

# Season of Prayer and Ola Cox State Missions Offering

W V C O N V E N T I O N O F S O U T H E R N B A P T I S T S

A W O R D F R O M O U R  
E X E C U T I V E D I R E C T O R



Terry Harper  
Executive Director

Week of  
Prayer and  
Ola Cox State  
Missions Of-  
fering  
September 13-  
20, 2009

Offering Goal  
\$115,000

Challenge  
Goal  
\$120,000

*"Friends, Your financial gifts are important, they pay the bills, however prayer is the most important because prayer provides the POWER."  
(Maxine B.)*

Our State Mission Offering is a great time for each of us to step up to the plate and help West Virginians. Every penny of this offering is spent here in the state to assist West Virginians. The list of things the offering is used for is listed in this brochure.

Furthermore, as soon as this offering is collected our office will cut a check for each association for their 10% share of the monies given from their Association. So, it will help each local area as well.

As you can see, the largest portion of this offering (58%) goes to help existing churches and for starting new churches. That really is what we are about here at the Baptist Building. Helping existing congregations and helping those same congregations start new ones.

I hope you will be generous as you give to the Ola Cox State Mission offering for this 2009. This year, more than ever, we need your support to assist in all of these vital ministries. Let us join together to "Love West

Virginia" in Jesus' name!

LOVE West Virginia:  
Nearly 75% of West Virginia is covered by forests. 75% of West Virginians do not have a personal relationship with Jesus.

W H A T T H E C H A L L E N G E G O A L  
W I L L M E A N

There are many reasons for a challenge goal. The obvious one, the total dollar amount for each line item will be increased. It may appear that such a small amount in some cases cannot make a difference. However, just \$100

will mean 3 more qualifying pastors can receive a WVCSB contribution to their retirement through Guidestone. Likewise, \$275 for camps makes it possible for at least 20 more campers to experience camp. Even the small-

est increased amount for Missions Education will mean that at least two new mission groups can be started in a church. Of course when disasters hit, like the recent flooding, every penny is needed. THANK YOU for giving!

## Disaster Relief

### Disaster Relief.....

According to Delton Beall, WVCSB Missions Director responsible for Disaster Relief, 122 homes had major damages and 220 were totally destroyed in Mingo county. He reported that about 2300 meals were provided a day by two DR Feeding Units. Mud out Teams were on the scene doing a great job. Delton reminds us to pray for the victims and the DR teams

In the West Virginia mountains, the May flood damage surpassed anything many of the lifelong residents had ever witnessed as Mingo, Wyoming, McDowell, and parts of surrounding counties received 3.5 to 4 inches of rain within twenty-four hours. According to the West Virginia Emergency Management, close to 4,000 homes were damaged or destroyed as well as roads and bridges either heavily damaged or destroyed.

Immediately following the flooding, Southern Baptist Disaster Relief responded by setting up two feeding sites and sending in Mud-out teams. As the flood waters recede, there is a need for mud-out teams in WV. In order to be directly involved in assisting with the mud-out efforts you must be certified by Disaster Relief. Contact the state office or your association to learn how to become involved in DR.

Across West Virginia pleas were made for garbage bags to be used in the cleanup efforts, plastic gloves, bath soap, deodorant and other related hygiene items, baby diapers, paper goods and food; preferably food that does not require preparation or cold storage due to a lack of electricity and or appliances. As the displaced families begin to find homes or places to stay there will also be a need for food, bedding, furniture, appliances, dishes, etc..

... Tommy Knotts, pastor of Brenton Baptist Church, who for the second time in seven years was flooded. for . Individuals talked about how they had lived in their home for 25 or 30 years and never experienced flooding. One young mother looks at pictures of what used to be her home and talked about how her husband had just finished putting the finishing touches on the "baby's room." The house was now split down the middle and swept off the foundation, destroyed. Families had to dig through debris looking for valuables, pictures and documents. Tons of flood damaged furniture, appliances, flooring, and clothing lined the roadsides waiting for the National Guard to pick it up. Roads were damaged and multiple bridges were swept away. (Story adapted from ARM Newsletter by Bill Barker)

## The Coalfield Story

LOVE West Virginia: The world's largest sycamore tree is located on the Back Fork of the Elk River in Webster Springs. Jesus died on the only tree that can guarantee LIFE forever.

The Coalfields Association of Southern Baptists is a Christ-centered ministry focusing on church planting, evangelism, and outreach in southwestern West Virginia. There are fifteen congregations in Logan, Mingo, Boone, Wyoming and McDowell Counties.

