



Do well. Do right.®

O.S. Hawkins
President — Chief Executive Officer

Dear Southern Baptist Friend,

Greetings from Dallas and GuideStone Financial Resources! It is such a wonderful privilege to share with you more about this ministry we have received the Lord. Elsewhere on this website, you'll find other documents that go into deeper detail about our ministry. Of course, you can also always find out more information about GuideStone and Mission:Dignity by visiting our website, *GuideStone.org*.

In 2018, we celebrate our centennial anniversary! For 100 years, GuideStone has been privileged to serve Southern Baptist pastors, churches, missionaries, schools, universities and other organizations. While honored to serve alongside all of our fellow Southern Baptist ministries, it's important to note that we're also unique. Our partners at the mission boards, the ERLC, LifeWay and the seminaries are about the **message** of the Gospel, through teaching, Bible distribution, education, engagement and so many other wonderful, worthwhile and worthy endeavors. Each of them does such a great job at their roles. At GuideStone, though, our primary focus is on the **messenger** of the Gospel.

Committing himself and generations of workers, our founder, Dr. William Lunsford, told SBC pastors 100 years ago:

“Give yourselves wholeheartedly to the work. We’ll stand back of you. If you fall in the work, we’ll care for you. If you die, we will not allow your family to suffer. If you grow old in the work, we’ll comfort you in your declining years.”

Today, GuideStone is a sophisticated financial services organization, privileged to serve almost a quarter of a million pastors, missionaries and other church and ministry employees. From retirement plans to life and health products to property and casualty coverage to investments, GuideStone is there for churches and ministries in the SBC and in the broader evangelical community. Additionally, GuideStone is the sponsor of the nation's largest Christian-screened mutual fund family, enabling scores of thousands to invest according to their values. Even so, we have not forgotten our first ministry Lunsford called us to: caring for those retired Southern Baptist pastors and their widows — those messengers of the Gospel.

Through Mission:Dignity, in 2017, we raised and paid out \$7 million in financial assistance to these dear servants of the Lord living near the poverty line. No Cooperative Program gifts undergird Mission:Dignity; in fact, we've returned \$15 million to the Cooperative Program since 2008 for missions and ministry. Every penny we raise from individuals, Sunday school classes, small groups and local churches goes to help hundreds of retired pastors and widows in need. Not even the stamp on the letter that includes an assistance check comes from your donations.

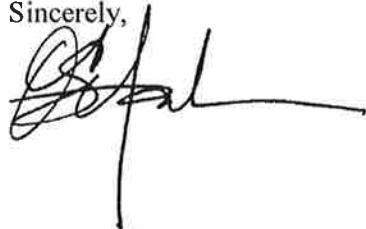
It is a deep privilege to serve these pastors and in many cases their widows: One dear lady who received assistance from Mission:Dignity once told us, “Bless you — I have something to eat tonight and it's not just a piece of toast.” Thanks to so many who give, our retired servants don't have to choose between

mortgage and medicine or between food and fuel. They are able to have a measure of dignity in their declining years. The neediest couples with at least 25 years of paid Southern Baptist ministerial service can receive up to \$600 each and every month. We're thankful for support from people just like you. Together, we're on a mission to provide dignity to God's retired servants; we invite you to join us in this mission.

We'd encourage you to learn more about how GuideStone can help you or your church, as well as learn how you can support Mission:Dignity, or refer someone in need. You can do that by visiting *MissionDignity.org*.

Thank you for taking time to learn more about GuideStone. May God richly bless you in your service to Him.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "O.S. Hawkins", with a long horizontal stroke extending to the right.

O.S. Hawkins