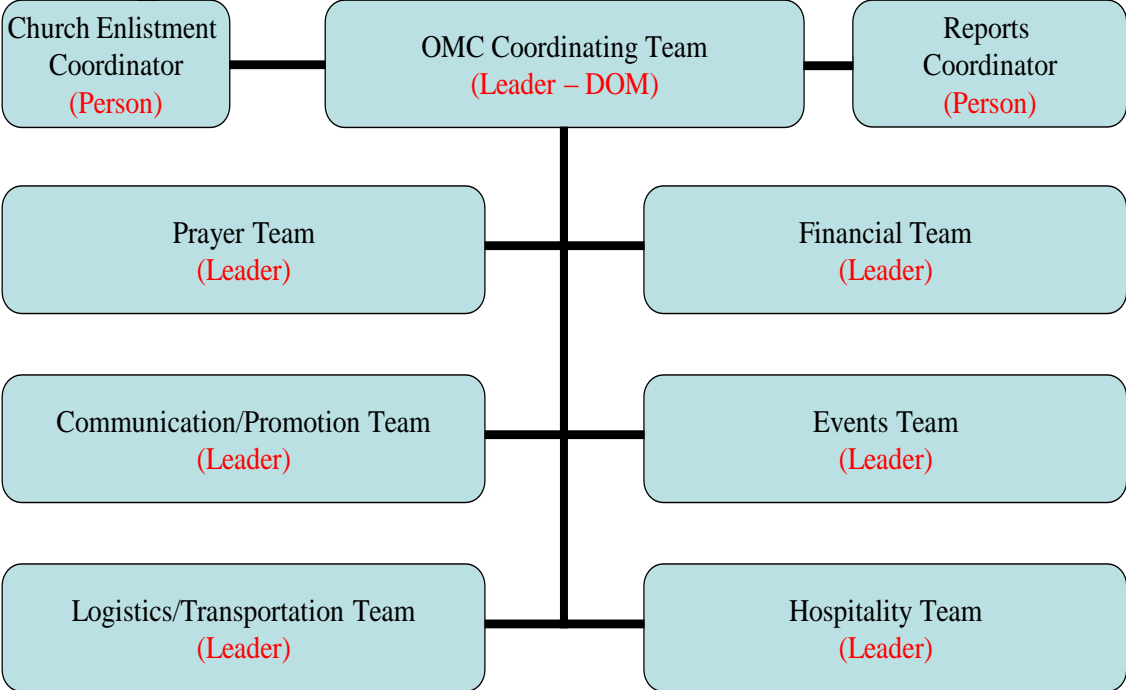


On Mission Connection Association Resource Guide

Associational OMC Organizational Chart



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Introduction to the Associational Guide

CONGRATULATIONS on your association's decision to hold an On Mission Connection (OMC). People of all ages are renewed and changed by this mission's emphasis.

An OMC is a strategic mission event designed to introduce international and North American missionaries, state missionaries and local on-mission Christians and highlight mission opportunities and needs. An OMC offers a festive and energetic atmosphere in which the Southern Baptist vision and commitment to missions is communicated in a clear and compelling manner and participants are encouraged to examine their personal commitment to and involvement in missions.

An event this size, involving numbers of people in a number of churches, requires good planning, a lot of effort on the part of responsible people, and much attention given to execution and follow-up of those plans.

An OMC will lead an association or cluster of churches to experience:

- **The Celebration of Missions** – Learning ways God is at work globally through Southern Baptists.
- **The Connection to Opportunities** – Encouraging local churches to partner through intentional hands-on mission opportunities with Southern Baptist mission personnel engaged in Great Commission work.
- **The Coaching of Churches** – Equipping church members to discover how they can join God on mission through direct and personal involvement.

What are the primary elements of an On Mission Connection?

- Hear mission stories and have dialogue with missionaries from various places. Your Southern Baptist association (or local leadership of churches) will suggest the number of missionaries to invite from the four primary SBC focuses—local, state, NAMB and IMB.
- Missions fair, where participants will learn the culture and the ministry needs of the missionaries as well as discover strategic possibilities for their church to be involved in a personal way.
- Option for churches to sign up to be engaged on an ongoing basis with the missionaries invited to the OMC.
- Breakout sessions that include practical ideas and suggestions from missionaries and other mission leaders on how to equip and mobilize their church for missions.
- On Mission banquet followed by a special worship celebration.
 - Worship through music.
 - Hear testimonies from the missionaries.
 - Be inspired by a key mission speaker.
 - Commit as a church and/or as individuals to the kingdom work of our Lord.

By placing an OMC on the calendar, your association has set a wonderful time of focus, a place of engagement, and an opportunity to advance missions. An effective OMC takes strong and committed leaders to make it successful. That's where the OMC Coordinating Team for the association and the churches play such a vital part.

