



2026 BOOK OF REPORTS

SOUTH CAROLINA BAPTIST CONVENTION

2026 SOUTH CAROLINA BAPTIST *Convention Schedule*

Riverland Hills Baptist Church, Columbia, SC, November 9-10, 2026

Session One: One Gospel

Monday, November 9

5:50PM	**Worship**	**Riverland Hills Choir and Orchestra**
6:00PM	**Call to Order and Welcome from Riverland Hills Baptist Church**	**Ryan Pack** *Convention President*
6:03PM	**Organization of the Convention**	**Marty Middleton** *Registration Secretary*
6:05PM	**Adoption of Order of Business**	**Carey Caldwell** *Convention Vice President*
6:07PM	**Greetings from the Southern Baptist Convention Executive Committee**	**Jeff Dalrymple** *Director of Abuse Prevention*
6:12PM	**Charleston Southern University Report**	**Keith Faulkner** *President*
6:19PM	**SCBaptist Advance Team Report: Panel with Serve, Church Planting, Missions Mobilization Team Leaders**	**Lee Clamp** *Assoc. Executive Director-Treasurer*
6:32PM	**SendSC**	**Cliff Marshall** *SendSC Director*
6:37PM	**Worship**	**Aaron Williams**
6:57PM	**President's Address**	**Ryan Pack** *Convention President*
7:27PM	**Corporate Prayer and Worship**	**Tony Wolfe** *Executive Director-Treasurer*
8:00PM	**Benediction and Closing**	**Ryan Pack** *Convention President*

Session Two: One More

Tuesday Morning, November 10

8:50AM	**Worship**	**University Worship Studies Students**
9:00AM	**Greetings from IMB Missionaries**	
9:05AM	**Greetings from the Baptist E&M Convention of South Carolina**	**Dr. Jamey Graham** *President, BEMCSC*
9:10AM	**Committee on Committees Report**	**Daniel McGaha** *Committee Chair*
9:17AM	**Introduction of New Business**	**Ryan Pack** *Convention President*
9:22AM	**South Carolina Baptist Ministries of Aging Report**	**Tom Turner** *President and CEO*
9:28AM	**Bylaws Committee Report**	**Chris Sullivan** *Committee Chair*
9:33AM	**Election: 2027 Registration Secretary**	**Ryan Pack** *Convention President*
9:38AM	**Election: 2027 Vice President**	**Ryan Pack** *Convention President*
9:43AM	**Executive Director-Treasurer Report**	**Tony Wolfe** *Executive Director-Treasurer*
9:58AM	**Presidential Study Group Report**	**Cory Horton** *Convention President-Elect*
10:08AM	**Resolutions Committee Report Part One**	**Daniel Dickard** *Committee Chair*
10:18AM	**Election: 2027 President-Elect**	**Ryan Pack** *Convention President*
10:23AM	**Executive Board Report**	**John Goudelock** *Executive Board Chair*
11:00AM	**SCBaptist Advance Team Report: Panel with Shepherd, Strong, Share Team Leaders**	**Lee Clamp** *Assoc. Executive Director-Treasurer*
11:13AM	**Worship**	**University Worship Studies Students**
11:20AM	**Message**	**Steven Wade** *Professor of Pastoral Theology, SEBTS*

Session Three: One Family

Tuesday Afternoon, November 10

1:55PM	**Worship**	**Riverland Hills Praise Band**
2:05PM	**Greetings from IMB Missionaries**	
2:10PM	**Greetings from Lifeway Christian Resources**	**Kirk Kirkland** *Director of Lifeway Worship*
2:15PM	**Presentation of 2027 Officers**	**Ryan Pack** *Convention President*
2:18PM	**Resolutions Committee Report Part Two**	**Daniel Dickard** *Committee Chair*
2:28PM	**Anderson University Report**	**Evans Whitaker** *President*
2:35PM	**Nominations Committee Report**	**Mark Bishop** *Committee Chair*
2:45PM	**Baptist Foundation of South Carolina Report**	**Nathan McCarthy** *President and CEO*
2:52PM	**Previously Scheduled Business**	**Ryan Pack** *Convention President*
3:05PM	**North Greenville University Report**	**Gene Fant** *President*
3:12PM	**Connie Maxwell Children's Ministries**	**Danny Nicholson** *President*
3:19PM	**Christian Life and Public Affairs Committee Report**	**Brandon Blair** *Committee Chair*
3:27PM	**The Baptist Courier Report**	**Jeff Robinson** *President and Editor*
3:34PM	**Worship**	**Riverland Hills Praise Band**
3:44PM	**History Committee Report**	**Michael Bryant** *Committee Chair*
3:54PM	**Woman's Missionary Union Report**	**Jess Archer** *Executive Director-Treasurer*

Session Three: One Family

Tuesday Afternoon, November 10

4:04PM	**Prayer**	**Ryan Pack** *Convention President*
4:09PM	**Worship**	**Riverland Hills Praise Band**
4:20PM	**One SCBaptist Family**	**SCBaptist Pastors**
4:50PM	**Recognition of 2026 Officers**	**Tony Wolfe** *Executive Director-Treasurer*
4:55PM	**Introduction of 2027 Theme**	**Cory Horton** *Convention President-Elect*
5:05PM	**Adjourn and Closing Prayer**	**Ryan Pack** *Convention President* **Cory Horton** *Convention President-Elect*

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AN OPEN LETTER *to SCBaptists*

Dear South Carolina Baptists,

Welcome to the 206th gathering of South Carolina Baptists! We have a rich history of working together to advance the Gospel. Much has changed over the past two centuries, but one thing remains the same: the Great Commission is our greatest task. In 1821, South Carolina Baptists gathered with the conviction that we could best fulfill our mission by working together as a unified family of churches. Our cooperative efforts have made a difference then, and they continue to make a difference today.

This year's convention theme is "One." Our oneness is more than an organizational strategy; it is a picture of Jesus to a watching world. Jesus prayed in John 17:21, "That they may all be one, just as you, Father, are in me and I in you, that they also may be in us, so that the world may believe that you have sent me." Think about that—Our unity is so important that our Savior prayed for it. When lost people see us working together in love and unity, it paints a more accurate picture of our beautiful Savior.

That is why we are focusing on three facets of "One." First, we are unified by One Gospel. Let's remain focused on our greatest priority: sharing, proclaiming, and exalting Jesus Christ. We may have different churches, different communities, and different methods, but we share one Gospel!

Second, we are united as One Family. Because we have been brought into the family of God through the one Gospel, we are brothers and sisters in Christ. We belong to one another. We are better together than we are alone, and our cooperative efforts allow us to accomplish far more for the Kingdom than any one church could accomplish by itself.

Third, we are ambassadors seeking One More. Our desire is to see one more person come to faith in Christ, one more person baptized, one more believer called to missions or vocational ministry, and one more church planted through our cooperative efforts. We celebrate every story of life change because behind every "one" is a person who matters deeply to God.

This is a high calling! Jesus wants to use your church to show broken, hurting, and searching people in your community that he has come for them. Throughout this annual meeting, you will hear story after story of what God is doing through South Carolina Baptists. My prayer is that these two days together will not simply be a time of celebration or business, but a catalyst for even greater Gospel advancement. "One" is a powerful number because it is the number Jesus calls us to be. So let's leave this annual meeting more committed than ever to the mission God has given us. One Gospel. One Family. One More.

Forward as "One!"



Ryan Pack
Convention President
Riverland Hills Baptist Church, Senior Pastor

AN OPEN LETTER *to SCBaptists*

Dear South Carolina Baptists,

To say we have much to be thankful for as South Carolina Baptists would be an incredible understatement. God has been abundantly gracious to allow us a season of growth, blessing, and unity. Many of these tangible blessings come in the form of our incredible Convention staff, led by Dr. Tony Wolfe. Time and time again, it has been evident that God brought not only the right man to lead our Convention, but also the right staff around him to see it flourish. I am so thankful to be a part of a Convention that is passionate about reaching the nations (beginning right here in our home state), strengthening churches, and raising up the next generation of pastors, missionaries, and church leaders. South Carolina Baptists, let's join together in celebrating how the Lord has blessed and continues to work in and through our South Carolina Baptist Convention.

The very heart of South Carolina Baptists, since the beginning of our Convention, is to lead the way in Baptist work across our national convention. This year, because of the stewardship of resources in the South Carolina Baptist Convention, your Executive Board made the historic decision to bless the International Missions Board with a 1-million-dollar gift to renovate a dormitory at the International Learning Center in Richmond, Virginia. This gift from our state will support missionaries from around the country as they prepare to serve and are trained during their ministry, as well as during times of encouragement and rest. The Lord only knows the impact this will have to reach the nations for generations to come.

The stories of God's hand at work across our state are numerous. We hear stories of God transforming lives through summer camps, across college campuses through Baptist Collegiate Ministry, new church plants, the Young Pastor's Network, missions engagement, and much more.

I believe that the ministry of South Carolina Baptists has never been stronger. We have much to be thankful for. May the Lord's work continue through our churches and ministry partnerships.

We are met with challenges as South Carolina Baptists, but that is not new. Let us be resolved to join through prayer, partnership, sacrificial giving, and Gospel-commitment to advance the Gospel to our neighbors and to the nations—together, striving to see our communities and beyond transformed by the power of the Gospel.

It has been my honor and joy to serve as the Chair of our Executive Board this year. I want to take a moment and say thank you to every board member for their commitment, sacrifice, and engagement in this ministry together. Your faithful work is a blessing and a true act of worship to the Lord. To my South Carolina Baptist family, I look forward to joining you this week as we gather together for our annual meeting. May we celebrate well what the Lord has done and anticipate together what he will do in the days and years to come.



John Goudelock
Executive Board Chair
Living Water Baptist Church, Senior Pastor

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR-TREASURER *Report*

When Nehemiah heard the news from Jerusalem—that the walls were torn down and the people were greatly troubled—he was burdened for the cause and moved to action. Crisis became opportunity when he cast his faith forward, and passion became movement when he put his hands to the work.

Our situation is similar today. We are facing several compounding crises in our generation. Among them is a crisis of leadership, with 10% of cooperating churches searching for a pastor and hundreds more searching for vocational and volunteer leaders for other ministry areas. We also must notice a crisis of exponential population increase as transplants from vastly unchurched areas of the country come to make South Carolina their permanent home (our population has increased one million residents in the past fifteen years, and we expect one million more over the next 10–15 years). Additionally, honest assessment demands the acknowledgement of a crisis of cooperative missions funding as costs related to mission and ministry increase annually in our churches, associations, Convention, and ministry partners while cooperative missions giving is not keeping pace.

Let the burden of these contemporary realities drive us to our knees before God in prayer and fasting. Then let the faithful stand to their feet again and put their hands to the work, in full expectation that God will grant success to his servants as he has done for millennia past. SCBaptists are no strangers to adversity or crises, and we are not those who sit idly by when the doors of opportunity open. Open wide are the doors of opportunity today. We are 600,000 SCBaptists strong, the armor of God in full effect, the sword of the Spirit unsheathed, and the Gospel of peace guiding each step. Our contemporary crises will become opportunity when we cast our faith forward, and our passion will become movement when we put our hands to the work. When we do this work together, under the mighty hand of God, Great Commission advance in and from our state will know no limit.

Throughout this Book of Reports, you will find statistics from various ministry teams to celebrate and share with your church. Among them you will notice increases in baptisms, missions-sending, summer camp attendance, pastors in training, and churches being planted and revitalized. The walls of our cooperative mission are fortifying, and the hearts of our people are invigorating. We need only that our people might "have the will to keep on working" (Neh. 4:6). SCBaptists in 2027 and beyond must "stay on the wall" (6:3). The voices are loud and the antagonists several who would oppose the work to which God has called us as a united people. But louder still and many more are the songs of the saints in grateful procession, overflowing with that peculiar joy which can only be born of God (12:27–43).

In addition to the celebratory and informative statistical reports recorded by Convention ministry team leaders and others in this book, below I have included brief reports and updates on four matters of importance to your Convention's executive leadership for today and for the future.

Generation Timothy. Generation Timothy is an all-hands-on-deck approach to raising up, training, and releasing current and future generations of pastors and church leaders in South Carolina. This effort is the top priority for all Convention staff today; it informs, guides, and shapes all Convention decisions and initiatives.

We are concentrating our efforts on developing and releasing church leaders.

Our staff of state missionaries in every department are regularly challenged to identify and reproduce ministry leaders in their areas of calling. Over the past three years, I have personally mentored three younger men in ministry leadership and have launched two of them out to other states. Most of our staff are intentionally doing the same. We will not sound the alarm widely for initiatives we are not willing to model ourselves. Generation Timothy is not merely prophetic for us as state missionaries; it is personal.

Similarly, we are assisting churches with resources, relationships, and consultations that help them build their own pipelines. While Convention staff is being intentional about leadership reproduction, we acknowledge that the real work of Christian ministry leader multiplication must happen within the local churches themselves. This year, we have worked with several associations and dozens of local churches to help them build pastor coaching networks, residencies, and pipelines. Slowly and organically, Generation Timothy is catching wind across our state.

Consider this: statistically, if the pastor of every cooperating SCBaptist church raised and released just one pastor in the next two years, we potentially could solve the pastorless problem in the entire Southeast. If all local church leaders, across all ministry areas, raised and released just one ministry leader in the next five years, we could change the generational trajectory of local church ministry and inter-congregational Great Commission momentum. The opportunity is invigorating, and our efforts are increasing toward this end.

We are developing strategic plans for future Great Commission success.

Generation Timothy conversations have raised awareness among us that we own a great stewardship of both resource and influence. As such, we are strategically focused on the trust of all Convention assets—personnel, real, and financial. Convention staff and Executive Board leaders are working on a comprehensive strategic plan for giving much-needed attention to real assets across the state including BCM buildings, camp facilities, and the Convention building itself. We are simultaneously adjusting our staffing structures and engagement methodologies to meet growing missional opportunities with more streamlined staffing structures and more church-focused resource curation. We stand today at a pivotal generational moment to set up our cooperative structures (material and organizational) for another thirty years of success, while still rising the the occasion for unprecedented Great Commission



advancement in our own time. May God be pleased to establish the work of our hands (Ps. 90:17)

South Carolina Baptist Ministry of the Aging (SCBMA) Messengers to the 2025 SCBaptist Annual Meeting voted overwhelmingly to approve the proposed sale of the SCBMA's two retirement facilities, Martha Franks in Laurens and Bethea in Darlington. The sale of these two communities was finalized by the SCBMA July 31, 2026, and the homes are now under the management of Oakdale Senior Alliance. More information on the sale of the homes will be given in the SCBMA's report to Convention messengers. The SCBMA Board of Trustees and the SCBaptist Executive Board approved subcommittees that have been working together to build out a new, comprehensive senior adult ministry model. While many details of the new ministry model will take time to work through, and while the ministry and all its assets still belong to the SCBMA as a separate entity / "Ministry Partner," several considerations are worth mentioning here as part of this report.

We are honoring our previous commitments to residents at Martha Franks and Bethea.

Specified Mother's Day Offering funds and other giving that was previously designated to scholarship retired ministers or to financially assist residents who outlived their means are still being deployed for that purpose. Churches and associations in the vicinities of the two communities are still actively ministering to residents and staff. Oakdale continues to utilize the Martha Franks house on campus as a testament to her founding influence. Jeff Cockrell and Joey Estes continue to serve as ministers at Bethea and Martha Franks, respectively. SCBMA office staff still regularly visit the two communities to fellowship with and minister to staff and residents.

