

RESEARCH REPORT

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*Southern Baptist Volunteerism: A Survey of
Mission Volunteers and Church Leaders*

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Mission Volunteers and Church Leaders*

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North American Mission Board

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Introduction

In early 2003 a survey was designed to assist the Volunteer Mobilization Team of the North American Mission Board (NAMB) in understanding Southern Baptist volunteerism in the United States and Canada. Two questionnaires were designed. The *Church Survey* sought information from pastors or ministry leaders in churches that reported volunteers on the 2001 Annual Church Profile (ACP). The second questionnaire, *Mission Volunteer Survey*, was intended for persons age 12 and older who had volunteered during the previous year.

The sampling frame for the survey consisted of the 11,066 Southern Baptist churches that reported on the 2001 ACP that at least one volunteer participated in a mission project outside their local community, but either in their state/province, the United States, or Canada.¹ After sorting by ZIP code, a systematic sample of 1,000 of the 11,066 churches was selected to receive the questionnaires.

During the week of February 17, 2003, pastors of the 1,000 selected churches received a mailing asking them to participate in the survey. In order to increase the response rates, a second mailing occurred May 13, 2003, to those churches that had not yet responded. Each mailing included a cover letter (appendix A), a *Church Survey* (appendix B), and 5 copies of the *Mission Volunteer Survey* (appendix C).

The pastor was asked either to complete the *Church Survey* himself or enlist an appropriate ministry leader to complete it. He was also asked to distribute the 5 *Mission Volunteer Surveys* to 5 members who were short-term volunteers during 2002. Since 277 of the 1,000 selected churches reported fewer than 5 volunteers in 2002, the pastor was instructed to discard extra copies of the volunteer questionnaire.

Response Rates

A total of 215 *Church Surveys* were received, a response rate of 21.5 percent of the 1,000 churches selected for the sample. A total of 408 *Mission Volunteer Surveys* were returned. The *Mission Volunteer Surveys* were received from 166 churches. In 141 of responding churches, questionnaires were returned from both the pastor/leader and at least one volunteer. An additional 74 pastors/leaders responded but there were no responses from volunteers in their churches. Volunteer responses were also received from 25 churches in which no *Church Survey* was received. A response of some type was thus received from a total of 240 churches (141+74+25).

Calculating a response rate for the *Mission Volunteer Survey* is not straightforward because assumptions must be made about how many volunteers actually received a questionnaire and had a chance to respond. The 240 participating churches reported on the 2001 ACP that 7,316 persons volunteered in the U.S. and Canada, but outside their local community. Since the pastor/leader was asked to distribute only 5 copies of the

¹ The exact wordings of the 2001 ACP items were as follows.

State but outside Local Community: Number of persons (males and females) from your congregation who participated in missions projects conducted within your state (province), but outside of your congregation's local community.

Projects in U.S. and Canada: Number of persons (males and females) from your congregation who participated in missions projects conducted within the United States and its territories, or Canada, but outside of your state (province).

Mission Volunteer Survey, and 63 of the 240 churches reported fewer than 5 volunteers, there were only 1,035 potential responses from the 240 participating churches. The 408 responses received from volunteers represent a response rate of 39.4 percent of the 1,035 potential responses.

Caution is necessary with response rates of 20 to 40 percent since nonrespondents may not be similar to respondents. In spite of this nonresponse bias, this is the best information we have regarding volunteer experiences of churches as well as individuals.

Results

Types of mission volunteer experiences

Volunteers were asked about the type of ministry they performed. More than half of volunteer respondents reported that they worked on a construction project. About 1 of 4 reported evangelism and mission VBS as their ministry setting. Backyard Bible clubs and block parties were the least frequently mentioned activities. Note that respondents were not limited to one choice.

Table 1: *What type of ministry did you perform?*

	Number of Volunteers	Percent
Construction project	215	52.7%
Evangelism	112	27.5
Mission Vacation Bible School	103	25.3
Backyard Bible clubs	59	14.5
Block parties	33	8.1
Other (appendix D)	132	32.4

On the *Church Survey*, ministry leaders were asked a similar question about the types of mission volunteer opportunities that would appeal to their members. The pastors/ministry leaders rated their perceived interest in roughly the same priority order as the actual experiences reported by mission volunteers. Four of 5 responding leaders felt that construction projects would appeal to their membership in the future. Two of 3 leaders said mission VBS would be appealing, and over half felt that evangelism and backyard Bible clubs would entice their members to participate in the future. Block parties were the least likely to attract their membership.

The responses of leaders concerning the types of projects members would find appealing in the future were likely influenced by feedback from members who volunteered in the previous year.

Table 2: *In the future, what type of mission opportunities or initiatives would appeal to the members of your church?*

	Number of Leaders	Percent
Construction project	176	81.9%
Mission Vacation Bible School	148	68.8
Evangelism	119	55.4
Backyard Bible clubs	114	53.0
Block parties	70	32.6
Other (appendix E)	59	27.4

Family projects

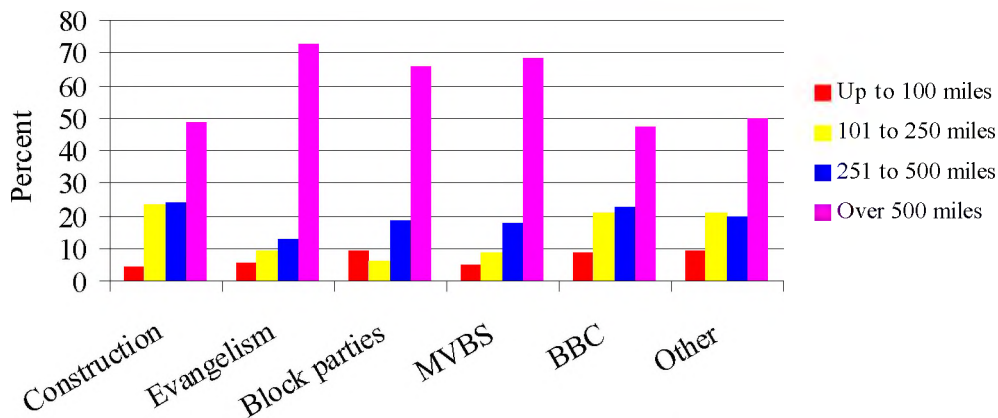
One additional question about types of mission experiences was asked on the *Church Survey*—“*Would you be interested in planning and promoting mission trips for your church members that are designed so that entire families could participate together?*” Of the 200 leaders who responded to this item, 164 (82%) affirmed the concept of family-oriented mission opportunities.

Distance Traveled and Cost

In planning mission experiences, 2 recurring questions relate to the cost and travel distance that mission volunteers can tolerate. Over half of the volunteers reported they traveled more than 500 miles in order to participate in their project. Another fifth reported their travel was between 251 and 500 miles. (Thus, 3 of 4 volunteers traveled over 251 miles.) Almost another fifth reported traveling 101 to 250 miles, and only 6 percent reported traveling less than 100 miles. It would seem that we really did hear from volunteers who served outside their local community!

There was a slight variation in distance traveled by the type of project volunteers participated in. The following chart shows that “Over 500 miles” was the most common answer, regardless of the type of project. Note there is overlap among the project types.

Figure 1
Distance Traveled by Project Type



The cost of participating in mission projects is often shared by the church and individuals. The *Church Survey* asked leaders whether their church assisted volunteers from their church with the cost of their mission trips in 2002. Seventy-two percent (143 of 197) respondents said “Yes.” The average amount per volunteer was reported by 129 of the 143 churches that said they subsidized trips. The median amount of support provided to volunteers was \$143. The median indicates that half of the churches reported more and half reported less than \$143 as the average amount provided to their volunteers. Furthermore, 25 percent of the responding churches gave at least \$250 per volunteer, and 75 percent gave at least \$100 per volunteer.

