

**REACHING OUT TO OTHERS ~ ROOTED IN THE WORD**  
**The 144<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting of The Beech River Baptist Association**

**Session One: October 20, 2014, Pine Grovel Baptist Church, Wildersville**

Dr. Christopher Young (Union), Moderator, called the meeting to order at 7:00 P. M. He thanked those who helped with the preparation for the meeting and welcomed Rev. Jimmy Burroughs, pastor of Pine Grove Baptist Church, to the platform for a word of welcome and opening prayer.

Following the welcome Jim Lawson (Pine Grove), led the congregation in singing "Victory in Jesus".

Dr. Hoyt Wilson (Flatwoods), from the Credentials Committee, recommended that those messengers now registered and those to be registered compose the 144<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting of the Beech River Baptist Association. He further moved that those present in session constitute a quorum. The motion was seconded and passed.

Dr. Young next recognized Vice-Moderator Rev. Jeff Todd (House of Worship) who brought a motion to adopt the order of service as printed in the book of reports as the program agenda for the 144<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting of Beech River Baptist Association. The motion was seconded and passed.

During the announcement time, the moderator reminded everyone that all were welcome to the Annual Meeting but only elected messengers may participate in the business session and vote, that all need to register as guests or messengers, and that everyone needs to bring their books back for the second session.

Those representing various Baptist bodies and like-minded organizations were recognized. These included Randy Pool and Mark Miller representing the Tennessee Baptist Convention and Amy Johnson representing Samaritan's Purse, Operation Christmas Child.

Dr. Mike Thrower, Director of Missions, was called on for the recognition of new pastors and staff. The following were introduced as new staff members: Rev. Denny Hall, Youth Pastor, Union Grove; Dr. Hoyt Wilson, Pastor, Flatwoods; Rev. Tommy Smith, Interim Pastor, Chapel Hill; and Dr. Mike Hayes, Associate Pastor, Sardis.

Dr. Mike Thrower brought the Director of Missions report (attached to the minutes).

The first business session was opened.

Don Martin (Lexington, 1<sup>st</sup>), Treasurer, was recognized and presented the Treasurer's report (attached to the minutes), and called for any questions. There were none.

Rev. Greg Stanford (Calvary) from the Budget Committee, was recognized and pre-

sented the 2015 Budget. Questions and discussion were called for. There were none. The motion passed. [A copy is included in the Annual Book of Reports.]

The Moderator recognized Vice-Moderator Jeff Todd (House of Worship), for the report and recommendations of the Executive Board. Bro. Jeff gave a brief report. There were no recommendations.

The moderator called for any miscellaneous business.

- Amy Johnson, Regional Director for Samaritan's Purse Operation Christmas Child, spoke about the discipleship program that goes along with the shoebox ministry. She also presented a plaque to the association for being a Relay Center for 5 years.
- The Missions Council served as the Time and Place committee. They moved the 146<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting take place Monday, October 17, 2016, at Rock Hill Baptist Church; and Tuesday, October 18, 2016, at Scotts Hill Baptist Church. This report was accepted as presented.

There being no further business, the first business session was closed.

Rev. Dale Gravatt (Mt. Gilead) was recognized to introduce the Centennial Fund Offering. He reminded the body this endowment was begun on the 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Beech River Baptist Association and that all gifts would be used to further the work of the Association.

Tim Lawson (Pine Grove) led in the singing of "When We All Get To Heaven". The Centennial Offering was then taken.

Dr. Young introduced Dr. Jerry Tidwell, Vice President for University Relations and Athletics at Union University, to speak.

Before Dr. Tidwell spoke special music was brought by Diane Powers (Pine Grove Baptist Church). She sang "He Rescued Me".

Dr. Tidwell spoke on "Foundations For Outreach". He reminded the congregation Matthew 13:58 speaks of unbelief and lack of faith as two things that hinder outreach. Dr. Tidwell mentioned three principles of outreach.

1. The Principle of Sowing and Reaping.
2. The Principle of Every Member involvement.
3. The Principle of Divine Appointment.

Dr. Young then thanked Pine Grove Baptist for their hospitality and for preparing the fellowship time refreshments and encouraged everyone to stay.

The first session was closed with prayer by Rev. Brent McMinn (Poplar Springs) at 8:45 P. M.

**Session Two, October 21, 2014, Corinth Baptist Church, Darden**

Dr. Chris Young (Union), Moderator, called the meeting to order at 7:00 P. M. and thanked Corinth Baptist Church for hosting the Tuesday session.

Rev. Don Franks, Pastor of Corinth Baptist Church was recognized. He brought a word of welcome and led in prayer.

After the welcome Tim Fain (Corinth) led the congregation in the singing of "Your Grace is Enough". This was followed by a few announcements for the body.