Timeline for Your OMC

12 to 15 Months Before Your OMC

- Contact your state OMC office and set and secure a date for consultation and tentative date for your OMC.
- Enlist an OMC Coordinator and Vision Team.
- Assemble key church staff and other church leaders from your association to discuss key issues related to conducting an effective event. Ask yourself these questions: What three churches' participation is essential to having a successful OMC? What churches would be an encouragement to other churches in the association to participate in the OMC?
- Complete and email an OMC Request Form to your state OMC office. (Download form at www.namb.net/omc)

10 to 12 Months Before Your OMC

- Develop an OMC financial plan.
- Enlist an Associational OMC Coordinating Team.
- Enlist local churches to commit to participate in the OMC.
- Develop promotion plan.

6 Months Before Your OMC

- Train local church OMC leaders.
- Contact your missionaries to confirm their participation. (You may not receive names this early; the key is to contact your missionaries as soon as you have their names.)

4 Months Before Your OMC

- Finalize travel plans related to missionaries.
- Pray for missionaries by name.

1 to 2 Months Before Your OMC

- Communicate expectations and schedules to missionaries.
- Finalize all associational and local church plans.

Steps to Hosting an Effective OMC

1. Enlist an Associational OMC Coordinating Team.

The OMC Coordinating Team meets regularly to plan, promote, and implement an associational plan for maximizing the impact of the OMC.

2. Meet with your Associational Leadership.

The OMC Coordinating Team selects an OMC Coordinator. The team along with the coordinator will set the direction for the OMC. Set a tentative date for your OMC. The date becomes official once the request form is received and approved by state OMC office, Convention Relations at NAMB, and IMB.

3. Contact your State OMC Director to check for calendar conflicts.

4. Complete and send the OMC Request form to your state OMC Director.

The form can be downloaded from www.namb.net/omc by choosing the OMC Request form link.

5. Consult with IMB and NAMB staff on strategic assignment of missions personnel to the OMC.

6. Enlist churches to commit to participate in the OMC.

The associational OMC Coordinating Team should meet with pastors, church staff, and church leaders to encourage their participation in the OMC.

7. Develop an OMC Financial Plan.

The association is fully responsible for all expenses related to the OMC, which include transportation and hospitality for the missionaries. Develop your plan or use one of the suggested options discussed in OMC finance section.

8. Orientate Church OMC Leaders.

The associational OMC Coordinating Team should meet with local church leaders and provide orientation regarding all planned OMC activities.

9. Contact OMC Missionaries.

Names of missionaries who are available for your OMC will be sent from the International Mission Board the North American Mission Board and your state Baptist convention to your associational office. The International and North American Mission Boards will send names of personnel as their availability becomes known. Please contact the missionaries immediately after receiving list so you can get final confirmation from invited missionaries. This essential contact will have a tremendous impact on your OMC. Provide missionaries with a clear understanding of OMC objectives and schedule.

10. Implement Your Associational OMC Plan.

Benefits

An OMC emphasizes the biblical basis of missions.

Beginning in Genesis and continuing throughout Scripture, God's plan for missions is revealed. Jesus Christ's Great Commission to the early church as presented in Acts also shows that missions is at the heart of the gospel. Christians on mission with God today receive their vision and power from the same Holy Spirit who envisioned and energized early Christians. The biblical basis of missions is an ongoing theme in every OMC.

An OMC personalizes missions.

Missionaries, who are supported through the state convention, North American Mission Board, or International Mission Board, visit your churches during an OMC. The personal testimonies of the missionaries powerfully impact church members in considering their own involvement in missions. Missions come alive for participating church members.

An OMC leads churches to broaden their mission's commitment.

Time and again, it has been proven missions are more "caught" than "taught." An OMC allows Christians on mission with God to share their mission's vision with others. Church members are inspired to examine their personal missions commitment and challenged to become on mission Christians as well.

An OMC strengthens financial support of missions.

Church members discover their tithes and offerings make a difference in state and associational missions, North American missions, and international missions. They discover that one tangible way they can be on mission is to increase their financial gifts to missions. Churches can expect an increase in both undesignated and designated gifts to missions because of increased awareness of missions need and potential.

An OMC inspires a deeper commitment to pray for missions and missionaries.

An OMC is an intensely spiritual event. As missionaries share answers to prayer they have experienced on their mission fields and as they highlight continuing prayer needs, church members are reminded of the importance of sustained prayer for Southern Baptist missions and missionaries. A renewed commitment to prayer can unleash God's power in miraculous ways, both in our nation and our world.

An OMC leads churches to reevaluate methods of church wide mission's awareness and mobilization.

As missions come alive through an OMC, churches often reconsider their overall organization in regard to mission's awareness and involvement. Churches begin to sense a desire to support and encourage their members in their on mission lifestyles and will find creative ways to organize to do just that.

An OMC leads individuals to make life-changing decisions about being on mission with God.

The Holy Spirit can use the OMC to heighten awareness of missions opportunities and call individuals to various kinds of missions activities. Countless Christians are moved by God to make commitments to join God on missions as a result of the OMC. Mission volunteers for short-term and long-term mission service often increase.

An OMC educates church members about missionaries supported by and missions opportunities offered through their associations, state conventions, the North American Mission Board, and the International Mission Board.

