



Book of Reports prepared for 2020 SBC Advance

in its One Hundred Seventy-Fifth Year

2020 CONVENTION OFFICERS

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J. D. Greear

First Vice President

Marshal Ausberry

Second Vice President

Noe Garcia

Recording Secretary

John L. Yeats

Registration Secretary

Kathy Litton

Treasurer

Ronnie W. Floyd

FUTURE SBC ANNUAL MEETING SITES

Nashville, Tennessee – June 15–16, 2021

Anaheim, California – June 14–15, 2022

Charlotte, North Carolina – June 13–14, 2023

Indianapolis, Indiana – June 11–12, 2024

Salt Lake City, Utah – June 24–25, 2025

Orlando, Florida – June 9–10, 2026

Foreword

In 1945, the Southern Baptist Convention stepped away from its Annual Meeting, the United States was at war with the Axis powers. Thousands lost their lives in battles against totalitarian regimes. Yet the gospel witness continued with international mission personnel keeping their focus on their strategies for reaching the pockets of global lostness. At the same time, state conventions/associations were strategically resourced by national partners to “sow down” this nation with the gospel. SBC local churches and church leaders were biblically engaged by faith and action in cooperative efforts for gospel advance.

The faithful did not let the war deter them from keeping “the gospel above all.” Some were led to surrender to Christ in a foxhole. Others were storming a beach in the South Pacific. Still others were hearing the gospel for the first time in the factories, farms, and firms. In every area of our culture and economy, there was a gospel witness. There was also an overwhelming sense that if we were to prevail, we had to work together—we had to cooperate.

Within a decade, the result was a huge influx of: prayer warriors who cried out for the souls of lost people; new post-war, born-again disciples for Christ; and a passion for the church to permeate the culture with a biblical worldview. New seminaries were birthed with a vision of equipping a new generation of church leaders in the Midwest and the West. New churches were launched in cities and communities in areas where Southern Baptists had not previously worked. And SBC global outreach expanded beyond anything our Baptist fore-bearers ever imagined.

In 2020, the Southern Baptist Convention has again stepped away from its Annual Meeting. A “humbling” has come in the form of a microbe. In a very real sense, Western culture is confronted by death and the frailty of mankind. There is a sense that life is broken and fear raises its ugly head to create a cloud of anxiety and aloneness.

In the context of the COVID-19 pandemic, new paradigms of ministry are employed. While secure-at-home orders restrict large gatherings for worship, church leaders and churches have taken to the internet to pronounce gospel truths to every nation, every ethnolinguistic group, and every home.

God’s people are creative and have embraced social media methods to off-set social distancing. Instead of face to face or a handshake, more meetings and visits are made by phone, email, text, FaceTime, or Zoom. Creative giving methods are replacing passing the plate for tithes and offerings. Churches are utilizing online giving, electronic fund transfers, and/or hand written checks delivered via a drop box and/or the United States Postal Service.

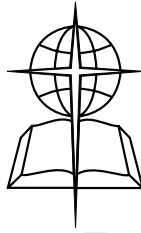
While the economies succumb to restricted travel, business transactions, and social interaction, Southern Baptists continue to hold the rope for those who are called and commissioned to go out into the world to share the gospel and to equip the next generation of church leaders in authentic biblical gospel witness. The churches of the Southern Baptist Convention continue to primarily use the Cooperative Program as their preferred method for cooperative missionary support beyond their local church.

Within the 2020 Book of Reports are the 2019 measurables of the cooperative ministries of the Southern Baptist Convention’s institutions and commissions. As you read the reports, diligently pray for these powerful ministries as their leaders grapple with new normals. American culture will not return to the “good ole days.” However, advance of the gospel was never bound by culture. In some ways, the pandemic has set Southern Baptists free to make “the gospel above all” in every context.

John L. Yeats
Recording Secretary

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*Prepared and distributed by: Executive Committee of the Southern Baptist Convention, 901 Commerce Street; Nashville, TN 37203
Reviewed by: John L. Yeats, Recording Secretary, Southern Baptist Convention, assisted by Sharon Yeats*



BOOK OF REPORTS

prepared for

2020 SBC Advance

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ANNUAL MEETING CANCELLATION

CANCELLATION OF THE 2020 SBC ANNUAL MEETING

In response to the COVID-19 global pandemic, the Southern Baptist Convention annual meeting and all ancillary meetings were cancelled for the first time in 75 years. Following is the statement released in *Baptist Press* on March 24, 2020:

Statement on the 2020 Southern Baptist Convention Annual Meeting

After prayer deliberation, the Southern Baptist Convention officers, the SBC Executive Committee, and the executive heads of the Convention's boards and institutions, acting in a body according to Article XI.4 of the SBC Constitution, have made the unanimous decision to cancel the 2020 SBC Annual Meeting, scheduled for June 9-10 in Orlando.

In light of the COVID-19 global pandemic which we believe constitutes a grave emergency, it is in the best interest of the SBC to cancel the Annual Meeting—for the first time in 75 years—out of a deep concern for the health and safety of messengers and attendees.

We are calling on all Southern Baptists to pray for an end to this global pandemic and that God will bring His Church together at this time to sharpen our focus like never before.

This is not a time for Southern Baptists to shrink back in timidity and fearfulness of be paralyzed with uncertainty. This is not the time to retreat. This is a time for us to advance the Gospel of Jesus Christ to every person in every town, every city, every state, and every nation.

Southern Baptist Convention Officers

J. D. Greear, President
Marshal Ausberry, First President
Noe Garcia, Second Vice President
John Yeats, Recording Secretary
Kathy Litton, Registration Secretary
Ronnie Floyd, Treasurer

The Southern Baptist Convention Executive Committee

Mike Stone, Chairman

Executive Heads of the Convention's Boards and Institutions

Paul Chitwood, The International Mission Board of the Southern Baptist Convention
Kevin Ezell, The North American Mission Board of the Southern Baptist Convention, Inc.
Ben Mandrell, LifeWay Christian Resources of the Southern Baptist Convention
O. S. Hawkins, GuideStone Financial Resources of the Southern Baptist Convention
R. Albert Mohler, Jr., The Southern Baptist Theological Seminary
Adam W. Greenway, The Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary
Jamie Dew, New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary
Jeff Iorg, Gateway Seminary of the Southern Baptist Convention
Danny Akin, The Southeastern Baptist Theological Seminary, Inc.
Jason Allen, Midwestern Baptist Theological Seminary, Inc.

As a matter of historical record, it was requested to receive input from the following:

Russell Moore, The Ethics and Religious Liberty Commission of the Southern Baptist Convention
Sandy Wisdom-Martin, Woman's Missionary Union, Auxiliary to the Southern Baptist Convention

In light of this statement, the 2020 *SBC Book of Reports* serves only as an informational piece for Southern Baptists in regards to the actions and reports of SBC entities and organizations during the 2019-2020 year and does not contain any recommendations or matters of business to be voted upon by the Convention as it is impossible to gather together for such business to occur. Items that meet those requirements will be included in the 2021 *SBC Book of Reports* for release at the 2021 SBC Annual Meeting in Nashville, Tennessee, June 15-16, 2021. The 2020 *SBC Book of Reports* is only available digitally and will not be printed in book form.

As our official historical record, the 2020 *SBC Annual* will be published in Fall 2020 and will be available both digitally and in printed book form (limited quantities). For more information, please contact annual@sbc.net.

A WORD FROM THE SBC PRESIDENT

J. D. GREAR

I was warned that it would be tricky to lead the Southern Baptist Convention. But I don't think any of us saw this coming.

On March 24, 2020, we were saddened to announce that for the first time in 75 years, the annual meeting of the Southern Baptist Convention was canceled.

This decision was made unanimously by the SBC Executive Committee, me, every one of our SBC officers and our Great Commission Council, which consists of the presidents of all six of our seminaries, the International Mission Board, the North American Mission Board, GuideStone Financial Resources and Lifeway Christian Resources, and affirmed by both Sandy Wisdom-Martin from the Woman's Missionary Union and Russell Moore of the Ethics & Religious Liberty Commission. I am grateful for the united leadership of these men and women in taking this proactive step. We believe, without reservation, that it is the right one.

In one sense, this was a difficult decision for us. Gathering regularly to hear about the great things God is doing in the present and to seek His face together for the future is an essential part of who we are as a Convention, and are saddened to forego this opportunity in June. But in another sense, this decision was easy. Our purpose in coming together is to support one another in gospel mission and to better catalyze our collective mission efforts. This year, the best way to accomplish that purpose was by NOT meeting together.

I don't need to tell you how many of our churches are hurting right now or how most of our communities are experiencing unprecedented need. In this extraordinary hour, pastors need to be focused on their people and churches need to be focused on their communities. Pausing from these efforts to make a costly trip to Orlando just doesn't seem like the right thing to do. In this moment, keeping the Gospel Above All means staying where we are to minister to those who need us.

The work of the SBC can go on without the meeting. Why? Because the headquarters of the SBC is not in Nashville or Orlando, nor is our primary impulse for ministry what happens on the Convention floor. The headquarters of the SBC is the local church. Our strength is in our pulpits and pews. Our ministries will still go on.

While some may be quarantined and others practicing social distancing, the Great Commission cannot stop. Our gospel is more relevant and necessary than ever. The gospel literally means "good news," and good news is best when life is the darkest. As other idols of this world prove hopelessly insufficient, our gospel offers a hope higher than the heavens, a hope deeper than any recession, a hope that outlasts death itself. That's why it must remain above all.

What's more, our gospel teaches us exactly what to do in times like these. We serve a Savior who ran toward tragedy, not away from it. When we were dead in our sins, He left heaven to enter our suffering, take it upon Himself and deliver us from it. That means we who know Him and love Him will, in a moment like this one, move forward in faith, not backwards in fear, toward self-sacrifice, not self-preservation.

Historically, we know that the church is at its best in times like these. It's when the power of the gospel really begins to shine through. This is an extraordinary gospel moment. Historian Rodney Stark describes how God used a moment like this in the early days of the church to expand the gospel in unprecedented ways.

In A.D. 250, an enormous plague struck the Roman Empire, killing an average of 5,000 people every day. At this time Christians were less than 2% of the entire population. Their numbers were growing, but statistically speaking, they were nearly insignificant. Yet despite their numbers, their response to this pandemic won admiration and a greater following. Dionysius, bishop of Corinth, reported:

“Most of our brother Christians showed unbounded love and loyalty, never sparing themselves and thinking only of one another. Heedless of danger, they took charge of the sick, attending to their every need and ministering to them in Christ, and with them departed this life serenely happy. ... Many, in nursing and curing others, transferred their death to themselves and died in their stead.”

Outside the church, the situation was much different. Dionysius continues:

“But with non-Christians everything was quite otherwise. They deserted those who began to be sick, and fled from their dearest friends. They shunned any participation or fellowship with death; which yet, with all their precautions, it was not easy for them to escape.”

Stark even points out, in evident irony, that the death rate for Christians in many of these plagues was actually lower than that of those who simply fled. In some cases, by as much as one-half! Why? Some analysts say it was because of their strong sense of community, their refusal to submit to despair, their commitments to care for each other and their robust hope in the face of death. In other words, through their willingness to embrace death, they found life.

Andy Crouch explains why this led to an explosion in the church in the following years:

“[If you were a first-century Roman], after you had recovered from the plague, where would you want to worship? The pagan temple whose priests and elite benefactors had fled at the first sign of trouble? Or the household of the neighbor who had brought you food and water, care and concern, at great risk to themselves? When this plague has passed, what will our neighbors remember of us? Will they remember that the Christians took immediate, decisive action to protect the vulnerable, even at great personal and organizational cost? Will they remember that, being prepared and free from panic, the households of their Christian neighbors were able to visit the needy (while protecting them by keeping appropriate social distance!), provide for their needs and bring hope?”

How we conduct ourselves in this moment will demonstrate to the world what we actually believe about the gospel. Our theology is about to be on display. So let's make sure to be faithful witnesses. We may be living through a very new day. But God promises that He gives new mercies for new challenges. He never runs short on supply; the shelves of His heavenly riches are never empty, and His angels never get sick. Let's call on Him for grace to meet this challenge.

It has been my privilege to strive along with you these last couple of years to keep the Gospel Above All. This is how we believe we can accomplish that in the days to come. God has given us a new challenge, and as He promises, we are confident that He will give us grace sufficient for that challenge.

I am praying for you, and my prayer is that when we come together in Nashville in 2021, we will find ourselves stronger than ever and rejoicing that our God was with us. As William Carey famously said, *“The future is always as bright as the promises of God.”* That is bright indeed.

This edited post originally appeared in Baptist Press on Tuesday, March 24, 2020. The full post can be found at: <http://www.bpnews.net/54521/why-canceling-the-2020-sbc-annual-meeting-is-putting-gospel-above-all>.

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Ninety-Third Annual Report



SBC EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

901 Commerce Street, Nashville, Tennessee 37203

MICHAEL R. (MIKE) STONE, Chairman

RONNIE W. FLOYD, President and Chief Executive Officer

The Southern Baptist Convention Executive Committee presents this ninety-third 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 2019-20:

September 16-17, 2019	Nashville, TN
February 17-18, 2020	Nashville, TN
March 24, 2020	Video Conference Call

1. **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 three standing committees.

Ronnie W. Floyd serves as its president and the other officers, as well as its workgroup chairs, are named below:

Chair: Michael R. (Mike) Stone, Georgia

Vice Chair: Rolland E. Slade, California

Secretary: Joe Knott, North Carolina

The following persons served as chair of the three standing committees and the eight workgroups:

Administrative Committee: B. Thomas (Tom) Tucker III, South Carolina

Bylaws Workgroup: Mark H. Ballard, New England

Communications Workgroup: Monte L. Shinkle, Missouri

Personnel Workgroup: Ron F. Hale, Tennessee

Business and Finance Committee: Steve Goss, Arkansas

Audit Workgroup: Robert E. (Rob) Stennett, West Virginia

Business and Financial Plan Workgroup: Benjamin F. (Ben) Kelley, Jr., Alabama

Convention Arrangements Workgroup: Mark Stinson, Ohio

Cooperative Program Committee: Hoyt A. Savage, Nevada

Convention Ministries Workgroup: Donald (Neal) Hughes, Alabama

Cooperative Program Development Workgroup: Daniel E. Carr, Missouri

- 2.* **Cooperative Program Giving** - The giving record of Southern Baptists during the fiscal year October 1, 2017 - September 30, 2018, is as follows:

	<u>2017-2018</u>	<u>2016-2017</u>	<u>% Change</u>
Total CP as a % of			
Undesignated Gifts ²	4.82%	4.86%	-0.04%
Total Receipts ¹	\$ 11,811,093,609	\$ 11,728,420,088	0.70%
Total Undesignated Gifts	\$ 9,601,534,950	\$ 9,518,527,051	0.87%
Total Cooperative Program ²	\$ 463,076,368	\$ 462,662,332	0.09%
State Convention Share of			
Total CP ²	\$ 271,818,380	\$ 270,713,506	0.41%
SBC Share of Total CP ²	\$ 191,257,988	\$ 191,948,826	-0.36%

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

<u>Year</u>	<u>Total</u>		<u>%</u>		<u>Total</u>	
	<u>Receipts</u> ¹	<u>Change</u>	<u>Undesignated</u>	<u>Change</u>	<u>Cooperative</u>	<u>Program</u> ²
			<u>Gifts</u>			<u>%</u>
2013-14	\$ 11,154,665,938	-0.49%	\$ 8,748,114,744	-0.24%	\$ 478,700,850	-0.74%
2014-15	\$ 11,545,861,631	3.51%	\$ 9,154,427,472	4.64%	\$ 474,272,984	-0.92%
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%
Average Change 1970s		9.94%		N/A		8.97%
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 Last						
Five Years		1.06%		1.85%		-0.80%
<u>Year</u>	<u>SBC</u>		<u>SBC</u>		<u>Total CP² as a % of</u>	
	<u>\$ Share of</u>	<u>%</u>	<u>% Share of</u>	<u>Total</u>	<u>Receipts</u> ¹	<u>Undesig.</u>
	<u>Total CP</u> ²	<u>Change</u>	<u>Total CP</u> ²	<u>Receipts</u> ¹	<u>Gifts</u>	
2013-14	\$ 180,971,579	-1.33%	37.80%	4.29%	5.47%	
2014-15	\$ 183,771,302	1.55%	38.75%	4.11%	5.18%	
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%	
Average Change 1970s		8.92%	34.41%	8.94%	N/A	
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 Last Five Years		0.86%	39.88%	4.08%	5.10%	

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 2017-18 for comparative purposes. Over the last 20 years, Total Receipts averaged 7.25% more than Total Gifts.

2. For 2012-13 through 2017-18, 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 & 3 were prepared by Executive Committee of the SBC based on information obtained by the 2018 ACP Statistical Summary which was prepared by LifeWay Insights, LifeWay Christian Resources, One LifeWay Plaza, Nashville, TN 37234-0127, May 14, 2019; and will be updated in the 2020 SBC Annual with 2019 figures when that data is received. At time of posting, the latest ACP figures were not available.

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 2018-2019 Southern Baptist Convention Cooperative Program Allocation Budget was approved. The 2018-2019 SBC Cooperative Program funds distributed include funds received from state conventions and identified by them as Cooperative Program Allocation Budget funds.

	<u>2018-2019</u>	<u>2017-2018</u>
International Mission Board	\$ 99,254,130	\$ 99,347,638
North American Mission Board	\$ 44,835,155	\$ 44,849,541
Gateway Seminary	\$ 3,966,734	\$ 4,154,629
Midwestern Seminary	\$ 6,358,059	\$ 5,769,026
New Orleans Seminary	\$ 7,144,588	\$ 7,312,473
Southeastern Seminary	\$ 7,664,237	\$ 7,924,967
Southern Seminary	\$ 10,351,129	\$ 10,183,261
Southwestern Seminary	\$ 7,638,842	\$ 7,793,070
Historical Library and Archives	\$ 472,156	\$ 472,308
Ethics & Religious Liberty Commission	\$ 3,246,073	\$ 3,247,115
SBC Executive Committee and SBC Operating	<u>\$ 5,800,600</u>	<u>\$ 5,990,800</u>
Grand Totals	<u>\$ 196,731,703</u>	<u>\$ 197,044,828</u>

- 5.* **Southern Baptist Statistics** – A summary of the statistical record for the Southern Baptist Convention for 2017–18 is as follows:

(See page 12 for chart of Southern Baptist Statistics by State Convention.)

Southern Baptist Convention Statistical Summary - 2018

Item/Statistic			<u>2018–2017</u>	<u>2018–2017</u>
	<u>2018</u>	<u>2017</u>	<u>Numeric</u> <u>Change</u>	<u>Percent</u> <u>Change</u>
State Conventions ⁽¹⁾	41	42	-1	-2.38%
Associations	1,126	1,131	-5	-0.44%
Churches	47,456	47,544	-88	-0.19%
Church-type Missions ⁽²⁾	4,085	4,376	-291	-6.65%
Total Members	14,813,234	15,005,638	-192,404	-1.28%
Total Baptisms	246,442	254,122	-7,680	-3.02%
Ratio of Baptisms: Total Members	1:60	1:59	-	-
Weekly Worship Average				
Attendance	5,297,788	5,320,488	-22,700	-0.43%
Sunday School/Bible Study/				
Small Group Average Attendance	3,247,681	3,345,526	-97,845	-2.92%
Cooperative Program ⁽³⁾	www.sbc.net/cp/statistics.asp		-	-

Note:

1. The formal relationship between the SBC and the DC Baptist Convention ended in 2018.
2. 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.
3. Cooperative Program as reported on the Annual Church Profile is not included in this table. CP, based on the actual amount given through the state convention, is provided in the SBC Annual in the Executive Committee Annual Report.

* Other 2018 Items - Not Asked by All State Conventions ¹

Item/Statistic	2018	2017
Other Additions ⁽²⁾	177,915	187,789
Undesignated Receipts ⁽³⁾	\$ 9,601,534,950	\$ 9,518,257,051
Total Receipts ⁽⁴⁾	\$ 11,811,093,609	\$ 11,728,420,088
Total Mission Expenditures ⁽⁵⁾	\$ 1,171,604,679	\$ 1,185,509,033
Great Commission Giving ⁽⁶⁾	\$ 572,281,994	\$ 593,980,600

Notes:

1. Totals for items in this table have incomplete data for 2017 due to the fact that not all state conventions asked the item or did so in a way not comparable with the standard definition. Similar actions occurred in 2016. Thus, comparisons between the two years may not be appropriate. See the Notes in the 2016 SBC Statistical Summary for specific details to determine if a comparison is desirable.
2. Baptist Convention of New York, California Southern Baptist Convention, Florida Baptist Convention and the Southern Baptists of Texas Convention did not ask this item or the information necessary to obtain the item.
3. Florida Baptist Convention did not ask this item or the information necessary to obtain the item.
4. Baptist Convention of New York did not ask this item or the information necessary to obtain the item.
5. Baptist Convention of New York and California Southern Baptist Convention did not ask this item or the information necessary to obtain the item.
6. Alabama State Board of Missions, Baptist Convention of New York, Florida Baptist Convention, Georgia Baptist Mission Board, and the Baptist General Convention of Oklahoma did not ask this item or the information necessary to obtain the item.
7. Alabama State Board of Missions, Arkansas Baptist State Convention, Baptist Convention of New York, Baptist General Convention of Oklahoma, and the Southern Baptists of Texas Convention did not ask this item or the information necessary to obtain the item.

* The preceding items are from the 2018 ACP Statistical Summary which was prepared by LifeWay Insights, LifeWay Christian Resources, One LifeWay Plaza, Nashville, TN 37234-0127, May 14, 2019; and will be updated in the 2020 SBC Annual with 2019 figures when that data is received. At time of posting, the latest ACP figures were not available.

Church Plants, New Affiliates, and Campuses for 2019, SBC: 908**

Source: Reports from State Directors of Missions compiled by the North American Mission Board, Alpharetta, GA (see page 100)

** Note: 2010 was the first year an SBC ID # was requested for each reported congregation. In 2019, LifeWay began assigning SBC ID numbers for each campus of a multi-site church. In 2019, partners reported 552 new church starts, 59 new campuses and 254 new affiliations.

	2019	2018	Change	Percent Change
International Missionaries	3,615	3,665	(50)	(1.4%)
North American Missionaries	3,057 ⁽¹⁾	5,262	(2,205)	(42%)
— Chaplains	3,738 ⁽²⁾	N/A	N/A	N/A

⁽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.

6. **Special Missions Offerings** – Southern Baptists contributed a special missions offering total of \$183,279,541 through the SBC Executive Committee for North American and International Missions in 2018-2019. The record is as follows:

	2018-2019	2017-2018	Amount Change	Percent Change
Lottie Moon Christmas Offering for International Missions	\$ 127,018,841	\$ 128,650,550	(1,631,709)	-1.27%
Annie Armstrong Easter Offering for North American Missions	\$ 56,260,700	\$ 56,668,218	(407,518)	-0.72%
Total	\$ 183,279,541	\$ 185,318,768		

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 - \$157.3 million; Annie Armstrong Easter Offering for North American Missions - \$61.6 million.

7. **Global Hunger Relief Funds** - Southern Baptists contributed a total of \$2,364,114 for global hunger relief through the SBC Executive Committee in 2018-2019. The record is as follows:

	2018-2019	2017-2018	Percent Change
Received by SBC Executive Committee	\$ 2,364,114	\$ 2,647,087	-10.69%
Forwarded to International Mission Board	\$ 1,894,275	\$ 2,116,769	-10.51%
Forwarded to North American Mission Board	\$ 469,839	\$ 530,318	-11.40%

SOUTHERN BAPTIST STATISTICS BY STATE CONVENTION – 2018 ¹

SBC and State Conventions	Associations		Churches ³		Church-type Missions ³		Baptisms		Other Additions ⁴		Total Membership		Weekly Ave. Worship Attendance		Sunday School/Bible Study/Small Group Ave. Attendance		Total Receipts ⁴		Total Mission Expenditures ⁴	
AL ⁽⁵⁾	75	3,236	29	12,615	15,431	918,125	284,292	196,844	\$ 735,716,897	Footnote 5										
AK	4	88	29	391	226	12,977	6,881	4,555	\$ 13,348,077	\$ 2,529,805										
AZ	13	462	1	2,490	1,747	83,674	45,661	27,322	\$ 86,567,380	\$ 9,855,714										
AR	42	1,434	104	8,962	10,002	481,662	152,042	101,243	\$ 363,861,382	\$ 49,708,264										
CA ⁽⁶⁾	29	1,790	494	12,121	Footnote 6	408,673	211,865	85,011	See Footnote 6	\$ 24,959,664										
CO	11	286	76	1,834	934	37,883	28,434	17,294	\$ 42,251,822	\$ 4,148,965										
Dakota	7	83	5	181	210	3,874	3,791	2,498	\$ 7,496,806	\$ 1,166,559										
FL ⁽⁷⁾	49	2,709	285	26,162	Footnote 7	970,763	457,633	208,508	\$ 676,374,324	Footnote 7										
GA ⁽⁵⁾	90	3,378	191	17,740	18,483	1,322,131	499,395	305,024	\$ 1,222,058,040	Footnote 5										
HI-Pacific	7	123	11	439	823	10,752	7,403	4,883	\$ 18,421,723	\$ 2,506,503										
IL	34	869	79	3,678	1,826	171,363	66,935	41,369	\$ 122,232,439	\$ 14,848,015										
IN	14	376	68	1,592	1,136	73,593	37,110	21,314	\$ 57,953,894	\$ 6,304,621										
IA	5	105	7	933	224	10,569	16,039	10,356	\$ 29,635,028	\$ 4,073,451										
KS-NE	13	322	129	1,924	1,493	87,066	51,605	21,911	\$ 98,653,560	\$ 8,333,875										
KY	70	2,360	10,642	10,642	9,091	601,962	191,572	117,653	\$ 372,064,049	\$ 51,015,738										
LA	38	1,409	211	8,840	6,493	496,179	159,207	93,264	\$ 372,636,186	\$ 39,464,492										
MD-DE	11	569	26	1,228	962	92,840	43,892	21,607	\$ 87,115,691	\$ 11,354,657										
MI	14	287	24	852	706	22,820	13,936	7,198	\$ 20,899,141	\$ 2,936,687										
MN-WI	8	176	25	124	158	17,324	4,981	3,296	\$ 11,192,965	\$ 1,484,327										
MS	65	2,071	21	8,179	10,521	563,601	187,785	133,649	\$ 479,879,219	\$ 66,825,916										
MO	60	1,773	32	6,863	8,036	512,245	158,521	108,437	\$ 357,455,718	\$ 45,533,004										
MT	5	133		517	331	9,691	8,492	5,263	\$ 13,360,131	\$ 1,853,253										
NV	4	172	12	1,339	1,424	29,350	19,523	11,473	\$ 41,329,666	\$ 4,145,862										
New England	7	344	3	1,875	307	28,731	33,616	15,841	\$ 19,765,999	\$ 2,076,086										
NM	13	318	19	2,757	1,265	70,897	39,699	21,344	\$ 57,426,903	\$ 8,540,333										
NY ⁽⁶⁾	10	510		2,434	Footnote 8	43,927	47,009	27,976	Footnote 8	Footnote 8										
NC	77	4,054	319	17,511	13,591	1,147,095	410,193	266,328	\$ 915,939,092	\$ 108,059,353										
Northwest	14	417	74	1,740	1,153	52,596	36,333	22,304	\$ 61,939,595	\$ 7,339,948										
OH	15	636	83	3,055	2,273	83,475	59,569	35,565	\$ 91,261,651	\$ 11,521,354										
OK ⁽⁵⁾	40	1,725	48	10,596	9,056	631,155	173,024	126,062	\$ 477,563,459	Footnote 5										
PA-S. Jersey	8	272	39	1,395	607	28,429	24,530	13,916	\$ 21,824,174	\$ 2,791,845										
PR	3	43	1	115	68	4,214	2,370	2,113	\$ 1,569,444	\$ 214,781										
SC ⁽⁵⁾	42	2,112	11,697	11,154	578,414	251,416	155,982	502,970,502	Footnote 5	Footnote 5										
TN	65	3,039	147	19,041	16,830	987,820	352,162	210,471	\$ 819,278,954	\$ 104,689,688										
TX ⁽⁹⁾⁽¹⁰⁾	106	6,374	1,013	34,237	Footnote 10	2,660,746	773,432	513,050	\$ 2,198,358,044	\$ 222,412,137										
BGCT	98	4,354	1,005	23,181	22,316	2,052,860	564,787	389,980	\$ 1,611,477,265	\$ 171,730,199										
SBCT ⁽¹⁰⁾	104	2,652	57	21,563	Footnote 10	1,167,917	387,968	249,203	\$ 1,168,061,623	\$ 107,679,145										
UT-ID	11	136	48	332	443	14,731	9,545	5,732	\$ 15,934,491	\$ 2,095,037										
VA ⁽¹¹⁾	41	1,877	27	8,691	7,193	565,443	206,227	130,751	\$ 502,893,984	\$ 50,990,922										
BGAV	41	1,245	25	2,827	3,502	371,172	91,780	61,933	\$ 281,900,273	\$ 28,523,453										
SBCV		707	2	6,557	4,287	225,306	130,161	79,104	\$ 254,827,813	\$ 25,984,386										
WV	10	202	22	656	542	27,928	11,638	7,286	\$ 23,604,025	\$ 3,919,904										
WY		89	8	295	306	7,613	4,505	2,436	\$ 9,274,304	\$ 1,672,556										
Sub-Total	1,130	47,066	3,759	257,364	177,957	14,463,397	5,287,300	3,243,548	\$ 11,565,123,705	\$ 939,887,440										
Adjustments ⁽¹²⁾	-4	390	326	-10,922	-42	349,837	10,488	4,133	\$ 245,969,904	\$ 231,717,239										
Grand Total For SBC ⁽³⁾	1,126	47,456	4,085	246,442	177,915	14,813,234	5,297,788	3,247,681	\$ 11,811,093,609	\$ 1,171,604,679										

NOTES:

- All information as of May 14, 2019.
- The formal relationship between the SBC and the DC Baptist Convention ended in 2018.
- 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, Georgia Baptist Mission Board, 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.
- California Southern Baptist Convention did not ask the following items or the information necessary to obtain the items: Other Additions and Total Receipts.
- Florida Baptist Convention did not ask the following items or the information necessary to obtain the items: Other Additions and Total Mission Expenditures.
- New York Baptist Convention 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.
- Southern Baptists of Texas Convention did not ask the following item or the information necessary to obtain the item: Other Additions.
- 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 821 congregations that are related to more than one state convention.
 - The removal of data from 96 congregations affiliated with a state convention but not related to the SBC.
 - The addition of data from 1,638 congregations affiliated with the SBC but not related to a state convention.
 - The addition of data carried forward from previous ACP reporting cycles for 5,215 congregations that did not report in 2018.
- Adjustments to the national totals (and some state convention totals) include data carried forward for non-reported items from data reported 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 2 years.

* This table is from the 2018 ACP Statistical Summary which was prepared by LifeWay Insights, LifeWay Christian Resources, One LifeWay Plaza, Nashville, TN 37234-0127, May 14, 2019; and will be updated in the 2020 SBC Annual with 2019 figures when that data is received. At time of posting, the latest ACP figures were not available.

Significant Actions of the SBC Executive Committee

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

1. **Vote to Cancel the 2020 SBC Annual Meeting** – On March 24, 2020, the Southern Baptist Convention Executive Committee, for the first time in 75 years, acting as a member of the body authorized by Article XI, Section 4 of the Constitution of the Southern Baptist Convention to cancel a regular meeting of the Convention, voted to cancel the annual meeting of the Southern Baptist Convention scheduled for June 9-10, 2020, in Orlando, Florida, believing there was a grave emergency created by the coronavirus pandemic in our world.
2. **Inauguration of Ronnie W. Floyd as President and Chief Executive Officer of the SBC Executive Committee** – On September 16, 2019, the Southern Baptist Convention Executive Committee held the inauguration of Ronnie W. Floyd as president and chief executive officer of the SBC Executive Committee at First Baptist Church, Nashville, Tennessee. During the inauguration service, pastors and leaders from every level of Southern Baptist life prayed for Floyd and challenged him to lead the Convention into gospel unity.
3. **Resolution of Appreciation for D. August (Augie) Boto Upon His Retirement as Executive Vice President and General Counsel of the SBC Executive Committee** – In September 2019, the Southern Baptist Convention Executive Committee adopted a resolution of appreciation for D. August (Augie) Boto on the occasion of his retirement as executive vice president and general counsel of the SBC Executive Committee, following twenty-one years of service. He began his service as vice president for Convention Policy in 1998, and was appointed executive vice president and general counsel in 2007. From April 4, 2018, to May 19, 2019, Boto also served as the SBC Executive Committee's first and only interim president and chief executive officer in its one hundred-year history.
4. **Retirement of Kenneth B. (Ken) Weathersby, SBC Executive Committee Vice President of Convention Advancement** – In February 2020, the Southern Baptist Convention Executive Committee acknowledged Kenneth B. (Ken) Weathersby for his service as SBC Executive Committee Vice President for Convention Advancement. In 2013, Weathersby began his service and worked tirelessly to increase ethnic participation and grow relationships with demographic subsets in the SBC. Weathersby's retirement was due to a medical disability causing visual impairment.
5. **Retirement of Roger S. (Sing) Oldham, SBC Executive Committee Vice President for Convention Relations** – In February 2020, the Southern Baptist Convention Executive Committee acknowledged Roger S. (Sing) Oldham for his service as SBC Executive Committee Vice President for Convention Relations. In 2007, Oldham began his service which expanded in 2010 to include communications to which he gave administrative oversight until September 2019.

6. **SBC Executive Committee Staff** – Since September 2019, the Southern Baptist Convention Executive Committee has employed several new staff members. Working alongside previously employed staff, SBC Executive Committee President, Ronnie W. Floyd, formed the following team to serve the SBC Executive Committee as follows:

SBC EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE LEADERSHIP TEAM

Ronnie W. Floyd, President and Chief Executive Officer

Edward Upton, Assistant to the President

William E. (Bill) Townes, Chief Financial Officer

Jonathan P. Howe, Vice President for Communications

Willie McLaurin, Vice President for Great Commission Relations and Mobilization

Amy Whitfield, Associate Vice President for Convention Communications

George Schroeder, Associate Vice President for Convention News

C. Ashley Clayton, Executive Director for Church Affiliation

Julio Arriola, Executive Director of Hispanic Relations and Mobilization

Peter Yanes, Executive Director of Asian American Relations and Mobilization

7. **VISION 2025** – In February 2020, Southern Baptist Convention Executive Committee President, Ronnie W. Floyd, presented a new five-year initiative in conjunction with multiple entities to reach every person with the gospel in every town, every city, every state, and every nation. The SBC Executive Committee voted to adopt VISION 2025 and were to recommend it to the Southern Baptist Convention meeting in Orlando, Florida, June 9-10, 2020. Due to the cancellation of the 2020 annual meeting, this recommendation is postponed for future consideration.

VISION 2025

Vision 2025 is a call to reach every person for Jesus Christ in every town, every city, every state, and every nation.

STRATEGIC ACTIONS FOR VISION 2025

1. Increase our total number of full-time, fully-funded missionaries by a net gain of 500, giving us 4,200 full-time, fully-funded missionaries through the International Mission Board.
2. Add 6,000 new churches to our Southern Baptist family, giving us over 50,000 churches.
3. Increase our total number of workers in the field through a new emphasis on “calling out the called” and then preparing those who are called out by the Lord.
4. Turn around our ongoing decline in reaching, baptizing, and discipling 12-17 year olds in the prime of their teenage years.
5. Increase our annual giving in successive years to reach and surpass \$500 million given through the Cooperative Program to achieve these Great Commission goals.

8. **2020-21 Proposed SBC Cooperative Program Allocation Budget** – In February 2020, the Southern Baptist Convention Executive Committee adopted the 2020-21 Proposed SBC Cooperative Program Allocation Budget in the amount of \$196,700,000 as follows and were to recommend the budget to the Southern Baptist Convention meeting in Orlando, Florida, June 9-10, 2020, for adoption.

PROPOSED 2020-21 SBC COOPERATIVE PROGRAM ALLOCATION BUDGET

	Proposed 2020-21 Budget <u>Allocation</u>	Proposed* 2020-21 % of Total <u>Allocation</u>
World Mission Ministries		
International Mission Board	\$ 99,055,650	50.41%
North American Mission Board	<u>44,782,350</u>	<u>22.79%</u>
Total World Mission Ministries	<u>\$ 143,838,000</u>	<u>73.20%</u>
Theological Education Ministries		
Seminaries:		
Gateway Seminary	3,826,220	1.95%
Midwestern Baptist Theological Seminary	7,450,693	3.79%
New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary	6,903,428	3.51%
Southeastern Baptist Theological Seminary	7,370,691	3.75%
Southern Baptist Theological Seminary	10,382,969	5.29%
Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary	<u>7,138,799</u>	<u>3.63%</u>
Total Seminaries	\$ 43,072,800	21.92%
Historical Library and Archives	<u>471,600</u>	<u>0.24%</u>
Total Theological Education Ministries	<u>\$ 43,544,400</u>	<u>22.16%</u>
Christian Ethics and Religious Liberty Ministries		
Ethics & Religious Liberty Commission	\$ <u>3,242,250</u>	<u>1.65%</u>
Total Christian Ethics & Religious Liberty Ministries	<u>3,242,250</u>	<u>1.65%</u>
Facilitating Ministries		
SBC Executive Committee & SBC Operating	\$ <u>5,875,350</u>	<u>2.99%</u>
Total Facilitating Ministries	<u>\$ 5,875,350</u>	<u>2.99%</u>
Total Budget Allocation	<u>\$ 196,500,000</u>	<u>100.00%</u>
Special Allocation: SBC VISION 2025 Initiative	<u>200,000</u>	
Total	<u>\$ 196,700,000</u>	

* Any overage of gifts received above the Cooperative Program Allocation Budget will be distributed as follows: Initial 10% of the overage to be used to support the VISION 2025 initiative with the balance of the overage to the other 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.

9. **2020-21 Proposed SBC Executive Committee and SBC Operating Budget** – In February 2020, the Southern Baptist Convention Executive Committee adopted the 2020-21 Proposed SBC Executive Committee and SBC Operating Budget in the amount of \$8,300,350 as follows and were to recommend the budget to the Southern Baptist Convention meeting in Orlando, Florida, June 9-10, 2020, for adoption.

SBC EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE AND SBC OPERATING BUDGET

I. STATEMENT OF INCOME	<u>2020-21**</u>	<u>2019-20*</u>
Cooperative Program	\$ 5,875,350	\$ 5,875,350
Designations	300,000	225,000
LifeWay Christian Resources	100,000	100,000
Interest/Dividends	600,000	475,000
Cost Recovery (Annual Mtg, <i>SBC Life</i> , etc.)	1,000,000	949,650
Other Income	<u>425,000</u>	<u>75,000</u>
Total Income	<u>\$ 8,300,350</u>	<u>\$ 7,700,000</u>
II. ENTITY SUMMARY OPERATING BUDGET	<u>2020-21**</u>	<u>2019-20*</u>
Convention Administration Expenses		
SBC General Operations		\$ 368,000
SBC Committees		125,000
Annual Meeting		1,000,000
SBC Building Management		<u>635,890</u>
Subtotal	<u>\$ 2,490,105</u>	<u>\$ 2,208,890</u>
SBC Executive Committee Operations Expenses		
Administration		1,796,945
SBC Executive Committee Meetings		240,000
Convention Policy		0
Convention Relations (Mobilization)		927,908
Convention Communications		1,643,784
Convention Advancement		478,709
Cooperative Program/Stewardship		569,764
Other Designated Expenditures		<u>0</u>
Subtotal	<u>\$ 5,810,245</u>	<u>\$ 5,657,110</u>
Total Expenses	<u>\$ 8,300,350</u>	<u>\$ 7,866,000</u>

* Numbers are taken from the SBC Operating Budget – approved September 2019.

** Numbers are estimates for the year requested based on anticipated income.

10. **Amendment of SBC Constitution Article III. Composition, Section 1, to Expand the Definition of a Cooperating Church Regarding Sexual Abuse and Racial Discrimination** – Final Vote – In February 2020, the Southern Baptist Convention Executive Committee considered and adopted a recommendation for the second and final of the required two consecutive annual meeting approvals (pursuant to SBC Constitution Article XIV), to amend SBC Constitution Article III, Section 1, to expand the definition of a cooperating church regarding sexual abuse and racial discrimination and were to recommend to the Southern Baptist Convention meeting in Orlando, Florida, June 9-10, 2020, for final vote. Due to the cancellation of the 2020 Annual Meeting, the 2021 Annual Meeting would serve as the next consecutive meeting for approval. The amendment would read as follows:

(Addition of text is indicated by underline.)

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.

11. **Amendment of SBC Bylaw 36. Amendments to Allow Voting in the Final Session** – In February 2020, the Southern Baptist Convention Executive Committee considered and adopted a recommendation amending SBC Bylaw 36. Amendments, to allow voting in the final session and were to recommend to the Southern Baptist Convention meeting in Orlando, Florida, June 9-10, 2020. Due to the cancellation of the 2020 Annual Meeting, this recommendation will be postponed for future consideration. The amendment would read as follows:

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

36. Amendments: The Bylaws may be amended pursuant to Bylaw 21 by a two-thirds majority vote ~~at any time except during the last session of the Convention~~ 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.

The final amended version reads as follows:

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.

12. **Amendment of SBC Constitution, Article V, Section 2, Officer Election** – In February 2020, the Southern Baptist Convention Executive Committee considered and adopted a recommendation and were to recommend the Southern Baptist Convention act in the first of the required two consecutive annual meetings (pursuant to SBC Constitution Article XIV) to amend SBC Constitution Article V. Officers, Section 2, to be effective upon Convention approval for the second consecutive year in the 2021 annual meeting. Due to the cancellation of the 2020 Annual Meeting, this process may be adjusted accordingly. The proposed amendments would read as follows:

(Note: 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.

13. **SBC Executive Committee: Request for Approval of Mission and Ministry Statement Amendment** – In February 2020, the Southern Baptist Convention Executive Committee adopted a recommendation to amend its mission and ministry statements and were to recommend to the Southern Baptist Convention meeting in Orlando, Florida, June 9-10, 2020. Due to the cancellation of the 2020 Annual Meeting, this recommendation will be postponed for future consideration. The amendment would read as follows:

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

Southern Baptist Convention Executive Committee

MISSION

The SBC Executive Committee exists to empower minister to the churches to 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. ~~of the Southern Baptist Convention by acting for the Convention ad-interim in all matters not otherwise provided for in a manner that encourages the cooperation and confidence of the churches, associations, and state conventions and facilitates maximum support for worldwide missions and ministries.~~

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. Manage according to the Southern Baptist Convention Bylaws, Bylaw 18; The Executive Committee; manage the operation of the Southern Baptist Convention Building according to guidelines adopted by building occupants.

- 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, providing a Convention public relations service.**

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, Baptist general bodies and their entities, and other evangelical organizations, and individuals with investment management and generosity, through estate planning consultation and investment management primarily for funds providing support for Southern Baptist causes.**

Encourage and partner consult with Southern Baptist general bodies and their entities, and other evangelical churches, entities, organizations, and individuals to invest in Kingdom causes by providing comprehensive, regarding wills, gifts, trusts, or deeds which benefit investment, fiduciary, and planning services for maximum impact for Southern Baptist or other evangelical causes.; and provide investment management for a balanced portfolio of securities.

- 5. Assist churches by promoting the Cooperative Program and celebrating other through the promotion of cooperative giving.**

In consultation Consult with cooperating state conventions and Southern Baptist Convention entities, prioritize, elevate, and accelerate giving through regarding cooperative giving advancement; interpret 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. basic channel of support for the ministries of the state conventions and the Southern Baptist Convention.

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 SBC Executive Committee will work within the Southern Baptist Convention entity relationship guidelines approved by the Great Commission Council and the SBC Executive Committee and printed in the *Organization Manual of the Southern Baptist Convention*.

The final amended version would read as follows:

Southern Baptist Convention Executive Committee

MISSION

The SBC Executive Committee seeks to empower churches to 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 SBC Executive Committee will work within the Southern Baptist Convention entity relationship guidelines approved by the Great Commission Council and the SBC Executive Committee and printed in the *Organization Manual of the Southern Baptist Convention*.

14. **2020-21 SBC Comprehensive Budget** – The 2020-21 SBC Comprehensive Budget and a summary recap of entity operating budget totals is printed on page 37.
15. **Report from the SBC Credentials Committee and Recommendation** – In February 2020, the Southern Baptist Convention Executive Committee received the report of the SBC Credentials Committee which stated it had received a request to consider the relationship of the Southern Baptist Convention and Ranchland Heights Baptist Church on the basis that the church employs as its pastor a lifetime registered sex offender, Philip Rutledge, and had during its September 16, 2019, meeting, voted to place Ranchland Heights Baptist Church under inquiry. The Credentials Committee presented its report and recommendation to the SBC Executive Committee during its February 17-18, 2020, meeting. The SBC Executive Committee adopted the Credentials Committee’s recommendation which stated that Ranchland Heights Baptist Church of Midland, Texas, no longer be considered in friendly cooperation with the Convention as outlined in SBC Constitution Article III.
16. **Guidelines for SBC Executive Committee Staff Liaison to the SBC Committee on Nominations and the SBC Resolutions Committee** – In February 2020, the Southern Baptist Convention Executive Committee adopted the following “Guidelines for the SBC Executive Committee Liaison to the SBC Committee on Nominations” and an amended form of “Guidelines for the SBC Executive Committee Liaison to the SBC Committee on Resolutions.”

**GUIDELINES FOR THE SBC EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE LIAISON
TO THE SBC COMMITTEE ON NOMINATIONS**

(a new document outlining a historical practice that goes back at least forty years)

1. In June, following each year's SBC annual meeting, the SBC Executive Committee liaison to the Committee on Nominations will do the following:
 - Send newly-elected trustee bio forms to entities;
 - Send a welcome letter to the Committee from the SBC Executive Committee president including date for the meeting and membership list of current Committee;
 - Input "rotating off board" trustee information in database;
 - Working on behalf of the SBC recording secretary, notify all newly-elected board members, trustees of institutions, and commission members of their appointment; and
 - Compile Part 5 of the official record of the Southern Baptist Convention meeting and actions, "Officers, Directors, Trustees, and Committees," for inclusion in the *SBC Annual*.
2. In August, the SBC Executive Committee liaison to the Committee on Nominations will do the following:
 - Send each entity a current list of vacancies and trustees eligible to serve a second term. Each entity is to confirm if accurate and/or notify of any changes;
 - Begin preparing a self-explanatory notebook for each member of the Committee. The notebook will contain up-to-date information on each entity, current entity vacancies, list of trustees eligible to serve a second term, entity charter requirements for trustee selection, balance of entity boards (SBC Bylaw 15G requires entities to include both church or denominational employees and those who are not church or denominational employees, with no more than two-thirds of the board members drawn from either category).
3. In November, the SBC Executive Committee liaison to the Committee on Nominations will do the following:
 - Send the completed notebook to each Committee member;
 - Following Committee members' receipt of notebook, coordinate a conference call with Committee on Nominations members and the SBC Executive Committee president and/or the SBC President upon their request.
4. In February, the SBC Executive Committee liaison to the Committee on Nominations begins receiving nomination forms and begins the process of vetting each person being nominated to ensure the person meets all the criteria for trustee service spelled out in the SBC Bylaws.
5. In March, when the full committee meets, the SBC Executive Committee liaison to the Committee on Nominations will sit alongside the chairperson to provide clerical assistance. Following the committee meeting, the SBC Executive Committee liaison will send each nominee information regarding the board, institution, or commission for which they are being nominated and request their written approval to continue with the nomination process.
6. In April, the SBC Executive Committee liaison to the Committee on Nominations will prepare a report of the Committee for release in *Baptist Press* as stipulated in the SBC Bylaws (45 days prior to annual meeting).

