

Hebron Baptist Church

Southern & Northern Baptists

Following Reconstruction (1863-1877), the South instituted legal segregation and white Southern Baptists led the way. As black Baptists desired to form their own independent congregations, white Southern Baptists encouraged the formation of black churches and black denominations.

State Baptist conventions moved to bar blacks from convention meetings, while white Baptist leaders discouraged allowing blacks from voting in Southern Baptist congregations. The leading white argument for separation of churches was that equality in the churches would lead to equality in society.

While Southern Baptists dominated the segregated South, Northern Baptists remained one of several mainline Protestant denominations in their part of the country. It was an era of Protestant ecumenical efforts to bring about progressive reforms.

Among the Northern Baptists were various strains of belief and unbelief. There was much talk in Bible colleges of a “New Theology.” It was not new, but old German rationalism that denied the deity of Christ, His atonement, Creation, and the inerrancy of the Bible.

The Northern Baptist Convention was founded in May 1907. The purpose of the NBC was to bring about cooperation among the separate Baptist missions societies and to pool their financial resources. Hindsight would show that the major underlying reason for combining was so that liberals could control the Baptist denomination, dooming the convention from the start.

Most of the Northern Baptist colleges and seminaries were liberal by 1918. They were more concerned about adapting to the culture than teaching sound doctrine and theology.

In response, conservatives rose to defend the fundamental doctrines of the faith, insisting that the Bible stood as the sole source of authority. Baptist fundamentalism began to engage in denominational battle with Baptist liberalism.

Sources: Kidd & Hankins, *Baptists in America*; David Beale, *Baptist History in England and America*, The Northern Baptist Convention online



Senior Potluck Luncheon



Saturday, April 29

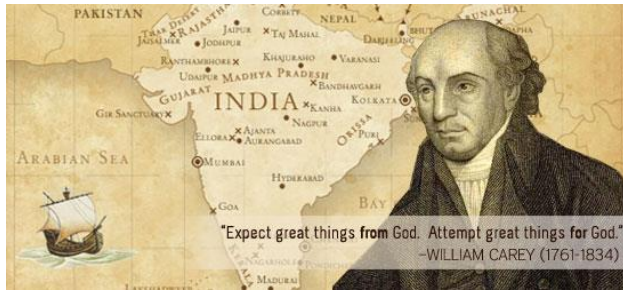
11:30 am - 2:00 pm

Fellowship Hall



*Food
Fun
Fellowship*

William Carey Father of Modern Missions



William Carey was born in Northamptonshire, England in 1761. His parents were devout Anglicans and worked in the weaving industry. Rather than become a weaver, William was apprenticed to a Christian shoemaker.

Invited by a fellow apprentice to attend Congregationalist meetings, Carey came under conviction and realized his need for Jesus Christ. He eventually left the Church of England and was baptized in a Baptist church in 1783.

Carey became the pastor of a small Baptist church in Leicester in 1792. In October of that year, he and several friends formed the *Particular Baptist Society for the Propagation of the Gospel Amongst the Heathen* (later known as the Baptist Missionary Society).

In April of 1793, William Carey and his family set sail from England to Calcutta, India, as the first missionaries of the new missionary society.

Along with his preaching and teaching ministries, Carey focused on learning Indian languages. Bengali was the first language he learned, then he studied Sanskrit – the key to understanding other Indian languages. It is estimated that Carey either worked on or greatly influenced the translation of the Bible into as many as thirty-five languages.

William Carey died and was buried in Serampore (near Calcutta) in June 1834.

Rebekah Naylor, M.D. Bangalore, India



Called by some the “Mother Teresa of Bangalore,” Rebekah Naylor served as a surgeon in India for thirty-five years.

Dr. Naylor first arrived in India in 1974 as a medical missionary with the Southern Baptist Foreign Mission Board (now IMB). She practiced as a surgeon at Bangalore Baptist Hospital and became chief of medical staff in 1978.

In 1984, Naylor became administrator and medical superintendent. She founded the adjoining nursing school, which was named after her, in 1995. She became a consultant on special assignment with the IMB in 1999.

During her tenure at the hospital, Rebekah Naylor started a choir, taught Bible studies, led chapels, supervised building projects, and created a strategy to reach India through the hospital’s ministry.

Returning to the US, in 2002, to care for her mother, Dr. Naylor remained active as an attending surgeon at the University of Texas Southwestern Medical Center in Dallas.

In 2020, Rebekah Naylor was appointed distinguished professor of missions at Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary – the first woman to hold such a position.