

The Tennessee Baptist Convention
BOOK OF REPORTS 2020



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2020. It will not be a year soon forgotten. I have a feeling that for the rest of our lives we might reference this year with, “Remember back in 2020?”

However, God is on the throne and His work continues through the work of our 3,000 churches scattered through the great state of Tennessee and the work of the Tennessee Baptist Convention. I am so grateful for the faithful leadership of Dr. Randy Davis and the entire ministry team of TBMB. They have kept things on track and moving in the right direction. This year we celebrated Dr. Davis’ 10th anniversary as the Executive Director of Tennessee Baptists and I am convinced that God placed Dr. Davis here for such a time as this. His calming spirit, his Christ-like demeanor, and his Spirit-led devotion have all helped lead us through a challenging time.

In spite of COVID-19, our goals have not changed. We still have five clear objectives that remain our focus for the years ahead. Your faithful giving through the Cooperative Program and the Golden Offering for Tennessee Missions will allow us to continue moving forward to:

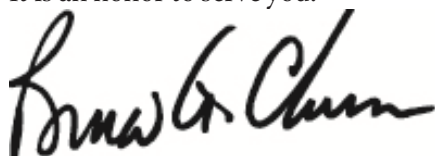
- See at least 50,000 Tennesseans annually saved, baptized, and set on the road to discipleship by 2024.
- Have at least 500 Tennessee Baptist churches revitalized by 2024.
- Plant and strategically engage at least 1,000 new churches by 2024.
- Realize an increase in annual local church giving through the Cooperative Program that reaches at least 10% by 2024.
- Realize an increase in annual giving for the Golden Offering for Tennessee Missions that reaches at least \$3 million by 2024. (By the way, we set a new record for giving to the Golden Offering for Tennessee Missions of almost \$2 million this year!)

As you well know, we were not able to have our annual Summit gathering of Tennessee Baptists this year. However, we have moved everything back one year and, Lord willing, we will meet in Brentwood in November 2021.

It has been my honor to serve as the President of the Tennessee Baptist Convention this year and, because of COVID-19, it will be my honor to serve you for another year. If I can help you, or your church, in any way, please do not hesitate to call on me.

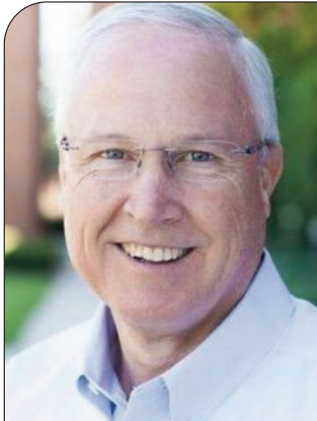
In closing, let me remind you that even though these have been frightening and unnerving days in many ways, they are also exciting days. We have an opportunity before us to refocus and sharpen our ministries. We have an opportunity to bring hope and purpose into the lives of men and women across Tennessee through the powerful name of Jesus. A lot has changed in the past 9 months, but one thing that has not changed is that Jesus is still Lord. Let us recommit our lives, our churches, our all to serve Him during these days.

It is an honor to serve you.



Bruce G. Chesser
2019-2021 President
The Tennessee Baptist Convention

Convention Officers



President
Bruce Chesser



Vice President
Chuck Groover



Second Vice President
Corey Cain



Treasurer
Randy C. Davis

Committee on Arrangements

(Committee on Order of Business)

Tiger Brooks, Chair
Robert Irvin, Vice Chair
Mark Bass
Christy Carter
Diana Chandler
Samuel Cox
Matt Davis
Beth Eichhorn
Travis Fleming
Grant Gaines
Dennis Jones
Robbie Leach
Dwayne Moore
Jeff Williamson
Jeremy Wright
Bruce Chesser

**Proceedings of the ad hoc Body composed of
TBC Officers, TBC Committee on Arrangements, and TBMB Board of Directors
THURSDAY MORNING
August 27, 2020**

1. **Historical Record.** For historicity, the following record is to be included in the Tennessee Baptist Convention 2020 Journal. *Journal 2020*
2. **Composition and Attendance.** On Thursday, August 27, 2020, an ad hoc Body comprised of TBC Officers, TBC Committee on Arrangements, and TBMB Board of Directors met virtually. There were 90 members present and 27 absent of the potential 117 members of this ad hoc Body. Outside Legal Counsel for the Convention, Jim Guenther; and TBMB Executive Leadership staff were also in attendance. *Composition & Attendance*
3. **Organizational Authority.** Authority for the meeting is found on Convention Bylaw I. B. that states, “The Convention’s officers, the directors of TBMB, and members of the Committee on Arrangements acting as a body may, in case of grave emergency, change the place and time of an annual meeting of the Convention.” Members of this body had no questions or contestations related to the authority of the ad hoc Body. *Authority*
4. **Meeting Leadership.** The meeting was moderated by Bruce Chesser, TBC President 2019-2020. Clay Hallmark, TBMB Chair 2019-2020; Randy Davis, TBMB President and Executive Director; and Tiger Brooks, TBC Committee on Arrangements Chair, 2019-2020 voiced their understanding, along with Chesser, that it was prudent – while painful to all and unpopular to some – to cancel the 2020 annual meeting of the Convention. *Leadership*
5. **Voting Process.** Ad hoc Body members were polled virtually via Zoom by selecting their choice of vote when the electronic ballot appeared on their device’s screen. Those attending via phone were called by name to cast a voice vote. Votes were tallied and final count by category (“yes,” “no,” or “abstain”) was announced after each vote. *Voting Process*
6. **Grave Emergency.** The United States Centers for Disease Control (CDC) issued in March 2020 information to clarify that the Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19) is thought to spread mainly from person-to-person (between people who are in close contact with one another – within about 6 feet; through respiratory droplets produced when an infected person coughs or sneezes); people are thought to be most contagious when they are most symptomatic but some spread might be possible before people show symptoms (fever, cough, shortness of breath, loss of taste and smell); spread may also happen through touching a surface or object that has the virus on it and then touching one’s own mouth, nose, or eyes. CDC has highlighted that older adults and people who have serious underlying medical conditions like heart disease, diabetes, and lung disease may be at a higher risk of getting very sick and dying from the COVID-19 illness. *Grave Emergency – COVID-19*
7. **Committee on Arrangements Recommendation.** The Committee on Arrangements had met on Thursday, August 20, 2020 and adopted for recommendation to this ad hoc Body five distinct but correlated motions. These motions were considered as taken on the best advice of health-care experts and consistent with suggestions from the Governor of Tennessee and the national Centers for Disease Control. Such actions were intended to protect the health and safety of messengers who might attend and the witness of Tennessee Baptists in the state and local communities. Action on the first item would trigger action on the subsequent four items for consideration by the ad hoc Body. *Committee on Arrangements – Recommendation*

8. **Rationale.** The following data points were presented as rationale for the recommendation to indefinitely postpone the 2020 annual meeting of the Convention:

- “A. The threat to the health of individuals physically gathering in such a meeting will not appreciably be lessened between September and November. In fact, there is a greater chance that the threat will increase over the next several months.
- B. Medical opinions sought from several of the state’s leading epidemiology experts were all in agreement that hosting such an in-person meeting in November would not be wise and would create a danger to all participants. These experts include:
 - 1) Buddy Creech, MD, MPH, Director, Vanderbilt Vaccine Research Program – “I would not advocate for a meeting that size (1,000 people) regardless of the venue. It’s just too difficult to move people in and out and then distance them while inside.”
 - 2) Leslie Waller, Epidemiologist, Metro Public Health Department – “I simply would not recommend an in-person meeting, especially one that large. . . It would be very unfortunate for some from rural regions to get infected and take it home to a place that has relatively low COVID rates, but also where there are fewer hospitals and emergency services and higher rates of chronic diseases like hypertension and diabetes. . .”
- C. A survey of pastors and 2019 messengers revealed a willingness to attend the 2020 Summit (41.5% very likely, 20.9% somewhat likely), but comments expressed a high degree of concern and caution about attending. There was a high expectation that strict social distancing and face masking be observed, although 9% would not attend if required to wear a mask.
- D. The survey also indicated that a reduction in church budgets and financial considerations were a significant inhibitor to attendance.
- E. The necessary social distancing and safety guidelines, as suggested by the Governor’s office and Centers for Disease Control, to conduct the meeting would be so oppressive and disruptive that the very nature of Summit would be severely limited. There could be no exhibit hall, no meal events, and masks would have to be worn. The overriding concern would be healthy protocols rather than worship and celebrating what the Lord has done.
- F. Since participants would represent 300 – 400 churches from across the state, the event could be a trigger for hotspots in over 300 different Tennessee communities.
- G. There is no business of the Convention, that could not otherwise be handled, significant enough to create the risk among messengers, churches, and their communities.
- H. There would be extreme risk to the credibility and witness of Baptist Churches in their local communities should Summit generate even a minor outbreak.”

9. **Consideration and Action.** Discussion was encouraged, and all raised questions were answered. Adopted motions were:

- a. **Indefinite Postponement of Convention Annual Meeting** – During discussion, Josh Franks, TBMB Director, asked if there was historical precedence for such action. Davis replied that, as far as it could be assessed, there has not been a cancellation of an annual meeting of the Convention before. Recommendation was adopted by 84 votes in favor, one against, no abstentions.

*Indefinite Postponement of
Convention Annual Meeting*

“That, in recognition that the COVID-19 pandemic has created a grave emergency in the state of Tennessee and in particular middle Tennessee - planned site of the 2020 annual meeting of The Tennessee Baptist Convention (Convention), the officers of the Convention, members of the Committee on Arrangements, and directors of Tennessee Baptist Mission Board (TBMB) acting as a body authorize the indefinite postponement (cancellation) of the 2020 annual meeting of the Tennessee Baptist Convention and associated events and activities, commonly known as Summit: An Annual Gathering of Tennessee Baptists.”

- b. **Rescheduling Future Annual Meetings** – The following reasons were introduced for shifting the locations of all future annual meetings with locations previously determined by the Convention: (a) To honor the tradition of the Convention President presiding during the meeting held in the grand region in which he serves; (b) To not skip a region in the rotation; and (c) To realign the locations to where the 150th anniversary (2024) falls in Murfreesboro, Middle TN, which is where the first meeting of the Convention was held.

*Rescheduling Future Annual
Meetings*

During discussion, Todd Haley, TBMB Director, noted that some people might have started preparations for attendance based on locations as currently approved. Davis clarified that not much administrative logistical preparation has gone into future annual meetings at this point and that rescheduling would not be a hindrance.

Recommendation was adopted by 81 votes in favor, two votes against, and one abstention.

“That future annual meetings that have been approved by messengers be rescheduled as follows:

- a. The 2021 annual meeting of the Convention scheduled for Bellevue Baptist Church, Cordova, TN, November 9-10, 2021, be rescheduled for the same dates at Brentwood Baptist Church, Brentwood, TN, using the previously approved Convention Sermon speaker and alternate.
- b. The 2022 annual meeting of the Convention scheduled for the Chattanooga Convention Center, Chattanooga, TN, November 15-16, 2022, be rescheduled for the same dates at Bellevue Baptist Church, Cordova, TN.
- c. The 2023 annual meeting of the Convention scheduled for West Jackson Baptist Church, Jackson, TN, November 14-15, 2023, be rescheduled for the same dates at Chattanooga Convention Center, Chattanooga, TN.
- d. The 2024 annual meeting of the Convention scheduled for Murfreesboro, TN, November 12-13, as the 150th anniversary of the Convention remain on these same dates and location.”

- c. **Scheduling 2025 Annual Meeting** – The next annual meeting location for approval by the Convention would have been the location for 2025. To maintain the approvals timely, this item was brought before the ad hoc Body for action. Recommendation was adopted by 84 votes in favor, none opposed, and one abstention.

Scheduling 2025 Annual Meeting

“That the 2025 annual meeting of the Convention be held at West Jackson Baptist Church, Jackson, TN, November 11-12, 2025.”

- d. **Authorization for Virtual Gathering** – If adopted, this motion would authorize TBMB staff to produce a virtual event that provides encouragement, inspiration, and information to TBC churches in lieu of the traditional in-person Summit. Cal Hampton, TBMB Director, asked if the Pastors Conference would take place virtually. Corey Cain, Pastors Conference President 2019-2020 clarified that the event was moved to 2021 in the traditional in-person format. Recommendation was adopted by 85 votes in favor, no opposition, and no abstention.

Authorization for Virtual Gathering

“That TBMB staff be authorized to plan and implement a virtual gathering of Tennessee Baptists for Tuesday, November 10, 2020, that will provide information on the work of the Convention to Tennessee Baptists and celebrate the work of the Lord during the year of 2020.”

- e. **Authorization for TBMB Directors to conduct Convention business** – If the annual meeting of the Convention is not held, the Convention Constitution Article VII prescribes that “Tennessee Baptist Mission Board, a corporation, shall have charge of all the educational, missionary, benevolent, and other interests of the Convention. During the interim, between meetings of the Convention, TBMB shall have all the powers of the Convention except as limited by this constitution, the bylaws of the Convention, and specific action taken by the Convention in session.”

Authorization for TBMB Directors to conduct Convention business

Specifically, TBMB Directors can handle the following annual meeting business on behalf of the Convention:

--TBMB Directors can handle

- (a) Adopt the Cooperative Program Allocation Budget (derived from Constitution Article VII, and Business and Financial Plan Article III).
- (b) Appoint trustees to Convention institutions (permitted by Convention bylaw VII. J, TBMB Bylaws 1.3, and Tennessee Nonprofit Corporation Act).
- (c) Elect committee members to TBC Committees (permitted by Convention bylaw IV. J).

On the other hand, TBMB Directors cannot handle the following business for the noted reasons:

--TBMB Directors cannot handle

- (a) Election of Convention Officers – The current officers will continue until such time as messengers to the annual meeting of the Convention can meet and elect new officers.
- (b) Appointment of Directors to TBMB – This is prohibited in both the Convention bylaws and TBMB bylaws. The Tennessee Nonprofit Corporation Act holds that the existing directors continue in place until new directors are properly appointed.
- (c) Amendments to the TBC Constitution and Bylaws – The Committee on Constitution and Bylaws is working on needed modifications to the governing documents but will hold those until such time as messengers to the annual meeting of the Convention can meet and act on any amendments.
- (d) Adoption of resolutions – TBMB Directors could prepare and adopt their own resolutions, but they would be just that, TBMB resolutions. They could not adopt them on behalf of the Convention.

During discussion, Tim Frank, TBMB Director, asked if there would be opportunity for Tennessee Baptists to offer questions and alternatives to items being handled by TBMB. William Maxwell, TBMB Administrative Director, noted that the Cooperative Program Allocation budget and the reports from the Convention Committee on Boards and Committee on Committees will be timely published in the *Baptist and Reflector* as required by Convention bylaws. Davis reassured all that Tennessee Baptists could send in any questions, comments, and concerns, which would be followed up accordingly.

Todd Haley, TBMB Director, inquired if this authorization under consideration is necessary, from a legal standpoint. Guenther interjected that this is not a matter of TBMB giving itself authority to act but of this ad hoc Body recognizing that TBMB's authority to act as the Convention ad interim has already been given pursuant to the Convention constitution and bylaws.

Martha Pitts, TBMB Director, asked whether the committee appointments would stay the same. Chesser reminded all that TBMB will vote on the reports of the Convention Committee on Boards and Committee on Committees with the exception of appointing TBMB Directors. Maxwell clarified that, after this meeting, the 13 TBMB Directors due to rotate off in 2020 will be contacted. If not willing to serve for another year, they will need to resign, and respective positions will be vacant. So, as far as TBMB committees are concerned, their composition will remain, in essence, the same.

Recommendation was adopted by 83 votes in favor, no opposition, and one abstention.

“That TBMB Directors acting as a body and the Convention ad interim, take actions necessary and permitted by the Convention Constitution and Bylaws, for the work of the Convention to continue through 2021 unhindered. Specifically, to consider and act on the Cooperative Program Allocation Budget for 2020-2021, report of the Committee on Committees, and report of the Committee on Boards (with the exception of appointing directors to TBMB), and any other actions deemed necessary.”

10. **Adjournment.** Meeting was adjourned at 11:10 a.m. with prayer by Glenn Metts, TBMB Board Chair-Elect 2019-2020.

By



Means

1 Cor. 9:22

WIN



To the
WEAK
I became as
WEAK
that I might win the
WEAK

I have become
things
to **ALL** men,
that I might
BY ALL
MEANS
save some.



SUMMIT
THE GATHERING OF TENNESSEE BAPTISTS

CONSTITUTION and BYLAWS

Revised November 15, 2017

CONSTITUTION

Article I. THE NAME

The name of this body is “The Tennessee Baptist Convention,” hereinafter “the Convention.”

Article II. COMPOSITION

The meetings of the Convention shall be composed of messengers who are members of cooperating Baptist churches. Cooperating Baptist churches are those that contribute financially through the Cooperative Program of the Convention in the fiscal year immediately preceding the annual meeting of the Convention and subscribe to and support the principles, programs, and policies of the Convention. Each cooperating Baptist church shall be entitled to two messengers. A messenger shall be a member of the church by which he or she is elected. Each cooperating Baptist church shall also be entitled to one messenger for each one hundred members or fraction thereof beyond the first one hundred, subject to a maximum of ten messengers from any one church.

Article III. PURPOSE

The mission of the Convention is to fulfill the Great Commission by assisting, encouraging, and strengthening affiliated churches to reach the evangelistic, educational, missionary, benevolent, and other ministry goals in a cooperative relationship with the Southern Baptist Convention.

Article IV. LIMITATION

The Convention shall have no ecclesiastical jurisdiction over the churches or associations cooperating with and contributing to the objects of the Convention; nor shall it act as advisory counsel in case of differences between the churches or associations; nor shall it interfere with the constitution of any church or association.

Article V. MEETINGS

The Convention shall meet annually, unless providentially hindered, for the purposes of corporate worship, conducting the business of the Convention, electing leadership for Convention ministries and other purposes. Special meetings of the Convention may occur when properly called as described in Bylaw I.

Article VI. OFFICERS

The officers of the Convention shall be a president, a vice president, a second vice president, and a treasurer.

CONSTITUTION and BYLAWS**Article VII. TENNESSEE BAPTIST MISSION BOARD (TBMB)**

Tennessee Baptist Mission Board, a corporation, shall have charge of all the educational, missionary, benevolent, and other interests of the Convention. During the interim, between meetings of the Convention, TBMB shall have all the powers of the Convention except as limited by this constitution, the bylaws of the Convention, and specific action taken by the Convention in session.

Article VIII. BYLAWS

The Convention may adopt such bylaws, not in conflict with this constitution, as it deems advisable, provided that any proposed amendment shall be processed in accordance with provisions contained by Bylaw IX.

Article IX. AMENDMENTS

- A. This constitution, except Article IV which remains forever intact, may be amended at any annual meeting of the Convention by a vote of two thirds of the messengers present and voting provided:
 - 1. that any proposed amendment not originating with the Committee on Constitution and Bylaws shall have been submitted in writing to the Committee on Constitution and Bylaws by a member of a cooperating Baptist church at least ninety days prior to the annual meeting at which it is to be presented;
 - 2. that any such proposed amendment, and any proposed amendment originating with the Committee on Constitution and Bylaws, shall be published by the committee in the *Baptist & Reflector* at least sixty days prior to the annual meeting at which it is to be presented, and such proposed amendment shall also be printed in the *Book of Reports* for that annual meeting, but the proposed amendment must be offered as a motion at the annual meeting by a messenger or the committee on the first day of the annual meeting;
 - 3. that any such amendment must be considered for vote on the second day of the annual meeting;
 - 4. that any amendment shall be approved by the messengers to the annual meeting at which it is presented and by the messengers at the next annual meeting.
- B. The ninety-day notification requirement may be waived by an eighty percent vote of the messengers, present and voting.
- C. The Committee on Constitution and Bylaws may communicate with anyone submitting an amendment, suggesting ways to improve the language before it is published. The committee may make recommendations to the messengers concerning amendments proposed by messengers.

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BYLAWS

Bylaw I. CONVENTION MEETINGS

- A. Messengers to the annual meeting of the Convention shall determine the time and place of future annual meetings.
- B. The Convention's officers, the directors of TBMB, and members of the Committee on Arrangements acting as a body may, in case of grave emergency, change the place and time of an annual meeting of the Convention.
- C. Special meetings of the Convention may be called at any time by action of TBMB; or by the president of the Convention with the concurrence in writing of not less than fifteen percent of the cooperating Baptist churches as shown by the last annual report, at least three percent of which shall be located in each grand region of the state, as defined by TBMB. The call for any special meeting shall state the business to come before the Convention and only such business shall be acted upon. Notice of any special meetings shall be given at least thirty days prior thereto by publication in the *Baptist & Reflector* and in such other ways as TBMB may direct.
- D. Special meetings of the Convention shall follow the same procedure and standing rules of the annual meetings as described in Bylaw III, with the exception of any rule requiring a presentation or vote during a certain session, preceding another presentation or vote, or subsequent to another presentation or vote.

Bylaw II. CONVENTION OFFICERS

A. Election

1. Officers shall be resident members of cooperating Baptist churches.
2. The officers with the exception of the treasurer shall be elected annually and shall take office immediately preceding adjournment of the annual meeting at which elected and shall hold office until immediately preceding the adjournment of the next annual meeting.
3. The officers shall be elected by a majority of votes cast. If no person receives majority, a runoff shall be held between nominees receiving the two highest vote totals. Where more than one person is nominated for an office, election shall be by ballot.

B. Duties

1. The president shall preside over all sessions of the annual meeting; shall serve as an *ex officio* member of all committees, a director of TBMB, and a trustee of Convention institutions with a voice and vote in the proceedings of such committees and TBMB; and shall perform such other duties as the president may be charged with by the Convention.
2. The vice president and the second vice president shall discharge such duties of the president as requested by the president. In case of death, incapacity, resignation, or other cause making necessary the retirement of the president, the vice presidents shall succeed in order. TBMB shall determine when an office is vacant due to the incapacity of an incumbent to serve.
3. The executive director-treasurer of TBMB shall be the treasurer of the Convention. The treasurer shall discharge such customary duties and functions as may be assigned to the position by the Convention or its president. In addition, the treasurer is charged with the following specific responsibilities:
 - a. ensuring arrangements for the efficient and accurate registration of messengers attending the annual meeting;
 - b. ensuring that accurate records of the proceedings of the annual meeting are collected, maintained, and published for use into perpetuity; and,

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- c. ensuring that statistical records of cooperating Baptist churches are collected, maintained, and published for use into perpetuity.

The treasurer may appoint individuals or staff of TBMB to carry out these specific duties. The treasurer shall serve as staff to all committees and board of directors for TBMB, and as *ex officio* trustee of all Convention institutions.

Bylaw III. PROCEDURE OF THE ANNUAL MEETING**A. Quorum and Agenda**

1. The annual meeting shall be called to order by the president and, after prayer, the messengers to the annual meeting shall hear the preliminary report of the Committee on Credentials as to the number of messengers present. A quorum shall consist of messengers from no fewer than fifty-four of the cooperating Baptist churches as shown by the report of the preceding Convention year, at least seventeen of which shall be located in each grand region of the state.
2. If a quorum is present, the messengers to the annual meeting shall then hear and act upon the report of the Committee on Arrangements and shall thereafter proceed in accordance with such agenda as adopted consistent with the constitution and these bylaws. If a quorum is not present, the annual meeting shall be suspended until a quorum is reached.

B. Parliamentary Authority

1. Parliamentary procedure shall be in accordance with *Robert's Rules of Order* (latest revised edition) where these bylaws do not provide a defined procedure.
2. Standing Rules
 - a. All messengers who participate in the business sessions of the annual meeting shall conduct themselves in keeping with the stated purposes in the constitution of the Convention.
 - b. In order to obtain the floor, each messenger shall approach a microphone and, when acknowledged by the presiding officer, shall address the presiding officer, give his or her name and church, and state the general nature of his or her reason for wishing to be recognized – (For example, stating whether he or she wishes to speak for or against the pending item, asking a question, raising procedural issues, or introducing an item of business). The messenger shall then wait to be recognized by the presiding officer.
 - c. All motions and resolutions shall be submitted to the recording secretary in writing and shall include the name, address, church, contact phone number during the annual meeting, and legible signature of the messenger making the motion. The messenger may appear before the committee to which the motion is referred to provide supplemental information and shall be available as deemed necessary by the committee.
 - d. The presiding officer shall recognize messengers wishing to speak to each side of the question alternately.
 - e. Discussion, debate, and nominating speeches shall be limited to three minutes for each speaker.
 - f. No messenger shall speak more than once on the same question until all have spoken who wish to do so.
 - g. All motions duly made and seconded which are unrelated to business scheduled under the agenda shall be referred to the Committee on Arrangements to be scheduled for consideration no earlier than the second day of the annual meeting unless otherwise required by the bylaws. All such motions shall be brought back to the body for consideration. Motions introduced during the final session of the annual meeting which

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are unrelated to business under the agenda shall be considered only if the messengers give their consent by an eighty percent affirmative vote taken without debate.

C. Appeal Decision of Chair

Any decision of the Chair may be appealed to the messengers and changed, reversed, or modified by a two-thirds vote of the messengers present and voting.

D. Votes by Ballot

1. All votes on major policies and the creating or discontinuing of relationships with Convention institutions shall be taken by secret ballot.
2. Only ballots provided by registration containing the ballot number to be cast, as announced by the Committee on Credentials, and that contain a discernable preference shall be included in the total count of votes cast on any issue or election. All other ballots cast will be set aside and not included in the total.
3. Vote totals shall be revealed by the presiding officer upon request of the messengers.
4. Replacement ballots will not be issued.

E. Program Resource

Program leaders of all Convention and TBMB programs shall be authorized to serve as resource persons for discussion of those matters which affect their areas of program responsibility.