The *Mission Volunteer Survey* asked respondents their out-of-pocket cost for their mission trip. The 361 volunteers who chose to answer this question reported a median out-of-pocket cost of \$175. Twenty-five percent spent over \$350 of their own funds, and 75 percent spent at least \$50. Based on responses from leaders and volunteers, it appears that volunteers typically bore more of the expense for their mission trip than their church.

As one would expect, 186 mission volunteers reporting that they traveled over 500 miles reported the highest out-of-pocket cost, a median of \$275. The median cost for those traveling between 251 to 500 miles was \$150. Median cost reported by volunteers traveling 101 to 250 miles was only \$50, while those who traveled less than 100 miles reported median expenses of \$80.

Age of Volunteers

The 215 respondents to the *Church Survey* were asked “During 2002, how many people from your church gave their time to volunteer in a mission or ministry setting outside of your local community, but inside the United States or Canada?” The respondents reported a total of 5,139 volunteers.

Table 3: *Mission volunteers by age, reported by leaders*

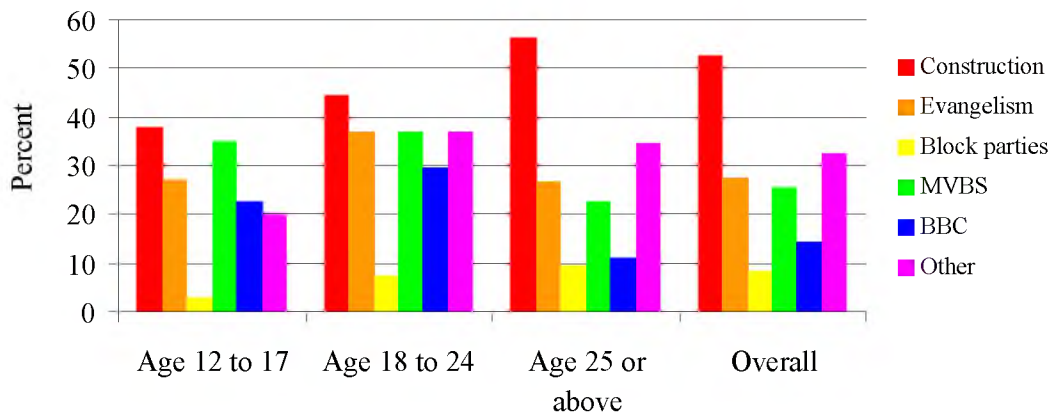
	Number Reported	Percent
Grades 7 to 12 (Age 12 to 17)	1,919	37.3%
Age 18 to 24	549	10.7
Age 25 or above	2,671	52.0
Total	5,139	100.0%

Volunteers were also asked to specify their age group (see table 4). Not surprisingly, the pastors/ministry leaders tended to give the *Mission Volunteer Survey* to mature adults rather than youth or young adults.

Table 4: *Age groups reported by mission volunteers*

	Number	Percent
Age 12 to 17	66	16.3%
Age 18 to 24	27	6.7
Age 25 or above	312	77.0
Total	405	100.0%

Figure 2
Project Type by Age of Volunteer



The above chart indicates that the age of a volunteer affects the type of mission project he or she participated in. Construction was identified as the type of project by 56 percent of respondents age 25 and above. This age cohort was more likely than youth (38%) or young adults (44%) to mention construction as their project type. The 18 to 24 age cohort reported the most involvement in evangelism, with 37 percent of respondents, compared

to 27 percent for both of the other age groups. Block parties were not particular to any of the age groups.

Mission VBS projects seem to be more of a youth (35%) and young adult (37%) activity in contrast to adults 25 and above (22%). The same is true for backyard Bible clubs—youth (23%), young adults (30%), and adults 25 and over (11%).

Students

Of the 66 mission volunteers age 12 to 17, 63 said they were students at the time they volunteered. In the 18 to 24 age cohort, 23 of 27 respondents were students when they volunteered. The primary indication is that very few 18 to 24 year old nonstudents are among the respondents.

Prior to the trip: Preparation for the volunteer experience

Eighty-three percent (329 of 397) of volunteer respondents reported that their church or association provided spiritual preparation prior to their mission project. A follow-up question was asked of those receiving spiritual preparation, with results in table 5.

Table 5: *What type of preparation did you receive?*

	Number of Volunteers	Percent
Prayer meetings for the project	244	74.2%
Witness training, how to tell people about Jesus	146	44.4
Biblical study of why or how we do missions	131	39.8
Devotional materials	126	38.3
Other (appendix F)	79	24.0

The most common spiritual preparation was prayer meetings, reported by almost three-fourths of the volunteer respondents. Witness training was reported by 4 of 9 respondents. A Biblical study of missions and devotional materials were each reported by roughly 40 percent of volunteers who received preparation. One-fourth reported some other type of preparation. Appendix F lists specific of these “Other” responses, and appendix G contains any written suggestions about spiritual preparation for a mission trip.

Influencing factors for volunteering

Volunteers were asked to choose (no more than) two factors that influenced their decision to volunteer. Table 6 shows the responses. It is commendable that the two factors chosen most often as one of the top two reasons for volunteering related to the trip having a worthwhile purpose (52%) and a sense of God’s call (47%). Between 15 and 20 percent included factors related to camaraderie, project leader, and destination/location of the trip. Not a single person of any age listed pastor or mission education group as one of the top two factors influencing them to participate.

Table 6: *Which two of the following were the most influential in your decision to participate as a short term mission volunteer?*

	Number of Volunteers	Percent
Purpose of the trip seemed worthwhile	211	51.7%
Understanding of God’s call in my life	192	47.1
Desire to be with the other volunteers on the trip	77	18.9
Mission project leader(s)	76	18.6
Destination/location of the trip	64	15.7
Other (appendix H)	45	11.0
Pastor	0	0
Mission education group(s)	0	0

Pastors/ministry leaders were also asked about the role of mission education programs in encouraging members to volunteer. About half (96 of the 194 leaders responding to this item) claimed that the mission education programs of their church, such as Baptist Women, Acteens, Girls in Action, Baptist Men, Challengers, or Royal Ambassadors, encourage volunteer participation. Leaders were asked to explain how mission education programs encouraged participation. Their comments are in appendix I.

This response from leaders does not correspond with the complete lack of volunteers mentioning mission education programs as influencing their volunteerism. It cannot be ascertained from the *Mission Volunteer Survey* whether mission education was somewhat of a factor, just not in the top two.

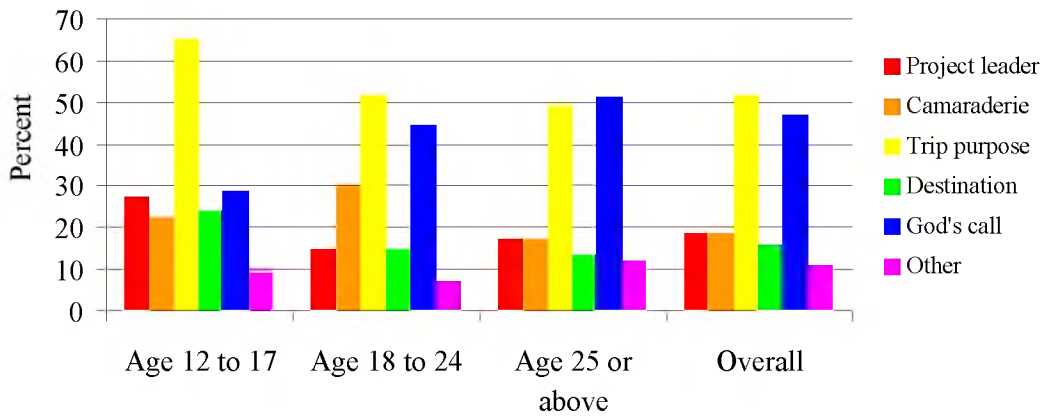
Influencers by age cohort

The three age groups identified among respondents chose slightly different factors that most influenced them to volunteer. Sixty five percent of youth age 12 to 17 were influenced by the purpose of the trip, while only 29 percent of this group felt God’s call on their life. Youth were more likely (27%) than the other age groups to include the project leader in the top two reasons for volunteering.