We are connecting with and ministering to more than eighty retired pastors and wives across South Carolina who are living at or below the poverty level.

In April–May, 2026, SCBaptist Executive Board members personally delivered gift bags to 82 retired pastors and spouses across South Carolina who are living at or below poverty level.

They had the opportunity to sit with, encourage, and pray for many of them. SCBaptist staff has built a contact list and is establishing a communication rhythm for continued ministry. The "thank you" letters and notes are both encouraging and impressing, as the real need for continued assistance is interwoven with joyful reflections on lifetimes of faithful ministry.

We are working on a more robust senior adult ministry model across the state.

Approximately 1,080,000 senior adults (18–20% of the population) call South Carolina home. What's more, the number of aging Baby Boomers combines with the number of incoming senior adult transplants to forebode a demographic shift toward an aging state that is worth our missional attention. Retirement communities are rapidly popping up along the coastline and in the Upstate. New retirees are populating the neighborhoods around our churches. The future of senior adult ministry in our state must include a comprehensive mission and ministry strategy that resources and assists churches in evangelizing, discipling, ministering to, and missionally mobilizing senior adults. This will not be accomplished overnight, but the strategic framework-building and gradual implementation of a new senior adult ministry strategy is underway.

Communications. The work of the state Convention is inspiring and exhaustive. Often, however, our one story gets lost in the many stories we share, and the helpful assistance available to cooperating churches is awash in the abundance of resource promotion or the navigation of resource database. In an age of instant connection, meaningful and memorable communication often languishes. To address this challenge, we have given our attention to two major initiatives this year.

We are onboarding a Chief Communications Officer (CCO).

The prayerful search for a qualified, capable, and called CCO has led us to a communications leader with decades of experience, who as a pastor's wife has shown a proven commitment to SCBaptists, and who brings a contagious passion for the Gospel. Kelly Coakley began her work as our new CCO in October 2026, and she has wasted no time in assessing and clarifying the Convention's communication strategies.



The CCO sits on our Executive Leadership Team and is involved at the highest level of discussion and decision within our organization. SCBaptists can expect to begin seeing a much more comprehensive and effective approach to communications from our office in the coming months and years.

We are evaluating communications strategies and optimizing communications platforms.

With social media, print media, video, email, and print mail, opportunities for effective communication may never have been more readily available. But we, as a Convention, have not always been as strategic as we should with the use of these mediums. This year, in addition to staffing and structural changes, we have dived deeply into communication platform analytics and Convention asset production management. From January 1 through August 15, 2026, combined social media views topped 1.1 million and interactions with social content increased by 110%. Facebook videos alone garnered 652 hours of watch time. Views from Instagram ads increased by 1,300%. Email campaigns see seasons of success and struggle, remaining steady in open rates year-over-year, but dropping by 9% in click rates. Our Creative Team increased resource output by almost 100% in the past six months. The team is producing top-quality communications assets at unprecedented levels, and some of those assets are making their way into the minds and hearts of our SCBaptist people; but the need for a more comprehensive strategy is evident.

Last year's "The Jesus Change" digital evangelism blitz was highly successful. Similar plans are underway for a statewide video blitz in 2027 targeting the 80% of South Carolinians who are not worshipping in an evangelical church on Sunday mornings and inviting them to attend a cooperating SCBaptist church near them. 600,000 SCBaptists need to know about the successes and struggles of their cooperative statewide mission strategy. Millions of South Carolinians need to know that the God who loves them unconditionally is knowable through Jesus Christ and that SCBaptists want nothing less for them. In this digital age, it is our responsibility and our joy to leverage all communications platforms for the fulfillment of our statewide missions strategy on behalf of cooperating churches and in concert with cooperating churches.

Cooperative Funding. In keeping with Article IX of our Articles of Incorporation, your Convention staff enthusiastically affirms and "approves the Cooperative Program [(CP)] as the basic channel of support for our total world mission outreach" and "appeals to the churches to contribute through the Cooperative Program." At the same time, we acknowledge an aggregate plateau in CP-giving over the last several years, well short of CP totals in previous decades and shorter still of rising inflation costs. Currently, momentum is in the direction of increased CP-giving, but the increase is minimal and is not keeping pace with the rising costs of mission and ministry. Recognizing the opportunity for increased missional engagement coupled with leaner annual operating budgets, we have given our attention to several initiatives this year and will continue to assess, reimagine, and implement best practices in the coming years.

We are implementing Executive Board recommendations.

In their April 2026 meeting, the Convention's Executive Board approved a motion to create a study group to assess CP trends and make recommendations to their September 2026 meeting. The study group, appointed by Chairman John Goudelock, was comprised of Board members, pastors of cooperating churches, and a few Convention staff members.

Their work was extensive in assessing historical trends, surveying contemporary pastors, evaluating economic and denominational factors, and prayerfully discerning recommendations for action. The full Board and Convention leadership received the group's recommendations in their September 2026 meeting, and Convention staff have begun to implement them. These recommendations cover a broad spectrum of categories including communication strategy, relationship management, and organizational structure; some are described in more detail in the following paragraphs.

We are clarifying and strengthening annual budgeting procedures and reports.

In accordance with our governing documents, messengers to annual meetings vote to approve CP allocations and a summary budget. Fifty percent of the Convention's annual operating income comes from the CP; other revenue sources for in-state mission and ministry through the Convention include investment income, Janie Chapman giving, fees and sales, and designated gifts. Fifty percent of the Convention's total budget is applied to compensation. This year, Convention staff has worked hard at more strategically assigning revenue sources to budgeted line items, at more comprehensively assessing revenue and spending trends, and at more closely evaluating costs related to contractors and service providers. We have also taken several steps toward more efficient use of technology in finance and accounting, expense reporting, and software-based service upgrades.

We are working to reduce operational expenses and maximize a leaner staffing philosophy for greater efficiency.

The budget proposed to messengers at this year's annual meeting reduces the number of full-time staff from seventy to sixty-nine (this reduction includes the addition of two positions—one in communications and the other for the future senior adult ministry model); the number of budgeted full-time staff is almost half of what it was in the early 2000s. Convention staff past and present have worked hard to serve the churches well, and each feels called to this ministry by God. However, like many churches dealing with inflation and rising compensation costs, the Convention has had to strategically reduce staff to accommodate a plateaued budget and the decreasing purchasing power of dollars given. By God's grace and as a testimony to the devotion of our state missionaries, staff commitment has remained strong even while the workload on each has increased.

Recognizing giving trends while preparing for unprecedented statewide mission and ministry opportunity in the near future, with every staff transition we are rethinking how we might get the work done more efficiently. Several organizational philosophical shifts are taking root such as resource curation over resource creation when possible, contracting specialists rather than employing expertise, technology usage that saves human resource time and energy, and leveraging national SBC ministry partnerships for expanded opportunity (such as in the new SendSC agreement with the North American Mission Board).

We are praying and strategizing for a more comprehensive understanding of state missions funding. We believe strongly that cooperating churches are sacrificially vested in their shared mission, and that CP funding will increase exponentially in the future. At the same time, upon the Executive Board's recommendation, our staff is entertaining assessments and ideas related to our comprehensive funding model for statewide missions. Ultimately, the extent of our Convention's cooperative mission and ministry efforts will rise or fall with the ability and willingness of the churches to sacrificially give to their shared mission. Churches giving joyfully, regularly, and sacrificially through the Cooperative Program is and always will be critical to the advancement of the Great Commission through this Convention. The Cooperative Program will always be the most effective way to fund the entirety of our Great Commission enterprise. But how we understand and leverage the totality of the Convention's funding model can reinforce, and perhaps even maximize, CP funding for generations to come.

In closing, let it be clear that we, as SCBaptists, do not face a looming threat but an unprecedented opportunity. The nations are at our doorstep and the One who calls us to them owns the earth and everything in it (Psalm 24:1). We face our future with unyielding faith in Christ and courageous commitment to one another.

Every opportunity for Great Commission success is ours to claim if we will meet it with that unity of purpose and consecration that has undergirded our SCBaptist work for 205 years.

Your Convention staff is tirelessly devoted to this good work. We will joyfully exhaust ourselves for the strengthening of the churches and the advancement of the Gospel in our time. We know no greater joy, and we have no other plan. But this is our work—all 600,000 of us. SCBaptists, come. Let's stand together on the wall, remembering our "great and awe-inspiring Lord" (Nehemiah 4:14), silencing every opposition by simple obedience to God's commands (6:15–16), giving prominence to the commanding and authoritative written Word (8:3–6), and rejoicing unabashedly in God's unmerited favor (12:43), all while making provision for generations to come (13:31). "The God of the heavens is the one who will grant us success" (2:20). SCBaptists, we are doing a critical work (6:3). Let's stay on the wall and work hard at what matters most, together.



Dr. Tony Wolfe
Executive Director-Treasurer
South Carolina Baptist Convention



2027 SOUTH CAROLINA BAPTIST CONVENTION
Ministry Plan Recommendations

Recommendation 1: That the Convention commend to the churches the Cooperative Program as the wisest, most effective, and most efficient plan of giving in keeping with the Convention's Articles of Incorporation, Article IX. The South Carolina Baptist Convention recommends that we continue to honor and affirm the Cooperative Program as the most effective means of mobilizing our churches and extending our outreach and that designated giving to special causes is to be given as a supplement to the Cooperative Program and not as a substitute for Cooperative Program giving.

Recommendation 2: That special offerings for the benevolent institutions be continued, where it is consistent with the financial policy of the local churches, as follows: (1) first Sunday in each month for Connie Maxwell Children Ministries; and (2) annually on Mother's Day for South Carolina Baptist Ministries of Aging.

Recommendation 3: That the Executive Director-Treasurer report on a quarterly basis cumulative gifts received from the churches and the allocation of the gifts as follows: (1) Total gifts to the South Carolina Baptist Convention Cooperative Program; (2) Janie Chapman Offering for State Missions; (3) Annie Armstrong Easter Offering for North American Missions; (4) Lottie Moon Christmas Offering for International Missions; and (5) designations for Southern Baptist Convention and South Carolina Baptist Convention ministries. All gifts will be processed in accordance with the instructions of the contributor without any deduction for expenses.

Recommendation 4: That the Executive Director-Treasurer forward all Southern Baptist Convention funds on a monthly basis to the Executive Committee of the SBC in Nashville, Tennessee.

Recommendation 5: That the 2027 Cooperative Program Ministry Plan be $26,000,000.

2027 COOPERATIVE PROGRAM
Investment

Our State	**$14,170,000**	**54.50%**
South Carolina Baptist Ministries	8,691,800	33.43%
Anderson University	1,521,000	5.85%
Charleston Southern University	1,435,200	5.52%
North Greenville University	1,206,400	4.64%
Connie Maxwell Children's Ministries	832,000	3.20%
South Carolina Baptist Ministries of Aging	--	--
Woman's Missionary Union	325,000	1.25%
Baptist Courier	158,600	0.61%
Baptist Foundation of South Carolina	--	--
Our Nation [1]	**$5,223,400**	**20.09%**
North American Mission Board	2,412,800	9.28%
Theological Seminaries	2,327,000	8.95%
Executive Committee & SBC Operating	283,400	1.09%
Ethics & Religious Liberty Committee	174,200	0.67%
Historical Library & Archives	26,000	0.10%
Our World	**$6,606,600**	**25.41%**
International Mission Board [1]	5,436,600	20.91%
(20.66% plus additional 4.5% direct from SCBaptist)	1,170,000	4.50%
Grand Total[2]	**$26,000,000**	**100%**

1 Allocation details are based upon the CP Allocation approved by Messengers at the SBC Annual Meeting.
2 Total SCBaptist Great Commission investment including Cooperative Program, Lottie Moon Christmas Offering, Annie Armstrong Easter Offering, Janie Chapman State Offering, and other gifts and fees is expected to reach $49 million.

2026 SOUTH CAROLINA BAPTIST CONVENTION
Key Metrics



Pastoral Leadership

- 1,380 church leaders equipped at IMPACT
- 196 pastors in coaching relationships focused on leadership
- 104 participants in the Young Pastor's Network
- 18 churches have been through a renewal process
- 302 pastors and wives encouraged at Restore Retreat



Church Strengthening & Discipleship

- 7,345 campers heard the Gospel (McCall, SummerSalt, KidSalt)
- 157 students saved at our camps
- 167 students called to ministry at our camps
- 193 church staff leaders being equipped in leadership in cohorts and coaching relationships
- 344 churches assisted with church administration



Local Missions

- 47,932 people directly served through Disaster Relief
- 82,922 meals provided for hungry South Carolinians
- 17,728 prisoners directly served through Prisoner Packets
- 17,586 work hours donated through Disaster Relief services
- 671 schools (55% of South Carolina's schools) connected with a serving church



Evangelism

- 12,842 SCBaptist baptisms (increase of 4%)
- 5,203 people heard the Gospel at evangelistic ONE Nights with 249 saved
- 1,707 women's ministry leaders and pastors' wives equipped



Missions Mobilization

- 289 SCSent Ones serving through the International Mission Board (IMB) with 30 appointed this year
- 47 Palmetto Collective student graduates mobilized with IMB and the North American Mission Board
- 239 SCBaptist pastors and leaders mobilized through SCGo vision and mission trips
- 448 students mobilized on mission through SCGO Students, BCMGO, and Palmetto Collective



Church Planting

- 49 total funded church plants on a multi-year funding and training agreement
- 16 new funded church plants with an additional 31 in process
- 223 baptisms from church plants
- 13 new existing churches trained to plant



Baptist Collegiate Ministries (BCM)

- 4,319 students involved in BCM with 2,149 in discipling relationships
- 31,067 college students engaged through BCM
- 1,057 students mobilized on short-term missions
- 459 student salvations at BCM

ASSOCIATE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR-TREASURER *Report*

SCBaptists fund state missionary work through the Cooperative Program to help reduce lostness in South Carolina and around the globe. This missional force helps the church mobilize missionaries and develop leaders. Missionaries are mobilized to plant new churches, engage college campuses, care for communities and local schools, and go to the nations through partnerships with the North American Mission Board and the International Mission Board (IMB). Leaders are developed in environments where they can explore areas of engagement to better advance the Great Commission. Our team provides resources to help leaders on their journey and facilitates coaching environments to network leaders with leaders to provide encouragement and support.

SCBaptists send missionaries. This past year our team helped churches assess, train, and fund 49 church plants who are in a three-year funding structure. Missionaries were deployed on over half our college campuses in South Carolina including seven full-time Baptist Collegiate Ministry missionaries on our largest universities. Short-term missions were organized for over 1000 college students, 50 of whom were selected to a two-year mission development program called Palmetto Collective. SCGO was created this year to mobilize over 300 middle and high school students to serve in communities around South Carolina. Palmetto Genesis was also created this year to help a few of those students receive additional development in vocational missions. We were able to add to our SCSent ones through the IMB and currently have 298 fully funded missionaries around the world.

SCBaptists equip the next generation. Our Generation Timothy initiative has served to raise awareness among churches of the great need to develop future pastors for our next generation. Our camps provided an environment for 7,345 high school and middle school students to hear the Gospel, develop spiritually, and respond to a call to ministry. SCBaptist schools enrolled over 10,000 students at Anderson University, North Greenville University, and Charleston Southern University, providing higher learning through a biblical worldview and training those pursuing a call to ministry.

