



Tennessee Baptist Missionary & Educational Convention, Incorporated

The Laymen Ministry



May 1

2017

MISSION: To work with Pastors throughout the TBM&E Convention to establish, organize and motivate men and boys to get more involved in the Ministry of Jesus Christ. To develop and deliver local, District and Regional workshops that will train and encourage men and boys to more effectively minister to the unsaved and those in need.

Developing And
Deploying Men As
Good And Faithful
Servants Of Jesus
Christ



Tennessee Baptist Missionary and Educational Convention, Inc

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To the Laymen, Pastors and Supporters

I greet you in the name of my Lord and Savior, Jesus the Christ. I am honored to be appointed by President Joe B. Maddox as President of the Laymen Ministry.

It is be my pleasure to work with each of you in this new role and provide you with Biblically based information regarding the Laymen Ministry of the Tennessee Baptist Missionary and Educational Convention Inc.



The purpose of the information contained in this Web Page is to provide guidance and assistance for Laymen Ministries in Churches and Districts that will strengthen the Convention's ministry and outreach efforts.

Our mission is to work with Pastors, Moderators and Convention officials to establish, organize and motivate men and boys to get more involved in the Ministry of Jesus Christ. This ministry is God focused, Jesus Christ centered, Holy Spirit led and Ministry driven that encourages men and boys to more effectively minister to the unsaved and those in need.

This Ministry is affiliated with the National Baptist Laymen Movement of the National Baptist Convention USA, Inc. and the Tennessee Baptist Laymen Movement.

It is my prayer that you will be encouraged to continue your work in the ministry and that you will find the web page content beneficial to you and your ministry.

God Bless Each of You, Your Family and Your Ministry

Robert A. Pope

Robert A. Pope, President
The Laymen Ministry

Tennessee Baptist Missionary and Educational Convention, Incorporate

Guidance Statements

It is very important that each Laymen Ministry establish Biblically based Guidance Statements to assist the Ministry identify its ministry focus. Additionally, this set of Statements will be used to communicate to Pastors, congregations and Districts the path that will be taken to bring the Gospel to the unsaved and to serve the congregation and the need of the community. This page provides an example of Guidance Statements you may use to establish guidance for the Laymen Ministry you serve.

Our Scriptural Base

21 His lord said unto him, well done, thou good and faithful servant: thou hast been faithful over a few things, I will make thee ruler over many things: enter thou into the joy of thy lord. Matthew 25:21

Our Theme

Developing and deploying men as good and faithful servants of Jesus Christ.

Our Vision

The Christian men and boys of Tennessee are fully engaged in the ministry of Jesus Christ within their local church, their District and the TBM&EC Laymen Ministry. Their work is effectively attracting unsaved men, women, boys and girls to redemption and salvation in Jesus Christ.

Our Purpose

Encourage the Men and Boys of Tennessee to be more involved in the Ministry of Jesus Christ within their Family, Church and Community.

Our Mission

To work with Pastors throughout the TBM&E Convention to establish, organize and motivate men and boys to get more involved in the Ministry of Jesus Christ. To develop and deliver local, District and Regional workshops that will train and encourage men and boys to more effectively minister to the unsaved and those in need.

Our Goals

1. Increase the participation of men and boys in the Ministry of Jesus Christ within their local Church.
2. Create in the Districts within the Convention Outreach Ministries that include Jails and Prisons, Homeless Shelters, Street Witnessing, and Adopt-A-School.
3. Establish Regional Workshop within the Convention to assist men and boys better understand their role in this spiritual work and provide information on effectively leading, organizing and operating a Men's Ministry.
4. Establish within the Convention a Boys Bible Study via the Bible Bowl Competition that begins in the local Church and concludes with a Statewide and Regional Competition.
5. Increase the participation of men and boys in financial support of the State Convention and the National Baptist Laymen Movement

TBM&EC LAYMEN MINISTRY HISTORY

Tennessee Baptist Missionary and Educational Convention, Inc. have always given Laymen a prominent place in the activities of the Convention. In the early days of the Convention Laymen were active in the organization of several departments. They have sought definite knowledge concerning the work of the convention, and their responsibilities in their churches, and how they can effectively pursue their interest.

The Layman's Convention was organized in 1915 at the Berean Baptist Church in Jackson under the inspiration of Rev. William Collier. At the first meeting, twelve farmers were present and donated \$2.00 each to contribute to the work of the Convention. Brother S. M. Pruitt of LaGrange, was elected President; Brother W. H. Johnson, of Demark, served as Secretary; and Reverend William Collier, served as Director General.

