



LEGACY

November 10, 2020

First Baptist Church Columbia

2020 Book of Reports



THE SOUTH CAROLINA BAPTIST CONVENTION

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LEGACY
2020 SOUTH CAROLINA BAPTIST CONVENTION
200TH ANNUAL MEETING
NOVEMBER 10, 2020
FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH, COLUMBIA SC

MORNING SESSION: *COOPERATION*

8:50	PRE-SERVICE WORSHIP & SCRIPTURE Praise Band	BRAD VASSEY First Vice President
9:00	CALL TO ORDER	JOSH POWELL President
	ORGANIZATION OF THE CONVENTION Enrollment & Credentials Committee	DAVID DINKINS Registration Secretary
9:10	ORDER OF BUSINESS COMMITTEE	DON COX Chair
9:15	WELCOME FROM FIRST BAPTIST COLUMBIA	WES CHURCH Senior Pastor
9:20	GREETINGS Baptist Education and Missionary Convention of South Carolina	DR. D. E. GREENE President
9:25	NEW BUSINESS	JOSH POWELL
9:35	ADVANCE	JAY HARDWICK AED/Chief Strategist
10:00	SOUTH CAROLINA MINISTRIES OF AGING	TOM TURNER President
10:05	WORSHIP	PRAISE BAND
10:10	WOMAN'S MISSIONARY UNION	LAURIE REGISTER Executive Director-Treasurer
10:20	BYLAWS COMMITTEE	ZACH SHAW Chair
10:30	COMMITTEE ON COMMITTEES	CHUCK SPROUSE Chair
10:35	LEGACY MOMENT	JOSH POWELL
10:40	NOMINATIONS COMMITTEE	DANNY GARRETT Chair

10:50	CHRISTIAN LIFE & PUBLIC AFFAIRS COMMITTEE	HANNAH MILLER Chair
11:00	CONNIE MAXWELL CHILDREN’S HOME	DANNY NICHOLSON President
11:05	HISTORY COMMITTEE	MARK HOPKINS Chair
11:10	WORSHIP	PRAISE BAND
11:15	MESSAGE	DR. KEVIN SMITH Executive Director Mid-Atlantic Baptist Network
11:45	CLOSING PRAYER	ROBERT A. POWELL, SR. Pastor, South Lexington

AFTERNOON SESSION: *MISSIONS*

1:50	PRE-SERVICE WORSHIP & SCRIPTURE Praise Band	SETH BUCKLEY Second Vice President
2:00	GREETINGS Executive Committee of the Southern Baptist Convention	RONNIE FLOYD President/CEO AMY WHITFIELD Associate Vice President for Convention Communications
2:10	EXECUTIVE BOARD	ALBERT ALLEN Chair
2:20	FIXING OUR EYES ON JESUS	GARY HOLLINGSWORTH Executive Director-Treasurer
2:40	GREETINGS North American Mission Board	KEVIN EZELL President
2:45	THE BAPTIST COURIER	RUDY GRAY Editor and President
2:50	WORSHIP	PRAISE BAND
2:55	NEW BUSINESS	JOSH POWELL
3:00	RESOLUTIONS COMMITTEE	CONDY RICHARDSON Chair

3:15	ELECTION OF OFFICERS	JOSH POWELL
3:35	BUSINESS SESSION	JOSH POWELL
3:40	GREETINGS International Mission Board	PAUL CHITWOOD President
3:45	LEGACY MOMENT	PHILIP PINCKNEY Pastor, Radiant Church
3:50	SOUTH CAROLINA BAPTIST FOUNDATION	NATHAN MCCARTHY President
3:55	WORSHIP	PRAISE BAND
4:00	MESSAGE	STEVE ELLIS International Mission Board
4:30	CLOSING PRAYER	STEVEN CRITTENDON International Mission Board

EVENING SESSION: *EDUCATION*

6:20	PRE-SERVICE WORSHIP	PRAISE BAND
6:30	LEGACY MOMENT	GREG WILLS Professor, Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary
6:40	ANDERSON UNIVERSITY	EVANS WHITAKER President
6:50	CHARLESTON SOUTHERN UNIVERSITY	DONDI COSTIN President
7:00	NORTH GREENVILLE UNIVERSITY	GENE FANT President
7:10	WORSHIP	PRAISE BAND
7:20	MESSAGE	DR. DANNY AKIN President, Southeastern Baptist Theological Seminary
7:40	WORSHIP	PRAISE BAND
7:50	LEGACY MOMENT	MARSHALL BLALOCK Pastor, First Baptist Church, Charleston

8:00	PRESENTATION & INSTALLATION OF NEW OFFICERS	JOSH POWELL
8:05	THEME FOR 2021	ALEX SANDS 2021 President Pastor, Kingdom Life Church Simpsonville
8:15	CLOSING PRAYER	JAY HARDWICK Pastor, Forest Hills Nashville, TN



Dr. Kevin Smith is the Executive Director of the Mid-Atlantic Baptist Network.

He has experience as a pastor, chaplain, church planter, conference speaker, and short-term missionary.

His ministry is animated by Jesus' prayer for the unity of His followers in John 17.



After coming to faith in Jesus Christ and sensing God's call into ministry, Steve Ellis moved to north Texas where he completed undergraduate studies at the Criswell College in Dallas, and graduate studies at Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary.

He currently serves as the Affinity Group Leader giving strategic oversight to the work in East Asia. Steve & Patti have been married for close to 36 years.

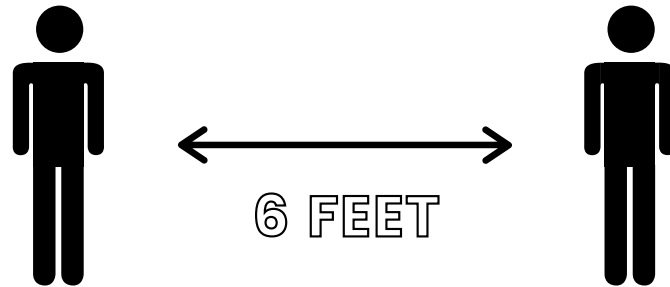


Dr. Danny Akin serves as President of Southeastern Theological Seminary and is a Professor of Preaching and Theology.

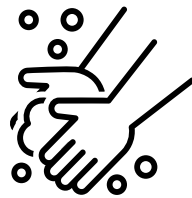
Dr. Akin and his wife, Charlotte, have traveled to Sudan, Turkey, the Middle East, Kenya, Asia, Central Asia, Thailand, India, and Paraguay serving our students and missionaries while sharing the Gospel.

COVID Safety Measures

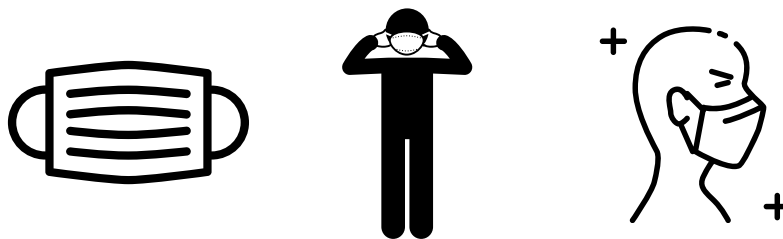
- Social Distancing of 6 feet is required.



- Hand washing (20 seconds) at least 4-6 times per day.



- Masks to be worn at all times in public spaces with your nose covered.



- Remember, cough and sneeze into your elbow. If you are not feeling well please stay home.



2020
South Carolina Baptist Convention Officers



Josh Powell
President



Brad Vassey
First Vice President



Seth Buckley
Second Vice President



Kathy Hall
Recording Secretary



David Dinkins
Registration Secretary



Alex Sands
President-Elect



Gary Hollinsworth
Executive Director-Treasurer



Bryant Sims
Parliamentarian



David Little
Parliamentarian

An Open Letter to South Carolina Baptists

Josh Powell, Convention President

Pastor, Lake Murray Baptist Church, Lexington

There is little doubt in my mind that the year 2020 will be remembered as one of the strangest years in recent history. This year has presented more questions than many are able to answer. And yet, in the face of this uncertainty, God's promises remain. I have been reminded of this truth through the ministry of numerous pastors across our state and I, for one, have never been more thankful to be a South Carolina Baptist.

I am thankful for the pastors I serve with in South Carolina. The unprecedented nature of the pandemic required everyone to change much of what they were doing in an instant. Churches who had never had online services were online in a week. These and other innovations, such as drive in services, are evidence that our state is blessed with leaders who were willing to adapt in order to fulfill their calling to proclaim the good news of Jesus, whatever it takes. I am thankful for our pastors.

I am thankful for the leadership at the South Carolina Baptist Convention. Gary Hollingsworth and his team have done an incredible job equipping our churches with the resources needed to navigate uncharted waters. Leaders, like Jay Hardwick and the Advance team produced great content to help our churches know what was happening and to be aware of what might be coming. It has been a privilege to serve as president alongside this team.

I am thankful for the members of the Racial Reconciliation Task Force. The ongoing strife and unrest in our culture is a clear display that our world is in desperate need of the gospel. A gospel of the kingdom that seeks to save and give rest to all those who are lost and hurting. I am thankful for the friendship of these brothers and their leadership in our convention during such a difficult time. It is an honor to serve alongside them.

My list could go on. I have a hard time articulating the privilege and honor it has been to serve as President of the South Carolina Baptist Convention. As we arrive at our 200th annual meeting in Columbia, it is clear to me why our convention is still here after all these years. At the heart of who we are as South Carolina Baptists, there remains a foundational commitment to cooperate together for the sake of missions and education. However, we have always been at our best when we remain laser focused upon the Great Commandment and the Great Commission.

As Great Commission Baptists we embrace our LEGACY. We admit our past sins and failures. We believe that the Lord still desires to use us. And, we confess, in our 200th year, that Jesus Christ is King, and his gospel is the message of his kingdom! When we continue to do these things, then by his grace, the South Carolina Baptist Convention will celebrate what the Lord has done every year until he returns!

An Open Letter to South Carolina Baptists

Albert Allen, Executive Board Chair

Pastor, First Baptist Church, Newberry

Serving our convention as Executive Board chairman this year has been a true fusion of challenge and blessing. While the Board has handled the usual kinds of things that arise regularly and occasionally, we have also faced unusual questions and crossroads, particularly related to COVID-19 – and we have done much of our work *via* virtual interaction rather than face-to-face. I want to thank South Carolina Baptists for your prayers on our behalf.

I have been fortunate to walk through this year with a very capable Executive Board comprised of men and women committed to the Lordship of Jesus Christ and the authority of His Word. There is a rich spiritual authenticity to our fellowship that I believe serves the cause of Christ and our convention well.

A distinct privilege of this role is the opportunity to work closely with Dr. Gary Hollingsworth, our convention's visionary, yet pragmatic, Executive Director-Treasurer. He and his extraordinary convention staff, like our Board, are deeply genuine in faith and commitment to the Lord and His Word. He and his staff serve South Carolina Baptists with excellence, integrity, and faithfulness, and they exemplify the very best of Southern Baptist leadership and servanthood.

A further benefit to me this year has been serving as Board chairman during the tenure and leadership of SCBC President Josh Powell. He is a unique blend of pastor, leader, teacher, historian, and innovator who has led with genuine insight, conviction, and humor during this very challenging year.

The year 2020 will likely go down in history as one of the strangest and most difficult in our nation's history. But the year is not done, and, even as I write, known and unknown challenges remain ahead. Major questions still linger regarding the pandemic, racial division, presidential politics, societal righteousness, and economic disruption.

Knowing the fallen nature of this world as we do, we can be sure that 2020 will end with a comma and not a period. But I believe our convention will thrive as we transition into 2021 with an excellent Executive Board, with our faithful Executive Director-Treasurer and convention staff, and with our 2021 SCBC President Alex Sands providing fresh spiritual vision, energy and passion from within the deep well of his vibrant walk with Jesus.

I am most thankful that, through it all, the King of Kings will continue to reign and that He has put us all together and in place as South Carolina Baptists for such a time as this.

Executive Director-Treasurer Report

Gary L. Hollingsworth

The year 2020 will long be remembered for the massive challenges it brought. While these challenges required change and flexibility in massive proportions, the Good News is the Gospel of Jesus Christ has NOT changed. The Great Commission has not been put on hold and in many ways, there are more opportunities to share Jesus now than ever before.

Because of the unusual nature of all that has transpired since March, this year's annual meeting and this Book of Reports reflect the changes we have all experienced. It is our prayer that these testimonies indicate how God is working despite the historic challenges we've faced.

The *Legacy* theme will kick off a year-long celebration of the 200 years of ministry of the South Carolina Baptist Convention. When we gather this time next year, we will officially celebrate the 200th anniversary of our founding in 1821—making us the oldest of all state Baptist Conventions.

Here you will find some of the spiritual fruit of the labor of thousands of South Carolina Baptists who are united around fulfilling the Great Commission. The heartbeat of all our ministries incorporate missions, evangelism, and education. While there is still much work to be done to put a dent in the lostness of our state, nation, and the world, you will see many efforts to do so in these highlights.

The Cooperative Program continues to provide the financial fuel for most of these ministries. While other offerings are appreciated and valuable, such as Lottie Moon, Annie Armstrong, and Janie Chapman, the Cooperative Program is still the bread and butter of our united missions' efforts. We continue to be a part of that legacy begun back in 1925 when a group of committed Baptists determined we could do more together than alone. As we seek to be a Convention committed to the Great Commission, the Cooperative Program still stands as the most effective and efficient way to share Jesus to a lost and dying world.

More important than our giving is our praying. Several years ago, South Carolina Baptists affirmed our key priorities which continue to guide our work. It was clearly stated those priorities were made possible by the two catalysts of prayer and spiritual leadership. For those reasons, we continue to fan the flame of prayer and spiritual leadership in every resource and ministry offering coming from our SCBC team. Hopefully, you will see that reflected in each report as well.

Words are inadequate to express the humility and deep gratitude I feel having been given the opportunity to serve as your Executive Director-Treasurer. We truly have some of the Godliest and committed Christians I have ever known working and serving around our state. To God alone goes the glory for all HE is doing. While this year's *Legacy* theme allows us to glance back, I believe our greatest days of Gospel Advance are in the future! It is an honor to be on that journey together with our South Carolina Baptist Convention family!

2021 South Carolina Baptist Convention Ministry Plan Recommendations

Recommendation 1: That the Convention commend to the churches the Cooperative Program as the wisest, most effective, and efficient plan of giving. The South Carolina Baptist Convention recommends that we continue to honor and affirm the Cooperative Program as the most effective means of mobilizing our churches and extending our outreach and that designated giving to special causes is to be given as a supplement to the Cooperative Program and not as a substitute for Cooperative Program giving.

Recommendation 2: That special offerings for the benevolent institutions be continued, where it is consistent with the financial policy of the local churches, as follows: 1) first Sunday in each month for Connie Maxwell Children's Home; 2) annually on Mother's Day for the South Carolina Baptist Ministries for the Aging.

Recommendation 3: That the Executive Director-Treasurer report on a timely basis, cumulative gifts received from the churches and the allocation of the gifts as follows: 1) Total gifts to the South Carolina Baptist Convention Cooperative Program at the end of each quarter; 2) Designations for Southern Baptist Convention and South Carolina Baptist Convention ministries after the conclusion of the calendar year; 3) Weeks of Prayer offering gifts for home and state missions after the conclusion of the calendar year; 4) Lottie Moon offering gifts for international missions at the conclusion of the fiscal year for the offering. All gifts will be processed in accordance with the instructions of the contributor without any deduction for expenses.

Recommendation 4: That the Executive Director-Treasurer forward all Southern Baptist Convention funds on a monthly basis to the Executive Committee of the SBC in Nashville, Tennessee.

Recommendation 5: That the 2021 Cooperative Program Ministry Plan be \$26,500,000.

Advance Anyway

Jay Hardwick, Associate Executive Director/Chief Strategist Report

In a single day, everything changed.

On a Wednesday in early March, our Leadership Team spent the day in prayer and planning asking God to give us a fresh strategic focus for the next five years of our work to help churches advance in fulfilling the Great Commission. As we wrapped up an effective and productive day, we all received a phone notification that the NCAA Basketball Tournaments would be played without fans. By the end of that day, the pandemic gripped our country.

Within a week, like many of you, we closed our building, cancelled numerous events, halted travel, and shifted all of our work to virtual environments. Literally, everything changed.

On our final day in the office, I was reminded of the motto the South Carolina Gamecocks baseball team adopted in their back-to-back National Championship seasons of 2010 and 2011. They were known for scrappy play, battling through key injuries, and miraculous come-from-behind wins. Their motto became Win Anyway. As our team pivoted, we adopted our own motto: **Advance Anyway.**

Advance Anyway during quarantine meant daily prayer Zoom[®] calls with pastors and ministry leaders. It meant hosting national and state government leaders on Zoom calls with pastors to help them understand how to lead their churches wisely. It meant creating new resources and equipping opportunities for churches, pastors, and leaders to create excellent virtual environments. It meant creating a new way for churches to launch online giving. It meant freeing up \$250,000 to give Serve Community Aid grants to help our churches serve their communities. It meant creating virtual camp experiences for children and students across the state. It meant mobilizing dozens of college students in virtual missions opportunities in the state and around the world.

But, Advance Anyway isn't just about what happened in quarantine. Advance Anyway is also about how we move forward, with still so many questions and so many unknowns. ***The need for the Gospel has never been greater and our firm belief is still that any church, any size, anywhere can advance . . . anyway!*** So this fall, our SEND Team is launching the Palmetto Collective to develop and deploy college students, intentionally, to be the next generation of missional leaders from South Carolina. Our Collegiate Ministries are actively serving and engaging their campuses as students return. Our Church Strategies team is assisting dozens of churches as they make their next moves to revitalize or restart. Our teams are building new platforms and resources to assist pastors and pastors' wives in their health and leadership development. Our SHARE Team is resourcing churches and praying for a historic harvest through Baptism Sunday. Our SERVE Team is helping many new church partners adopt schools and serve in even more meaningful ways through Heart 4 Schools. Our START Team is working with leaders around our state to launch an

initiative to develop leaders to start new, multiplying churches in diverse, under-served areas in our state.

Everything has changed. Yet, God is still sovereign and He is still on His mission to seek and to save that which is lost (Luke 19:10) as He gathers for Himself worshippers from every tribe, nation, and tongue (Rev. 7:9). Circumstances are challenging, but God is faithful, the Gospel is the hope of the world, and the Spirit lives in us to enable us to go from *our* Jerusalem to the ends of the earth (Acts 1:8). *So, let's all choose Advance Anyway!*

How is God leading your church to Advance Anyway in 2021 and beyond? What new opportunity has He opened? What new barriers are you facing? Our team stands ready to help you and your church make your next move to advance in fulfilling the Great Commission.

Advance Anyway!



Ministry Support Team

Scott Lee, Chief Administrative Officer

Having completed my first year as Chief Administrative Officer (CAO), it has been an honor to assist our Executive Director-Treasurer (EDT) Dr. Gary Hollingsworth, with the operation of the Convention (SCBC), Executive Board, Convention committees, and Convention staff. My responsibilities are to give executive oversight for human resources, operations, communications, continued development of staff culture, and assisting the EDT with the administration and facilitation of the Convention committees.

