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CHARLES M. (DANNY) WOOD, Chairman
KEVIN EZELL, President

At the North American Mission Board (NAMB), it's all about the gospel. Everything we do is to help churches and believers share the hope of Christ in their communities, throughout North America, and around the world.

There were many highlights in 2019 as we served Southern Baptist pastors and churches, but we want to start by thanking each and every person who gave so generously to the Annie Armstrong Easter Offering®. Southern Baptists gave a record \$61.6 million to the offering, an all-time high. In fact, this is the third year in a row we have seen a record-breaking offering. We are grateful and humbled by this generosity. As always, our pledge is that every dollar of the offering will go to missionaries on the field and resources to help them impact North America for Christ. We are committed to be the very best stewards of these dollars.

Pastors are NAMB's number one customer. We are here to serve them and help them succeed as they minister on the front lines. We serve pastors and churches in two primary ways: Send Relief, our compassion ministry arm, and Send Network, our church planting network.

In addition to these two primary ministry areas, NAMB's Evangelism and Leadership Group, led by Johnny Hunt, exists to equip pastors and mobilize Southern Baptists for evangelism. We started 2019 by partnering with SBC president, J. D. Greear, to launch *Who's Your One?*, an evangelism resource that challenges every Southern Baptist to identify a person for whom they will pray and share their faith with. I'm happy to report that thousands of churches responded by ordering *Who's Your One?* church resource kits. Our *Who's Your One?* Tour started in the fall and will visit dozens of cities over the next two years.

Each year, millions of peoples' lives in North America are turned upside down by natural disaster and other crises. As always, Southern Baptists were on the forefront of disaster response: bringing much needed help, assisting with the healing process, and most importantly, sharing the hope of Jesus which transcends any tragedy or triumph.

It was our privilege to come alongside dozens of state convention disaster relief units this past year as they mobilized thousands of Southern Baptist Disaster Relief-trained volunteers and hundreds of pieces of equipment.

NAMB's Send Relief ministry is bringing help and hope to those most in need. Our Puerto Rico rebuild effort hosted hundreds of volunteers this year as residents continue to recover from Hurricane Maria, which struck in 2017.

Send Relief is giving churches the opportunity to serve in areas such as poverty, refugees and internationals, adoption and foster care, human trafficking, and crisis response. We now have seven Send Relief ministry centers (Appalachia, Atlanta, Las Vegas, New Orleans, New York, Pittsburgh, and Puerto Rico) that are meeting needs in specific regions and giving Southern Baptists from all over North America opportunities to serve in long- or short-term settings.

NAMB helps Southern Baptists plant churches everywhere for everyone in North America through Send Network. We primarily focus outside the South, where Southern Baptists are weakest, and in our cities where more than 80% of North Americans live.

Southern Baptists need to start more churches to keep up with population growth and offset churches that are dying. The problem is our need for new churches is outpacing the supply of qualified church planters. That's why NAMB has launched the Multiplication Pipeline to help churches discover and develop the next generation of church planters for the North American mission field.

Our church replanting initiative helps re-launch churches that are dead or close to dying. Each year, dozens of churches that would have been down for the count now have an opportunity to continue to proclaim the gospel and transform lives.

The churches of tomorrow probably won't look exactly like yours. As North America grows more ethnically diverse, we help prioritize ethnic church plants where they are most needed. More than half of all churches that Southern Baptists start each year identify as ethnic or multiethnic. We also are focused on starting churches near college campuses. These churches will have an impact for years to come as they shape the hearts and minds of our next generation of leaders.

We are grateful for all God does through Southern Baptists and the North American Mission Board.

Additional highlights are noted below.

- Thanks to Southern Baptist giving, we are able to resource and support nearly 6,800 missionaries and chaplains. These men and women serve in difficult places and in challenging cultural contexts and many have left behind all that is familiar so they can tell people about Jesus.
- Southern Baptists added 908 new congregations in 2019, the most recent year for which data is available. This includes 552 new church starts, 59 new campuses and 297 new affiliations. We praise God for these new churches that are now part of the Southern Baptist family. *(Note: Under ACP definitions, a new campus is not considered its own church. Tracking campus activity is important, however, in order to have a complete picture of Southern Baptist presence and activity).*
- Churches started since 2010 now account for 11% of all churches in the SBC and they report 18% of all SBC baptisms. Church plants are reaching people for Christ and they are a positive force in our Southern Baptist family.
- Reversing the decline in baptisms won't be accomplished by a national entity, but we are making multiple evangelism resources available free to churches and emphasizing the annual SBC Baptism Sunday. We want to help Southern Baptists maintain evangelism and baptism as the top priority.
- What a privilege it was to celebrate with First Baptist Sutherland Springs in May 2019 as they dedicated a new worship center and education wing that NAMB provided through the gifts of Southern Baptists. Pray for this church as they continue to recover from the tragic mass shooting that took place in November 2017.