In 1919, the Convention Minutes state, "The Convention suspended business for the Laymen to hold their meeting as per the Program." In this session Professor E. T. Brown of Nashville was elected President, Brother J. M. Easterling of Chattanooga, served as Secretary; and Reverend Joe Dark of Memphis served as Director General. A constitution for the Layman's Department was adopted in 1920.

Through the years the Laymen Department of the Convention has attracted many great Christian men to its leadership ranks. Their leadership strongly supported the Departments and activities of the Convention. Educators, physicians, attorneys, farmers, and business owners were strong in Church affiliation, which in turn brought strength to the Convention. The list of such men is long, but collectively they represented a tower of strength for the Christian cause.

In recent years the following men have served as President of the Laymen Department which in later years became the Laymen Ministry. Brothers S. H. McVay of Milan, Countee Bond of Jackson, J. E. McKinnie of Bolivar, and Clifton Satter of Memphis. Brother R. L. Radford of Trenton served as Vice President. Brothers Roy T. Perkins of Georgetown, Gregory Ridley of Nashville, and S. F. Dobbins of Decaturville served as Regional Vice Presidents.



One great example is that the Layman Department was among the first to envision reconstituting the educational work of the Convention in the 1940s. A group of Laymen in Memphis after conferring with President S. A. Owen used the credit of M. S. Stuart and Henry H. Humes to borrow \$500.00, paid as earnest money to obtain property Vance Avenue and Orleans Street in Memphis, which became the site of Owen College. Laymen, Pastors and Churches worked together to provide funding to support the operation and growth of Owen College.

In more recent years, Laymen organized a group, "Friends to Education," with the objective of getting Laymen across Tennessee to donate at least \$100 per year to support Christian Education. Through their efforts produced improvements to the College buildings, equipment for the Development Office of LeMoyne-Owen College, Scholarship for ministers and other students, as well as leadership and support for the annual fund-raising efforts of the College.

Who is a Layman?



When God constructed Man in the book of Genesis, He formed him physically from the dust of the Earth and made him a spiritual being by breathing into him God's own breath. Man is equally connected to Earth and God with a purpose of caring for the physical nature of one and sharing the spiritual nature of the other. No other creature of creation has this distinction. This can be interpreted as man's role in society is to provide for the physical and spiritual needs of his family, church and community.

A Layman can be described as a man who has a heart captured by Jesus, the Christ, with the purpose of building the kingdom of God, our Father, with the help of the Holy Spirit. The dictionary definition for layman is "a person, who is not a member of the clergy, is part of the laity". In the twenty-first century church it is defined as a person that is not an ordained minister. Of course, those in clergy began meaningful ministry work as a member of the laity; thankfully some of the clergy remain strongly connected to the Laymen Ministry and its movement.

In the Gospel of Matthew, Jesus tells the story of a Master who about to travel to a far country and leaves his servants to manage his property. He gives to each servant responsibilities according to their ability. He returns from his journey to find that two of the servants had managed well their responsibilities, and one servant did not. The Master recognized the good work of the two responsible servants, and welcomed them to a generous reward. However, the servant that did nothing was sent a place of suffering. The Layman is charged with being faithful and responsible for the Master's property (His Ministry).

A Layman strongly supports the vision and direction of the Pastor of their congregation. It has been said that Men can bring strength to ministry by envisioning the Pastor's vision. This simply means that the Laymen of the church work to ensure that ministry is effective and succeeds in expanding the kingdom of God.

When a Layman joins with other Men, the Laymen Ministry is formed, may also be known as the Men's Ministry or Brotherhood, and is established to involve men and boys in the ministry of Jesus Christ. Men are positioned by God in the Church to bring strength to every ministry. Within the Church that means the men provide leadership or strength to ministries such as, Deacons, Trustees, Music, Ushers, and Christian Education in all its forms.

Also, in Genesis God gave man (Adam) stewardship of the Garden. Man remains responsible for God's property and is the steward God has entrusted with its care. Laymen use the Word of God to devise methods of supporting the Church. Tithing in all its forms (*Tissue, Time, Talents and Treasure*) is the method designed by God to support the Ministries of the Church.

Laymen lead or support the activities and events that cause the Church to engage with the community. This ministry is a strong outreach ministry that focuses on the unsaved, those that are in need and those seeking Christian guidance. In Matthew 28:19, Jesus commanded us to "*Go and make disciples*", the focus of an outreach ministry.

The Laymen Ministry in Action



The Laymen Ministry is focused on God, our Father, His Son, Jesus the Christ, and the Holy Spirit. The leadership has to keep this premise in front of the men at all times and in everything the men do. The work we do or the services we may provide cannot become the focus or our principle concern.