7. In May, the SBC Executive Committee liaison to the Committee on Nominations will prepare a report of the Committee (different layout than report for *Baptist Press* noted above) for inclusion in the SBC *Bulletin* to be presented to messengers for adoption during the annual meeting.
8. In June, just prior to the SBC annual meeting, the SBC Executive Committee liaison will meet with a subcommittee of the Committee on Nominations to finalize the Committee's recommendation to the Convention. This subcommittee is appointed by the committee chairperson each year to fill any positions not finalized by the full committee in its March meeting and/or address any change in status of a nominee who withdraws his or her name from consideration and becomes unqualified to serve due to a move from the state or territory they were nominated to represent.

GUIDELINES FOR THE SBC EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE LIAISON TO THE SBC COMMITTEE ON RESOLUTIONS

1. The SBC Executive Committee liaison to the Committee on Resolutions shall provide written and verbal orientation to the SBC president concerning Resolutions Committee member responsibilities in December or early January each year.
2. The SBC Executive Committee president or, at his request, the SBC Executive Committee liaison to the Committee on Resolutions may solicit topics from the SBC Executive Committee officers prior to the February SBC Executive Committee meeting as thought-starters for a possible "compendium" resolution (i.e. a resolution comprised of several topics) the Resolutions Committee may wish to consider for the following SBC annual meeting. This possible compendium resolution could serve as a landing place for a variety of topics, including topics from properly submitted resolutions not selected for individual adoption.
3. During the SBC Executive Committee Resolutions Committee liaison's orientation call with the newly-appointed Committee on Resolutions chairman, the SBC Executive Committee Resolutions Committee liaison shall advise the chairman of topics suggested by the SBC Executive Committee officers.
4. During the Resolutions Committee organizational conference call, the SBC Executive Committee Resolutions Committee liaison shall provide an orientation on the resolutions process, giving special attention to the public relations elements of resolutions to help assure that the manner in which properly submitted resolutions are addressed serve the best interests of the Convention by following a consistent pattern of review and presentation from year to year. As a key component of this orientation, the SBC Executive Committee Resolutions Committee liaison shall enjoin the Committee on Resolutions to consider two overarching priorities: to recommend only those resolutions the Committee on Resolutions believes will reflect the position of the vast majority of messengers who will consider the proposed resolution; and to weigh carefully whether any proposed resolution will provide significant help to Southern Baptists in the pews once the annual meeting concludes.
5. The SBC Executive Committee Resolutions Committee liaison shall encourage the Committee on Resolutions to limit the number of resolutions to a reasonable number for the time allotted for debate (perhaps five to eight), selecting only those topics deemed most pressing by the committee from among those properly submitted by individuals or generated by the committee itself, and to adopt three-to-five responsive talking points for each Committee-generated and properly-submitted resolution to be presented to the messengers.

6. The SBC Executive Committee Resolutions Committee liaison shall encourage the Committee on Resolutions to draft a written explanatory paragraph in regard to all properly submitted resolutions not presented to the messengers, with this paragraph published in the SBC *Bulletin* as part of the committee's disposition report (see SBC Bylaws).
 7. The SBC Executive Committee Resolutions Committee liaison shall encourage the Committee on Resolutions chairman and members to refer to the talking points incorporated in the printed disposition report should there be a motion from the floor to consider a properly submitted resolution that was not recommended to the messengers by the committee.
17. **Creation of a Study Task Force to Review the Ethics and Religious Liberty Commission** – In February 2020, the Southern Baptist Convention Executive Committee adopted the following resolution which created a Study Task Force to review the past and present activities of the Ethics and Religious Liberty Commission in the fulfillment of its Convention-approved ministry assignments. SBC Executive Committee Chairman Mike Stone officially enlisted the following SBC Executive Committee members to serve on the task force: Mike Stone, Rolland Slade, Hoyt Savage, Cheryl Samples, Mike Lawson, Ron Hale, and Monte Shinkle.

RESOLUTION TO REVIEW THE ETHICS AND RELIGIOUS LIBERTY COMMISSION

Whereas, the members of the SBC Executive Committee are entrusted with the responsibility to recommend the Cooperative Program Allocation Budget to the Southern Baptist Convention on an annual basis, as required by SBC Bylaw 18.E(7); and

Whereas, the SBC Executive Committee is directed by the Convention to study and make recommendations to entities, and the Convention when advisable, concerning adjustments required by ministry statements or by established Convention policies and practices, as described in SBC Bylaw 18.E(9); and

Whereas, the SBC Executive Committee is directed by the Convention to present to the Convention recommendations required to clarify the responsibilities of the entities for ministries and other functions, as provided in SBC Bylaw 18.E(13); and

Whereas, ongoing concerns have been expressed both publicly and privately to various members of the SBC Executive Committee and other Southern Baptists regarding how the Ethics and Religious Liberty Commission's actions in relation to its ministry statements are affecting the Convention and its relationships with local churches, local associations, and state conventions; we recommend

That a task force be created consisting of the now-serving SBC Executive Committee chair (who will continue serving until the task force concludes its work) and six SBC Executive Committee members appointed by the SBC Executive Committee chair; and

That the task force review the past and present activities of the Ethics and Religious Liberty Commission in the fulfillment of its Convention-approved ministry assignments; and

That the task force assess whether the actions of the Commission and its leadership are affecting Cooperative Program giving or the further advancement of the Cooperative Program; and

That the task force report back to the SBC Executive Committee on or before its September 2020 meeting.

18. **SBC Credentials Committee Vacancy** – In February 2020, the Southern Baptist Convention Executive Committee nominated Linda Cooper, a member of Forest Park Baptist Church in Bowling Green, Kentucky, to serve a three-year term on the SBC Credentials Committee.
19. **Amendment of SBC Executive Committee Bylaws** – In February 2020, the Southern Baptist Convention Executive Committee approved extensive amendments to its bylaws, specifically Article III. Board of Trustees, Article IV. Officers and Their Duties, Article V. Personnel, and Article VI. Committees.
20. **The North American Mission Board of the Southern Baptist Convention, Inc.: Amendment of Articles of Incorporation** – In February 2020, in response to a request from the North American Mission Board to amend its Articles of Incorporation, the Southern Baptist Convention Executive Committee respectfully requested the Board of Trustees of the North American Mission Board give further consideration and study to the proposed amendment regarding the composition of their Board of Trustees.
21. **SBC Referral: Requesting a Day of Prayer for the Persecuted Church be Added to the SBC Calendar of Activities** – In September 2019, the Southern Baptist Convention Executive Committee approved adding a special emphasis Sunday “A Day of Prayer for the Persecuted Church” to the *SBC Calendar of Activities* to be resourced and supported by the International Mission Board. The IMB is to provide the date annually. Previously approved calendars will be amended to include the date.
22. **SBC Referral: Requesting a George Liele Evangelism Day Be Added to the SBC Calendar of Activities** – In February 2020, the Southern Baptist Convention Executive Committee approved adding a special emphasis Sunday, “George Liele Church Planting, Evangelism and Missions Day” to the *SBC Calendar of Activities* on the first Sunday in February, to be resourced and supported by the International Mission Board. Previously approved calendars will be amended to include the date.
23. **2024-25 SBC Calendar of Activities and Amendments** – In February 2020, the Southern Baptist Convention Executive Committee approved recommendations for the 2024-25 *SBC Calendar of Activities* and amendments to the 2019-20, 2020-21, 2021-22, 2022-23, and 2023-24 *SBC Calendar of Activities* as follows:

2024-25 SBC CALENDAR OF ACTIVITIES

October 2024

Cooperative Program Emphasis

Personal Evangelism Day, **October 6**

Global Hunger Sunday, **October 13**

Week of Prayer for Baptist Associations, **October 20-27**

November 2024

Orphans and Widows Sunday, **November 3**

December 2024

Week of Prayer and Mission Study for International Missions and
the Lottie Moon Christmas Offering, **December 1-8**

January 2025

January Bible Study, **January 5-12**
Sanctity of Human Life Sunday, **January 19**

February 2025

“True Love Waits” Emphasis

George Liele Church Planting, Evangelism and Missions Sunday, **February 2**
Racial Reconciliation Sunday, **February 9**
Focus on WMU, **February 10-16**
Children’s Missions Day, **February 15**

March 2025

Youth Week, **March 2-9**
Week of Prayer and Mission Study for North American Missions
and the Annie Armstrong Easter Offering, **March 2-9**
Church Planting Emphasis Sunday, **March 16**
Substance Abuse Prevention Sunday, **March 16**

April 2025

Cooperative Program Sunday, **April 6**
Baptist Doctrine Study, **April 13**
Easter, **April 20**
SBC Seminaries Sunday, **April 27**

May 2025

National Day of Prayer, **May 1**
Senior Adult Sunday, **May 4**
Christian Home Week, **May 11-17**

June 2025

Day of Prayer for the Persecuted Church, **June 1**
Baptist Men’s Emphasis, **June 15**
Crossover, **June 21**
Mission:Dignity Sunday, **June 22**
Citizenship and Religious Liberty Sunday, **June 29**

July 2025

Send Relief Sunday, **July 13**
Children’s Ministry Day, **July 20**
Southern Baptist Media Day, **July 27**

August 2025

Social Issues Sunday, **August 3**
Student Evangelism Day, **August 10**
Disaster Relief Appreciation Day, **August 24**
Worship Music Week, **August 24-29**

September 2025

Single Adult Sunday, **September 7**
Baptism Day, **September 14**
Anti-Gambling Sunday, **September 21**

AMENDMENTS

2019-20 Calendar

A Day of Prayer for the Persecuted Church, June 7 – Add
Disaster Relief Appreciation Day, August 23 – Add

2020-21 Calendar

Disaster Relief Appreciation Day, November 8, 2020 – Change to August 22, 2021
George Liele Church Planting, Evangelism and Missions Sunday, February 7 – Add
Church Planting Emphasis Sunday, March 21 – Add
A Day of Prayer for the Persecuted Church, June 6 – Add

2021-22 Calendar

Disaster Relief Appreciation Day, November 14, 2021 – Change to August 22, 2022
George Liele Church Planting, Evangelism and Missions Sunday, February 6 – Add
A Day of Prayer for the Persecuted Church, June 5 – Add

2022-23 Calendar

Disaster Relief Appreciation Day, November 13, 2022 – Change to August 27, 2023
George Liele Church Planting, Evangelism and Missions Sunday, February 5 – Add
A Day of Prayer for the Persecuted Church, June 4 – Add

2023-24 Calendar

Disaster Relief Appreciation Day, November 12, 2023 – Change to August 25, 2024
Week of Prayer and Mission Study for International Missions and
the Lottie Moon Christmas Offering, December 1-8 – Change to December 3-10
George Liele Church Planting, Evangelism and Missions Sunday, February 4 – Add
A Day of Prayer for the Persecuted Church, June 2 – Add

24. **Election of Southern Baptist Foundation Trustees** – In February 2020, the Southern Baptist Convention Executive Committee directed its president, as the agent designated to represent it as the Member of the Southern Baptist Foundation, to elect Marshall Albritton, Tennessee, and Anita Elliott, Tennessee, as directors of the Southern Baptist Foundation, for terms of office expiring 2023 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 2020.
25. **Meeting Hall Expenses of the SBC Pastors' Conference** – In February 2020, the Southern Baptist Convention Executive Committee recommended the convention hall be made available to the 2020 Pastors' Conference with amendments to its proposed program by February 24, 2020, to the approval of the SBC Executive Committee officers, due to the belief that multiple aspects of its proposed program of February 18, 2020, was sufficiently beyond the parameters of the faith and practice of Southern Baptists in accordance with *The Baptist Faith and Message*. 2020 SBC Pastors' Conference President David Uth asked the SBC Executive Committee officers for an extension of the deadline to March 30, 2020, to allow for a period of prayer and fasting which the officers agreed upon and invited the SBC Executive Committee and all Southern Baptists to join in a specific season of prayer to end on March 29, 2020. Note: The 2020 SBC Pastors' Conference, as an auxiliary meeting to the SBC annual meeting, was canceled following the cancellation of the 2020 SBC Annual Meeting.

26. **Report of Audits of SBC Entities** – In June 2018, the Southern Baptist Convention Executive Committee employed the firm of Batts Morrison Wales & Lee, P. A. as auditor for three years beginning with the fiscal year 2017-18. In September 2019 and February 2020, the SBC Executive Committee received as information the fact that the Audit Workgroup of the Business and Finance Committee received and reviewed the 2018-19 required communications submitted to the SBC Executive Committee as outlined by Article XIII of the SBC Business and Financial Plan as well as the 2018-19 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 Audit Workgroup and the Business and Finance Committee received and approved the management letter from Batts Morrison Wales & Lee, P. A.
27. **Review of SBC Entity Fund Raising Reports** – In September 2019, in accordance with Southern Baptist Convention Business and Financial Plan Article VI, Fund Raising Activities, the Southern Baptist Convention Executive Committee received as information the fund raising reports of the entities of the Southern Baptist Convention.
28. **Loan Status Reports** – In February 2020, the Southern Baptist Convention Executive Committee received as information, loan status reports from The Southern Baptist Theological Seminary, Southeastern Baptist Theological Seminary, and Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary. They will report their loan status to the SBC Executive Committee during its February 2021 meeting.
29. **Review of the M. May Robertson Fund Report** – In February 2020, the Southern Baptist Convention Executive Committee received as information the report of the M. May Robertson Fund, dated December 31, 2019, which reflected that a total corpus of \$917,390.19 had provided \$162,000.00 in scholarships between January 1, 2015, and December 31, 2019. The SBC Executive Committee reaffirmed the decision to permit the Southern Baptist Foundation Scholarship/Loan Committee to distribute income earned by the M. May Robertson Fund exclusively for scholarships/loans for Baptist graduate students who propose to teach in Southern Baptist seminaries, Baptist universities, colleges, and schools of state Baptist conventions affiliated with the Southern Baptist Convention until February 2025 or until the SBC Executive Committee renders a different decision, whichever comes later.
30. **Review of the Joseph W. Farmer Memorial Fund Report** – In February 2020, the Southern Baptist Convention Executive Committee received as information the report of the Joseph W. Farmer Memorial Fund, dated December 31, 2019, which reflected that a total corpus of \$266,455.02 had provided \$50,900.00 in scholarships between January 1, 2015, and December 31, 2019. The SBC Executive Committee reaffirmed its decision to permit the Southern Baptist Foundation Scholarship/Loan Committee to distribute income earned by the Joseph W. Farmer Memorial Fund exclusively for graduate scholarships/loans for students who will teach in Southern Baptist seminaries and Baptist colleges until February 2025 or until the SBC Executive Committee renders a different decision, whichever comes later.

31. **Review of the Opdyke Scholarship Fund Report** – In February 2020, the Southern Baptist Convention Executive Committee received as information the report of the Dorothea Van Deusen Opdyke Scholarship Fund, dated December 31, 2019, which reflected that a total of \$1,869,836 had been granted since 1961. The SBC Executive Committee reaffirmed its decision to permit the Southern Baptist Foundation Scholarship/Loan Committee to distribute income earned by the Opdyke Scholarship Fund in accordance with the current guidelines of the fund until February 2025 or until the SBC Executive Committee renders a different decision, whichever comes earlier.
32. **Personnel Policies of the SBC Executive Committee Amendment** – In September 2019, the Southern Baptist Convention Executive Committee approved revisions to its personnel policies to include a Dishonesty, Fraud, and Whistleblower Policy to take effect October 1, 2019.

Dishonesty, Fraud and Whistleblower Policy

General

The Southern Baptist Convention Executive Committee requires all of its directors, officers and employees to observe high standards of business and personal ethics in the conduct of their duties and responsibilities. As employees and representatives of the SBC Executive Committee, we must practice honesty and integrity in fulfilling our responsibilities in accordance with biblical principles and operate in compliance with all applicable laws and regulations.

Reporting Responsibility

It is the responsibility of all directors, officers and employees to report actual or suspected acts of dishonesty, fraud, or illegal activity in accordance with this policy.

No Retaliation

No director, officer or employee who in good faith reports a suspected ethical violation shall suffer harassment, retaliation or adverse employment consequences as a result of making the report. An employee who retaliates against someone who has reported a violation in good faith is subject to discipline, up to and including termination of employment. This policy is intended to encourage and enable employees and others to raise any serious concerns within the SBC Executive Committee prior to seeking resolution outside the SBC Executive Committee.

Reporting Violations

The SBC Executive Committee maintains an open door policy and suggests that employees share their questions, concerns, suggestions or complaints with someone who can address them properly. In most cases, an employee's supervisor is in the best position to address any concerns. However, if an employee is uncomfortable speaking with their supervisor or they are not satisfied with their supervisor's response, they are encouraged to speak with the organization's designated Compliance Officer. For suspected fraud, or when an employee is not satisfied or uncomfortable with following the SBC Executive Committee's open door policy, employees should contact the SBC Executive Committee's audit workgroup chairperson directly.

Compliance Officer

The SBC Executive Committee Chief Financial Officer serves as the designated SBC Executive Committee Compliance Officer and is responsible to investigate all reported and suspected acts of dishonesty, fraud, or illegal activity and, at their discretion, shall advise the SBC Executive Committee President and Chief Executive Officer and/or chair

of the audit workgroup as necessary. The Compliance Officer is required to report to the audit workgroup at least annually on any compliance activity.

Accounting and Auditing Matters

The audit workgroup of the SBC Executive Committee shall address all reported concerns or complaints regarding corporate accounting practices, internal controls or auditing. The Compliance Officer shall immediately notify the audit workgroup of any such complaint and work with the audit workgroup until the matter is resolved.

Acting in Good Faith

Anyone filing a complaint concerning a suspected violation must be acting in good faith and have reasonable grounds for believing the information disclosed indicates a violation. Making allegations that prove not to be substantiated and which prove to have been made maliciously or knowingly to be false will be viewed as a serious offense, subject to disciplinary action.

Confidentiality

Violations or suspected violations may be submitted on a confidential basis or may be submitted anonymously. Reports of violations or suspected violations will be kept confidential to the extent possible, consistent with the need to conduct an adequate investigation.

Handling of Reported Violations

The Compliance Officer will notify the sender and acknowledge receipt of the reported violation or suspected violation within five business days. All reports will be promptly investigated and appropriate corrective action will be taken if warranted by the investigation.

33. Resolutions

- (1) **D. August (Augie) Boto** – In September 2019, the Southern Baptist Convention Executive Committee adopted a resolution of appreciation for D. August (Augie) Boto on the occasion of his retirement as executive vice president and general counsel of the SBC Executive Committee effective September 30, 2019.
- (2) **James R. (Jim) Futral** – In September 2019, the Southern Baptist Convention Executive Committee adopted a resolution of appreciation for James R. (Jim) Futral on the occasion of his retirement as executive director/treasurer of the Mississippi Baptist Convention Board effective October 31, 2019.
- (3) **Garvon E. Golden** – In September 2019, the Southern Baptist Convention Executive Committee adopted a resolution of appreciation for Garvon E. Golden on the occasion of his retirement as executive director of the Dakota Baptist Convention effective December 31, 2019.

Matters Referred by the Convention

During the annual meeting of the Southern Baptist Convention in Birmingham, Alabama, June 11-12, 2019, 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 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 Each SBC Entity to Provide an Update on Addressing Abuse (Items 15 and 60, Proceedings of the Southern Baptist Convention, June 11-12, 2019, SBC Annual, pp. 57, 63)**

Motion: Phillip Bethancourt, Tennessee

“That the Southern Baptist Convention request each of the entities of the Southern Baptist Convention provide an update related to their efforts to address abuse and report back to the 2020 Southern Baptist Convention meeting in Orlando, Florida, covering three subjects: what is their entity doing to foster effective abuse awareness, prevention, and care; what additional steps has their entity taken to address abuse since the 2018 SBC annual meeting in Dallas, Texas; and how is their entity partnering with the efforts of the Sexual Abuse Advisory Group to address abuse?”

SBC Executive Committee Action: The Southern Baptist Convention Executive Committee reports to the Southern Baptist Convention that it wants to be fully transparent about its efforts to stand with Southern Baptist entities and churches against the evils of sexual abuse as reflected in its previous actions:

1. In September 2018, the SBC Executive Committee, on behalf of the Convention ad interim, approved setting aside the first \$250,000 of Cooperative Program Allocation Budget receipts in excess of the 2017-18 Cooperative Program Allocation Budget goal to provide two years of funding for the SBC president’s initiative to study ways to address sexual abuse and related issues in a church or ministry context.
2. In June 2019, the SBC Executive Committee developed and recommended an amendment to SBC Bylaw 8, which was passed overwhelmingly by messengers of the 2019 annual meeting of the Southern Baptist Convention, repurposing the Credentials Committee into a standing committee to make inquiries and recommendations for action regarding instances that call a church’s relationship with the Southern Baptist Convention into question. While those instances can range beyond the issue of abuse, this sent a clear signal of the intention for SBC Executive Committee and Southern Baptist Convention processes to reflect the seriousness of sexual abuse.
3. In February and June 2019, the SBC Executive Committee developed and recommended an amendment to SBC Constitution Article III to specifically and proactively state that churches considered to be in friendly cooperation do not act in a manner inconsistent with the Convention’s beliefs concerning abuse. The messengers to the 2019 annual meeting of the Southern Baptist Convention passed

this amendment overwhelmingly for the first of two consecutive annual meeting approvals, and it was to be presented for the second and final vote to the annual meeting of the Southern Baptist Convention in Orlando, Florida, June 9-10, 2020. Due to the cancellation of the 2020 Annual Meeting, the next consecutive meeting will be in Nashville, Tennessee in 2021.

2. **SBC Referral: To Request a Day of Prayer for the Persecuted Church be Added to the *SBC Calendar of Activities* (Items 17 and 60, Proceedings of the Southern Baptist Convention, June 11-12, 2019, *SBC Annual*, pp. 57, 63)**

Motion: Brent Epling, North Carolina

“That the Executive Committee of the Southern Baptist Convention consider that a day of special emphasis and prayer for the global persecuted church be added to the *SBC Calendar of Activities*.”

SBC Executive Committee Action: The Southern Baptist Convention Executive Committee reports to the Southern Baptist Convention that it approved adding a special emphasis Sunday “A Day of Prayer for the Persecuted Church” to the *SBC Calendar of Activities* to be resourced and supported by the International Mission Board and that the IMB provide the date annually. Previously approved calendars will be amended to include the date.

3. **SBC Referral: To Ask the SBC Executive Committee to Devise a Plan for Churches to Request Funding for Investigating Sexual Abuse (Items 18 and 60, Proceedings of the Southern Baptist Convention, June 11-12, 2019, *SBC Annual*, pp. 57, 63)**

Motion: Aaron Colyer, New Mexico

“That the SBC Executive Committee consider the viability of developing a plan or avenue for churches to request funding for investigating sexual abuse.”

SBC Executive Committee Action: The Southern Baptist Convention Executive Committee reports to the Southern Baptist Convention that it declines to establish a plan to assist churches to conduct or procure their own investigations of reported sexual abuse as these type of matters should be handled by appropriate law enforcement officers.

Additionally, the SBC Executive Committee recommends churches use resources already provided through SBC.net, their Baptist state convention or local association, their individual insurance providers, GuideStone Financial Resources (GuideStonePropertyCasualty.org), and the recently resourced Caring Well Initiative (caringwell.com) led by the Ethics and Religious Liberty Commission and funded by the SBC Executive Committee, to learn how to respond appropriately in instances of reported sexual abuse to help protect children, youth, and other vulnerable populations.

4. **SBC Referral: To Request a George Liele Evangelism Day be Added to the *SBC Calendar of Activities* (Items 20 and 60, Proceedings of the Southern Baptist Convention, June 11-12, 2019, *SBC Annual*, pp. 60, 63)**

Motion: Robert Anderson, Maryland

“That George Liele Church Planting, Evangelism and Missions Day be added to the Baptist Annual Day calendar on the first Sunday in February.”

SBC Executive Committee Action: The Southern Baptist Convention Executive Committee reports to the Southern Baptist Convention that it approves adding a special emphasis Sunday, “George Liele Church Planting, Evangelism and Missions Day” on

the first Sunday in February, to be resourced and supported by the International Mission Board. Previously approved calendars will be amended to include the date.

5. **SBC Referral: To Ask the SBC Executive Committee to Modernize the Nomination Process for Convention Committees and Boards (Items 21 and 61, Proceedings of the Southern Baptist Convention, June 11-12, 2019, SBC Annual, pp. 58, 63)**

Motion: Brad Cone, Georgia

“That the Executive Committee of the Southern Baptist Convention consider modernizing the initial stage of the nomination process and the technology involved including consideration of using the online submission of forms for recommending those that serve on our boards or committees either alongside or in place of the correct form that must be physically mailed or delivered.”

SBC Executive Committee Action: The Southern Baptist Convention Executive Committee reports to the Southern Baptist Convention that it receives the motion to modernize the nomination process for committees and boards of the Southern Baptist Convention, will provide appropriate information and nomination forms on the SBC.net website for use by any Southern Baptist who is a member of a church in friendly cooperation with the Convention, and will continue to take steps to promote wider participation in the nomination of committee persons and trustees among Southern Baptists.

6. **SBC Referral: To Have the SBC Executive Committee Give a Progress Report on the Adopted 2011 Recommendations Promoting Diversity (Items 22 and 61, Proceedings of the Southern Baptist Convention, June 11-12, 2019, SBC Annual, pp. 58, 63)**

Motion: Leroy Fountain, Louisiana

“That a comprehensive report be given at the 2020 annual meeting by the Executive Committee on the progress of 10 recommendations adopted in 2011 for promoting and preparing ethnic members into leadership on entities staff, national committees, and boards.”

SBC Executive Committee Action: The Southern Baptist Convention Executive Committee reports to the Southern Baptist Convention that it (a) presented a comprehensive twenty-year review of the SBC’s Progress on Racial Reconciliation in 2015, which included an update on the 2011 report and recommendations; (b) has continued to monitor such progress through annual reports it solicits and reports from each SBC entity, the SBC president, and the chairs of the Committee on Committees and Committee on Nominations; (c) has actively pursued broader ethnic representation and participation through the appointment of seven SBC Executive Committee advisory councils, each of which was composed of a dominant ethnic minority group (Hispanic, African American, Asian American) or a multiethnic representation of other groups (Multi-Ethnic Churches, Bivocational/Smaller Churches, Women’s, Younger Leaders), and an ongoing Convention Advancement Advisory Council designed to help implement the findings of the seven advisory councils; and (d) will continue to monitor, solicit, and report such progress for at least the next five years, through 2025, so that the racial and ethnic diversity reflected among the Convention’s cooperating churches continuously becomes ingrained in Convention life and processes as our normal way of relating to and with one another as equal partners in ministry and brothers and sisters in Christ.

7. **SBC Referral: To Request the SBC Executive Committee to Amend the Business and Financial Plan to Strengthen the Fiscal Accountability of Entities (Items 24 and 61, Proceedings of the Southern Baptist Convention, June 11-12, 2019, SBC *Annual*, pp. 58, 63)**

Motion: Morris H. Chapman, Tennessee

“That this convention, as the sole member of each entity corporation, request the Executive Committee to amend the Business and Financial Plan of the Southern Baptist Convention and other appropriate legal authorities where necessary to strengthen the fiscal accountability of SBC entities to the convention and to promote greater transparency regarding the use of Cooperative Program dollars.”

SBC Executive Committee Action: The Southern Baptist Convention Executive Committee reports to the Southern Baptist Convention that it is extending consideration of this motion to the SBC annual meeting in Nashville, Tennessee, June 15-16, 2021, in order to provide for maximum input of EC members, officers, staff and other Southern Baptist leaders.

8. **SBC Referral: To Amend *The Baptist Faith and Message* Regarding Israel (Items 25 and 61, Proceedings of the Southern Baptist Convention, June 11-12, 2019, SBC *Annual*, pp. 58, 63)**

Motion: Matt Dunn, Missouri

“That our convention assemble the needed agency to update our *Baptist Faith and Message’s* 18 statements to include a 19th statement that our convention declares, ‘God will restore national Israel like Romans II says, and bring about a reunion with her neighbors in the Middle East.’”

SBC Executive Committee Action: The SBC Executive Committee reports to the Southern Baptist Convention that in light of the historic practice of holistic review, it declines to recommend amending selected portions of *The Baptist Faith and Message*.

9. **SBC Referral: To Amend the SBC Constitution and Bylaws to Allow Distance Voting for SBC Officers (Items 26 and 61, Proceedings of the Southern Baptist Convention, June 11-12, 2019, SBC *Annual*, pp. 59, 63)**

Motion: Dennis Golden, Tennessee

“That the SBC Constitution and Bylaws pertaining to voting for president and vice president be amended allowing all SBC senior pastors to cast their votes electronically rather than requiring them to physically be present at the annual convention believing the majority of SBC pastors cannot afford to travel and attend the national convention.”

SBC Executive Committee Action: The Southern Baptist Convention Executive Committee reports to the Southern Baptist Convention that, after a renewed examination, it declines at this time to further study the feasibility of distance voting and remote participation in the annual meeting, believing that:

- 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 dependability of conducting business at a single site is superior to “distance” messenger participation because the susceptibility of the technology to interruption or failure 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 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 which 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;
- 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;
- the funds required for any implementation would likely be substantial; and
- with there being no known model for web-based constituent participation in any similarly-sized, deliberative body, diverting missions’ offerings to pioneer the use of such technology would be an inappropriate prioritization.

10. SBC Referral: To Amend *The Baptist Faith and Message* to Limit the Function of Pastor to Men (Items 42 and 80, Proceedings of the Southern Baptist Convention, June 11-12, 2019, SBC Annual, pp. 60, 80)

Motion: Pam Richerson, Louisiana

“That this convention amend *The Baptist Faith and Message 2000*, Article 6, as follows: ‘While men and women are gifted for service in the church, the office and function of pastor is limited to men as qualified by scripture.’”

SBC Executive Committee Action: The Southern Baptist Convention Executive Committee reports to the Southern Baptist Convention that in light of the historic practice of holistic review, it declines to recommend amending selected portions of *The Baptist Faith and Message*.

11. SBC Referral: To Have the SBC Executive Committee Create a Statement Regarding the Social Gospel (Items 44 and 80, Proceedings of the Southern Baptist Convention, June 11-12, 2019, SBC Annual, pp. 61, 80)

Motion: Ryan Broers, Kentucky

“That the Executive Committee create an official statement regarding the social gospel by addressing the following questions: (1) What is the social gospel? (2) What role if any should the social gospel have in the ministries of the SBC and its churches?”

SBC Executive Committee Action: The Southern Baptist Convention Executive Committee reports to the Southern Baptist Convention that it believes messengers to the SBC annual meeting have spoken repeatedly to the primacy of the gospel of Jesus Christ as the only message with the power to redeem fallen people from the dire consequences of their sins, while simultaneously lifting up biblical calls to care for humanitarian needs of people wherever human brokenness manifests itself; and, in keeping with the 2007 Garner motion that *The Baptist Faith and Message* “is the only consensus statement of

doctrinal beliefs approved by the Southern Baptist Convention,” declines to recommend the addition of theological position papers to define for Southern Baptists that which they already capably define for themselves.

During the annual meeting of the Southern Baptist Convention in Dallas, Texas, June 12-13, 2018, the Convention referred the following motion to the SBC Executive Committee for consideration, action, and report. The disposition of this referral is noted following its description in adherence to SBC Bylaw 26B which states, in part, as follows:

12. **SBC Referral: To Study the Biblical Position Regarding a Woman Serving as President of the SBC (Items 69, 92, Proceedings of the Southern Baptist Convention, June 12-13, 2018, SBC *Annual*, pp. 63, 92)**

Motion: Michael Turner, South Carolina

“That the Executive Committee form a task force, commission, or committee of gender and ethnic background to study the biblical authority and biblical viability of a woman serving or not serving as the SBC president.”

SBC Executive Committee Action: The Southern Baptist Convention Executive Committee reports to the Southern Baptist Convention that it believes individual messengers to the SBC annual meeting are capable of expressing their collective opinion on the topic of this motion through the nominating and voting process for SBC officers at each SBC annual meeting and, therefore, declines to recommend the addition of theological position papers to supplement *The Baptist Faith and Message*.

COMPREHENSIVE SUMMARY OPERATING BUDGET

	[◊] 2020-2021**	2019-2020*	2018-2019*
SBC EC and SBC Operating	\$ 8,300,350	\$ 7,866,000	\$ 8,598,231
International Mission Board	277,100,000	267,400,000	283,370,000
North American Mission Board	124,230,000	124,230,000	130,474,210
Lifeway Christian Resources	282,700,000	277,200,000	261,399,000
GuideStone Financial Resources	95,000,000	90,800,000	91,000,000
Gateway Seminary	11,500,000	11,750,000	11,865,000
Midwestern Seminary	22,497,000	21,083,760	17,791,807
New Orleans Seminary	23,945,801	23,542,383	23,475,003
Southeastern Seminary	31,227,816	29,111,460	27,330,936
Southern Seminary	53,734,835	53,200,735	51,793,118
Southwestern Seminary	<i>In process</i> ***	34,815,439	39,435,026
Ethics & Religious Liberty Commission	4,300,991	4,300,991	3,917,933
Historical Library and Archives	513,000	493,000	511,524
TOTAL OF ALL BUDGETS	<i>In process</i>***	\$ 945,793,768	\$ 950,961,788

* Actual budget years will vary within each convention year

** Projected

*** In light of the COVID-19 pandemic, Southwestern Seminary's Board of Trustees have deferred adoption of a FY2021 budget until July 2020. Updated information will be provided in the 2020 SBC Annual.

SBC EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE AND SBC OPERATING BUDGET

STATEMENT OF INCOME	2020-21***	2019-20**	2018-19*
Cooperative Program	\$ 5,875,350	\$ 5,875,350	\$ 5,800,600
Designations	300,000	225,000	300,729
LifeWay Christian Resources	100,000	100,000	160,000
Interest/Dividends	600,000	475,000	1,159,987
Cost Recovery Inc. (Annual Mtg, SBC Life, etc.)	1,000,000	949,650	953,908
Other Income	425,000	75,000	640,760
TOTAL INCOME	\$ 8,300,350	\$ 7,700,000	\$ 9,015,984
ENTITY SUMMARY OPERATING BUDGET	2020-21***	2019-20**	2018-19*
Convention Administration Expenses			
SBC General Operations		\$ 368,000	\$ 412,832
— Global Evangelical Relations			118,511
SBC Committees		125,000	94,403
Annual Meeting		1,000,000	1,143,394
SBC Building Management		635,890	617,066
SUBTOTAL	\$ 2,490,105	\$ 2,208,890	\$ 2,386,206
Executive Committee Operations Expenses			
Administration		1,796,945	1,883,484
Executive Committee Meetings		240,000	353,523
Convention Policy		0	830,326
Convention Relations (Mobilization)		927,908	1,378,807
Convention Communications		1,643,784	
Convention Advancement		478,709	460,254
Cooperative Program/Stewardship		569,764	591,087
Other Designated Expenditures			533,464
SUBTOTAL	\$ 5,810,245	\$ 5,657,110	\$ 6,030,945
Other Non-Cash Year End Adj.			181,081
TOTAL EXPENSES	\$ 8,300,350	\$ 7,866,000	\$ 8,598,231

* Numbers are taken from the 2018-19 Year End Financial Statements

** Numbers are taken from the SBC Operating Budget — approved September 2019

*** Numbers are estimates for the year requested based on anticipated income

[◊] The economic uncertainties brought on by COVID-19 will directly impact the currently projected budgets. The 2020-2021 budget projections included in this report are the entities' most recently available figures as of the day this publication was posted. Any updated budget projections will be published in the regularly printed 2020 SBC Annual in the fall of this year.

INTERNATIONAL MISSION BOARD

STATEMENT OF INCOME	2020-2021 ⁽³⁾	2019-2020 ⁽²⁾	2018-2019 ⁽¹⁾
Cooperative Program	\$ 99,500,000	\$ 99,100,000	\$ 99,254,000
Investment Income	7,300,000	7,300,000	12,057,000
Lottie Moon	164,300,000	155,000,000	157,307,000
Other Income	6,000,000	6,000,000	14,752,000
TOTAL	<u>\$ 277,100,000</u>	<u>\$ 267,400,000</u>	<u>\$ 283,370,000</u>
CP as a Percent of Total Income	35.9%	37.1%	35.0%

ENTITY SUMMARY OPERATING BUDGET	2020-2021 ⁽³⁾	2019-2020	2018-2019
Personnel Support	\$ 216,307,000	\$ 208,735,000	\$ 205,284,000
Global Engagement	19,871,000	19,175,000	17,049,000
Leadership	10,047,000	9,695,000	8,494,000
Mobilization	5,269,000	5,085,000	4,995,000
Support Services	15,061,000	14,534,000	15,915,000
Technology Solutions	8,427,000	8,132,000	8,532,000
Training	2,118,000	2,044,000	2,140,000
Pathway Initiatives	-	-	1,991,000
TOTAL	<u>\$ 277,100,000</u>	<u>\$ 267,400,000</u>	<u>\$ 264,400,000</u>

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

(2) Amounts based on budget.

(3) Amounts based on estimates.

NORTH AMERICAN MISSION BOARD

STATEMENT OF INCOME	2021*	2020**	2019***
Cooperative Program	\$ 44,210,000	\$ 44,210,000	\$ 44,835,155
Annie Armstrong	60,750,000	60,750,000	61,600,104
Unrestricted Gifts	5,000,000	5,000,000	4,025,134
Investment & Interest	12,240,000	12,240,000	4,672,280
Other	2,030,000	2,030,000	1,760,259
Total Unrestricted Income	<u>\$ 124,230,000</u>	<u>\$ 124,230,000</u>	<u>\$ 116,892,932</u>
Restricted Gifts	0	0	11,111,200
Total Income	<u>\$ 124,230,000</u>	<u>\$ 124,230,000</u>	<u>\$ 128,004,132</u>
CP as a Percent of Total Income	35.59%	35.59%	35.03%

* Estimates provided for FY21

** Approved budget for FY20

*** Audited actuals for FY19

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

ENTITY SUMMARY OPERATING BUDGET	2021*	2020**	2019***
Church Planting	\$ 72,085,000	\$ 72,085,000	\$ 66,985,421
Evangelism & Relief	11,275,000	11,275,000	25,326,155
Mission Education & Opportunities	9,575,000	9,575,000	10,751,581
Sending & Leadership	9,967,000	9,967,000	9,558,335
Administration	21,328,000	21,328,000	18,035,299
Total	<u>\$ 124,230,000</u>	<u>\$ 124,230,000</u>	<u>\$ 130,656,791</u>

* Estimates provided for FY21

** Approved budget for FY20

*** Audited actuals for FY19

The economic uncertainties brought on by COVID-19 will directly impact the currently projected budgets. The 2020-2021 budget projections included in this report are the entities' most recently available figures as of the day this publication was posted. Any updated budget projections will be published in the regularly printed 2020 SBC Annual in the fall of this year.

LIFEWAY CHRISTIAN RESOURCES

	<u>2020-2021</u>	<u>2019-2020</u> ⁽¹⁾	<u>2018-2019</u> ⁽²⁾
Revenue			
Product Sales	\$ 210,200,000	\$ 206,100,000	\$ 194,281,000
Conference Center Revenue	20,800,000	20,400,000	19,028,000
Events & Services Sales	36,800,000	36,100,000	33,025,000
Other Operating Revenue	<u>17,900,000</u>	<u>17,600,000</u>	<u>20,149,000</u>
Total Revenue From Operations	<u>\$ 285,700,000</u>	<u>\$ 280,200,000</u>	<u>\$ 266,483,000</u>
Costs and Expenses			
Product Costs/Operating Expenses	279,820,000	274,320,000	258,724,000
Cooperative Work With State Conventions	2,780,000	2,780,000	2,485,000
Southern Baptist Convention Support	<u>100,000</u>	<u>100,000</u>	<u>190,000</u>
Total Costs and Expenses	<u>282,700,000</u>	<u>277,200,000</u>	<u>261,399,000</u>
Funds Provided From Operations	3,000,000	3,000,000	5,084,000
	1.1%	1.1%	1.9%
Net Realized/Unrealized Reserve Fund Income	500,000	500,000	(3,741,000)
Pension/Postretirement Credit/Other	(5,000,000)	(5,000,000)	(54,171,000)
Other Adjustments	0	(100,000)	(7,766,000)
Donated Activity	0	(100,000)	(22,000)
Retail discontinued operations	<u>0</u>	<u>(21,900,000)</u>	<u>(22,141,000)</u>
Inc (Dec) in Unrestricted Net Assets	<u>\$ (1,500,000)</u>	<u>\$ (23,600,000)</u>	<u>\$ (82,757,000)</u>
Inc (Dec) in Temporarily Restricted Net Assets	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>100,000</u>
Inc (Dec) in Net Assets	<u>\$ (1,500,000)</u>	<u>\$ (23,600,000)</u>	<u>\$ (82,657,000)</u>

(1) Information is based on 2020 budget which was approved by trustees August 27, 2019.

(2) From audited financial statements. LifeWay began closing stores in June 2019.

GUIDESTONE FINANCIAL RESOURCES

STATEMENT OF INCOME	<u>2020*</u>	<u>2019**</u>	<u>2018</u>
Operating Revenue	\$ 123,000,000	\$ 122,000,000	\$ 157,000,000
Net Investment Income			
Retirement Servicing	1,000,000	1,000,000	870,000
Insurance	3,000,000	5,000,000	(200,000)
Mission:Dignity	2,000,000	6,000,000	(1,670,000)
Other Reserves	<u>27,000,000</u>	<u>33,000,000</u>	<u>3,130,000</u>
Total Income	<u>\$ 156,000,000</u>	<u>\$ 167,000,000</u>	<u>\$ 159,130,000</u>

ENTITY SUMMARY OPERATING BUDGET

Retirement Servicing	\$ 62,000,000	\$ 59,800,000	\$ 58,000,000
Insurance	31,000,000	29,300,000	31,500,000
Mission:Dignity	<u>2,000,000</u>	<u>1,700,000</u>	<u>1,500,000</u>
Total	<u>\$ 95,000,000</u>	<u>\$ 90,800,000</u>	<u>\$ 91,000,000</u>

* Projected

** Unaudited

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GATEWAY SEMINARY

STATEMENT OF INCOME

	<u>2020-2021</u>	<u>2019-2020</u>	<u>2018-2019</u>
Educational and General:	<i>Amended by Board Action</i>		<i>Amended by Board Action</i>
Student Tuition	\$ 3,520,600	\$ 3,264,216	\$ 3,392,445
Endowment and Investment	2,758,104	2,701,228	2,664,400
Cooperative Program	3,443,598	3,836,589	3,911,600
Other Gifts	1,039,478	1,097,948	1,176,440
Other Income	<u>127,040</u>	<u>107,339</u>	<u>40,640</u>
Total educational & general	10,888,820	11,007,320	11,185,525
Auxiliary enterprises	<u>611,180</u>	<u>642,680</u>	<u>553,360</u>
Total current & auxiliary revenue	11,500,000	11,650,000	11,738,885
Restricted Transfers	0	100,000	126,115
TOTAL INCOME	<u>\$ 11,500,000</u>	<u>\$ 11,750,000</u>	<u>\$ 11,865,000</u>
CP as Percent of Total Income	30%	33%	33%

ENTITY SUMMARY OPERATING BUDGET

	<u>2020-2021</u>	<u>2019-2020</u>	<u>2018-2019</u>
Educational and General:			
Instruction	\$ 4,763,241	\$ 5,033,629	\$ 5,173,828
Academic Support	524,172	468,569	429,112
Student Services	1,018,834	977,363	975,579
Institutional Support	3,183,681	3,245,792	3,111,902
Libraries	712,766	776,782	788,451
Plant Operations & Maintenance	<u>1,070,538</u>	<u>1,019,917</u>	<u>1,095,193</u>
Total Educational and General	11,273,232	11,522,052	11,574,065
Auxiliary Enterprises	<u>226,768</u>	<u>227,948</u>	<u>290,935</u>
TOTAL EXPENSE BUDGET	<u>\$ 11,500,000</u>	<u>\$ 11,750,000</u>	<u>\$ 11,865,000</u>

MIDWESTERN BAPTIST THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY

STATEMENT OF INCOME

	<u>2020-2021</u>	<u>2019-2020</u>	<u>2018-2019</u>
Cooperative Program	\$ 6,627,000	\$ 6,815,347	\$ 6,162,891
Student Fees	16,091,000	15,166,984	13,333,495
Other Gifts	674,000	600,000	600,000
Auxiliary Enterprises	3,005,000	2,415,429	1,892,921
Other Income	<u>400,000</u>	<u>361,000</u>	<u>77,500</u>
TOTAL INCOME	<u>\$ 26,797,000</u>	<u>\$ 25,358,760</u>	<u>\$ 22,066,807</u>
CP as Percent of Total Income	25%	27%	28%

ENTITY SUMMARY OPERATING BUDGET

	<u>2020-2021</u>	<u>2019-2020</u>	<u>2018-2019</u>
Instruction	\$ 8,256,329	\$ 7,978,023	\$ 6,636,786
Administrative and General	5,372,954	5,250,199	4,932,943
Student Services	1,993,727	1,609,117	1,500,828
Operations and Maintenance	1,924,060	1,950,925	1,759,293
Auxiliary Enterprises	1,009,930	675,496	341,957
Capital Expenses	2,140,000	2,720,000	1,720,000
Debt Retirement	<u>1,800,000</u>	<u>900,000</u>	<u>900,000</u>
TOTAL EXPENSES	<u>\$ 22,497,000</u>	<u>\$ 21,083,760</u>	<u>\$ 17,791,807</u>

The economic uncertainties brought on by COVID-19 will directly impact the currently projected budgets. The 2020-2021 budget projections included in this report are the entities' most recently available figures as of the day this publication was posted. Any updated budget projections will be published in the regularly printed 2020 SBC Annual in the fall of this year.

NEW ORLEANS BAPTIST THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY

STATEMENT OF INCOME	2020-2021*	2019-2020	2018-2019
Student Fees	\$ 9,555,000	\$ 9,400,000	\$ 8,800,000
Cooperative Program	6,903,583	7,032,583	7,060,203
Other Gifts	2,300,000	2,100,000	2,600,000
Endowment Income	750,000	750,000	750,000
Other Income	2,200,000	2,200,000	2,250,000
Auxiliary Income	<u>2,237,218</u>	<u>2,059,800</u>	<u>2,014,800</u>
TOTAL INCOME	<u>\$ 23,945,801</u>	<u>\$ 23,542,383</u>	<u>\$ 23,475,003</u>
CP as a Percent of Total Income	28.83%	29.87%	30.08%
ENTITY SUMMARY OPERATING BUDGET	2020-2021*	2019-2020	2018-2019
Academic	\$ 10,838,108	\$ 10,678,793	\$ 10,568,453
Administrative and General	3,901,676	3,657,573	3,700,533
Maintenance	2,200,000	2,200,000	2,200,000
SUBTOTAL EDUCATION AND GENERAL	16,939,784	16,536,366	16,468,986
Auxiliary Expenses	5,906,017	5,906,017	5,906,017
Student Aid	<u>1,100,000</u>	<u>1,100,000</u>	<u>1,100,000</u>
TOTAL	<u>\$ 23,945,801</u>	<u>\$ 23,542,383</u>	<u>\$ 23,475,003</u>

* Projected

SOUTHEASTERN BAPTIST THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY

STATEMENT OF INCOME	2020-2021*	2019-2020**	2018-2019
Cooperative Program	\$ 7,124,054	\$ 7,499,004	\$ 7,586,832
Student Fees	13,739,212	14,462,328	12,919,848
Auxiliary Enterprises	5,200,384	5,474,088	5,194,296
Other Gifts	1,520,008	1,600,008	1,500,000
Investment Income	1,814,435	1,909,932	1,648,776
Miscellaneous	<u>268,333</u>	<u>282,456</u>	<u>261,708</u>
INCOME TOTALS	<u>\$ 29,666,425</u>	<u>\$ 31,227,816</u>	<u>\$ 29,111,460</u>
CP as a Percent of Total Income	24%	24%	26%
ENTITY SUMMARY OPERATING BUDGET			
Administrative & General	\$ 4,530,554	\$ 4,769,004	\$ 4,493,820
Auxiliary Expenses	4,637,360	4,881,432	4,663,704
Capital Expenditures	1,149,713	1,210,224	956,880
Instruction	12,003,812	12,635,592	11,811,036
Institutional Advancement	2,957,388	3,113,040	2,895,240
Plant Operation	2,921,353	3,075,108	3,007,152
Student Services	<u>1,466,245</u>	<u>1,543,416</u>	<u>1,283,628</u>
TOTAL OPERATING EXPENSES	<u>\$ 29,666,425</u>	<u>\$ 31,227,816</u>	<u>\$ 29,111,460</u>

* This is an estimated budget. The final budget was not available at the time information was requested.