This year has been a year of great strides in making more efficient the processes regarding committee nominations, as well as an in-depth look at our current bylaws and proposed changes regarding streamlining for efficiency and future relevance. We have combined all of the areas represented here under one umbrella—**Ministry Support Team**. Our staff has absorbed the changes required by the pandemic and efficiently adjusted to those changes while continuing to stay in contact and serving the churches of the South Carolina Baptist Convention

Human Resources

- Implemented a new online employee review system for Convention staff
- Entered the fifth year negotiating with current medical and health care provider to control cost
- Restructured Paid Time Off process to reflect current and best practices
- Hired six full-time and six part-time employees to fill open positions (after a hiring freeze for over 6 months due to the pandemic)
- Established and administrated COVID-19 protocols per state/federal guidelines

Administration

- Developed and implemented *The Hub*, an employee portal to centralize frequently used forms and processes to help staff work more efficiently, especially when working remotely
- Development of in-house communication tool
- Connected all support ministries into a Ministry Support Team including HR, Operations, and Communications

Convention Committees

- Streamlined nomination process for efficiency
- Worked with Bylaws Committee to evaluate current bylaws and make proposals at this year's Annual Meeting for possible adjustments
- Worked with Committee on Committees to fill vacant positions for 2021
- Worked with Nominations Committee to fill vacant positions on the Executive Board and the Trustee Boards of our Ministry Partners for 2021

Operations

- Implementation of Office 365 and Office Teams with training
- Continued the move toward software allowing us to integrate all types of devices
- Continued migration from our previous database system, Customer Relationship Management (CRM) to Workspace, our current database system
- Retooling technology in Room 117 (primary meeting space) and all conference spaces
- BCM Centers—Gave oversight to necessary repairs and equipment needs in all BCM centers across the state
- White Oak Conference Center
 - Replacement of water heater in one of the hotels
 - Repair on the wastewater treatment plant
 - Repaired storm damage to Beachum Auditorium and pump/water treatment building
- Camp McCall
 - Initial lake grading
 - Repair to sewage waste station
 - Generator purchase
 - Guest house renovation and winterizing the dining hall

Communications

- Creative Production
 - Hired Creative Director
 - Updated technical and physical needs in the Convention Studio
 - Developed a network of creative professionals in the areas of video, graphic design, editing, and digital media producers
 - Coordinated efforts with all Ministry Priority teams to provide necessary support with video, social media, and podcasts
- Website
 - Launched a new SCbaptist.org website
 - Implementation of *The Hub*, an internal portal for SCBC employees

Prayer Requests

- That updated processes regarding culture and infrastructure will serve the needs of SCBC churches to fulfill the Great Commission
- That we would be good stewards of the Cooperative Program funds especially in facility upgrades and repairs
- That we would effectively convey the work of the SCBC through relevant and high-quality media (video, print, social media, and digital)
- That everything done will contribute to our vision of seeing every life saturated and transformed by the hope of the Gospel, beginning here in South Carolina

PERSONNEL CHANGES

October 2, 2019—October 1, 2020

New Staff

Field Service Staff

- Tom Gore, Start Team, October 1, 2019
- Alex Lyons, Communications, March 1, 2020
- Angela McNeal, Serve Team, April 1, 2020

Support Staff

- Rebekah Timmerman, Collegiate Ministries, January 16, 2020
- Joe Tindal, Operations, February 1, 2020
- Katrina Stikeleather, Church Strategies, April 1, 2020

Reassignments

- James Nugent, From Start Team to Church Strategies, April 1, 2020
- Donald King, From Church Strategies to Church Life, April 1, 2020
- Matt Freeman, From Church Strategies to Worship & Music, April 1, 2020
- Janet Altman, From Church Strategies to Worship & Music, April 1, 2020
- Alex Lyons, From Communications, Ministry Priorities to Communications, Ministry Support Team, August 1, 2020
- Haley Bryant, From Communications, Ministry Priorities to Communications, Ministry Support Team, August 1, 2020
- Chelsea Burgher, From Communications, Ministry Priorities to Communications, Ministry Support Team, August 1, 2020
- Jeff Dial, From Print & Mail Services, Operations to Print & Mail Services, Ministry Support Team, August 1, 2020
- Joe Tindal, From Print & Mail Services, Operations to Print & Mail Services, Ministry Support Team, August 1, 2020
- Ron Morgan, From Technology Services, Operations to Technology Services, Ministry Support Team, August 1, 2020
- Ted Miller, From Technology Services, Operations to Technology Services, Ministry Support Team, August 1, 2020
- Lisa Coley, From Technology Services, Operations to Technology Services, Ministry Support Team, August 1, 2020
- Jan Berrian, From Ministry Assistant, Operations to Team Assistant, Ministry Support Team, August 1, 2020
- John Cathcart, From Building Services, Operations to Building Services, Ministry Support Team, August 1, 2020
- Scott Lee, From Chief Administrative Officer, Administrative Office & Human Resources to Chief Administrative Officer, Ministry Support Team, August 1, 2020
- Lee Douglas, From Human Resources Manager, Administrative Office & Human Resources, to Human Resources Manager, Human Resources, Ministry Support Team, August 1, 2020

- Karen Bray, From Benefits Manager, Administrative Office & Human Resources to Benefits Manager, Human Resources, Ministry Support Team, August 1, 2020

Retirements

- Barbara Husman, Operations, June 30, 2020

Resignations

Field Service Staff

- Joshua Austin, Collegiate Ministries, December 31, 2019
- Katie Whitaker, Prayer Office, December 31, 2019
- Stephen Splawn, SHARE Team, August 31, 2020

Support Staff

- Aaron Langston, Accounting, July 21, 2020

Eliminated Positions

Field Service Staff

- Lara Gopp, Communications, July 15, 2020
- John Watkins, Operations, July 15, 2020
- Thomas Truitt, White Oak Conference Center, July 31, 2020

Support Staff

- Toni Russell, Administrative Office, November 21, 2019

Conference Center Staff

- Katherine Porter, White Oak Conference Center, July 31, 2020
- Lois Gambrell, White Oak Conference Center, July 31, 2020
- Amber Cardwell, White Oak Conference Center, July 31, 2020
- Frank Baughman, White Oak Conference Center, July 31, 2020
- Linda Wilson, White Oak Conference Center, July 31, 2020
- Barbara Towery, White Oak Conference Center, August 31, 2020

2020 Financial and Accounting Office

Bryan Holley, Chief Financial Officer

As Chief Financial Officer, I assist the Executive Director-Treasurer in the operation of the Convention, Executive Board, and Convention staff. Our office is responsible for all financial and legal matters of the Executive Board and Convention. We support and foster ministries of the SCBC through financial expertise with integrity and accountability that inspires a culture of excellence to strengthen the bond of trust and confidence in the value of cooperative work.

Ministry Highlights

- Obtained an unqualified audit for 2019
- Monitored Operating Budget for 2020
- Planned Operating Budget for 2021
- Filed all government reporting requirements and tax returns in a timely manner
- Served as a resource for the Convention and its churches regarding financial matters
- Sold undeveloped land at White Oak Conference Center for \$1.1 million
 - Closed White Oak Conference Center; Negotiating the sale of the property
- During 2019, Cooperative Program (CP) receipts decreased 1.1% or \$289,322 from 2018
- The 2019 CP Budget was \$28,000,000 and receipts were \$26,996,178
- Converted accounts payable and expense reports to paperless systems
- Converted all paper check payments to ACH/Direct Deposit payments
- Received Payroll Protection Program loan for \$1.4 million; Loan is expected to be forgiven

Prayer Requests

- Pray for wisdom to be good stewards of all the resources God has given us.
- Pray that churches will value the Cooperative Program so that every life will be saturated and transformed by the hope of the Gospel beginning in South Carolina.

2021

South Carolina Baptist Convention Cooperative Program Investment

	Amount	Percent
Our State		
South Carolina Baptist Convention	8,392,550	31.67
Anderson University	1,306,450	4.93
Charleston Southern University	1,285,250	4.85
North Greenville University	1,147,450	4.33
Connie Maxwell Children's Home	848,000	3.20
Ministries of Aging - SCBMA	837,400	3.16
Woman's Missionary Union	463,750	1.75
Baptist Courier	161,650	0.61
Baptist Foundation	-	-
	14,442,500	54.50
Our Nation		
North American Mission Board	2,477,220	9.35
Theological Seminaries	2,379,435	8.98
Executive Committee & SBC Operating	325,950	1.23
Ethics & Religious Liberty Commission	184,705	0.70
Historical Library & Archives	21,730	0.08
	5,389,040	20.34
Our World		
International Mission Board	6,668,460	25.16
Grand Total	26,500,000	100.00

STRONG Team
Church Strengthening
Steve Rohrlack, Team Leader

Calvary's story sounds like many other mill community churches. Quick growth, strong community impact, and a bright future were the expectations of the healthy congregation. Suddenly the mill closed. Gradually, the once strong fellowship became a struggling church, surrounded by vacant homes, and a transitioning community. The dwindling membership faced the possibility of shuttering the church.

But God was not finished with Calvary. The leaders reached out to the Convention. Our conversations kept circling back to community needs. Diversity, poverty, and single-parent homes became the local mission field for the church.

True change takes time. It took a few years, but the church cast a new vision and is now reaching the community in two languages. This new vision brought renewed energy to the Calvary fellowship. The Church Strengthening Team is ready to walk with your church as it discovers a new vision, bringing new energy.

Church Life

- *RESTORE* conference for ministers and spouses continues to be a great time of fellowship and renewal for pastors and their wives each year.
- NextStep transitioned to Church Life and was launched as a website and portal for participants and facilitators.
- Church finance and tax issues were addressed through regional and Zoom meetings.
- COVID-19 resourcing reached more than 350 churches through the Church Life Group.
- Transitional Pastor training is merging with Church Revitalization to elevate the level of preparation for this vital interim role.

Church Strategies

- More than 70 percent of the AMS/DOMs were trained as church revitalization practitioners and consultants.
- HopeforChurches.org launched to provide online resources for practitioners, churches, and prospective leaders.
- Multiple at-risk churches received comprehensive examination and consultation leading to revitalization, restarting, or reinvestment of resources.
- Eight churches in danger of closing are now engaging in the reSTART process.
- Several fellowships were led through the process of reinvesting remaining resources to enable new churches to reach their communities with the hope of the Gospel.

Generations Group

- Two Regional VBS Expos resourced 270+ church staff and volunteer leaders. Additionally, a virtual VBS resource provided churches/families an alternate Bible School experience due to COVID-19 interruptions.
- More than 600 Weekday Education Directors and Teachers received state-approved training through the Convention.
- Want a free resource kit? Be the first person at the annual meeting to tell a member of the Generations Group you saw this to receive the kit!
- The South Carolina Baptist Discipleship Network provides church leaders an opportunity to learn effective ways to strengthen churches toward fulfilling the Great Commission.
- Camp cancellation resulted in SummerSalt/KidSalt leadership developing the following virtual summer resources for churches:
 1. Sermons & small group follow-up from scheduled camp pastors
 2. Worship songs produced by the SummerSalt band
 3. Video podcasts by the SummerSalt/KidSalt staff
 4. Personal devotions for kids
 5. *Fired Up* Mission's challenge for kids ([Kidsalt.org/missions](https://kidsalt.org/missions))

Worship and Music

- Between April and August, approximately 350 worship leaders attended a weekly Zoom feature named *Let's Talk* to discuss pertinent topics, provide quality training, and encourage networking through prayer and support.
- Through in-person roundtables and virtual lunch-and-learn platforms, 120 leaders interacted with nationally known church artists, including Bob Kauflin, Chris Brown, David Walker, and Aaron Keyes.
- Our Baptist universities provided a premium experience for 245 juried participants during Baptist AllState Weekend (Honors Chorus, YouthSingers, Orchestra, and Worship Band students).
- Preparations have been made for a safe, socially distanced, in-person ONWARD Conference preceding the 2020 annual meeting.
- The Singing Churchmen and SeraphSong continue to be active role models and encouragers to worship leaders and tomorrow's worship leaders throughout the state.

Prayer Requests

- Pray for churches without pastors and the committees working to fill these vacancies.
- Pray for the continued rollout of the NextStep leadership development process.
- Pray for the launch of the Church Revitalization Network.
- Pray for the age-group specialists who are part of the Advance Training Network of the Generations Group.

SERVE Team
Jon Jamison, Team Leader

The Spirit of the Lord is upon me, because he has anointed me to proclaim good news to the poor. He has sent me to proclaim liberty to the captives and recovering of sight to the blind, to set at liberty those who are oppressed, to proclaim the year of the Lord's favor. In Acts 4:18–19, Jesus quoted the prophet Isaiah and declared that this Scripture was fulfilled in Him. In seeking to follow Jesus towards the vulnerable, the SERVE Team exists to help churches identify needs and opportunities in their communities and offer support as they launch successful ministries within those communities, to demonstrate the love of Jesus.

Advance Stories

- Together, Broad River Baptist and Blacksburg First collaborated with other area churches to feed more than 200 children weekly through their Backpack Buddy Ministry. They delivered food to local schools to be distributed each Friday, providing for children who would otherwise not have food on the weekend. When schools closed because of COVID-19, they began to deliver these meals directly to homes throughout the summer. They included a Vacation Bible School packet for each child, giving opportunities for families to learn about the hope found in Jesus.
- As a Disaster Relief chainsaw unit worked to clean up fallen trees and debris at a home in the Neeses area of Orangeburg County after the terrible tornado there, one of the team members listened to the homeowner's story and then shared the Gospel. Standing among the physical remnants of his home, this man prayed to receive Christ and began a new hope-filled life in Him.
- Taylors First Baptist utilized some of the SERVE Community Aid funds made available to SCBC churches as a result of COVID-19. The church provided lunch for 60 First Responders—Firefighters, Deputies, EMS and Paramedics, DHEC, Coroner's Office, and volunteers—administering COVID-19 tests for Greenville County. In addition to this event, remaining funds were used by the church's Employment Coaching Ministry to assist those who had recently become unemployed as a result of the pandemic.
- Lexington Baptist offered Conversational English Classes (ESL) to their community. There was uncertainty, with quarantine orders in place, that classes would stop and the church would lose momentum with their faithful students. Instead, leaders pivoted to online classes, not knowing if the students would respond to the opportunity. They did! The classes continued, even for two students who ended up moving out of the area. Lexington Baptist adapted to the needs of the season and held classes that reached around the world—from South Carolina to Florida to South Korea. The Gospel Advance was not hindered in this uncertain climate.

Advance Highlights

- Almost 250 churches were trained in SERVE ministry areas, including Understanding Poverty Culture, Benevolence Training, English as a Second Language (ESL) Teacher Training, Hunger Ministries, Healthy Community Engagement, Heart4Schools (H4S), and Disaster Relief.
- The Heart4Schools network continues to grow with 323 known church-school partnerships. Churches are serving students and teachers by providing reading support, mentoring, teacher encouragement, school supplies, and food to children who might otherwise be hungry on the weekends.
- Mobilized Disaster Relief (DR) volunteers and units responded to:
 - Tropical Storm Imelda in Texas and Hurricane Dorian in North Carolina (fall of 2019).
 - The COVID-19 emergency by distributing nearly 18,000 N-95 masks, plus other personal protective equipment from DR mud-out supplies to medical facilities, first responders, and other front-line agencies. Additionally, H4S and DR joined forces to distribute 40,000 cloth masks to churches to share with their school and community partners.
 - A record-breaking spring tornado season in South Carolina. Hundreds of volunteers responded to more than two dozen tornado and storm events across the state, providing chainsaw, chaplaincy, and shower ministry, reporting four salvations.
- Through the Hunger Relief Offering, SCBC churches shared meals with 111,700 individuals. Additionally, 32 professions of faith and 19 baptisms were recorded.
- SCBC churches host 43 ESL locations, teaching more than 650 students weekly from 35 countries. Twelve students prayed to receive Christ through ESL this year.
- Disaster Relief partnered with York Association in repairing homes damaged by Hurricane Dorian in the Bahamas.
- The SERVE Team provided grants to four churches to aid them in better serving vulnerable children in the foster system.
- A new online benevolence course was started with representatives from 10 churches.

Prayer Requests

- That churches would serve their communities through local schools, meeting needs, building relationships, giving encouragement, sharing hope, and changing lives as they live out their faith.
- That DR leaders at the church, association, and state level will have the wisdom to most effectively use the resources, both human and material, that God has entrusted.
- That God would grant favor in such a way there would be a movement of SCBC churches serving and caring for vulnerable people across South Carolina that would glorify and honor the Father and would lead to vibrant, transformed communities.

SHARE Team

Lee Clamp, Team Leader

The worldwide COVID-19 pandemic caused a renewed longing for hope. What better time for the church to share the hope found only in the Gospel! Churches are seeing historic numbers of people crossing over from death to life through a relationship with Jesus.

Barnwell First Baptist baptized a record 72 people last year, the most in their 200-year history. Millbrook baptized 46 teenagers from every race and socio-economic class. Pastor Ryan Goodroe called his church to pray for people to come to know Christ during the quarantine. Through the church Facebook[®] page encouraging baptisms on the following Sunday, 14 new Christians were baptized in the next two weeks, doubling their annual average number of baptisms.

So what are some of our top baptizing churches doing differently?

- Personal evangelism was the leading factor for baptisms
- The top action that led to the majority of baptisms: Relationships with people
- Sixty-four percent of top baptizing churches prayed for lost people by name

If you want to raise the thermostat of reaching lostness in your life and church:

- Pray for lost people by name and lead your church to do the same
- Build friendships with lost people
- Model to new believers how to verbally share their faith

The Evangelism Team exists to help the church create a culture of disciple-makers who share hope by praying for the lost, caring for the broken, and sharing hope with every life.

Praying for the Lost

- Prayer warriors adopted 29,653 homes with active prayer engagement of 13,108 of these homes using the Bless Every Home neighborhood mapping tool for praying. Twenty-two churches were trained this year.
- South Carolina had 1,400 logins on the NAMB site during the *Who's Your One* effort.

Caring for the Broken

- Ten new Neighboring partnerships were established and 100 women's leaders were trained in Neighboring efforts.
- More than 115 women's ministry leaders and more than 50 ministers' wives were trained and encouraged.

Sharing Hope with Every Life

- Last year's Annual Church Profile showed 10,616 baptisms throughout the state.

- Approximately 800 leaders were inspired at the Impact Conference to be ONE for the Gospel.
- We fostered a network of African-American pastors in a retreat, as well as round table discussions on racial reconciliation in at least three associations in our state.
- New processes were initiated to help churches double baptisms. At least one church tripled their baptisms, even in the midst of the pandemic.

Camp McCall

For the first time in 62 years, Camp McCall did not host campers due to COVID-19. As a result, Camp McCall offered two, month-long Staff discipleship spiritual development programs. And so the legacy of Camp McCall will continue as it has for many years.

In 2014, Josh and Shannon Jennings started Alethia Church in Sedona, Arizona. Josh, a former camper and staff member, had been pastoring in Spartanburg before joining with NAMB to plant a church in Sedona—often referred to as the New Age capital of America.

Six years later, Griffin Barnes, another long-time camper and current staff member at McCall, attended the discipleship program this summer and felt God’s leadership to join the work of Alethia as it establishes student ministry. Even in the pandemic, the generational legacy of missions-education at Camp McCall continues!

Camp Highlights

- Forty Camp McCall staffers took advantage of the two-month coronavirus closure to participate in a focus on discipleship and spiritual development. As a result, one staffer felt God’s call to full-time ministry.
- Staff participated in 11 service projects totaling more than 700 volunteer hours.
- Camp McCall hosted multiple missionary families, church staffs, and SCBC planning teams
- Ten external groups (750 participants) utilized the camp for spring and fall retreats.

Prayer Requests

- Pray for every South Carolina Baptist to identify one person with which to share the Gospel.
- Pray for more baptisms due to increased engagement with the lost.
- Pray for the 2,000+ campers that did not get to experience Camp McCall this summer.
- Pray for the financial hardship as 80% of Camp McCall’s annual revenue was lost.
- Pray for the ongoing investment in the discipleship, leadership, missions education, and character development of summer staff.

Baptist Collegiate Ministries (BCM)
Chad Stillwell, Collegiate Ministries Director

Who would have ever thought that a microscopic germ would bring the world to a standstill in an instant? The COVID-19 coronavirus traveled at lightning speed forcing businesses, churches, and schools to quickly convert face-to-face relationships to virtual events. With the upheaval of society and the economy, God continued and continues to move powerfully on our campuses.

At Winthrop, a self-professed devil worshipper was befriended by BCM students and interns on campus. He was an addict and a fraternity guy with a bad reputation. Through patience, intentional prayer, and kindness, the Lord opened his eyes and he trusted Jesus as his Savior. The following week, he was on the front row of our weekly worship gathering with an open Bible, taking notes. Pray for him as he continues to grow in his faith and witness this year.

In the fall of 2019, a Chinese international student at USC-Columbia walked into the BCM building asked if someone could tell him about Jesus. Our BCM director and assistant director invested heavily in him this year and he accepted Christ as his Savior. As the year progressed, the BCM team continued to disciple him. He has started sharing his faith and attending church. God continues to draw the 275,000 college students studying in South Carolina to hope and salvation through His Son.

- BCM groups were active on 30 campuses, involved 3,816 students, and connected with an additional 17,359 college students
- BCMs reported 294 professions of faith this year
- More than 925 BCM students served on local and short-term mission trips including three virtual mission teams that went to Salt Lake City, Denver, and France
- During COVID-19 in Spring 2020 semester, BCMs conducted 13 large group virtual meetings and more than 90 online small-group Bible studies *per week* involving almost 1,600 students
- Scholarships totaling \$137,050 were awarded to 119 students to pursue vocational ministry

Prayer Requests

- Pray for the launch of an on-campus BCM at USC-Beaufort, Limestone College, Benedict College, and Allen University. These universities have great ministry potential. Pray for our workers to be the face of Jesus and for many students to come to faith as we engage these new campus cultures.
- Pray for college students to accept the challenge to serve two years on mission after graduation and that they will listen to God's call and not be held back by fear, finances, or family pressure.
- According to the Community College Review website, 27 community colleges are serving more than 100,000 students in South Carolina this year. These represent some of the least reached and hardest to reach campuses in our state. Pray for compassionate volunteers to share Jesus on these campuses.



LEGACY

NOVEMBER 10, 2020

**First Baptist Columbia
1306 Hampton St
Columbia, SC 29201**

**The cherished gospel legacy of South Carolina Baptists
was established upon the rock-solid pillars of
cooperation, missions, and education.**

**Still standing on these pillars, let us embrace the future
as we look to see every life saturated and transformed by
the hope of the Gospel . . . beginning in South Carolina!**

SEND Team

Ken Owens, Team Leader

But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes on you, and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and even to the ends of the earth.



Every church needs to be captivated by this Acts 1:8 vision that Jesus gave to His followers. The SEND Team is focused on encouraging, equipping, and empowering churches to fulfill the Great Commission by sending workers here, there, everywhere so that all peoples of the world will be saturated and transformed by the hope of the Gospel.

Mission Highlights

- At the 2019 SCBC annual meeting, messengers approved a historic 5-year mission partnership agreement with the East Asia Affinity of the International Mission Board. With more than 1.7 billion mostly unreached people living in East Asian countries (1/4 of the world's population), both the need and opportunity for South Carolina Baptists to engage with our IMB East Asian partners in evangelism, disciple-making, and missionary support are great.
- More than 100 church leaders participated in a Mission Partnership Luncheon, hearing from South Carolina-based missionaries serving in Boston, Salt Lake City, and Japan.
- Twenty-five multi-ethnic church pastors and leaders were equipped at a state-wide training, led by Dr. Paul Kim, Asian-American Strategist with the SBC Executive Committee.
- SCGo Mission Teams ministered in Boston and Greece before the coronavirus outbreak.
- ***Pray52*** was launched—a prayer text message that is sent to SC Baptists every Wednesday with two current South Carolina-based missionary prayer requests per week.
- ***SCGo News***, a bi-weekly e-newsletter, was launched and sent to more than 500 SCBC mission leaders. Each edition includes current prayer requests from South Carolina-based missionaries serving around the world, equipping resources and training events to strengthen the mission work of the church, missionary spotlights, and an Unreached People Group prayer focus.
- Three ***SEND Collaboratives*** were hosted for 35 mission leaders across the state. At the collaboratives, mission pastors networked and shared ideas for developing a strong missions' culture in the local church.
- Two IMB East Asia Mobilizers and several SCBC SEND Team staff members traveled across the state in February to promote the East Asia partnership. Speaking at pastor meetings, student gatherings, worship services, and mission training events, they shared East Asian needs/opportunities with more than 2,500 people.
- Missionaries from Salt Lake City, East Asia, and Boston shared mission partnership opportunities and led breakout sessions at the Impact Conference.