Responses from college students and young adults age 18 to 24 were similar to the overall results, with one exception. They gave more importance to the social aspect of the volunteer experience (30%) than the other two age cohorts.

Moving from the youngest to the oldest age group, the importance of God’s calling increases, while the worthiness of the trip decreases as motivating factors. The chart below compares responses by age group.

**Figure 3
Influences by Age of Volunteer**



After the trip: Church recognition

Almost all of the volunteers (369 of 402 reporting—92%) responding said their church gave them an opportunity to share their experiences with the congregation. Furthermore, ministry leaders were asked “*When mission volunteers returned from their trips, did their enthusiasm influence other persons in your church to become mission volunteers?*” An overwhelming majority of responding pastor/leaders reported “yes” to this inquiry. Appendix J contains written responses describing this phenomenon.

Encouraging volunteers to share their experiences with the congregation immediately after returning from their trip may be the single most effective way for a church to increase its number of short-term volunteers.

Overall Evaluation

Volunteers were asked to describe their short-term mission volunteer experience as very positive, somewhat positive, somewhat negative, or very negative. An overwhelming majority of respondents (358 of 407, or 88%) rated their experience “very positive.” Another 44 (11%) chose “somewhat positive,” leaving only 5 respondents (1%) who rated their experience somewhat or very negative. Clearly, the volunteers who responded to the survey had good experiences.

After the trip: Life impact

A series of items asked respondents whether their lives had been affected by the mission volunteer experience. The following table further exhibits the positive impact of their experiences as short-term missionaries.

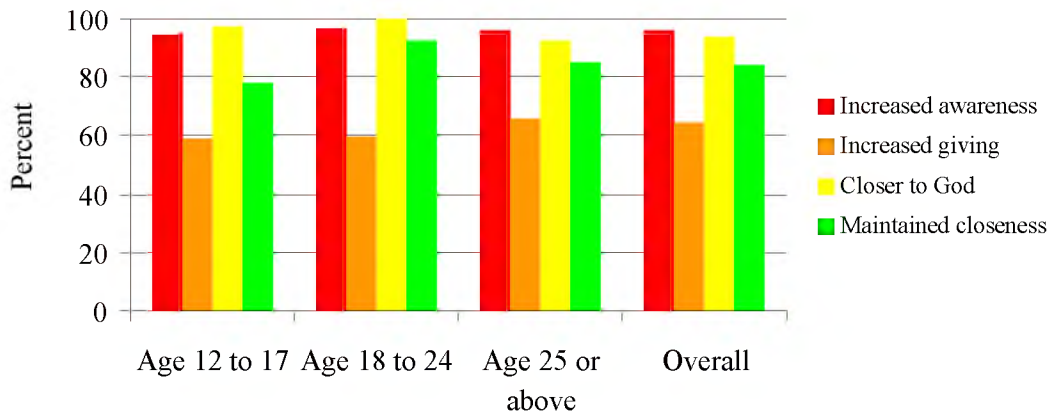
Table 7: Life impact reported by volunteers

	Number of Volunteers	Percent
Awareness of mission needs and opportunities increased	391	95.8%
Moved to a closer relationship with God	383	93.9
Personal monetary gifts to mission causes increased	262	64.2

A follow-up question revealed that, of the 383 volunteers who said their short-term mission experience moved them to a closer relationship with God, 323 (84%) claimed they had maintained this closeness. Appendix K contains written comments. As seen in the chart below, there is very little difference in life impact by age cohort. Adults were slightly more likely to increase their gifts to missions. Youth were slightly less likely to maintain their closeness to God.

The positive life changing impact of mission project participation is remarkable, even though this group of respondents may not perfectly represent all mission project volunteers due to nonresponse bias.

Figure 4
Life Impact by Age of Volunteer



After the trip: Future mission project participation

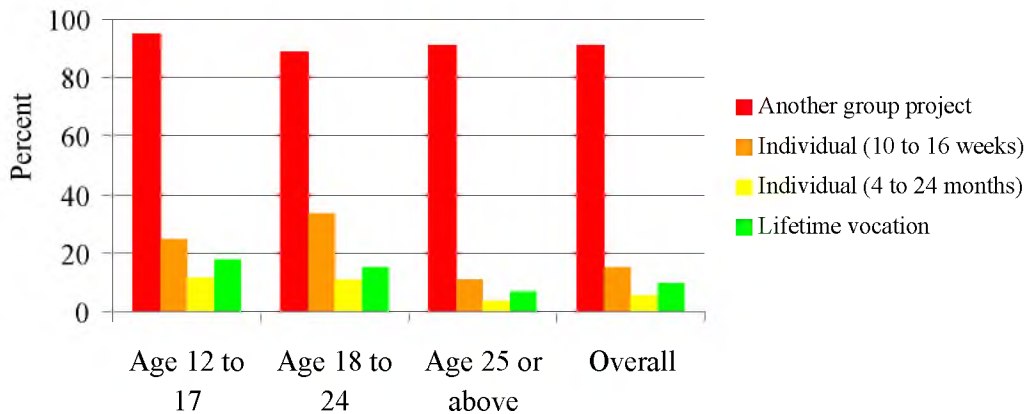
The overwhelming majority (385 of 408, 94%) of volunteers said they would be interested in participating in future mission volunteer projects. The 385 respondents who answered affirmatively were asked to choose the type of future commitments to mission service they were likely to make. Table 8 shows these results. More than 9 of 10 said they would consider participating in another short-term group project. Almost 1 in 10 would consider a lifetime vocational commitment to ministry and/or missions.

Table 8: *If interested in participating in future mission volunteer projects, which of the following would you consider?*

	Number of Volunteers	Percent
Another group project of one week or less	351	91.2%
Individual assignment of 10 to 16 weeks	59	15.3
Individual assignment of 4 months to 2 years	21	5.5
Lifetime vocational commitment to ministry and/or missions	36	9.4

Youth and young adults are more likely to consider longer term commitments to missions in the future. For example, 18 percent of youth and 15 percent of young adults would consider lifetime vocational commitment, compared to 7 percent of other adults. Adults age 25 or above have already made many life choices that impact their availability for long-term mission service.

Figure 5
Future Participation by Age of Volunteer



Church utilization of NAMB’s web-based resources

The Church Survey asked pastors/ministry leaders whether they used NAMB web-based resources for volunteers. Forty-four of the 215 respondents (20.5%) said they had visited the Volunteer Mobilization Information System (VMIS) at <http://volunteers.namb.net>. Of the 44 who visited VMIS, 9 (20.5%) reported using VMIS in their mission trip planning. Thus, less than 5 percent of the 215 respondents used this VMIS as a planning tool.

A specific question was asked about the use of the online mission trip planning manual, titled *Volunteer Mobilization Project Logistics*. Only 5 respondents recalled using this resource.

Summary

Southern Baptist volunteerism has become an important part of the culture of the denomination. Let's describe a typical Southern Baptist volunteer, fictitiously named Jill.

