

WHAT DOES THE COOPERATIVE PROGRAM SUPPORT?

LOCALLY, your gifts to the Cooperative Program assist in the strengthening and starting of churches throughout Pennsylvania, South Jersey and beyond. More pointedly, your gifts help churches like yours reach their communities with the life-changing Gospel of Jesus Christ.

The Baptist Resource Network's vision is to see every church within Pennsylvania and South Jersey be healthy, multiplying churches.

We want disciples who make new disciples, ministries that birth new ministries, leaders who replicate new leaders, and churches that plant new churches.

We also seek to help and encourage our churches to reach the 14 million people in our region who are lost without faith in Jesus Christ.

NATIONALLY and INTERNATIONALLY, the Cooperative Program supports missionaries through the International Mission Board and the North American Mission Board; future pastors, missionaries and church leaders who now attend our six Southern Baptist seminaries; as well as the Ethics & Religious Liberty Commission, which seeks to preserve our religious liberties and to be a voice on the critical issues of our day.

In short, the Cooperative Program is our collective effort to fulfill the Great Commission in Matthew 28:19-20.

HOW DO I GIVE?

The Finance Office of the Baptist Resource Network is happy to help you participate in the Cooperative Program. We'd love to hear from you! Feel free to contact us as noted below.

In addition, you can visit online at <https://brnunited.org/cp> to download resources for your church, including videos, brochures and more.

Contact us at:

Baptist Resource Network
of Pennsylvania/S. Jersey

4620 Fritchey Street
Harrisburg, PA 17109
(800) 451-6599



What the Cooperative Program means for your church



COOPERATIVE PROGRAM

WHAT IS THE COOPERATIVE PROGRAM?

The Cooperative Program is Southern Baptists' unified plan of giving through which cooperating Southern Baptist churches give a percentage of their undesignated receipts in support of their respective state convention and the Southern Baptist Convention missions and ministries.

HOW DOES THE COOPERATIVE PROGRAM WORK?

It begins with you!

You give yourself first to God (II Cor. 8:5). Next, out of gratitude and obedience to God for what He has done for you, you commit to give back to Him, through your church, a portion of what He provides. This is commonly called a tithe and represents ten percent of your income (Lev. 27:30, Mal. 3:10).

Your Church... decides the next step. Every year your church prayerfully decides how much of its undesignated gifts will be committed to reaching people in your state and around the world through The Cooperative Program. This amount is then forwarded to the Baptist Resource Network (BRN).

Messengers at the BRN Annual Meetings... from your church and other churches across the state decide what percentage of Cooperative

Program gifts contributed by local congregations stay in your state to support local missions and ministries. The percentage to be forwarded to the SBC for North American and international missions and ministries is also determined at this time.

Messengers at the Southern Baptist Convention Annual Meeting... from across the country decide how the gifts received from the states will be distributed among SBC entities. These gifts are used by SBC entities to send and support missionaries, train pastors, and other ministry leaders; provide relief for retired ministers and widows; and address social, moral, and ethical concerns relating to our faith and families.

The bottom line – people around the world hear the gospel and receive Christ!

BENEFITS OF THE COOPERATIVE PROGRAM

- It presents a unified and comprehensive budget, throwing a funding blanket over statewide, national and international missions and ministries.
- It provides a long-term sustainability for our entities. When a church makes their missions giving as a percentage of their church budgets, it provides consistency and stability.
- It adheres to our long term Baptist principle that "we can do more together than alone."
- The Cooperative Program mitigates competition between entities thereby allowing a balanced Acts 1:8 Strategy.
- It levels the playing field, and makes a place at the table for small and ethnic churches. Every church can stand hand in hand, shoulder to shoulder, on level ground, as partners in the gospel (large churches, small churches, new churches, growing churches, graying churches, and ethnic churches).