planters. Some churches already have a plan in place for maturing leaders. For those that do not, NAMB has developed the Multiplication Pipeline. This allows a church to intentionally raise up prepared and qualified planters from within their congregation. The Multiplication Pipeline resource and process can be implemented in a local church or church plant which will allow the church to discover, develop, and deploy greater numbers of planters and other missionaries to meet this challenge. In addition, Residencies help churches multiply through intentionally developing and deploying missional leaders and church planting teams. They help aspiring leaders identify a ministry call. Mature leaders pursue God's leading in their lives and prepare future leaders and teams for new missional opportunities.

As endorsed church planter numbers increase, so will our need for more Supporting and Sending Churches. NAMB takes every opportunity to encourage each SBC church to be on mission by actively and intentionally starting and supporting new churches. We have currently identified 1,232 SBC churches as Sending Churches for plants or multiple plants. Additionally, there are currently 1,950 SBC churches identified as Supporting Churches, with some of these

simply committed to pray for a list of planters in a specific area through our “Pray for Planters” initiative as a first step in engagement. We also have 40 Multiplying Churches committed to discovering, developing, and deploying planters from within their congregations.

II. Assist churches in the ministries of evangelism and making disciples.

The biggest challenge in evangelism right now is helping Southern Baptists “keep focus on the main thing.” Pastors are battling discouragement on multiple fronts and the needs of their people are ever changing and thus it’s easy to take their eyes off the main thing: evangelism. NAMB needs to continue to beat the drum of evangelism by challenging pastors/leaders to create and nurture an evangelistic culture within their churches and provide the necessary resources to train their people how to share the Gospel.

In 2022, NAMB has continued the Who’s Your One Tour around the United States due to requests for evangelism training with tour stops in: O’Fallon, IL; Springfield, MO; Brandon, MS; Cleveland, TN; Clarksville, TN; Jacksonville, FL; and Las Vegas, NV. Churches are already requesting the tour for 2023.

We see the issue of pastoral discouragement as an ongoing issue and so we have added more Timothy+Barnabas Retreats in an effort to encourage and equip pastors. We will continue to release the “Weekly Encouragement with Johnny Hunt” video series every Monday in which Johnny Hunt shares a brief (10-12 min.) message for pastors. The message outline is provided so the pastors can share with their team and leaders. There are currently 4,432 pastors subscribed to receive the weekly message via text message or by email.

For our next gen evangelism efforts, the challenge we see ahead is getting students to see that they are not the church of the future. If they know Jesus, then they are the church of today. Therefore, we need to lead them to live on mission now and influence their friends with the Gospel now. We also know that among the 72 million members of Gen Z living in America, only about 20% say that “church is important” to them. We have a lot of work to do in reaching the next generation with Gospel. In addition, there are roughly 21 million college students in North America. With 90% of Christians surrendering to Jesus before the age of 25, the church must be more intentionally evangelistic with college and high school students.

In 2022, we will be creating a GenSend Network to equip leaders to disciple their students to live a life on mission. The GenSend Network will provide community, mission opportunities, and resources. The goal is to develop new resources to help train and mobilize students to share their faith, as well as creating webinars, tools, and resources for next gen leaders.

III. Assist churches by appointing, supporting and assuring accountability for missionaries serving in the United States and Canada.

As stated in Challenge 1, we need more qualified church planters to meet the goal of planting as many new churches each year as are needed. Beyond that, NAMB does not anticipate substantial changes or new directions. We will continue to promote tools and processes to ensure that the best and most effective missions personnel are placed appropriately and consistently cared for and held accountable.

As we continue to face the challenge of helping churches discover, develop, and deploy missionaries and planters — especially into under-reached and underserved communities — in coordination with the International Mission Board (IMB), NAMB continues to promote the Go2 initiative. This initiative encourages college graduates to start their careers and live on mission in strategic cities where new plants can benefit from their experience, skills, and heart for evangelism. In addition, NAMB will continue to promote its Journeyman missionary program (similar to IMB’s): a two-year, fully-funded opportunity that places college graduates

in Send Cities. Our hope is that these programs and others will gain momentum in the coming years and create missionary hearts in many members of the next generation and result in them wanting to serve in long-term mission roles.

IV. Assist churches by providing missions education and coordinating volunteer mission opportunities for church members.

Regarding missions education efforts, there is an ongoing need to raise up church planters and church planting team members from within our churches. At the same time, we recognize that many current and future planters and missionaries do not come from a Southern Baptist background and may not have grown up with an awareness of Southern Baptist missions and involvement in traditional missions education programs and experiences. We must provide opportunities for adults to be engaged in missions in tangible and practical ways and bring awareness to them about the needs of the field and the ways they can be involved.

Related to Send Relief experiential missions education efforts, we see several opportunities for growth and new involvement in 2022 and in the years ahead. We are continuing to develop current Send Relief ministry centers and launch new ones. We hope to have 20 operational ministry centers by the end of 2022. Currently, there are 16 centers across the United States. The current and future centers will provide churches and individuals expanded opportunities for hands-on missions and training opportunities. As we assist churches, our 2022 national goal is to have approximately 203 mission trips available through our ministry centers. Each trip will have opportunities for registration on SendRelief.org.

Each ministry center also serves as ministry models for churches and associations to replicate in their own communities. The strategy of our ministry centers is to provide churches a place to come to participate and learn, model and execute, and then multiply and replicate compassion ministry. In 2022, in addition to mission trips, Send Relief is actively working to refine and deepen the training resources that are designed to assist churches in understanding the need and principles of compassion ministry, compelled and driven by our theological foundation of evangelizing those being served. These trainings are being offered in a multitude of mediums, including, but not limited to, in-person conferences, podcasts, webinars, and hands-on experiences. Ministry centers and trainings go hand-in-hand as models to allow churches to “come, see, and taste” how to implement principles in their own communities.

We are developing 250 training and modeling opportunities so that churches and associations can receive both hands-on and virtual training experiences delivered by Send Relief missionaries and staff. Send Relief also continues to produce relevant ministry guides and podcasts to inspire, resource, and engage churches across the nation in its five specific focus areas: strengthen communities, care for refugees, protect families and children, fight human trafficking, and respond to crisis.

In all, Send Relief’s goal is to mobilize 30,000 people to serve and be trained in compassion ministry in 2022. Through these efforts, we will inspire, resource, and train churches in North America. In addition, we have set a goal in 2022 to serve 200,000 individuals through Send Relief compassion ministries through those efforts.

V. Assist churches by providing leadership development

Pastors have always appreciated spending time with and learning from fellow pastors. This desire gives NAMB a great opportunity to provide venues to share best practices (e.g., evangelism workshops, replant conferences, pastor roundtables, etc.). NAMB also has the opportunity to deliver updated content of these best practices by utilizing multiple forms of electronic media. This allows content to be fresh, digestible, and self-paced. It is also the

intention that pastor-centric events include content that addresses other felt needs pastors have as they seek to strike a balance with their personal faith, family life, and serving the church. Through the efforts of NAMB's Evangelism and Leadership group, there are more opportunities for pastors to participate not only in leadership development opportunities, but also for NAMB to receive feedback about their needs and how we can help.

Timothy+Barnabas (T+B)

As the world continued through the pandemic, we knew the need for pastors to gather and receive encouragement would increase in 2021. We saw this reality materialize in new ways as state conventions reached out to NAMB to partner in creating new T+B events in their own states. Because of this, Timothy+Barnabas 2021 increased its capacity and event locations to allow more pastors to receive encouragement and instruction in their leadership and ministry health.

In 2022, Timothy+Barnabas has entered year 28 of providing instruction and encouragement to pastors, their wives, and other local-church ministry leaders. Our goal this year is to continue to bring a sincere investment to pastor couples as they tirelessly serve on the frontlines of Christian ministry. As in 2021, we continue to expand our retreat offerings, hoping that pastor couples who have never attended would have the opportunity to join the T+B family and experience the love and care that NAMB seeks to offer. 2022 T+B Retreat Dates included/include: San Diego, CA (January 31-February 2); Atlanta, GA (February 28-March 2, March 2-4); Gatlinburg, TN (March 21-23); OH (April 20-22); NV (May 16-18); Asheville, NC – Bivocational (August 26-27, October 14-16); Branson, MO (September 13-15); Chicago, IL (September 20-22); and Puerto Rico (November 17-19).

Next Step Leader

With all the new and shifting challenges that pastors face, NAMB's Next Step Leader will help them expand their toolbox and increase their capacity for greater evangelistic impact. This free resource, developed by experienced ministry coach Will Mancini, gives pastors what they need to replace uncertainty with God-given clarity, busyness with productivity, and weariness with renewed energy and vision. The goal in 2022 is for NAMB to provide every SBC pastor the opportunity to dive into a self-paced, online leadership process featuring all-new, densely-packed video content and resource-rich material crafted specifically for them. In the coming years, this program will yield exponential results as leaders find refreshed perspective in life and ministry, and in turn release the evangelistic potential of every member of their congregations.

Timothy + Barnabas Institute

As noted in Accomplishment V, NAMB is intentional about nurturing young leaders in the SBC. To that end, NAMB established the Timothy Barnabas Institute (TBI), and the first participants, who started in January 2020, finished their two-year program in Fall 2021. Going into the third year in 2022, the TBI continues to invest in and grow more pastors for greater Kingdom impact.

We receive consistent feedback that the TBI is one of the most helpful things for young pastors and their leadership development. NAMB will continue to enlist more participants and more coaches for both in-person meetings (two times a year) and virtual meetings (monthly).

Since its launch, the ministry of TBI has created a craving among pastors and leaders serving in other ministerial roles. NAMB has also explored the possibility of expanding TBI's reach into other ministerial roles aside from senior pastor, which is TBI's current focus. In 2022, an executive pastor track will be tested.

Replant

In 2020, the majority of the Replant-related equipping and training content shifted online. While online content and training is becoming standard, so is online fatigue. Self-directed, "in time," self-paced, and on-demand resources are key and are in development for 2022. This

will accommodate audience need and demand. These are “evergreen” resources, meaning they will retain relevance and application beyond any date or event. These can be accessed by our primary audience on a need-to-know/need-to-grow basis. To facilitate access to these and other similar resources, a robust, online delivery system will be required and investments necessary to securing it are essential. Interactive and online coaching and encouragement will need to be available and easily accessed for target audiences.

Additionally, we have six replanting residencies in various contexts throughout the country in addition to our first located in Denver, CO. This is critical as we move beyond the discovery and recruitment of replanters to empowering pastors, AMS/DOMs, and other state convention personnel with resources designed to develop replanters and connect them to churches seeking replanters.

In 2021, the lingering effects of the COVID pandemic are still having an impact on many local churches. Many congregations are seeing 30-60% fewer attenders than pre-pandemic levels. While finances are remaining strong, as reflected in Cooperative Program giving and offerings like Annie Armstrong and Lottie Moon, many churches find themselves in challenging situations and are prayerfully considering the viability of their future. As a result, pastors are tired, struggling with mental health issues, and are considering leaving full-time ministry. Our local AMS/DOM partners believe we are on the cusp of seeing a wave of potential resignations and churches with empty pastorates.

As we look to the coming year and the opportunities before us, Replant has identified the following priorities:

Expansion of Pastoral Cohorts: Replant is preparing to launch the Small Church Academy in partnership with the Bivocational and Small Church Leadership Network to provide training, equipping, and encouragement for bivocational and small church pastors. These cohorts are made up of 10-12 pastors led by a mentor/coach. Their meetings will occur every two weeks for one hour during which the group will review their readings around a central topic and presentation from the mentor/coach. This is part of a larger, overall curriculum which runs for an entire year designed to support and encourage pastors in their work.

Relaunch of the Online Pastors Care Cohort: In early 2020, Replant launched a weekly, online call for pastors to discuss issues, circumstances, and realities being faced in the early days of ministry during COVID. We will relaunch the online cohort on a monthly basis for pastors, and bi-monthly for AMS/DOM leaders.

Pastoral Care Referral Network: In our unique role as part of a national entity, Replant has the opportunity to learn of and provide reference to many great Convention and association partners that work in providing support and care for pastors and their families. We are composing a referral resource for pastors in need of support and care as they continue their work.

Replant Hub: In the coming year, we anticipate that many churches will find themselves without pastors. Replant is addressing that need through the creation of the Replant HUB, an online resource consisting of sermons and worship sets from leading, content-providing churches. This free platform will allow a pastorless church to hold services, hear Gospel-centered preaching, and participate in corporate worship through downloadable resources. Full instructions and guidance are provided in an easy-to-use and accessible portal so that lay leaders can build services, host them, and do follow-up with their congregation. This resource launches in March 2022.

Churches have experienced many challenges as pandemic realities have impacted rates of attendance and involvement. In some contexts, congregations are running between 35-65% of their pre-COVID attendance. This has led to many ministry challenges (outreach, children,

finances, etc.). Many congregations which were experiencing decline pre-COVID are continuing in a downward direction, yet now with even more speed. We anticipate that as a result, the number of church closures could increase.

Many of the churches who have experienced sharp decline will find themselves unable to remedy their situation alone. Church partnerships with stronger congregations and church plants or several churches will be required to enable the church to stop its cycle of decline and return to vitality. The Replant team is developing equipping events and courses in Church Partnership. A new emphasis on Church Fostering will offer a way for a strong church to provide temporary assistance to a struggling church as it seeks time, resources, and leadership to return to vitality. Replant has authored a Fostering Guide which will be released at the AMS/DOM training in March 2022.

With some churches experiencing decline as they face the realities of maintaining and managing their facilities with diminishing finances and congregants, a strategic approach to addressing church facilities is required. Redeeming viable church facilities is imperative—we cannot build in today’s dollars what was built with yesterday’s resources. We are introducing associations and state conventions to models and strategies designed to redeem, restore, and in some cases, make viable economic streams of existing church properties. As well, in cooperation with Send Network, Replant is working to empower and equip church plants and existing congregations in developing strategic partnerships to share space, and in some cases merge, thus saving the Gospel presence in a community.

Our field partners and Lifeway Research indicate that pastors have faced challenging times during the pandemic. Many are struggling and some are considering resigning altogether. Encouraging and equipping pastors is a great need. Those who are doing the work of replanting a local congregation often face additional challenges related to their role. Many are under-resourced, facing embedded conflict and significant spiritual malaise.

Replant offers equipping and encouragement in a variety of ways. The Replant Collective is a twice-monthly e-newsletter featuring helpful articles and book recommendations sent to over 5,000 recipients. Replant team members are featured on two of the leading national podcasts on church revitalization and replanting: Mark Clifton and Thom Rainer with “Replant and Revitalize” and Jimbo Stewart and Bob Bickford with “The Replant Bootcamp.” “The Pastor’s Replant Cohort” with Brian Croft is in its third year and trains and equips over 230 each year.

VI. Assist churches in relief ministries to victims of disaster and other people in need.

As we have mentioned before, one of the long-term challenges we face is that most of our Southern Baptist Disaster Relief (SBD R) kitchens rely on other, non-SBC disaster relief organizations to supply the food they prepare and serve from their mobile kitchens. Occasionally, these organizations are not able to deliver food to the kitchens in a timely fashion. Kitchens are sometimes staffed by volunteers and sitting for days waiting on food supplies to be delivered. Send Relief began exploring food resources that might be purchased to fill this need for immediate feeding which would enable Southern Baptists to respond more quickly to the needs of survivors in the aftermath of disaster.

In 2021, during Hurricane Ida, Send Relief was able to test the theory of rapid response feeding through supporting SBD R with 250,000 meals. It went well and kitchens were able to serve more quickly. However, in the midst of a successful trial, we are now faced with the scalability on how to do this on a larger and more consistent scale. Send Relief is working with SBD R leadership to determine the appropriate supplies needed and plans to be prepared to meet this need in 2022.

Send Relief is discussing and continuing to develop a Rapid Response Spiritual Care Team that will complement SBDR in responses by focusing on providing spiritual care to pastors and churches, as well as affected state conventions, associations, and SBDR leaders in the immediate aftermath of disasters. The team would respond in the immediate aftermath and complement the work of SBDR chaplains, eventually transitioning away from the affected area once SBDR chaplains shift to meet the long-term, spiritual-care needs of survivors. This team would meet a gap in ministry as the area's pastors and other spiritual leaders who are from the affected community don't often receive the care they need themselves. They provide vital care but are often expending their physical and spiritual energies to the point of extending themselves beyond their limits. They can be easily forgotten in the rush to focus on other survivors. This care has potential to support these vital caregivers and strengthen their ability to care for their community. The purpose would be to more effectively prevent burnout for pastors, burnout that is common in the aftermath of a major disaster. Many times after a major crisis, affected pastors regularly choose to leave the impacted field of ministry due to the resulting burnout. These teams would seek to mitigate that.

COVID-19 challenges have continued to raise the awareness of a need to engage untrained volunteers who serve alongside trained SBDR team members. SBDR has engaged a greater number of untrained volunteers over the last two years. SBDR and Send Relief are both in discussion in how to expand opportunities to engage untrained volunteers, particularly from local churches.

There is a significant need for a common data and communication system during national disaster events to allow SBDR and Send Relief to report and describe needs as well as share accomplishments. Many states are exploring options, creating awareness that there is a great need to have a shared system that would enable both to communicate needs, store data information, capture ministry completed for reporting, and be able to share our story effectively.

Send Relief also has the opportunity in 2022 and beyond to continue expanding our compassion ministry to reach people in need outside of disaster relief. Through our 16 ministry centers across North America, we expect to expand our reach to those in need by bringing physical and emotional help as well as the eternal hope found in the Gospel.

MATTERS REFERRED BY THE CONVENTION

The Convention referred the following items to the North American Mission Board during the Annual Meeting of the Southern Baptist Convention in Nashville, Tennessee, June 15–16, 2021, for consideration, action, and report back to the next annual meeting.

1. SBC Referral: To request Convention entities to examine the use of non-disclosure agreements (Items 75 and 102, Proceedings of the Southern Baptist Convention, June 15-16, 2021, *SBC Annual*, p. 75, 83)

Motion: Brad Patterson, Texas

“That the Southern Baptist Convention request each entity to examine its use of non-disclosure agreements and report its findings to the messengers of the 2022 annual meeting of the Southern Baptist Convention in Anaheim, California, reporting said findings with particular attention to three areas: what is biblical justification for the use of non-disclosure agreements; how many non-disclosure agreements have been signed or agreed to in the last five years; and if non-disclosure agreements have been utilized, for what specific purposes were they utilized?”

Response: NAMB’s contracting policies and procedures are administered with accountability to the NAMB Board of Trustees. The Board believes our policies help NAMB steward with prudence and wisdom the resources entrusted to us, and they make it possible to work with ministry partners with appropriate discretion.

“Non-disclosure agreements” is a broad term that may include various types of contractual agreements and provisions, conveying confidentiality rights or imposing confidentiality obligations. Such provisions are common in commercial contracts and are often required as a condition of doing business or accessing information. In some cases, such agreements are required prior to contractual negotiations to protect the integrity of the negotiation process and outcome. In other cases, such agreements help protect certain private information, such as Personal Identifiable Information (PII) or Protected Health Information (PHI).

Rightly understood, non-disclosure agreements are one way of acting with prudence and wisdom to protect sensitive information and shield employees, ministry partners and vendors from the potential of having confidential matters weaponized against an individual and/or the organization. For decades, out of an abundance of caution and prudence, NAMB has relied on these agreements when appropriate. The NAMB Board of Trustees has implemented open-door and whistleblower policies designed to maintain full integrity and accountability. At NAMB, non-disclosure agreements are never used to cover up corruption, criminal acts or hide wrongdoing.

NAMB and many of its suppliers and ministry partners operating across the United States and Canada work hard to ensure sensitive information is protected to comply with various federal, state, and provincial privacy laws and regulations and that such provisions are included in numerous commercial transactions.

2. SBC Referral: To request that entities conduct certain audits and disclose financial details (Items 78 and 102, Proceedings of the Southern Baptist Convention, June 15-16, 2021, *SBC Annual*, p. 76, 83)

Motion: Rick Hillard, Kentucky

“That the Southern Baptist Convention request beginning in 2023 that every 5 years each entity of the Southern Baptist Convention takes the steps needed to undergo a holistic and complete audit with specific disclosure of all details made public to any Southern Baptist no later than 30 days prior to the coinciding year’s annual meeting.”

Response: The NAMB Board of Trustees, which is elected by the Southern Baptist Convention, engages an independent Certified Public Accounting firm to conduct a complete audit every year. For the past nine years, these audits have been conducted by one of the nation’s premier nonprofit accounting firms, Batts Morrison Wales & Lee. All annual audits are conducted in accordance with the SBC Business & Financial Plan, generally accepted auditing standards, and industry best practices. Audit results and related financial statements are published each year in the Southern Baptist Convention Annual. Since 2006, NAMB has also had an independent, internal auditor who reports only to the Board of Trustees and not to NAMB staff.

NAMB is accredited by the Evangelical Council for Financial Accountability (ECFA) and has received certification of complete compliance with the ECFA’s Seven Standards of Responsible Stewardship™ through periodic standards reviews. Visit ecfa.org for more information.

3. SBC Referral: To enhance ministries to the Deaf (Items 79 and 102, Proceedings of the Southern Baptist Convention, June 15-16, 2021, *SBC Annual*, p. 76, 83)

Motion: John Blackmon, Georgia

“In light of the fact that there are approximately 11 million Deaf people in the United States and only 2-4% consider themselves Christian; and being inspired by the faithful work of the IMB in the recognition and attention given to the Deaf affinity group among the peoples of the world since 2009, I move that the Convention request the trustees of Lifeway Christian Resources and the North American Mission Board to research and report on the feasibility of a partnership to produce and provide access to resources for existing Deaf ministries and future work among Deaf peoples in the United States, to include but not be limited to theological education, discipleship materials, print, video, and other resources prepared in and by individuals skilled in ASL. Such access and preparation would aid such ministries in reaching this specific people group and equip those skilled and called to reach this people group.”

Response: In order to provide a comprehensive response, the three entities that received this motion from the SBC—Lifeway, IMB, and NAMB—have collaborated in our response to the Southern Baptist Convention. With the ministry our three entities are already involved in, in addition to what others within our Southern Baptist family are doing, a variety of resources exist for churches who have an existing ministry or want to begin a ministry to the Deaf community, including theological education, discipleship materials, translation services, and evangelism resources. According to a Southern Baptist Conference of the Deaf directory of churches, there are about 40 Southern Baptist Deaf churches, 23 Deaf missions, about 45 churches with Deaf ministries and nearly 30 churches with interpretive ministries registered with the group. There are 11 million in the U.S. who consider themselves Deaf or have serious difficulty hearing and nearly 70 million Deaf people around the world.

Explore the Bible: Deaf, published by Lifeway, is written by hearing-impaired writers using text with simplified language to facilitate signing American Sign Language (ASL). Lifeway is developing a digital library of “Explore the Bible: Deaf” that will be available for free by Summer 2022 at Lifeway.com/ExploretheBibleDeaf, along with links to other resources and ministries for the Deaf. Lifeway also provides captions on many of our video discipleship products, as well as captions and interpreters at a number of our events.

NAMB is a sponsor for **RID (Registry of Interpreters for the Deaf)**, which is a national registry of certified interpreters since 1986. NAMB does this in partnership with the state conventions for the Deaf ministries and their interpreters. NAMB also sponsors workshops every year for Alabama, Florida, Georgia, Kentucky, Mississippi, North Carolina, Tennessee, and Texas. Professional Interpreters for the Deaf must be certified, and they must earn a certain number of Continuing Education Credits (CEU’s) each year to maintain their certification. In this capacity, NAMB plays a key role in helping to equip Deaf interpreters who can serve Southern Baptist churches.

The **SBCD (Southern Baptist Conference for the Deaf)** website has information about their annual conference where workshops are held (sbcd deaf.org).

The **SBCD directory of churches** is online at sbcd deaf.blogspot.com, with pins marking locations for Deaf churches and missions.

The **Deafway Bible App**, offers sign language translations of Bible stories by Deaf translators. The app was developed by Deaf Pathway Global, a non-profit venture established by a partnership between IMB and Brentwood Baptist Church. To learn more about Deaf Pathway Global, visit deafpathway.com where you can download the Deafway Bible App for iPhone or Google Play.

The **Deaf Theological Center** in Brentwood, Tennessee, has been training Deaf for missions and ministry since its launch in 2014. Through a partnership between IMB, Union University in Jackson, Tennessee, the Southern Baptist Conference for the Deaf, Brentwood Baptist Church, and Brentwood Baptist Deaf Church, Deaf believers can receive customized seminary-level training for missions and ministry. Classes are offered in hermeneutics, Old Testament, New Testament, doctrine, and missiology.

Through the partnership, IMB provides instructors, customized course delivery and financial support for missionaries and their families; Union provides a customized academic program, academic oversight and credit hours at a special rate; and Brentwood Baptist and its Deaf Church provide meeting space, instructors, housing, and other services.

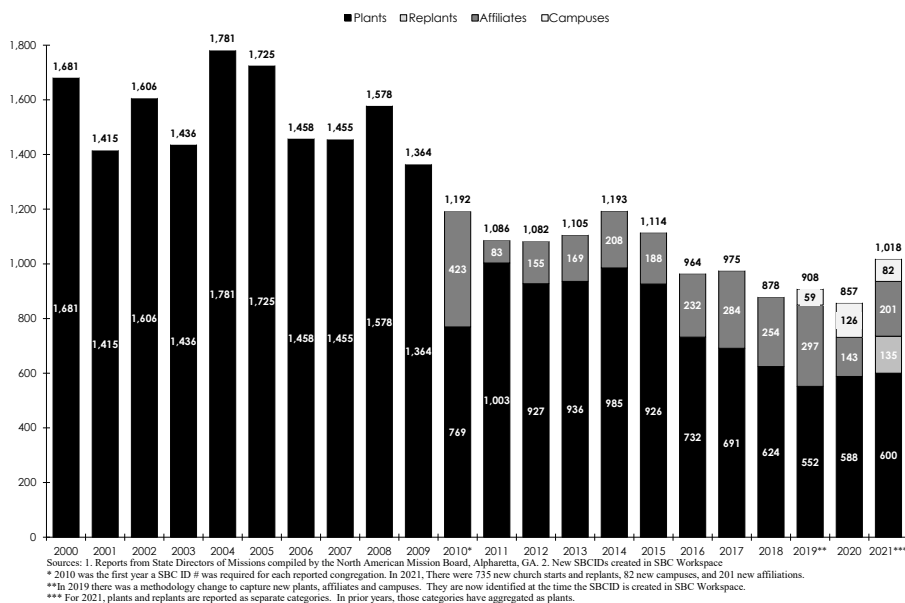
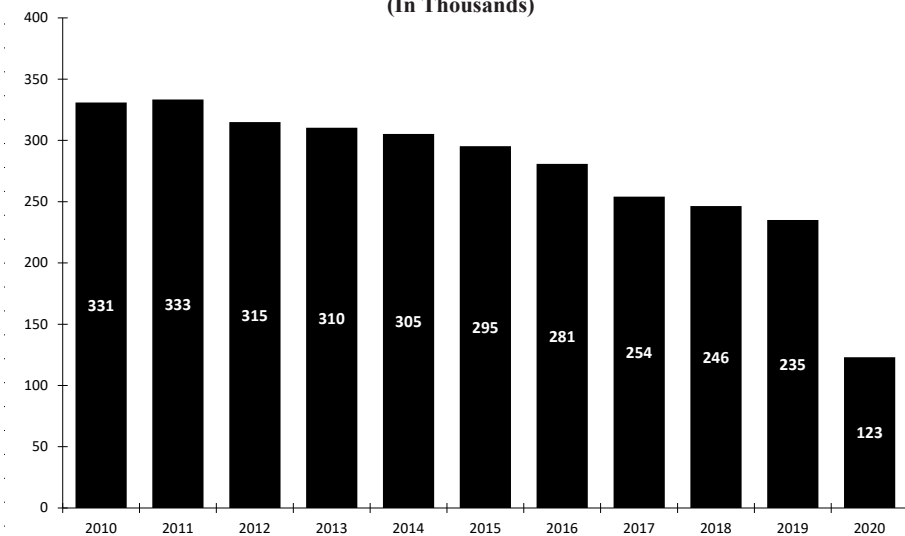
For more information on IMB's work among the Deaf people, visit www.imb.org/Deaf.

4. SBC Referral: To ask the North American Mission Board to study the Enneagram. (Items 20 and 103, Proceedings of the Southern Baptist Convention, June 15-16, 2021, *SBC Annual*, p. 58, 83)

Motion: James Walker, Texas

“Requesting that the North American Mission Board undertake a study of the Enneagram, exploring its spiritual and theological essence and teachings, and that they report back to the annual SBC meeting in 2022.”

Response: NAMB appreciates this request to study the Enneagram. However, NAMB ministry personnel and resources are not well-suited at this time to undertake a meaningful study or conduct research of this nature. We recognize the usefulness of various personality assessment tools when appropriately applied, but NAMB does not generally endorse or recommend any specific personality assessment tool.

Figure 1—New Congregations (Church Plants Plus New Affiliates), SBC, 2000–2021**Figure 2—Baptisms Reported by SBC Churches, 2010–2020***
(In Thousands)

Source: Annual Church Profile, LifeWay Christian Resources, Nashville, TN

*2020 Baptisms as reported from the Lifeway ACP Statistical Summary. May 21, 2021

* The preceding graph was prepared by the North American Mission Board based on information from the 2020 ACP Statistical Summary which was prepared by Lifeway Research, Lifeway Christian Resources. At press time, the latest ACP figures were not available. An updated graph will appear in the 2022 Annual.

INSTITUTIONS



GATEWAY SEMINARY

Biblical • Missional • Global

3210 E. Guasti Rd., Ontario, California 91761

J. ROBERT WHITE, Chair

JEFF IORG, President

This year has been a remarkable journey marked by God's grace, provision, and protection. While the pandemic has impacted our lives in significant ways, the Gateway community has remained focused on carrying out core assignments that fulfill our mission of shaping leaders who expand God's kingdom around the world. We have a profound sense, however, our combined efforts have not produced the results we have achieved. We know God has worked in and through us – and we are grateful.

Despite the challenges, our enrollment and finances have remained stable. We have lived through controversies and uncertainties in both our nation and denomination. We have managed ever-changing governmental directives related to the pandemic and sought to be both good citizens and a responsible employer. Through all of this, seminary morale has remained high and student participation strong. While there are always challenges and problems, we are grateful for the progress we continue to make in fulfilling our mission.

Pandemic Response

At the onset of the pandemic in March 2020, we suspended in-person instruction for the balance of the Spring 2020 semester. We reinstated some in-person instruction for Summer 2020. By Fall 2020, we had implemented safety measures at all five campuses which made in-person instruction possible while allowing faculty and students to engage remotely as needed. We maintained that format throughout the 2021-22 academic year.

One significant pandemic impact has been the number of employees who worked remotely for more than a year. This has created both challenges and opportunities as we consider future work circumstances. Reintegrating our workforce to in-person expectations, while preserving some aspects of working remotely, has been a significant organizational challenge as we adjust to a post-pandemic new normal.

To address this issue, we hosted The Gathering, a special all-day event for all employees in May 2021. It included worship, a fellowship meal, small group discussions, and a professional development meeting for employees led by the president. This event was a significant moment to refocus our employees – spiritually and vocationally – as we continue to find ways to work together in stressful circumstances.

A distinct problem in California has been our response to Assembly Bill 685, an act which standardized governmental pandemic-directives into law (through December 31, 2022). As the pandemic lessens, this law remains in effect. We are looking to our attorneys and insurance company for guidance on navigating these issues.

All aspects of organizational life at Gateway have been impacted by the pandemic and our ever-evolving responses. We continue to monitor COVID protocols, suggestions, directives, and mandates in the states where we operate campuses (and by county in California) and adjust operations accordingly. We have communicated our policies and practices with employees and students at the beginning of each academic semester/term. Cooperation has been high as our community has responded to ever-shifting policies and procedures.

In terms of direct impact, a significant number of Gateway personnel have had COVID. Our vaccination rate (around 70%) has mitigated these cases, but managing the ever-changing workload among available employees has been challenging.

Despite all these issues, we have offered in-person instruction at all our locations in the 2021-22 academic year. We have also offered live video access to most classes, some classes by video access only, and a significant number of online courses. Our faculty and staff remain committed to adjusting as necessary to make sure students have access to the classes they need.

Enrollment Report for 2021

Despite the pandemic, both overall enrollment and new student enrollment increased from Spring 2021 over Spring 2020. The increase in new student enrollment is particularly important since it declined in Fall 2020 compared to Fall 2019. It appears the Fall 2020 decline was a pandemic-related anomaly.

Compared to Spring 2020, Spring 2021 headcount in core programs increased from 798 to 882 students (10.58% increase) and the credit hours enrolled increased from 4,561 to 4,896 (6.75% increase). The Ontario Campus enrollment decreased by 3.88%. Some of this was likely due to students switching to online courses (which saw a 16.19% increase over last spring).

Spring semester comparative new student headcount increased from 139 to 174 (25.18% increase) while credit hours enrolled increased from 766 to 833 (8.75% increase). We are also seeing solid growth in our DMin program.

While Spring 2021 enrollment was strong, Fall 2021 was a mixed report. For Fall 2021, we experienced what we have labeled a “COVID echo.” Although our student headcount increased, enrolled hours for Fall 2021 were slightly down from Fall 2020. This is the result of being unable to send out recruiters for the past year, severe restrictions on international student travel, and diminished scholarship funds.

Compared to Fall 2020, student headcount for Fall 2021 in core programs increased from 848 to 883 (4.0% increase). The credit hours enrolled decreased from 4,949 to 4,766 (3.7% decrease). Most of these declines were in new student enrollment. Compared to Fall 2020, new student headcount decreased from 214 to 183 and new student credit hours enrolled decreased from 1,201 to 1,006 (16.2% decrease).

All of this data is based on core programs and does not include the Advance or Doctor of Ministry programs.

Executive Transitions

In 2017, the Board of Trustees considered the inevitability of transition in our executive team and approved a general plan for how they intended it to happen. The basic premise underlying that plan was the Board’s desire for a smooth transition, with overlapping service between the exiting and arriving executives. We have been working with that goal in mind as we have implemented our executive transition plans and made significant positive progress.

Dr. Alex Stewart arrived in June 2021 as the new Vice President for Academic Services. He has been mentored by Dr. Michael Martin (outgoing Vice President) and the transition process has proved very effective. Dr. Martin will retire in July 2022.

Mr. Ray Tong also arrived in June 2021 as the new Vice President for Business Services. He was mentored by Mr. Tom Hixson (outgoing Vice President) and the transition process was very effective. Mr. Hixson retired in February 2022.

The overall goal of a seamless transition with minimal disruption in the academic and business services areas of seminary operations has been achieved. This has been particularly important because of the additional challenges created by the pandemic.

Faculty Transitions

Dr. Harry Hahne, New Testament professor for 20 years at the Arizona Campus, will retire in July 2022. Dr. Rick Durst, Theology professor at the Ontario Campus, will also retire in July 2022 after more than 30 years of service to Gateway. Dr. J. T. Reed, Associate Director of the Doctor of Ministry program, will transition into retirement in 2022 after a long career as a leading California pastor, denominational leader, and faculty member at Gateway.

Dr. Rich Johnstone has joined the faculty as Director of Theological Field Education. Dr. Jonathan McCormick was promoted from the Bay Area Campus librarian to Director of Library Services. Dr. Eddie Pate has transitioned to a full-time faculty position at Gateway and is now the Director of the David and Faith Kim School of Global Missions.

Faculty Contracts

In October 2020, the Board approved a new standard faculty contract and a new standard arbitration agreement which were then explained and offered to current faculty under contract with the seminary. The new contract updated legal employment language and terms of service responsibilities. All faculty members signed the new agreements in 2021.

Hoff House Progress

Gateway has established a second professional-in-residence house for visiting personnel (including missionaries-in-residence). The Lisa Hoff House was created in memory of Dr. Lisa Hoff, former international missionary and Gateway faculty member, who died suddenly from complications after surgery in 2020. The first residents for the Hoff House will arrive in August 2022.

Significant Gifts

Over the past year, Gateway has received several significant gifts. We received a \$100,000 gift to establish a new endowed scholarship for students who plan to serve on the Pacific Rim. We also received a \$100,000 gift to add to the Rocky Mountain Campus endowment for campus operations. This brings the total in that endowment to \$790,000.

In addition, the Northwest Baptist Foundation received a funded scholarship gift of almost \$70,000 for Gateway students. As a funded scholarship, this money will be distributed over the next few years to meet student needs. There was also \$50,000 given to support scholarships for our Chinese-English Bilingual program.

ATS Accreditation Process

Gateway successfully completed our reaccreditation process with the Association of Theological Schools. We received a full, 10-year reaccreditation, the longest term possible which extends our accreditation through 2030.

Gateway Imperative Report

In October 2017, the Board of Trustees directed the creation of a new strategic plan to guide Gateway Seminary toward 2030. President Iorg appointed a Strategic Planning Task Force which worked for 18 months – vetting its progress with faculty, staff, and trustees along the way. The final plan, **The Gateway Imperative**, was adopted by the Board in October 2019. Implementation began in January 2020 with the 2020-21 budget planning cycle.

The Gateway Imperative identified six values (biblical convictions, missional priority, global mindset, academic excellence, student focus, and cultural diversity). Those values are guiding decision-making at the seminary. The Gateway Imperative also included seven strategic goals

to guide planning through 2025. These are being implemented and regular updates are provided to the Board of Trustees.

Enrollment Report

Gateway Seminary operates five fully accredited campuses in Ontario, California; Fremont, California; Phoenix, Arizona; Denver, Colorado; and Vancouver, Washington – as well as a teaching site in Salt Lake City, Utah, and an extensive distance learning program (online and video access).

In addition, Gateway Seminary supports 45 ADVANCE contextualized leadership development centers in partnership with Southern Baptist churches, associations, and state conventions. The centers offer courses in English, Spanish, Burmese, Cantonese, Korean, Thai, Lao, Karen, Mandarin, Mongolian, Nepalese, Hmong, Vietnamese, Swahili, and Telugu.

The most recent revision of the SBC Seminary Funding Formula has significantly changed how Gateway reports its enrollment. For that reason, this report reflects changes initiated since 2018. The incongruity with past reporting patterns makes comparisons to past years difficult without understanding the intricacies of the formula. For that reason, we are reporting our enrollment in a new format and will create a new comparison chart over the next few years.

ENROLLMENT

	2018-19	2018-19	2019-20	2019-20	2020-21	2020-21
	Total	Total	Total	Total	Total	Total
Campus	Enrollment	FTE	Enrollment	FTE	Enrollment	FTE
Ontario	653	267	725	271	678	234
Arizona	95	32	84	28	73	19
Bay Area	71	21	70	18	41	9
Pacific Northwest	41	13	31	8	30	6
Rocky Mountain	62	14	53	10	38	8
Advance Ministry Training	605	97	528	86	567	98
Online Program	279	111	364	131	433	147
Video Access Program	20	23	66	46	135	129
Totals	1,826	578	1,921	598	1,995	650

Enrollment Report by Degree Program

	2018-19	2019-20	2020-21
<u>Prebaccalaureate</u>			
Diplomas	260	201	140
Diplomas – Advance	427	482	636
Special Status	131	121	0
<u>Basic Degrees</u>			
Master of Divinity	354	384	400
Master of Arts	306	346	414
Special Status	124	124	107
<u>Advance Degrees</u>			
Master of Theology	8	6	8
Doctor of Ministry	198	234	272
Doctor of Philosophy	18	23	18
Totals	1,826	1,921	1,995

Enrollment Report Summary	2018-19	2019-20	2020-21
Total Enrollment	1,826	1,921	1,995
Total FTE Generated	578	598	650
SBC Fundable FTE	338	342	296
SBC Formula FTE	400	400	400
New Students	421	518	468
Total Graduates*	336	331	302

*Corrections

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Motion: Brad Patterson, Texas

“That the Southern Baptist Convention request each entity to examine its use of non-disclosure agreements and report its findings to the messengers of the 2022 annual meeting of the Southern Baptist Convention in Anaheim, California, reporting said findings with particular attention to three areas: what is biblical justification for the use of non-disclosure agreements; how many non-disclosure agreements have been signed or agreed to in the last five years; and if non-disclosure agreements have been utilized, for what specific purposes were they utilized?”