Jill is over age 24. Almost all of the youth and younger adults in her group were students. Prior to her volunteer experience, Jill felt that the planned trip had a worthwhile purpose. She also felt God leading her to participate. She received spiritual preparation for the trip, particularly in the area of prayer. She may have received witness training and/or a Bible study about missions.

Jill traveled over 500 miles to the ministry location. While she appreciated her church paying \$143 of her trip expenses, she still spent \$175 of her own money. During her ministry she participated in a construction project. Some in her group also did evangelism and conducted a Mission Vacation Bible School.

When Jill and her friends returned to their home church, they had the opportunity to tell their congregation about their mission experience. Several members that heard their report and saw their enthusiasm decided they would like to go on a mission trip the following year. The church leaders believe several types of projects, such as construction, evangelism, mission VBS, and Backyard Bible Clubs would appeal to their members. They also think a project designed for families to participate together would be a good idea.

Jill has been changed by her mission experience. She is more aware of mission needs and opportunities. She felt closer to God as a result of the trip, and has managed to maintain that closeness. Even her commitment to support missions monetarily has increased. She would definitely like to participate next year in another one-week group project. A few of the younger members of her group are even considering longer terms of service in the future.

Jill's church also experienced positive results from her group's mission experience. Because of the enthusiasm shared by Jill and her group, the pastor and ministry leaders know they will be planning future mission trips. They have not yet discovered planning resources available from the North American Mission Board, such as the *Volunteer Mobilization Project Logistics* manual.

APPENDIX A

February 17, 2003

Dear Pastor:

The North American Mission Board is seeking feedback from churches and individual members who participated in short-term mission trips during 2002. We need to hear about mission trips or projects outside of your local community that were within the United States and Canada.

Enclosed in this package are six questionnaires—one green *Church Survey* and five copies of a gold *Mission Volunteer Survey*. Six postpaid business reply envelopes are also included. We would like for you to do three things for us—all three should be easy.

First, either complete the green *Church Survey* yourself, or ask the appropriate ministry leader in your church to complete it. The questionnaire has been designed to be completed in a few minutes. **Second**, return the green *Church Survey* in one of the postpaid business-reply envelopes. **Third**, give a gold *Mission Volunteer Survey*, along with a business reply envelope, to five different members of your church who were short-term mission volunteers during 2002. Give the questionnaires to members that you think might complete them and return them to us. If your church had fewer than five volunteers in 2002, just discard the extra forms. That's all there is to it.

Please take the time to help us with this research project. We need the input from churches and members like yours who can help us understand the experiences Southern Baptists have had as mission volunteers in North America. The responses we receive will assist our future planning as we help mobilize Southern Baptists to be on mission as short-term volunteers.

God bless you in all that you do.

In His Ministry,

Jim Burton
Director, Volunteer Mobilization Team

APPENDIX B

Church Survey

(To be completed by pastor or ministry leader for your church.)

During 2002, how many people from your church gave their time to volunteer in a mission or ministry setting outside of your local community, but inside the United States or Canada? _____ [1-3]

Of the total number of volunteers, how many were students in grades 7 through 12? _____ [4-6]

How many volunteers were college age students or adults 18 through 24? _____ [7-9]

How many volunteers were adults age 25 or above? _____ [10-12]

Did your church assist volunteers from your church with the cost of their mission trips in 2002? [13]

1 Yes **If yes, what was the average amount per volunteer that your church provided in 2002?**

2 No \$ _____ [14-18]

When mission volunteers returned from their trips, did their enthusiasm influence other persons in your church to become mission volunteers? [19]

1 Yes **Please explain**

2 No

Did mission education programs of your church, such as Baptist Women, Acteens, Girls in Action, Baptist Men, Challengers, or Royal Ambassadors, encourage volunteer participation? [20]

1 Yes **If yes, please explain**

2 No

In the future, what type of mission opportunities or initiatives would appeal to the members of your church? (Check all that apply.)

[21] Construction projects (for example, building or renovating churches or homes)

[22] Evangelism (for example, door to door witnessing)

[23] Block parties

[24] Mission Vacation Bible School

[25] Backyard Bible clubs

[26] Other (specify) _____

Would you be interested in planning and promoting mission trips for your church members that are designed so that entire families could participate together? [27]

1 Yes

2 No

The final questions concern the North American Mission Board's Web-based resources for volunteers.

Have you visited the Volunteer Mobilization Information System (VMIS)

at <http://volunteers.namb.net>? [28]

1 Yes **If yes, did you use VMIS in your mission trip planning?** [29]

2 No 1 Yes

2 No

Specifically, did you use the online mission trip planning manual, titled *Volunteer Mobilization Project Logistics*? (The manual was available at <http://www.namb.net/logistics>.)? [30]

1 Yes

2 No

APPENDIX C

Mission Volunteer Survey

(To be completed by members who served as short-term mission volunteers in 2002.)

Dear Volunteer,

The North American Mission Board seeks to help mobilize Southern Baptists to be on mission as short-term volunteers. We have asked the pastor or ministry leader in your church to distribute this brief questionnaire to members that participated as short-term mission volunteers during 2002. Your assistance with this survey will allow us to better provide for the needs of mission volunteers in the future.

Please take a few minutes to complete the simple questions below. Place the completed form in the enclosed postpaid return envelope and drop it in the mail. I have asked our Research Team to summarize the responses. Individual responses will be confidential.

In His Ministry,

Jim Burton

Director, Volunteer Mobilization

North American Mission Board

Tell us about the setting of your mission volunteer experience.

What type of ministry did you perform? (Check all that apply.)

- [1] Construction project [4] Mission Vacation Bible School
[2] Evangelism [5] Backyard Bible clubs
[3] Block parties [6] Other (specify) _____

How far did you travel? [7]

- 1 Up to 100 miles 3 251 to 500 miles
2 101 to 250 miles 4 Over 500 miles

What was your out-of-pocket cost for the mission trip? \$ _____ [8-12]

What was your age category at the time you volunteered? [13]

- 1 Age 12 to 17
2 Age 18 to 24
3 Age 25 or above

If you were under age 25, were you a student at the time you volunteered? [14]

- 1 Yes
2 No

Tell us about your preparation for your mission volunteer experience.

Did your church or association provide spiritual preparation? [15]

1 Yes **If yes, what type of preparation did you receive? (Check all that apply.)**

- 2 No [16] Biblical study of why or how we do missions
[17] Devotional materials
[18] Prayer meetings for the project
[19] Witness training, how to tell people about Jesus
[20] Other (Please specify) _____

What suggestions do you have about spiritual preparation for a mission trip? [21]

Please continue by turning to the other side of this form.

Which two of the following were most influential in your decision to participate as a short term mission volunteer? (Please, choose no more than 2).

- [22] Mission project leader(s)
- [23] Pastor
- [24] Mission education group (such as Baptist Women, Acteens, Girls in Action, Baptist Men, Challengers, or Royal Ambassadors)
- [25] Desire to be with the other volunteers on the trip
- [26] Purpose of the trip seemed worthwhile
- [27] Destination/location of the mission trip
- [28] Understanding of God's call in my life
- [29] Other (specify) _____

Tell us about the results of your short-term mission volunteer experience.

Which of the following best describes your short-term mission volunteer experience? [30]

- 1 Very positive
- 2 Somewhat positive
- 3 Neither positive nor negative
- 4 Somewhat negative
- 5 Very Negative
- 6 No opinion

Has your awareness of mission needs and opportunities increased? [31]

- 1 Yes
- 2 No

Did your church give you an opportunity to share your experiences with the congregation? [32]

- 1 Yes
- 2 No

Have your personal monetary gifts to mission causes increased as a result of your mission volunteer experience? [33]

- 1 Yes
- 2 No

Did your mission volunteer experience move you to a closer relationship with God? [34]

- 1 Yes
 - 2 No
- If yes, have you maintained this closeness? [35]**
- 1 Yes
 - 2 No

Comments _____

Are you interested in participating in future mission volunteer projects? [36]

- 1 Yes
- 2 No
- 3 Not sure

If yes, which of the following would you consider? (Check all that apply.)