NAMB serves as the endorsing entity for more than 3,700 Southern Baptist chaplains who serve throughout the world in the military and in other settings such as hospitals, prisons, fire departments, police departments, and in private, corporate settings. At an Army base in Missouri, for example, more than 8,000 have been baptized since March 2018 under the ministry of Southern Baptist chaplains.

NAMB has the privilege of working closely with state Baptist conventions to assist their efforts in taking the gospel to North America. Each year, NAMB sends millions of dollars to state convention partners to assist in their ministry. This is money that goes to fund missionaries and to support evangelistic church planting, evangelism, and church revitalization efforts.

There are so many needs and much remains to be done, but it is good to pause in moments like these to reflect on all God is doing through Southern Baptists and through the North American Mission Board. We are grateful for the pastors and churches who are in the trenches of ministry. Thank you for everything you are doing to make Jesus known in North America.

Serving Together,

Kevin Ezell
President
North American Mission Board

Charles M. (Danny) Wood
Chairman
NAMB Board of Trustees

Goals and Accomplishments

(All SBC entities present informative ministry reports to the Executive Committee each February in compliance with the provisions of SBC Bylaw 18 E (12). The North American Mission Board has requested that the content of this report be taken from its 2020 Ministry Report, previously tendered to the Executive Committee.)

Relative to the listed Ministry Assignment, please describe accomplishments in the past year that create “value added” to the Cooperative Program dollars that NAMB receives.

I. Assist churches in planting healthy, multiplying, evangelistic Southern Baptist Churches in the United States and Canada.

To reach people for Christ—and disciple them to reach others for Christ—North America must have strong, evangelistic, healthy churches. In addition to encouraging existing churches to be as healthy as possible, new churches are needed. These new churches require qualified church planters, and the primary developer of these individuals is the local church. To assist churches in the discovery and development of potential planters, the North American Mission Board’s (NAMB) Send Network has created a Multiplication Pipeline (formerly called Church Planting Pipeline). This resource is designed for use in the local church to discover, develop, and deploy missional leaders, many of whom will move into church planting. This process is a great asset for the pastor who desires to see his church multiply in the future. This resource is greatly enhancing the efforts to raise up future generations of indigenous planters and team members in parts of North America where needs are greatest, especially as existing and future plants gain a vision to become multiplying churches themselves. Currently 1,406 pupils are being trained in the context of their local churches. This training is being led by 315 coordinators and 437 coaches in these local churches.

Send Network continues to provide a clear pathway for SBC churches to utilize in deploying God-called believers across North America. The planting pathway provides a robust application and assessment process that allows churches to confirm the gifts, calling, and abilities of those they seek to send. Send Network’s Planter Development team takes the baton once an individual is endorsed by the Discovery team, providing the opportunity for orientation, training, coaching, and care for all SBC planters.

During the two-day, three-night orientation at NAMB, newly endorsed planters are informed of the vision and mission of the Send Network and equipped to embody our network’s shared values of family, multiplication, and restoration. Planters also receive critical information about being part of the Southern Baptist Convention and the importance of giving through the Cooperative Program and to the Annie Armstrong Easter Offering®. The entire orientation is led by church

planting practitioners. The training we provide enables planters to develop a contextual and missional strategy to engage their cities with the gospel, make disciples, and plant healthy churches. Send Network coaches then walk alongside church planters and help them process the next steps to personal, familial, and church health. In addition to our commitment to developing planters, we are also committed to developing church planting wives. When the spouse is flourishing, her impact on her husband and church plant is transformational. Send Network currently provides care and is building and currently implementing a strategy to train and coach our planting wives. We also have a team of field staff and local churches that provide care to our church planting families so that every planter is appreciated, connected, and encouraged.

Once a planter is on the field, they have a state-of-the-art quarterly reporting system to utilize that allows them to communicate with partners, evaluate their progress, and report via ACP their activity to SBC churches.

II. Assist churches in the ministries of evangelism and making disciples.

In January 2019, NAMB launched the *Evangelism with Johnny Hunt* podcast which provides practical, strategic training to pastors to help them lead their churches on mission. The podcast has been well received with more than 20,500 downloads since it began.