The Coalfields are in a rugged, rural and remote region of West Virginia. Because of its inaccessibility, the area has lagged behind economically. With the downturn in the coal industry, there is a sense of hopelessness and the

need for ministry is great.

Without a network of praying partners participating with us in **God's activity, much of what we've** been called to do would be impossible. In addition to the support we receive through our churches, assistance from our state convention, the Ola Cox Missions Offering helps keep efforts focused on building Christ's kingdom.

Through various ministries the association has assisted hundreds of families whose homes were damaged in all too frequent floods.

Many people live in substandard housing and the needs always outnumber apparent resources. But God proves Himself sufficient time and again.

Prayer Request: Pray that God will provide willing ministry partners: *Survey workers, VBS teams, Prayerwalking teams, construction workers to help building and remodeling projects.* Most of all pray for the *Evangelistic outreach of the churches.*

## Upper Ohio Valley Praises

The Lord provided \$493.46 through Ola Cox to help our association do that which He has called us to do. Just a few of the major movements of God in our association are included in this story. There are numerous day to day activities that may not amount to a lot in themselves, but are important as acts of **obedience in accomplishing God's will.**

God is moving among and through the churches of our association. All glory, praise and recognition are given to Him for what He is doing. During the past year He has moved

the churches to continue to witness of His love for us and to tell others about His sacrifice of His Son for our sins. As a result, 167 people made professions of faith in Him, the second highest number of **baptisms in the state....**

Jeff Buchanan and 72 members of the Eagle Lake Baptist Church, Florida assisted Temple Baptist Church at the Marshall County Fair and gave away water, Bibles, tied balloons and the gospel of Jesus where 26 professions of faith were made. This

team also lead in giving a block party to Wheeling with hot dogs, hamburgers, soft drinks, snacks, tracks, Bibles, and the gospel of Jesus was given and 50 people prayed to receive Jesus. This resulted in the Wheeling Community Church being started in north Wheeling where a 66 year old man was the first to give his heart to the Lord and follow Him in the waters of baptism as a result of the church services. The Lord has also led a local couple to commit \$20,000.00 plus dollars to establishing this church. Pray for God to send a pastor to lead this new church. Another prayer request is the

## Greater Huntington Association: Thank You, Ola Cox Offering

Greater Huntington Baptist Association is located on the Northwestern side of the state of West Virginia. The association covers an area that includes the counties of Cabell, Lincoln, Wayne and parts of Mason and Putnam with one church located in Logan County. There are 12 churches and 4 missions working at this time which includes our Chinese Mission. Six of those works are in the city of Huntington, one work in Barboursville, one in Ceredo, two in Kenova. All of these works are along the Ohio River. It is like there are two different associations within the one. The area around Marshall University has the most churches but away from the city, there are fewer works with different attitudes toward new works. The need is great!

The field is white unto harvest but the workers are few. More than 40 bi-vocational church planters and support for those church planters and their families is needed. Along with those church planters, people who are willing to leave the comfort of their own churches and go work in the field to help the church planters reach new communities are needed. (This concept is called "Lend a Leader.") In order to begin a new church a small core group is required to plant the seeds and trust God to bless the harvest..

The Ola Cox special offerings are an important part of associational financing. With this offering you make a difference within your own neighborhood and state where drugs and alcohol are so prevalent among not only our teens, but in the young adults as well as the middle age adults. Thank you for taking a stand for Jesus Christ with not only your time, but your money.

The association has begun a year-long project to refocus all of the Ministries and how all Association offerings are used. Ola Cox makes a meaningful contribution to the overall mission of the association each year. We greatly appreciate everyone who gives to the Ola Cox State Mission Offering.

### Immanuel Association: The Ola Cox Missions Offering

We are very thankful for the Ola Cox Offering promoted by the State Convention. The Immanuel Association recognizes the huge difference this funding can make in the ministry of our Convention and Association.

The Immanuel Association spends the bulk of its contributions on mission projects for our existing churches as well as new church starts. We have several mission building projects going on all the time and are currently working on 2 homes and 1 church facility. With wise use of funds and volunteer building teams, both in our association and from all over the country, churches do not have heavy debt. This enables them to have new facilities and not be financially burdened so they are able to carry out their outreach ministries. Our part of the Ola Cox Offering goes directly to these projects.

Praise God from whom all blessing flow.