- [37] Another group project of one week or less
- [38] Individual assignment of 10 to 16 weeks
- [39] Individual assignment of 4 months to 2 years
- [40] Lifetime vocational commitment to ministry and/or missions

Thank you for completing this form. Please place it in the enclosed postpaid envelope and mail it to:

Research Services
North American Mission Board
4200 North Point Parkway
Alpharetta, GA 30022

Official use only _____ [41-44]

APPENDIX D

Mission Volunteer Survey

What type of ministry did you perform? Other (specify):

Helping disabled with sewing, fixing cars and cleaning

Cleaning a church on another island, mending, yard work, etc. for former diseased patients and cooking for the team

Helped in kitchen at association camp

2-5 day senior adult retreats

2-5 day senior adult retreats

Bill Blass Champions for Life Prison Ministry

Prison

World Changers

Food and gifts to Mexican Border Mission

World Changers

Outdoor concert at park and ice cream social

Prayer walks

Work at Baptist mission center with children doing crafts/recreation

Street ministry

I work with the Texas Baptist men camp builders

Teaching English as a second language with literacy group and meals on wheels

Working with churches in New York on the 1st anniversary of 9/11, praying with and visiting, grief counsel

Music concerts

Mission Fest Mississippi

Sunday school teacher and song leader

Party in the park

Party in the park—community outreach

Hand out flyers

Disaster relief

Prayer walk

Prayer walk

Prayer walking

Disaster relief

Disaster relief

Helped at an Indian mission house
Day camp
Women's conference, Jesus video and prayer walking
Music concert outdoors
Crossover St. Louis
Choir
Sports mission
Basketball mission trip
Basketball mission trip
Inner city mission
Invitations to church
Homeless shelter, lifeguard ministry
Survey/probe
Disaster relief
Painting
Disaster relief, sports camp and Europe
Serving the homeless
Different projects like nursing home, social projects, food distribution etc.
Drama, crafts and recreation
Helped with medical team and helped cook meals for the team
Medical
Youth Bible study, worship leading and children's camp
Puppet ministry
Puppet ministry
25 years of mission trips
Acquaint the church there with Southern Baptist literature
Reading in elementary school and tutoring
Kitchen duty
Cook for mission volunteers
Clothes closet, food pantry and disaster relief
Secretarial work
Repair on houses
Hurricane

Provided meals
Shelter
Prayer walking
Witnessing to deaf children, prayer walk for school, children, teachers, missionaries and country of Jamaica
Prayer walking
Prayer walking
Prayer walking
Relationship building (one on one)
Prayer walking
Prayer walking
Prayer walking
Medical team
Medical
Overseas and South Dakota “Pine Ridge”
Sports clinic day camp in St. Alberta, Alberta Canada
Revival
Vacation Bible School for Vietnamese children
Rescue mission
Teaching English as a second language
Games and recreation
Games and recreation
Mission Fuge
Cooking for workers
Camp for handicapped children
Children’s camp for handicap kids
Cook for Vacation Bible School workers
Survey of small community
Judgment house
Mission cleaning and caretaking
Labor
Day camp, work in clothes closet, soup kitchen and maintenance

Cleaning apartments, stripping and waxing a Baptist outreach center, organizing clothes closet and general help

Resort missions

We assisted an association with their associational camp in cleanup and remodeling

Painting

Prayer walking, fellow-up visitation

Painting houses

World Changers and Disaster Relief

Disaster Relief

Deliver food and toiletries to needy children

Tent revival

Tent revival

Helped out elders and ministered to kids at a housing area

Flea market and Forest Brook apartments

Judgment House

Day care center and nursing home

Day care and nursing home

Puppet programs

Puppet programs

Puppet ministry

Puppet programs

Mission Fuge

Mission Fuge

Disaster Relief

Cooking

Cookies for shut-ins and mother/daughters to Camp Mundo Vista for a weekend.

Local mission work mostly with the elderly in our church

Adult discipleship training

Speaking with the neighborhood

Cleaning

Cleaning

Medical

Medical

Disaster Relief

Preparing food for shelter, serving homeless and taking them on trips

Clear paths at Baptist retreat

Salt Lake Olympics

APPENDIX E

Church Survey

In the future, what type of mission opportunities or initiatives would appeal to the members of your church? Other (specify):

Medical

Mission revivals

Toys for tots, homeless, fundraising for world hunger

St. Andrew Potato Project

Local community fundraising effects

Camp settings

As long as God leads it does not matter

Multi-housing ministry

Medical

Puppet programs

These folks took food and clothes to Kentucky and West Virginia

Present "Judgment House"

Multi-housing ministries

Sports camps/resort mission opportunities

Crossover

Prayer walks/surveys

Street ministry

Youth to World Changers in June 2003

Bible conferences, leadership training, combination sporting events (hunting, fishing) and outreach events

Various projects coordinated through our Baptist Association, including work with Hispanics

Sport clinics

This summer we are doing day camp for children in another association

Short-term international projects

Church planting

Revivals

Youth led revivals

Medical/dental

Community service projects

Camps

Choir mission/evangelism efforts, World Changers, community ministries

Prayer walking

Sports evangelism

Personal testimonies

Assist in church planting

Lay renewal

World Changers for the youth

English as a second language

Kentucky Southern Baptist Disaster Relief

Jesus video showings

Kid's day camps

Sports clinics, home repairs, performance teams (singing, puppets, drama etc.)

Sport camps

Disaster Relief

Prayer walking, sports clinic

Disaster Relief

Inner-city

Puppets, sports camps

Jail ministry

Jail ministry

Disaster team with association

Medical

Community parties

Sports evangelism

Resort missions/ministries

Overseas summer mission work with college groups such as BSM

Youth and adult mission trips

Volunteer work in urban setting

Helping disabled—sewing, fixing cars, cleaning

APPENDIX F

Mission Volunteer Survey

*Did your church or association provide spiritual preparation?
If yes, what type of preparation did you receive? Other (specify):*

Church prayed for me while I was gone

Prayer and occasional money from mission fund

World Changers Bible study and did local work projects in preparation for the trip.

Met with more experienced people from the border mission

Pre-construction project

Musical rehearsals

Prayer for me

Maintained my own home for 35 years, worked with my neighbors in Colorado for 4 years helping build log cabins

We were required to take training for the Billy Graham mission in Dallas

My church teaches missions every day

They prayed, provided pictures and other Sunday school materials

Vacation Bible school training

Building a building and roof on building

Bible school material

A study on understanding why we believe what we do and where it is found in Scripture

Personal visit and prayer with ministers months ahead of time

Vacation Bible school training

Vacation Bible school training

Vacation Bible school training

Vacation Bible school training

Vacation Bible school training

Vacation Bible school training

History of the people/town

Vacation Bible school training

Financially

Encouragement

Preparation and materials for Vacation Bible School

Prayer walking, study

Preparation for us to work together

Commissioning service

Prayer

Our own Vacation Bible school material and props

I was taking a group of youth which I led Bible study and witness training

Prayer

They have programs that are mission-focused so you grow up with the sense of what missions really is and means.

Training for the construction we were to do

Discipleship training at church

Orientation as to what we have been doing on the trip

Prayer/support

How to prayer walk and how to make a book of Scriptures to help

Guidelines on prayer walking

General meetings going over responsibilities

Orientation training

Cultural orientation

Back yard Bible club training

Dental team training

Language

Specific duties, skits etc.

