75 Years of Service
Established 1940

THE BAPTIST FOUNDATION OF ALABAMA
Giving. Growing. All for God's Glory.
Celebrating 75 Years of God’s Presence in Creating the Legacy of The Baptist Foundation of Alabama

November 1940 - November 2015
The Baptist Foundation of Alabama traces its beginnings to before 1915, when W. B. Crumpton brought the need for a Baptist foundation to the attention of Alabama Baptists during his tenure as Executive Secretary of the State Mission Board.

L. L. Gwaltney, editor of *The Alabama Baptist*, advocated a need for a foundation to receive and handle funds and estates given to Baptist work in the state.

A.H. Reid presented a resolution to the 1937 Convention, which was approved, calling for the appointment of a committee to consider the advisability of establishing a Baptist foundation and to bring a recommendation to the 1938 Convention.

The following were appointed by the president to serve on the committee: A. H. Reid (Chairman), J.J. Milford, T.V. Neal, John W. Inzer, and C.C. Pugh. In its investigation, the committee found so much opposition from the endowment agencies of the colleges it did not bring a report back to the Convention.

The 1939 Convention approved a resolution brought by its committee on resolutions which stated: “The president be authorized to appoint a committee of five composed of two ministers, two lawyers and one woman to draft a charter and constitution and by-laws for a Baptist Foundation of Alabama to be submitted to Convention in its next session.”

The following were appointed to this committee: George Lewis Bailes, Eugene Ballard, Sr., L.L. Gwaltney, L. E. Barton and Mrs. Ida M. Stallworth. This committee recommended to the 1940 Convention that a corporate agency be created by the Convention to encourage, receive and administer trust gifts for denominational causes. The committee also recommended that nine trustees be elected with power to incorporate The Baptist Foundation of Alabama within thirty days in conformity with the Code of Alabama with its principal office to be in Birmingham.

The Convention meeting in Decatur brought into being a Baptist Foundation. It is an agency chartered by the state consisting of nine trustees which will receive and hold and administer gifts, legacies and contributions of any kind from anyone who wishes to give to any cause whatever which is fostered by The Alabama Baptist State Convention...Please pass this word along so that everyone may know that such an agency exists.

L.L. Gwaltney
in *The Alabama Baptist*,
November 21, 1940
A MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

BARRY BLEDSOE

What a great personal privilege it is to be a part of The Baptist Foundation of Alabama as we celebrate 75 years of service to Alabama Baptists. As you review this brochure celebrating our heritage, I hope you sense our heartfelt desire to remember and honor those who have served faithfully in the past, recognize the accomplishments of today, and celebrate the bright future ahead.

REMEMBERING THE PAST

It was indeed a landmark day when Alabama Baptists approved the creation of The Baptist Foundation of Alabama at the 1940 convention. There was a dream that perhaps individual Alabama Baptists might consider leaving estate gifts to fund Baptist ministries in Alabama and beyond. Today that dream has been realized - millions of dollars in legacy gifts have been left to be managed and distributed by The Foundation. Back then, it was noted by one leader that some day, the Foundation might have as much as $10,000,000 under management funding Kingdom ministries and impacting lives for Christ. By the end of the first decade, The Foundation had just over $400,000 in assets under management. The Foundation reached $10,000,000 in assets by 1980. By 2000 the assets of The Foundation had grown to $125,000,000, with a total of $7,000,000 being distributed for Kingdom causes in that year alone. This Christ-honoring growth is the result of the generosity of Alabama Baptists and the stewardship of previous Foundation leadership.

These gifts have funded ministries throughout Alabama and around the world. Until we step into eternity and look over the balcony of heaven we will never know how many lives have been impacted.

CELEBRATING THE PRESENT

In 2001 The Foundation began entering the modern era knowing there was a need to improve technology, adopt more modern portfolio management techniques, and focus on development efforts. From this time until today the overriding objective of The Foundation is to serve Alabama Baptists through the various ministries of the Foundation by:

1. Being as technologically advanced as anyone in the secular world of similar size providing similar services;

Continued on next page
1/1951
The Foundation reported assets under management in excess of $400,000

11/15/1954
Leslie Wright elected the first Executive Secretary of The Baptist Foundation of Alabama and The Foundation office moved to Montgomery

1/1956
The Foundation reported assets under management in excess of $675,000

3/31/1958
Leslie Wright resigned as Executive Secretary of The Foundation after being elected President of Howard College (now Samford University)

6/6/1959
Dr. Carl Campbell, pastor of First Baptist Church of Fort Pierce, Florida, was elected Executive Secretary

A MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT - Continued

2. Having an academically sound institutional investment management process utilizing a multi-manager, multiple asset strategy; and

3. Focusing on ministry and development.

Since 2001 The Foundation has moved into a new building, added much-needed technology, developed an institutional investment management process, and begun focusing on ministry and development. Ministry for us is serving Foundation clients to the best of our ability with a Christ-like servant’s attitude.