An OMC is both educational and inspirational. It educates Southern Baptists about our vast mission's network and inspires those same individuals to explore their role in the missions venture.

Associational Coordinating Team Directory

OMC Team Coordinator

Name: _____ Church: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Phone: (Home) _____ (Work) _____ (Cell) _____

Fax: _____ E-mail: _____

OMC Spiritual Preparation Coordinator

Name: _____ Church: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Phone: (Home) _____ (Work) _____ (Cell) _____

Fax: _____ E-mail: _____

OMC Hospitality Coordinator

Name: _____ Church: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Phone: (Home) _____ (Work) _____ (Cell) _____

Fax: _____ E-mail: _____

OMC Transportation Coordinator

Name: _____ Church: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Phone: (Home) _____ (Work) _____ (Cell) _____

Fax: _____ E-mail: _____

OMC Promotion Coordinator

Name: _____ Church: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Phone: (Home) _____ (Work) _____ (Cell) _____

Fax: _____ E-mail: _____

OMC Special Events Coordinator (Age-Level Focused)

Name: _____ Church: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Phone: (Home) _____ (Work) _____ (Cell) _____

Fax: _____ E-mail: _____

OMC Financial Coordinator

Name: _____ Church: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Phone (Home) _____ (Work) _____ (Cell) _____

Fax: _____ E-mail: _____

Coordinating Team

An OMC is a joint venture of the association and participating churches. The associational OMC Coordinating Team focuses on local arrangements and events that impact all participating churches. Each participating church has an OMC Coordinating Team that oversees all the activities of the church. These teams use this resource guide to plan, promote and conduct an OMC. It includes everything Baptist associational and church leaders will need to experience an OMC.

Information is provided regarding the roles of the associational OMC Coordinating Teams. Also included are resources to assist associational OMC leaders in spiritual preparation; promotion; enlistment of churches; coordination of special events for children, youth and adults; administration of OMC finances; and coordination of the hospitality and transportation coordinators.

Associational leaders need to become familiar with the contents of this resource. Pages within this resource are designed to be photocopied and distributed to members of the associational OMC Coordinating Team. Baptist associations have permission to photocopy this resource as needed for leader training and orientation in preparation for the OMC.

The OMC is planned, promoted and conducted by the OMC Coordinating Team established by the host association and each participating church. The associational OMC Coordinating Team focuses on local arrangements and events that impact all participating churches. Church OMC Coordinating Teams coordinate arrangements and events that relate to individual churches participating in the OMC.

Depending on the specific circumstances regarding an association, the Coordinating Team may vary in size. Regardless of the number of members comprising the team, each duty connected with each position is crucial to the effectiveness of the OMC.

With the increased demand on the time of associational leaders, it has become common for associations to use co-coordinators. With two Coordinating Team coordinators sharing the duties, the heavy responsibility of overseeing details involved in organizing the major missions awareness and mobilization event is lighter. Other positions on the Coordinating Team may want to use co-coordinators as well.

“Clustering” refers to conducting all OMC activities in a central location. A cluster of surrounding churches would meet in one location for the OMC. An association might have several clusters.

Team Coordinator

The associational OMC Team Coordinator leads the team in coordinating every aspect of the OMC for the association. The associational OMC Team Coordinator may be the associational director of missions/associational missionary, another member of the associational staff, associational missions leader, associational moderator, a pastor, another church staff member or layperson.

The OMC Team Coordinator:

1. Directs and coordinates the OMC.
2. Enlists members of the OMC Coordinating Team. The associational OMC Coordinating Team is comprised of at least six additional members. They are:
 - Spiritual Preparation Coordinator
 - Hospitality Coordinator
 - Transportation Coordinator
 - Promotion Coordinator
 - Age-Level Coordinator
 - Financial Coordinator
3. Coordinates the work of the OMC.
4. Works with the OMC Financial Coordinator to implement the OMC financial plan.
5. Leads out in the enlistment of churches participating in the OMC. (7 months prior to the OMC, the church count should be finalized).
6. Leads the team to provide an orientation for participating church OMC leaders at least 5 months prior to the OMC.
7. Guides the Hospitality Coordinator to contact the guest missionary by telephone as soon as the missionary list is received.
8. Coordinates local church and associational reports.
9. Sends the report to the North American Mission Board.

Spiritual Preparation Coordinator

God established prayer as one way to accomplish His purpose through His people. Many churches today demand success and emphasize having the most qualified staff people, the best organization, the best human planning, the best conference speakers, and the best preachers. God's Word teaches that one's abilities, strengths, and organizations are not the ingredients for success. God says that it will only happen by My Spirit. Only through God's Spirit is anything of lasting value accomplished. One of the greatest needs today is to determine not to trust in one's own strengths or abilities but to completely depend on God and work in the power of His Spirit.

God desires that all nations come to know Him personally and bring glory to His name. As we depend on Him, we begin to catch a glimpse of our role in His plan for the nations. He burdens us to pray and give; He empowers us to go.