In February 2019, NAMB launched the *Who's Your One?* evangelism emphasis with SBC president, J. D. Greear. The launch included a church evangelism kit to help pastors implement the emphasis in their churches with the goal of encouraging every church member to identify a “one” for whom they will pray and with whom they will share the gospel. Throughout 2019, we distributed to churches a total of 25,827 kits; 411,672 prayer guides; and 1.5 million bookmarks. In addition, NAMB also distributed 469 Spanish kits; 9,228 Spanish prayer guides; and 70,475 Spanish bookmarks.

Crossover 2019, held in Birmingham, AL, was an intentional effort by volunteers and seminary students to go door-to-door in the surrounding communities and share the gospel with those they encountered.

A summary of the Crossover teams' accomplishments is below:

- Knocked on 10,409 doors
- Prayed with/for 2,251 people
- Had 1,817 gospel conversations
- 364 people prayed to receive Christ

The Who's Your One? Tour launched in August 2019, with the following tour sites: Fayetteville, NC; Orlando, FL; Plano, TX; Cordova, TN; Flowery Branch, GA; Pensacola, FL; Fayetteville, AR; and Arvada, CO. The overall attendance at these tour stops: more than 5,600 people attended the Sunday night rallies; more than 2,100 attended the Monday morning evangelism trainings.

NAMB also hosted four Engage 24 workshops that trained 485 pastors and church staff in evangelism.

In 2019, NAMB continued to distribute 3 *Circles* evangelism material. More than 1,852,500 English guides and 343,700 Spanish guides were distributed. More than 9,160 of the 3 *Circles* training kits were distributed.

In addition to 3 *Circles*, NAMB also launched a new resource, *Best News* by James Merritt. More than 2,015 of the training kits have been distributed since its launch in Summer 2019.

III. Assist churches by appointing, supporting and assuring accountability for missionaries serving in the United States and Canada.

NAMB's Send Network team has a comprehensive training resource for the local church to discover and develop future church planting missionaries. The Multiplication Pipeline provides three years of content that helps a coach in a local church train individuals who want to live a life on mission more intentionally and/or explore church planting. To date, 1,030 churches are actively exploring or implementing the Multiplication Pipeline, and they have engaged 2,158 coordinators, coaches, and learners in the training.

NAMB's Send Network team continues to provide one of the most robust assessments of church planters for those planting in Send Cities/Focus Areas. The online pre-assessment, followed by a two-day assessment retreat, provides critical feedback to Sending Churches which, in turn, allows them to have confidence in the sending or further development of their church planters. NAMB currently has 19 assessment centers located throughout North America which utilize local and regional assessors.

During Send Network Orientation, we inform new planters of the vision and mission of the network and equip them to embody our network's shared values. Our Send Network training helps new planters develop a contextual missional strategy for making disciples. Most recently, we have developed and deployed a strategy to train and coach our planting wives via training retreats. Throughout the planting process, NAMB utilizes a quarterly reporting tool which provides Sending Churches and other entities involved in a church plant a clear picture of the vitality of the plant.

As housing costs in large cities are a significant challenge that keep many missionaries off the mission field, throughout the Send Cities and some other key areas, NAMB has made missionary housing available to a limited number of missionaries on a short-term basis. A missionary may live in the home for up to 18 months as they are deployed or trained for deployment to a Send City. Increasingly, we are seeking to locate these homes near multiplying churches that are committed to regularly developing new church planters and planting churches throughout their city and region. As a planter launches his church and becomes more established, his family transitions out of NAMB's missionary housing so another missionary family can move in.

NAMB's planter and family care ministry walks along a church planting missionary and his family during the entire church planting process. One of the greatest dangers a missionary family faces is isolation, so we make it a priority to connect church planting missionaries with other missionaries in their area and other nearby churches. Events, resources, prayer, gifts, and encouragement are some of the many tangible ways our planter and family care ministry walks alongside church planting missionaries and their families so they are never alone.

NAMB continually assesses its missionary categories and roles in order to bring greater focus. Our goal is to have highly qualified missionaries who are keenly focused on our primary ministry areas of church planting and compassion ministry. Since most of our missionaries are involved with church planting, their tenure with NAMB ends once their church matures past the five-year mark. This results in fluctuation in NAMB's missionary count from year to year.

IV. Assist churches by providing missions education and coordinating volunteer missions opportunities for church members.

Send Relief provides numerous opportunities to experience missions firsthand through our ministry centers and ministry events. During this last year, Send Relief provided more than 125 mission opportunities where more than 5,250 people were engaged, representing 475 SBC churches.

Our Puerto Rico ministry center provided the bulk of our short-term mission team experiences on a weekly basis this year, with a total of 1,041 mobilized. Send Relief's partnership with FEMA continued through their VALOR (Voluntary Agencies Leading & Organizing Repair) program, which made building materials available to mission teams to serve the people and churches of Puerto Rico in the repair of 74 homes.

