

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.

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 long term sustainability for our entities. When a church makes their missions giving as a percentage of their church's budget, 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 all 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).



HOW DO I GIVE?

The BCM/D 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 bcmd.org/cp or click the QR code below to download resources for your church.



10255 Old Columbia Rd
Columbia, MD 21046
bcmd.org

What Is the Cooperative Program?



**COOPERATIVE
PROGRAM**

We can do more together than alone

WHAT DOES THE COOPERATIVE PROGRAM SUPPORT?

LOCALLY, your gifts to the Cooperative Program assist in the strengthening and starting of churches throughout Maryland, Delaware and beyond.

More pointedly, your gifts help churches like yours reach their communities with the life-changing Gospel of Jesus Christ.

Currently, the Baptist Convention of Maryland/Delaware partners with affiliated churches in various areas. Some of these include serving pastors' wives, disabilities ministry, protecting children and vulnerable adults, BCM/D Ready, youth and children, African American initiatives, Skycroft, church planting, and church planter development. God has placed the BCM/D in one of the most diverse and strategic areas in America, and we seek to help churches succeed in their God-given tasks.

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 efforts of the Ethics & Religious Liberty Commission, who 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 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 Maryland, Delaware, and around the world through The Cooperative Program. This amount is then sent to the Baptist Convention of Maryland/Delaware.

Messengers at the Baptist Convention of Maryland/Delaware Annual Meetings

from your church and other churches across our two-state convention decide what percentage of Cooperative Program gifts contributed by local congregations stay in the BCM/D 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!**