



BAPTIST PRESS
News Service of the Southern Baptist Convention

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January 3, 1966-

**Missions Gifts Top SBC
Budget By \$2.7 Million**

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NASHVILLE (BP)---The Southern Baptist Convention exceeded its \$19.8 million budget for 1965 by more than \$2.7 million, making 1965 a record year of Baptist missions giving.

During 1965, a record \$22,570,857 was contributed to Baptist missions causes through the denomination's Cooperative Program budget.

Cooperative Program gifts exceeded 1964 contributions by \$1,679,221, an increase of 8.04 per cent, and topped by budget by a total of \$2,735,257.

The budget was reached on Nov. 16, and all receipts from then until Dec. 31 were divided two-thirds to foreign missions and one-third to home missions.

Foreign missions got \$1,823,505 in missions advance funds, and home missions received an additional \$911,752.

"This added impetus will mean greater missionary outreach in a distraught world, and more church sites in pioneer areas of the U.S.," commented Porter Routh, executive secretary of the southern Baptist Executive Committee here.

"More important," Routh said, "it represents a response to a compassionate heart."

Significantly, the record year of giving occurred during the 40th anniversary of the Cooperative Program, the denomination's budget plan whereby churches give a percentage of their local contributions to be divided through the SBC budget to support Baptist work throughout the world.

The \$19.8 million budget provides funds for operations and capital needs of 13 Southern Baptist boards, commissions and agencies and six Southern Baptist seminaries.

In addition to the record \$22½ million given undesignated through the Cooperative Program budget, more than \$17.1 million was given to designated Southern Baptist causes during 1965.

The \$17,107,049 to designated causes represents an increase of \$1,147,224 over designated gifts of 1964, an increase of 7.19 per cent.

With total undesignated and designated gifts combined, a whopping \$39,677,007 was given to Southern Baptist missions causes during 1965.

The combined total represents an increase of \$2,826,447 over total missions gifts of 1964.

Total missions contributions do not include amounts given by Southern Baptist churches to support state-wide causes or local church programs.

Baptist officials here expect total church contributions for the year to well exceed the \$100 million mark. For the first time last year, total contributions by the churches topped \$100 million, and the 1965 contributions will probably be even greater.

Total church contributions will be released in January or February after statistical reports from the churches are available.

Howard College Still
Exists at Samford U.

BIRMINGHAM, Ala. (BP)---Howard College, one of the oldest schools affiliated with a Southern Baptist state convention, still exists even though officially its name has been changed to Samford University.

The Baptist school will retain the name of Howard College for its liberal arts school, the original core component of what today is Samford University.

Action by the Alabama Baptist State Convention, which owns and supports the school, officially changed the name of Howard College to Samford University in November.

For several years, the school had reached "university" status by definition, said its president, Leslie S. Wright. The school, with 2,778 students, grants 11 degrees and offers study in at least 40 broad areas of concentration.

Howard could not change its name to Howard "University" because another school in Washington, D.C., goes by that name.

Instead the school was named for Frank Park Samford, chairman of the Howard College board of trustees since 1939 and "the college's greatest individual benefactor."

Howard College exists today. But only as a part of a greater institution--- Samford University, said a release from the Samford news bureau.

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CORRECTION

1-3-66

EDITORS: Please kill the last graph of story mailed 12-28-65 (page 2), headlined Pastor's Wife, Children/Killed in Car Accident. Substitute instead the following two graphs:

Slaughter's first wife died of a brain tumor operation while he was stationed in Germany during military service. He had two children by his first marriage and one in his second. His wife was expecting another child in July.

Both Slaughter and his wife were associate missionaries of the Southern Baptist Home Mission Board, jointly employed by the Home Mission Board and the Colorado Baptist General Convention. They were being considered as career home missionaries.

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Long-time Texas Baptist
Missions Worker Passes

1-3-66

FORT WORTH (BP)---J.D. Brannon, known as the dean of Baptist district missionaries in Texas, died here at the age of 65 on Christmas eve.

He would have retired on Dec. 31 after 32 years as a district missionary for Texas Baptists. In term of service, he was the oldest district missions worker in the state.

Brannon had served as district missions superintendent with offices in Fort Worth, since 1941. Previously he served for three years as district worker with offices in Abilene, Texas, and five years for another district with offices in Houston.

Memorial services were held Dec. 28, at the Birdville Baptist Church in Fort Worth.

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**Church Should Open Doors
To Africans, Official Says**

OKLAHOMA CITY (BP)---A Nigerian Baptist official said here that Africans cannot understand it when Christians in America have contributed their prayers, money and missionaries to convert them, but have closed the doors of their churches to students who have come to this country.

"Missionaries have been sent to us and millions of dollars have been poured into our country, and for this we are grateful," said David Idowu of the Nigerian Baptist Convention's Sunday school department.

"Churches have done something," he said in an interview here, "but they have not gone far enough."

"Now, in the light of all that you have done for us, it would be very strange if I as a Nigerian (I do not regard myself as a Negro) should come to America and want to join a church--any church of my choice---and then the church should close its door against me," Idowu said.

For the past six months the 46-year-old Idowu has been studying at Southern Baptist Theological Seminary in Louisville, Kentucky, in an effort "to get new ideas on Sunday School methods."

He is a member of Crescent View Baptist Church, Louisville where the chairman of the Southern Baptist Christian Life Commission, John Claypool, is pastor. Although this church accepted him as a member willingly, many churches within the Southern Baptist Convention would not, he said.

"When we of other countries come here, we cannot understand why we should not be accepted into your churches since we have been acquainted with you (Southern Baptists) all along."

"When you talk of Negroes in the United States, that is a different situation," he reflected. "Integration of the races here will come, but it will take a long time."

Idowu, whose wife and four children remain in Africa, has worked with the Baptist Sunday school department in Ibadan, Nigeria since 1945. He was converted by Southern Baptist missionaries when he was 16 years old.

Parenthetically expressing his views on missions activity in Rhodesia, Idowu said he feels that the political situation in that country will have little, if any, effect on Baptist work.

"Missionaries have steered clear of political involvement, and will probably be able to continue their work in Rhodesia without interference," he said.

Idowu was in Oklahoma City to visit with Dr. William J. Williams, a physician who formerly was a missionary to Nigeria.



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