

SALVATION: KNOWING AND GOING

The 143rd Annual Meeting of The Beech River Baptist Association Session One: October 21, 2013 Union Baptist Church, Lexington

The Vice-Moderator, Dr. Christopher Young, Pastor of Union Baptist Church, called the 143rd Annual Meeting of the Beech River Baptist Association to order at 7:00 P. M. He welcomed those present and led in the opening prayer. Following the prayer, Greg Powers, Minister of Music for the host church, led the assembled in singing "When the Roll."

The Moderator then recognized Rev. Keith Runyon, Education and Outreach Director for Sand Ridge Baptist Church, Chairman of the Credentials Committee for a recommendation to seat the messengers and for a report from the credentials committee. Rev. Runyon recommended that those messengers then registered and those to be registered compose the 143rd Annual Meeting of the Beech River Baptist Association. He further moved that those present in session constitute a quorum. The motion passed.

The Vice-Moderator then called on Rev. Runyon for an additional motion. Rev. Runyon moved that the order of service as printed in the Book of Reports on pages 1 and 2 serve as the program agenda for the 143rd Annual Meeting of the Beech River Baptist Association. The motion passed.

The Vice-Moderator, Dr. Young, 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.

Time was given by the Vice-Moderator for any representatives from cooperating organizations to be recognized. None were present at this session

The Chair also reminded the messengers that if there were any resolutions anyone would like to have considered, those resolutions should be given to a member of the Missions Council before leaving tonight. The Moderator is the Chairman of the Missions Council.

Dr. Mike Thrower, Director of Missions, was called on for the recognition of new pastors and staff. The following were introduced as new pastors and staff in the association: Rev. Mark Peterson, Pastor of Wildersville Baptist Church; Rev. Harold Hopper, Pastor of New Beech Grove Baptist Church; and Rev. Scott King, Pastor of Sardis Ridge Baptist Church.

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

The Moderator opened the first business session by calling on Don Martin, First Baptist Lexington layman and Association Treasurer, for the Treasurer's Report. (Attached to the Minutes.) After the presentation there was a time for questions. There were no questions and the report was accepted as printed.

The Chair then asked the Budget Committee Chairman, Rev. Greg Stanford, Pastor of Calvary Baptist Church, to present the 2014 budget.

Vice-Moderator, Dr. Young called for questions or discussion. There were none. The 2014 budget motion passed. A second motion was made by Rev. Stanford to amend the 2013 budget to increase the Accounts Reimbursable Account by \$1,000.00 because of increased gas costs. This motion also passed without any questions or discussion.

The Chair then recognized Moderator Rev. Dale Gravatt, Pastor of Mt. Gilead Baptist Church, to present the Executive Board report and recommendations. Rev. Gravatt reported the Executive Board met three times in 2013. He noted the Missions Reports given at the close of each session were very encouraging. Rev. Gravatt also thanked everyone for their prayers and support during the recent loss of his wife, Marcia.

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

Rev. Jeff Todd Pastor of House of Worship Baptist Church, was recognized to present the Centennial Fund Offering and encouraged giving to the offering. Greg Powers, Minister of Music at Union Baptist Church, led the congregation in singing "You Are Holy" as the offering was taken. A total of \$783.62 was taken for the Beech River Baptist Association Centennial Fund.

Dr. Larry Gilmore was introduced as the night's speaker. Dr. Gilmore grew up in Paducah, Kentucky and has degrees from Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary, and the Doctor of Ministry degree from The Southern Baptist Theological Seminary. He is married to Linda, his bride of 44 years, and they have two married children and four grandchildren.

Larry served as Pastor for thirty-five years before accepting the leadership responsibility as Director of Evangelism for the Tennessee Baptist Convention, a role he held for almost ten years. During and after his tenure with the TBC, he has assisted churches in transition, serving as an Interim Pastor in seven churches, the latest being First Baptist Church in Paducah, KY and Rome Baptist Church in Rome, Italy.

Larry loves pastors and the local church. He believes churches must work together to have the most fruitful impact upon our communities for God's Kingdom. His ministry is

in working with churches for church renewal and strategies for intentional evangelism.

Before Dr. Gilmore spoke, Jackie Dennison, Greg Powers and Dr. Christopher Young, all of Union Baptist Church brought the special music.

Then Dr. Gilmore brought a message on Salvation from Philippians 2:12 - 17. He pointed out evidences of salvation. They are 1. continue to grow as a Christian, 2. live a cautious lifestyle, 3. have a cooperative spirit, 4. live a pure life, and 5. have a continuing witness for Christ.

Dr. Young thanked Dr. Gilmore for being with us. He encouraged everyone to stay for the food and fellowship to fellow. He thanked Union for serving as hosts for this meeting. The Vice-Moderator thanked those who prepared the refreshments.

The Vice-Moderator announced that there were Gospel Tracts available for everyone. Those assembled were encouraged to take the tracts, read them and pass them to someone else. Anyone wishing to talk to someone about their relationship to God was encouraged to talk to one of the association's officers or one of the pastors present.