- The *Palmetto Collective*, a new venture to disciple and develop college students as missional leaders, launched its pilot group. Palmetto Collective students study and share in on-line cohorts, meet with missional mentors, engage in local ministry, and serve in cross-cultural mission trips for two years with the plan that they will be missional leaders in local churches or mission settings around the world.
- Two *SEND Me* trainings, one-day equipping conferences to help churches become Sending Churches were held—one virtually in March and one in-person in August.

COVID-19 Pandemic Response

In the early spring, life and ministry as we knew it changed dramatically. Every mission/vision trip we planned from March to September was cancelled or postponed due to the pandemic. Not only were mission teams grounded, but many missionaries were relocated or brought back to the United States. In response, the SEND Team developed new avenues for mission engagement during this unprecedented time. The South Carolina SEND Team:

- Led three video conference calls with mission pastors across the state to share ideas and receive training on how to lead missionally during the pandemic;
- Hosted four on-line vision/prayer experiences to connect SCBC church leaders with mission leaders in NYC, Boston/New England, Salt Lake City, East Asia, and the North African/Middle East Diaspora in Europe;
- Contacted more than 160 South Carolina-based missionaries serving with NAMB and IMB—communicating our concern, support, and intercession for their needs. The SCBC staff prayed each week specifically for their prayer requests;
- Developed an *Advance Summer Catalyst* program to engage college students with SCBC team strategies to further the Gospel in the Palmetto State and beyond—twenty Advance summer catalysts served with the Convention; four SEND Team Catalysts researched and mapped unreached people groups in South Carolina and video conferenced with NAMB and IMB missionaries to encourage their work around the world; and
- Produced website articles, *Sending the Gospel When You Can't Go* and *Regather to Go*, to provide churches with sending ideas and resources during the pandemic.

Prayer Requests

- For SCBC churches to send workers to fulfill the Great Commission all over the world, particularly the 1.7 billion people living in East Asia, as well as unreached people groups in our state and other parts of the world
- For mission pastors and leaders as they discern how to lead missional efforts during the pandemic
- For SBC missionaries whose lives and mission work have been changed during this time.

START Team

Cliff Marshall, Team Leader

In March, when the threat of the COVID-19 virus became a reality for South Carolina, the START Team was faced with the question, “How can we assist churches to start new churches during a pandemic?” We quickly realized that most of the church planting systems in place would need to be modified for effectiveness where social distancing was the new normal.

Assessing potential church planters for readiness to start new churches is a vital piece of the church planting pathway that normally involves a potential planter and his wife attending a two-day Assessment Retreat. At the retreat, the candidate couples come together to be evaluated by a team of trained assessors on competencies necessary to start a multiplying church. Faced with the reality of not being able to gather candidate couples and assessors in the same facility, the Start Team worked to transition the Assessment Retreat into a virtual experience utilizing Zoom calls. As a result of making this change, three virtual Assessment Retreats were held where seven-candidate couples were assessed. This transition from live to virtual assessments would allow these church planters to begin their START Network Training on time this year to begin new congregations in 2021.

START Progress

- Twenty-one new churches received monthly covenant assistance funding in 2020. This funding was made available from the Janie Chapman Offering for State Missions.
- There are newly funded churches in six strategic regions of South Carolina—73% of our population lives in these regions.
- Before the pandemic, two church planters were assessed for readiness to start new churches.
- Three virtual church planter assessment retreats were held in which seven church planters were assessed for readiness to start new churches.
- Nine church planter assessors were trained this year—six new assessors are Hispanic.
- Three Hispanic church planters were assessed at the first Hispanic Church Planter Assessment retreat in August.
- Four church planters from two strategic regions are scheduled to be assessed at a fall assessment retreat.
- Three funded church plants ranked in the top 10 for baptisms among churches of a similar size.
- Five potential church planters are currently in the pre-assessment phase of the church planting pathway.
- Recently assessed church planters will begin Start Network Training before the end of the year. These training cohorts will launch in, and be led by, trainers from four of the strategic regions.

- We are partnering with Reconcile Community Church in Greenville (Pastor Will Broadus) to create a strategy to identify communities in the Upstate with populations that are harder to reach. These communities are most commonly represented by minorities and have traditionally been overlooked as places where new churches are needed.
- At the onset of the pandemic, we worked with church planters who met in schools to help them with options for meeting spaces once re-gathering was an option.
- Created and hosted an online seminar during quarantine called *Church Giving Strategies: How to inspire generosity in the time of COVID-19*.
- Quickly mobilized an online effort to stay connected and share the necessary tools and information with church planters when the pandemic started.
- African American pastors showed a renewed interest and participation with the Convention and the need to cooperate as a fellowship family. This task became monumental in the time of COVID-19 and the deaths of George Floyd and Ahmaud Arbery.
- START hosted a Grand Strand Church Planting Vision Tour in which leaders from four churches in other areas of the state toured and prayed over church planting locations in the Grand Strand. One of those churches is now partnering with a new church planter in North Myrtle Beach.
- We hosted the inaugural Grand Strand Multiplying Church Summit (MCS). The MCS is designed to challenge and encourage pastors to lead their congregations to plant new churches by praying for planting opportunities, sharing resources, developing and sending out planters, and partnering with other churches. Twenty-three pastors and two ASM/DOMs attended. Four Multiplying Church Cohorts were started from the event.
- The four Grand Strand Multiplying Church Cohorts meet monthly to work together toward planting new churches in the region. Five of the churches who participate in the cohorts are partnering with two new churches that will launch next year.
- START worked with six Summer Catalysts. The Summer Catalyst program was an opportunity for college students to spend several weeks learning about the Advance strategy and the overall work of the SCBC. Our catalysts engaged in on-ground contact with planters in the field, as well as weekly times of training with our team.

Prayer Requests

- Pray that every SCBC church would partner with a new church either through financial contributions, sharing facilities, mission projects, or regular prayer support.
- Pray that, through the unusual stress of church planting during a pandemic, that planters and their families will remain emotionally and mentally healthy.
- Pray for our church planter wives to be loved, cared for, and supported.
- Pray for an evangelistic fervor to burn brightly in the hearts of all SCBC church planters that would be evident in their lifestyle and teaching.
- Pray that God would stir, in our churches, a passion to raise up and send out church planters.
- Pray for more churches to be planted in the high-need coastal regions of South Carolina.

Association Update

Scott Shields, Associational Liaison

The Office of Associational Liaison exists to create a Kingdom movement among our 42 associations impacting our state and beyond . . . so that every life is saturated and transformed by the hope of the Gospel beginning in South Carolina.

Association Celebrations

- Twenty-six couples attended the January Associational Mission Strategists/Directors of Missions (AMS/DOM) retreat in Hendersonville, North Carolina. Guest speaker Major General Doug Carver spoke about Sabbath Rest and Intimacy with God.
- Seven associations partnered to host presence-centered prayer gatherings with Bill Elliff in North Charleston, Conway, and Fort Mill. We are planning to host Dr. Elliff in the spring of 2021 in the Savannah River, Aiken, and Anderson areas.
- The Spring AMS/DOM Summit on Revitalization/ReStart was postponed due to COVID-19.
- The Fall AMS/DOM Summit was held on Sept. 10, 2020, with Dr. Johnny Hunt.
- We partnered with the Church Strengthening Team to launch HopeForChurches.org, a website for revitalization resources.
- ASM/DOM cohorts will connect in October to address leadership development within each association, bring clarity to a strategic approach of the AMS/DOM position, and offer tools to align work to the 12 core competencies of this position.
- A priority of this office is to care for and connect with all AMS/DOMs each month to build relationships, support, encouragement, and leadership development.
- This office is a direct link between the Convention and the associations offering financial resources and intentional training opportunities to promote Advance priorities.
- The Office of Associational Liaison notifies association offices of upcoming Convention leadership and training events like Impact, Restore, or NextStep.

Prayer Requests

- Pray for a great start to the NextStep processes offered through the associations.
- Chesterfield, Moriah, and Saluda Associations are in staff transition and are searching for those who are called to fill leadership roles.
- Pray for associational leaders to be open to building and strengthening relationships, learning new skills, and being open to God's leading in their lives.

Through the Woman's Missionary Union (WMU®), age-level organizations, and churchwide participation, South Carolina Baptists are equipped to understand God's purpose for their lives and are challenged to live out that purpose—to make disciples of Jesus who live on mission. Through missions praying, missions giving (including the Cooperative Program and our special offerings, and personal involvement in missions, WMU members and participants develop a lifestyle of missions. WMU is biblically-rooted, missions-focused, church-based, world-aware, and denominationally supportive.

Missions Emphases

- Lottie Moon Christmas Offering and Annie Armstrong Easter Offering
 - South Carolina WMU distributed posters, offering envelopes, and prayer guides in English, Spanish, Chinese, and Korean.
- Janie Chapman Offering for State Missions, Missions Education, and Kingdom ADVANCE
 - South Carolina WMU planned, produced, and provided materials to promote South Carolina state missions. Videos (three videos on one DVD), posters, prayer guides, and envelopes were distributed.
 - Two checks were sent to the South Carolina Baptist Convention (SCBC) for missions causes. SCWMU sent \$1,136,950 to the Convention allocated for approved projects. The WMU Executive Board voted to return \$106,828.63 unused funds from the 2019 offering to SCBC for undesignated use.

Missionary Support

- Twenty persons participated in the Fall Missionary Parents Fellowship meeting in October. Due to COVID-19, the Spring Missionary Parents Fellowship meeting was cancelled.
- This year, 46 checks for \$50, totaling \$2,300, were sent to South Carolina related missionary kids (MKs).
- In September, Missionary Day was held at Camp La Vida for active and retired international and North American missionaries and chaplains serving in or from South Carolina—27 attended.

Missions Opportunities

- The Baptist Nursing Fellowship (BNF) uses their medical skills to serve others and share the Gospel. BNF participated in ministry through Martha Franks Retirement Community, the Myrtle Beach Sunburn Unit, the South Carolina State Fair, and served and shared hope with the impoverished.
- Duffel bag and Bible donations totaled \$7,121.34 during 2019.
- Ministry Health Kits were distributed in associations throughout South Carolina.
- SCWMU partnered with the Convention to promote, collect, and distribute Prisoner Packets.

- The oldest Christian Women's Job Corps (CWJC) site in the country is in Rock Hill. CWJC walks alongside women on their journey to self-sufficiency.
- WMU trains individuals on how to serve and engage refugees and connects churches and individuals with local refugees.
- The Convention and South Carolina WMU partnered with the Appalachian Mountain Ministry (formerly Appalachian Region Ministry) to provide Christmas Backpacks. There were 4,864 backpacks collected from associations and churches and distributed in Kentucky and West Virginia.
- One Acteens group is active on the Willow Lane Campus of the Department of Juvenile Justice in Columbia.

Missions Camping

- Due to COVID-19, our regular camps were cancelled. We offered a virtual camp which was themed *Stay Connected*. The virtual camp included missionary Zoom calls (Connect Four) for 1st–12th-grade campers, virtual cabins (Cabin Fever) for 13–18-year-old campers, and Campapalooza. Campapalooza is on the Camp La Vida website. It included activities and crafts, daily devotions from camp staff, and messages from missionaries around the world speaking about their ministries. Sixteen campers participated in Cabin Fever while more than 30 campers and others participated in the Connect Four missionary Zoom calls.
- Camp maintenance staff power washed, scraped, and painted the Staff House, Multi-Purpose Building, and Bell Tower during the summer season. We are preparing to paint the Business Manager's House next.

Missions Discipleship

- We established prayer partnerships with Global Gates West (a ministry that facilitates prayer initiatives focused on unreached people groups), and Boston Church Planters' Wives. Forty-six women in South Carolina prayed for the needs and requests sent by members of the Global Gates West team and 58 women agreed to partner with the wife of a church planter currently serving in Boston.
- Last year, 56 students and their leaders participated in Loving the Poor in Your Community, sponsored by SCWMU and Spartanburg First. Students participated in a poverty simulation and were challenged to build relationships with the poverty-stricken in their communities, serve them, and make disciples.
- We led a conference on Sisters Who Care[®] (an expression of Women on Mission for African American churches) at Columbia Metro Association's Black Church Conference and staff attended a conference on Sisters Who Care led by Valerie Carter, WMU of Virginia executive director-treasurer.
- In February, associational WMU directors and our WMU specialists met to prepare for the new year. However, leadership development took on a new life this year because of COVID-19.

Virtual training became our new normal. Eleven videos were produced for church WMU leadership and additional resources were prepared for associational leaders.

- Most associational WMU spring meetings were cancelled due to COVID-19, but WMU staff worked with all of them as they prepared and participated in the two that were held.
- In March, WMU Missions Encounter and the Annual Meeting were unable to meet due to COVID-19.
- Fourteen college students, already hired to work at Camp La Vida, were given the opportunity to participate in an eight-week intentional discipleship process. They met by Zoom for Bible study and discipleship, participated in personal study and phone calls with mentors, produced all of the activities, and led in the virtual cabin portion of camp.

Prayer Requests

- Pray that Spirit-led followers of Jesus would build relationships with refugees in South Carolina. Many of them have never had access to the hope of the Gospel.
- With the retirement of a long-time staff member, South Carolina WMU is working with two individuals who are helping to lead in the areas of Christian Women's Job Corp and Leadership Development. Pray that we will continue to seek and follow God's direction for the work of South Carolina WMU.



Anderson University
Dr. Evans Whitaker, President

Campus Scripture Verse

You shall love your neighbor as yourself. Matthew 22:39 (ESV)

For God and humanity, Anderson University seeks to be an innovative, entrepreneurial, premier comprehensive university where liberal arts, professional studies, and graduate studies thrive within an uplifting, welcoming, and distinctively Christian community of diverse faculty, staff, and students dedicated to intellectually rigorous learning, a caring and hospitable campus culture, and personal transformation.

Highlights 2020

- A total of 788 new students—698 freshmen and 90 transfers—joined the Anderson University family for the 2020-21 year. This is the largest incoming class in the history of the institution. Praise the Lord!
- Anderson University continues to be recognized as one of the best universities in the South by *U.S. News & World Report* and *The Princeton Review*. Its latest rankings and distinctions include:
 - **Best College** among regional universities in the South: Ranked 50th (*U.S. News & World Report*);
 - **Best Value** among regional universities in the south: Ranked 32nd (*U.S. News & World Report*);
 - **Most Innovative** among regional universities in the south: Ranked 19th (*U.S. News & World Report*);
 - **Best Undergraduate Teaching** among regional universities in the south: Ranked 20th (*U.S. News & World Report*);
 - **Best Southeastern** (*The Princeton Review*);
 - **Online Bachelor Programs**: Ranked 3rd in South Carolina; Ranked 80th nationally (*U.S. News & World Report*);
 - **Online Graduate Business Programs**: Ranked 3rd in South Carolina (*U.S. News & World Report*);
 - **Online Graduate Education Programs**: Ranked 3rd in South Carolina (*U.S. News & World Report*);
 - **Online Graduate Nursing Programs**: Ranked 3rd in South Carolina; Ranked 66th nationally (*U.S. News & World Report*);
 - **Best Student Engagement**: Ranked 27th among *all* universities in the United States (*Wall Street Journal*, 2020)
- Over the last year, Anderson University formalized transfer programs with partner institutions Greenville Technical College, Piedmont Technical College, Spartanburg

Community College, and TriCounty Technical College. These relationships provide a seamless transition to students wanting to further their educational and career goals in obtaining a four-year degree.

- Anderson University's Trojan Athletic program continues to grow and excel. Men's LaCrosse has its first team, with nearly 40 student athletes. The Women's Basketball team once again earned a spot at the NCAA Southeast Region Quarterfinal Tournament.
- Anderson University's Bachelor of Science in Cybersecurity program welcomed 19 freshmen in August 2020.
- Anderson University announced the creation of the College of Engineering and named its founding dean. Pending accreditation, the first engineering class will start in the fall of 2021 pursuing degrees in electrical or mechanical engineering.
- The Doctor of Philosophy in Leadership program launched this fall exceeding enrollment expectations for the inaugural year. Those pursuing this doctorate can choose an emphasis in Business or Christian Ministry.
 - The Doctor of Philosophy in Leadership program launched this fall. Exceeding enrollment expectations for the inaugural year. Those pursuing this PhD can choose an emphasis in Business or Christian Ministry.

Prayer Requests

Please join us in continuing to pray for the health and safety of our students, staff and faculty during this academic year. As each of our institutions continue to confront the challenges posed by COVID-19, we are encouraged by the Lord's provision and lean on His wisdom.

We ask that you pray that we will continue to have the freedom to be faithful to our mission of being a truly Christian academic community in the face of governmental pressure on us, and all Christian colleges, to bend to the increasingly secular culture.

Join us in praying that we will steward the influence and awesome responsibility of equipping our students to be successful in all realms of life—in family, community, work, and church. We desire for our students' lives to be changed and that they will change the world they touch when they leave Anderson University.



Charleston Southern University
Dr. Dondi E. Costin, President

Charleston Southern University treasures the important “partnership in the gospel” shared with the churches of the South Carolina Baptist Convention (Philippians 1:5). Our vision statement articulates our role in this partnership: *To be a Christian university nationally recognized for integrating faith in learning, leading, and serving.*

We rejoice with our Campus Ministry team that **70** college students gave their lives to the Lord last academic year in formal university programs and another **28** accepted Christ during freshman orientation events this August. There were undoubtedly many more professions of faith of which we are unaware, as the gospel is shared routinely in every corner of our campus. As for additional Kingdom impact, **102** students surrendered to full-time ministry and **170** rededicated their lives to the Lord last academic year.

CSU set the national collegiate record for the number of **Operation Christmas Child** shoeboxes packed in a single season. The 5,249 boxes collected helped spread the gospel across the globe. The university collected and distributed more than \$40,000 in its donor-funded **Student Emergency Care Fund** to help students overcome pandemic-induced financial challenges. We produced, published, and began implementing a **new strategic plan** (2020–2025) that doubled down on our decidedly Christian identity, established Christ-centered core values to mark our university culture, and detailed how CSU equips students with a **Passport to Purpose**.

CSU gained national prominence this year as *U.S. News & World Report* ranked our online undergraduate program ranked **11th nationally** in its **Best Online Bachelor’s Programs** category.

CSU’s **first Physician Assistant class** graduated in December 2019. This inaugural cohort’s **96% licensure examination pass rate** was the **highest in the state of South Carolina**.

The launch of the **Dewey Center for Chaplaincy** is especially exciting, thanks to a \$2M gift from Rev. Rob Dewey and his wife, Kathy. The Center will advance chaplaincy as a platform for the gospel across the more than 60 sectors recognized by the North American Mission Board.

We leveraged a partnership with evangelist and CSU graduate Jay Strack in establishing the **Jay Strack Center for Global Leadership** to equip student leaders, youth pastors, and others to impact their spheres of influence by leading in faith for the sake of the gospel.

The university added new degree programs in **Engineering** (current concentrations in computer engineering and electrical engineering; mechanical engineering to be added soon). ABET, the nation’s premier engineering and technology accrediting organization, accredited CSU’s bachelor’s degree program in Cybersecurity making it **one of only 10 ABET-accredited**

Cybersecurity programs in the country alongside cyber powerhouses like The United States Air Force Academy and The United States Naval Academy.

CSU launched **South Carolina's only collegiate aviation program** in the summer of 2020. The program will offer a bachelor's degree in aeronautics in three primary professional pilot tracks: **Commercial** Aviation (airline pilot), **Military** Aviation, and **Missionary** Aviation.

The College of Business began an accelerated **10-month MBA program** this fall to prepare working professionals to thrive at the intersection of Christ, Culture, and Commerce.

CSU became a charter member of the **International Alliance for Christian Education (IACE)**—a global network advancing evangelical educational institutions by strengthening commitment to biblical orthodoxy, cultural witness, and Christian scholarship in an increasingly secular age.

The university merged its Faith Integration Committee and Excellence in Teaching Committee to establish a comprehensive **Faith and Learning Institute** which demonstrates CSU's passion for developing faculty who understand that faith integration is the foundation of teaching excellence. Our educational philosophy is driven by our mission statement's push for **academic excellence in a Christian environment**. Saturating the entire campus community with the university's vision to **integrate faith in learning, leading, and serving** ensures that faith integration is not an afterthought, but a way of life at CSU.

Faculty, staff, and students turned on a dime in mid-March to complete the spring 2020 semester remotely due to uncertainties driven by the COVID-19 Pandemic. As a result of their strong faith and passion for the gospel, **770** students graduated in May (CSU's largest-ever graduating class). CSU established a **University Pandemic Task Force** comprised of 40 experts across campus, including faculty members in physician assistant studies, nursing, public health, and athletic training; staff leaders in student life, campus ministries, housing, and dining; and facilities and logistics specialists. They developed and implemented a plan to return students, faculty, and staff to campus safely this fall, in keeping with federal, state, and local health and safety guidelines.