SCBaptists care for our communities. Disaster Relief continues to be a force when crisis occurs in our communities. Teams are trained by our missionaries and then mobilized when a disaster hits in South Carolina or in a surrounding state. Over 47,000 people were served through Disaster Relief volunteers. Heart4Schools has connected 55% of our schools with an SCBaptist church that serves them through teacher encouragement, mentoring, and feeding those in poverty. Connie Maxwell Children's Ministries serves to provide care for our most vulnerable children in South Carolina.

SCBaptists love our pastors. Our state missionaries are dedicated to caring for the needs of our pastors as they shepherd their congregations. We know that healthy churches are led by healthy pastors, so our Restore Retreat and Pastors' Wives Retreat sought to provide respite to hundreds of pastors and their wives. A pastor coaching network was created for pastors to receive coaching from pastors. Over 300 pastors are meeting together regularly through revitalization cohorts and the Young Pastor's Network for equipping and encouragement.

SCBaptists are on a mission to see every life saturated and transformed by the hope of the Gospel beginning in South Carolina. As the fastest growing state in the union, our effectiveness in sending missionaries, planting churches, and caring for communities is critical in reducing lostness. The pages that follow give a detailed description of the work that is currently being done by our SCBaptist missionaries to help each church advance the Great Commission.



Dr. Lee Clamp
Associate Executive Director-Treasurer
South Carolina Baptist Convention

EACH CHURCH *Every Life*

Who we are

South Carolina Baptists are one family on one mission through one cooperative effort.

SCBaptist Team Vision

We see a day when every life is saturated and transformed by the hope of the Gospel.

SCBaptist Team Mission

We help each church advance the Great Commission together.

How we partner with your church

We help you see your community clearly
to launch ministries that meet real needs, from disaster response to school outreach to foster care.

We mobilize your church to send missionaries
locally, statewide, and to the nations.

We equip you to share the Gospel
through relational evangelism, discipleship, and reaching people where they're at.

We resource church planters
with training, funding, and coaching to launch healthy, growing congregations.

We help you disciple every generation
from kids to seniors, equipping your staff to make disciples at every stage of life.

We care for your pastor
through coaching, accountability, and support for long-term health in ministry.

Every ministry, program, conference, event, and resource stems from two objectives:

MOBILIZING MISSIONARIES *and* **DEVELOPING LEADERS**

OPERATIONS TEAM & DENOMINATIONAL RELATIONS *Report*

It is a privilege to serve South Carolina Baptists by assisting our Executive Director-Treasurer, Dr. Tony Wolfe, with the day-to-day operations of the Convention and by supporting the work of our Executive Board, Convention committees, and ministry partners.

Much of our work happens behind the scenes. Throughout the year, we help prepare for the annual meeting, work alongside Convention officers and committees, and ensure that the business of the Convention is carried out carefully and in accordance with our governing documents. I am grateful for the many South Carolina Baptists who faithfully give their time and leadership to this work.

Just as important is the opportunity to strengthen relationships with pastors, associational leaders, and ministry partners across our state. Whether welcoming pastors who are new to SCBaptist life, helping leaders better understand how we work together, or simply connecting people and ministries, our goal is to serve our churches well and help them work together to advance the Gospel.

One area of ministry that continues to grow in both importance and impact is our work helping churches create safe environments for ministry. Chelsea Copeland, consultant for Sexual Abuse Prevention and Survivor Care, has been busy consulting with churches that want to ensure their policies and practices are aligned with current best practices. She has helped associations plan training opportunities, provided guidance to church leaders, and responded when churches and individuals have faced moments of crisis. Much of this work happens quietly and in difficult circumstances. Those who have had the opportunity to work with Chelsea are grateful for her willingness to step into these situations with wisdom and compassion. She is a blessing to our churches and to hurting people across South Carolina.

Our engagement in public policy also remains an important part of our work. Through the leadership of SCBaptist Public Policy Advisor Dr. Tony Beam, we seek to represent the convictions and concerns of South Carolina Baptists before our state government. Our goal is not simply to engage legislation, but to do so in a way that reflects both biblical conviction and Christian compassion. That means developing relationships, listening well, working across the aisle whenever possible, and engaging legislators and public officials with respect. In an increasingly divided culture, we believe South Carolina Baptists have an opportunity to demonstrate that strong convictions and genuine compassion can and should exist together.

We are also giving increased attention to the stewardship of the physical resources God has entrusted to South Carolina Baptists. Over time, deferred maintenance can accumulate across a large network of properties. We are developing and implementing a more intentional plan to address those needs, reduce deferred maintenance, and properly maintain the facilities that support ministry across our state.

That work includes updates and renovations to Baptist Collegiate Ministry properties, planned improvements at Camp McCall, and an intentional effort to identify and address maintenance needs at 190 Stoneridge Drive. These facilities are tools for ministry, and caring for them well is part of being faithful stewards of what generations of South Carolina Baptists have provided.

I continue to have the privilege of providing guidance to our Building Services Team and the Operations Committee of the Executive Board as we carry out this work. I am grateful for Jeff Dial and those who serve alongside him to care for our facilities and support the ministries that happen within them. Some of this work is highly visible, while much of it happens behind the scenes. All of it matters.

Whether we are assisting a Convention committee, helping a church navigate a difficult situation, engaging leaders at the State House, welcoming a pastor to SCBaptist life, or repairing and improving a facility used for ministry, our purpose remains the same: to serve our churches well, steward faithfully what God has entrusted to us, and work together to advance the Gospel.

I am deeply grateful for the people I have the privilege of serving alongside each day. Our staff, Executive Board members, committee members, associational leaders, pastors, and ministry partners serve faithfully and often without recognition. I am also grateful for the churches of the South Carolina Baptist Convention whose generosity, prayers, and cooperation make this work possible. It is an honor to serve you, and I remain thankful for the trust you place in us as we serve together for the sake of the Gospel.



Bryant Sims
Chief Operating Officer
Director of Denominational Relations
South Carolina Baptist Convention



FINANCIAL AND ACCOUNTING *Team*

Each year, SCBaptist churches entrust significant resources to the Convention to advance our cooperative Great Commission mission. With that generosity comes a responsibility: to steward those resources faithfully, operate with integrity, and ensure those entrusted with leadership and governance have the information they need to make wise decisions for the mission.

For our team, stewardship is both a responsibility and a service. We safeguard and account for the resources entrusted to the Convention while providing the information, analysis, and organizational support necessary for effective leadership and governance. We work alongside the Executive Director-Treasurer to support sound, forward-looking decisions and serve the Executive Board by providing the transparency, financial reporting, and insight necessary to fulfill its governance and oversight responsibilities.

Stewardship also extends beyond financial resources. Our people are among the Convention's most important resources. Supporting our staff through strong programs, systems, resources, and opportunities to grow their capabilities strengthens the people who support our churches and carry out the work of the Convention.

During 2026, we continued strengthening these foundations—improving financial visibility, strengthening processes and controls, and enhancing the programs, systems, and organizational capabilities that support our staff, leadership, and Executive Board. Our goal is not simply greater efficiency. It is to build a resilient organization that makes sound decisions, responds to ministry opportunities, and remains strong and sustainable for the future.

Our work is to strengthen the leadership, governance, people, and systems that support the mission. Every dollar we safeguard, every decision we help inform, and every capability we strengthen should ultimately contribute to SCBaptist churches advancing the Great Commission together.

In 2025, SCBaptist churches gave $25.3 million through the Cooperative Program toward the $26.5 million Ministry Plan approved by messengers. Including designated gifts for the Lottie Moon Christmas Offering, Annie Armstrong Easter Offering, Janie Chapman Offering, and other designated ministries, total gifts entrusted to the Convention were $41.8 million. Each of these gifts represents the faithful generosity of SCBaptist churches and the responsibility we share to steward those resources wisely for Great Commission impact.

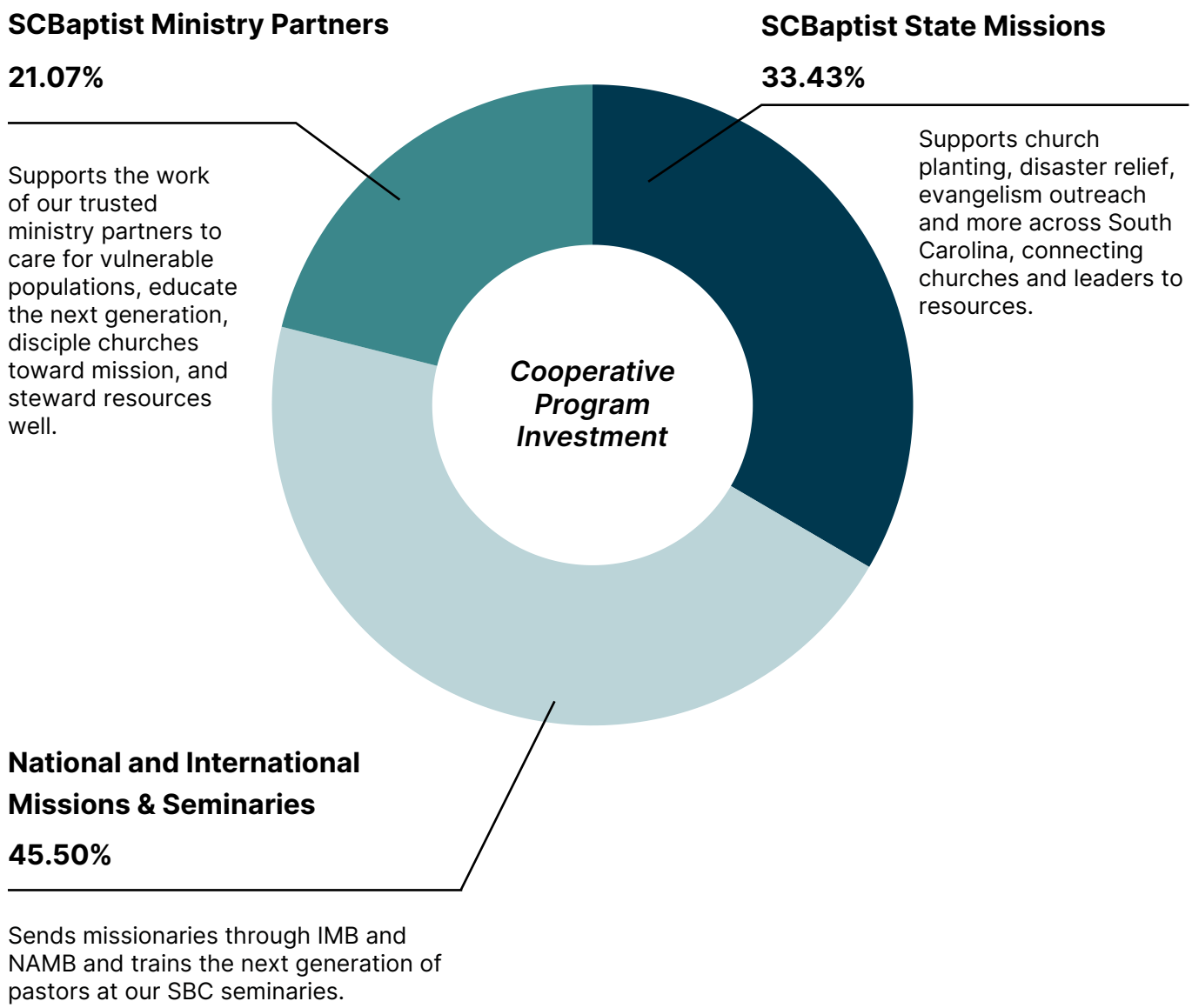


Don Mowry
Chief Financial Officer
South Carolina Baptist Convention

Ministry Highlights

- **Financial Stewardship & Accountability:** Completed the 2025 independent financial statement audit with an unmodified opinion, reinforcing transparent reporting and accountability to the Executive Board, churches, and messengers.
- **Leadership & Governance:** Strengthened financial reporting, analysis, and planning to provide the Executive Director-Treasurer and Executive Board with clear and timely information for decision-making and governance.
- **Cooperative Program Stewardship:** Elevated visibility into Cooperative Program engagement, helping inform a renewed focus on strengthening cooperation as South Carolina's growing mission field creates new opportunities to advance the Great Commission together.
- **Supporting Our Team:** Continued investing in the resources and organizational support that equip our staff to serve SCBaptist churches effectively.

We are grateful for the faithful generosity of SCBaptist churches and for the trust they place in the Convention. We are committed to honoring that trust through faithful stewardship so that, together, we can advance the Great Commission in South Carolina and around the world.



TOP 25 GIVING
Churches

Based on Total Cooperative Program Receipts in 2025

Rank	Church, City	CP	Avg. Worship Attendance
1	Taylors First, Taylors	$ 426,108	1,444
2	Summerville, Summerville	$ 415,578	1,381
3	Spartanburg First, Spartanburg	$ 337,500	1,446
4	Lancaster Second, Lancaster	$ 335,347	892
5	Brushy Creek, Taylors	$ 322,000	1,240
6	First Baptist Simpsonville/Upstate Church, Simpsonville	$ 305,000	4,642
7	Columbia First, Columbia	$ 287,161	1,500
8	Riverland Hills, Irmo	$ 280,565	1,764
9	Rocky Creek, Greenville	$ 279,000	928
10	Shandon, Columbia	$ 275,733	1,918
11	Mt Airy, Easley	$ 243,688	700
12	Edwards Road, Greenville	$ 241,507	411
13	Fort Mill First, Fort Mill	$ 221,525	757
14	Holly Springs, Inman	$ 208,394	270
15	North Side, Greenwood	$ 204,000	500
16	First Baptist, Rock Hill	$ 201,667	809
17	Northside, Lexington	$ 200,851	1,225
18	Church at The Mill, Moore	$ 162,000	4,777
19	Ebenezer, Florence	$ 159,925	375
20	Sweetwater, North Augusta	$ 155,405	386
21	North Myrtle Beach First, N. Myrtle Beach	$ 152,610	619
22	Highland Park, Hanahan	$ 149,842	227
23	Fairview, Greer	$ 148,663	600
24	Utica, Seneca	$ 134,791	377
25	Pickens First, Pickens	$ 134,175	493

