

MINUTES OF THE 142ND ANNUAL MEETING

Partnering With One Another For MISSIONS

**The 142nd Annual Meeting of
The Beech River Baptist Association
Session One: October 15, 2012
Sand Ridge Baptist Church, Lexington**

The Moderator, Rev. Dale Gravatt, Pastor of Mt. Gilead Baptist Church, called the 142nd Annual Meeting of the Beech River Baptist Association to order at 7:00 P. M. He welcomed Dr. Marty Comer, Pastor of Sand Ridge Baptist Church, Lexington, to the platform for a word of welcome and opening prayer. Following the prayer, Dr. Michael Penny, Minister of Music for the host church, led the assembled in singing "How Firm A Foundation."

The Moderator then recognized Dr. Christopher Young, Pastor of Union Baptist Church and Chairman of the Credentials Committee. Dr. Young recommended that those messengers then registered and those to be registered compose the 142nd Annual Meeting of the Beech River Baptist Association. He further moved that those present in session constitute a quorum. The motion passed.

Then Dr. Young, who is also the Vice-moderator, brought a motion that the order of service as printed in the Book of Reports on pages 1 and 2 serve as the program agenda for the 142nd Annual Meeting of the Beech River Baptist Association. The motion passed.

The Moderator, Rev. Gravatt, made a few announcements. He reminded those present that although everyone is welcome only messengers duly elected by their churches may participate in the business and vote. Those present who were not messengers were asked to register as guests so there would be an accurate account of the number present for future planning. The messengers were requested to bring their Book of Reports with them to the second session.

The Moderator then recognized the following representatives from organizations who were present from across our state: Mike Garrett representing Union University, Tim Bearden representing our Baptist State Camps (Linden Valley Conference Center and Carson Springs Conference Center), Randy Pool representing the Mississippi River Ministry, Hoyt Wilson representing the Tennessee Baptist Convention Adult Homes, and Nancy Brantley representing Samaritan's Purse Operation Christmas Child Shoe Box Ministry.

Moderator Gravatt also reminded the messengers that if there were any resolutions anyone would like to have considered, those resolutions should be given to the Resolutions Committee, whose Chairman is Keith Runyon of Sand Ridge, before leaving tonight. The Resolutions will be presented tomorrow night during the second session. The messengers were instructed to present any resolutions they might have during the business session by coming to a microphone, stating their name, and the church they are representing.

Dr. Mike Thrower, Director of Missions, was called on for the recognition of new pastors and staff. The following were introduced as new pastors in the association: Paul and Susan Wallace, Ministers of Music and Evangelism, Mt. Ararat Baptist Church; James Biggers, Pastor of Fellowship Baptist Church;

Marty Estes, Minister of Children and Youth, Sand Ridge; Mark Brewer, Pastor of Chapel Hill Baptist Church; Wilkey Jones, Interim Pastor of Mt. Zion Baptist Church; and Jimmy Davis, Interim Pastor of Bath Springs Baptist Church.

Dr. Thrower also took this time to recognize Mt. Ararat as the 2010 Lottie Moon Christmas Offering top per capita giving church in Beech River Association. First Baptist Lexington was recognized as the Beech River Association church that gave the largest monetary amount to the Lottie Moon Christmas Offering. For the Tennessee Baptist Convention Historical Commission Dr. Thrower recognized Mt. Zion Baptist Church for 125 years as a Tennessee Baptist Church.

The Director of Missions report was presented by Dr. Thrower. (Attached to the Minutes.)

The Moderator began the first business session by calling on Dr. Thrower to bring the Treasurer's Report in the absence of Don Martin, First Baptist Lexington layman and Association Treasurer. After the presentation there was a time for questions. There were no questions and the report was accepted as printed.

The chair asked the Vice-moderator Dr. Christopher Young to moderate the meeting for the presentation of the budget recommendation.

Dr. Young thanked the Moderator. Dr. Young then noted that Rev. Gravatt was on the Budget Committee when elected as Moderator. He rotates off this year but served as chairman of the committee. Rev. Gravatt, as the Budget Committee Chairman, then presented the 2013 Budget Recommendations. There were no questions or discussion. The 2013 Budget passed with Rev. James Biggers of Fellowship making the motion to adopt and Marie Marr of Union Grove making the second.