** Approved Budget

The economic uncertainties brought on by COVID-19 will directly impact the currently projected budgets. The 2020-2021 budget projections included in this report are the entities' most recently available figures as of the day this publication was posted. Any updated budget projections will be published in the regularly printed 2020 SBC Annual in the fall of this year.

SOUTHERN BAPTIST THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY

STATEMENT OF INCOME	2020-2021*	2019-2020**	2018-2019**
Educational and General:			
Tuition and Fees	\$ 28,354,487	\$ 28,009,435	\$ 26,695,310
Cooperative Program	10,083,000	10,062,000	9,912,000
Other Gifts	3,362,500	3,100,000	3,100,000
Endowment and Other Investment Income	3,999,167	3,967,298	3,675,673
Other Income	<u>1,396,506</u>	<u>1,431,642</u>	<u>1,325,494</u>
Total Educational and General	47,195,660	46,570,375	44,708,477
Auxiliary Enterprises	<u>6,539,175</u>	<u>6,630,360</u>	<u>7,084,641</u>
TOTAL INCOME	<u>\$ 53,734,835</u>	<u>\$ 53,200,735</u>	<u>\$ 51,793,118</u>
CP as a Percent of Total Income	18.8%	18.9%	19.1%

ENTITY SUMMARY OPERATING BUDGET *	2020-2021	2019-2020	2018-2019
Educational and General:			
Institutional Support	\$ 10,121,447	\$ 9,967,086	\$ 11,378,867
Instruction	11,566,050	11,241,120	10,874,677
Academic Support	2,197,911	2,211,745	2,109,616
Student Services	5,516,530	5,427,212	5,128,663
Student Financial Aid	1,237,140	1,259,062	1,160,410
Operation and Maintenance of Physical Plant	<u>4,964,716</u>	<u>4,774,457</u>	<u>4,711,522</u>
Total Educational and General	35,603,794	34,880,682	35,363,755
Auxiliary Enterprises	5,621,486	5,785,240	6,451,074
Debt Service and Capital Appropriations	<u>12,509,555</u>	<u>12,534,813</u>	<u>9,978,289</u>
TOTAL OPERATING EXPENSES	<u>\$ 53,734,835</u>	<u>\$ 53,200,735</u>	<u>\$ 51,793,118</u>

* Projected Budget

** Approved Budget

SOUTHWESTERN BAPTIST THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY

STATEMENT OF INCOME	2020-2021*	2019-2020	2018-2019
Education and General:			
Cooperative Program		\$ 7,323,868	\$ 7,550,379
Tuition and Fees	<i>In light of the</i>	14,722,711	14,641,659
Income from Investment Funds	<i>COVID-19</i>	3,203,860	3,353,860
Gifts and Grants	<i>pandemic,</i>	846,000	4,000,000
Other Operating Income	<i>Southwestern</i>	450,000	518,955
Student Aid	<i>Seminary's</i>	<u>2,200,000</u>	<u>3,294,466</u>
Total Educational & General	<i>Board of</i>	28,746,439	33,359,319
Auxiliary Enterprises	<i>Trustees</i>	<u>6,069,000</u>	<u>6,589,684</u>
TOTAL INCOME	<i>have deferred</i>	<u>\$ 34,815,439</u>	<u>\$ 39,949,002</u>
CP as a Percent of Total Income	<i>adoption</i>	21.0%	18.9%
ENTITY SUMMARY OPERATING BUDGET	<i>of a FY2021</i>		
Academic-Instruction and Support	<i>budget until</i>		
Student Services and Communications	<i>July 2020.</i>	\$ 12,032,696	\$ 14,926,550
Student Aid	<i>Updated</i>	2,181,959	2,321,615
General Administration	<i>information</i>	2,200,000	3,294,466
Institutional Advancement	<i>will be</i>	5,944,954	7,415,920
Operation and Maintenance of Physical Plant	<i>provided</i>	1,302,991	1,036,541
Total Educational and General	<i>in the 2020</i>	<u>5,523,130</u>	<u>3,084,886</u>
Auxiliary Enterprises	<i>SBC Annual</i>	29,185,730	32,079,978
TOTAL OPERATING EXPENSE		<u>\$ 34,815,439</u>	<u>\$ 39,435,026</u>

The economic uncertainties brought on by COVID-19 will directly impact the currently projected budgets. The 2020-2021 budget projections included in this report are the entities' most recently available figures as of the day this publication was posted. Any updated budget projections will be published in the regularly printed 2020 SBC Annual in the fall of this year.

ETHICS & RELIGIOUS LIBERTY COMMISSION

	2020/2021	2019/2020	2018/2019
STATEMENT OF INCOME	<u>Projected</u>	<u>Budget</u>	<u>Actual</u>
Cooperative Program	\$ 3,242,250	\$ 3,242,250	\$ 3,246,073
Other Support	315,625	315,625	118,823
Event Related Income	414,716	414,716	441,596
Project & Other Related Revenue	<u>328,400</u>	<u>328,400</u>	<u>209,560</u>
TOTAL INCOME	<u>\$ 4,300,991</u>	<u>\$ 4,300,991</u>	<u>\$ 4,016,052</u>
CP as a Percent of Total Income	75.38%	75.38%	80.83%
	2020/2021	2019/2020	2018/2019
SUMMARY OF OPERATING BUDGET	<u>Projected</u>	<u>Budget</u>	<u>Actual</u>
Salaries & Benefits	\$ 2,775,550	\$ 2,775,550	\$ 2,613,381
Travel	360,955	360,955	310,665
Executive Office	246,695	246,695	165,104
Events & Strategic Initiatives	504,332	504,332	489,227
Business & Finance	181,618	181,618	164,940
Communications	179,965	179,965	163,445
Public Policy & Research	<u>51,875</u>	<u>51,875</u>	<u>11,171</u>
TOTAL	<u>\$ 4,300,991</u>	<u>\$ 4,300,991</u>	<u>\$ 3,917,933</u>

HISTORICAL LIBRARY & ARCHIVES

	Proposed	Budgeted	Actual
STATEMENT OF INCOME	<u>2020-2021</u>	<u>2019-2020</u>	<u>2018-2019</u>
Cooperative Program	\$ 471,500	\$ 451,500	\$ 470,161
Interest	29,000	24,000	28,058
Microfilm	10,500	16,000	12,448
Designated & Miscellaneous	<u>2,000</u>	<u>1,500</u>	<u>857</u>
TOTAL INCOME	<u>\$ 513,000</u>	<u>\$ 493,000</u>	<u>\$ 511,524</u>
CP as a Percent of Total Income	92%	92%	92%
	2020-2021	2019-2020	2018-2019
SUMMARY OF OPERATING BUDGET			
Personnel	\$ 353,000	\$ 330,500	\$ 264,342
Office Expenses/Equipment	70,000	64,500	68,710
Outreach/Promotion	12,500	12,500	5,503
Acquisitions	12,000	15,500	17,110
Preservation/Microfilm	10,000	9,000	9,772
Travel/Employee Development	10,000	11,500	8,625
Information Services	37,000	39,500	32,314
Contingency/Miscellaneous	4,000	5,500	1,179
Advisory Board	<u>4,500</u>	<u>4,500</u>	<u>635</u>
TOTAL BUDGET/EXPENSES	<u>\$ 513,000</u>	<u>\$ 493,000</u>	<u>\$ 408,190</u>

The economic uncertainties brought on by COVID-19 will directly impact the currently projected budgets. The 2020-2021 budget projections included in this report are the entities' most recently available figures as of the day this publication was posted. Any updated budget projections will be published in the regularly printed 2020 SBC Annual in the fall of this year.

**FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
OF THE ENTITIES OF THE SOUTHERN BAPTIST CONVENTION
AND THE SOUTHERN BAPTIST CONVENTION OPERATING BUDGET**

(Total Assets, Liabilities, and Net Assets for 2018-2019)

GUIDESTONE FINANCIAL RESOURCES OF THE SOUTHERN BAPTIST CONVENTION, as of December 31, 2019 (unaudited)

Assets	
Current Assets	\$ 16,000,000
Investment in Funds	15,085,000,000
Notes Receivable from Participants	125,000,000
Other Assets	<u>39,000,000</u>
Total Assets	\$ 15,265,000,000
Liabilities and Net Assets	
Restricted Insurance Reserves	\$ 65,000,000
Other Liabilities	54,000,000
Participant Accumulations & Fund Balances	<u>15,146,000,000</u>
Total Liabilities and Net Assets	\$ 15,265,000,000

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 193-194.)

INTERNATIONAL MISSION BOARD, as of September 30, 2019

Assets	
Current Assets	\$ 6,100,000
Investments	315,093,000
Assets – With Donor Restrictions	189,129,000
Property and Equipment	18,097,000
Other Assets	<u>4,170,000</u>
Total Assets	\$ 532,589,000
Liabilities and Net Assets	
Current Liabilities	\$ 56,065,000
Post-retirement Benefit Obligations	118,395,000
Without Donor Restrictions	169,000,000
With Donor Restrictions	<u>189,129,000</u>
Total Liabilities and Net Assets	\$ 532,589,000

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 193-194.)

LIFEWAY CHRISTIAN RESOURCES, as of September 30, 2019

Assets	
Current Assets	\$ 185,980,000
Property and Equipment	157,959,000
Other Assets	<u>21,970,000</u>
Total Assets	\$ 365,909,000
Liabilities and Net Assets	
Current Liabilities	\$ 54,881,000
Other Liabilities	9,477,000
Post-retirement Benefit Obligations	233,689,000
Without Donor Restrictions	67,549,000
With Donor Restrictions	<u>313,000</u>
Total Liabilities and Net Assets	\$ 365,909,000

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 193-194.)

NORTH AMERICAN MISSION BOARD, as of September 30, 2019

Assets	
Current Assets	\$ 7,054,430
Investments	218,642,904
Investments – Held in Trust	52,972,385
Church Loans, net	70,342,482
Property and Equipment	78,417,208
Other Assets	<u>6,919,132</u>
Total Assets	\$ 434,348,541
Liabilities and Net Assets	
Current Liabilities	\$ 7,810,803
Post-retirement Benefit Obligations	52,332,353
Without Donor Restrictions	308,698,461
With Donor Restrictions	<u>65,506,924</u>
Total Liabilities and Net Assets	\$ 434,348,541

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 193-194.)

GATEWAY SEMINARY, as of July 31, 2019

Assets	
Current/Other Assets	\$ 6,317,598
Investments	50,974,577
Investments - Held in Trust	6,947,768
Property and Equipment	<u>55,729,796</u>
Total Assets	\$ 119,969,739
Liabilities and Net Assets	
Current Liabilities	\$ 1,028,356
Post-retirement Benefit Obligations	5,643,952
Without Donor Restrictions	84,664,596
With Donor Restrictions	<u>28,632,835</u>
Total Liabilities and Net Assets	\$ 119,969,739

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 193-194.)

MIDWESTERN BAPTIST THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY, as of July 31, 2019

Assets	
Current Assets	\$ 6,626,626
Investments	8,843,135
Investments – Held in Trust	379,241
Property and Equipment	39,868,911
Other Assets	<u>372,982</u>
Total Assets	\$ 56,090,895
Liabilities and Net Assets	
Current Liabilities	\$ 2,977,481
Notes Payable	3,630,252
Without Donor Restrictions	42,207,454
With Donor Restrictions	<u>7,275,708</u>
Total Liabilities and Net Assets	\$ 56,090,895

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 193-194.)

NEW ORLEANS BAPTIST THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY, as of July 31, 2019

Assets	
Current/Other Assets	\$ 7,577,042
Investments	80,670,024
Investments – Held in Trust	2,836,514
Property and Equipment	<u>16,741,666</u>
Total Assets	\$ 107,825,246
Liabilities and Net Assets	
Current Liabilities	\$ 4,155,376
Without Donor Restrictions	38,242,366
With Donor Restrictions	<u>65,427,504</u>
Total Liabilities and Net Assets	\$ 107,825,246

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 193-194.)

SOUTHEASTERN BAPTIST THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY, as of July 31, 2019

Assets	
Current/Other Assets	\$ 17,989,715
Investments	29,925,495
Investments – Held in Trust	6,049,754
Property and Equipment	<u>35,220,820</u>
Total Assets	\$ 89,185,784
Liabilities and Net Assets	
Current Liabilities	\$ 3,596,934
Post-retirement Benefit Obligations	9,388,025
Bonds Payable	3,883,947
Without Donor Restrictions	34,268,888
With Donor Restrictions	<u>38,047,990</u>
Total Liabilities and Net Assets	\$ 89,185,784

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 193-194.)

SOUTHERN BAPTIST THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY, as of July 31, 2019

Assets	
Current Assets	\$ 28,338,863
Investments	78,719,458
Investments – Held in Trust	19,306,489
Property and Equipment	66,531,849
Other assets	<u>533,178</u>
Total Assets	\$ 193,429,837
Liabilities and Net Assets	
Current Liabilities	\$ 7,873,903
Notes Payable	21,842,608
Post-retirement Benefit Obligations	4,319,512
Without Donor Restrictions	68,954,368
With Donor Restrictions	<u>90,439,446</u>
Total Liabilities and Net Assets	\$ 193,429,837

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 193-194.)

SOUTHWESTERN BAPTIST THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY, as of July 31, 2019

Assets	
Current Assets	\$ 2,137,964
Investments	134,776,130
Investments – Held in Trust	15,093,338
Property and Equipment	125,966,664
Other Assets	<u>2,083,522</u>
Total Assets	\$ 280,057,618
Liabilities and Net Assets	
Current Liabilities	\$ 3,185,808
Post-retirement Benefit Obligations	1,737,835
Notes Payable	18,528,414
Other Liabilities	10,210,870
Without Donor Restrictions	104,313,753
With Donor Restrictions	<u>142,080,938</u>
Total Liabilities and Net Assets	\$ 280,057,618

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 193-194.)

SOUTHERN BAPTIST HISTORICAL LIBRARY AND ARCHIVES, as of July 31, 2019

Assets	
Current/Other Assets	\$ 248,818
Investments	948,440
Property and Equipment	<u>895,779</u>
Total Assets	\$ 2,093,037
Liabilities and Net Assets	
Current Liabilities	\$ 19,214
Post-retirement Benefit Obligations	549,298
Without Donor Restrictions	1,465,407
With Donor Restrictions	<u>59,118</u>
Total Liabilities and Net Assets	\$ 2,093,037

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 193-194.)

ETHICS & RELIGIOUS LIBERTY COMMISSION, as of September 30, 2019

Assets	
Current/Other Assets	\$ 904,352
Investments	1,069,445
Property and Equipment	<u>663,770</u>
Total Assets	\$ 2,637,567
Liabilities and Net Assets	
Current Liabilities	\$ 296,669
Post-retirement Benefit Obligations	436,865
Without Donor Restrictions	1,704,672
With Donor Restrictions	<u>199,361</u>
Total Liabilities and Net Assets	\$ 2,637,567

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 193-194.)

SOUTHERN BAPTIST CONVENTION EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE, as of September 30, 2019

Assets	
Current/Other Assets	\$ 5,156,221
Investments	15,602,492
Property and Equipment	<u>2,392,526</u>
Total Assets	\$ 23,151,239
Liabilities and Net Assets	
Current Liabilities	\$ 5,165,759
Post-retirement Benefit Obligations	3,853,419
Without Donor Restrictions	11,708,647
With Donor Restrictions	<u>2,423,414</u>
Total Liabilities and Net Assets	\$ 23,151,239

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 Convention Executive Committee for the most recent fiscal year, the chair of the Southern Baptist Convention Executive Committee'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 193-194.)

**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 193-194.)

Contributions by State

Cooperative Program Allocation Budget Receipts
Southern Baptist Convention Executive Committee
October 1, 2018 - September 30, 2019

Contribution Sources	2018-2019	2017-2018	% Change
Alabama	\$ 18,816,518.25	\$ 18,683,982.81	0.71
Alaska	156,171.87	228,297.14	(31.59)
Arizona	1,155,914.62	1,063,805.05	8.66
Arkansas	9,486,645.50	9,383,279.39	1.10
California	2,239,288.88	2,227,479.36	0.53
Colorado	650,544.64	648,149.86	0.37
Dakota	94,597.73	149,933.51	(36.91)
D. C.*	0.00	13,031.60	(100.00)
Florida	14,966,809.35	14,952,415.80	0.10
Georgia	16,174,800.63	16,211,061.66	(0.22)
Hawaii Pacific	244,988.73	351,405.29	(30.28)
Illinois	2,312,997.00	2,345,274.34	(1.38)
Indiana	812,509.12	958,710.90	(15.25)
Iowa	321,257.46	401,225.97	(19.93)
Kansas-Nebraska	803,808.84	794,774.57	1.14
Kentucky	9,865,588.33	10,534,508.91	(6.35)
Louisiana	6,838,064.26	7,030,905.47	(2.74)
Maryland-Delaware	1,686,659.23	1,619,255.90	4.16
Michigan	343,796.32	287,044.42	19.77
Minnesota-Wisconsin	233,099.31	226,268.70	3.02
Mississippi	12,318,599.09	11,743,071.57	4.90
Missouri	5,864,070.86	6,029,006.38	(2.74)
Montana	197,539.62	188,197.63	4.96
Nevada	623,419.52	589,193.56	5.81
New England	210,399.46	183,064.22	14.93
New Mexico	806,553.88	839,666.71	(3.94)
New York	223,748.00	246,980.91	(9.41)
North Carolina	11,621,226.37	11,884,483.61	(2.22)
Northwest	650,991.29	769,654.85	(15.42)
Ohio	2,079,821.24	2,116,798.35	(1.75)
Oklahoma	9,934,323.79	9,994,685.62	(0.60)
Pennsylvania-South Jersey	339,515.96	298,857.36	13.60
Puerto Rico/Virgin Islands	7,090.62	2,443.85	190.14
South Carolina	11,018,556.00	11,134,104.62	(1.04)
Tennessee	16,002,260.00	15,736,037.53	1.69
Texas - BGCT	10,208,418.63	10,168,205.48	0.40
Texas - SBTC	15,369,706.04	15,177,229.98	1.27
Utah - Idaho	211,675.57	200,645.96	5.50
Virginia - BGAV	823,067.69	812,792.56	1.26
Virginia - SBCV	4,620,757.74	4,405,521.14	4.89
West Virginia	522,680.36	515,174.92	1.46
Wyoming	108,920.78	111,360.76	(2.19)
Subtotal	190,967,402.58	191,257,988.22	(0.15)
Churches & Individuals	5,764,300.86	5,786,839.92	(0.39)
Grand Total:	<u>\$ 196,731,703.44</u>	<u>\$ 197,044,828.14</u>	<u>(0.16)</u>

* Final contributions received from D.C. in June 2018

2018-2019 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	99,254,130	50.45%	\$ 132,658,808	69.19%	\$231,912,938	59.72%
North American						
Mission Board	44,835,155	22.79%	\$ 58,038,455	30.28%	\$102,873,610	26.49%
Gateway Seminary	3,966,734	2.02%	\$ 12,010	0.01%	\$ 3,978,744	1.02%
Midwestern Seminary	6,358,059	3.23%	\$ 16,936	0.01%	\$ 6,374,995	1.64%
New Orleans Seminary	7,144,588	3.63%	\$ 17,299	0.01%	\$ 7,161,887	1.84%
Southeastern Seminary	7,664,237	3.90%	\$ 34,884	0.02%	\$ 7,699,121	1.98%
Southern Seminary	10,351,129	5.26%	\$ 37,633	0.02%	\$ 10,388,762	2.67%
Southwestern Seminary	7,638,842	3.88%	\$ 46,867	0.02%	\$ 7,685,709	1.98%
Historical Library and Archives	472,156	0.24%	\$ 634	0.00%	\$ 472,790	0.12%
Ethics & Religious Liberty Commission	3,246,073	1.65%	\$ 12,806	0.01%	\$ 3,258,879	0.84%
GuideStone Financial Resources	-	0.00%	\$ 37,758	0.02%	\$ 37,758	0.01%
SBC Executive Committee and SBC Operating	<u>5,800,600</u>	<u>2.95%</u>	<u>\$ 781,464</u>	<u>0.41%</u>	<u>\$ 6,582,064</u>	<u>1.69%</u>
Grand Totals	<u>\$196,731,703</u>	<u>100.00%</u>	<u>\$191,695,554</u>	<u>100.00%</u>	<u>\$388,427,257</u>	<u>100.00%</u>



Southern Baptist
FOUNDATION

901 Commerce Street, Suite 600, Nashville, Tennessee 37203

RONNIE FLOYD, Chairman

WARREN PEEK, President

“But just as you excel in everything – in faith, in speech, in knowledge, in all earnestness and in the love, we inspired in you, see that you excel in this grace of giving also.”

2 Corinthians 8:7

We have been called to serve our fellow man and to inspire to make an impact for the kingdom. Our work here at the Foundation is given to us by God and we are His servants. Paul said in Colossians 3:23, “*Whatever you do, work at it with all your heart, as working for the Lord, not for human masters.*” We serve God by serving others. By using the resources of the Foundation, lives are changed and transformed while we *help this generation touch the next generation for Christ*. These words express the purpose of the Southern Baptist Foundation. It is the reason we exist and is the driving force for every decision we make and each task we perform. Our steadfast commitment to this purpose is evident to our donors and is seen by our partnerships with other Southern Baptists entities, churches, and evangelical organizations.

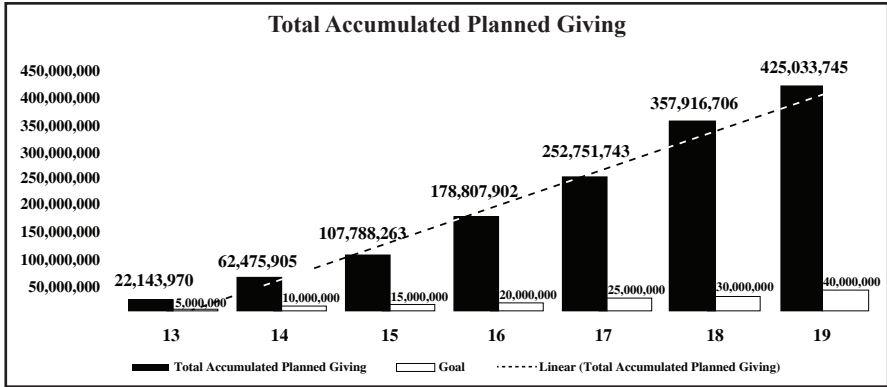
By partnering with the Southern Baptist Foundation, the world is being changed. Through the help of the Foundation, missionaries are being trained and encouraged, students are being educated to share the gospel, churches are being planted, cities are being transformed, lives are being impacted and forever changed across the world, and so much more.

The Southern Baptist Foundation was created in 1947 to help manage and distribute donations that strengthen Southern Baptist ministries. For over seventy years, the Foundation has provided 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. 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.

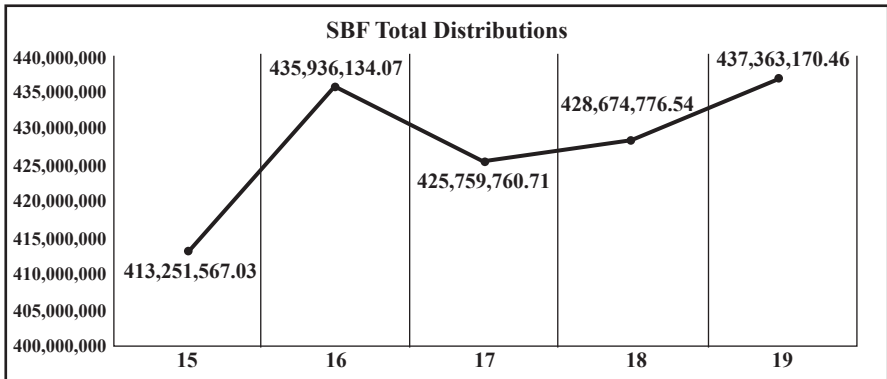
Believers integrating biblical stewardship in their financial lives can transform the world and estate giving can have a powerful impact for God’s kingdom. If only 10% of the more than two million Southern Baptists who are currently over age 65 (about 202,000) tithed their estates to SBC Great Commission causes, the Convention would receive an additional \$5 billion for kingdom purposes over the next twenty 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 the 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?

The Foundation’s estate planning initiative formally launched in 2013 and has been incredibly successful. Through this initiative, the Foundation has been able to consult with over 2,200 different families. Over \$425 million in future gifts will be generated for Baptist causes from these families.



The Southern Baptist Foundation has been blessed with yet another strong year and we praise God for this. During 2019, the Southern Baptist Foundation conducted numerous seminars on legacy, estate, and investment planning with the goal of advancing the gospel of Jesus Christ – which is the absolute purpose in everything that we do. The Foundation partnered with SBC entities, churches, evangelical organizations, and individuals with their legacy planning and investment management needs. Through these partnerships, the Foundation distributed over \$437 million in 2019 for various causes across the world.



We pledge to continue to seek God’s wisdom as we make decisions regarding the investments and management of the assets you have placed with us. Thank you for your confidence shown to us each day; we count it a privilege and a joy to serve the Lord and all Southern Baptists.

GENERAL BOARDS

102nd Annual Report



5005 LBJ Freeway, Suite 2200, Dallas, Texas 75244

JOHN MORRIS, Chairman
O.S. HAWKINS, President and Chief Executive Officer

Introduction

2019 was the “Year of Harvest” for GuideStone. Our first full year in a new building and our second year of our second century of service. We encouraged our people to Look Outward at the harvest to see our potential; to Look Inward to see our predicament; and ultimately to Look Upward to see our priority. 2019 was a record year in many regards for GuideStone, and we give thanks to the Lord for His hand on this ministry and on our people who worked diligently on behalf of our participants and prospects.

Mission:Dignity enjoyed a record year with almost \$10 million in gifts — an increase of \$1.3 million over 2018, itself a record year. More than 9,300 donors gave during the year, including 2,100 new donors in 2019. The generosity of God’s people in answering the call is a joy for all of us who serve alongside Mission:Dignity. An endowment established many years ago covers all administrative costs for the ministry. This means that every penny given to Mission:Dignity can go to help a retired pastor or his widow near the poverty line.

The 2010s marked the first decade in recorded U.S. economic history in which a recession did not begin or end. As of December, the U.S. economy had expanded for a record 126 consecutive months. Somewhat surprisingly, inflation has remained firmly in check for the past several years, leading many to believe that the Fed will fail to hit its prescribed inflation targets in 2020 — and so will remain largely accommodative during the next 12 months. While inflation has been subdued during this extended period of economic growth, we think the near-term risk of inflation is being overlooked by investors. If the labor market remains tight and wages finally begin to accelerate, the economy could see higher levels of inflation than what is currently priced into markets.

GuideStone Funds was awarded the Lipper Fund Award from Refinitiv — formerly presented by Thomson Reuters — as the Best Overall Small Fund Family for 2019 on Thursday, March 7, 2019. The entire GuideStone Funds family won the Lipper Fund Award for 2019 Best Overall Small Company over three years (out of 29 eligible as of November 30, 2018), based on risk-adjusted total return. Of the 222 small fund families, only 29 met the standards to be considered for the Best Overall Small Fund Family prestigious award — with up to \$76.8 billion in assets under management. This marks the second time in less than a decade that GuideStone was honored with this top award. During a dinner on March 7 in New York, several members of the GuideStone Leadership team, including GuideStone Financial Resources chief strategic investment officer David S. Spika and GuideStone Funds chief investment officer Matt Peden, were on hand to accept this honor on GuideStone’s behalf, along with GuideStone Financial Resources trustee vice chairman, Renée Trewick. For more than three decades, the Lipper Fund Awards have evaluated mutual funds and fund management firms that have provided consistently strong risk-adjusted performance relative to their peers. Their

methodology reviews fund performance based on three-, five- and 10-year periods. The award program is regarded as one of the most prestigious in the financial services industry.

GuideStone marked the second full year that GuideStone participants can select Secure Health 3000 as their health plan. Introduced in 2018, Secure Health offers true medical coverage with access to the nationwide Blue Cross Blue Shield network, protecting participants from the full effects of catastrophic claims and offering an alternative for pastors and other church staff who might otherwise consider a medical sharing plan.

The best-selling Code series of books by GuideStone President O.S. Hawkins continues to gain traction, with all author royalties and proceeds benefitting Mission:Dignity. Those efforts will be augmented in 2020 with the launch of *The Apostles' Code*, a small outreach-oriented devotional (similar in size to *The Christmas Code* and *The Easter Code*). Designed to take readers from Easter Sunday to Pentecost Sunday, the book is a great tool for pastors and churches to provide to visitors on Easter Sunday, inviting them back to church each Sunday after. With the launch of *The Apostles' Code* officially in February 2020, there are now 10 books in the series. An eleventh book, *The Bible Code*, debuts in fall 2020. All told, the Code books are on track to surpass 2 million copies sold during 2020.

As mentioned in our 101st annual report, new security enhancements continue to be rolled out. With the growing sophistication of fraud, GuideStone completed a focused effort to further strengthen the security and privacy technology to protect participant data. Key security enhancements include optimizing two-factor authentication to verify a person's identity — which helps prevent fraudsters from accessing a participant's *MyGuideStone* account, even if they know the password. Additionally, text alert capabilities were integrated into the *MyGuideStone* platform, providing participants with another layer of security and control to help them monitor activity and trading within their accounts.

Litigation challenging the constitutionality of the minister's housing allowance formally ended in June after the Freedom From Religion Foundation chose not to appeal a Seventh Circuit Court of Appeals decision to the U.S. Supreme Court. The FFRF, which won a challenge to the housing allowance in a district court on December 31, 2017, lost during an appeal to the Seventh Circuit when a three-judge panel ruled unanimously to overturn the lower court's decision. The minister's housing allowance was codified in federal tax law in 1954. The FFRF indicated in published reports that it did not think it could win on appeal to the U.S. Supreme Court due to the ideological makeup of the Court. GuideStone has monitored this and other challenges to the housing allowance, and representatives attended the oral arguments before the Seventh Circuit panel in Chicago. The decision to allow the Seventh Circuit Court of Appeals opinion to stand is good news. GuideStone actively engaged in the various challenges to the housing allowance exclusion, filing amicus briefs alongside Southern Baptist partners and other denominational benefit plan and advocating with legislators and regulators.

During 2019, GuideStone bid farewell to long-time Annuity Board President, Dr. Darold H. Morgan. Morgan served the Board from 1972 to 1990. He died December 11, 2019, at the age of 95. Morgan's efforts during his tenure continue to be a blessing to our participants and to the organization itself.

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, 2019.

Church Retirement Plan – At the end of 2019 there were 17,980 active churches with a total of 49,806 active participants.

403(b)(9) Retirement Plan – A total of 433 agencies and institutions provided retirement plans for their employees. A total of 35,153 employees comprise active participation in these agencies' plans.

Ministers and Chaplains Plan – The Ministers and Chaplains Plans enrolled 17 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 100 active participants.

Voluntary Retirement Plan – The Voluntary Retirement Plan records 746 participants with an account balance at the close of 2019.

Retirement Income Paid to Participants

The heart of GuideStone's ministry is our recipients. Annuity benefits were paid to 25,713 participants/beneficiaries in 2019. Systematic withdrawal payments were paid to 16,546 participants.

The Program of Ministers' Financial Assistance

Since 1918, GuideStone has been on a mission to help retired ministers, denominational workers, their spouses, and widows live with dignity in their retirement years. The Mission:Dignity ministry is at the heart of that endeavor. Approximately 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.

Mission:Dignity assisted a total of 1,939 households in 2019.

A total of \$7,362,271 was paid out in financial assistance in 2019, compared to \$7,191,544 in 2018. Mission:Dignity granted \$349,202 in one time Emergency Grants in 2019. Christmas gift checks of \$400, rather than the usual \$250, 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 2019 statistical report of the insurance plans (excludes non-Southern Baptist entities).

Life Claims – \$15,893,262

Disability Claims – \$247,500

Dental Claims – \$10,506,580

Medical claims (including pharmacy) – \$226,245,824

Personal Plans:

Personal Plans Employee Term Life Plans – A total of 15,059 members actively participated on December 31, 2019, a decrease of 749 since the same time last year.

Personal Plans Disability Plans – A total of 1,067 members participated in the Short-Term Disability Plans and 4,606 members participated in the Long-Term Disability Plans.

Personal Plans Medical Plans – Members covered totaled 5,947, a decrease of 463 since the same time last year.

Personal Plans Supplemental AD&D Plan – Members covered totaled 2,460.

Personal Plans Accidental Death and Dismemberment – Members covered totaled 5,804.

Personal Plans Dental – Members covered totaled 7,523.

Premium Waiver – The Personal Plans employee life plans had 242 members.

Group Plans:

Group Plans Employee Term Life Plans – A total of 29,356 members were covered on December 31, 2019, an increase of 507 since the same time last year.

Group Plans Medical Plans – A total of 18,303 members were covered.

Group Plans Dental Plan – A total of 8,698 members were covered in a dental plan.

Group Plans Disability Plan – A total of 1,415 members participated in the Short-Term Disability Plans, and 11,326 members participated in the Long-Term Disability Plans.

Group Plans Supplemental AD&D Plan – Members covered totaled 3,983.

Group Plans Accidental Death and Dismemberment Plan – Members covered totaled 7,627.

Premium Waiver – The Group Plans employee life plans had 259 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 1,500 clients with a premium volume of nearly \$36 million at the end of 2019. Since 2012, GuideStone Agency Services has worked in alliance with Brotherhood Mutual Insurance Company to be their exclusive agent serving Southern Baptists in Texas, Alabama and Louisiana. GuideStone Property & Casualty endorses Brotherhood Mutual as the property and casualty provider of choice for GuideStone's participant churches and ministries.

Matter Referred by the Convention

During the Annual Meeting of the Southern Baptist Convention in Birmingham, Alabama, June 11–12, 2019, the Convention referred the following item to GuideStone Financial Resources for consideration, action, and report.

1. SBC Referral: To request each SBC entity to provide an update on addressing abuse (Items 15 and 60, Proceedings of the Southern Baptist Convention, June 11-12, 2019, SBC Annual, p. 57, 63)

Motion: Phillip Bethancourt, Tennessee

“That the Southern Baptist Convention request each of the entities of the Southern Baptist Convention provide an update related to their efforts to address abuse and report back to the 2020 Southern Baptist Convention meeting in Orlando, Florida, covering three subjects: what is their entity doing to foster effective abuse awareness, prevention, and care; what additional steps has their entity taken to address abuse since the 2018 SBC annual meeting in Dallas, Texas; and how is their entity partnering with the efforts of the Sexual Abuse Advisory Group to address abuse?”

Response: GuideStone Financial Resources of the Southern Baptist Convention stands with all Southern Baptists, our sister entities, and the churches we are privileged to serve in advocating strongly against the scourge of abuse against the vulnerable. We are fully committed to working in conjunction with recommendations by SBC President J.D. Greear’s Sexual Abuse Advisory Group and others interested in protecting children, youth and other vulnerable populations, as well as responding well to reports from victims of abuse in churches and ministry organizations.

To that end:

1. GuideStone has worked closely with MinistrySafe, a leading entity that works with state conventions, churches and other ministries to provide a complete child safety system. GuideStone has sponsored child safety trainings with MinistrySafe at large seminars in Texas and Alabama in 2019, as well as offering a nationally available webcast in conjunction with MinistrySafe and Prestonwood Baptist Church, attended by hundreds of church and ministry leaders.
2. Internally, GuideStone, which has robust employment policies, has reviewed its policies and procedures to ensure that all employees are free to work in an environment free of harassment and abuse. For our participants, GuideStone has made available articles and resources from MinistrySafe, a recognized faith-based company that helps churches and other organizations create and maintain secure environments, on our website.
3. GuideStone’s alliance with MinistrySafe and Brotherhood Mutual Insurance Company help augment the work of the Sexual Abuse Advisory Group. GuideStone’s commitment is two-fold: helping churches respond well to reports of abuse, responding quickly to reports and providing appropriate care for victims, and providing resources and access to training to help churches mitigate, and we pray eliminate, the chances an abuser can access vulnerable populations in Southern Baptist churches.

GuideStone will offer a risk management review for churches and ministries in its Property and Casualty program to aid them in preparing and responding to potential issues, and will continue to offer resources and trainings to support the efforts of our sister entities and the churches we are privileged to serve as together we stand to protect the vulnerable populations entrusted to us.

One Hundred Seventy-Fourth Annual Report

3806 Monument Avenue, Richmond, Virginia 23230

SETH POLK, Chairman
PAUL CHITWOOD, President

Introduction

On behalf of the International Mission Board, I want to thank you, Southern Baptists, for 174 years of working together to get the gospel to the nations. Thank you for providing for 3,700 IMB missionaries through your Cooperative Program and Lottie Moon Christmas Offering gifts. As we enter the 175th anniversary of the birth of our Convention and its two mission boards, we do so with gratitude to God for all that Southern Baptists are doing to reach the world for Christ.

Your faithful financial support through the Lottie Moon Christmas Offering® and the Cooperative Program are the lifeline for Southern Baptist international missions. Southern Baptists gave \$157.3 million* to support international missionaries in 2018-2019, the third-highest Lottie Moon offering ever received. IMB also received \$99.3 million from the Cooperative Program for 2018-19. This is the third consecutive year that Cooperative Program giving topped \$99 million.

As a result of your gifts and your unwavering prayer support, Southern Baptists have been honored to be part of God at work on the international mission field. Because you gave, because you prayed, because you sent your beloved family, friends, or church members:

- 562,865 people heard the gospel this past year, meaning 3,700 missionaries shared and trained and led and invested so that over half a million people could hear.
- 77,605 new believers and 52,586 baptisms means that those missionaries remained persistent in their praying and witnessing, planting seeds, and watering those seeds, until such a time as the Spirit of God gave an eternal harvest.
- 13,898 new churches planted represents thousands of Southern Baptists who have stepped into their calling and have given their lives to share the gospel, disciple new believers, and then do the all-consuming work of pulling those new believers together in such a way and for such a time that a church is birthed.
- 28,213 people receiving advanced theological training, a number that increased 48 percent over the prior year, means that men and women studied to show themselves approved, to such an extent that they have not only been entrusted with truth but have been found qualified to teach others, and teach others they have.

Has everyone heard? No, everyone has not yet heard. We know that 155,252 individuals among unreached peoples die daily without knowing Christ. We know that 25% of spoken languages do not have Scripture to share the gospel in their heart languages.

And if Southern Baptists from North America are the only ones sharing, the vision of Revelation 7:9 will never come to pass. But that vision will come to pass. One of the ways God will accomplish a great multitude from every nation, from all tribes and peoples and languages standing before His throne and before the Lamb, will be through those who go on to share what

* Note: As state conventions closed out their fiscal year, it came to IMB's attention that additional Lottie Moon Christmas Funds given in 2018-19 would be forwarded to IMB, increasing the total LMCO gifts to \$157.3 million for the year, rather than the \$156.6 million originally reported on October 3, 2019.

they have heard from us. Since 1845, Southern Baptists have been making disciples among the nations. And now, in an unprecedented season of the globalization of missions, those who Southern Baptists have reached are now taking the gospel to the nations themselves.

The gospel is being preached among the nations and we are privileged to be part of it! Southern Baptists, your IMB is still sending your missionaries. Every church, regardless of its size or resources, has a part to play in reaching every nation with the gospel. And the nations are waiting. Thank you for doing your part.

Paul Chitwood
President, International Mission Board

Ministry Goals and Accomplishments

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.

The mission of establishing multiplying churches continues to drive our efforts around the world and the Lord is blessing those efforts. Cooperative Program dollars have provisioned IMB personnel and their national partners to see over 50,000 baptisms and just under 14,000 new churches planted in the last year. Other critical markers that contribute to these results are the 2,500 translation projects that are getting the Word into the language of unreached peoples, and over 85,000 who received leadership training. There are ministries to refugees such as trauma healing and relief efforts in cooperation with Baptist Global Response.

There is much to celebrate as we see baptisms and new churches established among each of the IMB's nine designated affinities: East Asian Peoples, Southeast Asian Peoples, South Asian Peoples, Central Asian Peoples, European Peoples, North African and Middle Eastern Peoples, Sub-Saharan African Peoples, American Peoples, and Deaf Peoples.

Annual Statistical Report Based on 2018 Data

Global summary reflecting work in calendar year 2018, reported in 2019

Evangelism

How many people heard a **gospel witness**? **562,865**

How many people had an **opportunity to respond** to Christ? **364,725**

How many who received a gospel witness do you believe are **seekers**? **87,536**

How many who heard a gospel witness became **new believers**? **77,605**

How many believers were **baptized**? **52,586**

Healthy Church Formation

How many **total groups** intending to become churches are meeting now? **23,812**

How many **new groups** were formed that intend to become churches? **14,987**

How many **new churches** were formed? **13,898**

How many 1st-, 2nd-, and 3rd-generation **churches** are **meeting now**? **53,848**

How many 1st-, 2nd-, and 3rd-generation **churches** have **ceased to meet**? **1,954**

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? **439,697**

Annual Statistical Report Based on 2018 Data *(continued)*

Discipleship

How many people met in **on-going Bible studies**? 261,812

How many people are being **personally mentored**? 34,495

Leadership Development

How many men have received practical **pastoral training**? 18,428

How many people received **training** to start **new churches**? 38,721

How many individuals received **advanced theological education**? 28,213

How many believers were trained in **other training opportunities**? 91,773

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 (GRIC@imb.org.)

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 Team of the IMB processed 159 mid-term and 111 long-term candidates for missionary service to the point of approval for deployment. The team trained 242 new adult missionaries and their 99 children in Field Personnel Orientation, and further trained 537 adult missionaries and their 432 children in Stateside Assignment Conferences. They also conducted training in the components of the missionary task at three large field Affinity Group Meetings. The Training Development Team completed a thorough revision of the Apprenticeship training program for first-term missionaries, in cooperation with field affinity training teams, along with other training projects.

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

At the 2019 Southern Baptist Convention annual meeting in Birmingham, the IMB challenged every Southern Baptist church to join their fellow churches in the Convention in international missions under IMB's banner, "Every Church. Every Nation." IMB's promise to serve every Southern Baptist church is based on the fundamental belief that the mission to "go and make disciples" was given to the church. Every church can play a vital role in reaching every nation with the gospel through praying, giving, and going.

During the IMB-sponsored dinner in conjunction with the SBC annual meeting, IMB President Paul Chitwood challenged churches to continue in and increase their cooperative efforts to see the vision laid out in Revelation 7:9-10 — "*After this I looked, and behold, a great multitude that no one could number, from every nation, from all tribes and peoples and languages, standing*

before the throne and before the Lamb, clothed in white robes, with palm branches in their hands, and crying out with a loud voice, 'Salvation belongs to our God who sits on the throne, and to the Lamb!'" (ESV).

Prior to the SBC annual meeting, Dr. Chitwood sent a letter to every pastor in the SBC reporting on his firsthand interactions with missionaries in Colombia and Uganda who are engaged in ministry to refugees in South America and Africa, respectively. He challenged pastors to lead their churches in supporting these ways God is using Southern Baptists to fulfill His purposes around the world.

In January 2019, the IMB held its sixth Missions College with the purpose of mobilizing Southern Baptist churches to go deeper in missions training. It is an annual mobilization and training event for Southern Baptist churches engaging in short-, mid-, and long-term missions with the IMB. Over 265 participated that included lead pastors, missions pastors/directors, and lay leaders with the majority in partnership with field IMB missionaries. Dr. Chitwood challenged the participants to join forces with the IMB in sound biblical missiology in fulfilling the core missionary task. In the Americas alone, more than 350 churches are co-laboring with our field missionaries and national Baptist partners.

In October 2019, IMB conducted an advocate forum in Richmond, Virginia, with 257 attendees from 190 churches in 31 states, representing advocacy affinity areas of prayer, alumni, giving, state and associational leaders, student leaders, and mobilization. The attendees were challenged to lead the advocacy among their areas of influence to increase praying, giving, and going to the nations. From this meeting of advocates: 137 committed to pray during the 175 days of prayer in conjunction with IMB's 175th anniversary in 2020; committed \$442,000 in giving, which represents seven missionary years on the field; attendees invited 12,608 people to join them in giving; 35 committed to go on a short-term trip to an unreached people group; eight felt led to go mid-term (2-3 years) in missions service; and three felt led to go long-term (3+ years) in missions service.

In the past fiscal year, IMB added two church mobilizers (for a total of seven full-time church mobilizers on the team), four full-time student mobilizers, and 24 part-time student mobilizers covering 13 states (five full-time on the student team covering the Convention). IMB's Mobilization Team also added a Hispanic mobilization role and is adding Asian and African American mobilizing positions.

IMB's Mobilization Team also added one Associational Missionary Network Associate for AMS/DOM relations east of the Mississippi River (for a total of three staff on the Convention and Network Relations Team) with another role to be added focused on areas west of the Mississippi River. A study published in 2018 by the SBCAL reported that the Association Leader (AMS/DOM) is recognized by the majority of leaders across the Convention to be the closest denominational entity to the local church. 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. Our desire in growing our Convention and Network Relations Team is to ultimately become a better partner to these key leaders in the mobilization task.

The IMB Partner Relations Team recorded 5,778 engagements with SBC audiences during the last fiscal year and completed 668 "next steps" with Southern Baptist churches toward beginning new missions activities, specifically 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. These opportunities included 40 partnerships created in relation to the works of the

Southeast Asian Peoples Affinity, East Asian Peoples Affinity, and Northern Africa and Middle Eastern Peoples diaspora, as well as 1,000 to 1,200 connections related to short-term unique opportunities. In 2019, the group also facilitated 769 student trips in international missions.

IMB continued engaging advocates through its Partner Hub website to inform and equip those advocates who mobilize Southern Baptist churches on behalf of the IMB. IMB trustees, missionary alumni, donors, associational mission strategists, and state convention leaders have committed to leverage the platform to both increase and improve the engagement of our churches in praying, giving, going, and sending.

Throughout the year, the IMB hosted four Sending Celebrations honoring newly appointed missionaries. The celebrations, available by livestream, inspire Southern Baptist churches to be a part of sending new missionaries and to pray for the work God has prepared in advance for them among the unreached people and places. In 2019, 98 full-time, fully-funded missionaries were appointed — in addition to 138 mid-term personnel sent — with many celebrated among thousands of Southern Baptist messengers at the June Sending Celebration conducted during the SBC annual meeting in Birmingham. A November 2019 Sending Celebration held in conjunction with the Baptist General Convention of Oklahoma annual meeting drew a full house for the time of worship, prayer, and celebration.

In 2019, Dr. Chitwood re-established a home office-based Global Communications Team which focuses primarily on telling the stories of how God is at work around the world and giving Southern Baptists ongoing return-on-investment reports of how their praying, giving, going, and sending is being used by God to change lives. The team consists of both Richmond-based and field-based media professionals.