The OMC Spiritual Preparation Coordinator:

1. Leads associational leaders to place the OMC on their prayer lists and encourage others to pray for the Connection.
2. Guides the church OMC Spiritual Preparation Coordinator in leading their church families to pray for Southern Baptist missionaries and other prayer concerns. This includes promoting the International Mission Board (www.imb.org) and North American Board (www.namb.net) prayer lines and websites.
3. Encourages pastors to preach a series of messages on the biblical basis of missions by sharing ideas for sermon topics.
4. Guides the association to assist churches in planning, promoting, and conducting spiritual preparation emphasis, prayer studies, prayer retreats at least five to six months prior to the OMC.
5. Leads the association in planning, promoting and participating in prayer walking or other prayer activities.

Hospitality Coordinator

The OMC Hospitality Coordinator is responsible for arranging meals and lodging during the OMC. This is an important responsibility and the coordinator will want to enlist a hardworking team to assist in its fulfillment.

1. Select an option for housing guest missionaries during the OMC.
 - Option 1 Missionaries stay in a hotel or motel. If this is the chosen option, security and convenience should be of the utmost importance in the selection of a hotel or motel. Once the lodging is selected, the hospitality coordinator can meet with a hotel or motel representative to secure a block of rooms, determine a method for billing, plan for a hospitality gift, and make arrangements for a hospitality room. A hospitality gift would be left in each of the guest missionaries' rooms, such as a fruit bowl, soft drinks or snacks. Also, a small gift representative of the region would be appropriate. A hospitality room is a room set aside for guest missionaries to visit with each other. If missionaries will be rooming together (other than a married couple), please notify each missionary of this arrangement.
 - Option 2 Guest missionaries stay in the homes of church members. This option is recommended because it personalizes missions for those who are hosting guest missionaries in their homes. If this is the chosen option, those involved in hospitality should choose hosts and hostesses, rather than asking for volunteers. Communication with hosts and hostesses should be clear regarding expectations (such as whether or not hosts and hostesses will be expected to provide any meals for missionaries). Communicate as early as possible the names of the missionaries and other pertinent data about them with hosts and hostesses. Likewise, communicate with the missionaries regarding who their hosts and hostesses will be, along with their addresses and telephone numbers.
2. Make plans for every meal, every day for every guest missionary. Provide a written daily meal and transportation schedule to each missionary and every individual or church providing a meal.

Transportation Coordinator

The task of the OMC Transportation Coordinator includes ensuring that all details of the guest missionaries' travel to, from, and during the OMC are handled effectively and efficiently.

Travel to and from the OMC

Those responsible for program personnel arrangements are responsible for making all travel arrangements for guest missionaries traveling to and from the event. Follow these steps in a timely fashion.

1. Develop written travel guidelines for missionaries. These guidelines should be shared with missionaries prior to making any travel arrangements for the On Mission Connection.
2. E-mail all missionaries the Missionary Questionnaire form, along with a deadline and instructions regarding its return.
3. Secure the services of a professional travel agent. One of the churches in your association may have a member who is a travel agent and who could be used for these purposes.
4. Send all complete travel information to the travel agent. Full name is now required for plane tickets.
5. Ask the travel agent to send all airline tickets to missionaries by an agreed-upon date. Also, ask the travel agent to give you a copy of the travel itinerary.
6. Make necessary arrangements for missionaries to travel from the airport to their housing location.
7. Due to budget limitations of the association, if the missionaries' family travels with them, the missionary is responsible for their expenses. However, if the spouse is enlisted to be a guest missionary, his or her expenses should be covered by the association.

Travel during the OMC

The transportation coordinator is also responsible for making all travel arrangements for guest missionaries' transportation during the OMC. Follow these steps in a timely fashion.

1. Develop a map of your association/cluster of churches and highlight all participating churches with a street address and telephone number. Give a copy of this map to all individuals involved in transporting missionaries during the OMC.
2. Select drivers carefully. Consideration could be given to capable youth, college students, or senior adults. Sensitivity must be given to the transportation of individual male and female. Husband and wife teams or female drivers **must** transport female missionaries traveling alone and the same applies for male missionaries (husband and wife teams or male drivers).
3. Make sure that each selected driver knows the church and housing locations for the missionaries, has a dependable and suitable car and has ample time to fulfill this responsibility.
4. Plan transportation for special events or emergencies. Have a backup plan in case a driver becomes ill or has car trouble. Plans should be in place to meet these types of transportation needs.
5. One week prior to the OMC, connect with all individuals involved in transporting missionaries to ensure that everyone has the final list of drivers, church locations, housing locations, times of various engagements, names of missionaries, and a telephone number to call in case of an emergency. Allow sufficient time to answer all questions.

