

2019 Lott Carey Baptist Foreign Mission
Convention Newsletter

The Lott Carey Baptist Foreign Mission Convention was held in Grand Rapids, Michigan on August 12th-15th, hosted by Rev. Carl A. Pace, Jr. (True Light Baptist Church) and Rev. Dr. Timothy Harris (Pilgrim Rest Missionary Baptist Church). On Monday night, the convention was treated to a musicale, featuring Rev. Marvin Sapp (“Never Would Have Made It”).

After the Mission Education classes were over on Tuesday morning, the opening session heard Rev. Dr. Timothy Harris speak about being strong and courageous in doing missions. Rev. Jean Claude and Linotte Joseph talked about issues in Haiti. They stated that there is unrest because of the corrupted government, backed by Donald Trump. Prices have risen on gas, food, etc., and 140 children in the Mission of Grace Orphanage depend on support from Lott Carey.

Rev. Dr. William J. Barber, II (Greenleaf Christian Church, Goldsboro, NC) was an evening speaker for the Men on Mission.

At 7:00 p.m., the convention heard from Rev. Brenda K. Harewood (Guyana) and Rev. Marilyn Hyde-Riley (Jamaica). There is violent unrest in Guyana, involving murders and stabbings.

At the close of Tuesday’s session, Pastor Robert James (Zion Missionary Baptist Church, Roswell, GA) exhorted the gathering with “It’s Time to Invite Jesus to the Party”.

During the Wednesday business session, the new Secretary-Treasurer who will replace Rev. Dr. David Emmanuel Goatley who served from 1996-2018, was introduced. Rev. Emmett L. Dunn (Liberia) will serve in the position and be installed November 2019. Also in 2020, the founding churches for Lott Carey will be honored as well as Dr. David M. Goatley for his service.

Future locations for the conventions are as follows:
2020—Washington, DC
2021—Atlanta, GA

2022--- New Orleans, LA
2023----Greensboro, NC
2024---Memphis, TN
2025---Philadelphia, PA

The convention has challenged churches, individuals and corporations to donate financially to “Flint Refresh”, an effort to aid children and families living in a food desert in Flint, Michigan. The Flint water crisis left 6,000-12,000 children exposed to lead. Good nutrition can help lower lead levels by boosting iron, calcium, Vitamin C and zinc, elements found in organic fruits and veggies. Contributions are to be sent to Flint Refresh; c/o Lott Carey; 8201 Corporate Drive; Landover, MD 20785-2230.

Questions posed to the conventioners were “Why do churches cut their mission budgets when things get tight? How does God’s way of doing missions compare with our way?” The missions budget ought to be the biggest budget in the church’s budget. A church that does not have the fire of missions in its belly is a cult or social club.

A voter’s suppression session was held. 16 states passed voter suppression laws after Obama was elected. Suggestions were to start a social justice ministry, partner with a voting right organization in your state, do phone banking by calling voters in your community and reach out to people who do not have the proper ID to vote.

On the last day, Thursday, August 15th, the goal was to raise \$350,000 for missions during the evening session. Pastor J. Michael Sanders, Fountain Baptist Church, Summit, New Jersey, encouraged the assembly to give generously. When the offering fell short by \$20,000, ushers were told to lock the doors to prevent anyone from leaving. This was all in fun. The final count was well over \$350,000.

The final prayer and praise was held on Friday morning, August 16th to pray that all would have a safe return to their various homes.

Submitted by the Missionary Ministry