In support of Send Relief's efforts, NAMB provides hands-on mission opportunities through mission experiences, service projects, training events, online resources, and consultation. In addition, NAMB developed a new Send Relief portal (<https://volunteer.sendrelief.org>) that provides ways churches and individuals can mobilize to volunteer and serve their communities by meeting tangible needs and sharing the gospel. In 2019, mobilization opportunities included: 1,325 training lab participants, 5,250 missions volunteers, and 475 churches engaged.

The North American Mission Board's Disaster Relief team partners with state Baptist conventions to provide help, healing, and hope for disaster survivors and impacted churches and communities. The Southern Baptist Disaster Relief "yellow shirts" demonstrated the love of Christ in very practical ways and shared the message of the gospel during national disaster relief efforts in 2019. Serving in these responses were more than 7,000 volunteers from 39 conventions, who gave a collective total of 50,988 days. These volunteers are always willing to do all that they can to share God's love with people who have experienced great loss and trauma. Southern Baptist Disaster Relief volunteers provide support to pastors and church planters during times when survivors need encouragement and are open to the gospel. Volunteers reported 916 people coming to Christ in 2019.

Send Relief's GenSend ministry engaged 1,065 students, representing 32 states, to serve in 21 Send Cities to engage various people groups within these large urban areas. These figures include both GenSend summer and spring break experiences. The 272 students who participated in the summer program served 6 to 8 weeks in 19 Send Cities in compassion ministry and church planting. Survey results from 2019 included the following feedback:

- 95% would recommend GenSend to others
- 98% rated overall experience "good or very good"
- 1,700 gospel conversations with 15 reported professions of faith
- Participants logged nearly 73,000 hours of service
- More than 85 church plants/planters were served in the summer
- 27% said they would move back to the city where they served to live and serve post-college

V. Assist churches by providing leadership development.

At the beginning of 2019, NAMB assumed complete oversight of the Timothy+Barnabas ministry started by Johnny Hunt more than 25 years ago. A total of 593 pastors and 538 wives participated in Timothy+Barnabas Retreats this year. They represent ministry to more 121,000 individuals on an average Sunday. This underscores NAMB's focus that "Pastors are our number one customers." If NAMB can continue to effectively train and encourage pastors, it will have an exponential impact in their churches and communities.

Because of the success of the first Timothy+Barnabas Retreat specifically for bi-vocational pastors, NAMB is currently looking at adding additional retreats in different regions. There are currently two of these retreats planned for 2020.

NAMB is intentional about nurturing young leaders in the SBC. In this context, *young* is not defined by age but rather by length of time serving in the lead pastor role. As a result of listening sessions with young leaders, NAMB's director of Young Leader Engagement learned that young pastors crave to be nurtured and mentored by more seasoned pastors. They go to conferences,

and those are helpful, but the younger pastor isn't setting the agenda for those. A coaching relationship allows the pastor to set the agenda and talk real-life situations he is experiencing. To that end, NAMB established the Timothy+Barnabas Institute.

The Timothy+Barnabas Institute, which matches younger lead pastors with more experienced (seasoned) lead pastors for a coaching/mentor relationship, is a two-year commitment and includes four, two-day workshop trips to NAMB (two each year). There are tracks for pastors 45 and younger and for those over the age of 45. In addition to the two-day workshops, each younger pastor is assigned to a cohort of roughly 10 members who relate to their pastor-coach. To be accepted into the Institute, pastors must apply and pay a \$500 deposit that is refunded once the two-year commitment is fulfilled, if the pastor stays in the program the entire time and attends all the workshops. In addition to the \$500 refundable deposit, the pastor will have to pay his way to the workshops, though NAMB will pay for the lodging. Scholarships are available.

During the workshops, there will be keynote speakers who will address relevant topics and younger pastors will go into breakouts with their pastor-coaches to further flesh those out. The Institute will allow pastors to work through topics and curriculum such as personal life, marriage and family, devotional life, personal evangelism, progressing to organizational leaders, staffing, team building, culture changing, and more—topics that will make them more effective leaders. Between the workshops, these pastors will connect monthly with their coach and their cohort.

The first Timothy+Barnabas Institute took place in January 2020. Our goal is to develop at least 300 pastors over the next two years. There are already over 100 pastors signed up between the ages of 25 and 69. There are also 20+ coaches enlisted and ready to invest in developing pastoral leaders.