F. Resolutions

1. Resolutions are written statements of opinion, encouragement, or call to action that may be considered by messengers to the annual meeting. The statements are non-binding on messengers and cooperating Baptist churches. They are considered to be the opinion of a majority of the messengers participating in the annual meeting at the time the resolution is considered.
2. All resolutions presented to the messengers should contribute to the mission and vision of the Convention, promote Kingdom principles or activities, or encourage cooperating Baptist churches in Great Commission work.
3. Members of cooperating Baptist churches may submit proposed resolutions to the Committee on Resolutions at least twenty-one days prior to the annual meeting. Submitted resolutions must indicate the submitter's name and the church of which he or she is a member. For a resolution to be considered, a messenger must present the submitted resolution or a proposed resolution which was not submitted in advance during the first day of the annual meeting. When presenting a resolution, the messenger shall only state the messenger's name, the name of the messenger's church, and the title of the resolution. The messenger shall then provide the recording secretary the full resolution in writing.
4. The Committee on Resolutions is permitted to present a resolution directly from the committee without its having been proposed on the floor of the annual meeting.
5. The Committee on Resolutions shall consider every resolution presented at the annual meeting. The committee's task shall be to recommend the adoption of resolutions by the messengers which are in conformity with paragraph 2 herein, after considering the totality of the resolutions presented and the resolutions prepared at the initiative of the committee.
6. Only resolutions recommended by the Committee on Resolutions for adoption shall be considered by the messengers, unless a messenger who presented a resolution on a subject which was not addressed in a resolution recommended to the messengers for adoption makes

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a motion at the time of the committee's report to have his or her resolution considered by the messengers and the motion is seconded and the messengers adopt the motion by a two-thirds vote of the messengers voting.

G. Motions to Amend Committee on Boards' and Committee on Committees' Reports

1. Motions to amend a Committee on Boards' report or Committee on Committees' report may be accomplished by doing the following:
 - a. Members of cooperating Baptist churches wishing to amend the Committee on Boards' report or Committee on Committees' report, as published by those committees in accordance with Bylaws IV. L. 3. g. and IV. L. 4. e. respectively, are requested, as an act of courtesy, to notify the committee at least twenty-one days prior to the first day of the annual meeting. This will allow the committee to properly consider the request to amend, have time to notify the affected Convention institution and nominee, and republish its report with any changes on the first day of the annual meeting.
 - b. The reports of the Committee on Boards and of the Committee on Committees shall be presented for consideration prior to the first miscellaneous business session on the first day of the annual meeting.
 - c. A messenger may make a motion to amend a committee's report during the time at which the report is presented or during the first miscellaneous business session on the first day of the annual meeting. A motion to amend may address only one person at a time for consideration.
2. Once the committee's report has been adopted by the messengers, with any amendments, it shall constitute election by the Convention.

Bylaw IV. STANDING COMMITTEES**A. Identification**

The following shall be the standing committees of the Convention:

1. Committee on Arrangements
2. Committee on Audits
3. Committee on Boards
4. Committee on Committees
5. Committee on Constitution and Bylaws
6. Committee on Credentials
7. Committee on Resolutions
8. Historical Committee

B. Nominations

1. The Committee on Committees shall nominate persons for election to membership on all standing committees except the Committee on Committees within the parameters of this bylaw.
2. The Committee on Committees shall nominate a temporary chair of any new standing committee to serve until the committee elects a chair.
3. The Committee on Boards shall nominate persons for election to membership on the Committee on Committees.
4. Nominations will be made to the messengers in the form of a report during the annual meeting.
5. Once the committee's report has been adopted by the messengers, with any amendments, it shall constitute election by the Convention.

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C. Composition

1. Each of the standing committees shall be composed of fifteen positions plus the Convention's president.
2. Members of standing committees shall be resident members of cooperating Baptist churches, located in the respective grand region of their position.

D. Distribution Between Grand Regions in the State

One third of the positions on each standing committee should be occupied by members from each of the three grand regions.

E. Election and Term of Service

1. The Convention shall elect members to standing committees at the annual meeting of the Convention for terms of three years.
2. A standing committee's elected member's term of service shall begin and end upon adjournment of the annual meeting.
3. The goal shall be to divide the positions into three groups of five each so that the terms of one third of the committee expire each year.

F. Succession

1. A member of a standing committee may serve one full term and shall not be eligible for election to any standing committee, as trustee of a Convention institution, or as director of TBMB until having been out of such position one Convention year.
2. A member serving on either the Committee on Committees or the Committee on Boards shall not be eligible for election to either the Committee on Committees or the Committee on Boards until having been out of that position four Convention years.
3. A member of a standing committee who has completed an unexpired term is eligible to be nominated for election and serve a full term without a waiting period.

G. Change of Residence

Any member of a standing committee who changes residence from the grand region of the state in which such member resided at the time of election may continue to serve through the remainder of his or her term. The position will remain with the grand region from which the committee member was originally elected.

H. Disqualification

1. Members of standing committees may not be regular employees of TBMB or of a Convention institution supported with Cooperative Program funds.
2. An individual may not serve simultaneously on more than one Convention standing committee, as a trustee of a Convention institution receiving Cooperative Program funds, or as a director of TBMB. This restriction shall not limit service on special committees.
3. No person shall be eligible for election to membership on a standing committee if such election would result in more than one member of the same church serving as members on the same committee at the same time.

I. Removal

1. The Convention may, by a two-thirds vote of the messengers, remove a member of a standing committee without cause and elect a successor to fill the unexpired term.

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2. Messengers to the annual or called meeting may not, by a single vote, declare the position of more than one committee member vacant.

J. Vacancies

Vacancies occurring on a standing committee between meetings of the Convention caused by death, resignation, moving from the state, or for reasons of a similar nature, may be filled by TBMB upon the recommendation of the Committee on Committees.

K. Committee Officers

1. Each committee is authorized to elect its own officers and will, at its last meeting before the annual meeting, elect a chair for the next year. Such chair, or temporary chair of new standing committees, in consultation with the executive director-treasurer, shall call a meeting of the committee at the earliest practical date.
2. If a vacancy occurs in the office of the chair or any other committee office after the organizational meeting, the committee is authorized to elect a replacement from its membership.

L. Duties**1. Committee on Arrangements**

- a. Prepare the order of business (agenda) for and serve as the Committee on Order of Business during the annual meeting and any called meetings of the Convention.
- b. Arrange for the speakers, music leadership, musical guests, and special events on the agenda.
- c. Consult with the annual meeting host pastor and committees.
- d. Recommend to the messengers the preacher and alternate preacher, when the committee desires to have a Convention sermon on the agenda for the annual or called meeting.
- e. Recommend to the messengers the time and place of the annual meeting approximately five years in advance.

2. Committee on Audits

- a. Examine all audits of TBMB and Convention institutions.
- b. Report on this examination early in each annual meeting.
- c. Submit an evaluation of the annual audit to the Administrative Committee of TBMB.

3. Committee on Boards

- a. Nominate persons for appointment to serve as directors of TBMB as provided in Bylaw VI.
- b. Nominate persons for appointment to serve as trustees of Convention institutions as provided in Bylaw VII.
- c. Nominate persons for election to membership on the Committee on Committees as provided in Bylaw IV.
- d. Obtain recommendations for nominations for appointment to the various trustee boards and TBMB from as many sources as possible, such as the following:
 - i. Individual Tennessee Baptists;
 - ii. Convention institutions, specifically asking them to suggest one person for each vacancy on the institution's board.

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- e. Perform its work within the limitations of the constitution and bylaws of the Convention and in consideration of the requirements of the accrediting agencies which are related to Convention institutions.
- f. Recognize the desirability of the principle of broad representation for TBMB directors, Convention institution trustees, and Committee on Committees members.
- g. Publish its report in the *Baptist & Reflector* sixty days before the first day of the annual meeting.

4. Committee on Committees

- a. Nominate persons for election to membership on all standing committees of the Convention except the Committee on Committees as provided in Bylaw IV.
- b. Nominate for election or appoint, as instructed in each instance, persons for membership on special committees as authorized by the Convention or the president of the Convention.
- c. Obtain recommendations for membership on the various committees from as many sources as possible.
- d. Recognize the desirability of the principle of broad representation for membership on all committees.
- e. Publish its report in the *Baptist & Reflector* sixty days before the first day of the annual meeting.

5. Committee on Constitution and Bylaws

- a. Regularly review the governing documents of the Convention and report any findings or recommendations it deems advisable to the messengers to the annual meeting.
- b. Periodically review the Convention's procedures for selecting directors of TBMB, trustees of Convention institutions, and members of standing committees.
- c. Study matters concerning the Convention's constitution and bylaws which may be referred to it by messengers to the annual meeting or by other sources, reporting its findings or recommendations to the messengers to the annual meeting.

6. Committee on Credentials

- a. Consult with the treasurer, or his designee, on arrangements for the registration of messengers.
- b. Confirm credentials of messengers.
- c. Make recommendations to the messengers to the annual meeting regarding any question relative to the seating of messengers.
- d. Determine when a quorum has been reached and report to the messengers to the annual meeting.
- e. Announce balloting procedure that will be used through the committee chair or authorized committee member.
- f. Collect and count ballots and report results, including vote totals, to the presiding officer. Vote totals shall be revealed by the presiding officer upon request of the messengers.
- g. Committee members shall hold all vote totals and other information received by the committee as confidential and only report such totals and information to the presiding officer through the committee chair or an authorized committee member.

CONSTITUTION and BYLAWS**7. Committee on Resolutions**

- a. Receive and review written resolutions from messengers to the annual meeting, when referred by the presiding officer within the guidelines of Bylaw III. F.
- b. Develop and recommend resolutions to the messengers as deemed appropriate by the committee.

8. Historical Committee

- a. Recommend appropriate measures for the preservation of Baptist history.
- b. Seek to preserve minutes and records of all Baptist bodies, churches, associations, and conventions, historical manuscripts, printed materials, including correspondence, and museum objects.
- c. Encourage the writing and publication of histories of individuals, churches, associations, institutions, and conventions.
- d. Recommend what historic sites, including buildings, should be properly marked and preserved when these are related to Baptist history.
- e. Report regularly to the Convention and cooperate with the Historical Society of The Tennessee Baptist Convention.

Bylaw V. SPECIAL COMMITTEES

Special committees may be created by the messengers to the annual meeting, TBMB, or the Convention's president to provide for any need not met by a standing committee.

Bylaw VI. TENNESSEE BAPTIST MISSION BOARD (TBMB)**A. Identification**

TBMB is responsible for conducting all activities on behalf of the Convention between the meetings of the Convention. This corporation shall discharge the powers and authority delegated to it by the Convention and the specific ministry responsibilities which the Convention assigns to it by resolution, covenant, and by provisions in the Convention's Constitution and Bylaws and Business and Financial Plan. These powers, authority, and responsibilities include, but are not limited to: the responsibility to provide state missionary staff to assist churches in reaching Tennesseans for Christ and developing Great Commission Christians; the responsibility to appoint persons on the Convention's behalf for membership on Convention institution trustee boards and standing committees when vacancies occur; the responsibility to call a special meeting of the Convention as authorized in Bylaw I, section D, of the Convention's bylaws; the responsibility to approve a recognized auditing firm to audit the books of the Convention, TBMB, and the Convention institutions which receive Cooperative Program funds; and the responsibility to direct the budget making process for the Convention.

B. Nominations

1. The Committee on Boards shall nominate persons for appointment as a director of TBMB within the parameter of this bylaw.
2. Nominations will be made to messengers in the form of a report during the annual meeting.
3. Once the committee's report has been adopted by the messengers to the annual meeting, with any amendments, it shall constitute appointment by the Convention.

CONSTITUTION and BYLAWS**C. Composition**

1. The board of directors of TBMB shall consist of ninety-nine appointed directors, all of whom shall be resident members of cooperating Baptist churches, and two designated directors: the president of the Convention and the president of Tennessee Woman's Missionary Union (TNWMU).
2. If, during the term of an appointed director, the appointed director is elected president of the Convention or president of TNWMU, the director shall continue to be counted as one of the ninety-nine appointed directors.
3. The executive director-treasurer of TBMB shall serve as staff to the board of directors and chief executive officer of TBMB.

D. Distribution Between Grand Regions of the State

Twenty-five of the appointed directors shall reside in each of the three grand regions of the state. The remaining twenty-four shall be, as nearly as possible, distributed in proportion to the total membership of cooperating Baptist churches in these grand regions as reported to the preceding annual meeting.

E. Appointment and Term of Office

1. The Convention shall appoint directors at the annual meeting of the Convention for terms of three years.
2. An appointed director's term of office shall commence upon the adjournment of the Convention's annual meeting during which the director was appointed.
3. The goal shall be to divide the appointed directors into three groups as nearly equal as possible so that the terms of approximately one third of the appointed directors expire each year.

F. Succession

1. A director of TBMB may serve up to two successive terms and shall not be eligible for re-appointment to TBMB until such director shall have been out of office for three Convention years.
2. No director who has served two successive terms shall be eligible for election to a Convention standing committee or appointment as a trustee of a Convention institution until such director shall have been out of office for one Convention year.
3. A director of TBMB who has completed an unexpired term is eligible for re-appointment and to serve two full terms without a waiting period.

G. Change of Residence

Any appointed director who changes residence from the grand region of the state in which such director resided at the time of appointment may continue to serve until the end of his or her term. The position will remain with the grand region from which the director was originally appointed.

H. Disqualification

1. Directors of TBMB may not be regular employees of TBMB or of a Convention institution supported with Cooperative Program funds.
2. Any appointed director who ceases to be a resident member of a cooperating Baptist church, or who becomes a regular employee of TBMB or any Convention institution, shall be deemed to have resigned.

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3. An individual may not serve simultaneously on more than one Convention standing committee, as a trustee of a Convention institution receiving Cooperative Program funds, or as a director of TBMB.
4. No person shall be eligible for appointment as a director of TBMB if such appointment would result in more than one member of the same church serving as directors at the same time.

I. Removal

1. The Convention may, by a two-thirds vote of the messengers, remove a director without cause and appoint a successor to fill the unexpired term.
2. Messengers to the annual or called meeting may not, by a single vote, declare the position of more than one director vacant.

J. Vacancy

Vacancies occurring on the TBMB board of directors, for whatever reason, may only be filled by the Convention in its annual meeting.

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Bylaw VII. CONVENTION INSTITUTIONS

A. Identification

The following shall be the Convention institutions whose trustees (governing body) shall be appointed by the Convention:

1. Baptist Memorial Health Care System, Inc. (Tennessee members)
2. Carson-Newman University
3. Harrison-Chilhowee Baptist Academy
4. Tennessee Baptist Adult Homes, Inc.
5. Tennessee Baptist Children's Homes, Inc.
6. Tennessee Baptist Foundation
7. Union University

B. Nominations

1. The Committee on Boards shall nominate persons for appointment as trustees of Convention institutions within the parameters of this bylaw.
2. The names of potential nominees shall be presented to the Committee on Boards by each Convention institution. In the event that a potential nominee is not acceptable to the committee, then the Convention institution shall be notified and such process repeated with a different potential nominee until a mutually agreeable candidate for nomination is confirmed or another arrangement mutually agreeable to the Convention institution and the committee is determined. If a Convention institution declines to participate in the nominating process or fails to submit an acceptable explanation for any vacancy, then the Committee on Boards has the sole authority to submit nominations to the messengers for trustees of said Convention institution.
3. Nominations will be made to messengers in the form of a report during the annual meeting.
4. Once the committee's report has been adopted by the messengers to the annual meeting, with any amendments, it shall constitute appointment by the Convention.

C. Composition

1. The Convention shall have the right to determine the number of trustees it will appoint for each Convention institution, to propose their terms of office, and to satisfy itself as to their qualifications.
2. Trustees must be resident members of cooperating Baptist churches of the Convention, excepting the educational institutions, whose trustee boards may include up to twenty percent of their respective trustee board membership from Baptist churches outside the State of Tennessee. Out-of-state trustees must be members of churches in cooperation with their respective Baptist state convention and the Southern Baptist Convention.
3. The president of the Convention and the executive director-treasurer of TBMB shall be *ex officio* trustees of all Convention institutions.

D. Distribution Between Grand Regions of the State

A majority of the educational Convention institutions' trustees shall come from its grand region of the state.

E. Appointment and Term of Office

1. The Convention shall appoint trustees at the annual meeting of the Convention for terms of three years.

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2. An appointed trustee's term of office shall commence and end according to the charter and bylaws of the institution.
3. The goal shall be to divide the appointed trustees into three groups as nearly equal as possible so that the terms of approximately one third of the appointed trustees expire each year.

F. Succession

1. A trustee of a Convention institution may serve up to three successive terms and shall not be eligible for appointment to any Convention institution trustee board or TBMB, or election to a standing committee, until having been out of office for one Convention year.
2. The filling of a Convention institution's unexpired term with more than eighteen months remaining shall be considered a full term. A trustee completing an unexpired term of less than eighteen months will be eligible for three full terms with no waiting period.

G. Change of Residence

Any appointed trustee of an educational Convention institution who changes residence to outside of Tennessee and the Convention institution already has the maximum number of out-of-state trustees allowed may serve until the end of the Convention year.

H. Disqualification

1. Trustees of Convention institutions may not be regular employees of TBMB or of a Convention institution supported with Cooperative Program funds.
2. Any appointed trustee who ceases to be a resident member of a cooperating Baptist church, or who becomes a regular employee of TBMB or any Convention institution, shall be deemed to have resigned.
3. An individual may not serve simultaneously on more than one Convention standing committee, as a trustee of a Convention institution receiving Cooperative Program funds, or as a director of TBMB, excepting the Baptist Memorial Health Care System, Inc., whose trustees may serve on two boards.
4. No person shall be eligible for appointment as a Convention institution trustee if such appointment would result in more than three members of the same church serving on the same trustee board of any Convention institution at the same time.

I. Removal

1. The Convention, after showing just cause and by procedures involving due process, may, by a two-thirds vote of the messengers following a study, report, and recommendation of TBMB, declare the office of an individual trustee vacant. In such case, messengers, pursuant to the procedures described in these bylaws for the appointment of trustees, may elect a successor to fill that unexpired term of the office declared vacant.
2. Messengers to the annual meeting or special called meeting may not by a single vote declare the office of more than one trustee vacant.

J. Vacancy

Vacancies occurring on a trustee board between meetings of the Convention caused by death, resignation, moving from the state, or for reasons of a similar nature, may be filled by TBMB upon the recommendation of the Committee on Boards.

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K. Relationship of Institutions to the Convention

1. The relationship between the Convention and the Convention institutions is grounded in mutual trust for the purpose of common ministry. The Convention institutions are autonomous nonprofit corporations, neither owned nor operated by the Convention. Governance of the Convention institutions is vested in their respective boards of trust in all matters.
2. Convention institutions whose trustees are appointed under these bylaws shall:
 - a. Act as Christian institutions and in a manner consistent with the mission and vision of the Convention.
 - b. Keep the Convention informed by making detailed reports of operations, programs, indebtedness, and finances for inclusion in the annual meeting's *Book of Reports*, and provide this information at other times if requested by TBMB.
 - c. Obtain prior approval of the Convention in session, or in the interim of TBMB, before engaging in any campaign to raise funds from Tennessee Baptist churches.
 - d. Be solely responsible for their own debt and shall not obligate the Convention for any indebtedness.

L. Establishment or Termination of Relationships with Institutions

The establishment or termination by the Convention of relationships with Convention institutions shall require approval of the messengers to the annual or called meeting following a study, report, and recommendation of TBMB.

M. Provisions for Withholding Cooperative Program Allocations

In the event of the violation of any of the provisions contained in the Convention's Constitution and Bylaws, Business and Financial Plan, Covenant Agreements, policies, or programs, the treasurer, at the direction of the Convention, or in the interim, of the directors of TBMB, may withhold any Cooperative Program allocations. At the discretion of the messengers or TBMB, these allocations may be placed in a reserve fund and may be released by the body (the Convention or TBMB) which initiated the withholding.

Bylaw VIII. BAPTIST FAITH AND MESSAGE

No person shall be nominated to serve as a member of a standing committee, a director of TBMB, a trustee of a Convention institution, or in any other elected leadership roles in and with the Convention, unless the person has agreed that he or she will, if elected, covenant to serve in accordance with, and not contrary to, the *Baptist Faith and Message 2000*.

Bylaw IX. AMENDMENTS

- A. These bylaws may be amended at any annual meeting of the Convention in any manner not in conflict with the constitution by a vote of two thirds of the messengers present and voting provided:
 1. that any proposed amendment not originating with the Committee on Constitution and Bylaws shall have been presented in writing to the Committee on Constitution and Bylaws by a member of a cooperating Baptist church at least ninety days prior to the annual meeting at which it is to be presented;
 2. that any such proposed amendment, and any proposed amendment originating with the Committee on Constitution and Bylaws, shall be published by the committee in the *Baptist & Reflector* at least sixty days prior to the annual meeting at which it is to be presented, and such proposed amendment shall also be printed in the *Book of Reports* for that annual meeting, but

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the proposed amendment must be offered as a motion at the annual meeting by a messenger or the committee on the first day of the annual meeting;

3. that any such amendment must be considered for vote on the second day of the annual meeting.
- B. The ninety-day notification requirement may be waived by an eighty percent vote of the messengers, present and voting.
- C. The Committee on Constitution and Bylaws may communicate with anyone submitting an amendment, suggesting ways to improve the language before it is published. The committee may make recommendations to the messengers concerning amendments proposed by messengers.

BUSINESS and FINANCIAL PLAN

Revised November 15, 2017

I. Overview

- A. Purpose – The Business and Financial Plan (“Plan”) of the Tennessee Baptist Convention (“Convention”) provides guidance for, and structure to, the financial operations of the Convention, Tennessee Baptist Mission Board and Convention institutions.
- B. Administration – The Plan is administered by Tennessee Baptist Mission Board (“TBMB”), a corporation.
- C. Convention Relationships Defined – The Convention meets in annual session. During this meeting, among other activities, it elects trustees to govern the operations of Convention institutions, Directors to TBMB, and members of Convention Committees. Convention institutions, as defined in the Convention Constitution, are separate corporations and voluntarily comply with the tenants of the Plan. In response, the Convention provides financial assistance through the Cooperative Program to, and elects trustees of, Convention institutions.
- D. Other Documents – The Convention Constitution, Convention Bylaws, and Convention Covenant Agreements are additional documents that describe the work of the Convention. Should there ever be a conflict between the Plan and these documents, the Plan shall supersede the Covenant Agreements, but shall be subject to the Constitution and the Bylaws.
- E. Amendments
 1. The Plan may be amended by the Convention in any manner not in conflict with the Convention Constitution or the Convention Bylaws provided:
 - a. The amendment, which must be in writing, is filed with TBMB at least ninety (90) days prior to the annual meeting of the Convention at which it is to be presented.
 - b. Any such amendment must be introduced to the messengers on the first day of the annual meeting.
 - c. Any such amendment must be considered for vote on the second day of the annual meeting and is adopted if approved by a simple majority of the messengers, present and voting.
 2. The ninety-day notification requirement may be waived by an eighty percent vote of the messengers, present and voting, at the annual meeting.

II. Cooperative Program – The Cooperative Program is the primary means through which churches assist with financing the ministries of the Southern Baptist Convention (“SBC”), TBMB, and Convention institutions.

- A. In order that the Plan, mission and ministries of the Convention may be operated successfully and efficiently, the Convention appeals to affiliated churches to give to state, national, and international missions through the Cooperative Program and to recognize the wisdom and authority of the Convention to allocate Cooperative Program funds in a satisfactory manner.
- B. All Convention institutions are expected to promote the Cooperative Program as the primary means for churches and their members to fund such institutions. While Convention institutions may receive

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contributions directly from churches and their members, they should not encourage giving through a means other than the Cooperative Program.

III. Budget Making Process

- A. Administration - TBMB shall direct the budget making process. It shall adopt a budget calendar each year as a guideline for budget preparation and review.
- B. Fixed Percentage Budget
 - 1. The Budget of the Convention shall seek to maintain consistent percentages for each line item allocation over a period of time. However, messengers to the annual meeting shall have the right to amend the budget each year through prescribed parliamentary procedures.
 - 2. TBMB's Budget and Ministry Committee shall consult with the Executive Director-Treasurer, the Chief Executive Officer of each institution, and the other TBMB committees to establish and monitor the budget percentages in the budget. The Budget and Ministry Committee will undertake formal reviews of the fixed percentages every three years. The formal review is expected to begin 12 to 18 months prior to the start of the budget.
- C. Budget Organization – The Convention budget shall be organized in the following manner:
 - 1. Cooperative Program Promotion and Administration: Consistent with the original formation of the Cooperative Program in 1925, this section will include all budgeted funds used by TBMB for the promotion and administration of the Cooperative Program.
 - a. Such budgeted funds may include personnel, printed and electronic materials, accounting services, travel, communications, technology, and other promotional expenses related to the promotion and administration of Cooperative Program.
 - b. One-twelfth (1/12th) of the total annual budget for this section shall be allocated from the monthly Cooperative Program receipts and placed in a temporarily restricted net asset fund in order to provide the funding for this annual budget.
 - c. While this section will not be allocated on a percentage basis, the total annual budget for this section shall not exceed four percent of the total Cooperative Program Budget goal as approved by the messengers to the annual meeting.
 - d. Unused funds at the end of the budget year shall be moved to the Convention Reserve Fund as described in Article X, Section B of the Plan.
 - e. The Convention may choose to not use this section in which case the identified expenses will be placed in the Convention Operations section of the budget described in Article III, Section C 2, paragraph b. iv, of the Plan.
 - 2. Cooperative Program Allocation Budget – This section of the budget will dictate how funds received for Cooperative Program will be allocated after accounting for the Cooperative Program Promotion and Administration section described in Section C.1. herein. All such funds will be allocated based on the percentages approved in this section of the budget which shall total 100%.
 - a. Southern Baptist Convention (SBC) – There will be one line item percentage for the Southern Baptist Convention section representing the allocation to the SBC. For information purposes the budget presentation may include how the SBC further allocates its funds.
 - b. Tennessee Baptist Convention (Convention) – The total of this section when added to the SBC section shall be 100% of the Cooperative Program Allocation Budget.
 - i. Tennessee Baptist Mission Board – There will be one line item percentage for this section allocated to TBMB for its various ministries and activities. For information purposes, the budget presentation may include how TBMB further allocates the Cooperative Program funding based on the budget approved by the Board of Directors.

