



WORDS FROM *Pastor Randy*

The primary responsibility of the North American Mission Board of our Southern Baptist Convention is to assist churches in reaching our homeland with the gospel of Jesus Christ. It has 3 primary emphases: Sharing Christ, starting churches, and sending missionaries. Those 3 ministries also represent the unfinished assignment of every church. We exist here at Saks to see that those 3 tasks are accomplished.

Now for those of us who live in the *buckle* of the “Bible Belt” where it seems like most everybody knows about Jesus, it’s hard to believe that there are still 251 million unbelievers in the United States, Canada, and their territories. These are people that God loves and Jesus died to save, who are living in the greatest country in the world, but who are unprepared to go to heaven. There is always a note of urgency when we consider the possibility of people around us dying lost without Jesus.

One of the ways we fulfill the Great Commission is by facilitating the financial needs of those who are called and able to go to those who are lost. Southern Baptists do the work of missions together. We pool our resources in order to share the gospel with everyone, everywhere, and by every means possible.

Southern Baptists join hands around the Easter season to give a special home mission offering. It is called the Annie Armstrong Easter Offering. It was named after Annie Walker Armstrong (1850-1938) who loved missionaries and worked to raise prayer and financial support for Southern Baptist missionaries (almost 18,000 letters in 1893 alone).

Today, we have more than 5,500 North American Missionaries working alongside our Southern Baptist Churches all across the United States, Canada, and their territories. As always, 100% of the Annie Armstrong Easter Offering is used to support these missionaries & their ministries.

This year we’re having some fun with our Easter Offerings. We’re asking all of our men to get in the kitchen and bake a cake. This Sunday evening will be our Second Annual Men’s Cake Auction. Last year, we raised almost all our AAEO goal through this one event alone.

It quite simple! Immediately following the youth drama (“The Champion”), we’ll all go down to the Fellowship Hall where J.D. Hess, our esteemed auctioneer, will conduct an old fashioned cake auction. All monies will go to the Easter Offering. So, men get busy cooking. No help from the ladies! Well . . . maybe just a little! Hopefully, our cakes will not only look good, but will be somewhat “edible” too!

Happy Cooking

Pastor Randy

