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June 2006

Biblical Stewardship & Cooperative Program

an e-newsletter of the Missouri Baptist Convention

In This Issue

Cooperative Program
Biblical Stewardship

Quick Links

[Archives](#)
[Resources](#)
[CP Site](#)
[Stewardship Site](#)
[Bible Study Series](#)

Related Sites

[SBC](#)
[NAMB](#)
[IMB](#)
[CP Missions](#)

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Dear Missions Partners,

EXTRA!! EXTRA!! EXTRA!! READ ALL ABOUT IT!! A brand new tool for mission's inspiration, communication, promotion, education and awareness. HOT off the presses. Welcome to the **CP Connection**. You are looking at the brand-new, monthly Missouri Baptist Convention *Cooperative Program (CP)* newsletter. The ultimate goal of this communication will be to keep you informed about mission needs, trends, and prayer requests. *CP* missions are a unique brand of missions. The *CP* is the only missions sending-funding mechanism of its kind.

- Truly, there are many other well-meaning missions sending organizations. But there is only one that currently supports more than 10,500 missionaries worldwide---that is the *CP* of the Southern and Missouri Baptist Conventions (SBC/MBC).
- As well, there are many evangelistic missionaries who work independently of any denomination organization and some who work well in other denominational structures---there are none who are better trained or more Biblically sound than those who have been educated in SBC seminaries.
- While there are other missions organizations that are doing good work---there are none more evangelistic or more effective than SBC missionaries.

Is there overhead, even bureaucracy in organizations as large as the IMB and NAMB? Certainly. But, the fact is there is less money wasted when mission boards and colleges and seminaries cooperate together to enlist and train their mission force. There is less money wasted when

missionaries do not have to spend precious time and energy raising their own support. Missionaries are more effective when there is a support system in place for them and their families. They are more effective when there is a ready army of prayer warriors in SBC/MBC churches. They are able to do more and reach more people when there is a pool of mission volunteers as large as the SBC itself. No, there is not a better way to reach the world than through the *CP* of the SBC. I am thrilled to partner with you to reach the world for Christ!

Cooperative Program

CP Champion will be Nominated...



Although it seems that there will be multiple candidates vying for the Presidency of the Southern Baptist Convention, there is only one **Cooperative Program Champion** who is an announced candidate. Dr. Frank Page, Senior Pastor to the First Baptist of Church Taylors, SC has led that church to generously give 12+% to worldwide missions through the SBC *CP*. Dr. Page is quoted as saying, "Our church gives over 12% to the *Cooperative Program* and we have a huge missions program on top of that, so we believe that one can do both". For more information on this **Cooperative Program Champion** and one of the other candidates, click on the icon below to read my article that appeared in the latest edition of The Pathway. At the time of the writing of that article, there were only two announced candidates. Now there are three. You should be aware that the *CP* giving of the third candidate, Dr. Jerry Sutton, Senior Pastor to Two Rivers Baptist Church in Nashville, is only slightly better than that of Dr. Ronnie Floyd. Those who might follow the example of Dr. Sutton would designate all of their mission dollars, a practice that is shunned by most Missouri pastors and has crippled many Missouri churches. I am praying that the issue and the winner at the 2006 SBC will be the *CP*.

[Find out more...](#)

Biblical Stewardship

Stewardship Website Full of Helpful Resources



This newsletter is "brand new" for us in the Stewardship/CP ministry area. The Stewardship office provides materials that will assist pastors and local churches in teaching Biblical Stewardship to their congregations. I would like to make you aware of our web site. You can click on the Stewardship button and find many resources featured there. We stand ready to help in the areas of church budgeting, personal money management, church facilities planning, and capital stewardship campaigns. You can always contact us by phone or email. Just this year we have entered into a special relationship with Crown Financial Ministries. This partnership is already working to train many of our churches to help their families to discover "*financial freedom*."

Check out the MBC Biblical Stewardship Website today!

It is my prayer that you will stay connected to missions and ministry through the **CP Connection**. Watch for it to come every month with missions facts and stories. And, please send me your own missions story. I want to print it so that all of us can celebrate with you. THANKS for joining us in missions and ministry and for staying connected to CP missions.

From Missouri to the ends of the earth,

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Did You Know?

Through the International Mission Board, Southern Baptists support approximately 5,300 missionaries who are engaging more than 1,194 different people groups around the world.

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