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- ii. Christian Education – This section will include a line item percentage for each of the educational Convention institutions.
 - iii. Christian Services – This section will include a line item percentage for each of the service Convention institutions.
 - iv. Convention Operations – This section will include one line item percentage for the total of multiple budget items included in this section. These items include Convention-wide ministries that are administered by TBMB, but are governed by convention actions (e.g., Church Retirement Plan, Cooperative Program Promotion, Convention Audits, Convention Annual Meeting and Committees, Convention Reserve Fund, and other special budget items that may arise from time to time). This allocation will always close into the Convention Reserve Fund at year-end.
- D. Total Budget –The total annual budget will generally be based on the total Cooperative Program receipts for the twelve-month period ending May 31 prior to the start of the fiscal year for the budget being prepared, rounded up by not more than \$500,000. In the case of extraordinary circumstances, the Budget and Ministry Committee may recommend a deviation from this amount. The pre-determined fixed budget percentages will then be applied to that total to reflect the actual allocations expected for the coming year. The Budget and Ministry Committee will then recommend this budget to the TBMB Board of Directors.
- E. Approval by TBMB Directors – The Directors of TBMB will receive and review the recommendations of the Budget and Ministry Committee. Directors will review the budget requests and upon approval, recommend a budget for the coming year to be considered by the Convention in its next annual session.
- F. Publication – The proposed budget in summary form will be printed in the *Baptist and Reflector* at least thirty days before the first day of the annual meeting of the Convention.
- G. Annual Meeting Approval - The proposed budget will be presented to the messengers on the first day of the annual meeting. Any amendments to the proposed budget must be presented at the time it is presented. Proposed amendments will be referred to the Budget and Ministry Committee of TBMB for review and appropriate recommendation. The proposed budget and all proposed amendments referred to such committee will be placed on the agenda for further consideration and action by messengers on the second day of the annual meeting.
- H. During the interim from November 1 until an annual budget is adopted, the Convention will use the budget of the previous year for allocation purposes, with the understanding that the newly adopted budget will be retroactive to November 1.

IV. Receipts

- A. Convention Accounts – TBMB will maintain accounts into which all funds sent through the Convention will be deposited.
- B. Cooperative Program – Only those contributions committed to the full Cooperative Program budget with no restrictions or additional designations will be categorized as Cooperative Program receipts. All other contributions will be categorized as Designated Receipts.
- C. Designated Receipts – TBMB will receive and distribute Designated Receipts from churches and individuals for Convention and SBC agencies, churches, institutions, programs, ministries and causes. In addition, it will receive and distribute Designated Receipts from churches and individuals for Woman's Missionary Union and related ministries, ministries related to Partnership and Volunteer ministries of the Convention, the American Bible Society, and any others receiving the prior approval

BUSINESS and FINANCIAL PLAN

of the TBMB Board of Directors or the Convention. Contributions designated to causes other than those listed will be returned to the sender.

- D. Special Offerings – The Convention recognizes and approves the promotion of the following special offerings for mission causes:
 - 1. Golden Offering for Tennessee Missions
 - 2. Mother's Day Offering for Tennessee Baptist Children's Home
 - 3. Father's Day Offering for Tennessee Baptist Adult Homes
 - 4. Annie Armstrong Easter Offering for North American Missions
 - 5. Lottie Moon Christmas Offering for International Missions
- E. Reported Gifts – Gifts sent directly to Convention institutions from churches will be reported by the institutions on a monthly basis to the Treasurer of the Convention, listing the amount designated, the name of the church, and the name of the association. Such gifts will be recorded as a reported gift and included in all reports of church giving.

V. Allocations

- A. Cooperative Program – Cooperative Program receipts will be divided following the close of business each month based on the percentage of the approved budget. The allocations will thereafter be remitted to each recipient.
- B. Designations – Designated Receipts will be remitted monthly to each designated entity or cause. Funds designated for SBC institutions, agencies, or programs will be sent to the Executive Committee of the SBC with appropriate designations. However, the Convention will follow instructions from churches that request that their designations be sent directly to SBC institutions and agencies.

VI. Accountability

- A. Access to Records – As a condition to receiving funds, all recipients of Cooperative Program funds will make their financial records open and available for review upon request by the Treasurer of the Convention or his appointed representatives, TBMB (or its designees), or any member of a church affiliated with the Convention.
- B. Reporting – The Treasurer of the Convention will make quarterly reports of all monies received and will cause the same to be published in the *Baptist and Reflector*. He will make reports at regularly scheduled meetings of the TBMB Board of Directors and make a report at the annual meeting of the Convention.
- C. Fiscal Year – The fiscal year of the Convention will begin on the first day of November each year and end on the last day of October of the following year. Each Convention institution may adopt a fiscal year that conforms to the particular needs of that institution.
- D. Audits
 - 1. All institutions affiliated with the Convention, as a prerequisite to receiving Cooperative Program funds will have their financial statements audited each year by a Certified Public Accounting Firm.
 - 2. The auditing firm will be selected and contracted by TBMB upon recommendation of the Administrative Committee after consultation with the Executive Director-Treasurer and the Chairman of the Committee on Audits. The Executive Director and appointed staff of TBMB, will serve as liaison between the auditing firm and Convention institutions.
 - 3. Copies of the auditor's opinion letter and review of financial statements (audit) will be supplied to the governing body of the Convention institutions that have been audited. A set of all audits

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will be supplied to the Committee on Audits, to the office of the Convention Treasurer, and to the TBMB Board of Directors.

4. A complete set of audit reports will be printed in the *Tennessee Baptist Convention Journal* each year.

VII. Risk Management

- A. No officer or committee member of the Convention will be liable for any action taken as an officer or committee member or any failure to take any action, if he/she performed the duties of his/her office in good faith, with the care an ordinarily prudent person in a like position would exercise under similar circumstances, and in a manner he/she reasonably believed to be in the best interest of the Convention.
- B. The Convention, in its discretion, may indemnify an individual made a party to a proceeding because he/she is or was an officer or committee member against liability incurred in the proceeding provided (a) he/she conducted himself/herself in good faith and (b) he/she reasonably believed: (i) in the case of conduct in his/her official capacity with the Convention, that his/her conduct was in its best interests, and (ii) in all other cases, that his/her conduct was at least not opposed to its best interests; and (c) in the case of any criminal proceeding, he/she had no reasonable cause to believe his/her conduct was unlawful.

VIII. Special Solicitations

- A. Any Convention institution that desires to undertake a special financial campaign that involves solicitation to the churches must first receive approval from TBMB.
- B. A Convention institution will file its request for such a campaign with the appropriate TBMB committee and with the office of the Convention Treasurer. The request will not be considered until the committee has had thirty calendar days to study the request.
- C. The following items will be included in the request in order to receive consideration from TBMB:
 1. The purpose and objective of the campaign
 2. Cost estimates for conducting the campaign
 3. Beginning and ending dates for the campaign
 4. Time period for churches to fulfill their pledges
 5. Details on who will promote the campaign on behalf of the institution
 6. The geographical area(s) involved in the campaign
 7. The expected donors to the campaign in addition to the churches
 8. A summary of the results of previous campaigns
- D. If the appropriate committee approves the campaign, the request will be referred to the Administrative Committee for action and, if approved, then to the TBMB Board of Directors for action or referral to the Convention.
- E. Convention institutions that receive an allocation from the Cooperative Program will not request churches to place designated amounts in the church budgets for the support of such institutions.

IX. Institutional Liabilities

- A. Convention institutions will be solely responsible for any and all liabilities, debts, leases, lines of credit, etc., into which they may enter. At no time will the Convention, or TBMB, be a party to any liabilities related to the debt or other liability of an institution. Likewise, no Convention institution should depend on the Convention or TBMB to provide relief, assistance, or support beyond that which is provided in the annual budget at any time.

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- B. As stewards of Cooperative Program funds, the Convention through its Committee on Audits will review annually the audit of each Convention institution for the amount of debt carried by such institution and will evaluate that institution's ability to repay such debt. The committee may notify the governing body of such institution and/or TBMB at any time it feels that the amount of debt carried by any institution may endanger the future financial health of that institution.
- C. In cases involving perception of potential danger to the future financial health of the institutions, TBMB may withhold the applicable Cooperative Program allocation. Such action would be taken to protect the trustworthiness and business perceptions of Tennessee Baptists and to fulfill the stewardship role of the Convention.

X. Contingent Reserve

- A. TBMB and all Convention institutions are expected to keep financial reserves on hand or invested with the Tennessee Baptist Foundation for unexpected emergency expenses to be used only in case of a major financial depression or calamity that would greatly reduce Cooperative Program allocations.
- B. Convention Reserve Fund
 - 1. Establishment – TBMB shall maintain a reserve fund on behalf of the Convention. This fund shall be for the purpose of providing for emergency expenses of the Convention, occasional short-term budget needs of the Convention not included in the standard Cooperative Program allocation, and to provide flexibility in the fixed percentage budget process for the Convention Operations line item. The fund shall not be used in lieu of or to supplement the Cooperative Program allocation of TBMB or Convention institution; however, the fund may be allocated through the process prescribed in paragraph 4 of this section.
 - 2. Placement of Fund – The Fund shall be invested through the Tennessee Baptist Foundation under the investment policies of TBMB for similar long-term funds. Interest earnings and other fund growth shall be maintained in the fund until needed.
 - 3. Sources of Funds
 - a. Cooperative Program Allocation - When adopted by the Convention, an allocation of Cooperative Program funds may be deposited directly into the fund on a monthly basis as corpus funds.
 - b. Residual Convention Operations funds – At the conclusion of the annual audit of TBMB each fiscal year, Cooperative Program funds allocated to the Convention Operations line item of the budget that have not been expended will be transferred into the fund as corpus.
 - c. Fund Earnings – All interest and capital gains or other income generated by the fund shall be returned to the fund as income.
 - 4. Expenditure of Funds
 - a. Emergency Expenditures – During a period of emergency, financial calamity, or significant disaster, the Budget and Ministry Committee may allocate corpus and income from the fund for use of Tennessee Baptists to meet Convention needs or respond to the emergency. Allocations shall be made through the Committee's prescribed process.
 - b. Supplement to Convention Operations budget – When budget needs exceed the Convention Operations section fixed percentage allocation, and when adopted by the Convention, a portion of the fund may be included as a supplement to the Convention Operations section of the budget. Such allocation comes only after a thorough examination and projection of the Convention Operations section of the budget by the Budget and Ministry Committee. Supplements shall come first from the accrued income funds and thereafter from the corpus of the fund.
 - c. Supplement to current deficits in the allocation to the Convention Operations line item – Should expenditures from the Convention Operations line item exceed funds actually

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- allocated to this section, then the fund may be used to cover such deficits. Any such transfer must be reviewed and approved by the Budget and Ministry Committee.
- d. Special allocation – TBMB and Convention institutions may request a special allocation from the fund for a unique or special project under the following guidelines:
 - i. All such requests must be submitted to the Budget and Ministry Committee through the Committee’s prescribed process. This committee may or may not recommend it for final approval to the TBMB Board of Directors. The allocation must be approved by the Board of Directors.
 - ii. Special allocations shall come from income funds and shall not exceed the total of income funds within the fund.
 - iii. Special allocations are strongly discouraged when the total fund is less than the target balance or when the allocation would reduce the fund to a level below the target balance.
 - e. The Budget and Ministry Committee may authorize the transfer of income funds to corpus funds when necessary to properly manage the fund. However, no transfer shall be made from corpus to income.
5. Target Balance – The target balance for the fund shall be equal to fifteen percent of the current total annual Cooperative Program Budget for the Tennessee Baptist Convention.
 6. Reporting - The Budget and Ministry Committee shall regularly monitor the Reserve Fund and provide reports to the TBMB Board of Directors. The funds shall be classified as a temporarily restricted net asset of TBMB (under Generally Accepted Accounting Principles (GAAP) as established by the Financial Accounting Standards Boards (FASB)).

**COVENANTS BETWEEN CONVENTION INSTITUTIONS AND
THE TENNESSEE BAPTIST CONVENTION**

The Tennessee Baptist Convention (Convention) has chosen to implement a portion of its ministry through Convention institutions as identified in the Convention bylaws. These institutions have a varied and unique history and have come into relationship with the Convention at various times and through various means.

The relationship between the Convention and the Convention institutions is grounded in mutual trust for the purpose of common ministry. The Convention institutions are autonomous nonprofit corporations, neither owned nor operated by the Convention. Governance of the Convention institutions is vested in their respective boards of trust in all matters.

The Convention has chosen to document the relationship with the institutions through the use of covenants. The covenants between the Convention and these institutions are not legal agreements and do not affect the right of the board of trustees of the institution to direct and control the institution in achieving its purpose.

The covenants were developed in a cooperative effort between the appropriate committees of the Executive Board of the Tennessee Baptist Convention (now Tennessee Baptist Mission Board) and the leadership of each Convention institution. They were then adopted by the Tennessee Baptist Convention in session on November 16, 2005. Upon adoption they replaced existing program statements which had guided the roles and responsibilities in the cooperative relationship.

Administrative updates to change the name of institutions and Tennessee Baptist Mission Board have been made over the years. During 2018 and 2019, the Partner Ministries Committee worked with leaders of the Convention institutions to significantly update and rewrite the covenants for recommendation to the messengers at the 2019 annual meeting of The Tennessee Baptist Convention.

**COVENANT BETWEEN TENNESSEE BAPTIST MISSION BOARD
AND THE TENNESSEE BAPTIST CONVENTION**

WHEREAS, The Tennessee Baptist Convention (Convention) is comprised of messengers of cooperating churches seeking to minister together for the purpose of carrying out the Great Commission; and

WHEREAS, the Convention has established Tennessee Baptist Mission Board to “have charge of all the educational, missionary, benevolent, and other interests of the Convention” and “During the interim, between meetings of the Convention... have all the powers of the Convention except as limited by this constitution, the bylaws of the Convention, and specific action taken by the Convention in session” (Article VII. Tennessee Baptist Convention Constitution); and

COVENANTS

WHEREAS, these two entities desire to enter a covenant, committing to each other their mutual goals, aspirations, and desire to spread the gospel of Christ throughout Tennessee, North America, and the world; now

BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED that Tennessee Baptist Mission Board and the Convention do hereby covenant to the following:

1. The Board of Directors for Tennessee Baptist Mission Board shall act as the Convention whenever the Convention is not in session in a manner consistent with and not contrary to the manner in which the Directors perceive the Convention would act in session given all information available to the Board of Directors.
2. Tennessee Baptist Mission Board shall administer funds entrusted to it by cooperating churches with the Convention as directed by the Business and Financial Plan of the Convention. Furthermore, Tennessee Baptist Mission Board will ensure accountability to the Convention and stewardship of all resources provided by the Convention.
3. Tennessee Baptist Mission Board will provide state missionary staff to assist churches in reaching Tennesseans for Christ and developing Great Commission Christians. State Missionary Staff will also assist churches to be on mission, spreading the gospel of Christ throughout Tennessee, North America, and the world.
4. Tennessee Baptist Mission Board shall provide facilities as necessary to facilitate the ministries of the state missionary staff and shared ministries of cooperating churches.
5. Tennessee Baptist Mission Board shall support the ministries of the Convention through promotion of Cooperative Program and through participation in those ministries where it can assist.
6. Tennessee Baptist Mission Board shall serve as a liaison between the Convention and the Convention institutions as defined in the constitution and bylaws of the Convention.
7. Finally, Tennessee Baptist Mission Board shall nurture and coordinate Kingdom relationships with the Southern Baptist Convention, its entities, and other state conventions for the mutual good of the Convention, Tennessee Baptist Mission Board, and the glory of God.

COVENANT BETWEEN CARSON-NEWMAN UNIVERSITY AND THE TENNESSEE BAPTIST CONVENTION

WHEREAS, The Tennessee Baptist Convention (Convention) is comprised of messengers from cooperating churches seeking to minister together for the purpose of carrying out the Great Commission; and

WHEREAS, Carson-Newman University and the Convention likewise seek to cooperate together for the same purpose; and

WHEREAS, Carson-Newman University was founded to serve East Tennessee Baptists as Mossy Creek Missionary Baptist Seminary in 1851 and has been supported by the Convention since 1919; and

WHEREAS, Carson-Newman University offers a Christian, liberal arts education with a distinctive Baptist perspective in an environment that encourages intellectual inquiry and deeper spiritual maturity; and

COVENANTS

WHEREAS, Carson-Newman University seeks to instill Christian virtues in its students and inspire them to use their unique gifts for a lifetime of service; and

WHEREAS, Carson-Newman University has been producing committed Baptist servant-leaders, both laity and clergy, strengthening the work of the Kingdom for more than a century and a half; and

WHEREAS, these two entities desire to enter a covenant, committing to each other their mutual goals, aspirations, and desire to spread the gospel of Christ throughout Tennessee, North America, and the world; now

BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED that Carson-Newman University and the Convention do hereby covenant to the following:

1. The Convention shall continue to support the ministries of Carson-Newman University through fervent and effectual prayer, and the encouragement of its cooperating churches to volunteer in service to our Lord, Jesus Christ, by becoming personally involved in the ministry of Carson-Newman University. The Convention pledges to support Carson-Newman University through the Cooperative Program.
2. The Convention will strive to support Carson-Newman University and seek to preserve and enhance the good name and reputation of the University.
3. Carson-Newman University shall maintain a Christian environment while providing quality education to its students.
4. The Convention will seek to promote through its cooperating churches, the matriculation of students at its cooperating educational institutions, including Carson-Newman University.
5. The Convention will work cooperatively with the University in new and creative ways to provide internships, ministry positions, and mission opportunities for students.
6. Carson-Newman University and the Convention enjoy a voluntary cooperation marked by mutual respect and support which spring from shared values and commitment to common goals, and each will seek, in good faith and diligence, to continue and enhance this cooperation for the benefit of society and the Kingdom of God.
7. Carson-Newman University commits to the process of trustee selection established by the Convention with the hope that the good of Tennessee Baptists will be foremost in the minds of all involved in the process.
8. Carson-Newman University will offer a variety of undergraduate degrees and selected professional graduate degrees with emphasis on the liberal arts and sciences from a Christian perspective.
9. Carson-Newman University shall maintain a well-trained and dedicated Christian faculty who embrace the University's mission of Christian liberal arts education.
10. Carson-Newman University will strive to maintain general accreditation, specialized accreditation, and recognition by licensing agencies as needed to ensure its graduates may practice their craft as well as maintain active membership in appropriate academic and professional societies to enlarge its impact as a Christian institution on a regional and national level.

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11. Carson-Newman University shall relate to the Convention through the Tennessee Baptist Mission Board's Partner Ministries Committee, or its successor committee.
12. Carson-Newman University shall support the ministries of the Convention through promotion of Cooperative Program and through participation in those ministries where it can assist.
13. Carson-Newman University will continue to prepare students for positions of Christian ministry and service, including pastors, missionaries, denominational workers, and lay-leadership for Tennessee Baptist Convention churches.
14. Finally, with this mutual covenant, Carson-Newman University and the Convention pledge to continue to strengthen the cherished relationship between Carson-Newman University and the Convention for the mutual good of the Convention, Carson-Newman University, and the glory of God.

COVENANT BETWEEN UNION UNIVERSITY AND THE TENNESSEE BAPTIST CONVENTION

WHEREAS, The Tennessee Baptist Convention (Convention) is comprised of messengers of cooperating churches seeking to minister together for the purpose of carrying out the Great Commission; and

WHEREAS, Union University is an academic community, cooperating with the Convention, equipping persons to think Christ-like and serve faithfully in ways consistent with its core values of being Christ-centered, people-focused, excellence-driven, and future-directed; and

WHEREAS, these values shape Union's identity as an institution which prioritizes liberal arts based undergraduate education enhanced by professional and graduate programs; and

WHEREAS, the academic community of Union University is composed of quality faculty, staff, and students working together in a caring, grace-filled environment conducive to the development of character, servant leadership, and cultural engagement; and

WHEREAS, these two entities desire to enter a covenant, committing to each other their mutual goals, aspirations, and desire to spread the gospel of Christ throughout Tennessee, North America, and the world; now

BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED that Union University and the Convention do hereby covenant to the following:

1. The Convention shall continue to support the ministries of Union University through fervent and effectual prayer, and the encouragement of its cooperating churches to volunteer in service to our Lord, Jesus Christ, by becoming personally involved in the ministry of Union University. The Convention pledges to support Union University through the Cooperative Program.
2. Union University affirms its commitment, along with all Tennessee Baptists, to its cherished Baptist heritage.
3. Union University shall maintain a Christian environment while providing quality education to its students.

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4. Union University confesses its commitment to the Lordship of Jesus Christ and the saving power of the gospel as revealed by Holy Scripture.
5. Union University affirms respect for those who serve in Tennessee Baptist life; and commits to fairness in selecting guest lecturers and chapel speakers from across Baptist and evangelical constituency.
6. Union University commits to the process of trustee selection established by the Convention with the hope that the good of Tennessee Baptists will be foremost in the minds of all involved in the process.
7. Union University dedicates to leading the Union University community in spiritual renewal, personal discipleship, and faithful churchmanship. In doing so Union University seeks to create a campus context to deepen and strengthen its dedication to Union's wonderful Baptist heritage and her long-standing commitment to Christian orthodoxy and the Christian intellectual tradition.
8. Union University renews its commitment to both responsibility and freedom within the context of a denominational university; and intends to cooperate faithfully with the churches of the Convention. Primacy of Scripture and liberty of conscience are crucial ingredients for achieving the purposes of Christ-centered education at Union University. Those established principles constitute the foundation and parameters for authentic and faithful Christian higher education. In such a covenantal context Union University exists as a community of faith and learning in which freedom of inquiry rests within the context of confessional and denominational expectations. Faith seeks understanding which requires openness of mind guided by the Holy Spirit. Union University pursues its calling and responsibility with the understanding that Christian faith directs all thought and life toward God who is the source of all truth, the judge of all human thought, and the ultimate end of all Christian inquiry.
9. Union University recognizes that covenant renewal ceremonies in biblical times were dynamic spiritual experiences. These covenants proposed a common faith in God's providential direction and an affirmation of mutual responsibilities shared within the covenant community. Union University also recognizes that covenants are bilateral and not unilateral agreements. Union University expects that the Convention will enter into this covenant with a spirit of mutual respect and cooperation to help strengthen the identity and advance the mission of Union University. Union University expects that the Convention will pledge to uphold the good name and reputation of Union University with positive and constructive communication at all times. Union University also expects that the churches of the Convention as well as the Convention leadership will encourage Baptist students and their parents to pursue their education at Union University or at other Tennessee Baptist institutions.
10. Union University will strive to maintain general accreditation, specialized accreditation, and recognition by licensing agencies as needed to ensure its graduates may practice their craft as well as maintain active membership in appropriate academic and professional societies to enlarge its impact as a Christian institution on a regional and national level.
11. Union University shall relate to the Convention through the Tennessee Baptist Mission Board's Partner Ministries Committee, or its successor committee.
12. Union University shall support the ministries of the Convention through promotion of Cooperative Program and through participation in those ministries where it can assist.
13. Union University affirms that the trustees of Union University are elected by and responsible to the Convention. Union University recognizes that the president is responsible to the trustees. Union

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University recognizes the importance for all within the Union University community and within Tennessee Baptist life to acknowledge our responsibility to the Union University charter and bylaws as the guiding and legal documents of the institution.

14. Finally, with this mutual covenant, Union University and the Convention pledge to continue to strengthen the cherished relationship between Union University and the Convention for the mutual good of the Convention, Union University, and the glory of God.

COVENANT BETWEEN HARRISON-CHILHOWEE BAPTIST ACADEMY AND THE TENNESSEE BAPTIST CONVENTION

WHEREAS, The Tennessee Baptist Convention (Convention) is comprised of messengers of cooperating churches seeking to minister together for the purpose of carrying out the Great Commission; and

WHEREAS, Harrison-Chilhowee Baptist Academy is a non-profit educational corporation reaching local, national, and international students of all socioeconomic backgrounds, educating and preparing them academically, emotionally, physically, socially, and spiritually; and

WHEREAS, Harrison-Chilhowee Baptist Academy's vision is for transformed lives, empowered by Christ-like character, pursuing academic excellence and lifelong service; and

WHEREAS, Harrison-Chilhowee Baptist Academy's mission is to inspire and equip students of all cultural backgrounds to fulfill their God-given potential in a nurturing, college preparatory community; and

WHEREAS, Harrison-Chilhowee Baptist Academy has been a Christian school from the date of its initial charter as Boyd's Creek Academy in 1880, and has been cooperating with Baptist churches since local Baptist associations began supporting Harrison-Chilhowee Baptist Academy in 1887; and

WHEREAS, Harrison-Chilhowee Baptist Academy's second charter and new name identified Harrison-Chilhowee Baptist Academy as part of the educational mission of the Convention in 1932; and

WHEREAS, the Convention has affirmed Harrison-Chilhowee Baptist Academy by electing its trustees and providing financial support since 1932; and

WHEREAS, these two entities desire to enter a covenant, committing to each other their mutual goals, aspirations, and desire to spread the gospel of Christ throughout Tennessee, North America, and the world; now

BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED that Harrison-Chilhowee Baptist Academy and the Convention do hereby covenant to the following:

1. The Convention shall continue to support the ministries of Harrison-Chilhowee Baptist Academy through fervent and effectual prayer, and the encouragement of its cooperating churches to volunteer in service to our Lord, Jesus Christ, by becoming personally involved in the ministry of Harrison-Chilhowee Baptist Academy. The Convention pledges to support Harrison-Chilhowee Baptist Academy through the Cooperative Program.
2. Harrison-Chilhowee Baptist Academy commits to the process of trustee selection established by the Convention with the hope that the good of Tennessee Baptists will be foremost in the minds of all involved in the process.