Response: Gateway Seminary has not signed or agreed to any non-disclosure agreements in the past five years.

2. SBC Referral: To request that entities conduct certain audits and disclose financial details (Items 78 and 102, Proceedings of the Southern Baptist Convention, June 15-16, 2021, *SBC Annual*, p. 76, 83)

Motion: Rick Hillard, Kentucky

“That the Southern Baptist Convention request beginning in 2023 that every 5 years each entity of the Southern Baptist Convention takes the steps needed to undergo a holistic and complete audit with specific disclosure of all details made public to any Southern Baptist no later than 30 days prior to the coinciding year’s annual meeting.

Response: Gateway Seminary has a complete audit annually, with the results reported to the Southern Baptist Convention and available to every Southern Baptist. This audit is always conducted by an outside accounting firm and includes meetings between the auditors and the Audit Committee of the Board of Trustees without Gateway employees present. The Audit Committee reports about the audit (and their meeting with the auditors) to the full Board of Trustees which votes to receive the audit and submit it to the Southern Baptist Convention.



5001 North Oak Trafficway, Kansas City, Missouri 64118

LEE ROBERSON, Chair
JASON K. ALLEN, President

Midwestern Seminary and Spurgeon College exist to equip men and women *For the Church* and *For the Kingdom*. Fulfilling this God-honoring work brings us a sense of great responsibility. Although not always easy, we find immense joy knowing that God is honored by our efforts and the church is bolstered by our students' efforts. This is why we exist.

At Midwestern Seminary and Spurgeon College, we are committed to holding true to the Word of God and promoting the Great Commission at every turn. As the tides of biblical fidelity ebb and flow in our society, we hold to the anchor of what Scripture alone teaches. This is our commitment not only to you, but to God.

As an institution, our prayer has been to come out of the COVID-19 crisis in a stronger position than when we went into it. By God's grace, thus far, we have been able to meet our goals in this regard. In many ways, our lives have returned to normalcy this year. Although this is a relief, we want to continue to strive for the glory of our God and the good of His church, never becoming complacent in the mission He has set before us. Midwestern Seminary and Spurgeon College work tirelessly to maintain the trust and confidence of Southern Baptist Convention churches by adhering to our confessional statements and carefully stewarding the resources provided to our care.

Once again, we are delighted to see our campus abuzz with life and enthusiasm. By God's grace, we have weathered the logistical challenges of the COVID-19 season and campus events, classes, and ceremonies are clear indications that on-campus activities and the regular occurrences of campus life are returning. I want to highlight just a few ways we have seen God's specific blessings this last year in each department.

In academics, we have continued to see growth in enrollment and credits taken on campus and online. We are pleased that the Lord has brought us more outstanding faculty members to train our students *For the Church*. Dr. Thomas Kidd joined us from Baylor University as Research Professor of Church History. Dr. Joe Allen was also recently added to our faculty to serve as the Assistant Professor of Missions.

One positive outcome from the COVID-19 pandemic is that we have expanded our online presence to further the number students we can reach and serve. Through our Online Plus program, online students can now take classes that feature live, interactive lectures from noteworthy faculty. In addition, our Doctor of Ministry degree can now be completed fully online. Finally, in order to offer high-quality theological and ministry training to women who are globally serving the church, the Midwestern Women's Institute now offers many courses online. Furthermore, the FTC Institute continues to add more online courses to serve local churches with access to free, sound theological education.

Spurgeon College continues to expand its degree options for incoming students. This year, we have added additional minors and emphases to already existing programs to allow our undergrad students to tailor their degrees to their giftings and ministry call. In addition, through the expansion of our financial aid department, education has become less burdensome for the majority of our students through scholarships, grants, and federal work-study programs.

At the Master's level, we were pleased to announce our graduate-level missions program which, similar to Fusion, will be cohort-based and feature opportunities for robust training and mentorship while serving on the mission field. Thanks to generous donors, the program will be heavily scholarshipped. This program, like our Timothy Track, will provide our students with quality education in real-world ministry contexts.

Our PhD program continues to grow. One change made this year is the division of our PhD into three categories: Biblical Studies, Theological Studies, and Applied Theology. This distinction has allowed each student to personalize his or her education to best suit their ministry call.

Next, we have much to celebrate in our Institutional Administration division. Our leadership team, with great wisdom through the pandemic, helped Midwestern Seminary and Spurgeon College not only prevail, but flourish.

Our fall trustee meeting was a joyous occasion as we returned to a bit of normalcy after the pandemic last year. Not only was it a delight to spend time with those appointed to care for our seminary, but we celebrated the opening of Midwestern's recently renovated library—which is dedicated as the Mark T. Coppenger Library. In addition, we were able to announce a new endowed chair, the Lee and Tammy Roberson Endowed Chair of Church History. During commencement, we also announced the Steve and Mary Dighton Endowed Chair of Pastoral Ministry.

This year, Midwestern Seminary launched the Center for Biblical Counseling to aid local churches with resources and counseling partnerships. Under the leadership of Dr. Dale Johnson, we hope this will be a great source of biblical wisdom that reaps eternal benefits.

We praise God for the work that He is doing in Institutional Relations. By His grace alone, Midwestern Seminary and Spurgeon College continue to see growth. In fact, the In Trust Center for Theological Schools recently recognized Midwestern Seminary for consistent enrollment growth for the last five years. We pray that this trend will continue. This fall, we had a record number of prospective students for Preview Day and are eager for the days ahead at Midwestern Seminary and Spurgeon College.

In order to better minister to those who sense God leading them to ministry, FTC.co recently released our "Called" website which features a collection of testimonial videos from today's evangelical leaders on their call to vocational ministry. I pray it will be a tool to encourage many believers to commit to a life of Gospel work.

As an institution, we are committed to the Word of God, we are committed to the Gospel of Jesus Christ, and we are committed to the Great Commission. We will strive to project forward and outward in our mission and ministry, and we will continually assess how our commitment to exist *For the Church* and *For the Kingdom* will direct us into the future. May we never cease to be thankful to God for the victories He has given us these past nine years, and may we never cease to serve Him in such a way that He is pleased to give us such victories going forward.

Sincerely,
Jason K. Allen
President

MINISTRY GOALS AND ACCOMPLISHMENTS

(SBC entities present ministry reports to the Executive Committee each February relating to their ministry assignments [SBC Bylaw 18E]. At their request, the following content is provided from the 2022 Ministry Report of Midwestern Baptist Theological Seminary.)

I. Assist churches by programs of prebaccalaureate and baccalaureate theological education for ministers.

The mission of Spurgeon College exists to educate Christians on how to lead others and impact the world *For the Kingdom*. Spurgeon College will maintain its focus on biblically-based degrees as well as provide students with disciplines that can train them with skills to work in the marketplace. Through its residential and online degree programs, Spurgeon College offers students a rigorous, academic environment designed to prepare them for their ministry calling.

After last year's addition of Communications courses, one milestone to celebrate in the past year is Spurgeon College's first BA in Communications graduate, Sammy Zelaya. Zelaya graduated on May 7, 2021 and currently manages communications and graphic design at her local church, Pisgah Baptist Church in Excelsior Springs, MO, as well as writes for the local newspaper, "The Excelsior Standard."

Taylor DiRoberto, Director of our Accelerate program (which is designed for students to earn BA in Biblical Studies and MDiv degrees within five years), has continued adding students and degree emphases. In 2021, Accelerate added new BA options to its MDiv track, including Business Leadership, Communications, and History. The same BA degrees were added to the Christian Education track, along with the option of a BA in Christian Ministry.

Outside the Accelerate program, Spurgeon College will be implementing five new degree minors to its BA programs in 2022: Biblical Counseling, Biblical Languages, Business Leadership, Communications, History, and Intercultural Studies. These minors allow students to gain specific skills for the pastorate, vocational ministry, or marketplace alongside any BA program of choice. In constantly challenging ministry contexts where a variety of experience and skills are demanded, we created these minors with the hope that they diversify the usefulness of students serving the kingdom and the church in their various ministries and callings.

Concerning student costs, the restructuring of our financial aid department has continued to serve students and provide them with more opportunities to receive financial support through scholarships, grants, and work-study programs. Through the generosity of our donors, the Fusion program was able to significantly reduce the fees for incoming Fall 2021 students and has formulated a plan to reduce the cost of training fees for Fall 2022 students.

II. Assist churches by programs of master's level theological education for ministers.

At Midwestern Seminary, the Master of Divinity degree is emphasized as the standard and most fitting degree to prepare for ministry. With more class and degree options added annually to our on-campus and online programs, our graduate students receive specialized training to prepare for ministry in a variety of contexts.

Midwestern Seminary continues to work closely with local churches to prepare seminarians for vocational ministry. Through our Timothy Track program, residential students can earn their degrees and obtain invaluable ministry experience at the same time. Through practicum-based coursework, students work with ministry leaders in the field for hands-on ministry training. Students intern at local churches in their first year of seminary, providing both a cost-efficient and hands-on education that helps students make the most of their time.

With the addition of our new Fusion Graduate program and Master of Arts in Intercultural Studies (MAIS) Degree, Midwestern has broadened our partnership with the IMB. Students

complete the MAIS Fusion Graduate curriculum in two phases. In phase one, students complete 27 hours of Foundational Core courses in consecutive Fall, Winter, and Spring terms. While enrolled in these courses, students will be placed in a cohort of other MAIS Fusion Graduate students and participate in weekly in-person meetings with MBTS missions faculty. In the summer, following the completion of the Foundational Core courses, students will deploy to partner with IMB personnel for the Fusion Graduate Practicum. During the practicum phase, students will complete the remaining nine hours under the supervision of IMB personnel. Through the Fusion Graduate Program, Midwestern is training ministers *For the Church* among the nations.

III. Assist churches by programs of professional doctoral education for ministers.

Midwestern Baptist Theological Seminary has offered doctoral level training since 1971. From an initial cohort of 10 Doctor of Ministry students, Midwestern now offers three professional doctoral degrees: DMin, EdD, and DEdMin. Each of these degrees has specializations in areas such as apologetics, preaching, mission, worship leadership, ethics, biblical counseling, and church revitalization. Additionally, MBTS offers its professional doctoral degrees in Spanish, Korean, Mandarin, and Romanian.

These programs are offered in both modular and online formats so that students can remain in their ministry settings while acquiring the advanced training that is offered in our degrees. The fully online delivery format is especially beneficial for students living overseas, given the costs and difficulties of international travel.

In the last year, the MBTS Doctor of Education degree saw significant enrollment growth. The addition of the EdD to Midwestern Seminary's professional doctoral programs has provided advanced training to students serving in Christian education leadership.

Over the past year, MBTS professional doctoral students have implemented and completed dissertation projects that have equipped churches to disciple members, trained teachers to be more effective in Bible studies, and strengthened church mission engagement, among other benefits.

IV. Assist churches by programs of research doctoral education for ministers and theological educators.

Midwestern Seminary has recently divided its previous research degree, the PhD Biblical Studies, into three separate degrees: PhD Biblical Studies (Standard Program, NT, OT, Biblical Theology), PhD Theological Studies (Systematic, Historical, Ethics, Preaching), and PhD Applied Theology (Biblical Counseling, Apologetics, Leadership, Missiology, Ecclesiology, and Biblical Spirituality). During these changes, two emphases within the PhD Applied Theology were created, viz. Leadership and Biblical Spirituality. These changes have brought clarity to the distinctives of each discipline and offer new avenues of training for academic service and various forms of local church ministry, whether domestic or international.

All seminars of MBTS' research doctoral programs are accessible either through synchronous, interactive video-conferencing or asynchronous delivery methods. Students must complete at least half of their curriculum through on-campus, real-time, interactive formats (synchronous). Seminars required for the PhD degrees at MBTS presuppose significant advance preparation for their five-day intensive weeks, combined with exit assignments. Admission requirements vary according to degree-type. All PhDs are 52 credit-hours total, and some specialties of the PhD are now available in Spanish, with reading skills in English presupposed.

Doctoral seminars in counseling, both professional and research, have also seen increases, being driven by the Midwestern Seminary Center for Biblical Counseling. The seminary also

continues to offer its popular “Residency” initiative, which combines advanced theological research with specialty colloquia, increased teaching involvement, and focused training in the practicalities of academic life and service, with relocation to the Kansas City metro-area expected. These measures, taken in the last year, advance the mission of MBTS to exist *For the Church* and to serve the church through academic programs available at the undergraduate (Spurgeon College), graduate, and postgraduate levels.

Based on each of MBTS’ Convention-assigned ministry statements, what opportunities or challenges are on the horizon from 2022 and beyond that would necessitate changes, or new directions, in how MBTS is accomplishing the listed Ministry Assignments?

I. Assist churches by programs of prebaccalaureate and baccalaureate theological education for ministers.

In Summer 2021, despite the lingering effects of the pandemic, Fusion students were successfully deployed overseas to unreached, unengaged people groups. They recorded more than 3,000 individual proclamations of the Gospel and 14 baptisms of new professing believers. Fusion students continue to carry out the Great Commission with local churches and missionaries in the SBC, despite the challenges that came with COVID-19.

Our athletic teams, specifically the new men’s soccer team, have added more opportunities to encourage campus life and disciple young men training for vocational and bi-vocational ministry. On their first inaugural season, the men’s soccer team won three out of six games. With the hire of another soccer coach, Jennifer Will, a women’s soccer team is planning to launch in Fall 2022. A handful of young women have already been admitted to the program as of December 2021, bringing excitement to continue building Spurgeon College athletics *For the Kingdom*.

Although enrollment numbers are steadily increasing, Spurgeon College has made calculated moves to focus more intently on admissions and recruiting efforts, specifically in the Fusion and Accelerate programs. New hires within the Fusion program and a more strategic recruiting strategy for the Accelerate program aim to bring a significant number of students on campus in Fall 2022.

Spurgeon College will continue to create programs and respond to challenges in a way that maintains our vision to be *For the Kingdom* and *For the Church* by providing opportunities for students to gain practical skills and training to serve the people of God, both locally and across the globe.

II. Assist churches by programs of master’s level theological education for ministers.

In 2022, Midwestern will continue to emphasize the Master of Divinity degree, particularly the residential format. The Master of Divinity degree is the best program for preparing those seeking to serve local churches, as training students face-to-face allows faculty to shape students’ relational skills. Through the Timothy Track, first-year residential students will be afforded the opportunity to obtain valuable, hands-on ministry experience while earning their degrees.

Midwestern continues to focus on women’s ministry concentrations. Students studying at Midwestern for a Master of Divinity degree can earn a concentration in women’s ministry and those working toward degrees through the Midwestern Training Network can obtain a Master of Theological Studies with an emphasis in women’s ministry. Within the context of the seminary’s mission of developing and maintaining strong local churches, it means we must properly educate and train members for service in each distinctive ministry within the church.

These concentrations will afford them the opportunity to develop their God-given, spiritual gifts and abilities to an even fuller extent.

Finally, Midwestern will continue to innovate our academic programs to deliver quality education using the most recent video technology. The Online-Plus initiative, launched in Spring 2021, has been expanded in 2022 to provide distance-based students more opportunities to interact with faculty in synchronous courses via video technology.

III. Assist churches by programs of professional doctoral education for ministers.

Regardless of the many challenges facing higher education, cultural shift, or economics at home or abroad, Midwestern is committed to fulfilling its ministry assignment of providing affordable, professional, doctoral education. The professional doctorate is a key program that equips pastors and other ministry leaders to be on the front line of controversial issues concerning the church. A key to this process is regular innovation and adaptation built upon Midwestern's core degree programs.

Through its implementation of an online, professional doctoral program, MBTS will effectively serve the churches of the SBC in the coming years. While fully-online doctoral programs are relatively new, MBTS is committed to maintaining the same exacting standards in both its modular and online offerings.

IV. Assist churches by programs of research doctoral education for ministers and theological educators.

The research doctoral programs of MBTS face the same challenges of any educational institution located in the United States, with demographics telling the story in many instances. The student population in the United States has decreased and this reality affects the work of all educational institutions, both public and private. Thus, MBTS has taken steps to address this challenge, while remaining consistent in its efforts to serve the church. Simply put, *what* MBTS teaches doctrinally will not change; but *how* it teaches the unchanging truths of doctrine may well change, especially with the emergence of new technologies and global trends in health, economics, and culture.

ENROLLMENT

	<u>2016-17</u>	<u>2017-18</u>	<u>2018-19</u>	<u>2019-20</u>	<u>2020-21</u>
Unduplicated Headcount Enrollment					
Prebaccalaureate (Dip-Ministering Wives)	56.0	46.0	60.0	55.0	71.0
CLD (taking Associate level courses)	160.0	222.0	419.0	367.0	459.0
Undergraduate (Bachelor's & Associate)	483.0	562.0	573.0	728.0	780.0
Basic Degrees (MDiv, MACE, MACM, MACO, MA-)	1,256.0	1,526.0	1,733.0	1,884.0	1,910.0
Advanced Degrees (PhD, DMin, DEdMin)	1,056.0	1,169.0	1,215.0	1,340.0	1,503.0
Total	3,011.0	3,525.0	4,000.0	4,374.0	4,723.0
Credit Hours					
Prebaccalaureate (Dip-Ministering Wives)	95.0	74.0	139.0	196.0	192.0
CLD (taking Associate level courses)	710.0	773.0	687.0	1,227.0	1,947.2
Undergraduate (Bachelor's & Associate)	8,159.0	9,357.0	10,624.0	13,460.5	14,444.0
Basic Degrees (MDiv, MACE, MACM, MACO, MA-)	14,670.0	17,530.5	19,108.5	21,372.5	22,841.5
Advanced Degrees (PhD, DMin, DEdMin)	5,948.0	6,833.0	7,449.0	7,949.0	9,943.0
Total	29,582.0	34,567.5	38,007.5	44,205.0	49,367.7

SBC Annual Formula FTE	<u>2016-17</u>	<u>2017-18</u>	<u>2018-19</u>	<u>2019-20</u>	<u>2020-21</u>
Annual Total	1,025.0	1,264.0	1,395.0	1,615.0	1,615.0
Three-year rolling average	899.0	1,073.0	1,228.0	1,425.0	1,542.0
New Student Unduplicated Headcount Enrollment					
Prebaccalaureate (Dip-Ministering Wives)	34.0	21.0	39.0	26.0	51.0
CLD (taking Associate level courses)	113.0	126.0	352.0	212.0	386.0
Undergraduate (Bachelor's & Associate)	189.0	228.0	244.0	299.0	330.0
Basic Degrees (MDiv, MACE, MACM, MACO, MA-)	594.0	573.0	682.0	646.0	686.0
Advanced Degrees (PhD, DMin, DEdMin)	323.0	380.0	346.0	417.0	455.0
Total	1,253.0	1,328.0	1,663.0	1,600.0	1,908.0
Graduates					
Prebaccalaureate (Dip-Ministering Wives)	3.0	1.0	0.0	3.0	5.0
Undergraduate (Bachelor's & Associate [CLD graduates])	54.0	97.0	56.0	118.0	162.0
Basic Degrees (MDiv, MACE, MACM, MACO, MA-)	133.0	171.0	240.0	250.0	338.0
Advanced Degrees (PhD, DMin, DEdMin)	46.0	71.0	89.0	101.0	151.0
Total	236.0	340.0	385.0	472.0	656.0

MATTERS REFERRED BY THE CONVENTION

The Convention referred the following items to Midwestern Baptist Theological Seminary during the Annual Meeting of the Southern Baptist Convention in Nashville, Tennessee, June 15–16, 2021, for consideration, action, and report back to the next annual meeting.

1. **SBC Referral: To request Convention entities to examine the use of non-disclosure agreements (Items 75 and 102, Proceedings of the Southern Baptist Convention, June 15-16, 2021, *SBC Annual*, p. 75, 83)**

Motion: Brad Patterson, Texas

“That the Southern Baptist Convention request each entity to examine its use of non-disclosure agreements and report its findings to the messengers of the 2022 annual meeting of the Southern Baptist Convention in Anaheim, California, reporting said findings with particular attention to three areas: what is biblical justification for the use of non-disclosure agreements; how many non-disclosure agreements have been signed or agreed to in the last five years; and if non-disclosure agreements have been utilized, for what specific purposes were they utilized?”

Response: On occasion, Midwestern Baptist Theological Seminary utilizes Non-Disclosure Agreements and similar separation agreements. This aligns with established best practices in higher education and similar organizations. NDAs are ordinary instruments of accountability, and their usage is expected by the seminary's attorneys, insurers, and Board of Trustees. Midwestern Seminary may use an NDA for a host of reasons, including to protect institutional intellectual-property, as well as to both honor and safeguard a departing employee, the institution itself, and the resources Southern Baptists have entrusted to us.

2. SBC Referral: To request that entities conduct certain audits and disclose financial details (Items 78 and 102, Proceedings of the Southern Baptist Convention, June 15-16, 2021, *SBC Annual*, p. 76, 83)

Motion: Rick Hillard, Kentucky

“That the Southern Baptist Convention request beginning in 2023 that every 5 years each entity of the Southern Baptist Convention takes the steps needed to undergo a holistic and complete audit with specific disclosure of all details made public to any Southern Baptist no later than 30 days prior to the coinciding year’s annual meeting.

Response: Midwestern Baptist Theological Seminary undergoes ‘a holistic and complete financial audit’ at the close of every fiscal year. These audited financial statements are released publicly to Southern Baptists shortly after completion. Midwestern Seminary provides additional financial information through the annual SBC Ministry Reports, the SBC Book of Reports, and the SBC Annual.

Midwestern Seminary provides additional financial information to our accrediting agencies, including the Association of Theological Schools, which collates and releases data on peer-grouped seminaries and schools of divinity in North America. Collectively, these releases provide thorough, detailed, accurate, and current information on the financial health of Midwestern Seminary, and its associated business and financial practices, and are available to every Southern Baptist.



NEW ORLEANS
BAPTIST THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY



LEAVELL
COLLEGE

3939 Gentilly Boulevard, New Orleans, Louisiana 70126

GARY SHOWS, Chair

JAMIE DEW, President

Greetings from the campus of New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary, Leavell College, and on behalf of the entire seminary family! The significance of the partnership you and the trustees of NOBTS and Leavell College represent cannot be underestimated. The support that everyday Southern Baptists provide to NOBTS and Leavell make our work possible. The Convention has directed the seminaries of the Convention to “prepare God-called men and women for vocational service in Baptist churches and in other Christian ministries through the world through programs of spiritual development, theological studies, and practical ministry preparation” (Organization Manual of the Southern Baptist Convention).

In order to emphasize the spiritual development of the NOBTS and Leavell College family, we have begun restructuring our student services department. Beginning June 1, that office will be led by the Vice President for Spiritual Development and Student Services. Our long-time dean of Leavell College, Dr. Thomas Strong, will be assuming this position. While serving as a dean, professor, and pastor, he has been actively engaged in discipling many of our undergraduate students.

Every institution has an office of student services, and at NOBTS and Leavell College we want to do all that we can to foster personal spiritual development while students are training and studying here. Our new vice president will provide important strategies to encourage the spiritual well-being of our students. This is an effort to encourage and support the work that local churches do each day to disciple believers toward a more intimate relationship with the Father.

Alongside spiritual development, our task is to train a generation of leaders for local churches and other ministries of the Convention. We have been and remain committed to the Baptist Faith and Message 2000 (BFM2000). My predecessors in this role have led an institution that has been committed to the foundational truths of the Christian faith and Baptist distinctives. Under my leadership, we remain firmly rooted in our commitment to teach according to the inerrant word of God and the BFM2000. Every program we create and every faculty member we hire is focused on training men and women to serve in local churches.

In the regular rhythm of theological institutions, it is a healthy practice to review the curriculum to ensure that the training provided continues to meet the needs of those we are serving. We have recently completed a revision of the Master of Divinity degree. This revision strengthens the core of the program so that every student receives training in how to carefully and reverently handle the text of Scripture, a thorough understanding of the doctrines of the faith, and how to make practical application in everyday ministry settings.

A perfect example of this classroom study and field application is Dr. Bill Warren, a well-respected New Testament scholar who regularly presents papers at numerous academic conferences. Bill also serves as the pastor of Jacob’s Well Church in Pass Christian, Mississippi. The Mississippi Baptist Convention Board recently recognized him as their bivocational pastor of the year. Bill serves faithfully here at the seminary and cares deeply for the men and women that he pastors in his local church. This is exactly who we are as a people at NOBTS and Leavell College—committed to academic rigor and the work of serving our local churches.

Dr. Paul Chitwood, President of the International Ministry Board, regularly reminds Great Commission Baptists that we are in need of more missionaries to serve internationally. We must be a part of his goal of 500 more missionaries by 2025. The life breath of NOBTS has been to prepare men and women to serve wherever God may call them. From the beginning of the institution, the Convention has charged NOBTS to “evangelize New Orleans... and to strengthen our case in the adjacent territory and unto the uttermost parts of the earth.” Our students were told that the population of New Orleans represented “all the nations of the earth” and they would “find opportunity for actual work among the very people with whom they may be preparing to labor” (Annual of the Southern Baptist Convention, 1918, p. 37).

We are striving to do our part even today. We have reestablished the Global Missions Center and elected Dr. Greg Mathias to the position of Associate Professor of Global Missions. Greg’s work as an IMB-appointed missionary and as a leader in the missions center at Southeastern Baptist Theological Seminary provide him with unique qualities for this role. Through his efforts, we are again prioritizing mission preparation and working to encourage students to be a part of fulfilling God’s mission throughout the world. Through scholarships, tailored training, and deeper partnerships, we are building on the efforts that have come before and placing mission focus back at the heart of the institution.

In addition to the election of Dr. Mathias to the faculty, we have also appointed Dr. Greg Wilton as the new dean of Leavell College. He comes most recently from Send Relief where he served as the National Director for Immigrants and Refugees and oversaw the work being done at the Clarkston Ministry Center. Greg also served with the IMB in Southeast Asia, leading mission efforts in his assigned region.

The reemphasis of international missions, the partnership with NAMB and the Church Planting Center, and the work of the faithful men and women of NOBTS and Leavell College will ensure that we are doing our part to aid in missions efforts among Great Commission Baptists.

None of the work I have highlighted or that you will read in other reports from NOBTS and Leavell College can be accomplished without the cooperative work of the men and women who serve with dedication in the local churches of the SBC. As I visit churches each week, I am reminded of the faithfulness of the men and women of the SBC to the work of Christ and the cooperative efforts of Southern Baptists to take the Good News to the uttermost parts of the world.

Your servant,
Jamie Dew
President

MINISTRY GOALS AND ACCOMPLISHMENTS

(SBC entities present ministry reports to the Executive Committee each February relating to their ministry assignments [SBC Bylaw 18E]. At their request, the following content is provided from the 2022 Ministry Report of New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary.)

I. Assist churches by programs of prebaccalaureate and baccalaureate theological education for ministers.

Leavell College trains God-called men and women without an undergraduate degree for ministry. Last year, Leavell College of NOBTS trained 1,199 undergraduate students through courses for credit on the main campus, at extension centers, and by internet. This total does not count a number of certificate students enrolled in not-for-credit courses offered in church and associational settings.

Many of our students are older, second-career people called into ministry later in life who can fill the many bivocational and small church ministry positions in the SBC. Our highest concentration of ethnic or minority students who can serve in ethnic church settings, particularly African-American, French-speaking Haitian, Hispanic, and Korean students, is also in Leavell College. In recent years, Leavell College has seen an increase in traditional students who know that God wants to use them in some manner but are not sure of what that might entail. Last year, Leavell College trained 435 for-credit certificate students. Many of these certificates were for pastors who will not otherwise receive any theological education. In addition, our certificates include laypersons from large and small churches. Our certificate programs are our most ethnically diverse programs and address the initiatives in this area by the SBC.

One emphasis for Leavell College since just before the pandemic is making the degree accessible in many ways. Students can take their entire bachelor's degree online, but in addition to traditional online courses, we offer NOLA2U Flex courses which allow students to participate in live classes or catch up with the class in the week the class is taught. Many undergraduate students appreciate the flexibility of this delivery method.

Recently, NOBTS developed the BA + MDiv program that allows undergraduate students at Leavell College to get a head start on their MDiv degree by taking master's classes in their senior year that count for their bachelor's degree. Many students will be able to earn their bachelor's degree and MDiv degree within five years. NOBTS is excited about the possibilities of this new opportunity for students.

II. Assist churches by programs of master's level theological education for ministers.

NOBTS had 1,348 master's-level students last year, 730 of those were MDiv degree students, which we consider the standard ministry preparation degree. Many students at NOBTS and other seminaries are pursuing shorter MA degrees offered online, at extension centers, and on campus. The remaining 618 master's-level students were in various degree programs that provide focused training for discipleship ministry, music ministry, specific areas in theological and biblical studies, or counseling ministry.

One of our primary assignments from the Convention is to train master's-degree students and we focus a great deal of effort on this task. The seminary master's programs do not require an undergraduate degree in Religion or Christian Studies. Therefore, the training is typically broad. Students receive a solid biblical and theological foundation along with practical training in areas like discipleship, pastoral ministry, and counseling. We measure our health by the churches and ministries our graduates lead, and we strive to prepare them to serve effectively in ministry. This year, we are working on a program review of the MDiv to be sure the degree covers all the things we think are essential for ministry. The faculty is working hard on updating this degree to the needs of today's churches and students.

Students who study at NOBTS receive a world-class education from faculty who have built their lives upon the Word of God. The faculty at NOBTS not only teach and publish in their areas, but they are involved in local church ministry and missions. Thus, students have the opportunity to learn from those who are doing ministry.

III. Assist churches by programs of professional doctoral education for ministers.

The DMin (Doctor of Ministry) and DEdMin (Doctor of Educational Ministry) at NOBTS continue to be among the strongest such programs in the nation, with 287 students enrolled last year. The DMin program continues to be one of the largest and best such programs, with 250 students enrolled. Of that number, 37 are Korean DMin students.

The NOBTS DEdMin is one of just a handful of such programs in the United States. The DEdMin has 30 students enrolled. In many churches, the DMin has become the required degree for consideration of prospective pastors. This program provides students with that credentialing, and does so with excellence. Last year, both the DMin and DEdMin were revised following updated accreditation standards, allowing some students with an MA degree to pursue these professional doctoral degrees. We are excited about new opportunities to equip students. Since the DMin and DEdMin programs require substantial experience for entry, these degrees probably do more than any academic degree to help ministers make mid-career adjustments in their own ministry that positively impact the churches and ministries in which they serve.

Professional doctoral education provides an opportunity to impact churches immediately since students pursuing the DMin and DEdMin degrees are able to continue to minister in their churches. NOBTS provides training in a workshop format designed to allow students to continue in their place of service. Students unable to travel to New Orleans are also able to participate in each seminar through web conferencing software. Thus, NOBTS is providing opportunities for this training in a variety of ways.

IV. Assist churches by programs of research doctoral education for ministers and theological educators.

NOBTS has worked hard to make research doctoral degrees accessible for students wherever they might live. Each PhD major is available through web conferencing technology or in person. Many students pursue a PhD who would otherwise not be able to attain the degree because they are called to a church at some distance from New Orleans. Students make limited trips to New Orleans, while the majority of their seminars are available through live-stream offerings.

In part, because of the availability of the degree, NOBTS has seen continued growth in the research doctoral programs in recent years. Last year, 201 students enrolled in the ThM, EdD, DMA, and PhD programs — which was a historically high enrollment. NOBTS is consistently evaluating the research doctoral degrees to be sure we are offering the appropriate curriculum. Each degree program was created to meet a need in Southern Baptist life. NOBTS is training the next generation of seminary and college teachers and providing highly trained practitioners in every area of ministry. Dr. Alan Bandy has recently been appointed to the position of Associate Dean of Research Doctoral Programs and NOBTS anticipates great things under his leadership.

Based on each of the Convention-assigned ministry statements, what opportunities or challenges do you see on the horizon from 2022 and beyond that would necessitate changes, or new directions, in accomplishing the listed Ministry Assignments?

I. Assist churches by programs of prebaccalaureate and baccalaureate theological education for ministers.

We have yet to see the long-term impact of COVID, but something like what we have experienced over the last two years will have an impact on educational institutions. The greatest challenge confronting most undergraduate students is the problem of affordability and student debt. In the last several years, we have seen the average student take fewer hours per semester. As a result, students have a hard time completing their degree. Many of our older students have children and it is very difficult for them to juggle several jobs (ministry and secular) in order to get by while pursuing their theological education. NOBTS has sought to address this with the tuition cap. Qualified students who take between 12 and 18 hours pay the same tuition and thus students are able to save \$1,770 each semester if they can focus on being a full-time student. Even with the discounts offered, many students just do not have the time or money to take classes full-time. The end result is that students may not complete their degree at all. NOBTS

continues to encourage students to take the appropriate number of credit hours to facilitate successful completion of their training.

NOBTS and Leavell College continue to explore potential partnerships for students to receive vocational training with partner schools while receiving theological education at the seminary. This past year, we approved a partnership with the University of New Orleans to allow our undergraduate students the ability to get a head start on their Master of Business Administration, and we hope to have further partnerships with local colleges solidified soon. Through these partnerships, we anticipate equipping students for potential bivocational ministry as well as with skills to help them while they are in school.

II. Assist churches by programs of master's level theological education for ministers.

As delivery methods for education have multiplied, NOBTS continues to search for the best way to make theological education available to those who are called of God to the ministry. For several years now, NOBTS has offered the full MDiv degree online as well as several master of arts degrees. At the same time, we have been pruning our extension center system. We regret the loss of personal interaction this transition brings and have sought to supplement the experiences of online students through intensives and various other means. The mentoring program of NOBTS allows students to gain practical experience while gaining their theological education. We are convinced that partnering with churches to equip students for ministry is a great opportunity for students.

New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary remains committed to providing quality education for the current and future leaders of the SBC. We will continue to emphasize the MDiv degree that provides the broadest type of training. In the past year, the faculty members have been working to thoroughly review and revise the MDiv offerings to be sure we are properly equipping students. In addition, the faculty is reviewing and revising master of arts degrees to meet the specialized needs of students.

One unexpected benefit of the last two years is that virtually everyone knows how to use technology to meet and attend classes. While we do encourage every student to come to New Orleans and invest in the city as our faculty invests in them, we will also continue to develop and improve our offerings to those students who are unable to move to New Orleans. NOBTS offers online training that allows students to participate in live classes through NOLA2UFlex classes. These classes let students participate in the class while it is meeting from their own home or office or watch the recording in the next week and follow up through various online activities. We have seen these offerings expand in the last two years and expect that to continue in the near future.

III. Assist churches by programs of professional doctoral education for ministers.

Recent changes in our accreditation standards have allowed us to increase access to the professional doctoral programs at NOBTS. Previously, only students with an MDiv or the equivalent could begin the doctor of ministry program. In addition, prospective students were required to have at least three years of full-time service. The new guidelines allow more flexibility and NOBTS has adapted the DMin degree to expand the prospects for this degree. Our professional doctorate programs are among the best in the country and we want to involve as many students as possible. In addition to revising the DMin, NOBTS recently revised the DEdMin degree to differentiate it from similar degrees at the seminary.

As many pastors are devoted to crisis management related to COVID, NOBTS must work hard to reach these pastors and serve them in this time of need. Maintaining excellence with the responsibility of a large student body that requires a great deal of individualized attention

remains a consistent challenge. NOBTS continues to utilize every means available to make professional doctoral training available to those who are interested as well as to equip students to succeed. Students who are unable to come to New Orleans for classes are able to use webcasting technology to participate in most of the professional doctoral classes enabling them to focus their energy and time in the local church setting.

IV. Assist churches by programs of research doctoral education for ministers and theological educators.

The PhD program at NOBTS continues to grow, partially because of the quality of the program and its accessibility. Every degree major is available to students who do not live in New Orleans through web conferencing technology and we expect to continue to see growth. Students have appreciated the ability to participate in the class as if they were there in person while remaining in their field of ministry. We will continue to seek to expand our offerings while maintaining the most efficient program possible.

One of the ongoing challenges for PhD students is the lack of full-time positions in academia. Many of the students at NOBTS are preparing to be pastor-theologians and may teach as an adjunct, but for those preparing to teach full-time, NOBTS works hard to prepare them for a difficult job market.

STATISTICAL TABLES

Enrollment

Basic Degrees	2016-17	2017-18	2018-19	2019-20	2020-21
Graduate Certificate	102	100	81	70	42
MDiv	1,000	878	833	735	730
MACE	142	130	134	125	92
MMCM	23	23	18	6	9
DMin	313	278	275	261	250
DEdMin	53	48	46	48	37
ThM	64	52	59	72	67
PhD	82	100	95	107	106
DMA	13	15	19	21	21
EDD	8	9	9	12	11
MAMFC	38	45	78	80	98
MA	198	304	379	342	305
MTS	60	52	64	63	59
Diploma	0	0	0	0	0
Certificate	624	713	699	668	515
Associate	105	97	93	82	110
Baccalaureate	879	826	870	703	641
Internet	*595	*669	*711	*668	*627
Nondegree	74	64	51	56	75
Formula allowances for off campus programs	151	144	249	174	121
Total FTE Enrollment	3,778	3,734	3,803	3,451	3,168

**This amount is included in the degree programs.*

Annual Accumulative Enrollment (nonduplicating head count) 2020-2021: 3,056

Graduates	2016-17	2017-18	2018-19	2019-20	2020-21
Prebaccalaureate	170	205	149	55	70
Baccalaureate	117	95	154	78	127
Graduate	230	210	259	240	266
Doctoral	53	59	62	60	70
Total	570	569	624	433	533

MATTERS REFERRED BY THE CONVENTION

The Convention referred the following items to New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary during the Annual Meeting of the Southern Baptist Convention in Nashville, Tennessee, June 15–16, 2021, for consideration, action, and report back to the next annual meeting.

1. SBC Referral: To request Convention entities to examine the use of non-disclosure agreements (Items 75 and 102, Proceedings of the Southern Baptist Convention, June 15-16, 2021, *SBC Annual*, p. 75, 83)

Motion: Brad Patterson, Texas

“That the Southern Baptist Convention request each entity to examine its use of non-disclosure agreements and report its findings to the messengers of the 2022 annual meeting of the Southern Baptist Convention in Anaheim, California, reporting said findings with particular attention to three areas: what is biblical justification for the use of non-disclosure agreements; how many non-disclosure agreements have been signed or agreed to in the last five years; and if non-disclosure agreements have been utilized, for what specific purposes were they utilized?”

Response: The Board of Trustees of New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary meeting on April 12-13, 2022 approved the following response to the motion To Request Convention Entities to Examine the Use of Non-Disclosure Agreements.

The original motion requested entities report findings with particular attention to three areas:

1. What is the Biblical justification for the use of non-disclosure agreements?

The Bible does not explicitly address the use of non-disclosure agreements and other similar business practices. We do, however recognize Biblical commands such as the command to love God and love neighbor (Matthew 22:36-40; Mark 12:30-31) for this reason it is not the regular practice of NOBTS to use these agreements. However, in the course of regular business practices, it is sometimes necessary to utilize non-disclosure agreements to protect trade secrets, patent information, enrollment procedures, etc.

2. How many non-disclosure agreements have been signed or agreed to in the last five years?

None.

3. If non-disclosure agreements have been utilized, for what specific purposes were they utilized?

Not-applicable.