The Laymen Ministry must be a ministry that attracts men to salvation, God's service and the work of the church. Salvation is our primary reason for touching the life of others, so that purpose is the overarching purpose for our Christian walk. Every meeting or

fellowship is a great venue for checking for or offering the path to salvation. Bible study, fellowship and food are always good things.

The Saturday morning meeting may be used to prepare men for life and to walk in the light of Jesus the Christ. It would be useful to add a short planning and review session to the meeting. In one of the meetings, develop a small planning team that could do more extended planning for the Ministry at another time. The planning team could be used to plan an annual calendar of the Ministry events and activities. The team would be responsible for designing the Ministry committees that would do the detail planning for the events or activities they have identified.

There are three broad categories of ministries men can be offered the opportunity to serve. The categories are; Inside the Church, Outside the Church, and Outreach Ministry.

1. **Inside the Church** includes ministries, events and activities such as participating in the music department, Devotion with Deacons, participating in Christian Education (Sunday School, Bible Study and Church Conferences or Institutes) Ushers, AV, and kitchen and dining room crew. The Men's Ministry may capture a Sunday and participate in all Sunday services from Sunday School through the Worship Celebration, and Ministry sponsored programs and activities. There must be an effort to spiritually develop young men and boys and involve them in ministry work. Tithing and sacrificial offering is a fundamental Biblical principle that men must provide consistent leadership in this area.
2. **Outside the Church** includes events and activities such as participating in the facility maintenance and repair, grounds care, parking lot and sign maintenance, and general custodial care of the church facility. Secondly, visit the sick and home bound of the Church, work with the Deacons to deliver Communion, visit the sick and shut-in, hospitals, jails and prisons, and develop a 'brushed with kindness' ministry that will assist the elderly of the Church with simple home repairs.
3. **Outreach Ministry** includes events and activities such as taking ministry to the men's shelters and to nursing homes. Interacting with the evangelism teams to plan execute a street ministry, visit new members, and establish an invite a community to church campaign (neighborhood canvassing). Develop a program to adopt a hospital, a nursing home, a homeless shelter, and community center and participate in the Adopt-A-School ministry. While there organize a brief worship service with prayer and scripture readings.

These events and activities bring something for everyone and the men can begin to understand and appreciate the spirituality in their gifts. 3M is not seen as trying to place the men in a particular box or limit their ability to share their gifts. The objective is to get the men involved in God's service that will result in the salvation of those who do not know the power of a loving God, His Son and the Holy Spirit.

LAYMEN MINISTRY INVENTORY

This Inventory will assist local and District Laymen identify ministry work that facilitates *Drawing the Unsaved to Jesus Christ, Developing People in Jesus Christ and Deploying People for Jesus Christ*. This Inventory is beneficial to Pastors and Moderators in help the men of their congregation and District define an agenda of ministry.

RECRUITMENT MINISTRY

This ministry focuses on getting men involved in the ministries in the Church or District. This simply means that the men of this ministry understand the needs and benefits of how men's involvement will grow God's Kingdom. The men of this ministry also understand that it is more beneficial to get men involved in these ministries than just joining a men's group.

1. Christian Education is how Disciples of Christ become Spiritually stronger by understanding God's Word.
2. Ushering, Greeting and the Safety Team ensures the congregation feels welcomed and secured from the troubles of this World.
3. This ministry may identify Men as potential Deacons and Trustees to serve the Spiritual and Physical needs of the church.
4. The Music Ministry needs the voices of Men to give strength to quality of the sound and spiritual nature of the music.
5. Identify men and women who can support efforts related to Disaster Relief within their community and beyond.

In the District this ministry will recruit men from the Churches of the District to form Devotional Teams, Male Chorus and support Ushers.

VISITATION MINISTRY

This ministry focuses on getting men involved in visiting members of the congregation that are sick, home bound, hospitalized and persons confined to care facilities, such as Assisted Living facilities and Nursing Homes. The ministry work includes the following.

1. This ministry can team with the Deacon Ministry to make visit the persons mentioned above or this ministry may make these visits just as men of the Church.
2. This ministry checks with the elderly members of the congregation to check their well being as well the well being of care givers.
3. Check the home for areas that may need minor repairs or improvements. The ministry will repair items like a leaky faucet, a faulty light switch or as large as a wheel chair ramp.
4. Men of the church may deliver Communion with the Deacon Ministry to the members who are unable to attend Worship Service.