COVENANTS

3. Harrison-Chilhowee Baptist Academy shall conduct a day and boarding school for local students in East Tennessee, and others from throughout Tennessee, other states, and foreign countries.
4. Harrison-Chilhowee Baptist Academy shall provide an instructional program that integrates a biblical world view in all areas of its curriculum and co-curriculum.
5. Harrison-Chilhowee Baptist Academy shall provide opportunities for personal response to the claims of Christ.
6. Harrison-Chilhowee Baptist Academy shall prepare students for a life of maximum contribution to the cause of Christ.
7. Harrison-Chilhowee Baptist Academy shall assist students from varied cultural and ethnic backgrounds to understand each other better and to live together harmoniously.
8. Harrison-Chilhowee Baptist Academy shall assist students in the discovery and development of their potential for creative expression in the arts, sciences, and physical education activities.
9. Harrison-Chilhowee Baptist Academy shall maintain a well-rounded program of co-curricular activities.
10. Harrison-Chilhowee Baptist Academy shall maintain a well-trained and dedicated faculty and staff who are committed to the Christian faith and genuinely interested in the development of each individual student.
11. Harrison-Chilhowee Baptist Academy shall maintain general accreditation and memberships as needed to ensure its effectiveness in accomplishing its goals.
12. Harrison-Chilhowee Baptist Academy shall relate to the Convention through the Tennessee Baptist Mission Board's Partner Ministries Committee, or its successor committee.
13. Harrison-Chilhowee Baptist Academy shall support the ministries of the Convention through promotion of Cooperative Program and through participation in those ministries where it can assist.
14. Finally, with this mutual covenant, Harrison-Chilhowee Baptist Academy and the Convention pledge to continue to strengthen the cherished relationship between Harrison-Chilhowee Baptist Academy and the Convention for the mutual good of the Convention, Harrison-Chilhowee Baptist Academy, and the glory of God.

**COVENANT BETWEEN TENNESSEE BAPTIST ADULT HOMES
AND THE TENNESSEE BAPTIST CONVENTION**

WHEREAS, The Tennessee Baptist Convention (Convention) is comprised of messengers from cooperating churches seeking to minister together for the purpose of carrying out the Great Commission; and

WHEREAS, Tennessee Baptists have made a commitment to care for senior adults and developmentally disabled adults in residential and camping ministries; and

COVENANTS

WHEREAS, Tennessee Baptist Adult Homes is an institution supported by the Convention and its cooperating churches since 1974; and

WHEREAS, these two entities desire to enter a covenant, committing to each other their mutual goals, aspirations, and desire to spread the gospel of Christ throughout Tennessee, North America, and the world; now

BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED that Tennessee Baptist Adult Homes and the Convention do hereby covenant to the following:

1. The Convention shall continue to support the ministries of Tennessee Baptist Adult Homes and seek to preserve and enhance the good name and reputation of Tennessee Baptist Adult Homes. The Convention pledges to support Tennessee Baptist Adult Homes through the Cooperative Program.
2. Tennessee Baptist Adult Homes shall work to provide quality residential facilities and programs for senior adults and developmentally disabled adults for the benefit of their health and well-being, social interaction, purposeful life, and spiritual development.
3. Tennessee Baptist Adult Homes shall perform its ministry in a way that reflects the dignity of all persons recognizing that everyone is the handiwork of God, who created each individual in His image and for His purpose and glory, and that each person is one for whom Christ gave His life.
4. Tennessee Baptist Adult Homes shall relate to the Convention through the Tennessee Baptist Mission Board's Partner Ministries Committee, or its successor committee.
5. Tennessee Baptist Adult Homes shall support the ministries of the Convention through promotion of Cooperative Program and through participation in those ministries where it can assist.
6. Tennessee Baptist Adult Homes commits to the process of trustee selection established by the Convention with the hope that the good of Tennessee Baptists will be foremost in the minds of all involved in the process.
7. Both Tennessee Baptist Adult Homes and the Convention commit to the Lordship of Christ and to working together in the work of His Kingdom.
8. Tennessee Baptist Adult Homes and the Convention commit to open communication, respectful consideration, and collegiality among all institutions and entities related to the Convention.
9. Finally, with this mutual covenant, Tennessee Baptist Adult Homes and the Convention pledge to continue to strengthen the cherished relationship between Tennessee Baptist Adult Homes and the Convention for the mutual good of the Convention, Tennessee Baptist Adult Homes, and the glory of God.

COVENANT BETWEEN THE TENNESSEE BAPTIST CHILDREN'S HOMES, INC. AND THE TENNESSEE BAPTIST CONVENTION

WHEREAS, The Tennessee Baptist Convention (Convention) is comprised of messengers from cooperating churches seeking to minister together for the purpose of carrying out the Great Commission; and

COVENANTS

WHEREAS, The Tennessee Baptist Children's Homes, Inc. was founded in 1891 for the purpose of ministering to children; and

WHEREAS, Tennessee Baptists, acting in Convention in 1894, by unanimous action, made The Tennessee Baptist Children's Homes, Inc. an institution of the Convention, thereby committing the Convention to ministering to children; and

WHEREAS, since making this commitment, Tennessee Baptists have provided prayer support and financial resources to support this ministry in meeting the growing needs of children and families in crisis through Residential Care, Foster Care, Family Care, adoption related services; and

WHEREAS, this commitment continues until the present time; and

WHEREAS, these two entities desire to enter into a covenant, committing to each other their mutual goals, aspirations, and desire to spread the gospel of Christ throughout Tennessee, North America, and the world; now

BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED that The Tennessee Baptist Children's Homes, Inc. and the Convention do hereby covenant to the following:

1. The Convention shall continue to support the ministries of The Tennessee Baptist Children's Homes, Inc. and seek to preserve and enhance the good name and reputation of The Tennessee Baptist Children's Homes, Inc. The Convention pledges to support The Tennessee Baptist Children's Homes, Inc. through the Cooperative Program.
2. The Tennessee Baptist Children's Homes, Inc. shall continue providing the highest quality of care to children and families in crisis.
3. The Tennessee Baptist Children's Homes, Inc. shall provide this care to children and families in crisis through facilities and comprehensive programs of spiritual, emotional, physical, educational, and social development.
4. The Tennessee Baptist Children's Homes, Inc. shall provide information to Tennessee Baptists on its services, responsibilities, and challenges through the *Baptist and Reflector* as well as other means.
5. The Tennessee Baptist Children's Homes, Inc. shall relate to the Convention through the Tennessee Baptist Mission Board's Partner Ministries Committee, or its successor committee.
6. The Tennessee Baptist Children's Homes, Inc. shall support the ministries of the Convention through promotion of Cooperative Program and through participation in those ministries where it can assist.
7. The Tennessee Baptist Children's Homes, Inc. shall commit to the process of trustee selection established by the Convention with the hope that the good of Tennessee Baptists will be foremost in the minds of all involved in the process.
8. The Convention and The Tennessee Baptist Children's Homes, Inc. commit to the Lordship of Christ and to working together in the work of His Kingdom in obedience to Mark 9:37 and James 1:27.

COVENANTS

9. The Convention and The Tennessee Baptist Children's Homes, Inc. commit to open communication, respectful consideration, and collegiality among all institutions and entities related to the Convention.
10. Finally, with this mutual covenant, The Tennessee Baptist Children's Homes, Inc. and the Convention pledge to continue to strengthen the cherished relationship between The Tennessee Baptist Children's Homes, Inc. and the Convention for the mutual good of the Convention, The Tennessee Baptist Children's Homes, Inc., and the glory of God.

COVENANT BETWEEN TENNESSEE BAPTIST FOUNDATION AND THE TENNESSEE BAPTIST CONVENTION

WHEREAS, The Tennessee Baptist Convention (Convention) is comprised of messengers from cooperating churches seeking to minister together for the purpose of carrying out the Great Commission; and

WHEREAS, Tennessee Baptists have made a commitment to promote Christian Stewardship, both of current income and estates; and

WHEREAS, Tennessee Baptist Foundation is an institution supported by the Convention and its cooperating churches since 1938; and

WHEREAS, these two entities desire to enter a covenant, committing to each other their mutual goals, aspirations, and desire to spread the gospel of Christ throughout Tennessee, North America, and the world; now

BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED that Tennessee Baptist Foundation and the Convention do hereby covenant to the following:

1. The Convention shall continue to support the ministries of Tennessee Baptist Foundation and seek to preserve and enhance the good name and reputation of Tennessee Baptist Foundation. The Convention pledges to support Tennessee Baptist Foundation through the Cooperative Program.
2. Tennessee Baptist Foundation shall be available to provide quality Christian estate planning assistance to all Tennessee Baptists, assist with fund management services for all Tennessee Baptist churches and institutions, and assist all Tennessee Baptist churches and institutions in the development of endowment gifts and provide investment management for such gifts.
3. Tennessee Baptist Foundation shall perform its ministry in a way that reflects the dignity of all persons recognizing that everyone is the handiwork of God, who created each individual in His image and for His purpose and glory, and that each person is one for whom Christ gave His life.
4. Tennessee Baptist Foundation shall relate to the Convention through the Tennessee Baptist Mission Board's Partner Ministries Committee, or its successor committee.
5. Tennessee Baptist Foundation shall support the ministries of the Convention through promotion of Cooperative Program and through participation in those ministries where it can assist.
6. Tennessee Baptist Foundation commits to the process of trustee selection established by the Convention with the hope that the good of Tennessee Baptists will be foremost in the minds of all involved in the process.

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7. Both the Convention and Tennessee Baptist Foundation commit to the Lordship of Christ and to working together in the work of His Kingdom.
8. The Convention and Tennessee Baptist Foundation commit to open communication, respectful consideration, and collegiality among all institutions and entities related to the Convention.
9. Finally, with this mutual covenant, Tennessee Baptist Foundation and the Convention pledge to continue to strengthen the cherished relationship between Tennessee Baptist Foundation and the Convention for the mutual good of the Convention, Tennessee Baptist Foundation, and the glory of God.

**COVENANT BETWEEN BAPTIST MEMORIAL HEALTH CARE SYSTEM, INC., MEMPHIS
AND THE TENNESSEE BAPTIST CONVENTION**

WHEREAS, The Tennessee Baptist Convention (Convention) is comprised of messengers of cooperating churches seeking to minister together for the purpose of carrying out the Great Commission; and

WHEREAS, Baptist Memorial Health Care System, Inc., Memphis ministers with the Baptist Conventions of Tennessee, Arkansas, and Mississippi who elect its Board of Trustees, and Baptist Memorial Health Care System, Inc., Memphis seeks to provide quality comprehensive patient care, conduct medical and technical education programs, engage in research, serve health needs in a Christian atmosphere, and endeavor to give testimony to the truth of the Christian faith; and

WHEREAS, these two entities desire to enter a covenant, committing to each other their mutual goals, aspirations, and desire to spread the gospel of Christ throughout Tennessee, North America, and the world; now

BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED that Baptist Memorial Health Care System, Inc., Memphis and the Convention do hereby covenant to the following:

1. The Convention shall continue to support the ministries of Baptist Memorial Health Care System, Inc., Memphis through fervent and effectual prayer, and the encouragement of its cooperating churches to volunteer in service to our Lord, Jesus Christ, by becoming personally involved in the ministry of Baptist Memorial Health Care System, Inc., Memphis.
2. Baptist Memorial Health Care System, Inc., Memphis shall maintain a Christian ministry of Health Care as a part of Christ's ministry.
3. Baptist Memorial Health Care System, Inc., Memphis shall maintain all operations prudently in accordance with principles of sound financial management, solid business practices, and compassion in its ministry.
4. Baptist Memorial Health Care System, Inc., Memphis shall utilize its capabilities in developing cooperative arrangements, including ownership or management services, with other health care facilities.
5. Baptist Memorial Health Care System, Inc., Memphis shall cooperate with health care institutions, agencies, providers, and health-related organizations so that optimal health and medical services may be provided.

COVENANTS

6. Baptist Memorial Health Care System, Inc., Memphis shall promote the maintenance of health and prevention of illness and disease through appropriate programs including patient education, health education, and instruction in lifestyles that are conducive to good health, based upon the philosophy of quality service.
7. Baptist Memorial Health Care System, Inc., Memphis shall be sensitive and attentive to the needs and concerns of the community in which Baptist Memorial Health Care System, Inc., Memphis ministers and to Baptists as congregations, associations, and particularly to the Convention.
8. Baptist Memorial Health Care System, Inc., Memphis shall relate to the Convention through the Tennessee Baptist Mission Board's Partner Ministries Committee, or its successor committee.
9. Baptist Memorial Health Care System, Inc., Memphis shall support the ministries of the Convention through promotion of Cooperative Program and through participation in those ministries where it can assist.
10. Baptist Memorial Health Care System, Inc., Memphis commits to the trustee selection established by the Convention with the hope that the good of Tennessee Baptists will be foremost in the minds of all involved in the process.
11. The Convention and Baptist Memorial Health Care System, Inc., Memphis commit to open communication, respectful consideration, and collegiality among all institutions and entities related to the Convention.
12. Finally, with this mutual covenant, Baptist Memorial Health Care System, Inc., Memphis and the Convention pledge to continue to strengthen the cherished relationship between Baptist Memorial Health Care System, Inc., Memphis and the Convention for the mutual good of the Convention, Baptist Memorial Health Care System, Inc., Memphis, and the glory of God.

I believe Charles Dickens said it best in his 1859 classic *A Tale of Two Cities*, when he said, “*It was the best of times, it was the worst of times, it was the age of wisdom, it was the age of foolishness, it was the epoch of belief, it was the epoch of incredulity, it was the season of light, it was the season of darkness, it was the spring of hope, it was the winter of despair.*” These words ring true all across Tennessee and the United States in 2019-2020. Throughout the bulk of my tenure as the chair of the Board of Directors of Tennessee Baptist Mission Board (TBMB), we have faced historic times for which none of us were prepared. Not one of us alive today have ever pastored through or led through a global pandemic, much less been responsible for leading over 3,200 churches to stay on mission of reaching Tennessee with the Gospel and setting them on the road to discipleship. Added to the pandemic is a large amount of social, financial, and political unrest all across our state and country.

Despite all of these challenges, Tennessee Baptists have had an amazing year! Let me give you a few brief highlights:

- We received a historic, goal-breaking offering for the Golden Offering for Tennessee Missions as we received \$1,949,987!
- We created a quick response to serve churches and ministry leaders in personal and practical ways.
- We implemented the Joseph Plan for financial accountability during the 2019-2020 TBMB budget and a phased response to COVID-19 restrictions.
- We have sent TN Baptist Disaster Relief teams to many areas hurt by hurricanes, floods, and other inclement weather events.
- We set a record for contacts made by TBMB staff with local churches and church leaders.
- We created virtual connections, video content, podcasts, online giving services, and webinars to both inform and minister to Tennessee Baptists all across the state.
- We worked with the Governor’s office for faith-based initiatives allowing us to network with our local associations to meet hundreds of requests for assistance, including an upcoming phone line to assist our Senior adults in Tennessee who are suffering from isolation due to COVID-19, as well as providing 400 gallons of hand sanitizer and 100,000 cotton masks to assist churches in regathering efforts.
- Executive Team leaders started with a zero budget, created clearly defined objectives in relationship to our Convention-adopted Five Objectives, developed strategies for accomplishing these objectives, and projected measurable outcomes for each. This is a historic way for Tennessee Baptists to approach the task of winning Tennessee for Jesus and setting them on the road to discipleship.

As the TBMB Board Chair, I want to remind you that our Cooperative Program (CP) is all really about cooperation and TBC churches working together. We need one another if we are to reach our Five Objectives, and be able to finance them here in Tennessee, and do the work of missions across North America and around the world.

With that in mind, we also recognize the fact that the 2021 economy is really an unknown factor. This also makes church income and CP income unknown. The result of these unknown factors has caused TBMB to recommend the same \$35 million budget with a very slight increase to the SBC portion. We have also recommended a staged approach where from the first \$25 million, 40% will be sent to SBC and 60% invested in Tennessee. In the second stage of \$5 million, the allocation will be 50-50. Finally, the last \$5 million will be 81.3% going to the SBC and only 18.7% to TBC causes. I want you to understand that this is only a one-year plan. Hopefully, when we get to 2022, the economy will have corrected and we can move back to our normal allocation procedures. The plan is needed to keep our TBMB staff strong and prepared to help our churches during this difficult time. Also, we have a responsibility to help our TBC institutions weather this time of great financial instability.

Let me take a moment to personally thank all of our Tennessee Baptist churches and church members who have been so generous in 2019-2020. This generosity has really been overwhelming even in the midst of an unprecedented challenge to our churches and our people. Your willingness to be generous has resulted in the gospel message being carried out in a powerful way all across Tennessee and the world. To quote Dr. Randy Davis speaking to the Board of Directors of TBMB on April 21, 2020, *"This is an unprecedented and unparalleled time for us. However, the opportunity is here for the church to experience a great spiritual awakening as more people hear the Gospel than in any other time in the history of Christianity in North America."*

One of the most difficult things TBMB did this year was to participate in the decision to indefinitely postpone the 2020 annual meeting of the Convention scheduled to meet at Brentwood Baptist Church in Brentwood, Tennessee. This decision was made after seeking the medical advice of some of our leading experts from all across the state, and after months of both prayer and difficult discussions. Our goals were simple: protect Tennessee Baptists, protect our Gospel witness in our state, and not negatively impact the finances of the local church.

Tennessee Baptists, it has been a joy to serve you and to serve alongside the incredible TBMB staff and directors. While there is much to be done, much has been done. Together, let us recommit ourselves to the task of the Gospel and discipleship. Together, we can see that more and more people go to Heaven from Tennessee and less and less go to Hell!

Clay Hallmark, Board Chair 2020
Tennessee Baptist Mission Board

Meetings and Actions of the Board of Directors

November 18, 2019 Meeting: The Board of Directors convened at First Baptist Concord, Knoxville, TN.

The following actions were taken:

1. Adopted the 2020 meeting calendar for Board of Directors and Board Committees.
2. Approved recommendation from Nominating Committee to elect directors, chairs, and vice chairs to the following standing committees: **Administrative Committee** – Glenn Metts, Chair; Marty Comer, Brenton Cox, Bill Espy, Mike Head, Eric Nichols, Sam Nichols, Dan Spencer, Victoria Tillman, Jay Wells, John Wilson; Clay Hallmark, Board Chair; Bruce Chesser, TBC President. **Baptism Objective Committee** – Jay Wells, Chair; Joshua Franks, Vice Chair; Mark Caldwell, Michael Cothren, David Cross, Matthew Greer, Beth Kirby, Vicki Thomason, Elaine Wells, Derek Westmoreland. **Budget and Ministry Committee** – Marty Comer, Chair; Josh Lancaster, Vice Chair; Jeff Bowden, Frank Bowling, Clay Hallmark, Pam Jenkins, Sandra Lemons, Vickie Ownby, Lanny Rose, Josh Stone. **Collegiate Ministries Committee** – Victoria Tillman, Chair; Shelby Lord, Vice Chair; Sam Brassell, Andrew Coleman, Yolanda Heuser, Andy Neely, Gene Price, Robert Tyson, Nathan Velasquez, Tony Wilson. **Conference Centers Committee** – John Wilson, Chair; Judy Hansard Vice Chair; Brock Brewer, Cindi Groomes, Cal Hampton, Marilyn Means, Michael Poore, Russell Rogers, Greg Steele, Ann Wilder. **Convention Coordinated Ministries Committee** – Brenton Cox, Chair; Chad Ball, Vice Chair; Sarah Arnold, Ken Brown, Tammy Collins, Lawrence Cotton, Jackie Manson, Joe Nix, James Roberts, Catherine Via. **New Churches Objective Committee** – Sam Nichols, Chair; David Simmerman, Vice Chair; Gerald Bontrager, Shirley Braden, Todd Haley, Monica Kemp, Wendy Salyer, Joseph Stegall, James Stophel, Steve Tiebout. **Partner Ministries Committee** – Bill Espy, Chair; Stan Smith, Vice Chair; Richard Bray, Gus Floodquist, Melissa Gordy, Sue Marlow, Keith Mowery, Susan Newman, Jim Parker, David Smith. **Properties Committee** – Mike Head, Chair; Ken Spiceland, Vice Chair; Jim Arwood, Allison Bowers, Stan Hammonds, Justin Hiens, Christy McInturff Huret, Amarilis Nunn, Gary Vandergriff, Scott White. **Resource Development Committee** – Dan Spencer, Chair; James Griffith, Vice Chair; Corey Cain, Bob Connerley, James Cortner, Libby Davis, Glenn Metts, Glenda Palmer, Martha Pitts, Danny Rachel. **Revitalized Churches Objective Committee** – Eric Nichols, Chair; Alan Price, Vice Chair; Arlene Bennett, Scott Brown, Tim Frank, Gale Hartley, Blake Montgomery, Jared Norris, Ashley Ray, Beverly Warner.

Certificates of appreciation were presented to the following Directors who rotated off the Board: Jim Acree, Edwin Alvarado, Pat Brown, Brian Gass, David Haynes, Ronnie Jackson, Mike Kemper, David Lawrence, Steve Marcum, Michael Martin, Patricia Miller, Jim Norman, Carolyn Outland, Gilberto Perez, Pete Perry, Justin Randolph, Michael Sams, Chuck Williams, and Jerry Winfield. The following Directors vacated their positions during the year and were acknowledged for their service as they resigned: Don Magee, Sherry Parish, Wayne Perkins, Diane Price, and Chris Young.

Plaques of appreciation were presented to officers concluding their respective terms of service: Mike Kemper, Chair and Clay Hallmark, Chair-Elect.

Meetings of the Administrative Committee acting as the Board

Because of the Coronavirus Disease (COVID-19) Pandemic, the in-person Board of Directors meeting originally scheduled for April 28, 2020 was cancelled due to the public health “shelter-in-place” state order. To timely act on several matters, the Administrative Committee was called to meet on three occasions and act as the Board, as authorized by TBMB Bylaws.

March 19, 2020 Meeting: The Administrative Committee acting as a Committee of the Board met virtually and the following actions were taken:

1. **Auditor Engagement:** The President and Executive Director and Administrative Director were authorized to execute an agreement with Capin Crouse, LLP to provide auditing services for fiscal years ending in 2020, 2021, and 2022, for a total contracted price of \$621,000.
2. **Golden Offering for Tennessee Missions Process and Guidelines Revisions:** Directors adopted the 2020-2021 Golden Offering for Tennessee Missions Process & Guidelines to direct the process for the allocation of GOTM funds each year.
3. **TBMB Ministry Group Policy:** The TBMB Ministry Group Policy was adopted to create a process and parameters for ministry groups to have a defined relationship with TBMB, thus allowing the ministry to operate under the auspices and control of TBMB, be covered by the tax-exempt status of TBMB, and be covered by TBMB liability insurance.

March 31, 2020 Meeting: The Administrative Committee acting as a Committee of the Board met virtually and the following actions were taken:

1. **Plan to Handle Reduced Income:** TBMB Administration was authorized to implement the “Joseph Plan” which included (a) hiring freeze on current open positions, with positions which might become open during the remainder of the fiscal year only being filled if there was a compelling strategic need; (b) 20% across-the-board reduction in Cooperative Program and in Golden Offering for Tennessee Missions budgets; (c) utilization of reserve funds as supplements to the 2020 TBMB operating budget; and (d) authorization to make application for a loan under the Paycheck Protection Program, a part of the CARES Act, in anticipation that the majority, if not all, of the loan would turn into a grant.
2. **Temporary Loan Program (Macedonian Loan):** TBMB Administration was authorized to implement a Temporary Loan Program for Churches with annual undesignated receipts of less than \$400,000 as reported on the 2019 Annual Church Profile and Associations utilizing the existing Disaster Relief Fund.
3. **Authorization for TBMB to apply for CARES Act Loan:** TBMB Administration was authorized to make application through a local banking relationship to the Small Business Administration for the maximum amount allowed under the Paycheck Protection Program. The funds were to be used as permitted under the program, replacing lost income due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

April 21, 2020 Meeting: The Board of Directors convened on a historical, first-ever virtual meeting in order to gather directors for an informational session. No action was taken by the Directors in this meeting.

June 23, 2020 Meeting: The Administrative Committee acting as a Committee of the Board met virtually and the following action was taken:

1. **Adoption of 2020-2021 Golden Offering for Tennessee Missions:** Directors adopted the 2020-2021 Golden Offering for Tennessee Missions goal in the amount of \$1,800,000 in two phases. Phase 2 allocation in the amount of \$300,000 will be finalized during January 2021 after reviewing the GOTM receipts for September through December 2020.

August 27, 2020 Meeting: The Board of Directors was included in a special ad hoc Body along with TBC Officers and TBC Committee on Arrangements. The actions of that body are recorded separately in this publication.

September 15, 2020 Meeting: The Board of Directors convened for a hybrid meeting in person at Thompson Station Church, Thompson's Station, TN and virtually via the Zoom online application.

The following actions were taken:

1. **Change of Committee Name:** Directors approved the name of the "Convention Coordinated Ministries Committee" be changed to "Missions and Ministries Committee." The new name has terminology found in the names of the four major areas that relate to the committee: Partnership Missions, Woman's Missionary Union, Disaster Relief Ministry, and Compassion Ministries.
2. **Amendment to the Director's Meal Reimbursement Policy:** Directors approved the reimbursement for meals purchased both in route to and from meetings of their committee or the full Board to change to a per diem rate, to be determined annually based on U.S. General Services Administration table on per diem rates. Directors will report the number of meals consumed with no receipts necessary.
3. **Plan for Equal Distribution of Cooperative Program Receipts:** Directors approved a plan for achieving an equal distribution of Cooperative Program funds between the Southern Baptist Convention and the Tennessee Baptist Convention, increasing the SBC percentage by 0.5% for every \$500,000 increase in the total Cooperative Program budget. The plan will start – and be recommended to messengers for adoption – when the total budget reaches \$35.5 million, at which point the SBC percentage will go to 48% and stop when the total budget reaches \$37.5 million and the SBC percentage will be 50%.
4. **Approval of Cooperative Program Allocations, TBMB, and Convention Operations Budgets for 2020-2021:** Directors recommended for adoption by the Board of Directors acting as the Tennessee Baptist Convention ad interim and for publication for comment by Tennessee Baptists the 2020 – 2021 Cooperative Program Budget goal of \$35,000,000, with \$800,000 allocated to Cooperative Program Administration and Promotion. The allocation of funds are to be broken down into three stages of \$25 million, \$5 million, and then \$5 million. Directors adopted the Tennessee Baptist Mission Board budget of \$16,775,935 based on Cooperative Program allocation of \$10,773,000, Golden Offering Income of \$1,800,000, and generated and other income of \$4,202,935. Directors also adopted the Convention Operations budget of \$1,691,700 based on Cooperative Program allocation of \$1,316,700 and generated and other income of \$375,000.
5. **Election of TBMB Board Chair-Elect for 2020-2021:** The Board Chair-Elect serves as chair of the Administrative Committee for one year and becomes the Board Chair the following year. Marty Comer, Sand Ridge Baptist Church, Lexington was elected as Board Chair-Elect 2020-2021.