Through three Replant/Leadership conferences, NAMB aimed to equip leaders in replanting. A training for associational mission strategists to consult churches on replanting options occurred in March and was attended by 250 men. An event for replanters and their wives had an attendance of 109 with the goal of helping pastors discern their calling/skills to replant. The Replant Summit, a national conference for replanters, state and associational leaders, and replanters' wives, emphasized leading worship in replants and normative-sized churches. Attendance numbered 195. In addition to these events, regional and local trainings hosted by local associations and facilitated by NAMB's Replant team had more than 3,000 attendees. Additionally, four replant residencies focused on training and deploying replanters are equipping up to 40 men as replanters.

VI. Assist churches in relief ministries to victims of disaster and other people in need.

Southern Baptist Disaster Relief (SBDR) continues to be a positive and constructive force for opening doors and avenues for sharing the gospel and planting churches. State and local leaders continually seek to engage SBDR for long-term assistance in their communities. Send Relief also published a new ministry guide to assist churches in starting a *Disaster Ready Church Ministry* available on our website as a downloadable resource.

During 2019, 39 of 42 SBDR states responded to national natural disaster responses, for which Send Relief provided coordination and response supplies. In serving communities during these times, SBDR volunteers contributed to the statistics in the chart to the right.

SBDR Summary Activity Reported (YTD 11-20-2019)

Professions of Faith	916
Gospel Presentations	4,167
Total Contacts	45,772
Volunteer Days - SBDR	50,988
Work Hours	416,585
Total Meals Prepared	349,302
Hours Worked	817,641
Total Meals	2,289,315

Based on the listed Ministry Assignment, what opportunities or challenges do you see on the horizon from 2020 and beyond that would necessitate changes, or new directions, in how you are accomplishing the listed Ministry Assignments?

I. Assist churches in planting healthy, multiplying, evangelistic Southern Baptist Churches in the United States and Canada.

Southern Baptists need to add more churches annually in order to keep up with population growth and stay ahead of church deaths. NAMB's goal is to help churches plant 750 churches each year. An anticipated 50 congregations are added through new church campuses and 400 added through established churches that become newly-affiliated with Southern Baptists. We work with our partners to assist in both of these efforts as well.

The challenge we face in church planting is the lack of church planters. While 75% of the applicants who complete NAMB's online church planter assessment score high enough to receive an invitation to one of NAMB's assessment retreats, of those who attend an assessment, 67% are approved for moving forward as a church planter.

To turn this challenge into opportunity, we must help churches develop leaders who may one day become church planters. To accomplish this, NAMB has developed the Multiplication Pipeline. This allows a church to intentionally raise up prepared and qualified planters from within the congregation. The Multiplication Pipeline resource/process can be implemented in the local church or church plant, which will allow the church to discover, develop, and deploy greater numbers of planters and other missionaries to meet this challenge.

As endorsed church planter numbers increase, so will our need for more supporting and sending churches. NAMB takes every opportunity to encourage every SBC church to be on mission by actively and intentionally starting and supporting new churches. We have currently identified 1,056 SBC churches as Sending Churches for plants or multiple plants. Additionally, there are currently 2,866 SBC churches identified as Supporting Churches. Of these, 1,071 have thus far simply committed to pray for a list of planters in a specific area through our "Pray for Planters" initiative as a first step in engagement.

II. Assist churches in the ministries of evangelism and making disciples.

The biggest challenge related to evangelism is working to keep evangelism at the forefront of the priorities and thinking of local churches and state and associational partners. Johnny Hunt is in a local church almost every Sunday preaching and leading the challenge for churches and church members to embrace the *Who's Your One?* movement. Johnny also spoke at six state conventions/pastors' conferences on *Who's Your One?* and provided the resources pastors and leaders need to implement the initiative in their church and equip their people.

While the anecdotal evidence makes it appear there is a renewed passion for evangelism in SBC churches, NAMB must continue to push the importance of evangelism and continue to reach pastors and leaders who are not leading their churches to be evangelistic. NAMB must also address the steady decline in youth and young adult baptisms across North America. This alarming reality led NAMB to hire Shane Pruitt as the National Next Gen Evangelism Director in Fall 2019. His singular focus will be reaching Millennials and Gen Z.

Since November 1, Shane has preached at nine events. The majority of those were geared towards the next generation (Gen Z and Millennials). Overall, more than 5,200 attended these events and more than 230 decisions were recorded—more than 190 being professions of faith. Shane also spoke at the XTREME Winter Conference, which included thousands of students from across the Southeast and Midwest. Shane was interviewed for three podcasts on reaching

the next generation, and he wrote the article “6 Common Traits of Generation Z,” published by Baptist Press (BP) and also available on NAMB.net. The article became one of BP’s most popular articles.

