



Ed & Mary Price State Missions Emphasis

"I found very quickly that Ed and Mary Price were special people in the Lord's vineyard-the kind of people who were faithfully and eagerly serving in the difficult and unknown places where God had placed them on the frontier of home missions. They were people of wisdom and mission wherever they were, considering every work of Christian endeavor as worthy of their best. Quality and excellence were their hallmarks."

These words reflect the reason why the Executive Board voted in November 1986 to name the annual offering for state missions the Ed & Mary Price State Missions Offering.

In 1961 Joe Waltz, then pastor of the Pittsburgh Baptist Church, plead for Baptist laypeople to come and plant their lives in Pittsburgh. Ed and Mary put his request on their prayer list. Three weeks later Ed was asked to fill a new position in Westinghouse Corp.'s Pittsburgh office. They looked upon their transfer as a move that had in it the hand of God.

Their personal adventure with the penetration of Southern Baptists into the northeast is a marvelous story of sacrifice and dedication. Ed helped organize the Greater Pittsburgh Association in 1963 (now The Baptist Association of Southwestern Pennsylvania) which at that time encompassed all of western Pennsylvania from the Ohio line to Altoona, from the West Virginia line to Lake Erie.

In 1970 when the Baptist Convention of Pennsylvania/ South Jersey was organized, Ed Price was chosen to serve as the new convention's first president. Mary was elected president of the new Pennsylvania/South Jersey Woman's Missionary Union.

Reflecting on their call to Pittsburgh, Ed said, "I didn't realize it at the time, but laypeople can be called to move just as surely as a pastor can."

"We should be careful how we pray," added Mary. "It's a calculated risk. Often we're not willing to be the answer."

2009 Season of Prayer for State Missions



Ed and Mary Price Offering for State Missions

Goal: \$50,000

Allocations:

Special Assistance for Churches	\$18,000
Volunteer/Partnership Ministries	\$16,500
Collegiate Ministries	\$ 6,500
Disaster Relief	\$ 3,000
Strategic Planning Resources	\$ 4,000
Missions Promotion	<u>\$ 2,000</u>

Total: \$50,000