Culture orientation

Bible school training

Commissioning service

Vacation Bible School study

Local mission project

Community project

Community projects

Anointing and prayer for the trip

Information sheets on Cherokee Indians

Taught people about Native American culture

Planning and preparation meetings

Timeline and outline of project

Films

Did work for a camp to prepare
Volunteer at a Christian camp
We did have a commissioning ceremony before we left
Camp preparation
Monthly group meetings
Bible study preparation
How-to meetings on construction efforts
Scripts to read and we do Judgment House every year at our church
We had to work on our program
Puppet programs
The group got together to plan
Commissioning service
We were commissioned for service
We were commissioned for service
Prayer partners and materials on area
Disaster Relief training
Planning meetings
Cultural awareness training (outside of U.S.)
Back yard study material
Training for balloon animals

APPENDIX G

Mission Volunteer Survey

What suggestions do you have about spiritual preparation for a mission trip?

It is very important and helpful. I have been on many short term mission trips and the more spiritual preparation we have the more successful the trip.

My wife and I lead in preparation, planning, publicity, enlisting personnel and directing the retreats. We have done this for 12 years. We have a committee from 4 associations to assist.

That there is some type of communication between the persons going on the trip and the church to be ministered to.

With my husband, we prepare, plan, publicize and enlist personnel. We have a committee from 4 associations to assist.

Pastor encouragement and involvement, Biblical study on why and how to do missions, devotions, prayer and witness training.

It is essential.

More street witnessing training

Prayer meeting leading up to trip with team and Scripture studies/discipleship studies with team

Pray and have your heart set on serving. Ask others to lift you up in prayer.

Have a one-on-one with God every minute and keep a journal of those thoughts.

One needs to be communicating with God through prayer, listening to God, Bible study, etc. which things should be preparation for life in general.

Specific prayer meetings, planning meetings and evangelism training

Daily prayer time about the mission trip

Complete a Bible study on evangelism and establish a base of prayer partners.

Do be very knowledgeable in your religion. You never know the types of people you will encounter or the questions they might ask you.

Every member should undergo some sort of spiritual training. It will help you in ways you will never understand until you use it.

Find out specific needs of the church and/or mission area, pray for the ministers of the church or area, have people trained to meet the needs of the area

Prayer is most essential

Biblical study of the command to be on mission with God, not just go on a mission trip

While we are on the trip, I would like to see designated people praying for us so that we know there is continual prayer from our church family while we are away.

I would definitely suggest prayer

I believe it is very important to know the Roman Road, and one should be prepared to share it at any moment.

I did my own preparation

I had already had witness training, which is always number one. Prayer is also essential before and during trip. Having a quiet time each day helped me focus on what God is saying and what He wants me to do.

Important to realize that we are Jesus to the people—we are representing Him and as a “missionary” live out His love

Devotionals are a must—we had them nightly on the trip and things went smoother because of them.

To know your surroundings

Written testimony of salvation experience

It is good to grow close to your team members while getting closer to God. Prayer and Bible study are the best ways to prepare your heart and mind for a mission trip.

I think it is always good to provide witness training before you go.

Read about the dominant culture, any languages you will probably encounter, but most of all you should spend time in the Word because God will give discernment in what you should do and what you should work on to strengthen your walk for the task at hand.

Seek God’s leadership in Bible study and prayer

Study Bible—missions and personal walk with the Lord

Make the missions longer

Stay close to God, listen to Him, talk to Him and commit to serve in His name

Devotions

Prayer for teams going and people who will be affected and Bible studies

Need more training in association of witness techniques

The state provided cross-cultural training which was a great help

Prayer

You need to be able to work for a person who may not know Jesus. They may have a bad attitude, but we sow the seeds and God reaps the harvest.

Prayer!! How to lead someone to Christ

Bible study and witness training

Tennessee Baptist Convention gave us devotional materials that were excellent!

Lots of prayer and knowing about each city or town, especially the spiritual condition

If possible, it’s good to meet with your fellow teachers to train and give each other tips.

Praying for the area we will be serving, preparing to share our testimony, preparing to lead people to Christ through prayer, encouragement, and Scripture, studying pictures of the area we will be serving to familiarize ourselves with the area

Prayer, Bible study, truly seeking God

Devotional studies, witness/project training

The greatest preparation is for the leader to stress to team members the necessity to bathe every aspect of the trip in prayer, long before the trip begins.

Have veterans of missionary teams help prepare new members

Prayer—equipping the missionaries for the spiritual battles they will find, teaching them to pray with the authority given to us by the Holy Spirit.

Prayer is a necessity to prepare for a mission trip. You must keep your eyes on Jesus and focus on your purpose.

Prayer, prayer, prayer

Each person should be required to participate in a study such as “Mind of Christ”, “Experiencing God” or some other type, or participate in the faith ministry in his local church.

Prepare youth for culture shock if they have not been exposed to conditions anticipated

Pray, pray, pray—be organized and flexible

Pray for guidance from the Lord, have a willing spirit and be able to cooperate with others. Be willing to let the Lord use you for His glory.

Prayer is the key ingredient

Prayer

Better be prayed up! Just make sure you seek God’s will then do your best to be in His will.

Depending on the type of help the receiving church or community needs, Bible study, devotions, prayer, and witness training should always be done in some way to prepare the missionaries for their work with God. The right attitude is also needed!

The more comfortable to make each going, the better Practice makes perfect!

Keep a prayerful attitude; make yourself ready to love others not like your culture and financial class

Teach FAITH to volunteers

Pray for the people going to be God-placed for talent, skills and abilities

Pray, pray, pray

People need to understand that God created everyone and loves everyone prior to going

Prayer meetings

Prayer meetings

The youth/adult group should spend much time in prayer together before leaving. It would be best to start praying at least three months early for God to prepare people to be open to the gospel.

Prayer is so important

This particular mission was strictly a work project. We met one evening and had great spiritual discussion while we were there.

Be prepared, but no matter how prepared you are things change on a dime

Lots of prayer and have prayer teams as we are on the trip

A lot of prayer and spending time in the Word

It should be a mandatory requirement

Prepare younger missionaries to be comfortable about sharing the Word of God

Prayer, know how to present the Gospel

Pray up and look for opportunities to share

More group studies based on spiritual level

Prayer, learn specifics in soul witness training, use of tracts, know what to say and when to say it

Pray, pray, pray—the battle must be done on our knees. Prayer is the hard part, the trip is the blessing and easy part.

Make sure the volunteer fully understands and can express their beliefs in Jesus Christ when confronted with “other religious”/cult expressions (in a loving but firm way).

If going with group, meet before you leave on trip with all team members. Share with new team members what to expect on the trip and pray together.

I think everyone should pray and pray for the Lord’s will during the preparation

Study about the region, geography, culture and other pertinent information about your destination. Needs assessment would also be beneficial.

Prayer and ask questions about the trip/project

It is very important that it be done. Our association did a wonderful job preparing us.

We needed to do more role play situations on how to share Christ

More in detail, more one-on-one soul winning

Although we did a lot we need more to be comfortable with it

Preparation was great! But, I feel we need more one-on-one soul winning.

Be faithful in prayer prior to the trip and be actively studying the Word in individual study and in a small group

Meeting with other group members/leaders for preparation, prayer, information etc.

Pray and prepare

Read and study about what you are going to teach, practice the activities and speaking in front of people

It is definitely a good idea. I wish we had done it.