This ministry may also include young men and boys making certain visits for training and experience purposes

OUTREACH MINISTRY

This ministry focuses on impacting the lives of unsaved persons by presenting Jesus and the Plan of Salvation. This ministry can bring the example of Jesus to person that have needs that are spiritual, physical or emotion. The following ministries include.

1. Neighborhood canvassing and Street Witnessing presents the Gospel of Jesus Christ to the unsaved persons.
2. Establish an effective Jail and Prison ministries that brings the Word of God, Prayer and Counseling to incarcerated persons.

3. Angel Tree and Adopt-A-School ministries focus on at-risk children in an effort to expose them to the example of Jesus. Angel Tree has the added benefit of affecting the incarcerated parent.
 4. Establish regular visits to a men's Homeless Shelter to bring an Inspirational Service and a message from God, as well as deliver Acts of Kindness (Toiletry Items).
- Other Outreach ministries may be identified to assist people see the benefit of accepting Jesus

YOUTH MINISTRY

This ministry focuses on developing the Youth of the Church or District. It is important that this ministry involve young men and boys in Laymen Ministry work. This ministry may be called Junior Laymen Ministry. The following ministries include.

1. Present Biblically based lessons on items such as taking responsibility, being respectful to yourself and others, integrity, and improved conduct.
2. Involving pre-teen and teenage boys in the Bible Bowl competition which includes learning the Bible to quickly find scriptures and to answer questions about characters and other facts. The competition begins at the Church, progresses through the District, the Region and to the National Finals.
3. Involving teenage boys in the Basketball competition. This competition follows the same path as the Bible Bowl competition.

With each of these efforts the boys will focus on Christian attributes and value, as well as develop the skills of working as part of a team.

The Laymen Ministry Planning and Operations Handbook has more directional information about organizing the Laymen Ministry to achieve elements of the Guidance Statements.

Laymen Ministry Structure and Financial Commitments

The Laymen Ministry Officers and District Presidents assist The Laymen Ministry President manage laymen ministry operations. The Team assists with building the ministry and planning ministry work throughout the Convention's Laymen Ministry. Building the ministry requires the Districts work to engage with laymen ministries of local member churches. As well as, assist the District Presidents recruit new churches and involve the new Laymen Ministries in State Convention and National Laymen Ministry work. The purpose of this approach is to strengthen men's ministry work inside the church, outside the church and outreach ministries that as the Laymen Ministry continues to grow.

Financial Support for the Convention:

Each District will contribute \$100.00 during each statewide Convention meeting. These meetings include the Regional Sessions, the Adjourned Session, the Congress of Christian Education, and the Annual Session. There will be no additional statewide fund raisers in the Laymen Ministry during Calendar Years 2017 and 2018; the men of the District will produce these contributions. The each District contribution will accompany a Laymen Registration Form and forwarded to the Laymen President for submission to the Convention's Finance office. With a minimum of 10 districts participating, this process could produce \$4,000.00 in contributions to the Convention for each year 2017 and 2018 from the Laymen Ministry. Please use the Laymen Assessment Form to make all contributions the TBM&E Convention.

Financial Support for the National Baptist Laymen Ministries

The National Laymen have two fund raising activities each year (Special Projects Breakfast and the Royal Court Competition) that are used to support ministries that deliver training and other support to local Laymen Ministries, as well as, outreach ministries. These outreach ministries include Prison Ministries, Street Witnessing and Neighborhood Canvassing, Visiting Homeless Shelters with 'Acts of Kindness' (Basic Needs) and Disaster Relief efforts. These ministries effectively promote Christian values and offer the Plan of Salvation to the lost of the communities throughout this country. Over the years, numerous souls have come to Christ have been baptized.

A financial request will be made to the Convention to support each of these efforts with a contribution of \$750.00 for each activity for the years 2017 and 2018. The financial request will be adjusted according to an agreement between the Laymen President and the Convention President. Based on this financial plan the Laymen Ministry will contribute \$2,500.00 for each year of 2017 and 2018. As the Laymen Ministry continues to grow, there will be improvements to these contributions to the future.

Each year the National Laymen Ministry also seeks Discipleship registrations from local Senior and Junior Laymen. These Discipleships are \$40.00 for Senior Laymen and \$25.00 for Junior Laymen. The Discipleship registrations are another fund raiser to support all the outreach ministries with a focus on the Street Witnessing Service. Funds from the National Laymen Ministry are made available to the local Laymen Ministry that is hosting this outreach ministry during the National Congress of Christian Education and the Annual Session of the National Baptist Convention.

