



Annie Armstrong Easter Offering

The Annie Armstrong Easter Offering (AAEO) is the primary way we support mission efforts in North America. One hundred percent of gifts given to AAEO are used to support more than 2,200 missionary families serving across the United States and Canada.

Every gift to the Annie Armstrong Easter Offering – 100 percent – goes to train, resource and send thousands of missionaries involved in church planting and compassion ministries across the United States, Canada and their territories. Our partnership with Southern Baptist Convention churches and individuals makes this work possible

The offering was started in 1895 by Woman's Missionary Union® (WMU) to benefit the work of the Home Mission Board (now North American Mission Board). In 1934, it was named in honor of

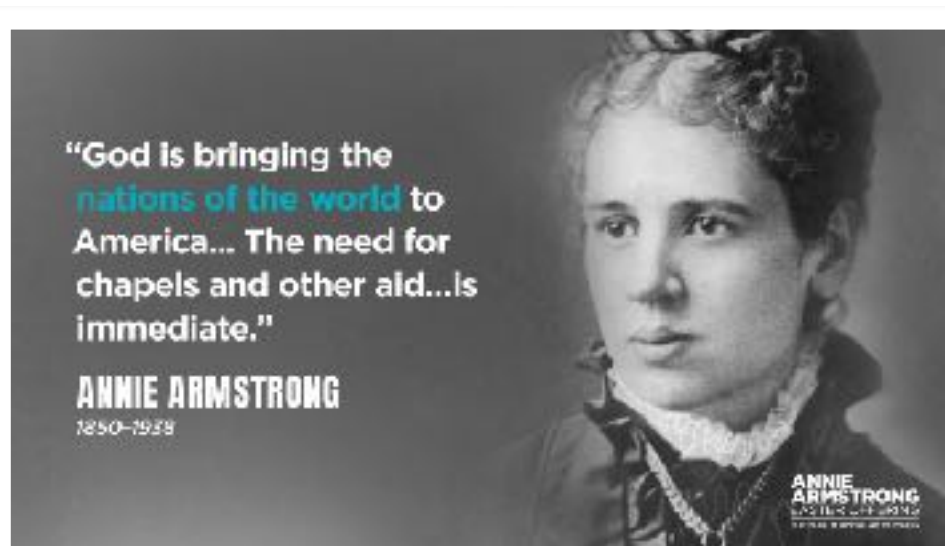
Annie Armstrong, a bold missions advocate and WMU's first national executive leader. Today, more than \$2 billion has been donated by Southern Baptist churches and individuals to support thousands of missionaries in church planting and compassion ministries. Because of this sacrificial giving, millions of lives have been and continue to be transformed by the power of the gospel.

The North American Mission Board serves a diverse and complex region comprised of: United States, Canada and U.S. territories of Puerto Rico, Virgin Islands, Guam, and American Samoa.

The Week of Prayer for North American Missions:

March 6-13, 2022

National Offering Goal: \$70 Million



First Baptist Thurmont: New Family Life Building

During the Covid-19 pandemic last year, God blessed the church's children and youth ministry. The children's ministry grew. The church started a brand new youth ministry called Elevate. They had discussed the need for larger space even prior to all of this, and looked into various opportunities, but nothing came about. When the need arose for more space, the Baptist Foundation came through. The church got a loan with them and it enabled the church to put a new modular space on the end of the church parking lot.

The children and adult Sunday school classes will meet in the new space on Sunday mornings. The youth group will meet there on Sunday evenings. They will also use the space for children's church. This change allows the nursery to move into their old space in the main building. The room that previously served as a nursery will now become a counseling room.

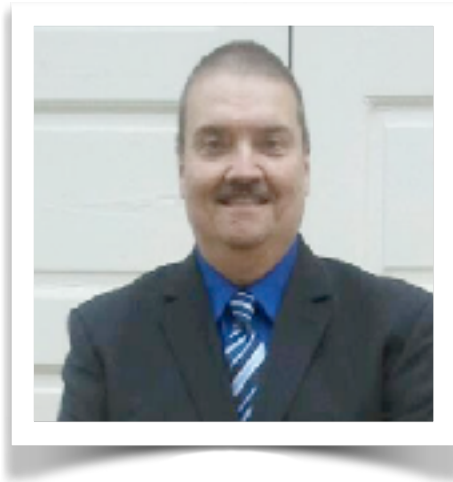


DOM SIGHTINGS

Recently, some people have asked our Director of Missions to share about what he's up to. Here are a few things from the past few months.

