Missions Lesson: Our Baptist Association

May, Week 3 By Joy Bolton

Objective:

- Children will learn what a Baptist association is and how the churches of the association work together.
- Children will learn the name of the local Baptist association and the names of other churches in the association.
- If the local association has an offering, children will learn the name of the offering and how it is used in the association.

Materials:

- Map of the geographic area of your Baptist association.
- Association brochure or other information
- Offering envelope for associational missions (if your association has a special offering)
- Cards, paper, markers, envelopes for writing notes to associational leaders and other churches in the association

Preparation:

- Mark the location of your church, the association office, and other participating churches in the association on the map.
- Learn the name of the Director of Missions (or Moderator) for your association.
- Learn about the ministries of your association.
- If applicable, learn how your associational missions offering is used.

<u>Procedure</u>:

- 1. Show children the map of the geographic area of your association.
- 2. Ask children to find the location of your church. Point out the locations of other churches in your association.
- 3. Explain: You have found our church on the map, but we see that we are not the only Baptist church in our area. (Point to several

- locations and name the churches). Our church as well as these other churches are part of what we call a Baptist association.
- 4. Say: Baptist associations were started a long time ago so that the churches could work together to tell people about Jesus. Each association of churches has a name. The name of our Baptist association is _______.
- 5. Say: Our association has a special leader. (Tell about your Director of Missions or Moderator.)
- 6. Tell about ministries of your association.
- 7. If your Baptist association has an offering, show the offering envelope and explain how the offering is used. Give each child an envelope.

Activity:

- Write thank you cards to the Director of Missions and any others who work for your Baptist Association.
- Write notes to several other churches in the association with a message such as: Dear ______ Baptist Church, We are very glad to be part of ______ Baptist Association with you. We are praying for you. From, The Children of ______ Baptist Church.