Prayer Requests

- Please pray for our trustees, administration, faculty, staff, and students as we navigate the educational, medical, relational, and financial challenges levied by the global pandemic.
- Please pray for CSU as we stand for the things of God and advance the gospel in an increasingly secular culture. Pray for the Lord to bring revival that starts on our campus and never stops.
- Please pray for SCBC churches to encourage their college-bound students to experience the value of being equipped with a solidly biblical worldview by attending one of our three Christ-centered, Bible-saturated universities (Anderson, Charleston Southern, and North Greenville).



North Greenville University

Dr. Gene Fant, President

Motto: *Christ makes the difference!*

Mission: *Equipping transformational leaders for church & society*

Core Values

♦ *Christ-Centered* ♦ *Biblically Faithful* ♦ *Academically Excellent* ♦ *Mission-Focused*

Theme Word: *Refine*

In the academic year 2018–2019, the university’s theme word was *Align*—short for “Align our everyday operations with our mission at every level.” We spent that year studying all aspects of the university and scrutinizing our shared work with the focus on equipping transformational leaders for church and society. The theme word for the 2019–2020 academic year was *Refine*—a call to the campus community to extend that alignment with an ever-growing intensity on all levels of work, ensuring that our Christ-first mission is constantly at the forefront of everything we do from academics to personnel recruitment, from campus ministries to athletics, and cultural activities.

With the arrival of the COVID-19 pandemic, our understanding of *Refine* shifted dramatically, understanding that the stress of this unique season would be a refiner’s fire, revealing any weaknesses or blind-spots we might have as an institution. As the depth of the crisis became known, we claimed 1 Peter 1: 5–7 as a promise for the university: *You are being guarded by God’s power . . . so that the proven character of your faith—more valuable than gold which, though perishable, is refined by fire—may result in praise, glory, and honor at the revelation of Jesus Christ.*

We established a Response Team that met daily (and sometimes more than once per day) to develop policies and protocols to manage the challenges of the outbreak. Classes were moved online to minimize exposures and operations were drastically altered. By God’s grace, we were able to finish the academic year successfully, navigate the summer months, and finish the year strongly financially, avoiding any COVID-related layoffs or furloughs.

The university consolidated Campus Ministries and Student Life under the leadership of a single vice president, Jody Jennings, and launched the Office of Spiritual Formation under the leadership of Dr. Steve Crouse. These changes created opportunities for outreach, prayer, remote Bible study, and pastoral care during the disruption. A new program, NGUcares, shifted many faculty and staff into a ministry mode, reaching out to students, staff, and faculty to ensure that any needs were met.

Our Board of Trustees unanimously approved the university’s Statement on Human Flourishing. This Statement clearly articulates that God’s vision for His creation is one that cultivates human flourishing—the alignment of God’s will and cultural values. The Statement includes a theological preamble (outlining its biblical presuppositions), human dignity (all humans are created in God’s

image), human sexuality and marriage (God's plan for families and ethics), and religious liberty (freedom of conscience relative to governments and other institutions). The Board will affirm this annually and all leaders will sign it as a part of their annual employment. This joins the Baptist Faith & Message 2000 as a foundational document for full-time Christian Studies professors to affirm without reservation.

We continue to hold a campus revival, *Ignite*, to open our year's sessions, as well as a Global Missions Conference in the fall semester. We have a Worldview Week that allows students to consider important issues from a biblically faithful perspective. We consecrate our new academic year each fall with a public reading of the Bible, from Genesis to Revelation. And we have an annual marketplace ministry emphasis, bringing national and regional leaders to campus who can address how to integrate faith, business, and leadership.

NGU staff serves our region with numerous interim pastors, bi-vocational church staff members, and church leaders too numerous to count. Our students are deeply engaged in local churches, and we seek to cultivate their understanding of church work as laypersons and as professionally-trained ministers.

Finally, North Greenville continues to thrive financially. Previous decisions made by the Board have paid significant dividends in the current pandemic and economic uncertainties. The university continues to have no long-term, bank-issued debt allowing us to maintain tuition and costs well below the regional average for private institutions. We continue to prioritize scholarships in our fundraising strategies to minimize student costs wherever possible. We opened a new baseball stadium, the George Bomar Family Stadium, in February and completed large-scale renovations in student services, academic facilities, and several dormitories.

For more than seventy years, North Greenville University proudly has been a part of the South Carolina Baptist Convention's network of ministry partners. We seek to honor that relationship in everything we do. We are grateful for the support, accountability, and prayers of the Convention and look forward to seeing God's redemptive work in our state, our nation, and our world!

Prayer Requests

- Pray for us to have wisdom and discernment as we continue to navigate the COVID-19 pandemic.
- Pray that our faculty and staff will continue to disciple students academically and spiritually.
- Pray for our students as they discover God's design and calling for their lives in this time of the pandemic and political unrest.
- Pray that God will allow us to be a place where our love for Him is lived out in our hearts, minds, souls, and strength.



Baptist Foundation of South Carolina
Nathan McCarthy, President and Chief Executive Officer

You will be enriched in every way so that you can be generous on every occasion, and through us your generosity will result in thanksgiving to God. 2 Corinthians 9:11 NIV

The Baptist Foundation of South Carolina has had the privilege of serving churches and partner ministries since 1950! As we reflect on our 70-year history, we all agree that we have experienced a lot of change . . . social change; legal changes; new investment options; economic ups and downs; the invention of many conveniences, such as computers, tablets, and smartphones; and behavioral changes in the way we work, live, play, and worship. Through it all, we place our confidence in a sovereign God who does not change! He has walked alongside us in our past and He will be ever-present in our future. We depend on His provision and are thankful for His grace!

Through these years of ministry, we have learned another unchanging truth . . . generous people are thankful people! It is truly a blessing to have the opportunity to work with generous people. Many of these people are not ones that the world would consider wealthy. They are simply people who recognize that God owns everything and who understand that His provision invites them to participate in ministry. As recorded in 1 Chronicles 29:14, they can identify with the prayer of thanksgiving from King David when he said, “who am I, and who are my people, that we should be able to give as generously as this? Everything comes from you, and we have given you only what comes from your hand.”

We are in the ministry of teaching people how to be generous by administering gifts and investing God’s money generously given by thankful people. We live in a generation in which Christians have accumulated more lifetime blessings than at any time in history. However, many people simply don’t know ways they can use those blessings to impact ministry. We help churches develop their understanding of generous giving so God’s people can have the opportunity to impact ministry in ways they may never have dreamed. It’s exciting to see generosity that results in thanksgiving to God!

Major accomplishments of the Baptist Foundation this year include:

- In response to church service cancellations due to Covid-19, the Foundation was able to provide a simple online giving solution for churches and ministries to receive donations rapidly. Since March, the Foundation assisted 57 ministries (churches and associations) with online giving platforms to include custom pages and monthly support to help promote generosity through an online platform.
- The Foundation continued to provide training and counsel to church finance and stewardship leadership. We guided churches in making wise investment decisions based on purpose and strategy. We assisted churches in developing ministries to promote generosity through legacy and other planned gifts.
- Through Christian estate planning services, the Foundation provides customized estate planning for families or individuals who desire to leave a portion of their estates to Kingdom

ministries. To date, more than **200 families** have completed estate plans with anticipated future gifts of **over \$73 million** for primarily Baptist ministries.

- During our fiscal year ending 12/31/2019, the Foundation distributed **almost \$3.6 million** to primarily Baptist ministries through endowment and investment income, the seventh consecutive year of distributions over \$3 million. Since inception, the Foundation has distributed over **\$84 million** to Kingdom ministries—from churches in South Carolina to missions projects around the world.
- The Foundation continues to tithe its resources to provide grants to help fund evangelistic projects. In 2019, grants totaling **\$81,100** were awarded. Since the program began in 2002, endowed gifts and the Foundation's tithe have resulted in more than **\$1,100,000** in ministry grants.
- Currently, the Foundation manages over **\$140 million** in assets for the benefit of churches, associations, and Baptist institutions across our state, nation, and the world.
- Since 2016, the Foundation has operated with NO Cooperative Program financial assistance. Our goal is to efficiently manage and invest Foundation dollars to meet needs so other ministries may benefit from Cooperative Program dollars. The Foundation has distributed to ministries a return of \$8.68 for every Cooperative Program dollar we have received in our 70-year history.

The Foundation's future goals focus on ways to engage churches and ministries in a Great Commission funding mindset using resources today and tomorrow. We continue to research ways to serve churches through enhanced financial and investment services. We are seeking to expand our staff to provide additional personal engagement.

We humbly request prayer for the following needs:

- Wisdom in making decisions about future lines of business;
- Guidance towards godly business-minded men and women to serve alongside us on our staff and Board;
- Humility to listen and seek understanding to effectively serve churches; and
- Yearning in the hearts of God's people to fulfill HIS Great Commission!

Our prayer is that generosity will abound so that Kingdom ministries can thrive even in a future that sometimes seems uncertain for the Church. We are grateful to serve the giver and we are grateful to serve the ministries that benefit from generous giving!



Connie Maxwell Children's Home

Dr. Danny Nicholson, President

FAITHFULNESS is a word that I have thought of often in Connie Maxwell's 128th year of healing and ministering to the needs of vulnerable children and families in Jesus' name. The challenges and uncertainty we faced during the biggest part of our year have permeated and brought to life the unwavering support and commitment of so many saints and servants who have sacrificed to ensure that our institution remains vigilant and steadfast in meeting the needs of the "least of these."

This report underlines the ever-present hand of God protecting, encouraging, leading, and blessing our dedicated staff and precious children and families. Connie Maxwell has continuously experienced God's providence and provision throughout the year and revealed His **FAITHFULNESS** through the sacrificial efforts of individuals, churches, and friends of the South Carolina Baptist Convention. Below are a few of the major highlights of the 2019–2020 Connie Maxwell Children's Home year in review.

- We spent numerous hours and days addressing the safety needs of children, families, and staff concerning the COVID-19 Pandemic. Because of the nature of our ministry, front-line ministers, especially our house parents, display a **FAITHFULNESS** that has revealed an unyielding dedication to our mission. We developed and implemented multiple safety plans, policies, and procedures to consistently encourage, protect, and inform our staff, children, and families. Thus far, we have been blessed by limited exposure to COVID-19 and continue to navigate these challenges with utmost precautions as we begin the start of a new school year.
- Because of the interruption to our normal way of ministry, this unprecedented time of stillness has provided the opportunity to focus on future planning towards Connie Maxwell's bright and promising future. We are on track to launch our Strategic Plan in October 2020. *A Decade of Dreams—An Era of Healing* will be introduced this fall to strengthen our efforts to lead in ministry and healing. A coordinated effort to create an overall Campus Master Plan and a thorough review of personnel alignment and job descriptions will ultimately lead us towards planning a comprehensive campaign to fund new, strategic initiatives.
- Even in the midst of this crisis, we provided services for approximately 260 children and families in Residential Care. Family Care provided services to six families, which consisted of 13 single parents and their children. Foster Care services has 22 homes licensed and served 23 children this past year. In light of our Foster Care Pilot Project with the SCBC, Columbia Metro Association, and support of ministry partners throughout the state, we currently have more than 40 homes in the process of becoming licensed Foster Families. In addition, Connie Maxwell's Higher Education/Independent Living program served five children this year.

- With the creation of our first Human Resources department, Connie Maxwell completed several strategic leadership hires to include a new Senior Pastor and Vice President of Strategic Initiatives. Currently, we are in the process of hiring a Minister of Music/ Worship and Discipleship. A new full-time marketing associate was hired to manage social media, design collateral materials, and help write vital stories. Also, the quality of our ministry workforce has been enhanced by implementing a new automated recruiting system.
- Despite the interruption of COVID-19, our Advancement (fundraising) and Marketing/ Communications efforts have been successful through the **FAITHFULNESS** of so many alumni, donors, churches, volunteers, and friends. We are most grateful for the compassionate response of churches by providing \$713,112.18 this year. We continue to be blessed by a growing endowment which recently hit an all-time high. Additionally, the development of a new website has begun that will utilize the new branding we are developing. It will provide more sophisticated donation capabilities, a blog, news feed, podcast series, and more. We plan to launch our new website alongside the introduction of *A Decade Of Dreams* strategic plan in fall 2020.
- The renovation of White-Moorhead Cottage was completed this year by a new DreamMakers Women's Group led by Honorary Chair Ruth Gram and the Board of Trustees.
- Our 19th Connie Maxwell Christmas had a record attendance of more than 18,000 visitors to the Greenwood campus.

Thanks to each South Carolina Baptist for your prayers and support. Continue to offer prayers of thanksgiving for the **FAITHFULNESS** of staff, donors, churches, and friends. Also, pray for the restoration of the faith, family, and future of our children and families and that we will lead each of them to a saving knowledge of Jesus Christ.

*“Great is Thy **FAITHFULNESS**
 Great is Thy **FAITHFULNESS**
 Morning by morning
 New mercies I see
 All that I need Thy hands have provided
 Great is Thy **FAITHFULNESS**
 Lord unto me.”*



The Baptist Courier

Dr. James Rudy Gray, Editor and President

Courier Broadcasting is our latest addition to the ministries of our multi-faceted approach to communication.

The COVID-19 Pandemic had an impact on all of us—notably our churches, who began or strengthened online giving and streaming worship services. *The Courier* was developing the broadcast arm of our ministry before the pandemic struck. During the months of the coronavirus assault, we completed phase one of our studio and began to produce some video content. In 2021, we plan to offer a weekly wrap-up program, interviews, features, and breaking news to keep South Carolina Baptists informed. A venture like this requires funding, and we are consistently seeking God’s direction in supplying the money needed for all our ministries.

Friends of *The Courier* are financial supporters of *The Courier*. We invite any South Carolina Baptist who believes in the mission of *The Courier* to join us in the work of informing and inspiring the Baptists of our state. Friends of *The Courier* is part of the strategy we have in place for helping keep *The Courier* viable now and in the future.

The Bill and Shirley Adams Internship Fund was created for Baptist students who sense a call from God to serve in the communications field. Students can contact *The Courier* for information and details about this exciting new ministry, which will start with the 2021 spring semester.

We appreciate your prayers as we seek to glorify our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ in all our ministries. Listed below are four ministries for which we need your support and prayers.

- *The Courier* turns 151 years old this year and is the oldest ministry partner of the South Carolina Baptist Convention! This modern, professionally designed magazine recently won nine awards from the South Carolina Press Association in the Associate/Individual Division—including three first-place awards.
- Courier Publishing has 100 published titles including print and e-books and books in process. We are blessed to provide this opportunity for aspiring authors to realize their dreams of becoming a published author.
- Courier Tours planned several trips for 2020 that had to be cancelled due to the pandemic. We are gearing up for several domestic and international tours in 2021 and 2022. Join us for both inspirational and educational trips.
- Courier Broadcasting is just getting started, but we look forward to reaching more and more people each week through various online platforms. The opportunity to present breaking news is a significant breakthrough for us. Our goal is continued improvement in all areas as we grow this important ministry.

Thank you for supporting *The Courier*. We look forward to supplying South Carolina Baptists with relevant, insightful, spiritual, and timely information through all our ministries.

Please pray for our small staff as we attempt to impact ministry for the glory of God. You can contact us at BaptistCourier.com or by phone at 864-232-8736.

Sixty Years of Serving Seniors in South Carolina

Tom Turner, President

South Carolina Baptist Ministry of Aging (SCBMA) takes pride in knowing that we provide a safe place for almost 400 seniors and their families to celebrate life and continue to serve the Lord. Our 60 years of service demonstrates integrity, faithfulness, and dedication to excellence in meeting the needs of seniors.

Life as we know it seemingly changed for everyone suddenly as we began maneuvering through the 2020 Coronavirus pandemic. However, as we look back over this past year and remember all that we experienced and accomplished, we cannot help but notice God continues to enable the SCBMA to achieve much through our ministry. I am pleased to share several recent accomplishments:

- In the fall of 2019, our campus in Darlington, Bethea Retirement Community, held a groundbreaking ceremony for a new 88-bed, state-of-the-art nursing and rehabilitation facility. It is scheduled to open in November 2020 and will change the face of housing options for healthcare residents in the Pee Dee.
- Martha Franks' residents and staff members continue to serve a call center following the Billy Graham televised crusades (twice monthly). Since May 2013, there have been 2,642 total calls resulting in **787 salvations, 223 rededications, and 291 assurances**.
- We continued expanding our statewide networking with pastors and churches.
- Since launching our Bethea and Martha Franks' *Helping Seniors Thrive Giving Society* in 2016, we have raised almost \$465,000, added 41 members to the society, and have grown total donor support to 217 patrons. Faithful supporters of this campaign enable us to continue to provide financial assistance to those who need it each month.
- Even though we were unable to host our annual Mother's Day Offering campaign this year, we raised over \$32,000 and had 11 new churches participating. This scholarship provides financial assistance for pastors, missionaries, and their spouses who live in our communities.
- Our SCBMA Board of Trustees continued leading our ministry in exploring options for expanding into the Midlands of South Carolina so we can serve more seniors in the coming years.

Our Trustees recognize that there will be many issues to manage in the years ahead—a growing senior population, maintaining a capable and caring workforce, and assuring our communities are prepared to meet the challenges of a competitive and quickly growing retirement community industry. However, our faith and confidence remain in the Lord as we continue to provide professional services for seniors with compassionate care in the name of Jesus Christ, **so all we serve may thrive.**

The future looks to be exciting for SCBMA and South Carolina Baptists! We ask for your prayers as we open our new facility in Darlington, continue to reach people for the Lord at our Martha Franks Billy Graham Call Center in Laurens, and expand into the Midlands of South Carolina.

Bylaws

The Bylaws Committee is responsible for reviewing and Convention's procedures, to study matters concerning the Articles of Incorporation and Bylaws Parts I and II and to report its findings and recommendations to the messengers at the annual meeting.

This year, the 2020 Bylaws Committee worked with the Organization Study Group appointed at the 2019 annual meeting to make recommendations for consideration at the 2020 annual meeting.

The recommendations for 2020 are presented for first reading and will be voted on at the 2021 annual meeting.

The 2020 Bylaws Committee appreciates the opportunity to serve South Carolina Baptists through the work of this committee.

Zach Shaw, Chair
Mark Krieger, Vice-Chair
Nathan Hutson
Freddy Johnson
Rick Moore
Dean Murphy
Ken Reaves
Rod West
Casey Williams

The 2019 Bylaws Committee recommended certain changes that were first read in 2019 to be voted on in 2020. These recommendations will be voted on today (November 10, 2020).

Executive Board: Membership

Bylaws, Part 1: Article VI, Section B.3

B.3. The elected membership of the Executive Board shall be divided into two groupings: one group comprised of **ordained** church employees and one group comprised of others. No more than ~~sixty (60) percent~~ **eighty (80) percent** of the members of the Board shall be drawn from either grouping. The Board will include, within the two groupings, persons with business expertise, women, ~~trans-cultural groups~~ **and consideration for ethnically diverse people** for the purpose of providing a capable and inclusive membership. Only one person from an affiliated church may serve as an elected member of the Board at a given time. At the time of the member's election, the member shall have been a member for at least one year of a church in the area of the association from which the person is elected.

15 **Institutions: Terms of Trustees' Service**
16 **Bylaws, Part 1: Article VII, Section D.4 (*newly added*)**
17

18 **D.4. The elected membership of the Board of Trustees shall be divided into two groupings:**
19 **one group comprised of ordained church employees, and one group comprised of others.**
20 **No more than eighty (80) percent of the members of the Board shall be drawn from either**
21 **grouping. The Board will include, within the two groupings, persons with business**
22 **expertise, women, and ethnically diverse people for the purpose of providing a capable and**
23 **inclusive membership. Only one person from an affiliated church may serve as an elected**
24 **member of the Board at a given time. At the time of the member's election, the member**
25 **shall have been a member for at least one year of a church in the area of the association**
26 **from which the person is elected.**
27

28
29 **Standing Rules of the Executive Board**
30 **Article VI: Convention Staff (Introduction)**
31

32 The Convention staff shall consist of the following: Executive Director-Treasurer;,
33 ~~administrative staff consisting of chief financial officer, associate executive directors; field~~
34 ~~services staff consisting of directors of offices/groups and associates; manager, technical and~~
35 ~~others; and support staff~~ **executive, administrative, field service, and support.** The
36 Executive Director-Treasurer will have the authority to employ, manage and terminate
37 Convention employees. Personnel policies and current retirement guidelines are listed in the
38 *Convention Employee Handbook*.
39

40
41 **Standing Rules of the Executive Board**
42 **Article VI: Convention Staff, A.3**
43

44 A.3. The Executive Director-Treasurer shall be the chief ~~administrative~~ **executive** officer of the
45 Executive Board and shall have general oversight of all Convention staff and business activities.
46 The Executive Director-Treasurer shall be responsible and accountable at all times for carrying
47 out the policies and instructions of the Board and the Convention.
48

49
50 **Executive Board: Convention Employees, Executive Director-Treasurer**
51 **Bylaws, Part 1: Article VI, Section D.1.b**
52

53 1.b. The Executive Director-Treasurer shall be the chief ~~administrative~~ **executive** officer
54 supervising and coordinating the work of all the employees of the Convention through the
55 administrative staff. The Executive Director-Treasurer shall, as Treasurer of the Convention,
56 authenticate records of the corporation.

**THE BOLD FONT CHANGES IN THIS SECTION ARE
PRESENTED FOR FIRST READING AT THE 2020 ANNUAL MEETING.**

**SOUTH CAROLINA BAPTIST CONVENTION
ARTICLES OF INCORPORATION**

Pursuant to the provisions of the South Carolina Nonprofit Corporation Act, the undersigned corporation, presently named General Board of South Carolina Baptist Convention, hereby submits its Amended and Restated Charter, amending its present charter by deleting it in its entirety. This Amended and Restated Charter supersedes the corporation's original charter and all prior amendments thereto.

ARTICLE I

The name of the corporation is South Carolina Baptist Convention.