2. SBC Referral: To request that entities conduct certain audits and disclose financial details (Items 78 and 102, Proceedings of the Southern Baptist Convention, June 15-16, 2021, *SBC Annual*, p. 76, 83)

Motion: Rick Hillard, Kentucky

“That the Southern Baptist Convention request beginning in 2023 that every 5 years each entity of the Southern Baptist Convention takes the steps needed to undergo a holistic and complete audit with specific disclosure of all details made public to any Southern Baptist no later than 30 days prior to the coinciding year’s annual meeting.”

Response: The Board of Trustees of New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary meeting on April 12-13, 2022 approved the following response to the motion To Request that Entities Conduct Certain Audits and Disclose Financial Details.

New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary currently undergoes a yearly external audit of its financial statements and financial processes with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America. This practice is in keeping with current business standards as well as the Business and Financial Plan of the Southern Baptist Convention. These audits are conducted yearly and reported to the messengers of the annual meeting as a part of the Convention Book of Reports. These procedures are outlined in the Business and Financial Plan of the Southern Baptist Convention.

The yearly audit of New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary is reviewed by a committee of the Board of Trustees and approved by the full Board.



P.O. Box 1889, Wake Forest, North Carolina 27588-1889

TIMOTHY C. DALE, Chair

DANIEL L. AKIN, President

Southeastern Baptist Theological Seminary seeks to equip students to serve the church and fulfill the Great Commission. Because we are a Great Commission Seminary, it is our heart, mission, and prayer that every student, every professor, and every classroom would be purposed toward the fulfillment of the Great Commission, the final marching orders of the Lord Jesus Christ.

This past year, we saw over 5,000 students studying with us. This will be our 12th year of growth and record enrollment. We give thanks to God for His kindness. This past year, we saw our strongest year of giving ever. We saw a 32% increase in giving from the prior fiscal year. This is 22% higher than our highest giving year previously on record. God continues to pour out his blessings on this school. Our institutional focus this year is Love the Truth. We affirm without any apology the inerrancy and sufficiency of Scripture, the exclusivity of the Gospel, the importance of the doctrine of penal substitution, a complementarian understanding of theology in role relations, the importance of the local church, and the inherent and eternal value of every single human life. Thank you for giving to the Cooperative Program from which Southeastern Seminary received this past year \$7.4 million. We can only say praise the Lord. We could not do what we do without the generosity of Southern Baptists like you.

Southeastern is not only a training ground at the graduate level, but also at the undergraduate level as well. We are committed to developing and refining the calling that God has placed in the lives of these young men and women, regardless of their major and their next steps. Every single student at the College receives a solid foundation in Biblical and Theological studies. They are trained in developing and recognizing various and competing worldviews. Most of all, every student is prepared to winsomely engage the world for the glory of Jesus Christ. Our degree programs prepare students for careers in ministry, missions, and also the marketplace.

In partnership with the North Carolina Department of Public Safety and Joe Gibbs' Game Plan for Life, we are also providing theological training through our College to long term inmates who will live on mission in their respective assignments. These students have sentences of more than 12 years and are now being equipped to transform the prison community from the inside-out through service and discipleship inside the prison. We are offering a Bachelor of Arts in Pastoral Ministry through the College at Southeastern and right now have approximately 80 students in the program. We celebrated the sending out of the first graduates from this program in December 2021. This is an answer to prayer that has been lifted to the Lord for many, many years.

The Master of Divinity is still our graduate level flagship degree program. Here we equip students to serve the Church with a wide range of concentrations that are available. Our degrees prepare students with a strong Biblical and Theological education as well as practical and applicable ministry preparation. Recently, MDiv student Roy Vargas received the Mercy Scholarship, a newly established fund created by a very generous and anonymous donor. Roy and his family moved from San Jose, Costa Rica to study at Southeastern with the hopes of becoming an international church planter in South Asia. Roy chose Southeastern because he said Southeastern has a strong leadership that stands on the authority, inerrancy, infallibility, and sufficiency of Scripture and has a passionate faculty currently equipping students and leaders to go serve the Church and to fulfill the Great Commission.

Southeastern also offers various Graduate Certificates that provide graduate level training in our classrooms at a fraction of the normal cost. This helps make ministry training accessible for anyone, as the Graduate Certificates help lower the barriers of cost, location, and also time. These programs provide training in several areas such as Christian Ministry, Student Ministry, Christian Ethics, and Church Revitalization.

Non-degree related programs also exist here at Southeastern as we maintain a global focus that reaches from North America to the ends of the earth. We do not just take theological training seriously in North Carolina. It extends beyond the walls of Wake Forest into other parts of the world through our Global Theological Initiative. The goal of our partnerships is to provide theological training to national leaders around the world. These include places like Brazil, Mexico, Uganda, the Dominican Republic, the Ukraine, South Korea, and Hong Kong. In fact, through our Persian Development Program, we are providing church leaders with theological education in their own language of Farsi. There is no other program like this in the world, and it is projected to grow to over 2,000 students by next year.

Our L. Russ Bush Center for Faith and Culture (CFC) recently received a significant grant from the John Templeton Foundation to begin a three-year conference series on Biblical Anthropology. The first in this series was held in February 2022. As stated by Ken Keathley, Director of the CFC, “Starting with Scripture as our final authority, we will engage with a broad arena of academic disciplines as we explore what it means to be imagers of God and how to live faithfully before God in his world.”

Let me also say we are proud to announce new visiting professors to Southeastern Seminary. This is a stellar lineup. Crawford Loritts, Al Jackson, JD Greear, and Matt Carter will all be assisting us in our PhD level programs, DMin programs, and some even on the Masters level as well. We are excited about the impact they will make on the lives of the students who come and study here at Southeastern Seminary.

Let me say thank you again for giving to the Cooperative Program. Your generosity makes it possible for us to do all the good things that are happening here at Southeastern. Thank you, Southern Baptists, for your prayers. Thank you for your support. You can trust us, and I promise you, we remain focused on our students, faculty, and staff in making disciples who will go across the world sharing the Gospel of Jesus Christ. It is our calling to equip every student to serve the church and fulfill the Great Commission. By God’s grace and for His glory, we hope to be a faithful Great Commission Seminary until King Jesus returns. Thank you so much and God’s blessings.

Danny Akin
President

ENROLLMENT

Enrollment Figures by Degree Programs and Full-Time Equivalent (FTE) Students as Per the SBC Funding Formula

	2016- 2017	2017- 2018	2018- 2019	2019- 2020	2020- 2021
Special Students					
Credit Only	288	458	888	740	1,455
Certificate/Diploma	353	467	552	1,008	923
Special Student Total	641	925	1,440	1,748	2,378
Prebaccalaureate & Baccalaureate					
Associate of Divinity	23	23	17	22	23
Associate of Arts	5	3	11	25	23
Bachelor of Arts/Science	396	475	514	568	600
Prebaccalaureate & Baccalaureate Totals	424	501	542	615	646
Basic Programs					
Master of Arts	611	703	739	842	980
Master of Church Music	2	1	-	-	-
Master of Theological Studies	125	266	204	50	210
Master of Divinity	1,209	1,225	1,231	1,353	1,100
Basic Programs Total	1,947	2,195	2,174	2,245	2,290
Advanced					
Master of Theology	70	67	74	71	69
Doctor of Ministry	254	271	262	250	247
Doctor of Education	83	86	90	90	89
Doctor of Philosophy	205	205	193	196	190
Advanced Total	612	629	619	607	595
Total Unduplicated Headcount	3,624	4,250	4,775	5,215	5,909
Cooperative Program Funded FTEs					
Full-Time Equivalent Students	2,161	2,337	2,551	2,914	2,800
<i>Unfunded FTEs</i>					
Over 70 Hours BA Deduction	(69)	(65)	(68)	(66)	(75)
Online SBC FTE Students	(495)	(555)	(655)	(792)	(855)
Adv Degree Students Past Time Allowance	(247)	(255)	(295)	(312)	(307)
Other Non-Countable SBC Students	-	-	-	-	(98)
Non-SBC FTE Students	(136)	(246)	(348)	(476)	(640)
Total Unfunded FTEs	(947)	(1,121)	(1,366)	(1,646)	(1,975)
Total Cooperative Program Funded FTEs	1,214	1,216	1,185	1,268	825
Graduates					
Prebaccalaureate & Special	39	46	42	30	33
Baccalaureate	52	69	46	71	107
Basic Programs	312	283	336	351	454
Advanced	68	70	84	80	87
Total Graduates	471	468	508	532	681

MATTERS REFERRED BY THE CONVENTION

The Convention referred the following items to Southeastern Baptist Theological Seminary during the Annual Meeting of the Southern Baptist Convention in Nashville, Tennessee, June 15–16, 2021, for consideration, action, and report back to the next annual meeting.

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Motion: Brad Patterson, Texas

“That the Southern Baptist Convention request each entity to examine its use of non-disclosure agreements and report its findings to the messengers of the 2022 annual meeting of the Southern Baptist Convention in Anaheim, California, reporting said findings with particular attention to three areas: what is biblical justification for the use of non-disclosure agreements; how many non-disclosure agreements have been signed or agreed to in the last five years; and if non-disclosure agreements have been utilized, for what specific purposes were they utilized?”

Response: The Board of Trustees at Southeastern Baptist Theological Seminary (SEBTS) reviewed the referred motion from Brad Patterson (TX) made at the 2021 Annual Meeting of the Southern Baptist Convention in Nashville, TN regarding non-disclosure agreements. The Board of Trustees responds that SEBTS does not regularly use non-disclosure agreements except in certain cases where it is prudent business practice mainly in vendor relationships. In addition, certain information in the educational setting in which the seminary operates is protected under the Federal Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA). Where applicable, SEBTS is prevented from disclosing information even without non-disclosure agreements. SEBTS may participate in non-disclosure agreements that originate outside of the seminary related to certain legal proceedings or negotiations.

2. SBC Referral: To request that entities conduct certain audits and disclose financial details (Items 78 and 102, Proceedings of the Southern Baptist Convention, June 15-16, 2021, *SBC Annual*, p. 76, 83)

Motion: Rick Hillard, Kentucky

“That the Southern Baptist Convention request beginning in 2023 that every 5 years each entity of the Southern Baptist Convention takes the steps needed to undergo a holistic and complete audit with specific disclosure of all details made public to any Southern Baptist no later than 30 days prior to the coinciding year’s annual meeting.

Response: The Board of Trustees at Southeastern Baptist Theological Seminary reviewed the referred motion from Rick Hillard (KY) made at the 2021 Annual Meeting of the Southern Baptist Convention in Nashville, TN regarding audits. The Board of Trustees did not take any action on the motion other than this response provided, due to the seminary’s current practices regarding audits. Southeastern Baptist Theological Seminary undergoes an annual external audit conducted by a qualified independent auditing firm that is selected by the Board of Trustees. This audit is conducted in accordance with generally accepted auditing standards in the United States and provides an opinion as to whether or not Southeastern’s Financial Statements present fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of the seminary. The seminary’s financial statements, all financial statement disclosures, and the opinion of the external auditors are published each year in the Southern Baptist Convention’s Annual. In addition, Southeastern complies with all policies set forth by the Southern Baptist Convention’s Business & Financial Plan. Southeastern is committed to integrity in all areas of our operations, including the financial functions of the institution.



**THE SOUTHERN BAPTIST
THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY**

2825 Lexington Road, Louisville, Kentucky 40280

**CLINT PRESSLEY, Chair
R. ALBERT MOHLER, JR., President**

It is my privilege and stewardship once again to present this report on behalf of The Southern Baptist Theological Seminary. Thank you for your diligent service on behalf of Southern Baptists.

The heart of the Southern Baptist Convention is its churches, faithful and committed to the Gospel. The substance of the Southern Baptist Convention is its entities, serving those faithful and generous churches. The six seminaries of the Southern Baptist Convention bear the hopes of our churches and prepare the future of our ministry. May God find us faithful in this task. The Southern Baptist Theological Seminary is committed without reservation to that task.

In order to understand our task, all we have to do is look to our name. We are The Southern Baptist Theological Seminary, and proudly so. We are honored to bear the stewardship of theological education on behalf of Southern Baptist churches. Our students are educated in biblical truth and Baptist doctrine. They are prepared for a lifetime of service, mission, and ministry in the Baptist heartland, throughout the United States, and all over the world. They are driven by God's call and drawn to the fields of ministry and mission.

We are living in an age of increasing secularization, which now comes to us with threatening clouds and cultural hostility. Our task is to raise up a generation of young Christians, ready to stand for biblical truth, to stand on the Gospel of Jesus Christ, and to stand against the currents of the age. If you could see these students, drawn to Boyce College and Southern Seminary, you would be so greatly encouraged. They are deeply committed to Christ and they are ready to take their stand for truth. They are eager for deployment to the fields of mission and ministry. They love Christ and they love Christ's church. They understand what is at stake.

Southern Seminary is strong in enrollment, spirit, and program. God has blessed us beyond measure with thousands of students and a faculty without equal. Conviction draws conviction, and this faculty of committed Baptist scholars draws the very students we now see at Southern Seminary and Boyce College.

I am often asked by leaders of seminaries outside the Southern Baptist Convention to explain the strength of our institution. I am pleased to point them to the faithfulness of Southern Baptist churches, channeled through the Cooperative Program. We praise God for the faithfulness of those churches, and we pledge equal faithfulness in the theological education of our students.

These are crucial days for our denomination, but I am confident that this generation of Southern Baptists, by God's power, will be up to the task of answering God's call, raising up the next generation of preachers, missionaries, and leaders, and preaching the Gospel of Jesus Christ.

Attached with this letter is the annual report of The Southern Baptist Theological Seminary to the Southern Baptist Convention. It is presented with pride and unspeakable gratitude.

Come see the future taking shape on the campus of Boyce College and Southern Seminary. For Southern Baptists, the welcome mat is always out.

Sincerely,
R. Albert Mohler, Jr.
President

MINISTRY GOALS AND ACCOMPLISHMENTS

(SBC entities present ministry reports to the Executive Committee each February relating to their ministry assignments [SBC Bylaw 18E]. At their request, the following content is provided from the 2022 Ministry Report of The Southern Baptist Theological Seminary.)

I. Assist churches by programs of prebaccalaureate and baccalaureate theological education for ministers.

Boyce College, the undergraduate school of The Southern Baptist Theological Seminary, continues to serve a growing student population of Southern Baptist college students. These students are receiving a Christian education of the highest quality and relevance. The aim of Boyce College is to raise up a new generation of leaders for faithful service in our churches and the mission field. Boyce attracts students who are already serious about their faith and challenges them to grow in their commitment to Christ and His church while they pursue undergraduate education. This depth of conviction has resulted in healthy growth as more and more students are drawn to Boyce's theological clarity and academic rigor. The non-duplicating headcount at Boyce College was 1,326 students in 2020-2021.

The professors at Boyce College are not only recognized experts in their scholarly fields, but they also possess a clear commitment to shepherd and mentor their students. This is why Boyce students receive excellent instruction in the classroom, as well as a vibrant, all-around student experience. Resident advisors work to cultivate biblical community within the residence halls. Students are exposed to a number of Southern Baptist pastors and leaders through weekly dorm meetings and chapel services. Student groups, such as the student council, provide students with opportunities to develop leadership skills and experience that will serve them and our churches in the future. The honors program continues to grow and gives students in the program an opportunity for a deeper and more challenging academic experience. This program has proven effective in attracting some of the sharpest young minds in the SBC. Throughout the 2020-2021 academic year, the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic required creative solutions to continuing our academic mission. Through thorough safety measures and the tireless efforts of staff and faculty, we were able to further our mission and provide academic and ministerial training at the same high levels of quality offered before the pandemic.

The programs offered by Boyce College are the extension of the founding vision of Southern Seminary. The continued strengthening of the programs is evident in developments such as the Augustine Honors Collegium, the Worldview Intensive Year program, a new Digital Media emphasis within several majors, and two new Seminary Track programs—Business and Communications. The College continually reviews all academic programs to ensure that each serves the church in a distinctive way, preparing the coming generation for faithful Christian service and leadership.

II. Assist churches by programs of masters' level theological education for ministers.

The central mission assignment for the seminaries is the education of pastors; that reaches back to our founding in 1859. The Master of Divinity program forms the core of Southern's efforts to provide master's level theological education. This is then supplemented through various master's level offerings, such as our Master of Arts in Biblical Counseling, Missiology, Theological Studies, and more. The Global Campus continues to expand as a vehicle for delivering theological education to master's students around the world. Students from all 50 states, the District of Columbia, and over 75 countries are enrolled in degree programs from undergraduate to doctoral. Within the Global Campus, the Online Hispanic Program has grown exponentially, which helps prepare and train ministers of the Gospel in the Spanish-speaking world. This Hispanic program provides theological education of the highest quality to Spanish-speaking students, both in the United States and around the world. More than 750

students have already been enrolled in the program, and more than 50 have graduated, coming from nations including Argentina, Bolivia, Costa Rica, Cuba, Ecuador, El Salvador, Guatemala, Mexico, Puerto Rico, Colombia, Chile, and the Dominican Republic.

The significance of the MDiv centers the entire institution on the preparation of pastors. The MDiv program continued as the largest program at the seminary with a total enrollment of 2,402 students for 2020-2021, which is a 2.9% increase from the previous year. In an era when the MDiv is experiencing widespread decline, we are particularly proud of the work the Lord has done in raising up so many current and future pastors and entrusting us with their education. Southern Seminary also maintains an unparalleled faculty whose focus remains on instructing master's level students. In addition to their classroom responsibilities, our faculty also continues to set the pace for serving in local SBC churches, speaking at conferences, and contributing to evangelical scholarship through writing books and delivering academic presentations. In 2020-2021 alone, Southern Seminary professors published over 35 books and contributed many articles to various academic journals. When you enter a classroom at Southern Seminary, you will find one of many Christian scholars whose commitment to the Gospel, to the church, and to the Lord Jesus Christ is translated into a love for students and the task of teaching. In 2020-2021, faculty taught with particular excellence despite ongoing safety protocol amidst the difficulties of the COVID-19 pandemic, and the seminary's mission continued due to their diligence in keeping our community safe while offering theological education at the highest level.

III. Assist churches by programs of professional doctoral education for ministers.

Southern Seminary offers professional doctoral education through the Doctor of Ministry and the Doctor of Educational Ministry. For the 2020-2021 academic year, the total annual headcount for all Professional Doctoral Studies degree programs was 430 students. Specific attention was paid to prospective student recruitment efforts. Completing a degree while in full-time ministry can be challenging, so at Southern, professional doctoral students begin their program with a plan. Trained mentors guide students toward completion at a healthy pace, ensuring a greater number of students not only complete the program, but achieve the level of growth they desire. Southern Seminary continues to add value to the student experience through chapel services, focused panel discussions, and writing mentors throughout the program. Our faculty and staff persevered through increased safety protocols due to the COVID-19 pandemic, and despite many students participating in seminars via Zoom, we were able to maintain the highest level of quality in education and continue to train ministers. Our graduates continue to hold key leadership positions in our SBC local associations, state conventions, and national entities and are pastoring hundreds of established SBC churches and planting churches all over the world.

IV. Assist churches by programs of research doctoral education for ministers and theological educators.

Southern Seminary offers research doctoral education through the Doctor of Philosophy, Doctor of Education, Doctor of Missiology, and Master of Theology. These academic programs are among the most highly respected in the nation and continue to produce well-trained pastor-scholars who serve in local church leadership, academics, and entity leadership. Research Doctoral Studies expanded our modular PhD programs to include Biblical Studies and Historical and Theological Studies. These additional programs allow students to receive the highest level of education in a number of doctoral concentrations through intensive, on-campus courses taken with a cohort. For the 2020-2021 academic year, the total annual headcount for all Research Doctoral Studies degree programs was 433 students. The program, however, is not merely large, but of the highest quality. Dozens of our current students and alumni presented

papers at the prestigious national meeting of the Evangelical Theological Society and continue to shape the entire evangelical academic landscape. The weekly 1892 Club continued to attract many students each week, though less frequent due to COVID-19 safety protocols, for fellowship and interaction with a visiting scholar. Modular students are provided a chapel experience and lunch during their time on campus to facilitate further learning and fellowship between other students and scholars. While the COVID-19 pandemic continued to offer unique challenges to training, consistent safety protocols and the diligence of our staff and faculty allowed us to continue offering seminars and facilitate research at the highest levels.

Southern is equipping many of the most gifted academic and church leaders within Southern Baptist life. In an academic job market considered severe by almost any standard, Southern doctoral graduates are continually sought after to serve in both traditional-academic and church-based posts. Amongst memberschools of the Association of Theological Schools, Southern Seminary has continued to produce a high number of students now teaching at member schools. In addition to this, many of our graduates hold administrative positions of leadership in institutions of higher learning all over the country. As with our other programs, graduates are giving leadership throughout the SBC at the local, state, and national levels. This is a great testimony to the strength of our program and the quality of our students.

What opportunities or challenges do you see on the horizon from 2022 and beyond that would necessitate changes, or new directions, in accomplishing each Ministry Assignment?

I. Assist churches by programs of prebaccalaureate and baccalaureate theological education for ministers.

Boyce College has experienced growth in terms of enrollment, educational excellence, and opportunities for students outside the classroom. The opportunity for 2022 primarily consists of building on the momentum already present to expand the reach of Boyce College among prospective students in order to maintain healthy growth. We believe that our current students are our best drivers for future growth. As such, Boyce aims to deliver excellent educational offerings, as well as extracurricular activities, with the goal of forming godly and well-equipped future Southern Baptist leaders. The addition of the BA in Business Administration/MDiv and BA in Communication/MDiv 5-year seminary track programs has already begun to prepare students to be effective communicators and members of the business community in a diverse and complex world, extending the mission of the school further into the marketplace. Also, the addition of the new Digital Media emphasis in several majors will prepare students to engage in ministry in an increasingly digital world. As we maintain the SBC's commitment to abstain from government funding, we will need to carefully structure Southern Seminary and Boyce College in terms of personnel and facilities to make sure we are able to offer a program that is the highest in academic quality and competitively priced. In order to achieve this, we reduced tuition by 15% across the board at the beginning of the 2020-2021 academic year, which led to more financially accessible programs with the same high level of academic quality.

II. Assist churches by programs of masters' level theological education for ministers.

Southern Seminary is committed to providing the best possible theological education for current and future pastors and ministry leaders of the Southern Baptist Convention. This means not only maintaining an excellent faculty but providing an education that aims at the formation of ministry leaders who are intellectually capable, morally faithful, and walking closely with the Lord. An opportunity that comes out of this commitment is to continually improve not only our on-campus efforts but also opportunities for our online and modular students to be mentored, trained, and served both inside and outside of the classroom. As increasing numbers of our students are attending through our Global Campus program, Southern Seminary

leadership, faculty, and staff must respond to the calling to bring excellent education through this growing opportunity. The high quality of our online program is rooted in the high quality of our on-campus program. Professors are continuing to improve their pedagogy through provided training, not only in the classroom, but also for their online teaching. The unique pedagogical challenges inherent in online learning require that our professors receive additional training and instruction in order to provide the best possible experience for our online students. With the rising number of online courses being taken, Southern Seminary maintains deliberate efforts to connect online students to the campus. In addition, the unique challenges posed by the COVID-19 pandemic have pushed us to be more agile than ever in our online and modular course offerings. We will continue to serve our students through the best mediums possible as we move past the COVID-19 pandemic.

III. Assist churches by programs of professional doctoral education for ministers.

The professional doctoral studies team continuously strives for excellence and innovation in serving those seeking to develop their ministry competencies and skills. One of the challenges that most professional doctoral programs face is maintaining a high rate of degree completion. Southern Seminary continues to see rising graduation rates and will seek to improve even more. Students are being assigned writing mentors and are helped with a project strategy immediately as part of their first week of classes. This helps students to focus on their project throughout their entire program. This focus allows the student to begin the writing process earlier and has been effective in helping them complete the degree program. We will continue to increase the quality of program orientation and introduction to doctoral writing as part of our efforts to ensure successful graduates. The challenges of the COVID-19 pandemic also increased the pace of existing innovations, resulting in three Doctor of Ministry and Doctor of Educational Ministry concentrations now being offered wholly online: Christian Ministries, Global Missions, and Applied Theology. These new, fully-online concentrations will further our reach and allow us to serve more churches through the training of ministers.

IV. Assist churches by programs of research doctoral education for ministers and theological educators.

While Southern's research doctoral program remains one of the strongest in Christian higher education, the aim is always to increase the quality and reach of the program. One area of opportunity will be to expand the non-residential offerings in our traditional programs (Church History, Systematic Theology, Old Testament, and New Testament), as we have already begun to do through our expanded modular PhD programs in Biblical Studies and Historical and Theological Studies. We have recently announced the addition of a new modular PhD program in Philosophical and Theological Studies. These programs will continue to strengthen the pastor-theologians within the SBC in foundational disciplines. Southern Seminary continues to develop partnerships related to international student teaching opportunities with the intention of student deployment. There is a growing need and opportunity for international theological education. Thousands of pastors around the world have no means to be trained. A continued focus on developing the pedagogical skills of our students will be paired with a continued commitment to encourage research doctoral students to exercise their academic gifting in the service of local churches. The extensive pedagogical training that Southern Seminary students receive allows them to become even more competitive in the current academic job market. Although the COVID-19 pandemic temporarily affected our learning environment, our faculty and staff will continue to provide creative solutions to support our research doctoral students.

**Enrollment by Degree Program Converted to Full-Time Equivalent
As per SBC Seminary Formula**

	2017–2018	2018–2019	2019–2020	2020–2021
Prebaccalaureate Programs:				
Diploma Theology	36	31	31	33
Diploma Missions	47	49	64	72
Boyce: Associate of Arts	25	31	24	28
Special (including Prebacc. and SWI)	194	119	183	239
Baccalaureate Programs:				
Boyce: Bachelor of Arts	268	242	222	255
Boyce: Bachelor of Science	656	653	670	643
Basic Degree Programs:				
MDiv	1,399	1,400	1,516	1,505
MA	279	251	198	213
MATS	121	127	179	176
MCM	9	12	15	12
Special (Postbacc.)	29	22	28	36
Advanced Degree Programs:				
ThM	66	78	99	86
DMin	226	221	217	233
DMiss	16	14	14	11
DEdMin	161	190	193	197
EdD	46	40	37	32
PhD	302	268	270	304
Special	3	2	0	0
Total FTE Enrollment	3,883	3,750	3,960	4,075
Official FTE	2,339	2,311	2,762	2,762
(Nondup. HC)	5,459	5,485	5,568	6,151

Degree Program Graduates

Degree Programs:				
Prebaccalaureate Programs:	2017–2018	2018–2019	2019–2020	2020–2021
Diploma Theology	0	0	0	0
Diploma Missions	0	0	0	0
Worldview Studies Certificate	0	2	5	3
Seminary Wives Institute	20	13	16	15
ESL Cert.	0	0	2	4
Boyce: Associate of Arts	3	9	8	12
Baccalaureate Programs:				
Boyce: Bachelor of Arts	19	20	37	22
Boyce: Bachelor of Science	66	57	74	80
Basic Degree Programs:				
MDiv	212	205	274	245
MA	66	69	60	65
MATS	35	54	78	73
MCM	0	1	5	2
Cert. Great Comm. Studies	0	0	2	1

Advanced Degree Programs:	2017–2018	2018–2019	2019–2020	2020–2021
ThM	38	46	38	59
DMin	36	29	35	38
DEdMin	23	22	19	39
DMiss	2	1	2	2
EdD	7	6	11	13
PhD	41	34	23	27
Total Graduates	579	591	689	700

MATTERS REFERRED BY THE CONVENTION

The Convention referred the following items to The Southern Baptist Theological Seminary during the Annual Meeting of the Southern Baptist Convention in Nashville, Tennessee, June 15–16, 2021, for consideration, action, and report back to the next annual meeting.

1. SBC Referral: To request Convention entities to examine the use of non-disclosure agreements (Items 75 and 102, Proceedings of the Southern Baptist Convention, June 15-16, 2021, *SBC Annual*, p. 75, 83)

Motion: Brad Patterson, Texas

“That the Southern Baptist Convention request each entity to examine its use of non-disclosure agreements and report its findings to the messengers of the 2022 annual meeting of the Southern Baptist Convention in Anaheim, California, reporting said findings with particular attention to three areas: what is biblical justification for the use of non-disclosure agreements; how many non-disclosure agreements have been signed or agreed to in the last five years; and if non-disclosure agreements have been utilized, for what specific purposes were they utilized?”

Response: The Southern Baptist Theological Seminary follows established best practices in matters of employment and executing contracts. This is done under the direction of the Board of Trustees and with advice of legal counsel. Specific contract provisions may be required by applicable law and sound employment practices, and many of these contracts include clauses requiring confidentiality and non-defamation. These contract provisions represent the institution’s exercise of stewardship and trust.

2. SBC Referral: To request that entities conduct certain audits and disclose financial details (Items 78 and 102, Proceedings of the Southern Baptist Convention, June 15-16, 2021, *SBC Annual*, p. 76, 83)

Motion: Rick Hillard, Kentucky

“That the Southern Baptist Convention request beginning in 2023 that every 5 years each entity of the Southern Baptist Convention takes the steps needed to undergo a holistic and complete audit with specific disclosure of all details made public to any Southern Baptist no later than 30 days prior to the coinciding year’s annual meeting.”

Response: The Southern Baptist Theological Seminary presents detailed financial reports to the Southern Baptist Convention, in accordance with SBC guidelines and the Business and Financial Plan. These reports are printed in the SBC Book of Reports each year and are made available to messengers to the Convention. After the Convention meeting, the reports are published in the SBC Annual. Reports based on an independent audit are included in the data released to messengers and available also on the SBC website. Other financial reports are made to the SBC Executive Committee. Furthermore, financial accountability for the six seminaries of the Southern Baptist Convention includes very extensive financial reporting and external evaluation by at least two accrediting agencies, the regional accreditor and the Association of Theological Schools in the United States and Canada.



Southwestern

BAPTIST THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY

2001 West Seminary Drive, Fort Worth, TX 76115-1153
P.O. Box 22040, Fort Worth, TX 76122-0040

DANNY ROBERTS, Chair
ADAM W. GREENWAY, President

It is my joy once again to share with Southern Baptists the annual report of The Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary and Texas Baptist College.

Since all Christians are called to pursue the Great Commission, Southwestern Seminary is committed to training God's people to live that calling. We do this through a wide array of academic options, including four graduate schools and our undergraduate school, Texas Baptist College. Southwesterners have access to a faculty of considerable academic clout and extensive ministry experience, as well as a vibrant campus community, and an extensive array of ministry opportunities in the Fort Worth-Dallas area. In short, whether you need classroom learning or hands-on ministry experience, we will do whatever it takes to help you live your calling.

As our nation begins to see the end of the COVID-19 pandemic, prayerfully, I am delighted to report that the Lord is blessing Southwestern Seminary and Texas Baptist College in many ways. The Lord is indeed doing a marvelous work on Seminary Hill.

The most important thing we do is to train God-called men and women for ministry through classroom learning and hands-on ministry experience. In other words, our graduates are our reason for existence—that more faithful ministers of the Gospel will serve the churches of the Southern Baptist Convention and that the Good News will impact the nations. In December, we held our fall commencement exercises with more than 300 men and women receiving their degrees from Southwestern Seminary and Texas Baptist College. During this event, we commissioned men and women representing 33 states and 20 nations who came here following the call of God and desiring to be educated in order to be used more faithfully as instruments in His hand to reach America and the world with the Gospel of Jesus Christ. Although this report is submitted before our spring commencement exercises, we are expecting similar numbers of graduates representing a similar geographic diversity. Nevertheless, typically in just one commencement ceremony, we graduate the equivalent of one entire seminary student body since the average accredited seminary in North America only has 275 students in total enrollment.

Every commencement service includes a statement in the program noting the share of the graduates' costs that was defrayed due to support from Southern Baptists through the Cooperative Program. What we do on Seminary Hill is made possible because of the sacrificial generosity of Southern Baptists who give faithfully through their churches. Because of the Cooperative Program, theological education in Southern Baptist seminaries is considerably less expensive than at other seminaries. Southern Baptists' commitment to theological education and the need for an educated ministry is the envy of the theological educational world. Thank you for investing in the next generation of ministers of the Gospel. We can never express our gratitude enough!

As critical as Cooperative Program funding is, however, additional financial support is necessary to make possible all that is done on Seminary Hill. One of the key ways support is provided is through the endowment of academic chairs to fund the employment of the very best scholars to teach our students. Recently, one of our most distinguished Southwestern Seminary alumni, Dr. Charles F. Stanley, legendary pastor emeritus of the First Baptist Church of Atlanta,

Georgia, and preacher for In Touch Ministries, the global broadcasting ministry he founded, showed his support for Southwestern Seminary in a special way. The In Touch Foundation, the charitable subsidiary of In Touch Ministries, provided a \$2 million gift to establish the Charles F. Stanley Endowed Chair for the Advancement of Global Christianity, the first-ever at the recently established level of \$2 million to fully fund endowed professorships. It is a marvelous testimony that someone with the impact and legacy of Dr. Stanley and his ministry wants to invest in his alma mater. There may be a liberal drift happening somewhere out there, but I personally am, and Southern Baptists corporately should be, thankful that Charles Stanley knows it is not happening here at his seminary.

Only weeks after the establishment of the Stanley Chair, we were delighted to announce a second academic chair has now been fully funded at \$2 million after an anonymous gift of \$1 million completed the funding of the Jack D. and Barbara Terry Chair of Religious Education. The Terry Chair was established in 2007 with a \$1 million gift by Carliss and Lois Phillips of Quitman, Texas. The Terry Chair is named for Jack D. Terry Jr., former dean and long-time faculty member of the Jack D. Terry School of Educational Ministries, and his wife of more than 60 years, Barbara. The School of Educational Ministries was named in his honor in 2009. I am gratified that this chair honors the Terrys, two of Southwestern Seminary's choice servants, recognizing their decades of faithful service to our seminary. We are indebted to the anonymous donors who have made possible this gift that will ensure teaching in the fields of educational ministries at Southwestern Seminary in perpetuity.

In recent months, the academic and administrative leadership of Southwestern Seminary and Texas Baptist College was set by trustee action and presidential appointments. With the unanimous approval of our Board of Trustees during a called meeting in February, Benjamin M. Skaug was elected provost and vice president for academic administration and Colby T. Adams was elected vice president for institutional administration. Skaug previously served as dean of TBC and Adams served as vice president for strategic initiatives and chief of staff. Following the trustee meeting, M. Todd Bates and Micah D. Carter, were appointed TBC dean and associate dean, respectively, filling vacancies created by Skaug's election. Together with Skaug and Adams, the Executive Cabinet also includes F. Edward Upton, vice president for institutional advancement. Effective January 1, 2022, Baptist history scholar Gregory A. Wills was appointed dean of the School of Theology. All of these superb leaders strengthen our institution's work.

This fall, we celebrated the centennial anniversaries of both the Terry School and the School of Church Music and Worship. These innovative schools—the firsts of their kind when they were established in 1921—continue to be the last graduate schools of their types among Southern Baptist seminaries, providing a depth and breadth of theological education in the various and diverse “second chair” roles that serve the churches of the Southern Baptist Convention.

We continue to excel in all our graduate programs, as well as in our professional and research doctoral programs. Southwestern Seminary from the beginning has been like a theological university—we provide more comprehensive training for the diversity of callings that Christ gives to ministers of His churches.

Meanwhile, our fall semester saw the first classes of Texas Baptist College, which was begun in 2005. The new name of the college was announced at the Southern Baptist Convention in Nashville. We are seeing tremendous things happening as undergraduate students—men and women looking for a Christ-centered, Scripture-driven, student-focused education—are coming to Seminary Hill to take advantage of all that is offered in a distinctive Christian worldview education in the Bible, theology, humanities, music, global studies, and other areas that are soon to be added to our curriculum.

This fall, we were delighted to announce that our Center for Church Revitalization has been named in honor of Kenneth S. Hemphill, our seventh president. There is no one more synonymous with healthy churches than Dr. Hemphill, who embodies what we want to see happen through our Center for Church Revitalization. The Hemphill Center is an institutional priority that will train students in the vital work of church revitalization as well as helping churches across our convention to experience renewal and revitalization. Dr. Hemphill himself is directly involved with the work of the Center, serving as distinguished fellow and senior professor of church revitalization.

Also announced this fall was the appointment of best-selling author Daniel Darling to lead the Land Center for Cultural Engagement, an academic center organized to study and provide research on ethics, public policy, and other cultural and philosophical issues. The center was established in 2007 to honor Richard D. Land for his contributions to the field of Christian ethics among Southern Baptists, especially as president of the Ethics and Religious Liberty Commission. In a day of moral upheaval and widespread rejection of God's design for human flourishing, it is our unwavering commitment that the Land Center be a trusted partner in helping Southern Baptist churches and the broader evangelical world to understand the times and to apply effectively Gospel truth in this day.

At Southwestern Seminary, the Bible is the core textbook for every class, just as it was in 1908 when B.H. Carroll founded this institution. Seminary Hill Press, our publishing arm, has recently released three new titles that underscore our seminary's commitment to the Word of God: "The Authority and Sufficiency of Scripture," co-edited by David S. Dockery and me with chapters by seminary and college faculty members; "The L. R. Scarborough Treasury," edited by me, collecting key works by our second president; and "Scripture-Guided Worship" by Joseph R. Crider, dean of the School of Church Music and Worship. These volumes join others published by SHP in the last two years that also demonstrate our unwavering commitment to God's Word: "The B. H. Carroll Pulpit," edited by me, collecting 40 sermons and messages by the towering Baptist leader; a 40th anniversary edition of "Baptists and the Bible," the highly influential work by L. Rush Bush and Tom J. Nettles; and "The Doctrine of the Bible" by David S. Dockery, originally published in 1991 as the SBC-wide doctrinal study. All of these works and others published by SHP are evidence of Southwestern Seminary's unwavering commitment to the total authority, sufficiency, inerrancy, and reliability of the Bible in keeping with our founder's convictions, the Baptist Faith and Message, and the expectations of Southern Baptists today.

We welcome all Southern Baptists to come to Fort Worth and see what God is doing at The Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary—what we believe is indeed Southern Baptists' "crown jewel" seminary.

Blessings,

Adam W. Greenway
President

MINISTRY INQUIRIES

(SBC entities present ministry reports to the Executive Committee each February relating to their ministry assignments [SBC Bylaw 18E]. At their request, the following content is provided from the 2022 Ministry Report of The Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary.)

Cooperative Program:

- 1. SBC entities, especially those which receive Cooperative Program funding, share an equal responsibility in promoting and advancing the Cooperative Program, in compliance with the Business and Financial Plan, Section VI, Part C. Providing examples, please describe SWBTS's commitment to promote the Cooperative Program.***

Southwestern Seminary is deeply grateful for the faithful support we receive through the Cooperative Program from the churches of the Southern Baptist Convention, whose gifts are made possible by the sacrificial tithes and offerings of faithful Southern Baptists in our congregations. The central importance of the Cooperative Program is repeatedly proclaimed by President Adam W. Greenway, as denominational cooperation – including the Cooperative Program – is one of four “pegs” of his “big tent” vision for Southwestern Seminary, articulated in his first Chapel address to the seminary community as president in the spring of 2019 and affirmed many times subsequently.

Appreciation for the vital support of the Cooperative Program is regularly proclaimed by seminary administrators and faculty in their speaking engagements across the nation in churches, associations, and state conventions, specifically noting the importance of Cooperative Program funding in subsidizing the tuition of our students. In the seminary's promotional materials for prospective students, the value of the Cooperative Program scholarship resulting in a 50% discount in tuition is noted among other scholarship opportunities. Additionally, during each Commencement, a statement is published in the commencement program thanking Southern Baptist churches for their CP support, including the exact amount of money from the Cooperative Program that supported that particular semester's graduates. Students also regularly hear affirmations of the Cooperative Program in the classroom, chapel services, and special events on Seminary Hill as a continual reminder of the importance of the Cooperative Program. Further, specific classes about the history, function, and funding of the Southern Baptist Convention include the history and current work of the Cooperative Program.