Based on Total Receipts to all Designations in 2025

Rank	Church, City	CP	Designated *	Lottie Moon	Annie Armstrong	Janie Chapman	Total	Avg. Worship Attendance
1	Riverland Hills, Irmo	$ 280,565	$ 9,010	$ 266,156	$ 156,891	$ 115,263	$ 827,885	1,764
2	Rock Springs, Easley	$ 3,001	$ 626,543	$ 83,255	$ 12,784	$ 6,356	$ 731,939	2,500
3	Taylors First, Taylors	$ 426,108		$ 181,275	$ 52,408	$ 25,684	$ 685,475	1,444
4	Lancaster Second, Lancaster	$ 335,347	$ 68,850	$ 142,146	$ 82,465	$ 6,200	$ 635,008	892
5	Columbia First, Columbia	$ 287,161		$ 248,630	$ 64,850	$ 32,340	$ 632,981	1,500
6	Brushy Creek, Taylors	$ 322,000	$ 2,000	$ 217,774	$ 63,974		$ 605,748	1,240
7	Spartanburg First, Spartanburg	$ 337,500	$ 3,708	$ 173,696	$ 26,514	$ 10,758	$ 552,176	1,446
8	Summerville, Summerville	$ 415,578		$ 85,927	$ 18,911	$ 1,399	$ 521,815	1,381
9	Edwards Road, Greenville	$ 241,507	$ 6,071	$ 87,649	$ 25,104	$ 6,711	$ 367,042	411
10	Mt Airy, Easley	$ 243,688		$ 86,884	$ 30,000	$ 4,879	$ 365,451	700
11	First Baptist Simpsonville/Upstate Church, Simpsonville	$ 305,000	$ 674	$ 36,056	$ 12,706	$ 9,798	$ 364,234	4,642
12	Living Water, Longs	$ 122,297		$ 117,232	$ 58,601	$ 58,601	$ 356,731	683
13	First Baptist, Rock Hill	$ 201,667		$ 100,000	$ 40,000	$ 6,000	$ 347,667	809
14	Shandon, Columbia	$ 275,733	$ 4,879	$ 31,308	$ 16,193	$ 10,715	$ 338,828	1,918
15	Fort Mill First, Fort Mill	$ 221,525	$ 19,330	$ 60,766	$ 25,494	$ 9,220	$ 336,335	757
16	Rocky Creek, Greenville	$ 279,000				$ 8,695	$ 287,695	928
17	Holly Springs, Inman	$ 208,394		$ 38,947	$ 21,393	$ 7,745	$ 276,479	270
18	North Augusta First, North Augusta	$ 58,333		$ 75,731	$ 80,929	$ 49,899	$ 264,892	519
19	North Side, Greenwood	$ 204,000		$ 36,397	$ 10,303	$ 9,070	$ 259,770	500
20	Northside, Lexington	$ 200,851	$ 4,073	$ 47,930	$ 3,950	$ 384	$ 257,188	1,225
21	Lexington, Lexington	$ 27,500	$ 7,000	$ 200,000	$ 5,000	$ 17,000	$ 256,500	952
22	Camden First, Camden	$ 101,790		$ 86,028	$ 32,653	$ 28,098	$ 248,569	431
23	Pickens First, Pickens	$ 134,175		$ 83,734	$ 10,851	$ 6,862	$ 235,622	493
24	Utica, Seneca	$ 134,791		$ 82,808	$ 9,667	$ 2,614	$ 229,880	377
25	Fairview, Greer	$ 148,663	$ 3,550	$ 32,057	$ 18,595	$ 9,260	$ 212,125	600

Designated includes Cooperative Gifts, Disaster Relief, Hunger Relief, and other designated entities.

Based on Percent of Undesignated Receipts Reported by the Church for 2025

Rank	Church, City	Percent	CP	Undesignated Receipts	Avg. Worship Attendance
1	Northgate, Florence	23.5%	$ 8,212	$ 35,000	35
2	Center, Hemingway	23.0%	$ 43,044	$ 187,092	90
3	Holly Springs, Inman	20.9%	$ 208,394	$ 995,835	270
4	West End, Greenville	20.2%	$ 43,652	$ 215,984	108
5	Bethel, Aiken	17.7%	$ 23,550	$ 132,869	55
6	Couchton, Aiken	17.4%	$ 16,195	$ 92,866	75
7	Mt View, Six Mile	17.3%	$ 58,498	$ 339,066	85
8	Cross Roads, Seneca	16.8%	$ 11,310	$ 67,287	65
9	Nixville, Estill	16.5%	$ 44,238	$ 268,031	131
10	Abbeville First, Abbeville	16.2%	$ 78,872	$ 486,125	169
11	Fork Shoals, Pelzer	15.8%	$ 44,563	$ 282,329	155
12	Harmony, Edgemoor	15.6%	$ 70,713	$ 452,017	251
13	Highland Park, Hanahan	15.2%	$ 149,842	$ 988,471	227
14	Sardis, Saluda	15.2%	$ 19,757	$ 129,907	30
15	Mt Airy, Easley	15.1%	$ 243,688	$ 1,614,864	700
16	Hulon, Batesburg	15.1%	$ 27,074	$ 178,844	63
17	Shiloh, Aiken	14.7%	$ 60,452	$ 410,528	100
18	Seneca, Seneca	14.6%	$ 99,198	$ 679,240	139
19	Black Creek, Walterboro	14.4%	$ 32,445	$ 225,253	63
20	Bush River, Newberry	14.4%	$ 21,239	$ 147,761	56
21	Draytonville, Gaffney	13.9%	$ 61,928	$ 445,880	151
22	Lake Wateree, Ridgeway	13.9%	$ 30,862	$ 221,778	106
23	Ebenezer, Trenton	13.9%	$ 10,243	$ 73,862	36
24	First Bethany, McCormick	13.4%	$ 11,715	$ 87,228	65
25	Southside, Gaffney	13.3%	$ 50,325	$ 379,232	130

Based on Average Worship Attendance Reported by the Church for 2025

Rank	Church, City	Per Capita	CP	Avg. Worship Attendance
1	Holly Springs, Inman	$ 772	$ 208,394	270
2	Seneca, Seneca	$ 714	$ 99,198	139
3	Mt View, Six Mile	$ 688	$ 58,498	85
4	Highland Park, Hanahan	$ 660	$ 149,842	227
5	Sardis, Saluda	$ 659	$ 19,757	30
6	Goucher, Gaffney	$ 645	$ 37,395	58
7	Doctor's Creek, Walterboro	$ 638	$ 33,790	53
8	Crooked Run, Winnsboro	$ 615	$ 12,291	20
9	Shiloh, Aiken	$ 605	$ 60,452	100
10	Edwards Road, Greenville	$ 588	$ 241,507	411
11	Lydia, Seneca	$ 577	$ 12,110	21
12	Northgate, Greenville	$ 571	$ 41,656	73
13	Black Creek, Walterboro	$ 515	$ 32,445	63
14	State Street, Cayce	$ 512	$ 64,011	125
15	Westminster, Westminster	$ 502	$ 43,652	87
16	Center, Hemingway	$ 478	$ 43,044	90
17	Sandy Run, Hampton	$ 477	$ 16,711	35
18	Calvary, Florence	$ 474	$ 92,517	195
19	Rehoboth, Plum Branch	$ 472	$ 9,434	20
20	Ridgeland, Ridgeland	$ 469	$ 65,663	140
21	Orrs, Chester	$ 469	$ 18,747	40
22	Abbeville First, Abbeville	$ 467	$ 78,872	169
23	Georges Creek, Olar	$ 456	$ 10,490	23
24	Okatee, Ridgeland	$ 455	$ 45,042	99
25	Northside, Rock Hill	$ 455	$ 43,263	95

SCBAPTIST PERSONNEL *Changes*

New Staff

Executive Staff

- Don Mowry, Chief Financial Officer, October 1, 2025
- Kelly Coakley, Chief Communications Officer, October 16, 2026

Field Service Staff

- Beth White (PT), Serve Team, April 1, 2026
- Steve Spence, Students, June 16, 2026
- Cortnie Francis, (PT) BCM Director September 8, 2026

Support Staff

- Andrew Layne, Preschool & Children, October 16, 2025
- Crystal Sellers, Executive Assistant, Financial and Accounting Relations, October 16, 2026

Resignations/Separations

Field Service Staff

- Kevin Martin, Technology Services, December 1, 2025
- Ricky Wilson, Share Team, January 31, 2026
- Angela McNeal, Serve Team, January 31,2026
- Bryant Laird, Students, February 28, 2026
- Alex Lyons, Creative Services, March 15, 2026
- Cliff Marshall, Start Team, June 30, 2026
- Tom Gore, Start Team, August 31, 2026

Support Staff

- Miles Raven (PT), African American Engagement, December 18, 2025

Reassignments

- Bryan Holley, Special Assistant to CFO, November 1, 2025
- Grayson Smith, (PT) Creative Services to (FT) Creative Services, July 16, 2026
- Fayth Butler, (PT) Start Team to (FT) Church Planting, July 16, 2026
- Avery Burchfield, (FT) Students to (PT) Students, September 1, 2026


We help each church advance the Gospel.

SERVE TEAM *Report*

The Serve Team helps SCBaptist churches understand and serve their communities through local missions. The team serves church leaders through training, coaching, and resources that meet real needs. These efforts may include responding to disasters, addressing hunger, poverty, and incarceration, supporting children in foster care, or serving teachers and students through Heart4Schools. Churches across our state have a tremendous opportunity to share the hope of Jesus by building meaningful relationships in their communities.

City of Refuge is a church plant in Columbia making a strong impact at J.P. Thomas Elementary. They have partnered with the school for the past five years, meeting various expressed and spiritual needs among students, teachers, and staff. Several of the teachers came to worship with City of Refuge at the church's fifth anniversary and brought a gift of recognition for how meaningful their partnership has been to the school. The partnership has been so impactful that the principal reached out to a neighboring middle school to urge their principal to connect with City of Refuge. She said, "This church has been such a blessing to us. Your school really needs them, too!" Thankfully, this story could be told of many church-school partnerships across South Carolina.

Key Metrics

- 55% of South Carolina's schools are being served by SCBaptist congregations—671 schools in total. Churches build relationships and care for teachers, students, and schools through consistent support and encouragement.
- Through the generous efforts of SCBaptists, every inmate in the state prison system (totaling 17,728 individuals), received a gift for Christmas.
- A new cohort began to lead churches through a process to update and strengthen their church benevolence policies. The goal of the cohort was to help churches steward their resources while also caring well for their vulnerable neighbors.
- A new chaplain network has been implemented to serve and encourage SCBaptists who serve as chaplains in various capacities across the state. Currently, seven chaplains have agreed to take lead for their region of chaplains.



Jon Jamison
Local Missions Mobilization, Team Leader
South Carolina Baptist Convention

Disaster Relief

South Carolina Baptist Disaster Relief equips leaders and volunteers to respond to people following a natural disaster to bring help and hope in the midst of crisis. They are deployed all over the country and respond to a variety of needs including strives to bring help, hope, and healing after a crisis. Disaster Relief volunteers provide services including emotional and spiritual care, debris removal, hot meals, showers, laundry services, and more. Disasters disrupt lives and open the door for Kingdom impact to provide flourishing life.

Annually, 2.5 million people visit Hilton Head Island, and the local beaches swell with crowds. To protect these visitors, Shore Beach Service hires more than 80 lifeguards to patrol 13.5 miles of shoreline. First Baptist Church of Hilton Head served as a feeding location for the lifeguards for 20 weeks during the peak season of the summer of 2026. Their Disaster Relief feeding team served 73 lifeguards from 18 states and 12 countries. Shari Boston, DR Feeding Unit Leader, shared that the highlight of the summer was praying for three Muslims and providing almost 700 meals. The church plans to continue the feeding ministry to lifeguards in 2027.

Key Metrics

- Disaster Relief volunteers served 17,586 hours, giving back over $635,000 in volunteer service to the local community.
- 47,932 people were served through Disaster Relief ministries.
- Disaster Relief partnered with three student ministry groups to serve over 1,000 student meals.



Susan Peugh
Disaster Relief, Director
South Carolina Baptist Convention

SHARE TEAM *Report*

The SCBaptist Share Team helps SCBaptist churches work together to saturate South Carolina with the life-changing Good News of Jesus Christ. The team works to help church leaders take the first step in making disciples by equipping and encouraging leaders to pray for those far from God, build intentional relationships, and clearly share the Gospel through evangelism. Our team brings churches together to reach their communities through evangelistic events, outreach efforts, and statewide initiatives.

DiscipleSC is helping churches build a culture where evangelism and disciple-making work together to reach people with the Gospel and helping them become disciple makers themselves. At Awaken Church in Columbia, Pastor Brad Ball and Discipleship Pastor Will Stroud were introduced to the SCBaptist's DiscipleSC movement and quickly embraced its relational, Gospel-centered approach. Now, 18 leaders at Awaken Church have been trained and equipped to lead evangelistic, disciple-making small groups. Pastor Ball has been personally coached in the DiscipleSC lead pastor coaching cohort to jumpstart their efforts. Their small groups are challenged to join the church's local evangelism efforts and have been stepping out to engage their neighbors and invite them into intentionally evangelistic small groups. Ball is personally discipling members of his church, equipping them not only to grow in their faith but to share the Gospel and invest in others. DiscipleSC is helping churches see that evangelism is not separate from disciple-making—it is where making new disciples begins. Awaken Church is a picture of the vision: share the Gospel, make disciples, develop leaders, and send them out to multiply.

Key Metrics

- Churches reported 12,842 baptisms, a 4% increase over 2024-2025.
- Share Team partnered with 202 SCBaptist churches to host five regional evangelistic ONE Night events that saw 5,203 attendees. In total, 249 students, men, and women made decisions to follow Christ. These events took place in Ridgeland, Columbia, Conway, Tigerville, and Walhalla.
- 1,707 women's ministry leaders and pastors' wives were helped this year through small groups, coaching, equipping events, and the Minister's Wives retreat.
- Share Team awarded scholarships to 220 ministry students at 10 institutions across South Carolina, including schools like North Greenville University, Anderson University, and Charleston Southern University, and at four Southern Baptist Convention seminaries. The team awarded 116 scholarships for Master's/Doctoral work and 104 for undergraduates pursuing ministry. The total amount awarded was $196,735.
- 1,151 college students and leaders attended the CONVERGE Collegiate Conference. In total, 46 students made decisions for Christ, including salvation and calls to ministry or missions.

Baptist Collegiate Ministry

The college campuses of South Carolina host 250,000 college students where decisions are made that will affect their future and our state. Baptist Collegiate Ministry (BCM) is a cooperative effort of SCBaptist churches to engage college students across our state. BCM Directors serve as missionaries on college campuses, sharing Christ with lost students, helping them grow as disciples and leaders, connecting them to local churches, and sending them out to serve on mission locally and globally. SCBaptist churches are investing in and raising up the next generation of disciple-makers and church leaders through BCM Ministries.

Shamyr, a freshman from New Jersey, was invited by friends to a BCM Bible study on his college campus, Benedict College. Each week at Benedict BCM, students receive Next Steps cards where they can mark things like, "I am interested in talking with someone about Jesus." After a few weeks, Shamyr marked his interest in knowing more about Jesus on his card. A BCM staff member followed up and took him to dinner. At dinner, the staff member shared the Gospel, and Shamyr accepted Christ during the dinner. In the restaurant, Shamyr prayed his prayer of confession and repentance out loud and became a follower of Jesus. It was a small restaurant, so many people heard his prayer. After his profession, he started visiting churches and meeting weekly with the BCM leader for discipleship. Shamyr has made great strides in his faith this year, continues to grow, and is considering BCM leadership.

Partnering with local churches to minister on 33 colleges and universities across South Carolina, BCMs reported significant increases in evangelism, attendance, and missionary service for the 2025-2026 academic year, including:

Key Metrics

- 31,067 college students were engaged on college campuses across the state
- 2,149 students were discipled in small groups (51% increase over the previous year)
- 518 people made professions of faith through BCM (60% increase over the previous year)
- 629 students served in student leadership in a local BCM (94% increase over the previous year)
- 1,057 BCM students served on mission this year (37% increase over last year), including students and leaders serving this summer through BCMGO in France, Peru, North Africa, Thailand, Los Angeles, Madagascar, England, Salt Lake City, New Orleans, Japan, and Greenwood, SC.
- 837 of the 6,800 international students in South Carolina (12%) were engaged through BCM this year
- 189 students involved in BCM are pursuing a call to vocational ministry



Chad Stillwell
Evangelism and BCM Ministries, Team Leader
South Carolina Baptist Convention

MISSIONS MOBILIZATION TEAM *Report*

The Missions Mobilization Team exists to help each church advance the Great Commission by mobilizing believers to reach people with the Gospel—locally, nationally, and globally. Through an Acts 1:8 vision, we equip churches to reach the nations, develop mission leaders, build strategic partnerships, and send workers so that every life is saturated and transformed by the hope of the Gospel. More than 3.4 billion people around the world have little to no access to the Gospel, while more than 250,000 foreign-born people now call South Carolina home. We believe every church has a role to play in God's mission—both among the nations in our own state and among peoples around the world.