ARTICLE II

The corporation is a religious corporation.

ARTICLE III

The corporation has no members.

ARTICLE IV

The corporation will have messengers (delegates) who shall constitute the Convention in session. The characteristics, qualifications, rights, limitations, and obligations of messengers, together with provisions for calling, noticing, holding, and conducting meetings of messengers, and the carrying on of corporate activities during and between meetings, shall be provided for in these Articles and in the corporation's Bylaws.

ARTICLE V

A. The Convention reserves the right to determine the identity of those persons ~~who constitute the Convention~~ **who participate as messengers**. The Convention shall consist of messengers who are members of Baptist churches in the state which are in friendly cooperation with the ~~Convention~~ **South Carolina Baptist Convention** and evidence their concern by financial support

**THE BOLD FONT CHANGES IN THIS SECTION ARE
PRESENTED FOR FIRST READING AT THE 2020 ANNUAL MEETING.**

through the Cooperative Program. Only members of the electing church may be seated ~~by the~~
~~Convention~~ as messengers from that church.

B. Churches shall qualify for the seating of messengers as determined by the Bylaws.

ARTICLE VI

The address of the principle office for the corporation is 190 Stoneridge Drive, Columbia, South
Carolina 29210-8239.

ARTICLE VII

South Carolina Baptist Convention has the sole right to govern itself under the Lordship of Christ
and recognizes the autonomy of churches and other Baptist bodies.

ARTICLE VIII

The comprehensive purpose of South Carolina Baptist Convention shall be to serve churches
throughout the state in efforts to advance the Kingdom of Christ in the world through evangelism,
missions, education, benevolence, social ministries, public morals, and any other interests in the
Kingdom of our Lord which the Convention shall undertake.

ARTICLE IX

The South Carolina Baptist Convention approves the Cooperative Program as the basic channel
of support for our total world mission outreach. The Convention appeals to the churches to
contribute through the Cooperative Program and to recognize the right and responsibility of the
Convention to divide equitably Cooperative Program receipts.

ARTICLE X

The corporation shall be governed by a board of directors which shall be the Executive Board as
elected by the ~~Convention messengers. All corporate powers shall be exercised by or under the~~
~~authority of, and the affairs of the corporation managed under the direction of, the Executive~~
~~Board, except to the extent the Articles of Incorporation or Bylaws vest in the messengers,~~
~~constituting the Convention in session, powers which would otherwise be exercised by a board.~~

**THE BOLD FONT CHANGES IN THIS SECTION ARE
PRESENTED FOR FIRST READING AT THE 2020 ANNUAL MEETING.**

All corporate powers and affairs of the corporation shall be exercised by, under the authority of, and under the direction of the Executive Board except to the extent that the Articles of Incorporation or Bylaws give the messengers the authority to declare the annual meeting in session.

ARTICLE XI

The corporation is ~~not for profit~~ **nonprofit**. The purposes for which the corporation is organized are to operate exclusively for religious purposes within the meaning of Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, or corresponding section of any future federal tax code. No part of the net earnings of the corporation shall inure to the benefit of, or be distributable to, its directors, officers, or other private individuals or persons, except that the corporation shall be authorized and empowered to pay reasonable compensation for goods and services rendered and to make payments in furtherance of the purposes set forth above. No substantial part of the activities of the corporation shall be the carrying on of propaganda or otherwise attempting to influence legislation and the corporation shall not participate in, or intervene in (including the publishing or distribution of statements) any political campaign on behalf of or in opposition to any candidate for public office. Notwithstanding any other provision of these Articles, the corporation shall not carry on any activities not permitted to be carried on by a corporation exempt from federal income tax under Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, or corresponding section of any future federal tax code, or by a corporation, contributions to which are deductible under Section 170(c)(2) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, or corresponding section of any future federal tax code.

ARTICLE XII

Upon dissolution, after all creditors of the corporation have been paid, the assets of the corporation shall be distributed to one (1) or more organizations which qualify as exempt organizations under Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, or corresponding section of any future federal tax code.

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ARTICLE XIII

A. After first reading to the Convention, amendments offered to this amended and restated Articles of Incorporation shall automatically be referred to the Bylaws Committee for study and report at the next annual meeting ~~of the Convention~~. Study by the committee shall not prevent consideration of the proposed amendment by the ~~Convention~~ **messengers**.

B. Amendments may be made in these Articles by a vote of two-thirds (2/3) of the messengers present and voting at any meeting of the Convention, and provided that:

1. all amendments must be presented before the final session, and

2. the amendment shall have been presented at a previous meeting of the Convention before action is taken on it.

C. The requirements of **Sections** A and B above may be waived if the messengers evidence their belief that an emergency exists by a vote of three-fourths (3/4) of the messengers present and voting and if the substance of the amendment has been presented at least thirty (30) days in advance of the Convention to the Bylaws Committee, the Executive Board, and to the *Baptist Courier* for publication in one (1) of the following three (3) ways: (i) in a print edition; (ii) in an electronic edition; or (iii) on its web site.

D. Upon approval by the ~~Convention~~**messengers**, the amendment to the Articles of Incorporation shall be filed according to state law.

SOUTH CAROLINA BAPTIST CONVENTION

BYLAWS

PART I

ARTICLE I

Name

The name of this ~~body~~**corporation** is South Carolina Baptist Convention. The Bylaws, as that term is understood by the law, of South Carolina Baptist Convention shall consist of Bylaws as determined by the messengers. The Executive Board Standing Rules and Business and Financial Plan are determined by the Executive Board. No portion of the Bylaws may be inconsistent with the Articles of Incorporation. The Business and Financial Plan and the Executive Board Standing Rules shall not be inconsistent with the Bylaws.

ARTICLE II

Churches shall qualify for the seating of messengers as follows:

A. One (1) messenger from each church which is in friendly cooperation with this Convention and sympathetic with its purposes and work and has, during the fiscal year preceding, been a bona fide contributor to the Convention's work, which must include having made a monetary contribution to the Cooperative Program.

B. One (1) additional messenger for each one thousand dollars (\$1,000.00) contributed to the work of the Convention through the Cooperative Program, during the fiscal year preceding the annual meeting.

C. Newly organized and constituted churches will be eligible for messengers to the state annual meeting in the first year the church becomes a bona fide contributor to the work of the State Convention. Contributions to the State Convention must be received by October 31 of the first year.

D. The maximum number of messengers allowed to any church shall be twenty-five (25).

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E. Messengers to the ~~Convention~~**annual meeting** shall be registered upon presentation of proper credentials. Credentials shall be presented by each messenger, in person, at the ~~Convention~~**Registration-annual meeting** Registration Desk. Messengers registered in compliance with these provisions shall constitute the Convention.

ARTICLE III

Church Membership of Officers, Boards, Appointees, Committees

Except as provided in Bylaws Part I, Article VII, Section D, Item 3, for out-of-state trustees of institutions, all officers of the Convention, all appointees, and all persons elected to membership on the Executive Board, boards of trustees of the institutions, and **Convention** committees shall be members of Baptist churches in friendly cooperation with ~~this Convention~~ **the South Carolina Baptist Convention** and sympathetic with its purposes and work and have during the fiscal year preceding been bona fide contributors to the Convention's work, which must include having made a monetary contribution to the Cooperative Program.

ARTICLE IV

Officers

A. The ~~seven~~ officers of the Convention shall be President, President-Elect, **First Vice President, Second Vice President, Recording Secretary, Registration Secretary, and Treasurer (non-voting)**. The Executive Director-Treasurer of the Convention shall serve as Treasurer of the Convention.

B. In case of the President's ~~death, incapacity, resignation, or move from the state, or removal from office pursuant to Bylaws Part I, Article VI, Section B, Item 7, the First Vice-President shall automatically succeed to the office of President, and the Second Vice President shall automatically succeed to the office of First Vice President,~~ **the Vice- President shall automatically succeed to the office of President, and the President-Elect shall automatically succeed to the office of Vice President while continuing to serve as the President-Elect. In case of the President Elect's death, incapacity, resignation, or move from the state, Should the**

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President-Elect no longer be able to fulfill the duties of the office, the office of the President-Elect shall remain vacant until the next annual session of the Convention, at which time both a President and a President-Elect will be elected pursuant to Part II, Article I, Section E. Except as specified above, the Executive Board may fill any vacancies which may occur between annual ~~sessions of the Convention~~ **meetings**. Removal of an officer prior to the expiration of the term of office may occur only by a vote of two-thirds (2/3) of the messengers voting and after the officer has been advised of an intent to remove and after the officer has been afforded an opportunity to be heard.

C. These officers shall perform the duties described by the Bylaws and by the parliamentary authority adopted by this Convention and as directed by the Convention.

D. Officers, other than the President and the Treasurer, shall hold office for one (1) year or until their successors are elected and shall not be eligible to succeed themselves until one (1) year has elapsed. Any officer filling an unexpired term shall be eligible for election for one (1) full term. The President shall hold office for one (1) year and shall be succeeded by the President-Elect as provided in Part II, Article I, Section E. The President may not serve as both President and President-Elect simultaneously.

E. Officers shall begin their terms of service upon adjournment of the annual meeting at which they are elected. ~~, except the Recording Secretary whose term shall begin the first day of January following election.~~

~~F. The Recording Secretary shall work with the office of the Executive Director Treasurer in taking and preparing the minutes of the Convention proceedings.~~

F. Except as provided in these Bylaws, the President-Elect shall have no duties, powers, or responsibilities, but shall be included on all correspondence and notices provided to the officers of the Convention, and shall have the opportunity to attend and observe, without voting power or authority, all meetings that may be attended by the President, whether in person or through some other mode of communication.

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ARTICLE V

Meetings

A. Annual Meetings

The **South Carolina Baptist** Convention shall hold its meetings annually at such time and place as it may choose.

B. Special Meetings

In cases of important concern(s), the Executive Board shall instruct the Convention President to call a special meeting of the Convention provided two (2) weeks written notice is given through ~~the religious and secular news media~~ **the South Carolina Baptist Convention website and the Baptist Courier.**

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ARTICLE VI

Executive Board

A. Authority and Function

1. The Executive Board shall constitute the board of directors of the South Carolina Baptist Convention. The work of the Convention, except as otherwise specified, shall be committed to the Executive Board of South Carolina Baptist Convention. The Executive Board shall not have authority to control the other boards of corporations sponsored by the Convention but shall maintain general care and responsibility for the work of these boards in the following manner: study annually their reports, interpret and apply the rules of the Bylaws of the Convention and the Business and Financial Plan of the Executive Board, make recommendations directly to these boards, and ~~also~~ make whatever recommendations to the Convention concerning them it may deem advisable.

2. While the messengers and the members of the Executive Board shall mutually respect the rights which the Articles of Incorporation and the Bylaws ~~vest~~ **vested** in the Convention in session and in the Executive Board, the ~~Convention's~~ directives to the Executive Board, not contrary to the Articles of Incorporation and Bylaws of the Convention and not invasive upon the rights of boards of trustees of the sponsored institutions, shall be carried out by the Executive Board.

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3. All actions of the corporation and all decisions concerning the investment, management, and utilization of the Executive Board contingent reserve, shall be made by the Executive Board or by persons pursuant to the authority vested in them by the Executive Board.

4. It shall also be the responsibility and prerogative of the Executive Board to determine when a member of the Executive Board or a trustee of an institution should be removed from office prior to the expiration of the member's or trustee's term.

a. If the Executive Board finds that a member or trustee has been absent for three (3) consecutive meetings of the board, the member or trustee shall be deemed to have resigned, and the position shall be declared vacant.

b. If the Executive Board determines by a vote of at least two-thirds (2/3) of the members of the Executive Board in office that one (1) or more of the ~~recited~~ **cited** causes for removal of a member of the Executive Board or a trustee of an institution ~~exist~~ **exists (see Bylaws Part I, Article VI, Section B, Item 7)**, the member's or trustee's position shall be declared vacant.

c. Upon the occurrence of either of the two (2) above events, the Executive Board shall advise the member or trustee. ~~and, in the case of a trustee,~~ **The Executive Board shall advise** the secretary of the board on which the trustee serves of the Executive Board's action. This notice shall occur not less than sixty (60) days prior to the annual ~~session of the Convention~~ **meeting**. Unless a written appeal is filed in the office of the Executive Director-Treasurer within ten (10) days of the effective date of the notice, the position held by the member or trustee shall be deemed vacant and the Nominations Committee so advised. If a timely appeal occurs, the matter shall be reconsidered. The member or trustee shall be afforded a hearing before the Executive Board if such a request is contained in the appeal.

d. If the Executive Board determines by an affirmative vote of two-thirds (2/3) of the members of the Executive Board in office that the absences should not be excused or reaffirms its conclusion that the cause for removal does exist, the Executive Board shall recommend to the Convention removal of the member or trustee and shall so advise the Nominations Committee. The Executive Board's decision on appeal shall be communicated to the member or trustee and the secretary of the affected board.

e. A member or trustee who is removed from office prior to the expiration of the term to which he or she has been elected shall not be eligible for election to any board whose members are chosen by the Convention for the unexpired term to which the member or trustee had been

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156 elected.

157 f. Notice under this section may be oral unless specifically required to be in writing.
158 Notice may be communicated in person, by telephone, ~~telegraph, facsimile transmission or other~~
159 ~~form of wire or wireless communication; or by mail or private carrier~~ **fax, email, or by certified**
160 ~~mail. Oral notice is effective when communicated. Written notice is effective at the earliest of the~~
161 ~~following: (1) when received; (2) if mailed, (a) five (5) days after its deposit in the United States~~
162 ~~Mail, if mailed correctly addressed to the last known address and with first class postage affixed:~~
163 ~~(b) on the date shown on the return receipt, if sent by registered or certified mail, return receipt~~
164 ~~requested, and the receipt is signed by or on behalf of the addressee.~~

165
166 **B. Membership**

167 1. ~~The membership of the Executive Board shall include one member from the area of each~~
168 ~~association where the membership of the churches, according to the latest South Carolina Baptist~~
169 ~~Convention Annual, numbers up to 15,000 and one member for each additional 10,000 members~~
170 ~~or fraction thereof. Membership of the Executive Board shall also include, ex officio,~~
171 ~~Convention officers; the state president of Woman's Missionary Union, and the state president~~
172 ~~of Baptist Collegiate Ministry (who must be a member of a Baptist church in cooperation with~~
173 ~~South Carolina Baptist Convention). The membership of the Executive Board shall include~~
174 **two (2) members from each of twelve (12) geographic regions as determined by the Bylaws**
175 **Committee (Bylaws Part II, Article III, Section F, Item 2) and four (4) at-large members**
176 **selected by the Nominations Committee. Only one (1) person from a church affiliated with**
177 **the Convention may serve as an elected member of the Board at a given time. No region**
178 **shall have more than three (3) members. Members may come from unassigned churches**
179 **within a given region and not participating in an association, but affiliated with the South**
180 **Carolina Baptist Convention within that region. At the time of the member's election, the**
181 **member shall have been a member for at least one (1) year of a church in the area of the**
182 **region from which the person is elected. The Convention President is a voting member of**
183 **the Executive Board completing a twenty-nine (29) member Board. Membership of the**
184 **Executive Board shall also include the following non-voting ex officio members: Convention**
185 **officers, the state president of Woman's Missionary Union, and the state president of the**
186 **Baptist Collegiate Ministries. No member of the Executive Board, except ex officio members,**

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shall serve simultaneously on a board of trustees of ~~an institution~~ a **South Carolina Baptist Convention sponsored institution**.

2. The Executive Director-Treasurer of the Executive Board, who also serves as Treasurer of the Convention, shall serve as an ex officio, non-voting, member of the Executive Board, and aid by furnishing information, printed materials, and needed guidance for the work of the Executive Board.

3. The elected ~~membership~~ **members** of the Executive Board shall be divided into two (2) groupings: one (1) group comprised of ordained church employees, and one (1) group comprised of others. No more than ~~sixty (60)~~ eighty (80) percent of the members of the Board shall be drawn from either grouping. The Board will include, within the two (2) groupings, persons with business expertise, women, ~~trans-cultural groups~~ and ethnically diverse people ~~for the purpose of providing to~~ **provide** a capable and inclusive membership. Only one (1) person from an affiliated church may serve as an elected member of the Board at a given time. At the time of the member's election, the member shall have been a member for at least one (1) year of a church in the ~~area of the association~~ **region** from which the person is elected.

4. The term of office of elected members of the Executive Board shall be ~~five (5)~~ **four (4) years**. Terms commence January 1 following election by the ~~Convention messengers~~. Members of the Board shall not succeed themselves, ~~except in the case of~~ **except in the case of the Convention President serving one (1) year or** a member who has first been elected to fill less than one-half (1/2) of an unexpired term. The terms of approximately ~~one-fifth (1/5)~~ **one-fourth (1/4)** of the membership of the Board shall expire annually. One (1) year shall elapse before a member may be returned to the Executive Board or be elected to any other board of the Convention.

5. No member of the **Executive** Board, except ex officio members, shall have any official connection with any of the institutions of the Convention, nor shall the member be an employee of the Convention, an institution of the Convention, or an association.

6. Any member of the **Executive** Board ~~from the area of an association~~ who moves church membership to **another region** ~~church in the area of another association~~ in the state shall remain on the Board until the Convention fills that vacancy. Any member of the Board who becomes a member of a church in another state shall thereby terminate membership on the Board. Any vacancy occurring on the Board shall be filled for the remainder of the term by the Convention's

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nominating and election process. The Board may temporarily fill the vacancy pending the Convention's election.

7. The Convention may remove an elected member of the Executive Board prior to the expiration of the term for which the member has been elected, upon the recommendation of the Executive Board, by a vote of two-thirds (2/3) of the messengers voting. Removal may occur only upon the Convention's finding that removal of the member is in the best interest of the Convention and one (1) or more of the following causes for removal are deemed in the judgment of the Convention to exist: breach of trust, neglect of duty, physical or mental incapacity of the member; conduct by the member which is deemed by the Convention to be immoral, fraudulent or dishonest; or the member's engaging in a conflict of interest transaction.

C. Organization Documents, Officers, and Committees

The Executive Board shall govern itself by the election of such officers and committees, and by the adoption of Executive Board Standing Rules and such other rules, and procedures the Executive Board deems desirable. The Executive Board shall adopt a Business and Financial Plan.

D. Convention Employees

1. Executive Director-Treasurer

a. The Executive Director-Treasurer shall be nominated by the Board and elected by the ~~Convention~~ **messengers** for an indefinite term. When a vacancy occurs, nominations from the floor shall be allowed. The Executive Board is empowered to manage and terminate the Executive Director-Treasurer.

b. The Executive Director-Treasurer shall be the chief ~~administrative~~ executive officer supervising and coordinating the work of all the employees of the Convention through the administrative staff. The Executive Director-Treasurer shall, as Treasurer of the Convention, authenticate records of the corporation.

2. Other Employees

The Executive Director-Treasurer shall be solely authorized to employ, manage, and terminate all Convention staff.

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ARTICLE VII

Institutions

A. Purposes

The Convention shall sponsor institutions for the accomplishment of the purposes of the Convention and shall elect the members of the boards of trustees (directors) to which the governance of these institutions shall be committed in accordance with their charters.

B. Identification of Sponsored Institutions

The following are the institutions sponsored pursuant to the Convention's Bylaws: Anderson University, *Baptist Courier*, Baptist Foundation of South Carolina, Charleston Southern University, Connie Maxwell Children's Home, North Greenville University, and South Carolina Baptist Ministries for the Aging, Inc.

C. Changes Regarding Sponsored Institutions

1. A motion made to the Convention to dissolve or substantially alter the relationship between the Convention and a sponsored institution or to add a sponsored institution may be made by the Executive Board. Any such motion not originating in the Executive Board shall be referred to the Executive Board for study and a recommendation to the following Convention. If the motion is in the nature of or contains an amendment to the Bylaws, the motion shall be considered in keeping with the amendment provisions of these Bylaws.

2. A request by the board of trustees of an institution to dissolve or substantially alter the relationship between the Convention and that institution shall be conveyed in writing to the Executive Board. ~~The Executive Board shall submit that request to the Convention and shall advise the Convention of the Executive Board's recommendation for a response by the Convention to the request.~~ **The Executive Board shall submit the institution request, along with the Board recommendation, and call for a vote by the messengers at the annual meeting.**

D. Terms of Trustees' Service

1. Trustees shall be elected to a term of five (5) years, except trustees being elected to complete an unexpired term. One-fifth (1/5) of the trustees shall retire from each board each year.

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Board members shall not be eligible to succeed themselves or be elected to any other board until one (1) year has ~~elapsed~~ **lapsed**, except in the case of a board member who has first been elected to fill less than one-half (1/2) of an unexpired term. Terms commence January 1 following election by the Convention.

2. No person shall serve on more than one (1) board of trustees at the same time. A person who is an employee of or who has an official connection with an institution of South Carolina Baptist Convention or the Executive Board, except officers of the Convention, may not serve as a member of a board of trustees of an institution sponsored by the Convention.

3. At least four-fifths (4/5) of the trustees of each institution must be South Carolina residents who are members of a South Carolina church in friendly cooperation with the Convention and the trustee affirms the *Baptist Faith and Message 2000* as provided in Bylaws Part II, Article III, Section C, Item 4 (d.ii). Up to one-fifth (1/5) of the trustees of each institution may be nonresidents of South Carolina provided they are members of churches in friendly cooperation with the Southern Baptist Convention and the trustee affirms the *Baptist Faith and Message 2000* as provided in Bylaws Part II, Article III, Section C, Item 4 (d.ii). The date for determining whether a trustee is an in-state or out-of-state trustee shall be the date of his or her election by the Convention. However, if an in-state trustee ceases to be a South Carolina resident during his or her term of office, and thereby causes more than one-fifth (1/5) of the trustees of the affected institution to be out-of-state trustees, then the Convention may, by a two-thirds (2/3) vote, terminate the trustee's membership on the institution's board.