TBMB Recommendation 1 – 2020-2021 Cooperative Program Allocation Budget

- 1) That the Board of Directors acting as the Tennessee Baptist Convention ad interim adopt the 2020 - 2021 Cooperative Program Budget goal of \$35,000,000, with \$800,000 allocated to Cooperative Program Administration and Promotion and with the remainder allocated as follows, provided that the goal is obtained:

a) Southern Baptist Convention	47.50%
b) TN Baptist Mission Board	31.50%
c) Carson-Newman University	5.27%
d) Union University	5.27%
e) Harrison-Chilhowee Baptist Academy	0.98%
f) TN Baptist Adult Homes	0.85%
g) TN Baptist Children's Homes	4.28%
h) TN Baptist Foundation	0.50%
i) Convention Operations	3.85%
Total	100.00%

- 2) That as a hedge against a significant economic downfall that the allocation of funds be broken down into three stages of \$25 million, \$5 million, and \$5 million, using the following allocation percentages:

Allocation to:	Stage 1	Stage 2	Stage 3	Total for all 3
a) Southern Baptist Convention	40.00%	50.00%	81.30%	47.50%
b) TN Baptist Mission Board	36.00%	29.70%	11.52%	31.50%
c) Carson-Newman University	5.86%	5.38%	2.31%	5.27%
d) Union University	5.86%	5.38%	2.31%	5.27%
e) Harrison-Chilhowee Baptist Academy	1.00%	1.00%	0.86%	0.98%
f) TN Baptist Adult Homes	0.87%	0.93%	0.67%	0.85%
g) TN Baptist Children's Homes	5.00%	4.30%	0.78%	4.28%
h) TN Baptist Foundation	0.60%	0.30%	0.22%	0.50%
i) Convention Operations	4.81%	3.01%	0.04%	3.85%
Total	100.00%	100.00%	100.00%	100.00%

See budget background material beginning on page 51

RECOMMENDATIONS

Tennessee Baptist Convention Cooperative Program Allocation Budget 2020 - 2021

Allocation	Adopted Budget 2019-20		Proposed Budget - 2020-21		Difference
	Amount	% of Budget	Amount	% of Budget	
Southern Baptist Convention	\$ 16,200,540	47.37%	\$ 16,245,000	47.50%	\$ 44,460
Tennessee Baptist Convention	\$ 17,999,460	52.63%	\$ 17,955,000	52.50%	\$ (44,460)
TN Baptist Mission Board	10,431,000	30.50%	10,773,000	31.50%	342,000
Carson-Newman University	1,822,860	5.33%	1,802,340	5.27%	(20,520)
Union University	1,822,860	5.33%	1,802,340	5.27%	(20,520)
Harrison-Chilhowee Baptist Academy	335,160	0.98%	335,160	0.98%	0
TN Baptist Adult Homes	290,700	0.85%	290,700	0.85%	0
TN Baptist Children's Homes	1,463,760	4.28%	1,463,760	4.28%	0
TN Baptist Foundation	171,000	0.50%	171,000	0.50%	0
Convention Operations	1,662,120	4.86%	1,316,700	3.85%	(345,420)
Total TBC Causes	17,999,460	52.63%	17,955,000	52.50%	(44,460)
Cooperative Program Allocation Amount	\$ 34,200,000	100.00%	\$ 34,200,000	100.00%	\$ -
Cooperative Program Admin. & Promo.	800,000		800,000		0
Cooperative Program Allocation Total	\$ 35,000,000		\$ 35,000,000		\$ -

Southern Baptist Convention Total Budget and Allocation

SBC Entity	SBC Budget		TBC Cooperative Program		Other State Coop. Prog.	Special Offerings	Other Income	Total Budget
International Mission Board	\$ 99,055,650	50.41%	\$ 8,189,105	23.94%	\$ 90,866,546	\$ 154,400,000	\$ 10,944,350	\$ 264,400,000
North American Mission Bd.	44,782,350	22.79%	3,702,236	10.83%	41,080,115	60,750,000	18,697,650	124,230,000
Seminaries								
Gateway	3,836,589	1.95%	317,178	0.93%	3,519,411		7,913,411	11,750,000
Midwestern	6,924,461	3.52%	572,457	1.67%	6,352,004		18,434,299	25,358,760
New Orleans	7,032,583	3.58%	581,396	1.70%	6,451,187		16,509,800	23,542,383
Southeastern	7,487,626	3.81%	619,015	1.81%	6,868,611		23,740,190	31,227,816
Southern	10,384,600	5.28%	858,513	2.51%	9,526,087		43,551,364	53,935,964
Southwestern	7,406,941	3.77%	612,345	1.79%	6,794,596		27,408,498	34,815,439
Historical Library	471,600	0.24%	38,988	0.11%	432,612		21,400	493,000
Total Seminaries	\$ 43,544,400	22.16%	\$ 3,599,892	10.53%	\$ 39,944,508		\$ 137,578,962	\$ 181,123,362
Ethics & Rel. Liberty Comm.	3,242,250	1.65%	268,043	0.78%	2,974,208		1,096,335	4,338,585
SBC Operating	5,875,350	2.99%	485,726	1.42%	5,389,625		1,824,650	7,700,000
Total SBC Allocations	\$ 196,500,000	100.00%	\$ 16,245,000	47.50%	\$ 180,255,000	\$ 215,150,000	\$ 170,141,947	\$ 581,791,947

TBC's portion of all gifts to Southern Baptist Convention

8.27%

All budget data comes from the 2019 Book of Reports to the Southern Baptist Convention. All institutional budgets are for the 2019-20 fiscal year.

Tennessee Baptist Mission Board Total Budget

Area	TN Cooperative Program	Golden Offering for TN Missions	Generated Income and Other Sources	Total Budget
TN Baptist Mission Board				
Objective 1: 50,000 Baptisms	\$ 1,630,466	\$ 120,000	\$ 454,100	\$ 2,204,566
Objective 2: 500 Revitalized Churches	337,752	105,000	-	442,752
Objective 3: 1,000 New Churches	408,916	480,000	340,000	1,228,916
Objective 5: Golden Offering for TN Missions	-	80,000	-	80,000
Church & Association Services	2,412,801	595,000	107,774	3,115,575
Minister Engagement	444,957	15,000	8,000	467,957
Baptist Collegiate Ministries	2,229,556	250,000	-	2,479,556
Womans Missionary Union	451,957	105,000	201,775	758,732
Conference Centers	380,000	-	1,949,552	2,329,552
Communication Services	789,770	-	346,000	1,135,770
Executive Leadership	743,702	50,000	-	793,702
Mission Support	943,123	-	795,734	1,738,857
TN Baptist Mission Board Total	\$ 10,773,000	\$ 1,800,000	\$ 4,202,935	\$ 16,775,935

Convention Operations Total Budget

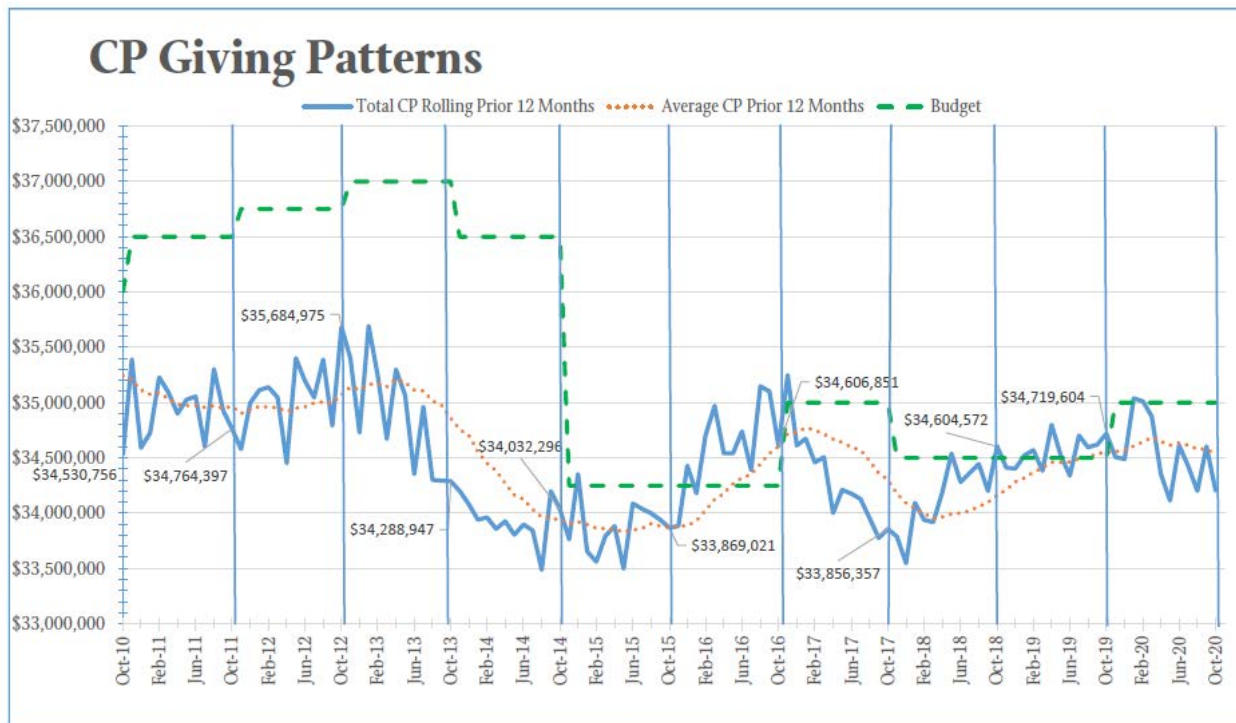
Area	TN Cooperative Program	Golden Offering for TN Missions	Generated Income and Other Sources	Total Budget
Convention Operations				
Convention Provided Ministries	\$ 649,213	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 649,213
Objective 4: 10% to Cooperative Program	518,707	-	350,000	868,707
Summit Meeting	148,780	-	25,000	173,780
Sub-total	\$ 1,316,700		\$ 375,000	\$ 1,691,700

Tennessee Baptist Convention Institutions' Total Budgets

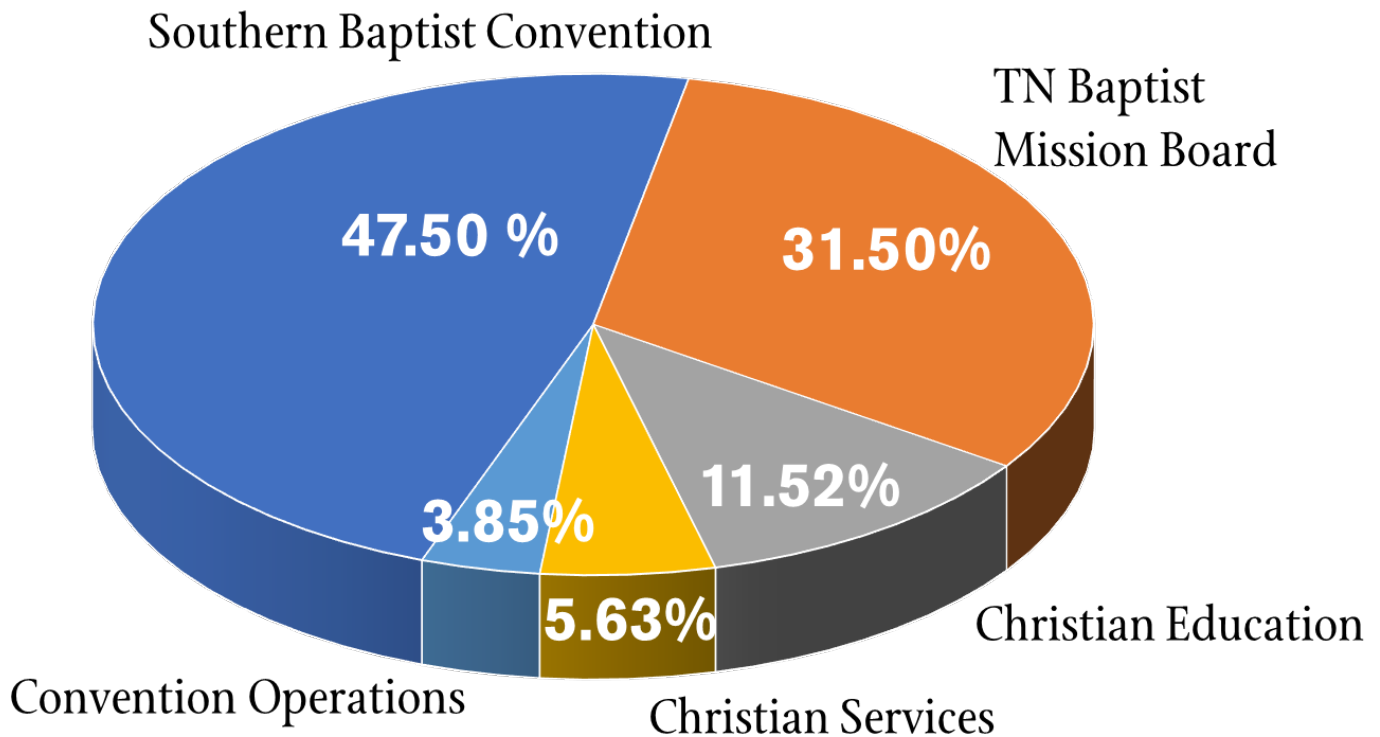
Area	TN Cooperative Program	Special Offerings	Generated Income and Other Sources	Total Budget
Convention Institutions				
Carson-Newman University	\$ 1,802,340		\$ 41,066,195	\$ 42,868,535
Union University	\$ 1,802,340		90,976,325	92,778,665
Harrison-Chilhowee Baptist Academy	\$ 335,160		5,010,685	5,345,845
TN Baptist Adult Homes	\$ 290,700	\$ 400,000	340,209	1,030,909
TN Baptist Children's Homes	\$ 1,463,760	2,000,000	4,336,240	7,800,000
TN Baptist Foundation	\$ 171,000		898,000	1,069,000
TBC Convention Institutions Total	\$ 5,865,300	\$ 2,400,000	\$ 142,627,654	\$ 150,892,954

Cooperative Program Giving Patterns

The *Business and Financial Plan* suggests that the annual Cooperative Program budget be set each year by looking at the Cooperative Program income for the 12-month period ending in May. The continuous (blue) line on the chart below shows this 12-month total for each month. The dotted (red) line shows a running average for the prior 12-month rolling periods. The dashed (green) line charts the annual budget for each year.



2020-2021 Proposed Cooperative Program Allocation Chart



Goal	\$35,000,000
CP Promotion & Administration	\$800,000
Allocation Total	\$34,200,000

PROGRESS

There has never been a season of societal reckoning like the one seen over the past few months. Think about it. The onset of a deadly pandemic caused a shutdown unlike anything we've ever experienced in our lifetime. America grappled with the issue of racism, security, inequities, and reform. Our economy continues to struggle with thousands of people losing jobs, refocusing the trajectory of their vocations, and changing their future. In the midst of all these challenges, we have seen God's people courageously stepping forward to advance the timeless message of grace to a searching culture. We can say with even more certainty that Tennessee is a mission field. In the midst of all the overwhelming circumstances we've faced, God has done amazing things through our churches. This year was different, to say the least, but our Five Objectives remain the focus of our prayers, strategies, and effort.

Objective 1

Seeing at least 50,000 Tennesseans annually saved, baptized, and set on the road to discipleship by 2024.

Because of COVID-19, Tennessee Baptists have innovated like never before to win Tennessee for Jesus. On the eve of the Youth Evangelism Conference, TBMB leaders arrived at the disappointing decision that the event had to be canceled to comply with the public health standards of safety and protection for our participants. On a large scale we were making decisions that all churches were having to make as the virus penetrated our state and country. That evening was the beginning of a new reality. We pivoted. The virus required that we move many meetings to virtual formats and venues. Churches understood this challenge and we witnessed an unusual movement of God despite the restrictions of the day. For example, churches did virtual VBS and saw kids come to know Jesus. One church member said their 7-year-old daughter had been participating in VBS and asking questions about salvation. Her parents were able to lead her to Christ as a family. "That is why we do Vacation Bible School!" one church leader said. Through the work of TBMB, hundreds of leaders were trained in evangelism, Sunday School, and church growth with relevant tools to aid us as we adapted to the new normal. We've heard reports of churches reaching out to their communities and finding an even richer, more fertile openness to the Gospel. We are still finding the ratio of 5.6 new baptisms per 100 members across our churches, but we are prepared to see a growth in baptisms as we move forward.

Tennesseans are hungry for hope. Our churches are more strategically and technologically prepared to share the Good News in every home in the state. We pray that God imbues us with a zeal for the lost and strengthens our whatever-it-takes mindset to see more people come to follow Jesus.

Objective 2

Having at least 500 Tennessee Baptist churches revitalized by 2024.

The passion for revitalization has never been stronger in Tennessee. We have seen so many plateaued and declining churches innovate through the crisis with promising results. Just a year ago, many of our churches had limited or no presence in social media. Now almost every church has a presence on the internet and many have become very proficient in using technology as a tool for growth and outreach as well as virtual worship. Single service schedules have grown to multiple services or multi-location. Those seeing 100+ percentage gain in attendance have implemented a live in-house worship in addition to a parking lot accessible service while also live-streaming. Churches utilizing multiple times and locations for worship have seen professions of faith and new guests increase.



Since 2019 the Church Revitalization Team has transitioned from an event-driven approach to engaging churches in an ongoing coach-based/learning community accountability strategy. Thirty individuals from all seven harvest fields are being trained to help churches implement our new TBMB- specific strategy built upon Return to Me by Claude King.

Objective 3

Planting and strategically engaging at least 1,000 new churches by 2024.

How can we plant churches in the midst of such overwhelming challenges? The answer is found in those recurring two words nested throughout the Bible: “But God...”

Over 30 churches have been planted throughout 2019 and 2020. Forty-eight of the 143 ethnic groups in our state have been engaged through church planting. There has been a dramatic rise in the number of church plants and new churches across Tennessee since 2014. We have seen an increase of churches in our network willing to plant new congregations. This year has been a continuation of the momentum Tennessee Baptists have personified since 2014. The number of cooperating TBC churches involved in church planting has increased from 2 percent to 4 percent. Many of these plants are happening among the growing number of ethnic groups in Tennessee that we are now engaging with the gospel. Our all-consuming desire is to make sure every Tennessean has an opportunity to connect with a local body of believers, regardless of race, language, or background.

Objective 4

Realizing an increase in annual local church giving through the Cooperative Program that reaches at least 10 percent by 2024.

The generosity and passion of Tennessee Baptists is best illustrated by their unflinching commitment to fund missions in Tennessee and around the world through the Cooperative Program. When the pandemic began, we prepared for the worst. But instead we experienced God’s best. While many predicted that we would see a dramatic decrease in Cooperative Program giving in the second half of the fiscal year, the givers of Tennessee kept on giving. This was nothing short of courageous. Instead of a 20% decline, we experienced a decline of only roughly 2%. We know that difficult days may be beyond the horizon, but we continue to celebrate a convention of churches committed to funding the call to reach the world with the gospel.

Objective 5

Realizing an increase in annual giving for the Golden Offering for Tennessee Missions that reaches at least \$3 million by 2024.

As with the Cooperative Program, our churches achieved the unimaginable in the midst of a pandemic. Churches from Memphis to Mountain City broke the all-time record for Golden Offering for Tennessee Missions. At the final count, you gave \$1,949,987.44! That’s over \$20,000 more than last year, which was also a record. How could we do this? It’s simple. Our churches realize that Tennessee is a mission field. One hundred percent of your gifts are used here in Tennessee to minister to people’s spiritual and physical needs. All across our state, lives are being changed through ministries that are supported by the Golden Offering. Any way you slice it, Tennessee is a mission field and Tennessee Baptists understand that.

Other Highlights

Tennessee Baptist Disaster Relief

Along with the emergence of COVID-19, our nation has faced unprecedented natural disasters and Tennessee Baptists responded powerfully. Throughout the hurricanes of 2020, over 15,000 work hours were performed by scores of trained volunteers who gave of their time, gifts, and skills to change the lives of thousands. Over 400,000 meals were served in ravished areas of Louisiana and Texas. And greater still, over 250 new souls received eternal life through the witness of faithful servants in yellow hats. To God be the glory!

Deeper Connections

In the early days of COVID-19, TBMB staff reached out to TBC pastors and ministers. Between March 17 and March 31, TBMB staff recorded in our database 7,088 contacts with TBC churches, accounting for every one of the 3,157 churches affiliated with the convention. Every church received at least one additional contact in April. Between March 17 and August 25, TBMB staff made a total of 39,919 contacts with pastors and ministers through phone calls, personal contacts, texts, email and written notes with the vast majority of the contacts being personal phone calls.

New Vision

Through this year we've been developing a plan to help equip pastors and leaders through the forthcoming Ministry Training Institute. Dr. Roger "Sing" Oldham is visioning this new strategy. We are thrilled with the potential of enriching ministers and leaders in the days ahead. We believe that God will use this new venture to train a new generation of spiritual warriors to win Tennessee for Jesus.

Randy C. Davis

President and Executive Director

Tennessee Baptist Mission Board

2020 REPORT

Baptist AND Reflector
TELLING THE STORY OF TENNESSEE BAPTISTS SINCE 1835

The *Baptist and Reflector* (B&R) continues to strive to produce articles and columns that impact Tennessee Baptist Convention churches. As with the rest of the world, one of the major emphases in 2020 has been publishing articles to help TBC churches deal with the COVID-19 crisis in the country. In addition, just before the pandemic started to peak in March, B&R provided extensive coverage of tornado damage through Middle Tennessee and later in the Chattanooga-Cleveland area of East Tennessee.

Also this year, the *B&R* is focusing on its 185th anniversary as a Baptist state paper. The paper was established in 1835 by Editor R.B.C. Howell, who also was the pastor of First Baptist Church, Nashville. The first issue of *THE BAPTIST* was published on January 1 of that year. The paper would eventually become the present day *Baptist and Reflector*. It is one of the longest, continuously published papers in the United States.

The *B&R* is mailed to more than 18,300 homes 26 weeks a year, reaching nearly 50,000 readers.

In addition, the *B&R* website has grown steadily since it was introduced in late 2015. From January through mid-July of this year we have had 167,300 visitors and 343,900 page views. The number of visitors is more than double what the website had at the same time last year and the page views have increased by more than 140,000 over the same time frame.

The goal of the paper is to “tell the story of Tennessee Baptists” through news, feature stories, and photographs. As in the past, the paper this year placed a major emphasis on what Tennessee Baptists are doing to reach the world for Christ by focusing on stories related to missions and evangelism. This year the paper has focused on timely topics such as domestic violence that impact Tennessee Baptists and TBC churches.

The *Baptist and Reflector* continued to utilize social media tools in 2020 such as Twitter and Facebook. Editor Lonnie Wilkey regularly writes a blog that provides information for Tennessee Baptists between print issues.

The staff monitors trends that could affect Tennessee Baptists and prints those stories to keep readers informed. In addition, opinions, both from the editor and others, are printed and are intended to make readers think, reflect, and act.

The paper continually seeks to enlist new subscribers. The Church Trial Plan has been reintroduced. We need more churches to send the paper to their leadership such as deacons, Sunday School teachers, etc. We are asking every reader of the *B&R* for the next year to consider sending one subscription to someone they know. If just a small percentage of our readers would do this, our print circulation would significantly increase. For more information about subscription plans, call the *Baptist & Reflector* office at 1-800-558-2090 or (615) 371-2003.

Lonnie Wilkey, Editor

Baptist AND Reflector

TELLING THE STORY OF TENNESSEE BAPTISTS SINCE 1835

The *Baptist and Reflector* is the official newsjournal of the Tennessee Baptist Convention, featuring Tennessee Baptist news and feature stories, church news, and much more. Its beginnings can be traced back to 1835, making it one of the oldest Baptist papers in the Southern Baptist Convention. The paper is published 26 times each year.

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contact Mary Nimmo at
mnimmo@tnbaptist.org
or call (615) 371-2003.*

TMB Tennessee Baptist
MISSION BOARD

Tennessee Baptist Churches giving through the *Cooperative Program* and the *Golden Offering for Tennessee Missions* make TBMB ministries possible.

2020 REPORT



In 2019-2020, Tennessee WMU continued to challenge Tennessee Baptists in their unshakable pursuit to know God more, show His love unconditionally, and make disciples who make disciples. This report shares information about some of the state events, ministries, and initiatives that have taken place.

Last fall, 698 children and leaders attended three regional JAMs (Journey into Adventures in Missions), a missions event for children in grades 1-6 and leaders. Children learned what it means to go everywhere and tell the Good News to everyone, they met missionaries from around the world, and they collected 149 Christmas Backpacks.

Over 500 boys and leaders attended the 2019 Royal Ambassadors (RA) Camp-O-Ree at Linden Valley Baptist Conference Center on October 18-19. This missions camping event for boys grades 1-12 is hosted by Mid-South Royal Ambassadors and Tennessee WMU. Boys participated in a multitude of activities, challenges, and crafts while enjoying the great outdoors, meeting missionaries, and enjoying two action-packed worship services.

Retreat was held on September 6-7, 2019. Forty parents of IMB missionaries gathered with program personnel for fellowship, information, prayer, and encouragement at the TBMB Church Support Center in Franklin. The retreat attendees were encouraged to return to their churches and thank them for their support of the Tennessee Missionary Parents Fellowship through gifts to the Golden Offering for Tennessee Missions.

In December 2019, Tennessee WMU mailed Christmas Checks on behalf of Tennessee Baptists to missionary kids and retired missionaries.

- Checks for \$150 were sent to 20 missionary kids whose parents serve with the International Mission Board (IMB) and are from Tennessee.
- Checks for \$50 were sent to 104 retired IMB missionaries who were born in Tennessee.