Now involved in Baptist men group training of the study “The Man God Uses”, also attending state mission conferences

Prayerfully remain available for God’s guidance and be flexible as to the tasks you may be expected to perform in His name

Lots of prayer—personal and congregational

There has to be much prayer and some knowledge of where you are going

We should seek God’s will by praying and ask others to pray for us

More specific information about those we are ministering to so we know more about what to pray for

Meet on a regular basis to go over how to teach, witness etc. Also, pray!

APPENDIX H

Mission Volunteer Survey

Which two of the following were most influential in your decision to participate as a short term mission volunteer? Other (specify):

Desire to serve

Retired pastor—saw this need/opportunity

Retired pastor's wife—saw need/opportunity

I have been in this ministry since 1996—it's been going on for over 30 years.

Compassion for the lost

I was the group leader.

My kids were going

I had been there and seen the needs

Felt like God wanted me to go

Church staff

There was a need for volunteers

We made it a family mission project

Felt led to go

We were invited to come

2nd year to same place

I am the Minister to Families at our church. One of my hats is youth minister. I look for opportunities for our youth to participate.

Retired—have R.V.

Had served as pastoral minister in area for many years

Results in the people who went before

Christian deaf school and I have a deaf son

I felt God wanted me to do something worthwhile

My parents decided to go and I supported them and my family

Went with parents

Prayer walking

Spiritual warfare and protection for the group NOT equipped to handle the “fire” they were about to enter

I came up through Royal Ambassadors when it was strongly mission oriented

Youth pastor

Youth pastor

This was my 8th trip to Brazil

I'm familiar with Wears Valley Ranch and the work they do there, and I want to do what I can to help promote that ministry.

International Mission Board withdrawing support for career missionaries

I was the leader

Prayer

Had a very good experience of same type project the summer before

APPENDIX I

Church Survey

Did mission education programs of your church, such as Baptist Women, Acteens, Girls in Action, Baptist Men, Challengers, or Royal Ambassador encourage volunteer participation? If yes, please explain:

Promoted and prayed

Pioneer Girls and Royal Ambassadors have community projects

The ongoing missions education helps keep our church aware

Through WMU—follow-up presentations

WMU and Acteens planned and supported this trip

Made opportunities known, taught about missions and allowed those who went to give testimonies

Desperate need to help those close by and in our commonwealth of Virginia

Baptist men

Getting involved in hands-on work

Many of the volunteers are part of our Baptist men's group

Mission Committee supported promotion and scholarships

Baptist women, Baptist men very active in support of this mission trip

Somewhere from the Acteens

Baptist men

We do not have any of these organizations in our church.

This trip was “talked” up in every area of our church

Indirectly—this was a youth mission trip

To raise mission Christmas dollars; soup labels and pop top, involved in prison ministry with prison bags.

We offer many of those programs which set a framework for missions, but it is the testimony of previous mission team members that makes the biggest difference.

Baptist men helped to publicize and promote project

One of the functions of our various mission organizations is to educate the student or member so that when opportunity arises, they will want to go

I doubt it actually led any particular commitment to go on any of these trips

Baptist men and women are active in community ministries as well as ministries noted in this survey

I know that it influenced their decision, but how much I do not know

By sponsoring a fundraiser to financially support their going

Local door-to-door evangelism and statewide efforts (i.e. Crossover)

Groups were encouraged to develop their own outreach projects

The Baptist women had one teen girl give testimony of how God used her at World Changers and the impact it had on her life.

We have church-wide mission study each month as well as weekly activities for children and youth. Learning about needs and opportunities increases participation.

I believe so because we seek to keep Kingdom work visible

Through education and presenting opportunities

More of an indirect encouragement

We are very involved in mission projects due to our mission minded WMU

Mostly local

The trip was announced and prayed for

Our adult mission trip was approved through our Baptist Men's Ministry.

This is done in promotional segments during worship services and in the regular meetings of missions.

Carpenters for Christ recruit other men to join them

I am sure that Royal Ambassadors had an impact on our youth program. Most of them grew up participating in RAs and Acteens.

Prayer

I feel the main source of our mission involvement comes from our local Baptist association and a very active church missions committee.

We talked it up among our Baptist men and encouraged mission work at our functions.

We always encourage participation, but most of our members are quite elderly. Our youth director left and took the youth with him. We are rebuilding.

We believe education about missions leads to participation in missions.

All groups were involved and represented.

Group members were encouraged to be involved—these groups publicized the efforts

Men and women planned return trip to Tennessee

Baptist women—new participants

Programs have encouraged volunteers for summer 2003

Learned of this opportunity through state WMU meeting by meeting the missionaries and then doing an associational WMU project

Through publicity

WMU program supported us with their words of encouragement and prayers

We work together

The volunteers came from Baptist women and their husbands. Some others participated. The pastor encouraged and promoted the work.

Programs emphasized participation

Pastor and WMU director encouraged others to join on mission ministries

Royal Ambassadors and Girls in Action form the backbone of our children's curriculum.

The Baptist Women helped promote a mission project in West Memphis.

Men's ministry

Baptist Women keep missions education going year round.

We publicize opportunities for mission involvement through all of these sources: Baptist Women, Acteens, Girls in Action, Baptist Men, Challengers and Royal Ambassadors.

They encourage anyone who wants to be a part.

Our WMU ladies encouraged participation and have helped with finances.

Because missions is stressed during childhood

WMU encourages projects within the community

Men/Women ministries

Continual promotion provides opportunity and information

College kids sharing their summer mission experiences motivated others to commit to such summer mission involvement

Persons volunteered for mission ministries

APPENDIX J

Church Survey

When mission volunteers returned from their trips, did their enthusiasm influence other persons in your church to become mission volunteers? Please explain:

Increase interest in missions

Others want to go on next trip that is not yet scheduled

Each year had different volunteers in addition to the base group

We have 75 participating in a church-wide mission trip this year

Many factors may influence a decision to become involved. We've seen mission involvement increase recently and I believe it is due to the example and enthusiasm of others (but I don't have direct evidence of that).

Youth and adults invited others to join them next year

New people went this year after hearing about last year

The church was excited, but another opportunity has not come up yet

More youth planning to go this year as well as an adult team, also a second youth trip is planned

More people expressed interest in short-term missions

Many were at a crossroads—their previous experiences helped others make a lasting and eternal decision

Excitement and encouragement

Sharing the excitement with others

Others want to be a part

Shared in worship with pictures and PowerPoint—was a great challenge

Helped to influence others to volunteer in 2003

Students very excited about missions subsequent to trip and gave testimonies to entire church

Request of information about other mission opportunities

Missions is caught not taught—it always builds excitement

By giving testimonies new people have been enlisted for trips this year

Others want to be involved in the future

In order to participate you have to be a puppeteer, you have to be trained. We have had 3 new ones since last year.

Others wanted to go next time

We haven't taken another mission trip since then. We hope others will join this year.

They shared what God did and that excited others

We were both encouraged and challenged by their report

We always give our mission volunteers a time to testify about their experience. Those testimonies generally encourage others to take part in future trips.

Increased desire in church to do summer mission projects and block parties locally.

Presentation of video and mission fair

Our church is the campus church for the Baptist Children's Home of South Carolina. When students have a great mission experience, others want to go.

Number of volunteers for 2003 is greater

The testimonies excited our people and some expressed a desire to go on a mission trip

Brotherhood participation in Disaster Relief and youth participation in summer missions have increased due to ministry testimonies by previous participants.

We have three members going on a mission trip this year that have never been on a mission trip before.

It helped others have the courage to step outside their comfort zone and serve in remote areas.

Group shared with church and other projects have come out of this

We have new people excited to go because of the experiences of our volunteers

When we returned from World Changers, the enthusiasm of the volunteers has caused others to sign up to go this summer.

