

Lott Carey 127th Annual Session

The following is the report by Rev. Emmett Dunn, Executive Secretary-Treasurer of Lott Carey, to Lott Carey's 127th Annual Session in Memphis, Tennessee, from August 12-15. Please write an article based on the report:

We gather in the beautiful city of Memphis to offer thanks to God for guiding us through another year of service and dedication to God's mission. As we convene for the 127th Annual Session of the Lott Carey Baptist Foreign Mission Convention, we reflect on our journey, celebrate our accomplishments, and renew our commitment to making a global impact. I give thanks to God for each of you and the blessed privilege of serving our Lott Carey family. This annual report, covering fiscal year, July 1, 2023 – June 30, 2024, is to acquaint you with the overall operations of the ministry and mission of Lott Carey, highlight the impact of our missional engagement, list donors and contributions, challenge you to a higher level of commitment, offer you an opportunity to connect with our global partners through prayer and give you an opportunity to invest in mission.

Also included in this annual report are the reports from our global partners.

I trust that you will be encouraged by our efforts and remain engaged in supporting the work of Lott Carey around the world.

Celebrating Our Global Impact

Thanks to your generous contributions, Lott Carey has made significant strides in various areas:

Support Education:

We have provided scholarships and resources to schools in underprivileged areas, including Haiti, Liberia, Nigeria, Jamaica, and India. Through these efforts, we have empowered countless young minds with the gift of knowledge.

Enhance Healthcare:

Our medical missions in Guyana, Kenya, and India have reached remote regions, delivering essential healthcare services, supplies, and training to improve community health and well-being.

Build Capacity:

Through various training programs, including our Thriving Congregation Program, we have equipped local leaders with the skills and tools necessary to foster sustainable development, community engagement and self-reliance.

Evangelize and Advocate:

Our evangelism efforts have spread the message of hope and faith, while our advocacy work has championed the causes of justice and equality, amplifying the voices of the marginalized.

Promote Social Justice:

We have stood firm in our commitment to social justice, working tirelessly to address systemic inequities and promote a more just and compassionate world.

Ongoing Global Support

Our ongoing global support initiatives have made a profound difference in the lives of many:

- **Educate more than 12,000 students in Liberia, India, Nigeria, and Guyana.**
- **Offer practical skills training to both men and women in Jamaica.**
- **Provide FREE medical care for leprosy patients and the indigent in India.**
- **Provide HIV/AIDS education, prevention, care, and support in Ethiopia.**
- **Provide medical supplies for the Kipsitet Medical Center in Kenya.**
- **Support Theological Education training in Zimbabwe.**
- **Respond to world hunger.**
- **Support more than 90 churches in Kenya, Nigeria, and South Africa.**
- **Support Women's Empowerment in the global south.**
- **Support the A. Carlisle Miller Cottage Hospital in Guyana.**
- **Respond to natural and human-caused disasters domestically.**
- **Underwrite the evangelistic efforts of the Baptist Convention of South Africa.**

International Youth Development:

It is with regret that we had to cancel the Annual Youth Seminar for the year 2024 due to insufficient registration numbers. Despite our best efforts and enthusiasm for this event, the response fell short of the required threshold to make it a successful and enriching experience for all participants.

The Lott Carey Annual Youth Seminar has always been a beacon of knowledge, empowerment, and community for young minds across the Lott Carey network. We deeply appreciate the ongoing support and interest shown by our participants, sponsors, and partners. especially our IYD Team.

While we are disappointed by this turn of events, we remain committed to our mission of nurturing and inspiring the next generation of leaders. Therefore, we are excited to announce that the Lott Carey Annual Youth Seminar will return in full force in 2025.

We encourage all interested individuals to mark their calendars for the eagerly anticipated 2025 Lott Carey Annual Youth Seminar.

In anticipation of this future gathering, we will be redoubling our efforts to ensure a robust and engaging program that exceeds expectations. Stay tuned for updates on speakers, workshops, and registration details as we prepare to make the 2025 Seminar an unforgettable experience for all participants.

Nurturing the Next Generation:

The challenge of youth and young people leaving our churches in large numbers continues to be a major concern for the Christian faith community. It is estimated that approximately 1 million

young people under the age of 40 leave church annually. By 2050, we could be looking at 42 million. As a community that looks to the church for human and financial resources, Lott Carey takes seriously the importance of creating spaces for young people to thrive. To this end, we have contracted the services of Rev. Trevor Beauford, to help lead our efforts in ensuring that we develop relevant opportunities for missional engagement among this age group. In partnership with Shaw and Howard Universities, and Willy Collage, we have established students' chapters with the view of networking and connecting with young adults. Our profound gratitude to Dr. ??? for his assistance in advancing this effort.

Celebrating New Milestones

This year, we celebrate the remarkable achievements made possible by your support:

- **Three new churches built in Kenya.**
- **Four new wells offering clean and safe drinking water in Liberia and Sierra Leone.**
- **Two thousand pairs of shoes were distributed to school-aged children.**
- **Kids Against Hunger for packing and distributing one million meals to Liberia, Haiti, South Africa, and across the USA.**

Encouraging Continued Support

We encourage all churches and individuals to continue their steadfast support of the ministry and mission of Lott Carey. Your prayers, time, and financial contributions are the lifeblood of our efforts. Together, we can reach even greater heights, extending our impact and sharing the love of Christ with even more people around the globe.

Celebrating Exceptional Leadership

We also take this moment to celebrate the presidential tenure of Rev. Dr. Gina Stewart. For three years, her exceptional leadership has guided us with wisdom, compassion, and unwavering commitment. Under her stewardship, we have achieved remarkable progress and deepened our collective faith and mission. We extend our heartfelt gratitude to Dr. Stewart for her outstanding service and leadership.

Gratitude for the Board of Directors

We offer our profound thanks to the Board of Directors for their invaluable cooperation in furthering the mission of Lott Carey. Your strategic guidance, vision, and unwavering support have been instrumental in our success. We also express our deep appreciation for the support you have provided to our office staff, ensuring they have the resources and encouragement needed to perform their duties effectively.

Appreciation for Office Staff, Volunteers, and Donors

Our heartfelt thanks go out to our dedicated office staff for their unwavering commitment and hard work. Your dedication is the backbone of our mission. We also extend our gratitude to all

the volunteers who selflessly give their time and energy to support our initiatives. Your efforts are invaluable. To our donors, pastors, and congregations, thank you for your generous contributions and steadfast support. Your faithfulness enables us to continue our vital work.

Seeking Assistance for Self-Sustainability

In order to assist some of our missions to become self-sustainable, we are seeking assistance for the following initiatives:

- **\$100,000 to cultivate 50 acres of land to develop a coconut plantation in Guyana.**
- **\$450,000 to build a high school in Liberia in honor of Dr. David Emmanuel and Mrs. Pamala Goatley.**
- **\$10,000 to expand the coffee farm in Kenya.**

Your support in these endeavors will enable us to create sustainable sources of income and resources for these communities, empowering them to thrive independently.

Finally, to my wife Suan, our children, LeAnn, Emmett, Jr. and Annette, thanks for your prayers and support system. I love you all very much.

May God bless all of us as we embark on another year of mission and ministry.

Rev. Emmett L. Dunn
August 2024