These gifts are made possible through an allocation from the Golden Offering for Tennessee Missions for nurturing Tennessee missionaries and their families.

In the Spring of 2020, concerns about COVID-19 virus were growing and several 2020 events had to be cancelled like Get-Together & Connection, Tennessee WMU Annual Meeting, and RA Wilderness Challenge. Out of the challenges and changes arose some new ways to utilize digital resources:

- Zoom with a Missionary – scheduled Zoom meetings with missionaries and children/youth missions discipleship groups hosted by Tennessee WMU.
- LeaderConnect – Zoom meetings for missions and ministry leaders for training and networking.
- Facebook Pages and Groups – New Facebook groups were started for targeted missions and ministry leaders to coincide with efforts to network and resource leaders and participants more.

In March 2020, \$34,200 in scholarships were awarded to 29 students attending graduate school, seminary, and undergraduate schools in Tennessee during the 2020-2021 school year. These scholarships are funded through endowments, invested funds, and the Golden Offering for Tennessee Missions.

As part of Tennessee WMU's Denver Prayer Advocacy Partnership, over the past three years, 24 ladies have served through six mission teams to Denver. The teams worked with 14 different church planters to prayer walk and engage the communities surrounding the church plants. The two teams scheduled to go in April and May of 2020 had to be cancelled. In June, we

2020 REPORT

Two missionary kids (MK) from Tennessee were provided travel assistance funds to attend the MK Re-Entry Retreat in Indiana during August 2020 hosted by Indiana WMU, Kentucky WMU, and the IMB.

Literacy Missions ministries are helping bring Tennesseans to Christ. There are 68 “registered” churches/associations English as a Second Language (ESL), Adult Reading & Writing (ARW), or Tutoring Children & Youth (TCY) ministry sites. These sites reported having participants from more than 25 countries, speaking 11 different languages who are being taught English and are engaged with the gospel.

Christian Women’s Job Corps and Christian Men’s Job Corps are ministries of WMU that seek to help men and women break the cycle of poverty through job and life skill classes, Bible study, and mentoring. Last year the 21 sites in Tennessee reported serving 2,855 participants. There were 182 men and women who completed the program and 32 recorded professions of faith.

Missionary Houses in Mt. Juliet – Mary’s House (WMU House) and the Missions Mobilization Center (MMC) House - continue to be a hub of activity as they provide a place for our missionaries to rest and reconnect with family and friends. The Worthy family arrived at Mary’s House in June 2020 and will stay through May 2021. Frank and Sheri Moran arrived at the MMC House in April 2020 and will stay through October 2020 unless they receive clearance sooner to return to the mission field (delay due to COVID-19 restrictions).

The theme for the 2019-2020 Tennessee Missions Emphasis was “See Tennessee, Go Harvest.” The suggested dates for the Week of Prayer for State Missions were September 13-20, and the goal for the 2019-2020 Golden Offering for Tennessee Missions was \$2,100,000. The total amount given was \$1,949,987.44, the highest amount given in the offering 118-year history. The offering year goes from September 1 – August 31.

For we are laborers together with God,

Martha Pitts, President

Vickie Anderson, Executive Director-Treasurer



2020 REPORT

The Committee on Audits met on February 18, 2020 to review the audits and management letters of the various institutions.

Representatives of the audit firms were in attendance and Mark McSwain was re-elected to serve as chair for 2021.

John Crosslin, David Hunt, and Jennifer Manternach of Crosslin, PLLC, Nashville, reviewed the 2019 audits of the following entities:

- Tennessee Baptist Mission Board
- Carson-Newman University
- Union University
- Harrison-Chilhowee Baptist Academy
- Tennessee Baptist Adult Homes, Inc.
- Tennessee Baptist Children's Homes, Inc.
- Tennessee Baptist Foundation

The committee examined the audits and financial condition of the various organizations, and all issues were addressed. Each received an unmodified opinion from the auditors. Audit findings and recommendations were considered.

In April, the committee sent a letter of concern to Tennessee Baptist Adult Homes about the ongoing financial operations of the institution, extending a prayer for wisdom, patience, and endurance as the entity works on possible solutions.

Andrew Warren and John West of Deloitte & Touche, Nashville, reviewed the 2019 audit of Baptist Memorial Health Care System, Inc. of Memphis and Affiliated Entities (BMHCC). The hospital received an unmodified opinion on the audit with no major issues arising.

The following members were recognized as they rotate off the committee (2017-2020): Bradley Davis, Randy Kellough, David Parker, Amanda Spann, and Sonya Stophel.

Mark McSwain, Chair 2020
TBC Committee on Audits

2020 Committee on Boards Report

The Committee on Boards respectfully submits the following report to the messengers to the annual meeting of the Tennessee Baptist Convention and recommends its adoption and therefore the election of the individuals listed to the boards and committees and terms as indicated. The Committee represents to the messengers that each individual meets the criteria for the position as defined by the Convention bylaws, including the requirement that persons elected to a position "will, if elected, covenant to serve in accordance with, and not contrary to, the Baptist Faith and Message 2000." Please refer to the footnotes at the conclusion of the report for information on the sources of the Cooperative Program data. Because of differences in accounting years and other timing issues, the Cooperative Program percentage may not match the percentage used in the individual church budgets.

Pos. #	Nominee	V/L	Church, Church City, Association	CP Rank*	2019 CP**	CP%***
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Baptist Memorial Health Care System, Inc.

Nominated for an additional term

Term Ending Year 2023

West Grand Region

7	Ronald Kirkland	(L)	Jackson First, Jackson, Madison-Chester	52	\$119,501	8.57%
8	Anita Haines	(L)	Germantown, Germantown, Mid-South	37	\$150,583	2.50%
9	Joe Weller	(L)	Bellevue, Cordova, Mid-South	1	\$800,004	3.28%

Carson-Newman University

New Nomination

Term Ending Year 2023

East Grand Region

28	Marcus Stinnett	(L)	Newport First, Newport, East Tennessee	266	\$29,854	5.72%
32	John Harrison	(V)	First Concord, Knoxville, Knox County	99	\$70,917	0.87%
33	Jim Mathis	(V)	Morristown First, Morristown, Nolachucky	23	\$197,200	8.24%
34	Marvin Cameron	(V)	Kingsport First, Kingsport, Sullivan	9	\$295,283	12.14%
35	Marshall White	(L)	Manley, Morristown, Nolachucky	91	\$75,000	3.93%
36	Jonathan Manfull	(L)	Calvary (E), Erwin, Holston	201	\$40,008	8.43%

West Grand Region

30	David Sayle	(L)	Germantown, Germantown, Mid-South	37	\$150,583	2.50%
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Nominated for an additional term

Term Ending Year 2022

East Grand Region

18	William Seale	(L)	Morristown First, Morristown, Nolachucky	23	\$197,200	8.24%
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Term Ending Year 2023

East Grand Region

25	Hong Tjoa	(L)	Dandridge First, Dandridge, Jefferson County	58	\$106,073	9.70%
27	Donald Parker	(L)	Mount Harmony, Knoxville, Knox County	184	\$44,180	7.82%
29	Thomas Harmon	(L)	Dandridge First, Dandridge, Jefferson County	58	\$106,073	9.70%
31	Barry Steelman	(L)	Red Bank, Chattanooga, Hamilton County	11	\$269,444	8.82%

Committee on Committees

New Nomination

Term Ending Year 2021

Middle Grand Region

2	Jerry Pullum	(V)	Trinity, Manchester, Duck River	113	\$64,081	11.24%
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Term Ending Year 2023

East Grand Region

13	Gary Elmore	(V)	Point Pleasant, Newport, East Tennessee	1424	\$2,138	7.54%
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Committee on Committees

15	David Hankal	(V)	Roan Creek, Mountain City, Watauga	699	\$8,500	6.59%
<i>Middle Grand Region</i>						
11	Will Turner	(V)	Silver Springs, Mount Juliet, Wilson County	115	\$63,474	11.90%
12	Tim Hensiek	(V)	Manchester First, Manchester, Duck River	34	\$158,869	10.43%
<i>West Grand Region</i>						
14	Hernan Gimenez	(V)	Macon Road Hispana, Arlington, Mid-South	1580	\$1,555	4.79%

Harrison-Chilhowee Baptist Academy

New Nomination

Term Ending Year 2021

East Grand Region

4	Roger Robinson	(L)	Sweetwater First, Sweetwater, Sweetwater	237	\$33,647	7.48%
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Term Ending Year 2022

East Grand Region

10	Daniel Finchum	(L)	Holston, Strawberry Plains, Knox County	707	\$8,250	3.29%
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Term Ending Year 2023

East Grand Region

20	Joe Van Hook	(L)	Oliver Springs First, Oliver Springs, Clinton	541	\$12,322	7.97%
21	Tiffany Webb	(L)	Sevier Heights, Knoxville, Knox County	17	\$235,000	2.20%

Nominated for an additional term

Term Ending Year 2023

East Grand Region

17	Kevin Keck	(L)	Valley Grove, Knoxville, Knox County	70	\$91,463	7.12%
18	Corey Jones	(V)	Middle Creek, Oliver Springs, Big Emory Assoc	468	\$14,839	5.11%
19	Richard Wallace	(L)	Sevierville First, Sevierville, Sevier County	4	\$421,732	8.35%

Tennessee Baptist Adult Homes, Inc.

New Nomination

Term Ending Year 2021

Middle Grand Region

1	Brandon Owen	(V)	Brentwood, Brentwood, Nashville	21	\$205,500	0.79%
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Term Ending Year 2023

East Grand Region

15	Joe Collins	(L)	Calvary, Elizabethton, Watauga	172	\$45,747	12.01%
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West Grand Region

16	Greg Stanford	(V)	Natchez Trace, Camden, Carroll-Benton	668	\$9,227	10.57%
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Nominated for an additional term

Term Ending Year 2023

Middle Grand Region

17	Tracy Lening	(L)	Barton's Creek, Lebanon, Wilson County	218	\$37,429	7.13%
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West Grand Region

13	Michael Ellis	(V)	Impact, Memphis, Mid-South	1232	\$3,103	6.42%
14	Sherry Scruggs	(L)	Hickory Grove, Trenton, Gibson	1165	\$3,545	5.64%

Tennessee Baptist Children's Homes, Inc.

New Nomination

Term Ending Year 2023

Middle Grand Region

19	Tim McGehee	(V)	Grace, Tullahoma, Duck River	83	\$80,304	12.31%
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West Grand Region

26	Angela Inman	(V)	Lexington First, Lexington, Beech River	32	\$175,169	12.20%
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Nominated for an additional term

Term Ending Year 2023

East Grand Region

22	Randall Roper	(V)	Rockwood First, Rockwood, Big Emory Assoc	143	\$52,223	8.50%
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25	Todd Hallman	(V)	Elizabethton First, Elizabethton, Watauga	104	\$68,201	10.04%
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Middle Grand Region

20	Brad Warren	(V)	Covenant (B), Brentwood, Nashville	327	\$22,748	6.72%
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23	Melanie Dunn	(L)	Nashville First, Nashville, Nashville	27	\$189,209	6.52%
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West Grand Region

24	Sara Jane Via	(L)	Cross Roads, Bells, Crockett County	784	\$6,971	9.77%
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27	Deron Myers	(L)	Fisherville First, Eads, Mid-South	153	\$50,000	4.79%
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Tennessee Baptist Foundation Board

New Nomination

Term Ending Year 2022

East Grand Region

9	Chris Pass	(V)	Grandview, Maryville, Chilhowee	677	\$8,997	3.95%
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Nominated for an additional term

Term Ending Year 2023

East Grand Region

11	John Caldwell	(L)	Kingsport First, Kingsport, Sullivan	9	\$295,283	12.14%
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Middle Grand Region

13	Lisa Francisco	(V)	Brentwood, Brentwood, Nashville	21	\$205,500	0.79%
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14	Phil Jones	(V)	Judson, Nashville, Nashville	57	\$106,523	3.23%
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Union University

New Nomination

Term Ending Year 2023

East Grand Region

39	Charles (Chuck) Baker	(L)	Pleasant Grove, Hixson, Hamilton County	1427	\$2,118	1.07%
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West Grand Region

37	Harry Smith	(L)	Bellevue, Cordova, Mid-South	1	\$800,004	3.28%
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Union University

Nominated for an additional term

Term Ending Year 2023

Middle Grand Region

41	Robyn Hari	(L)	ClearView, Franklin, Nashville	15	\$240,275	7.00%
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Out Of State

40	Noe Garcia	(V)	North Phoenix, Phoenix, AZ, AZ,		\$61,667	1.42%
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West Grand Region

9	Jake Bynum	(L)	Dresden First, Dresden, Weakley County	128	\$55,228	11.01%
34	James Farmer	(L)	Paris First, Paris, Western District	28	\$186,246	13.76%
35	Peggy Graves	(L)	Englewood, Jackson, Madison-Chester	14	\$249,336	3.45%
36	David Guthrie	(L)	Dyersburg First, Dyersburg, Dyer	47	\$131,377	9.22%
42	Justin Wainscott	(V)	Jackson First, Jackson, Madison-Chester	52	\$119,501	8.57%
43	Joshua Dougan	(L)	Jackson First, Jackson, Madison-Chester	52	\$119,501	8.57%
44	Steve Gaines	(V)	Bellevue, Cordova, Mid-South	1	\$800,004	3.28%

***CP Rank** - This number represents where this church ranked in total dollar giving out of the churches that gave through the Cooperative Program during the 2018-2019 fiscal year.

****2019 CP** - Actual amount of Cooperative Program dollars received from Church in Accounting Office of TBMB during period of November 1, 2018 through October 31, 2019.

*****CP%** - Calculated by dividing the 2019 CP number by the Undesignated Receipts for that Church as provided by the Church on the Annual Church Profile in 2019.

(V) Vocational Minister, (L) Layperson

Union University has requested, and the Committee on Boards has agreed, to not recommend anyone for appointment to Position #38 on the Board of Trust for Union University. Under the Tennessee Nonprofit Incorporation Act, Mr. Chad Wilson will remain in this position until he resigns or is replaced.

The Committee on Boards and Committee on Committees have worked diligently this year to carry out their duties of nominating individuals to serve as directors of Tennessee Baptist Mission Board (TBMB), trustees of Convention institutions, and members of Convention committees. These reports are being published as required by the Convention bylaws.

However, with the indefinite suspension (cancellation) of the 2020 Annual Meeting, TBMB directors will consider these reports, as authorized in the Convention bylaws, in a called virtual meeting of the Board on November 11, 2020. Whereas TBMB directors may not elect their own members, nominees for TBMB have been removed from the Committee on Boards report. TBMB directors whose terms expire in 2020 will continue to serve for an additional year until replaced by messengers, as provided in the Tennessee Nonprofit Corporation Act.

Any Tennessee Baptist wishing to comment on these reports should contact the Committee on Boards or Committee on Committees through Tammy Harris, committee assistant at tharris@tnbaptist.org or by calling the Church Support Center in Franklin.

2020 Committee on Committees Report

The Committee on Committees respectfully submits the following report to the messengers to the annual meeting of the Tennessee Baptist Convention and recommends its adoption and therefore the election of the individuals listed to the committees and terms as indicated. The Committee represents to the messengers that each individual meets the criteria for the position as defined by the Convention bylaws, including the requirement that persons elected to a position "will, if elected, covenant to serve in accordance with, and not contrary to, the Baptist Faith and Message 2000." Please refer to the footnotes at the conclusion of the report for information on the sources of the Cooperative Program data. Because of differences in accounting years and other timing issues, the Cooperative Program percentage may not match the percentage used in the individual church budgets.

Pos. #	Nominee	V/L	Church, Church City, Association	CP Rank*	2019 CP**	CP%***
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Committee on Arrangements

New Nomination

Term Ending Year 2023

East Grand Region

13	Larry Pugh	(V)	Prospect, Walland, Chilhowee	998	\$4,714	6.25%
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Middle Grand Region

12	Phillip Dunn	(V)	Mount Juliet First, Mount Juliet, Wilson County	87	\$78,765	3.51%
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14	Keith Wilson	(V)	Williams Chapel, Springfield, Robertson County	1538	\$1,716	3.13%
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15	Chad Ramsey	(V)	Smithville First, Smithville, Salem	277	\$28,352	8.06%
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West Grand Region

11	Barron Martin	(V)	One Faith, Millington, Mid-South	2098	\$250	1.82%
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Committee on Audits

New Nomination

Term Ending Year 2023

East Grand Region

12	Preston Cobb	(L)	Russellville, Russellville, Nolachucky	380	\$18,863	4.95%
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13	Coby Goins	(V)	Waterville, Cleveland, CrossNet	285	\$27,565	5.66%
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Middle Grand Region

11	David Ward	(V)	Redemption, Columbia, At Large	2119	\$210	0.82%
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14	Amanda Jones	(L)	Howell First, Fayetteville, William Carey	731	\$7,710	9.97%
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West Grand Region

15	Todd Wilson	(V)	Munford, Munford, Big Hatchie	186	\$43,875	11.07%
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Committee on Boards

New Nomination

Term Ending Year 2023

Middle Grand Region

13	Steve Hutson	(V)	Murfreesboro Third, Murfreesboro, Concord	44	\$134,360	8.28%
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15	Bruce Raley	(V)	Hendersonville First, Hendersonville, Bledsoe	5	\$388,823	3.56%
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West Grand Region

12	Lana Gilbreath	(L)	Smyrna, Burlison, Big Hatchie	227	\$36,014	19.29%
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14	Kevin Mullins	(V)	White Hall, Trenton, Gibson	234	\$34,457	18.15%
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Nominated for an additional term

Term Ending Year 2023

East Grand Region

11	John Tackett	(V)	Antioch, Johnson City, Holston	245	\$32,414	6.88%
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2020 REPORT

Committee on Constitution and Bylaws

New Nomination

Term Ending Year 2023

East Grand Region

13	Tim Bray	(V)	Morristown First, Morristown, Nolachucky	23	\$197,200	8.24%
15	George Miller	(V)	Grace Point, Talbott, Nolachucky	673	\$9,053	6.20%

Middle Grand Region

12	Joe King	(L)	Greenbrier First, Greenbrier, Robertson County	176	\$45,130	10.43%
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West Grand Region

11	David Worley	(V)	Bethel, Greenfield, Weakley County	60	\$102,678	16.54%
14	Marty Phillips	(L)	Hillcrest, Jackson, Madison-Chester	188	\$42,644	10.13%

Committee on Credentials

New Nomination

Term Ending Year 2021

East Grand Region

2	Matthew Cannon	(V)	Lee Village, Harriman, Big Emory Assoc	721	\$8,029	4.60%
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Term Ending Year 2023

East Grand Region

11	Scott Linginfelter	(V)	Mount Carmel, Maryville, Chilhowee	535	\$12,698	4.83%
12	Toby Brogden	(V)	Calhoun First, Calhoun, McMinn-Meigs	458	\$15,000	4.95%

Middle Grand Region

13	Bo Hendrix	(V)	Gum Springs, Walling, Union	838	\$6,414	2.85%
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West Grand Region

14	Brent Willis	(V)	Mary's Chapel, Ripley, Dyer	493	\$14,037	7.76%
15	Enmanuel Gudiel	(V)	Paris First, Paris, Western District	28	\$186,246	13.76%

Committee on Resolutions

New Nomination

Term Ending Year 2022

West Grand Region

10	Kevin Sellars	(V)	RoEllen, Dyersburg, Dyer	706	\$8,287	7.68%
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Term Ending Year 2023

East Grand Region

14	Robert Collins	(V)	Broadway, Maryville, Chilhowee	100	\$70,637	6.93%
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Middle Grand Region

12	David Buffaloe	(V)	Riverview, Columbia, Maury	692	\$8,616	5.20%
15	Shannon Benefiel	(V)	Hendersonville First, Hendersonville, Bledsoe	5	\$388,823	3.56%

West Grand Region

11	Kelvin Bowen	(V)	Christ Fellowship, Memphis, Mid-South	1993	\$450	0.63%
13	David Leavell	(V)	Bellevue, Cordova, Mid-South	1	\$800,004	3.28%

2020 REPORT

Historical Committee

New Nomination

Term Ending Year 2023

East Grand Region

11	Brooke Boone	(V)	Roan Mountain First, Roan Mountain, Watauga	558	\$11,881	7.06%
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Middle Grand Region

12	Jeff Owens	(V)	McMinnville First, McMinnville, Central	464	\$14,866	2.37%
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West Grand Region

13	Lorri Skelton	(L)	Wards Grove, Lexington, Madison-Chester	719	\$8,064	7.78%
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14	Thomas Foy	(V)	Kirk, Collierville, Fayette Assoc	377	\$19,150	6.84%
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15	Marvin Downing	(L)	Martin First, Martin, Beulah	75	\$85,662	5.28%
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**CP Rank - This number represents where this church ranked in total dollar giving out of the churches that gave through the Cooperative Program during the 2018-2019 fiscal year.*

***2019 CP - Actual amount of Cooperative Program dollars received from Church in Accounting Office of TBMB during period of November 1, 2018 through October 31, 2019.*

****CP% - Calculated by dividing the 2019 CP number by the Undesignated Receipts for that Church as provided by the Church on the Annual Church Profile in 2019.*

(V) Vocational Minister, (L) Layperson

The Committee on Boards and Committee on Committees have worked diligently this year to carry out their duties of nominating individuals to serve as directors of Tennessee Baptist Mission Board (TBMB), trustees of Convention institutions, and members of Convention committees. These reports are being published as required by the Convention bylaws.

However, with the indefinite suspension (cancellation) of the 2020 Annual Meeting, TBMB directors will consider these reports, as authorized in the Convention bylaws, in a called virtual meeting of the Board on November 11, 2020. Whereas TBMB directors may not elect their own members, nominees for TBMB have been removed from the Committee on Boards report. TBMB directors whose terms expire in 2020 will continue to serve for an additional year until replaced by messengers, as provided in the Tennessee Nonprofit Corporation Act.

Any Tennessee Baptist wishing to comment on these reports should contact the Committee on Boards or Committee on Committees through Tammy Harris, committee assistant at tharris@tnbaptist.org or by calling the Church Support Center in Franklin.



2020 REPORT

“I remember the days of old; I meditate on all that you have done; I ponder the work of your hands.” - Psalm 143:5

The Historical Committee met on March 10 at 10:30 AM at the Southern Baptist Convention in Nashville, Tennessee. The committee members present were Chair Carter Carroll, Carolyn Campbell, Chris Chambers, Ira Ginn, Bruce Lyttle, and Donna Pearl. The present staff were Bill Choate and Jessica Couch. The absent committee members were Terry Council, John Dent, Lynn Hartsell, Marilyn Holmes, Anita Jacobs, Ryan Potts, Kathryn Stewart, Josue Tuche, and Frank Webb.

Carter Carroll reviewed the committee's duties, emphasizing that the committee may have more responsibilities during certain times of the year. Committee Liaison Bill Choate then shared that TBMB provides anniversary certificates to churches celebrating twenty-five, fifty, or seventy-five years. Churches celebrating one hundred years or more, in increments of twenty-five, are presented with plaques.

After Bill Choate's report on church anniversaries, Carter Carroll announced that the committee will prepare Tennessee Baptists for TBC's 150th anniversary in 2024 by speaking with local churches, associations, and Baptist Collegiate Ministries (BCM) sites. Throughout the year the committee will correspond via email about anniversary preparations.

Following the discussion of anniversary preparations, the committee unanimously elected Chris Chambers to serve as Vice Chair for 2020 and Ira Ginn to serve as Committee Chair for 2020. In addition, the committee recognized rotating-off members for their service and then voted to change the format of church anniversary plaques from a traditional brass plaque to a more modern plaque. After scheduling the next meeting for March 9, 2021 at Carson-Newman University, the meeting was adjourned at 11:17 to lunch and a tour of SBC Historical Archives.

May the Lord Jesus bless you and keep you.

In Christ,

Ira Ginn, Chair 2020
TBC Historical Committee



‘One breath at a time’

Carson-Newman alumna’s servant-leadership aiding frontline battle against COVID-19

For patients with COPD, lung cancer, pulmonary hypertension, cystic fibrosis and other illnesses, it was already a daily struggle to breathe. Then came the pandemic.

As a team leader of the Pulmonary Medicine Unit at the University of Tennessee Medical Center in Knoxville, Lindsey Barnett, BSN, RN, CMS-RN, serves on the frontline of East Tennessee’s response to COVID-19.

Since the pandemic first developed, Barnett’s unit has served as the Acute Care COVID unit, providing high-level care alongside pulmonary and critical care physicians to patients facing some of the worst coronavirus symptoms.

A 2016 Carson-Newman University graduate, Barnett said it was the influence of Christian educators that helped direct her to this calling and prepare her for such a time as this.

“Carson-Newman helped me grow so much in my faith by learning that serving others truly means being the hands and feet of God — whether that be with nursing and taking care of patients firsthand, growing and building relationships with my teammates, traveling overseas to care and serve in Nicaragua, or simply showing kindness, love and a smile to the least of these,” Barnett said. “I’m so proud to be an alumna and will forever be thankful for my four years at C-N.

“I truly believe the nursing program and C-N prepared me well for my career. I actually chose the floor I am working on at UTMC because of a clinical I had while in nursing school,” she added. “The program taught me to care for patients physically, emotionally and spiritually. The administration, faculty and nursing program staff were helpful and encouraging throughout my nursing school journey. I was able to graduate and begin my career with confidence that I had been prepared for this.”

Barnett’s time at Carson-Newman also featured four years of playing on the volleyball team, meeting her best friends and her then-future husband, and developing into the educated citizen and servant-leader who she is today. Barnett, a member of White Oak Grove Missionary Baptist Church in Morristown, said she grew up in church and came to the University with a love for the Lord. C-N’s Christian, family atmosphere helped her continue along that path.

“Carson-Newman is a special place, and I knew that the first time I visited,” she said. “I’m still so thankful the Lord opened doors and gave me the opportunity to come to C-N. I had teachers, coaches, and staff in academics and athletics who not only cared about me as a student-athlete but also cared about my heart, prayed for me and genuinely invested in a relationship to help me grow.” (continues)



CARSON-NEWMAN

A CHRISTIAN UNIVERSITY

Today, she continues to lean on the principles of service, leadership, encouragement and support as she works through the incredible challenges COVID-19 has brought to her team's door.