The meeting was dismissed with prayer by Rev. Kevin Bromley, Pastor of First Baptist Church, Parsons, TN at 8:52 P. M.

**The 143rd Annual Meeting of the
Beech River Baptist Association
Session Two: October 22, 2013
Mount Gilead Baptist Church, Cedar Grove**

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 Mt. Gilead for hosting the Tuesday night session. He recognized Rev. Michael Renfroe, Associate Pastor of Mt. Gilead for a word of welcome and the invocation.

Following his words of welcome Rev. Renfroe led the congregation in singing "Since Jesus Came into My Heart".

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. Bill Choate was recognized as the representative from the Tennessee Baptist Convention. He works with the Baptist Collegiate Ministries. Also recognized was Rita Wallace from Bible Hill Baptist Church. She had petitions available promoting Prayer in public schools.

The chair recognized Vice-Moderator Dr. Young to present the 2013/2014 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. Mark Brewer, Pastor of Chapel Hill Baptist Church and Chairman of the Time and Place Committee, for their report. He moved that the 2015 Annual Meeting take place on Monday night, **October 19, 2015**, at Poplar Springs Baptist Church and Tuesday night, **October 20, 2015**, at Calvary Baptist Church in Parsons, TN. This report was accepted as presented.

The next order of business was the election of officers.

The chair opened the floor for nominations for the office of Moderator. Dr. Christopher Young was nominated. Rev. James Biggers made a second to the motion. Rev. Bobby McCord moved the nominations cease with a second by Rev. Keith Runyon. Dr. Young of Union Baptist Church was elected moderator for the 2013/2014 year.

The chair opened the floor for nominated for the office of Vice-Moderator. Rev. Jimmy Burroughs nominated Rev. Jeff Todd of House of Worship. Rev. Lewis Screws of Union Grove moved Rev. Todd be elected by acclamation with a second by Josh McClain of Union Baptist Church. Rev. Todd was elected Vice-Moderator for the 2013/2014 year.

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 Dr. Hoyt Wilson. Rev. Mark Brewer of Chapel Hill and Rev. Brent McMinn of Poplar Springs moved he be elected by acclamation. 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 Rev. Lynn Walker Pastor of Rock Hill Baptist Church with Rev. Greg Stanford Pastor of Calvary Baptist Church giving the second. Mrs. Thrower was elected Clerk.

At the time of Miscellaneous Business Dr. Hoyt Wilson moved that the 2013 Annual Minutes be dedicated to the memory of Rev. John Heskett, former Pastor of Sardis Baptist Church. Rev. Heskett passed away during the year after an extensive illness. To the very end he was a faithful witness to the Gospel message and to the Association. The motion passed with no opposition after a second by Dr. Christopher Young.

The chair recognized Rev. Danny Ray Pastor of Bible Hill Baptist Church for a time of remembering the fellow believers who had entered their eternal home during the past year. Following a time of prayer Rev. Micah Renfroe led the congregation in a singing "Standing On the Promises".

Before the Special Music the Chair introduced Rev. Keith Runyon, Director of Education and Outreach at Sand Ridge Baptist Church, as the evening's speaker.

Rev. Runyon is a native of Kentucky and a graduate of both Johns Creek High School and Bethel University. He retired from the United States Navy as a Senior Chief Petty Officer after 21 years of active duty service. Keith is married to Lori Runyon. They have three children, Karissa, Jacob, and Joshua and one grandchild, Makenneh. Keith and Lori have been members of Sand Ridge since 2004, and Keith has been on staff since 2011. He surrendered to ministry in 2010 while working as a loan officer at First Bank. Sand Ridge called him as Director of Education and Outreach a year later.

The special music was presented by Mrs. Debbie Britt of Mt. Gilead Baptist Church. She sang "The God of the Mountain".

Rev. Runyon's message title was "I'm Saved Therefore I'm Going". He spoke from 1 Samuel 17:45-50. He noted that when we go to witness 1. we will face challenges, 2. we have the Lord Jesus Christ on our side, and 3. we go with the confidence of knowing victory is a sure thing. An invitation was given after the message.

The Moderator thanked Rev. Runyon 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 2013/2014 officers of the association. He also recognized Rev. Dale Gravatt, outgoing Moderator for his faithful work from 2011 to 2013 on behalf of the association. Dr. Thrower also presented Rev. Gravatt with a gavel commemorating his service.

In closing it was announced that copies of the Roman Road Tract were available. Everyone was encouraged to take as many as they would like to distribute and for their congregation. Everyone was also reminded to be back next year at Pine Grove Baptist Church on October 20 and at Corinth Baptist Church on October 21 for the 144th Annual Meeting of the Beech River Baptist Association.

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 Rev. Bobby McCord to close the 143rd session of the Beech River Baptist Association with prayer at 8:17 P. M.

Total Registered Messengers: 150 from 17 Churches

Total Registered Guests: 33