

FAIR SHARE ASKING

At its meeting on August 13, 2003, the Presbytery of South Alabama unanimously adopted the following strategy to begin to address the budgetary predicament of the Presbytery and ask the churches of the Presbytery to prayerfully consider the following Fair Share Asking, and to implement the suggested percentage giving to Presbytery as soon as is possible.

The major points of this strategy are:

- A. Urge the sessions and congregations of the presbytery to move toward allocating **at least 10%** (a tithe) of regular contributions they receive to the support of the basic, regular mission of the Presbytery, Synod and General Assembly.
- B. Ask churches who are giving at a level below 10% to prayerfully consider increasing their giving for 2004 by 1.5% of their regular contributions received in 2003, and continue such increases with the hope that these churches can achieve the minimum goal of 10% (a tithe to mission beyond ourselves) within the next five years.
- C. Urge churches already at or beyond the minimum goal of 10% to continue to stretch in support of mission at all levels.
- D. Make all appeals in ways that honor the Gospel, that are without coercion, and call on God's people to faithfully respond to God's grace in Jesus Christ our Lord.

We urge each Session to prayerfully consider its response to this Fair Share Asking for basic mission support and respond in a timely manner.