"My favorite part of my job is building relationships with patients and helping them to feel better one breath at a time," Barnett said. "Caring for these patients during this pandemic has been an emotional, stressful experience, but we also know this is an opportunity to be there for patients during one of the scariest times of their lives."

The pandemic has forced many hospitals to implement isolation procedures in an effort to slow the virus' spread, placing a weight heavier than ever before on medical professionals' shoulders.

"We are their nurses, their family and their hand to hold and do not take that responsibility lightly," she added. "I would have never imagined that in my first five years of my nursing career I would have been working in a pandemic, but I am proud to be able to be a small part in touching lives during this crazy time."



The Heart of a Mission

The heart of Carson-Newman University's mission remains true to the purpose of its founding in 1851 along the banks of Mossy Creek.

Its foundation was laid by Baptists of East Tennessee, who organized meetings and sacrificed to establish Mossy Creek Missionary Baptist Seminary. The intent was twofold: "to promote education in general, and among the ministry in particular."

Its first three graduates reaffirmed this mission as they left campus to become a physician, a lawyer and a minister.

In 1889, the school, then known as Carson College, joined with Newman College, a separate facility for the education of women. The merger resulted in Carson and Newman College becoming an early coeducational entrant in Baptist life. The mission promised to "fit young men and young women for the higher spheres of usefulness by giving them information ... and an exalted Christian character."

In its continuation of impacting and supporting Baptist life, Carson and Newman entered into an official affiliation with the Tennessee Baptist Convention in 1919. That relationship continues to grow and flourish, being celebrated 101 years later.

"The histories of Carson-Newman and Tennessee Baptists are inseparable," said University President Charles A. Fowler. "When viewed together, they show the hearts of believers with a common goal: to prepare students through a Christ-centered education and to further the Kingdom as servant-leaders. Carson-Newman would not be able to fulfill its mission were it not for the support of fellow Baptists."

Our faculty, as Christians, see the dignity and value in every student as image bearers of God. Our commitment to Jesus's commandment to be known by our love, motivates our faculty to build lasting mentoring relationships, helping our students mature into educated citizens. We celebrate our Creator through the use of our minds, developing our ability to reason, and rationally discover the wonderful world He created.

-Dr. Jeremy Buckner, Provost



CARSON-NEWMAN

A CHRISTIAN UNIVERSITY

Today, the University's mission remains unwavering as faculty and staff help students reach their full potential as educated citizens and worldwide servant-leaders. Their vocation does not define them. Though they teach, as Christian educators they are fulfilling a calling to help prepare a new generation to go and live out the Gospel from classroom to pulpit, from boardroom to laboratory, from neighborhood to the far ends of the globe. By instilling the importance of service in a new generation, Carson-Newman is preparing its students to see ministry opportunities in the world around them, even in the midst of a pandemic.

This transformational education, combined with an emphasis on sharing the love of Christ with those in need, continues the mission its founders set in motion over 160 years ago.

"I want our graduates to become confident in who they are as a child of God. I want them to know that He has a purpose for their lives and that He will use them in big and small ways once they leave C-N. I pray they never stop learning, but most importantly, that they never stop seeking those things that are of eternal value."

- Dr. Cindy Lang, Chair of the Department of Education and Physical Education



"When I teach, my goals are to familiarize my students with the teachings of the Bible, to equip students to interpret the Bible for themselves, and to bolster my students' confidence in the value and reliability of the Bible as God's perfect revelation. My hope is that students will be prepared for a lifetime of loving God and loving others as the Bible directs."

-Dr. Ryan Stokes, Associate Professor of Religion

"Football at Carson-Newman goes much deeper than the X's and O's on the field. Our goal as a program is to use the game of football to provide our student-athletes with an academic and athletic experience that exemplifies Christ."

-Mike Clowney, Head Football Coach





**EAGLE
FOOTBALL**
team saw over

25
students
make decisions
for **CHRIST**



CARSON-NEWMAN

A CHRISTIAN UNIVERSITY



ENROLLMENT GROWTH **2,725**
Historic record

557

Largest freshman class in C-N history

885

Record number of graduate students

Ranked
#2
in the state

by U.S. News & World
Report for online
graduate program



Named a
"BEST IN THE SOUTHEAST"
- Princeton Review



CHRISTIAN COLLEGE of DISTINCTION
- Colleges of Distinction

900+

from across
East Tennessee
ATTENDED the
2019 **TENNESSEE**
EVANGELISM RALLY

Samaritan House

served

29

families

provided

7,801

meals to
families in
need



The King's Academy (Harrison-Chilhowee Baptist Academy) Report to the Tennessee Baptist Convention November 2020



-The academy is beautifully situated on 67 acres in the foothills of the Great Smoky Mountains.

Thanks to the provision of our Heavenly Father in the midst of a global pandemic and the confidence shown by hundreds of parents, The King's Academy's students are now successfully connecting daily with their teachers. School is open and classes are in session! The faithful support of Tennessee Baptists through the Cooperative Program does not go unnoticed in these challenging times. For all this, we are eternally grateful.

This year The King's Academy celebrates 88 years of ministry partnership with the Tennessee Baptist Convention. We are honored to serve alongside Southern Baptists across our state in the fulfillment of the Great Commission of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. We further affirm Christian Education as the 12th pillar of the Baptist Faith and Message:

(T)he 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.

Fewer than ten such state convention-sponsored boarding academies exist in the United States, so we are aware that many, even in our own state, know little of the uniqueness of this vital ministry. It is a matter of fact that no other Southern Baptist ministry addresses the evangelical, discipleship and educational needs of the adolescent population served by your accredited elementary and secondary day and boarding school.



-Nathaniel Hall, Class of 2020 Valedictorian, addresses his fellow graduates and a socially-distanced audience in the Polly Enix Tibbetts Building as the usual May Commencement ceremony was delayed until July.



-Kindergartners managed to squeeze in a robust cap toss to celebrate their milestone.

SOME HISTORY MAY BE HELPFUL.

In the spring of 1880 a group of farmers in the Boyds Creek community of Sevier County gathered to organize a school for their children. A loosely established school, called Owl College by locals, had been operating in the area as far back as 1840. Their efforts took on new meaning when a charter with the State of Tennessee was drafted and filed, and students formally enrolled in the fall of 1881, a year in which the US presidency was filled by three men – Rutherford B. Hayes, James Garfield and Chester A. Arthur.

The name given to the school in 1880 was Boyds Creek Academy. In 1884, to honor a donation of land to the school by Harrison Ellis, the school was named Harrison Seminary. Churches of the nearby Chilhowee Baptist Association began to provide financial support to the academy in 1887, and the Board of Trustees changed the name to Harrison-Chilhowee Institute. The Sevier County Association of Baptists, founded in 1885, also gave financially to the academy.

A new charter in 1932 affiliated the academy with the Tennessee Baptist Convention, and established the academy's identity as Harrison-Chilhowee Baptist Academy, although before and after that pivotal year, the academy was often called Chilhowee Academy. HCBA continues to be the official name of the non-profit corporation today. The Convention elects the academy's Board of Trustees and provides approximately 5% of the school's \$6M annual operating budget through the Cooperative Program.

In 1993, the academy's 21-member Board of Trustees approved calling the school "The King's Academy" under the HCBA corporate umbrella.



-Athletics continue to be a significant part of campus life. Although spring sports were cancelled, several teams boasted their best seasons ever in 2019-2020 and 2020-2021. Girls Volleyball made their first State Tourney appearance in 2019 and finished Third Place in 2020. Girls Basketball earned State Runner-Up honors. Girls Softball won their third State Championship in 2019 and anticipated a fourth title in 2020 but the season was cancelled due to COVID-19.



TODAY

In the 2020-2021 school year, in the midst of the global COVID-19 Pandemic, The King's Academy has enrolled over 400 students, with 15 nations represented in our secondary school student body.



-International students have been represented in the academy student body since 1935 when a missionary in Cuba sent two brothers, Primitivo and Marcelo Delgado to the academy. Since that year, over 1,000 international students from over 100 countries have attended.

Ministry to international students is the heartbeat of The King's Academy. This year we have welcomed teenagers from Aruba, Brazil, Chad, China, Curacao, Ethiopia, Guatemala, Ivory Coast, Japan, Nigeria, Russia, Rwanda, Thailand, Vietnam and, of course, the United States. Additionally, students from Cameroon, Ghana and Senegal are expected to join us next year. The children of the world have come to Seymour, giving Tennessee Baptists a rare international missions opportunity to lead these students to Christ, build them up in Christ and equip them for a lifetime of service to the cause of Christ.



Zack Tilley, 2019 wide receiver and defensive back, was named Mr. Football Semifinalist in Tennessee with 72 receptions, 1227 yards, and 16 touchdowns. The team is off to a 7-2 start in 2020 with a run to the state tournament in view. Cheerleaders rightfully claim their role in defeating Seymour High School Eagles the first time ever in August 2020. Lukas Campbell and Bianca Hood are crowned Homecoming 2020 King and Queen.

TKA President/Headmaster Matt Mercer resigned August 9, 2020, shortly after the opening of the 2020-2021 school year, having served in that capacity 25 months. The Board of Trustees asked Former President/Headmaster Walter Grubb to step in as Interim Head of School while a search for a new leader got underway.





Music, drama and visual arts departments collaborate on major student productions such as *Mary Poppins, Jr.*, *Beauty and the Beast, Jr.*, and *Cinderella*.

Sevierville Attorney Rich Wallace had been leading the academy Board of Trustees during these challenging days. Chairman Wallace says he believes The King's Academy's best days are in the future. Dr. William Horner was elected Board Chair in October 2020.

CAMPUS LIFE

Providing state-of-the-art university preparatory education for a diverse population is a challenging, and expensive, proposition. Fully accredited since 1979, The King's Academy consistently sends over 95% of its graduating classes on to college, with a small number pursuing military service right out of high school. The rigors of high academic standards are illustrated by the number of Advanced Placement and college dual enrollment classes offered at the high school level.



The King's Academy emphasizes the development of the whole person—mental, physical, social, emotional and spiritual. These are all accomplished in a school environment where academic success is expected, whether in Calculus, Chemistry or Spelling. TKA's Glace White won the Sevier County Spelling Bee in competition with all Sevier County public schools.



DEVELOPMENT

Nestled in the foothills of the Great Smoky Mountains, TKA offers an idyllic setting which is attractive to families from nearby in East Tennessee and throughout the world who seek a safe, nurturing environment for their children. The campus looks like a small college with spacious colonial buildings and numerous athletic facilities to accommodate current needs. However, the school is also blessed with ample room to grow. And growth is on the minds of trustees and administrators alike as plans are underway for a major capital expansion project.



Above is a drawing of a proposed 15,000 sq. ft. STEAMM Building (Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts, Mathematics and Medicine). Approximately one-fourth of the projected \$4 million cost for construction has already been donated. Naming opportunities remain available for individuals, families or businesses, or to honor loved ones. The facility is critically needed to replace older classroom buildings, some of which are over 75 years old.

VISION:

Transformed lives, empowered by Christ-like character, pursuing academic excellence and lifelong service

MISSION:

The King's Academy inspires and equips students of all cultural backgrounds to fulfill their God-given potential in a nurturing, college preparatory community.

CORE VALUES:

- Christ-centered Vision
- Christian Community
- Christ-like Character
- Excellence in Christ
- Faith in God



Relationships. It's all about the relationships. The King's Academy family is all about building lifelong relationships within the context of Christian community.



GRATITUDE

Thank you, Tennessee Baptists, for embracing this unique mission and supporting the academy. The King's Academy family is most pleased to be located in Tennessee, and appreciative of TBC's generous Cooperative Program support. It is an honor and privilege to serve with and represent Tennessee Baptists in God's Kingdom.
-Walter Grubb, Interim President/Headmaster

(Photo Credits: Lynn Stanger Photography)



Virtual mission trip helps promote prayer app for IMB

Though Union's Global Opportunities Trips in the spring were canceled due to the COVID-19 pandemic, one team was able to conduct its trip to Southeast Asia "virtually" in May.

The original plan was for the GO Trip team to travel to Southeast Asia May 18-29 to work alongside an International Mission Board media team to provide media products and creative strategy. This was the first time the Office of University Ministries offered a trip specifically for marketing, communication and digital media majors, said Song Kim, graphic design specialist at Union.

Kim was the GO Trip leader for a team of four Union students and one alumnus: Jenna Mincy, sophomore graphic design major; Callie Teague, junior public relations major; Callie Wright, senior social work major; Keely Vaughn, sophomore public relations major; and Ally Drotar ('19), a freelance graphic and web designer.

After Union suspended all university-sponsored travel due to COVID-19 in mid-March, Bryson Holston, strategist on IMB's Media and Innovation Team, asked Kim if they were interested in doing a "virtual" project instead.

"I asked my students, and they all jumped into this," Kim said. "I was thankful to have the same team, the team that we had been trained with and prayed with."

Mincy, who just transferred to Union in January, said that one of the main reasons she chose Union was its GO Trips and emphasis on missions. When she visited campus last fall, she attended a chapel service where Union alumnus and staff member Stephen Neu spoke about how GO Trips influenced him as a student. During her enrollment process, Mincy asked to apply for this trip to Southeast Asia.

"We need to be living our lives in light of the gospel and just trying to share that with people," Mincy said. "I just thought it would be a really neat thing that we would be able to do that by way of graphic design."

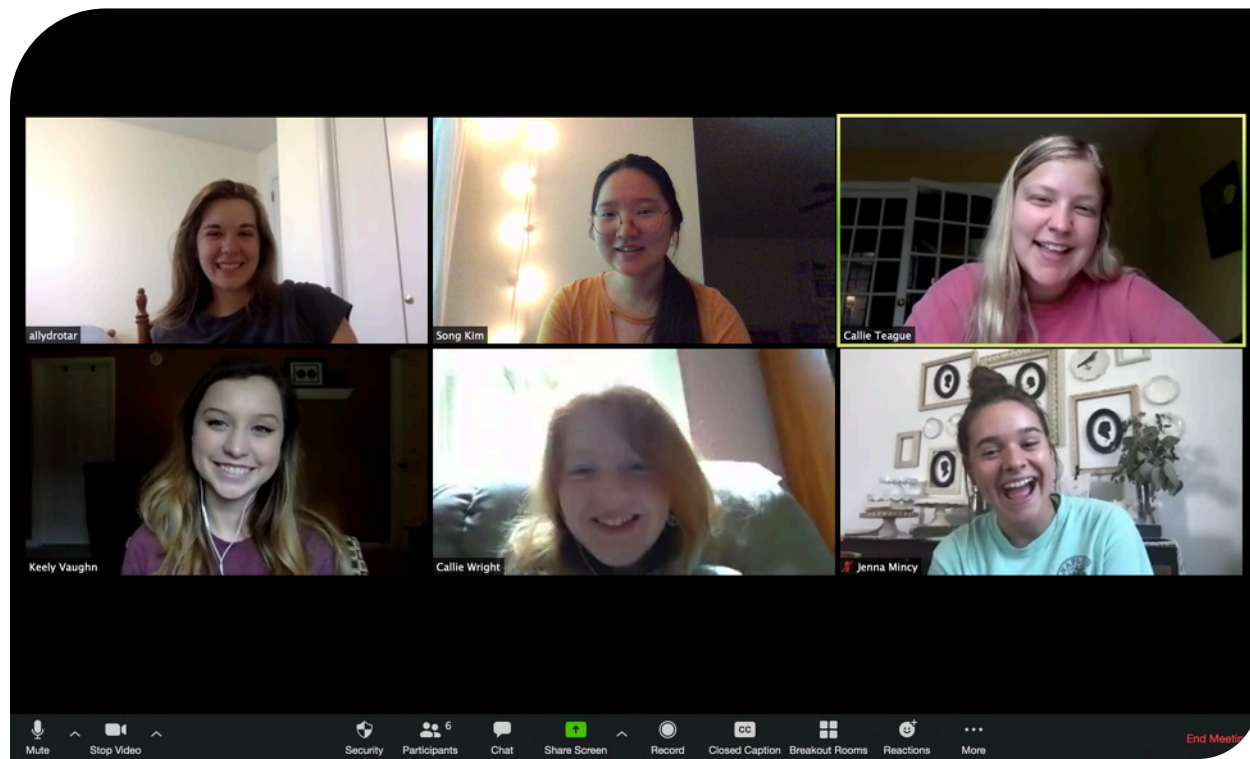
The week of May 25-29, the GO Trip team met at 9 every morning via Zoom to work with six IMB media team members around the world. They helped develop marketing materials and strategy for a new app that will allow missionaries to share daily prayer requests with their prayer supporters.

By the end of the week, the team had produced a user guide on how to make a post, an infographic, social media posts and a landing page about the app.

"We have a small team and relatively few full-time media people globally," Holston said. "Their work helped us leap ahead with the project."

Although they weren't able to physically travel to Southeast Asia, the team members still grew in their faith by participating in this virtual GO Trip.

“God is still at work in this time of the pandemic,” Kim said. “He was teaching us even though we are not there in person, he has the power to just use our gifts in this very creative way. We feel like we are coming together as a church and serving alongside with our brothers and sisters who are on the field.”



68% *Graduation Rate
(5-year average)*



26 *Average Freshman
ACT Score*

*New Student
Retention Rate
(5-year average)* **85%**

3.8 *Average Freshman
High School GPA*

TOP 5 *in the nation for
Best College Dorms
by Niche.com*

*And each student gets
a private bedroom*

100+ *Programs
of Study*

*100% of classes taught by Union
faculty, not graduate assistants*

Union's long-term return on investment compares favorably

A report by the Center on Education and the Workforce at Georgetown University indicates that Union University students get a solid return on their investment in a Union education.

The report, "A First Try at ROI: Ranking 4,500 Colleges," concludes that bachelor's degrees from private colleges, on average, have a higher return on investment than degrees from public colleges 40 years after enrollment.

Union's 40-year ROI of \$869,000 ranks seventh in Tennessee among private colleges, behind such

schools as Vanderbilt, Baptist Memorial College of Health Sciences, Rhodes, Christian Brothers, King and University of the South.

"The data in this report supports what we have long believed – that Union provides a strong return on investment," said Dan Griffin, Union's vice president for enrollment management. "Students who come to Union leave here well prepared to flourish and thrive in their careers for the long haul."

Griffin noted that the report also doesn't account for the spiritual training Union students receive – a benefit that he said was priceless.



MISSION:

Union University provides Christ-centered education that promotes excellence and character development in service to Church and society.

CORE VALUES:

*Excellence-driven
Christ-centered
People-focused
Future-directed*





Commitment to prayer transforms art professor's classes

A three-ring binder sits on the corner of Steve Halla's office desk at Union University.

That binder contains prayer requests that he has collected from his students. Every morning when he arrives at the office, Halla sits at his desk and opens the binder. Whichever student is on top becomes Halla's prayer focus for the day.

"One of the great joys and blessings of teaching at a Christian university is that the students and faculty have a shared faith in common," says Halla, associate professor of art. "While there is that student/teacher relationship, there's also the reality that we are brothers and sisters in Christ. So, one of the greatest things I could ever do for a brother or sister in Christ is to lift them up in prayer before the Lord."

Every semester, on the second day of class, Halla gives his students a sheet of paper with "Prayer requests" listed at the top. He asks them to write down one, two or three things that he can pray about for them over the course of the semester.

Some of the requests are for wise time management. Some may be for sick family members or friends. Some may be for future plans, like internships or jobs. Halla collects the sheets, puts them in the binder, then systematically prays for a student and his or her requests each day. By the end of the semester, Halla will have prayed for every one of his students by name.

But his ministry to his students doesn't stop at the prayer itself. Every day he also emails the

student he is praying for that day to provide encouragement. He often gets responses from his students asking how they can pray for Halla.

"When that happens, it's like you kind of go full circle," Halla says. "It goes from being simply a classroom full of students to a community. I think there's a deeper level of trust that begins to develop. There's a deeper level of respect between people that develops."

Halla began the practice of praying for each student specifically about six or seven years ago. He began emailing each student a couple of years ago. He says the practice has transformed the dynamic of his classrooms.

"It's much more open," he says. "It's much more loving. It's people realizing that we genuinely care for one another in the class. We genuinely want the best for everyone in the classroom."

"It's an amazing thing to watch as the semester rolls on." By the end of the semester, Halla says he often doesn't want the classes to end because of the strong, small communities they have become. The prayer commitment is one aspect of each course that transcends the course, because many times students will email him a semester or a year later to update him on the requests that he prayed for.

"Prayer has always been one of the greatest things that we can do together as a community," Halla says. "You're really engaging life together, hopefully in ways that will be with the students long after the class and the semester are over."



Brownsville pastor benefits from church scholarship

A church-matching scholarship made the difference for J.P. Barden to attend Union University and pursue his calling to pastoral ministry.

Barden graduated from Union in 2018 with a degree in Christian studies. He now serves as the pastor of a small country church, New Vision Baptist Church, in his hometown of Brownsville, Tennessee. Barden had wanted to become a pastor ever since he was a boy — his parents told him that as a child, he would even preach in his sleep.

“As I got older, I was just very clearly interested in God’s Word, studying it, understanding it, knowing it, and also wanting to teach it,” he said. “I wanted to actually proclaim and share the things that I found.”

In high school, Barden considered studying engineering so he could help grow his family’s construction business, but said he kept feeling a tug toward becoming a pastor. Having family who attended Union and growing up only 30 minutes away from Jackson, Barden knew about Union and that the university had good professors in the School of Theology and Missions.

He said he knew if the Lord willed him to be in pastoral ministry, Union was where he would study, but the decision came down to whether or not God would provide the means

for him to be able to attend the university.

Barden received the Brownsville Baptist Church Endowed Scholarship, which was started in 1986, and is restricted to members of the church as approved by the church unless there are no qualified students attending Union that year. In that case, other students are considered and awarded the funds. Barden attended Brownsville Baptist Church as a child and returned there during his college years, where he served as a youth ministry intern.

“[The scholarship] made the difference of whether or not I could pursue my calling that the Lord had on my life, and also pursue it recognizing that the Lord was facilitating the means to learn,” he said. “Because I knew as I got the scholarships, I was like, ‘OK, another year, Lord, I’m able to do this. This is your will on my life.’”

The church-matching scholarships that Barden received were just what he needed to cover his financial expenses. During his time at Union, Barden said his life was transformed and he was well-prepared for his ministry.

“The school as a whole taught me how to live to the glory of God, enjoy him and also serve his church,” Barden said. “And that’s broad, but after they gave that foundation, in a lot of areas of life the particulars just started flowing from that foundation.”

In a “bit of divine irony,” nearly 30 years ago Brownsville Baptist purchased the land where New Vision is now located with the intent to plant a church, Barden said, but was unsuccessful and sold the land. Now Barden, who was ordained at Brownsville Baptist once he accepted the call to the pastorate at New Vision, is pastor of a church on that very plot of land.





I am most grateful to report to you that we have not experienced a single case of COVID-19 at any of our locations! We have much to be joyful about in this regard. The 2020 Father's Day Offering video expresses my utmost appreciation and gratitude for the men and women who live out their calling to *Show What Love Is* by serving as our home managers. They are the ones to be credited for us weathering the Coronavirus storm.

As a result of COVID-19 we have observed a quarantine in our homes for much of this year. The inability to accept new admissions, conduct placement interviews, allow visitors, or allow residents to visit their family homes has made this a very difficult year for everyone. Our faith is that, in the long run, our efforts will prove well worth the struggle. One case in any facility will have a cascading effect so we developed plans for each individual resident should anyone contract the virus. Each individual plan is designed according to the family and other resources an individual has at their disposal. We call them "the plans we plan to never use."

I am happy to report that we have sold Williams Ferry Pointe in Lenoir City. The transaction took place in a series of closings from June to October 31, 2020. The sale price for WFP was \$2.7M. These much-needed resources will be used to help us realize a **two-fold vision**.

First, it will allow us to establish a significant endowment that will produce operating income. Our Father's Day Offering has never managed to rise to a level to offset our operating deficit.

Secondly, it is our hope to establish a small senior living community in Humboldt on land we already own where we can provide modest, comfortable retirement living (probably duplexes) for indigent pastors and missionaries who may not be financially able to provide for themselves in retirement. TBAH will own these facilities and rent them on a sliding scale basis. They will be for independent living seniors; we will provide no health care or physical assistance. And, it will be a TBAH ministry in west Tennessee!!

COVID-19 and the sale of Williams Ferry Pointe guaranteed that this past year was not, and next year will not be, ordinary. I am confident, however, thanks to the support of the churches of the Tennessee Baptist Convention, TBAH will be able to continue our extraordinary work for the foreseeable future. Thanks be to God for His provision!

Thanks, again, for your support and partnership with us. May you all be safe and stay well.

Sincerely,

Mark Anderson, President/Treasurer



TENNESSEE BAPTIST ADULT HOMES

Showing What Love Is

Sharon of Brooks House
proudly displays her blue
ribbon for bowling



Left to Right: Kevin and Chris of Nabi House
full of Christmas spirit



Left to Right: Sharon, Brittany, Nadine and Rachel of
Brooks House in Hermitage waiting for Santa.



Left to Right: Mike and Chris of Nabi House
just chillin'



Left to Right: Brooks House ladies Nadine,
Rachel, and Brittany sharing their lists with
Santa



Chris of Nabi House
enjoying some “me time”



Scott of Nabi House has a
smile for the camera



Tim of Nabi House ready to
head out to worship



Michael of Nabi House in
Lebanon never met a stranger



Nadine of Brooks House
potting a plant



Left to Right: Home Manager, Helen,
grabs a selfie with Sharon and Rachel



Tennessee Baptist
Children's Homes



2020 has been a hard place for everyone.

**TBCH has been welcoming children in
hard places for 129 years, and
together we're ready for it.**



GREETINGS FROM TBCH

Tennessee Baptist Children's Homes welcomes children in hard places with the love of Christ. We are only able to welcome these children into our homes because of the faithfulness of churches, businesses and individuals who have a heart for children and families who are struggling. We are committed as a ministry to operate without the use of government funds relying on God's people to supply the resources necessary to meet the needs of children and families in crisis.

