

2009 Season of State Missions **Pennsylvania**

- Special Assistance for Churches
- Volunteer/Partnership Ministries
- Strategic Planning Resources
- Disaster Relief
- Collegiate Ministries
- Missions Promotion



Churchwide Plans for Pastor, WMU Director, and Other Missions Leadership

Date: September 2009

Theme: “Pennsylvania/South Jersey Together”

Scripture: "For we are laborers together with God." 1 Corinthians 3:9 KJV

Ed and Mary Price Offering Goal: \$50,000

READ ME FIRST!!!!

If you are . . .

- **the pastor**
- **the WMU director or key leader for missions involvement . . .** then you need to know that these contents are meant to help you celebrate what God is doing in Pennsylvania/South Jersey. God is indeed blessing us and moving among us. The plans in these few pages are for use with the entire church.

How do you tell anything to the church as a whole?

Look at your church as the entire congregation who gets together on Sunday morning or who reads your church bulletin. Look at the church as those groups you can easily identify and target when you want to speak to them specifically (the choir, senior adults, youth, etc.). Consider that the church is also those small groups who show up for various activities that aren't targeted for a defined group--like those who come to a midweek prayer service or those who come to a Bible study you offer or those who will be there if you have a fellowship.

To tell the church your exciting news of what God is doing through Pennsylvania and South Jersey Baptists, how they can be a part of it and how they already are a part in many ways, consider using one or more of the approaches suggested in these few pages. After you read each suggestion, ask yourself what would be the most effective approach for the audience you want to reach.

Awareness options

That's the brief "commercial" you might use on Sunday morning or Wednesday night--the **bulletin inserts**, the prayer experience, or the **offering visual** you use to alert church members of this emphasis. First, you create awareness, the first level of learning.

One-time events

These are the activities that get people to commit to the next degree of involvement. They might learn something; do something, pray, etc. Consider the following:

1. Invite a state missions speaker for one of your worship or mid-week services. (See the **"Up Close & Personal"** brochure included with this packet.)
2. Conduct a Bible study or preach a message based on the scripture (**1 Corinthians 3:9**) and/or the theme for the Season of State Missions (**Together**).
3. Conduct a **Prayer Walk** around your community, praying for each home and each family within those blocks. (See the information at the end of this pamphlet.)
4. Use the **Prayer Guide** during your mid-week prayer service to pray for the work of Pennsylvania/South Jersey Baptists.

Short-term activities

When you're talking about a Season of State Missions that's a great example of a short-term activity, but you might have some short-term activities before the week or after as follow-up. These involvement activities have a beginning and an end but occur on more than one day. Think about these:

1. Conduct a Community Needs Assessment to discover needs surrounding your church and gifts of your church members to meet these needs.
2. Take a walking/riding tour of your church community to see who lives and/or works nearby that your church is not reaching.
3. Provide a copy of the **prayer guide** to each family and encourage them to pray daily for the needs and work of Southern Baptists in our convention.
4. Adopt a college or university campus near you for ministry to students and internationals. Find out if there is a Baptist ministry to that campus. If there is, find out how you can help the campus minister working there. If not, determine ways you might begin a ministry on this campus.

Ongoing ministries

If we've done our jobs right, you'll be exposed to what God is doing in Pennsylvania and southern New Jersey to such an extent that you'll want to be a part of it. That's when you may turn to an ongoing ministry and the ultimate learning experience--hands-on application of what you've learned. If you don't know where to begin, take a look at these options:

1. Work with your association/region to assess the need for a language/culture response in your community.
2. Work with your association/region to assess the need for a new congregation in your community or a nearby community.
3. Pray for your church and the calling out of leadership for current missions needs as well as for the future.
4. Begin a Bible study in a neighborhood that needs an evangelical witness.
5. Develop a ministry to meet specific needs of a college/university campus near you.
6. Promote volunteerism in your church, noting

needs your church has that might utilize volunteers as well as ways your church members might serve as volunteers.

7. Promote and give to the Cooperative Program to support the work of your church, your association, your state convention and the Southern Baptist Convention.

To make it all happen

1. Begin with prayer. Ask God to show you what ideas will work best and how to adapt them to fit your church.
2. Meet with the appropriate church leadership and planning team(s) to share selected ideas. Ask for additional input. Review packet materials. Confirm dates.
3. Distribute packet materials to appropriate persons.
4. Order any additional materials you might need from the state Church Mobilization office (envelopes, posters).
5. Set and publicize the offering goal for your church.
6. Enlist participants for each of the ideas you selected from the suggested plans. Provide them with appropriate background material.
7. Pray throughout the experience and give God the glory!

Content focus

You can see by the list of allocations included in this packet that the Ed and Mary Price Offering covers several areas of work.

Where does the money go?

When you give money to the State Missions Offering, every cent of it stays right here in Pennsylvania and southern New Jersey.

It will

- provide assistance for volunteers and partnership ministries
- provide special assistance for churches
- provide missions promotion
- assist with expenses for collegiate ministry interns on college/university campuses
- assist with expenses for disaster relief
- provide strategic planning resources for churches and associations/regions.

Evangelization of Pennsylvania and South Jersey is the ultimate goal of every outreach program, project and ministry.

Why is the State Missions Offering so important?

It is vital for the larger missions picture that members of Pennsylvania/South Jersey Southern Baptist churches see their missions dollars put into action. The State Missions Offering stays right here where the need is indeed great and, as a result, the people in our churches experience missions first hand.

The greater effect is that giving to worldwide missions causes increases when they see the impact of the State Missions Offering.

In this packet

Included in this packet are the following items:

- CD with powerpoint
- State Missions envelopes
- State Missions poster(s)
- Mini-Posters
- Churchwide Plans
- Prayer Guide (for duplication)
- Bulletin cover/inserts (for duplication)
- Up Close & Personal
- Information on Ed & Mary Price
- State Missions Word Search (for duplication) and answer sheet
- Clipart sheet
- State Missions Allocations Sheet

The **bulletin insert** sheets may be used in several ways. They can be used together to form the bulletin cover or used separately as two bulletin inserts.

Use the **State Missions posters** to promote the Season of State Missions.

Duplicate the **Word Search Puzzle** for use with the youth and children. This can be a great Churchwide activity to learn about the allocations and scripture for the Ed & Mary Price Offering for State Missions.

Continue the blessings

God is doing marvelous, exciting things in Pennsylvania and southern New Jersey. We need to join Him in that work. Let's continue to be laborers together with Him!

Remember our logo!!!

This past year we introduced our new State Missions logo. This is the permanent logo which you will see each year from this point on. When you see the [Pennsylvania/South Jersey Together](#) logo you will recognize this item or article as State Missions. We hope this helps you promote the Season of State Missions with your church.



Baptist Resource Network Regions



Western Region

Central Region

Philadelphia Region

South Jersey Region