Our technology is currently on par with anyone in the secular world of similar size providing similar services, and we are fully utilizing an academically sound institutional investment management process to manage funds held by The Foundation. We continue to improve our service model and have made giant strides in our development efforts. Since 2010 The Foundation has served more than 400 couples with faith-based estate planning, leading to future Kingdom gifts of more than $150 million. Our current assets under management are just under $230 million. Since our beginning in 1940 The Foundation has distributed almost $320,000,000 for Kingdom building ministries!

ANTICIPATING THE FUTURE

The best days for The Foundation lie ahead! In the past seven years, the Lord has led a number of very talented professionals to service at The Foundation. These individuals joined an already talented and committed group of employees. The collective effort of our staff has elevated our level of service to existing clients of The Foundation and we look forward to serving new and existing clients for the next 75 years!

Development is having as many Alabama Baptists as possible consider whether how they plan their estate is an act of stewardship and if they conclude it is, to make it easy to act on that decision.

“We are excited about the harvest days ahead as we serve as a conduit for funding various Christ honoring ministries in Alabama and around the world.”
During the first 75 years of service to Alabama Baptists, The Foundation has been blessed with strong and capable leaders. The fact that only six men have served as the Executive Secretary/President has provided a continuity in leadership that has contributed significantly to the growth and stability of The Foundation.

75th Anniversary (1940 - 2015)

EXECUTIVE SECRETARIES / PRESIDENTS

N. J. Bell, III elected President of the Trustees (Directors), a position he held until 1984

11/15/1964
Dr. Vernon Yerby joins The Foundation as an associate, resigning from the Department of Evangelism of the Southern Baptist Convention

3/9/1964
N. J. Bell, III elected President of the Trustees (Directors), a position he held until 1984

1/1966
The Foundation reported first million dollars in assets managed

1/1960
The Foundation reported assets under management in excess of $900,000

11/1961
The 1961 Alabama Baptist Convention designated September as “Alabama Baptist Foundation Month,” where pastors and denominational leaders were urged to inform people about the services offered to them through The Baptist Foundation

7/31/1966
Dr. Campbell retired and Dr. Yearby succeeded him as Executive Secretary

12/1968
The Foundation reported second million dollars in assets managed

CHAIRMEN OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Shown below are the individuals who have served in the position of Chairman of the Board of Directors during our first 75 years.
THE FOURTH DECADE
1970

1/1971
The Foundation reported assets under management of over $2.4 million

9/1/1974
Dr. U. A. McManus, Jr. joined staff as Director of Deferred Giving

1/1975
The Foundation reported assets under management of almost $6 million

9/1/1978
Dr. McManus became President of The Baptist Foundation of Alabama as the organization changed to a corporate structure

1/1979
The Foundation reported assets under management of approximately $9 million

7/15/1979
C. Warren Trussell, Jr. joined the staff as Director of Development (Vice President for Development in 1984)
2006 - Present - Montgomery, AL  
7650 Halcyon Summit Drive.

The Building Committee, comprised of the following board members and staff liaisons, worked on the beautiful new building which was dedicated on May 19, 2006: E. Earl Rhyne (Chairman), Thomas D. Champion (Vice-Chairman), Bill Austin, Diane Aman, Doyle Powell, Barry Bledsoe (Staff Liaison) and Marie Norrell (Staff Liaison).

The new logo, designed in 2014, is a modern take on the traditional Cross of Christ, symbolic of our commitment to serve our Savior and fellow Christians with our very best. The logo also signifies the protection and security of a shield, reflecting the responsibility that TBFA takes to administer gifts given to the growth of God’s Kingdom. The new tagline, “Giving. Growing. All for God’s Glory.” summarizes this mission well.