Cedarwood Church in Laurens has a growing mission impact that reaches locally, nationally, and globally. It began with local school partnerships and ministries along with a local mission called Pathway House. That local engagement led to national mission engagement with two North American Mission Board (NAMB) church plants in Indianapolis. Wanting to expand their reach globally, Pastor Clint Carter participated in an SCGo vision trip to Panama that sparked a long-term partnership with International Mission Board (IMB) missionaries from South Carolina.

On Cedarwood's first mission trip in Panama, mission volunteers shared the Gospel with more than 400 students, had over 180 Gospel conversations, and saw 15 people profess faith in Christ. Just as importantly, members who had never shared the Gospel—including a 70-year-old—gained confidence and a renewed passion for missions. Cedarwood is advancing the Gospel as an Acts 1:8 church.

Key Metrics

- 289 SCSent Ones are serving full-time through the IMB, with 30 appointed this year. Today, SCSent Ones serve in every IMB affinity across the world—literally, the sun never sets on a SCBaptist witness to the nations.
- 304 high school students from 23 churches served on SCGo Student mission trips in South Carolina and Utah.
- 47 Palmetto Collective graduates over the past six years have been deployed to serve full time with IMB and NAMB.
- 239 SCBaptist pastors and leaders from 100 churches participated in SCGo vision and mission trips. Locations included Czech Republic; Baltimore; New York City; San Diego; Italy; Atlanta; Washington, D.C.; Spain; Malaysia; Boston; Panama; Costa Rica; and Salt Lake City.
- 2,502 boys and men participated in the 67th summer at Camp McCall—the most since 2012. Camp McCall recorded 275 decisions for Christ including 34 salvations, 198 rededications, 43 calls to ministry.



Ken Owens
Missions Mobilization, Team Leader
South Carolina Baptist Convention

CHURCH PLANTING TEAM *Report*

The Church Planting Team helps SCBaptist churches plant new churches across South Carolina. In 2016, Send Network was launched to create a laser-like focus on the need to plant new churches across North America. This emphasis has led to thousands of new churches, with 699 of those churches starting in 2025. Now, in 2026, we are excited about the launch of SendSC, a strategic effort to live out the mission of "churches planting churches everywhere for everyone" in the Palmetto State. The population of our state is currently growing by 160 people each day. Based on the average size of an SBC congregation in America, we would need to see two new churches planted every single day just to keep up with this historic growth. This is why now is the right time to launch SendSC—to plant new churches that reach every life.

Sam Knight served faithfully as a student pastor for many years. In his spare time, he pursued his passion for auto racing at small tracks across the state. As Sam spent time at these tracks, he did what came naturally to him: he shared the Gospel and made disciples. In 2025, Sam realized that the Bible study of men he had led to faith, which was meeting in his racing garage, had grown to the size of a small congregation. He reached out to the SCBaptist Church Planting team and began the process of planting The Harvest Church, reaching the overlooked Knightsville community in Summerville, SC. The church launched public worship on Aug. 9, 2026, with 246 people in attendance. This was a significant milestone for the church, but of even greater importance were the nine baptisms that the new congregation celebrated in April before they had even launched a weekly worship service.

Key Metrics

- 49 church plants are currently being funded by SCBaptist churches.
- 16 newly funded church plants were launched this year.
- 223 baptisms from SCBaptist church plants this past year—twice the rate of an average Southern Baptist Convention church.
- Almost 50% of new SCBaptist churches are ethnically diverse. African American and Hispanic congregations make up the largest percentage of these new churches, but that number also includes other international groups such as Chinese, Vietnamese, and Ukrainian.
- Currently, there are 31 potential church planters in the SCBaptist church planter pathway.
- 13 existing churches were equipped to plant churches.



Cliff Marshall
SendSC, Director
North American Mission Board

SHEPHERD TEAM *Report*

The Shepherd Team is responsible for helping each SCBaptist church in pastoral development and church renewal. The team helps pastors develop in areas such as leadership, preaching, discipleship, evangelism, administration, practical ministry (including weddings, funerals, baptism, and the Lord's Supper), and many other pastoral duties. This is done through monthly cohorts and one-day seminars. Our team facilitates a Young Pastors Network and a Coaching Network to equip pastors. We also assist churches that have plateaued or declined by helping them refocus and get back on track toward fulfilling the Great Commission. Additional ministries include assisting churches with pastor search team training, deacon training, and elder training.

The Young Pastors Network intentionally guides our SCBaptist pastors through opportunities to develop their pastoral ministry skills, such as preaching, evangelism, discipleship, and many other areas. Utilizing online discussion groups and in-person workshops, pastors can learn and apply key principles for ministry that will benefit both them as a leader and the church they seek to shepherd. Pastor David Cox at Shady Grove Baptist Church admits that pastoring can feel lonely. "Sometimes you don't know the next step to take, and being able to hear from other seasoned pastors has been so encouraging," Cox said. Through monthly gatherings in small-group cohorts, our SCBaptist pastors are developing leadership skills and strategies to mobilize members for ministry across all ages. Dawjr Wood, pastor at Memorial Baptist Church in St. George, South Carolina, emphasized that the connections he's made have brought him comfort and encouragement. Wood also expressed his thanks to South Carolina Baptists. "I just want to say thank you for making the investment in the Cooperative Program and in pastors like me."

Key Metrics

- 1,380 leaders were equipped at IMPACT breakouts led by SCBaptist pastors.
- 196 pastors are advancing in leadership through equipping Cohorts and Coaching relationships.
- 104 leaders are participating in the Young Pastors Network.
- 18 churches have been through a renewal process.
- 302 pastors and their wives were encouraged at Restore retreat.
- 6 Preaching Conferences/Labs prepared 182 pastors in expository preaching.



Brian Saxon
Pastoral Ministries, Team Leader
South Carolina Baptist Convention

STRONG TEAM *Report*

The Church Strengthening & Discipleship Team is tasked with enriching and amplifying many of the ongoing ministries of the local church. This allows the team to continually assist church staff and volunteer ministry coordinators. Our goal is to help church staff develop professionally and help volunteer leaders develop their ministry expertise. Strong churches enjoy spiritual vitality in their leadership as well as focus in their ministries.

"Get Salty," the mission emphasis of KidSalt, is a favorite of the 3rd-5th grade campers. In 2026, each of the 1,147 campers helped to pack 1,800+ "Project Bear Hugs & Heros" bags. Every church group returned home with bags prepared by their students to be given to local fire and rescue teams. These teams then distribute the bags to children experiencing the loss of their homes to fire or natural disaster. Mike Harmon, camp pastor for the first week of KidSalt, told the personal story of how much the "teddy bears" meant to his children when their home was devastated by fire. KidSalt campers learned how to care for children in need. The Children's Ministry of Riverland Hills Baptist Church couldn't wait to share their bags. On the way home from camp, they delivered their bags to the fire station adjacent to the church parking lot. Their visit provided a much-needed boost to the fireman as they had just returned from the scene of a serious vehicle accident.

Key Metrics

- 7,345 campers attended one of our camps (SummerSalt, KidSalt, Camp McCall).
- 157 students were saved at one of our camps.
- 167 students were called to ministry at one of our camps.
- 193 leaders participated in leadership cohorts.
- 344 churches received church administration assistance.
- The ONWARD Conference served 700+ worship and creative leaders for a one-day event.
- 29 churches received disabilities ministry consultations from the Discipleship and Disabilities office.
- 1,800+ "Project Bear Hugs & Heros" bags were prepared and delivered to local fire and rescue stations as part of the missions experience offered at KidSalt.



Steve Rohrlack
Church Health & Discipleship, Team Leader
South Carolina Baptist Convention

SCBAPTIST CAMPS *Report*

Camp McCall

Matt Allen, Director

Nestled in the mountains of South Carolina, Camp McCall helps churches advance the Gospel together in three areas of emphasis: summer camp, retreat hosting, and missions mobilization. Camp McCall creates an environment to raise the awareness of the need for missions around the world and gives campers the opportunity to hear from real missionaries each week. There is also an intensive leadership program that prepares the staff of young men for future ministry and provides an opportunity for them to participate in a short-term mission trip themselves. During the fall and spring, the camp provides a refuge for churches and pastors seeking retreat.

- Attendance: 2,502
- Number of Salvations: 34
- Number Expressing a Call to Ministry: 43

SummerSalt Student Camp

Steve Spence, Student Ministries Director

SummerSalt is a Christ-centered summer camp for middle and high school students hosted at Charleston Southern University. The camp staff of college students are intentionally developed not only to lead the camp, but also to gain experience for future ministry. Campers take part in small group Bible studies with teenagers from all across the state, participate in activities throughout the day, and spend time in worship together every evening.

- Attendance: 3696
- Number of Salvations: 88
- Number Expressing a Call to Ministry: 123

KidSalt Children's Camp

Kathy Miles, Preschool & Children's Ministry Director

Kidsalt is a Gospel-centered camp experience for children in grades 1-5. A lively, engaging experience awaits children as they focus on spiritual development in small groups, worship in a kid-friendly atmosphere, and participate in a variety of activities throughout the day. "Get Salty" is a mission opportunity for campers to have a hands-on mission experience. This year, campers packed over 1,800 "Project Bear Hugs & Heros" to deliver to local fire and rescue stations.

- Attendance: 1,147
- Number of Salvations: 35
- Number Expressing a Call to Ministry: 1

AFRICAN-AMERICAN ENGAGEMENT *Report*

SCBaptist is committed to helping SCBaptist churches engage African Americans, who account for 26.5% of our state's population. God is moving among our African American congregations and leadership. Several South Carolina Baptist churches are effectively reaching the African American community. While the numbers are still modest, these efforts mark the beginning of something greater: each church reaching every life.

Our primary mission has remained steadfast. Our team seeks to intentionally bridge gaps, cultivate the next generation of leaders, and stand shoulder-to-shoulder with our pastors in both triumph and trial.

Forging New Partnerships and Expanding Reach

- A major milestone of this season has been our collaborative initiative with North Greenville University's (NGU) Christian Ministry department. By hosting association leaders and moderators for intensive sessions on evangelism and church leadership, we opened vital doors to pastors and regions that have historically been under-engaged with the Convention. NGU has new applications for attendance because of this collaboration.
- Our ongoing cohort at Charleston Southern University has continued to foster meaningful discussions on ministry and missions' integration.

Cultivating Leadership and Sustainable Cohorts

- General Leadership Cohorts: We maintained two active cohorts meeting monthly, engaging 13 pastors, eight of whom were disengaged previously from SCBaptists.
- Preaching Development: Lead a preaching cohort consisting of ten pastors and associates.

Pastoral Care and Field Ministry

- Four of our African American pastors were hospitalized this spring and many others faced acute stress. A significant portion of our field ministry has been dedicated to crisis care, pulpit supply, and bedside encouragement.
- Breakout sessions and preaching engagements focusing on African American ministry were conducted at the Woman's Missionary Union Annual Meeting, the Gen Z Evangelism Conference, and the Young Preachers' Conference at Brooklyn Baptist Church. Furthermore, hosting leaders like Charles Grant from the Executive Committee who led sessions addressing cooperation initiatives has reinforced the vital, shared future of minority churches within the Southern Baptist Convention.



Michael Pigg
African-American Engagement, DIrector
South Carolina Baptist Convention

ASSOCIATIONAL RELATIONS *Report*

The Office of Associational Liaison exists to create a cooperative Kingdom movement among our 42 associations, who serve as the premier partner to engage each of our SCBaptist churches. SCBaptist ministries are working together more closely to advance the mission by engaging pastors, assisting churches in revitalization processes, and developing church plants in strategic locations around the state.

This year, the Janie Chapman Offering for State Missions grants assisted five associations in their launch of "Generation Timothy" initiatives among their churches. The Savannah River Baptist Association launched a Multiethnic Ministry Training Center that will produce effective pastors, ministry leaders, and church planters through an integrated system—focusing on forming character, competency, and calling to provide a clear pathway to ministry.

Key Metrics

- Associational Mission Strategist (AMS) leaders were equipped at two, one-day summits to equip associational leaders in training tools and coaching techniques as well as sexual abuse prevention resourcing.
- Seven new AMS leaders went through a monthly cohort together to focus on resources available through SCBaptist, the North American Mission Board, and the International Mission Board (IMB) along with making key connections around the state.
- A new cohort of associational leaders was started in the Pee Dee to strengthen IMB mission partnerships and learn about the resources available for local churches to engage the nations.



Scott Shields
Associational Relations, Director
South Carolina Baptist Convention

BYLAWS COMMITTEE *Report*

Over the past five years, the Bylaws Committee has had the privilege of submitting substantial changes to our processes and procedures through first and second readings of amendments.

This group continues to carefully study the SCBaptist bylaws with a desire to clarify and strengthen the guiding documents that serve our Convention. The bylaws direct this team to "review periodically the Convention's procedures, to study matters concerning the corporation's Articles of Incorporation (charter) and these Bylaws Part I and Part II, to review the geographic boundaries that determine the membership of the Executive Board, and to report its findings and/or recommendations to the Convention." We meet three or four times each year to prayerfully review the language of each section.

We are deeply grateful for a Convention that values ongoing review and faithful stewardship. We are also thankful for our churches and church leaders, whose care for local congregations and the work of the state Convention is evident in their attention to these important details. Our guiding documents provide a helpful roadmap for accountability as we serve together in our shared mission and work.

Thank you for your faithful commitment to Cooperative Program giving, which enables your Convention Committees and the Executive Board to serve with a spirit of unity, consistency, and shared purpose. We are grateful for the freedom and responsibility entrusted to us as we carry out the work we have been assigned.

Respectfully submitted by your 2026 Bylaws Committee:

- Joseph Daniel
- Dalton Fowler
- Sean Giovannetti
- Ben Harr
- Bobby James
- Pam Kirkland
- Blair Smith
- Greg Somers
- Chris Sullivan, Chair

CHRISTIAN LIFE & PUBLIC AFFAIRS *Report*

Tony Beam, Public Policy Advisor for SCBaptist, informs committee members and interested constituents about legislative issues through an email update. He meets regularly with our committee to keep us informed about social and moral issues at the state level.

Successful legislation for 2026 includes:

- The Stop Harm from Addictive Social Media Act requires social media platforms that generate over $1 billion in annual revenue to implement reasonable age estimation and obtain verifiable parental consent for accounts held by minors under the age of 16.
- The Pregnancy Care Tax Credit allows a tax credit for charitable donations to pregnancy care centers, centers that promote the welfare of children, and organizations that assist in the prevention of human trafficking.
- The South Carolina Student Privacy Act ensures that K-12 and all higher education restrooms, changing facilities, and sleeping quarters will be designated and used based on biological sex.
- The Increased Penalties for Sexual Exploitation of Minors Act gives law enforcement and prosecutors more tools to charge and prosecute sexual offenders.
- One bill amends the code of laws that increases penalties for prostitution and provides law enforcement more opportunities to pursue sex traffickers without revealing the identity of the victims.