Travel Guidelines

- The travel expenses for speakers are the responsibility of the association and/or the event. Associations and events decide the mode of travel to be used by guest speakers.
- IMB and NAMB missionaries have been instructed to work with you on these travel plans. Missionaries are given guidelines regarding travel. Missionaries must use the most economical method of transportation.
- If flying is the most economical method of travel and the missionary chooses to drive in lieu of flying, the association/event will only pay the cost of the most economical airfare. The missionary would be responsible for the remainder of the expenses.
- If driving is the most economical mode of travel, the association will reimburse the missionary for the most direct route to the event.
- Please keep in mind that most missionaries only have one car and it may be impossible for them to drive.

Promotion Coordinator

The OMC Promotion Coordinator plans and implements the best promotion plan possible to encourage maximum participation from churches and local community residents. The coordinator enlists gifted individuals in the association or church to promote the OMC among various age groups.

The associational OMC Promotion Coordinator focuses on promoting OMC activities among churches within the association and to other people throughout the community who are not involved in a local Southern Baptist church by assisting the associational OMC Coordinator in enlisting churches to participate in the event.

The church promotion coordinator focuses on promoting the associational and church OMC event to the church family, friends, family members, and church prospects.

Special Events Coordinator (Age-Level Focused)

Age-level activities maximize involvement of children, students, and adults in the OMC. They provide a greater opportunity for participation from unchurched and other special groups living in your community. Each event should focus on the personalization of missions through celebrating how God is at work throughout the world in the lives of His people.

The OMC Special Events Coordinator leads participants in establishing personal relationships with missionaries by guiding them to commit to pray daily for missionaries and their ministries. This coordinator helps participants learn about opportunities to serve as volunteers. Special events should stimulate participants' sense of touch, smell, sight, and hearing. Be creative! Here are some ideas to help involve children, students, and senior adults in the OMC event.

Children:

- Participate in a flag processional
- Listen to a children's sermon
- Have a children's activity/ listening guide
- Sing in a children's choir
- Provide a booklet for getting missionary autographs
- Gather names of missionary kids to pray for

Students:

- Assist in setting up displays—great way to connect students with a missionary
- Participate in a flag processional
- Have an age-appropriate activity/listening guide
- Sing in a youth choir
- Include a social networking element
- Lead prayer during worship time

Adults:

- Attend breakout sessions

Senior Adults:

- Write and send cards of encouragement to the parents of missionaries
- Manage a Taste of Missions food activity

Duties of the Special Events Coordinator include planning, promoting, and conducting the OMC event as well as the age-level focused events within the OMC.

If your association wants children, students, and adults to participate in your OMC, you must intentionally provide engaging activities for these age groups. The coordinating team should ask these questions:

- What compels your people to attend special events?
- What elements must be present to for children, students, and adults to attend?
- In what ways can special events be made creative, unique, and engaging?

Detailed ideas for involving children, students, and senior adults who are not attending breakout sessions can be found on the following pages.

Activities for Children

- Query some of your featured missionaries before the OMC to see if they might be available to come speak to the children personally to tell them about their ministries.
- Invite an MK to speak to your children. If any of the missionaries are bringing their children to the OMC, invite them to speak to your group.
- Ask some of your featured missionaries for simple projects the children could do to help them in their ministries, such as assembling hygiene bags and snack bags or collecting school supplies, blankets, canned food, etc. Other ideas can be found at www.namb.net/children.
- Learn about some of the ministries of your featured missionaries and tailor some activities around the location where they are serving or their ministries. Here are some activity ideas:
 - Show videos: Search the North American Mission Board and International Mission Board websites for videos that relate to the area of ministry you are featuring: <http://www.namb.net/videos-childrens-mission/> and <http://www.kidsonmission.com/>.
 - Teach missions lessons: Download free missions lessons from <http://www.namb.net/children/> and <http://www.kidsonmission.com/>. Check with the WMU for resources you can purchase. Browse www.wmystore.com or call (205) 991-8100 and ask to speak to someone about resources for children.
 - Teach a Bible story that relates to the missionary's ministry.
 - Learn a Bible verse that relates to the missionary's ministry.
 - Play games and do crafts related to missions or a specific area of ministry, such as hunger. Download *Missions Games and Activities* from www.namb.net/children, or order *Zowie! 200+ Ministry Activities Kids Can Do* from WMU at <http://www.wmystore.com/product.asp?sku=N084145>.
 - Test the children's comprehension of the concept of the ministry and Bible story with a fun paper and pencil activity such as a crossword puzzle, word find, or a creative question and answer time. Websites are available to help you create your puzzles.
 - Sing songs that relate to missions: Go to www.wmystore.com for resources.
 - Create food dishes relevant to the area of study. Cookbooks are available for purchase from WMU: <http://www.wmystore.com/product.asp?sku=N064138>.
 - Have the children write thank-you notes to the missionary kids to thank them for giving up family time with their parents so they could come to your event.
 - Teach the kids to prayerwalk*. Prayerwalking is simply praying for a specific place and the people in it as you walk and as the Holy Spirit prompts. This should be done quietly and reverently, either silently or in whispers. No other talking. The children will gain understanding that prayer is serious business, and they can be a big part of a missionary's ministry by interceding on his/her behalf in prayer: Set up stations around the room or church that represent several of your missionaries. Post information, pictures, and prayer requests. Display items that pertain to each missionary. Have the kids pray quietly at each station for the needs represented. This can also be done prior to the actual event. They can prayerwalk the church, pausing at rooms where sessions or events will be. Tell them they can do this wherever they go.