### THE FIFTH DECADE  
**1980**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1/1981</td>
<td>The Foundation reported assets under management of over $11.7 million</td>
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<tr>
<td>1/1984</td>
<td>The Foundation reported assets under management of over $16 million</td>
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<tr>
<td>4/1984</td>
<td>Board of Directors increased from fifteen to twenty members</td>
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<tr>
<td>5/2/1985</td>
<td>Dedication of Foundation Office Building on Court Street - debt-free through generous gifts from R. Voyt Hill in memory of his wife, Mary Bray Hill, and from Robert E. Lambert, Jr. in memory of his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Robert E. Lambert, Sr.</td>
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<tr>
<td>6/30/1988</td>
<td>U. A. McManus Jr. retired as President</td>
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<tr>
<td>7/1/1988</td>
<td>C. Warren Trussell, Jr. became President</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1/1989</td>
<td>The Foundation reported assets under management of approximately $40 million</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
THE SIXTH DECADE
1990

10/1990
Second floor of The Foundation building renovated to accommodate growing needs in space and personnel. Staff had increased from five full time staff members in 1979 to nine full time and one half-time position in 1990.

11/13/1990
The Baptist Foundation of Alabama 50th Anniversary Celebration

4/1991
Alaska/Alabama Baptist Foundation partnership established, funded by an anonymous donor with former President Dr. U. A. McManus serving as consultant. Funds to be managed by The Baptist Foundation of Alabama until the Alaska Foundation becomes fully operative.

4/1991
Principal assets of The Foundation reached over $45 million dollars.

1/1999
Assets reached $100 million.

75th Anniversary (1940 - 2015)
CURRENT BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Board members serve a four year term and are eligible for re-election for another four years. They must be absent from the board for one year after their second term to serve again. Such strength and continuity of leadership leaves its mark in the growth and progress of The Foundation.
### 75th Anniversary (1940 - 2015)

#### CURRENT LIFETIME BOARD OF DIRECTORS

- Joe Arnold
- Bill Austin
- Thomas Champion
- David Reid
- Earl Rhyne

The Foundation pays tribute to all Directors, past and present. They serve without compensation.

### THE SEVENTH DECADE 2000

- **11/13/2000**: 60th Anniversary Celebration
- **1/2001**: The Foundation reported assets under management of over $125 million
- **4/16/2001**: Barry Bledsoe hired as President
- **6/1/2001**: C. Warren Trussell, Jr. retired as President
- **5/19/2006**: New Foundation Office Building dedicated on Halcyon Summit Drive to accommodate growing staff and mission
- **7/2006**: Assets reached $200 million

### PRIOR LIFETIME BOARD OF DIRECTORS

- Bell III, N. J.
- Cain, Sr., James M.
- Fite, Jack P.
- Lambert, Jr., R. E.
- Odom, Jr., E. B.
- Jernigan, Ralph
- Wooten, George F.

### PRIOR BOARD OF DIRECTORS

- Adams, J. L.
- Adams, N. Q.
- Adams, Robert F.
- Aman, Diane
- Apsey, J. G.
- Arnold, Joe
- Austin, Bill
- Bailes, George Lewis
- Bames, F. M.
- Barton, L. E.
- Bashinsky, Leo
- Bell III, N. J.
- Blackwell, Jack
- Bowers, II, Taylor
- Bowling, W. B.
- Brabston, Donald C.
- Briscoe, Alvis G.
- Buchanan, Sr., John H.
- Caddell, John A.
- Cain, Sr., James M.
- Calvert, Perry L.
- Chaffin, A. A.
- Champion, Thomas
- Chism, Raymond
- Christenberry, Boyd
- Coe, Timothy
- Courtney, Jr., A. L.

