



# COOPERATIVE PROGRAM:

## The need is great

There are **7 billion** people in the world.

At least **4.7 billion** of them do not know Christ.

Currently, **3,030** unreached people groups worldwide are not engaged with the Gospel.

In the U.S., **3 out of 4** people don't know Christ

Illinois has a population of 13 million, and at least

**8 million**

do not know Christ.

**S**piritually speaking, the world is a dark place. The numbers tell a harrowing story: Billions of people in the world who don't know Christ. At least 8 million in our own state without the hope of eternity with Him, and without abundant life here on earth.

The challenge is huge. But together, through a missions support structure known as the Cooperative Program, Southern Baptists are pushing back spiritual darkness all over the world.

In northern Chile, **Bryan** and **Deana Wolf** (right) are helping local churches develop a vision to reach people with the Gospel in their country. Both from towns in central Illinois, the Wolfs were unusual candidates for the international mission field. Bryan was working at a nutritional company in Ohio, and they had three small children and another on the way.

"And so they didn't really know what to do with us, because he wasn't a pastor. And I wasn't a pastor's wife, obviously," the bubbly mother of six said at the 2013 Illinois Woman's Missions Celebration.

God was faithful to see them through the desire He put in their hearts, and next March, the Wolfs will celebrate their tenth anniversary serving in Chile.

By giving through the Cooperative Program, Southern Baptists support nearly 4,900 missionaries like Bryan



and Deana Wolf serving through the International Mission Board. Almost 2,500 more missionaries serve in North America, and last year, helped plant more than 900 new churches.

## It all starts with one

A new video about the Cooperative Program highlights "the power of one" in changing history.

Southern Baptist Executive Committee President **Frank Page** introduced the 1% Challenge as a way to turn the tide in a time of decreased giving and economic hardship, in a culture that's moving farther away

from the church.

The idea is simple: Churches are encouraged to give one more percent through CP. (In Illinois, the average percentage a church invests through CP is 7.4.) If every SBC church continued to give one percent more through CP, \$600 million could be invested in ministries and missions around the world.

It all starts with one. One call. One decision. One percent. That one lets us do more, together

See our Cooperative Program videos here. →



# Together, we can do more

## When you tithe...

Your church invests a percentage of your offerings through the Cooperative Program



### Last year...

Southern Baptists in Illinois gave **\$6.2 million** through the Cooperative Program, an increase of 0.9% over the previous year.



IBSA sends 43.25% on to the national SBC for ministry and missions.

IBSA uses 56.75% of CP contributions for ministries that help reach our state with the Gospel.



The Southern Baptist Convention's six seminaries educated more than **13,400** future missionaries, pastors and church leaders last year.

Because Illinois Baptists gave through CP last year, **28 new churches** were started and **383 churches** were enlisted in church planting involvement (up from 328 in 2011).



# Where it all started

**Murray, Ky.** | This summer IBSA Executive Director **Nate Adams** visited some significant places from his family's history in Kentucky. One of his stops was at the First Baptist Church of Murray, considered by many to be the birthplace of the Cooperative Program and where his grandma was a 60-year member.

While there, he took a photo of the historical marker (below) that stands outside the church commemorating the events that led to the establishment of the Cooperative Program in 1925.



In 1900, then-pastor Harvey Boyce Taylor led the church to move beyond the societal plan of giving, where ministry gifts were solicited independently from churches by missionaries and outside ministries, to a unified church budget plan that funds the church's agreed upon priorities.

Taylor later served on the Kentucky Baptist Convention's Executive Board where he shared about his church's unified giving plan and worked to make it the state convention's official plan for giving in 1915. It then became

the model for the Cooperative Program, which was adopted by the Southern Baptist Convention in 1925.

Adams, who is currently chairing a national Cooperative Program Advisory Council at the request of SBC Executive Committee President Frank Page, found new meaning in the historical marker outside the Kentucky church where his family worshiped for decades.