In the 2019 Cooperative Program promotion, IMB contributed stories of how God is at work on the mission field to the “52 Sundays” resource. In our promotion of the 2019 Lottie Moon Christmas Offering® (LMCO), we reinforced how every dollar given by Southern Baptists supports the work of nearly 3,700 International Mission Board personnel on the mission field to reach the “multitudes” referenced in Revelation 7:9. The IMB sent 44,896 English-language LMCO resource kits to churches, as well as 4,291 language-specific kits. Of those language-specific kits, 3,277 were in Spanish, 769 in Korean, and 245 in Chinese. An additional 6,731 English-language kits and 29 language-specific kits were ordered through the IMB’s Church Success Center. The information in the kits collectively celebrated the number of people groups engaged, professions of faith, baptisms, and new churches planted over the past year. The IMB educated church members with an understanding of LMCO and equipped church leaders with the necessary resources to easily and effectively engage their churches in missions through faithful giving.

The Woman’s Missionary Union and IMB worked together to mobilize churches to pray for the nations during the annual Week of Prayer for International Missions held December 1-8, 2019. The week of prayer focused on the ways God is at work around the world through Southern Baptists — such as missionaries in Mexico, Korea, Canada, Bulgaria, and Japan; through partnerships with believers in East Asia; and relief efforts in Colombia; as well as through a specific call to prayer by Dr. Chitwood. In addition, during 2019, IMB strengthened prayer resources by engaging thousands of pastors and church leaders in prayer for the nations. For example, at the SBC annual meeting in Birmingham, IMB distributed perpetual prayer calendars to motivate and educate Southern Baptists to pray for the unreached and unengaged people and places of the world. These calendars also were distributed at each of the state convention meetings.

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.

Baptist Global Response (BGR) partners with the IMB and its personnel to provide training, expertise, consultation, and resources to implement human needs ministries. This includes responses to acute needs due to disaster events as well as long-term chronic needs from things such as poverty, hunger, and injustice.

In 2019, the IMB — with the assistance of BGR — implemented 330 projects in 74 different countries with an appropriated amount of \$8 million. Over 1.4 million people were impacted and 3,838 communities helped. This includes 321,702 people receiving clean water through 1,298 implemented community water systems and 12,715 water filters distributed.

Agriculturally, 926 families received seeds/seedlings for planting their home farms with over 1,700 animals distributed. More than 77,000 people received health care treatment of some degree while 2,825 were trained in improved job skills and another 4,441 in literacy. Over 18,000 children received some type of education assistance while 457 small micro-enterprise initiatives were undertaken.

Human needs ministries such as those described above continue to play an important, strategic role for the IMB in order to gain access to hard-to-reach peoples and places as well as fuel the spread of the gospel in many contexts around the world where spiritual and physical needs coincide.

Based on the listed Ministry Assignment, what opportunities or challenges do you see on the horizon from 2020 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.

Tremendous opportunities await as IMB personnel are partnering closely with indigenous baptistic associations and networks to equip and send missionaries through these long-time partners. As Baptists worldwide are moved by God to pray, give, and go to the multitudes, IMB envisions tremendous possibilities and potential for Baptist church planting and Kingdom growth.

Challenges also await as IMB strives to increase its long-term personnel count by an additional 500 before 2025. These additional missionaries will come from Southern Baptist churches and are needed to meet the challenges and growing opportunities to nurture church planting among all people groups outside of the United States and Canada. IMB is optimistic that cooperatively, Baptists will be able to send personnel to meet the Baptist church planting challenges of the next decade.

Ministry Statement: 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 provide ongoing training for existing missionaries, the 175th anniversary of the founding of the Southern

Baptist Convention and the International Mission Board will provide better opportunities to develop training resources and deliver training in the year ahead. In keeping with the vision of our President, Dr. Paul Chitwood, the Training Development Team will devote much of its energy in the year ahead to engaging with Southern Baptist churches and entities to enable them to participate in global missions more effectively in partnership with the International Mission Board.

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

IMB's Mobilization Team will continue to focus on increased engagement with Southern Baptist pastors and churches. Research has shown us that missions is an identity of the church led by its pastor, not simply an out-sourced activity to the IMB. We are finding that, for many churches today, the IMB is one of many options that mission-minded churches consider in order 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 work harder than ever to build strong relationships, enhance service levels, and promote more field-to-church interaction with 46,000 Southern Baptist churches in the US.

President Chitwood has stated IMB's mobilization efforts must be a priority for the entire organization. Trustees will be voting on a new Mobilization Vice President who is fluent in Spanish and who brings a lifetime of experience with the IMB as well as global business experience — from growing up as a “missionary kid” in South America, to leading global work for a chemical division of a Fortune 500 petroleum company, to leading and growing IMB's work in the Americas Peoples Affinity from Montevideo, Uruguay; Santiago, Chile; and Lima, Peru. He also led the Marketplace Advance/Skybridge Community initiative of the IMB that was focused on awakening, equipping, and sending out marketplace professionals to join in the missionary task as they go globally with their companies/professions.

The Mobilization Team has hired a new leader in African American mobilization and an Associational Missionary Network Associate for AMS/DOM relations west of the Mississippi River, and IMB plans to hire an Asian mobilizing position, as well. Our desire in growing our Convention and Network Relations Team is to ultimately become a better partner to these key leaders in the mobilization task.

IMB has reinstated a Prayer Office to emphasize the vital nature of prayer in our mission. The team is being rebuilt with the primary task of educating and engaging Southern Baptists in praying for unreached people and places and for those taking the gospel to them.

Research reveals that fewer than half of the churches in the Southern Baptist Convention gave to the Lottie Moon Christmas Offering in recent years. Dr. Chitwood is challenging every Southern Baptist church to give through the LMCO. IMB is investigating resources for increasing donor involvement in a manner that communicates the necessity of Southern Baptists selecting SBC giving channels over other ministry outlets competing for their attention and financial gifts.

Since 1845, Southern Baptists have been making disciples among the nations. The IMB is rebuilding its missionary force as the sending-arm for Southern Baptist missionaries. Every church, regardless of size or resources, has a role to play in reaching every nation — and the nations are waiting. IMB is undergirding its mobilization efforts to report to Southern Baptists how God is at work on the mission field, how they are a part of His work, and how they can expand their involvement in praying, giving, going, and sending to take the gospel to unreached people and places.

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.

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. Today, approximately 20 to 25 percent of all IMB teams engage in some type of human needs ministry/project. As the IMB leads Southern Baptists in the push toward the remaining unreached and unengaged peoples of the world, they will encounter more and more physical challenges such as poverty, hunger, war, etc. Our ability to address human needs in a professional manner, keeping the context of gospel sharing, will continue to be a key strategy as we strive toward the end goal of our task.

Matter Referred by the Convention

During the Annual Meeting of the Southern Baptist Convention in Birmingham, Alabama, June 11–12, 2019, the Convention referred the following item to the International Mission Board for consideration, action, and report.

1. SBC Referral: To request each SBC entity to provide an update on addressing abuse (Items 15 and 60, Proceedings of the Southern Baptist Convention, June 11-12, 2019, SBC Annual, p. 57, 63)

Motion: Phillip Bethancourt, Tennessee

“That the Southern Baptist Convention request each of the entities of the Southern Baptist Convention provide an update related to their efforts to address abuse and report back to the 2020 Southern Baptist Convention meeting in Orlando, Florida, covering three subjects: what is their entity doing to foster effective abuse awareness, prevention, and care; what additional steps has their entity taken to address abuse since the 2018 SBC annual meeting in Dallas, Texas; and how is their entity partnering with the efforts of the Sexual Abuse Advisory Group to address abuse?”

Response: THAT the International Mission Board trustees and leaders, in response to the request that the IMB provide an update related to our efforts to address abuse, hereby reports:

1. The International Mission Board has added the role of a designated Prevention and Response Administrator whose primary responsibility is to oversee and manage prevention and response efforts for child abuse (physical and sexual), sexual harassment (including sexual assault), and domestic violence. This includes overseeing all aspects of training (development of material, delivery of training, and ensuring compliance) for field and staff employees, specific departments, volunteers, investigators, Third Culture Kids, partners, and others. At least twice annually, IMB senior leadership sends all field and home-office staff reminders a) of the IMB’s policy on abuse and harassment ¹; b) that IMB encourages anyone who has been a victim of abuse by its personnel to report it to authorities; c) and, in addition, that victims can contact IMB on a confidential hotline at (866) 292-0181 or email advocate@imb.org so that IMB can provide compassionate care to that victim and take appropriate steps to ensure the safety of others. In numerous outlets, including Baptist Press ² and IMB.org ³, the IMB has stated that it strongly encourages any church, entity, or other employer who is considering working or partnering with a former IMB personnel to contact IMB at references@imb.org to obtain a reference on that individual so that the IMB can do its part to help employers make wise and informed hiring decisions.

2. Following the 2018 SBC annual meeting in Dallas, Texas, (since Fall 2018), the International Mission Board has undergone a rigorous examination of IMB's handling of past allegations of abuse and sexual harassment and IMB's present policies and practices. In May 2019, IMB trustees heard a report from Gray Plant Mooty⁴ (the firm conducting the examination), and IMB President Paul Chitwood responded immediately⁵ with an apology to victims and a pledge for IMB to lead the SBC in abuse prevention and response. IMB trustees and senior leadership are committed to implementing all the recommendations from Gray Plant Mooty. IMB maintains publicly accessible web pages with its statement on abuse and harassment¹ as a resource for churches; and frequently asked questions³ about the external examination and related resource links.
3. The actions of the International Mission Board are consistent with the suggestions presented by the Sexual Abuse Advisory Group report. International Mission Board leaders are accessible for communication and collaboration with leaders of the Sexual Abuse Advisory Group.

Footnotes:

1. IMB Statement on Child Abuse and Sexual Harassment. (n.d.). Retrieved from <https://www.imb.org/for-churches/abuse-harassment>
2. McGowan, J. (2019, May 22). IMB pledges to 'be a leader' in abuse prevention. Retrieved from <http://www.bpnews.net/52958/imb-pledges-to-be-a-leader-in-abuse-prevention>
3. IMB Staff (2019, May 22). Frequently Asked Questions about Examination Update. Retrieved from <https://www.imb.org/2019/05/22/faqs-examination-update>
4. Gray Plant Mooty. (2019, May 22). Examination Update. Retrieved from <https://www.imb.org/2019/05/22/examination-recommendations>
5. Chitwood, P. (2019, May 22). IMB Response to External Examination. Retrieved from <https://www.imb.org/2019/05/22/chitwood-response>



One LifeWay Plaza, Nashville, Tennessee 37234

TODD FANNIN, Chairman

BEN MANDRELL, President and CEO

Introduction

Greetings from Nashville and LifeWay Christian Resources! It's a blessing to report to you for the first time on the state of LifeWay and the direction I see God leading this incredible organization in a new season.

As I began my tenure in August 2019 as the 10th president of this 129-year-old organization, I was struck by LifeWay's creation story—how its first president, Dr. James Frost, cast a vision for an organization that would fuel the ministry of local churches by creating doctrinally sound, easy-to-use materials.

Dr. Frost saw enormous potential in designing tools that make church ministry more effective. It's my desire to continue that vision and commitment.

For LifeWay, the year 2019 turned out to be a year of transitions. In March 2019, LifeWay leaders made the difficult decision to close our brick-and-mortar bookstore chain. By the end of the year, LifeWay had shifted its retail strategy to other channels. I'm pleased to report LifeWay's reach and impact is not waning with the closure of the retail chain.

LifeWay continues to enhance its online experience at LifeWay.com, and we are exploring new partnerships to provide resources at affordable prices. LifeWay will continue to serve customers through multiple channels, including LifeWay.com, our Customer Service Center, and partnerships with churches, independent Christian bookstores and other retailers.

God has continued to bless the expansive ministries of LifeWay as He allows the organization to serve churches in many places across this country and around the world. Throughout the past year, LifeWay has assisted tens of thousands of churches and millions of individuals with biblically faithful, relevant, and high-quality Christian resources.

You'll find many details within LifeWay's ministry report, but I want to take a moment and share with you some of the highlights.

Since June of last year, more than 450 independent bookstores across 46 states have signed up to have a dedicated section of their store contain LifeWay-branded content. Through these authorized dealers, we're finding new shelf space to allow customers to touch and feel our products before they buy them. In addition to retail stores, we're also partnering with local churches who wish to carry an assortment of LifeWay resources. Together, we've extended our ministry reach into more than 90 new markets (regions where LifeWay never had a brick-and-mortar storefront).

After a successful launch of the Christian Standard Bible in 2017, we continue to see the growth of the CSB as a leading Bible translation.

In 2019, LifeWay, in partnership with the ERLC and the SBC Sexual Abuse Advisory Study, released *Becoming a Church that Cares Well for the Abused*, a free multimedia resource geared toward church staff members, lay leaders, and volunteers. Available at ChurchCares.com, this comprehensive training curriculum combines a handbook with 12 video lessons from experts in

the areas of social work, law enforcement, trauma counseling, abuse counseling, legal services and pastoral care.

More than 2,400 churches and organizations have registered and assigned this course to people in their churches and more than 900 additional individuals have self-assigned the *Becoming a Church that Cares Well for the Abused* training.

Investing in the discipleship of the next generation is an important focus for LifeWay. Last summer, more than 122,000 kids and students attended one of LifeWay's camps, including CentriKid, FUGE camps, Student Life, and World Changers.

Over the past year, LifeWay has distributed resources and developed on-the-ground relationships in more than 160 nations, and we're making Vacation Bible School a global ministry to teach children throughout the world the good news about Jesus. In India alone, VBS reached more than 100,000 children in 2019. We praise the Lord for the opportunity to minister in these new ways.

This March, when COVID-19 began to impact the ability of churches to gather in person, LifeWay very quickly felt the effects of nationwide shelter-at-home orders. We saw numerous churches shift to online services and Sunday School classes meeting through Zoom and Facebook. It seemed like overnight we went from serving the church gathered to serving the church scattered. I'm so proud of how quickly the teams at LifeWay came together to provide free digital resources to churches, families and individuals to support ongoing discipleship and the study of God's Word.

LifeWay has been working on solutions for supporting local churches as they begin to rebound and regather in person. Churches who are struggling financially can find help through our church assistance package at LifeWay.com/ChurchAssistance. This is a small, tangible way LifeWay can walk beside church leaders and help bear the burden of this crisis.

LifeWay remains committed to coming alongside local churches in order to support the Great Commission. LifeWay will continue to help believers and churches engage God's Word, deepen their walk with Jesus Christ, and help them disciple others.

As we reflect on this past year, I am reminded how the Lord has provided and sustained LifeWay through a difficult season. We are so thankful for how God continues to use LifeWay to meet the needs of churches.

Thank you Southern Baptists for everything you are doing to fulfill the Great Commission by making disciples who make disciples. We are thrilled that we get to come alongside you in this tremendous work.

Gratefully,
Ben Mandrell
President and CEO

Ministry Goals and Accomplishments

1. Ministry Assignment: Assist churches in the development of church ministries.

Sunday School

Significant Accomplishments — The publishing teams at LifeWay continue to provide an assortment of trustworthy, doctrinally-sound Bible studies used by ongoing groups in churches. While the majority of these churches are Southern Baptist churches, there are congregations from different denominations that have partnered with LifeWay and now provide LifeWay ongoing Bible studies to the members of their congregations, recognizing the quality and sound doctrinal studies.

LifeWay's ongoing Bible studies are more user-friendly than ever before, with some churches using the studies at times other than Sunday mornings, on days throughout the week and at off-campus locations. Flexible and easy-to-use, LifeWay's ongoing Bible studies are being warmly received inside and outside the denomination.

The Daily Discipleship Guide, an alternative group study tool now available in student and adult groups, continues to grow and reach new audiences. The Daily Discipleship Guide is used in the group Bible study, but group members now have the added advantage of five daily studies that build upon the learning that takes place in their group. An extra "D-group" (discipleship group) feature adds another level of depth in disciple-making as group members can now use a final section in each study to meet with three or four individuals and continue their learning and accountability.

To better serve churches that prefer the King James Version, *Bible Studies for Life* created a new option for those churches in 2019, and the Herschel Hobbs Commentary (which is KJV based) pairs well with the new King James Version study. Additionally, a Daily Discipleship Guide has been created to serve this large audience (an alternative to the Personal Study Guide that is available), as well as a KJV Group Box (a new resource that contains everything a group of 10 people and their leader will need for Bible study): 10 Personal Study Guides, one Leader Guide, one Leader Pack, one Herschel Hobbs Commentary, one *Biblical Illustrator*, and access to a free Wordsearch Bible Digital Library of eBooks that complements each quarter's study.

The annual Sunday School support booklet, *Saddle Up: Leading with Purpose, Posture, and Preparedness* was published and released for use by churches who want to train group leaders. The booklet continues as a part of the series written by former director of Sunday School, David Francis. Michael Kelley, Ken Braddy, and Dwayne McCrary partnered to write this annual resource (LifeWay.com/TrainingResources). Michael Kelley is senior vice president of LifeWay's Church Ministries team, Ken Braddy is the new director of Sunday School and well-known champion of Sunday School, and Dwayne McCrary is a seasoned Christian education veteran who serves as the team leader for *Explore the Bible* (adults).

Saddle Up was made available as a purchasable booklet and as a free PDF download from LifeWay.com. This resource included teaching plans, PowerPoint® presentations, and other downloads for church leaders who are training others to start new groups. Free downloads of the book were also made available through the iTunes store and through the LifeWay Reader for other devices.

Finally, the book *Breathing Life Into Sunday School* was released in April 2019. Authored by Ken Braddy, the book chronicles 12 essentials for revitalizing and growing a church's Sunday School. The book went into reprint in Fall 2019.

Future Plans — *Explore the Bible*, one of LifeWay's most popular ongoing studies, will be refreshed in Fall 2020. In addition, the *YOU* curriculum (designed for urban and multi-ethnic congregations) will undergo a similar refresh for Fall 2020.

Discipleship

Significant Accomplishments — 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.

LifeWay released a training book for Sunday School leaders – *Breathing Life into Sunday School: 12 Essentials to Revive Your Most Important Ministry*, as well as a book for small group leader training – *Leading Small Groups: How to Gather, Launch, Lead, and Multiply Your Small*

Groups. Both of these books have found an audience and are being used to help people fulfill the Great Commission to make disciples.

In addition, LifeWay has focused on providing digital training content to disciple-makers through our Groups blog and through the *Group Answers* podcast, which has tripled its audience in the past year.

From a live-training standpoint, LifeWay has promoted the Discipleship Pathway philosophy around the country and incorporated those research-supported principles into the *Bible Studies for Life* curriculum, as well as the stand-alone Bible study portfolio. This plan can be accessed at LifeWay.com/BalancedDiscipleship.

On the study resources side, LifeWay has recently partnered with both Radical and Passion Ministries to develop new discipleship studies.

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*. Each of these resources has experienced growth in the last year.

Finally, classic discipleship studies from LifeWay like *Experiencing God* continue to provide great value for deep discipleship experiences in the church.

Future Plans — In 2020, LifeWay will release a new expression of the popular curriculum, *Explore the Bible*. This new version, called *Characters*, is a one-year exploration of the Bible through the lives of its people. This 7-volume series will help disciples and disciple-makers understand how the Bible fits together and how God works through regular people like them.

LifeWay will also continue to seek new discipleship training opportunities and strategic partnerships. We will continue 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 their groups are structured.

Leadership Development

Significant Accomplishments — LifeWay Leadership's key initiatives in 2019 focused on equipping church leaders and volunteers in ongoing training and leadership development. The team continues to see great momentum in the new version of Ministry Grid, with more than 2,000 subscribing churches. LifeWay Leadership has also continued its partnership with Southeastern Baptist Theological Seminary to host 10 free online open classes on Ministry Grid, which includes more than 5,300 users.

LifeWay Leadership partnered with the Ethics & Religious Liberty Commission (ERLC) and the SBC's Sexual Abuse Advisory Group to produce the video lessons for *Becoming a Church that Cares Well for the Abused* and the website ChurchCares.com. B&H published the accompanying handbook. For individuals and churches to assign this training, track user progress, and receive a certificate of completion, the videos and downloadable handbook are accessible for free on Ministry Grid. Completing this training is step five of the Caring Well Challenge, an initiative of the ERLC and the Sexual Abuse Advisory Group.

LifeWay Leadership continues to see success in Leadership Pipeline coaching as an underlying philosophy and framework for leadership development. The team hosted Leadership Pipeline coaching events in Houston, TX; Austin, TX; Nashville, TN; and Bangalore, India. The team also returned to Australia where they hosted Leadership Pipeline coaching days to equip churches, denominations, and church planting networks.

LifeWay Leadership has also continued partnering with Josh Patterson and Kevin Peck to launch three Strategic Learning Communities, which met three times over six months to equip ministry leaders and pastors in executive and organizational leadership.

The ministry of this team has grown through the success of its *5 Leadership Questions* podcast. The team also continues to see success with the LifeWay Leadership Podcast Network, which includes *Ask Me Anything* by J.D. Greear; *5 Leadership Questions* by Todd Adkins; *New Churches Q&A* by Ed Stetzer, Todd Adkins, and Daniel Im; *Unseen Leadership* by Chandler Vannoy and Josh Hunter; *Making Disciples* by Robby Gallaty; *Group Answers* by Chris Surratt and Brian Daniel; and *The One Thing* by Scott Sanders and Derek Hanna.

Additionally, the LifeWay Leadership team provided free resources to more than 600 new church plants, including access to Ministry Grid, curriculum, website support, online giving, and other LifeWay resources. The *New Churches* podcast has continued to grow and reached over 1 million downloads in early 2019. In late 2019, the team also released the Church Planter Candidate Assessment (CPCA) on Ministry Grid.

In response to COVID-19, the LifeWay Leadership team provided free digital access to LifeWay's ongoing Bible studies through Ministry Grid. Over 6,600 churches, totaling more than 57,800 users, received digital access to *The Gospel Project*, *Bible Studies for Life*, and *Explore the Bible* from March-May 2020.

Future Plans — The LifeWay Leadership team has a heart to see local churches develop an army of leaders, not just an audience. In January 2020, the team released three exclusive leadership courses with Carey Nieuwhof on Ministry Grid. LifeWay Leadership will also continue to add features and enhancements to Ministry Grid to enable church leaders to provide training, ongoing Bible studies, and resources to their volunteers and leaders for ongoing development and discipleship.

Worship and Music Ministry

Significant Accomplishments — Since the Southern Baptist Convention's 2019 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.

LifeWay Worship increased its music releases significantly in 2019. Offerings in choral and instrumental music were complemented by a new pipeline of albums/playlists in the digital streaming market. Working with Provident Music Group, LifeWay Worship is releasing music through all of the major digital streaming providers, including iTunes Music, Spotify, Pandora, TuneCore, and many others. LifeWay Worship continues its work with Daywind Music Group in choral music and song publishing.

WorshipLife events at California Baptist University and in Gatlinburg, TN, served more than 1,000 worship leaders this past year. With its unique blend of corporate worship, training, reading sessions, counseling, and concerts, the event serves pastors and worship leaders professionally, spiritually, and emotionally. The SonPower student event moved this year from Orlando, FL, to Nashville, TN. Students were encouraged through times of worship, training, and a hands-on mission project in association with The Nashville Bridge ministry. They presented a live concert event with Christian artists: Joseph Habedank, Michael Farren, and Janice Gaines.

Broadman Supplies enjoyed a record year of growth serving churches through communion supplies, bulletins, evangelistic tracts, and more in North America and around the world by increasing our channels of distribution. Our LifeWay OneSource Program also continued to show growth with diverse offerings of church services and solutions.

Future Plans — LifeWay Worship is developing a new modern collection for Spanish-speaking churches that will be available exclusively at LifeWayWorship.com. This collection will be the first of its kind serving churches all over Latin America and the world.

Christian Education

Significant Accomplishments — The largest gathering of people outside of the weekly worship service in Southern Baptist churches takes place in the ministry of Christian education. The church is commanded to “*Go, therefore, and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe everything I have commanded you*” (Matthew 28:18-20). Through the teaching of the Word of God, the church becomes more mature “*until we all reach unity in the faith and in the knowledge of God’s Son, growing into maturity with a stature measured by Christ’s fullness*” (Ephesians 4:13).

The preaching of God’s Word is a foundational ministry, and when a church’s education ministry strongly partners with the pastor to move people from worship services and into small group Bible studies, a Holy Spirit-empowered transformational experience can take place in the lives of men, women, boys, and girls. Discipleship happens most effectively in groups, and it is in these groups that people discover and apply God’s Word to their lives in age-appropriate ways.

In 2019, LifeWay’s Christian education ministry sponsored training and development opportunities for Christian education leaders from the local church. These intense periods of training and encouragement took place at LifeWay’s corporate headquarters, as well as in strategic locations around the country, hosted by a Southern Baptist church in each location or a Southern Baptist entity such as one of our six seminaries.

Known as M.E. Essentials (Minister of Education), these three-day events exposed church practitioners to LifeWay leaders, best practices in Christian education today, and created new networks of relationships among the participants. The average attendance at any of the Essentials events is limited to approximately 20-25 practitioners so that interaction with LifeWay personnel is maximized and so that these church leaders can experience interactive, engaging learning approaches during the three-day conference. Information concerning Essentials conferences can be obtained by contacting ken.braddy@lifeway.com.

Future Plans — The ME Essentials conferences will be rebranded in 2020 and will become the Christian Education Essentials conference. The content of the three-day event has been rewritten and will focus on three essential roles of the person responsible for Christian education in the local church. The participants of these new Christian Education Essentials conferences will be fully immersed in learning Arthur Flake’s five-step strategy for growing a Christian education ministry. Whether a church’s strategy is Sunday School (on campus) or small groups off campus, the steps in Flake’s Formula will be crucial no matter which approach is chosen by a local church.

Pastoral Ministries

Significant Accomplishments — LifeWay values its partnerships with state conventions, associations, and seminary leaders, placing an emphasis on providing resources, training events, and ministry guidance for pastors and church leaders.

The Partner’s Summit, held in December 2019, allowed state convention partners to gather with key leaders from LifeWay to discuss matters of church practice in disciple-making. The Summit included large group gatherings, ministry role intensives, and breakout sessions. The topic discussions centered on ways to assist group ministry growth in churches. The theme was “Groups Still Matter.”

“Pastors Essentials: Leading the Disciple-Making Ministry in Your Church,” is a unique workshop designed specifically for the senior pastor who has a heart and passion to develop and lead the disciple-making ministry in the local church. With training and discussion specifically tailored for senior pastors, Pastors Essentials addresses issues and topics pastors face in making disciples. The goal is for pastors to leave the conference with a plan to disciple their people with wisdom and intentionality. LifeWay offered 11 Pastors Essentials in 2019, averaging 20 pastors in attendance.

LifeWay’s *FactsAndTrends.net* covers faith, culture, and local church ministry, providing insight to cultural and religious trends that are sure to impact the church. In 2019, the site had 3.5 million total page views and 1.6 million users. The Daily Insights newsletter reaches 30,000 church leaders.

Evangelism

Significant Accomplishments — 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 walks through the three circles evangelism strategy to help believers discover just how simple sharing the gospel can be.

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 east, *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.

LifeWay continues to provide training resources to assist churches to reach 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.

Sharing the gospel with kids is one of the most important elements of kids ministry. With *The Gospel: God’s Plan for Me* curriculum, kids will be encouraged and challenged as they explore what God has revealed about His plan for salvation through Jesus in the Bible. This 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.

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 continue to experience great success with *FAITH Evangelism*. The resources for *FAITH Evangelism*, highlighted at LifeWay.com/Faith, include:

- *FAITH Evangelism 1* is designed to equip believers to grow in their personal faith while, at the same time, taking the gospel and needed ministry into their communities.
- *FAITH Evangelism 2* continues the evangelism journey while focusing on building strong, committed leaders who will pour and multiply their lives into the lives of learners.

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+ recreation games, and five sessions of gospel-centered content equip volunteers to explain the good news to kids in any context.

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.

Marriage and Family Ministry

Significant Accomplishments — LifeWay has resourced churches in family ministry for many years through the publication of quality family and devotional magazines. Included are:

- *HomeLife* — Focused on faith, family, and life, *HomeLife* is a 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 helps with insights written especially for parents.
- *Parenting Teens* — A monthly magazine providing encouragement, information, and insights to address the unique challenges of guiding a teen through adolescence into adulthood.
- *Journey* — Monthly devotional magazine for women with content that is substantive but not overwhelming for busy schedules.
- *Stand Firm* — A monthly devotional guide for men with daily encouragement and small group questions that fit into a man's busy schedule.
- *Open Windows* — A quarterly devotional guide featuring individual daily readings and selected Scripture passages (also available in large print). It 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.

Woo Marriage: In 2019, LifeWay launched an online tool that provides marriage coaching for churches. As pastors struggle to find adequate time to offer marriage ministry and encouragement, *Woo Marriage* is a convenient and biblical way to help couples prepare for marriage, strengthen their marriage, and resolve conflicts. Some of the coaches include LifeWay authors such as Ben and Donna Stuart, Derwin and Vicki Gray, Byron and Carla Weathersbee, and more. In six

months, more than 50 churches subscribed to this new resource and many more have started the free trial.

Parenting resources: *22:6 Parenting* is a digital discipleship plan for parents that now reaches more than 400 families around the world. Led by Dr. Joshua Straub and his wife, Christi, this resource is offering encouragement through not only this digital resource, but also their weekly podcast *Famous at Home*, which receives more than 50,000 downloads a month. In March 2019, the Straubs released their first children's book with B&H titled, *What Am I Feeling?* and in April 2019, their first LifeWay Bible study, *Homegrown*, was released.

LifeWay Global

Significant Accomplishments — 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 2019 with more than 4 million lives impacted 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 Beijing, 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 Juan Sanchez. Key Indian authors include: Stanley Mehta, Rajiv Chelladurai, Sam Verghese, Joel Gummadi, and PC Matthew. In 2019, LifeWay reached a milestone as we acquired our 50th global author.

LifeWay is making Vacation Bible School a global ministry to teach children throughout the world the good news about Jesus. In India alone, VBS reached more than 100,000 children in 2019, and more than 24,000 kits in Hindi and Telugu were distributed.

In recent years, LifeWay Global has felt a conviction to complement our indigenous publishing with world-class training by our key authors. Last year (2019) was a breakout year with training events for pastors, including *Equipa* (Equip) in Mexico with more than 3,000 attendees in person and more than 15,000 unique visitors online. LifeWay is also impacting all key evangelical denominations through live events and online training—anchored by *Equipa*, a Spanish Learning Management System (LMS) serving more than 7,000 leaders in 30 countries.

LifeWay followed the successful launch of the Christian Standard Bible (CSB) text in South Africa in 2018 with a strong CSB launch in the Philippines in Fall of 2019. Our vision is to impact the English-speaking church worldwide with this growing and trusted text. We also enjoyed major growth in key English-speaking countries (e.g. Canada, UK, and Australia) through a more aggressive strategy around key publishing lines and new channel development.

Last year was also a solid year for Spanish ongoing curriculum, anchored by *Bible Studies for Life*. We experienced another year of growth in Spanish kids publishing, built around *En La Naturaleza* (In the Wild)—our VBS program. We continue to expand our market-leading Spanish Bible program, anchored by the RVR60 and NVI texts. 2019 was a breakout year for LifeWay Mexico as we expanded our reach through more than 100 events, social media, and mass retail distribution. Our fastest growth in Spanish in 2019 was stateside with 50 million-plus Spanish speakers in the U.S. 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 in 2020 with the introduction of *Adoremus*—a Spanish hymnal, 13 new short-term Bible studies, the *Women's Devotional Bible*, and the *Chronological Study Bible*. We will also launch our Indian Bible

publishing program—anchored by the *Telugu Study Bible* (Fall 2020). And we’re currently developing *The Gospel Project for Kids* to equip Indian churches with on-going discipleship as a complement to VBS (Summer 2020).

2. Ministry Assignment: Assist churches in ministries to college and university students.

Significant Accomplishments — 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 and events 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 “LifeWay Young Adult Recommends” because of relevance to the life of college students and young adults. These titles can be found on the LifeWay Young Adults blog at YoungAdults.LifeWay.com and recently include *Life + Love* by Ben Stuart, *Something Needs to Change* by David Platt, and *Jude* by Jackie Hill Perry. We also released a new mentoring guide, *Flourish*, in partnership with Passion City Church, which is a great resource to encourage young adults to disciple others.

LifeWay also continues to offer meaningful and relevant events that promote spiritual growth and missions to churches and collegiate ministries including:

Beach Reach. For three weeks in March 2019, almost 800 college students and leaders gathered in Panama City Beach, FL, for one of the most intense and challenging experiences provided by LifeWay. Through daily pancake breakfasts (in partnership with the Georgia Baptist Disaster Relief Team), free van rides, and street/beach ministry where the gospel is verbally shared, college students reached out to fellow college students on Spring Break in Panama City Beach. Some 42 salvation decisions were made among college Spring Breakers during the three weeks, along with hundreds of other gospel conversations. Also in 2019, participants engaged in hurricane relief due to the devastation of hurricane Michael. Early registration each year ends in mid-December, but groups can register up to the time of the event.

Collegiate Week. More than 1,900 college students and leaders gathered at Falls Creek Conference Center in Oklahoma during the first week of August 2019 for a week of worship, Bible Study, and recreation. Collegiate Week has been a strong connection between churches and state conventions as college students prepare to return to their campuses for the Fall semester. Included in Collegiate Week is an intentional emphasis upon the training of leaders through the leaders track.

A National Collegiate Ministry network continues to partner with LifeWay to give direction and leadership on a number of important topics in reaching and equipping college students. Baptist Collegiate Network (BCNet) consists of seven committees staffed by church and campus-based college ministers in coordination with Baptist Collegiate State Directors (BCSD). LifeWay’s

partnership with BCNet and BCSD is an essential component in continuing to emphasize collegiate ministry in the SBC. Together, we launched a new national website for college ministry in the SBC, www.CollegeMinistry.com.

LifeWay also partners with the North American Mission Board and the International Mission Board, along with other networks such as College Metro and Baptist Collegiate Ministry Partners, to provide resourcing, training, and connections with the opportunity to reach and equip college students as disciples of Jesus Christ.

Future Plans — LifeWay and National Collegiate Ministry will continue to seek opportunities to partner with churches and collegiate ministries in reaching and equipping college students and young adults.

Short-term studies will be offered under the “LifeWay Young Adults Recommends” tagline. These studies will be relevant to issues that young adults and college students are facing within their culture. Some of those studies in the new year include *The Prodigal Son* by Matt Carter, *Everyday Theology* by Mary Wiley, and *Help My Unbelief* by Barnabas Piper. Additionally, a Go2 resource will be released to help college ministries challenge graduates to two years of missions (utilizing their degree) upon graduation.

Ongoing curriculum will continue to have a young adult emphasis. *Bible Studies for Life Young Adult*, *Explore the Bible Daily Discipleship Guide*, *The Gospel Project*, and *YOU* will all be lines of curriculum that will help young adults understand what it means to be a disciple of Jesus within their context.

3. Ministry Assignment: Assist churches with Christian schools and homeschool ministries.

Significant Accomplishments — 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 home schools.

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. Ministry Assignment: Assist churches in ministries to men and women.

Women’s Ministry

Significant Accomplishments — 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.

The Women’s Event Team continues to look for new ways to engage women through various means of engagement. Living Proof Live events featuring author Beth Moore and worship with Travis Cottrell were held in the following cities from October 2018 through September 2019: Albany, NY; Long Beach, CA; Memphis, TN; Roanoke, VA; Lincoln, NE; Eugene, OR; Green Bay, WI; Cincinnati, OH; Austin, TX; and Woodstock, GA. A special Living Proof Live event was held in October 2018 for Native American women in Chinle, AZ. These events ministered

to more than 32,000 women. The Beth Moore simulcast event was partnered with the live event in Woodstock, GA, and included 253 churches and 4,427 individuals representing more than 14 countries. The total people reached was more than 45,000.

A growing ministry for the event team is the Going Beyond Live events with Priscilla Shirer. These events were held in the following cities: Mobile, AL; Charlotte, NC; and Sacramento, CA. More than 15,000 women attended one of these live events. A simulcast event was held in conjunction with the live event in Mobile, AL, and included 676 churches and 6,649 individuals representing more than 22 countries. The estimated number of people reached through this simulcast was more than 112,000.

LifeWay strengthened the event opportunities by offering The Word Alive (TWA) events with Lysa TerKeurst. These live events, featuring worship leader Ellie Holcomb, were held in Athens, GA; Fort Lauderdale, FL; and Dallas, TX. More than 6,000 women attended these events. A special event with TerKeurst included a destination event to Israel. More than 400 women attended this trip. The Abundance event, featuring several LifeWay authors was held at the end of 2018 in Dallas, TX, and Portland, OR. More than 4,000 women attended these events. This event was replaced with a new event in 2019 called LifeWay Women Live. It was held in Orlando, FL, and more than 2,500 women attended.

The year was a full year of releases from the short-term Bible study team. These included: *God of Covenant* by Jen Wilkin, *Surrendering the Secret* (updated) by Pat Layton, *We Over Me* by Whitney Capps, *Legacy* by Jackie Green and Lauren Green McAfee, *Psalm 40* by Sarah Mae, *20/20* by Christine Caine, *Finding God Faithful* by Kelly Minter, *Jude* by Jackie Hill Perry, *Trustworthy* by Lysa TerKeurst, and a new Advent study by LifeWay Women employees. A special release of a new mentoring resource, in partnership with Passion City Church, called *Flourish*, was released in May.

LifeWay Women continued to offer online Bible studies with 75,663 participants.

More than 8,700 women were equipped in 2019 through training events. These events include Essentials, You Lead, the Women's Leadership Forum, as well as a variety of state convention partnership events, Baptist seminaries, and universities.

You Lead events were held in the following cities: Albany, NY; Dallas, TX; Long Beach, CA; Mobile, AL; Memphis, TN; Roanoke, VA; Charlotte, NC; Eugene, OR; Green Bay, WI; Cincinnati, OH; Woodstock, GA; and Sacramento, CA.

More than 1,600 women gathered at the 2019 Women's Leadership Forum (November 7-9) at Long Hollow Baptist Church in Hendersonville, TN.

LifeWay Women also partners with the SBC Ministers' Wives luncheon by providing registration and resources for the event. This was held in Birmingham, AL, in conjunction with the 2019 SBC Annual Meeting.

LifeWay Women continued to expand its social media reach through Facebook, Twitter, Instagram, and its blog, LifeWayWomen.com. In 2019, the blog had 2.17 million total page views and 773,764 million users. The LifeWay Women's Facebook page had close to 196,000 followers. There are 72,200 Twitter followers and 233,000 Instagram followers. In addition to its all access content, the LifeWay.com/WomensMinistry blog focused on content for leaders.

Future Plans — LifeWay Women will continue to offer multiple Living Proof Live events, Going Beyond Live Events featuring Priscilla Shirer, three multi-platform events called LifeWay Women Live, and new events with Jackie Hill Perry called Glory. Two cruises, including one with Beth Moore and another with Lysa TerKeurst will take place in 2020-2021.

The publishing pipeline for 2020 includes plans to publish the following women's Bible studies: *Better: A Study of Hebrews* by Jen Wilkin, *Everyday Theology* by Mary Wiley, *Jesus and Women* by Kristi McLelland, *Into the Light* by Mary DeMuth, *Take Courage: A Study of Haggai* by Jennifer Rothschild, *Matchless: The Life and Love of Jesus* by Angie Smith, *TruthFilled* by Ruth Chou Simons, as well as a new Easter study and Advent study by LifeWay women employees.

Men's Ministry

Significant Accomplishments — In 2019, LifeWay partnered with Dr. Tony Evans and The Urban Alternative to produce *Kingdom Men Rising*, a feature documentary film distributed through Fathom Events. *Kingdom Men Rising* was in theaters for two days in the spring. More than 100,000 people saw the movie in theaters during its theatrical run.

In July 2019, the movie was released through various channels including digital, streaming, DVD, and church licenses. Television and international distribution opportunities are also being explored.

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.

Kingdom Men Rising featured Heisman trophy winner, Tim Brown, former Dallas Cowboy quarterback, Jon Kitna, Super Bowl winning coach Tony Dungy, and others. *Kingdom Men Rising* provides an honest portrayal of today's man that is countered by God's original design.

The film is a catalyst for getting men into groups to study Dr. Evans' Bible study, *No More Excuses*, published by LifeWay Groups. This is Dr. Evans' first men's Bible study since *Kingdom Man*, one of his best-selling resources.

LifeWay also partnered with Dr. Johnny Hunt and First Baptist Church, Woodstock, GA, to simulcast the Johnny Hunt Men's Conference with 59 churches, 61 small groups, and 87 individuals participating. In addition to Dr. Hunt, breakouts were led by Bob Reccord, James Eubanks, Robby Lewis, Buddy Hulsey, Eric Fuller, Bob Mehaffey, Keith Boggs, Jeremy Morton, Kris Dolberry, and Brian Jennings.

No More Excuses by Tony Evans was released in 2019 as a follow-up to the *Kingdom Men Rising* event. This Bible study challenges men to live in a way worthy of their calling.

Future Plans — LifeWay Men continues to provide biblically trusted resources most notably *Kingdom Man* and *No More Excuses* with Tony Evans, *Manhood Restored* with Eric Mason, and six volumes of 33 *The Series* with Authentic Manhood.

5. Ministry Assignment: Assist churches through operation of Conference Centers and Camps.

Significant Accomplishments — God impacted many lives at Ridgecrest Conference Center in 2019, hosting more than 65,000 guests and hundreds of events. All guest rooms in the Mountain Laurel East Hotel were renovated and guest feedback has been incredible.

Almost 3,500 campers attended Camp Ridgecrest for Boys and Camp Crestridge for Girls, and more than 800 individuals attended Family Camp, Father & Son Weekend, and Mother & Daughter Weekend.

In 2019, more than 122,000 kids and students attended CentriKid, FUGE, Student Life camps, and World Changers projects.

Future Plans — Ridgecrest Conference Center will expand its self-programmed events portfolio in 2020. In addition, we will use our new website (debuted in December 2019) at RidgecrestConferenceCenter.com. Our Ridgecrest Conference Center and Camps team is continuing to monitor COVID-19 developments and plan for various scenarios this summer.

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 Ridgecrest Conference Center and Summer Camps. LifeWay hopes to continue using Ridgecrest for future events including student camps and the Black Church Leadership and Family conference.

Due to COVID-19 and restrictions on large-group gatherings, LifeWay canceled all 2020 summer camp sessions for CentriKid, Student Life, FUGE, and World Changers.

6. Ministry Assignment: Assist churches through the publication of books and Bibles.

Significant Accomplishments — B&H Books publishes trustworthy books that impact children, teens, adults, families, churches, and God's work around the world. In 2019, B&H was able to make significant contributions by publishing new products and collaborating with key partners in the SBC. In June, B&H partnered with the ERLC to publish *Becoming a Church that Cares Well for the Abused*, a handbook bringing together experts from various fields to equip church leaders to implement best practices for preventing and responding to a variety of sexual abuse scenarios.

B&H also partnered with SBC president J. D. Greear, to publish two new books: *Above All and Gospel: 40-Day Devotional Journey*. Other bestselling and award-winning titles include: *Not Forsaken* by Louie Giglio, *The Insanity of Sacrifice* by Nik Ripkin with Barry Stricker, *Pathways* by Tony Evans, *Afraid of All the Things* by Scarlett Hiltibidal, *Letters to My Students, Vol. 1* by Jason K. Allen, *Advocates* by Dharti Lewis, *Disciple Her* by Kandi Gallaty, *Here and Now and Recovered* by Robby Gallaty, *Difference Makers* by Gregg Matte, *Worship Essentials* by Mike Harland, and two new Elisabeth Elliot resources—the never-before-published *Suffering Is Never for Nothing* by Elisabeth Elliot and *Devotedly: The Personal Letters and Love Story of Jim and Elisabeth Elliot* by Valerie Shepard.

Key titles published for children include: *What am I Feeling?* by Josh and Christi Straub, *The Promises of God Storybook Bible* by Jennifer Lyell, *Why God?* by Dan DeWitt, *Empowered: How God Shaped 11 Women's Lives* by Catherine Parks, *Gracefull: Growing a Heart that Cares for Our Neighbors* by Dorena Williamson, two new books from the Little Bible Heroes series—*The Prodigal Son / The Faithful Servant* and *The Wise Builder / The Sower*, and four books in the Slugs & Bugs series — *Are We Still Friends?*, *Who Will Play with Me?*, *The Society of Extraordinary Raccoon Society*, and *The Society of Extraordinary Raccoon Society on Boasting* by Randall Goodgame.

For more than a decade, B&H Books has had the privilege of partnering with Stephen and Alex Kendrick to publish books that relate to their feature films. In 2019, B&H published a suite of bestselling books in support of the new movie *Overcomer*. These books include: *Defined* by Stephen Kendrick and Alex Kendrick, *Revealed* by Stephen Kendrick and Alex Kendrick with Troy Schmidt, *Radiant* by Priscilla Shirer, *Wonderful* by Stephen Kendrick and Alex Kendrick with Amy Parker, and *What's So Wonderful about Webster?* by Stephen Kendrick and Alex Kendrick.

B&H looks forward to moving ahead into 2020 with the publication of several more impactful adult and kids books, by Russell Moore, J. D. Greear, Jeff Iorg, Ellie Holcomb, Jimmy Scroggins, Trevin Wax, Art Rainer, Daniel Darling, Lara Casey, Bob Lepine, and more.

B&H is honored to partner with others throughout LifeWay and across the denomination to produce resources that elevate the kingdom work of the SBC.

B&H Bible & Reference — In 2019, Holman Bibles continued to build upon the successful 2017 launch and 2018 growth of the Christian Standard Bible. In its third year, the CSB was again the translation for many new Bible releases, most notably *The Tony Evans Study Bible* in partnership with Dr. Tony Evans and the Urban Alternative ministry. Continued focus on quality new CSB releases in 2019, in combination with strategic promotional focus on backlist 2017 and 2018 CSB Bibles, resulted in continued growth of CSB as a leading translation in the market.

Other notable 2019 releases in CSB include the *He Reads Truth Bible* (in partnership with the She Reads Truth/He Reads Truth ministry communities), the *Ancient Faith Study Bible* (in partnership with IVP), the group-focused *Life Connections Study Bible* (an updated *Serendipity Study Bible* in partnership with Lyman Coleman), the easy-to-use *Seven Arrows Bible for Students* (to accompany Seven Arrows study method based curriculum), and the *Defend Your Faith Bible for Kids* (kids apologetics Bible based on the *Apologetics Study Bible for Students*). In year two, the *(in)courage Devotional Bible* has seen continued success, with more than 50,000 copies sold since release. The *She Reads Truth Bible* has now sold more than 250,000 copies since release and the *CSB Study Bible*, featuring the ECPA award-winning Holman Study System, continues to exceed expectations with over 75,000 copies sold to date.

In addition to CSB, Holman Bibles continues to extend the reach of God's Word by publishing KJV and NKJV Bibles, many of which are delivered all over the world through partnership with LifeWay Global. In 2019, the *Apologetics Study Bible* was released and well received in KJV to accompany the previously released KJV edition of the *Spurgeon Study Bible* (in partnership with Alistair Begg). The first edition KJV text Bibles with refreshed and easily readable interiors also released in 2019 and will be followed by additional sizes in subsequent release cycles as strategic focus is given to updating and refreshing our KJV Bible and brand assortment.

To serve church leaders in their understanding and proclaiming of the Scriptures, the Holman Reference team continues to release commentaries that edify and equip God's people, most notably the Christ-Centered Exposition series and the New American Commentary series. Editorial work continues in 2019 toward a planned 2020 release of the first edition of the Christian Standard Commentary series. Also in 2019, Holman Reference continued efforts to publish illustrated guides that appeal to the church as well as mass market and Christian Book Association customers. The *Ultimate Guide to Defend Your Faith*, *Ultimate Bible Dictionary*, and *Christian Worldview Handbook* followed the 2018 release of the *Ultimate Bible Guide* with more illustrated guides to follow in the coming years.