4. The elected membership of the Board of Trustees shall be divided into two (2) groupings: one (1) group comprised of ordained church employees, and one (1) group comprised of others. No more than eighty (80) percent of the members of the Board shall be drawn from either grouping. The Board will include, within the two (2) groupings, persons with business expertise, women, and ethnically diverse people for the purpose of providing a capable and inclusive membership. Only one (1) person from an affiliated church may serve as an elected member of the Board at a given time. At the time of the member's election, the member shall have been a member for at least one (1) year of a church in the area of the association from which the person is elected.

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E. Trustee Attendance

The Secretary of each institution shall report to the Executive Director-Treasurer those trustees who are absent for three (3) consecutive meetings of the board.

F. Articles of Incorporation

All proposed Articles of Incorporation, or changes or amendments to Articles of Incorporation of institutions sponsored by the Convention under these Bylaws, and of any subsidiary corporation created by a sponsored institution, shall be submitted by the institution to the Convention or the Executive Board, according to the criteria set forth below in Section G, Item 6, for approval before they become effective.

G. Contents of Articles of Incorporation

The Articles of Incorporation of an institution sponsored by the Convention under these Bylaws shall contain the following provisions:

1. The board of directors (trustees), consisting of (*a specific number of*) persons, a number sanctioned by the South Carolina Baptist Convention, shall be ~~appointed~~ **elected** by South Carolina Baptist Convention in session.

2. Trustees shall be ~~appointed~~ **elected** for terms of five (5) years. Trustees' terms shall be staggered.

3. South Carolina Baptist Convention may remove trustees prior to the expiration of the term of the trustees' election upon the recommendation of the Convention's Executive Board, by a vote of two-thirds (2/3) of the messengers voting. Removal may occur only upon the Convention's finding that removal of the trustee is in the best interest of the corporation and one (1) or more of the following causes for removal are deemed in the judgment of the Convention to exist: breach of trust, neglect of duty, physical or mental incapacity of the trustee; conduct by the trustee which is deemed by the Convention to be immoral, fraudulent or dishonest; the trustee's engaging in a conflict of interest transaction.

4. Vacancies in the board of trustees may be filled temporarily by the **Executive** Board pending the filling of the vacancy for the unexpired term by South Carolina Baptist Convention.

5. The trustees may adopt Bylaws ~~not inconsistent~~ **consistent** with the Articles of

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Incorporation.

6. Any proposed amendment to the Articles of Incorporation must be approved in writing by the Executive Board of South Carolina Baptist Convention or by South Carolina Baptist Convention. Any amendment to the Articles of Incorporation that would change the relationship of the institution with the South Carolina Baptist Convention must be approved by ~~South Carolina Baptist Convention~~ **messengers at the annual meeting.**

7. Any merger shall require the consent of the South Carolina Baptist Convention.

8. Before the corporation may sell, lease, exchange, or otherwise dispose of all or substantially all of its property other than in the usual and regular course of its activities, the permission of the South Carolina Baptist Convention must be secured.

9. Dissolution of the corporation may occur only with the permission of South Carolina Baptist Convention, and upon dissolution, the assets of the corporation shall pass to South Carolina Baptist Convention if at that time the Convention is a ~~tax-exempt~~ **nonprofit** corporation within the meaning of 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code or corresponding section of any future federal tax code. If the Convention is not a ~~tax-exempt~~ **nonprofit** corporation, then the assets of the corporation shall be distributed to one (1) or more ~~tax-exempt~~ **nonprofit** organizations selected by the Convention.

10. The corporation is a religious nonprofit corporation.

11. The Articles shall contain language appropriate for a corporation exempt from federal taxation under 501(c)(3) or a successor section of the Internal Revenue Code.

ARTICLE VIII

Gifts and Legacies

The Convention shall receive contributions, legacies, and bequests for the several objects which it fosters. All designated gifts for South Carolina Baptist Convention and Southern Baptist Convention causes shall be applied to the objects specified by the donor. When any contribution or bequest is made without designation, the same shall be applied to the Cooperative Program. The Baptist Foundation of South Carolina is the institution designated for the management of trust funds.

ARTICLE IX

Supreme Authority

The Holy Bible shall be the supreme and final authority for all of the activities of the Convention and for all decisions that are made by or on behalf of the Convention.

ARTICLE X

Statement of Faith

While the Holy Bible shall be the supreme and final authority, the *Baptist Faith and Message 2000* shall be the Convention's statement of faith.

ARTICLE XI

Parliamentary Authority

The rules contained in the latest edition of *Robert's Rules of Order, Newly Revised* shall govern the Convention in all cases to which they are applicable and in which they are not inconsistent with the Articles of Incorporation or these Bylaws and/or any special rules of order the Convention may adopt.

ARTICLE XII

Amendments

A. Referral

After a first reading to the Convention, amendments offered to Part I of the Bylaws shall automatically be referred to the Bylaws Committee for study and report at the next annual or special meeting of the Convention. Study by the committee shall not prevent consideration of the proposed amendment by the Convention.

B. Voting

1. Amendments may be made to these Bylaws, Part I, by a vote of two-thirds (2/3) of the messengers present and voting at any meeting of the Convention, provided that:

a. amendments must be presented before the final session, and

b. the amendment shall have been presented at the previous annual or special meeting of the Convention before action is taken on it.

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2. The requirements of **Section A B, Item 1 (a and b)** ~~of B~~-above may be waived if the messengers evidence their belief that an emergency exists by a vote of three-fourths (3/4) of the messengers present and voting, and if the substance of the amendment has been presented at least thirty (30) days in advance of the Convention to the Bylaws Committee, the Executive Board, and to the *Baptist Courier* for publication in one (1) of the following three (3) ways: (i) in a print edition; (ii) in an electronic edition; or (iii) on its web site.

(Bylaws Part I last amended November 2017)

SOUTH CAROLINA BAPTIST CONVENTION

BYLAWS

PART II

ARTICLE I

Convention Procedure

A. Order of Business

1. Time shall be provided throughout the ~~Convention~~ **annual meeting** for devotional exercises.

2. As the first order of business, the ~~Convention~~ **annual meeting** shall organize itself by enrolling messengers upon recommendation of the Enrollment and Credentials Committee.

3. New associations shall be recognized upon recommendation of the Executive Board.

4. Periods of time during the ~~Convention~~ **annual meeting** shall be provided for the introduction of all matters requiring a vote not scheduled on the agenda. Such matters shall have time for consideration scheduled by ~~the Order of Business Committee~~ **Convention staff in conjunction with the Elected Convention Officers and the Executive Director-Treasurer.** The time set for consideration shall be announced ~~from the floor of the Convention~~ **by the Convention President or his designee** and action taken thereon at a subsequent meeting during that session of the ~~Convention~~ **annual meeting** unless the Convention gives its consent by a vote of two-thirds (2/3) of the messengers present and voting for immediate consideration.

5. Reports from the South Carolina Baptist Convention Ministry Partners (institutions) shall be provided.

B. Minutes

1. Minutes of ~~Convention~~ **annual meeting** proceedings shall be kept by the ~~Recording Secretary and made available at the request of the Convention~~ **office of the Executive Director-Treasurer.**

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2. The South Carolina Baptist Convention Annual shall include the minutes of the Convention proceedings.

3. Any requests made regarding the dedication of the South Carolina Baptist Convention Annual in memory or in honor of someone shall be brought to the Executive Board of the South Carolina Baptist Convention no later than October 1. The Executive Board shall have the responsibility of presenting to the Convention any requests for dedication of the Annual as it may deem wise. Exceptions may be made in the case of an emergency or by a two-thirds (2/3) vote of the Convention messengers present and voting.

C. Convention Bulletin

A Convention bulletin shall be provided for messengers during each session of the ~~Convention~~ **annual meeting**.

D. Parliamentary

The President shall appoint two (2) Convention Parliamentarians, whose duties shall be those described in the latest edition of *Robert's Rules of Order, Newly Revised*.

E. Elections

1. ~~The President-Elect, First Vice President, Second Vice President, Recording Secretary, and Registration Secretary~~ **The President-Elect, Vice President, and Registration Secretary** shall be elected at the second session of the annual ~~Convention~~ **meeting**. Election of officers shall proceed in order without waiting for a report of tellers from one (1) office before making a nomination for the next office. The President each year shall be the President-Elect who was in office immediately before the election of officers; provided, however, that in the event the office of the President-Elect has been vacated prior to the election of officers, a President shall be elected at the time provided in this paragraph and prior to the election of the other officers.

2. Election shall be by ballot following nomination from the floor. A written ballot may be waived in the event of only one (1) nominee. In the event no one receives a majority of votes cast, a second ballot shall be taken on the two (2) nominees receiving the highest number of votes. A second ballot shall become the next order of business. The person receiving the second-highest number of votes in one (1) election may not be elected to another office without regular

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nomination and ballot for that office.

F. Voting Procedures

In order to cast a ballot, a messenger must be present in the meeting room(s) at the time a ballot is taken. Voting by proxy is not permitted.

G. Resolutions

1. The parliamentary authority adopted by this Convention shall be used to differentiate between a motion and a resolution.

2. All resolutions to be offered to the Convention shall be submitted to the Committee on Resolutions in writing at least thirty (30) days prior to the ~~Convention~~ **annual meeting**. Individuals desiring to speak to a resolution shall have the right to appear before the Committee.

3. Exceptions may be made in the case of emergency resolutions dealing with developments such as national disasters or public tragedies. The rules may be suspended, and a resolution considered if the Convention directs by a two-thirds (2/3) vote of the messengers present and voting. Exceptions must be introduced during the first session of the ~~Convention~~ **annual meeting** and made available to messengers in print prior to voting on the resolution.

4. The Committee on Resolutions shall report the title, name of presenter, and disposition of every resolution received. The report of the Committee on Resolutions shall be printed in the Convention bulletin prior to the time of its first report.

H. Nominations

Whenever nominations are made by committees, other individuals may be nominated from the floor, with the exception of nominations for institutional trusteeships, which shall be made solely by the Nominations Committee according to the procedures set forth in **Article III, Section C, Item 4 (d)** below.

I. Quorum

Twenty-five (25) percent of the registered messengers shall constitute a quorum.

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J. Annual Meeting Cancellation

The Convention Officers, the Executive Advisory Team, the President of the Woman's Missionary Union, and the Presidents of the Convention Ministry Partners, acting as a body, may cancel or change the place or time of the annual meeting in case of an emergency. In this instance, all elected officers, committee members, Executive Board members, and Trustees shall continue to fulfill their positions until the next annual meeting.

ARTICLE II

Committee on Committees

A. The President, in consultation with the ~~Vice Presidents and Secretaries~~ **Executive Director-Treasurer**, shall appoint at each ~~Convention~~ **annual meeting** fifteen (15) persons, ~~each from different associations,~~ to act as a Committee on Committees to function from the close of the annual session in which they are appointed through the next annual session. The fifteen (15) persons shall be made up of ~~no less than~~ **at least** one (1) from churches with ~~500~~ **five hundred (500)** in worship or more, ~~no less than~~ **at least** three (3) persons from churches with ~~200—499~~ **two hundred to four hundred and ninety-nine (200–499)** in worship, ~~no less than~~ **at least** three (3) from churches with ~~less fewer~~ **than 200—two hundred (200)** in worship, and ~~no less than three (3)~~ **at least one (1)** from churches that are new works (church plants) which have been in existence **between** one (1) ~~to~~ **and** five (5) years. Worship attendance shall be based on the latest published Annual Church Profile Report. The President is strongly encouraged to seek people who accurately reflect the ethnic diversity **and regional representation** of the South Carolina Baptist Convention.

B. The duty of the Committee on Committees shall be to nominate at the next ~~Convention~~ **annual meeting** the Standing Committees and, unless otherwise provided for, any special committees authorized by the Convention. At least thirty (30) days prior to the annual **meeting** ~~session of the Convention,~~ the names of those nominated shall be released to the *Baptist Courier* for publication in one (1) of the following three (3) ways: (i) in a print edition; (ii) in an electronic edition; or (iii) on its web site. The Committee shall meet at least twice a year, with the first meeting for orientation purposes. The Committee, **in consultation with the Executive Director-Treasurer**, shall organize its work and seek suggestions from Baptist individuals and churches

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in such ways, including the use of the **South Carolina Baptist Convention website and the Baptist Courier**, as to provide the various committees with membership which is best suited to represent the Convention in providing the type of leadership required and meeting the special needs of each standing committee.

ARTICLE III

Standing Committees

Unless otherwise specified, all terms on Standing Committees shall be for one (1) year, and no person shall serve two (2) consecutive terms on the same committee. However, for committees with specified terms of more than one (1) year, a person first elected to fill less than one-half (1/2) of an unexpired term may be re-elected to a full term without waiting a year. No person shall serve on more than one (1) standing committee at the same time by election or appointment. Terms commence January 1 following election by the Convention. If a member of a standing committee has been absent for three (3) consecutive meetings of the committee, the member shall be deemed to have resigned, and the position to be declared vacant. The chair of the standing committee shall notify the committee member that the position is declared vacant, and notify the **Executive Director-Treasurer's office** and the Committee on Committees for a new member to be nominated to the Convention to serve on the standing committee.

A person must serve at least one (1) year on a standing committee before being elected as its chairperson with the exception of one (1) year committees.

There shall be the following Standing Committees:

~~A. Order of Business~~

~~1. This committee shall be composed of seven (7) members, one (1) of whom shall be the President of the Convention and six (6) other members, two (2) of whom shall be elected each year for a term of three (3) years.~~

~~2. It shall be the responsibility of this committee to formulate the agenda for the annual Convention and submit it to the Convention for approval at the opening meeting. It shall~~

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~~also schedule the time for consideration of all matters of business not scheduled on the agenda unless the Convention directs immediate consideration as outlined above in Article I.~~

- ~~3. This committee shall also recommend the time and place for Convention sessions three (3) years in advance. It shall also recommend the Convention preacher and alternate preacher for the next Convention~~

~~B.~~ **A.** Enrollment and Credentials

1. This committee shall be composed of seven (7) members, one (1) of whom shall be the Registration Secretary of the Convention.

2. This committee shall be available at all times at the ~~Convention~~ **annual meeting** to address any problems that arise concerning the seating of messengers. The decision of this committee may be appealed to the Convention by any person whose eligibility to be seated as a messenger is questioned.

~~C.~~ **B.** Nominations

1. This committee shall be composed of ~~one (1) member from the area of each association.~~ **twenty-four (24) members—two (2) members from each of twelve (12) geographic regions.** **Each member shall be from churches in different associations.** The committee shall be divided into two (2) groupings: one (1) group comprised of church employees, and one (1) group comprised of others. No more than ~~sixty (60)~~ eighty (80) percent of the committee shall be drawn from either grouping. A member shall serve a term of three (3) years. The terms of approximately one-third (1/3) of the members shall expire annually. A member who moves church membership from **one (1) geographic region** ~~the area of one association to the area of~~ **to** another ~~association~~ within the state shall remain on the committee until the next annual **meeting** ~~session of the Convention~~. A member who moves church membership from the state shall, thereby, terminate membership on the committee. Vacancies occurring on this committee shall be filled by action of the Convention at its next annual session. No member of this committee may serve or be nominated as a member of the Executive Board or a board of trustees of any institution of the Convention while serving on the Committee on Nominations.

2. It shall be the responsibility of this committee to nominate members of the Executive

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Board and boards of trustees of institutions of the Convention. The committee shall organize its work and seek suggestions from Baptist individuals, churches, and chief executive officers, and trustee chairpersons of institutions in such ways, including the use of the **South Carolina Baptist Convention website and the *Baptist Courier***, as to provide the various boards with membership which is best suited to represent the Convention in providing the type of leadership required and meeting the special needs of institutions. The committee shall endeavor to provide that representation from every segment of Baptist constituency is afforded participation in Convention life. The committee should seek people who accurately reflect the ethnic diversity of the South Carolina Baptist Convention.

3. Thirty (30) days prior to the annual session of the Convention the names of those nominated and of those the Executive Board will recommend for removal shall be released to the *Baptist Courier* for publication in one (1) of the following three (3) ways: (i) in a print edition; (ii) in an electronic edition; or (iii) on its web site.

4. ~~a. Nominations Committee Process.~~ The first annual meeting of the Nominations Committee shall be given to a thorough orientation process. The Executive Director-Treasurer shall be responsible for developing, implementing, and monitoring the orientation efforts.

a. A member shall have served at least one (1) year in the current term to be eligible to serve as chair of the committee.

b. The Nominations Committee shall strive to consider nominees from as many different churches in various parts of the state as possible. Deliberations by the committee on prospective nominees to serve on boards shall be substantive. Records of the Nominations Committee meetings shall be kept in the office of the Executive Director-Treasurer.

~~c. Qualifications of Prospective Trustees.~~ The Nominations Committee shall consider the criteria developed by the respective institutions of the Convention in making nominations for trustees to serve those institutions. The criteria shall not be inconsistent with existing requirements in the Convention Bylaws and the Expectations of Prospective Trustees and Executive Board Members.

~~C-d. Expectations of Prospective Trustees and Executive Board Members.~~ Written expectations for the respective positions of service shall be submitted to prospective candidates considered by the Nominations Committee. All prospective candidates must commit in writing to these expectations before they are approved by the Nominations Committee for presentation to the

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Convention for election. These expectations are that the nominee and the nominee's Southern Baptist Convention Church of membership must: 1.) affirm and reflect in practice the vision and mission of the South Carolina Baptist Convention; 2.) affirm and reflect in practice the *Baptist Faith & Message 2000*; and 3.) affirm and reflect in practice sacrificial support for Great Commission giving, including the Cooperative Program.

~~D e. Special Procedures for Institutional Trustee Nominations.~~ The following procedures shall be followed in electing institutional trustees.

The Nominations Committee shall be subdivided into seven (7) subcommittees—one (1) for each institution. A committee member may serve on no more than two (2) subcommittees.

Each subcommittee, together with the ~~CEO~~ **President** of its designated institution, shall select the nominees for the offices of trustee of the designated institution, which nominees shall have affirmed the *Baptist Faith and Message 2000*. The agreement of both the subcommittee and the ~~CEO~~ **President** of the designated institution shall be required to advance a nomination to the full Nominations Committee no less than two (2) weeks prior to the full Nominations Committee meeting. Only one (1) nomination shall be advanced for each trusteeship.

The full Nominations Committee shall separately consider each nomination advanced by the subcommittees. The committee shall vote whether to advance each nomination to the Convention, which shall require a majority vote. If a nomination does not receive the required votes for advancement to the Convention, such nominee shall not be eligible for renomination to the trusteeship then under consideration, and the process described in Subpart (ii) above shall be repeated until the Nominations Committee has voted to advance a nominee to the Convention for each trusteeship to be filled.

The full Convention in session shall separately consider each nomination advanced by the Nominations Committee. The Convention shall vote whether to confirm each nomination, which shall require a majority vote. If a nomination does not receive the required votes for confirmation, the process shall proceed in accordance with Subpart (vi) below.

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No person shall be eligible for nomination or appointment to an institutional trusteeship whose previous nomination to any institutional trusteeship failed to receive the votes necessary for confirmation by the Convention in session during its current or most recent annual meeting.

If a nominee for an institutional trusteeship is not confirmed by the Convention in session and the Executive Board, by a two-thirds (2/3) vote, certifies that there is a critical need to fill the vacant trusteeship before the next annual meeting of the full Convention, the Executive Board shall require Subparts (ii) and (iii) to be repeated, and shall, subject to Subpart (v) above, have the full authority of the Convention to confirm, by majority vote, the nominee advanced by the Nominations Committee.

C. Resolutions

1. This committee shall be composed of ~~seven (7) members~~ **six (6) members**. **Two (2) members will rotate off each year and serve a three-year (3) term.**

2. It shall be the responsibility of this committee to receive written resolutions and review, comment on, draft, and recommend to the Convention any memorials or resolutions it may deem wise. The procedure for receiving and reporting resolutions is given in Bylaws Part II, Article I, Section G. Resolutions.

D. Christian Life and Public Affairs

1. This committee shall be composed of ~~ten (10) members, two (2) to be elected each year to serve for 5 years.~~ **nine (9) members, three (3) to be elected each year to serve for three (3) years.**

2. It shall be the responsibility of this committee to study moral, social, and cultural conditions of society and bring reports and recommendations to the Convention as it may deem advisable. It shall report actions of the Convention in the realm of Christian life and public affairs to the public and seek to assist churches and associations in educational programs to inform Baptists on moral issues and Christian citizenship responsibilities.

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E. Bylaws

1. This committee shall be composed of nine (9) members, three (3) to be elected each year to serve for three (3) years.

2. It shall be the responsibility of this committee to review periodically the Convention's procedures, to study matters concerning the corporation's Articles of Incorporation (charter) and these Bylaws (Part I and Part II), to **review the geographic boundaries that determine the membership of the Executive Board**, and to report its findings and/or recommendations to the **Convention**.

F. History

1. This committee shall be composed of six (6) members, two (2) to be elected each year to serve for three (3) years.

2. It shall be the responsibility of this committee to:

a. provide general oversight for the South Carolina Baptist Convention Historical Room and archives room located in the South Carolina Baptist Convention Building;

b. maintain contact with the curator of the South Carolina Baptist Historical Collection housed at Furman University;

c. inform South Carolina Baptists of their Southern Baptist heritage in various ways including an annual report to the Convention;

d. encourage churches to maintain their church histories;

e. develop appropriate recognition of the Convention's anniversaries in **twenty-five-year (25)** increments, and;

f. relate to the South Carolina Baptist Historical Society on behalf of the South Carolina Baptist Convention as needed.

