

# 2014 ANNUAL REPORT

## GEORGIA BAPTIST CONVENTION

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**Ingleside Baptist Church | Macon**  
**connectGBC.com**

**Psalm 85:6** Will You not revive us again  
so that Your people may rejoice in You?



**RESOURCES**  
**THE COOPERATIVE PROGRAM, WHAT IS IT?**

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## The Cooperative Program

**WHAT IS IT?** The Cooperative Program is the channel through which Georgia Baptists partner together to spread the Gospel and fulfill their commitment to obey the Great Commandment and the Great Commission. This partnership enables them to reach beyond their communities and take the message and ministry of Jesus to our state, our nation, and the world.

**HOW DOES IT WORK?** Individual Christians make contributions through their church and the church as a whole then decides what portion of their undesignated offerings should be given to all Southern Baptist mission causes through the Cooperative Program. The church's contribution is sent to the State Convention office in Duluth and is then divided between State and Southern Baptist causes according to the budget adopted by the messengers from the churches who attend the annual meeting of the Georgia Baptist Convention. Funds for the SBC are sent to the Executive Committee in Nashville, Tennessee, and distributed based upon the budget adopted by the Southern Baptist Convention.

**WHO RECEIVES FUNDS?** Cooperative Program funds are distributed carefully based upon budgets adopted by the Georgia and Southern Baptist Conventions. In both of these conventions, budget committees consider requests from the various agencies receiving support, and on the basis of available funds, make recommendations to the Executive Committees of the two conventions. The budgets recommended by the Executive Committees are then considered and approved by the Conventions in their annual meetings.

**WHERE DOES THE MONEY GO?** Cooperative Program funds are considered a sacred trust by the GBC and the SBC. In both conventions careful attention is given to distribution of Cooperative Program funds in accordance with the approved budgets.

**HOW MUCH SHOULD WE GIVE?** The Cooperative Program is based upon the principle of voluntary response to need under the leadership of the Holy Spirit. Each Baptist church decides how much is to be given through the Cooperative Program. The tithe is emphasized as the basis for individual giving. It is recommended that churches, in response to the Cooperative Missions Champions objectives, prayerfully consider their ministry priorities and commit a larger percentage of undesignated offerings for world missions through the Cooperative Program. This will mean that Georgia Baptists are faithful stewards of God's resources and remain committed to financing Kingdom ministry and Kingdom growth.

Send gifts to:

The Executive Committee of the  
Baptist Convention of the State of Georgia  
J. Robert White, Executive Director  
6405 Sugarloaf Parkway  
Duluth, GA 30097-4092