- 2. How effective is SWBTS in creating an awareness and appreciation for the Southern Baptist Convention and its model for cooperative missions and cooperative funding among the student body? What level of confidence does SWBTS have that its graduates will continue to engage in SBC missions and ministries and support funding these ministries through the Cooperative Program?***

Every student of Southwestern Seminary regularly hears of the importance of the Cooperative Program during his or her course of studies. This administration is hopeful that the encouragement of Cooperative Program faithfulness that is repeatedly extolled on and from Seminary Hill will result in ministers who will lead their congregations to support with great generosity this God-given and God-honored mechanism for funding Southern Baptist missions and ministry.

- 3. Please articulate for Southern Baptists how SWBTS perceives the role of the Cooperative Program in funding theological education. What value does SWBTS place upon its partnership with Southern Baptist churches through the Cooperative Program?***

Southern Baptist theological education is unique among the broader world of seminaries and divinity schools in many ways – biblically, theologically, ethically, etc. – and the generous funding provided through the Cooperative Program is one of the key differences. Consistently,

Southern Baptist seminary tuitions and fees are among the lowest in theological education across the world because of the funding of Southern Baptists given faithfully through the Cooperative Program. Without the Cooperative Program, Southern Baptist theological education would be vastly more expensive for future ministers and missionaries, which would likely diminish significantly the number of available theologically educated ministers and missionaries. Southwestern Seminary is unalterably committed to our partnership with the churches of the Southern Baptist Convention since it is only because of those churches that we exist. Indeed, Southwestern Seminary joyfully affirms that it is the churches of the Southern Baptist Convention we are first called to serve in the training of their pastors, ministers, missionaries, and more. Southern Baptist congregations' faithful support of the Cooperative Program is a vital ongoing and undergirding link to Southwestern Seminary and our mission.

4. Please give examples of how SWBTS operates within the guidelines of the SBC Business and Financial Plan as described in Section VI, Part D.

The administration of Southwestern Seminary is committed always to operating within the guidelines of the SBC Business and Financial Plan, with all fundraising appeals falling with the guidelines of that plan. The seminary does not make direct appeals to churches for inclusion in their budgets or take other actions in violation of the SBC Business and Financial Plan.

Ethnic Participation:

5. Since 2011, SBC entities have reported on ethnic leadership and their efforts to increase ethnic participation. The original recommendation read: "The Executive Committee to request from the Southern Baptist Convention entities to submit as part of its annual 'data call', as described in Bylaw 18. E [12], a descriptive report of participation of ethnic churches and church leaders in the life and ministry of the respective SBC entity."

Given this context, and using previous years' submissions to this question as a model, please give a robust, descriptive report of ethnic participation, including active involvement of ethnic churches and church leaders, across all levels and aspects of SWBTS's ministry—such things as senior administrative staff, other professional staff, faculty, student body, support staff, other customer facing representatives, and written and spoken language resources—demonstrating progress, if any, in ethnic participation since 2011.

Southwestern Seminary is providentially located in the Fort Worth-Dallas Metroplex – one of the most vibrant and ethnically diverse metropolitan areas of the nation. With that geographical setting – and the future hope of every "nation, tribe, people, and language" (Revelation 7:9, CSB) worshiping the Lamb – Southwestern Seminary is committed to doing all it can to serve ethnic churches of the Southern Baptist Convention by providing training and resources that meet their needs.

Last year, Southwestern Seminary announced a revised Maestría en Estudios Teológicos (Master of Theological Studies) degree, now available to pastors who do not have a bachelor's degree. This degree is a fully-online, Spanish-language program that makes theological education more accessible than ever for Spanish-speaking pastors. Currently there are 388 students enrolled in the Maestría en Estudios Teológicos program.

In addition to Spanish, Southwestern Seminary also offers other coursework in Korean, Mandarin, and Cantonese, including a Korean-language Doctor of Ministry degree. A vibrant international student life animates Seminary Hill, with international student fellowships for Korean, African, Chinese, and Indian students. The seminary's English Language Institute assists international students to become better prepared for the rigors of academic work in English as a second language. Southwestern Seminary students also are regularly exposed to the ministry of ethnic leaders through their participation in chapel worship services.

The faculty, staff, and student body of Southwestern Seminary is ethnically diverse, with 33% of faculty and staff and 56.3% of the student body being non-Anglo.

Caring Well Response

6. How is SWBTS protecting against sexual abuse and harassment within the organization and as it trains its employees? How does SWBTS integrate aspects of Caring Well into its policies and practices and engage its broad network of SWBTS leadership.

Consistent with the objectives of the Caring Well initiative, Southwestern Seminary is committed to strengthening our policies in order to better protect students and the entire seminary community by creating a safer environment for all. To that end, we have taken the following steps in recent months:

- updated admissions policies to prohibit anyone who is listed on a sex offender registry from being admitted as a student;
- evaluating curriculum and identifying opportunities to incorporate sexual abuse prevention training into relevant courses;
- continued process of reviewing and updating administrative, student, and personnel policies to ensure compliance with expectations for mandatory reporting;
- completed transition from a seminary campus security team to a campus police force consisting entirely of professional, sworn officers. After hiring a new chief of police with more than 30 years police experience, the seminary now has 14 sworn police officers with an average experience of nearly 30 years in major metropolitan departments. Previously, there were only four sworn officers with average experience of 4-5 years, none in major metro departments, and 14 security officers.

Southwestern Seminary supports all efforts in the life of the Southern Baptist Convention to better educate our churches – both ministers and members – about the biblical, moral, and legal obligations to oppose sexual abuse in our midst and to minister effectively to those harmed by such sinful activity.

Question Specific to the Seminaries

7. What has proven to be SWBTS's most reliable metric for indicating future accomplishments or challenges across all SWBTS ministry assignments? Why is that metric the most important to watch relative to specific ministry assignments?

The most important metric for the success of Southwestern Seminary is the enrollment of residential students pursuing the Master of Divinity degree as a percentage of the overall enrollment. Southwestern Seminary offers a comprehensive range of theological education, offering baccalaureate, graduate, and doctoral academic degrees to train men and women called to ministry to serve the many and diverse needs of the local church and the Southern Baptist Convention. Nevertheless, the core degree program of Southwestern Seminary is the Master of Divinity, offered primarily for the training of pastors for the local church, which has been the core mission of our school since its founding in 1908 by Baptist pastor and educator B.H. Carroll. Therefore, among all the good, necessary, and noteworthy ministry assignments undertaken by Southwestern Seminary, the best measure of our success is the degree to which training pastors for the local church remains central to our mission and work, and thereby the number of students who will graduate and serve as pastors of our Southern Baptist churches. The importance of this metric has only been confirmed during the COVID-19 pandemic and will continue to be a focus of Southwestern Seminary coming out of the pandemic.

PROGRAM REPORT

I. Enrollment by Degree Program in SBC funded Full-Time Equivalents

	2013– 2014	2014– 2015	2015– 2016	2016– 2017	2017– 2018	2018– 2019	2019– 2020	2020– 2021
Undergraduate and Certificate Programs								
BA	127	98	81	148	179	163	152	110
BS	158	165	146	79	35	13	4	1
BM	N/A	N/A	23	34	33	32	27	19
Certificate	20	20	15	15	11	14	25	11
Diploma	0	1	1	0	0	0	0	0
Special	33	14	25	31	20	13	11	5
Basic Degree Programs								
MAABS	8	9	9	10	9	5	4	0
MABC	46	62	63	59	53	39	39	30
MACC	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0
MACE	107	81	84	76	66	49	53	41
MACM	9	10	11	9	8	10	8	5
MACSE	14	10	9	10	6	4	1	0
MAIS	13	6	8	5	8	6	4	2
MALM	2	1	0	0	0	0	0	0
MAM	15	19	17	16	16	9	5	4
MAMFC	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
MAP	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	2	3	5
MATh	22	13	11	14	14	11	11	9
MAW	3	4	3	6	6	4	2	1
MDiv	473	473	424	398	353	260	281	203
MM	51	44	39	31	29	31	20	24
MACA	N/A	3	7	6	7	5	5	3
MTS	16	26	33	36	39	30	74	42
Advanced Degree Programs								
DEdMin	12	13	13	14	12	22	32	60
DMin	102	57	39	47	73	79	89	106
EdD	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	21
PhD/DMA	170	182	170	155	156	193	223	176
ThM	23	20	18	23	31	35	53	67
Total SBC FTE								
Enrollment	1,424	1,332	1,249	1,222	1,164	1,029	1,126	1,126 ¹
Headcount Enrollment	3,582	3,942	4,276	4,076	4,007	3,848	3,907	3,703

¹ Actual FTE for current year was 944. By action of the CSP, prior year count is reflected here.

GRADUATES

	2013– 2014	2014– 2015	2015– 2016	2016– 2017	2017– 2018	2018– 2019	2019– 2020	2020– 2021
Undergraduate and Certificate Programs								
BA	34	24	20	16	21	21	35	34
BS	8	53	51	62	58	52	35	40
BM	N/A	N/A	1	0	1	3	7	7
Certificate	21	12	20	2	20	13	30	14
Diploma	1	0	0	1	0	0	0	0
Basic Degree Programs								
MAABS	1	2	5	1	2	10	1	1
MACC	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0
MACE	65	55	34	41	49	42	38	40
MACM	3	0	2	2	1	0	0	2
MACSE	6	3	3	3	2	3	5	3
MAIS	7	6	2	3	4	2	4	1
MALM	4	2	0	0	0	0	0	0
MAM	10	10	9	9	6	5	7	3
MAMFC	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
MATh	12	14	9	10	11	10	11	7
MAW	0	1	0	6	2	4	6	4
MDiv	143	137	143	112	137	123	117	111
MM	11	13	25	20	12	10	10	11
MABC	8	9	17	13	25	24	18	25
MTS	19	39	103	165	191	208	203	231
MACA	N/A	N/A	1	0	4	3	3	3
MAPh	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	1	2	1	2
Advanced Degree Programs								
DEdMin	4	6	2	4	7	3	1	9
DMin	10	9	10	26	17	17	24	28
PhD/DMA	29	24	18	26	33	22	44	34
ThM	9	10	6	17	22	17	20	35
Total Graduates	405	430	481	539	626	594	620	645

MATTERS REFERRED BY THE CONVENTION

The Convention referred the following items to The Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary during the Annual Meeting of the Southern Baptist Convention in Nashville, Tennessee, June 15–16, 2021, for consideration, action, and report back to the next annual meeting.

1. SBC Referral: To request Convention entities to examine the use of non-disclosure agreements (Items 75 and 102, Proceedings of the Southern Baptist Convention, June 15-16, 2021, *SBC Annual*, p. 75, 83)

Motion: Brad Patterson, Texas

“That the Southern Baptist Convention request each entity to examine its use of non-disclosure agreements and report its findings to the messengers of the 2022 annual meeting of the Southern Baptist Convention in Anaheim, California, reporting said findings with particular attention to three areas: what is biblical justification for the use of non-disclosure agreements; how many non-disclosure agreements have been signed or agreed to in the last five years; and if non-disclosure agreements have been utilized, for what specific purposes were they utilized?”

Response: The Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary is committed to operating with the highest standard of integrity in fulfillment of its stewardship responsibility entrusted to it by the churches of the Southern Baptist Convention. In the fulfillment of its responsibilities to various constituencies—students, faculty, staff, and alumni—it has been necessary at times for the Seminary to enter into agreements that contain non-disclosure provisions. These instances include, but are not limited to, contracts with third party vendors and employment separation agreements. In all cases, the purpose of the non-disclosure provision is to protect the personally identifying information of our students, faculty, staff, and alumni.

In no instance does a non-disclosure provision entered into by the Seminary have the effect of prohibiting individuals from reporting any unlawful or improper conduct of which they may be aware. The Seminary has recently strengthened its whistleblower policies and provides for the anonymous reporting of any unethical or unlawful conduct.

2. SBC Referral: To request that entities conduct certain audits and disclose financial details (Items 78 and 102, Proceedings of the Southern Baptist Convention, June 15-16, 2021, *SBC Annual*, p. 76, 83)

Motion: Rick Hillard, Kentucky

“That the Southern Baptist Convention request beginning in 2023 that every 5 years each entity of the Southern Baptist Convention takes the steps needed to undergo a holistic and complete audit with specific disclosure of all details made public to any Southern Baptist no later than 30 days prior to the coinciding year’s annual meeting.”

Response: In compliance with the Business and Financial Plan of the Southern Baptist Convention, The Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary engages an independent certified public accountant to conduct a thorough audit at the close of every fiscal year. Upon the completion of the annual audit and its acceptance by the Audit Committee of the Southwestern Seminary Board of Trustees, the audited financials are then provided to the Executive Committee of the Southern Baptist Convention to be made available to all Southern Baptists through the publication of the Book of Reports and the Convention Annual.

SEMINARY COMPARATIVE DATA

1. Enrollment:

a. Total SBC Full-Time Equivalent (FTE) both funded and unfunded - (Total credit hours divided by 24).

	<u>2020-2021</u>	<u>2019-2020</u>	<u>2018-2019</u>	<u>3 Yr. Rolling Average</u>
GS	375	420	443	413
MBTS	1,615	1,615	1,395	1,542
NOBTS	1,345	1,508	1,531	1,461
SEBTS	2,068	2,438	2,315	2,340
SBTS	2,762	2,762	2,323	2,612
SWBTS	1,126*	1,126	1,029	1,094
Total	9,291	9,869	9,036	9,399

b. Actual FTEs approved by the Council of Seminary Presidents for Cooperative Program (CP) Seminary Funding Formula:

	<u>2020-2021</u>	<u>2019-2020</u>	<u>2018-2019</u>	<u>3 Yr Rolling Average</u>
GS	296	342	338	325
MBTS	1,615	1,615	1,395	1,542
NOBTS	1,145	1,145	1,110	1,133
SEBTS	1,268	1,268	1,185	1,240
SBTS	2,762	2,762	2,323	2,612
SWBTS	1,126*	1,126	1,029	1,094
Total	7,086	8,258	7,380	7,574

c. CP Allocation per SBC student.

	<u>2020-2021</u>	<u>2020-2021</u>	<u>2020-2021</u>
	<u>Total SBC Students</u>	<u>CP Allocation</u>	<u>CP Allocation Per Student</u>
GS	375	\$ 3,755,525	\$ 10,015
MBTS	3,400	\$ 7,450,693	\$ 2,191
NOBTS	1,145	\$ 6,903,428	\$ 6,029
SEBTS	2,068	\$ 7,300,014	\$ 3,530
SBTS	2,762	\$ 10,186,689	\$ 3,688
SWBTS	1,126	\$ 7,138,799	\$ 6,340
Total	10,876	\$ 42,735,148	\$ 31,793

d. Nonduplicating head count (number of students registered and taking one credit hour or more).

	<u>Total</u>	<u>Total</u>	<u>Total</u>
	<u>Non-SBC Students</u>	<u>SBC Students</u>	
GS	349	1,646	1,995
MBTS	1,323	3,400	4,723
NOBTS	467	2,589	3,056
SEBTS	2,059	3,850	5,909
SBTS	1,524	4,639	6,163
SWBTS	732	2,971	3,703
Total	6,454	19,095	25,549

* Actual FTE for current year was 944. By action of the CSP, prior year count is reflected here.

e. Basic Degrees awarded for the 2020-2021 academic year

	MDiv (3 year)	ThM	MA & other 2-year
GS	49	2	78
MBTS	127	53	199
NOBTS	114	20	153
SEBTS	215	15	239
SBTS	245	58	140
SWBTS	111	35	333
Total	861	183	1,142

f. Total Tuition Revenue

	2021-2022	2020-2021	2019-2020
GS	\$ 4,615,571	\$ 4,556,707	\$ 4,155,363
MBTS	\$ 18,578,836	\$ 17,325,473	\$ 15,846,301
NOBTS	\$ 9,781,776	\$ 10,049,099	\$ 9,838,944
SEBTS	\$ 16,441,322	\$ 17,351,408	\$ 16,031,323
SBTS	\$ 24,983,996	\$ 22,816,633	\$ 26,947,691
SWBTS	\$ 11,322,983	\$ 12,125,047	\$ 11,907,155
Total	\$ 85,724,484	\$ 84,224,367	\$ 84,726,777

g. Credit Hour Costs: 2021-2022

	Non SBC Students	SBC Student
GS	\$ 515	\$ 285
MBTS	\$ 485	\$ 285
NOBTS	\$ 440	\$ 275
SEBTS	\$ 609	\$ 304
SBTS	\$ 475	\$ 275
SWBTS	\$ 590	\$ 295

h. Annual Cost per Student (For a married student on campus, tuition, fees, book, & housing)

	2021-2022 Non SBC	2021-2022 SBC
GS	\$ 34,310	\$ 29,250
MBTS	\$ 25,116	\$ 21,516
NOBTS	\$ 17,300	\$ 14,300
SEBTS	\$ 18,687	\$ 13,206
SBTS	\$ 23,150	\$ 18,350
SWBTS	\$ 24,470	\$ 19,160

i. Percent of total budget that relates to personnel expenses based on each seminary's E&G budget (salaries and benefits):

	2021-2022 Low	2021-2022 Median	2021-2022 High
GS	73.10%	72.00%	72.60%
MBTS			69%
NOBTS		67.50%	
SEBTS			72%
SBTS			48.08%
SWBTS	65.66%	72.06%	72.22%

j. Statement of Income for 2020-2021:

	GS*	MBTS	NOBTS	SEBTS	SBTS	SWBTS
Tuition & Fees	\$ 3,930,530	\$ 17,325,473	\$ 9,781,776	\$ 16,441,322	\$ 22,816,633	\$ 12,450,260
Auxiliary Enterprises	\$ 608,779	\$ 2,077,814	\$ 2,238,940	\$ 5,116,174	\$ 6,067,344	\$ 5,169,797
Cooperative Program	\$ 3,781,755	\$ 7,226,647	\$ 6,793,171	\$ 7,300,014	\$ 10,186,689	\$ 7,045,972
Private Gifts	\$ 256,980	\$ 848,139	\$ 6,804,109	\$ 1,917,556	\$ 10,775,764	\$ 17,003,042
Endowment Income	\$ 1,049,400	\$ 1,445,846	\$ 1,539,080	\$ 253,696	\$ 15,567,442	\$ 30,008,371
Investments	\$ 145,357	\$ 565,627	\$ 6,240,268	-	Included in Endowment Income	
Return on Beneficial Interest Trusts	\$ 1,885,344	\$ 41,764	\$ 0	-	Included in Endowment Income	\$ (886,852)
Other Income	\$ 1,790,910**	\$ 1,983,338	\$ 2,731,191	\$ 158,884	\$ 658,734	\$ 394,241
Total Income	\$ 13,449,055**	\$ 31,514,648	\$ 36,128,535	\$ 31,187,646	\$ 66,072,606	\$ 71,184,831
% of CP to Total Income	28.1%**	22.9%	19.0%	23.4%	15.4%	9.9%

* For Operating Fund Without Donor Restrictions

** Reflects one-time PPP Grant



SEMINARY EXTENSION

**A ministry of the Southern Baptist Convention:
Incorporated under the Council of Seminary Presidents
901 Commerce Street, Suite 500, Nashville, Tennessee 37203**

**RANDAL A. WILLIAMS, Executive Director of Seminary Extension
R. ALBERT MOHLER, JR., President of the Council of Seminary Presidents**

INTRODUCTION

Seminary Extension is a ministry of the Southern Baptist Convention. Our mission is to provide an opportunity for theological education and ministry training to individuals who cannot or will not attend a traditional institution of learning. Our students can learn from anywhere. Students are not required to enter into a program in order to take classes. In fact, most students simply take individual courses for personal, spiritual development. For students that want to enroll into a program, they will be required to take a prescribed group of biblical, theological, and ministry training courses that are affordable and immediately applicable.

Seminary Extension began its work on June 15, 1951. The Southern Baptist Convention realized that many of its pastors, leaders, and teachers did not have any formal biblical, theological, or ministry training and so Seminary Extension was created to make sure that an opportunity was available even if seminary was not an option. Lee Gallman was asked to be its first director. Through each successive director, Seminary Extension has remained true to its call. We want to make biblical, theological, and ministry training available to anyone who wants to develop spiritually for service in the local church. In 2007, Randal A. Williams became Seminary Extension's seventh director. Under a total of seven leaders, Seminary Extension has served and continues to serve Southern Baptists by educating its members where they live and serve.

Seminary Extension is not a formally accredited institution. Nevertheless, many college and seminary undergraduate programs still recognize the value of its courses and accept credit for them. Acceptance is generally based on the following criteria. First, Seminary Extension courses are of excellent academic quality. Courses are written by Southern Baptists, most of which teach in our SBC seminaries. Second, Seminary Extension uses evaluation methods to ensure the integrity of the work done by students. Third, student records are permanent, accessible, and accurate. Seminary Extension cannot guarantee that other institutions will receive transfer credit for its courses and so we always recommend that students check with other institutions before investing in courses with Seminary Extension for the purpose of transferring credit.

Seminary Extension is licensed by the Tennessee Higher Education Commission.

PROGRAM REPORT

The statistical data below shows the number of course enrollments and the total number of students enrolled during the 2020-2021 academic year.

Course Enrollments	516
Total Number of Students	294



SOUTHERN BAPTIST HISTORICAL LIBRARY AND ARCHIVES

901 Commerce Street, Suite 400, Nashville, Tennessee 37203

TAFHEY HALL, Director

Governed by the Council of Seminary Presidents

August 2020 – July 2021

Yearly Highlights

- Acquired one document box of SBC Home Mission Board Correspondence Course Collection, 1965-1969
- Acquired 32 records center boxes of the Biblical Illustrator Image Collection, 1976-2010
- Acquired three sermon collections: C.E. Autrey Sermon Collection, 1959-1989; Rev. Joseph Nickell Collection, 1950s-1980s; and Stedham Family Sermon Collection, 1934-2008
- Acquired eight document boxes of the Harry N. Hollis Collection, 1960-1985, and one USB drive of electronic scans of Hollis's sermons
- Acquired one document box of the First Baptist Church, Murfreesboro, Tennessee, Oral History Collection; one document box of the Little Bonne Femme Baptist Church, Columbia, Missouri, Typescript Church Minutes Collection, 1819-2019; one document box of the Antioch Baptist Church, Duck Creek, Texas, Minutes Collection, 1868-1928; and one document box of the Old School Primitive Baptist History Collection, 1899-1964
- Added one document box of the Baptist Church Pageants Collection, 1965-1985; and 21 document boxes and two records center boxes of the Baptist Global Missions Collection, 1980-2010
- Acquired one paper scrapbook on SBC Mission work in Chile, 1934-1938; and two electronic scrapbooks of SBC Ministers' Wives Conference Materials, 2018-2019
- Added an archive collection of Baptist History and Heritage Society annual meeting programs, reports, and articles, 2002-2018
- Accessioned additions to two records of the BSSB/Lifeway Christian Resources record group: one records center box of Vacation Bible School items and one document box of True Love Waits material; and added 22 Sunday School Board Picture Lesson Cards, 1935-1936
- Added one document box of ERLC Hunger Ministry Files, 1898-2018; and one document box of ERLC Ministry to Homosexuals Files, 2009-2012
- Added one document box of the SBC Cultural Conflicts Collection, 2018-2021
- Catalogued 16 African American and ethnic Baptist history books (including material in Spanish) into OCLC and the Library's online catalog
- Microfilmed records of the 2019 Baptist state newspapers
- Completed processing four archive collections: the Betty Jane Hunt Collection, Herb Hollinger Collection, Lee Gallman Collection, and the North Central States Missions Thrust Collection; and additions to two archive collections: the Porter Routh materials addition to the SBC Executive Committee Administrative and Program Planning Files, and additions to the Foreign Mission Board/International Mission Board Mission Minutes and Reports Collection, 1970s-2009

- Completed new historical displays in the Library and Archives on “Visualizing the Mission,” “The Baptist Young People’s Union,” “Southern Baptist Ethnic Ministry, 1800-2020,” and “Ridgecrest Conference Center, 1907-2020”
- Completed digitization and online accessibility of 16 new digital projects, including nine periodicals, five African American Baptist resources, one new resource to the Photographic Collections category, and one new resource to the Research Studies category of the Digital Resources page of the SBHLA website
- Completed a re-design of certain features of the SBHLA website and migrated the site to another platform; upgraded the online catalog to a simplified, more modern look while maintaining previous searchability features
- Enhanced accessibility and OCLC cataloging of items in the church history and associational history collections
- Added 134 annuals, 21 archive collections, 744 audio-visuals/kits, 738 books, 22 church history files, 545 electronic resources, 78 informational files, 22 microfilm reels, 698 pamphlets, 2,107 periodicals, and 583 photographs

Research Use

The collection continues to attract scholars and students from a wide range of colleges and universities. Researchers from 21 different institutions conducted research in the collection during the past year. The collection was visited by 51 registered researchers and staff provided 1,169 patron contacts.

Acquisitions

The Archives acquired one document box of the Home Mission Board Correspondence Bible Course Collection. The collection includes five volumes of bound Bible courses produced by the Evangelism Department of the HMB and spans the years 1965-1969. Twenty-one document boxes and two records center boxes were acquired of the Baptist Global Missions Collection. The collection includes reports, statistical information, and maps and spans the years 1980-2010. Eight document boxes of the Harry N. Hollis Collection were acquired. Hollis served with the SBC Christian Life Commission (CLC) and as a professor of business administration at Belmont University in Nashville, Tennessee. The collection includes sermon outlines, writings, and other material related to the life and ministry of Harry Hollis.

Three sermon collections were acquired: the Joseph Nickell Collection (six records center boxes), Stedham Family Sermon Collection (16 document boxes), and C.E. Autrey Collection (two document boxes). The Rev. Joseph Nickell pastored churches in Monticello, Kentucky, and Crossville and Maryville, Tennessee. The collection spans the 1950s-1980s and contains sermons, sermon outlines, correspondence, and church history information on churches that Nickell pastored. The Stedham Family Sermon Collection includes sermons by Buren Ray Stedham and his father, Marvin Van Buren Stedham. The Stedhams pastored churches in Alabama, Georgia, and Florida for much of the 20th century. The Archives acquired 16 reel-to-reel and cassette tape audio recordings of Southern Baptist evangelist, seminary professor, and author Dr. C.E. Autrey’s sermons from 1959-1989. Autrey later served as a pastor of several churches in Louisiana for 20 years. He left the pastorate in 1948 to serve as Secretary of Evangelism in Louisiana. Autrey served as Professor of Evangelism at Southwestern and New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminaries, and as Director of Evangelism for the Home Mission Board of the SBC. He traveled extensively and held evangelistic conferences, preaching in Egypt, England, Finland, Formosa, Germany, Hong Kong, Israel, Italy, Japan, Jordan, Lebanon, and the Philippines.

The Biblical Illustrator Image Collection (32 records center boxes) was acquired from Lifeway Christian Resources. The collection includes slides, negatives, contact sheets, prints, and

oversized drawings related to Biblical antiquities and Biblical sites. The images were taken by several individuals for use in the “Biblical Illustrator” publication of the Baptist Sunday School Board/Lifeway. Materials span the years 1976-2010. Indexes to portions of the collection are available in the archives.

Two significant oral history projects were accessioned. Thirty-eight audio cassette recordings of an oral history interview with former SBC Executive Committee executive secretary Porter Routh were cataloged into OCLC and the Library’s online catalog. A. Ronald Tonks of the former SBC Historical Commission conducted the interview with Routh in 1986-1987 in the SBC Building in Nashville, Tennessee. The interview includes discussions of Routh’s growing up days in Texas and Oklahoma, his student life at Oklahoma Baptist University, his work with the Oklahoma Baptist Convention and the “Baptist Messenger” newspaper, as well as information on Routh’s work at the Sunday School Board and later as executive secretary of the SBC Executive Committee from 1951-1979.

An audio interview (one compact disc) with Southern Baptist missionary to Lebanon and the Middle East, Finlay Graham, was digitized and the digital copy added to the Library and Archives’ holdings. Graham was born in Scotland and served as an RAF bomber pilot in World War II. He felt God’s call to be a missionary in the Arabic speaking world. He graduated from Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary and began mission work in the Middle East in 1946. Graham helped establish the Middle East Baptist Theological Seminary (MEBTS) in Lebanon in 1960, serving as its president. Graham and his wife Julia left Lebanon in 1976 when Finlay accepted the position of Field Representative for the Middle East at the SBC Foreign Mission Board. He retired from missionary service in 1986. In retirement, he taught missions and Arabic to future missionaries at Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary and Golden Gate Seminary. He died in Dallas, Texas, in 2000. The interview was conducted in 1976 by various people at the Foreign Mission Board. Both Finlay and his wife are included in the interview. The interview includes information on mission work in Lebanon and the work of the MEBTS. In particular, the Grahams discuss the conflict in Lebanon and how it impacted Baptist churches and mission work.

Several small additions (one document box each) were added to existing archive collections including additions to the ministry to homosexuals and hunger ministry series of the Ethics and Religious Liberty Commission (ERLC) records and Vacation Bible School and True Love Waits series of the Baptist Sunday School Board/Lifeway Christian Resources record group. The 2018 and 2019 scrapbooks of the Southern Baptist Ministers’ Wives Conference were added, received as digital scrapbooks.

Two documentation collections were created: Baptist History and Heritage Society annual meeting programs, reports, and articles; and a collection on Southern Baptist Cultural Conflicts, 2018-2021, which includes news stories, publications, and website documentation on abortion, abuse, Conservative Baptist Network, critical race theory, and the role of women in Southern Baptist life.

Preservation Program

Preserving material in a sustainable format is an ongoing task for the staff of the SBHLA. The staff works to provide archival quality containers (folders and boxes) and a suitable environment for the valuable collection in the library and archives. Preservation work was completed on 126 photograph files of Home Mission Board ethnic ministry work, Woman’s Missionary Union, and CLC/ERLC hunger ministry. The files of Home Mission Board photographs include mission activities from the 1960s with Spanish, Polish, and Jewish people and contain images of missionaries and their families and mission churches. The WMU photograph files include images of WMU staff and leaders from the 1960s. The hunger ministry photographs document

Southern Baptist work with famines and refugees in Africa and Eastern Europe in the 1980s. Microfilming was completed on the 2019 Baptist state newspapers resulting in the addition of 22 reels of microfilm to the collection.

Access to the Collection

The processing of four significant archive collections was completed, including cataloging and posting the finding aids to the website on these collections.

Processing of the Betty Jane Hunt Collection was completed. Hunt, a native of Jefferson, Alabama, graduated from Howard College (now Samford University) with a BA, earned an MRE degree from Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary, and completed language study at Yale University. She worked as a pharmacy clerk and typist at a medical clinic in Birmingham, Alabama, before entering youth ministry and Southern Baptist foreign mission service. She served as a youth director at Trinity Baptist Church in San Antonio, Texas (1953-1954), and as a youth worker and church secretary for First Baptist Church, Grenada, Mississippi (1954-1957). Hunt began service as a missionary to Seoul, Korea, in 1958. She served as treasurer of the Korea Baptist Mission from 1976-1982 and 1984-1985. The collection primarily includes "Dear Friends" letters which Hunt wrote and distributed to family and friends during her missionary service. The letters date from 1957-1990.

Processing was completed on the Herb Hollinger Collection. Hollinger, a native of Cassia County, Idaho, and graduate of the University of Idaho and Golden Gate Baptist Theological Seminary, pastored churches in California and Washington before commencing a career in Baptist journalism. He served as editor of the "Northwest Baptist Witness" newspaper and "California Southern Baptist" paper from 1979-1983 and 1983-1991, respectively. He joined the staff of Baptist Press as editor in 1991. The Herb Hollinger Collection (five document boxes) includes subject files related to various aspects of Baptist journalism, Baptist Press reports and statistics, major news stories covered by Baptist Press, and files on the Southern Baptist Press Association annual meetings. The collection covers the years 1977-2010.

Processing was completed on the Lee Gallman Collection. Rawdon Lee Gallman was born on May 19, 1908, in Clanton, Alabama. He earned an AB degree from Howard College (now Samford University), ThM from Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary, and ThD from New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary. He pastored several churches in Alabama for six decades. Gallman served as founder of the Seminary Extension Department of the Southern Baptist Convention from 1951-1960. During this time Seminary Extension operated out of the Mississippi Baptist Convention building. Gallman's first task was developing seminary type courses including courses on the Old and New Testaments, homiletics, and Christian doctrine. Following his service with Seminary Extension, Gallman served for over two decades as professor of religion at Samford University. He died on February 8, 1991. The Lee Gallman Collection (three document boxes) includes bulletins, budgets and financial statements, course outlines, newspaper clippings, promotional items, reports, subject files, and writings related to Gallman's time as director of Seminary Extension.

The North Central States Mission Thrust Collection was processed. This collection (two document boxes) includes correspondence, clippings, steering committee minutes, and subject files related to Southern Baptist missions and church planting efforts in Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Michigan, Minnesota, Ohio, and Wisconsin in the 1970s and 1980s.

Processing was completed on two significant additions to existing archive collections: the Porter Routh series of the SBC Executive Committee Administrative and Program Planning Files and the Foreign Mission Board/International Mission Board Minutes and Reports, 1970s-2009. The finding aids to these two records series were updated on the SBHLA

website. The Routh materials (21 records center boxes) cover the years 1959-1991 and include subject files, correspondence, minutes, and reports related to the work of the SBC Executive Committee. Topics contained in the subject files include material on SBC agencies, the Cooperative Program, Impact 80s, the Inter-agency council, SBC seminaries, and state Baptist conventions. The FMB/IMB Minutes and Reports, 1970s-2009 files (24 records center boxes) include minutes and reports on foreign mission stations and partnerships, people group studies, evangelism and church growth, disaster relief, conferences, and news and information releases.

The SBHLA awarded nine individuals with Lynn E. May Study Grants for the year 2020-2021, in the amount of \$500 per person.

Sixteen new projects of any word searchable PDF files were added to the Digital Resources page of the SBHLA website, including nine periodicals, five African American Baptist resources, one new resource added to the photographic collections category, and one new resource added to the research studies category. The digitized periodicals include: "Baptist Preacher," 1842-1859; "Cakira" (Ridgecrest Baptist Conference Center yearbooks), 1946-2000; "Confederate Baptist," 1862-1865; "Indian Advocate," 1846-1855; "Light" (publication of the CLC/ERLC), 1948-2004; "Report from the Capital" (publication of the Baptist Joint Committee for Religious Liberty), 1946-1984; "Salt" and "eSalt" (CLC/ERLC publication), 1991-2006; "Southern Baptist and General Intelligencer," 1835-1836; and the "Southern Baptist Home Missions" magazine (publication of the SBC Home Mission Board), 1930-1980. The digitized African American Baptist resources include: the "Christian Banner" (Philadelphia, Pennsylvania) publication, 1900-1901, 1915-1919; "National Baptist Magazine" (microfilmed by the American Baptist Historical Society who granted permission to make this resource available on the SBHLA website), 1894-1901; Lott Carey Baptist Foreign Mission Convention (LCBFMC) Proceedings and Reports, 1899-1940; National Baptist Convention of America (NBC-America) annuals, 1916-1975; and Progressive National Baptist Convention (PNBC) annuals, 1963-1974. The LCBFMC, NBC-America, and PNBC annuals were digitized from microfilm produced by the SBC Historical Commission in the late 1970s.

A section of Southern Baptist Foreign Mission Pictorial Albums, 1934-1948, was added to the Photographic Collections category of the Digital Resources site. The albums vary somewhat from year to year, but usually include officers of the Board and a list of names of the Board members, and Home staff leadership in Richmond. The missionaries are listed by area or country in alphabetical order. Photographs of the missionaries include a brief sketch of their background, including birthdate, education, hometown, marriage information, where they served on the mission field, their responsibilities, and when they were appointed as a missionary. A digital project of research reports produced by the Research Services Department of the SBC Home Mission Board/North American Mission Board was completed. The reports include narrative information and statistical data on a variety of subject areas including the Annie Armstrong Easter Offering, associational missions, baptism, bivocational pastors, church planting, congregational worship, cooperative agreements, evangelism, HMB programs, mega focus cities, metropolitan missions, mission volunteers, planning data, racial and ethnic statistical information, rural church work, SBC church life, strategic focus cities, and youth. The more than 100 reports included in the digital project were generated from 1966-2004. Statistical data contained in the reports dates from 1933.

The SBHLA is tasked with collecting, preserving, and making available materials that document Southern Baptist history. This work allows members of our staff to discover aspects of our Baptist heritage that inspire and enrich us each day. Our task is big but we welcome the work with grateful hearts.

COMMISSION



THE ETHICS & RELIGIOUS
LIBERTY COMMISSION
OF THE SOUTHERN BAPTIST CONVENTION

901 Commerce Street, Suite 550, Nashville, Tennessee 37203

LORI BOVA, Chair

BRENT LEATHERWOOD, Acting President

INTRODUCTION

I consider it a privilege to represent the staff members of the Ethics & Religious Liberty Commission for the purposes of presenting a report about how, over the last year, we have been able to carry out the mission of our ministry that has been assigned to us by our fellow Southern Baptists. Needless to say, it has been a consequential 12 months in the history of this entity.

By its very nature, a season of transition such as the one the Ethics & Religious Liberty Commission is in, provides its own unique challenges for our work. I have talked about some of that in other forums that are readily available. So rather than focus on that, I want to take a few moments to focus on the remarkable consistency this Commission has displayed despite the upheaval of the last year.

Our mission requires us to assist churches in applying the moral demands of the Gospel, to apply Christian principles to moral and social problems and matters of public policy, and to cooperatively promote religious liberty. 2021 certainly provided ample opportunity to speak, act, and advocate in each of these areas, and I would submit our team has done so in a way, consistent with our ministry assignment, that should hearten each and every Southern Baptist.

We began the year knowing that the pandemic would continue posing challenges for in-person gatherings and events in parts of the country. We placed a premium on digital events and relationship-building for important initiatives. But our hope was that by summer, with the advent of the COVID vaccines, we would be able to return to meetings on Capitol Hill, conferences focused on important issues, and private convenings with ministry partners. Obviously, our plans did not come to fruition. In part, that was due to remaining restrictions in various regions. And, at the same time, we began our leadership change.

And yet, our work continued—sometimes in momentous ways.

We knew 2021 would be vital for laying the groundwork for our Roe50 conference in 2023, an event that will mark 50 years since the disastrous Roe v. Wade Supreme Court decision. Our priority was engaging the churches of our Convention; and the highest profile opportunity would present itself at the 2021 SBC Annual Meeting in Nashville, TN. With an interactive booth that displayed our Psalm 139 Project efforts, we garnered over 1,500 handwritten notes that will be used to encourage mothers in crisis pregnancy situations to choose life for their preborn children. This practical engagement at the SBC Annual Meeting complemented our pro-life event where we cast a vision called “Road to Roe50” that was watched by over 1,400 viewers on our livestream platforms. That vision calls the church to imagine a post-Roe future where states and local communities are much more central to the abortion debate, meaning our local churches will have an essential role to play in caring for vulnerable mothers and families and saving the life of the child.

That same commitment to excellence was brought to the most important Supreme Court case about life in a generation. In December, your ERLC team was present on the steps of the Court

as oral arguments were heard in *Dobbs v. Jackson Whole Women’s Health Organization*—a case that could potentially overturn the tragic abortion precedents in our nation set by previous cases. Throughout the week of the case, we had live analysis, compelling digital events, and helpful analytical resources to ensure that the churches we serve understand the importance of this case.

It is indisputable that, in each of these instances, the same spirit that has compelled the ERLC to speak loudly on behalf of the preborn on previous occasions—and in doing so apply the moral demands of the Gospel—was apparent here. That sort of consistent voice and witness on such an integral issue has become a hallmark of the Commission, a throughline of conviction that spans the respective administrations of multiple presidents. And it was present in other areas, as well.