B&H Academic — In 2019, B&H Academic published 24 titles to serve our academic and pastoral audiences. In April 2019, we released our first book outside of the area of Christian Studies: *American History I-II* by Thomas Kidd. These full-color textbooks are used by colleges, Christian high schools, and homeschool networks across the U.S. Some other notable academic titles are *EGGNT: Hebrews* by Dana Harris, a print edition of *Trinitarian Theology*, and a unique textbook titled *Bible Toolbox* by Bryan Cribb and Channing Crisler that demonstrates the unique opportunity we have to create resources that are thoroughly integrated with our Wordsearch platform.

B&H Academic also created more resources that can be used in the classroom and the church. We worked with Jared Musgrove, groups pastor at The Village Church, to create a study guide for *Superheroes Can't Save You* that can be used in small groups or as an individual study.

We released *The Bible Story* by Preben Vang, a concise overview of the Bible that is a helpful resource for new believers. We also published two more volumes in the Hobbs College Library: *Student Ministry by the Book* by Ed Newton and Scott Pace and *Who is the Holy Spirit?* by Malcolm Yarnell. Finally, we were honored to publish *Spiritual Warfare in the Storyline of Scripture* by Bill Cook and Chuck Lawless. It is our prayer the Lord will use this book to equip ministry leaders to have a biblical understanding of spiritual warfare and to live a victorious life because of the finished work of Christ.

7. Ministry Assignment: Assist churches through the operation of LifeWay Christian Stores.

Significant Accomplishments — In 2019, LifeWay took steps to correct substantial losses in its brick-and-mortar chain. As we began to assess the future of LifeWay’s brick-and-mortar presence, it became clear that a retail chain of any size was unsustainable. In March 2019, LifeWay announced the decision to close all 170 of its brick-and-mortar stores. By the end of the year, LifeWay had shifted its retail strategy to other channels.

During fiscal year 2019, millions of individuals and tens of thousands of churches, both domestically and internationally, were served through LifeWay’s online store at LifeWay.com. The shift to e-commerce has allowed LifeWay to meet customer demand for online shopping experiences and to expand our reach globally.

LifeWay interacts with customers in a variety of channels—our own proprietary channels of LifeWay.com and our Customer Service Center, as well as external channels that help customers interact with our resources.

LifeWay is expanding access to its materials through channels such as the Amazon Marketplace and a new network of independent Christian bookstores serving as authorized dealers of LifeWay resources.

Since the beginning of June 2019, more than 450 independent bookstores across 46 states have signed up to have a dedicated section of their store containing LifeWay content. We’re finding new shelf space to allow customers to touch and feel our products before they buy them.

In addition to retail stores, we’re also partnering with local churches who wish to carry an assortment of LifeWay resources. LifeWay has extended its ministry reach into more than 90 new markets—regions where LifeWay never had a brick-and-mortar store.

LifeWay also has strong partnerships with retailers like Walmart, Mardel, Books-a-Million, and Christianbook.com.

Future Plans — LifeWay will continue to provide our resources at competitive prices through our online store at LifeWay.com, as well as provide LifeWay Stores at regional and national events. The closure of our proprietary brick-and-mortar stores expands the opportunity to provide LifeWay resources globally through multiple retail channels.

By providing trustworthy and transformational resources, we plan to maintain a strong ministry impact among individuals and churches as we emphasize ministry concerns of the Southern Baptist Convention.

8. Ministry Assignment: Assist churches through church architecture consultation and services.

Visioneering Studios is proud to be LifeWay’s strategic partner to provide comprehensive architecture and planning services for churches nationwide. Visioneering Studios serves as a guide for churches and other organizations to climb toward a new level of impact for God’s Kingdom.

Through this dynamic ministry resource, LifeWay connects churches, associations, state conventions, and denominational entities with an expanded array of services including Real Estate Brokerage, Development Advisory Services, Campus Master Planning, Architecture and Interior Design, and Construction Services. VSI's integrated project approach of *Envision – Design – Build* allows the firm to engage each church uniquely and serve their individual people, place, and passion.

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

Significant Accomplishments — Visioneering had the privilege to come alongside 86 churches and nonprofit organizations in 2019, including New Vision Baptist Church, Golden Springs Baptist Church, Magnolia's First Baptist Church, and Whittier Area Community Church, among many others. In total, Visioneering worked in 19 states and 73 cities throughout 2019.

Visioneering Studios exists to launch inspired vision into reality by being trusted stewards of story and space. The firm has won numerous, national Solomon Awards such as Best Church Architect, Best Church Design, and Best Building Contractor.

In 2019, Visioneering was awarded two Solomon Awards for the Best Building Contractor for Central Christian Church in Weatherford, TX; and Severns Valley Baptist Church in Severns Valley, KY. Visioneering also received an Award for Best Church Design for Youth and Children's Spaces for McLean Bible Church in McLean, VA, as well as an award for Franklin Avenue Baptist Church in New Orleans, LA, for Best Building Design of Traditional and Contemporary Spaces.

Along the way, Visioneering's home studio in Santa Ana, CA, was honored to be named by *The Orange County Register* as one of Orange County's best workplaces for the third year in a row.

Another venture Visioneering embarked upon this year was to create a strategic project readiness calculator called Buildify.app. After nearly 20 years of experience working with thousands of churches, Visioneering has developed a platform to help churches measure their project readiness. Visioneering's team of real estate experts, designers, architects, and contractors have identified 20 critical variables that lead to a successful renovation or expansion plan. When church leaders complete the 20-question Buildify quiz, they'll get a custom report with the following vital insights:

- A project readiness score
- A personalized look at your current and future growth
- Any potential growth barriers
- A report on your church's property usage
- A look into your building's capacity and pain points
- An analysis of your attendees' generosity
- A review of your financial outlook with tips on how to prepare for a loan

Visioneering is made up of talented team members whose work is recognized across the country. In 2019, Visioneering contributed four articles to LifeWay's FactsAndTrends.net to help support the local church, including articles on "9 Signs It Might Be Time To Refresh Your Church's Interior Design," "5 Steps For Finding The Best Property For Your Church," "10 Ways To Evaluate Your Church's Readiness For An Active Shooter," and "7 Design Tips To Help Your Church Visitors Stick."

Future Plans — Visioneering Studios is 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.

Call Visioneering Studios in Nashville, TN, at (877) 899-1872. Visioneering can also be found on Facebook, Twitter, and Instagram. You can also find more information at the website www.VisioneeringStudios.com on how God is using this nationwide ministry.

9. Ministry Assignment: Assist churches in capital fund raising.

Significant Accomplishments — The Auxano Resourcing team provides unique, innovative consulting services to help churches navigate capital campaigns and build cultures of generosity throughout their congregations. The team continues to, year-over-year, break revenue records for the Resourcing area of Auxano, LifeWay's consulting department.

As part of this continuous improvement initiative, the Auxano team also has launched expanded cutting-edge capital campaign and generosity consulting tools aimed for client service excellence, and the posturing of our services as both proven and entrepreneurial. Sample highlights include:

- Congregational Assessment offering, providing personal interviews and digital surveys to determine buy-in and pre-campaign giving potential.
- Variety of entry points offered including remote Boot Camp, onsite Boot Camp, digital coaching, and onsite navigation.
- Focused emphasis on industry-leading, discipleship-based campaign approaches.
- Enhanced strategic partnership with LifeWay's architectural and design firm, Visioneering Studios, to offer integrated seminars to plan for large-scale projects.

Auxano Resourcing in 2019:

- Served a wide variety of 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.
- Served churches in 17 states coast to coast.
- Served 14 denominations.
- Spoke at numerous events across the country including denominational conferences, generosity forums, and pastor gatherings.
- Partnered with Generosity by LifeWay and Auxano Navigators as content experts for free video coaching offerings at www.LifewayGenerosity.com.

Future Plans — B&H is publishing Greg Gibbs' book *Capital Campaign Playbook: An Insider Look at a Church Consultant's Game Plan* in June 2020. Gibbs also is completing the sequel book, *Growing Generosity Playbook: Key Factors in Discipling a Congregation Toward A Generous Life*.

10. Ministry Assignment: Assist churches by conducting research and compiling statistics.

Significant Accomplishments — LifeWay Research released a variety of significant research studies in 2019. These included polling about the views of pastors and/or churchgoers on personal identity, immigration, sports gambling, church multiplication and growth, sexual abuse among pastors, the future of your church, Israel, Hispanic church planting, young adults staying or dropping out of church, worship, Wednesday night activities, retired pastors and missionaries, and civility.

LifeWay Research conducted research with numerous ministries including the Church Planting Leadership Fellowship, Wheaton College, Ethics & Religious Liberty Commission, Exponential, Moody Radio, and Outreach Magazine.

The book *Within Reach: The Power of Small Changes in Keeping Students Connected*, was released examining young adults staying in church or dropping out. The website DiscipleshipPathwayAssessment.com, a revised online discipleship assessment, was launched.

The SBC Annual Church Profile (ACP) for 2018 showed 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 declined by 0.19% from 2017. Average worship attendance decreased 0.43%. Reported membership declined 1.28%. Southern Baptists also experienced a decline in baptisms, down 3.02% to 246,442.

Future Plans — LifeWay Research will release research studies in 2020 on streaming worship services, disabilities, church security, sermon length, small Bible study groups, understanding the Bible, and ministry in post-Christian America.

Matters Referred by the Convention

During the Annual Meeting of the Southern Baptist Convention in Birmingham, Alabama, June 11–12, 2019, the Convention referred the following items to LifeWay Christian Resources for consideration, action, and report.

1. SBC Referral: To ask LifeWay to include a presentation of the gospel in every children’s lesson (Items 46 and 79, Proceedings of the Southern Baptist Convention, June 11-12, 2019, SBC Annual, p. 61, 80)

Motion: Laura Smith, Indiana

“That LifeWay Christian Resources be asked to make sure all Southern Baptist Convention curriculum for children, ages 0-6th grade, include a gospel presentation written into each lesson as exemplified in LifeWay’s publication *The Gospel Project*.”

Response: At LifeWay Kids, our goal is to provide trustworthy, biblical solutions to support the church in her mission to make disciples. Our belief is that a healthy, gospel-centered kids ministry hinges on the essentials of being heart transforming, Kingdom expanding, and culture shaping.

Curriculum is a guide to support churches and ministry leaders as they participate in children’s discipleship. Each resource in our Vacation Bible School and ongoing Bible Study curriculum lines provides natural on-ramps for teachers to regularly share the gospel and its related biblical truths with children in a variety of ways as the Holy Spirit leads.

Because we believe the gospel is the most important message to share with children, gospel presentation tools are included with our curriculum resources. Therefore, with shared urgency to share the gospel and with the desire to continue developing gospel-centered tools that equip churches to effectively make disciples, LifeWay Kids affirms its commitment to include the following in our Vacation Bible School and ongoing Bible Study resources:

- The Gospel: God’s Plan for Me tool in each Bible Study and Worship leader guide for elementary-aged groups. This tool will be referenced in every session where the biblical teaching would naturally transition into a gospel presentation, via an icon, margin note, and/or inline text.
- The Gospel: God’s Plan for Me tool in each Bible Study and Worship leader guide for preschool-aged groups. Individual sessions address foundational biblical concepts and foundational elements of the gospel message, in accordance with the Levels of Biblical Learning®.

- Gospel presentation videos in curriculum resources and online.
- The LifeWay Kids App with gospel-centered activities and biblical content for kids of all ages.

Whether equipping leaders to share gospel truths and lay the foundation necessary for kids to begin understanding and personalizing the gospel, or to give a full gospel presentation and call kids to repentance and faith, LifeWay Kids curriculum resources undergird and point to the gospel, help children build gospel fluency, and support children's discipleship and faith development.

2. SBC Referral: To request each SBC entity to provide an update on addressing abuse (Items 15 and 60, Proceedings of the Southern Baptist Convention, June 11-12, 2019, SBC Annual, p. 57, 63)

Motion: Phillip Bethancourt, Tennessee

“That the Southern Baptist Convention request each of the entities of the Southern Baptist Convention provide an update related to their efforts to address abuse and report back to the 2020 Southern Baptist Convention meeting in Orlando, Florida, covering three subjects: what is their entity doing to foster effective abuse awareness, prevention, and care; what additional steps has their entity taken to address abuse since the 2018 SBC annual meeting in Dallas, Texas; and how is their entity partnering with the efforts of the Sexual Abuse Advisory Group to address abuse?”

Response: LifeWay Christian Resources has policies and procedures, which include LifeWay Ethics Line, on-going training, and partnership with external experts to foster effective abuse prevention and care for employees and customers. Furthermore, LifeWay has partnered with the Sexual Abuse Advisory Group and the ERLC to record as well as produce the videos, book, and website for *Becoming a Church That Cares Well for the Abused*. The video training itself is hosted on LifeWay's Ministry Grid platform, and along with the PDF version of the book, has been made available for free to all churches. Additionally, LifeWay continues to identify ways to partner with other SBC entities and serve SBC churches as they address the issues raised by the Sexual Abuse Advisory Group. Included in this effort are activities such as producing and providing free live streaming of the ERLC's Church Cares 2019 National Conference and additional book and Bible study resource development to help survivors with a biblical framework for recovery and to provide pastors with a lens through which they can more deeply understand how to minister to those who have been sexually abused. Specifically, LifeWay Women has created a Bible study and equipping resource, in partnership with Mary DeMuth, with the intent of helping churches understand the issue of sexual abuse and appropriately receive and then walk alongside survivors of abuse and trauma. The Bible study will release in early Summer 2020. LifeWay is working toward 2021 release dates on other potential resources.



4200 North Point Parkway, Alpharetta, Georgia 30022

CHARLES M. (DANNY) WOOD, Chairman
KEVIN EZELL, President

At the North American Mission Board (NAMB), it's all about the gospel. Everything we do is to help churches and believers share the hope of Christ in their communities, throughout North America, and around the world.

There were many highlights in 2019 as we served Southern Baptist pastors and churches, but we want to start by thanking each and every person who gave so generously to the Annie Armstrong Easter Offering®. Southern Baptists gave a record \$61.6 million to the offering, an all-time high. In fact, this is the third year in a row we have seen a record-breaking offering. We are grateful and humbled by this generosity. As always, our pledge is that every dollar of the offering will go to missionaries on the field and resources to help them impact North America for Christ. We are committed to be the very best stewards of these dollars.

Pastors are NAMB's number one customer. We are here to serve them and help them succeed as they minister on the front lines. We serve pastors and churches in two primary ways: Send Relief, our compassion ministry arm, and Send Network, our church planting network.

In addition to these two primary ministry areas, NAMB's Evangelism and Leadership Group, led by Johnny Hunt, exists to equip pastors and mobilize Southern Baptists for evangelism. We started 2019 by partnering with SBC president, J. D. Greear, to launch *Who's Your One?*, an evangelism resource that challenges every Southern Baptist to identify a person for whom they will pray and share their faith with. I'm happy to report that thousands of churches responded by ordering *Who's Your One?* church resource kits. Our *Who's Your One?* Tour started in the fall and will visit dozens of cities over the next two years.

Each year, millions of peoples' lives in North America are turned upside down by natural disaster and other crises. As always, Southern Baptists were on the forefront of disaster response: bringing much needed help, assisting with the healing process, and most importantly, sharing the hope of Jesus which transcends any tragedy or triumph.

It was our privilege to come alongside dozens of state convention disaster relief units this past year as they mobilized thousands of Southern Baptist Disaster Relief-trained volunteers and hundreds of pieces of equipment.

NAMB's Send Relief ministry is bringing help and hope to those most in need. Our Puerto Rico rebuild effort hosted hundreds of volunteers this year as residents continue to recover from Hurricane Maria, which struck in 2017.

Send Relief is giving churches the opportunity to serve in areas such as poverty, refugees and internationals, adoption and foster care, human trafficking, and crisis response. We now have seven Send Relief ministry centers (Appalachia, Atlanta, Las Vegas, New Orleans, New York, Pittsburgh, and Puerto Rico) that are meeting needs in specific regions and giving Southern Baptists from all over North America opportunities to serve in long- or short-term settings.

NAMB helps Southern Baptists plant churches everywhere for everyone in North America through Send Network. We primarily focus outside the South, where Southern Baptists are weakest, and in our cities where more than 80% of North Americans live.

Southern Baptists need to start more churches to keep up with population growth and offset churches that are dying. The problem is our need for new churches is outpacing the supply of qualified church planters. That's why NAMB has launched the Multiplication Pipeline to help churches discover and develop the next generation of church planters for the North American mission field.

Our church replanting initiative helps re-launch churches that are dead or close to dying. Each year, dozens of churches that would have been down for the count now have an opportunity to continue to proclaim the gospel and transform lives.

The churches of tomorrow probably won't look exactly like yours. As North America grows more ethnically diverse, we help prioritize ethnic church plants where they are most needed. More than half of all churches that Southern Baptists start each year identify as ethnic or multiethnic. We also are focused on starting churches near college campuses. These churches will have an impact for years to come as they shape the hearts and minds of our next generation of leaders.

We are grateful for all God does through Southern Baptists and the North American Mission Board.

Additional highlights are noted below.

- Thanks to Southern Baptist giving, we are able to resource and support nearly 6,800 missionaries and chaplains. These men and women serve in difficult places and in challenging cultural contexts and many have left behind all that is familiar so they can tell people about Jesus.
- Southern Baptists added 908 new congregations in 2019, the most recent year for which data is available. This includes 552 new church starts, 59 new campuses and 297 new affiliations. We praise God for these new churches that are now part of the Southern Baptist family. *(Note: Under ACP definitions, a new campus is not considered its own church. Tracking campus activity is important, however, in order to have a complete picture of Southern Baptist presence and activity).*
- Churches started since 2010 now account for 11% of all churches in the SBC and they report 18% of all SBC baptisms. Church plants are reaching people for Christ and they are a positive force in our Southern Baptist family.
- Reversing the decline in baptisms won't be accomplished by a national entity, but we are making multiple evangelism resources available free to churches and emphasizing the annual SBC Baptism Sunday. We want to help Southern Baptists maintain evangelism and baptism as the top priority.
- What a privilege it was to celebrate with First Baptist Sutherland Springs in May 2019 as they dedicated a new worship center and education wing that NAMB provided through the gifts of Southern Baptists. Pray for this church as they continue to recover from the tragic mass shooting that took place in November 2017.

NAMB serves as the endorsing entity for more than 3,700 Southern Baptist chaplains who serve throughout the world in the military and in other settings such as hospitals, prisons, fire departments, police departments, and in private, corporate settings. At an Army base in Missouri, for example, more than 8,000 have been baptized since March 2018 under the ministry of Southern Baptist chaplains.

NAMB has the privilege of working closely with state Baptist conventions to assist their efforts in taking the gospel to North America. Each year, NAMB sends millions of dollars to state convention partners to assist in their ministry. This is money that goes to fund missionaries and to support evangelistic church planting, evangelism, and church revitalization efforts.

There are so many needs and much remains to be done, but it is good to pause in moments like these to reflect on all God is doing through Southern Baptists and through the North American Mission Board. We are grateful for the pastors and churches who are in the trenches of ministry. Thank you for everything you are doing to make Jesus known in North America.

Serving Together,

Kevin Ezell
President
North American Mission Board

Charles M. (Danny) Wood
Chairman
NAMB Board of Trustees

Goals and Accomplishments

(All SBC entities present informative ministry reports to the Executive Committee each February in compliance with the provisions of SBC Bylaw 18 E (12). The North American Mission Board has requested that the content of this report be taken from its 2020 Ministry Report, previously tendered to the Executive Committee.)

Relative to the listed Ministry Assignment, please describe accomplishments in the past year that create “value added” to the Cooperative Program dollars that NAMB receives.

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 planters, and the primary developer of these individuals is the local church. To assist churches in the discovery and development of potential planters, the North American Mission Board’s (NAMB) Send Network has created a Multiplication Pipeline (formerly called Church Planting 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 existing and future plants gain a vision to become multiplying churches themselves. Currently 1,406 pupils are being trained in the context of their local churches. This training is being led by 315 coordinators and 437 coaches in these local churches.

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. Send Network’s Planter Development team 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.

During the two-day, three-night orientation at NAMB, newly endorsed planters are informed of the vision and mission of the Send Network and equipped to embody our 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 church plant is transformational. Send Network currently provides care and is building and currently implementing 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.

Once a planter is on the field, they have a state-of-the-art quarterly reporting system to utilize that allows them to communicate with partners, evaluate their progress, and report via ACP their activity to SBC churches.

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

In January 2019, NAMB launched the *Evangelism with Johnny Hunt* podcast which provides practical, strategic training to pastors to help them lead their churches on mission. The podcast has been well received with more than 20,500 downloads since it began.

In February 2019, NAMB launched the *Who's Your One?* evangelism emphasis with SBC president, J. D. Greear. The launch included a church evangelism kit to help pastors implement the emphasis in their churches with the goal of encouraging every church member to identify a “one” for whom they will pray and with whom they will share the gospel. Throughout 2019, we distributed to churches a total of 25,827 kits; 411,672 prayer guides; and 1.5 million bookmarks. In addition, NAMB also distributed 469 Spanish kits; 9,228 Spanish prayer guides; and 70,475 Spanish bookmarks.

Crossover 2019, held in Birmingham, AL, was an intentional effort by volunteers and seminary students to go door-to-door in the surrounding communities and share the gospel with those they encountered.

A summary of the Crossover teams' accomplishments is below:

- Knocked on 10,409 doors
- Prayed with/for 2,251 people
- Had 1,817 gospel conversations
- 364 people prayed to receive Christ

The Who's Your One? Tour launched in August 2019, with the following tour sites: Fayetteville, NC; Orlando, FL; Plano, TX; Cordova, TN; Flowery Branch, GA; Pensacola, FL; Fayetteville, AR; and Arvada, CO. The overall attendance at these tour stops: more than 5,600 people attended the Sunday night rallies; more than 2,100 attended the Monday morning evangelism trainings.

NAMB also hosted four Engage 24 workshops that trained 485 pastors and church staff in evangelism.

In 2019, NAMB continued to distribute 3 *Circles* evangelism material. More than 1,852,500 English guides and 343,700 Spanish guides were distributed. More than 9,160 of the 3 *Circles* training kits were distributed.

In addition to 3 *Circles*, NAMB also launched a new resource, *Best News* by James Merritt. More than 2,015 of the training kits have been distributed since its launch in Summer 2019.

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 a life on mission more intentionally and/or explore church planting. To date, 1,030 churches are actively exploring or implementing the Multiplication Pipeline, and they have engaged 2,158 coordinators, coaches, and learners in the training.

NAMB's Send Network team continues to provide one of the most robust assessments of church planters for those planting in Send Cities/Focus Areas. 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. NAMB currently has 19 assessment centers located throughout North America which utilize local and regional assessors.

During Send Network Orientation, 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 a Send City. 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 walks alongside church planting missionaries and their families so they are never alone.

NAMB continually assesses its missionary categories and roles in order to bring greater focus. 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.

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

Send Relief provides numerous opportunities to experience missions firsthand through our ministry centers and ministry events. During this last year, Send Relief provided more than 125 mission opportunities where more than 5,250 people were engaged, representing 475 SBC churches.

Our Puerto Rico ministry center provided the bulk of our short-term mission team experiences on a weekly basis this year, with a total of 1,041 mobilized. Send Relief's partnership with FEMA continued through their VALOR (Voluntary Agencies Leading & Organizing Repair) program, which made building materials available to mission teams to serve the people and churches of Puerto Rico in the repair of 74 homes.

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, NAMB developed a new Send Relief portal (<https://volunteer.sendrelief.org>) that provides ways churches and individuals can mobilize to volunteer and serve their communities by meeting tangible needs and sharing the gospel. In 2019, mobilization opportunities included: 1,325 training lab participants, 5,250 missions volunteers, and 475 churches engaged.

The North American Mission Board's Disaster Relief team partners with state Baptist conventions to provide help, healing, and hope for disaster survivors and impacted churches and communities. The Southern Baptist Disaster Relief "yellow shirts" demonstrated the love of Christ in very practical ways and shared the message of the gospel during national disaster relief efforts in 2019. Serving in these responses were more than 7,000 volunteers from 39 conventions, who gave a collective total of 50,988 days. These volunteers are always willing to do all that they can to share God's love with people who have experienced great loss and trauma. Southern Baptist Disaster Relief volunteers provide support to pastors and church planters during times when survivors need encouragement and are open to the gospel. Volunteers reported 916 people coming to Christ in 2019.

Send Relief's GenSend ministry engaged 1,065 students, representing 32 states, to serve in 21 Send Cities to engage various people groups within these large urban areas. These figures include both GenSend summer and spring break experiences. The 272 students who participated in the summer program served 6 to 8 weeks in 19 Send Cities in compassion ministry and church planting. Survey results from 2019 included the following feedback:

- 95% would recommend GenSend to others
- 98% rated overall experience "good or very good"
- 1,700 gospel conversations with 15 reported professions of faith
- Participants logged nearly 73,000 hours of service
- More than 85 church plants/planters were served in the summer
- 27% said they would move back to the city where they served to live and serve post-college

V. Assist churches by providing leadership development.

At the beginning of 2019, NAMB assumed complete oversight of the Timothy+Barnabas ministry started by Johnny Hunt more than 25 years ago. A total of 593 pastors and 538 wives participated in Timothy+Barnabas Retreats this year. They represent ministry to more 121,000 individuals on an average Sunday. This underscores NAMB's focus that "Pastors are our number one customers." If NAMB can continue to effectively train and encourage pastors, it will have an exponential impact in their churches and communities.

Because of the success of the first Timothy+Barnabas Retreat specifically for bi-vocational pastors, NAMB is currently looking at adding additional retreats in different regions. There are currently two of these retreats planned for 2020.

NAMB is intentional about nurturing young leaders in the SBC. In this context, *young* is not defined by age but rather by length of time serving in the lead pastor role. As a result of listening sessions with young leaders, NAMB's director of Young Leader Engagement learned that young pastors crave to be nurtured and mentored by more seasoned pastors. They go to conferences,

and those are helpful, but the younger pastor isn't setting the agenda for those. A coaching relationship allows the pastor to set the agenda and talk real-life situations he is experiencing. To that end, NAMB established the Timothy+Barnabas Institute.

The Timothy+Barnabas Institute, which matches younger lead pastors with more experienced (seasoned) lead pastors for a coaching/mentor relationship, is a two-year commitment and includes four, two-day workshop trips to NAMB (two each year). There are tracks for pastors 45 and younger and for those over the age of 45. In addition to the two-day workshops, each younger pastor is assigned to a cohort of roughly 10 members who relate to their pastor-coach. To be accepted into the Institute, pastors must apply and pay a \$500 deposit that is refunded once the two-year commitment is fulfilled, if the pastor stays in the program the entire time and attends all the workshops. In addition to the \$500 refundable deposit, the pastor will have to pay his way to the workshops, though NAMB will pay for the lodging. Scholarships are available.

During the workshops, there will be keynote speakers who will address relevant topics and younger pastors will go into breakouts with their pastor-coaches to further flesh those out. The Institute will allow pastors to work through topics and curriculum such as personal life, marriage and family, devotional life, personal evangelism, progressing to organizational leaders, staffing, team building, culture changing, and more—topics that will make them more effective leaders. Between the workshops, these pastors will connect monthly with their coach and their cohort.

The first Timothy+Barnabas Institute took place in January 2020. Our goal is to develop at least 300 pastors over the next two years. There are already over 100 pastors signed up between the ages of 25 and 69. There are also 20+ coaches enlisted and ready to invest in developing pastoral leaders.

Through three Replant/Leadership conferences, NAMB aimed to equip leaders in replanting. A training for associational mission strategists to consult churches on replanting options occurred in March and was attended by 250 men. An event for replanters and their wives had an attendance of 109 with the goal of helping pastors discern their calling/skills to replant. The Replant Summit, a national conference for replanters, state and associational leaders, and replanters' wives, emphasized leading worship in replants and normative-sized churches. Attendance numbered 195. In addition to these events, regional and local trainings hosted by local associations and facilitated by NAMB's Replant team had more than 3,000 attendees. Additionally, four replant residencies focused on training and deploying replanters are equipping up to 40 men as replanters.

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 published a new ministry guide to assist churches in starting a *Disaster Ready Church Ministry* available on our website as a downloadable resource.

During 2019, 39 of 42 SBDR states responded to national natural disaster responses, for which Send Relief provided coordination and response supplies. In serving communities during these times, SBDR volunteers contributed to the statistics in the chart to the right.

SBDR Summary Activity Reported (YTD 11-20-2019)	
Professions of Faith	916
Gospel Presentations	4,167
Total Contacts	45,772
Volunteer Days - SBDR	50,988
Work Hours	416,585
Total Meals Prepared	349,302
Hours Worked	817,641
Total Meals	2,289,315

Based on the listed Ministry Assignment, what opportunities or challenges do you see on the horizon from 2020 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.

Southern Baptists need to add more churches annually in order to keep up with population growth and stay ahead of church deaths. NAMB's goal is to help churches plant 750 churches each year. An anticipated 50 congregations are added through new church campuses and 400 added through established churches that become newly-affiliated with Southern Baptists. We work with our partners to assist in both of these efforts as well.

The challenge we face in church planting is the lack of church planters. While 75% of the applicants who complete NAMB's online church planter assessment score high enough to receive an invitation to one of NAMB's assessment retreats, of those who attend an assessment, 67% are approved for moving forward as a church planter.

To turn this challenge into opportunity, we must help churches develop leaders who may one day become church planters. To accomplish this, NAMB has developed the Multiplication Pipeline. This allows a church to intentionally raise up prepared and qualified planters from within the congregation. The Multiplication Pipeline resource/process can be implemented in the 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.

As endorsed church planter numbers increase, so will our need for more supporting and sending churches. NAMB takes every opportunity to encourage every SBC church to be on mission by actively and intentionally starting and supporting new churches. We have currently identified 1,056 SBC churches as Sending Churches for plants or multiple plants. Additionally, there are currently 2,866 SBC churches identified as Supporting Churches. Of these, 1,071 have thus far 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.

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

The biggest challenge related to evangelism is working to keep evangelism at the forefront of the priorities and thinking of local churches and state and associational partners. Johnny Hunt is in a local church almost every Sunday preaching and leading the challenge for churches and church members to embrace the *Who's Your One?* movement. Johnny also spoke at six state conventions/pastors' conferences on *Who's Your One?* and provided the resources pastors and leaders need to implement the initiative in their church and equip their people.

While the anecdotal evidence makes it appear there is a renewed passion for evangelism in SBC churches, NAMB must continue to push the importance of evangelism and continue to reach pastors and leaders who are not leading their churches to be evangelistic. NAMB must also address the steady decline in youth and young adult baptisms across North America. This alarming reality led NAMB to hire Shane Pruitt as the National Next Gen Evangelism Director in Fall 2019. His singular focus will be reaching Millennials and Gen Z.

Since November 1, Shane has preached at nine events. The majority of those were geared towards the next generation (Gen Z and Millennials). Overall, more than 5,200 attended these events and more than 230 decisions were recorded—more than 190 being professions of faith. Shane also spoke at the XTREME Winter Conference, which included thousands of students from across the Southeast and Midwest. Shane was interviewed for three podcasts on reaching

the next generation, and he wrote the article “6 Common Traits of Generation Z,” published by Baptist Press (BP) and also available on NAMB.net. The article became one of BP’s most popular articles.

In 2020, Shane will be speaking extensively, traveling to state conventions, local associations, churches, student camps, conferences, Disciple Now weekends, college chapels, crusades, revivals, and more. He will also be meeting with pastors and other leaders to determine how we can best move toward more student baptisms.

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

At this point, 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. (See Accomplishments under Assignment III.)

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 is promoting the Go2 initiative. Go2 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 to Go2, NAMB is starting a Journeyman program (similar to IMB’s) that places college graduates in a Send City for two years as a fully funded missionary.

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

We see several opportunities for growth and new involvement in 2020 and the years ahead. We are continuing to develop current Send Relief ministry centers and launch new ones, which will provide churches and individuals with hands-on mission opportunities. Our 2020 goal is to have more than 150 mission trips made available through our ministry centers with opportunities for registration on our website.

These ministry centers also provide 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 multiply and replicate compassion ministry. 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: poverty, refugees and internationals, foster care and adoption, human trafficking, and crisis response.

Send Relief will continue to host and support mercy and compassion ministry events (vision tours, ministry training/modeling, mission experiences, etc.) in order to increase the awareness and model ministries for churches. We have a goal of mobilizing 10,000 people in compassion ministry in 2020. Through these efforts, we will inspire, resource, and train churches in North America.

We face two primary challenges in accomplishing our goal. We must create systems which provide accurate and timely metrics that hold us accountable to desired results. Much of the needed infrastructure has been put into place in 2019, which will allow us to begin tracking results on a timelier basis. As we bring new ministry centers on board, it will be critical to bring them up to speed quickly with our systems and processes. Our challenge is that each ministry center is unique, based on the context of the location.

As GenSend collegiate ministry continues to expand, we must ensure that we are maintaining a high-quality experience. The challenge moving forward is that student demand will outpace current budget levels and service-site coaches/leadership capacity. In time, we will need to develop a sustainable ministry model that can support more college students by creating a pipeline process that prepares young adults to live their lives on mission in whatever career paths or locations God places them.

V. Assist churches by providing leadership development.

NAMB will continue to work diligently to engage congregations in support of missions, helping and encouraging them to engage with missionaries and support church plants. The key to this engagement is the pastor—NAMB’s number one customer. Though there are multiple ways to communicate with pastors, NAMB often discovers that pastors are living in information overload. Therefore, there is no single approach of communication that works.

NAMB continues to be challenged to ensure that engaging in multiple opportunities does not add to this overload. This requires NAMB to focus on constant internal communication that simplifies and prioritizes external communication.

Pastors continue to ask for opportunities to learn 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.

Many pastors are experiencing the impact of serving a stagnant or declining church. To help them, in 2019, an online replant cohort was established as part of the church replanting focus and has served 165 pastors. We have started three new 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, associational mission strategists, state directors of missions, and other state convention personnel with resources designed to develop replanters and connect them to churches seeking replanters.

As noted earlier in Accomplishment V, NAMB is intentional about nurturing young leaders in the SBC. As a result of listening sessions with young leaders, NAMB’s director of Young Leader Engagement learned that young pastors crave to be nurtured and mentored by more seasoned pastors. They go to conferences and those are helpful, but the younger pastor isn’t setting the agenda for those. A coaching relationship allows the pastor to set the agenda and talk about real-life situations he is experiencing. To that end, NAMB established the Timothy+Barnabas Institute (see Accomplishment V for further information).

With the establishment of the Institute, and the first participants starting in January 2020, we hope to see this as a significant way to invest in and grow young pastors for greater Kingdom impact.

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

As the Southern Baptist Disaster Relief (SBDR) state directors and the Send Relief team assess and debrief from the 2019 response season, we will be formulating plans to address the following opportunities.

1. The gap in Quick Response Disaster Relief Mobile feeding units deployed immediately following a storm or disastrous event.

This was raised as an urgent need in 2018. At least 15 of the states have now built new mobile quick response units or they have retro-fitted some of their existing small units by adapting the equipment to produce quick, simple meals. This adaptation requires fewer individuals to staff the unit during responses. Unit meal capacities range from 500–2,000 simple meals per day. The size and style of these units also allows them to maneuver in the heart of a destruction zone where they can serve first responders and homeowners who did not evacuate and now lack the basic needs of food and water. The idea is to meet the urgent and immediate needs in the “strike zone” while the more traditional, mass feeding units prepare for full mobilization. The traditional units require up to 3–4 days to set up fully and require an established food supply chain.

2. Send Relief and SBDR leadership are aware of the need during large-impact disasters for hundreds of volunteers—especially following tornadoes, hurricanes, and floods—to remove debris in a timely manner and get homeowners back into their homes.
3. Several SBDR directors are beginning to develop processes to engage untrained volunteers to serve alongside trained SBDR team members. There is a significant need for a common data and communication system during national disaster events to allow the SBDR/Send Relief to report and describe needs as well as accomplishments. The affected state director could provide information about what the urgent needs are digitally so that all SBDR/Send Relief personnel across the nation can communicate as to whether they can meet that need and then have the ability to respond as soon as possible.

Matters Referred by the Convention

During the Annual Meeting of the Southern Baptist Convention in Birmingham, Alabama, June 11–12, 2019, the Convention referred the following items to the North American Mission Board for consideration, action, and report.

1. **SBC Referral: To request each SBC entity to provide an update on addressing abuse (Items 15 and 60, Proceedings of the Southern Baptist Convention, June 11–12, 2019, SBC Annual, p. 57, 63)**

Motion: Phillip Bethancourt, Tennessee

“That the Southern Baptist Convention request each of the entities of the Southern Baptist Convention provide an update related to their efforts to address abuse and report back to the 2020 Southern Baptist Convention meeting in Orlando, Florida, covering three subjects: what is their entity doing to foster effective abuse awareness, prevention, and care; what additional steps has their entity taken to address abuse since the 2018 SBC annual meeting in Dallas, Texas; and how is their entity partnering with the efforts of the Sexual Abuse Advisory Group to address abuse?”

Response: The North American Mission Board (NAMB) reports to the Southern Baptist Convention (SBC) that NAMB has strongly supported and continues to support the work of the SBC Sexual Abuse Advisory Group as well as the work the ERLC has been leading to

create and advance the *Caring Well* curriculum and guidelines. Our longstanding policies require mandatory reporting of illegal activity to appropriate authorities, sexual abuse prevention training for staff and endorsed missionaries, as well as high standards for all personal interactions outlined in our conduct expectations. NAMB has also closely reviewed existing policies and procedures to ensure they are strong and effective in preventing abuse and caring well for abuse victims. NAMB does not believe that a onetime review of policies and procedures is adequate; rather, we remain committed to reviewing and, where appropriate, strengthening our policies on an ongoing basis. We encourage all churches and our other ministry partners to do the same.

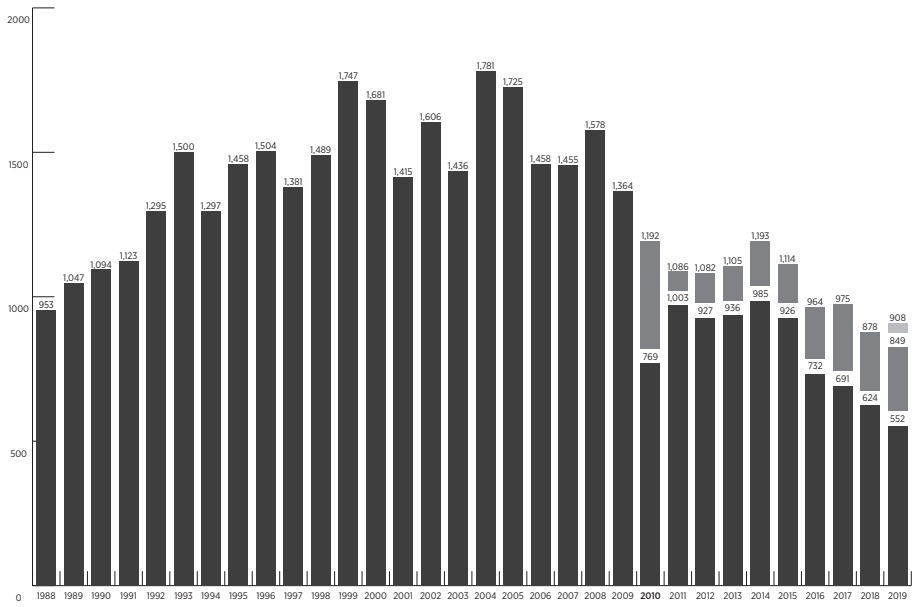
2. SBC Referral: To study North American Mission Board funding for staff in small churches (Items 27 and 60), Proceedings of the Southern Baptist Convention, June 11–12, 2019, *SBC Annual*, p. 59, 63)

Motion: David Hobson, Alabama

“That the Southern Baptist Convention study the feasibility of initiating a program through the North American Mission Board to partner with associations with primarily bi-vocational pastors of churches 50 or less that may only be able to afford a small salary for one partially funded staff member to place a second staff member in the church as an association to aid in preaching, teaching, pastoral ministry, and church growth at no cost to the church or association until such time as the church or association can feasibly partially fund the new staff position on their own.”

Response: The North American Mission Board works closely with churches, Baptist Associations, and state Baptist Conventions in an effort to reach their mission fields with the gospel. In many states, more than half of Southern Baptist pastors are bivocational. With so many pastors serving in this capacity, funding a staff member for each of them for an indefinite time period would not be possible. We do, however, encourage churches and individuals to embrace and encourage bivocational pastors in whatever ways they can. Their work is and will continue to be essential to reach North America with the gospel.

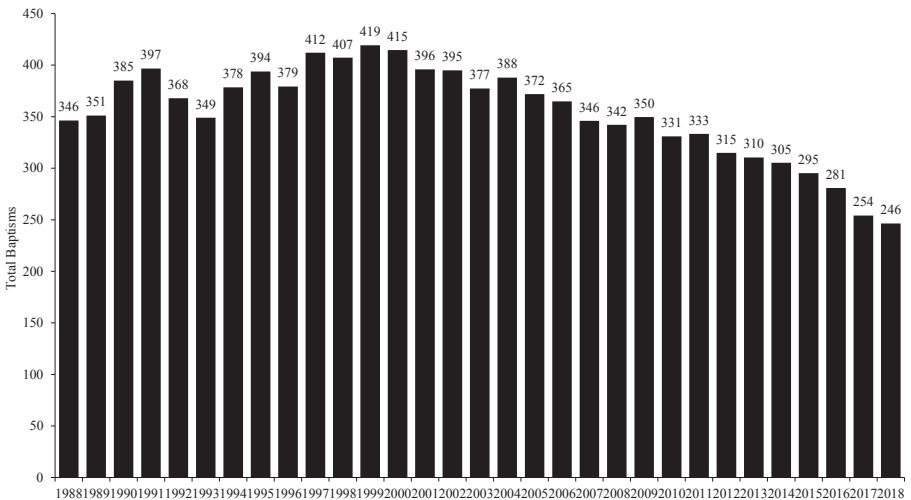
Figure 1—New Congregations (Church Plants, New Affiliates and Campuses), SBC, 1988–2019



Source: Reports from State Directors of Missions compiled by the North American Mission Board, Alpharetta, Ga.
 *2010 was the first year an SBC ID # was required for each reported congregation.
 **In 2019, LifeWay began assigning SBC ID numbers to each campus of a multi-site church, allowing for the tracking of location, health, impact and life cycle for individual campuses.

■ New Church Plants
 ■ Affiliations
 ■ Campuses

**Figure 2—Baptisms Reported by SBC Churches, 1988–2018*
 (In Thousands)**



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

* The preceding baptism graph is based on data from the 2018 ACP Statistical Summary which was prepared by LifeWay Insights, LifeWay Christian Resources, One LifeWay Plaza, Nashville, TN 37234-0127, May 14, 2019; and will be updated in the 2020 SBC Annual with 2019 figures when that data is received. At time of posting, the latest ACP figures were not available .

SEMINARY COMPARATIVE DATA

Enrollment

a. Total SBC Full-Time Equivalent (FTE) both funded and unfunded — (Total credit hours divided by 24):

	<u>2018-2019</u>	<u>2017-2018</u>	<u>2016-2017</u>	<u>3-Yr. Rolling Average</u>
GS	443	498	489	476
MBTS	1,395	1,264	1,025	1,228
NOBTS	1,531	1,598	1,324	1,484
SEBTS	2,215	2,128	2,035	2,126
SBTS	2,311	2,339	2,328	2,326
SWBTS	<u>1,029</u>	<u>1,164</u>	<u>1,222</u>	<u>1,138</u>
Total	8,924	8,991	8,423	8,778

b. Actual FTEs approved by the Council of Seminary Presidents for Cooperative Program (CP) Seminary Funding Formula:

	<u>2018-2019</u>	<u>2017-2018</u>	<u>2016-2017</u>	<u>3-Yr. Rolling Average</u>
GS	338	422	381	380
MBTS	1,395	1,264	1,025	1,228
NOBTS	1,110	1,028	1,074	1,071
SEBTS	1,185	1,216	1,214	1,205
SBTS	2,311	2,339	2,328	2,326
SWBTS	<u>1,029</u>	<u>1,164</u>	<u>1,222</u>	<u>1,138</u>
Total	7,368	7,433	7,244	7,348

c. CP Allocation per SBC Student:

	<u>Total</u>	<u>2018-2019</u>	<u>2018-2019</u>
	<u>SBC Students</u>	<u>CP Allocation Budget</u>	<u>CP Allocation Budget</u>
			<u>Per Student</u>
GS	443	\$ 3,991,950	\$ 9,011
MBTS	1,395	\$ 6,253,005	\$ 4,482
NOBTS	1,531	\$ 7,045,382	\$ 4,602
SEBTS	2,215	\$ 7,707,673	\$ 3,480
SBTS	2,311	\$ 10,279,637	\$ 4,448
SWBTS	<u>1,029</u>	<u>\$ 7,631,157</u>	<u>\$ 7,416</u>
Total	8,924	\$ 42,908,804	\$ 4,408

d. Nonduplicate 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	301	1,525	1,826
MBTS	1,075	2,925	4,000
NOBTS	486	3,355	3,841
SEBTS	1,016	3,749	4,765
SBTS	997	4,541	5,538
SWBTS	<u>752</u>	<u>3,096</u>	<u>3,848</u>
Total	4,627	19,191	23,818

e. Basic Degrees awarded for the 2018-2019 academic year

	M.Div. <u>(3 year)</u>	<u>Th.M.</u>	M.A. & other <u>2-year</u>
GS	28	0	64
MBTS	84	31	27
NOBTS	86	19	113
SEBTS	179	20	157
SBTS	216	48	130
SWBTS	<u>123</u>	<u>17</u>	<u>323</u>
Total	716	135	814

f. Total Tuition Revenue

	<u>2019-2020</u>	<u>2018-2019</u>	<u>2017-2018</u>
GS	\$ 3,643,166	\$ 3,647,064	\$ 3,562,756
MBTS	\$ 15,166,984	\$ 13,316,002	\$ 11,160,785
NOBTS	\$ 9,400,000	\$ 9,553,944	\$ 8,681,160
SEBTS	\$ 14,462,328	\$ 16,031,323	\$ 14,309,502
SBTS	\$ 26,566,668	\$ 25,088,953	\$ 24,518,232
SWBTS	<u>\$ 12,830,532</u>	<u>\$ 13,051,740</u>	<u>\$ 13,157,517</u>
Total	\$ 82,069,678	\$ 80,689,026	\$ 75,389,952

g. Credit Hour Cost: 2019/2020

	<u>Non SBC Students</u>	<u>SBC Student</u>
GS	\$495	\$275
MBTS	\$475	\$280
NOBTS	\$410	\$275
SEBTS	\$609	\$304
SBTS	\$648	\$324
SWBTS	\$590	\$295

h. Annual Cost per Student (For a married student on campus, tuition, fees, book housing)

	<u>2019-2020</u> <u>Non SBC</u>	<u>2019-2020</u> <u>SBC</u>
GS	\$ 33,330	\$ 28,840
MBTS	\$ 26,106	\$ 22,957
NOBTS	\$ 16,880	\$ 14,450
SEBTS	\$ 20,262	\$ 14,772
SBTS	\$ 26,978	\$ 19,202
SWBTS	\$ 18,740	\$ 12,840

i. Percent of total budget that relates to personnel expenses based on each seminary's E&G budget (Salaries and Benefits):

	<u>2019-2020</u> <u>Low</u>	<u>2019-2020</u> <u>Median</u>	<u>2019-2020</u> <u>High</u>
GS	72.6%	72.3%	73.2%
MBTS		41%	
NOBTS		69.5%	
SEBTS			74%
SBTS			48%
SWBTS		72%	

j. Statement of Income for 2019-2020:

Seminary Statement of Income for 2019-2020							
	GS	MBTS	NOBTS	SEBTS	SBTS	SWBTS	TOTAL
Operating Income							
Tuition & Fees	\$ 2,996,482	\$ 13,316,002	\$ 9,553,944	\$ 16,031,323	\$ 25,802,607	\$ 13,051,740	\$ 80,752,098
Auxiliary Enterprises	\$ 515,517	\$ 1,815,981	\$ 2,009,678	\$ 5,293,181	\$ 6,689,060	\$ 5,668,690	\$ 21,992,107
Cooperative Program	\$ 3,991,950	\$ 6,253,005	\$ 7,141,231	\$ 7,707,673	\$ 10,279,637	\$ 7,631,157	\$ 43,004,653
Private Gifts	\$ 194,820	\$ 1,947,819	\$ 7,541,504	\$ 958,168	\$ 2,866,167	\$ 6,208,680	\$ 19,717,158
Endowment Income	\$ 1,281,840	\$ 349,711	\$ 1,749,304	\$ 251,245	\$ 3,902,046	\$ 4,579,405	\$ 12,113,551
Investments	\$ 267,847	\$ 630,833	\$ 2,983,222		Included in Endowment Income		\$ 3,881,902
Return on Beneficial Interest Trusts	\$ 2,240,502	\$ 1,617			Included in Endowment Income	\$ (58,037)	\$ 2,184,082
Other Income	\$ 175,244	\$ 241,770	\$ 944,486	\$ 428,984	\$ 527,625	\$ 778,670	\$ 3,096,779
Total Income	\$ 11,664,202	\$ 24,556,738	\$ 31,923,369	\$ 30,670,574	\$ 50,067,142	\$ 37,860,305	\$ 186,742,330
% of CP to Total Income	34.2%	25.46%	22.36%	25.13%	20.53%	20.15%	

INSTITUTIONS



GATEWAY SEMINARY

Biblical • Missional • Global

3210 E. Guasti Road, Ontario, California 91761

C. KEITH GOEKING, Chairman

JEFF IORG, President

As we complete our fourth year as Gateway Seminary in new locations, our focus is on the future and the opportunities before us. Our enrollment continues to grow, our financial position remains strong, our morale is good, and our mission is clear. We have been and will continue to shape leaders who expand God's kingdom around the world.