"What I found most significant as I read the marker this time was the fact that the Cooperative Program vision was rooted in a local church vision that

began 25 years earlier. Because one church and pastor recognized the power and efficiency of cooperative missions giving, today thousands of churches have given billions of dollars to establish a worldwide missionary presence, world-class seminary education, and more. Our CP Advisory Council has noted that we have 12 years until the 100th anniversary of the Cooperative Program, and that we hope we can instill that same Great Commission vision and sacrifice in the hearts of current and future generations."

Another significant influence on the formation of the Cooperative Program was the "Baptist 75 Million Campaign" that took place from 1920 through 1925, and was a precursor to the Cooperative Program. Adams has a family connection to that historic event as well, and proudly displays his great-grandmother's commitment card on his office wall. Grandma Effie Hooks' 5-year pledge was \$25, and her commitment card is marked "paid in full," two years early, in June of 1923.

## Where your giving goes

**\$191,500,000** (amount budgeted for convention-wide giving in 2013-14 fiscal year)

**73.20%**

### World Mission Ministries

International Mission Board (50.41%)  
and North American Mission Board (22.79%)

**22.16%**

### Theological Education

Six Southern Baptist seminaries

**2.99%**

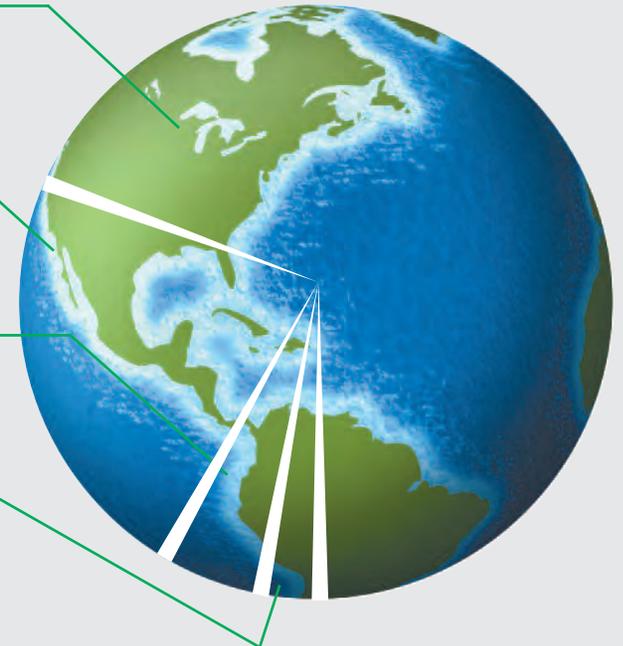
### Facilitating Ministries

SBC operating budget

**1.65%**

### Christian Ethics and Religious Liberty

SBC Ethics and Religious Liberty Commission





More than **900 churches** were started in 2012 through the efforts of **2,488** North American Mission Board Missionaries who are fully, self or jointly funded.

★ **3,597** chaplains and **1,122** student missionaries also serve through NAMB.

Funds given through the Cooperative Program help facilitate the country's third-largest disaster relief organization, which in 2012 included more than **80,000** trained volunteers.



★ So far this year nationwide, more than \$172 million has been given for distribution through the 2012-13 Cooperative Program Allocation Budget.

Cooperative Program gifts support nearly **4,900** missionary personnel appointed by the Southern Baptist International Mission Board. Those missionaries work among **874** people groups around the world, working to start **24,073** new churches and baptize **266,451** in 2011.



More than **27,000** Illinois Baptists were engaged in an Acts 1:8 mission field last year, an increase of 34% from the previous year. IBSA provided **38** missions awareness events through Cooperative Program giving.

In 2012, more than **25,000 leaders** were trained in ministries to strengthen existing churches.



**405 churches** were directly assisted in developing evangelism strategies, and **607 churches** reported **4,913 baptisms**.



**Two new** collegiate ministries were established in Illinois last year. There are more than 30 Baptist-led campus ministries in the state.



### Why I give to missions through the Cooperative Program...



"I really believe in the Cooperative Program and how it increases the work of Christ's Kingdom. It is a good tool for all churches to use to cooperate together for missions."

**Heriberto Delgado**, Iglesia Gran Comision, Waukegan