One of those was the area of religious liberty. Whether it was navigating the conflicts created by church and state collisions in the pandemic or looking at instances overseas where religious freedom was imperiled, your ERLC was active in a number of situations. For example, the most important legislative accomplishment for the Commission was the halting of the misnamed Equality Act in Congress. This bill represented one of the most significant threats to religious freedom in American history. Our team, along with a coalition of advocacy partners, helped to blunt the momentum the bill had established in the wake of a new Democratic Senate taking power. At the same time, our efforts to provide valuable insight to federal courts remained as strong as ever. An important victory was established in the *Uzuegbunam* case when the Supreme Court agreed with us that it is a “fundamental harm” requiring damages to be paid when a person’s foundational right to religion or free expression are infringed by the state. We also provided timely analysis that called attention to anti-religious liberty moves made in France and Canada that sought to remove religion from the public square and jail a pastor for meeting with his church, respectively. Both situations were grievous and represented a gross overstepping of state authority.

Perhaps the most significant item that was in our portfolio throughout 2021 was in the area of human dignity. The plight of the Uyghur people in China has been well documented by our institution and others. However, these efforts took a massive step forward with the approval of a resolution at the SBC Annual Meeting that called the atrocity what it truly is—a genocide. The Chinese Communist Party is systematically detaining, abusing, and oppressing the people of the Xinjiang region of China. The SBC rightly took a stand to counter China morally with this resolution. We were able to take this document and deliver it both to Capitol Hill and the Biden Administration requesting that urgent action be taken to oppose China’s human rights abuses. I am proud to say that just before Christmas, the Uyghur Forced Labor Prevention Act became law, a major victory that will place significant sanctions on the perpetrators, ensure private companies are not using goods made by forced labor, and put China’s heinous actions under an international spotlight. This law was a win in which all Southern Baptist churches can share. More importantly, it proved our Convention can have an enormous effect when it speaks loudly, clearly, and consistently with our biblical convictions on an issue.

While more substantial accomplishments will be outlined in this report, it is abundantly clear that 2021 was a significant year for your ERLC. I would say that is due to the consistent advocacy efforts of a team that, despite the turnover, is made up of incredibly talented individuals who love the Gospel and want to engage our culture with the hope that comes from the Gospel. That consistency matters a great deal. It’s what this team has been known for. And it is what this Commission will be known for in the days and years ahead.

Joyfully in Christ,
Brent Leatherwood
Acting President

MINISTRY GOALS AND ACCOMPLISHMENTS

(SBC entities present ministry reports to the Executive Committee each February relating to their ministry assignments [SBC Bylaw 18E]. At their request, the following content is provided from the 2022 Ministry Report of The Ethics & Religious Liberty Commission.)

I. Assist churches in applying the moral and ethical teachings of the Bible to the Christian life.

Serving Southern Baptists is at the heart of the ERLC. It is our desire to equip pastors and other church leaders with the tools they need to help their own congregations understand complex cultural issues through a biblical lens. Over the past year, our team has consistently provided content, resources, and online events as well as facilitated in-person or virtual connection to members of our staff. With every asset the ERLC provides for church leaders, we are thinking through how it will serve Southern Baptists to handle tough issues they are facing in their everyday lives.

One new way the ERLC helped SBC churches apply the moral and ethical teachings of the Bible to daily Christian life in 2021 is through the Digital Public Square project. The complex nature of the questions surrounding ethics and religion in the digital age is exactly why the ERLC is pioneering this new research project. It is designed to help provide the local church and those operating in online spaces with thoughtful resources that will help everyone engage these important debates over digital governance and promote free expression as well as religious freedom for all. We seek to cast a robust vision for public theology and ethical engagement in a technological society—a vision grounded in a historical understanding of the role of the church in society and in the unchanging Word of God. While some believe that religion has no role to play in a modern society, we believe that our faith is central to how we engage these pressing issues and live faithfully in the digital age.

II. Assist churches through the communication and advocacy of moral and ethical concerns in the public arena.

In much the same way as our sending agencies provide ways for Southern Baptists to engage the mission field both here at home and across the globe, the ERLC brings a missions mindset to the work we do in the public square. Just like our missionaries are sent to chaotic nations or our church planters establish churches in the midst of chaotic contexts, we feel it is both our responsibility and mighty privilege to be a kingdom voice and carry forth the Good News of the Gospel into an increasingly hostile culture.

In this vein, the Commission continued to advocate for issues of utmost importance to Southern Baptists. At the forefront of our advocacy work in 2021 was the issue of life. It is a continual priority for our work. However because of an important Supreme Court case, we made this mission a critical focus for our organization. On December 1, members of the team were on the steps of the Supreme Court where oral arguments in *Dobbs v. Jackson Women's Health Organization* took place. This case presents a once-in-a-generation opportunity for the Court to overturn *Roe v. Wade* (1973) and *Planned Parenthood v. Casey* (1992) and ultimately return the question of abortion back to the states. The ERLC, alongside other pro-life organizations, filed an amicus brief asking the Court to do just that. The ERLC also hosted an event following the event to discuss what happened and what the implications could be for abortion jurisprudence and for churches.

Our court strategy extended beyond the issue of life. In the case known as *Ramirez v. Collier*, the Supreme Court heard arguments dealing with whether the state can prohibit a pastor or spiritual advisor from offering audible prayers and spiritual touch to an inmate condemned for execution. The ERLC filed an amicus brief asking the U.S. Supreme Court to protect the

freedom of a condemned Texas inmate to have a Southern Baptist pastor lay hands on and pray for him when he receives a lethal injection. On December 8, the Supreme Court heard oral arguments in *Carson v. Makin*, a case dealing with discrimination against a religious school. The ERLC joined an amicus brief in this case arguing that the government should not discriminate against religion or people who wish to send their children to religious institutions. As the Supreme Court prepares to issue opinions in these important cases, the ERLC is prepared to analyze the decisions and respond appropriately.

In June 2021, the messengers of the SBC Annual Meeting unanimously adopted a resolution that condemned the Chinese Community Party's treatment of the Uyghurs and called for the U.S. government to take "concrete actions" to end the genocide. According to this article from Baptist Press, the SBC reportedly became the first Christian denomination to denounce China's campaign against the Uyghurs as genocide. Following the SBC's action, in July, the U.S. Senate passed the Uyghur Forced Labor Prevention Act, legislation that prevents goods made with forced labor in the Xinjiang Uyghur Autonomous Region (XUAR) or by entities using Uyghur labor forcibly transferred from the XUAR from entering the U.S. market. This legislation also instructs the U.S. government to impose sanctions against any foreign person who knowingly engages in the forced labor of Uyghurs and other Muslim minority groups in the XUAR.

After several attempts to reconcile differences between the House and Senate, a breakthrough occurred in December and just before Christmas, this critical piece of legislation was signed into law by President Biden. The ERLC called the moment a "shared victory for our Convention of cooperating churches."

III. Assist churches in their moral witness in local communities.

Despite the pandemic, 2021 was a noteworthy year for the Commission's involvement with local churches. The local church is where God's mission starts which is why ERLC staff consider it such a privilege to serve local Southern Baptist churches across the country.

This past year, ERLC team members were able to interact with more churches than before through online events, which we came to emphasize as part of the Commission's organizational strategy. The ERLC hosted free, online events on the topics of international religious freedom, important Supreme Court cases, and the pro-life movement. Because these were online, church leaders and interested Christians in the pew could attend and were given direct access to subject matter experts who are in the trenches on important issues like life and religious liberty.

IV. Assist churches and other Southern Baptist entities by promoting religious liberty.

2021 brought substantial wins for religious liberty. Besides providing content, resources, and online events to help Southern Baptists understand important religious liberty issues in the country and around the world, the ERLC also continued policy work in this area through our team in Washington, D.C.

In March, the Supreme Court ruled that governments can be held accountable for past violations of First Amendment freedoms. The 8-1 ruling in the *Uzuegbunam v. Preczewski* case held that a "request for nominal damages" may be used to establish legal standing to address a previous violation of a constitutional right.

The case originated from a free speech dispute over a student's campus evangelism. In 2016, Chike Uzuegbunam, then a student at Georgia Gwinnett College, endured a series of restrictions on his ability to talk with students about his faith, even after he pursued a permit for the school's designated free speech zones. Uzuegbunam and a fellow student sued and the case continued even after their graduation because they pursued nominal damages — a small sum of money sought in order to secure a legal judgment in a case.

The ERLC filed a brief with other religious organizations asserting that nominal damages are necessary to protect free speech and religious liberty. The brief argued that, “Nominal damages are particularly important to remedy the infringement of constitutional rights.”

In response to the ruling, the ERLC noted that the ruling was significant not only for Chike Uzuegbunam, “but for all those who might one day need to appeal to the courts for justice. As we argued in our amicus brief to the Court, it is a fundamental harm for the state to infringe upon a person’s right to religion or free expression. Today’s ruling strengthens every American’s right to seek and obtain justice when those foundational rights are infringed.”

This case provides additional legal tools for religious liberty and free speech advocates to hold governments accountable for violating the First Amendment. It represents a crucial victory at a time when colleges and other government entities have acted without fear of accountability or consequences in burdening constitutional freedoms.

In June, the Supreme Court unanimously ruled in *Fulton v. City of Philadelphia* that faith-based foster care and adoption providers, such as Catholic Social Services in Philadelphia, can continue serving children and families according to their convictions.

While there were several concurring opinions, the ruling is a critical reaffirmation of religious liberty by every justice on the high court in the face of a city government’s severely unconstitutional policy. All nine justices held that the “refusal of Philadelphia to contract with Catholic Social Services (CSS) for the provision of foster care services unless CSS agrees to certify same-sex couples as foster parents violates the Free Exercise Clause of the First Amendment.”

Our analysis of the decision stated, “It’s important to note as well that this decision prohibits no one from serving children — it simply ends state discrimination against religious groups. We must all remember what matters most is caring for children. If the government boxes out religious organizations and prohibits them from providing foster care and adoption services, the net effect is a massive shortage of available homes. Children in need should not be collateral damage in a culture war.”

The ERLC has been involved in this case specifically, and these issues more broadly, for years. For *Fulton*, the team submitted an amicus brief to the Supreme Court alongside a diverse coalition of churches and religious institutions. The ERLC also filed an amicus brief at the Third Circuit before the case reached the bench in Washington.

The unanimous ruling in *Fulton* strengthened and clarified the Free Exercise Clause of the First Amendment at a time when the meaning and scope of civil rights laws are in flux. This will benefit religious institutions across the country that seek to serve children in need without violating their sincerely held beliefs. The child welfare system needs as many agencies seeking to care for vulnerable children as possible, and the *Fulton* decision simply means that the state should not punish providers and families for their faith. Children are best served when we all work together.

Based on the listed Ministry Assignment, what opportunities or challenges do you see on the horizon from 2022 and beyond that would necessitate changes or new directions in accomplishing the above Ministry Assignments?

I. Assist churches in applying the moral and ethical teachings of the Bible to the Christian life.

During this season of transition, the goals for 2022 are largely based on what the ERLC board of trustees have approved. The Commission will continue to work on issues and projects that align with the ministry assignment of the ERLC while advocating for issues important to

Southern Baptists and those which the Gospel demands we speak to. In 2022 your ERLC is focusing on these key areas:

Religious Liberty: Our Baptist ancestors in the United States were instrumental in the crafting and adoption of the First Amendment to our Constitution which guarantees free exercise of religion for all and forbids the establishment of a state-driven religion. The ERLC will continue this legacy in our moral education but also in our advocacy—a legacy of religious freedom for all people, not just for those who share our beliefs. To see some of the issues of particular concern in 2022, see below in section IV.

Life: The ERLC Life Team is well on track to placing 50 ultrasound machines to mark 50 years since the disastrous *Roe v. Wade* decision. At the same time, we will continue building consensus in the larger pro-life community and developing relationships with partners who believe in the work we are doing to protect preborn lives. Looking to 2023, the Commission is putting sustained institutional energy behind advocacy efforts to protect life as well as helping SBC churches understand how they can be involved at a local level. Throughout 2022, the Commission will focus on a new curriculum which will equip churches to understand why they should be involved in protecting life in their communities and how to be part of that movement as a local church serving vulnerable moms in their communities.

In June 2022, the Supreme Court will issue its decision in *Dobbs v. Jackson Women’s Health Organization*, the most consequential abortion case in a generation. This could potentially overturn the ill-conceived decisions in *Roe v. Wade* (1973) and *Planned Parenthood v. Casey* (1992) and usher in a new culture of life in American jurisprudence. The ERLC joined an amicus brief in this case, asking the court to overturn those harmful precedents, and will work to bring our nation to a point where abortion is both unthinkable and unnecessary.

Digital Ethics: As more and more life centers on technology spaces, the ERLC is making this a major focus through our new Digital Public Square initiative. Our goal is to produce numerous resources for the church, business community, and government leaders centered on navigating the challenges of the digital public square in a way that upholds free expression and religious freedom, as well as contributes to a more civil and constructive public discourse across ideological and religious viewpoints. The project will focus on issues of Christian ethics — including the public nature of faith, religious freedom, hate speech/violence, sexuality/gender issues, pornography, objectionable content, misinformation, digital authoritarianism, and issues of discipleship in the digital age. We also secured a publishing contract from Lifeway for the small group and church kit related to The Digital Public Square. This resource will be a 6-8 week print study with corresponding video sessions due to release in December 2022. This spring, our efforts will shift to the DPS report — highlighting the major technology ethics issues in the public square and potential issues on the horizon — and the statement of principles for content moderation focused on religious freedom and free speech.

II. Assist churches through the communication and advocacy of moral and ethical concerns in the public arena.

There are several key issues that the ERLC will be focusing on in 2022, both in advocacy work and through the resources produced for Southern Baptists at ERLC.com. As mentioned before, because of the *Dobbs* Supreme Court case coming up this summer, much of the advocacy work is centered on life:

- Prevent Proliferation of Chemical Abortions
- Oppose the Women’s Health Protection Act
- Raise Pro-Life Concerns in the Build Back Better Act
- Support the No Taxpayer Funding for Abortion Act

- Support the Born Alive Abortion Survivors Protection Act
- Support the Pain Capable Unborn Child Protection Act
- Support the Conscience Protection Act
- Oppose Legalization of Surrogacy
- Oppose Physician-Assisted Suicide

Other key issues of advocacy are discussed below in section IV. The ERLC will also continue important work in the adoption space. The ERLC's defense of vulnerable children is woven through a wide variety of priorities, from religious liberty concerns involved in adoption to the effect the opioid crisis has on foster care as parents struggle with addiction. In addition to the Child Welfare Provider Inclusion Act, we are exploring several policies aimed at promoting and supporting adoption and foster care in the United States.

III. Assist churches in their moral witness in local communities.

In late 2021, the ERLC gathered a group of Baptist state executives, state ethics leaders, and ministry leaders in our Nashville office to listen to them share about major issues in their states and communities. They provided helpful insights into what kind of issues Southern Baptists churches are facing. From the opioid crisis to vulnerable women, SBC churches are facing a wide range of difficult issues but they are willing and wanting to step up as ambassadors for Christ to serve the most vulnerable in their cities. The Commission plans on continuing to build relationships with those on the front lines of these important issues at the state level as well as looking for ways to resource our state and local partners.

At the same time, the ERLC will continue to provide timely and helpful content about all of the issues mentioned here, as well as current events that affect our churches' religious liberty and the protection of life at all stages. Because online events have proven to be so beneficial and are an easy way to connect directly with churches at a local level, these will continue to be a major asset that is utilized in 2022.

IV. Assist churches and other Southern Baptist entities by promoting religious liberty.

Religious liberty is a Baptist distinctive and in 2022, the ERLC intends to continue advocating for the protection of this foundational freedom. Here are just some of things the team will be working on:

- Oppose The Equality Act: There are multiple pieces of legislation introduced in recent years which aim to, at the most extreme, codify the demands of the sexual revolution and radically reshape religious freedom in the United States. In February 2021, the House passed The Equality Act—a bill that would amend the 1964 Civil Rights Act to add sexual orientation and gender identity as protected classes under federal civil rights law. The bill would curtail religious freedom protections, hinder the work of healthcare professionals and faith-based hospitals, undermine civil rights protections for women and girls, and ultimately steamroll the consciences of millions of Americans. The ERLC believes that this bill represents the most significant threat to religious liberty ever considered in the United States Congress. We will continue to lead efforts to oppose the Equality Act and any similar legislation introduced this Congress. As we do so, the ERLC will advocate for a public square solution that protects and upholds the dignity of all people and their rights, while ensuring that religiously motivated individuals and institutions are free to live and act according to their deeply held convictions.
- Oppose the Do No Harm Act
- Support the Child Welfare Provider Inclusion Act
- Protect Faith-Based Child Care and Universal Pre-K Entities in Build Back Better
- Oppose Rescission of HHS Conscience Protection Waivers

- **Oppose the Transgender Mandate:** In 2021, a federal court in Texas ruled that it is unlawful to force healthcare professionals to violate their consciences for gender transition procedures. In 2016, as a part of the implementation of Section 1557 of the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act (ACA), the Obama administration's Department of Health & Human Services (HHS) promulgated a rule requiring medical providers to perform and insure abortions and gender-transition procedures or face penalties. Section 1557 of the ACA is the nondiscrimination provision of the ACA, and the scope was broadened by redefining "sex" to include sexual orientation and gender identity. However, the Biden administration appealed the court's ruling, once again sending a group of Catholic nuns who run health clinics to care for the elderly and the poor back to court. On December 15, 2021, the 8th Circuit Court of Appeals heard oral arguments in this case titled *Sisters of Mercy v. Becerra*. The ERLC will work to oppose this harmful mandate that violates the consciences and religious liberty of these healthcare providers.
- **Respond to Decision in *Ramirez v. Collier*:** In September 2021, just hours before John Ramirez was to be executed for a murder in Corpus Christi, Texas, the Supreme Court granted a stay of the execution. Ramirez sued Texas prison officials for refusing to permit Dana Moore, pastor of Second Baptist Church in Corpus Christi, to minister to him during his execution. Ramirez requested that Moore be allowed to physically touch him and audibly pray in the execution chamber. The Supreme Court justices granted a stay of execution, fast-tracked his appeal, and heard oral arguments in November. The ERLC submitted an amicus brief in this important case, and we are hopeful that the Court will rightly decide this case and allow inmates to have spiritual counsel and comfort in their final hours.
- **Respond to the Decision in *Carson v. Makin*:** In December 2020, the Supreme Court heard a key religious liberty case entitled *Carson v. Makin*, which is a follow up from *Trinity Lutheran Church of Columbia v. Comer* and *Espinoza v. Montana Department of Revenue*, which both dealt with the question of whether states can exclude organizations and schools from receiving public benefits simply because they are religious. Each case was decided favorably for religious liberty. The *Carson* case arises out of the unique way that Maine provides free education. In Maine, there are rural areas where students don't have easy access to a public school. Given that limitation, some of the school districts allow parents to choose a private school in the area to teach their children, however Maine did not allow families to send their children to religiously affiliated private schools. The brief the ERLC joined on the merits argues that Maine's public education system, especially in light of how Maine defended its system in the courts, does not merely exclude religious schools — it discriminates against them. The brief goes on to argue that where a state discriminates against religion, courts should immediately strike down the law rather than applying any kind of balancing test with state interests.
- **Protect Religious Freedom for Military Chaplains and Medical Professionals**
- **Support a Two-year Universal Charitable Deduction to Encourage Giving to Charities**

MATTERS REFERRED BY THE CONVENTION

The Convention referred the following items to The Ethics & Religious Liberty Commission during the Annual Meeting of the Southern Baptist Convention in Nashville, Tennessee, June 15–16, 2021, for consideration, action, and report back to the next annual meeting.

1. SBC Referral: To request Convention entities to examine the use of non-disclosure agreements (Items 75 and 102, Proceedings of the Southern Baptist Convention, June 15–16, 2021, *SBC Annual*, p. 75, 83)

Motion: Brad Patterson, Texas

“That the Southern Baptist Convention request each entity to examine its use of non-disclosure agreements and report its findings to the messengers of the 2022 annual meeting of the Southern Baptist Convention in Anaheim, California, reporting said findings with particular attention to three areas: what is biblical justification for the use of non-disclosure agreements; how many non-disclosure agreements have been signed or agreed to in the last five years; and if non-disclosure agreements have been utilized, for what specific purposes were they utilized?”

Response: Nondisclosure or confidentiality clauses are used regularly by both for profit and nonprofit organizations and are often a requirement for doing business with certain vendors, suppliers, and customers in order to protect the integrity of the negotiations or protect private information that is required to be kept confidential, sometimes as a matter of law. The Ethics & Religious Liberty Commission (ERLC) occasionally enters into agreements with these clauses for certain hotel contracts and other similar business arrangements. They are also occasionally used with employment-related agreements for the purpose of protecting the privacy of those involved as matters that were between the trustees and the employees. The ERLC has not and would not use nondisclosure language to protect anyone involved in sexual misconduct or sexual abuse.

2. SBC Referral: To request that entities conduct certain audits and disclose financial details (Items 78 and 102, Proceedings of the Southern Baptist Convention, June 15–16, 2021, *SBC Annual*, p. 76, 83)

Motion: Rick Hillard, Kentucky

“That the Southern Baptist Convention request beginning in 2023 that every 5 years each entity of the Southern Baptist Convention takes the steps needed to undergo a holistic and complete audit with specific disclosure of all details made public to any Southern Baptist no later than 30 days prior to the coinciding year’s annual meeting.”

Response: The Ethics & Religious Liberty Commission (ERLC) completes an external financial audit every year in compliance with the Southern Baptist Convention Business & Financial Plan, Generally Accepted Account Principals (GAAP), and best business practices. The auditor is selected independently by the audit committee of our board of trustees and our trustees are selected independently by the Southern Baptist Convention. The audit report is provided to the full board of trustees, to the Southern Baptist Convention Executive Committee, and is reprinted in the Southern Baptist Convention Book of Reports and the Southern Baptist Convention Annual, where it is available both in print and online to the public. The ERLC audit committee meets privately with the audit firm and receives a full report of their findings and has the opportunity to ask any questions they would like.

In addition to the audited financial statements, the ERLC board of trustees receives more detailed financial statements and explanations of the ongoing financial status of the Commission. These trustees who are independently selected by the Southern Baptist Convention are free to ask any questions and have full access to all levels of financial information.

3. SBC Referral: To ask for an investigation of the ERLC (Items 17 and 102, Proceedings of the Southern Baptist Convention, June 15-16, 2021, *SBC Annual*, p. 57, 83)

Motion: Jared Longshore, Florida

“That the messengers ask the newly-elected president of the Southern Baptist Convention to appoint a task force to select a Christian third party made up of SBC pastors to investigate the ERLC staff and board regarding their involvement in the past president’s alleged concealment of grievous sin and his handling of the same; and further move that such an investigation include all current and former staff, board activities, and confidential ERLC records back to 2018 and that the task force report back to our Convention at our next annual meeting with the findings of the investigation, as well as any recommendations for actions to be taken by our Convention.”

Response: The Southern Baptist Convention meeting in Nashville in June 2021 overwhelmingly adopted a motion appointing a task force to oversee a third-party investigation that would include “any allegations of abuse, mishandling of abuse, mistreatment of victims, a pattern of intimidation of victims or advocates, and resistance to sexual abuse reform initiatives” and instructions that the “task force agree to the accepted best-standards and practices as recommended by the commissioned third-party.” The Ethics & Religious Liberty Commission (ERLC) trustees and staff will fully comply with this investigation, including providing access to any and all written and electronic communications, records, information, and data related to the scope of this investigation, along with adhering to any recommendations from the task force adopted by the Convention meeting in Anaheim in June 2022.

4. SBC Referral: To request that the ERLC to perform an assessment of sexual abuse in the SBC (Items 26 and 102, Proceedings of the Southern Baptist Convention, June 15-16, 2021, *SBC Annual*, p. 58, 83)

Motion: Todd Benkert, Indiana

“Request the Ethics and Religious Liberty Commission to hire an outside organization to oversee and audit an assessment of sexual abuse within the SBC.

The organization shall be authorized to receive and assess, over the next three years, both reports of sexual abuse and allegations of mishandling abuse, from voluntarily participating churches, victims, and witnesses. Because participation in the assessment is strictly voluntary, the assessment will not be exhaustive, but rather aim to provide broad-spectrum data and analysis on rates of abuse allegations, and patterns related to said allegations.

I further move that we ask the ERLC to include the organization’s preliminary findings in their 2022 and 2023 annual reports and submit a final report including the organization’s recommendations for our churches, entities, and denominational structures for the 2024 annual meeting.”

Response: The Ethics & Religious Liberty Commission (ERLC) is deeply grieved by the sexual abuse that has been reported and additionally grieved of the cases that have gone unreported due to the mishandling of many of these cases in the past. We whole-heartedly support the intent of this motion and are committed to taking the necessary steps to secure the best oversight team and funding required to complete a comprehensive and thorough assessment, including the allocation of ERLC reserve funds to help offset the costs as needed.

The Southern Baptist Convention meeting in Nashville in June 2021 overwhelmingly adopted a motion appointing a task force that is tasked with bringing suggested “actions to be taken by our Convention” related to sexual abuse. We will seek to coordinate this study with the tasks charged to that task force by the Southern Baptist Convention when appropriate and invite the task force’s counsel and advice with respect to this study.

5. SBC Referral: To study strategies to abolish abortion (Items 70 and 102, Proceedings of the Southern Baptist Convention, June 15-16, 2021, *SBC Annual*, p. 74, 83)

Motion: Tristan Clark, Michigan

“That the newly elected president of the Southern Baptist Convention establish a task force comprised of not less than one Southern Baptist pastor who is biblically committed to the end of abortion from each state of the union, with the purpose of researching, determining, and then reporting to the SBC messengers of the 2022 annual meeting the most effective strategies, avenues, and allocations of resources at our disposal to effect change such that the USA move beyond the regulation of abortion to the point of its abolition.”

Response: For over three decades, the Ethics & Religious Liberty Commission (ERLC) has worked tirelessly toward the goal of ending abortion, both through legislation, litigation, and ultimately working towards a culture where abortion is both unthinkable and unnecessary in our society. We deeply lament and oppose every legal effort to further protect or establish abortion in the United States, and we grieve the loss of lives for millions of preborn babies due to abortion.

The ERLC works diligently to represent Southern Baptist views before Congress in Washington D.C., as they draft and pass legislation on these matters. We have long advocated for the including of the lifesaving Hyde Amendment and other important pro-life amendments during the appropriations process. The ERLC staff also work closely with other like-minded organizations through coalition letters and jointly working towards the end of abortion.

The ERLC is also pleased to work with our ministry partners on the state level through SBC state conventions across the country. These men and women serve Southern Baptist churches faithfully and are valued colleagues in our battle to end abortion.

The ERLC works to change hearts, minds, and laws to save and protect the lives of preborn babies and provide lifesaving support for vulnerable mothers. We should appreciate every step that can be taken — whether accomplished through legislative channels, court decisions, or cultural developments — to save one additional preborn life. Until that day arrives, the ERLC will stand for life.

6. SBC Referral: To provide information and guidance on puberty blockers (Items 72 and 102, Proceedings of the Southern Baptist Convention, June 15-16, 2021, *SBC Annual*, p. 75, 83)

Motion: Walter Boutwell, Alabama

“That, whereas the use of puberty blocking agents has neither the scientific, moral, nor Christian basis for approval, that an appropriate committee take up the study thereof to produce guidance for SBC pastors and churches, assisting parents in avoiding both within and without the church in making humane and ethical choices.”

Response: The Ethics & Religious Liberty Commission (ERLC) affirms that providing puberty blockers and transitioning hormones to minors is harmful and unethical. The ERLC has tirelessly worked to oppose legislation that would codify sexual orientation and gender identity (SOGI) into federal law, including compelling medical professionals to provide puberty blockers to children, even against their medical judgement. We affirm that the solution to gender problems is not puberty blockers, cross-sex hormones, or surgeries; rather, it is the pattern of God’s design for men and women that is set forth in the Scriptures and applied with the grace of the Gospel. The ERLC has multiple resources regarding the issue of puberty blocking agents that can be found on our website and other digital platforms and we will continue working to oppose harmful SOGI laws.

AUXILIARY

WMU® God's mission.
Our passion.

WOMAN'S MISSIONARY UNION®
100 Missionary Ridge, Birmingham, Alabama 35242

CONNIE DIXON, President
SANDRA WISDOM-MARTIN, Executive Director/Treasurer

INTRODUCTION

In the midst of ongoing challenges related to the global pandemic, God's provision and faithfulness were evident in the ministry of WMU® in 2021 as we celebrated numerous milestones. Some of these include:

- The highest amount ever given to the Annie Armstrong Easter Offering® in 2021. Since WMU first began the Annie Armstrong Easter Offering and the Lottie Moon Christmas Offering®, we praise God that more than \$7 billion has been given by Southern Baptists to support our missionaries. We also created virtual Week of Prayer experiences with daily videos on our website pushed out through email blasts and social media channels for greater engagement.
- Three WMU Compassion Ministries—Pure Water, Pure LoveSM (PWPL); Christian Women's Job Corps®/Christian Men's Job Corps® (CWJC®/CMJCSM); and WorldCraftsSM—all celebrated 25 years of lives transformed through these missions avenues.
- A record amount given in PWPL grants in 2021. WMU awarded 20 grants totaling \$385,845 to provide clean water resources all around the world. To date, more than \$2 million has been given through this vital ministry.
- National WMU touchpoints in 49 countries. Our comprehensive international strategy includes WorldCrafts, PWPL, CWJC/CMJC, missions resource collaboration, international WMU, and partnership with the WMU Foundation through HEART Fund grants. In May 2021, we initiated quarterly Zoom calls with international WMU leaders around the world, and we have connected with leaders in 26 countries.
- Board diversity. As of 2021, almost one-third of our executive board are women of color. There are women born in Guatemala, the Philippines, and Nigeria, and seven are African American women. A historic seven women of color are executive directors of their state WMUs.
- Our first president to represent the western U.S., Connie Dixon, a native New Mexican who has been a member of First Baptist Church, Elida, all her life, was elected as president of national WMU on June 13, 2021, at the WMU Missions Celebration and Annual Meeting in Nashville, Tennessee.

Making disciples of Jesus who live on mission is the unwavering focus of WMU. This passion and purpose is driven by being:

- Biblically-rooted—Scripture guides us in knowing God, His ways, His character, His mission, His redemptive acts, and His purpose for the church;
- Missions-focused—Jesus commissioned His disciples to proclaim the Good News, disciple people of all nations, and teach them to live out the truths He taught;

- Church-based—Jesus gave the church authority to act on His behalf. Teaching all ages prepares the church to fulfill His mission;
- World-aware—God is always at work among all peoples, and we join Him where we discern He is calling us; and
- Denominationally-supportive—No one church can do alone what many churches can do together. Our voluntary cooperation extends the missions reach of a local church.

WMU seeks to cultivate the characteristics of a missional person—one who learns about missions, prays for missions, supports missions, does missions, and tells about Jesus. Our three key avenues for missions involvement are missions discipleship, leadership development, and compassion ministries.

REPORT OF MINISTRIES

MISSIONS DISCIPLESHIP

Missions in the Church

From preschoolers to adults, WMU provides relevant resources to help inform, inspire, and involve those in WMU groups in missions. We created and distributed 13 subscription items, including periodicals and resource kits. Using these and other resources produced by WMU, involvement in WMU missions groups provides the opportunity to teach people of all ages about the work of missionaries throughout the world while developing disciples who pray for missions, give to missions, and take the Gospel into their community and beyond.

WMU's age-level groups include:

- Mission Friends® for preschool boys and girls from birth through kindergarten;
- Girls in Action® (GA®) for girls in grades 1–6;
- Royal Ambassadors® (RA®) for boys in grades 1–6;
- Children in ActionSM for boys and girls in grades 1–6;
- Acteens® for girls in grades 7–12;
- Challengers® for boys in grades 7–12;
- Youth on MissionSM for boys and girls in grades 7–12;
- myMISSIONSM for collegiate and young women;
- Women on Mission® for women; and
- Adults on MissionSM for men and women.

Mission Boards

In 2020*, WMU helped raise \$177.6 million for the Lottie Moon Christmas Offering for International Missions. Since initiating the first offering in 1888, WMU has helped raise more than \$5 billion through this effort. The offering represents more than half of the International Mission Board's total annual support. Every penny given to the offering goes directly to support missionaries, including housing, training, health care, and more.

In 2021, WMU helped raise \$66.5 million—a record high total—for missions work in North America through the Annie Armstrong Easter Offering. Since 1907, when official reporting began for the home missions offering started by WMU, receipts totaled more than \$2 billion through 2021. All the funds raised through this offering go directly to the North American Mission Board (NAMB) to support field personnel, and the offering supplies nearly half of their total annual revenue.

WMU also administers the ministry of missionary housing for Southern Baptist missionaries while they are on stateside assignment, a need that grew this past year as many field personnel had to delay travels back to their areas of service due to COVID restrictions. We maintain a

**Final 2021 totals for the Lottie Moon Christmas Offering were not available at time of print.*

database of more than 600 houses made available by churches, associations, and individuals and make this information available to missionaries on a secure website.

Additionally, national WMU and the WMU Foundation awarded more than \$66,000 in scholarships to children of Southern Baptist missionaries. National WMU makes a grant to host an annual MK Re-entry Retreat in partnership with a state WMU and continues to actively promote giving through the Cooperative Program of the Southern Baptist Convention.

National WMU is not a part of the Cooperative Program allocation budget and receives no funds from the Annie Armstrong Easter Offering or Lottie Moon Christmas Offering. National WMU is supported through the sale of missional resources and from investments and charitable contributions.

LEADERSHIP DEVELOPMENT

WMU aims to infuse leadership development in everything we do. From online, on-demand courses to print and digital resources to in-person training, WMU offers a variety of opportunities for discovering and expanding one's leadership skills and spiritual gifts.

Through our Christian Women's Leadership Center (CWLC), WMU offers courses that range from stand-alone enrichment classes to a full leadership certificate program comprised of nine courses that require approximately 150 hours of coursework.

We also have developed seven mini-courses related to WMU Compassion Ministries and a church's response to ministry needs such as refugees, human trafficking, and poverty, as well as seven courses related to CWJC/CMJC training. See ChristianLeaderLearning.com for the full catalog of courses.

Sponsored by the Christian Women's Leadership Center, we produced 26 episodes in 2021 of our On the Journey Conversations podcast hosted by Sandy Wisdom-Martin. Reflecting on the podcast, which launched in 2020, Sandy said, "Our prayer is this podcast inspires listeners to go deeper in their Christian faith walk. It is designed to offer an extensive array of thought leaders who provide personalized perspectives of what it means to follow Christ." The podcast is available on Apple Podcasts, Spotify, and Google Podcasts.

In addition, WMU offers an array of free content on wmu.com for leaders of preschoolers, children, students, and adults, in addition to other audiences.

COMPASSION MINISTRIES

Pure Water, Pure Love

WMU awarded 20 grants totaling \$385,845 to supply clean water resources in Southeast Asia, Burundi, Ethiopia, Guatemala, Haiti, India, Kenya, Liberia, Rwanda, Togo, and Uganda; these grants also met emergency water needs in Louisiana, Texas, and Puerto Rico. An additional \$20,460 was disbursed to SEND Relief (NAMB) to provide water filters. We also provided 1,372 filters and replacements to International Mission Board personnel and missions teams.

Christian Women's Job Corps/Christian Men's Job Corps

Though this ministry, thousands of participants gained life and job skills in a Christian context through nearly 200 registered CWJC and CMJC sites across the United States, along with four international sites. CWJC/CMJC offers classes, resources, mentoring, Bible study, and more. Lives are transformed as participants gain self-confidence, purpose, direction, and hope for the future. In the past 25 years, approximately 5,500 participants in this ministry have come to a saving faith in Christ.

WorldCrafts

Since 1996, WMU has worked to develop sustainable, fair-trade businesses among impoverished people around the world through WorldCrafts. This ministry now works with nearly 50 artisan groups in more than 20 countries to bring their products to market and provide income with dignity.

In 2020, we initiated campaigns to preorder selected WorldCrafts items. In the 2020–21 fiscal year, we offered two WorldCrafts preorder opportunities that provided much-needed work to ten artisan groups in seven countries who are still dealing with the challenges of the pandemic. So far in the 2021–22 fiscal year, two additional preorder campaigns have provided eight artisan groups in four countries with encouragement and ongoing support.

This compassion ministry of WMU meets the physical, emotional, and spiritual needs of its workers. Through WorldCrafts, men and women have meaningful work and enjoy comfort, camaraderie, friendship, and purpose.

Baptist Nursing Fellowship

WMU facilitates ongoing communication for this group of health-care professionals and hosted their national event in November 2021.

Project HELP: Refugees

Project HELP is a WMU initiative designed to help the church address a current social and moral issue by raising awareness, meeting needs, and sharing the Gospel. Our current focus is the global refugee crisis, as conflict and persecution around the world cause tens of thousands of people to flee their homes every day and become refugees. We have seen the heartbreak of this reality front and center in the daily news as millions of Ukrainian refugees have been forced to leave their homes and face a daily reality of uncertainty and distress.

As Christians, we are uniquely positioned to minister to refugees. Learn more and discover resources at wmu.com/refugees.

SUPPORTIVE OPERATIONS

Executive Board Meetings

The executive board of WMU, which is comprised of women who serve as WMU presidents in their state or multistate territory, gathered four times in 2021 to conduct the business of the organization. These meetings took place January 8, January 30, June 4, and August 21 via Zoom video conference call.

GOVERNING DOCUMENTS

CHARTER

An Act

To Incorporate ... the Southern Baptist Convention

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the State of Georgia in General Assembly met, and it is hereby enacted by the authority of the same, that from and after the passing of this act ... that William B. Johnson, Wilson Lumpkin, James B. Taylor, A. Docrey, R. B. C. Howell and others their associates and successors be and they are hereby Incorporated and made a body politic by the name and style of the Southern Baptist Convention with authority to receive hold possess retain and dispose of property either real or personal to sue and be sued and to make all bye-laws, rules and regulations necessary to the transaction of their business not inconsistent with the laws of this state or of the United States, said corporation being created for the purpose of eliciting combining and directing the energies of the Baptist denomination of Christians for the propagation of the gospel any law usage or custom to the contrary notwithstanding.

[Signed:]

Charles J. Jenkins, Speaker of The House of Representatives

Absalom H. Chappell, President of the Senate

Approved December 27th 1845

Geo. W. Crawford, Governor

(Act 203, Georgia Archives RG 37-01-15 Enrolled Acts & Resolutions, Georgia Laws - 1845, Vol. 2-9838 Acts 98-228 pp. 428-431.)

CONSTITUTION

The messengers from missionary societies, churches, and other religious bodies of the Baptist denomination in various parts of the United States met in Augusta, Georgia, May 8, 1845, for the purpose of carrying into effect the benevolent intention of our constituents by organizing a plan for eliciting, combining, and directing the energies of the denomination for the propagation of the gospel and adopted rules and fundamental principles which, as amended from time to time, are as follows:

Article I. The Name: The name of this body is the “Southern Baptist Convention.”

Article II. Purpose: It is the purpose of the Convention to provide a general organization for Baptists in the United States and its territories for the promotion of Christian missions at home and abroad and any other objects such as Christian education, benevolent enterprises, and social services which it may deem proper and advisable for the furtherance of the Kingdom of God.

Article III. Composition: The Convention shall consist of messengers who are members of Baptist churches in cooperation with the Convention. The following subparagraphs describe the Convention’s current standards and method of determining the maximum number of messengers the Convention will recognize from each cooperating church to attend the Convention’s annual meeting.