Our mission emphasis-awareness is at an all time high, our missions giving has increased

Emphasis was on helping others by serving them and encouraging them

Others want to experience God moving through missions like He did/does on our trips

Some trained for Disaster Relief ministry

There are some signed up for the trip this year who decided to do so after last years report. We also saw a significant increase in volunteers for local projects.

People you would least expect signed to volunteer for next trip

Others wanted to be a part of future trips

Their testimonies encouraged the congregation, others wish to become involved

Others are going this year

Several who did not go stated that they would go on future trips

We had two couples go to things as a result of the program given to the church

We have more signed up for this year's trip

At least three others have volunteered to go in 2003; however, some reacted against it because of the cost.

We already have 50 signed up to participate this year.

I gave them a Wednesday night service to show a PowerPoint presentation of the trip.

Some are inspired to volunteer each year as they hear the reports of returning volunteers—we have not figured percentages.

More are planning to go this year!

I think seeing others who have had positive experiences on mission trips encourage others to get involved in missions.

A video report is given to the church on each project and we always have people wanting to go on the next project.

They shared testimonies and others were motivated/encouraged to participate

Short-term—our church was very interested and excited to hear about our youth experience; however, we have not seen too many volunteers for this year.

Another mission trip is planned for this summer to Iowa.

We would always allow the teams to share in the services when they returned. This year our goal is 250 volunteers. To date we've had 171 volunteers.

Through showing of pictures/slides and sharing testimonies, hearts are touched and interest inspired

Through personal testimonies and services planned with slide shows and pictures, others became interested.

They were excited and on fire for the Lord Jesus Christ. They all told other youth that had not been on mission what a thrill it was to teach children in different cultures.

Interest was certainly aroused and others hopefully will respond.

Every year, we have different people willing to be involved in World Changers.

Our team number was ten in 2002. The interest meeting for our 2003 trip was 17.

We were able to see 22 souls saved and our excitement got others excited and now we will have more going in the future.

Acteens and Challenger went on their first mission trip.

New people have signed up this year to participate.

One man volunteered to do a mission trip.

They enjoyed their time on the mission trip.

A half dozen more adults demonstrated interest in missions involvement for the future.

First year six participated, the second year the same six went plus four new people

Presentations of trips given, new volunteers committed to participate in mission trips the next year

This always produces enthusiasm for missions and encourages people to be involved.

We have two times as many students going this year as we did last year.

As volunteers shared they returned and new ones went out

We are praying others will go. We took food and clothes given by our church members and pray they will take the next step and go.

An increased interest in mission education and an expression of willingness to go on future trips

Others wanted to participate this year

Their testimonies have served to spark interest in others going this year

Others have expressed an interest on attending our next trip.

Several commented that they would like to join the next team

We always have a report session that is very encouraging

The next time more went

There was a contagious sense of excitement among teens and families. Each year we've done those trips, interest and participation has grown.

All who participated wanted to do mission work in 2003, and I believe others will join us this year.

Each year we do a mission trip more want to go the next year.

Many prayed and encouraged

The students gave their testimonies. Hearts were touched and other students will probably go on the next one.

The church had three volunteers work with Disaster Relief and their experiences have encouraged others to want to be a part.

Testimonies

A woman from our church encouraged many of us in some way.

Their excitement and joy was shared upon their return. We are making plans this summer for a youth mission trip and more want to go.

They led in a service and the entire church was ready to go as a result.

Mission celebration services following the mission trips raised awareness and numbers for next year.

Made commitment to be involved in 2003

These were senior adults who work quite regularly with Texas Baptist Men builders

Volunteered through Baptist Men of East Texas

Desire was shown by others to be involved next year as opportunities arise

Others who had never been are now going

Youth really enjoyed experience and shared excitement with other youth

Other youth joined other projects based on what they heard

They brought a vibrancy of faith!

Had one person return from Salt Lake and immediately sign up for a trip to Romania

We always have a testimony night

Shared joy in God's work spreads!

We are sending a youth mission group to do Vacation Bible School this year and one is going overseas on a mission trip.

Testimony shared with congregation

We had a celebration service after both mission trips and will probably send out 25 this year.

They felt like it was more worthwhile than other summer options

Several people have said they would like to go

APPENDIX K

Mission Volunteer Survey

*Did your mission volunteer experience move you to a closer relationship with God?
If yes, have you maintained this closeness? Comments:*

I am retired after 50 years ministry in North Georgia. Being a senior adult, I love them and this ministry.

I look forward to the next trip.

Pastor's wife—retired after 50 years ministry in North Georgia. Love senior adults in camping ministry.

My mission involvement has continued the past 9 years and will continue the rest of my life.

Experience and confidence in what I already knew increased

Jump started both Bible study and prayer life

There is a mission at home too

Desire for more mission trips

Desire to be on mission for God

I need to get back in His word.

My own wants and needs cloud my spiritual vision

I've tried to remain in an open state of mind to what God is telling me

It made me more aware of God's calling us to be servants

Then enthusiasm wears off but the blessing doesn't

Been on two more since and three more this summer

More aware of opportunities in our own area

The more I do missions, the more I want to stay "in tune" with the Lord so He can continue to use me.

It especially helped me be closer to my teenagers who went too

Have always been very mission minded

I get overcome with daily responsibilities

Continue to do mission trips annually and local trips (Disaster Relief)

We saw a noticeable change in our host church—they are becoming mission minded

I have been a member of a mission team for 17 years and would go more often if I had the funds.

It allowed me to see where I was not leaning on him and how it was causing me to stumble.

Each day grows sweeter

I think they get you pumped to get people to come to know Jesus
Missions definitely make me closer to God
Each time I have to witness I do
I have, but it's gotten weaker
Made me more aware of missionary needs and how to pray for them
Read Missions Mosaic and pray for missionaries more
I've tried to read my Bible more.
I see a person(s) through Jesus' eyes, not mine!
Moved into a jail ministry and an assisted living ministry in my local town
I contribute to local missions and pray for all
An increased knowledge of the suffering of others leads us to suffering of our own, which
in turn helps us better understand and be thankful for the joy we have in Christ.
More vision about missions
My prayer life has changed/improved greatly
Have continued to be involved in missions locally
This affirmed what I knew the Lord had led me to do
Constant involvement keeps you depending
I want to be a witness for Him
I'm closer than I was, but not as close as I should be now
Already have a close relationship with Jesus
God has drawn me closer to Him.
This trip was a blessing and rejuvenated me! I now openly approach others in everyday
life and I did not do that previously.
Continue to look for new possibilities
More aware of other peoples needs
Daily I am using my spiritual gifts
I have more desire to serve
Growing stronger everyday
Only by God's grace
It was a wonderful trip and I hope I can come next year
Began teaching Sunday school and my focus shifted
Returning to normal, hectic schedule has worked against this
Church isn't sustaining youth members or spiritual level

Must stay close by Bible study, prayer and accountability group (battle of the spirit vs. flesh)

Not continuously

More sensitive to others

Better understanding of serving others/meeting needs

I never knew missions would touch my heart

I approach each day open to God's call

I have highs and lows in my relationship with God.

Our leader keeps it in front of us to be better prepared for next year

Daily Bible study

We do things all year long

It also gave me a closer relationship to church members who also went on the mission trip

Made me more aware of how God loves different people

Daily prayer for missions, Bible study

Not as much as I would like

Led to a two week Africa mission trip this year

Currently in "Experiencing God" study

I now feel our state missions are so very important

I'm closer then I was before, but I'm still not as close as I'd like to be

Hope to go work with the Gypsy children in July

The mission work fulfilled parts of my relationship with God

Much more attuned to the persecuted church in prayer