- Crow, W. B.
- Cunningham, Herbert
- Dick, Kellar
- Donovan, J. Milton
- Doster, L. S.
- Dove, S. Earl
- Dunbar, E. F.
- Fite, Jack P.
- Gardner, W. Clarence
- Gay, John Will
- Granade, Sam
- Gray, Jr., George P.
- Green, D. F.
- Grooms, H. H.
- Gunn, Bryan
- Gunnells, Drew J.
- Gwaltney, L. L.
- Hayes, Ray
- Henslee, Kent
- Hill, Jack T.
- Howell, Malcolm
- Howze, Marcus
- Huey, Frank
- Inzer, J. C.
- Jackson, Lamar
- Jackson, P. S.
- Jernigan, Ralph
- Johnson III, William H.
- Keller, Jesse
- King, Tom
- Kittrell, H. J.
- Knight, Harold P.
- Lambert, Jr., R. E.
- Lambert, Sr., R. E.
- Lambeth, Tom
- Lawley, Jack
- Lazenby, Karl M.
- Lovelace, Jack
- McKenney, Alice C.
- Meadows, Douglas E.
- Miller, Kay
- Mims, M. Douglas
- Morris, Frank M.
- Morrison, Troy
- Murphee, George
- Nicholson, John
- Nielsen, John M.
- Nolin, Jr., Andrew C.
- Norman, John
- Norman, Ralph R.
- Odom, Jr., E. B.
- Pace, H. E.
- Palmer, W. W.
- Parker, R. Franklin
- Parrish, Harold
- Peacock, James E.
- Pharr, H. A.
- Purser, Jr., D. I.
- Rainer, Marbury
- Ratliff, W. T.
- Redmond, Jr., Paul
- Redmond, Sr., Paul
- Reid, A. H.
- Reid, David
- Rhyne, E. Earl
- Roberson, Pat
- Russell, Tom
- Rutledge, Steve
- Samford, Frank P.
- Sheffield, Selden
- Smalley, Dan
- Stivender, Jr., James
- Strength, C. M.
- Swearingen, Harold
- Truitt, James N.
- Whatley, Tom
- Wingard, Chester
- Wooten, George F.
At The Baptist Foundation of Alabama, we are so very thankful for the faithfulness of our God over the last 75 years. During this time, He has used a great number of generous Alabama Baptists, working in conjunction with The Foundation, to expand His Kingdom in this great state, our nation, and around the world. The gifts left to the Foundation for various ministries have been, and continue to be, stewarded and distributed to various ministries. The result is increased financial resources for organizations seeking to make an eternal difference. And while we at The Baptist Foundation of Alabama are thankful to have played a small role in His work for the last 75 years, we know He continues to work in the lives of His people through The Foundation even now.

Today, the concept of Legacy is frequently on the minds of the directors and staff of The Baptist Foundation of Alabama. Every day, we ask Alabama Baptists to consider, “What will your legacy be?” After all, each of us is crafting a legacy daily. Whether we know it or not and whether we like it or not, the way we live our lives and the choices that we make will impact others.

But can a group of people, or an organization like The Baptist Foundation of Alabama, have a legacy? We think so. Every day, and in every way that we interact with others, The Foundation’s legacy is being built. This year, The Baptist Foundation of Alabama celebrates its 75th year of legacy building. To us, this seems like a perfect time to stop and consider what we might want the legacy of The Foundation to be.

When The Baptist Foundation of Alabama was established in 1940, the purpose was clear:

“...to encourage the making of gifts, benefactions and other donations by deed, will, direct gifts or otherwise for the advancement, promotion, endowments, and maintenance of all institutions and agencies...now recognized by or under the direction the Alabama Baptist State Convention...”

Said another way, The Foundation was created to encourage legacy giving among Alabama Baptists and then steward those legacy gifts well until Jesus returns. For 75 years, the staff of The Foundation has been striving to fulfill that purpose to the best of its ability.

Today, The Baptist Foundation of Alabama has over 2,000 accounts and serves as fiduciary for almost $230 million in gifts left for Kingdom causes. Distributions are regularly made to advance the Christian and charitable causes most dear to the faithful Alabama Baptists who, through Christ-centered estate planning, chose to continue building the Kingdom after death. Several churches around the State are engaged in specific Legacy Ministries, equipping their members to consider whether estate planning is an act of stewardship (and if it is, make it easy for them). To date, these Legacy Ministries have resulted in gifts of millions of dollars of Kingdom fuel. So it is our hope that The Foundation’s legacy will be one of stewardship...twin pillars of (1) encouraging individuals to use Christian estate planning to allow their legacy of stewardship to live on after them and (2) practicing sound fiduciary stewardship of these legacy gifts to
fund Kingdom work for generations to come. In short, all of us at The Foundation are committed to helping Alabama Baptists create a legacy that will honor not only their family, but also their faith. We truly believe that Alabama Baptists who carefully and prayerfully consider how they plan their estate from a Biblical perspective can continue funding the Lord’s work on Earth after they have stepped into heaven. What a legacy that would be.

Perhaps the Lord is calling you to consider the legacy He would have you leave. To learn more about how The Baptist Foundation of Alabama can help you forge your lasting legacy, please contact us.

**OUR CURRENT STAFF MEMBERS**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Barry Bledsoe</th>
<th>Jennifer Ogburn</th>
<th>John Ashworth</th>
<th>J. Rodney Bledsoe</th>
<th>William McCrary</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>President</td>
<td>Chief Financial Officer</td>
<td>Chief Administrative Officer</td>
<td>Chief Development Officer</td>
<td>Vice President for Church Relations</td>
</tr>
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<td></td>
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<td>Retired: 7/2016</td>
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<thead>
<tr>
<th>J. Thomas Randall</th>
<th>Paula Smith</th>
<th>Donna England</th>
<th>Erin White</th>
<th>Nathan McCarthy</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Vice President for Ministry</td>
<td>Vice President for Trust Operations</td>
<td>Asst. Vice President for Trust Operations</td>
<td>Trust Operations Officer</td>
<td>Investment Officer</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Joseph N. Hocutt II</th>
<th>Sarah Snell</th>
<th>Robbie Willis</th>
<th>Stephanie Coston</th>
<th>Connie Westover</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Development Officer</td>
<td>Client Services Officer</td>
<td>Ministry Administrative Assistant</td>
<td>Administrative Assistant</td>
<td>Development Administrative Assistant</td>
</tr>
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**Combined Years of Service:** Almost 170!