An annual highlight is the announcement of the three committee awards. The E. A. McDowell Award recognizes exemplary Christian action in the public arena—politics, government, or community action. Additionally, the committee recognizes one church in our Convention that demonstrates a similar commitment to social and moral concerns by conferring the Impact Your World Award. The Joe Mack Public Service Award recognizes one who has gone above and beyond in representing Christian ideals through their role in the public square.

The 2026 recipients are:

- E. A. McDowell Award
- Carter and Jeannie Smith (Coastline Women's Center founders)
- Impact Your World Award
- First Baptist Spartanburg (Community ministry to the homeless)
- Joe Mack Public Service Award
- Laura Hudson (South Carolina Victims Assistance Network)

Members of the committee are grateful for the opportunity to serve South Carolina Baptists and look forward to continuing to make a positive impact in the future.

2026 Christian Life and Public Affairs Committee:

- Hunter Baker
- Brandon Blair, Chair
- Logan Catoe, Vice Chair
- Erin Cofield
- RaShan Frost
- Linda Hite
- Jonah Sims
- Jeremy Ussery
- Josh Walls

HISTORY COMMITTEE *Report*

In December 1821, nine delegates representing three Baptist associations formed the General Baptist Convention of South Carolina. The General Baptist Convention later became known as the South Carolina Baptist Convention (SCBaptist). As the first state Baptist convention established in the South, it set forth its mission from the beginning: to advance both foreign and domestic missions, promote the education of ministers, and foster cooperation among churches. The History Committee is entrusted with promoting and preserving the history of the Convention, its associations, and cooperating churches.

In 2026, under the leadership of Convention Archivist Anna Wilson-Stillwell, more than 75 historical research requests were fulfilled. Requests came from associations, churches, community members, and Convention staff, spanning topics from historical statistics to guidance on preserving church records and documents.

The History Committee also hosted a three-part podcast series highlighting the history of church planting and church revitalization within SCBaptist. The podcasts were moderated by Dylan Baxter and featured Dr. Tony Wolfe and Cliff Marshall as guests. Baxter serves on the History Committee and is pastor of Church at The Mill's Lake Cooley Campus. Dr. Tony Wolfe serves as Executive Director-Treasurer of SCBaptist, and Cliff Marshall serves as the SendSC Director.

In each episode, Baxter interviewed Dr. Wolfe and Marshall on key moments in the history and ongoing mission of South Carolina Baptists. The first podcast examined the founding of the Charleston Baptist Association and its significance in the state's Baptist heritage. The second explored the formation of SCBaptist in 1821 and the subsequent growth of Baptist ministry across South Carolina. The final episode focused on church planting and church revitalization in 2026, including a discussion of the current spiritual climate in South Carolina and SCBaptist's new church planting agreement with the North American Mission Board.

All three episodes are available on Together with SCBaptist at scbaptist.org/podcasts and wherever you listen to podcasts.

History Committee Members:

- Michael Bryant, Chair
- Joey Farrington, Vice Chair
- Dylan Baxter
- Justin Howard
- Brad Ramey
- Becky Slayton

NOMINATIONS COMMITTEE *Report*

Each year, the Nominations Committee of the SCBaptist Convention is composed of two members from each of the 12 geographic regions. The work of this team is invaluable for the process of ascertaining knowledgeable people to conduct the work of the Convention and our ministry partners. We are grateful for each committee member who serves, and we appreciate the time they have invested in identifying these candidates for election to the 2027 boards.

Executive Board members serve four-year terms unless they are fulfilling an unexpired term. The number of members on the Executive Board has been in transition as the 2021 Bylaws amendments allowed natural attrition to bring the size down to 29 members (including the Convention President as a voting member of the Board). Those bylaws were amended in 2025 to add two more at-large members, bringing the number of Executive Board members to 31.

The 2025 amendments added a stipulation that the Board would be divided between ordained ministers and laity with no more than 80% in either category. Furthermore, a second required condition compares churches with fewer than 200 in worship attendance to those with 200 or more in worship attendance. There can be no more than 60% represented by either category.

Trustees serve five-year terms unless they are fulfilling an unexpired term. Ministry partner trustee candidates are listed on a ballot received at registration. They are elected separately from the Executive Board nominees. All terms will begin on January 1, 2027.

2026 Nominations Committee:

- Scott Allen
- Adrian Allen
- Clint Bartlett
- Mark Bishop, Chair
- Patrick Clark
- James Cook
- Jonathan Deal
- Jonathan Denton
- Jason Dorriety
- Stacy Emory
- Scott Gillespie
- Drew Gunter
- Mark Hazle
- Ron Henderson
- Michael How
- Greg Hyler
- Blake Jenkins, Vice Chair
- Johnny McDaniel
- Josh Moss
- Al Phillips
- Brenda Stevens
- Joseph Walker

SCBaptist Executive Board Nominees

= Filling an unexpired term,
* = Laity

Region	Nominee Name Church, Association	Term Expires
2	*Dave Dorrity Brushy Creek, Greenville **AT-LARGE**	2030
2	Chad Moore, Cedar Grove, Palmetto	2030
3	#Jeremy Thompson, Taylors First, Three Rivers	2027
7	*Chris Kennington, Great Falls Second, Chester	2030
9	Wyman Richardson, Camden First, Kershaw	2030
10	Clark Carter, Folly Beach, Charleston	2030
11	*Dennis Bowe, Summerville, Screven	2030
11	*Amy Thompson Southside, Florence **AT-LARGE**	2030
12	Mark George, Coastal Church, Waccamaw	2030
12	Jay Worthington, North Conway, Waccamaw	2030

Ministry Partner Trustee Nominees

= Filling an unexpired term
* = Laity

	Nominee Name Church, Association (or State)	Term Expires
Anderson University	*Rodney Back, Spartanburg First, Spartanburg County	2031
	*Gerald Caskey, Taylors First, Three Rivers	2031
	*Jordan Clark, Carmel, Matthews, NC	2031
	*Benji Norton, Coastal Church, Waccamaw	2031
	*Mike Wilson, Mount Pisgah, Piedmont	2031
Charleston Southern University	#*Cynthia Burns, Georgetown First, Southeast	#2028
	Wes Church, Columbia First, Columbia Metro	2031
	*Robert Lloyd, The Church at LifePark, Charleston	2031
	*Dale Lusk, Hoffmeyer Road, Florence	2031
	*Dana Painter, Coastal Church, Waccamaw	2031
	*James Ramsey, Darlington First, Welsh Neck	2031
North Greenville University	*Paige Crain, Mount Pisgah, Piedmont	2031
	*Bill Knupp, Clearview, Three Rivers	2031
	*Chris Moody, Fort Mill First, York	2031
	Kyle Richter, West Side, Lakelands	2031
	Bill Tyler, Riverside, Three Rivers	2031

Baptist Courier	Dustin Dozier, Upstate Church, Greenville	2031
	Evan McFarland, Edwards Road, Greenville	2031
	*Anna Richardson, Fountain Inn First, Greenville	2031
Baptist Foundation	Albert Allen, Newberry First, Reedy River	2031
	*Hugh Burnett, Spartanburg First, Spartanburg County	2031
	Ryan Perry, Seneca Baptist, Beaverdam	2031
Connie Maxwell Children's Ministries	Mike DeCosta, Clarendon, Santee	2031
	DeWayne Evans, Asaville, Saluda	2031
	#*Verta Love, Shandon, Columbia Metro	#2029
	*Roma Muller, First Calvary, Lexington	2031
	*Dan Walters, Connie Maxwell, Lakelands	2031
	*James Wright, Spring Valley, Columbia Metro	2031
SCBMA	*Chuck Beaman, Shandon, Columbia Metro	2031
	*Bob Connelley, Bethel, Allendale Hampton	2031

COMMITTEE ON COMMITTEES *Report*

The Committee on Committees is selected by the outgoing president from the previous year. This group is composed of members from churches of all sizes across the state, as stated in our bylaws. The Committee on Committees accepts nominations to fill vacancies on Standing Committees of the Convention. The length of service on Standing Committees varies, but all terms begin on January 1, 2027.

This year's Committee on Committees endeavored to select candidates from churches who have shown clear commitment to the Cooperative Program, state, and local associations over an extended period. The Committee on Committees gladly commends this group of candidates for your approval, and we appreciate their willingness to serve.

2026 Committee on Committees:

- John Alexander, Vice Chair
- Michael How
- Ashby Pruitt
- Chet Andrews
- Mike McCormick
- Walter Pym
- Jeremy Beauford
- Johnny McDaniel
- Chris Sullivan
- Brandon Blair
- Daniel McGaha, Chair
- Taylor Wolfe
- Ben Harr
- Doug Mize
- Jeff Wright

	SCBaptist Convention Committee Nominees #= Filling an unexpired term *= Laity	
Committee	**Nominee Name Church, Association**	**Term Expires**
Bylaws	Chris Dewease Taylors First, Three Rivers	2029
	Keith Harrill Draytonville, Broad River	2029
	Donny Mathis Christ Fellowship Northgate, Three Rivers	2029
Christian Life & Public Affairs	Joshua Goldsberry Mt. Hermon, Edisto	2029
	*Denise Johnston Second Lancaster, Moriah	2029
	Chuck Sprouse Ninety Six, Lakelands	2029

Enrollment & Credentials	Albert Allen Newberry First, Reedy River	2027
	*Natalie Amick Columbia First, Columbia Metro	2027
	*Davis Cameron Columbia First, Columbia Metro	2027
	*Tara Freeman Columbia First, Columbia Metro	2027
	*Harriett Johnson Columbia First, Columbia Metro	2027
	Chris Moore Bethel, Santee	2027
History	#*Stephanie Alexander First Bethany, Edgefield	2028
	*Mayson Easterling Greer First, Three Rivers	2029
	Bradford Russ South Main, Lakelands	2029
Resolutions	Ian Geimer Kingstree First, Williamsburg	2029
	Dale (Dawjr) Wood Memorial, Screven	2029
Nominations	Cleve Calcutt, 11 Elim, Florence	2029
	Will Crute, 12 Living Water, Waccamaw	2029
	Jeromy Dean, 1 Bethel, Beaverdam	2029
	Wayne Deffinger, 5 Flint Hill, York	2029

	Jonathan Denton, 10 The Church at LifePark, Charleston	2029
	Mark Hazle, 5 Gaffney First, Broad River	2029
	Mark Owens, 6 Lexington, Lexington	2029
	Ricky Stark, 4 Wellford, Spartanburg County	2029
	*Patti Steen, 9 Immanuel, Moriah	2029
	Tim Simpson, 11 Crosspoint, Santee	2029
	Bert Watts, 3 Mountain Creek, Three Rivers	2029

2027 COMMITTEE ON COMMITTEES

In accordance with the SCBaptist Bylaws, Part II, Article II, the current Convention President appoints the Committee on Committees each year. The bylaws require the committee to include members from churches with varying worship attendance sizes. The Committee on Committees consists of fifteen members.

This committee is responsible for nominating candidates at the annual meeting to serve on Convention Standing Committees beginning the following year. The committee meets twice each year.

Convention President Ryan Pack prayerfully considered each person selected to serve on the 2027 Committee on Committees.

2027 Committee on Committee Members

- Brad Lynch, Fairview, Three Rivers
- Scott Stancil, Coastal Church, Waccamaw
- Christy Todd, Riverland Hills, Lexington
- Robbie Baxley, Mullins First, Marion
- Karen Bennett, Utica, Beaverdam
- Ben Hill, Georgetown First, Southeast
- Evan McFarland, Edwards Road, Greenville
- Blair Smith, Irmo First, Lexington
- Ben Whitmire, Holly Springs, Three Rivers
- Chet Andrews (Chair), State Street, Lexington
- Richard Fleming, New Heights, Columbia Metro
- Ryan Perry, Seneca, Beaverdam
- Brandon Sandifer, Hagood Avenue, Barnwell-Bamberg
- Becca Wood, Memorial, Screven
- Brett Day, Mill Town, York

PASTORS STUDY GROUP *Report*

Background

Kyle Caudell, messenger from North Anderson Baptist Church, made the following motion at the SCBaptist Annual Meeting, November 11, 2025:

"I move that the incoming SCBC President appoint a study committee of no fewer than five individuals to clarify what South Carolina Baptists believe about the office, title, and function of the role of 'pastor,' stating who is scripturally eligible to serve in that role, and to report their conclusion and recommendations to the messengers at the 2026 Annual Meeting."

Recommendation

As South Carolina Baptists, we are committed to the authority and sufficiency of Scripture in all matters of faith and practice. We affirm that God has established the office of pastor/elder/overseer for the leadership, oversight, and preaching of God's Word in the local church. This office is defined by the qualifications set forth in Scripture rather than by cultural trends or personal preferences. In an age of increasing confusion, we believe the Bible teaches that the office of pastor/elder/overseer is reserved for qualified men (1 Timothy 3:1-7; Titus 1:5-9).

After careful examination of Scripture, the Baptist Faith and Message 2000, and historic Baptist practice, we recommend that South Carolina Baptist churches and leaders pursue biblical clarity, doctrinal faithfulness, and cooperative unity by taking the following actions:

- We urge churches and Pastors to be intentional in identifying, equipping, and mobilizing biblically qualified men for pastoral ministry (2 Timothy 2:2).
- We urge churches to apply the titles "pastor," "elder," and "overseer" in ways that accurately reflect the biblical office and responsibilities associated with those terms (Acts 20:28; 1 Timothy 3:1; 1 Peter 5:1-5).
- We urge churches to disciple, equip, and deploy both men and women for the work of evangelism, discipleship, missions, teaching, and service in order to fulfill the Great Commission (Matthew 28:19-20; Ephesians 4:11-14; 1 Peter 4:10-11).

Resolutions (titles) reviewed by this Study Group

- On the Dignity and Worth of Women (SBC, 2018)
- Honoring the Legacy of South Carolina Baptist Women (SCBaptist, 2023)
- On the Legacy and Responsibility of Women (SBC, 2023)
- On the Office and Function of Pastor/Elder/Overseer (SBC, 2026)

Respectfully submitted by the Study Group:

- Michael Bryant, Dean of Christian Studies, NGU
- Kyle Caudell, Pastor, North Anderson Baptist Church
- Bill Curtis, Pastor, Cornerstone Baptist Church, Darlington
- Corey Horton, Pastor, Brushy Creek Baptist Church, Taylors
- Tommy Meador, Pastor, Northwood Baptist Church, North Charleston
- Lauren Morris, South Carolina WMU Student Consultant
- Ryan Pack, Pastor, Riverland Hills Baptist Church, Irmo, 2026 Convention President
- Sarah Rogers, Pillar Network Women's Ministry Coordinator
- Alex Sands, Pastor, Kingdom Life Church, Simpsonville
- Shelley Simpson, Pastor's Wife and Former Missionary, Crosspoint Baptist Church, Sumter
- Chris Spires, Pastor, Coastal Church, Murrells Inlet and Myrtle Beach
- Argenis Taveras, Pastor of Multicultural Ministries,

We see a day where every life is saturated and transformed by the hope of the Gospel.



NORTH GREENVILLE UNIVERSITY *Report*

In the academic year 2025-2026, North Greenville University (NGU) continued to emphasize our Christ-first mission in every element of our operations and outreach. New healthcare programs continue to lead the way as we diversify our academic programs for future flourishing. We seek to be a part of God's movement among the nations, such that the world will say that we "have turned the world upside down" (Acts 17:6).