1. The Convention will only deem a church to be in friendly cooperation with the Convention, and sympathetic with its purposes and work (i.e., a “cooperating” church as that term is used in the Convention’s governing documents) which:

- (1) Has a faith and practice which closely identifies with the Convention's adopted statement of faith. (By way of example, churches which act to affirm, approve, or endorse homosexual behavior would be deemed not to be in cooperation with the Convention.)
 - (2) Has formally approved its intention to cooperate with the Southern Baptist Convention. (By way of example, the regular filing of the annual report requested by the Convention would be one indication of such cooperation.)
 - (3) Has made undesignated, financial contribution(s) through the Cooperative Program, and/or through the Convention's Executive Committee for Convention causes, and/or to any Convention entity during the fiscal year preceding.
 - (4) Does not act in a manner inconsistent with the Convention's beliefs regarding sexual abuse.
 - (5) Does not act to affirm, approve, or endorse discriminatory behavior on the basis of ethnicity.
2. Under the terms above, the Convention will recognize to participate in its annual meeting two (2) messengers from each cooperating church, and such additional messengers as are permitted below.
3. The Convention will recognize additional messengers from a cooperating church under one of the options described below. Whichever method allows the church the greater number of messengers shall apply:
 - (1) One additional messenger for each full percent of the church's undesignated receipts which the church contributed during the fiscal year preceding through the Cooperative Program, and/or through the Convention's Executive Committee for Convention causes, and/or to any Convention entity; or
 - (2) One additional messenger for each \$6,000 which the church contributed during the fiscal year preceding through the Cooperative Program, and/or through the Convention's Executive Committee for Convention causes, and/or to any Convention entity.
4. The messengers shall be appointed and certified by their church to the Convention, but the Convention will not recognize more than twelve (12) from any cooperating church.
5. Each messenger shall be a member of the church by which he or she is appointed.
6. If a church experiences a natural disaster or calamitous event and, as a result, the church is not qualified to appoint as many messengers as the church could appoint for the Convention's annual meeting immediately before the event, the church's pastor or an authorized church representative may, for no more than the three (3) annual meetings after the event, certify the facts to the registration secretary and obtain the same number of messengers it could have certified for the Convention's annual meeting immediately before the event.

Article IV. Authority: While independent and sovereign in its own sphere, the Convention does not claim and will never attempt to exercise any authority over any other Baptist body, whether church, auxiliary organizations, associations, or convention.

Article V. Officers:

1. The officers of the Convention shall be a president, a first and a second vice president, a recording secretary, a registration secretary, and a treasurer.

2. The officers shall be elected annually and shall hold office until their successors are elected and qualified. The term of office for the president is limited to two (2) years, and a president shall not be eligible for re-election until as much as one (1) year has elapsed from the time a successor is named. The first vice president shall be voted upon and elected after the election of the president has taken place; and the second vice president shall be voted upon and elected after the election of the first vice president has taken place.
3. The president shall be a member of the several boards and of the Executive Committee.
4. The treasurer of the Executive Committee shall be the treasurer of the Convention.
5. In case of death or disability of the president, the vice presidents shall automatically succeed to the office of president in the order of their election.

Article VI. The Boards, Institutions, and Commissions – Their Constitution and Powers:

1. The general boards of the Convention shall be composed as follows, unless otherwise provided in their charters.
 - (1) Twelve (12) members chosen from the city or vicinity of the state in which the board is located, but not more than three (3) local members elected from the same church.
 - (2) One (1) member chosen from each cooperating state; and one (1) additional member from each state having two hundred and fifty thousand (250,000) members, and another additional member for each additional two hundred and fifty thousand (250,000) members in such state.
 - (3) The members shall be divided into four (4) groups as nearly equal as possible, and one (1) group shall be elected each year to serve four (4) years. Board members having served two (2) full terms of four (4) years shall not be eligible for re-election until as much as two (2) years have elapsed. This shall also apply to the Executive Committee.
2. The trustees of institutions and directors shall be composed as follows:
 - (1) The trustees or directors shall be elected in keeping with the requirements of the charter of the entity as printed in the 1948 *Book of Reports* or subsequently amended with the prior approval of the Convention.
 - (2) If the composition of the trustees or directors is not determined by charter requirements, the body of trustees or directors shall be composed of one (1) member chosen from each cooperating state and eight (8) local members from the city or vicinity in which the entity is located, but not more than two (2) local members shall be chosen from the same church.
 - (3) Unless it is contrary to the charter requirements of the entity, the trustees or directors shall be divided into four (4) groups as nearly equal as possible and one (1) group shall be elected each year to serve four (4) years. Members having served two (2) full terms of four (4) years shall not be eligible for re-election until as much as two (2) years have elapsed after one has served two (2) full terms.
 - (4) Regardless of charter provisions, no trustee or director shall be eligible for re-election until as much as two (2) years have elapsed after the trustee or director has served two (2) full terms.
3. Terms of Service: No trustee of a board, institution, or commission, or a member of the Executive Committee shall be eligible to serve for more than two consecutive terms. A trustee or member of the Executive Committee who has served more than half a term shall be considered to have served a full term.

4. The governing groups of the entities may elect executive, administrative, finance, investment, and other committees if desired.
5. Each entity shall elect a president, a recording secretary, a treasurer, and such other officers as may be required. The president may be named as treasurer.
6. The compensation of its officers and employees shall be fixed by each entity, but no salaried employee or officer shall be a member of the directors of the entity.
7. Each entity is authorized to adopt its own bylaws.
8. Fifty percent of the members of the governing group shall constitute a quorum of the entity directors for transaction of any business.

Article VII. Duties of Officers of Boards, Institutions, and Commissions: All officers shall be subject to the control and direction of their directors in matters pertaining to the work and obligations of the board, institution, or commission. They shall perform such duties as commonly appertain to such officers.

1. The executive head of each board, institution, and commission shall be responsible to the directors for all the work of the entity and shall carry on the work as the directors may direct.
2. The recording secretary of each entity shall keep a record of all meetings of directors, if not otherwise provided for, and shall keep the records in fireproof safes, vaults, or files.
3. The treasurer of each entity shall follow approved methods of accounting, keep the books, receipt for all monies and securities, deposit all funds with a depository or depositories approved by the directors, and render full statements as required to the directors or to the Convention. The treasurer shall not pay out money except as the directors may order and direct.

Article VIII. Church Membership: Officers of the Convention, all officers and members of all boards, trustees of institutions, directors, all committee members, and all missionaries of the Convention appointed by its boards shall be members of Baptist churches cooperating with this Convention.

Article IX. Missionaries' Qualifications: All missionaries appointed by the Convention's boards must, previous to their appointment, furnish evidence of piety, zeal for the Master's kingdom, conviction of truth as held by Baptists, and talents for missionary service.

Article X. Distribution of Funds: The Convention shall have the right to designate only undesignated funds, the right of contributors to the work of the Convention to designate the objects to which their contributions shall be applied being fully recognized.

Article XI. Meetings:

1. The Convention shall hold its meetings annually at such time and place as it may choose.
2. The president may call special meetings with the concurrence of the other officers of the Convention and of the Executive Committee.
3. The Executive Committee may change the time and place of meeting if the entertaining city withdraws its invitation or is unable to fulfill its commitments.
4. The Convention officers, the Executive Committee, and the executive heads of the Convention's boards and institutions acting in a body may, in case of grave emergency, cancel a regular meeting or change the place of meeting.

Article XII. As to Conflict with State Laws: All incorporated entities of the Convention shall be required to comply with the letter and spirit of this Constitution, the Bylaws, and the Business and Financial Plan insofar as they are not in conflict with the statute law of the state in which an entity is incorporated, and nothing herein contained shall be construed to require any such incorporated entity to act and carry on its affairs in conflict with the law of the state of its incorporation. In case any action of any entity of the Convention is found to be a violation of the law of the state of its incorporation, said action shall be reported by that entity to the Convention for appropriate action.

Article XIII. Definition of a State: The District of Columbia shall be regarded as a state for the purpose of this Constitution, the Bylaws, and all actions of the Convention.

Article XIV. Amendments: Any alterations may be made in these Articles at any annual meeting of the Convention by a vote of two-thirds of the messengers present and voting at the time the vote is taken, provided that an amendment shall be so approved by two (2) consecutive annual meetings of the Convention.

BYLAWS

In order to carry out the provisions of the Constitution, the following Bylaws are adopted for the government of the Convention:

1. Convention Session:

- A. The Convention shall open with the Tuesday morning session and continue through Wednesday, holding such sessions as the Committee on Order of Business finds necessary for the conduct of business, except that sufficient time on Wednesday afternoon shall be reserved for seminary luncheons and other necessary meetings.
- B. The Convention sermon and president's message shall be considered as fixed orders at the time designated by the committee on Order of Business.
- C. A messenger may speak in debate for longer than three minutes only with the permission of the Convention granted by a two-thirds vote.
- D. A messenger may introduce a second motion during a business session only if no other messenger is seeking the floor who has not made a motion during that session.

2. Presentation of Outside Causes:

Causes other than those provided for in the regular work of the Convention may be presented to the Convention upon authority of officers of the Convention in conference with the Committee on Order of Business in such ways and at such times as may be dictated by the courtesies of the case and the necessities of the program.

3. Convention Site:

- A. No city shall be considered as a meeting place for the Southern Baptist Convention in which there is a considerable distance between the available hotels and the Convention hall.
- B. No meetings other than the Convention services shall be held in the Convention hall during the sessions of the Convention. Every service held in the Convention auditorium shall be under the direction of the Committee on Order of Business.

4. Exhibits:

All exhibits of every description shall be rigidly excluded from those parts of the place of meeting where the people visiting the exhibits will disturb the proceedings of the Convention, their locations to be determined by the Executive Committee or its agent. The Executive Committee of the Convention shall have exclusive control of all exhibit space.

5. *Book of Reports:*

- A. Copy for reports and recommendations to the Convention shall be submitted to the recording secretary by March 1, unless circumstances beyond the control of the reporting entity or committee make it impossible.
- B. Recommendations of entities and committees of the Convention may not be voted upon until the recommendations have been printed in the *Book of Reports* or the Convention *Bulletin*. The recording secretary is authorized to provide the Baptist Press and other interested parties, upon their request, copies of recommendations requiring Convention action.

6. *Convention Annual:* The Convention *Annual* containing reports and actions of the Convention and other pertinent material shall be published as soon as possible after the meeting of the Convention and shall be made available without charge to all active pastors and denominational agents.**7. *Bulletin:***

- A. The Executive Committee of the Convention shall have printed each day a sufficient number of brief reports, or bulletins, of the Journal of Proceedings, reporting specifically matters of business proposed and acted upon, including the names of committees appointed, reports of the committees, and such business as may be transacted and carried over to the following day, also including a list of the titles or subjects of the resolutions presented and the names of the persons presenting them.
- B. Such report, or bulletin, shall not include speeches or addresses or any comment thereon, a photograph, or any personal reference to any messenger of the Convention, but shall be only a resume of the business transacted during that day.

8. *Messenger Credentials, Registration Committee, and Credentials Committee:*

- A. *Messenger Credentials:* Each person elected by a church cooperating with the Southern Baptist Convention as messengers to the Southern Baptist Convention shall be registered as a messenger to the Convention upon presentation of proper credentials. Credentials shall be presented by each messenger, in person, at the Convention registration desk and shall be in the following form:
 - (1) A completed, properly authorized, official Southern Baptist Convention registration document, certifying the messenger's election in accordance with Article III. Composition, of the Constitution of the Southern Baptist Convention; but if the messenger does not have the messenger registration document,
 - (2) A letter from the messenger's church, signed by the pastor, clerk or moderator of the church, certifying the messenger's election in accordance with Article III. Composition, of the Constitution of the Southern Baptist Convention; or
 - (3) Some other document (which may include a fax, e-mail, or other physical or electronically transmitted document) from the messenger's church which is deemed reliable by the Registration Committee or qualifies under guidelines approved by the registration secretary and the Registration Committee.

Messengers registered in accordance with this section shall constitute the Convention.

- B. *Registration Committee:* The president of the Convention, in consultation with the vice presidents, shall appoint, at least thirty (30) days before the annual session, a Registration Committee to serve at the forthcoming sessions of the Convention. The registration secretary shall convene the Registration Committee at least one day prior to the annual meeting to supervise the registration of messengers, to oversee the

operations of the registration desk, and to rule upon any questions which may arise in registration concerning the credentials of messengers.

- C. *Credentials Committee*: The Credentials Committee, a standing committee, shall be composed of the registration secretary, the chair of the Executive Committee, three members nominated by the Executive Committee, and four members nominated by the Committee on Nominations. Committee members may serve simultaneously on another board, institution, commission, or committee of the Convention or as a member of the Executive Committee. The names of the Executive Committee chair and the members nominated by the Executive Committee shall appear in the Committee on Nominations' report to the annual meeting, along with the names of members being nominated by the Committee on Nominations, for election by the Convention. Members other than the registration secretary and the Executive Committee chair shall serve a term of three (3) years. The committee shall elect its own chair. Members of the Credentials Committee shall be divided into three groups of three persons each with the registration secretary and the Executive Committee chair assigned to different groups. The term of office of one of the three groups shall expire each year. A member's term of office shall begin and expire at the conclusion of the Convention's annual meeting. Members having served one full term of three (3) years shall not be eligible for re-election until as much as one (1) year has elapsed after the last term of service has concluded. Vacancies occurring on the committee between annual meetings shall be filled by the Executive Committee, provided that any vacancy shall be filled only until the next annual meeting.
- (1) The Credentials Committee shall meet on the call of its chair or of any two of its members after reasonable notice of the time and place for the meeting. Meetings and reports of the committee may be private or public in order to maintain the degree of confidentiality which is appropriate under the circumstances to serve the best interests of the Convention and individual churches. When practical, meetings shall be held in conjunction with meetings of the Executive Committee or electronically. The committee may meet by teleconference, videoconference, or any other lawful means. Appropriate staff and legal assistance shall be provided for the Credentials Committee by the Executive Committee.
 - (2) When, during an annual meeting, an issue arises whether a church is in cooperation with the Convention, the Credentials Committee shall consider the matter and review any information available to it. The committee shall either:
 - (a) consider the question in the manner described in section (3)a below and, when prepared, recommend any action to the Executive Committee, in which case messengers from the church shall be seated pending any action by the Executive Committee; or
 - (b) at the earliest opportunity, recommend to the Convention whether the church should be considered a cooperating church. The Convention shall immediately consider the committee's recommendation. One representative of the church under consideration and one representative of the Credentials Committee shall be permitted to speak to the question, subject to the normal rules of debate. When debate is concluded, the Convention may decide whether the church is a cooperating church or refer the matter to the Executive Committee for further review and a decision. Unless the Convention decides that the church is not a cooperating church, messengers from the church shall be registered and seated in accordance with the Convention's rules.

- (3) When an issue arises between annual meetings whether a church is in cooperation with the Convention, the Credentials Committee shall consider the matter and review any information available to it.
 - a. If the committee forms the opinion that a church is not in friendly cooperation with the Convention as described in Article III. Composition, of the Constitution, the committee shall submit to the Executive Committee a report stating that opinion and the committee's reasons for its opinion. The Executive Committee shall, at its next meeting, consider the report of the Credentials Committee and determine whether the church is in cooperation with the Convention. The Executive Committee's decision shall be final unless the church appeals the decision to the Convention during the next annual meeting.
 - b. A church which has been found not to be in cooperation may appeal the decision to the Convention by submitting a written appeal to the chair of the Credentials Committee at least 30 days prior to the Convention's annual meeting. The Credentials Committee chair shall immediately notify the Credentials Committee, the chair of the Committee on Order of Business, and the President that an appeal to the Convention has been lodged.
 - c. The registration secretary shall notify the Convention of the appeal in the initial registration report to the Convention.
 - d. The Convention shall consider the appeal during a time established for miscellaneous business on the afternoon of the first day of the Convention. The question before the messengers will be "Shall the decision of the Credentials Committee and the Executive Committee that [*name of the church in question*] is not in cooperation with the Southern Baptist Convention be sustained?" One representative of the church under consideration and one representative of the Credentials Committee or Executive Committee shall be permitted to speak to the question, subject to the normal rules of debate. When debate is concluded, the Convention shall vote whether to sustain the Executive Committee's ruling. If the ruling of the Executive Committee is reversed, messengers from the church shall immediately be registered and seated in accordance with the Convention's rules.
 - (4) If a church which has been found not to be in cooperation with the Convention addresses the issues which led to that finding, it may apply to the Credentials Committee for a reconsideration of its status. If the circumstances warrant, the Credentials Committee may recommend to the Executive Committee that the church be once again considered a cooperating church.
 - (5) The committee may make inquiries of a church, but shall never attempt to exercise any authority over a church through an investigation or other process that would violate Article IV of the Constitution.
- 9. Address of Welcome:** There may be one (1) address of welcome limited to ten (10) minutes and one (1) response thereto limited to ten (10) minutes.
- 10. Election of Officers and Voting:**
- A. The president, the first and second vice presidents, and the secretaries shall be elected at the Convention, their terms of office to begin at the final adjournment.
 - B. Election of officers shall be by ballot, provided however that if there is only one (1) nomination, and no other person desires to nominate, the registration secretary or

anyone designated for the purpose may cast the ballot of the Convention. If an officer does not receive a majority of votes cast on the first ballot, subsequent ballots shall carry the names of those who are included in the top 50 percent of the total votes cast in the previous ballot.

- C. Nominating speeches for officers of the Convention shall be limited to one (1) address of not more than three (3) minutes for each nominee.
- D. The president, in consultation with the registration secretary, shall appoint tellers. The tabulation of any vote by the tellers or otherwise (such as by electronic means) shall be under the supervision of the registration secretary. The president or registration secretary shall announce election and voting results to the Convention as soon as practicable.
- E. Any materials, instructions, and/or devices necessary to vote shall be made available to the messengers.
- F. No proxy voting is permitted. All propositions, decisions, and choices shall be by a majority vote of the messengers present and voting in person, except where provisions have been made for a greater than majority vote. Except for officer elections, votes may be taken by ballot, by voice, by rising, by show of hands, by common consent, or by some other acceptable method. "Ballot" shall include electronic voting that protects the integrity of the voting process and provides for messengers' votes to remain confidential.

11. Parliamentary Authority and Parliamentarians: The parliamentary authority of the Southern Baptist Convention shall be *Robert's Rules of Order* (latest revised edition). The Convention president, in conference with the vice presidents, shall select a chief parliamentarian and assistant parliamentarians, as necessary, to advise the presiding officers of the Convention on matters of parliamentary procedure. The chief parliamentarian shall be a person of experience and knowledge, sufficient to qualify him or her to serve as parliamentarian to the Southern Baptist Convention, and he or she shall be certified by the American Institute of Parliamentarians and/or the National Association of Parliamentarians. It shall be the responsibility of the president and treasurer of the Executive Committee of the Southern Baptist Convention to sign, on behalf of the Executive Committee, any contracts or letters of agreement related to the services of the chief parliamentarian.

12. Ministry Leaders: Leaders of Southern Baptist Convention entities shall be admitted to the Convention sessions and shall be authorized to serve as resource persons for discussion of those matters which affect their areas of ministry responsibility.

13. Memorial Services: The Committee on Order of Business is instructed to arrange for any memorial service to be held during the Convention.

14. Entities and Auxiliary of the Convention:

- A. The entities of the Convention are as follows:
 - (1) General Boards: The International Mission Board of the Southern Baptist Convention, Richmond, Virginia; The North American Mission Board of the Southern Baptist Convention, Inc., Alpharetta, Georgia; Lifeway Christian Resources of the Southern Baptist Convention, Nashville, Tennessee; GuideStone Financial Resources of the Southern Baptist Convention, Dallas, Texas.
 - (2) Institutions: The Southern Baptist Theological Seminary, Louisville, Kentucky; The Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary, Fort Worth, Texas; New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary, New Orleans, Louisiana; Gateway Seminary of the Southern Baptist Convention, Ontario, California; The Southeastern Baptist

Theological Seminary, Inc., Wake Forest, North Carolina; Midwestern Baptist Theological Seminary, Inc., Kansas City, Missouri.

- (3) Commission: The Ethics and Religious Liberty Commission of the Southern Baptist Convention, Nashville, Tennessee.

- B. Auxiliary: Woman's Missionary Union, Birmingham, Alabama, is an auxiliary of the Convention.

15. Committee on Nominations:

- A. The Committee on Nominations shall be composed of two (2) members from each qualified state, who shall be elected by the Convention. Nominations for each position shall be made by the Committee on Committees. The Committee on Committees shall make its recommendation of nominees to the Convention in the form of a single motion to elect all those persons it recommends for the Committee on Nominations. The motion may be amended but no messenger shall be allowed to propose more than one (1) person at a time for election. When adopted by the Convention, the motion of the Committee on Committees, as amended, shall constitute the election of the persons named in the motion to the Committee on Nominations. One (1) person nominated to the Committee on Nominations from each state shall be a person not employed full time by (or retired from) a church or denominational entity. Persons nominated to the Committee on Nominations shall have been resident members for at least three (3) years of Southern Baptist churches either geographically within the states or affiliated with the conventions of the states from which they are elected.
- B. The Committee on Nominations thus elected shall prepare its report through the year, carefully following the provisions of the Constitution and Bylaws of the Convention and the documents of the respective Convention entities, and shall recommend to the next Convention the following:
 - (1) Members of the Executive Committee of the Southern Baptist Convention
 - (2) Directors/trustees of the boards of the Convention
 - (3) Trustees of the institutions of the Convention
 - (4) Trustees of the commissions of the Convention
 - (5) Members of any standing committees, except certain members of the Credentials Committee as expressly provided by Bylaw 8.
- C. Excluding the president and recording secretary of the Convention, and the president of Woman's Missionary Union, and unless otherwise specifically permitted or required by these bylaws, no person shall be eligible to be elected or appointed to serve simultaneously on more than one of the boards, institutions, commissions, or committees of the Convention, or as a member of the Executive Committee, and no person shall be elected or appointed to serve on one of these bodies if that person's spouse has been elected or appointed to serve on one of these bodies for a time which would be simultaneous.
- D. The committee shall not recommend a fellow committee member or the member's spouse or a member of the previous year's Committee on Committees or the member's spouse for a first term on an entity.
- E. The committee shall recognize the principle that the persons it recommends shall represent the constituency of the Convention, rather than the staff of the entity.
- F. No person and no person's spouse shall be eligible to serve on the board of any one of the above entities (1) from which the person receives, directly or indirectly, any

form of payment or financial benefit except for reimbursements for reasonable and authorized expenses incurred in the performance of the duties of a trustee, or, (2) which provides funds for which he/she has a duty of administration. When such conditions become applicable, that person or that person's spouse shall be considered as having resigned and such vacancy shall be filled in accordance with established Convention procedure.

- G. All of the above entities shall include both church or denominational employees and those who are not church or denominational employees. Not more than two-thirds of the members of any of these entities shall be drawn from either category. Where a person was serving as a church or denominational employee at the time of retirement, he/she should be counted as a church or denominational employee after retirement as far as the work of the Committee on Nominations is concerned.
 - H. Any person elected to serve on any of the boards, institutions, commissions, or the Executive Committee, shall at the time of such election have been continuously a resident member for at least the preceding three (3) years of a church or churches which were in those years in friendly cooperation with the Convention and sympathetic with its purposes and work, and, where representation is by qualifying states, which were either geographically within the state or affiliated with the convention of the state from which the person is elected. Any person who is a member of one of these entities shall be considered as having resigned when the person ceases to be a resident member of a church either geographically within the state or affiliated with the convention of the state from which he/she has been elected as a representative.
 - I. No person who has served on the board of an entity or on the Executive Committee shall be eligible to serve on the board of any entity or on the Executive Committee until two years after the conclusion of his or her term of office, except that a person may be re-elected to an authorized successive term or serve by virtue of a separate office.
 - J. The report of the Committee on Nominations shall be released to Baptist Press no later than 45 days prior to the annual meeting of the Convention and shall be published in the first day's Bulletin. Persons desiring to amend the report of the Committee on Nominations are encouraged to publicize the nature of their amendment sufficiently in advance of the annual meeting of the Convention to allow information concerning the amendment to be made available to Convention messengers.
 - K. The Committee on Nominations shall make its recommendation to the Convention in the form of a motion to elect those persons it recommends for specific terms of office. The motion may be amended but no messenger shall be allowed to propose more than one (1) person at a time for election. When adopted by the Convention, the motion of the Committee on Nominations, as amended, shall constitute the election of the persons named in the motion to their respective terms of office.
- 16. Vacancies on Boards:** All entities shall report all vacancies on the entities to the Committee on Nominations immediately on the occurrence of such vacancies. Any entity's board may make interim appointments only when authorized by its charter. Any such appointment shall only be of a person who is eligible and qualified both to be elected by the Convention and to serve according to the Constitution and Bylaws of the Southern Baptist Convention.
- 17. Fraternal Messengers:**
- A. The Convention shall send a fraternal messenger to the annual sessions of the American Baptist Churches and the National Baptist conventions. The expenses of

the fraternal messengers incurred while in attendance upon the conventions herein named shall be included in the items of Convention expenses.

- B. The fraternal messenger to the American Baptist Churches shall be the president of the Southern Baptist Convention at the time of the meeting of the American Baptist Churches, and he shall also be the fraternal messenger to the other National Baptist conventions named. If the president is unable to attend, he shall be authorized to name another officer as a substitute.
- C. The fraternal messengers to other Baptist bodies or other religious bodies may be elected by the Convention as occasion may require. The expenses of such messengers shall be borne by the messengers themselves unless specifically provided for by the Convention.

18. The Executive Committee:

- A. The Executive Committee shall consist of the president and the recording secretary of the Convention, the president of the Woman's Missionary Union, and one (1) or more members from each qualified and cooperating state or defined territory of the Convention, subject to the provisions of Section 30 of the Bylaws.
 - (1) Once the number of members of cooperating Southern Baptist churches in such an area reaches the levels shown in the following table, the number of Executive Committee members from that area shall thereafter be as indicated:

Any such qualified area:	One (1) Executive Committee member
250,000 church members:	Two (2) Executive Committee members
500,000 church members:	Three (3) Executive Committee members
750,000 church members:	Four (4) Executive Committee members
1,000,000 or more church members:	Five (5) Executive Committee members.
 - (2) In addition, and solely for the purpose of providing representation on the Convention's fiduciary for cooperating areas which are not yet qualified as provided above, there shall be one Executive Committee member from each of the four following geographical areas: the Dakotas, Iowa, Minnesota-Wisconsin, and Montana.
 - (3) Except for areas represented by only one member, at least one-third of the members from any area shall be persons employed by a church or denominational entity, and at least one-third of the members from that area shall be persons not employed by a church or denominational entity.
 - (4) At least one-third of the entire membership of the Executive Committee shall be persons employed by a church or denominational entity, and at least one-third of its members shall be persons not employed by a church or denominational entity.
 - (5) Except for the president and the recording secretary of the Convention and the president of Woman's Missionary Union, the following persons are disqualified from serving as members of the Executive Committee:
 - a. Employees of the Convention or its Executive Committee
 - b. Trustees, directors, or employees of a Convention entity or its auxiliary
 - c. Employees of a convention for a state or defined territory, or of an entity or body that is empowered to act on behalf of such a convention
 - d. Employees of an entity of a convention for a state or defined territory

- B. Members shall be divided into four (4) groups as nearly equal as possible and shall hold office for four (4) years, one-fourth going out of office each year.
- C. A majority of the Committee shall constitute a quorum.
- D. The Executive Committee shall elect a president, who shall also be treasurer, and other officers and staff who may be needed. All the main executive officers and all the office employees who handle funds shall be bonded, and no salaried officer or employee shall be a member of the Executive Committee.
- E. The Executive Committee shall be the fiduciary, the fiscal, and the executive entity of the Convention in all its affairs not specifically committed to some other board or entity.

The Executive Committee is specifically authorized, instructed, and commissioned to perform the following functions:

- (1) To act for the Convention ad interim in all matters not otherwise provided for.
- (2) To be named in transfers of real and personal property for the use and benefit of the Convention either by deed, conveyance, will, or otherwise and to affix the seal of the Convention to all approved transactions; and to take title to and hold or to convey title to all properties, real or personal, and all funds, monies, and securities that are donated or transferred or left by will to or for the use of the Convention. As to such properties, funds, monies, and securities as the Executive Committee shall hold and not convey title to, the Executive Committee shall be custodian of such, holding them in trust for the Convention to be managed, controlled, and administered by the Executive Committee in accordance with the direction, general or specific, of the Convention. Rules governing the handling of securities set out in Article VII, Section 3, of the Constitution shall be observed by the Executive Committee.
- (3) To receive and receipt for all current funds of the Convention including all undesignated cooperative missionary, educational, and benevolent funds and all current special or designated funds for missionary, educational, and benevolent purposes which may be contributed by individuals, churches, societies, corporations, associations, or state conventions; and to disburse all undesignated funds, according to the percentages fixed by the Convention and all the designated funds according to the stipulations of the donors. The Executive Committee shall keep the accounts of all inter-entity groups and shall disburse their funds on requisition of the properly constituted officers of the inter-entity organization.
- (4) To recommend to the Convention a time and place and to have oversight of the arrangements for the meetings of the Convention, with authority to change both the time and place of the meetings in accordance with the provisions of Article XI, Section 3, of the Constitution.
- (5) To act in an advisory capacity on all questions of cooperation among the different entities of the Convention, and among the entities of the Convention and those of other conventions, whether state or national.
- (6) To present to the Convention each year a consolidated and comprehensive financial statement of the Convention and all its entities, which statement shall show the assets and liabilities of the Convention and all its entities, and all the cash and other receipts of the year.

- (7) To present to the Convention a comprehensive budget for the Convention and for all its entities, which budget shall include the budgets of all the entities of the Convention whether or not they receive Cooperative Program funds, as reviewed by the Executive Committee. The Executive Committee shall recommend the amount of Convention funds which may be allocated to each cause. It shall not recommend any direct allocation of funds for any entity or institution for which the Convention does not elect trustees or directors.
 - (8) To conduct the general work of promotion and the general work of publicity for the Convention in cooperation with the entities of the Convention. The Executive Committee shall provide a Convention relations service and a Convention news service to interpret and publicize the overall Southern Baptist ministry. These services shall be available to support the work of all Convention entities and ministries.
 - (9) To maintain open channels of communication between the Executive Committee and the trustees of the entities of the Convention, to study and make recommendations to entities concerning adjustments required by ministry statements or by established Convention policies and practices, and, whenever deemed advisable, to make recommendations to the Convention. The Executive Committee shall not have authority to control or direct the several boards, entities, and institutions of the Convention. This is the responsibility of trustees elected by the Convention and accountable directly to the Convention.
 - (10) To make its own bylaws in keeping with the Constitution and Bylaws of the Convention in carrying out these instructions to the Executive Committee; to hold meetings whenever deemed necessary; to make reports of all meetings to the Convention; to notify all the boards, entities, and institutions of the actions of the Convention and to advise with them as to the best way of promoting all the interests of the Convention.
 - (11) To derive, in accordance with the action of the Convention in Atlanta in 1944, the expenses of the Executive Committee from the Operating Budget of the Convention specifically established for this purpose and formally approved by the Convention.
 - (12) To utilize an appropriate report format which will enable the Executive Committee to obtain from the entities adequate and comparable information about ministry plans, accomplishments, and financial data.
 - (13) To maintain an official organization manual defining the responsibilities of each entity of the Convention for conducting specific ministries and for performing other functions. The manual shall cite the actions of the Convention that assigned the ministries and other functions to the entity. The Executive Committee shall present to the Convention recommendations required to clarify the responsibilities of the entities for ministries and other functions, to eliminate overlapping assignments of responsibility, and to authorize the assignment of new responsibilities for ministries or functions to entities.
 - (14) To send copies of the minutes of the Executive Committee to the heads of all Southern Baptist Convention entities, and copies of the minutes of all entities shall be sent to the office of the Executive Committee.
- 19. Committee on Committees:** A Committee on Committees, composed of two (2) members from each qualified state or defined territory, shall be appointed by the president, in conference with the vice presidents, of whom one (1) shall be designated as chairperson.

Persons named to the Committee on Committees shall have been resident members for at least three (3) years of Southern Baptist churches either geographically within the states or affiliated with the conventions of the states from which they are appointed. Members so named shall be notified by the president in writing, at least 45 days before the meeting of the Convention. Their names shall be released by the president to Baptist Press no later than 45 days prior to the annual meeting of the Convention, and their names shall be published in the first issue of the Convention Bulletin. The president may fill any vacancies on the committee when those originally named do not attend the Convention. This committee shall nominate all special committees authorized during the sessions of the Convention not otherwise provided for. All special Convention committees shall transfer, upon their discharge, all official files to the Executive Committee of the Southern Baptist Convention.

- 20. Committee on Resolutions:** At least seventy-five (75) days in advance of the Convention, the president, in conference with the vice presidents, shall appoint a Committee on Resolutions to consist of ten (10) members, any two (2) of whom shall have served as Committee on Resolutions members during the prior year, and any three (3) of whom shall be members of the Executive Committee. One of the Committee members shall be designated as chairperson. Members so named shall be notified by the president in writing at least 75 days before the annual meeting of the Convention. The names of the members of the Committee on Resolutions shall be released by the president to Baptist Press no later than 75 days prior to the annual meeting of the Convention, and their names shall be published in the first issue of the Convention Bulletin.

In order to facilitate thorough consideration and to expedite the Committee's work, all proposed resolutions shall:

- 1) Be submitted to the Committee for review and consideration as early as April 15th, but no later than fifteen (15) days prior to the next SBC annual meeting,
- 2) Be addressed to the Committee on Resolutions in care of the Executive Committee of the Southern Baptist Convention at its registered or e-mail address (electronic copies are preferred),
- 3) Be typewritten, titled, and dated,
- 4) Be accompanied by a letter from a church qualified to send a messenger to the annual meeting of the Southern Baptist Convention certifying that the person submitting the resolution is a member in good standing, and
- 5) Include complete contact information for both the person submitting it, and his or her church.

No person may submit more than three resolutions per year. The Committee on Resolutions shall prepare and submit to each annual meeting of the Convention only such resolutions the Committee recommends for adoption. Such resolutions may be based upon proposals received by the Committee or may originate with the Committee. Only resolutions recommended by the Committee may be considered by the Convention, except the Convention may, by a 2/3 vote, consider any other resolution properly submitted to the Committee.

A list of the titles of all properly submitted proposed resolutions shall be printed in the Convention *Bulletin*. The list shall include the name and city of each person properly submitting a resolution, and the disposition of each proper submission.

- 21. Committee on Order of Business:** The Committee on Order of Business, a standing committee, shall consist of seven (7) members – the president of the Convention and six (6) other members, two (2) of whom shall be elected each year for a term of three (3) years and

two (2) of whom shall be persons not employed full time by a church or denominational entity. No member of the committee can succeed himself or herself. The committee shall suggest an order of business for the next meeting of the Convention. It shall provide periods of time during the Convention for the introduction of all matters requiring a vote not scheduled on the agenda, and, when introduced (unless the Convention then gives its unanimous consent for its immediate consideration) shall fix times for the consideration of the same. All such matters of business shall be introduced to the Convention by the end of the afternoon session of the first day of the annual meeting of the Convention. When practicable it shall give notice in the Convention Bulletin of the substance of the motion or resolution and the time for its consideration. If unable to give notice in the Bulletin, it shall cause announcement to be made from the floor of the Convention of the same, action thereon to be taken at the subsequent session of that Convention. The committee shall recommend to the Convention a preacher for the succeeding Convention sermon and the director of music. The director of music shall be elected annually and the term of office is limited to two (2) years. The director of music shall not be eligible for re-election until as much as one (1) year has elapsed from the time a successor is named.

22. Notification of Committees: Within thirty (30) days after the Convention adjourns, the recording secretary shall notify the members of all committees of their appointment and all chairpersons of their position and furnish each one a list of that committee. The recording secretary shall also notify all board members, trustees of institutions, and commission members of their appointment.

23. The Great Commission Council: The Great Commission Council shall serve as the organization through which the various entities and the auxiliary of the Convention will correlate their work. The membership of the Great Commission Council shall be composed of the chief executives of The Executive Committee of the Southern Baptist Convention, the auxiliary of the Convention, and the entities named in Bylaw 14.

A. The work of the Council shall be in keeping with its prescribed functions. It will neither launch nor execute ministries; it will formulate no policies, except those which govern its own activities. Its chief purpose is that of consultation, communication, and cooperation. The scope of its work will be that of:

- (1) finding ways of mutual re-enforcement in assigned responsibilities and distinctive ministries;
- (2) considering and seeking to avoid overlapping endeavors and competitive ministries;
- (3) considering the means for helping the churches fulfill their divine mission in Bible teaching, evangelism, world missions, stewardship, Christian training, education, and Christian social service;
- (4) finding ways for effective cooperation in promoting the total work of the Southern Baptist Convention;
- (5) considering the significant factors affecting the work and witness of the denomination; and
- (6) seeking to find the means through which the power of the Christian gospel may be comprehensively and effectively applied to the ends of the earth.

B. In the matter of relationships:

- (1) the Council is not, itself, an entity of the Convention;
- (2) it has no authority over the several entities;

- (3) its decisions are not binding on the entities, since the boards and commissions must retain the authority to reach the decisions required to carry out their own responsibilities;
 - (4) its relationship to the entities is purely advisory;
 - (5) the Council does not report formally either to the Convention or the Executive Committee, nor does the Convention refer matters directly to the Great Commission Council;
 - (6) it may receive from and refer to the Executive Committee problems for consideration;
 - (7) it is not required to take formal action with regard to matters referred to it by the Executive Committee in serving as a channel of cooperation and correlation relative to the work of the Convention; and
 - (8) the Council sustains no direct relationship with state conventions or local churches, but it will strive to be mindful of the needs of the churches as well as the functions and ministries of the several conventions.
- 24. Ministry Statements:** The ministry statements of the entities as approved by the Southern Baptist Convention and published in the 1967 *Annual* and subsequently amended, renamed, or rewritten, and approved by the Convention, express the policy of the Convention with respect to the ministries of the entities of the Convention.
- 25. New Enterprises and Abolishing of Entities:** No new enterprise, involving expenditure of money, shall be authorized by the Convention except upon favorable action by the Convention in two (2) succeeding annual meetings; provided, however, that this restriction shall not apply to a recommendation of an entity of the Convention concerning its own work. No entity shall be discontinued without a majority vote at two (2) successive annual sessions of the Convention.
- 26. Procedures:**
- A. *Method of Procedure for Entities:* To facilitate consideration and discussion of the interests of the Convention, the following method of procedure is hereby adopted:
 - (1) Printed reports of the boards, institutions, commissions, and standing committees shall be consolidated into the *Book of Reports* for distribution to messengers on their enrollment;
 - (2) Reports of all special commissions and standing committees, containing recommendations for the Convention's action, shall be included in the *Book of Reports*; and
 - (3) All recommendations of each board, institution, commission, special committee, and standing committee shall be printed together at the end of its report before they may be considered by the Convention. In case any entity or committee shall be unable to comply with this requirement, its recommendation shall be printed in the Convention Bulletin before consideration and action by the Convention. Recommendations by an entity which are not published in the *Book of Reports* or the Convention Bulletin shall, when presented to the Convention, be referred to the Executive Committee or to such other committee as the Convention may direct.
 - B. *Procedure for Motions of Messengers Concerning Entities:* Motions made by messengers dealing with internal operations or ministries of an entity shall be referred to the elected board of the entity for consideration and report to the constituency and

to the next annual meeting of the Convention for action with the exception that the Committee on Order of Business may be instructed by a two-thirds vote to arrange for consideration at a subsequent session of the same Convention, subject to provision of Bylaw 21.