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**CONNECT WITH US ON SOCIAL MEDIA**

Keep up with the latest news from The Baptist Foundation of Alabama by following us through these social media platforms:

- @tbfalabama
- @TBFAlabama
- @tbfalabama

**#tbfa**

**#legacyministry**

**#leavealegacy**
75th Anniversary (1940 - 2015)

Next Actions - Individuals

Throughout its history, The Baptist Foundation of Alabama has provided estate planning resources to Alabama Baptists wishing to leave a legacy of their faith by allocating a portion of their estate to Christian causes. Hundreds of Christ followers have allowed The Foundation to assist them with planning their legacy and managing funds to support those Kingdom honoring plans.

Estate Planning

We believe God is the owner of everything and He blesses us to be a blessing to others. Estate Planning is the process of anticipating and arranging for the distribution of the resources that God has entrusted to you for the benefit of those people you love and those charitable organizations you admire. Too often, people die without a simple will in place, causing issues for the loved ones they leave behind. And too often, committed and generous tithers simply do not think of leaving a portion of their earthly estate for Kingdom advancing ministries. We encourage you to take a look at Estate Planning from a Christian perspective by placing God and others first in your thought process.

Let The Foundation help you craft a plan that will honor your family and your faith!

“We brought nothing into the world, and we can take nothing from it.”
1 Timothy 6:7
75th Anniversary (1940 - 2015)

NEXT ACTIONS - CHURCHES/ENTITIES

For the last 75 years, The Baptist Foundation of Alabama has offered a variety of services to assist churches with fund and investment management. Today, The Foundation also provides the tools churches need to implement an effective legacy ministry to serve their members.

LEGACY MINISTRY

We believe that God is the owner of all things and that what we do with our estates is an important act of stewardship of the Lord’s gifts to each of us. Every Alabama Baptist church is full of believers who have never considered leaving their portion of God’s blessings to their favorite Christian causes after they step into heaven. The Foundation is committed to partnering with the local church to equip its members in this area. Just imagine the Kingdom impact your church could make by allowing the Lord to lead your members through a Legacy Ministry.

INVESTMENT SERVICES

The Baptist Foundation of Alabama is responsible for managing almost $230 million of God’s money, left by God’s people, for God’s purposes. We take this responsibility very seriously and utilize an academically sound, institutional investment process. As we make investment decisions, we are continually mindful of our obligation to be good stewards of the resources entrusted to us.

FUND MANAGEMENT SERVICES

At The Baptist Foundation of Alabama, we believe the administration and management of the funds we hold is one of the most important services we provide for our clients. Acknowledging that maintaining the trust of those we serve is paramount, the Foundation strives to provide unrivaled service. We can provide churches with multiple options to best fit their needs.

Let us start helping your church today! Please contact one of the following individuals below:

J. Rodney Bledsoe, J.D.
Chief Development Officer
(334) 394-2025

Joseph N. Hocutt II, J.D.
Development Officer
(334) 394-2022

Nathan McCarthy
Senior Investment Officer
(334) 394-2007

“WHATSOEVER YOU DO, WORK AT IT WITH ALL YOUR HEART, AS WORKING FOR THE LORD, NOT FOR HUMAN MASTERS.”

Colossians 3:23
We will tell the next generation the praiseworthy deeds of the Lord . . . And they in turn will tell their children. Then they would put their trust in God and would not forget His deeds but would keep His commands. Psalm 78:4-7
We encourage you to stop by and visit your state foundation! We would love to see you!

Please visit at 7650 Halcyon Summit Drive | Montgomery, AL 36117
Giving.
Growing.
All for God’s Glory.
Our office is located at
7650 Halcyon Summit Drive
Montgomery, AL 36117

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Montgomery, AL 36124
(334) 394-2000
e-mail: tbfa@tbfa.org
www.tbfa.org

“Honor the Lord with all your wealth, with first fruits of all your crops”

Proverbs 3:9