ARTICLE IV

Amendments

Part II of these Bylaws may be amended by a vote of two-thirds (2/3) of the messengers present and voting at any meeting of the Convention, provided that:

(Format change from A, B, C, D to 1, 2, 3, 4 to be consistent)

1. an amendment shall have been submitted in writing during the first session, and

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- 306 2. no amendment may be considered after the second session of the ~~Convention~~ **annual**
307 **meeting**, and
- 308 3. an amendment shall have been printed in the Convention bulletin or made available to the
309 messengers in print prior to voting, and
- 310 4. an amendment shall have been submitted to the *Baptist Courier* for publication in one (1)
311 of the following three (3) ways: (i) in a print edition; (ii) in an electronic edition; or (iii)
312 on its web site and to the Bylaws Committee and to the Executive Board not less than
313 thirty (30) days prior to the first day of the session.
- 314
- 315 (Bylaws Part II last amended November 2015)

(Bylaws Part II last amended November 2015)

Christian Life and Public Affairs

The Christian Life and Public Affairs Committee (CLPAC) addresses current moral, social, and cultural trends and events. Committee members work closely with the Office of Public Policy to educate, inform, and engage the public on current issues and pending legislation that affects families and churches. The committee meets formally four or five times throughout the year to stay abreast of current issues and develop action plans.

According to Convention bylaws, the Christian Life and Public Affairs Committee is composed of ten members. Two members' terms expire each year.

An annual highlight is the announcement of the three committee awards. The E.A. McDowell award recognizes an individual who exemplifies Christian action in the public arena—politics, government, or community action. Additionally, the committee recognizes one church in our Convention that shows a similar commitment to social and moral concerns by conferring the Impact Your World award. The Public Service Award recognizes a public official that has gone above and beyond in representing Christian ideals through their role in the public square.

The 2020 recipients are:

<i>E. A. McDowell Award</i>	Patti Kelly Lake Bowen Baptist Church Inman, SC
<i>Impact Your World Award</i>	Rock Hill Dream Center Church Paul Crosby, Pastor
<i>Public Servant Award</i>	Representative John McCravey Greenwood, SC

Joe Mack has been the Convention liaison/advisor to the CLPAC for more than 20 years. Mack retired this year. The Convention, in cooperation with North Greenville University, has engaged Tony Beam to continue to present the Baptist point of view to members of the South Carolina Legislature while continuing to work with this committee. Mr. Mack will receive a Lifetime Achievement Award from the Convention at the annual meeting.

Members of the committee are grateful for the opportunity to serve South Carolina Baptists and look forward to continuing to make a positive impact in the future.

Hannah Miller, Chair
Chad Connelly, Vice-Chair
Deborah Guest
Laura Hudson
Michael Post

Terry Seckinger
Joey Deese
Tommy Shelley

Joe Mack

Lifetime Achievement Award

In 1997 Joe Mack resigned as Chairman of the Executive Board to take a part-time position at the Convention as director of what was then called the Christian Life Concerns Office.

By that time, the Christian Life Concerns office had been sidelined for several years, but video poker had been spreading like cancer throughout the state for seven years. The breaking point in 1997 was the death of a 10-day-old baby who was left inside a car for seven hours while the mother played video poker. A group of concerned pastors approached Joe and asked if he would be willing to take on the task of rooting out the most insidious form of gambling ever devised.

When the supportive incumbent governor was defeated in 1998 by an opponent who was heavily funded by the video poker industry and ran a campaign promising to implement a state-run lottery, the culture war intensified in the Palmetto State.

Every year since 1997, Joe Mack has led the way to champion traditional family values, defend church rights, and monitor trends in education. All of this was achieved by monitoring legislation and meeting with other like-minded organizations and legislators to advance laws that advocate strong, positive social and moral issues.

A 23-year career in state government prepared him well for the 23 years of service as he provided the Baptist point of view to our government officials. Members of the South Carolina General Assembly recognized him as the Voice of the Baptists while he followed legislation regarding families, churches, decency, and life and defended traditional family values in South Carolina.

His efforts led to the preservation of the traditional definition of marriage between one man and one woman in South Carolina. He not only worked with legislators on issues, but ministered to them and encouraged them personally. As a result, Mack gained respect from friend and political foe for his decency, care, and love for others.

In addition to serving our Convention, Mack served as the chairman of GuideStone Funds—the mutual funds' investment arm of GuideStone Financial Resources. His more than 20-year commitment in this vital role is one component that contributed to GuideStone's top performance in the financial field.

For his dedication and commitment to serving the Lord as he served South Carolina Baptists and others, we award him this Lifetime Achievement Award.

Committee on Committees

Chuck Sprouse, Chairman

The Committee on Committees accepts nominations to fill vacancies on Standing Committees of the Convention. The length of service varies. All terms begin on January 1, 2021.

	<i>*Non-church employee</i>	<i>#Unexpired Term</i>
Committee	Nominee	Term Expires
Bylaws (3-year term)	Ryan Goodroe Utica, Seneca	12/31/2023
	Charlie Wallace Moncks Corner First	12/31/2023
	*Joe Willard Kelleytown, Hartsville	12/31/2023
Christian Life & Public Affairs (5-year term)	Jack Eason Cross Roads, Greer	12/31/2025
	# Eddie Hill The Fellowship Church of Aynor	12/31/2024
	Mark Krieger Mt. Bethel, Belton	12/31/2025
Enrollment & Credentials (1-year term) <i>Bylaws dictate Registration Secretary is a member of this Committee.</i>	Brian Bowman Kingdom Life, Simpsonville	12/31/2021
	Joey Estes Cross Roads, Greer	12/31/2021
	Michael How Ninety Six First	12/31/2021
	*Ray Sanders Ninety Six First	12/31/2021
	*Vicki Sanders Ninety Six First	12/31/2021
History (3-year term)	H. E. Barkley Columbia First	12/31/2023
	*Carol Bryan Little Stevens Creek, Edgefield	12/31/2023

	# Greg Nix Calvary, Ware Shoals	12/31/2022
Order of Business (3-year term)	Brandon Sandifer Pineview, Lexington	12/31/2023
<i>Bylaws dictate President is a member of this Committee.</i>	Ed Stewart Shandon, Columbia	12/31/2023
Resolutions (1-year term)	Jeremy Beauford Good Hope, Saluda	12/31/2021
	Brent Bennett Abney Memorial, Greenwood	12/31/2021
	Mark Bishop Landrum First	12/31/2021
	David Fallaw Philippi, Johnston	12/31/2021
	Hayden Jacobs Portside, North Charleston	12/31/2021
	Darren Rood Cannon Memorial, Central	12/31/2021
	Jason Sturkie Donalds	12/31/2021
Nominations (3-year term)	# Gordon Ackerman Ashton, Lodge (Colleton)	12/31/2021
<i>Arranged by Association</i>	# K. J. Mack Columbia First (Columbia Metro)	12/31/2021
	*Joye Bodie Dry Creek, Ward (Ridge)	12/31/2023
	*Erik Flemming Concord, Anderson (Saluda)	12/31/2023
	Clay Smith Alice Drive, Sumter (Santee)	12/31/2023
	*Wilbur Daley Great Swamp, Ridgeland (Savannah River)	12/31/2023
	David Barton Creekside, Goose Creek (Screven)	12/31/2023

*Carol Sherer Boiling Springs (Spartanburg Network)	12/31/2023
Ken Vickery Victor, Greer (Three Rivers)	12/31/2023
Doug Estes Buffalo (Union)	12/31/2023
John Sullivan Good Hope, Conway (Waccamaw)	12/31/2023
*Lisa Willard Kelleytown, Hartsville (Welsh Neck)	12/31/2023
Walt Proctor Kingstree Second (Williamsburg)	12/31/2023
*Chris Cornelius Bellview, Woodruff (Woodruff)	12/31/2023
*Brenda Pettus Sisk Memorial, Fort Mill (York)	12/31/2023

History Committee

Legacy is the theme of the 2020 annual meeting. We can rejoice that despite all the events of this year we actually made it to the 200th annual meeting. This year will have its own legacy. But how do we define *Legacy* as the South Carolina Baptist Convention? Is it a place, person, church, or event? What about our Convention's spiritual legacy in ministry, missions, and education? It's all of the above and more.

Our spiritual legacy is with the nine men from three associations who shared a vision of what a larger group of churches could accomplish working together. It's Richard Furman, William Bullein Johnson, Hepzibah Jenkins Townsend, and countless others who God led to a Kingdom Vision. It's the early churches in this state seeking to redeem their part of South Carolina by leading men, women, and children to faith in Jesus Christ. It's the legacy of changed lives. Many of those early churches are no longer in existence, but their impact and stories are eternal. We stand on their foundation.

The task of the History Committee is to assist churches, associations, and individuals to preserve those stories and legacies. One of the benefits of preserving history is that when the Convention was confronted with the pandemic, we were able to look back at 1918–1919 to see how the Convention dealt with the Spanish Influenza epidemic. It would be good for your church to keep track of decisions made this year to benefit and educate future generations.

The History Committee is working to digitize our records to make them more accessible. We are also looking to highlight historic churches and leaders over this next year. The Committee met at Pine Pleasant Baptist Church in Saluda County to begin that journey. Pine Pleasant is the burial site of Luther Rice, the great Baptist mission educator. Just making the journey to the church was a reminder of how hard our predecessors worked and traveled so that all might know the Good News of Jesus Christ. A new Convention history is currently being written to share that legacy.

The Committee continues to be thankful for and the relationship with the South Carolina Baptist Historical Collection at Furman University. Dr. Jeff Makala and his staff communicate regularly with the Committee. The Historical Collection contains church records and microfilm, association minutes, and manuscripts. The South Carolina Baptist Convention Archives is housed at the Convention Building. Jane Young Poster, part-time History Consultant, works with churches in the preservation and organization of their records, as well as responding to inquiries from individuals, associations, and Convention staff. There are several doctoral students currently working on topics related to the Convention.

This would be an excellent year to evaluate your church's records, artifacts, photographs, and other materials. It would be a great time to interview your senior adults and preserve their stories. The pandemic has taught us that there's no time like the present to be sure things in order. May your Legacy be one of faithfulness in ministry and the preservation of your church's legacy.

Mark Hopkins, Chair
Michael Bryant
Mayson Easterling

Larry McDonald
Lisa Walton

Nominations Committee

Danny Garrett, Chairman

The Nominations Committee offers candidates to serve on the SCBC Executive Board and trustees for all ministry partners. These names are presented to the messengers for election.

Each is a five-year commitment unless fulfilling an unexpired term.

All terms begin on January 1, 2021.

Executive Board

<i># Unexpired Term</i>	<i>* Non-church employee</i>	
Association	Nominee	Term Expires
Broad River	Bryan Yelton New Pleasant, Gaffney	12/31/2025
Charleston	*Britt Stokes Grace on the Ashley, Charleston	12/31/2025
	#Joe Warring Northbridge, Charleston	12/31/2022
Chesterfield	*Terry Fowler Providence, Pageland	12/31/2025
Edisto	Owen McAlister New Holland	12/31/2025
Florence	*Michael Suttles Hoffmeyer Road, Florence	12/31/2025
Kershaw	*Marc Quigley Camden First	12/31/2025
Lexington	*Donna Seiberhagen Kittiwake, Lexington	12/31/2025
Palmetto	Larry Baldwin Hillcrest, Williamston	12/31/2025
Piedmont	*Tammy Crompton Mount Pisgah, Easley	12/31/2025
Ridge	Henry Stamper Batesburg First	12/31/2025

Savannah River	Darren Jones Shell Point, Beaufort	12/31/2025
Southeast	David Murray Cornerstone, Georgetown	12/31/2025
Spartanburg County Network	*Donna Gilmore Roebuck	12/31/2025
Three Rivers	#Paul Fleming Groveland, Taylors	12/31/2022

Institution Trustees

	<i># Unexpired Term</i>	<i>* Non-church employee</i>
Ministry Partner	Nominee	Term Expires
Anderson University	*Rodney Back Spartanburg First	12/31/2025
	*Jack Shaw Taylors First	12/31/2025
	Ed Stewart Shandon, Columbia	12/31/2025
	*Michael Wilson Mount Pisgah, Easley	12/31/2025
	#*Margaret Wooten Concord, Anderson	12/31/2021
	*George Wyatt Mt. Airy, Easley	12/31/2025

Baptist Courier	Wes Church Columbia First	12/31/2025
	*Steve Crowe Mt. Airy, Easley	12/31/2025
	*Davey Hiott Pickens First	12/31/2025
	#Bryant Sims First Mount Moriah	12/31/2021
Baptist Foundation	*Don Bell Fellowship, Lexington	12/31/2025
	*Tim Gable Seven Pines, Barnwell	12/31/2025
	*Ray Jones Shandon, Columbia	12/31/2025
Charleston Southern University	*Randy Eller Cave Spring, Roanoke, VA	12/31/2025
	*William Renfrow Spartanburg First	12/31/2025
	*Adam Robertson Pump Springs, Harrogate, TN	12/31/2025
	Alex Sands Kingdom Life, Simpsonville	12/31/2025
	*Jerry Williams Covenant, Lancaster	12/31/2025

Connie Maxwell Children's Home	Mike DeCosta Clarendon, Alcolu	12/31/2025
	*Mike Moody Honea Path First	12/31/2025
	*Roma Muller Dutch Fork, Irmo	12/31/2025
	*Pam Sanders Riverbluff, North Charleston	12/31/2025
	*James Wright Blaney, Elgin	12/31/2025
North Greenville University	#*Bea Dillard Spartanburg First	<i>12/31/2024</i>
	*Ron Edwards Taylors First	12/31/2025
	*Keith Giddens Rocky Creek, Greenville	12/31/2025
	*Ron Hewitt Spartanburg First	12/31/2025
	*Ike Johnson Edwards Road, Greenville	12/31/2025
SCBMA (Ministries for the Aging)	Brian Spearman Marietta First	12/31/2025
	*Phillip Anderson Lakeview, Hartsville	12/31/2025
	*Chuck Beaman Shandon, Columbia	12/31/2025
	#*Nancy Day Columbia First	<i>12/31/2021</i>

Order of Business

This committee shall be composed of seven (7) members, one (1) of whom shall be the President of the Convention and six (6) other members, two (2) of whom shall be elected each year for a term of three (3) years.

It shall be the responsibility of this committee to formulate the agenda for the annual Convention and submit it to the Convention for approval at the opening meeting. It shall also schedule the time for consideration of all matters of business not scheduled on the agenda unless the Convention directs immediate consideration as outlined in the bylaws.

It has been a privilege to serve South Carolina Baptists as the 2020 Order of Business Committee.

Don Cox, Chair

Kevin Dennis, Vice-Chair

Josh Powell, President

Chris Gray

Belinda Ellison

Jason Dorriety

Scottie Redd

Resolutions Committee

We appreciate the privilege of serving as the 2020 Resolutions Committee. We prayerfully considered resolutions of substance and meaning for the messengers of this Convention. We thoroughly discussed the value and wisdom of the thoughts included in each proposal and we addressed issues that impact our people, our churches, and the Kingdom of Christ.

We present this report to the messengers of the 200th annual meeting of the South Carolina Baptist Convention in Columbia, South Carolina, on November 10, 2020.

Disposition of received proposals:

1. ***Appreciation***, presented as Resolution 1, submitted by the Resolutions Committee
2. ***Celebrating the 175th Anniversary of the Interantional Mission Board***, amended and presented as Resolution 2, submitted by Marshall Blalock, Pastor, First Baptist Church, Charleston
3. ***Statement on Sexual and Gender Ethics***, presented as Resolution 3, submitted by the Christian Life and Public Affairs Committee
4. ***Biblical Justice and Race Relations***, presented as Resolution 4, submitted by the Christian Life and Public Affairs Committee
5. ***Great Commission Baptists***, presented as Resolution 5, submitted by the Resolutions Committee

Respectfully submitted,

Condy Richardson, Chair

Tony Beam

Austin Cox

Mark George

Daryle Hawthorne

Greyson Johnston

Dave Patterson

APPRECIATION

WHEREAS, The messengers of the 200th annual meeting of the South Carolina Baptist Convention have been the recipients of the cordial hospitality of the members, pastor, and staff of First Baptist Church in Columbia; and

WHEREAS, We acknowledge the Lord's grace in enabling our Convention, Associations, and Church leaders to innovate with wisdom and grace during this year of the Covid-19 Pandemic; and

WHEREAS, South Carolina Baptist leaders have used the Covid-19 Pandemic to create new service and mission opportunities by learning how to stream worship services, installing online giving processes, providing safe spaces for children to do school work, looking for unique ways to serve the community, working with school systems to deliver food or feed students who would have gone hungry during school closures, etc.; and

WHEREAS, South Carolina Baptists have a *Legacy* of missions, cooperation, and generosity in sharing time and resources—especially during trying times; therefore, be it

RESOLVED, We, the messengers to the 200th annual meeting of the South Carolina Baptist Convention, meeting in Columbia, on November 10, 2020, express our appreciation to the members, pastor, and staff of Columbia's First Baptist Church for the exceptional leadership and hospitality offered in hosting this historic meeting; and be it further

RESOLVED, That we offer gratitude to the Convention officers, committees, platform personalities, and worship leaders for their inspiration among us; and be it further

RESOLVED, That we pray to live each day with intentionality to help someone see the light of Jesus in our lives as we reach out to a hurting world; and be it finally

RESOLVED, That we give thanks to our Heavenly Father for His mercies, opportunities to serve, and the joy of fellowship with each other during this gathering of South Carolina Baptists.

CELEBRATING THE 175TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE INTERNATIONAL MISSION BOARD

WHEREAS, The International Mission Board (IMB; formerly known as the Foreign Mission Board) was established by the Southern Baptist Convention in 1845; and

WHEREAS, Since its inception, the IMB has been partnering with local churches to send missionaries to the nations; and

WHEREAS, Hundreds of South Carolina Baptists have served as missionaries through the work of the IMB over these 175 years; and

WHEREAS, The International Mission Board has endured through many crises: financial (\$1.68 in the accounts after the Civil War but miraculously survived), war (among the darkest days was the imprisonment of 90 missionaries in death camps in the Pacific during the Second World War), and persecution (deadly terror attacks on missionaries in the Middle East); and

WHEREAS, The IMB has maintained a fidelity to the Gospel, the Word of God, and the Great Commission of Jesus; and

WHEREAS, On its 175th anniversary, the IMB maintains a clear vision of Revelation 7:9, to see a vast multitude from every nation, tribe, people, and language, all gathered around the throne of God; therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That South Carolina Baptists never lose sight of the sobering reality more than 154,000 people will pass into eternity each day without a saving faith in Jesus Christ; and be it further

RESOLVED, That South Carolina Baptists are committed to ~~the~~ continued partnership with the International Mission Board; and be it further

RESOLVED, That South Carolina Baptists renew a commitment to pray, give, and go in partnership with the International Mission Board until every language and people have heard the Gospel; and be it further

RESOLVED, That South Carolina Baptists give sacrificially through the Cooperative Program and the Lottie Moon Christmas Offering[®] to support more than 3,600 missionaries who are sharing the Gospel and planting churches among Unreached and Unengaged People Groups (UUPG) throughout the world; and be it finally

RESOLVED, That we, the messengers to the 200th annual meeting of the South Carolina Baptist Convention, meeting in Columbia, on November 10, 2020, challenge each South Carolina Baptist and every South Carolina Baptist church to increase support for the International Mission Board financially and by raising and sending 500 additional missionaries to the field by the year 2025.

STATEMENT ON SEXUAL AND GENDER ETHICS

WHEREAS, On November 13, 2001, the South Carolina Baptist Convention (SCBC) affirmed the confessional statement of the Southern Baptist Convention known as *The Baptist Faith and Message 2000* (*BFM 2000*), which is a summary statement of doctrine, practice, and ethics derived from the Bible, which is the perfect Word of God and final authority for life, truth, and human conduct in keeping with our historic position; and

WHEREAS, We believe that we are created male and female as defined by a person's DNA at birth and as stated in Genesis 1:27 "So God created man in his own image, in the image of God he created him; male and female he created them" and Psalm 139:13 "For you formed my inward parts; you knitted me together in my mother's womb"; and

WHEREAS, Regarding human sexuality, Article XVIII of *BFM 2000* states, "Marriage is the uniting of one man and one woman in covenant commitment for a lifetime," and that marriage defined, is ". . . the framework for intimate companionship, [and] the channel of sexual expression according to biblical standards . . ."; and

WHEREAS, Regarding human sexuality, Article XV of *BFM 2000* states, "In the spirit of Christ, Christians should oppose . . . all forms of sexual immorality, including adultery, homosexuality, and pornography"; and

WHEREAS, We believe that the currently ascendant postmodern sexual and gender ethic within our culture calls for our reaffirmation of the basic biblical sexual ethic as expressed in *BFM 2000*, along with more specific words regarding gender and the spirit of Christ; therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That we, the messengers to the 200th annual meeting of the South Carolina Baptist Convention, meeting in Columbia, on November 10, 2020, reaffirm the *Baptist Faith and Message 2000*, including the biblical sexual ethic expressed therein; and be it further

RESOLVED, That we believe God's will regarding sexual activity is abstinence in singleness and faithfulness in marriage for life between one biological male and one biological female; and be it further

RESOLVED, That we believe sexual behaviors that are pre-marital, extra-marital, or same-sex in nature are contrary to God's design and will; and be it further

RESOLVED, That we affirm and express these convictions with respect for the intrinsic worth and dignity of every human being and with genuine love for those who do not share our biblical worldview; and be it further

RESOLVED, That we affirm every human being as God's precious image-bearer for whom Jesus Christ died and that we aspire to be kind and loving vessels of His redemptive purpose to reach a broken and hurting world with the hope of the Gospel; and be it further

RESOLVED, That as we engage with others in the spirit of Christ regarding these convictions, we

would be clear that the gentleness, love, and respect we show should not be interpreted as approval of, nor acquiescence to, an unbiblical sexual, gender, or transgender ethic; and be it further

RESOLVED, That the SCBC, as the appropriate authority for the interpretation and application of biblical truth for all Convention ministries, Institutions, and Ministry Partners, hereby affirms that the faith, ethic, and spirit of Christ expressed herein shall characterize the work and service of the Convention—on mission and in ministry; and be it finally

RESOLVED, That we affirm and commend for continued application, the faith, ethic, and spirit of Christ expressed herein to the boards and administrations of all SCBC-affiliated agencies, auxiliaries, partners, and universities as they continue to pursue and fulfill their respective missions with dignity, love, and respect for all persons.