Activities for Students

- Invite a missionary to tell the students about his or her ministry. Be creative when deciding which format you will use. Consider using an interview, forum style, or Q&A style format.
- Arrange ahead a time to Skype or spend “face time” with a missionary.
- Have the students lead or assist in some of the children’s missions activities.
- Challenge the students to become campus missionaries. Find info on this at: www.namb.net/campus-missionary/.
- Involve the students in hands-on missions work:
 - Build hygiene kits or care packets for a missionary attending the OMC.
 - Do a simple work project nearby, such as yard work or park or street cleanup.
- Prayerwalk the community near the church or association. (For information on prayerwalking, see the children’s activities.)
- Encourage the students to see where God is at work in their community and to join Him by continuing to serve Him there.
- Check the following websites for more ideas: www.namb.net/students and www.thetask.org

Activities for Senior Adults

- Invite a missionary to speak to the senior adults who are not attending.
- Senior adults can send cards of encouragement to the parents of the missionaries.
- Senior adults can sponsor a “Taste of Missions” area by preparing and serving tasty dishes that reflect the culture of areas where OMC missionaries are serving.
- Senior adults can become prayer partners of the missionaries as they serve.

Financial Coordinator

The OMC is a mission awareness and mobilization event funded by the host association. During the early phases of scheduling the OMC, a financial plan should be developed. The plan provides details regarding how the financial obligation of the OMC will be met.

Most OMCs are funded by asking each participating church to pay a portion of the expenses through their annual budget and/or special offerings received during the OMC.

The associational OMC Financial Coordinator oversees the associational finances related to the OMC by:

1. Leading each church to participate in the financial support of the OMC by implementing a financial plan developed by associational leaders. Major areas of expenses related to the OMC are:
 - Travel of guest missionaries
 - Hospitality for missionaries
 - Promotion of the OMC
 - Associational OMC special events
2. Receiving offerings from participating churches.
3. Paying the expenses of the OMC.
4. Working with the director of missions/associational missionary in determining the honoraria for guest missionaries.
5. Preparing the OMC financial report for the association.

The church financial coordinator oversees church-related OMC finances by:

1. Promoting the church's participation in the associational OMC financial plan.
2. Coordinating the receiving and reporting of any special offering taken during the OMC.
3. Ensuring the church's contribution to the associational OMC financial plan is mailed to the associational office.
4. Preparing and reporting a church OMC financial report to the church family.

Format Options

What can an OMC one-day or weekend schedule look like?

You might choose to use a Saturday (or an annual meeting of an association) as an ideal day for your OMC. One can also enjoy a weekend option of hosting the missionaries in the respective churches on Sunday. Here are a few suggested schedules:

A One-Day Event

Noon	Missionary Luncheon - Given for the missionaries with orientation from association leadership team
1:30 p.m.	Preparation Time – Set up for missions fair and breakout sessions
2:30 p.m.	Missions Fair - Displays by the SBC missionaries
3:30 p.m.	Breakout Sessions – A choice of three 40-minute sessions utilizing various missionaries to host breakouts.
	Time of Sessions Offered:
	3:30 to 4:10 p.m.
	4:15 to 4:55 p.m.
	5:00 to 5:40 p.m.

** Breakout session ideas are available on page 24.**

6:00 p.m.	On Mission Banquet - Given for all the churches
7:00 p.m.	On Mission Worship Celebration (suggested order of Worship) <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Praise the Lord with Singing/Flag processional• Churches on Mission (welcome from associational leader)• Here Am I Lord, Send Me (interview by associational leader with missionaries involved in the mission corners of the world)• Praise the Lord with Singing• Here Am I Lord, Send Me (interview by associational leader with local churches involved in the mission corners of the world)• Praise the Lord with Special Music• Inspiration (Special missions speaker)• Commitment to Missions (altar call/invitation)• Prayer of Dedication (led by significant leader from area)• Praise the Lord with Service (depart to serve God’s Kingdom; dismiss at 8:30 p.m.)

(If this meeting is on Saturday, you may choose to utilize the missionaries on Sunday in the churches before they travel home)

A Weekend Event (Another Option)

Saturday Night

- **Option One:** Host a special dinner for missionaries with local leadership for orientation, etc. for the upcoming day.
- **Option Two:** Host an OMC banquet, involving all the association, utilizing special testimonies from the missionaries (this instead of Sunday banquet).

Sunday

- Utilize missionaries in churches during Sunday School and Worship hours.
- **Afternoon:** Host a Sunday afternoon gathering such as the following:
 - 12:30 p.m. Missionary Luncheon** - Given for the missionaries and other OMC leaders
 - 1:30 p.m. Preparation Time** – Set up for missions fair and breakout sessions
 - 2:30 p.m. Missions Fair** – Displays hosted by the missionaries
 - 3:30 p.m. Breakout Sessions** – A choice of three 40-minute sessions utilizing various missionaries to host breakouts.