On all matters referred by the Convention, entities shall respond in writing at the close of their report in the Book of Reports and Annual, giving specific information on:

- (1) how the matter referred was considered;
 - (2) how it was reported to the constituency; and
 - (3) any actions on the matter taken by the entity or action proposed to the Convention.
- C. *Limitations:* The last one-third of the time allotted for consideration of every entity report before the Convention shall be reserved for discussion from the floor.

27. Publicity and Press Representative:

- A. Boards, institutions, and special committees dealing with matters of general importance and interest shall have in the hands of the press representative of the Convention, at least one (1) week in advance, copies of digests of their report to be submitted to the approaching Convention.
- B. The press representative shall cooperate with the representatives of the secular press in furnishing intelligent, accurate, and creditable reports of this Convention while in session.

28. Closing of Books: Entities of the Convention shall close their books and accounts and have them audited as of midnight September 30, or in the case of the seminaries, July 31, or in the case of GuideStone Financial Resources, December 31. Supplemental reports for the period between the closing of the books of the entities and the Convention session should be included in the reports to the Convention.

29. Participation in Convention Affairs: To promote broad participation in the affairs of the Convention, a person need not be a registered messenger to serve as a Convention committee member or volunteer (such as an usher or teller), but must be a member of a church cooperating with the Convention.

30. Representation From Qualified States and Territories:

- A. When the cooperating Baptist churches in a state or defined territory have fifteen thousand (15,000) members, an initial application may be filed for representation on the Executive Committee, the Committee on Committees, and the Committee on Nominations.
- B. When the cooperating Baptist churches have twenty thousand (20,000) members, an updated application may be filed for representation on the International Mission Board, North American Mission Board, and Lifeway Christian Resources of the Southern Baptist Convention, unless otherwise provided in the Board's charter.
- C. When the cooperating Baptist churches have twenty-five thousand (25,000) members, an updated application may be filed for representation on GuideStone Financial Resources, the commissions, and institutions, unless otherwise provided in the commission's or institution's charter, and on the standing committees of the Convention, all as provided by the Bylaws of the Convention.
- D. The application in each instance shall be filed with the Executive Committee, through its president, prior to its February meeting. The application shall contain information as specified by the Executive Committee.

- E. Upon receiving the initial application, the Executive Committee shall investigate all matters pertaining to the request and make a recommendation to the Southern Baptist Convention at its next annual meeting. If the recommendation of the Executive Committee is favorable to the application, a copy of the recommendation shall be forwarded to the president of the Southern Baptist Convention and the chairman of the Committee on Committees prior to the next annual meeting of the Convention.
 - F. Upon receipt of the favorable recommendation of the Executive Committee on the initial application in (1) above, the president of the Convention, in conference with the vice presidents, shall appoint two (2) persons from the state or territory to serve as members of the Committee on Committees, and the Committee on Committees shall nominate two (2) persons from the state or territory to serve on the Committee on Nominations, all conditional upon the approval of the application by the Southern Baptist Convention.
 - G. Those elected by the Convention shall be immediately eligible to begin their appropriate terms of service.
- 31. Adoption of Reports:** The adoption of recommendations contained in reports to the Convention shall not bind the Convention on any other matters in the body of the reports; but the Convention reserves the right to consider and amend the body of all reports.
- 32. As to Violation of State Laws:** All incorporated entities of the Convention shall be required to comply with the letter and spirit of the Constitution insofar as it is not in conflict with the statute law of the state in which an entity is incorporated, and nothing herein contained shall be construed to require any such incorporated entity to act and carry on its affairs in conflict with the law of the state of its incorporation. In case any action of any entity of the Convention is found to be a violation of the law of the state of its incorporation, said action shall be reported by that entity to the Convention for appropriate action.
- 33. Charters of Entities, Subsidiaries, and Ancillary Organizations:** The charters of all entities of the Convention shall provide that the trustees or directors of such entities be elected by the Convention, and that the charters may not be further amended without the prior consent of the Convention. The charters of all subsidiaries of any entity of the Convention shall provide that they may not be further amended without the prior consent of the Convention or its Executive Committee. No entity of the Convention shall establish a subsidiary corporation or any other legal entity or form for conducting its affairs, nor acquire a controlling interest or greater than a 25% interest in any other corporation or business enterprise, until the Convention or its Executive Committee has approved the same and its governing instruments. An entity of the Convention shall not undertake through a subsidiary or by any other means any action which, if undertaken by the entity itself, would violate the Constitution, Bylaws, or Business and Financial Plan of the Convention.
- 34. Quorum:** The quorum for conducting business during the annual meeting of the Southern Baptist Convention shall be a minimum of 25 percent of those duly registered and seated messengers.
- 35. Trustee Absenteeism:**
- A. Upon the request of any entity, the Convention may remove from office any trustee/director of that entity who has excessive unexcused absences. Following such removal, the Convention shall elect a successor to complete the term of office of the person removed.
 - B. An entity shall give written notice of any request to remove a trustee/director for absenteeism at least one hundred twenty (120) days prior to the meeting of the

Convention which shall consider the removal. The notice shall be given to the president of the Convention, the president/chief executive officer of the Executive Committee, the chairman of the Committee on Nominations, and the individual trustee/director whose removal shall be considered.

- C. If required by state law, an entity shall incorporate this procedure in its charter or bylaws prior to requesting the Convention to remove any trustee.

- 36. Amendments:** The Bylaws may be amended pursuant to Bylaw 21 by a two-thirds majority vote except that Bylaw 14, which lists the entities and auxiliary of the Convention, may be amended only by a majority vote of two (2) successive annual meetings.

BUSINESS AND FINANCIAL PLAN

- I. Convention Budget:** Each entity of the Convention shall submit to the Executive Committee for its review:

- A. an itemized estimate of its receipts for the next fiscal year, and
- B. an itemized estimate of its expenditures for the next fiscal year according to the rule set forth below (See Section II-C) for making operating budgets.

The Executive Committee shall present to the Convention a budget, which budget shall consist of all the budgets of all the entities which have been submitted to the Executive Committee and reviewed by it, and recommend the amount of Convention funds to be allocated to each cause or entity.

II. Operating Budgets:

- A. *Convention Operating Budget* - The Executive Committee shall recommend to the Convention an operating budget which shall include all expenses of the Convention, committees, and other items included in the Convention Operating Budget. The Executive Committee shall also recommend to the Convention the source of these funds.
- B. *Entities Not Sharing in Table of Percentages* - The entities of the Convention not sharing in the table of percentages for distribution of funds shall be provided for as follows:
 - 1. Expenses of Standing Committees – The Executive Committee shall approve or recommend to the Convention, after a personal conference or correspondence with chairpersons of standing committees, a sum of money to be appropriated to each of them for the Convention year.
 - 2. Expenses of Special Committees –
 - a. The expenses incurred by special committees appointed by the Convention to perform duties connected with one or more entities of the Convention shall be borne by the entity or entities concerned on a basis pro rata to receipts unless the expenses are otherwise specifically provided.
 - b. The expenses incurred by special committees which do not directly concern any of the entities of the Convention shall be paid out of the Convention Operating Budget. Unless the amount of expenses is fixed by the Convention, the Executive Committee must agree to the amount to be expended before such expenditure is incurred.
 - c. Itemized accounts of expenses of members of such committees shall be required and approved by the chairperson before the same shall be paid.

C. *Entities Sharing in the Direct Allocation* - The entities of the Convention sharing in the direct allocation for the distribution of funds shall make their operating budgets in the following manner:

1. The current operating budget of the entities of the Convention shall be made on the basis of the current distributable operating allocation, plus any other anticipated receipts which can be substantiated by previous experience, not including wills, bequests, and special gifts for special purposes; and any debt incurred within the current year shall become a preferred item in the budget of the Convention year immediately following.
2. In making the annual appropriations on the basis set forth, a contingent item shall be set up in the budget according to the needs of the entity.
3. It is understood that an entity may borrow money for seasonable needs, provided, however, that such borrowing shall not exceed the amount of its budget allowance remaining at the time of borrowing, and provided further that if an emergency should arise, additional money may be borrowed on the approval of the Executive Committee of the Convention.

III. Convention Year: The financial affairs of the Convention and all its entities, except those of the theological seminaries and GuideStone Financial Resources, shall be operated on the fiscal year beginning October 1 and closing September 30. The seminaries owned and operated under the authority of the Convention shall use the fiscal year beginning August 1 and closing July 31. GuideStone Financial Resources shall use the fiscal year beginning January 1 and closing December 31.

IV. The Disbursing Entity: By agreement, all sums collected in the states for the causes fostered by this Convention will be forwarded at least monthly by each state office to the Executive Committee of this Convention, which shall act as the disbursing agent of this Convention. The Executive Committee shall remit at least weekly to each of the entities of the Convention the funds, distributable and designated, belonging to each entity. The first distribution in each month shall be on the seventh day of the month, or the nearest working day thereafter. The Executive Committee shall make monthly reports of receipts by states, and of disbursements by entities, and shall forward each month copies of these reports to the executives of the entities of the Convention, to the state offices, and to the denominational papers.

V. Distribution of Cooperative Program Receipts: In order that the financial plans and purposes of the Convention may operate successfully, the Convention appeals to its constituents to give to the whole Cooperative Program and to recognize the wisdom and right of the Convention to distribute its receipts from the Cooperative Program, thus assuring an equitable distribution among the entities of the Convention.

VI. Fund Raising Activities:

- A. *Approval of Financial Activities* – No entity of the Southern Baptist Convention shall conduct any type of fund raising activity without the advance approval of the Convention, or its Executive Committee. No advance approval shall be required for the two Convention approved special offerings: Lottie Moon Christmas Offering for International Missions and Annie Armstrong Easter Offering for North American Missions.
- B. *Reporting Fund Raising Activities* – Each Convention entity shall report annually to the Executive Committee of the Southern Baptist Convention on any type of fund raising activity conducted by the entity. The report shall include a summary of the activity, its title, financial goals, structure, cost, and the results of such fund raising during the

past year. No report shall be required for the Lottie Moon Christmas Offering for International Missions and the Annie Armstrong Easter Offering for North American Missions.

C. *Cooperative Program Promotion* – Each Convention entity shall report on its efforts during the year in promoting Cooperative Program missions giving.

D. *No Financial Appeals to Churches* – In no case shall any Convention entity approach a church for inclusion in its church budget or appeal for financial contributions.

VII. Designated Gifts: The Convention binds itself and its entities faithfully to apply and use such gifts as designated by the donor.

VIII. Trust Funds: Each entity of the Convention is hereby instructed and ordered to keep all trust funds and designated gifts (for they are trust funds) sacred to the trust and designation; that they be kept separate from all other funds of such entity; that they are not to be used even temporarily for any other purpose than the purpose specified; and that such funds shall not hereafter be invested in the securities of any denominational body or entity.

IX. Gift Annuity Agreements: All entities of this Convention writing gift annuity agreements in the future, and the Executive Committee when writing gift annuity agreements on behalf of the Southern Baptist Convention, are encouraged to place the annuity portion of each gift annuity on deposit with the Southern Baptist Foundation or GuideStone Financial Resources of the Southern Baptist Convention and enter into a contractual agreement with the Southern Baptist Foundation or GuideStone Financial Resources to pay the annuity payments required under the gift annuity agreement. This provision shall not apply to gifts of property, real or personal, the income of which is to go to the donor without further or additional obligation on the part of the entity accepting the gift. The Southern Baptist Foundation and GuideStone Financial Resources of the Southern Baptist Convention shall, when determining the amounts required to fund the annuity portion of any gift annuity agreement, use mortality, interest, and expense rates which are approved or recommended by any appropriate regulatory authority, if any, or which are based on sound actuarial statistics.

X. Indebtedness/Liability: An entity or institution shall not create any liability or indebtedness, except such as can and will be repaid out of its anticipated receipts for current operations within a period of three (3) years, without the consent of the Convention or the Executive Committee. In order to obtain such approval, the entity must file a statement showing the source of such anticipated receipts.

Such consent must be likewise obtained for a purchase of properties (directly or indirectly or through ownership of controlling stock in other corporations or otherwise) subject to liens or encumbrances which cannot be repaid out of its anticipated receipts for current operations within a period of three (3) years.

XI. Capital Fund Allocations: Capital funds are allocated for the purpose of obtaining, expanding, improving, or maintaining properties owned by entities of the Southern Baptist Convention and essential to implementing entity program assignments.

Capital funds are used in projects which add to the long-range assets of the entity.

In making allocations for capital funds, priority shall be given to those projects which make the greatest contribution to advancing the overall objectives of the Southern Baptist Convention in bringing men to God through Jesus Christ.

Capital funds projects shall cost more than \$5,000 and have a projected life span of more than five (5) years.

Items such as office equipment, furniture replacement, or books shall not be acquired through the capital fund allocation process.

Repairs and maintenance of income-producing property shall be made from earned income. Major repairs to non income-producing property may be considered as being eligible for capital fund allocations.

XII. Contingent Reserves: Each entity of this Convention shall set up as soon as possible a reserve for contingencies to provide for deficits that may occur either through decreased receipts or through emergencies or both. The maximum amount of contingent reserve of any entity shall be determined by the entity, subject to the approval of the Convention. Entities shall state on the balance sheets of the annual audits the amounts in Contingent Reserve Funds.

XIII. Financial Report:

A. *Audit Reports* - The entities of the Convention and the Executive Committee shall close their books and accounts as of the close of business on September 30 of each year, or July 31 in the case of the seminaries, or December 31 in the case of GuideStone Financial Resources, and have them audited by an independent certified public accountant (the external auditor) in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America.

Each entity of the Convention shall forward a copy of its external auditor's audit report (or, if more than one, all such reports) to the Executive Committee, as soon as possible after the close of its fiscal year. Additionally, as a part of this annual submission process, each entity shall also submit a statement signed by its chief executive officer and the chief financial officer which affirms that the books and accounts are accurate and complete to the best of the officer's knowledge, and that the officer believes the corporation's internal controls are adequate.

Each entity and the Executive Committee shall appoint a committee of its own trustees to undertake and accomplish duties pertinent to audit reports. These committees shall be appointed, and the trustees serving on the committees shall operate, independent of influence by their corporation's management, and each such committee shall include at least one trustee who is competent by training and experience in fiscal matters. The duties these committees shall perform for their respective entities shall include:

- 1) recommending the appointment of the external auditor,
- 2) studying the external auditor's audit report upon its completion,
- 3) maintaining the independence of the entity's financial auditors,
- 4) reviewing the entity's critical accounting policies and decisions and the adequacy of its internal control systems,
- 5) preserving the integrity of the financial reporting process implemented by management, and
- 6) assuring that the business procedures listed in Article XVII are followed.

As a part of each external auditor's audit report, the external auditor shall prepare for the entity's audit committee a separate letter on the auditing firm's letterhead (the "management letter") in which the external auditor makes any recommendations concerning the entity's financial and accounting policies, processes, internal controls, or other matters. If the external auditor has no recommendations, he should so state in the management letter to the entity's audit committee. The entity's administration shall forward a copy of the management letter along with any comments that the administration might deem desirable to the Executive Committee simultaneously

with the external auditor's audit report, for review and response (if appropriate) by the Executive Committee. The process of submission and review of the external auditors' audit reports and management letters of the several entities by the Executive Committee shall be governed by the assigned responsibilities and limitations upon authority described in SBC Bylaw 18 E and its subparagraphs (6), (7), (9), and (12).

When securities are placed for holding with a trustee (i.e. bank, trust company, foundation, etc.), a certified statement from such trustee should be made to the external auditor and be made a part of the annual external auditor's audit report or submitted as a supplement to the report.

- B. *Printing of Reports* - The financial report of each entity and of the Executive Committee shall be printed in the *Convention Book of Reports*, or the *Convention Annual*, and shall contain the following six items, the first five of which come from its latest annual audit report:

- 1) Statement of Financial Position
- 2) Statement of Activities (revenues, expenses, and other changes in net assets)
- 3) Statement of Cash Flows
- 4) Classified list of investments by fund and type of investment
- 5) Receipts by states of contributions. These should show:
 - a. Cooperative Program receipts received through the Executive Committee
 - b. Designated receipts received through the Executive Committee
 - c. Gifts not received through the Executive Committee
- 6) A statement executed by the chair of the entity's board attesting that the board's officers confirm the following fiscal conditions exist:
 - a. The expenses and perquisites of the president are not excessive and are in keeping with biblical stewardship, including every emolument and personal benefit of any kind (and specifically including housing, travel, automobile(s), and personal assistants) all valued at market rates.
 - b. All corporate expenses are reasonable and incurred to accomplish the entity's *Organization Manual* mission statement, *Organization Manual* ministry assignments, and any other responsibilities previously approved by the messengers of the Southern Baptist Convention and still in force.
 - c. All corporate expenses are incurred by the administration in a manner that reflects integrity and avoids appearances of impropriety while upholding a positive Christian witness to the Convention and beyond.

Lifeway Christian Resources shall include in its annual report to the Convention information on the amount of funds transferred to state conventions during the preceding year.

At the end of the presentation of entity financial data in each SBC Book of Reports, a statement shall be inserted which discloses that the entities have all supplied (or naming which have and which have not, if some have not) the statement required by Article XIII B 6, above, and setting forth the elements thereof, in order that the messengers and the Convention's affiliated churches may be annually reassured that those fiscal conditions set forth are continuing to be maintained by the Convention's entities.

- XIV. Safeguarding of Funds:** All persons who transfer or safeguard funds or securities of the Convention or any entity of the Convention shall be bonded in an amount sufficient to protect against loss of the funds or securities involved. Such bonds may be reviewed and approved by the Convention or its Executive Committee.

Members of cooperating Southern Baptist churches shall have access to information from the records of Southern Baptist Convention entities regarding income, expenditures, debts, reserves, operating balances, and salary structures.

The securities of all Convention entities shall be held and maintained in a prudent manner, including under such internal controls as may be recommended in the entity's annual audit.

- XV. New Enterprises:** No new enterprise involving expenditure of money shall be authorized by the Convention except upon favorable action by the Convention in two (2) succeeding annual meetings; provided, however, that this restriction shall not apply to a recommendation of any entity of the Convention concerning its own work. In the event any new hospital propositions are made, they must be considered as new enterprises of the Convention, whether money is involved at the time of the acquiring of such property or not, and must be presented to two (2) succeeding annual sessions of the Convention.

- XVI. Appropriations by the Entities:** No entity shall make any appropriation to any cause or for any purpose other than for the promotion of its own work except by the approval or upon the instruction of the Convention or of the Executive Committee.

Lifeway Christian Resources shall be required to transfer funds to the Southern Baptist Convention each year to be used as the Convention determines. Lifeway Christian Resources shall not be permitted or required to transfer funds to other Southern Baptist Convention entities or committees.

- XVII. Business Procedure:** Entity boards of trustees should oversee the operations of the entity in such a manner as will assure effective and ethical management. Disclosures of the entity's relationship with other entities, its activities, liabilities, commitments, and results of operations should be accurate and complete and include all material information. The entity should not make any loan from funds of the entity to a trustee. The entity should not make any loan from funds of the entity to an officer or employee without having first obtained the approval of its board (or its delegated subcommittee) after disclosure of all relevant details. Employees and trustees should not appropriate for personal advantage any corporate property or business opportunities which should be enjoyed by the entity.

As a normal operating policy, each entity of the Southern Baptist Convention shall refrain from entering any business transaction with a trustee or employee, or a business enterprise in which a trustee or employee has an interest. An exception to this policy may be made, at the discretion of the board of trustees, in any case wherein it appears that a commodity or service is unavailable on a more favorable basis from any other source, or a commodity or service, at the discretion of the board, is found to be in the best interest of the entity. Competitive bids should be taken if possible. In any case being considered for exception, the extent of the trustee's or employee's interest shall be disclosed to the entire board.

- XVIII. Professional Services:** The Executive Committee at its discretion may employ an auditor to study the audited report with the auditors of the entities in the light of Convention instructions.

The Executive Committee at its discretion may employ an engineer or architect to study proposed capital projects or maintenance of present capital assets.

- XIX. Publication and Merchandising Policy:** All entities of the Convention should give priority to using the services of Lifeway Christian Resources for editing, publishing, and distributing published materials that are to be sold. Entities may publish their own materials in print or digital form promoting their assigned ministries.

No entity other than Lifeway Christian Resources should be authorized to operate physical book stores at any location other than its principal office.

The Executive Committee of the Southern Baptist Convention may review the financial agreements entered into by Lifeway Christian Resources and other Convention entities and should, whenever appropriate, recommend changes in Convention policies and revisions of existing policies related to such agreements. At the request of any Convention entity, this committee should also suggest to Lifeway Christian Resources and other Convention entities steps they should take to resolve any disagreements that arise concerning financial agreements.

No entity shall publish a printed or digital format periodical, for general distribution to the churches or to members of the churches, if the Convention or its Executive Committee votes to request the periodical not be published.

- XX. Publications:** The plans and methods herein set forth shall be published each year in the Convention *Annual*, following the Bylaws of the Convention.

- XXI. Amendments:** This Business and Financial Plan may be amended by two-thirds of the messengers present and voting at any time except during the last session of the Convention.

ORGANIZATION MANUAL

PREFACE

In 1960 the Southern Baptist Convention adopted the following bylaw. It shall be the function of the Executive Committee:

~ To maintain an official organization manual defining the responsibilities of each agency of the Convention for conducting specific programs and for performing other functions. The manual shall cite the actions of the Convention that assigned the programs and other functions to the agency. The Executive Committee shall present to the Convention recommendations required to clarify the responsibilities of the agencies for programs and other functions, to eliminate overlapping assignments of responsibility, and to authorize the assignment of new responsibilities for programs or functions to agencies.

— *SBC Annual 1960*, p. 51

Beginning that same year the Convention approved program statements for all the entities. These were brought into uniform styling and form by another bylaw approved by the Convention in 1967:

14. Program Statements. The program statements of the agencies as approved by the Southern Baptist Convention and published in the 1967 Annual and subsequently amended express the policy of the Convention with respect to the programs of the agencies of the Convention.

— *SBC Annual 1967*, p. 61

On November 1, 1967 the Executive Committee published its first complete organization manual. Since then the Convention has made numerous changes in the ministries (formerly programs) of the entities which render this first manual out of date.

In the following pages are presented all of the ministries, as approved by the Convention. At the bottom of the last page for each one of them, you will find the dates when these ministries were approved, or when changes were made.

Please note also on page 205 the procedures adopted by the Executive Committee for changing ministry statements.

On June 20, 1995, the Southern Baptist Convention adopted **Covenant for a New Century** with an introduction to ministry statements as follows:

Ministry statements assigned to each Southern Baptist Convention entity are rooted in and measured by our shared mission. The charge assigned to each entity is founded upon the conviction that the entities of the Convention exist to serve the churches, their ministries, and mission. The statements have been developed in order that each entity will serve the Convention's mission to the greatest standard of faithfulness and the maximum standard of stewardship.

These ministry statements will replace the present program statements as assigned to the entities of the Convention. The ministry statements, a statement of cooperation, a listing of relationships for cooperation, and details of the process of cooperation will be published in the *Organization Manual of the Southern Baptist Convention* as required by SBC Bylaw 20.(5).(m). [Note: This is now Bylaw 18E (13).]

Beginning in the fall of 2006, *The Organization Manual* began being printed in each year's *SBC Annual* and *SBC Book of Reports* among the other governing documents of the Convention to keep Southern Baptists apprised of each entity's charge. (See Item 160, 2006 *SBC Annual*, p. 94, and pp. 204-5.)

THE INTERNATIONAL MISSION BOARD

MISSION

The International Mission Board exists to assist the churches of the Southern Baptist Convention to be on mission with God in penetrating the unevangelized world outside the United States and Canada with the gospel and making Christ known among all people.

MINISTRIES

- 1. Assist churches by evangelizing persons, planting Baptist churches, and nurturing church planting movements among all people groups outside the United States and Canada; and, provide specialized, defined and agreed upon assistance to the North American Mission Board in assisting churches to reach unreached and underserved people groups within the United States and Canada.**

Develop and maintain a systematic strategy for gospel proclamation and planting churches that will result in the rapid reproduction and multiplication of local indigenous congregations that will make the gospel accessible to all persons among every ethno-linguistic people group; assist national conventions and unions in providing programs of discipleship and leadership training; develop and distribute relevant electronic and print media that support evangelism and church planting, and facilitate the translation and distribution of the Bible, Scripture portions, and other materials in indigenous languages.

- 2. Assist churches in sending and supporting Southern Baptist missionaries and volunteers by enlisting, equipping, and enabling them to fulfill their calling.**

Enlist, appoint, equip, and provide support for God-called Southern Baptist missionaries to serve in long-term and short-term channels of service who give evidence of piety, zeal for their Master's kingdom, conviction of truth as held by Southern Baptists, and giftedness for cross-cultural witness; inform, promote, and provide opportunities for Southern Baptist volunteers to assist in the ministries of the International Mission Board through projects of various duration, and provide resources and materials for training and equipping these volunteers.

- 3. Assist churches and partners to mobilize Southern Baptists to be involved in international missions through praying, giving, and going.**

Inform, challenge, and work in partnership with local churches, associations, state conventions, and other SBC entities to enable Southern Baptists to fulfill the Great Commission overseas by facilitating involvement in prayer strategies, encouraging generous and sacrificial giving to missions through the Cooperative Program and Lottie Moon Christmas Offering, and promoting channels for volunteer and missionary service.

- 4. Assist churches in fulfilling their international missions task by developing global strategies, including human needs based ministries, and providing leadership, administrative support, and financial accountability for implementation of these strategies.**

Provide and maintain an organizational structure and support staff with appropriate leadership and financial management that are designed to implement a comprehensive program to reach the whole world with the gospel through direct evangelism and creative access platform ministries; utilize hospitals, clinics, community health, agricultural, and other development programs, hunger relief and disaster response to meet human needs and share the gospel.

RELATIONSHIPS

The International Mission Board will work within the Southern Baptist Convention entity relationship guidelines approved by the Great Commission Council and the Executive Committee and printed in the *Organization Manual of the Southern Baptist Convention*.

First ministry statement approved by the Southern Baptist Convention June 20, 1995. See *SBC Annual 1995*, p. 46 and pp. 165-173.

Amended June 17, 2003. See *SBC Annual 2003*, pp.50-51.

Amended June 14, 2011. See *SBC Annual 2011*, pp. 62-64.

THE NORTH AMERICAN MISSION BOARD

MISSION

The North American Mission Board exists to work with churches, associations and state conventions in mobilizing Southern Baptists as a missional force to impact North America with the Gospel of Jesus Christ through evangelism and church planting.

MINISTRIES

1. **Assist churches in planting healthy, multiplying, evangelistic Southern Baptist churches in the United States and Canada; and provide specialized, defined and agreed upon assistance to the International Mission Board in assisting churches to plant churches for specific groups outside the United States and Canada.**

Work in partnership with churches, associations, and state conventions, and the International Mission Board to start new congregations with a priority to reach population centers and underserved people groups; lead a missional movement to encourage Southern Baptist churches to become church planting congregations.

2. **Assist churches in the ministries of evangelism and making disciples.**

Equip Southern Baptists for faithful evangelism; encourage churches in evangelism and discipleship; implement direct evangelism projects; prioritize spiritual awakening; develop an evangelism strategy for reaching North America with the Gospel.

3. **Assist churches by appointing, supporting and assuring accountability for missionaries serving in the United States and Canada.**

Appoint, approve, support and supervise missionaries assigned to accomplish the ministries of NAMB; endorse chaplains; enlist and assist bi-vocational ministers in mission service.

4. **Assist churches by providing missions education and coordinating volunteer missions opportunities for church members.**

Develop organizations, services, and materials for establishing, enlarging, and improving missions and ministry learning and involvement experiences in churches; assist in volunteer mission involvement.

5. **Assist churches by providing leadership development.**

Equip pastors for effective congregational leadership, contextual evangelism, and church planting; connect pastors to pastors through leadership development; encourage pastors as they serve in diverse congregational settings.

6. **Assist churches in relief ministries to victims of disaster and other people in need.**

Provide appropriate assistance and coordination in service to state Baptist conventions, when multi-state and national disaster responses are needed; coordinate with federal government as well as national disaster relief entities to ensure good response coordination on behalf of Southern Baptist Disaster Relief; direct and assist Christian social ministries.

RELATIONSHIPS

The North American Mission Board will work within the Southern Baptist Convention entity relationship guidelines approved by the Great Commission Council and the Executive Committee and printed in the *Organization Manual of the Southern Baptist Convention*.

First ministry statement approved by the Southern Baptist Convention June 20, 1995. See *SBC Annual 1995*, p. 46 and pp. 165-173.

Amended June 14, 2011. See *SBC Annual 2011*, pp. 64-68.

Amended June 16, 2015. See *SBC Annual 2015*, pp. 93-95.

LIFEWAY CHRISTIAN RESOURCES

MISSION

Lifeway Christian Resources exists to assist churches and believers to evangelize the world to Christ, develop believers, and grow churches by being the best provider of relevant, high quality, high value Christian products and services.

MINISTRIES

1. Assist churches in the development of church ministries.

Provide programs, products, and services that help churches grow in the areas of Bible study, discipleship, music, worship, administration, media/library, recreation, fellowship, and family ministry; consult with church leaders regarding total church growth concepts, strategies, and resources.

2. Assist churches in ministries to college and university students.

Contribute to the effectiveness of churches and to individual spiritual growth by developing a program, products, and services that may be used in establishing, administering, enlarging, and improving ministry with college students, faculty, and administration.

3. Assist churches with Christian schools and home school ministries.

Provide consultation, products, and services needed by churches with Christian schools and members educating through home schools.

4. Assist churches in ministries to men and women.

Contribute to the effectiveness of churches and to individual spiritual growth by developing a program, products, and services that may be used in establishing, administering, and improving ministries to men and women.

5. Assist churches through the operation of conference centers and camps.

Develop, promote, and operate conference and resident camp facilities useful to Southern Baptist Convention entities, state conventions, associations, and churches in establishing, enlarging, and improving their ministries.

6. Assist churches through the publication of books and Bibles.

Produce, publish, and distribute products, including books, of Christian content and purpose and Bibles that contribute to the effectiveness of churches and individuals.

7. Assist churches through the operation of Lifeway Christian Stores.

Serve people and the churches, associations, state conventions, and agencies of the Southern Baptist Convention by distributing appropriate products through Lifeway Christian Stores.

8. Assist churches through church architecture consultation and services.

Develop products and services needed by Southern Baptist churches, associations, state conventions, and denominational entities to assist them in planning, financing, furnishing, equipping, and utilizing property.

9. Assist churches in capital fund raising.

Provide leadership to churches in securing funds for capital needs.

10. Assist churches by conducting research and compiling statistics.

Conduct research and compile statistics on matters relating to, and of interest to, Southern Baptists, noting future trends and possible effects on church practice, productivity, witness, and health, and tender reports to the Executive Committee for review and possible report or action in an SBC annual meeting.

RELATIONSHIPS

Lifeway Christian Resources will work within the Southern Baptist Convention entity relationship guidelines approved by the Great Commission Council and the Executive Committee and printed in the *Organization Manual of the Southern Baptist Convention*.

Original program statement approved June 2, 1965. See *SBC Annual 1965*, pp. 61-67.

Finally approved May 31, 1967. See *SBC Annual 1967*, pp. 61, 103-117.

New statement approved by the Southern Baptist Convention June 6, 1972. See *SBC Annual 1972*, pp. 60-67.

Amended June 12, 1973. See *SBC Annual 1973*, p. 55.

Amended June 11, 1974. See *SBC Annual 1974*, p. 60.

Amended June 10, 1975. See *SBC Annual 1975*, pp. 59-60.

Amended June 15, 1976. See *SBC Annual 1976*, pp. 36-37.

Amended June 13, 1984. See *SBC Annual 1984*, pp. 49-50.

Revised June 11, 1985. See *SBC Annual 1985*, pp. 38-58.

Amended June 13, 1989. See *SBC Annual 1989*, pp. 36-37.

Amended June 4, 1991. See *SBC Annual 1991*, pp. 46, 48.

First ministry statement approved by the Southern Baptist Convention June 20, 1995. See *SBC Annual 1995*, p. 46 and pp. 165-173.

Amended June 13, 2006. See *SBC Annual 2006*, pp. 62-64.

Amended June 12, 2007. See *SBC Annual 2007*, pp. 68-69.

THEOLOGICAL SEMINARIES

MISSION

Southern Baptist Theological Seminaries exist to prepare God-called men and women for vocational service in Baptist churches and in other Christian ministries throughout the world through programs of spiritual development, theological studies, and practical preparation in ministry.

MINISTRIES

1. **Assist churches by programs of prebaccalaureate and baccalaureate theological education for ministers.**

Provide for students who have at least the equivalent of high school education biblical, theological, historical, and practical studies designed to develop ministerial competencies; provide extension study opportunities for persons in church vocations who have not completed college or seminary training, persons not in church vocations who desire theological training which is academically oriented, and seminary-trained persons desiring opportunities for continuing education.

2. **Assist churches by programs of master's level theological education for ministers.**

Provide theological education leading to a Master's Degree for those whom the churches recommend as called by God for a lifetime of leadership in the various ministries of the churches and other areas of Christian service.

3. **Assist churches by programs of professional doctoral education for ministers.**

Provide advanced theological education for persons who have earned a basic theological degree and have given evidence of capacity for effective performance in ministry to the churches.

4. **Assist churches by programs of research doctoral education for ministers and theological educators.**

Provide graduate theological education for persons who have completed their basic theological studies and have given evidence of academic ability and capacity for research, writing, and teaching.

5. **Assist churches through the administration of the Southern Baptist Historical Library and Archives.**

Operate the official Southern Baptist Convention library and archives as a national center for the study of Baptists.

RELATIONSHIPS

Southern Baptist seminaries will work within the Southern Baptist Convention entity relationship guidelines approved by the Great Commission Council and the Executive Committee and printed in the *Organization Manual of the Southern Baptist Convention*.

First program statement approved by the Southern Baptist Convention May 20, 1964. See *SBC Annual 1964*, pp. 60-62.

Finally approved May 31, 1967. See *SBC Annual 1967*, pp. 61, 120-122.

Amended June 12, 1973. See *SBC Annual 1973*, pp. 69-70.

Amended June 11, 1974. See *SBC Annual 1974*, pp. 57-59.

Completely rewritten and approved by the Southern Baptist Convention June 12, 1979. See *SBC Annual 1979*, pp. 37-39.

Amended June 15, 1993. See *SBC Annual 1993*, p. 74.

First ministry statement approved by the Southern Baptist Convention June 20, 1995. See *SBC Annual 1995*, p. 46 and pp. 165-173.

THE ETHICS AND RELIGIOUS LIBERTY COMMISSION _____

MISSION

The Ethics and Religious Liberty Commission exists to assist the churches by helping them understand the moral demands of the gospel, apply Christian principles to moral and social problems and questions of public policy, and to promote religious liberty in cooperation with the churches and other Southern Baptist entities.

MINISTRIES

1. Assist churches in applying the moral and ethical teachings of the Bible to the Christian life.

Provide research, information resources, consultation, and counsel to denominational entities, churches, and individuals with regard to the application of Christian principles in everyday living and in the nation's public life.

2. Assist churches through the communication and advocacy of moral and ethical concerns in the public arena.

Represent Southern Baptists in communicating the moral and ethical positions of the Southern Baptist Convention to the public and to public officials.

3. Assist churches in their moral witness in local communities.

Provide information resources that inform and equip churches for active moral witness in their communities.

4. Assist churches and other Southern Baptist entities by promoting religious liberty.

Provide information and counsel to denominational entities, churches, and individuals regarding appropriate responses to religious liberty concerns; represent Southern Baptists in communicating the positions of the Southern Baptist Convention on religious liberty issues to the public and to public officials.

RELATIONSHIPS

The Ethics and Religious Liberty Commission will work within the Southern Baptist Convention entity relationship guidelines approved by the Great Commission Council and the Executive Committee and printed in the *Organization Manual of the Southern Baptist Convention*.

First ministry statement approved by the Southern Baptist Convention June 20, 1995. See *SBC Annual 1995*, p. 46 and pp. 165-173.

GUIDESTONE FINANCIAL RESOURCES

MISSION

GuideStone Financial Resources exists to assist the churches, denominational entities, and other evangelical ministry organizations by making available retirement plan services, life and health coverage, risk management programs, and personal and institutional investment programs.

MINISTRIES

1. **Assist churches, denominational entities, and other evangelical ministry organizations by making available retirement plan programs for their ministers and employees.**

Make available retirement plan programs and related services for ministers and denominational employees.

2. **Assist churches, denominational entities, other evangelical ministry organizations, and like-minded individuals, by making available life and health coverage and risk management programs.**

Make available medical, life, and disability programs and other risk management programs to respond to the needs of churches, denominational entities, other evangelical ministry organizations, and like-minded individuals.

3. **Assist churches and denominational entities through relief to Southern Baptist ministers and Southern Baptist denominational employees.**

Make available a channel through which Southern Baptists can extend systematic financial help to Southern Baptist ministers and denominational employees and their widows who are in need and to interpret the channel to Southern Baptists for the purpose of eliciting support.

4. **Assist churches, denominational entities, other evangelical ministry organizations, and like-minded investors, by making available a personal investment program to their ministers and employees and their spouses, and to like-minded investors.**

Make available personal investment program and related services to further enhance the financial security of ministers and other employees and their spouses.

5. **Assist churches and denominational entities by making available institutional investment services through cooperative agreements with state Baptist foundations (or state Baptist conventions where no foundation exists). Assist other evangelical ministry organizations by making available institutional investment services.**

Develop mutually beneficial relationships with the state Baptist conventions and foundations and the Southern Baptist Foundation to assist Southern Baptist institutions in the states and the Southern Baptist Convention entities with their institutional investment needs. Develop relationships with other organizations that will enhance investment opportunities.

RELATIONSHIPS

GuideStone Financial Resources will work within the Southern Baptist Convention entity relationship guidelines approved by the Great Commission Council and the Executive Committee and printed in the *Organization Manual of the Southern Baptist Convention*.

First program statement approved by the Southern Baptist Convention May 8, 1963. See *SBC Annual 1963*, pp. 55-56.

Amended May 25, 1966. See *SBC Annual 1966*, pp. 56-57.

Finally approved May 31, 1967. See *SBC Annual 1967*, pp. 61, 118-119.

Amended June 14, 1988. See *SBC Annual 1988*, pp. 52-53.

First ministry statement approved by the Southern Baptist Convention June 20, 1995. See *SBC Annual 1995*, p. 46 and pp. 165-173.

Amended June 13, 2000. See *SBC Annual 2000*, pp. 66-67.

Amended June 12, 2007. See *SBC Annual 2007*, pp. 74-75.

Amended June 11, 2013. See *SBC Annual 2013*, pp. 64-66.

THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

MISSION

The SBC Executive Committee seeks to serve churches as they prioritize, elevate, and accelerate the vision of reaching every person for Jesus Christ in every town, every city, every state, and every nation through collaborative partnership, cooperation, and generosity.

MINISTRIES

1. **Assist churches through conducting and administering the work of the Convention not otherwise assigned.**

The SBC Executive Committee serves as the fiduciary, the fiscal, and the executive entity of the Convention in all its affairs not specifically committed to some other board or entity. Furthermore, the SBC Executive Committee is authorized, instructed, and commissioned to act for the Convention ad interim in all matters not otherwise provided for. It also serves as the managing agent of the Southern Baptist Convention Building.

2. **Assist churches by providing a Convention news service.**

Provide regular news releases about Southern Baptists; tell and celebrate stories of what God is doing through Southern Baptist churches and ministries; serve as the Convention's press representative; coordinate news operations for annual meetings of the Southern Baptist Convention.

3. **Assist churches by developing and strengthening cooperative relationships.**

Interpret the Southern Baptist Convention to internal and external publics; strengthen relationships with state convention, associational, and other Southern Baptist affinity groups; and pursue cooperative relationships with theologically likeminded churches to fulfill our missional vision of reaching all people for Jesus Christ and making disciples of all the nations.

