

Honoring Annie Armstrong's Legacy and Celebrating the Mission of WMU

As believers prepare to celebrate the Resurrection of our Lord and Savior on Easter Sunday, we also reflect on the profound impact of Annie Armstrong, a champion of missions and a visionary leader whose legacy continues to inspire. The Annie Armstrong Easter Offering for North American Missions, established in 1895 by WMU, is a vital resource for the North American Mission Board (NAMB), supporting the spread of the gospel across North America. Named in 1934 to honor Annie's leadership as WMU's first national executive, the offering stands as a testament to her dedication to missions.

My personal appreciation for Annie Armstrong began as a GA (Girls in Action) at Dalraida Baptist Church in Montgomery, Alabama. Each spring, I eagerly anticipated learning about Annie's life and ministry, often revisiting one of my favorite books from our church library, *Miss Strong Arm: The Story of Annie Armstrong* by Jacqueline Durham. Annie's relentless efforts to support missionaries and mobilize Southern Baptists remain an inspiration to me to this day.

Annie's influence extends far beyond her time. In 1888, she played a crucial role in founding WMU, aiming to empower women to support missions through prayer, education, and giving. Her legacy continues

through the Annie Armstrong Easter Offering for North American Missions, with 100 percent of gifts funding NAMB's work. This offering, along with the ministry of WMU, remains central to the mission of making disciples of Jesus who live on mission.

This year, as WMU celebrates 137 years of commitment to missions and the WMU Foundation marks 30 years of supporting the work of WMU, we invite you to join in honoring Annie's vision. The WMU Vision Fund is a key part of this legacy, providing resources to equip, empower, and enable believers to take their place in God's plan. From missions discipleship to compassion ministries and leadership development, WMU has a kingdom impact in every state and 50 countries, ensuring that people around the world hear and respond to the gospel.

Annie Armstrong once said, "What a glorious thing it is to be a co-worker with God in winning the world for Christ." Your support of the Annie Armstrong Easter Offering for North American Missions and the WMU Vision Fund makes you part of that glorious mission. Together, we honor Annie's legacy and ensure her passion for missions continues to transform lives for generations to come. Visit donate.wmufoundation.com/vision-fund to make your gift of support today.

PEGGY DARBY is honored to follow in the footsteps of Annie in helping raise money to support kingdom work through WMU.