Despite the progress we have made, we are not satisfied with current results or locked into present methods. We have specific challenges we must face as we move forward. We must significantly increase enrollment at the Bay Area Campus; find new ways to integrate our regional campuses, online, and video access delivery modes; create long-term student housing solutions in Southern California; discover ways to help students pay for seminary and lessen their dependence on scholarships; determine the form and function of library services in the future; and continue to build enrollment while Southern Baptist churches are diminished in their ability to reach and retain young adult members. While these are formidable challenges, our team is resolute in working toward solutions.

Here is a report on our progress in the past year as well as a summary report on the accomplishment of our strategic goals for the past five years.

Enrollment Growth

For Fall 2019, overall student headcount was up 9.4% over Fall 2018. Enrolled hours have increased by 10.3% in Fall 2019 (up a strong 19% at the Ontario Campus). For Spring 2020, overall student headcount increased 6.9% over Spring 2019. All these percentages exclude the DMin and Advance programs which are not semester-based enrollment programs. The strongest enrollment growth for 2019-20 was at the Ontario Campus and Online program.

Personnel Changes

Dr. John Shouse retired from the faculty after 34 years of service. He has been replaced by Dr. David Rathel as Associate Professor of Theology. Dr. Rick Durst relocated from the Bay Area to Ontario Campus as Professor of Theology. Dr. Max Stabenow is now the Director of the Bay Area Campus.

Dr. Leroy Gainey will retire from the faculty after 33 years of service on July 31, 2020. Dr. Gainey was the first trustee-elected African-American professor in the Southern Baptist Convention. Dr. Phil Connor will also retire from the faculty on July 31, 2020.

Brea Location Sale

When Gateway moved its primary campus to Southern California, it decided to close the Brea Campus and sell the property. This has been a lengthy process that involved resolving sewer rights and many other development issues. The property is under contract for sale with a close date later in 2020.

Student Housing

Gateway currently owns 58 housing units in Southern California and they are fully occupied. We are considering purchasing another apartment complex, while also exploring other creative housing solutions to place seminary students in secular community housing.

75th Anniversary Events

We are in the midst of celebrating the 75th anniversary of Gateway Seminary. We started the celebration with an all-day prayer event in March 2019. This commemorated the prayer meeting which catalyzed the seminary's beginning. We followed that event with a celebratory dinner at the Board meeting in May 2019. After that, we also recognized the seminary's legal birthday in July 2019 with an all-employee ice cream party.

We have celebrated our 75th anniversary with two major events – both in conjunction with our Board of Trustees' meetings. The first event was on October 15, 2019 in Fremont, California. It was a banquet celebration focused on our heritage as Golden Gate Seminary in the Bay Area. The second event was the 75th anniversary gala on April 28, 2020. It featured a banquet, musical presentations by our partners at California Baptist University, the debut of a commemorative history book telling the Gateway story, the announcement of major financial gifts to support Gateway projects, and other commemorative activities.

The final 75th anniversary event will be the Alumni and Friends luncheon at the SBC Annual Meeting in Orlando on June 10, 2020.

Paul Chitwood Visit

Dr. Paul Chitwood, the new president of the International Mission Board, was our special guest on the Ontario Campus on September 4-5, 2019. We hosted a luncheon for Gateway faculty, staff, and students with about 150 in attendance as well as a pastor's briefing for 80 local leaders. Dr. Chitwood then spoke in chapel at Gateway.

Diamond Plan Report

In 2010, the Board of Trustees adopted a strategic document to guide the seminary through 2020. It was called The Diamond Plan. The Board adopted an initial set of strategic goals for 2010-2015. Those goals were fulfilled and the details reported to the Board annually, with a final report in 2015. The Board then adopted a new set of goals for 2015-2020. Those goals provided the administrative framework through which significant progress has been made over the past five years. Here is a summary of the accomplishments over the past five years related to each goal.

1. We will establish a new identity as Gateway Seminary with a primary campus in Southern California supporting other delivery locations and methods.

This goal has been accomplished. The primary campus in Ontario is fully operational. The Bay Area Campus is also fully operational. All other regional campuses remain operational. The online campus continues to grow, as does the video access option for accessing live classroom presentations. The seminary has completed all legal requirements related to changing its name to Gateway Seminary.

2. We will continually assess educational effectiveness and adjust academic programs and seminary operations to maximize accomplishment of our mission.

This goal has been accomplished. We preserved all academic functions through the relocation, revised the MDiv curriculum, implemented new competency-based academic evaluation procedures, added six new faculty members, completed a very successful re-accreditation process with WSCUC, secured and used an ATS Educational Innovation grant, upgraded all academic software, secured accreditation approval for all masters

degrees to be offered online, and received accreditation approval to offer the DMin in a distance format.

3. We will require each degree program and delivery system/location to meet enrollment goals commensurate with sustaining the seminary's overall academic program.

This goal has been accomplished in some areas, with others still needing work. We have experienced growth at the Ontario Campus and the Online program. We are maintaining enrollment at the regional campuses outside California. We have stable or growing enrollment in most degree programs. The KEB program is now stabilized and the CEB program, after a slow start, has started to increase its enrollment. Video access classrooms are now available at all campuses.

4. We will implement a new faculty organizational plan and performance standards.

This goal has been accomplished. We have implemented a thorough faculty review process which includes input from students, faculty peers, and administration. These are reported to the Board and they make final decisions about faculty promotions. The faculty compensation strategy implemented in 2014 has been sustained and has made a positive difference on recruiting quality faculty members. Faculty organization and administrative processes are functioning well. The administration has clarified and increased the expectations of faculty members who are granted sabbaticals. Internal faculty governance and supervision of academic programs function well.

5. We will implement a new staff organizational plan and performance standards.

This goal has been accomplished. The initial staffing plan for Gateway Seminary was largely successful, but has been adjusted as needed and is working well. Since the move to Southern California, our workforce has remained more stable than we expected. We have also been able to attract high-quality applicants for staff positions – both professional and support positions. We have standardized the annual review process for director-level employees. We have a solid organizational plan, competitive compensation based on market realities in Southern California, and consistency in staff compensation throughout the organization.

6. We will intensify efforts on training and supporting pastors.

This goal has been accomplished in some ways, but we continue to work toward fulfilling it. We have adjusted the MDiv curriculum to better address contemporary issues in pastoral leadership. We initiated a Pastor's Study program at the Ontario Library to provide a study center and research assistance to local pastors. We are making chapel messages available to pastors and other leaders as a source of inspiration and encouragement. We launched the Women's Mentoring Network to support pastors' wives. The *Lead On!* podcast by Dr. Jeff Iorg is often directed toward pastors. We have hosted multiple training events for pastors and other church leaders.

7. We will create a more integrated information management, communication, and education technology system.

This goal has been accomplished. We now have the hardware and software in place to accomplish this goal. We now have enough Information Technology staff to support both the hardware and software we own, including providing service and training to use it effectively. We have developed significant expertise in using educational software to integrate our delivery modalities (recognized as a strength by our accreditors). We revised our user interface and continue to develop new ways to use technology to accomplish

our mission. We still need to improve our overall user-experience with administrative technology and our internal databases.

8. We will have a total endowment of \$100 million by 2020.

Endowment has grown significantly since the Diamond Plan was adopted in 2010. Counting all funds and investments, our endowment on July 31, 2019 was \$59.5 million. The total endowment on July 31, 2010 was \$13.3 million. We have done a good job building endowment through property sales and capital asset management. We need to continue building endowment through major gifts and planned gifts.

9. We will receive \$500,000 in annual gifts by 2020.

Annual fund giving continues to grow. We received \$300,309 in 2017-18 and \$344,988 in 2018-19. We continue to have a loyal giving base that provides generous support. We have made some progress in developing new giving channels and new donors.

Gateway Imperative Adoption

In October 2017, the Board of Trustees directed the creation of a new strategic plan to guide Gateway Seminary toward 2030. In response, President Iorg appointed the following to a Strategic Planning Task Force: Dallas Bivins, Michael Brito, Anne Dent, Rick Durst, Kristen Ferguson, Adam Groza, Tom Hixson, Lisa Hoff, Jeff Jones, Michael Martin, John Taylor, and Jim Wilson.

The task force worked for 18 months on a study of the seminary divided into two parts – internal data/constituents and external data/constituents. In the first part of the study, the task force focused on future student demographics, future trends in graduate education, status and future projections about Southern Baptist churches in the western United States, and input from ministry partners and critics. In the second part of the study, the task force focused on gathering input from students, staff, faculty, trustees, donors, and from the 2019 WSCUC re-accreditation documents.

The task force vetted their report summaries and draft recommendations with seminary constituents by various media and in multiple meetings – particularly with staff, faculty, and trustees. The faculty endorsed the final document in August 2019 and it was adopted by the Board of Trustees in October 2019. It is now the strategic planning document guiding Gateway Seminary.

Appreciation and Gratitude

As we have celebrated 75 years of effective ministry in the West and around the world, our profound appreciation for Southern Baptists has deepened. We were adopted by our larger Southern Baptist family in 1950 – more than 70 years of faithful support! Our inclusion in the SBC solidified the dream of developing a school in the West and gave us the resource base – prayers, finances, and students – to become one of the largest seminaries in the United States. It's doubtful that would have happened if we had remained an independent school.

Thanks to past generations of Southern Baptists, we are part of the family. Thanks to today's partners, we enjoy the benefits of the Cooperative Program and the spiritual support of millions of fellow believers. We are grateful for all that God has done for us through Southern Baptists and appreciate your steadfast support as we shape leaders who expand God's kingdom around the world.

Enrollment Report

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

In addition, Gateway Seminary supports 48 ADVANCE contextualized leadership development centers in partnership with Southern Baptist churches, associations and state conventions. The centers offer courses in English, Spanish, Burmese, China, Korean, Thai, Lao, Khmer, Karen, Main, Nepalese, French, Haitian Creole, Russian, Hmong and Mongolian.

The most recent revision of the SBC Seminary Funding Formula has significantly changed how Gateway reports its enrollment. For that reason, this current report needs to be in a different form than past reports. 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 Report by Campus or Program – 2018-19

<u>Campus</u>	<u>Total Enrollment</u>	<u>Total FTE</u>
Ontario	653	267
Arizona	95	32
Bay Area	71	21
Pacific Northwest	41	13
Rocky Mountain	62	14
Advance Ministry Training	605	97
Online Program	279	111
Video Access Program	20	23
Totals	1,826	578

Enrollment Report by Degree Program – 2018-19

<u>Prebaccalaureate</u>		
Diplomas	260	
Diplomas – Advance	427	
Special Status	131	
<u>Basic Degrees</u>		
Master of Divinity	354	
Master of Arts	306	
Special Status	124	
<u>Advance Degrees</u>		
Master of Theology	8	
Doctor of Ministry	198	
Doctor of Philosophy	18	
Totals	1,826	

Enrollment Report Summary – 2018-19

Total Enrollment	1,826
Total FTE Generated	578
SBC Fundable FTE	338
SBC Formula FTE	400
New Students	421
Total Graduates	215

Matter Referred by the Convention

During the Annual Meeting of the Southern Baptist Convention in Birmingham, Alabama, June 11–12, 2019, the Convention referred the following item to Gateway Seminary of the Southern Baptist Convention for consideration, action, and report.

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“That the Southern Baptist Convention request each of the entities of the Southern Baptist Convention provide an update related to their efforts to address abuse and report back to the 2020 Southern Baptist Convention meeting in Orlando, Florida, covering three subjects: what is their entity doing to foster effective abuse awareness, prevention, and care; what additional steps has their entity taken to address abuse since the 2018 SBC annual meeting in Dallas, Texas; and how is their entity partnering with the efforts of the Sexual Abuse Advisory Group to address abuse?”

Response: Preventing sexual harassment, gender discrimination, and abuse are important issues at Gateway Seminary – both in our organization and as we train future leaders of other ministry entities.

Gateway has fully-formed and well-established policies and practices on these matters related to internal operations. We continue to monitor and enforce those policies to maintain our institutional integrity. We also train employees on these issues through a required program which both meets our needs and satisfies our legal responsibilities under California law and the other Western states where we have campuses/employees.

We also address these issues in multiple classes in our curriculum and with co-curricular activities like conferences, training seminars, chapel speakers, and at partnership events with state conventions and associations. Gateway also performs background checks on new students, offers counseling services to students who have experienced abuse or harassment in other settings, and provides extensive training on these issues through a partnership with MinistrySafe.

Since 2018, Gateway has initiated an annual conference to train church leaders in various legal, ethical, and moral dimensions of contemporary ministry leadership. This conference is co-sponsored by law firms and insurance companies that support our mission. Through this partnership, we have been able to bring national leaders to the Ontario Campus to address these issues.

We have also devoted our annual Intersect Conference in 2019 to the theme: Working Together. This conference addressed the specific issue of how men and women can work together appropriately and effectively in ministry organizations. It addressed preventing abuse and harassment, as well as proactive steps ministry leaders must take to ensure a wholesome work environment for everyone.

Gateway has continued to offer legally-mandated and seminary-required training to employees on harassment, abuse, and related issues. We have been doing this for years and will continue to do so in the future. We have also received an independent assessment of our policies and procedures on these issues from our insurance provider. We are implementing suggested improvements.

Gateway is fully supportive of the work of the Sexual Abuse Advisory Group. We have embraced their report to the SBC and are applying it as needed within our organization. We have also advised faculty members who teach about these issues to use the report as a resource to shape both the content and perspective of their instruction. Gateway also sponsored and promoted the national ERLC conference on Caring Well in Dallas, Texas in 2019 and has accepted the Caring Well challenge.



5001 North Oak Trafficway, Kansas City, Missouri 64118

JOHN MATHENA, Chairman

JASON K. ALLEN, President

When submitting the yearly President's report, it always calls for a time to stop, reflect, and remember all that the Lord has done the previous year at Midwestern Seminary. It does not take long to recall God's incredible kindness in leading me to serve this great institution. I am constantly amazed to see what God is doing at MBTS, especially when I reflect upon our institution's history. I have learned much over the past seven years, but one thing I know to be emphatically true today is that God alone is worthy of the glory and honor.

One constant from the past seven years is that Midwestern Seminary has not strayed from its vision — *For the Church*. This is, and continues to be, why we exist. We are striving with all our God-given might to equip pastors, ministers, and missionaries for service in North American and international churches. This vision impacts everything we do, from the curriculum we teach to the culture we seek to cultivate, and it has been incredibly encouraging to see this vision take hold and spread throughout the Southern Baptist Convention.

This past year has been particularly incredible in the life of our institution and for me personally. For the sake of clarity, I want to detail some of the significant happenings under the headings of how our institution is structured. Midwestern Seminary is comprised of three divisions: an academic division, an administrative division, and an institutional relations division.

Within academics, first, we praise God for another increase in student enrollment. Since 2010, the number of students has more than quadrupled — having over 4,000 students enrolled this fall — which is the largest number in the seminary's history. All glory be to Him for the growth at Midwestern Seminary over the past seven years. Pray that we will continue to steward these students well as we train them for service to our SBC churches, and ultimately, the kingdom of God.

Second, this year we welcomed three new faculty members to further equip us in providing the most effective training to our students. Dr. Jason DeRouchie of Bethlehem College and Seminary in Minneapolis was elected to Midwestern's faculty as research professor of Old Testament and Biblical Theology. In addition, Dr. Andrew King was elected the assistant dean of Spurgeon College and assistant professor of Biblical Studies. Finally, Dr. Thomas Kidd was hired as distinguished visiting professor of Church History.

Third, our M.Div. program, particularly at the residential level, continues to expand, and Midwestern Seminary and Spurgeon College's online presence also continues to increase at a rapid pace. This enables students from across the globe access to a state-of-the-art educational platform and the highest quality theological education. In addition, through our Online Connect program, all our online courses provide students with personalized access to mentors in the field and also meets their individual ministry education and training needs.

Fourth, in January we announced the addition of Fusion: North America to our current Fusion: International missions program at Spurgeon College. After a year of intentional preparation in evangelism and discipleship, students will spend their summer months serving in ministry alongside an IMB missionary or NAMB church planter. We are eager to see how expanding this program will positively impact our students, our partnership with IMB and NAMB, and our institution.

Fifth, in February, we announced the addition of two new Ph.D. emphases: biblical theology and biblical counseling. Student interest in the fields of biblical theology and biblical counseling has increasingly grown, and with the expertise of new faculty members, we are in a place to provide excellent scholarship that will prepare our students for a lifetime of serving well and faithfully for the church. Midwestern also launched the Masters of Arts in Biblical Counseling this year, shifting from an integrative approach to a biblical counseling approach that will better serve our institution's mission as we focus on training men and women for the local church.

Sixth, the third year of the Timothy Track M.Div. launched with its largest group to date (25 students). This has been a strong group of students, and they have indicated overwhelmingly that their experiences are helpful, substantial, and enjoyable. A continuing trend is that students are often citing the Timothy Track as a primary reason why Midwestern is at or near the top of their list of seminary choices, if not *the* reason why they choose to attend here.

Seventh, at our Spring trustee meeting, MBTS adopted the Nashville Statement as an additional confessional requirement. Relating to human sexuality and gender roles, this statement of faith expresses support for the biblical definition of marriage, for chastity outside of marriage, and for a link between biological sex and self-conception as male and female.

Eighth, the 65th commencement service on May 3, 2019, marked Midwestern's largest graduating class, conferring 218 degrees — 33 undergraduates, 153 graduates, 31 doctoral degrees, and one post-graduate degree. In addition, two students were among the first to complete Midwestern's Korean-language Ph.D. degree. We are thrilled to launch these theologically trained gospel ministers into kingdom service.

Ninth, this past November at ETS, MBTS was represented by more than 40 faculty members and doctoral students as they presented scholarly papers, the most from any one institution. High-level scholarship is amongst our training goals, and an excellent place for this to be showcased is the ETS annual meeting.

Next, within our Institutional Administration division, it is with a thankful heart that I can share that the Lord has allowed us to increase our financial strength. We continue to pursue a sustainable business model that appropriately stewards and maximizes the resources provided to us via the generosity of Southern Baptists through the Cooperative Program. We are well-aware that Midwestern Seminary could not exist, and fulfill its purpose to train men and women for the church, without the faithful giving of our churches. We pray that Southern Baptists will continue to faithfully channel these funds to their seminaries, and that God will continue to bless the efforts of His people through an ever-growing Cooperative Program. May the people of the Southern Baptist Convention know of the immense gratitude Midwestern Seminary has for all they have done and are doing to support the Lord's work here!

Second, at our Fall meeting, the trustees approved a \$2.5 million renovation project for our main research library. The three-story library building at Midwestern Baptist Theological Seminary was constructed in 1958. Modifications to the library since then have been minor, and we desire our library to be modernized to facilitate a 21st century working and learning environment. The library project anticipates a total renovation of the existing facility and promises to create spaces for group and individual study, faculty offices, seminars, archives, and research centers. The project schedule targets completion during the summer of 2020 and restoration of full library operations in advance of the Fall 2020 semester. Our overarching desire in stewarding this resource is that the library would be a living instrument used to serve the church by equipping pastors and ministers of God's Word. We are grateful to God for this improvement of existing campus facilities and for the opportunity to make our campus more efficient and effective for

students. The Trustees also reviewed plans for a forthcoming renovation and addition to the Vivion House.

Fourth, Spurgeon College launched its first intercollegiate sports team through the NCCAA. The Spurgeon Knights basketball team is currently competing in its inaugural season. It has been a thrill to watch our students play under Coach Philip Parker's leadership, as the Midwestern community surrounds them in support and enthusiasm. In addition to men's basketball, we are overjoyed to announce that we will launch women's volleyball and men and women's soccer in the coming year.

Finally, within our third division, Institutional Relations, the first item of note is our flourishing in the fields of recruiting, admissions, marketing, retention and advancement — evidencing much fruit by the Lord's kindness. Our very best energies are spent expanding the mission and ministry footprint of the school through this department. Through this team's faithful efforts, we have reached record enrollment and seminary growth over the past seven years. The ultimate focus of this division is that more pastors, evangelists, missionaries, and ministers will be thrust into Kingdom service both in the present and well into the future.

Second, in June, during the annual meeting of the Southern Baptist Convention in Birmingham, Alabama, we hosted FTC Birmingham. The theme for the event was "The Future of Southern Baptist Ministry and Mission," and the panel included myself, Jamie Dew, Paul Chitwood, H. B. Charles, Jr., Ronnie Floyd, and Kevin Ezell. Almost 1,000 people attended the event, which allowed us to speak into current issues within the SBC and use our influence to positively impact the Convention.

Additionally, in conjunction with the Southern Baptist Convention, we hosted our annual Alumni and Friends luncheon. Typically, this event consists of institutional updates and a brief academic panel discussion. This year, we shifted our panel to encompass the idea of "Christianity and Culture" and used Dean Inserra's newest book as the fulcrum for our discussion. The panel discussed engaging nominal Christianity, and consisted of myself, Micah Fries, Dean Inserra, and Collin Hansen. Each year our Alumni and Friends luncheon awards a graduate with the *Alumnus of the Year* award, and this year, Dean Inserra was the honoree.

Third, on September 23-24, we held our national *For the Church* Conference in Kansas City. The conference sold out (1,100) and was a very edifying and encouraging time. Plenary speakers for the conference included myself, Crawford Loritts, Owen Strachan, Tony Merida, J. D. Greear, and Jared Wilson. Breakout speakers included Micah Fries, D. A. Horton, Christine Hoover, Dale Johnson, John Onwuchekwa, Dean Inserra, Dr. Andreas Köstenberger, Dr. Margaret Köstenberger, and many others.

Additionally, we were excited to launch our first-ever women's pre-conference to the annual *For the Church* Conference. While the main conference is geared toward pastors and ministry leaders (both men and women who serve in the local church), the pre-conference allows us to focus exclusively on women in ministry. Speakers included my wife, Karen Allen, as well as Abigail Dodds, Christine Hoover, and Trillia Newbell.

Fourth, our communications team helped design and launch the newest institutional resource website/podcast, which is hosted Dr. Andreas Köstenberger, called *The Center for Biblical Studies*. On this website, one will find hundreds of trusted resources concerning biblical studies. We are praying that this resource will grow and prove to be helpful to ministers as they seek to preach and teach God's Word to an ever-changing world.

Fifth, we have been blessed by many visiting scholars this year on Midwestern's campus. The Sizemore Lectures' guest this year was Dr. Peter Williams, principal of Tyndale House, who

addressed the topic of inerrancy and infallibility of the Scriptures. Dr. Denny Burk, director of the Center for Gospel and Culture at Boyce College and Southern Seminary, presented the C.W. Scudder Lectures on March 7. In the lecture, Burk addressed issues of homosexuality and transgenderism. On October 22-23, with a focus on preaching narrative texts, Dr. Don Carson delivered Midwestern's seventh annual Spurgeon Lectures on Biblical Preaching. To sit under the teaching of these men, who are among the most respected biblical scholars, was an inspiration to our seminary community.

It is undeniable that we share an incredible stewardship on behalf of Southern Baptists to train the next generation of pastors and ministry leaders *for the Church*. It is without hesitation that this institution will be faithful to the churches of the Southern Baptist Convention and in fulfilling what they have charged us with by the way of ministry assignment and by the way of doctrinal convictions. 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* will direct us into the future. May we never cease to be thankful to God for the victories He has given us these past seven 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, Ph.D.

President

Midwestern Baptist Theological Seminary

Ministry Goals and Accomplishments

(All SBC entities present informative ministry reports to the Executive Committee each February in compliance with the provisions of SBC Bylaw 18 E (12). Midwestern Baptist Theological Seminary has requested that the content of this report be taken from its 2020 Ministry Report, previously tendered to the Executive Committee.)

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

The mission of Spurgeon College is to educate the next generation of leaders to impact the world in the workforce. Spurgeon College will maintain its focus on biblically-based degrees as well as providing students with disciplines that can train them 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.

This past year, Spurgeon College experienced continued growth of its Accelerate program, which is designed to enable students to earn a bachelor's degree in Biblical Studies and a Master of Divinity degree within five years. This program focuses on providing students the opportunity to engage more quickly in full-time ministry, while keeping their educational debt to a minimum.

Moreover, Spurgeon College shifted its B.A., Counseling Psychology degree to a B.A., Biblical Counseling. This new curriculum will provide a base of knowledge in the sufficiency of Scripture and its interpretation for the task of counseling and soul care, in service to the biblically mandated mission and ministries of the local church.

Additionally, to complement its B.A. degrees in Christian Ministry, Biblical Studies, Business Leadership, Intercultural Studies and Student Ministry, Spurgeon College added new Teaching and Communications degree options. Students may earn a B.A., Interdisciplinary Studies with emphases in either Elementary or Secondary Social Studies Education. In tandem with our partnership with Liberty University, these students may also earn their Master of Arts

in Teaching online in just one additional year. Spurgeon's B.A., Communications provides students specific training in journalism, public relations, rhetoric, visual communications, and several other communications-related disciplines.

Spurgeon College also continued development of its Fusion program. We launched Fusion: North America which takes the same robust missions training for international missions and applies it to our own continent. This tract equips and then sends students to train underneath and learn from church planters in some of the hardest-to-reach cities in North America. Upon returning to campus from service, Spurgeon College looks to retain these students, many of whom continue over the next three years to obtain a B.A. in Christian Ministry with a missions focus.

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

Midwestern Baptist Theological Seminary is still committed to emphasizing the Master of Divinity degree as its primary track for ministry preparation. Additionally, our residential Master of Arts degree offerings train students theologically for multiple roles within ministry and serve those seeking more specialized training. Midwestern Seminary also offers multiple fully-online degrees for students needing a more flexible approach to theological education or are not in a position to relocate to our Kansas City campus.

In 2019, we had our largest Timothy Track M.Div. class yet with 25 students. Timothy Track enables residential students to earn their degrees and obtain invaluable ministry experience at the same time. By partnering with numerous local churches, Midwestern Seminary provides leadership experience for students within the context of the local church while concurrently studying to earn their M.Div. degree. The program also offers students significant cost savings in tuition through scholarships during their first year of study.

Additionally, we shifted our M.A., Christian Counseling degree to a M.A., Biblical Counseling. This new curriculum will provide a base of knowledge in the sufficiency of Scripture and its interpretation for the task of counseling and soul care, in service to the biblically mandated mission and ministries of the local church. The degree change better aligns with who we are as an institution that is for the church.

Once again, Midwestern Seminary expanded its online course offerings and degree programs in 2019 as well. This provides more opportunities for online students to practically apply their knowledge within a ministry context. Through practicum-based coursework, students work with ministry leaders in the field for hands-on ministry training. This education format further enables students to earn their degree via a program that is custom fit to their educational needs. Midwestern believes its quality online programs have many strengths for ministry training and seeks to provide further training through regular on campus interaction and with ministry leaders in their local areas.

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

Our doctoral program has continued to grow in health and numbers. Offering a modular format where students can maintain their current ministry work, students come to our Kansas City campus for a one week seminar and then complete other pre- and post-course research and writing through an online format. Concerning our professional doctorates (D.Min. and D.Ed.Min.), these tracks are designed for persons seeking high-level competence in the practice of pastoral and other ministry leadership roles within the local church. Students who typically take two to three seminars annually can continue ministering in their places of full-time ministry service while pursuing professional doctoral education.

IV. Assist churches by programs of research doctoral education for ministers and theological educators.

The primary focus of the Doctor of Philosophy in Biblical Studies degree is to prepare students to serve local churches as teachers, pastors, and leaders on the highest academic, professional, and spiritual level. The modular Ph.D. seminars involve five-day intensives held on Midwestern Seminary's campus and require significant pre-seminar and post-seminar research and writing. Similarly to our professional doctoral seminars, students taking two or three seminars yearly can remain in their places of full-time ministry service while pursuing research doctoral education.

Additionally, we added two new emphases to our Ph.D. program this past year: Biblical Theology and Biblical Counseling. We are confident that these two new emphases will help to train and develop students to be maximally prepared in both of these fields.

In 2019, we saw continued growth of our residential Ph.D. program known as "The Residency" which now has over 40 students. This cohort, led by Dr. Owen Strachan, directly benefits Ph.D. students by merging independent advanced theological research with mentorship and oversight — adding regular, intensive engagement with faculty and other theological leaders within the rhythm of the unique oncampus ministry culture of Midwestern. In this community context, The Residency continues to provide students with a unique avenue for following their calling to serve churches through the academy.

Based on each of MBTS' Convention assigned ministry statements, what opportunities or challenges do you see on the horizon from 2020 and beyond that would necessitate changes, or new directions, in how MBTS is accomplishing the above Ministry Assignment?

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

In 2020, Midwestern will have continued focus upon two programs (which are the same two we mentioned last year): Accelerate and Fusion. The reason we repeat the same two programs from last year is because these two programs are of vital importance to Spurgeon College. The Accelerate program enables students to get into their ministry context more quickly and affordably. This "fast track" allows qualified students to receive the best education they possibly can in the shortest amount of time.

Additionally, continued focus will be upon the Fusion program, which provides first-hand missions training and experience like no other opportunities. The Fusion: North America tract is needed and we are confident that it will give students a critical education when it comes to planting churches in North America. Additionally, new partnerships are constantly being explored for Spurgeon College. Overall, both of these programs present opportunity for Spurgeon College graduates and students to serve the church, both locally and across the globe, in ways that glorify God and interact positively with an everdeclining spiritual culture.

Spurgeon College implemented a fresh Contextualized Leadership Development Program, known as the FTC Institute, to position itself to better serve local churches and those who desire further theological training in those settings. The FTC Institute is a front door to Midwestern Seminary and Spurgeon College. Through conferences, church/organization partnerships, and forthcoming online features, the FTC Institute allows churches or individual Christians to drink from the vast pool of resources for the church available through Spurgeon College and Midwestern Seminary.

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

In 2020, Midwestern will, once again, place primary emphasis on the Master of Divinity degree, particularly the residential M.Div., as the gold standard degree for those seeking to serve local churches as pastors and ministry leaders. Through the Timothy Track, more residential students will be afforded the opportunity to obtain valuable, hands-on ministry experience while at the same time earning their degrees.

As mentioned last year, there is now an increased focus upon women's ministry concentrations. Students studying at Midwestern Seminary 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. The main impetus for Midwestern Seminary in offering these degree concentrations is to more fully serve the local church, specifically in the area of women's ministry. Within the context of the seminary's mission of developing and maintaining strong local churches, that means we must properly educate and train members for service in each distinctive ministry within the church. Women have long-served vital areas within the local church and played key roles in spreading the gospel. These concentrations will afford them the opportunity to develop their God-given spiritual gifts and abilities to an even fuller extent.

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 is regular innovation and adaptation built upon Midwestern's core degree programs.

In 2020, Midwestern will continue to refine the format of modular doctoral seminars in its professional degrees (D.Min., D.Ed.Min.), as well as offer such in conjunction with other ministry partners to further equip ministers desiring professional doctoral education.

IV. Assist churches by programs of research doctoral education for ministers and theological educators.

As stated in the above section, 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 research doctoral education. We will continue to offer a Ph.D. program that is affordable and comprehensive. Advanced education, such as our professional doctorate and Ph.D. programs, are crucial in preparing ministers to boldly, yet winsomely, confront a lost and dying world.

In 2020, Midwestern will continue to refine the format of modular doctoral seminars as well as offer such in conjunction with other ministry partners to further equip ministers desiring research doctoral education. Last year, we introduced two new Ph.D. emphases in Biblical Counseling and Biblical Theology to broaden the scope of ministry training available to Ph.D. candidates. Additionally, we plan to continue to promote and invest in training through "The Residency," which will offer unique opportunities on campus for those able to relocate to our Kansas City campus.

ENROLLMENT

	2014-15	2015-16	2016-17	2017-18	2018-19
Unduplicated headcount enrollment					
Prebaccalaureate (Dip-Ministering Wives)	28	39	56	46	60
CLD (taking Associate level courses)	71	129	160	222	418
Undergraduate (Bachelor's & Associate)	365	398	483	562	579
Basic Degrees					
(MDiv, MACE, MACM, MACO, MA-)	795	1,000	1,256	1,526	1,735
Advanced Degrees (PhD, DMin, DEdMin)	682	971	1,056	1,169	1,208
Total	1,941	2,537	3,011	3,525	4,000
Credit Hours					
Prebaccalaureate (Dip-Ministering Wives)	57	84	95	74	139
CLD (taking Associate level courses)	405	525	710	773	687
Undergraduate (Bachelor's & Associate)	6,647	6,940	8,159	9,357	10,622
Basic Degrees					
(MDiv, MACE, MACM, MACO, MA-)	9,147	12,022	14,670	17,531	19,131
Advanced Degrees (PhD, DMin, DEdMin)	3,896	4,925	5,948	6,833	7,427
Total	20,148	24,496	29,582	34,568	38,006
SBC Annual Formula FTE					
Annual Total	740	931	1,025	1,264	1,395
Three-year rolling average	602	743	899	1,073	1,228
New Student Unduplicated Headcount Enrollment					
Prebaccalaureate (Dip-Ministering Wives)	19	19	34	21	45
CLD (taking Associate level courses)	44	93	113	126	79
Undergraduate (Bachelor's & Associate)	164	170	189	228	238
Basic Degrees					
(MDiv, MACE, MACM, MACO, MA-)	359	441	594	573	680
Advanced Degrees (PhD, DMin, DEdMin)	191	307	323	380	322
Total	777	1,030	1,253	1,328	1,364
Graduates					
Prebaccalaureate (Dip-Ministering Wives)	0	0	3	1	0
Undergraduate					
(Bachelor's & Associate [CLD graduates])	49	56	54	97	56
Basic Degrees					
(MDiv, MACE, MACM, MACO, MA-)	104	128	133	171	224
Advanced Degrees (PhD, DMin, DEdMin)	30	38	46	71	88
Total	183	222	236	340	368

Matter Referred by the Convention

During the Annual Meeting of the Southern Baptist Convention in Birmingham, Alabama, June 11–12, 2019, the Convention referred the following item to Midwestern Baptist Theological Seminary for consideration, action, and report.

1. SBC Referral: To request each SBC entity to provide an update on addressing abuse (Items 15 and 60, Proceedings of the Southern Baptist Convention, June 11-12, 2019, SBC Annual, p. 57, 63)

Motion: Phillip Bethancourt, Tennessee

“That the Southern Baptist Convention request each of the entities of the Southern Baptist Convention provide an update related to their efforts to address abuse and report back to the 2020 Southern Baptist Convention meeting in Orlando, Florida, covering three subjects: what is their entity doing to foster effective abuse awareness, prevention, and care; what additional steps has their entity taken to address abuse since the 2018 SBC annual meeting in Dallas, Texas; and how is their entity partnering with the efforts of the Sexual Abuse Advisory Group to address abuse?”

Response: Midwestern Baptist Theological Seminary and Spurgeon College are charged with the sacred trust of preparing God-called men and women for gospel ministry in and through the local church. The scourge of sexual abuse has long been a critical issue in the local church and we have taken aims to equip ministers to recognize sexual abuse, to accurately report such abuse when it occurs, and to train pastors, teachers, and leaders to prevent sexual abuse through best-practices policies and processes.

To this end, Midwestern Seminary and Spurgeon College contracted with MinistrySafe in 2018 and built their training into the onboarding of all students, faculty, and staff. Our mandated reporters receive training at various points of the year, and our Title IX Coordinators receive specialized training relating to sexual abuse under the direction of the Dean of Students annually.

Through the Dean of Students office, our institution coordinates with local churches and counseling ministries to provide care and healing for those experiencing the results of trauma caused by sexual abuse. Additionally, as part of our requirements related to federal guidelines published in the Clery Act and Title IX of the Education Amendments Act of 1972, we regularly report to our constituencies our ongoing progress, training, and even incidents should they arise. Our policies can easily be found in our annual academic catalogs in the Student Handbook section, as well as in our reports, located on our website at: <https://www.mbts.edu/about/consumer-information>.



NEW ORLEANS
BAPTIST THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY



LEAVELL
COLLEGE

3939 Gentilly Boulevard, New Orleans, Louisiana 70126

GARY SHOWS, Chairman
JAMIE DEW, President

On behalf of the New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary and Leavell College family, I extend you greetings. I offer my deep thanks and gratitude for the men and women and churches of the Southern Baptist Convention that you represent. NOBTS and Leavell College depend on the partnership of Southern Baptists through the Cooperative Program to accomplish the ministry assignment we have been given to fulfill.

I have now reached the one-year anniversary in my presidency at NOBTS and Leavell College. Much has been accomplished and the days have been full. We have plenty of work left to do, but I and the rest of the NOBTS and Leavell College family are taking great joy in the work we are doing. One of the first things we have done is to consider the mission of NOBTS and Leavell College. We looked carefully at what NOBTS and Leavell College have accomplished in the last one hundred years and the impact she has had in the region. We considered what NOBTS and Leavell College are positioned to do well right now for the Kingdom. Finally, we looked ahead to the great things God will accomplish through the NOBTS and Leavell College family. At the end of that process, we had determined a mission statement that will, as long as I serve in this role, drive everything we do as an institution.

New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary and Leavell College prepare servants to walk with Christ, proclaim His truth, and fulfill His mission.

We pray that God will send us men and women with the disposition of servanthood ready and willing to serve the Kingdom. As an institution, we will prepare these servants to walk closely with Christ. We will prepare these men and women to answer God's call to proclaim His truth wherever He will lead them. NOBTS and Leavell College will prepare these Kingdom servants to fulfill His mission in the smaller-membership churches, in the hard, inner-city neighborhoods, in church plants, on the international mission field, or to whatever ministry God calls them to accomplish. We believe so strongly in this mission that it will become the ethos of everything we do.

In the past year we have also hired three vice-presidents to lead key divisions of the institution: enrollment (Larry Lyon), development (Mike Wetzel), and business affairs (Pattie Shoener). These individuals are ready to serve and retell the story of NOBTS and Leavell College.

When I arrived, I was delighted to learn of the men and women of the NOBTS and Leavell College family who serve faithfully as faculty, staff, and students of this institution. They serve in ministries across the city and region, all while leading their classes and serving the students of NOBTS and Leavell College. All of our faculty serve faithfully in local churches, many of them in leadership and staff positions. Our faculty serve just as so many of our pastors do, in bi-vocational ministry. The students of NOBTS and Leavell College are dedicated to their studies while also serving in the churches around our region. Over one hundred of our students serve in leadership or attend NAMB church plants in the New Orleans area.

When I was elected as President, I shared with the NOBTS and Leavell College trustees that I would focus on four initiatives in my first few years. I am committed to the following initiatives as we seek to build on the work of the last one hundred years:

1. Leavell College. We are going to dedicate ourselves to making Leavell College into the regional college for those men and women preparing for gospel-ministry.
2. Enrollment. NOBTS and Leavell College are going to work hard to recruit men and women ready to be servants in the Kingdom. We are going to work just as hard to help them finish their degree as quickly and efficiently as possible.
3. Communications. NOBTS and Leavell College have much to offer the churches of the SBC. We are going to tell the story of this place and her people and the faithful service offered each day.
4. Denominational Relationships. We are going to work hard to serve the churches of the SBC to build relationships and partnerships. We seek as an institution to faithfully steward the men and women and financial resources the churches of the SBC send to New Orleans.

These are fun and exciting days at NOBTS and Leavell College. My family and I have quickly come to love the city of New Orleans alongside the NOBTS and Leavell College family. We are grateful for the opportunity to answer God's call in such a beautiful place.

Pray for us. Come visit us.

Your servant,

Jamie Dew

President, New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary and Leavell College

Ministry Goals and Accomplishments

(All SBC entities present informative ministry reports to the Executive Committee each February in compliance with the provisions of SBC Bylaw 18 E (12). New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary has requested that the content of this report be taken from its 2020 Ministry Report, previously tendered to the Executive Committee.)

Please describe accomplishments, relative to each of your convention assigned Ministry Assignments, in the past year that create "value added" to the Cooperative Program dollars that New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary receives.

I. Assist churches by programs of pre-baccalaureate 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 1,668 undergraduate students through courses for credit on the main campus, at extension centers, and online — a slight increase over the previous year. This total does not count a large number of certificate students enrolled in not-for-credit courses offered in church and associational settings.

Many of our students are older, second-career individuals called into ministry later in life, who can fill the many bi-vocational 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 424 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.

In 2019, NOBTS developed the Accelerated B.A. + M.Div. program that allows students to earn their bachelor's degree and Master of Divinity degree within five years. This program was made possible through a grant and allows students to enter into full-time ministry more quickly while saving both money and time. 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 1,614 master's-level students last year, 833 of those were Master of Divinity (M.Div.) degree students, which we consider the standard ministry preparation degree. Many students at NOBTS and other seminaries have transferred to shorter M.A. degrees offered online, at extension centers, and on campus. The remaining 781 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.

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 D.Min. (Doctor of Ministry) and D.Ed.Min. (Doctor of Educational Ministry) at NOBTS continue to be among the strongest such programs in the nation, with 331 students enrolled last year. The D.Min. program continues to be one of the largest and best such programs, with 275 students enrolled. Of that number, 46 are Korean D.Min. students.

The NOBTS D.Ed.Min. is one of just a handful of such programs in the United States. The D.Ed.Min. has 46 students enrolled. In many churches, the D.Min. has become the required degree for consideration of prospective pastors. This program provides students with that credentialing, and does so with excellence. Since the D.Min. and D.Ed.Min. programs only accept ministers with three or more years of experience, 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 D.Min. and D.Ed.Min. 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 most seminars through web conferencing software or at a nearby extension site. 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 the research doctoral degrees accessible for students wherever they might live. Each Ph.D. major is available through web conferencing technology or in person. Many students pursue a Ph.D. 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, 190 students enrolled in the Th.M., Ed.D., D.M.A., and Ph.D. programs — which was an all-time high in 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.

Based on each of NOBTS' Convention assigned ministry statements, what opportunities or challenges do you see on the horizon from 2020 and beyond that would necessitate changes, or new directions, in how NOBTS is accomplishing the listed Ministry Assignments?

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

The greatest challenge confronting most undergraduate students is the problem of affordability and student debt. 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 earning their theological education. NOBTS has sought to address this by instituting the tuition cap. Qualified students who take between 12 and 18 hours pay the same tuition. Thus, students are able to save \$1,650 each semester if they can focus on being a full-time student. Partially because of the financial challenges, many students take fewer hours than they should each semester, which extends their time to completion. The end result is that students may not complete their degree at all. NOBTS continues to encourage students to take the appropriate amount of courses to facilitate successful completion of their training.

The new Accelerated B.A. + M.Div. program at NOBTS represents a great opportunity for Leavell College students. This program allows students from a Baptist college to save significant time and money while earning their Master of Divinity degree. Leavell College students could earn their bachelor's degree and the Master of Divinity degree in as little as five years while saving thousands of dollars. The rising costs associated with education remains a significant threat to Southern Baptist education, particularly for places focused on training ministers.

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

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 Master of Divinity degree that provides the broadest type of training. In addition, we have developed multiple master of arts degrees to meet the specialized needs of students.

While encouraging 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. 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. In addition, 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.

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

Our professional doctorate programs are among the best in the country. We are continually striving for excellence. In addition to constant attention to be sure we are offering the specialization offerings and courses that students need, NOBTS works hard to find ministers who need further training and are willing to invest the time and energy needed to that end. 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 Ph.D. 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; 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 on the field of ministry. We will continue to seek to expand our offerings while maintaining the most efficient program possible.

Statistical Tables

Enrollment

Basic Degrees	2014-15	2015-16	2016-17	2017-18	2018-19
Graduate Certificate	161	125	102	100	81
M.Div.	1,096	1,059	1,000	878	833
M.A.C.E.	172	171	142	130	134
M.M.C.M.	34	26	23	23	18
D.Min.	313	321	313	278	275
D.Ed.Min.	56	55	53	48	46
Th.M.	48	75	64	52	59
Ph.D.	128	64	82	100	95
D.M.A.	16	17	13	15	19
EDD	6	7	8	9	9
M.A.M.F.C.	34	33	38	45	78
M.A.	75	121	198	304	379
MTS	84	75	60	52	64
Diploma	0	0	0	0	0
Certificate	677	687	624	713	699
Associate	135	146	105	97	93
Baccalaureate	818	812	879	826	870

Enrollment (continued)

Basic Degrees	2014-15	2015-16	2016-17	2017-18	2018-19
Internet	*498	*540	*595	*669	*711
Nondegree	103	94	74	64	51
Formula allowances for off campus programs	163	157	151	144	249
Total FTE Enrollment	3,956	3,888	3,778	3,734	3,803

* This amount is included in the degree programs.

Annual Accumulative Enrollment (nonduplicating head count) 2018-2019: 3,803

Graduates	2014-15	2015-16	2016-17	2017-18	2018-19
Prebaccalaureate	191	137	170	205	149
Baccalaureate	87	86	117	95	154
Graduate	205	217	230	210	259
Doctoral	40	76	53	59	62
Total	523	516	570	569	624

Matter Referred by the Convention

During the Annual Meeting of the Southern Baptist Convention in Birmingham, Alabama, June 11–12, 2019, the Convention referred the following item to New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary for consideration, action, and report.

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Motion: Phillip Bethancourt, Tennessee

“That the Southern Baptist Convention request each of the entities of the Southern Baptist Convention provide an update related to their efforts to address abuse and report back to the 2020 Southern Baptist Convention meeting in Orlando, Florida, covering three subjects: what is their entity doing to foster effective abuse awareness, prevention, and care; what additional steps has their entity taken to address abuse since the 2018 SBC annual meeting in Dallas, Texas; and how is their entity partnering with the efforts of the Sexual Abuse Advisory Group to address abuse?”