The Moderator opened the Second Business Session and recognized Rev. Danny Ray (Bible Hill), for the report of the Nominating committee. The report was approved as presented. [A copy is included in the Annual Book of Reports.]

The next order of business was the election of officers for the 2014-2015 associational year.

The moderator opened the floor for nomination of The Moderator.

Dr. Christopher Young (Union) was nominated for a second term by Rev. Greg Stanford (Calvary). Since his name was nominated, the Moderator turned the meeting over to Vice-Moderator Rev. Jeff Todd. He called for any other nominations.

Motion was made by Rev. Lewis Screws (Union Grove) that Dr. Christopher Young be elected by acclamation. Motion was seconded by Rev. Jerry Jones (FBC, Lexington) and passed. The Vice-Moderator turned the meeting back over to the Moderator.

Next the Moderator called for nominations for Vice-Moderator:

Rev. Jeff Todd (House of Worship) was nominated for a second term by Rev. Jimmy Burroughs (Pine Grove). Rev. Burroughs also moved the nominations cease and Bro. Jeff be elected by acclamation. Following a second by Rev. Danny Ray (Bible Hill), the motion passed.

The office of Treasurer was opened for nominations:

Don Wilson (FBC, Lexington) was nominated by Dr. Hoyt Wilson (Flatwoods). The motion was seconded by Rev. Jerry Jones (FBC, Lexington) who also moved to close the nominations and elect Don Martin by acclamation. The motion passed.

The Moderator called for nominations for the office of Clerk:

Frances Thrower (present Clerk) was nominated by Marie Marr (Union Grove). A motion was made by Rev. Greg Stanford (Calvary) with a second by Glen Ford (Union) to close the nominations and elect Frances Thrower by acclamation. The Motion passed.

The moderator called for any miscellaneous business.

- Rev. Greg Stanford moved the 144th Annual Minutes of the Beech River Baptist Association be dedicated in memory of the late Rev. Kenneth Sparkman, former

Director of Missions of the Association. Rev. Don Franks (Corinth) seconded the motion and it passed.

- A report was given that 148 messengers from 30 churches and 18 guests were registered Monday night. The Centennial Fund Offering taken during Monday night's session was \$710.00.
- Rev. Lewis Screws made a motion to thank the churches of the Association for their support. This motion was seconded by Dr. Hoyt Wilson and passed.

After calling for any further business and there being none, the Moderator closed the business session and called on Tim Fain (Corinth) to lead the congregation in a hymn. Bro. Tim lead in the singing of "Heaven's Jubilee".

Rev. Lewis Screws (Union Grove), led the Memorial Service for those church members who passed away this past church year. After reading Psalm 23 a list of those members (found in the Book of Minutes) was read and Rev. Screws led in prayer.

Tim Fain (Corinth) then led the congregation in singing "In Christ Alone."

This was followed by special music by Corinth Church Choir with solo by Christy Fain. They sang "The Mercy Tree."

Dr. Chris Young announced the evening program included a roll call of the ministries of Beech River Baptist Association. He then called on the following reports:

- Fresh Start Ministries, Christian Women's Job Corps - Nancy Cavness (FBC, Lexington) reported on the impact this ministry has on the lives of the women involved and their families. She made an appeal for more volunteers in CWJC.
- Woman's Missionary Union - Nancy Cavness (Director) reported on the activities of the WMU this year which included the 150<sup>th</sup> year celebration of the Girls In Action.
- Disaster Relief/Baptist Builders - Rick Taylor (Sand Ridge) reporting. He spoke of the many opportunities the DR/Baptist Builders has had to help people after a disaster or special need.
- Natchez Trace Park Ministry - Rev. Denny Hall (Union Grove) reporting. He called on fellow church member and ministry volunteer, Travis Thurmond, to share his testimony about becoming involved in the ministry. There were around 302 campers who participated in the ministry during the year.
- Sunday School - Dr. Hoyt Wilson (Flatwoods) reporting. Dr. Wilson spoke to the need of a strong Sunday School in the church. He then called for the congregations to consider being a part of an associational effort to grow healthy Sunday Schools. He announced a meeting November 18, 2014, for church representatives interested in their churches being a part of this effort.

Dr. Young thanked the Ministry leaders for their work and called on Dr. Mike Thrower, DOM, for the presentation of the 2014-2015 officers to the messengers.

The Moderator thanked Corinth for their hospitality and encouraged everyone to stay for a time a fellowship. After announcing the 2015 Annual Meeting was scheduled for Oct. 19, 2015, at Poplar Springs Baptist Church (Blue Goose) and Oct. 20, 2015, at Calvary Baptist Church (Parsons), the meeting was adjourned at 8:36 P. M.

Rev. Jimmy Burroughs was called on to lead in the closing prayer.