Time of Sessions/Sessions Offered: 3:30 to 4:10 p.m.
4:15 to 4:55 p.m.
5:00 to 5:40 p.m.

** Breakout session ideas are available on page 24.**

Additional Options for Sunday Evening:

- **Option 1** - Utilize missionaries once again in evening worship services of association.
- **Option 2** - Utilize the gathering at the missions fair for an evening *Association Missions Rally*, such as the following:

6:00 p.m. On Mission Banquet - Given for all the churches

7:00 p.m. On Mission Worship Celebration (suggested order of Worship)

- Praise the Lord with Singing/Flag processional
- Churches on Mission (welcome from associational leader)
- Here Am I Lord, Send Me (interview by associational leader with missionaries involved in the mission corners of the world)
- Praise the Lord with Singing
- Here Am I Lord, Send Me (interview by associational leader with local churches involved in the mission corners of the world)
- Praise the Lord with Special Music
- Inspiration (Special missions speaker)
- Commitment to Missions (altar call/invitation)
- Prayer of Dedication (led by significant leader from area)
- Praise the Lord with Service (depart to serve God's Kingdom; dismiss at 8:30 p.m.)

Ideas for Breakout Sessions

- ✓ How to Utilize Latest Technology to Connect with Missionaries
- ✓ Tools to Develop a Strategic “Great Commission” Plan for your Church
- ✓ Impacting My own Backyard with the Gospel
- ✓ Utilize the talents and giftedness of the various missionaries who are available for the weekend.
Have them share their stories, etc.

Variations of Standard OMC Formats

Associational Directors of Missions have been painting outside the lines, OMC-wise, for several years. Here are some OMC approaches that you might consider.

Integrating OMCs into Annual Associational Meetings

Below is a compiled list of ideas on how an OMC can be integrated with annual associational meetings. There is no need to worry about your business sessions being interrupted. Associational business goes on as planned while mission mobilization is intentionally highlighted through simple and concise program elements.

One Missionary at a Time

There is one Baptist association that conducts an annual OMC using one missionary. Yes, just one missionary. One year they invite an International Mission Board missionary and then a North American Mission Board missionary the next. Selection of each year's missionary is strategically linked to the association's annual plans and emphases. The guest missionary is flown to a centralized location and shuttled to and from speaking engagements.

The association has churches with many miles between them making it impossible to conduct an effective conventional-style OMC. The missionary stays for an extended period with the association speaking in as many churches as possible. This variation could be done with a small team of three to four missionaries. The team could consist of a state, IMB, NAMB, and a person from the host association that has served as a short-term mission volunteer.

Four-in-One

The Four-in-One OMC consists of planning four smaller strategic OMC events in one year focusing on specific settings and segments of an association.

Three-in-One

Three smaller strategic OMC events in one year focusing on specific settings and segments of an association.

Two-in-One

Two strategic OMC events focusing on specific settings and segments of an association.

Integrating an OMC Into Existing Associational-Wide Events

Integrate OMC elements into existing associational events such as mission fairs and banquets.

Appendix

Request Form

Please visit www.namb.net/omc to download the request form. The form is a 2007 Word Document (.docx).

Themes

Some associations may find having a theme for their OMC will assist them in planning. Some themes that have been used include:

Acts 1:8

Empowering Kingdom Growth

Hands Joined Around The World

The Word to the World

A Church for Every People

Let Him Be Known

So Send I You

How Shall They Hear?

Go Ye into the World

OMC: The Place for Missionary Connection

Missions Around the World

Celebrating the Global Harvest

Global Mobilization Conference

Global Missions Involvement Conference

Budget

Option 1:

Divide the anticipated expenses by the number of church participating.

Example: You need \$4,000 to meet your budget and you have 20 churches participating. Each church would be asked to contribute \$200.

Option 2:

Ask churches to contribute according to size of the church. Use Sunday School enrollment, Sunday School attendance, or resident church membership to determine size.

Example:

Resident Members	Cost Per Church	Number of Churches
0-200	\$120	x 5 = \$600
201-800	\$190	x10=\$1,900
801-Over	\$220	x 7 = \$1,100
	TOTAL	22 = \$4,040

Option 3:

The churches could budget for the total expense of the OMC in advance by depositing a monthly amount into an OMC Fund.

Large churches might consider giving a scholarship to small churches to encourage participation.

Sample Budget

These figures are based on 10 churches participating with 10 missionaries assigned.

TRANSPORTATION

Four international missionaries (350 per average)	\$1,400
Four North American missionaries (350 average)	\$1,400
Two state missionaries (225 per average)	450
	<hr/>
Sub Total	\$3,250

OTHER MISSIONARY RELATED EXPENSES

Meals in route	\$ 100
Transportation to and from airport	\$ 200
	<hr/>
Sub Total	\$ 300

PROMOTIONAL EXPENSES

Professional printing	\$ 200
Postage	\$ 50
Telephone	\$ 50
Secretarial	\$ 100
Miscellaneous	\$ 50
	<hr/>
Sub Total	\$ 450

TOTAL BUDGET \$4,000

Cost Per Church \$ 400

This budget does not include honorariums for missionaries. Churches may choose to take up a special offering during the OMC that would then be sent to the association to cover unmet expenses and honorariums.