BIBLICAL JUSTICE AND RACE RELATIONS

WHEREAS, The messengers to the 2017 Southern Baptist Convention annual meeting passed a resolution decrying every form of racism as antithetical to the Gospel of Jesus Christ and denouncing and repudiating white supremacy and every form of racial and ethnic hatred as a scheme of the devil intended to bring suffering and division to our society; and

WHEREAS, The resolution also acknowledged that we still must make progress in rooting out any remaining forms of intentional or unintentional racism in our midst; and

WHEREAS, Our country, our state, and our history as Southern Baptists have been adversely affected by the sinful attitudes of prejudice and racism; and

WHEREAS, We acknowledge the pain that prejudice and racism have brought to our African American brothers and sisters in Christ; and

WHEREAS, The current and ongoing cultural debate over the meaning of social justice has inflamed passions, created tension with law enforcement, and added to a dangerous divide that threatens to undermine progress being made in race relations and racial reconciliation; and

WHEREAS, While we acknowledge that a secular understanding of social justice calls for fair treatment of all people including respect for the rights of minorities, it is often grounded in critical theory, intersectional political theory, and other philosophical concepts that run counter to the teaching of God's Word; and

WHEREAS, Secular social justice rests on the foundation of Enlightenment thinkers, who believed morality and justice must be based on reason alone, abandoning any belief in transcendent principles that eclipse human reason and deny the reality and universality of the fallen nature of humanity, thereby undermining any objective foundation for morality and justice; and

WHEREAS, Biblical justice rests on and flows out of the foundation of God's inerrant and infallible Word; and

WHEREAS, Biblical justice embraces the biblical principles of community (Deut. 24:17-22), equity (Isaiah 33:15; Deut. 24:14-15), corporate responsibility (Dan. 9), individual responsibility (Deut. 24:16; Ro. 3:23; Ro. 3:10-17), and advocacy (Isa. 1:17; Ps. 82:4; Prov. 31:8-9); and

WHEREAS, Biblical justice recognizes the value of all people based on the fact that all bear the image of God and that every life is equally sacred, valuable, and worthy of equal protection under God and under the law; and

WHEREAS, Authentic Christian love calls us to build bridges over the racial divide that threatens to destroy our fellowship and inhibit spreading the Gospel; and

WHEREAS, The atonement Christ made on the cross is the only sure means of reconciling us to God, which is the first step to reconciling with each other; and

WHEREAS, When the world sees the power of the Gospel to reconcile people who have been divided by sinful attitudes of racial prejudice, they will recognize God as the author of real change in the human heart and be drawn to the message of the Gospel; therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That we, the messengers to the 200th annual meeting of the South Carolina Baptist Convention, meeting in Columbia, on November 10, 2020, call upon South Carolina Baptists to multiply our efforts in our communities to intentionally, and in the power of the Holy Spirit, reach across racial and ethnic boundaries to establish new relationships, promote improved understanding between races, build genuine friendships, and seek mutually beneficial ministry relationships; and be it further

RESOLVED, That we commit ourselves to eradicate racism in all its forms from Southern Baptist life and ministry beginning with our thoughts, words, and actions as we model Jesus' love and value for all people; and be it further

RESOLVED, That we express our deepest appreciation and commit to consistently pray for members of our law enforcement community who carry out their duties with integrity, courage, and selflessness and we encourage all efforts designed to improve relationships between law enforcement leaders and the local community; and be it further

RESOLVED, That we urge Chaplains serving in South Carolina to foster relationships with local law enforcement and model Christ's love and patience to further racial harmony; and be it finally

RESOLVED, That we pledge our commitment to the Great Commission task of making disciples of all people (Matthew 28:19), confessing that in the church, God is calling together one people from every tribe and nation (Revelation 5:9), and proclaiming that the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ is the only certain and sufficient ground upon which redeemed persons will stand together in a restored unity as joint-heirs with Christ (Romans 8:17).

GREAT COMMISSION BAPTISTS

WHEREAS, The Southern Baptist Convention was formed in Augusta, Georgia in 1845; and

WHEREAS, From the beginning, the name *Southern* was chosen because of a desire to be identified by a particular region and its culture and was chosen with much controversy; and

WHEREAS, The work of the Southern Baptist Convention (SBC) was never meant to be merely regional or subservient to the culture and the moniker *Southern* often creates barriers when ministering outside the South; and

WHEREAS, The apostle Paul modeled servant leadership for the sake of the Gospel by becoming all things to all people that some might be saved (1 Corinthians:19–22); and

WHEREAS, Throughout the 175-year history of the SBC, the essential and unifying purpose of the assembly has been to further the causes of missions and education in service of the Great Commission; and

WHEREAS, In 2011 a task force was appointed by the president of the Southern Baptist Convention to study a name change; and

WHEREAS, The task force proposed to the 2012 Southern Baptist Convention that while a legal name change would be challenging, that the Convention adopt the alternative descriptor Great Commission Baptists; and

WHEREAS, The messengers to the 2012 Southern Baptist Convention annual meeting approved a motion to affirm that churches, entities, and organizations in friendly cooperation with the Southern Baptist Convention which may desire to use a descriptor other than *Southern Baptist* to consider using the descriptor *Great Commission Baptists*—a phrase commended as one fully in keeping with our Southern Baptist identity; and

WHEREAS, It is common for entities to operate under alternative names and Great Commission Baptists is a non-legal descriptor which further describes and identifies the Southern Baptist Convention without altering its structure, agencies, funding streams, or affiliated mission organizations; and

WHEREAS, The alternative descriptor Great Commission Baptists provides churches, associations, state conventions, and other entities affiliated with the Southern Baptist Convention an alternative means by which to identify that affiliation without altering the nature of that affiliation and the means by which it is affected and maintained; and

WHEREAS, The Southern Baptist Convention has expanded its reach throughout all of North America and the World; therefore, be it

RESOLVED, We believe the descriptor Great Commission Baptists represents the mission of the Convention; and be it further

RESOLVED, That since the descriptor has already been approved by the messengers of the 2012 Southern Baptist Convention, we support those who choose to use the descriptor Great Commission Baptists in an effort to identify the mission given to the church by the Lord; and be it further

RESOLVED, That we, the messengers to the 200th annual meeting of the South Carolina Baptist Convention, meeting in Columbia, on November 10, 2020, proclaim our historical and present reliance on Matthew 28 as a guiding principle of our mission; and be it finally

RESOLVED, That we seek to recommit ourselves, as South Carolina Baptists, to unite around the Great Commission in all efforts to reach our neighbors, our state, our nation, and the world with the Gospel of Jesus Christ.

2021 Committee on Committees

Each year, the current president of the South Carolina Baptist Convention chooses 15 people from different associations to act as a Committee on Committees. This committee nominates members of the Standing Committees and any special committees authorized by the Convention.

The following criteria must be met to name the 15 members of the Committee on Committees:

- At least one (1) from churches with 500 or more in worship
- No less than three (3) from churches with 200–499 in worship
- No less than three (3) from churches with fewer than 200 in worship
- No less than three (3) from churches from churches what are new works (church plants) which have been in existence between one (1) and five (5) years

<i>Worship Attendance Criteria</i>	<i>Name</i>	<i>Church</i>	<i>Association</i>
500+	Mike Hamlet	First North	North Spartan
500+	Cory Singleton	Journey	Screven
500+	Chris Spires	Murrells Inlet First	Waccamaw
200–499	Scott Davis	Northside	York
200–499	Ian Geimer	Kingstree First	Williamsburg
200–499	Amber Mathis	Church at Cherrydale	Three Rivers
200–499	Mike Mills	Calvary	Florence
200–499	David Sons	Lake Murray	Lexington
Up to 199	Ron Henderson	Mt. Nebo	Spartanburg Network
Up to 199	Josh McClendon	Philippi	Ridge
Up to 199	Brian Sherwood	Darlington First	Welsh Neck
Up to 199	Herb Sons	Bath First	Aiken
New Work/Church Plant	Chris Blalock	Uptown Church	Charleston
New Work/Church Plant	Will Broadus	Reconcile	Greenville
New Work/Church Plant	Tim McKnight	Mosaic	Anderson



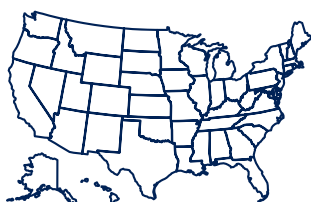
Church Members

Church members give back to God a percentage of their income. This is traditionally called a tithe and represents 10 percent of what God has provided.



Local Churches

Churches receive tithes and offerings from church members and commit a percentage of undesignated receipts for missions and ministries beyond the church walls.



State Missions and Ministries

Messengers from local congregations vote to retain a specific percentage for state missions and ministries and forward the balance to the SBC. State missions and ministries can include evangelism, church planting, children's homes, Christian higher education, compassion ministries, disaster relief, church health, age group ministries, and missions education.



Southern Baptist Missions and Ministries

The SBC compiles the gifts forwarded from state conventions for missions and ministries across the United States and around the world. Southern Baptist missions and ministries include North American and international missions, theological education, ethics and religious liberty, and general operating expenses.

**Top 25 CP Giving
Churches Based on
Total CP Giving
Sep 2019 - Aug 2020**

Rank	Church	Association	2020 Amount	2019 Amount	Change	Percent	Average Attendance
1	Rock Springs	Piedmont	531,533	530,298	1,235	0.2	2,500
2	Simpsonville First	Greenville	523,750	175,833	347,917	197.9	2,041
3	Taylors First	Three Rivers	466,723	489,823	(23,100)	(4.7)	1,071
4	Lancaster Second	Moriah	274,664	241,836	32,828	13.6	993
5	Riverland Hills	Lexington	270,000	267,020	2,980	1.1	2,117
6	Spartanburg First	Spartanburg	266,370	291,697	(25,327)	(8.7)	2,880
7	Mt Airy	Piedmont	243,894	206,502	37,393	18.1	700
8	Brushy Creek	Greenville	221,900	221,265	635	0.3	1,074
9	North Side (Greenwood)	Lakelands	220,091	201,732	18,359	9.1	596
10	Concord	Saluda	204,729	194,093	10,637	5.5	1,100
11	Columbia First	Columbia Metro	198,547	185,906	12,641	6.8	1,600
12	Summerville	Screven	186,015	177,707	8,308	4.7	674
13	Edwards Road	Greenville	182,579	170,092	12,487	7.3	520
14	Gaffney First	Broad River	174,455	170,658	3,797	2.2	389
15	Rock Hill First	York	166,750	185,000	(18,250)	(9.9)	840
16	Fort Mill First	York	162,529	241,484	(78,954)	(32.7)	947
17	Shandon	Columbia Metro	160,417	315,000	(154,583)	(49.1)	1,946
18	Ebenezer	Florence	145,914	105,993	39,921	37.7	550
19	Earle Street	Greenville	144,091	125,012	19,079	15.3	365
20	Anderson Mill Road	Spartanburg	144,000	124,538	19,462	15.6	2,553
21	Fairview	Three Rivers	142,237	148,731	(6,494)	(4.4)	639
22	Holly Springs	Three Rivers	140,407	160,286	(19,879)	(12.4)	346
23	Rocky Creek	Greenville	134,326	121,828	12,498	10.3	572
24	Georgetown First	Southeast	132,675	139,296	(6,621)	(4.8)	455
25	Newberry First	Reedy River	127,518	125,809	1,709	1.4	342
			5,566,115	5,317,439	248,676	4.7	

Top 25 CP Giving Churches
Based on Percent Increase
Sep-Aug 2020 vs Sep-Aug 2019

Rank	Church	Association	2020	2019	Change	Percent Increase	Average Attendance
1	Primera Iglesia Bautista	Greenville	275	25	250	1,000	20
2	Cambodian Mission	Spartanburg	1,926	238	1,688	710	10
3	Live Oak	Carolina	2,200	275	1,925	700	48
4	Indian Land	Moriah	2,114	283	1,831	647	
5	Yahweh and Sons Bible Church	Lexington	2,141	300	1,841	614	
6	Grace Bible Church	Spartanburg	8,800	1,250	7,550	604	250
7	Radiant Church Charleston	Charleston	13,100	2,000	11,100	555	150
8	Neeses	Orangeburg-Calhoun	3,338	600	2,738	456	20
9	Ariel	Marion	2,000	400	1,600	400	
10	Hickory Grove	Allendale-Hampton	1,595	376	1,219	324	18
11	Mizpah	Orangeburg-Calhoun	11,277	2,724	8,553	314	25
12	First St Andrews Parish	Charleston	400	100	300	300	
13	Parisview	Greenville	4,000	1,000	3,000	300	92
14	Riverside	Three Rivers	12,000	3,000	9,000	300	227
15	Hillcrest	Aiken	8,276	2,098	6,178	294	30
16	Red Path Baptist Fellowship	York	750	200	550	275	30
17	Family Gate Church	Greenville	1,488	412	1,076	261	20
18	LifeSong Church - Walterboro	Colleton	350	100	250	250	16
19	New Life Bluffton	Unassigned	1,750	500	1,250	250	50
20	Groveland	Three Rivers	4,200	1,200	3,000	250	56
21	Eastview	Palmetto	3,830	1,100	2,730	248	47
22	Winona	Lakelands	970	300	670	223	20
23	Bethany	Edgefield	17,489	5,600	11,889	212	70
24	Highland Home	Laurens	1,125	375	750	200	42
25	Winfield Heights	Barnwell-Bamberg	1,800	600	1,200	200	70
			107,193	25,056	82,137	328	

Top 25 CP Giving Churches
Based on Dollars Per Average Worship Attendance
Sep 2019 - Aug 2020

Rank	Church	Association	Amount	Average Attendance	Dollars Per AWA
1	Seneca	Beaverdam	119,358	177	674
2	Forest Hill	Saluda	42,674	73	585
3	Abbeville First	Lakelands	71,184	125	569
4	Elko	Barnwell-Bamberg	42,295	78	542
5	Charleston First	Charleston	63,039	122	517
6	Sardis	Ridge	23,036	45	512
7	Prater's Creek	Pickens-Twelve Mile	19,540	41	477
8	Pleasant Grove	Pee Dee	20,323	45	452
9	Mizpah	Orangeburg-Calhoun	11,277	25	451
10	Gaffney First	Broad River	174,455	389	448
11	Westminster	Beaverdam	54,138	122	444
12	Taylor's First	Three Rivers	466,723	1,071	436
13	Black Creek	Colleton	38,934	90	433
14	Green Pond	Colleton	14,861	35	425
15	Highland Park	Charleston	96,041	227	423
16	Clearwater Branch	Aiken	17,838	43	415
17	Crooked Run	Columbia Metro	13,119	32	410
18	State Street	Lexington	75,334	185	407
19	Holly Springs	Three Rivers	140,407	346	406
20	Couchton	Aiken	8,081	20	404
21	Hopewell	Colleton	14,023	35	401
22	Washington	Palmetto	94,774	237	400
23	Earle Street	Greenville	144,091	365	395
24	Fountain Inn First	Greenville	78,821	200	394
25	Kilbourne Park	Columbia Metro	37,120	95	391
			1,881,486	4,223	446

Top 25 CP Giving Churches
Based on Average Worship Attendance < 101
Sep 2019 - Aug 2020

Rank	Church	Association	Amount	Average Attendance
1	Forest Hill	Saluda	42,674	73
2	Elko	Barnwell-Bamberg	42,295	78
3	Black Creek	Colleton	38,934	90
4	Kilbourne Park	Columbia Metro	37,120	95
5	Grace Community	Unassigned	35,178	95
6	Ware Shoals First	Lakelands	32,312	95
7	Roper Mountain	Greenville	31,144	88
8	Thomas Memorial	Pee Dee	31,091	85
9	Hulon	Lexington	29,341	86
10	Pope Drive	Saluda	27,569	80
11	Lockhart First	Union County	27,249	100
12	Mt Pisgah	Kershaw	26,953	70
13	Graham	Santee	26,486	100
14	Okatee	Savannah River	26,080	81
15	Goucher	Broad River	25,582	70
16	Doctor's Creek	Colleton	24,949	85
17	Pleasant Meadow	Waccamaw	24,878	85
18	Cedar Creek	Columbia Metro	23,794	91
19	Red Hill	Pickens-Twelve Mile	23,584	100
20	The Masters	Reedy River	23,248	75
21	Sardis	Ridge	23,036	45
22	Midway	Moriah	22,357	65
23	Immanuel	Aiken	22,108	67
24	Maple	Waccamaw	21,525	82
25	Calvary	Orangeburg-Calhoun	21,178	75
			710,665	

Top 25 CP Giving Churches
Based on Average Worship Attendance 101 - 425
Sep 2019 - Aug 2020

Rank	Church	Association	Amount	Average Attendance
1	Gaffney First	Broad River	174,455	389
2	Earle Street	Greenville	144,091	365
3	Holly Springs	Three Rivers	140,407	346
4	Newberry First	Reedy River	127,518	342
5	Pickens First	Pickens-Twelve Mile	124,201	325
6	Seneca	Beaverdam	119,358	177
7	Utica	Beaverdam	119,129	411
8	Sumter First	Santee	112,507	344
9	New Prospect	Saluda	108,333	345
10	Mt Pleasant First	Charleston	108,274	317
11	Sweetwater	Aiken	106,651	375
12	Catawba	York	106,113	302
13	Clover First	York	99,092	344
14	Langston	Waccamaw	98,312	403
15	Roebuck	Spartanburg	97,561	350
16	Highland Park	Charleston	96,041	227
17	Washington	Palmetto	94,774	237
18	Calvary, Florence	Florence	88,048	278
19	Harris	Lakelands	81,256	320
20	Varnville First	Allendale-Hampton	78,935	229
21	Fountain Inn First	Greenville	78,821	200
22	Fairview (Spartanburg)	North Spartan	76,324	210
23	Dillon First	Pee Dee	76,146	266
24	Arrowwood	Spartanburg	75,992	250
25	State Street	Lexington	75,334	185
			2,607,672	

Top 25 CP Giving Churches
Based on Average Worship Attendance > 425
Sep 2019 - Aug 2020

Rank	Church	Association	Amount	Average Attendance
1	Rock Springs	Piedmont	531,533	2,500
2	Simpsonville First	Greenville	523,750	2,041
3	Taylor's First	Three Rivers	466,723	1,071
4	Lancaster Second	Moriah	274,664	993
5	Riverland Hills	Lexington	270,000	2,117
6	Spartanburg First	Spartanburg	266,370	2,880
7	Mt Airy	Piedmont	243,894	700
8	Brushy Creek	Greenville	221,900	1,074
9	North Side (Greenwood)	Lakelands	220,091	596
10	Concord	Saluda	204,729	1,100
11	Summerville	Screven	186,015	674
12	Edwards Road	Greenville	182,579	520
13	Rock Hill	York	166,750	840
14	Fort Mill First	York	162,529	947
15	Shandon	Columbia Metro	160,417	1,946
16	Ebenezer	Florence	145,914	550
17	Anderson Mill Road	Spartanburg	144,000	2,553
18	Fairview	Three Rivers	142,237	639
19	Rocky Creek	Greenville	134,326	572
20	Georgetown First	Southeast	132,675	455
21	Northside	Lexington	115,273	1,364
22	East Pickens	Pickens-Twelve Mile	113,197	785
23	Camden First	Kershaw	111,865	450
24	South Main Street	Lakelands	105,744	551
25	The Church at LifePark	Charleston	101,948	2,225
			5,329,123	

Top 25 CP Giving Churches
Based on Started Giving in Last 12 Months
Sep 2019 - Aug 2020

Rank	Church	Association	Amount	Average Attendance
1	Pebble Creek	Three Rivers	12,500	100
2	Cedar Creek	Aiken	11,000	1,552
3	Gap Hill	Pickens-Twelve Mile	10,550	150
4	Providence	Kershaw	7,432	75
5	North Island	Savannah River	6,812	30
6	Crossroads	Spartanburg	4,400	285
7	Fellowship of Praise	Orangeburg-Calhoun	4,272	115
8	Mt Paran	Broad River	4,000	30
9	Pyerian	Pee Dee	4,000	150
10	Mosaic Church of Anderson	Unassigned	3,085	
11	Radius Church	Unassigned	2,500	1,771
12	Eastside	Broad River	2,400	87
13	Piney Grove	Pee Dee	2,200	80
14	Ridge	Screven	1,780	150
15	Word of Change Ministries	Spartanburg	1,700	145
16	Nova Church	Colleton	1,660	75
17	New Beginning	Unassigned	1,654	
18	Crestview	Union County	1,600	60
19	David's Grove	Chesterfield	1,550	25
20	Mt Pisgah	Chesterfield	1,500	40
21	Town Creek	Aiken	1,250	290
22	Mountain View	Beaverdam	1,200	28
23	Laurens Second	Laurens	1,100	178
24	Woodridge	Aiken	1,000	
25	The Neighborhood Church	Piedmont	1,000	71
			92,145	