In 2020, Shane will be speaking extensively, traveling to state conventions, local associations, churches, student camps, conferences, Disciple Now weekends, college chapels, crusades, revivals, and more. He will also be meeting with pastors and other leaders to determine how we can best move toward more student baptisms.

III. Assist churches by appointing, supporting and assuring accountability for missionaries serving in the United States and Canada.

At this point, NAMB does not anticipate substantial changes or new directions. We will continue to promote tools and processes to ensure that the best and most effective missions personnel are placed appropriately and consistently cared for and held accountable. (See Accomplishments under Assignment III.)

As we continue to face the challenge of helping churches discover, develop, and deploy missionaries and planters—especially into under-reached and underserved communities—in coordination with the International Mission Board (IMB), NAMB is promoting the Go2 initiative. Go2 encourages college graduates to start their careers and live on mission in strategic cities where new plants can benefit from their experience, skills, and heart for evangelism. In addition to Go2, NAMB is starting a Journeyman program (similar to IMB’s) that places college graduates in a Send City for two years as a fully funded missionary.

IV. Assist churches by providing missions education and coordinating volunteer missions opportunities for church members.

We see several opportunities for growth and new involvement in 2020 and the years ahead. We are continuing to develop current Send Relief ministry centers and launch new ones, which will provide churches and individuals with hands-on mission opportunities. Our 2020 goal is to have more than 150 mission trips made available through our ministry centers with opportunities for registration on our website.

These ministry centers also provide ministry models for churches and associations to replicate in their own communities. The strategy of our ministry centers is to provide churches a place to come to participate and learn, model and execute, and multiply and replicate compassion ministry. Send Relief also continues to produce relevant ministry guides and podcasts to inspire, resource, and engage churches across the nation in its five specific focus areas: poverty, refugees and internationals, foster care and adoption, human trafficking, and crisis response.

Send Relief will continue to host and support mercy and compassion ministry events (vision tours, ministry training/modeling, mission experiences, etc.) in order to increase the awareness and model ministries for churches. We have a goal of mobilizing 10,000 people in compassion ministry in 2020. Through these efforts, we will inspire, resource, and train churches in North America.

We face two primary challenges in accomplishing our goal. We must create systems which provide accurate and timely metrics that hold us accountable to desired results. Much of the needed infrastructure has been put into place in 2019, which will allow us to begin tracking results on a timelier basis. As we bring new ministry centers on board, it will be critical to bring them up to speed quickly with our systems and processes. Our challenge is that each ministry center is unique, based on the context of the location.

As GenSend collegiate ministry continues to expand, we must ensure that we are maintaining a high-quality experience. The challenge moving forward is that student demand will outpace current budget levels and service-site coaches/leadership capacity. In time, we will need to develop a sustainable ministry model that can support more college students by creating a pipeline process that prepares young adults to live their lives on mission in whatever career paths or locations God places them.

V. Assist churches by providing leadership development.

NAMB will continue to work diligently to engage congregations in support of missions, helping and encouraging them to engage with missionaries and support church plants. The key to this engagement is the pastor—NAMB’s number one customer. Though there are multiple ways to communicate with pastors, NAMB often discovers that pastors are living in information overload. Therefore, there is no single approach of communication that works.

NAMB continues to be challenged to ensure that engaging in multiple opportunities does not add to this overload. This requires NAMB to focus on constant internal communication that simplifies and prioritizes external communication.

Pastors continue to ask for opportunities to learn from fellow pastors. This desire gives NAMB a great opportunity to provide venues to share best practices (e.g., evangelism workshops, replant conferences, pastor roundtables, etc.). NAMB also has the opportunity to deliver updated content of these best practices by utilizing multiple forms of electronic media. This allows content to be fresh, digestible, and self-paced. It is also the intention that pastor-centric events include content that addresses other felt needs pastors have as they seek to strike a balance with their personal faith, family life, and serving the church.

Through the efforts of NAMB’s Evangelism and Leadership group, there are more opportunities for pastors to participate not only in leadership development opportunities, but also for NAMB to receive feedback about their needs and how we can help.

Many pastors are experiencing the impact of serving a stagnant or declining church. To help them, in 2019, an online replant cohort was established as part of the church replanting focus and has served 165 pastors. We have started three new replanting residencies in various contexts throughout the country in addition to our first located in Denver, CO. This is critical as we move beyond the discovery and recruitment of replanters to empowering pastors, associational mission strategists, state directors of missions, and other state convention personnel with resources designed to develop replanters and connect them to churches seeking replanters.