As we live out our mission and our core values, we seek to cultivate flourishing among all in our community. We have structured our shared work around a set of markers that unify our language and objectives, "The 4 C's," which include Community, Calling, Courage, and Compassion. We seek to foster a strong, multi-layered community where students intersect with others who will position them for flourishing in all aspects. We believe that God has prepared a calling for all in our community—a calling that includes all realms of life, not merely those that are vocational. We believe that when calling is discerned in the context of community, personal courage will be discovered and operationalized, as we follow God's leading wherever it may go. We believe that godly courage overflows into compassion, as we take the heart and mind of Christ into our churches, neighborhoods, and families and transform them for the glory of God.

The University continues its commitment to Kingdom work, with an opening Gospel emphasis (Ignite, featuring Marcus Hayes), a global missions conference (with dozens of former missionaries, sending agencies, and opportunities to explore calling), a biblical worldview week emphasis (exploring contemporary issues from a biblical lens), and a read-through-the-Bible event that underscores the centrality of the scriptures to our community.This summer saw hundreds of decisions for Christ (including calls to Christian service) as we hosted over 6,000 Fuge campers, along with a number of students who pursued missions and ministry across the country.



This past year saw a number of highlights, too many to enumerate, but a few highlights included:

- Completion of our Southern Association of Colleges and Schools Commission on Colleges reaffirmation fifth-year review, with no follow up.
- The College of Education was not only added to the state's roster of "Teaching Fellows" programs, which offers substantial tuition assistance to qualified students, but the recipient of the Frank Murray Leadership Award for accreditation reporting as one of the very top Council for Accreditation of Teacher Preparation (CAEP) programs in the country.
- Designation of the M. C. Donnan College of Humanities & Sciences and the T. Walter & Christine M. Brashier College of Health Sciences underscores our commitment to these important academic units.
- Football won the inaugural Conference Carolinas Championship and received an invitation to the NCAA championship tournament.
- Baseball was ranked #1 in the nation in Division 2 NCAA and won the regular season conference championship; we hosted the first round of the NCAA championship series for our region.
- The university is operationalizing its second strategic plan of the Fant administration, NGU2030: Building for the Future. This plan focuses on reinforcing and sustaining our Christ-first mission and is available for review on the University's website (www.ngu.edu/about/ngu-2030/). This new plan, along with an updated Campus Enhancement Plan, provides the foundation for an upcoming major capital campaign.

The University continues to hold no long-term interest-bearing debt, allowing us to be among the lowest cost private universities in the region (we are roughly half the cost of Furman University and Wofford University). We continue to be certified / members in both Excellence in Giving (https://excellenceingiving.com) and the Evangelical Council for Financial Accountability (https://www.ecfa.org). NGU is one of the only universities in the nation with both certifications, which evaluate our financial operations and commitment to transparency in philanthropy.

North Greenville University values the support, accountability, and prayers of the churches of the Convention and look forward to continuing to partner in God's redemptive work in our state, our nation, and our world!

Motto: "Christ makes the difference!"

Mission: Equipping transformational leaders for church & society

Core Values: Christ-Centered, Biblically Faithful, Academically Excellent, Mission-Focused



ANDERSON UNIVERSITY *Report*

For God and humanity, Anderson University (AU) seeks to be an innovative, entrepreneurial, premier comprehensive university where liberal arts, professional studies, and graduate studies thrive within an uplifting, welcoming, genuine Christ-like community of diverse faculty, staff and students dedicated to intellectually rigorous teaching and learning, a caring and extraordinary hospitable campus culture, and personal transformation for impactful and virtuous living.

SCBaptists' support of Anderson University is a critical investment that impacts students making a Kingdom impact—below are just two examples of how.

A Student Testimony

Jordan is a junior Homeland Security and Emergency Services major. As an Army ROTC cadet, he will commission as a 2nd Lieutenant upon graduation. Recently, he shared the following encouragement to an assembly of faculty and staff:

The faith each one of you demonstrates and nurtures in our student body is what gives rise to our University's final pillar of great purpose. A faith-driven purpose is what compels me to follow God's call wherever he leads. The greatest lesson God has taught me about my life purpose through my time at Anderson is best illustrated by C.S. Lewis. One of my favorites of Lewis' classics is The Lion, The Witch, and The Wardrobe from the Chronicles of Narnia. When Peter, Susan, Edmund, and Lucy stumble into Narnia, the woods are frozen, dark, and dangerous. And yet, there is hope: Narnia is awaiting their king Aslan. Now Aslan is many things, but the children are most interested, and terrified, to learn that he is a lion. As they sit in the home of the kind Mr. and Mrs. Beaver contemplating what it would mean to follow a lion, Susan asks the question we all have: "Is [Aslan]–quite safe?" Susan continues: "I shall feel rather nervous about meeting a lion." Mrs. Beaver wisely responds: "That you will, dearie, make no mistake, if there's anyone who can appear before Aslan without their knees knocking, they're either braver than most or else just silly."



The youngest Lucy asks: "Then he isn't safe?" Mr. Beaver replies profoundly: "Safe? Don't you hear what Mrs. Beaver tells you? Who said anything about safe? 'Course he isn't safe. But he's good."

Attending college has its risks. Whether it's raising my hand in class to answer a difficult question, admitting failure and reaching out for help, or debating…I've been pushed outside my comfort zone many times. These experiences and countless others like them are exactly why Anderson University is an ideal training ground. College ought to push me because a lost and broken world will push much harder. God doesn't promise that following his purpose for my life will be safe. But what he does promise, and what the faculty and staff of Anderson demonstrate so beautifully, is that the Great Lion from Judah will always be good and faithful. I can take risks to serve humanity through the cross because the God who gave me that purpose promises to never leave me or forsake me.

A Parent Testimony

Last year, several students were involved in a tragic car accident. Heartbreakingly, a freshman passed away while another student sustained serious injuries. A love offering, collected during Anderson University's annual Christmas First Night service, was used to bless the injured student and his family. His mother shared this message with our leadership:

We don't have words to describe the deep humility and gratitude we felt opening your recent gift to our family. And this, after the support and love we have experienced – the texts and calls, visits, good cheer,

prayers, and Mrs. Whitaker's cookies! It all feels so tangibly like the Lord is carrying us through a valley… but toward healing and blessing. Thank you for the ways you've come alongside. We look forward to our son's return to campus and passing on the good gifts he (and we) have received.

God answered prayers. This student made a full recovery and returned to classes last spring.

Highlights 2026

- This fall we welcomed nearly 930 new students to the Anderson University family.
- Anderson University remains the largest private institution in South Carolina, with a year-round enrollment exceeding 5,000 students.
- Growing in selectivity, the incoming class had an average ACT score of 26 and SAT score exceeding 1200.
- In recognition of the caliber of skill and education rigor, The South Carolina School of the Arts, Department of Music, is now designated the Conservatory of Music.
- This fall, the following bachelor's degree programs were launched: Industrial Engineering, Chemistry, Accounting, and Artificial Intelligence.
- The Anderson University Cybersecurity student team ranked #1 in the nation in a cybersecurity competition of more than 1,000 teams from 500 institutions.
- Anderson University continues to be recognized as one of the best universities by nationwide rankings and publications. Its latest distinctions include:
    - Among the "Best Colleges" in the South (The Princeton Review, 2025-2026)
    - U.S. News & World Report, 2026 ranks Anderson University:
        - Top Ranked Private Institution in SC among regional universities;
        - #16 Private University among regional universities;
        - #15 Best College for Veterans among regional universities;
    - Niche.com rankings include:
        - #1 Christian College in South Carolina;
        - #2 Best Campus in South Carolina;
        - #3 Top Private Universities in South Carolina;
- A Chronicle on Higher Education's Great College to Work for (7th straight year).
- Among all private universities in SC, Anderson University's 4-year graduation rate is the 2nd highest.
- Baptist Collegiate Ministry averages 800 attendees per week, and Go-Teams support countless churches through worship, preaching, and youth ministry service.

Anderson University remains a place where lives are saved: Clayton King Ministries Crossroads Summer camps saw 1,138 young people profess faith in Jesus Christ and 589 young people answer God's call to vocational or volunteer ministry.

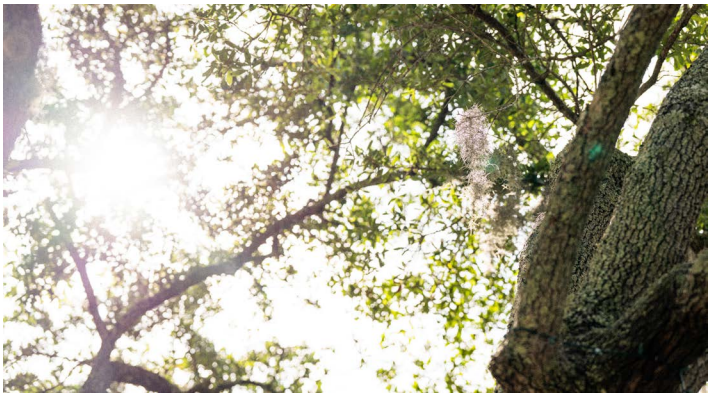


CHARLESTON SOUTHERN UNIVERSITY *Report*

Charleston Southern University (CSU) treasures the gospel partnership we share with the churches of the South Carolina Baptist Convention (Philippians 1:5). As a Christian university committed to promoting academic excellence in a Christian environment and integrating faith in learning, leading, and serving, CSU seeks to deepen students' faith, equip them with a biblical worldview, and prepare them to serve Christ through their vocations and ministries. We ask for your continued prayers as we strive to glorify God by developing students, faculty, and staff who demonstrate compassion, servant leadership, and a commitment to sharing the Gospel locally and around the world.

Campus Ministries

- We praise the Lord that 60 CSU students professed faith in Jesus Christ through Campus Ministries during the 2025-26 academic year.
- More than 2,000 students were engaged through chapel, worship gatherings, discipleship opportunities, and outreach events; 450 students became actively involved in Campus Ministries; 300 students participated in intentional discipleship relationships; and 150 students served as disciple-makers, leading others in discipleship.
- Gospel engagement remained a central focus with 225 students participating in evangelism efforts, including 30 international students. 75 graduating seniors were equipped to live on mission after graduation.
- Leadership and missions involvement continued to grow with 125 students serving mission teams; 80 students completed leadership training, and 50 students pursued vocational ministry.
- Students raised more than $3,000 for missions initiatives, and CSU students packed more OCC boxes than any other collegiate partner.
- SummerSalt and KidSalt, hosted in partnership with SCBaptist, welcomed 4,834 students, resulting in 125 professions of faith and 124 calls to ministry. Seven CSU students served as counselors.



- Seven CSU upperclassmen served at Student Leadership University (SLU) in Orlando, while 97 CSU students attended SLU 101 during the summer.

Academics

- CSU expanded its academic offerings through several new high-demand programs, including:
  - Ph.D. in Counselor Education and Supervision
  - M.Ed. in Special Education
  - Undergraduate degrees in Air Traffic Control, Biomedical Science, Biomedical Engineering, Sports Management, and Musical Theatre
  - Minors in Actuarial Studies and French
- The College of Health Sciences experienced continued growth with record demand in Physician Assistant and Physical Therapy programs, expansion of Clinical Counseling, and development of the 3+2.5 Kinesiology-to-DPT pathway.
- CSU's Aeronautics programs continued to expand:
  - FAA certification for the Air Traffic Management program
  - Receipt of a $1.25 million federal grant to expand the program
- Academic excellence was strengthened through completion of a state-of-the-art Cell Genetics Laboratory supporting cancer research; ABET accreditation and expansion of engineering programs; and enhanced student success initiatives, tutoring, accessibility services, resulting in significant student retention
- CSU strengthened academic quality through accreditation and reaccreditation achievements across Nursing, Counseling, Engineering, Computer Science, and Physical Therapy programs.

- The Southern Association of Colleges and Schools Commission on Colleges reaffirmed CSU's accreditation following its 10-year review with no recommendations or findings, the highest level of affirmation of institutional quality and effectiveness.

Athletics

- CSU Athletics placed second in the Big South Sasser Cup standings for the third consecutive year, recognizing overall athletic excellence. Men's Cross Country captured its sixth consecutive Big South Championship, while Women's Tennis won its fifth conference title in six seasons and advanced to the NCAA Tournament.
- Student athletes achieved a department-record 3.39 GPA, marking the fourth consecutive year of record academic performance.
- Maeva Tahou earned First-Team All-American honors for the second time, placing fifth in the long jump and sixth in the triple jump at the NCAA Division I Outdoor Championships. She was also named the Big South Wanda Watkins Female Athlete of the Year, becoming only the second CSU student-athlete to receive the honor.

Advancement

- Total Advancement support reached $4.6 million during FY 2025-26, representing a 26.6% increase over the previous year.
- CSU secured $275,211 in competitive grant funding supporting academic excellence, workforce development, and student success.

Capital Projects

- CSU completed several major projects designed to enhance student life and support future growth:
- Magnolia Hall, a new 212-bed residence hall. A new Student Health Clinic. Conversion of the former Wingate property into Palmetto Hall, creating additional student housing capacity. Additional campus improvements included:
- Completed the aeronautics and engineering building. Other projects included renovating faculty offices, laboratories, and classrooms in the library; classroom upgrades in Ashby Hall; dining hall restroom renovations; and improvements to the media suite and visiting athletics director suite at Whitfield Stadium.



CONNIE MAXWELL *Report*

"Flowers are red, young man,
Green leaves are green.
There's no need to see flowers any other way,
Than the way they always have been seen."
— Harry Chapin, "Flowers Are Red"

I remember the first time I heard the song "Flowers Are Red." It resonated with me. It encouraged me. It inspired me to see things in a different way. Of course, seeing things differently creates a lot of questions. That's because human beings are comfortable with things staying the way they are.

Flowers are red.

But let me take a moment to remind you of something very important. Jesus was different. God always chose the Unusual Path. The Master Artist consistently "colored outside the lines."

The woman at the well…
Touching the untouchable…
Redefining the Sabbath…
Embracing his enemy…

2026 was a defining year as we continued to "color outside the lines" and move toward our vision to become a "national leader in healing and ministry for vulnerable children and families." Connie Maxwell completes another important year of our Decade of Dreams strategic plan and enters the homestretch of the For the Dreams of Children Campaign.

Here are a few updates outlining the progress we have made during the past year.

The For the Dreams of Children Campaign has just surpassed the $23 million mark toward our $25 million goal. Because of the magnitude of our three capital projects—the Healing Center, reimagining Maxwell Farms, and a new Charleston campus—we are calling on all our donors and friends to help us meet and surpass our current goal.

God has blessed us with several new significant gifts to push us forward and make our dreams for children a reality.

Thanks to all of you for your continued prayers and support in carrying us to an unprecedented level of excellence. You can learn more about our efforts at forthedreamsofchildren.com.

In addition to our momentum in fundraising for the Healing Center and other projects, we continue to elevate our training to create a culture that will operate at an even higher level of healing and ministry in the Center. Michelle Maokoetter, Senior Consultant, and Michelle Geiser, Vice President for Services and Programs, are capably leading the development of a stronger healing culture. Elizabeth Darrah has been appointed Director of Training and has already led several members of our leadership team in gaining trauma-expert credentials, with the long-term goal of providing this level of training across our entire organization. We are not simply building a Healing Center; we are building a culture of healing.

