



General Association of General Baptists

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Church Clerk,

Enclosed you will find the annual Church Growth Report for your church for the 2011 calendar year. Completing the report forms is very important as these reports give us a clear picture of the health of our local churches, our local associations, and our denomination. Without your report, our understanding of General Baptist churches is incomplete. Various agencies of the denomination want to respond to the needs of our churches, and the annual report information helps them to know how to respond. Even if your church is small, when the reports of all our churches are in we see how great a ministry God has given General Baptists.

This year, you are receiving a single black and white report form. Once your report is complete, you will need to make two (2) copies. The original is to be sent to your local association clerk. A first copy is to be sent to our Executive Director's office at the address on the form. And the second copy is for your records. **The deadline for mailing your 2011 Church Growth Report is January 31, 2012.** If you are unable to meet this deadline, send it in as soon as possible. Follow-up on churches who have not sent in reports costs time and money for your association and the denomination. Please complete and mail this report so we can develop an accurate picture of our churches, associations, and denomination.

Additionally, you will be able to complete your Church Growth Report online at <http://www.generalbaptist.com/#/downloads/reports>. Keep in mind if you report online, you will still need to mail an original copy and your local association dues to your association clerk. I am also including an instruction sheet with the 2011 report so everyone will be able to complete the form correctly. If you have any questions about the report you can contact me.

Some local associations need more information than the 2011 Church Growth Report asks for, so your local association may send additional forms requesting information about your church. Although it may seem like too much paperwork, please realize the information requested of your church for the General Association and your local association is very important.

Thank you for your ministry as your Church Clerk.

In His Ministry,

Dr. Dennis D. Powell, GA Clerk

## 2011 Church Growth Report Instructions

The following instructions are given to assist in accurately completing the report. Not every line item has instructions; only lines where there may be some question about what to report have been included.

### **General Information.**

Church Name. Please write legibly!

Physical Address: Where is your church building located so a visitor can find your facility?

Mailing Address: Where do you want church mail to be sent? This may be the same as the physical address or it may be the home of the church clerk or pastor.

E-mail: Use the email of the best contact person for your church. Again, this could be the clerk or the pastor. E-mail addresses are increasingly important for regular communication among our churches and leaders. Plus, they save the denomination money!

Web Site: The web address for your church can be posted on the General Baptist web site.

Association: 1. List the name of your local association.

2. If you are a Mission Church, not yet affiliated with an association, write in "Mission Church," then mail the copy for the local association clerk to the GA Clerk.

3. If your church is not a member of a local association and is a direct member of the General Association, write in "Affiliate," then send the association clerk copy to the GA clerk and include 75 cents per member for GA dues.

4. If your church is General Baptist and not directly connected to the General Association or a local association, you may send in your report to the GA clerk.

### **2011 Statistics.**

Conversions. Provide the total number of first time decisions for Christ in your church in 2011.

Baptisms. Provide the number of baptisms conducted in 2011.

Members. Provide the total membership of your church on December 31, 2011. If your local association does not operate on a calendar year, please complete this report based on this date so the denominational records will be accurate as of December 31, 2011.

Average Worship Attendance and Average Sunday School Attendance should be the averages for the entire 2011 calendar year.

Children, Teens, and College Age should be the total enrolled at the end of 2011.

Small Group Average Attendance is the average attendance in small groups other than Sunday School classes.

### **Financial Stewardship.**

Please include the appropriate totals from your end-of-the-year financial report.

Senior Pastor Pay Package should include all salary and benefits.

Christian Education includes all expenses for Sunday School, any discipleship training, and any leadership training provided by your church to its members.

Evangelism should include only expenses for activities designed to reach new people for Christ or to reach new members.

(over)

General Baptist Missions Giving should include monies given for National Missions and International Missions.

Other Missions Giving should include monies given for local association missions and other mission efforts not listed above.

**Bottom Section.**

1. You may wish to ask for input from the pastor(s), deacons, and other church leaders to answer this question.
2. Include your delegates to your local association. General Association delegates are registered separately.
3. Please list the names of members who have died during 2011.

**Church Directory.**

Please report contact information for the following 2012 church leaders. Use an additional sheet if necessary.

Addresses: Please include home addresses, unless the officer requests mail to be sent to another address.

Phone: Two spaces are included for phone numbers; please list the numbers the officer wishes to be used. One of these could be a cell phone.

E-mail: Please make every effort to include an accurate e-mail address as this is increasingly becoming the best and least expensive means of regular communication within the denomination.