Response: New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary is committed to the prevention of abuse within the institution and in the churches and other ministries where our graduates serve. We have historically trained students in preventing sexual abuse and in ways to care well for victims, and we have added or increased several significant parts of this effort since the 2018 SBC Annual Meeting in Dallas. The seminary president gives institutional leadership and takes a personal role in this effort. NOBTS provides the following to increase awareness, prevent abuse, and care for victims:

- Ministry Safe prevention training for all students, staff, and faculty within their first year in the seminary. This material is included in required first-year courses for all students. (added since 2018)
- Annual, in-person sexual abuse and sexual harassment prevention training for full-time faculty and staff. (added since 2018)
- Criminal background checks on all faculty, staff, and degree-seeking students. (increased scope since 2018)

- A specific address by the president to smaller groups of students at New Student Orientation emphasizing the institutional priority of protecting the vulnerable, maintaining a safe and healthy campus environment, and responding well to sexual abuse and harassment. (added since 2018)
- Meetings in residence halls conducted by hall staff, Student Affairs staff, and senior administrators to ensure student understanding of NOBTS policies, procedures, ways to access help, and our commitment to protecting and caring for students. (added since 2018)
- Student Affairs staff train regularly in this area, and the Associate VP for Student Affairs serves as our liaison to the Sexual Abuse Advisory Group.
- A female Student Affairs staff member is employed specifically for women students to process experiences and seek counsel or advocacy in situations where abuse or harassment may be at issue.
- Security cameras and specific training for The REC center staff help ensure safety and abuse prevention in the recreation center.
- Undergraduate core course that includes sexual abuse prevention using the Darkness to Light material and graduate-level core courses that include training on abuse, caring for victims, and prevention of abuse in the church.
- Graduate-level counseling program coursework including a course on trauma counseling in which students learn the most effective, empirically-supported interventions for trauma care for children and adults in a Christ-centered counseling environment; a course on trauma-informed care for adoptive and other children from abusive backgrounds; counseling model courses including specific interventions for the counseling and care of victims.
- Individual and group counseling on campus at no cost for students recovering from past trauma or abuse.
- Counseling through a local Christian counseling agency available at no cost for faculty.
- A director-level police liaison to local law enforcement agencies and on-site legal counsel work with administration to facilitate timely and appropriate reporting to law enforcement, as well as protection of victims and the campus community in cases of suspected sexual abuse or assault.
- Regular group counseling opportunities for students struggling with issues of sexual integrity.
- Weekend conferences related to issues of sexual purity and sexual integrity.



P.O. Box 1889, Wake Forest, North Carolina 27588-1889

REBECCA L. GARDNER, Chairman
DANIEL L. AKIN, President

Southeastern Baptist Theological Seminary, a seminary that seeks to equip students to serve the church and to fulfill the Great Commission. It is my prayer that our seminary would be an institution that is consumed by the Great Commission. Southeastern has been blessed in recent years. Our student population has grown to more than 4,700 students, and this is our 11th year of record enrollment.

God has been very, very good to us. With the growth of the College and the Seminary, we are on pace to break 5,000 students in the near future. God continues to bless Southeastern Seminary as we hold fast to the gospel and remain fervent in our commitment to fulfill the Great Commission.

We continue to remind ourselves of this foundational truth: The church can live without the seminary, but the seminary cannot live without the church. When seminaries do their job well, they provide an invaluable service to the churches of the Lord Jesus Christ. We see that as our calling and we see that as central to our identity.

It is my joy to share with you some of the new and exciting things that we are doing at Southeastern Baptist Theological Seminary. Let me begin with our graduate programs. At the graduate level, we continue to have a thriving Master of Divinity program and are constantly working to develop degrees that will equip students to serve the church and fulfill the Great Commission. We have just launched a number of new programs for Ministry to Women, in particular, our M.A. in Ministry to Women and Biblical Counseling, our Master of Theology in Women Studies, and the Doctor of Ministry in Ministry to Women. These degree programs put Southeastern at the forefront of educating and equipping women for ministry in accordance with our complementarian theology. We believe there is no better place for women in ministry to study than at Southeastern Baptist Theological Seminary.

We have also launched a series of Church Revitalization degrees that we are really excited about in partnership with Thom Rainer and Church Answers. With Dr. Rainer teaching in the program, we will be offering a M.A., M.Div. and D.Min. in Church Revitalization. Lifeway Research tells us that 70% of the churches in the Southern Baptist Convention are either declining or they have plateaued. There is perhaps no greater need for our Convention today than that we would revitalize churches. So Southeastern is ready to meet that need by training pastors to lead these churches out of complacency and onto the mission that God has called all of us to be in terms of reaching our neighbors for Jesus Christ.

The College at Southeastern, in addition to our incredible graduate program, is doing a tremendous job and growing at a rapid pace. We are investing heavily in our undergraduate students. This year we are celebrating the College's 25th anniversary. We continually say that The College at Southeastern is more than a college, it is a calling. So whether our students become teachers, business people, lawyers, missionaries or pastors, we believe God has a plan for them to be involved in His mission. We want to equip students to give their lives for the cause of Christ in the church, among the nations, and in every aspect of society.

We believe that we are uniquely placed in our state to do this. Think about our confession: we are the only evangelically accredited four year college in North Carolina affirming four doctrinal

statements. Our curriculum: with a vast spectrum of majors and minors and the history of ideas program as the centerpiece, we are training students to think well and to think Christianly. Our community: our House System is thriving, helping cultivate student communities that foster Great Commission living, academic excellence, community identity, and enduring friendships that will last for a lifetime. We really believe that The College at Southeastern is a special place and we are thankful as we continue to watch it grow each year.

Let me talk to you about our North Carolina Field Minister Program. In partnership with the North Carolina Department of Public Safety and Joe Gibbs with Game Plan for Life, we are providing theological training through our college to long-term inmates who will then live on mission in their respective assignments within our prison system. These students have sentences of more than 12 years, most are 40 years to life. And yet, we are equipping them to transform the prison community from the inside through evangelism and discipleship training. We are offering a Bachelor of Arts in Pastoral Ministry through The College at Southeastern, and we now have more than 70 students in the program preparing to serve within our prison system. We will see our first graduating class in May 2021.

We also continue to focus on theological training overseas. Southeastern maintains a global focus that reaches from North America literally to the ends of the earth. We don't just take theological training seriously in North Carolina, we also extend that training beyond the walls of Wake Forest into other parts of the world through what we call our Global Theological Initiatives (GTI). Our goal is to provide global theological training, and our partnerships now include places like Brazil, Mexico, Uganda, Dominican Republic, Ukraine, Korea, and Hong Kong. Soon we hope to lay the foundation to start a government-approved seminary in the country of Vietnam. Through our Persian Leadership Development Program, aimed at providing church leaders with theological education in their own language of Farsi, today we have now more than 1,000 Farsi speakers taking classes online with Southeastern. There is really no other program like this in the world. God is working mightily among the Farsi speakers in Iran and America and Southeastern is delighted to be a part of this incredible initiative.

At Southeastern, we are consumed with a global focus. We are certain in our doctrinal conviction. We are committed to ministry preparation. And we are characterized by a spiritual vibrancy. So thank you, Southern Baptists, for your prayers and your support. Our focus remains for all of our students, faculty, and staff, to be about the business of going and making disciples of all the nations. It is our calling to equip every student to serve the church and to fulfill the Great Commission. By His grace and for His glory, we want to do this until King Jesus returns again. We hope to be a faithful Great Commission seminary until that day.

Danny Akin,
President

**Enrollment Figures by Degree Programs and Full-Time Equivalent (FTE) Students
as Per the SBC Funding Formula**

	2014- 2015	2015- 2016	2016- 2017	2017- 2018	2018- 2019
Special Students					
Credit Only	193	320	288	458	888
Certificate/Diploma	263	255	353	467	552
Special Student Total	456	575	641	925	1,440
Prebaccalaureate & Baccalaureate					
Associate of Divinity	30	23	23	23	17
Associate of Arts	14	12	5	3	11
Bachelor of Arts/Science	424	418	396	475	514
Prebaccalaureate & Baccalaureate Totals	468	453	424	501	542
Basic Programs					
Master of Arts	532	608	611	703	739
Master of Church Music	6	2	2	1	-
Master of Theological Studies	48	169	125	266	204
Master of Divinity	1,382	1,206	1,209	1,225	1,231
Basic Programs Total	1,968	1,985	1,947	2,195	2,174
Advanced					
Master of Theology	66	74	70	67	74
Doctor of Ministry	221	218	254	271	262
Doctor of Education	74	77	83	86	90
Doctor of Philosophy	178	197	205	205	193
Advanced Total	539	566	612	629	619
Total Unduplicated Headcount	3,431	3,579	3,624	4,250	4,775
Cooperative Program Funded FTEs					
Full-Time Equivalent Students	2,106	2,155	2,161	2,337	2,412
<i>Unfunded FTEs</i>					
Over 70 Hours BA Deduction	(75)	(76)	(69)	(65)	(68)
Online SBC FTE Students	(377)	(430)	(495)	(555)	(655)
Adv Degree Students Past Time Allowance	(219)	(226)	(247)	(255)	(295)
Non-SBC FTE Students	(101)	(145)	(136)	(246)	(209)
<i>Total Unfunded FTEs</i>	(771)	(877)	(947)	(1,121)	(1,227)
Total Cooperative Program Funded FTEs	1,335	1,278	1,214	1,216	1,185
Graduates					
Prebaccalaureate & Special	3	20	39	46	42
Baccalaureate	62	57	52	69	46
Basic Programs	311	291	312	283	336
Advanced	39	79	68	70	84
Total Graduates	415	447	471	468	508

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Response: Southeastern Baptist Theological Seminary is fully supportive of the work of the Sexual Abuse Advisory Group. SEBTS has worked to ensure that our campus has the resources and training necessary to help prevent sexual abuse and provide an environment where those who have suffered from abuse at any time in their life can receive the care and support they need to flourish.

1. What is the entity doing to foster effective abuse awareness, prevention, and care?

SEBTS employs the use of background checks for all employees, and background checks are also included as a part of the application process for all prospective students. If someone has been convicted of a sex abuse crime in the past, this effort will allow us to take the steps necessary to help ensure that no one on campus is put at risk.

Our Student and Employee Handbook makes the SEBTS policy clear that we do not tolerate abuse, neglect, and exploitation. We also encourage the reporting of even suspected incidents.

SEBTS has a Counseling Center that is available to all on campus for those seeking help on a variety of issues. This center is equipped to deal with domestic and sexual abuse issues and is prepared to assist with intake, initial counsel, and then make referrals to other professionals when necessary. In addition, our Student Life Staff has been trained to notify Campus Security authorities in all reported or suspected cases. Similarly, our Residence Life Staff has been trained on recognizing signs of abuse and harassment and on proper reporting protocols. We have worked with the senior leadership of this institution as well as with our security department to develop an “emergency response team” and “emergency response team protocol” on how to identify and report potential threat.

In order to raise awareness among our student body, we have instituted a policy in which all of our incoming students are required to watch a training video that helps inform students on how to recognize and report harassment and abuse as part of New Student Orientation training. This video training features the insight and advice of a local lawyer who specializes in domestic and sexual abuse litigation.

Regarding curriculum for ministry preparation, our Biblical Counseling professors address abuse and trauma in several classes. M.Div. students receive instruction on how

to handle abuse and response to accusations of abuse in the BCO5500: Introduction to Biblical Counseling, and faculty is currently taking steps to add significant portions of the *Church Cares* curriculum to BCO5500. This addition includes a number of the videos from the curriculum and making the book that accompanies the curriculum required reading. The reporting requirements are also taught in BCO7501: Practicum 1, and covered in B06570: Counseling Parents and Children during lectures that address counseling children and parents in the midst of/after instances of abuse. Post-traumatic Stress Disorder and counseling abused and traumatized adults are dealt with in BCO6551: Counseling Problematic Emotions. In a Doctor of Ministry seminar, DMN 8161: The Minister as Person and Professional, the *Church Cares* curriculum will be required reading.

2. What additional steps has the entity taken to address abuse since the 2018 SBC annual meeting in Dallas, Texas?

Since the annual meeting in Dallas, SEBTS has taken the opportunity to review all policies and procedures to make sure they are current and comprehensive. In addition, though unrelated to the actions in Dallas, but related to the topic of abuse awareness, prevention, and care, SEBTS' Director of Campus Security has been established as our Title IX Coordinator. Title IX encompasses the federal regulations that educational institutions are required to follow to cover issues of protection in the cases of sexual abuse and misconduct.

SEBTS has also implemented a Threat Assessment Tool. This program is a web-based application provided through a company called CLPS Consultants in partnership with Utica, SEBTS' liability provider. This tool provides a standardized method of investigating and recording various kinds of threats to the SEBTS campus and community. The tool also analyzes the results of any investigation and makes recommendations on the further handling of and monitoring of involved persons. Campus Security and many personnel from Student Life have been trained on the use of this program for investigative purposes.

3. How is the entity partnering with the efforts of the Sexual Abuse Advisory Group to address abuse?

Those in leadership at SEBTS have all read the Caring Well report produced by the Sexual Abuse Advisory Group, and have made our students aware of the resource. We fully support the work of the Sexual Abuse Advisory Group and desire to continue to see this effort provide relief and care for the victims as well as help to train to protect victims in the future.

SEBTS will have in place, by the next Annual Meeting, a requirement for all students to complete the Caring Well certificate as well as additional certificate work focused on sexual abuse prevention and care for victims.



**THE SOUTHERN BAPTIST
THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY**

2825 Lexington Road, Louisville, Kentucky 40280

**F. MATTHEW SCHMUCKER, Chairman
R. ALBERT MOHLER, JR., President**

I am privileged once again to present the following report on behalf of The Southern Baptist Theological Seminary. Thank you for all you do on behalf of Southern Baptists and our seminaries.

We never forget to whom we belong. The Southern Baptist Theological Seminary belongs to the churches of the Southern Baptist Convention. The sole purpose for which this institution was established in 1859 was to train God-called ministers for faithful service in the SBC. The gospel of Jesus Christ is the great passion of Southern Seminary. The training of ministers is our central mission—indeed, the most glorious mission invested to any institution anywhere on planet earth.

Right now, at Southern Seminary, we have almost 5,500 students enrolled. From the programs offered at Boyce College, to the M.Div. and Ph.D. degrees, this Southern Baptist institution offers a theological education accessible to everyone. The extraordinary expansion of our online program means that there is now nowhere on earth within internet's reach where courses offered by our world-class faculty cannot reach. This means Southern Baptists are teaching students we've never taught before.

On behalf of Southern Seminary, I want to say thank you for your generosity and continued support through the Cooperative Program. Our students are able to partake of the quality education offered at our institution, while paying rates of tuition far below what they would cost anywhere else. Our main goal is that these students are taught exactly what you want them to be taught. With your support, we are able to graduate more students free of debt. Where debt is one of the greatest enemies of the Great Commission, the Cooperative Program is one of its greatest friends.

If you look across the landscape of theological education, most institutions are declining. Many schools are faltering, merging, and some will pass from existence. The market for theological education is not big in a secularizing country—except for those places where there is firm faith and gospel commitment. The Southern Baptist Convention and its seminaries stand upon that conviction, contending for the faith once for all delivered to the saints. The strength of your seminaries stands in stark contrast from what we see happening around the world.

At the midpoint of the last century, American denominations faced a decision. The vast intellectual, moral, and cultural changes of the twentieth century fueled the liberalization of the denominations described as the Protestant Mainline—the Episcopal Church, the United Methodist Church, the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ), the United Church of Christ, the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America, the Presbyterian Church U.S.A., and the American Baptist Churches—that all accommodated to theological liberalism and are experiencing dramatic numerical decline, even collapse.

Here is an interesting fact: At the middle of the last century, mainline liberal Protestantism was considered the looming theological reality and evangelicals, including Southern Baptists, were considered the outsiders and the outnumbered. We remain outsiders, in the sense of that denominational world, but it is the liberal denominations that have collapsed.

Let us be thankful again that in the Southern Baptist Convention, it is the conservatives who stayed and the more liberal/moderate faction who left. Look to the seminaries to see the effect.

Indeed, Southern Baptists made monumental decisions over the last several decades concerning theological education. First, that the SBC would have a system of six separate schools, bound by a single denominational commitment and included within a single Cooperative Program budget line and percentage. Second, that the Cooperative Program budget would fund *seminaries* and *not students*. Those decisions were made decades ago, and the wisdom is clear. Funding is based on a formula driven by actual enrollment, but it is stewarded by the seminaries as accountable to the SBC. This has allowed Southern Baptists to build a seminary system beyond the imagination of other denominations.

Our students know, and are constantly reminded, that their education is made possible by Southern Baptists through the Cooperative Program. They know that the generous support through the Cooperative Program is what makes their theological education affordable.

Southern Baptists have made this education possible by means of the Cooperative Program and through the disciplines of the Funding Formula that have created a platform for stability and strength, along with accountability, for many years. The formula rightly requires the six seminaries to put primary emphasis on training pastors in residential programs centered in the Master of Divinity.

The emphasis on the M.Div. centers the entire institution on the preparation of pastors. That successful emphasis also requires a tremendous amount of energy and commitment on the part of the entire school, prioritizing the M.Div. and its support.

Our business model, adopted over 20 years ago, maximizes the stewardship of the entire program by adding the undergraduate program of Boyce College. Now a well-respected, 4-year undergraduate school, the program offers a first-rate Christian worldview education, made possible by the prior existence of the entire SBTS campus and instructional infrastructure. The business model is working and Boyce is now making a net contribution to the total SBTS budget, providing support for the graduate program. This only works if tuition support is generated by quality at the undergraduate level.

As you know, SBC formula FTE is a subset of total institutional FTE—and for good reason. The formula prioritizes certain programs and principles, including the preservation of an on-campus educational program. The wisdom behind this is compelling. First, the on-campus program proves to be the best context for theological education. Second, the quality of the off-campus program is entirely dependent on the quality of the on-campus program. Put bluntly, there will be no quality anywhere if quality is not established on-campus. Why? Because the strength of the program is the faculty, and quality faculty (in terms of scholarship, longevity, work production and publishing, and comprehensive impact) are not attracted to or financially supportable by a primarily off-campus or online program.

I am proud to say that at The Southern Baptist Theological Seminary our enrollment is now the largest of all ATS accredited seminaries. For this we are exceedingly thankful. The spirit on campus will inspire any Southern Baptist. God has given us a future, and we can see the future of the Southern Baptist Convention taking shape right on our campus. This is a generation that has already been swimming against the culture tide. They know what they are going to face in the context of a rapidly secularizing culture.

Those students are taught by the faculty we have been able to build over the last 27 years – a faculty second to none in the history of modern theological education. We are also blessed by outstanding leadership additions in the past year. Dr. Matthew J. Hall now serves as Provost and Senior Vice President for Academic Administration. Dr. Paul Akin has joined us as Dean of the Billy Graham School of Missions, Evangelism, and Ministry. Dr. Dustin Bruce has joined us as

Dean of Boyce College. We are also thankful for more than 15 significant recent additions to the Southern Seminary and Boyce College faculty. We are involved in several big projects on the campus, but all are designed to maximize stewardship. Over the course of the last 27 years, we have strategically avoided adding large construction projects to the campus that would drain institutional resources.

Long-term trendlines include the growth of the online academic programs and increased enrollment and investment in our Hispanic Initiative. We are constantly looking at the future, seeking opportunities to endure lasting viability in terms of finances, faculty, and student resources.

In this generation, God is raising up the most amazing group of ministers, preachers, missionaries, and others, who will serve Christ and take the gospel around the world. In an age of so much secular pressure on the church, the Lord is raising up those ready to stand against that pressure—to be bold for the gospel. The students that come from your churches are incredibly bright, talented, and committed to Jesus. Our hope and prayer is that we send these students back to you, into the pulpit, and into the world, equipped with the finest theological education the world has to offer.

My commitment—the commitment of The Southern Baptist Theological Seminary—is to serve Southern Baptists with faithfulness, teaching the full wealth of biblical Christianity to as many as we can, as faithfully as we can, as joyously as we can, for as long as we can.

Sincerely,

R. Albert Mohler, Jr.

President, The Southern Baptist Theological Seminary

Ministry Goals and Accomplishments

(All SBC entities present informative ministry reports to the Executive Committee each February in compliance with the provisions of SBC Bylaw 18 E (12). The Southern Baptist Theological Seminary has requested that the content of this report be taken from its 2020 Ministry Report, previously tendered to the Executive Committee.)

Based on each of SBTS' Convention approved Ministry Assignment, please describe accomplishments in the past year that create "value added" to the Cooperative Program dollars that SBTS receives.

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 1,099 students in 2018-2019.

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 and

an undergraduate academic journal, 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.

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 fifty states, the District of Columbia, and over twenty countries are enrolled in degree programs. 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.

The significance on the M.Div. centers the entire institution on the preparation of pastors. The M.Div. program continued as the largest program at the seminary with a total enrollment of 2,208 students for 2018-2019, which is a 4% increase from the previous year. In an era when the M.Div. is experiencing wide-spread 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 2018-2019 alone, Southern Seminary professors published over 25 books and contributed many articles to various academic journals. When you enter a classroom at Southern Seminary, you will find one of many consecrated 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.

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 2018-2019 academic year, the total annual headcount for all Professional Doctoral Studies degree programs was 411 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. The Broadus Society Fellowship exposes students to experienced preachers and provides a venue for mutual encouragement. Our graduates continue to hold key leadership positions in our SBC local associations, state conventions, and national entities. They are also pastoring hundreds of established SBC churches and are 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 include in their program offerings a fully modular Th.M. degree. This program allows students to receive a more intensive level of education in a range of subjects through week-long concentrated courses taken with a cohort. For the 2018-2019 academic year, the total annual headcount for all Research Doctoral Studies degree programs was 400 students. The program, however, is not merely large, but of the highest quality. Workshops on academic writing were offered during the summer term. Dozens of our current students and graduates of our program presented papers at the prestigious national meeting of the Evangelical Theological Society and continue to shape the entire evangelical academic landscape. Several other students presented at other national academic conferences. The weekly 1892 Club continued to attract many students each week 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. Southern is equipping many of the most gifted academic and church leaders within the Southern Baptist community. In an academic job market considered severe by almost any standard, Southern doctoral graduates are continually sought after to serve in both traditionally academic and church-based posts. Amongst member schools of the Association of Theological Schools, Southern Seminary has continued to lead the way in the number of graduates that currently hold teaching posts. 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 2020 and beyond that would necessitate changes, or new directions, in how SBTS is accomplishing each of its Ministry Assignments?

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 2020 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. So, 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 Bachelor of Communication degree will prepare students to be effective communicators in a diverse and complex world, extending the mission of the school to new academic territory. 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.

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 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 vigilant efforts to get online students connected to the campus.

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.

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). These programs will continue to strengthen the pastor-theologians within the SBC in these foundational disciplines. Southern Seminary continues to develop partnerships related to international student teaching opportunities with the intention of student deployment. Currently, 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 will receive will allow them to become even more competitive in the current academic job market.

Enrollment by Degree Program Converted to Full-Time Equivalent As per SBC Seminary Formula

	2015–2016	2016–2017	2017–2018	2018–2019
Prebaccalaureate Programs:				
Diploma Theology	24	26	36	31
Diploma Missions	13	26	47	49
Boyce: Associate of Arts	29	23	25	31
Special (including Prebacc. and SWI)	180	189	194	119

	2015–2016	2016–2017	2017–2018	2018–2019
Baccalaureate Programs:				
Boyce: Bachelor of Arts	329	299	268	242
Boyce: Bachelor of Science	612	632	656	653
Basic Degree Programs:				
M.Div.	1,405	1,500	1,399	1,400
M.A.	283	287	279	251
M.A.T.S.	54	78	121	127
M.C.M.	6	8	9	12
Special (Postbacc.)	53	51	29	22
Advanced Degree Programs:				
T.h.M.	75	66	66	78
D.Min.	248	246	226	221
D.Miss.	12	15	16	14
D.Ed.Min.	79	109	161	190
Ed.D.	47	46	46	40
Ph.D.	308	301	302	268
Special	3	1	3	2
Total FTE Enrollment	3,760	3,903	3,883	3,750
Official FTE	2,294	2,328	2,339	2,311
(Nondup. HC)	5,373	5,489	5,459	5,485

Degree Program Graduates

Degree Programs:	2015–2016	2016–2017	2017–2018	2018–2019
Prebaccalaureate Programs:				
Diploma Theology	1	0	0	0
Diploma Missions	6	0	0	0
Worldview Studies Certificate	0	9	0	2
Seminary Wives Institute	19	14	20	13
Boyce: Associate of Arts	11	9	3	9
Baccalaureate Programs:				
Boyce: Bachelor of Arts	21	22	19	20
Boyce: Bachelor of Science	54	51	66	57
Basic Degree Programs:				
M.Div.	217	217	212	205
M.A.	74	71	66	69
M.A.T.S.	24	18	35	54
M.C.M.	0	1	0	1
Advanced Degree Programs:				
Th.M.	38	36	38	46
D.Min.	42	41	36	29
D.Ed.Min.	6	4	23	22
D.Miss.	1	0	2	1
Ed.D.	10	11	7	6
Ph.D.	35	36	41	34
Total Graduates	561	546	579	591

Matter Referred by the Convention

During the Annual Meeting of the Southern Baptist Convention in Birmingham, Alabama, June 11–12, 2019, the Convention referred the following item to The Southern Baptist Theological Seminary for consideration, action, and report.

1. SBC Referral: To request each SBC entity to provide an update on addressing abuse (Items 15 and 60, Proceedings of the Southern Baptist Convention, June 11-12, 2019, SBC Annual, p. 57, 63)

Motion: Phillip Bethancourt, Tennessee

“That the Southern Baptist Convention request each of the entities of the Southern Baptist Convention provide an update related to their efforts to address abuse and report back to the 2020 Southern Baptist Convention meeting in Orlando, Florida, covering three subjects: what is their entity doing to foster effective abuse awareness, prevention, and care; what additional steps has their entity taken to address abuse since the 2018 SBC annual meeting in Dallas, Texas; and how is their entity partnering with the efforts of the Sexual Abuse Advisory Group to address abuse?”

Response: The Board of Trustees of The Southern Baptist Theological Seminary adopted the following response on October 14, 2019:

The Southern Baptist Theological Seminary is committed to the highest standards of care for every member of the seminary community and to preparing ministers of the gospel and servants of Christ to fulfill this responsibility wherever they are called and however they serve. The challenge of sexual abuse is a particularly urgent challenge, especially to Christians and our churches. Southern Seminary has made abuse awareness, prevention, and care a top institutional priority. We require all students, faculty and staff to complete MinistrySafe, a third-party training and assessment tool. Furthermore, Southern Seminary has clear policies on all matters appropriate for such an institution, including mandatory reporting of the abuse of minors and other reporting responsibilities and instructions for care published in our student and employee handbooks. The Seminary’s policies and procedures have recently undergone a thorough legal review in order to make certain that all policies are appropriate, complete, and up to date. In this light, policies now even more thoroughly define reporting responsibilities and the procedure for reporting any abuse or suspected abuse. This policy is regularly re-communicated to the campus community through all available means.

Since the 2018 meeting of the Southern Baptist Convention, Southern Seminary has continued to make our commitment clear. Mrs. Garnetta Smith has been appointed as the seminary’s Women’s Support Coordinator, a cabinet-level position that functions as liaison and support for all women on campus, and with particular responsibility to women who experience or are aware of any harassment or abusive behavior.

Southern Seminary is committed to work fully with the Sexual Abuse Advisory Group and has gratefully received their report and findings and has also received the “Caring Well” curriculum and will be using this material as a useful resource in the preparation for curriculum and training for students, faculty, and staff.



Southwestern

BAPTIST THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY

2001 West Seminary Drive, Fort Worth, TX 76115-1153

P.O. Box 22040, Fort Worth, TX 76122-0040

PHILIP LEVANT, Chairman

ADAM W. GREENWAY, President

Having now commenced my first, full calendar year as president of Southern Baptists' "crown jewel" seminary, it is my deep joy to witness the dawning of a new day at The Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary as we seek to be faithful in training the next generation of pastors, missionaries, and other ministers of the gospel of Jesus Christ.

At the heart of this administration's vision for Southwestern Seminary is a reanimation and reinvigoration of the original vision of our founder and first president, the great Baptist pastor-theologian and denominational statesman Benajah Harvey (B.H.) Carroll. Our "big-tent vision" is grounded in four non-negotiable institutional commitments:

1. An unapologetic embrace and celebration of a high view of Scripture as the written Word of God: inspired, inerrant, infallible, authoritative, and sufficient;
2. Confessional fidelity – from the beginning, the Southwestern Seminary faculty have been confessionally aligned with our Southern Baptist Convention of churches, as expressed in our affirmation of every iteration of *The Baptist Faith and Message*;
3. A passion for the Great Commission, as demonstrated in the fact that Southwestern Seminary was the first seminary ever to have a full-time professor of evangelism – Dr. Lee Rutland (L.R.) Scarborough, who would go on to serve as the second president of the seminary; and
4. A strong affirmation of the vitality of cooperation in Southern Baptist life, including the genius of the Cooperative Program, with roots that go deep in the life of Southwestern Seminary. To Southern Baptists, we say, "Thank you, for your generous financial support channeled through the Cooperative Program, which helps makes possible all that we do here."

The Spring 2020 semester was historic — both in ways we would have never sought and in ways that have demonstrated once again the truly special nature of Southwestern Seminary. I have never been prouder to be a Southwesterner as our extraordinary faculty and staff seamlessly moved our entire educational program online in the span of a couple of weeks to best serve our students during a time of great difficulty for them, for our churches, and for this nation. In God's providence, our new eight-week online courses were in the final planning stages before the arrival of the COVID-19 pandemic, so we were already well positioned to offer these new courses at a time when they are able to be especially meaningful to our students.

Because of the historically negative effects on the American economy due to necessary governmental measures to limit the spread of COVID-19 pandemic, Southwestern Seminary instituted budgetary reductions of approximately 25% campus-wide through a combination of faculty and staff position deletions, furloughs, and discontinuation of certain academic programs. These actions realigned expenditures with reduced revenue projections while undergirding mission-critical academic programs and continuing the institution's renewal begun last year. As this report is being submitted, our administration is working with our Board

of Trustees to finalize the fiscal year 2020-2021 budget to prudently project our financial plans during times of economic uncertainty.

Before the pandemic, we were seeing encouraging signs of growth in student recruitment and support for the seminary. It is undeniable that the coronavirus is altering the plans of current and prospective students, and the incredible national economic contraction that rapidly developed over a short period of time has negatively impacted the financial position of Southwestern Seminary. We believe for some time into the future, the ripple effects of these developments will be felt throughout the Southern Baptist Convention as these realities are being faced by other SBC entities, state convention partners, and especially our local churches.

In spite of the challenges associated with COVID-19, I remain very hopeful about the future of Southwestern Seminary. We are committed to offering the very best theological education to God-called men and women in service to the churches of the Southern Baptist Convention. Our seminary has endured hardships and trials throughout its 112-year history, and with God's blessings we will persevere and thrive during these days just as we have in the past. I am more confident than ever that God is at work on Seminary Hill and that the best days of Southwestern Seminary are in our windshield, rather than our rearview mirror. I am also convinced God is at work in the midst of the COVID-19 pandemic – as He has been throughout the history of Christianity during times of great difficulties – to bring glory to Himself, to extend the gospel across the globe, and to make us better ministers of the gospel. This hope is also my fervent prayer.

Beyond the pandemic, we find ourselves in a time too often characterized by dissension and division. I believe there is no more urgent time than now for Southern Baptists to come together. The challenges in today's culture demand more cooperation among us, not less. We desperately need leadership committed to helping equip the people of God not only to evangelize the lost and disciple new believers, but also to teach Christians how to live out a Christian worldview that makes a difference for Christ in our culture, especially while secular voices increasingly demand capitulation and compromise from God's standards.

Our steadfast commitment at Southwestern Seminary is to be an institution that produces gospel-driven men and women who are able to minister effectively in these urgent and chaotic times. It is because of our relationships and partnerships with local churches, state conventions, and fellow SBC entities that we are able to meet this challenge. Please pray for us that God would find us faithful and make us fruitful in His service.

The next time your travels bring you to the Dallas-Fort Worth (or as we prefer, Fort Worth-Dallas) Metroplex, please come visit us on Seminary Hill. And as always, please do keep Southwestern Seminary in your prayers.

Adam W. Greenway
President

*Program Report***I. Enrollment by Degree Program in SBC funded Full-Time Equivalents**

Undergraduate and Certificate Programs	2011– 2012	2012– 2013	2013– 2014	2014– 2015	2015– 2016	2016– 2017	2017– 2018	2018– 2019
B.A.	190	154	127	98	81	148	179	163
B.S.	59	120	158	165	146	79	35	13
B.M.	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	23	34	33	32
Certificate	20	20	20	20	15	15	11	14
Diploma	1	0	0	1	1	0	0	0
Special	27	28	33	14	25	31	20	13
Basic Degree Programs								
M.A.A.B.S.	11	8	8	9	9	10	9	5
M.A.B.C.	12	29	46	62	63	59	53	39
M.A.C.C.	6	2	0	1	0	0	0	0
M.A.C.E.	180	147	107	81	84	76	66	49
M.A.C.M.	26	20	9	10	11	9	8	10
M.A.C.S.E.	13	14	14	10	9	10	6	4
M.A.I.S.	20	13	13	6	8	5	8	6
M.A.L.M.	6	4	2	1	0	0	0	0
M.A.M.	32	24	15	19	17	16	16	9
M.A.M.F.C.	37	5	0	0	0	0	0	0
M.A.P.	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	2
M.A.Th.	19	24	22	13	11	14	14	11
M.A.W.	1	2	3	4	3	6	6	4
M.Div.	647	567	473	473	424	398	353	260
M.M.	51	49	51	44	39	31	29	31
M.A.C.A.	N/A	N/A	N/A	3	7	6	7	5
M.T.S.	N/A	N/A	16	26	33	36	39	30
Advanced Degree Programs								
D.Ed.Min.	8	4	12	13	13	14	12	22
D.Min.	70	61	102	57	39	47	73	79
Ph.D./D.M.A.	152	176	170	182	170	155	156	193
Th.M.	29	26	23	20	18	23	31	35
Total SBC FTE								
Enrollment	1,617	1,497	1,424	1,332	1,249	1,222	1,164	1,029
Headcount								
Enrollment	3,210	3,259	3,582	3,942	4,276	4,076	4,007	3,848

Graduates

Undergraduate and Certificate Programs	2011– 2012	2012– 2013	2013– 2014	2014– 2015	2015– 2016	2016– 2017	2017– 2018	2018– 2019
B.A.	31	40	34	24	20	16	21	21
B.S.	N/A	N/A	8	53	51	62	58	52
B.M.	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	1	0	1	3
Certificate	25	9	21	12	20	2	20	13
Diploma	2	0	1	0	0	1	0	0
Basic Degree Programs	2011– 2012	2012– 2013	2013– 2014	2014– 2015	2015– 2016	2016– 2017	2017– 2018	2018– 2019
M.A.A.B.S.	1	2	1	2	5	1	2	10
M.A.C.C.	3	3	0	1	0	0	0	0
M.A.C.E.	98	82	65	55	34	41	49	42
M.A.C.M.	3	0	3	0	2	2	1	0
M.A.C.S.E.	6	2	6	3	3	3	2	3
M.A.I.S.	3	6	7	6	2	3	4	2
M.A.L.M.	1	4	4	2	0	0	0	0
M.A.M.	12	16	10	10	9	9	6	5
M.A.M.F.C.	55	15	0	0	0	0	0	0
M.A.Th.	10	10	12	14	9	10	11	10
M.A.W.	0	0	0	1	0	6	2	4
M.Div.	148	159	143	137	143	112	137	123
M.M.	12	26	11	13	25	20	12	10
M.A.B.C.	N/A	1	8	9	17	13	25	24
M.T.S.	N/A	N/A	19	39	103	165	191	208
M.A.C.A.	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	1	0	4	3
M.A.Ph	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	1	2
Advanced Degree Programs								
D.Ed.Min.	4	10	4	6	2	4	7	3
D.Min.	12	13	10	9	10	26	17	17
Ph.D./D.M.A.	14	34	29	24	18	26	33	22
Th.M.	15	10	9	10	6	17	22	17
Total Graduates	455	442	405	430	481	539	626	594

Matters Referred by the Convention

During the Annual Meeting of the Southern Baptist Convention in Birmingham, Alabama, June 11–12, 2019, the Convention referred the following items to The Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary for consideration, action, and report.

- 1. SBC Referral: To request each SBC entity to provide an update on addressing abuse (Items 15 and 60, Proceedings of the Southern Baptist Convention, June 11-12, 2019, SBC Annual, p. 57, 63)**

Motion: Phillip Bethancourt, Tennessee

“That the Southern Baptist Convention request each of the entities of the Southern Baptist Convention provide an update related to their efforts to address abuse and report back to the 2020 Southern Baptist Convention meeting in Orlando, Florida, covering three subjects: what is their entity doing to foster effective abuse awareness, prevention, and care; what

additional steps has their entity taken to address abuse since the 2018 SBC annual meeting in Dallas, Texas; and how is their entity partnering with the efforts of the Sexual Abuse Advisory Group to address abuse?"

Response: Given the motion's specific language requesting a report back to the 2020 Southern Baptist Convention meeting in Orlando, Florida, no report can be given due to the cancellation of the Annual Meeting. Southwestern Seminary has provided an institutional update on addressing abuse, however, via the Ministry Inquiries included as part of the 2020 SBC Cooperative Program Ministry Report. That update is reproduced in its entirety here:

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:

- *created a new administrative leadership position, Dean of Women, with responsibilities to include serving as the first point of contact for any women with concerns or complaints;*
- *updated admissions policies to prohibit anyone who is listed on a sex offender registry from being admitted as a student;*
- *reviewed and updated administrative, student, and personnel policies to ensure compliance with expectations for mandatory reporting;*
- *finalizing plans to implement sexual abuse awareness training for all faculty, staff, and students; and*
- *transitioning 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 12 sworn police officers with an average experience of nearly 30 years in major metropolitan departments and only 3 security officers, with plans to be 100 percent sworn officers during 2020. Previously, there were only 4 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.

2. SBC Referral: To request Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary to pursue the recovery of certain seminary property (Items 40 and 79, Proceedings of the Southern Baptist Convention, June 11-12, 2019, SBC Annual, p. 60, 80)

Motion: Benjamin Cole, Oklahoma

“That this Convention request the trustees of SWBTS to authorize the seminary president and legal counsel to pursue through all means necessary the lawful recovery of seminary property, both tangible and intangible, including furniture, household furnishings, artifacts, antiquities, memorabilia, audiovisual and computer equipment, and any official records that may have been removed from the presidential home or other campus facilities without authorization between the dates of May 30, 2018, and February 27, 2019.”

Response: Due to the cancellation of the 2020 Southern Baptist Convention in Orlando, Florida, this motion remains under consideration for action and report back to the 2021 Southern Baptist Convention in Nashville, Tennessee.



SEMINARY EXTENSION

**A ministry of the Southern Baptist Convention:
Incorporated under the Council of Seminary Presidents
901 Commerce Street, Suite 500, Nashville 37203**

**R. ALBERT MOHLER, JR., President of the Council of Seminary Presidents
RANDAL A. WILLIAMS, Executive Director of Seminary Extension**

Seminary Extension is a ministry of the Southern Baptist Convention. Through this ministry, the SBC provides an opportunity for theological education and ministry training to individuals who cannot or will not attend a traditional institution of learning. Students may take one course or enroll in certificate and diploma programs. Many take individual courses for personal, spiritual development. Others enroll in programs where they take a prescribed group of biblical, theological, and ministry training courses that are affordable and immediately applicable.

By action of the Southern Baptist Convention, Seminary Extension began its work June 15, 1951, with Lee Gallman as its director. In 2007, Randal A. Williams became Seminary Extension's seventh director. Under these 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 recognize the value of its courses and accept credit for them. This acceptance is generally based on the following criteria. First, Seminary Extension courses are of excellent academic quality. Courses are written by individuals approved by the Council of Seminary Deans (the academic deans of our SBC seminaries). Most course writers are professors in our SBC seminaries. Second, Seminary Extension testing methods ensure the integrity of the work done by students. Third, student records are permanent, accessible, and accurate. Although we maintain these standards, Seminary Extension cannot guarantee that other institutions will receive transfer credit for its courses. Therefore, it is important to 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.

Seminary Extension students may take advantage of two methods of study. Many students have the opportunity to study with friends and neighbors in small groups. These groups are generally formed to take one or more courses to strengthen a local ministry. For instance, we have groups that meet in local Baptist Association offices or churches where a Seminary Extension certified instructor guides them through courses. The other method is independent study which is accomplished through correspondence. These students simply work directly with Seminary Extension to complete courses at their own pace.

Program Report

The statistical data below shows the number of course enrollments and the total number of students enrolled during the 2018-2019 academic year.

Course Enrollments	936
Total Number of Students	484



SOUTHERN BAPTIST HISTORICAL LIBRARY AND ARCHIVES

901 Commerce Street, Suite 400, Nashville, Tennessee 37203

TAFFEY HALL, Director

Governed by the Council of Seminary Presidents

August 2018 - July 2019

Yearly Highlights

- Acquired minutes and reports of the Conference of Southern Baptists Evangelists (2015-2018).
- Acquired one document box of the E.Y. Mullins Fellowship Collection (1969-1971).
- Acquired nine document boxes of the East Tennessee Baptist Hospital Collection (1976-1983).
- Acquired two document boxes of the Ronald Clyde Sumners Sermon Collection.
- Materials from SBC Executive Committee, North American Mission Board, and former SBC Brotherhood Commission were acquired, as well as the scrapbook from the 2017 SBC Minister's Wives Conference.
- Acquired five document boxes of Southern Baptist Press Association Records (1981-2004).
- Acquired two records center boxes of Baptist Sunday School Board Teaching Pictures for Primaries Artwork Collection (1956-1970); and one document box of the Stained Glass Windows, BSSB Collection (1960s to 1970s).
- Acquired 34 CDs and DVDs of materials documenting the movement of underground evangelical and Baptist churches in Russia; 53 microfilm reels of books, tracts, and periodicals by and about Russian Baptists; and one document box of the William Yoder Russian Baptist Collection.
- Acquired six microfilm reels of Baptist World Alliance (BWA) administrative and executive committee minutes (1940-1979), minutes of BWA committees (1904-1940), BWA study papers (1950-1978); and 18 microfilm reels of the North Carolina Baptist Children's Home publication, *Charity and Children* (1912-1948, 1976-1991).
- Acquired German Baptists in America periodicals *Jugend Herold*, youth publication (1889-1910, 1917-1919); and *Vereins Herold* (1911-1918).
- Acquired one document box of Bethany Homestead minutes (1928-1938).
- Acquired recordings of Tennessee Baptist Convention annual meeting proceedings (1961-2013); and TBC annual meetings and pastors' conference events (1975-2014).
- Microfilmed records of six Baptist churches and the 2016-2017 Baptist state newspapers.
- Completed processing the Fred Luter Papers, Bryant Wright Papers, Baptist Convention of Israel Collection, Dwight Leonard Baker Papers, Mary and Donald Langford Collection, Joshua Grijalva Ethnic Baptist History Manuscript Collection, Myrtle Robinson Creasman WMU Pageants Collection, Andrew MacRae Letters Collection, and the Home Mission Board Language Missions Field Reports Collection.
- Completed new historical displays on the second floor of the SBC building on the 100th anniversary of GuideStone Financial Resources and Southern Baptist disaster relief; and a new display in the Library and Archives on the Tennessee Baptist Children's Home.
- Added 455 annuals, 616 books, 274 pamphlets, 23 archive collections, 161 microfilm reels, 2,073 periodicals, 307 informational files, 302 photographs, 1,002 electronic resources, and 285 recordings.

Research Use

The collection continues to attract scholars and students from a wide range of colleges and universities. Researchers from 26 different institutions conducted research in the collection during the past year, including four international researchers from Australia, Brazil, Canada, and Russia. The collection was visited by 105 registered researchers and staff provided 2,239 patron contacts.

Acquisitions

The Archives acquired minutes and reports of the Conference of Southern Baptists Evangelists (2015-2018). These materials were added to the COSBE archive collection housed at the SBHLA. Southern Baptist Press Association (Association of Baptist State Papers) files (1981-2004) were acquired. Materials include correspondence, minutes, annual meeting information, and financial reports of the ABSP organization.

Materials from SBC Executive Committee, North American Mission Board, and former SBC Brotherhood Commission were acquired, as well as the scrapbook from the 2017 SBC Minister's Wives Conference. The Archives received a collection of Baptist Sunday School Board Teaching Pictures for Primaries Artwork Collection. These 11x14 cardstock images span from 1956-1970. A collection on the BSSB Stained Glass Windows was acquired from Willet Stained Glass Studios of Philadelphia. The collection includes correspondence, contracts, and architectural drawings from the 1960s and 1970s.

The Ronald Clyde Summers Sermon Collection was acquired. Summers served as pastor of churches in Kentucky, North Carolina, South Carolina, and Alabama. The collection includes typescripts of sermons he gave at the Meadow Brook Baptist Church in Alabama where he pastored for 19 years. One records center box of church minutes, photographs, and financial records of Immanuel Baptist Church, Henderson, Kentucky (1919-1990) was acquired.

The Archives acquired recordings of Tennessee Baptist Convention annual meeting proceedings (1961-2013); and TBC annual meetings and pastors' conference events (1975-2014). Materials of the Conservative Baptists of Oregon were acquired, including reports, directories, and reports from the executive office (1954-2009).

The Archives acquired one document box of the Bethany Homestead collection. Bethany, established as the united effort of seven Baptist churches and seven Congregational churches in Northampton, England, opened in 1926 as a housing and nursing care facility for the aged and sick. The collection includes annual meeting minutes (1928-1938) and a history of the home written in 1945. The Archives acquired administrative files and minutes of the East Tennessee Baptist Hospital (1976-1983).

Through assistance from a researcher from the Congress of Evangelical Christian-Baptists (Russia) the Library and Archives acquired 34 CDs and DVDs of materials documenting the movement of underground Evangelical and Baptist churches in Russia and the USSR. These materials, primarily in Russian, include books, periodicals, sermons, and informational files in electronic format. Staff included both English and Russian translations in the OCLC catalog records generated for these items. The Archives also acquired the William Yoder Collection which includes one document box of correspondence and news stories related to Baptists in Russia. A historical film of Simon Antone was also acquired. Antone was a Russia Jew who became Christian and ministered in Iraq. The film documents his ministry and death.

The Library acquired 21 ethnic/foreign language manuals (accessioned into the book collection) produced by the Home Mission Board. These manuals, mostly on witnessing, include manuals in English, and counterparts in Afrikaans, Chinese, Korean, and Spanish. The Library acquired

German Baptists in America periodicals *Jugend Herald*, youth publication (1889-1910, 1917-1919); and *Vereins Herald* (1911-1918).

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. Microfilming was completed on six church records and the 2016-2017 Baptist state newspapers, resulting in the addition of 37 reels of microfilm to the collection.

Access to the Collection

The processing of nine significant archive collections was completed, including cataloging and posting the finding aids to the website on these collections. The presidential papers of two former presidents of the Southern Baptist Convention were processed and are available for use, the Fred Luter Papers and Bryant Wright Papers. The Luter Papers include one linear ft. of material and span the years 2012-2014. Luter, the first African American to be elected as President of the SBC, served as SBC president from 2012-2014. He presided at the Convention in 2013 and 2014. The collection includes clippings, programs, news stories, articles by others, and correspondence. Luter has served as pastor of the Franklin Avenue Baptist Church, New Orleans, Louisiana, since 1986. The Wright Papers include 1.25 linear ft. of material and span the years 2010-2012. Wright presided at the Convention in 2011 and 2012. The collection includes mostly correspondence, articles, committee files, and recordings of the Southern Baptist Name Change Committee. In 1981, Wright became pastor of Johnson Ferry Baptist Church in northwest metro Atlanta. In 1992, he founded Right from the Heart Ministries, a radio, television, and internet ministry that airs 30-60 second inspirational spots on secular radio and television. In 2018, he announced his plans to step down as pastor of Johnson Ferry Baptist Church.

