

**2015 ANNUAL REPORT**  
**GEORGIA BAPTIST CONVENTION**

awaken  
2015

**RESOURCES**

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



WHAT IS IT? The Cooperative Program is the primary 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 local Baptist church and the church as a whole then decides what portion of its undesignated offerings should be given to all Southern Baptist mission causes through the Cooperative Program. The church's contribution is sent to the Georgia Baptist Mission Board, where a portion is designated to meet missions needs in Georgia according to the budget adopted by messengers from churches attending the annual meeting of the Georgia Baptist Convention. The other portion is forwarded to the SBC to meet national and international missions needs 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. With an ever-growing missions need to address lostness at home and abroad, each church should prayerfully consider its own ministry priorities and commit to Kingdom generosity by dedicating a percentage of its undesignated offerings to world missions through the Cooperative Program. This will demonstrate that Georgia Baptists are faithful stewards of God's resources and remain committed to financing Kingdom ministry and Kingdom growth.

Send gifts to:

Georgia Baptist Mission Board  
J. Robert White, Executive Director  
6405 Sugarloaf Parkway  
Duluth, GA 30097-4092