Moderator Rev. Dale Gravatt recognized Dr. Christopher Young for the Executive Board report. Dr. Young noted the Executive Board met three times in 2012. Some of the special opportunities included in the Executive Board Meetings in 2012 were: devotionals given by some of our ministers which began each meeting; news, reports of church happenings, and prayer requests from our churches were given; a report from the Ad Hock Committee concerning a study of other associations was given.

David Autry of First Baptist Church Parsons wanted to know where he could get the budget reports from surrounding Associations so he also could peruse them. He was instructed that the associations themselves could be requested for a copy of their budget reports.

The floor was then opened for any Miscellaneous Business and there was none.

Rev. Jimmy Burroughs Pastor of Pine Grove Baptist Church, was recognized to present the Centennial Fund Offering and encouraged giving to the offering. Dr. Penny, Minister of Music for Sand Ridge Baptist Church, led the congregation in singing "Brethren We Have Met To Worship" as the offering was taken. A total of \$783.00 was taken for the Beech River Baptist Association Centennial Fund.

The Moderator introduced Rev. Randy Pool, Coordinator of the Mississippi River Ministry of Tennessee for 12 years, as the speaker. The Mississippi River Ministry is a combined effort to eight states conventions to impact for Christ the counties along the Mississippi River. This area has been called the "third world along the Mississippi River." In Tennessee this area is defined as the counties between the Tennessee River and the Mississippi River. Bro. Randy, who is no stranger to our association, has shared with us on many occasions. He came to MRM from the International Mission Board mission field and brought with him that love for reaching the masses for Christ.

The Sand Ridge Baptist men's quartet then sang "I Want To Know More" and "I'm In The Gloryland Way."

Rev. Pool spoke from John 14 - 17. He noted that We are greater than me, that apart from "ME" we can not do anything, and that I will be to you what the Father is to me if you will be to me what I am to the Father.

Rev. Gravatt thanked Rev. Pool for being with us. He encouraged everyone to stay for the food and fellowship to fellow. He thanked Sand Ridge for serving as hosts for this meeting. The Moderator thanked those who prepared the refreshments. He reminded everyone that the Tuesday night session would be at First Baptist Church, Decaturville.

The Moderator called on Dr. Young to close the first session of the Beech River Baptist Association with prayer.

**The 142nd Annual Meeting of the
Beech River Baptist Association
Session Two: October 16, 2012
First Baptist Church, Decaturville**

Rev. Dale Gravatt, Moderator and Pastor of Mt. Gilead Baptist Church, called the second session of The Beech River Baptist Association to order at 7:00 P. M. and thanked First Baptist Church, Decaturville, for hosting the Tuesday session. He recognized Rev. Bobby McCord, Pastor of First Baptist Church, Decaturville, for a word of welcome and the invocation.

Mr. Jimmy Boroughs, Minister of Music for First Baptist Church, Decaturville, led the congregation in singing "Because He Lives."

The Moderator then made a few announcements. He noted that only messengers elected by their churches were allowed to vote during the business sessions. Those present who were guests were also reminded to register so there would be an accurate record of attendance.

Rev. Troy Styers was recognized as the representative from the Tennessee Baptist Children's Homes. He is a Campus Director at the Boys Ranch in Millington.

Moderator Gravatt recognized Dr. Mike Thrower, Director Of Missions, to present the 2012/2013 report of Officers and Workers located on pages 4 and 5 of the Book of Reports. There being no discussion the motion passed to accept the Officers and Workers as presented

The Chair recognized Rev. Tim Buffaloe, Pastor, First Baptist Church, Scotts Hill, representing the Time and Place Committee for their report. He moved that the 2014 Annual Meeting take place on Monday night, **October 20, 2014**, at Pine Grove Baptist Church and Tuesday night, **October 21, 2014**, at Corinth Baptist Church. As previously voted, the 2012 Annual Meeting will take place Monday, **October 21, 2013**, at Union Baptist Church and Tuesday, **October 22, 2013**, at Mt. Gilead Baptist Church. This report was accepted as presented.

Rev. Greg Stanford, Pastor of Calvary Baptist Church, presented one resolution from the Resolutions Committee. It was a resolution of gratitude for the churches hosting the annual meetings this year, for the

association's officers, to God for his blessings on the association, and for the Director of Missions and his work. The resolution can be found in the Book of Reports. The resolution passed with no discussion.

The next order of business was the election of officers for the 2012/2013 associational year.

