

Financial Involvement

Giving always honors God and will benefit other people. We believe that giving is a divine act. God is a giver by nature, *“For God so loved the world that he gave...”* (John 3:16). As we participate in the act of giving, we become more like God. That should be the goal of every Christian and church.

Giving is also an act of obedience. The Bible teaches us that our obedience in the act of giving will produce a blessing.

“Bring the full amount of your tithes to the Temple, so that there will be plenty of food there. Put me to the test and you will see that I will open the windows of heaven and pour out on you in abundance all kinds of good things” (Mal 3:10).

The Scripture is replete with verses that remind us of God’s call to obediently give back to Him for the purposes of His kingdom. Through our obedience and sacrificial love, God is able to accomplish great things on this earth.

However, giving doesn’t just apply to individuals in the church. It also applies to the giving of a local body. Paul wrote, *“On the first day of every week, each one of you should set aside a sum of money in keeping with his income, saving it up, so that when I come no collections will have to be made”* (1 Cor 16:2).

Paul referred to a program that he set up with the churches of Galatia. He intended to stop and pick up the offerings from these churches. Why? Because Paul understood that the combined resources of multiple churches would propel the gospel forward in a way that one church could not accomplish on its own.

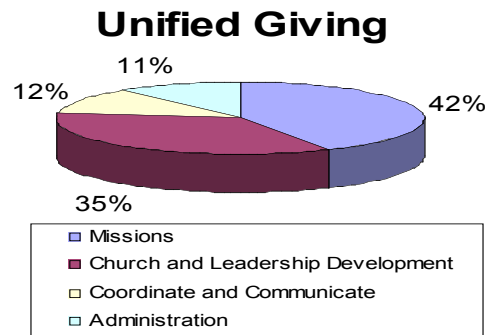
It is in that spirit that we call all of those who wish to be a part of the General Association of General Baptists to participate in Unified Giving.

We strongly believe that every church should be a globally minded body of believers. We believe that when a church starts down the path of unhealthy when it loses a “global” mindset for ministry and focuses primarily on the local community or ministry. That is why General Baptist churches participate in the Unified Giving program. This program is the cooperative means by which we are able to spread the gospel of Jesus Christ around the world.

Through Unified Giving we are able to resource our churches with training materials, help our pastors grow educationally and spiritually, plant new churches around our nation, and start new missions around the world. As we join together, we are able to accomplish great things for God.

Each dollar your church gives to Unified Giving changes a life. The following chart shows the breakdown of how your dollar will help.

For every dollar you give...



According to this Unified Giving chart, almost 80 percent of every dollar goes toward ministry and missions. With these resources we have planted churches around the United States that have led over 1,800 people to a first-time relationship with Christ in the last four years. Internationally we have impacted thousands of lives with the gospel of Jesus Christ over the last few years. Together we are able to do more than we could do alone.

Because we are passionately and tenaciously pursuing lost people with the gospel of Jesus Christ, every General Baptist church is asked to participate in our mission and ministry. If you choose to join the General Association of General Baptists, you too will be asked to participate in our mission and ministry.

Every church is encouraged to...

- Use at least 5 percent of its annual budget toward outreach and evangelism in the local community. It is a priority for General Baptists to be passionately involved in the local community. If the church is not loving its community, little else matters.
- Contribute at least 5 percent of monthly income to the Unified Giving program.
- Contribute at least 2.5 to National Missions for the purpose of planting more churches.
- Contribute at least 2.5 percent of monthly income to the local association for the purposes of planting churches.

* The final two categories are important to us. We believe that church planting is the most effective means of evangelism known under heaven and so we invest heavily in the life transformation of future believers through church planting on a local level as well as an associational level.