As noted earlier in Accomplishment V, NAMB is intentional about nurturing young leaders in the SBC. As a result of listening sessions with young leaders, NAMB’s director of Young Leader Engagement learned that young pastors crave to be nurtured and mentored by more seasoned pastors. They go to conferences and those are helpful, but the younger pastor isn’t setting the agenda for those. A coaching relationship allows the pastor to set the agenda and talk about real-life situations he is experiencing. To that end, NAMB established the Timothy+Barnabas Institute (see Accomplishment V for further information).

With the establishment of the Institute, and the first participants starting in January 2020, we hope to see this as a significant way to invest in and grow young pastors for greater Kingdom impact.

VI. Assist churches in relief ministries to victims of disaster and other people in need.

As the Southern Baptist Disaster Relief (SBDR) state directors and the Send Relief team assess and debrief from the 2019 response season, we will be formulating plans to address the following opportunities.

1. The gap in Quick Response Disaster Relief Mobile feeding units deployed immediately following a storm or disastrous event.

This was raised as an urgent need in 2018. At least 15 of the states have now built new mobile quick response units or they have retro-fitted some of their existing small units by adapting the equipment to produce quick, simple meals. This adaptation requires fewer individuals to staff the unit during responses. Unit meal capacities range from 500–2,000 simple meals per day. The size and style of these units also allows them to maneuver in the heart of a destruction zone where they can serve first responders and homeowners who did not evacuate and now lack the basic needs of food and water. The idea is to meet the urgent and immediate needs in the “strike zone” while the more traditional, mass feeding units prepare for full mobilization. The traditional units require up to 3–4 days to set up fully and require an established food supply chain.

2. Send Relief and SBDR leadership are aware of the need during large-impact disasters for hundreds of volunteers—especially following tornadoes, hurricanes, and floods—to remove debris in a timely manner and get homeowners back into their homes.
3. Several SBDR directors are beginning to develop processes to engage untrained volunteers to serve alongside trained SBDR team members. There is a significant need for a common data and communication system during national disaster events to allow the SBDR/Send Relief to report and describe needs as well as accomplishments. The affected state director could provide information about what the urgent needs are digitally so that all SBDR/Send Relief personnel across the nation can communicate as to whether they can meet that need and then have the ability to respond as soon as possible.

Matters Referred by the Convention

During the Annual Meeting of the Southern Baptist Convention in Birmingham, Alabama, June 11–12, 2019, the Convention referred the following items to the North American Mission Board for consideration, action, and report.

1. **SBC Referral: To request each SBC entity to provide an update on addressing abuse (Items 15 and 60, Proceedings of the Southern Baptist Convention, June 11–12, 2019, SBC Annual, p. 57, 63)**

Motion: Phillip Bethancourt, Tennessee

“That the Southern Baptist Convention request each of the entities of the Southern Baptist Convention provide an update related to their efforts to address abuse and report back to the 2020 Southern Baptist Convention meeting in Orlando, Florida, covering three subjects: what is their entity doing to foster effective abuse awareness, prevention, and care; what additional steps has their entity taken to address abuse since the 2018 SBC annual meeting in Dallas, Texas; and how is their entity partnering with the efforts of the Sexual Abuse Advisory Group to address abuse?”

Response: The North American Mission Board (NAMB) reports to the Southern Baptist Convention (SBC) that NAMB has strongly supported and continues to support the work of the SBC Sexual Abuse Advisory Group as well as the work the ERLC has been leading to

create and advance the *Caring Well* curriculum and guidelines. Our longstanding policies require mandatory reporting of illegal activity to appropriate authorities, sexual abuse prevention training for staff and endorsed missionaries, as well as high standards for all personal interactions outlined in our conduct expectations. NAMB has also closely reviewed existing policies and procedures to ensure they are strong and effective in preventing abuse and caring well for abuse victims. NAMB does not believe that a onetime review of policies and procedures is adequate; rather, we remain committed to reviewing and, where appropriate, strengthening our policies on an ongoing basis. We encourage all churches and our other ministry partners to do the same.

2. SBC Referral: To study North American Mission Board funding for staff in small churches (Items 27 and 60), Proceedings of the Southern Baptist Convention, June 11–12, 2019, *SBC Annual*, p. 59, 63)

Motion: David Hobson, Alabama

“That the Southern Baptist Convention study the feasibility of initiating a program through the North American Mission Board to partner with associations with primarily bi-vocational pastors of churches 50 or less that may only be able to afford a small salary for one partially funded staff member to place a second staff member in the church as an association to aid in preaching, teaching, pastoral ministry, and church growth at no cost to the church or association until such time as the church or association can feasibly partially fund the new staff position on their own.”