In mid December, Bruce finished up his interim service with a sister church in Baltimore.

Bruce has preached recently at PLEASANT VALLEY BAPTIST, ADAMSTOWN COMMUNITY CHURCH, and has participated in a new building dedication at FBC THURMONT.



Bruce's multiple meetings have included pastor support, a local pastor search committee, a church council that requested help, the BCM/D DOM group, coordinating efforts for our focused missions endeavor for 2022, and a meeting with 2 members of the Executive Director search committee for BCM/D. The DOM also is meeting regularly with the Constitution and Bylaws revision team.

Your DOM would like to schedule a time to come in 2022 and bring a local missions report called: "WHY SUPPORT ASSOCIATIONAL MISSIONS?" ... so that all church members can get a snapshot as to why the local missions work we do is so important.

Want to see him at your church? Send him an email at bruce@blueridgebaptist.org

Input Needed

For over 12 years BRBA has had a practice of admitting like minded, evangelical Christian churches into our fellowship, as long as they meet the following requirements:

- agreement with the Baptist Faith and Message (statement of faith / beliefs)
- participation in the work and ministry of the association
- financial support of local missions (BRBA), and International missions (Cooperative Program)

Do you support the continued practice of admitting churches into BRBA that do not necessarily come from a SBC background?

Please visit <https://blueridgebaptist.org/dom-survey> and let us know what you think.

Pray for Pastor Joseph

Please pray for Pastor Joseph Constane of Eglise Baptise Hatienne du Calvaire de Hagerstown.

He left the area on January 19th for a trip to Haiti to help multiple churches in Haiti, and to develop a pastor's school to train pastors and leaders in his home country. Pray that his missionary journey to Haiti will be a safe and fruitful one.

Pray for 2 leaders within the church who will be leading in Pastor Constane's absence. Pastor Joseph also reports that his church will have a hand in starting a new Haitian mission church in nearby Chambersburg, PA. Pray for Pastor Benoit who will soon be working with the Blue Ridge Baptist Association in getting this new church started.



Prayer Requests:

Pray for the following churches searching for a pastor:

- **VALLEY BAPTIST CHURCH**, Jefferson, MD
- **ADAMSTOWN COMMUNITY CHURCH**, Adamstown, MD

Pray for safety and a quick decrease of the threat from the Covid-19 virus and variants that have plagued our world and nation. Pray that our local leaders would seek God's wisdom in trying to protect people from illness.

Pray for the preparations that are beginning for the summer BRBA mission trip to help a small struggling church in rural southern WV. In April we will begin asking our churches how they can support this outreach to help a sister church to revitalize in their community. The church already has an affiliation with the local volunteer Fire Department, so fire and rescue folks from our area are more than welcome to go on these mission trips.

Pray for the search committee seeking to find a new Executive Director for the Baptist Convention of Maryland & Delaware. Pray for Mark Dooley as he serves as acting Exec. Director.

Pray for peace in Ukraine. Pastor Phil Graves and his wife Kristie, from First Baptist Church of Brunswick, are anxiously awaiting news of court and travel dates so they can go complete the adoption of their daughter.

Praise the Lord for the expansion and dedication of the New Family Life building at First Baptist Thurmont.

Pray for Pastor Matt Gregory (former youth pastor at Faith Baptist Knoxville) who is having extreme back pain and issues. Matt has missed work lately because of his back issues, and has run out of sick leave at work.





Coming Events

FEBRUARY:

**February 2, 2022 at 9 AM BRBA Pastor's Fellowship Breakfast
Cracker Barrel Restaurant - 18214 Col Henry K Douglas Drive - Hagerstown, MD**

February 10 from 11:00 am - 12:30 pm BCM/D CORE VALUES INDEX WEBINAR
Online Conference - Via Zoom

MARCH :

**March 2, 2022 @ 9 AM BRBA Pastor's
FellowShip Breakfast
Bob Evans Restaurant - 1505 Garrett Drive -
Frederick, MD**

March 6-13, 2022 WEEK OF PRAYER FOR
NORTH AMERICAN MISSIONS

March 8 REVITALIZING WORSHIP WEBINAR
Webinar - see <https://bcmd.org/event/revitalizing-worship>

