

August 22, 1969

Our hearts have all been touched and our spirits disturbed by the devastating storm which struck the Gulf Coast with all of its fury. Social agencies have done a heroic work in meeting the needs of food and clothing for the homeless victims.

Many requests have come from pastors and church members over the SBC requesting information on what they could do. The Home Mission Board, from its relief funds, has already sent \$5,000 to the Baptist Office in Jackson, Mississippi, to assist in meeting urgent emergency needs.

Dr. Douglas Hudgins, Mississippi Baptist Executive Secretary, has said the conservative estimate of uninsured losses to churches and parsonages, is close to \$1,000,000. Any funds for assistance should be sent to the Baptist Building in Jackson, Mississippi, marked for Hurricane Relief.

W. A. Criswell
President, Southern Baptist Convention

Porter Routh
Executive Secretary-Treasurer, SBC

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NOTE TO EDITORS: Baptist Press will file complete coverage of the effect of the Hurricane on Baptist churches and work in South Mississippi on Monday. Photos will be mailed to state paper editors over the weekend. Lack of communications and transportation facilities in the area delayed anticipated coverage by at least one day.

--Baptist Press