Processing of the Baptist Convention in Israel Collection was completed. This collection includes three linear ft. of material and spans from 1954-1992. The collection documents the work of the Baptist mission and church work in Palestine and Israel from 1954-1983. The majority of the files on the convention include a wealth of information on Southern Baptist activities in the country of Israel. The files usually include minutes of the executive committee and the convention meeting, proceedings of the annual meeting, correspondence, reports from committees, ministries and mission stations, resolutions, programs and agendas, financial information and budgets, clippings, personal reports, and general information on Baptist mission and church activities.

Processing was completed on the Dwight Leonard Baker Papers. The collection includes 1.25 linear ft. of material and spans from 1953-2012. The collection includes articles, clippings, correspondence, writings, and other material documenting Baker's work as a missionary and teacher in Israel, India, and the Philippines. The collection also includes information on the Elliott controversy in the Southern Baptist Convention (1962-1963) and articles and clippings from 1980-1987 on the inerrancy controversy within the SBC. The collection includes Dwight Baker's Memoirs and a 50-year history of Baptist mission work in Israel and Palestine.

Processing was completed on the Mary and Don Langford Collection. This collection includes 1.5 linear ft. of material and spans the years 1935-1990. Mary and Don Langford served as missionaries to Hong Kong with the SBC Foreign Mission Board from 1963-1991. The collection includes correspondence, cards, clippings, and a few photographs. The majority of the collection consists of hand-written letters about the Langfords' mission work written by Mary Langford to her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Billy McCrary, in Shreveport, Louisiana.

Processing was completed on the Joshua Grijalva Ethnic Baptist History Manuscript Collection. The collection includes a manuscript in five volumes of a history of ethnic Baptist history, focusing on the work of Southern Baptist missions and ministries with a wide range of ethnics and language groups in America. The manuscript was compiled by Joshua Grijalva, who wrote most of the narrative but also enlisted others to write histories of state ethnic Baptist work. Grijalva served as pastor to churches in San Antonio, Texas, and Denver, Colorado, before serving as Dean of the Hispanic Baptist Theological Seminary in San Antonio from 1962-1981. From 1981-1989, he served with the Home Mission Board as National Consultant of Ethnic Leadership Development. In 1989, he was named President of the Hispanic Baptist Theological Seminary, serving in this position until his retirement in 1993.

Processing was completed on the Myrtle Robinson Creasman WMU Pageants Collection. This collection of pageants and plays was written by Myrtle Creasman for anniversaries of Woman's Missionary Unions, church anniversaries, and missionary plays. Creasman grew up in Chattanooga, Tennessee. She was baptized into the membership of Second Baptist Church in Chattanooga in 1899. She attended and graduated with her B.A. degree from Virginia Intermont College in Bristol, Virginia, in 1910, and continued her studies at the American Conservatory in Chicago, where she received a Teachers certificate in piano. In 1915, she married a Baptist minister, Clarence D. Creasman, in Chattanooga.

Processing was completed on the Andrew MacRae Letters Collection. The Rev. Dr. Andrew D. MacRae was born in Lasswade, near Edinburgh, Scotland, in 1933. Through the early encouragement of his pastor, Dr. MacRae became a street evangelist in Edinburgh as a teenager. He graduated from the University of Edinburgh and Baptist Theological College of Scotland, and was ordained in early August 1957. He pastored in Scotland for 12 years, focusing on urban ministry, then spent 14 years as General Secretary and Superintendent of the Baptist Union of Scotland. This small archive collection includes correspondence (1962-1966) between MacRae and W.L. Howse, Director of the Education Division of the Sunday School Board of the Southern Baptist Convention. The correspondence relates to personal news and information about MacRae's Sunday School work with the Baptist Union of Scotland and his involvement with the Baptist World Alliance.

Processing was completed on the Home Mission Board Language Missions Field Reports Collection. This large collection (34 records center boxes) contains hundreds of field reports filed by missionaries working with American Indian, Arabic, Cambodian, Chinese, Eskimo, Filipino, French, Haitian, Hispanic, Hmong, Japanese, Korean, Laotian, Polish, Portuguese, Romanian, Ukrainian, and Vietnamese people groups in America. The reports, mostly from the 1980s, include information on church membership, evangelism visits, number of baptisms, professions of faith, revival campaigns, scripture distribution, and sermons preached/classes taught. In addition to this statistical information, the reports provide space for missionaries to record observations and describe other information they deemed significant to their mission work. The collection provides a valuable resource to the ethnic missions activities of the HMB in the latter half of the 20th century.

The SBHLA awarded 12 individuals with Lynn E. May Study Grants for 2018-2019, which ranged from \$400 to \$500.

A digital project of transcripts of the SBC Pastor's Conference Sermons and Convention Presidential Addresses was completed. These word-searchable PDF files were added to the Digital Resources page of the SBHLA website. The Pastor's Conference sermons (1962-1994) include the manuscripts submitted by the preacher of the sermon to the Executive Committee prior to the Conference. Copies of these sermons were included in the Press Kit which was

supplied to members of the press covering the Southern Baptist Convention. The sermons were given by a wide variety of preachers and evangelists, some well-known and others who were not. The Presidential Addresses include the manuscript of the addresses from 1922-1923 and 1951-2018.

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

DAVID PRINCE, Chairman
RUSSELL MOORE, President

As I think about the work of the Ethics & Religious Liberty Commission over the last year, I'm reminded of an anniversary that made headlines. In 2019, many news organizations marked the thirtieth anniversary of a pro-democracy protest in Beijing that culminated in the famous image of a young, unknown Chinese man standing—alone—against a row of tanks in Tiananmen Square.

What is most striking about this image is that he was not—in that moment—part of a mob or a riot or an army. It was just him: unarmed and unaccompanied. And yet, ironically enough, that's where the power was. The loneliness is what gives the image its force. And part of the reason the world paid such attention is because this action didn't seem to make sense. It looks so strange to see a person risk his life and his place in society without the means to fight back. And yet, courage, biblically defined, includes both of these elements—a redefinition of power and a reshaping of community. As this milestone passes us, those of us who belong to Christ should pause to reflect on how the courage that comes from the Spirit of God ought to prompt all of us to, when necessary, stand alone against the crowd.

That's one of the things that we as Christians have to be willing to do, and it's one of the things that your Ethics & Religious Liberty Commission strives to do each day. Be willing to speak the truth as we see the Bible telling it.

One of the ways we have sought to do that is with a relentless focus on the issue which, for many around the world, defines the Southern Baptist Convention at this moment: church sex abuse. Over the last year, your Ethics & Religious Liberty Commission has devoted itself wholeheartedly to this issue in service to Southern Baptist churches around the country who want to do everything in their power to combat this wickedness in unity together, on behalf of the vulnerable, and for the sake of the gospel.

Over the last year, it has been a privilege to partner with our SBC President J. D. Greear, and with the President's Sexual Abuse Advisory Group. This work was made possible in part by the generosity of the Executive Committee, giving sacrificially in order to help fund research and resources that would equip our churches. Already hundreds of churches and thousands of Southern Baptists have taken the Caring Well Challenge or utilized resources connected to this issue of combatting church sex abuse. The ERLC devoted its national conference to this issue over the last year and welcomed the largest crowd in the event's history. In Texas, we worked to see legislation passed that would protect churches from civil liability if they informed another congregation of a potential staff member about whom there may be questions or allegations on this matter. Much has been done, and yet much more work remains to do. And those of us at the ERLC are both grateful to serve our churches, and determined to do so with unflinching commitment to Scripture and our Lord.

Over the last year, there have been a number of areas where we have focused efforts beyond the issue of abuse. At the forefront, though, is the issue of life and human dignity. We live in a society in which our federal government—to this very day—subsidizes the work of Planned Parenthood, an organization that preys upon women and profits on the backs of slaughtered children. We live in a society where multi-million dollar companies threaten state legislatures who would dare enact common-sense laws designed to protect women and children. We live in a world that thinks and speaks of unborn children made in the image of our God as problems to be solved.

But at the ERLC, we wake up every morning and we imagine what a post-Roe world would look like. We imagine that, and we work toward that future. In some cases, that takes the form of conferences and events. In other cases, it looks like advocacy for legislation. In yet other cases, it takes the form of our Psalm 139 Project, with which we provide ultrasound technology to centers around the country. In every case, though, this work means standing athwart a watching world that sees our care for the vulnerable as backwards. But the way of the cross is one that cares for the vulnerable. The way of the cross says that Jesus loves the little children—all the children of the world.

You see, the vulnerable matter to Jesus, and so matter to your ERLC. Sometimes this entails working across the country in state legislatures to help enact pro-life legislation. In other situations, it looks like working with the White House to ensure adoption agencies are not forced to choose whether they will violate their consciences or abandon needy children. And in other cases it's declaring—in a world that uses migrants, including children, as political punching bags—that the church of Jesus Christ must take our cues not from talking heads on television but from living words in Scripture. That's also why your Ethics & Religious Liberty Commission will not back down one inch when it comes to standing for racial unity. We're proud to be partnering with LifeWay to produce curriculum for our churches on how we should apply the gospel to the issue of race. And we'll continue to provide resources that counter lies from many corners.

Beyond this issue, however, we also face assaults on religious liberty that would have seemed unthinkable just a matter of years ago. Over the last year, we've worked with the White House and Congress to prevent Bibles from getting caught up in trade disputes, and to keep government from taxing church parking lots. We've combatted well-intentioned legislation that would sacrifice religious liberty. And we've combatted egregious legislation that would threaten adoption agencies and healthcare providers from carrying out their callings to serve. We must be stewards of the inheritance of our Baptist forebears, and every day, that's exactly what your ERLC strives to be.

At the same time, one of the jobs of the Ethics & Religious Liberty Commission is to be a Paul Revere of sorts for our churches—running out ahead and alerting our churches of dangers that are coming and questions that need to be considered. Here, one area where we've spent a great deal of energy is on the issue of artificial intelligence and social media. We've put together resources, events, and content that examine questions that the families of tomorrow will face that seem nearly possible to imagine today. In a world in which social media has been characterized by falsehoods, toxicity, and cruelty, the ERLC has tried to highlight larger problems of a society increasingly isolated and rootless—and provide resources and solutions can help churches see the way forward. After all, biblical courage often means being willing to stand alone, against a crowd. But biblical unity means those who are in Christ should never be forced to stand alone, or against, those who bear the name of Christ.

Returning to Tiananmen Square, though, it's worth pointing out that this "tank man" was bravely alone, but, in his loneliness, he inspired people all over the world to stand for freedom over tyranny. As we remember him, let's remember how much more so we as Christians are called to stand—sometimes in community and sometimes in solitude—for the truth that is dependent on the cross, not dependent on the crowd. That's what your ERLC is here to do, and to equip our churches to do as well. We're grateful for the opportunity to do so by the sacrificial, cooperative giving of our churches for the sake of the Great Commission and the glory of our Lord Jesus Christ.

For the Gospel,
Russell Moore

Ministry Goals and Accomplishments

(All SBC entities present informative ministry reports to the Executive Committee each February in compliance with the provisions of SBC Bylaw 18 E (12). The Ethics & Religious Liberty Commission has requested that the content of this report be taken from its 2020 Ministry Report, previously tendered to the Executive Committee.)

I. Assist churches in applying the moral and ethical teachings of the Bible to the Christian life.

Every day, the team at the ERLC seeks to answer one fundamental question: How can we serve Christians and churches with content that will help them answer questions and engage the culture with the gospel of Jesus Christ? Over the last year, we've sought to do that daily, particularly at the ERLC website—which publishes new content directly related to the issues of human dignity, family stability, civil society, and religious liberty in a variety of formats. Additionally, the ERLC strives to respond to events in the news important to Southern Baptists so as to help train churches and assist Southern Baptists in thinking through the issues. Beyond this, the ERLC has been intentional in launching events—ranging from area pastor lunches, leadership summits, and large-scale annual conferences, designed to equip men and women to think through these issues from a kingdom-focused, gospel framework. This last year, as the SBC seeks to address sexual abuse at every level of our denomination, the ERLC centered its national conference around the theme of combatting sexual abuse—how to care well for survivors and how to protect churches against predators. In partnership with LifeWay and others, these events are often uploaded online after the fact so that all Southern Baptists, not just those who were able to attend our national events, are able to benefit from the conference content.

As a few examples of church-minded resources created, the ERLC has produced bulletin inserts for SBC churches for each of the respective emphasis Sundays for pastors and church leaders. The ERLC has provided numerous resources free of charge to SBC churches and state conventions around the country for various events. Beyond that, the ERLC has continued to devote energy to this issue of racial reconciliation and is thankful for the opportunity to partner with LifeWay for a six-lesson Bible study titled, *The Church and the Racial Divide*.

The ERLC continued to innovate along several different multimedia initiatives, launching a YouTube channel designed to reach the up and coming generation with answers to complex questions with a focus on the gospel. The ERLC also continued to develop its policy-focused podcast, in which the DC-based ERLC staff offer insight and analysis from a Christian perspective on developments in our nation's capital and what we as a Commission are doing to drive conversations there. Additionally, video has received a great deal of attention over the last year. As an organization we have published hundreds of hours of interviews,

discussions, and video productions on a variety of issues. This has been a common request from pastors and churches, particularly for use in their weekly services and for small group training. In the same vein, the ERLC is continuing to ask what issues Christians aren't yet thinking about but will need to be thinking about in the near future. That's exactly the intention with one major document released earlier this year—Artificial Intelligence: An Evangelical Statement of Principles. The goal of this document is to help churches prepare for all the ways AI will make inroads into one's community and daily life, how Christians ought to think about AI, and what the benefits and dangers consist of. This project was developed by the ERLC Research Institute, signed by over 70 top evangelical leaders from across disciplines, and received a great deal of attention in press across the country. Our hope is that it will help to provide an ethical and moral framework for the church and society as we begin to think about this issue more and more in the years ahead.

II. Assist churches through the communication and advocacy of moral and ethical concerns in the public arena.

As the SBC entity charged not only to serve as a moral and ethical voice to Southern Baptist churches, but also to be a gospel witness in the public square, the ERLC engaged the legislative, executive, and judicial branches of government on multiple fronts, from meeting with lawmakers and advocacy partners to issuing public comments to the Administration to filing amicus briefs in the Supreme Court.

The ERLC labored in the public square on a range of issues, from religious liberty to the sanctity of human life to marriage to human trafficking to racial reconciliation and many areas in between, seeking to apply the gospel to public policy for the sake of religious liberty and human flourishing. Among the many specific policies engaged, the ERLC worked to secure religious liberty protections and worked tirelessly to be a voice of reason and persuasiveness on issues of concern to Southern Baptists.

Throughout the last ministry year, the ERLC focused its legislative attention on issues of life, family, and religious liberty, about which Southern Baptists have been insistent and consistent for decades. A summary of the ERLC's public policy activities is below, but the ERLC's policy team also secured a number of key victories this year, some of which are highlighted here:

- ***Removal of Tax on Church Parking Lots:*** The ERLC completed a successful push—one that required nearly two years to see to completion along with extensive work with the Executive Branch and both houses of Congress—which repealed a provision of the 2017 tax reform legislation that would have had serious consequences for churches. Included in the 2017 tax reform package was a provision that created a new 21% tax on the value of some nonprofit employees' benefits. Because of the change, tax-exempt organizations that provide parking or transit benefits to their employees were subject to unrelated business income tax on the cost of the parking provided. This income tax on churches would have been the first in the history of the United States.
- ***Securing Religious Liberty Protections for Child Welfare Providers:*** After working closely with the Administration for several months, the Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) proposed a new regulation in November 2019 that would help ensure faith-based organizations can continue serving vulnerable children and families through foster care and adoption services. This rule will reverse an Obama-era provision that functionally required adoption agencies to abandon their deeply held religious beliefs in order to continue receiving federal funding for their services. This new provision will

bring these regulations back in line with other federal nondiscrimination law and allow these agencies to resume their work serving needy children.

- ***Advocacy on the Born Alive Abortion Survivors Protection Act:*** The ERLC's work on the Born Alive Abortion Survivors Protection Act is a good example of the ERLC's capabilities to lead in the midst of a cultural flash point—the passage of the sweeping abortion legislation in New York and Virginia Governor Ralph Northam's comments on Virginia's abortion legislation. We translated this cultural moment into public policy advocacy, but more broadly, an argument about the logical conclusion of the arguments of the abortion lobby and abortion industry.
- ***Advocacy on Tariffs on Bibles:*** In June 2019, the U.S. Trade Representative announced a new round of tariffs on products produced in China as a part of USTR's Section 301 investigation into Chinese trade practices. This new round of tariffs included a proposed 25% tariff on Bibles and other publishing products produced in China. The ERLC partnered with LifeWay to raise this issue with the Administration, submitting formal comments and written testimony to USTR and making contact with a range of Administration officials. In August 2019, USTR released a revised list of products subject to the new tariffs, and Bibles were removed from this list.
- ***FIRST STEP Act:*** The ERLC played a key role in the passage of the FIRST STEP Act, a bipartisan criminal justice reform package passed in December 2018. The ERLC has been involved in the bipartisan effort to reform the federal criminal justice system for many years, and the passage of the FIRST STEP Act was a significant milestone.
- ***Protecting the Hyde Amendment:*** Since 2016, pro-life advocates have been on notice that the abortion lobby was preparing to fight to eliminate the Hyde Amendment and thereby expand federal funding for abortion. The ERLC has been working with House and Senate leadership as well as the Administration to ensure that the Hyde Amendment remains in all final spending bills passed each year. The ERLC has, at the same time, been working to highlight the extremism of the abortion lobby in order to maintain and build support for the Hyde Amendment moving forward.

Beyond these victories, the ERLC continued its advocacy work on a wide range of issues of importance to Southern Baptists. Below is a list of some of just a few of the key pieces of legislation the ERLC advanced, included to highlight the range of issues the Commission engages on behalf of Southern Baptists:

- ***Protecting the Hyde Amendment:*** For over forty years, the Hyde Amendment has been passed each Congress to protect American consciences. However, the abortion industry is working to remove any Hyde protection during the appropriations process. In 2016, the Democratic platform declared that “they would continue to oppose, and seek to overturn, federal and state laws and policies that impede a woman's access to abortion, including by repealing the Hyde Amendment.” The ERLC is working with the Senate Appropriations Committee and the White House to protect the Hyde Amendment. This work is ongoing, and the ERLC will continue to advocate for the protection of the Hyde Amendment.
- ***The Born-Alive Abortion Survivors Protection Act:*** The 14th Amendment to the U.S. Constitution affirms that “No State shall make or enforce any law which shall abridge the privileges or immunities of citizens of the United States; nor shall any State deprive any person of life, liberty, or property, without due process of law.” Even the majority in *Roe v. Wade* admit a right to life for “persons” in the United States, although they rejected that a fetus is a person under the 14th Amendment. This Act would establish criminal penalties

for failing to provide adequate care to born-alive babies that have survived a failed abortion. In such moments, children deserve all the medical care possible. President Bush signed into law the Born-Alive Infants Protection Act of 2002.

However, this law did not include criminal penalties for doctors that withhold care to a born-alive infant. The Born-Alive Abortion Survivors Protection Act would amend the federal criminal code to require a healthcare practitioner that is present when a child is born alive following an abortion or attempted abortion to, first, exercise the same degree of care as reasonably provided to any other child born alive at the same gestational age, and, second, ensure the child is immediately admitted to a hospital. The bill was passed by the House of Representatives in January 2018 but failed to pass the Senate.

- **Conscience Protection Measures:** No healthcare professional should be compelled to compromise his or her deeply-held beliefs in order to provide medical care, such as being forced to perform abortions or other medical procedures that conflict with an individual's religiously-informed conscience. In 2018, the ERLC was very pleased to see the establishment of a new Conscience and Religious Freedom Division in the Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) Office of Civil Rights. This new division was announced for the first time at the ERLC's 2018 Religious Liberty Summit. HHS also created new regulations to strengthen the conscience rights of healthcare workers, and the ERLC submitted comments in support of those regulations. At the end of last year, HHS published two rules that provide conscience protections for Americans with religious or moral objections to health insurance that covers contraception methods. These rules will help curb the conscience abuses healthcare professionals face across the country. In addition, the ERLC continues to advocate for the Conscience Protection Act—federal legislation that seeks to amend the Public Health Service Act in order to protect healthcare providers who chose not to perform an abortion—as well as working to permanently codifying the Hyde and Weldon Amendments into law. Last year, the Conscience Protection Act was passed by the House of Representatives and was part of the final negotiations on the spending bills last year. While it did not pass, Congress has voted several times on the measure and there is strong consensus about the language. Also included in the ERLC's advocacy is our opposition to the Medicare for All Act of 2019. Among its many provisions, the Act would eliminate medical professionals' ability to object to performing abortions based upon conscience, thereby creating a dangerous government precedent. As Dr. Moore has previously argued, "A government that can pave over the consciences of some can steamroll over dissent everywhere."
- **Defund Planned Parenthood:** The ERLC is committed to seeing the nation's largest abortion provider, Planned Parenthood Federation of America, deprived of federal taxpayer dollars. There have been several efforts to defund Planned Parenthood over the last two years, including through the healthcare reform package and through House appropriations bills.

However, unless Congress uses the Budget Reconciliation Act, any effort to defund Planned Parenthood is unlikely to succeed, as this measure will not receive 60 votes in the Senate. Last year, the ERLC advocated for changes to HHS grant rules and spending levels that defund Planned Parenthood. These new rules were proposed, and spending levels have dramatically increased. The ERLC will continue to look for opportunities to defund Planned Parenthood, and ensure that the American taxpayer dollars aren't going towards Planned Parenthood.

- ***Higher Education Reauthorization Act:*** Public universities ought to be places where diversity is encouraged, not stifled. The rights of free religious exercise and assembly of students on public college campuses are in need of clear federal protections. Specifically, college administrators ought to respect the rights of students to freedom of association and stop requiring religious student groups to accept as members or select as leaders those who do not share their core religiously informed beliefs. The Higher Education Reauthorization Act included language specifically protecting religious liberty of students to select leaders based on religious criteria. The bill also included language that would have protected the accreditation of faith-based higher education institutions. The ERLC continues to support efforts to include this language in the Senate companion bill and calls on Congress to protect students from religious discrimination.
- ***Protect Religious Freedom for Military Chaplains & Medical Professionals:*** As the country grapples with the ever-expanding implications of the sexual revolution, religious liberty conflicts develop for those who hold to God’s design for human sexuality. The normalization of same-sex marriage and transgenderism are creating conflicts in virtually every sphere of society, including the military and the medical practice. The ERLC monitors the climate in these spheres and advocates for the freedoms of religion and conscience of service members, chaplains, and medical professionals to serve their country in a manner consistent with their deeply held religious beliefs. This includes advocating on behalf of Southern Baptist chaplains publicly and through back channels as well as public policy provisions to protect the religious freedom of chaplains and other service members.
- ***Opposition to the Equality Act:*** H.R. 5, the Equality Act, would redefine the Civil Rights Act of 1964’s use of the word “sex” to also include “sexual orientation and gender identity” and make them federally protected classes. While the proposed intention of H.R. 5 is to protect individuals who identify as LGBT, the bill would instead steamroll the consciences of millions of people. H.R. 5 threatens the efforts of faith-based adoption and foster care agencies, hinders the work of healthcare professionals and faith-based hospitals, and undermines decades of civil rights protections for women and girls. These proposed changes to the Civil Rights Act of 1964 would bring a dramatic shift in civil rights law, religious liberty, and the foundations of civic pluralism. The ERLC opposes this bill, as it represents one of the most alarming threats to religious liberty ever proposed in the United States Congress.
- ***Responding to the Opioid Crisis:*** Two-thirds of drug related deaths are due to opioid usage, and the drivers for the epidemic are complex. Last year, the ERLC engaged with House leadership and the Department of Health and Human Services on a range of responses including poverty and welfare programs, engagement and training for the faith community, and drug prescription practices and regulation. The ERLC also supports initiatives that engage churches and other local organizations to call for awareness and advocacy approached with a pro-life ethic.
- ***Legislative Solution for DACA Recipients:*** In September 2017, the Trump Administration rescinded the Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (DACA) program. Enacted in 2012 by President Obama, DACA sought to protect undocumented immigrants who entered the U.S. as minors—known as Dreamers—from deportation. Notwithstanding debate over the problematic elements of the DACA program, the ERLC believes Dreamers who came forward in good faith should not be punished with deportation for an act that was no fault of their own. Now young adults, these Dreamers—many of whom have families of their

own with children who are U.S. citizens—are workers, students, and positive contributors to their communities. The ERLC continues to work closely with Congress and the White House to deliver a permanent legislative solution for Dreamers.

- **North Korea IRF Initiative:** It is undeniable that the right to freedom of religion is not respected in the Democratic People's Republic of Korea (DPRK). The Pyongyang regime persecutes Christians and other religious minorities in a particularly brutal fashion. Prayer, worship, congregating, and possessing sacred texts are severely penalized by torture and imprisonment. The ERLC is working with a broad, multi-faith coalition of organizations through the United Nations Universal Periodic Review process to urge North Korea to cease all restrictions on the right to freedom of opinion and expression, and ensure that the right to manifest one's religious convictions in private or in public is fully protected and realized. The ERLC continues to urge the international community to prioritize the opposition of the egregious religious freedom violations carried out by the DPRK. Additionally, the ERLC produced a short film, produced on the ground in South Korea, giving voice to the stories of North Korean defectors and refugees who now live and worship in South Korea. The ERLC was also the only organization to host an event on religious freedom and human dignity violations in the DPRK at the 2019 Department of State's Ministerial to Advance Religious Freedom, demonstrating the ERLC's leadership in and commitment to religious freedom.
- **China IRF Initiative:** Over the past year, the Chinese government has severely escalated its persecution of religious minorities, including Christians, by destroying religious symbols on houses of worship, burning Bibles, confiscating religious materials, closing houses of worship, and detaining individuals holding divergent views. The Chinese people are facing threats to manifesting their religious beliefs in public, private, and in community. China has, for many years, been involved in controversial uses of technology and artificial intelligence that infringe on the basic human rights of Chinese citizens as well as political and religious dissidents. The ERLC has grave concerns about the trajectory of China's approach to Christians and other religious minorities and is committed to working with other nongovernmental organizations to direct both U.S. and international pressure towards alleviating their persecution.
- **Fighting global anti-Semitism:** There is an alarming rise of anti-Semitic incidents in Europe and anti-Semitic speech around the world, particularly in the Middle East. But with the rise of the so-called Alt-Right movement in the United States, anti-Semitism is on the rise here as well. Through collaborative action with like-minded organizations, the ERLC has worked against such action at the United Nations, and it will continue its work defending victims of anti-Semitic incidents in Europe and anti-Semitic speech wherever it happens. Earlier this year, Travis Wussow, spoke at the American Israel Public Affairs Committee conference on the need for increased freedoms for our brothers and sisters in Israel as well as the SBC's efforts to help displaced Christians and other minorities.

As usual, one of the other means by which the ERLC engaged the public square was through one-on-one meetings and other communication with elected officials and their staff. Through regular interaction with congressional offices, the ERLC sought to ensure that social issues and religious liberty issues were neither steamrolled nor relegated to backburner status. A second means by which the ERLC engaged the public square was through coalition work. ERLC staff participated in numerous coalitions, both formal and informal, among religious, life, family, and other public policy groups on issues of common agreement in an effort to find unified approaches to advance sound policy in the public square. In every instance, the

ERLC brought a decidedly Baptist and gospel-focused perspective to the issue at hand. In many cases, the ERLC helped to reshape thinking and action among coalition partners by consistently voicing its positions through the lens of the gospel.

III. Assist churches in their moral witness in local communities.

The primary front of the advance of the kingdom of God is the local church, faithfully proclaiming the gospel, training disciples, and reaching the community around it with the gospel. The ERLC never wants to lose sight of the primacy of the local church and the needs of the communities they serve. That being the case, over the course of the ministry year the ERLC has offered resources designed to assist churches in their moral witness in local churches. The ERLC provides new resources daily—from books, to blog posts, articles, essays, podcasts, videos, bulletin inserts, and sermon outlines—for Christians and churches to help think through moral and ethical issues. Additionally, the ERLC continues its rapid response strategy for news-related items that churches may want to address.

Throughout the year, ERLC staff and leadership traveled the country speaking at churches and church events throughout the Southern Baptist Convention, in addition to our Southern Baptist seminaries. This ranged from state convention gatherings to Sunday morning worship to church-sponsored events and forums designed to address key cultural issues.

In the midst of our emphasis to stand for the unborn, the Psalm 139 Project of the ERLC continued to place ultrasound machines in crisis pregnancy centers around the country. There are few things more important to the ERLC than standing for vulnerable children at risk from death at the hands of a predatory abortion industry. This ministry has been one concrete way the ERLC has been able to equip local centers, often working closely with local churches, to have resources for women in crisis and be a gospel witness at the same time.

In tandem with our denominational calendar, the ERLC produced bulletin inserts, videos, and content designed to address areas of denominational emphasis within the life of local churches, including sanctity of human life, racial reconciliation, and important social issues. Throughout the year, the ERLC also partnered with individual churches, associations, and state conventions via videoconference to help answer questions and equip churches on the issues alive in their respective congregations.

IV. Assist churches and other Southern Baptist entities by promoting religious liberty.

No issue in the public square has been so foundational for Southern Baptists as has the priority of religious liberty and the right of liberty of conscience. As such, beyond the concrete legislative efforts listed in sections above, ERLC staff regularly published articles in Baptist Press, on ERLC properties, and at prominent outlets around the country. From the latest developments pertaining to religious liberty and persecution around the world, as well as many other important topics including adoption, marriage, human trafficking, race, and others, the ERLC addressed concerns of many different kinds. On our website, entire channels are devoted specifically to these important issues. These pages feature brief explanations of the various topics, informational videos, links to news stories, and applicable Scripture references.

Additionally, our public policy page includes information designed for legislators, staff, and thought leaders on issues of concern to Southern Baptists. We regularly meet with and attempt to drive the conversation regarding bills important for the sake of religious liberty, and our in-person presence wed with timely and well-supported information are key facets of legislative success.

Beyond this, the ERLC labored to promote religious freedom with like-minded groups and organizations and continued the work of its international office—designed to promote religious liberty for Southern Baptists around the globe, particularly calling attention to persecution of Christian minorities in North Korea, China, and the Middle East.

The ERLC also named leaders for their distinguished service awards on the basis of their contribution to the cause of promoting religious liberty—with Senator James Lankford (R–Okla.), being awarded the John Leland Religious Liberty Award for his faithful commitment to the issue of religious liberty in the United States Senate. Additionally, Rachael Denhollander was named the Distinguished Service Award for her work in combatting sex abuse and her particular service in consultation with the President’s Sexual Abuse Advisory Group.

Beyond these areas, the ERLC continued to participate in a number of regular gatherings with religious leaders and groups on issues of domestic and international religious liberty, along with other issues important to Southern Baptists. The ERLC also worked to continue to cultivate relationships with members of Congress and their staff by speaking at Capitol Hill events and meetings.

Based on the listed Ministry Assignment, what opportunities or challenges do you see on the horizon from 2020 and beyond that would necessitate changes, or new directions, in how you are accomplishing the above Ministry Assignment?

I. Assist churches in applying the moral and ethical teachings of the Bible to the Christian life.

Each new year brings new challenges and questions in our culture that affect the lives of Southern Baptists and Southern Baptist churches. Part of the ERLC’s role is being attentive to those questions and applying the gospel to them for the benefit of our churches. Perhaps the most important way we will continue to do this in the 2020 ministry year is through helping to serve the denomination alongside the Sexual Abuse Advisory Group and Caring Well initiatives. The world is watching how the denomination handles this problem, and for the sake of our witness as well as for the benefit of local churches throughout our denomination, the ERLC wants to do everything possible to make sure that this study provides the best possible resources for pastors and churches. By no means is this the only issue, far from it in fact. But it is one that is front of mind and focus both for the Southern Baptist Convention and the ERLC.

II. Assist churches through the communication and advocacy of moral and ethical concerns in the public arena.

Each new year brings new opportunities for the ERLC to continue to make inroads in building coalitions, driving conversations, and being a voice of influence on Capitol Hill to represent Southern Baptists and their concerns well. A sampling of some of the areas and legislation on which the ERLC will focus include:

- Defunding Planned Parenthood
- Promoting pro-life judicial nominees
- No Taxpayer for Abortion Act
- Pain Capable Unborn Child Protection Act
- Born Alive Abortion Survivors Protection Act
- Conscience Protection Act
- Restoration of Russell Amendment protections
- First Amendment Defense Act

- Opposition to women in combat and in the draft
- Reviving obscenity prosecution

A continued focus in the 2020 ministry year will be Capitol Conversations, regular ERLC meetings with coalition partners, elected officials, and influencers to keep close contact and influence with those crucial to defending America's first freedom of religious liberty. Beyond this, additional work done over the last year, along with key strategic partnerships we have developed, has poised the ERLC to grow its media presence, and our fully-equipped television studio in the Southern Baptist Convention building in Nashville adds to that potential.

III. Assist churches in their moral witness in local communities.

As mentioned last year, in the year ahead, we have unique opportunities to use enhanced digital platforms, ERLC events, and other platforms to leverage strategic relationships with churches and invest in local communities. Being the smallest SBC entity, it is an organizational challenge to be as involved in all of our states and associations as we would aspire to be, but through digital platforms, events, podcasting, and video conferencing, the ERLC has the ability to extend its reach in unique and strategic ways even further into the life of local churches.

IV. Assist churches and other Southern Baptist entities by promoting religious liberty.

With new cultural flashpoints around every turn, increased attention to the issue of religious liberty provides the ERLC a unique opportunity to be a prophetic voice in the public square. Additionally, a continuing investment in events provides the ERLC with the ability to speak to a broad audience on issues of concern to Southern Baptists. This year, several of our key events and publications will focus on what faithful Christian families should look like in the midst of an ever-changing and ever-challenging cultural landscape in which religious liberty is increasingly imperilled. As we equip Christian families, at the same time we hope to use the opportunity to model to the watching world a vision of religious freedom and Christian witness—with faithful men and women serving others, loving others, and welcoming them to hear the gospel message. Beyond that, through the work of the Research Institute, the ERLC has an arsenal of strategically-gifted and committed Southern Baptist thinkers that can help drive the conversation in the public square on issues of importance to Southern Baptists.

Matters Referred by the Convention

During the Annual Meeting of the Southern Baptist Convention in Birmingham, Alabama, June 11–12, 2019, the Convention referred the following items to The Ethics & Religious Liberty Commission for consideration, action, and report.

1. SBC Referral: To request each SBC entity to provide an update on addressing abuse (Items 15 and 60, Proceedings of the Southern Baptist Convention, June 11-12, 2019, SBC Annual, p. 57, 63)

Motion: Phillip Bethancourt, Tennessee

“That the Southern Baptist Convention request each of the entities of the Southern Baptist Convention provide an update related to their efforts to address abuse and report back to the 2020 Southern Baptist Convention meeting in Orlando, Florida, covering three subjects: what is their entity doing to foster effective abuse awareness, prevention, and care; what additional steps has their entity taken to address abuse since the 2018 SBC annual meeting in Dallas, Texas; and how is their entity partnering with the efforts of the Sexual Abuse Advisory Group to address abuse?”

Response: The Ethics & Religious Liberty Commission has, arguably, devoted more energy to addressing the issue of sexual abuse as it has any single issue over the last year. Following the 2018 annual meeting of the Southern Baptist Convention, J. D. Greear formed a Sexual Abuse Advisory Group to work in partnership with the ERLC. As part of that work, the ERLC labored alongside this group over the last year as it moved through three phases: the first phase, a listening phase, pursued a goal of listening to and learning from hundreds of survivors, advocates, outside experts, and pastors. Many of the findings from this phase were conveyed verbally at the SBC annual meeting during the President’s Sexual Abuse Advisory Group report. At the same time, even more detail was released in a written report titled, “Caring Well: A Report from the SBC Sexual Abuse Advisory Group.” In the second phase, a development phase, the ERLC helped produce and house resources and recommendations to equip SBC churches to care for survivors and to prevent abuse. These resources have included a number of articles at erlc.com and caringwell.com; the new, free video-based curriculum, *Becoming a Church that Cares Well for the Abused*; and the Caring Well Challenge, an eight-step, twelve-month process to help churches know they are doing everything they can on the issue. The third phase, an implementation phase, continued through 2019. In this phase, the ERLC focused much of its effort in serving churches as they walk through the first round of the Caring Well Challenge.

Beyond serving the Sexual Abuse Advisory Group, though, the ERLC has focused much additional time and energy on this issue. As merely a few examples, throughout 2019, the ERLC hosted several gatherings and events on this important topic. The ERLC also devoted its largest event of the year, the ERLC National Conference, to focus on this issue. The Caring Well Conference was held October 3–5, 2019 in Grapevine, Texas, and was the largest National Conference to-date in the history of the Commission. Beyond this event, the ERLC will continue to work throughout the upcoming years to keep a denomination-wide focus on this issue to combat the evil of sexual abuse.

2. SBC Referral: To request the Ethics & Religious Liberty Commission study the effects of birth control methods (Items 19 and 60, Proceedings of the Southern Baptist Convention, June 11-12, 2019, *SBC Annual*, p. 58, 63)

Motion: David Haynes, Alabama

“That the Ethics and Religious Liberty Commission study the effects of birth control pills, IUD’s, and other contraceptive devices and methods to see if ‘at any time and any way’ there is the possibility of these taking the life of a conceived child, that the Ethics and Religious Liberty Commission give a report of their findings to the Southern Baptist Convention in Orlando, Florida, in 2020, and that the compilation of studies in Randy Alcorn’s book *Does the Birth Control Pill Cause Abortions?* be used as one of the resources for studying this issue.”

Response: The Ethics & Religious Liberty Commission takes very seriously the concerns raised about the possibility of certain contraceptive methods causing abortions (also known as abortifacients). As an organization tasked with monitoring trends and movements impacting pro-life witness, we are familiar with ongoing debates surrounding various contraceptive devices’ connection with abortion. As an unapologetically pro-life organization committed to advocating for the dignity of unborn children, we are vigilant about providing information on any technology or medical device that would cause an abortion. We are committed to providing resources and equipping individuals and churches to develop a whole-life approach to pro-life advocacy, which includes concerns over methods of contraception that may cause an abortion. At the ERLC website, readers can find numerous resources discussing the concerns associated with unquestioned use of contraception, in addition to resources

discussing whether certain forms of contraception can induce abortion. In Washington, the ERLC team spent several years opposing the Obama Administration's contraceptive mandate, standing with GuideStone and several other Baptist institutions who filed suit to challenge the mandate. Additionally, through event productions and coalition partnerships, the ERLC continues its commitment to awareness on the issue of abortifacient contraceptives. The ERLC is committed to providing further resources equipping Christians to think critically about the impact of contraception on unborn life.

3. SBC Referral: To equip local churches on issues of marriage and sexuality (Items 47 and 79, Proceedings of the Southern Baptist Convention, June 11-12, 2019, *SBC Annual*, p. 61, 80)

Motion: Dau Ayub, Texas

“That, due to the major assault on marriage and family by the normalization and desensitizing of the body of believers towards sexual immorality, common law union and same sex partnerships, and the continuous onslaught on Christian family values, including adoption by the unwed or same sex partnerships, the Southern Baptist Convention increase its efforts to equip the local church in order to minister to these groups, to love them well in Jesus's name calling sin a sin, to lead them to a godly understanding of marriage and family, and to equip the local church to anticipate attacks on the pulpit, to stand with Christ's definition of marriage and family, and to defend proper membership to the churches.”

Response: The Ethics & Religious Liberty Commission wholeheartedly shares the conviction expressed in this motion concerning the importance of teaching the biblical view of marriage and sexuality to a world that is increasingly confused. In marriage, we see a picture of the very mystery that defines the existence of the people of God—the gospel of Jesus Christ. At the same time, allegiance to Christ must include obedience to his commands—including what Scripture says about a biblical sexual ethic. In light of this reality, the ERLC happily devotes significant resources to this matter as one of our primary issues of concern. This ranges from dozens of articles, podcasts, and interviews each year, to covering these issues at conferences, speaking on these issues at churches, events, and interviews with national and international print and television outlets. The Sexual Revolution cannot deliver on its promises, and the ERLC wants to do everything in its power to equip churches to remain faithful to the gospel while at the same time embodying and articulating a biblical vision of marriage to the world around us.

4. SBC Referral: To ask the Executive Committee and Ethics & Religious Liberty Commission to facilitate a healing process for abuse survivors (Items 49 and 79, Proceedings of the Southern Baptist Convention, June 11-12, 2019, *SBC Annual*, p. 61, 80)

Motion: Rebecca Krueger, Alabama

“That, in light of the already active movement to fight for the vulnerable, the Executive Committee and Ethics and Religious Liberty Commission implement for those who have been, are being, and will be abused (all ages-including sexually, physically, emotionally, and spiritually) a process and clear path to receive training to counsel, that wisdom outside the walls of the convention be sought as to the psychological effects of abuse, and that professional recommendations be returned to the convention with biblical, clear, focused, actionable steps toward healing for those fighting for healing from horrific abuse so that we can move forward to minister to others affected.”

Response: The Ethics & Religious Liberty Commission recognizes that the psychological effects of abuse are severe, long-term, and in many cases requires care and treatment from trained professionals. Over the last year, the ERLC has served the Sexual Abuse Advisory Group, which has involved a range of professionals—including psychologists and counselors with experience working with trauma—to develop resources for churches, state and national entities, and seminaries. This work has included the curriculum titled *Becoming a Church that Cares Well for the Abused*, which will be used and implemented widely among Southern Baptist churches and cooperative entities. This group of experts continues to provide advice to the Sexual Abuse Advisory Group moving forward.

The Sexual Abuse Advisory Group continues to explore strategies to ensure that care and healing is available to all survivors of abuse and that those who will be providing biblical counseling and care are trained and equipped for the task. This includes providing training and resources for existing counselors and professionals, providing resources to those entities tasked with training new counselors, and exploring models for providing counseling to survivors through national, state, and local entities.

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LINDA COOPER, President
SANDRA WISDOM-MARTIN, Executive Director/Treasurer

Introduction

Making disciples of Jesus who live on mission is the focus of WMU[®]. This passion and purpose of WMU 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 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.
- 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. Avenues for missions involvement include missions discipleship, leadership development, and compassion ministries. Through these three areas collectively, WMU had ministry touchpoints this year in 39 countries.

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. WMU created and distributed 11 subscription items, including periodicals and resource kits. Ongoing missions discipleship through WMU develops believers who understand God's mission in the world, leading to engaged Christians who are passionate about sharing the love of Christ with others.

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
- Adults on MissionSM for men and women

Mission Boards

Participants in WMU missions groups learn about North American and international missionaries and their work and readily support them through prayer and giving to the missions offerings.

In 2018*, WMU helped raise \$157.3 million—the third-highest total in the offering’s 130-year history—for the Lottie Moon Christmas Offering[®] for International Missions. Since initiating the first offering in 1888, WMU has helped raise more than \$4.7 billion through this effort. The offering represents more than half of IMB’s total annual support. Every penny given to the offering goes directly to support missionaries, including housing, training, healthcare, and more.

In 2019, WMU helped raise \$61.4 million—the highest total in the offering’s history—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 \$1.9 billion through 2019. All of the funds raised through this offering go directly to NAMB to support field personnel and supplies nearly half of their total annual revenue.

Additionally, national WMU awards a variety of scholarships each year to children of Southern Baptist missionaries 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 magazines and products, and from investments and charitable contributions.

*Final 2019 totals for the Lottie Moon Christmas Offering were not available at time of print.

Missionary Housing

WMU administers housing for Southern Baptist missionaries while they are on stateside assignment. We maintain a database of more than 600 houses made available by churches, associations, and individuals and make this information available to missionaries on a secure website.

LEADERSHIP DEVELOPMENT

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 WMU’s Christian Women’s Leadership Center (CWLC), women from all over the world enrolled in our online courses this year. These courses include stand-alone enrichment classes to a full leadership certificate program comprised of nine courses that require approximately 150 hours of coursework. Additional components of CWLC include helpful blogs, monthly luncheons, and college internships.

COMPASSION MINISTRIES

Pure Water, Pure Love

WMU awarded grants to supply clean water resources in Cuba, Kenya, Sierra Leone, Thailand, and Uganda, among others, in 2019. In addition, more than 1,000 filters were given to International Mission Board personnel and missions teams through Pure Water, Pure LoveSM.

Christian Women's Job Corps/Christian Men's Job Corps

Through this ministry, thousands of participants gained life and job skills in a Christian context through nearly 200 registered CWJC® and CMJCSM sites around 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.

WorldCrafts

Since 1996, we have worked to develop sustainable, fair-trade businesses among impoverished people around the world through WorldCraftsSM. This ministry now works with nearly 60 artisan groups in more than 20 countries to bring their products to market and provide income with dignity.

Our artisan groups seek to meet the physical, emotional, and spiritual needs of their workers. Men and women receive job training and enjoy comfort, camaraderie, friendship, and purpose. Some women find a safe haven and receive counseling as they leave the sex industry. Individuals and families discover abundant life and see that life lived out in front of them. WorldCrafts abides by and requires all partnering artisan groups to abide by Fair Trade Federation guidelines, ensuring artisans receive fair wages and the goods purchased were produced in an ethical and environmentally-friendly manner.

Baptist Nursing Fellowship

WMU provides administrative support for national Baptist Nursing FellowshipSM. WMU facilitates ongoing communication as well as a national event for this group of healthcare professionals.

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. They leave behind their entire way of life and face the daily realities 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 twice in 2019 to conduct the business of the organization. These meetings took place January 12–14 and June 9–10 in Birmingham, Alabama.



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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.
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 Nomination's 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 at any time except during the last session of the Convention. Bylaw 14, which lists the entities and auxiliary of the Convention, may be amended 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 reasonable 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 206 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

of the Southern Baptist Convention

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.

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.

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. 47-49.

LIFEWAY CHRISTIAN RESOURCES
of the Southern Baptist Convention

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
of the Southern Baptist Convention

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

of the Southern Baptist Convention

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

of the Southern Baptist Convention

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
of the Southern Baptist Convention

MISSION

The Executive Committee exists to minister to the churches of the Southern Baptist Convention by acting for the Convention ad interim in all matters not otherwise provided for in a manner that encourages the cooperation and confidence of the churches, associations, and state conventions and facilitates maximum support for worldwide missions and ministries.

MINISTRIES

1. Assist churches through conducting and administering the work of the Convention not otherwise assigned.

Manage according to the Southern Baptist Convention Bylaws, Bylaw 18, The Executive Committee; manage the operation of the Southern Baptist Convention Building according to guidelines adopted by building occupants.

2. Assist churches by providing a Convention news service.

Provide regular news releases about Southern Baptists; serve as the Convention's press representative; coordinate news operations for annual meetings of the Southern Baptist Convention.

3. Assist churches by providing a Convention public relations service.

Interpret the Southern Baptist Convention to internal and external publics.

4. Assist churches, Baptist general bodies and their entities, and other evangelical organizations and individuals through estate planning consultation and investment management primarily for funds providing support for Southern Baptist causes.

Encourage and consult with Baptist general bodies and their entities, and other evangelical organizations and individuals, regarding wills, gifts, trusts, or deeds which benefit Baptist or other evangelical causes; and provide investment management for a balanced portfolio of securities.

5. Assist churches through the promotion of cooperative giving.

Consult with state conventions and Southern Baptist Convention entities regarding cooperative giving advancement; interpret the Cooperative Program as the basic channel of support for the ministries of the state conventions and the Southern Baptist Convention.

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.

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.

**Southern Baptist Convention 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.

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.

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.

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

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 1:18; 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 www.sbc.net.