March 12 VBS RALLY 9:00 am - 3:15 pm
Faith Baptist Glen Burnie
7378 E Furnace Branch Road, Glen Burnie, MD

March 15 beginning @ 10:00 am - March 16 @
10:00 am
BCM/D PASTOR'S RESET RETREAT
Skycroft Conference Center 9621 Frostown
Road, Middletown

2022 SBC CALENDAR OF ACTIVITIES

JESUS THE CENTER OF IT ALL

<p>JANUARY FOCUS ON CHRISTIAN DISCIPLESHIP</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 2-8 January Bible Study 10 Sanctity of Human Life Sunday 	<p>JULY FOCUS ON CHRISTIAN CITIZENSHIP</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 7 Religious Liberty Sunday
<p>FEBRUARY FOCUS ON CHRISTIAN LIBERTY</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 6 George Liele Church Planting, Evangelism, and Missions Sunday 20 Focus on WMU Sunday 27 Black Reconciliation Sunday 	<p>AUGUST FOCUS ON CHRISTIAN SERVICE</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 7 Sand Reel Sunday 14 SDC Serve Sunday 28 Global Hunger Sunday
<p>MARCH FOCUS ON NORTH AMERICAN MISSIONS</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 6-13 Week of Prayer and Mission Study for North American Missions and the Anne Armstrong Easter Offering 27 Church Planting Outreach Sunday 	<p>SEPTEMBER FOCUS ON MULTI-GENERATION MINISTRIES</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 17 Children's Missions Day
<p>APRIL FOCUS ON CHRISTIAN EVANGELISM</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 10 Personal Evangelism Commitment Day 17 Resurrection 24 Easter Sunday 	<p>OCTOBER FOCUS ON COOPERATIVE PROGRAM</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 2 CP Sunday 23 Day of Prayer for Associational Missions 30 Student Baptist Sunday
<p>MAY FOCUS ON CHRISTIAN EDUCATION</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 5 National Day of Prayer 15 SDC Seminary Sunday 22 Children's Ministry Sunday 	<p>NOVEMBER FOCUS ON CHRISTIAN COMPASSION</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 6 Day of Prayer for the Persecuted Church 13 Orphans and Widows Sunday
<p>JUNE FOCUS ON LOCAL AND STATE MISSIONS AND MINISTRIES</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 2 Disaster Relief Sunday 11 Crossover Anaheim 13-18 WMU Missions Celebration 14-15 SDC Annual Meeting Anaheim 26 Mission Disciples Sunday 	<p>DECEMBER FOCUS ON INTERNATIONAL MISSIONS</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 4-11 Week of Prayer and Mission Study for International Missions and the Little Moon Christmas Offering 28 Christmas

CP COOPERATIVE PROGRAM

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ANNUAL CHURCH PROFILE: CELEBRATE GOD’S WORK

It’s the most ... wonderful time ... of the year. But, wait! Haven’t we just completed that most wonderful time, otherwise known as Christmas? Indeed, the wonderful time referenced here is when churches are asked to provide key demographic info through what’s known as the Annual Church Profile (ACP).

Most pastors and churches don’t think of that as a “wonderful time.” Several years ago, when churches were being asked about completing their ACP information, one pastor simply said, “We will not be complying with this request,” and another said, “Why would I want to waste my time completing this information?” But it IS important as this information helps us see what’s going on in the life of the churches. It’s a snapshot of each church. Then, when all the snapshots are together, a collage emerges that reflects the movement of God throughout our convention.

Please complete your ACP data and turn it in. Assistance is available if you need help. Please contact Iris White at iwhite@bcm.org with any questions about accessing, completing, or turning in your ACP data. For the success of our kingdom efforts, let’s all work toward this end so that this truly does become a wonderful time of the year.



CHURCH PROTECTION POLICIES AND PRACTICES



Tom Stolle with the BCM/D is leading a task force to develop some recommended best practices for our churches when it comes to preventing and addressing abuse and trauma in the church. Associational leaders all agree that developing this is vital so that we can protect ALL of our church families well in the years ahead. Watch the BCM/D website for further details in the near future - probably starting in March 2022. If you have input or ideas to recommend to the committee - please direct your ideas and suggestions to Tom Stolle at tstolle@bcm.org



May his favor be upon you
and a thousand generations,
and your family and your
children,
and their children,
and their children



20810A National Pike
Boonsboro, MD 21713