Sample Letter to Send to Guest Missionaries

Dear [Name of Missionary],

I have just received word from the [International, North American or State] Mission Board that you are available to participate in our On Mission Connection (OMC).

On behalf of our association, we welcome you and would like to confirm your participation. We look forward to you being with us and sharing about your work in [location and role in which missionary serves].

We rejoice that we can celebrate with you about what God is doing in your life and in the lives of those with whom you work. We expect great results as church members begin to anticipate their own role in being on mission with God. We pray that as people attend the OMC, they will learn how they can participate in missions.

I will contact you soon to let you know more about the exciting plans for our OMC. In the meantime, please return the enclosed questionnaire to me as soon as possible.

We are praying that God will bring spiritual awareness and mobilization through the OMC.

Yours in Christ,

OMC Director

Missionary Questionnaire

As soon as you receive the names of available missionaries, contact each and include a questionnaire like this one.

OMC INFORMATION

OMC Date _____ Name of Association _____

Street Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

E-Mail _____ Phone _____

TRAVEL INFORMATION

Missionary's Name _____

Street Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Phone _____ Cell _____ E-Mail _____

I plan to fly Departure Airport _____ Return Airport _____

I plan to drive Departure City _____ Return City _____

(Mileage is paid for the most direct route)

Audio/Visual equipment needed _____

Other _____

I speak the following languages _____

I play the following musical instruments _____

I can serve as a worship leader (Yes or No) _____

Other gifts or talents _____

Special dietary or physical needs _____

Questions or comments _____

Contact person *(in case of emergency)* _____

Phone _____ Cell _____

E-Mail _____

Missionary Meal Schedule

Association _____ Phone _____

Day	Breakfast	Lunch	Dinner
Friday			
Saturday			
Sunday			
Monday AM (if needed)			

If you have questions, call _____ at _____

Local Travel Schedule

Missionary Name _____

Day	Driver's Name	Driver's Phone Number	Church	Church Phone Number	Pastor's Name	Emergency Contact Number
Friday PM						
Saturday AM						
Saturday PM						
Sunday AM						
Sunday PM						
Monday AM (if needed)						

Sample Prayer Card

Daily Prayer Commitment:

Missionary Name

God, help me to pray daily for the above missionary. I shall contact the missionary to ask about specific prayer requests.

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Phone _____ E-Mail _____

Connecting with Missionaries

Contact with the missionary: Please check time zone before contact is made; do not rely on one method of contact; confirm contact information is correct for email, phone, mailing address; and request best method of contact; share schedule/itinerary for the event; share demographic information about community/city/region; connection should be made with the missionary within **two weeks** of receiving their contact information.

- Email
- Phone
- Skype/FaceTime
- Letter

Questions to ask:

- Pseudonym, if required for print pieces
- Special Needs – food allergies, diabetic, allergies to cats/dogs, etc.
- Transportation and housing – please allow their input; they may need a location to continue working when not engaged in the mission conference events; please be sensitive to selecting housing that minimizes the missionary being alone with a member of the opposite sex; allow for “down time” for the missionary.
- Find out the background of the missionary – service tenure, salvation experience, what God is doing in their ministry and life, etc. Ask for stories such as, what are most challenging/greatest joys in your ministry, family, gifts/talents, audience you connect with for speaking?
- Fun – ask what they might like to do during free time; is there something unique to your location? Notify the missionary if there will be a cost for such.
- Ask the missionary how an OMC participant may partner with them in their mission/ministries. Please give this information to the pastors and leaders in the churches where the missionary will be sharing.
 - Pray
 - Provide
 - Cooperative Program
 - Annie Armstrong Easter Offering® for North American Missions
 - Lottie Moon Christmas Offering® for International Missions
 - State Missions Offering
 - Tangible goods
 - Participate
 - Church Planting Team
 - Mission Trips
 - Vision Tours
- **Cultural Issues:** please identify for the missionary anything in your church culture they need to be prepared for (e.g., KJV only, women in pulpit, etc.).

Church Report

Church _____ Date of OMC _____

Church Address _____ City _____ State _____

Zip _____ Phone _____ E-Mail _____

	Speaker	# Times Spoke	Total Attendance	Professions Of Faith	Short-Term Volunteer	Career Decisions
Sunday a.m.						
Sunday p.m.						
TOTALS						

Attendance at other meetings using missionary speakers:

Other _____ Professions of Faith _____

Other _____ Mission volunteers _____

Other _____ Rededications _____

Other _____ Love Offering _____

List names, addresses, and ages of missions volunteers:

Taking the next step after the OMC:

Contact by someone from: IMB NAMB State Association