We believe Jesus is the ultimate answer to all brokenness and our team unashamedly points people to Him in age appropriate ways. We rejoice in the five children who have been born again this year. Rest assured that TBCH is Christ centered in our approach to dealing with children and their families.

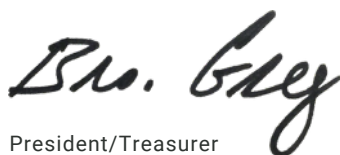
TBCH has provided **Residential Care** for 85 children so far this year in our on-campus homes. Seventeen of these children have been successfully reunited with their families. TBCH is also committed to assisting those who age out of our program. Presently ten Independent Living students receive continued support by our staff and have the opportunity to learn a trade or attend college.

TBCH's **George Shinn Foster Care** program has served 157 children and has had 101 foster homes on our team. Fifteen children have been adopted into Christian families so far this year while 31 children are presently in foster-to-adopt situations! Our foster care staff has also seen 15 children successfully reunify with their families.

Finally, our **Family Care** program assists families as they deal with things like addictions, child abuse, and the need for faith-based foster homes. We also provide training for churches in child abuse awareness and resources for supporting foster and adoptive families.

Please call on us and we will be there to help you help children.

Defending the Defenseless,



President/Treasurer

THIS YEAR SO FAR...

IN RESIDENTIAL CARE:



87

Children in on-campus homes



17

Successful family reunifications



10

Independent Living students

IN FOSTER CARE:



157

Children in foster care and 101 certified foster homes



15

Adoptions & 31 in foster-to-adopt families



15

Successful family reunifications

ACROSS TENNESSEE:



5

Children born again into the family of God!



100%

of TBCH kids have heard the Gospel and seen it lived out by our staff and foster families



PRAY

SERVE

GIVE

"Consider it all joy, my brethren, when you encounter various trials, knowing that the testing of your faith produces endurance. And let endurance have its perfect result, so that you may be perfect and complete, lacking in nothing."

James 1:2-4



**Tennessee Baptist
Children's Homes**

Welcoming children in hard places with the love of Christ

1-800-624-8591

www.tennesseechildren.org

office@tennesseechildren.org

P.O. Box 2206, Brentwood, TN 37024

Visit us, like us, follow us!

Facebook: [@tennesseechildren](https://www.facebook.com/tennesseechildren)

Twitter: [@TBCH](https://twitter.com/TBCH)

Instagram: [@tennesseechildren](https://www.instagram.com/tennesseechildren)



TENNESSEE BAPTIST CHILDREN'S HOMES



Bill Gruenewald, *President-Treasurer*

The Tennessee Baptist Foundation's goal is to help Tennessee Baptists make plans today that will impact tomorrow for the cause of Christ. For over 80 years, the Tennessee Baptist Foundation has been serving Tennessee Baptists and Kingdom causes in Tennessee and across the globe. The Foundation provides many services to Tennessee Baptist churches, associations and individuals. These include:

- Presenting Faith-based estate planning seminars for churches
- Working with individuals develop a distinctly Christian personal estate plan
- Assisting individuals in the creation of charitable trusts
- Serve as the Trustee of trusts and funds committed to its care
- Providing investment services to Tennessee Baptist Churches, Associations and Institutions.
- Help churches establish a Legacy Ministry as a part of their overall Stewardship Education
- Facilitating loans to churches and associations for new construction, remodeling or land acquisition.
- Providing grants for qualifying projects and ministries of Tennessee Baptist Churches and Associations

PURPOSE AND CORE VALUES

The purpose of the Tennessee Baptist Foundation is to ***Manage funds with integrity and help Tennessee Baptists leave legacies with a Kingdom focus.***

Our core values are:

- **Commitment** – here to serve the needs of our valued clients
- **Integrity** – Do the right thing
- **Service** – Focus on needs of clients with excellence
- **Kingdom Anchored** – Our work is rooted in God's Word
- **Trust** – We value people and help them on the journey God is leading them

HIGHLIGHTS OF THE FOUNDATION'S STEWARDSHIP IN 2020

FUNDS MANAGEMENT

We manage over 1100 funds totaling \$160 million (As of July 31, 2020) most of which have been left by faithful Tennessee Baptists over the years to carry on the work of the Convention and the cause of Christ.

This year we have added 11 new funds. Of these 5 are NEW first-time clients of the TBF. Our goal each year is to broaden our relationships across our state with all our Baptist churches.

As of July 31, 2020, we have contributed \$337,000 to the Cooperative program and on track to give \$500,000 by the end of 2020 as well as over \$3.0 million to all charitable causes that include churches, associations, missions, scholarships and other ministries.

FAITH-BASED ESTATE PLANNING SEMINARS

The Covid-19 pandemic put a halt to over 12 engagements the Foundation had planned from March to June. However, before March, we were able to hold 11 faith-based estate planning seminars in churches and did one other seminar in June. We are looking to offer seminars to churches via Zoom in the coming year since “virtual church” is becoming a part of regular church life. Our goal is to help Tennessee Baptists understand that planning your estate is a part of our stewardship as followers of Christ. We want to help them unleash the power of faith-based estate planning by allowing their assets to impact the future for the cause of Christ and leave a lasting legacy.

CHURCH LOANS

The Foundation partners with **Waters Edge Ministry Services**, part of the Oklahoma Baptist Foundation, in an effort to enhance and improve loan offerings at very competitive rates to churches of all sizes across Tennessee. During 2020, they have worked with 5 churches in Tennessee on loans totaling \$1.4 million with 2 loans in process.

SPECIAL PROJECTS

The Covid-19 Pandemic created a great humanitarian need that rippled across our state. We were inundated with requests from churches and associations to help meet the needs of their communities. We are grateful we had resources to help.

This year we have helped 67 Tennessee Baptist Churches and organizations with a total of \$118,000, most of this during the early months of the Pandemic. Because of the giving of faithful Tennessee Baptists through their estates, the Special Project Fund was able to meet the needs during this crucial time in our state.

SCHOLARSHIPS

This year we awarded 228 scholarships totaling \$185,000 to deserving Tennessee Baptist students. Since 1987, the TBF has awarded over 8,000 scholarships totaling \$5.7 million to Tennessee Baptist students from all walks of life helping them prepare for ministry in the church or ministry in the marketplace. Those people who left funds from their estates for scholarships did so in an effort to help future students make an impact on the world for Christ.

Here is testimony from one of our scholarship recipients:

I would like to thank the Foundation very much for the educational scholarship I was recently awarded. I am so grateful to be a part of the TBC and have their encouragement and support.

This scholarship will be of great benefit to me as I pursue my degree. I also plan to stay actively involved at my church while at school. I would also like to say a special thank you to Mr. Gruenewald and Ms. Sneed for following up on my application.

LEGACY MINISTRY

We believe that churches should develop Legacy Ministries as a part of the overall stewardship emphasis of the church. We are working with several churches across the state to help expand the stewardship conversation to encompass Legacy gifts. Two Tennessee churches have established Legacy Funds with us and are encouraging estate gifts from their congregations to benefit their church and other Baptist causes.

Because we are in the midst of the greatest transfer of wealth in our nation's history and we believe church ministries should be a part of the conversation as one generation passes the wealth to the next. Legacy ministries can have a tremendous impact on the future of the local church.

The fact is **ALL** of us will **leave an estate**, but **NOT ALL** of us will **leave a legacy**.

ESTATE PLANS COMPLETED OR REVISED

In 2020 we have worked with **10 families** to complete a Faith-Based Estate Plan or revise a current plan, with another 4 families still in the process of finalizing documents. Each one of these plans have a portion going to benefit a Baptist cause.

Today's Plans. Tomorrows Impact! That is what the Foundation is all about and we will continue to help all Tennessee Baptists live-out their faith by leaving a legacy for Christ.

Plan your estate. *Bless the next generation.*

Through faith-based estate planning and planned giving guidance, the Tennessee Baptist Foundation helps today's generation bless the next generation.

For free estate planning resources and information, **contact us.**

tbfoundation.org
615-371-2029



By Means





About Baptist Memorial Health Care

Baptist Memorial Health Care began as a 150-bed hospital in downtown Memphis in 1912. It was formed by the Southern Baptist Conventions of Tennessee, Mississippi and Arkansas because they recognized a tremendous need for a health care facility in this part of the country. Today, Baptist is one of the nation's largest not-for-profit health care systems, offering a full continuum of care to communities throughout the Mid-South. The Baptist system, which consistently ranks among the top integrated health care networks in the nation, comprises 22 affiliate hospitals, including 10 in Tennessee. We also operate Baptist Medical Group, a multispecialty physician group with more than 800 providers, and we offer home, hospice and psychiatric care; minor medical centers and clinics; a network of surgery, rehabilitation and other outpatient centers; and an education system highlighted by Baptist Health Sciences University.

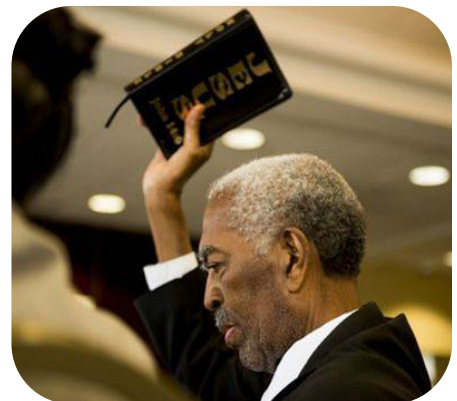
The Baptist system employs more than 18,000 people, and in fiscal year 2018 contributed more than \$349 million in community benefit and uncompensated care to the communities we serve. According to the Sparks Bureau of Business and Economic Research at the University of Memphis, Baptist Memorial Health Care's annual economic impact is estimated at more than \$2.6 billion.

Delivering the Good News of Jesus Christ

Our staff chaplains are a part of our health care team. Patients, family members or employees can ask that a chaplain be involved in spiritual or emotional care. In our hospitals, our chaplains represent their own faith but deal with spiritual issues that transcend denominational lines.

In August 2017, Baptist's Pastoral Care Department introduced the Rev. Jimmy Terry Preaching Series: *It's All About Jesus*. The series is named in memory of a beloved member of Baptist's Board of Trustees and the founder and former pastor of Tabernacle Baptist Church in Clarksville, Tennessee. Each month, a speaker -usually an ordained Baptist minister- delivers an evangelical message to employees, physicians, patients and visitors at Baptist's flagship hospital. The message is also broadcast to all 22

*Rev. Jimmy Terry was a beloved member of Baptist's Board of Trustees for 25 years. In his memory, we created the Rev. Jimmy Terry Preaching Series: **It's All About Jesus**.*



of Baptist's hospitals in Tennessee, Mississippi and Arkansas, and it is promoted on Baptist's Facebook page.

In the last half of 2019 and this year, hundreds of people attended Jimmy Terry Preaching Series sermons in our Garrett Auditorium and hundreds more watched on monitors throughout our system. We post a video from each event on our Facebook page, and in the past year, those videos have been viewed nearly 79,000 times and have reached nearly 90,000 people.

Our Health Care Services

Baptist Memorial Health Care's 10 West Tennessee hospitals run the gamut from our flagship hospital – a 706-bed regional referral center that's one of Tennessee's busiest hospitals – to specialty women's and children's hospitals, a behavioral health facility and three rural hospitals. They provide a variety of acute care and specialty services, including the area's only adult heart transplant program and epilepsy monitoring unit.

Since early February, **Baptist Memorial Health Care** and our flagship hospital, **Baptist Memorial Hospital-Memphis**, have assumed a leadership role in the response to the COVID-19 pandemic in our service area, particularly in our West Tennessee footprint. Our medical experts, most notably Baptist Memphis' co-director of infection prevention, Dr. Stephen Threlkeld, have become and continue to be indispensable sources for local, regional and national media. As a result, Baptist has become the source of truth and accurate information on COVID-19 in our region.

We have also dedicated a considerable amount of time and resources to protecting our communities from COVID-19. Since the pandemic began, we have treated thousands of COVID patients in our hospitals and performed almost

200,000 tests. In addition, we launched a multi-phase public education campaign that included television public service announcements, billboards, social media ads and posts, videos and media interviews. Hundreds of thousands of people received important information about the virus and how to stay safe and healthy. We will continue this necessary work for as long as COVID-19 affects the people we serve.



Baptist Memorial Hospital-Memphis doctors and staff look at a computer monitor on a COVID floor. The hospital has treated more than 800 COVID patients since March.

Baptist Medical Group operates dozens of clinics in rural and urban areas. Specialties range from primary care to oncology, obstetrics and gynecology and endocrinology. Several of our physicians provide much-needed services in rural West Tennessee, which has been losing hospitals at a rapid rate for the past decade. We have been able to maintain – and in some cases grow – our presence in this region, recruiting physicians in areas of need.

The Baptist and Integrated Addiction Care Associates (IAC) Center of Excellence in Addiction Medicine won a \$4 million, five-year Health Resources and Services Administration grant to expand its addiction medicine fellowship

program. It also established a 24/7, toll-free hotline, 833-330-3322, for people in crisis. An addiction medicine specialist staffs the hotline, and that expert can counsel callers or direct them to the nearest Baptist Memorial Hospital emergency department for immediate medical care.

The Center of Excellence provides evidence-based treatment and support for patients battling alcohol or drug addiction. Through the center, these patients have rapid access to the region's only fellowship-trained, board-certified addiction medicine physicians, as well as a team of medical professionals, social workers, and therapists dedicated to helping people with addictions.

IAC physicians and Center of Excellence fellows are on call 24/7 to talk with Baptist Memorial Hospital patients who may be addicted to alcohol or drugs. If patients agree, the physician or fellow will make

follow-up appointments at IAC. IAC is the only addiction medicine practice in Memphis that accepts Medicaid and TennCare, making its services more accessible to under-served patients.

Baptist Memorial Hospital-Tipton won a Breastfeeding, Early Elective Delivery Reduction and Safe Sleep for Tennessee Babies (BEST) Award for its efforts to reduce infant deaths in the state. The Tennessee Department of Health and the Tennessee Hospital Association bestowed the honor, which promotes safe sleep for infants and helps give Tennessee babies a great start to life.

The Baptist and Integrated Addiction Care Associates Center of Excellence in Addiction Medicine won a \$4 million grant to expand its addiction medicine fellowship program, and it established a toll-free, 24/7 hotline for people who need immediate help for a addiction to alcohol or drugs.

Last September, we began a new research study that we hope will make a tough journey a little easier. The **Baptist Cancer Center** was one of only six centers in the country that participated in a research collaboration called the SIMPRO Research Center. In collaboration with the National Cancer Institute and the Beau Biden Cancer Moonshot Initiative, this new study will help researchers and technicians develop, implement and evaluate an app called eSyM. The app makes it easier for cancer patients to track and communicate their treatment symptoms to their care team.



Baptist College of Health Sciences is now Baptist Health Sciences University, a name that better reflects the curriculum the school offers and the value it provides to the community.

CENTER OF EXCELLENCE

BAPTIST



ADDICTION MEDICINE

Community Outreach

Our **Baptist Operation Outreach** played a vital role in delivering COVID-19 awareness, education, and testing to low income, under-served and homeless members of our population.

The great majority of testing was performed at the recently opened Baptist Operation Outreach health care clinic for the homeless in partnership with Christ Community Health Services, an organization whose mission is to provide high-quality health care to the under-served in the context of distinctively Christian service.

The new clinic location also provides free health care and other services to homeless patients. Now, in addition to a mobile health care clinic that travels several days a week to locations that serve the homeless, our new clinic is open Tuesday through Thursday and has two exam rooms, a lab, a waiting area and office space.

Patients who receive care at the new clinic



A Baptist team member staffing Baptist Memorial Hospital-Memphis' COVID-19 drive-thru testing service. The hospital has performed more than 40,000 COVID-19 tests since March.

will also have access to dental and vision services, as well as immediate access to support services, free acute and primary care, disease management support, prevention services and medication, which all Baptist Operation Outreach patients receive.

The Baptist Operation Outreach program was founded in 1997. Seven years later, we transitioned it to a mobile clinic and formed a partnership with Christ Community Health Services. Since then, Baptist Operation



A Baptist team member shows his commitment to working alongside others to defeat the COVID pandemic. The Baptist team has treated more than 3,400 COVID-19 patients and performed 200,000 COVID tests systemwide since March.

Outreach has grown from a staff of four with fewer than 500 patient visits to a staff of 10 with more than 3,000 patient encounters a year.

Our commitment to Tennessee extends far beyond health care. We also give back through community benefit activities. Generous Baptist team members helped raise \$133,000 during the 2019 United Way Giving Campaign. The money will benefit

the United Way Fund, the Baptist Memorial Health Care Foundation and other charities. Funds help provide grief support, financial assistance for patients and employees, health care for the homeless, scholarships for students training to be health care professionals and many others in the communities we serve.

Preparing Future Health Care Leaders

The **Baptist College of Health Sciences** has changed its name to Baptist Health Sciences University to better reflect the curriculum



Dr. Stephen Threlkeld, Baptist Memorial Hospital-Memphis' co-director of infection prevention, has emerged as the Memphis area's foremost expert on COVID-19, thanks to his vast knowledge and his willingness to speak to reporters and the public about the illness.

the school offers and the value it provides to the community. The university will now offer 13 majors across several disciplines, including three new programs: a doctor of nursing practice with a concentration in adult-gerontology primary care, a baccalaureate degree in neurodiagnostic technology and a medical imaging sciences baccalaureate degree.

Using data from the College Scorecard, an online database started in 2015 to give more information about colleges, Georgetown University published a report that ranks 4,500 colleges and universities by return on investment. Baptist Health Sciences University was the number 1 private college in Tennessee and was in the top 10 percent of colleges nationwide.

Health care is a ministry and a passion for us. We work hard to earn the trust of our patients, employees, physicians and communities. Our biggest reward is the effect we have on those we touch; the lives we save and improve, the cities that grow, and the community organizations that continue doing great work. Everything we do is guided by our mission – which mirrors the three-fold ministry of Christ – healing, preaching and teaching. That mission has sustained us for 108 years, and it will lead us as we continue meeting our communities' needs.



Baptist "heroes" enjoy a little levity in the midst of the pandemic. The Baptist team has treated more than 3,400 COVID-19 patients and performed 200,000 COVID tests systemwide since March.

BAPTIST
MEMORIAL HEALTH CARE

BAPTIST MEMORIAL HEALTH CARE SYSTEM

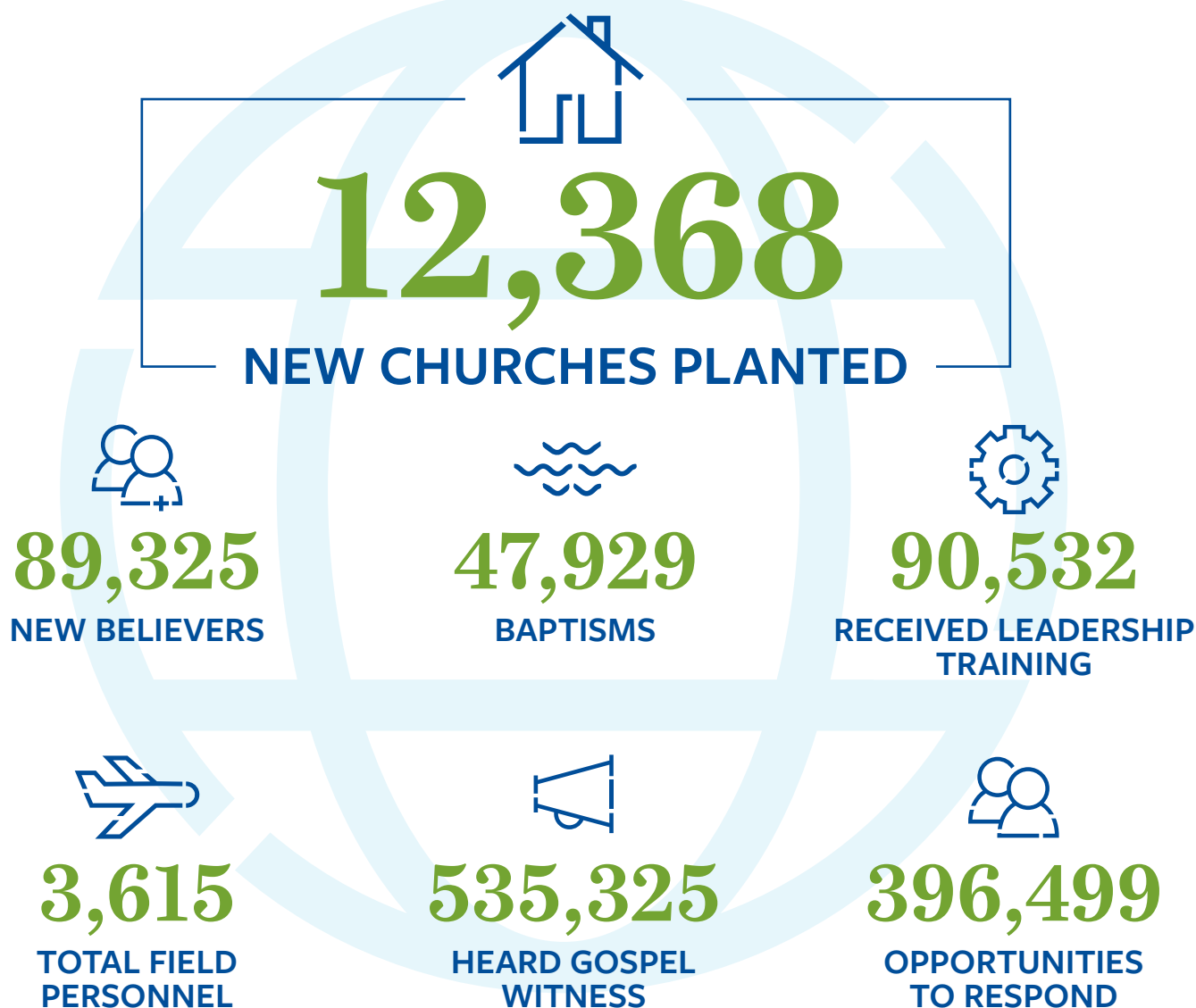


*Thank you, Tennessee Baptists,
for praying, giving, and going.*

Because of your generous partnership and your giving through the Cooperative Program and Lottie Moon Christmas Offering®, we celebrate these highlights from around the world.



2019 Global Highlights



At IMB, our mission is to serve you in carrying out the Great Commission to make disciples of all nations. Visit imb.org to learn more about how you can play your part in taking the gospel to the unreached.

imb | imb.org

All data, except for active field personnel and unreached people group counts, reflects information from the 2019 Data-Year Annual Statistical Report (IMB).
The Lottie Moon Christmas Offering® is a registered trademark of Woman's Missionary Union.

By



Means

1 Cor. 9:22

WIN



To the
WEAK
I became as
WEAK
that I might win the
WEAK

I have become
ALL things
to ALL men,
that I might
BY ALL
MEANS
save some.



SUMMIT
THE GATHERING OF TENNESSEE BAPTISTS



Please go to TBCSummit.org to join Virtual Summit 2020 online. Videos will be available until February 10, 2021.

8:30 am CST

Pre-Summit Video Roll Begins

9:00 am CST

A Spoken Word

"Normal"

Nick Person, Executive Pastor, New Vision Baptist Church, Murfreesboro

TBC President's Welcome

Bruce Chesser

Pastor, FBC Hendersonville

Summit Greetings

Mike Glenn

Pastor, Brentwood Baptist Church

Good News Video Story

"Victory in Jesus"

Victory Baptist Church, Henning

Prayer for America

Wagdy Zakher

Pastor, Arabic Baptist Church, Murfreesboro

Worship in Music

"Power in the Blood"

High Road

Good News Video Story

Calm After the Storm in Cookeville

Prayer for Tennessee

Javier Gonzales

Pastor, Iglesia Bautista Gracia y Verdad, Morristown

TBMB Board Report

Clay Hallmark

Chair, TBMB Board of Directors

Pastor, FBC Lexington

"A Golden Offering Thank You"

Randy C. Davis

TBMB President and Executive Director

Your 2020-2021 Cooperative Program Giving
Marty Comer
Chair, Budget and Ministries Committee
Pastor, Sand Ridge Baptist Church, Lexington

"I Am a Pastor" Video Tribute

TBMB Executive Director's Report
Randy C. Davis
TBMB President and Executive Director

The Eagle Award
Jason Little
President/CEO
Baptist Memorial Health Care Corporation

Prayer for First Responders
John Choi
Pastor, Korean Baptist Church, Jackson

Worship Music
"I Will Make All Things New"
Tenn. Men's Chorale, Tenn. Ladies Chorus, Tenn. Baptist Orchestra

Good News Video Story
"From Wrestler to Pastor"
Children of Christ Baptist Church, Morristown

Barbershop Conversation: The Bible and Race
Grant Gaines, Pastor, Belle Air Baptist Church, Murfreesboro
Ternae Jordan, Pastor, Mount Canaan Baptist Church, Chattanooga

Prayer for Tennessee Baptist Churches
Haley Cowley
Associate BCM Minister, Middle Tennessee State University

TBC President's Report
Bruce Chesser
Pastor, FBC Hendersonville

Good News Video Story
"All Things Work Together for Good"
Jean-Anne and Shannon Washam

Worship in Music
"The Sowers Song"
Andrew Peterson

A Spoken Word
"Change"
Nick Person, Executive Pastor,
New Vision Baptist Church, Murfreesboro

1

OBJECTIVE 1

Seeing at least 50,000 Tennesseans annually saved, baptized and set on the road to discipleship by 2024

2

OBJECTIVE 2

Having at least 500 Tennessee Baptist churches revitalized by 2024

3

OBJECTIVE 3

Planting and strategically engaging at least 1,000 new churches by 2024

4

OBJECTIVE 4

Realizing an increase in annual local church giving through the Cooperative Program that reaches at least 10 percent by 2024

5

OBJECTIVE 5

Realizing an increase in annual giving for the Golden Offering for Tennessee Missions that reaches at least \$3 million by 2024



Join Us Again for
SUMMIT
THE GATHERING OF TENNESSEE BAPTISTS

**Brentwood Baptist Church, Brentwood
November 2021**