



VISION
newsletter
MARCH 2024

WE CAN DO MORE TOGETHER

WEEK OF PRAYER FOR NORTH AMERICAN MISSIONS MARCH 3-10



What is the Annie Armstrong Easter Offering?

The Annie Armstrong Easter Offering (AAEO) is the primary way Southern Baptists fund missions in North America. One hundred percent of gifts given to AAEO go to the field to support more than 2,900 missionary families serving across the United States and Canada.

Just a few of our
missionaries...
Daily prayer
emphasis and
guides available
online



Noelson & Edna
Chery: Taking Care
of the Kids



Josh & Beth Glymph:
Who's In My Family



Jefferson & Carol
Hernandez: Campo
Blanco

**DOWNLOAD PRAYER GUIDES, VIDEOS, AND SPECIFIC
PRAYER NEEDS AT [ANNIEARMSTRONG.COM](https://anniearmstrong.com)**

Roundtables


Sr. Pastor Roundtable

Tuesday, March 12
10:30-noon
Sarepta Office
Optional Lunch Following



**Annie
Armstrong
Easter Offering
& Week of
Prayer for
North
American
Missions-
March 3-10**

AnnieArmstrong.com



DAY 8
FOUND

When Rony met a North American missionary who spoke his language in Sterling, Virginia, everything changed. "He pointed me to the Bible," he says, "and that was the beginning of my Christian journey."

When Elizabeth wandered into a new church that'd just started in her community, everything changed. "I found the one my soul loves," she says, "and it's Jesus."

When Maki started hanging out with neighbors who'd moved to Las Vegas to make Jesus known, everything changed. "I decided I wanted to be saved," he says, "and now I've totally turned around from where I used to be."

Right now, almost 3,000 Southern Baptist North American missionaries are starting new churches and meeting countless physical needs, all with the goal of making Jesus known to every man and every woman, everywhere.

That is a gloriously unrealistic yet completely attainable goal. Because we're promised that when we pray, gloriously unrealistic things will happen. What kind of things?

Rony, Elizabeth and Maki know the answer. When we pray, everything changes, and Jesus is made known.

PRAY FOR

- North American missionaries to reach more like Rony, Elizabeth and Maki who need the hope and love of Christ.
- North American missionaries to have the resources to plant new, vibrant churches.
- God to call and equip more missionaries to make Jesus known in North America.

Samples from
the Prayer Guide,
free online.



DAY 4
FAITH GARLAND
Boston, Massachusetts

"The gospel—how does it work?" That's perhaps the most beautiful question Faith Garland has ever heard.

As a missionary serving at the Send Relief Ministry Center in downtown Boston, Faith often finds herself in alleyways and near strip clubs looking for women who are looking for help. "In anti-trafficking and sexual abuse awareness work, you have to remember that everyone you meet is searching for Christ's perfect love," she says. "They just don't always know they're seeking Christ."

Long ago, one of the women Faith met on the street showed up at the ministry center. Faith and her volunteers had invited her to come and help make jewelry that they hand out to women on the street. And God used bracelets and earrings to draw out that gospel question.

"We made jewelry and talked for two hours," Faith says. "There's a stereotype that women who are homeless or working the clubs want to be there. It's because of tough life circumstances they find themselves there and looking for a way out."

"In this ministry, we get to do the loving. But ultimately Christ has to change their hearts."

PRAY FOR

- Faith and her volunteers to build witnessing relationships with people who are trafficked or abused.
- More churches to learn about and join the fight against human trafficking.
- Endurance, encouragement and safety for Faith and her volunteer teams and for future staffing needs.

Watch the story at AnnieArmstrong.com/Garland



GOOD FRIDAY GATHERING

FOR MIDDLE AND HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS

Hull Baptist Church will be hosting a Good Friday Gathering for middle and high school students on Friday, March 29th at 6:00 PM. This evening will include a meal, worship, and games. We will also leave our gym open until 11:00 PM to allow time for fellowship.

We would like to invite your church's youth and leaders to be part of this evening. Everything is free of charge, but we would like to ask that you RSVP by Friday, March 22nd with an approximate headcount. This way we can prepare for the right amount of food. Please RSVP to Pastor Jeff Tinsley by emailing jeff@hullbaptist.org.



MISSION GEORGIA

REFUGEE MINISTRY

*Enlist your Sunday School Class,
Men's Group, or Youth Group to
help!*

Sarepta's Mission GA Team is responding to a new need in the Athens area. Each year, the U.S. government selects a certain number of refugees from around the world and resettles them in the U.S. Athens has been selected to receive some of these legal refugee families. They are able to work legally, but it takes a few weeks to receive their documents and find a job. There is a need for food and other support until they get on their feet.

You can help!

Each month, we will collect certain needed items.

APRIL

Bags of Sugar
Kitchen Trash Bags

MAY

Coffee & Tea
Dish Soap

MARCH

Vegetable Oil
Laundry Detergent

Contact amy@sareptamissions.org or 706.424-1891 to coordinate the drop-off at Sarepta Office.