Response: The North American Mission Board works closely with churches, Baptist Associations, and state Baptist Conventions in an effort to reach their mission fields with the gospel. In many states, more than half of Southern Baptist pastors are bivocational. With so many pastors serving in this capacity, funding a staff member for each of them for an indefinite time period would not be possible. We do, however, encourage churches and individuals to embrace and encourage bivocational pastors in whatever ways they can. Their work is and will continue to be essential to reach North America with the gospel.

Figure 1—New Congregations (Church Plants, New Affiliates and Campuses), SBC, 1988–2019

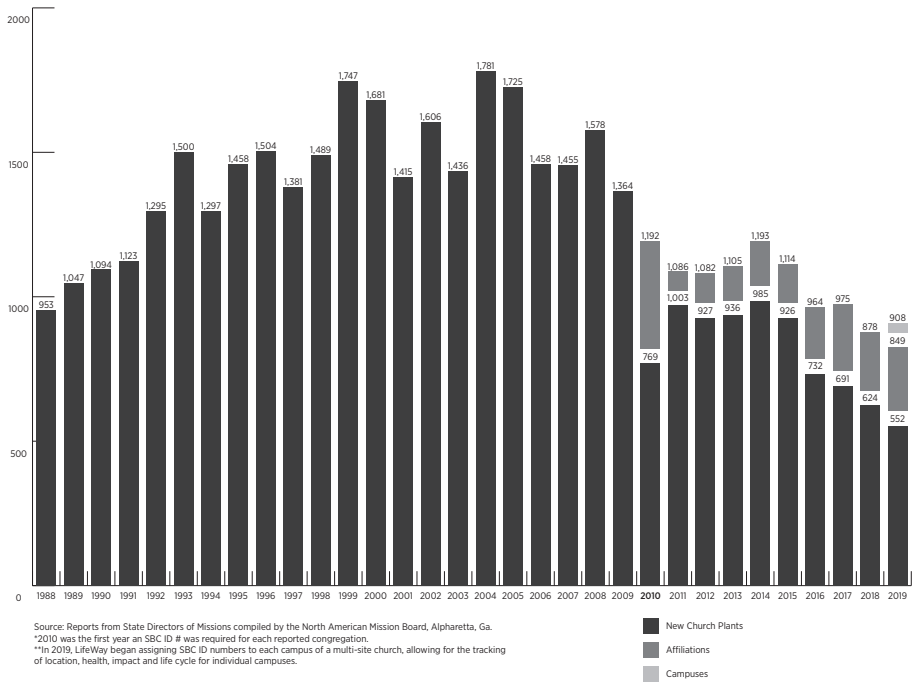
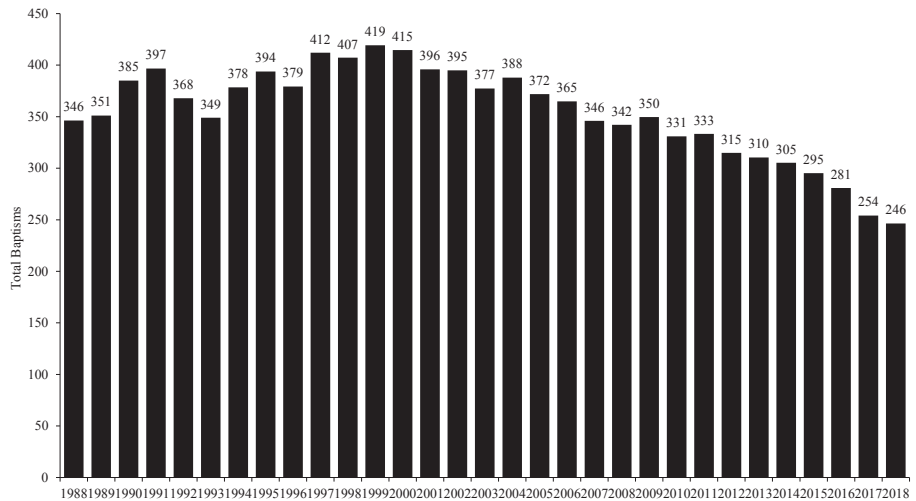


Figure 2—Baptisms Reported by SBC Churches, 1988–2018* (In Thousands)



* The preceding baptism graph is based on data from the 2018 ACP Statistical Summary which was prepared by LifeWay Insights, LifeWay Christian Resources, One LifeWay Plaza, Nashville, TN 37234-0127, May 14, 2019; and will be updated in the 2020 SBC Annual with 2019 figures when that data is received. At time of posting, the latest ACP figures were not available .