The chair opened the floor for nominations for the office of Moderator. Rev. Gravatt was nominated by Rev. Jimmy Burroughs. Rev. Gravatt, as Moderator, called on Vice-Moderator, Dr. Christopher Young to take over the election of Moderator. Rev. Greg Stanford moved the nominations cease and Rev. Gravatt be elected by acclamation. The motion passed and Rev. Gravatt was elected as Moderator.

The chair opened the floor for nominations for the office of Vice-Moderator. Dr. Gilbert Cubbison, Senior Adult Minister of First Baptist Lexington, nominated Dr. Christopher Young. Rev. Will McReynolds, Pastor, Flatwoods Baptist Church, made the second to this nomination. Rev. Bobby McCord, Pastor of First Baptist Decaturville, moved the nominations cease and Dr. Young be elected by acclamation. Rev. Mark Brewer, Chapel Hill Baptist, made the second to this motion. Dr. Young was elected by acclamation.

The chair opened the floor for nominations for the office of Treasurer. Mr. Don Martin, a Layman of FBC, Lexington and the present Treasurer, was nominated by Rev. Bobby McCord, Pastor of First Baptist Decaturville, with a second by Rev. James Biggers, Fellowship Baptist. Dr. Gilbert Cubbison moved the nominations cease and Mr. Martin be elected by acclamation. Mr. Leonard Gant, layman, Calvary Baptist, made the second. Mr. Martin was elected by acclamation.

The Chair opened the floor for nominations for the office of Clerk. Mrs. Frances Thrower a member of FBC, Lexington and present Clerk was nominated by Mr. Jeremy McKee, layman, Union Grove Baptist. Mr. Henry Martin, layman, First Baptist Lexington, made the second. Rev. Greg Stanford moved the nominations cease and Mrs. Thrower be elected by acclamation. Mr. Buddy White, layman, First Baptist Decaturville gave a second to the motion and Mrs. Thrower was elected Clerk.

There being no miscellaneous business the Moderator called on Mr. Jimmy Borroughs to lead the congregation in singing. Mr. Borroughs led in the song "Face to Face."

The chair recognized Mr. Tom Thurmond, layman, Union Grove Baptist, for a time of memorial. He led the congregation in reading Psalm 23, then read the names of those members from our various churches who had gone on to be with the Lord during the past year. Following a time of prayer, the congregation sang "Shine Jesus Shine".

Before the Special Music Rev. Gravatt introduced the evenings speaker, Dr. Hoyt Wilson. He noted Dr. Wilson has served in and outside our association for many years. He came to serve as Pastor of First Baptist Church, Lexington. After retiring from that position after more than 25 years of service, he became pastor of Chapel Hill. He retired from there after nine years in August of 2012. In addition to these places of service, Dr. Hoyt has been a positive influence in the community.

The special music was presented by the choir of First Baptist Decaturville. It was an arrangement of "I Will Arise and Go to Jesus" and "It's Shouting Time In Heaven" led by their Director, Mr. Jimmy Borroughs.

Dr. Wilson then spoke. Using several passages of scripture he made the following points. Luke 19:10, "For the Son of man is come to seek and to save that which was lost." John 10:10, ". . . I am come that they might have life, and that they might have it more abundantly." Matthew 28:19-20, "Go ye therefore,

and teach all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost. Teaching them to observe all things whatsoever I have commanded you: and, lo, I am with you always, even unto the end of the world.” Acts 1:8, “But ye shall receive power, after that the Holy Ghost is come upon you: and ye shall be witnesses unto me both in Jerusalem, and in all Judaea, and in Samaria, and unto the uttermost part of the earth”. John1:35 “Again the next day after John stood, and two of his disciples; And looking upon Jesus as he walked, he saith, Behold the Lamb of God! And the two disciples heard him speak, and they followed Jesus “ Dr. Wilson encouraged the association to cooperate in reaching the lost for Christ both locally and around the world.

The Moderator thanked Dr. Wilson for his message and called on The Director of Missions, Dr. Mike Thrower, for presentation of officers to the Association.

The Director of Missions, Dr. Mike Thrower, presented the 2012/2013 officers of the association. He noted all the officers remain the same for the coming year.

Moderator Gravatt encouraged everyone to stay for a time of fellowship. He thanked the men and women of the church who had prepared the meal.

He then called on Dr. Christopher Young to close the 142nd session of the Beech River Baptist Association with prayer at 8:23 P. M.

Total Registered Messengers: 160 from 34 Churches

Total Registered Guests: 22