### Churches With New Mission Education Units assisted From Ola Cox Funds

Big Springs – Acteens  
Marland Heights – CiA, Women on Mission  
Berkeley – Women on Mission  
Immanuel Princeton, Acteens, RAs  
Chattaroy, Acteens, Challengers, CIA, Mission Friends  
First Baptist, Fort Ashby, Women on Mission  
Little Birch, Women on Mission  
Cumberland Heights, Women on Mission  
Church of the Good Shepherd, Women on Mission

### Missions Campers of 2008 say: THANK YOU Ola Cox Offering

Missions Camp 2008: The theme was *Finding My Place*, 151 campers and leaders found places of service and ministry. Forty-six 9-12 graders along with their leaders did three backyard Bible clubs, 2 VBSS in a nursing home and visited New River Baptist Church, the site of *52 Days of Ministry and Evangelism*.

The 7-8 grade campers hosted block parties in a multi-housing community and two Southern Baptist churches.

The 4-6 grade campers were involved doing missions. They made baby albums for new mothers who give birth at the Hospital in Summersville, and a family photo frame for families who receive food and clothing from the Mountain Mission in the Allegheny Association. The association plans to provide a professional photographer to make family photos at the ministry center.

The campers and volunteers designated 1/2 the missions offering to the Missionary Christmas Fund which provides a token Christmas gift to missionaries who claim WV as home. The other half was designated to assist one of our workers in East Asia to establish a business which will allow him and his team to get permanent visas.

Three campers were saved, several made recommitments, one responded to a call to music ministry and one responded to a call to international missions.

As in the past several years Missions Camp impacted at least 1200 lives!

LOVE West Virginia: (Preamble to state constitutions) —Since through Divine Providence we enjoy the blessings of civil, political and religious liberty, we, the people of West Virginia, in and through the provisions of the Constitution, reaffirm our faith and constant reliance upon God and seek diligently to promote, preserve and perpetuate good government in the state of West Virginia for the common welfare, freedom and security of ourselves and our posterity.

Allocations for  
Ola Cox State Missions Offering 2009

Goal: \$115,000

Challenge Goal: \$120,000

Theme: LOVE West Virginia

Scripture: 1 John 4:19-21

*We love because He first loved us. If anyone says, "I love God," yet hates his brother, he is a liar. For the person who does not love his brother whom he has seen cannot love God whom he has not seen. And we have this command from Him: the one who loves God must also love his brother. (HCSB)*

	<u>Goal</u>	<u>Challenge</u>
<u>Congregational Assistance (58%)</u>	\$66,700	\$69,600
Assist existing congregations, new congregations; survey and other activities related to starting new churches (includes Anglo, African-American, and other Ethnic groups).		
<u>Associational Development (10%)</u>	\$11,500	\$12,000
Each association receives ten percent of the receipts from the churches that make up the association. Local associational leadership determines how money is used.		
<u>Mission Ministries (5.1%)</u>	\$5,865	\$6,120
Provide training, materials, and resources to equip churches to do ministry.		
<u>Missions Camp and Super Summer (5.5%)</u>	\$6,325	\$6,600
Supplement Convention budget for these two summer events for children and youth.		
<u>Disaster Relief (4.5%)</u>	\$5,175	\$5,400
Funds are for disaster relief training as well as response to disasters in our state.		
<u>Pastor Annuity (5.5%)</u>	\$6,325	\$6,600
<b>Supplement Convention budget line that covers a minimum amount for pastors' annuity when the church participates at the required level.</b>		
<u>Emergency Help for Church Staffs (2.75%)</u>	\$3,162.50	\$3,300
Provide assistance for emergency needs of church staff members.		
<u>Emergency Help to Churches (2.75%)</u>	\$3,162.50	\$3,300
Help for repairing/replacing existing facilities and equipment when local funds are not available.		
<u>Resort Missions (3%)</u>	\$3,400	\$3,600
Provide assistance for innovative ministries to reach employees and visitors to resorts.		
<u>Missions Education (1.4%)</u>	\$1,610	\$1,680
Provides assistance to encourage new missions education units and to train missions leaders.		
<u>Promotion (1.5%)</u>	\$1,725	\$1,800
Supplements convention budget for preparing state missions promotional materials.		

Note: The Ola Cox State Missions Offering funds are placed in designated accounts, according to the percentage of the allocation/receipts at the first of the year. Any funds not used are carried over in the designated accounts. Most funds are used each year.