On Page 11 is a description of the Walter Cade, Jr., Southwest Laymen Workshop. This Workshop is held in most states of the Southwest Region, except Louisiana and Kentucky. Generally, the Workshop is held in Birmingham, AL, Dallas, TX, Little Rock, AR, Jackson, MS and Memphis, TN. The cost for the weekend Workshop is about \$400.00 per couple which includes all meals. Costs vary from state to state; however, there is benefit to the Laymen Ministry at the local level, because this cost is less than attending the National Sessions.

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Brother Robert A. Pope
President
Laymen Ministry

Elder Dr. Joe B. Maddox
President
TBM&E Convention

Sister Ladalia Logan
Treasurer
TBM&E Convention

Laymen Ministry Assessment Form

Name	Church
Address	Pastor
City & Zip Code	Laymen President
Cell Phone No	District/Association
Email Address	District/Association President

Assessment Schedule (District/Association Assessment is \$100.00 per Session)*

	Regional Session	Adjourned Session	Congress Session	Annual Session
Senior Laymen ¹ - \$25.00				
Junior Laymen ¹ - \$10.00				
Local Church - \$100.00				
*District/Association				
Other Donation				
Total per Session				

¹ Senior and Junior Laymen and Church Assessments are due once per year.

Method of Payment: Check Check No. _____ Cash (On-Site Only)

Payable To: Tennessee Baptist Missionary & Educational Convention or TBM&E Convention
Mail To: Post Office Box 280645, Nashville, TN 37228

Walter Cade, Jr. Southwest Laymen Workshop

The regional concept of the National Baptist Convention USA, Inc. (*men gathering for Christian education, fellowship and the furthering of the gospel in regions of the United States*) was conceived in 1971 by the National Officers for men and Laymen supporters unable to attend the national meetings.

The first workshop was held July 24-26, 1987 in St. Louis, MO at the Holiday Inn Westport Hotel. Earnest Johnson was the State Laymen President and the host church was Westside Missionary Baptist Church. Approximately five hundred (500) delegates attended.

The Workshop is designed to deliver national level knowledge, skills and exposure to local Laymen, youth, Pastors and the supporters of the Movement. It is a three day event filled with preaching, teaching (also developing young people) and outreach ministries. It begins Friday evening with refreshments that help to refresh and restore after a day of travel. The evening then focuses on the young people of the Region. A young man will deliver a spirit filled message from the Word of God. The young people will bring song and dance, and will conclude with a Bible Bowl competition. The Bible Bowl competition is the result of boys that have received training in their local church, district Association and State Convention in finding scriptures in the Bible and their general knowledge of the Bible. The young Brother who wins the Regional Competition will compete with other young Brothers from around the Nation during the National Congress of Christian Education with the National Baptist Laymen Movement.

These states make up the Walter Cade, Jr. Southwest Laymen Workshop; Alabama, Arkansas, Louisiana, Kentucky, Mississippi, Tennessee and Texas. The Workshop rotates among these states each year and is held the last weekend of July. Tennessee is tentatively scheduled to host the Workshop again in July 2019.

The focus Saturday morning is Christian Education where twelve classes are offered for Pastors, men, women, boys and girls. Some classes include Organizing an Effective Laymen Organization, Biblical Womanhood, Pastoring in the Twenty-First Century, Two Youth classes, and Becoming an Effective Deacon, and others. This training is beneficial in that it offers the opportunities for every local church to strengthen its men's ministry, elevate its service to the community and bring souls. Additionally, there is a Women's Luncheon, including a Speaker.

The afternoon is spent in a Street Witnessing service in the community. A site is selected by the host State and a tent is used and food served for physical care. The community is canvassed and the people that come are provided with counseling, prayer, and the Plan of Salvation. This service typically brings several souls to Christ and their baptism is planned with a local church in that community. Saturday concludes with a Banquet that recognizes Bible Bowl Competitors, songs from Regional Male Chorus and Layman as keynote speaker.

Sunday morning ends the Workshop with Breakfast and a Worship Service with a Pastor as Speaker.

The Walter Cade, Jr. Southwest Laymen Workshop has been on a long Journey and it has a Promising Future. Many have travelled this Road of Destiny and they have set the direction, inspiration and the pace. We must follow their leadership example and carry the message and cause of Jesus Christ on into the Future.

The name was changed to The Walter Cade, Jr. Southwest Laymen Workshop in 2007. The Workshop is named for the National Baptist Laymen President who was instrumental in developing the Workshop concept and moving aggressively to get it implemented in the Regions of the National Baptist Convention, USA, Inc. He was interested motivating men across this Nation working effectively in the Master's vineyard with knowledge and purpose.