SENIOR ADULT LUNCHEON

THURSDAY, APRIL 11TH

12:00 NOON, WINTERVILLE FIRST BAPTIST

COLLECTING NEW PAJAMAS FOR JAMBOS, TO BE GIVEN TO KIDS IN FOSTER CARE!

PROGRAM: CHUCK NATION



Chuck is from Gainesville, GA, and has performed across the U.S. and in 20 different countries. A singer and songwriter, Chuck also plays fiddle, banjo, mandolin, and guitar. He has performed at the Grand Old Opry, New Orleans World's Fair, Savannah Music Festival, Carnegie Hall, Smoke on the Mountain, Always Patsy Cline, and The High Lonesome Mass. He is a member of the Atlanta Country Music Hall of Fame.

Block Party Trailer Training

Sarepta Office, Saturday, March 2

9:00-10:30 a.m.

If your church plans to use the Block Party Trailer this year, at least one person from your church needs to attend this training, even if you have used the trailer before. Over the past couple of years, the trailer has been returned in less than acceptable condition, not ready for the next church to use. In an effort to correct this, we are having this training.



Georgia Baptist Women's SPRING EVENT

Saturday, April 27, 2024 at First Baptist Church, Jonesboro

Featuring *Chrystal Evens Hurst*

gabaptist.org/event/georgia-baptist-womens-spring-event/



DEACON TRAINING

Thursday, April 18th

6:30-8:30 p.m.

Bryan Alexander was raised in the home of a Southern Baptist pastor and pastored Apalachee Baptist Church in Madison, GA and Sweetwater Baptist Church in Douglasville, Georgia until 2015. He has a degree from New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary. His specialties are Deacon Training, Personal Pastoral Coaching in the areas of burnout and church revitalization. He served in the Church Minister Relations Department of the GBMB for 5 years before partnering with Dr. Marcus Merritt to form SCC.



Bryan Alexander



Breakout Sessions

- o Ideal Compensation Package for Pastors
- o Personal Investing and Retirement Planning
- o Internal Controls to Protect the Church's Finances
- o QCD's Made Easy
- o Strategy to Maximize Your Church's Reserve Funds



PRINCE AVENUE BAPTIST
THURSDAY, MARCH 7, 3-7 P.M.

Tickets are \$25, which includes admissions, a conference packet, dinner, and more

The Georgia Baptist Foundation presents the second annual Church Financial Conferences in 2024 (CFC24). This year, we will continue the breakout session structure that we implemented for CFC23, but with new and improved session topics.

Breakout sessions dive into topics that your congregation will benefit from: investment plans for church personnel, methods for church members to maximize giving in retirement years, strategies to maintain church financial integrity, how to make your church's reserve fund more fruitful, and guidance on proper compensation packages for pastors. New this year, during dinner we will have a panel of pastors and other church leaders who will answer some of the most common questions about church finance.

This panel discussion will be hosted by Georgia Baptist Foundation President, Dr. Johnathan Gray.

A Line from Lex

Easter is approaching in just a few weeks. This time of year is when we celebrate the resurrection of Jesus from the dead. His victory over sin, death and hell provides all believers with the assurance of salvation through Him. That is the message we share through our various churches.

As Easter approaches, it is also a time when we, as Southern Baptists, are challenged to give to the Annie Armstrong Easter offering for North American missions. Supporting this offering with your gifts provides you with the opportunity to impact North America with the message of Jesus Christ. By giving, you support those who are willing to go to places you will never see. By giving, you communicate the gospel through our NAMB missionaries to people you will never know.

I would challenge you during this season of the Annie Armstrong Easter Offering, that you will also use this opportunity to educate your churches on the ministry that takes place in North America through NAMB. Inform your people about Disaster Relief work that is done whenever there is a disaster. Inform your people of Send Relief that impacts areas of need. Inform your churches about the church planting effort to put churches in areas of greatest need. If we don't intentionally plan to communicate the importance of supporting North American missions, who will? For decades, much of our missions education came through organizations like GA's and RA's. For many of our churches, those organizations no longer exist. Use this opportunity, as you promote the Annie Armstrong Easter Offering, to also inform your people about the work of Southern Baptists in North America. What will you give this year?

Though it is still several weeks away, I want to express my wishes of a Happy Easter!



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"What is Easter about? Can anyone celebrate Easter? Is Easter related to Christmas in some way? Why do you celebrate when someone died? What do rabbits have to do with a religious holiday? So basically Easter is just a celebration of springtime, right? Why do you dye eggs at Easter? How do you know Jesus is alive now if he died then? "

These are examples of questions our volunteer teachers will be asked in the next few weeks, as we move toward Easter. What a beautiful way to have real, natural conversations with students who have become our friends. What a beautiful chance to talk to them about Jesus and the difference He makes in our lives. What a privilege to be able to share with people who may have never heard about Him. Please pray for those of us who are involved with your International Friends ministry, that we will have wisdom and discernment, boldness and sensitive spirits. We love teaching English to those who need to learn, and we love having the opportunity to share more than English, too.

If you are interested in seeing if International Friends is a good fit for you, please contact me!

Amy Wheeler-Sullivan
Director, International Friends English Program
706.424-1891 AthensEnglishClasses@gmail.com