4. **Assist churches, organizations, and individuals with investment management and generosity.**

Encourage and partner with Southern Baptist and other evangelical churches, entities, organizations, and individuals to invest in Kingdom causes by providing comprehensive investment, fiduciary, and planning services for maximum impact for Southern Baptist or other evangelical causes.

5. **Assist churches by promoting the Cooperative Program and celebrating other cooperative giving.**

In consultation with cooperating state conventions and Southern Baptist Convention entities, prioritize, elevate, and accelerate giving through the Cooperative Program as the most effective means of mobilizing Southern Baptist churches and extending our collective efforts to reach every person with the gospel and make disciples of all nations; celebrate all cooperative giving to achieve these ends.

6. **Assist churches in stewardship education.**

Produce, develop, publish, and distribute products that help Southern Baptists to grow in commitment to Jesus Christ by applying biblical principles of stewardship.

7. **Assist churches through elevating the ministry of prayer.**

Provide strategic leadership to lift up and promote coordinated prayer for spiritual awakening, ministry effectiveness, and the completion of the Great Commission.

RELATIONSHIPS

The Executive Committee will work within the Southern Baptist Convention entity relationship guidelines approved by the Great Commission Council and the Executive Committee and printed in the *Organization Manual of the Southern Baptist Convention*.

First program statement approved by the Southern Baptist Convention May 31, 1967. See *SBC Annual 1967*, pp. 61, 55-56.

Revised statement approved by the Southern Baptist Convention June 9, 1992. See *SBC Annual 1992*, pp. 43-46.

First ministry statement approved by the Southern Baptist Convention June 20, 1995. See *SBC Annual 1995*, p. 46 and pp. 165-173.

Amended June 13, 2006. See *SBC Annual 2006*, pp. 62-64.

Amended June 15, 2010. See *SBC Annual 2010*, p. 66.

Amended June 15, 2021. See *SBC Annual 2021*, pp. 62-64.

WOMAN'S MISSIONARY UNION ---

Auxiliary to Southern Baptist Convention

MISSION

Woman's Missionary Union assists churches in developing and implementing a comprehensive strategy of missions in order that a church can fulfill its total mission in the world. Woman's Missionary Union challenges Christian believers to understand and be radically involved in the mission of God.

MINISTRIES

1. Assist churches in the development of Woman's Missionary Union organizations.

Provide programs, products and services that help churches and individuals grow in missions awareness and involvement.

2. Assist churches in Christian development for women in missions.

Assist churches by providing plans and materials that contribute to the individual woman's spiritual growth and missions consciousness.

3. Assist churches through the publication and distribution of magazines and products.

Produce, publish, and distribute magazines and products that help churches and individuals grow in commitment to Jesus Christ by applying biblical concepts of missions.

RELATIONSHIPS

Woman's Missionary Union will work within the Southern Baptist Convention entity relationship guidelines approved by the Great Commission Council and the Executive Committee and printed in the *Organization Manual of the Southern Baptist Convention*.

As an auxiliary, Woman's Missionary Union's program statement is at the discretion of the WMU. The Southern Baptist Convention does not assign ministries to Woman's Missionary Union.

SBC ENTITY RELATIONSHIP GUIDELINES

1. Entities are to relate to each other cooperatively and voluntarily out of deep convictions of faith in Christ and the urgency to serve him effectively in assisting churches.
2. Entities are to respect Ministry Statements as both directives and restraints in the same manner as the SBC Bylaws and Business and Financial Plan and honor them in working together to assist churches in their ministries.
3. Entities are to work together through established processes of the Great Commission Council to determine needs of churches and ways to meet these needs, and wherever appropriate, to coordinate the activities and resources involved in meeting them.
4. Entities are to work together for mutual reinforcement and for promoting the work of the Convention.
5. Entity administrators should reinforce with their trustees the principle that entity trustees are to represent the interests of the entire Convention as well as those of the entity.
6. Entity administrators are to ensure that their employees understand the need and the processes for working cooperatively with the personnel of all entities in the spirit of Matthew 7:12 (CSB) *“Therefore, whatever you want other to do for you do also the same for them,”* and are committed to honor them in day-to-day operations.
7. Entities exploring the possibility of launching new programs, projects, or services are to provide information to the Great Commission Council and/or its committees and other entities whose assignment(s) may be closely related to the new venture in order to avoid conflict with another entity’s Ministry Statement and to allow for timely review, feedback, clarification of relationships, and discovery of supportive activities by other entities.
8. Entities are to communicate with state convention, association, and church leadership in keeping with their Ministry Statements and in order to provide churches maximum service with minimum confusion.
9. Entities are to initiate relationships with or respond to initiatives of organizations outside the Southern Baptist convention according to their respective ministry Statements and assist, as needed, by directing such organizations to appropriate entities.

PROCEDURE FOR CHANGING MINISTRY STATEMENTS

- A. Amendments to ministry statements may be initiated by any messenger or by the SBC Executive Committee. Amendments may also be initiated by any SBC entity at any time with the approval of the entity’s trustees. Conferences with Executive Committee staff on matters of form and relationship are desirable. Where relationships are involved, these are discussed with all parties concerned before submission to the Executive Committee.
- B. Proposed changes in ministry statements are circulated to SBC entity executives, state convention executives, and state Baptist paper editors before presentation to the Executive Committee for approval as recommendations to the SBC.
- C. Amendments are presented to the Cooperative Program Subcommittee of the Executive Committee and all parties have opportunity to express their point of view before that committee makes its final recommendation to the Executive Committee. Ministry statement changes approved by the Executive Committee are recommended to the Southern Baptist Convention at its next meeting.
- D. All ministry changes must be approved by a majority vote of the messengers present in the Southern Baptist Convention in session.

— Approved by the SBC Executive Committee, February 20, 2007

LEGAL NAMES AND ADDRESSES

of CORPORATIONS RELATED to the SOUTHERN BAPTIST CONVENTION

The Executive Committee of the Southern Baptist Convention

901 Commerce Street, Nashville, TN 37203-3699

The International Mission Board of the Southern Baptist Convention

P. O. Box 6767, Richmond, VA 23230-0767
3806 Monument Avenue, Richmond, VA 23230

The North American Mission Board of the Southern Baptist Convention, Inc.

4200 North Point Parkway, Alpharetta, GA 30022

Lifeway Christian Resources of the Southern Baptist Convention

One Lifeway Plaza, Nashville, TN 37234

GuideStone Financial Resources of the Southern Baptist Convention

5005 LBJ Freeway, Suite 2200, Dallas, TX 75244

The Southern Baptist Theological Seminary

2825 Lexington Road, Louisville, KY 40280

The Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary

P. O. Box 22000, Fort Worth, TX 76122
2001 W. Seminary Drive, Fort Worth, TX 76115

New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary

3939 Gentilly Boulevard, New Orleans, LA 70126

Gateway Seminary of the Southern Baptist Convention

3210 E. Guasti Road, Ontario, CA 91761-8642

The Southeastern Baptist Theological Seminary, Inc.

P. O. Box 1889, Wake Forest, NC 27587
120 South Wingate Street, Wake Forest, NC 27587

Midwestern Baptist Theological Seminary, Inc.

5001 North Oak Trafficway, Kansas City, MO 64118

The Ethics and Religious Liberty Commission of the Southern Baptist Convention

901 Commerce Street, Suite 550, Nashville, TN 37203-3696

Woman's Missionary Union, Auxiliary to Southern Baptist Convention

P. O. Box 830010, Birmingham, AL 35283-0010
100 Missionary Ridge, Birmingham, AL 35242

THE BAPTIST FAITH AND MESSAGE

PREAMBLE

Baptists are a people of deep beliefs and cherished doctrines. Throughout our history we have been a confessional people, adopting statements of faith as a witness to our beliefs and a pledge of our faithfulness to the doctrines revealed in Holy Scripture.

Our confessions of faith are rooted in historical precedent, as the church in every age has been called upon to define and defend its beliefs. Each generation of Christians bears the responsibility of guarding the treasury of truth that has been entrusted to us [2 Timothy 1:14]. Facing a new century, Southern Baptists must meet the demands and duties of the present hour.

New challenges to faith appear in every age. A pervasive anti-supernaturalism in the culture was answered by Southern Baptists in 1925, when the *Baptist Faith and Message* was first adopted by this Convention. In 1963, Southern Baptists responded to assaults upon the authority and truthfulness of the Bible by adopting revisions to the *Baptist Faith and Message*. The Convention added an article on “The Family” in 1998, thus answering cultural confusion with the clear teachings of Scripture. Now, faced with a culture hostile to the very notion of truth, this generation of Baptists must claim anew the eternal truths of the Christian faith.

Your committee respects and celebrates the heritage of the *Baptist Faith and Message*, and affirms the decision of the Convention in 1925 to adopt the *New Hampshire Confession of Faith*, “revised at certain points and with some additional articles growing out of certain needs” We also respect the important contributions of the 1925 and 1963 editions of the *Baptist Faith and Message*.

With the 1963 committee, we have been guided in our work by the 1925 “statement of the historic Baptist conception of the nature and function of confessions of faith in our religious and denominational life” It is, therefore, quoted in full as a part of this report to the Convention:

- (1) That they constitute a consensus of opinion of some Baptist body, large or small, for the general instruction and guidance of our own people and others concerning those articles of the Christian faith which are most surely held among us. They are not intended to add anything to the simple conditions of salvation revealed in the New Testament, viz., repentance toward God and faith in Jesus Christ as Saviour and Lord.
- (2) That we do not regard them as complete statements of our faith, having any quality of finality or infallibility. As in the past so in the future, Baptists should hold themselves free to revise their statements of faith as may seem to them wise and expedient at any time.
- (3) That any group of Baptists, large or small, have the inherent right to draw up for themselves and publish to the world a confession of their faith whenever they may think it advisable to do so.
- (4) That the sole authority for faith and practice among Baptists is the Scriptures of the Old and New Testaments. Confessions are only guides in interpretation, having no authority over the conscience.
- (5) That they are statements of religious convictions, drawn from the Scriptures, and are not to be used to hamper freedom of thought or investigation in other realms of life.

Baptists cherish and defend religious liberty, and deny the right of any secular or religious authority to impose a confession of faith upon a church or body of churches. We honor the principles of soul competency and the priesthood of believers, affirming together both our liberty in Christ and our accountability to each other under the Word of God.

Baptist churches, associations, and general bodies have adopted confessions of faith as a witness to the world, and as instruments of doctrinal accountability. We are not embarrassed to state before the world that these are doctrines we hold precious and as essential to the Baptist tradition of faith and practice.

As a committee, we have been charged to address the “certain needs” of our own generation. In an age increasingly hostile to Christian truth, our challenge is to express the truth as revealed in Scripture, and to bear witness to Jesus Christ, who is “*the Way, the Truth, and the Life.*”

The 1963 committee rightly sought to identify and affirm “certain definite doctrines that Baptists believe, cherish, and with which they have been and are now closely identified.” Our living faith is established upon eternal truths. “Thus this generation of Southern Baptists is in historic succession of intent and purpose as it endeavors to state for its time and theological climate those articles of the Christian faith which are most surely held among us.”

It is the purpose of this statement of faith and message to set forth certain teachings which we believe.

BAPTIST FAITH AND MESSAGE

I. The Scriptures

The Holy Bible was written by men divinely inspired and is God’s revelation of Himself to man. It is a perfect treasure of divine instruction. It has God for its author, salvation for its end, and truth, without any mixture of error, for its matter. Therefore, all Scripture is totally true and trustworthy. It reveals the principles by which God judges us, and therefore is, and will remain to the end of the world, the true center of Christian union, and the supreme standard by which all human conduct, creeds, and religious opinions should be tried. All Scripture is a testimony to Christ, who is Himself the focus of divine revelation.

Exodus 24:4; Deuteronomy 4:1-2; 17:19; Joshua 8:34; Psalms 19:7-10; 119:11, 89, 105, 140; Isaiah 34:16; 40:8; Jeremiah 15:16; 36:1-32; Matthew 5:17-18; 22:29; Luke 21:33; 24:44-46; John 5:39; 16:13-15; 17:17; Acts 2:16ff.; 17:11; Romans 15:4; 16:25-26; 2 Timothy 3:15-17; Hebrews 1:1-2; 4:12; 1 Peter 1:25; 2 Peter 1:19-21.

II. God

There is one and only one living and true God. He is an intelligent, spiritual, and personal Being, the Creator, Redeemer, Preserver, and Ruler of the universe. God is infinite in holiness and all other perfections. God is all powerful and all knowing; and His perfect knowledge extends to all things, past, present, and future, including the future decisions of His free creatures. To Him we owe the highest love, reverence, and obedience. The eternal triune God reveals Himself to us as Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, with distinct personal attributes, but without division of nature, essence, or being.

A. God the Father

God as Father reigns with providential care over His universe, His creatures, and the flow of the stream of human history according to the purposes of His grace. He is all powerful, all knowing, all loving, and all wise. God is Father in truth to those who become children of God through faith in Jesus Christ. He is fatherly in His attitude toward all men.

Genesis 1:1; 2:7; Exodus 3:14; 6:2-3; 15:11ff.; 20:1ff.; Leviticus 22:2; Deuteronomy 6:4; 32:6; 1 Chronicles 29:10; Psalm 19:1-3; Isaiah 43:3, 15; 64:8; Jeremiah 10:10; 17:13; Matthew 6:9ff.; 7:11; 23:9; 28:19; Mark 1:9-11; John 4:24; 5:26; 14:6-13; 17:1-8; Acts 1:7; Romans 8:14-15; 1 Corinthians 8:6; Galatians 4:6; Ephesians 4:6; Colossians 1:15; 1 Timothy 1:17; Hebrews 11:6; 12:9; 1 Peter 1:17; 1 John 5:7.

B. God the Son

Christ is the eternal Son of God. In His incarnation as Jesus Christ He was conceived of the Holy Spirit and born of the virgin Mary. Jesus perfectly revealed and did the will of God, taking upon Himself human nature with its demands and necessities and identifying Himself completely with mankind yet without sin. He honored the divine law by His personal obedience, and in His substitutionary death on the cross He made provision for the redemption of men from sin. He was raised from the dead with a glorified body and appeared to His disciples as the person who was with them before His crucifixion. He ascended into heaven and is now exalted at the right hand of God where He is the One Mediator, fully God, fully man, in whose Person is effected the reconciliation between God and man. He will return in power and glory to judge the world and to consummate His redemptive mission. He now dwells in all believers as the living and ever present Lord.

Genesis 18:1ff.; Psalms 2:7ff.; 110:1ff.; Isaiah 7:14; Isaiah 53:1-12; Matthew 1:18-23; 3:17; 8:29; 11:27; 14:33; 16:16, 27; 17:5; 27; 28:1-6, 19; Mark 1:1; 3:11; Luke 1:35; 4:41; 22:70; 24:46; John 1:1-18, 29; 10:30, 38; 11:25-27; 12:44-50; 14:7-11; 16:15-16, 28; 17:1-5, 21-22; 20:1-20, 28; Acts 1:9; 2:22-24; 7:55-56; 9:4-5, 20; Romans 1:3-4; 3:23-26; 5:6-21; 8:1-3, 34; 10:4; 1 Corinthians 1:30; 2:2; 8:6; 15:1-8, 24-28; 2 Corinthians 5:19-21; 8:9; Galatians 4:4-5; Ephesians 1:20; 3:11; 4:7-10; Philippians 2:5-11; Colossians 1:13-22; 2:9; 1 Thessalonians 4:14-18; 1 Timothy 2:5-6; 3:16; Titus 2:13-14; Hebrews 1:1-3; 4:14-15; 7:14-28; 9:12-15, 24-28; 12:2; 13:8; 1 Peter 2:21-25; 3:22; 1 John 1:7-9; 3:2; 4:14-15; 5:9; 2 John 7-9; Revelation 1:13-16; 5:9-14; 12:10-11; 13:8; 19:16.

C. God the Holy Spirit

The Holy Spirit is the Spirit of God, fully divine. He inspired holy men of old to write the Scriptures. Through illumination He enables men to understand truth. He exalts Christ. He convicts men of sin, of righteousness, and of judgment. He calls men to the Saviour, and effects regeneration. At the moment of regeneration He baptizes every believer into the Body of Christ. He cultivates Christian character, comforts believers, and bestows the spiritual gifts by which they serve God through His church. He seals the believer unto the day of final redemption. His presence in the Christian is the guarantee that God will bring the believer into the fullness of the stature of Christ. He enlightens and empowers the believer and the church in worship, evangelism, and service.

Genesis 1:2; Judges 14:6; Job 26:13; Psalms 51:11; 139:7ff; Isaiah 61:1-3; Joel 2:28-32; Matthew 1:18; 3:16; 4:1; 12:28-32; 28:19; Mark 1:10, 12; Luke 1:35; 4:1, 18-19; 11:13; 12:12; 24:49; John 4:24; 14:16-17, 26; 15:26; 16:7-14; Acts 1:8; 2:1-4, 38; 4:31; 5:3; 6:3; 7:55; 8:17, 39; 10:44; 13:2; 15:28; 16:6; 19:1-6; Romans 8:9-11, 14-16, 26-27; 1 Corinthians 2:10-14; 3:16; 12:3-11, 13; Galatians 4:6; Ephesians 1:13-14; 4:30; 5:18; 1 Thessalonians 5:19; 1 Timothy 3:16; 4:1; 2 Timothy 1:14; 3:16; Hebrews 9:8, 14; 2 Peter 1:21; 1 John 4:13; 5:6-7; Revelation 1:10; 22:17.

III. Man

Man is the special creation of God, made in His own image. He created them male and female as the crowning work of His creation. The gift of gender is thus part of the goodness of God's creation. In the beginning man was innocent of sin and was endowed by his Creator with freedom of choice. By his free choice man sinned against God and brought sin into the human race. Through the temptation of Satan man transgressed the command of God, and fell from his original innocence whereby his posterity inherit a nature and an environment inclined toward sin. Therefore, as soon as they are capable of moral action, they become transgressors and are under condemnation. Only the grace of God can bring man into His holy fellowship and enable man to fulfill the creative purpose of God. The sacredness of human personality is evident in that God created man in His own image, and in that Christ died for man; therefore, every person of every race possesses full dignity and is worthy of respect and Christian love.

Genesis 1:26-30; 2:5, 7, 18-22; 3; 9:6; Psalms 1; 8:3-6; 32:1-5; 51:5; Isaiah 6:5; Jeremiah 17:5; Matthew 16:26; Acts 17:26-31; Romans 1:19-32; 3:10-18, 23; 5:6, 12, 19; 6:6; 7:14-25; 8:14-18, 29; 1 Corinthians 1:21-31; 15:19, 21-22; Ephesians 2:1-22; Colossians 1:21-22; 3:9-11.

IV. Salvation

Salvation involves the redemption of the whole man, and is offered freely to all who accept Jesus Christ as Lord and Saviour, who by His own blood obtained eternal redemption for the believer. In its broadest sense salvation includes regeneration, justification, sanctification, and glorification. There is no salvation apart from personal faith in Jesus Christ as Lord.

A. Regeneration, or the new birth, is a work of God's grace whereby believers become new creatures in Christ Jesus. It is a change of heart wrought by the Holy Spirit through conviction of sin, to which the sinner responds in repentance toward God and faith in the Lord Jesus Christ. Repentance and faith are inseparable experiences of grace.

Repentance is a genuine turning from sin toward God. Faith is the acceptance of Jesus Christ and commitment of the entire personality to Him as Lord and Saviour.

B. Justification is God's gracious and full acquittal upon principles of His righteousness of all sinners who repent and believe in Christ. Justification brings the believer unto a relationship of peace and favor with God.

C. Sanctification is the experience, beginning in regeneration, by which the believer is set apart to God's purposes, and is enabled to progress toward moral and spiritual maturity through the presence and power of the Holy Spirit dwelling in him. Growth in grace should continue throughout the regenerate person's life.

D. Glorification is the culmination of salvation and is the final blessed and abiding state of the redeemed.

Genesis 3:15; Exodus 3:14-17; 6:2-8; Matthew 1:21; 4:17; 16:21-26; 27:22-28:6; Luke 1:68-69; 2:28-32; John 1:11-14, 29; 3:3-21, 36; 5:24; 10:9, 28-29; 15:1-16; 17:17; Acts 2:21; 4:12; 15:11; 16:30-31; 17:30-31; 20:32; Romans 1:16-18; 2:4; 3:23-25; 4:3ff; 5:8-10; 6:1-23; 8:1-18, 29-39; 10:9-10, 13; 13:11-14; 1 Corinthians 1:18, 30; 6:19-20; 15:10; 2 Corinthians 5:17-20; Galatians 2:20; 3:13; 5:22-25; 6:15; Ephesians 1:7; 2:8-22; 4:11-16; Philippians 2:12-13; Colossians 1:9-22; 3:1ff; 1 Thessalonians 5:23-24; 2 Timothy 1:12; Titus 2:11-14; Hebrews 2:1-3; 5:8-9; 9:24-28; 11:1-12:8, 14; James 2:14-26; 1 Peter 1:2-23; 1 John 1:6-2:11; Revelation 3:20; 21:1-22:5.

V. God's Purpose of Grace

Election is the gracious purpose of God, according to which He regenerates, justifies, sanctifies, and glorifies sinners. It is consistent with the free agency of man, and comprehends all the means in connection with the end. It is the glorious display of God's sovereign goodness, and is infinitely wise, holy, and unchangeable. It excludes boasting and promotes humility.

All true believers endure to the end. Those whom God has accepted in Christ, and sanctified by His Spirit, will never fall away from the state of grace, but shall persevere to the end. Believers may fall into sin through neglect and temptation, whereby they grieve the Spirit, impair their graces and comforts, and bring reproach on the cause of Christ and temporal judgments on themselves; yet they shall be kept by the power of God through faith unto salvation.

Genesis 12:1-3; Exodus 19:5-8; 1 Samuel 8:4-7, 19-22; Isaiah 5:1-7; Jeremiah 31:31ff.; Matthew 16:18-19; 21:28-45; 24:22, 31; 25:34; Luke 1:68-79; 2:29-32; 19:41-44; 24:44-48; John 1:12-14; 3:16; 5:24; 6:44-45, 65; 10:27-29; 15:16; 17:6, 12, 17-18; Acts 20:32; Romans 5:9-10; 8:28-39; 10:12-15; 11:5-7, 26-36; 1 Corinthians 1:1-2; 15:24-28; Ephesians 1:4-23; 2:1-10; 3:1-11; Colossians 1:12-14; 2 Thessalonians 2:13-14; 2 Timothy 1:12; 2:10, 19; Hebrews 11:39-12:2; James 1:12; 1 Peter 1:2-5, 13; 2:4-10; 1 John 1:7-9; 2:19; 3:2.

VI. The Church

A New Testament church of the Lord Jesus Christ is an autonomous local congregation of baptized believers, associated by covenant in the faith and fellowship of the gospel; observing the two ordinances of Christ, governed by His laws, exercising the gifts, rights, and privileges invested in them by His Word, and seeking to extend the gospel to the ends of the earth. Each congregation operates under the Lordship of Christ through democratic processes. In such a congregation each member is responsible and accountable to Christ as Lord. Its scriptural officers are pastors and deacons. While both men and women are gifted for service in the church, the office of pastor is limited to men as qualified by Scripture.

The New Testament speaks also of the church as the Body of Christ which includes all of the redeemed of all the ages, believers from every tribe, and tongue, and people, and nation.

Matthew 16:15-19; 18:15-20; Acts 2:41-42, 47; 5:11-14; 6:3-6; 13:1-3; 14:23, 27; 15:1-30; 16:5; 20:28; Romans 1:7; 1 Corinthians 1:2; 3:16; 5:4-5; 7:17; 9:13-14; 12; Ephesians 1:22-23; 2:19-22; 3:8-11, 21; 5:22-32; Philippians 1:1; Colossians 1:18; 1 Timothy 2:9-14; 3:1-15; 4:14; Hebrews 11:39-40; 1 Peter 5:1-4; Revelation 2-3; 21:2-3.

VII. Baptism and the Lord's Supper

Christian baptism is the immersion of a believer in water in the name of the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit. It is an act of obedience symbolizing the believer's faith in a crucified, buried, and risen Saviour, the believer's death to sin, the burial of the old life, and the resurrection to walk in newness of life in Christ Jesus. It is a testimony to his faith in the final resurrection of the dead. Being a church ordinance, it is prerequisite to the privileges of church membership and to the Lord's Supper.

The Lord's Supper is a symbolic act of obedience whereby members of the church, through partaking of the bread and the fruit of the vine, memorialize the death of the Redeemer and anticipate His second coming.

Matthew 3:13-17; 26:26-30; 28:19-20; Mark 1:9-11; 14:22-26; Luke 3:21-22; 22:19-20; John 3:23; Acts 2:41-42; 8:35-39; 16:30-33; 20:7; Romans 6:3-5; 1 Corinthians 10:16, 21; 11:23-29; Colossians 2:12.

VIII. The Lord's Day

The first day of the week is the Lord's Day. It is a Christian institution for regular observance. It commemorates the resurrection of Christ from the dead and should include exercises of worship and spiritual devotion, both public and private. Activities on the Lord's Day should be commensurate with the Christian's conscience under the Lordship of Jesus Christ.

Exodus 20:8-11; Matthew 12:1-12; 28:1ff.; Mark 2:27-28; 16:1-7; Luke 24:1-3, 33-36; John 4:21-24; 20:1, 19-28; Acts 20:7; Romans 14:5-10; 1 Corinthians 16:1-2; Colossians 2:16; 3:16; Revelation 1:10.

IX. The Kingdom

The Kingdom of God includes both His general sovereignty over the universe and His particular kingship over men who willfully acknowledge Him as King. Particularly the Kingdom is the realm of salvation into which men enter by trustful, childlike commitment to Jesus Christ. Christians ought to pray and to labor that the Kingdom may come and God's will be done on earth. The full consummation of the Kingdom awaits the return of Jesus Christ and the end of this age.

Genesis 1:1; Isaiah 9:6-7; Jeremiah 23:5-6; Matthew 3:2; 4:8-10, 23; 12:25-28; 13:1-52; 25:31-46; 26:29; Mark 1:14-15; 9:1; Luke 4:43; 8:1; 9:2; 12:31-32; 17:20-21; 23:42; John 3:3; 18:36; Acts 1:6-7; 17:22-31; Romans 5:17; 8:19; 1 Corinthians 15:24-28; Colossians 1:13; Hebrews 11:10, 16; 12:28; 1 Peter 2:4-10; 4:13; Revelation 1:6, 9; 5:10; 11:15; 21-22.

X. Last Things

God, in His own time and in His own way, will bring the world to its appropriate end. According to His promise, Jesus Christ will return personally and visibly in glory to the earth; the dead will be raised; and Christ will judge all men in righteousness. The unrighteous will be consigned to Hell, the place of everlasting punishment. The righteous in their resurrected and glorified bodies will receive their reward and will dwell forever in Heaven with the Lord.

Isaiah 2:4; 11:9; Matthew 16:27; 18:8-9; 19:28; 24:27, 30, 36, 44; 25:31-46; 26:64; Mark 8:38; 9:43-48; Luke 12:40, 48; 16:19-26; 17:22-37; 21:27-28; John 14:1-3; Acts 1:11; 17:31; Romans 14:10; 1 Corinthians 4:5; 15:24-28, 35-58; 2 Corinthians 5:10; Philippians 3:20-21; Colossians 1:5; 3:4; 1 Thessalonians 4:14-18; 5:1ff.; 2 Thessalonians 1:7ff.; 2; 1 Timothy 6:14; 2 Timothy 4:1, 8; Titus 2:13; Hebrews 9:27-28; James 5:8; 2 Peter 3:7ff.; 1 John 2:28; 3:2; Jude 14; Revelation 1:8; 3:11; 20:1-22:13.

XI. Evangelism and Missions

It is the duty and privilege of every follower of Christ and of every church of the Lord Jesus Christ to endeavor to make disciples of all nations. The new birth of man's spirit by God's Holy Spirit means the birth of love for others. Missionary effort on the part of all rests thus upon a spiritual necessity of the regenerate life, and is expressly and repeatedly commanded in the teachings of Christ. The Lord Jesus Christ has commanded the preaching of the gospel to all nations. It is the duty of every child of God to seek constantly to win the lost to Christ by verbal witness undergirded by a Christian lifestyle, and by other methods in harmony with the gospel of Christ.

Genesis 12:1-3; Exodus 19:5-6; Isaiah 6:1-8; Matthew 9:37-38; 10:5-15; 13:18-30, 37-43; 16:19; 22:9-10; 24:14; 28:18-20; Luke 10:1-18; 24:46-53; John 14:11-12; 15:7-8, 16; 17:15; 20:21; Acts 1:8; 2; 8:26-40; 10:42-48; 13:2-3; Romans 10:13-15; Ephesians 3:1-11; 1 Thessalonians 1:8; 2 Timothy 4:5; Hebrews 2:1-3; 11:39-12:2; 1 Peter 2:4-10; Revelation 22:17.

XII. Education

Christianity is the faith of enlightenment and intelligence. In Jesus Christ abide all the treasures of wisdom and knowledge. All sound learning is, therefore, a part of our Christian heritage. The new birth opens all human faculties and creates a thirst for knowledge. Moreover, the cause of education in the Kingdom of Christ is co-ordinate with the causes of missions and general benevolence, and should receive along with these the liberal support of the churches. An adequate system of Christian education is necessary to a complete spiritual program for Christ's people.

In Christian education there should be a proper balance between academic freedom and academic responsibility. Freedom in any orderly relationship of human life is always limited and never absolute. The freedom of a teacher in a Christian school, college, or seminary is limited by the pre-eminence of Jesus Christ, by the authoritative nature of the Scriptures, and by the distinct purpose for which the school exists.

Deuteronomy 4:1, 5, 9, 14; 6:1-10; 31:12-13; Nehemiah 8:1-8; Job 28:28; Psalms 19:7ff.; 119:11; Proverbs 3:13ff.; 4:1-10; 8:1-7, 11; 15:14; Ecclesiastes 7:19; Matthew 5:2; 7:24ff.; 28:19-20; Luke 2:40; 1 Corinthians 1:18-31; Ephesians 4:11-16; Philippians 4:8; Colossians 2:3, 8-9; 1 Timothy 1:3-7; 2 Timothy 2:15; 3:14-17; Hebrews 5:12-6:3; James 1:5; 3:17.

XIII. Stewardship

God is the source of all blessings, temporal and spiritual; all that we have and are we owe to Him. Christians have a spiritual debtorship to the whole world, a holy trusteeship in the gospel, and a binding stewardship in their possessions. They are therefore under obligation to serve Him with their time, talents, and material possessions; and should recognize all these as entrusted to them to use for the glory of God and for helping others. According to the Scriptures, Christians should contribute of their means cheerfully, regularly, systematically, proportionately, and liberally for the advancement of the Redeemer's cause on earth.

Genesis 14:20; Leviticus 27:30-32; Deuteronomy 8:18; Malachi 3:8-12; Matthew 6:1-4, 19-21; 19:21; 23:23; 25:14-29; Luke 12:16-21, 42; 16:1-13; Acts 2:44-47; 5:1-11; 17:24-25; 20:35; Romans 6:6-22; 12:1-2; 1 Corinthians 4:1-2; 6:19-20; 12; 16:1-4; 2 Corinthians 8-9; 12:15; Philippians 4:10-19; 1 Peter 1:18-19.

XIV. Cooperation

Christ's people should, as occasion requires, organize such associations and conventions as may best secure cooperation for the great objects of the Kingdom of God. Such organizations have no authority over one another or over the churches. They are voluntary and advisory bodies designed to elicit, combine, and direct the energies of our people in the most effective manner. Members of New Testament churches should cooperate with one another in carrying forward the missionary, educational, and benevolent ministries for the extension of Christ's Kingdom. Christian unity in the New Testament sense is spiritual harmony and voluntary cooperation for common ends by various groups of Christ's people. Cooperation is desirable between the various Christian denominations, when the end to be attained is itself justified, and when such cooperation involves no violation of conscience or compromise of loyalty to Christ and His Word as revealed in the New Testament.

Exodus 17:12; 18:17ff.; Judges 7:21; Ezra 1:3-4; 2:68-69; 5:14-15; Nehemiah 4; 8:1-5; Matthew 10:5-15; 20:1-16; 22:1-10; 28:19-20; Mark 2:3; Luke 10:1ff.; Acts 1:13-14; 2:1ff.; 4:31-37; 13:2-3; 15:1-35; 1 Corinthians 1:10-17; 3:5-15; 12; 2 Corinthians 8-9; Galatians 1:6-10; Ephesians 4:1-16; Philippians 1:15-18.

XV. The Christian and the Social Order

All Christians are under obligation to seek to make the will of Christ supreme in our own lives and in human society. Means and methods used for the improvement of society and the establishment of righteousness among men can be truly and permanently helpful only when they are rooted in the regeneration of the individual by the saving grace of God in Jesus Christ. In the spirit of Christ, Christians should oppose racism, every form of greed, selfishness, and vice, and all forms of sexual immorality, including adultery, homosexuality, and pornography. We should work to provide for the orphaned, the needy, the abused, the aged, the helpless, and the sick. We should speak on behalf of the unborn and contend for the sanctity of all human life from conception to natural death. Every Christian should seek to bring industry, government, and society as a whole under the sway of the principles of righteousness, truth, and brotherly love. In order to promote these ends Christians should be ready to work with all men of good will in any good cause, always being careful to act in the spirit of love without compromising their loyalty to Christ and His truth.

Exodus 20:3-17; Leviticus 6:2-5; Deuteronomy 10:12; 27:17; Psalm 101:5; Micah 6:8; Zechariah 8:16; Matthew 5:13-16, 43-48; 22:36-40; 25:35; Mark 1:29-34; 2:3ff.; 10:21; Luke 4:18-21; 10:27-37; 20:25; John 15:12; 17:15; Romans 12-14; 1 Corinthians 5:9-10; 6:1-7; 7:20-24; 10:23-11:1; Galatians 3:26-28; Ephesians 6:5-9; Colossians 3:12-17; 1 Thessalonians 3:12; Philemon; James 1:27; 2:8.

XVI. Peace and War

It is the duty of Christians to seek peace with all men on principles of righteousness. In accordance with the spirit and teachings of Christ they should do all in their power to put an end to war.

The true remedy for the war spirit is the gospel of our Lord. The supreme need of the world is the acceptance of His teachings in all the affairs of men and nations, and the practical application of His law of love. Christian people throughout the world should pray for the reign of the Prince of Peace.

Isaiah 2:4; Matthew 5:9, 38-48; 6:33; 26:52; Luke 22:36, 38; Romans 12:18-19; 13:1-7; 14:19; Hebrews 12:14; James 4:1-2.

XVII. Religious Liberty

God alone is Lord of the conscience, and He has left it free from the doctrines and commandments of men which are contrary to His Word or not contained in it. Church and state should be separate. The state owes to every church protection and full freedom in the pursuit of its spiritual ends. In providing for such freedom no ecclesiastical group or denomination should be favored by the state more than others. Civil government being ordained of God, it is the duty of Christians to render loyal obedience thereto in all things not contrary to the revealed will of God. The church should not resort to the civil power to carry on its work. The gospel of Christ contemplates spiritual means alone for the pursuit of its ends. The state has no right to impose penalties for religious opinions of any kind. The state has no right to impose taxes for the support of any form of religion. A free church in a free state is the Christian ideal, and this implies the right of free and unhindered access to God on the part of all men, and the right to form and propagate opinions in the sphere of religion without interference by the civil power.

Genesis 1:27; 2:7; Matthew 6:6-7, 24; 16:26; 22:21; John 8:36; Acts 4:19-20; Romans 6:1-2; 13:1-7; Galatians 5:1, 13; Philippians 3:20; 1 Timothy 2:1-2; James 4:12; 1 Peter 2:12-17; 3:11-17; 4:12-19.

XVIII. The Family

God has ordained the family as the foundational institution of human society. It is composed of persons related to one another by marriage, blood, or adoption.

Marriage is the uniting of one man and one woman in covenant commitment for a lifetime. It is God's unique gift to reveal the union between Christ and His church and to provide for the man and the woman in marriage the framework for intimate companionship, the channel of sexual expression according to biblical standards, and the means for procreation of the human race.

The husband and wife are of equal worth before God, since both are created in God's image. The marriage relationship models the way God relates to His people. A husband is to love his wife as Christ loved the church. He has the God-given responsibility to provide for, to protect, and to lead his family. A wife is to submit herself graciously to the servant leadership of her husband even as the church willingly submits to the headship of Christ. She, being in the image of God as is her husband and thus equal to him, has the God-given responsibility to respect her husband and to serve as his helper in managing the household and nurturing the next generation.

Children, from the moment of conception, are a blessing and heritage from the Lord. Parents are to demonstrate to their children God's pattern for marriage. Parents are to teach their children spiritual and moral values and to lead them, through consistent lifestyle example and loving discipline, to make choices based on biblical truth. Children are to honor and obey their parents.

Genesis 1:26-28; 2:15-25; 3:1-20; Exodus 20:12; Deuteronomy 6:4-9; Joshua 24:15; 1 Samuel 1:26-28; Psalms 51:5; 78:1-8; 127; 128; 139:13-16; Proverbs 1:8; 5:15-20; 6:20-22; 12:4; 13:24; 14:1; 17:6; 18:22; 22:6, 15; 23:13-14; 24:3; 29:15, 17; 31:10-31; Ecclesiastes 4:9-12; 9:9; Malachi 2:14-16; Matthew 5:31-32; 18:2-5; 19:3-9; Mark 10:6-12; Romans 1:18-32; 1 Corinthians 7:1-16; Ephesians 5:21-33; 6:1-4; Colossians 3:18-21; 1 Timothy 5:8,14; 2 Timothy 1:3-5; Titus 2:3-5; Hebrews 13:4; 1 Peter 3:1-7.

Additional information relating to *The Baptist Faith and Message*, including an introduction, preamble, committee information, commentary, multilingual versions, and more, can be found online at bfm.sbc.net.

HOW TO BECOME A CHRISTIAN

The Lord is perpetually calling people to Himself. He loves you and purposes that you come to Him on His terms and not your own. How? Become a Christ-follower. To do so you must make a personal, deliberate choice. No one can make that decision for you.

It doesn't happen by joining a church or deciding to start living a good life. You don't become a Christian by mentally accepting the teachings of Jesus Christ, or by hanging around Christians and attending Christian meetings.

The "ABCs" of salvation are as follows:

- **Admit** that you have sinned. To become a Christian, you must recognize that you are separated from God because of your sins. "For all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God" (Romans 3:23). Without acknowledging your sin, you will die in it. "For the wages of sin is death, but the gift of God is eternal life" (Romans 6:23). You must admit your sinfulness to God, ask His forgiveness and turn from that sin. (This is called repentance.) God has provided forgiveness through His Son, Jesus Christ. "For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but shall have eternal life." (John 3:16) "But God demonstrates his love for us in this: while we were yet sinners, Christ died for us (Romans 5:8).
- **Believe** that Jesus died for your sins. Becoming a Christian is receiving what God has done for you in Christ, His gift of forgiveness and new life. Belief is a matter of surrender of your will to Christ and turning your life over to His direction and control. "Whoever believes in the Son has eternal life, but whoever rejects the Son will not see life" (John 3:36). "Everyone who calls on the name of the Lord will be saved" (Romans 10:13).
- **Confess** that Jesus is Lord. The final step involves telling the world that you surrendered your life to Christ Jesus. "If you confess with your mouth, 'Jesus is Lord,' and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved. For it is with your heart that you believe and are justified, and it is with your mouth that you confess, and are saved" (Romans 10:9-10).

Would you like to make this choice? If you sense God leading you, you can do so right now. The Lord hears your simple, sincere prayer.

Once you determine to be a Christ-follower, tell somebody. You may wish to talk with a pastor, Bible study leader or a trusted Christian friend about your decision.