Along with these exciting developments surrounding the Healing Center, we continue to make progress in reimagining Maxwell Farms. This year we presented our 5th Annual Corn Maze, with more than 1,600 people attending this special event.

Additionally, we received a significant leadership gift from Barry and Karen White to name White Fox Farm Boulevard, the roadway leading toward our future amphitheater and Cow/Horse Show Arena. We also continue to patiently work toward acquiring a promising piece of land for our new campus in Charleston.

Progress also continues across the many goals and objectives of our Decade of Dreams.

Our Residential Care program served 162 children and families. Our Foster Care ministry continues to grow and flourish, with 42 licensed homes serving 96 children.

This number continues to fluctuate, in part because of the wonderful number of families who have moved forward with adoption.

Family Care continues to expand, serving 16 families, consisting of 16 single parents and their 24 children. Crisis Care served 22 children and families. Our Higher Education/Independent Living Program served 20 youth this year.

As part of the Decade of Dreams, a growing sense of momentum continues to strengthen both our annual giving and volunteer service. This year, our Giving Tuesday effort secured an extraordinary $805,330 through 486 gifts. Beyond financial support, Connie Maxwell welcomed more than 600 volunteers who served our children and ministry in countless ways throughout the year.

The 41st Biennial Connie Maxwell Alumni Reunion was held June 12–14, 2026. More than 450 alumni came back to celebrate the place so many still call home. A special alumni spotlight featured the celebration of the 50th Anniversary of Integration at Connie Maxwell. Some of the very first African American students returned with their families and friends to remember and celebrate this important milestone in the life of our tender ministry.

Mike and Kim Blackwood have been in many churches this year as we unveiled Dream Sunday. Dream Sunday is a Connie Maxwell worship service designed to communicate the impact of our ministry and the dreams we believe God has placed before us across South Carolina and beyond. It helps churches and individuals better understand how they can pray, give, serve, and participate in Connie Maxwell's promising future.

Finally, one of the moments that touched my heart most deeply this year was recently watching Trey, Mary, and Ashley baptized at Connie Maxwell Baptist Church. Of course, this is the fruit of our efforts. This is the reason we exist.

As I close this report, I want to bring to mind the final chorus of "Flowers Are Red":

"There are so many colors in the rainbow,
So many colors in the morning sun,

So many colors in the flowers,
And I love everyone."

As we continue moving into the future, we invite every South Carolina Baptist to join us in "coloring outside the lines" with radical compassion as we minister in deeper and more meaningful ways to children and families in Jesus' name.

For the Dreams of Children.

BAPTIST FOUNDATION *Report*

The Lord has done great things for us, and we are filled with joy! Psalm 126:3 NIV

As we reflect on the past year, our hearts are filled with gratitude for God's faithfulness and for the many ways he has allowed us to serve his Kingdom through the Baptist Foundation of South Carolina (BFSC). Through the generosity of people, the partnership of many churches, and the dedication of our team, we have witnessed lives impacted, ministries strengthened, and opportunities created for Kingdom growth. Every accomplishment represented in this report is more than a number or a milestone. It is evidence of what God can accomplish when his people faithfully steward the resources and opportunities he provides.

While our services have expanded and adapted over the years, our mission remains the same, with today's work focused on:

Ministry Investments – We offer competitive, Kingdom-focused options that help churches and ministries grow their resources through redemptive investing. Simply put, we put ministry dollars to work in businesses that honor God, serve people, and create meaningful impact. Our investments are designed with ministry in mind, balancing growth and measured risk while helping churches and ministries steward God's resources wisely and purposefully.

Church Lending and Capital Fundraising - Our subsidiary, Seed Financial Services, Inc. (SFS), partners with churches to finance building and renovation projects through wise, ministry-focused lending. SFS also offers Certificates of Growth (COGs), fixed-rate investment options for churches and individuals who want to help fuel church growth. Our goal is to help churches pursue their God-given vision while maintaining financial health and managing debt wisely.

Through our capital campaign services, we also help churches turn vision into action. We provide practical strategies and resources to inspire generosity, communicate biblical stewardship, and engage congregations in funding the ministry God has called them to pursue.

Generosity and Legacy Ministries – We help churches and individuals prayerfully plan for the future through donor advised funds and other planned giving strategies. BFSC also provides personal estate planning for South Carolina Baptists who want to leave a lasting gift to a Southern Baptist ministry or cause. Through thoughtful legacy planning, believers can extend their generosity beyond their lifetime, impact future generations, and experience the joy of giving from heaven.

Since our last report, we are grateful to celebrate the following significant accomplishments:

- Distributed over $5.4 million to primarily Baptist ministries through endowment and investment income in our fiscal year ending 12/31/2025. This is our largest single annual ministry distribution in our 76-year history. Since inception, BFSC has distributed over $110 million to churches and ministries in South Carolina and around the world.
- Gave over $413,000 to the Cooperative Program (CP) through annual endowed disbursals in 2025.
- Continued to operate with NO CP financial assistance, a decision implemented in 2016 so that other ministries could benefit from CP assistance. We are grateful for our past CP assistance, and we are equally grateful that we can operate without CP funds today!
- Distributed to ministries a return of $11.43 for every CP dollar we have received since our inception.
- Continued to tithe our own ministry resources to provide grants to help fund evangelistic projects. In 2025, grants totaling $115,900 were awarded to SCBaptist churches, associations, and other evangelistic ministries for projects focused on Kingdom growth. Since 2002, endowed gifts and the BFSC tithe have resulted in almost $1,700,000 in ministry grants.

- Provided scholarship funding for students in or preparing for ministry vocations at our SCBaptist universities through donations provided by our trustees. Since inception in 2011, our trustees have given a total of $200,463 in scholarships. In addition, BFSC manages several SCBaptist scholarship funds as well as scholarship funds for churches, growing their investments while also providing scholarship administration.
- Continued to assist small churches and other ministries with online giving platforms, including custom pages. In 2025, BFSC processed 6,400 online transactions, totaling almost $1.49 million in contributions to SCBaptist churches and ministries.
- Provided customized estate planning for families or individuals who desire to leave a portion of their estates to Kingdom ministries. In 2025, 37 families began or completed their estate planning through these services. To date, 402 families have completed estate plans with anticipated future gifts of over $93 million for primarily Baptist ministries.
- Continued to realize exceptional performance (competitive long-term returns with less risk) from investment funds. Not only does BFSC screen out investments such as alcohol, tobacco, cannabis, abortion, and pornography, but we actively seek to invest in high quality, competitive investments that support Kingdom initiatives and human flourishing.
- Processed over $27 million in loans for SCBaptist churches since the inception of Seed Financial Services, Inc. (SFS).
- Accepted 253 investments in Certificates of Growth (COGs) from individuals and ministries. These individuals and churches are investing in church growth as these funds are used to support church loans.
- As of August 31, 2026, the Foundation manages over $220 million in assets for the benefit of churches, associations, and Baptist institutions across our state, nation, and world.

We celebrate this year not simply because it was successful, but because God was at work through it all. We are thankful for the trust placed in us and enthusiastic about what lies ahead as we continue investing in people, strengthening churches and ministries, and helping advance the Great Commission. To God be the glory for all he has done and for all he will continue to do through the faithful stewardship of his people.

MINISTRIES OF AGING *Report*

As a proud ministry partner of SCBaptist, the South Carolina Baptist Ministries of Aging (SCBMA) is committed to helping seniors across our state live abundantly in Christ. That commitment has been beautifully reflected over SCBMA's past 65 years at Bethea Retirement Community and Martha Franks Retirement Community. SCBaptists have loved, supported, and prayed for the ministry work at Bethea and Martha Franks, enabling quality senior care and services.

Faithful Transition

On August 1, 2026, Bethea and Martha Franks' operations were transitioned to new ownership and are now managed by Oakdale Seniors Alliance. This transition has ushered in mixed feelings for many in our Convention, and it is with gratitude for God's provision during this season, and an utmost respect for past, present, and future residents of the retirement communities. Time and again, we have seen God's faithfulness at work—guiding steps, blessing our ministry, and transforming lives through his love. It has been my great pleasure to serve the men and women that call Bethea and Martha Franks home and serve along with the caring staff who represent the hands of Jesus. Every resident welcomed, every family comforted, every meal served, every room prepared, every prayer offered, and every kindness shown has reflected our shared commitment to honor God by providing compassionate care in the name of Jesus Christ so all we serve may thrive. We are confident we selected an experienced organization that understands the importance of honoring the heritage of Bethea and Martha Franks while ensuring strong operations for the future.

Looking Ahead with Faith

Now as SCBMA begins a new chapter, it is with a heart of excitement that the SCBMA Trustees and the SCBaptist Executive Board prayerfully pursue a new model of senior services. This next chapter will allow us to continue fulfilling that mission in new and more accessible ways.

Recent senior adult aging statistics indicate that there has been a 34% increase in Americans over the age 65 in the last decade – from about 43 million in 2012 to 58 million in 2022 with the fastest growing segment of those aged 80+. As I reflect on the senior adult needs, there are so many opportunities we have as a Convention to serve, resource, and potentially evangelize the dear individuals of our state.

Pray with Us

As we move forward, we ask for your prayers as we continue to work alongside the South Carolina Baptist Convention to refocus SCBMA's mission and to open the door to a broader, more sustainable ministry—one that reaches more senior adults and strengthens the fabric of our Baptist community across the entire state.

We remain deeply grateful for the faithful support of South Carolina Baptists.

THE BAPTIST COURIER
Report

Much has changed at the historic Baptist Courier over the past four years. One of the oldest state Baptist publications still in existence, the Courier was once one of the leading state newspapers in Baptist life. With the advent of the internet, newspapers as we once knew them have largely died off, and Baptist newspapers have been forced to make monumental changes.

Today, the Baptist Courier remains a vibrant ministry that is again growing. The former newspaper has become a monthly magazine that tells the story of God's work among SCBaptists and is also a resource that encourages healthy local churches and healthy followers of Jesus Christ.

The Courier also includes Courier Publishing. With more than 20 books published in its first two years and 30 more under contract, Courier Publishing features books and related resources on Bible, theology, church history, ministry, Christian living and more. Courier Publishing is relatively new but is a fast-growing and trusted evangelical publisher. In the past year, our books have been featured at the South Carolina Baptist Convention's annual meeting, the Southern Baptist Convention's annual meeting and conferences such as Cross Con in Louisville, the Pillar Network's annual conference, and For the Church at Midwestern Baptist Theological Seminary. We have also forged publishing partnerships with other ministries such as 9Marks and Practical Shepherding as well as Southern Seminary.

The Courier's ministry also features two podcasts: Courier Conversations with Courier President Jeff Robinson and Three Rivers Association Missions Strategist Travis Kerns and Courier Conversation for Women, featuring Courier reporter Mary Margaret Flook and noted blogger and podcaster Hannah Miller. Our podcasts deal with vital issues related to the church and aim at helping listeners develop a robustly biblical worldview on a host of biblical, theological, historical, cultural, and practical issues.

In an age when many Baptist media outlets are shrinking or even disappearing, we are proud to report that Courier is thriving as both a news outlet and publisher of Christ-centered, Scripture saturate resources for the local church.

WOMEN'S MISSIONARY UNION *Report*

Serving as your South Carolina Woman's Missionary Union (WMU) Executive Director-Treasurer for almost four years has been a joy and honor. Thinking about the task God has entrusted to us excites me. I have so much good news to share with you; I will begin right here in our state!

Missions Cooperation

Thank you for partnering with us in pursuing goals for the Janie Chapman Offering! We completed our year-end giving activities earlier this year, and I'm pleased to say that the funds collected for Janie Chapman exceeded expectations.

We can celebrate that $2,224,085 was given to the Janie Chapman Offering for State Missions in 2025! For the 28th year in a row, South Carolina WMU sent a check for over a million dollars to the South Carolina Baptist Convention to support the Convention initiatives. This exceeds our $2,220,100 goal by almost $4,000. The incredible news is that it is the highest Janie Chapman Offering ever. Thank you so much for giving to this offering. The Finance Committee met in March and set the 2026 offering goal at $2,222,000.

Missions Leadership

In January and February 2026, 14 women from across South Carolina met virtually every week for six weeks for a women's leadership cohort led by Hannah Smith, our adult consultant. These women serve in various areas in their churches, including missions, women's ministry, and children's ministry.

This certificate is a joint effort between South Carolina WMU and Southeastern Baptist Theological Seminary. To encourage further equipping for female leaders, participants who complete the South Carolina WMU Leadership Cohort are eligible to receive a scholarship to help offset the cost of the Southeastern Baptist Theological Seminary certificate. Hannah will start another cohort in January 2027. Interested participants can contact our office.

Missions at Camp

We had an incredible time at Camp La Vida this summer! We welcomed 950 campers and mothers to our beautiful grounds. Here are testimonies from two people who attended our camps this summer. One mom said: "God met me in the quiet moments, the laughter, the conversations, and the time with my girl and our friends. Camp La Vida healed something I didn't know needed healing. What a gift."

One 10-year-old camper wrote: "I love Camp La Vida because it brings joy and happiness in my life. My bunk mates were so nice when I was homesick, and my friends were there for me. Camp La Vida makes me feel like I am meeting Jesus himself. I learned so much in only a few days. I wasn't close to God, but now I am almost at the tippy top with him. My family isn't Christian, but I can think for myself. I can't wait for next year. Thank you, Camp La Vida."

We want to say a heartfelt thank you to Cindy Skelton for her 34 years of faithful service as the Camp Program Director of Camp La Vida! Through her leadership, countless children, students, volunteers, and churches have experienced the love of Christ, built lifelong friendships, and created memories that will last a lifetime. Cindy's dedication, servant's heart, and passion for missions have made an eternal impact on generations of campers. While Cindy is passing the torch as Camp Program Director, we're grateful that she will continue serving as our Preschool and Children Consultant with South Carolina WMU. We know God will continue to use her in incredible ways as she equips churches and encourages the next generation.

Please join us in welcoming Kenna Boyle to the South Carolina WMU team as our new Camp La Vida Camp Program Director! We are excited to have Kenna joining our ministry and know she will be a tremendous blessing to Camp La Vida and the many leaders, volunteers, and campers we serve across South Carolina. She brings a wealth of knowledge, experience, and passion, and we are grateful for the way God has led her to this role.

Kenna has been a camper at Camp La Vida since she was eight years old. She said, “Looking back now, I can clearly see how God used each season to prepare me for the next. The lessons I learned at camp—serving in community, discipling others, living with intentionality, and learning to depend on the Lord—became foundational on the mission field. At the same time, serving overseas expanded my understanding of discipleship and strengthened my conviction that missions is not limited to one location. The same God who is working in Botswana is working in cabins, chapels, and conversations at camp in Winnsboro, South Carolina.”

Missions Sending

Because South Carolina is a missions-sending state, we offer mission trip opportunities to students from all churches. This summer, our student consultant, Lauren Morris, led a team of students to Eastern Europe for a trip in partnership with International Mission Board missionaries. Students were trained in how to share the Gospel effectively and then had opportunities to put that into practice. Our students were able to share their testimonies and the Gospel with teenagers and adults. What they learned on this mission trip is already being implemented in their day-to-day lives back here in South Carolina. By sending students on mission trips, more churches will be encouraged to become goers and senders.



Jess Archer
Executive Director-Treasurer
South Carolina Women’s Missionary Union





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