

Partnering With One Another To Disciple The Harvest

The 140th Annual Meeting of The Beech River Baptist Association Session One: October 18, 2010, First Baptist Church, Lexington

Moderator, Rev. Michael Crandall, Pastor of Bear Creek, called the 2009/2010 meeting of Beech River Baptist Association to order at 7:00 P. M. He welcomed Dr. Michael Adams, Pastor of First Baptist Church, Lexington, to the platform for a word of welcome and opening prayer. Following the prayer, Rev. Bob Hull, Minister of Music for our host church, led the assembled in singing "Brethern We Have Met To Worship."

The Moderator then recognized Dr. Hoyt Wilson, Pastor of Chapel Hill Baptist and the Credentials Committee Chairman. Dr. Wilson recommended that those messengers now registered and those to be registered compose the 140th Annual Meeting of the Beech River Baptist Association. He further moved that those present in session constitute a quorum. The motion passed.

The Moderator, recognized Rev. Dale Gravatt, Pastor, Mt. Gilead Baptist Church and Vice-moderator, who brought a motion that the order of service as printed in the Book of Reports on pages 1 and 2 serve as our program agenda for the 140th Annual Meeting of the Beech River Baptist Association. The motion passed.

The Moderator made a few announcements. He reminded the messengers that if there were any resolutions anyone would like to have considered, they should be given to the Resolution Committee before leaving tonight. The Resolutions will be presented tomorrow night during the second session.

There were no representatives from the Tennessee Baptist Convention or any other agency at this session. Both local agency reports and TBC reports are located in the Book of Reports.

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: Rev. Will McReynolds, Flatwoods Baptist Church; Rev. Jimmy Minor, Southside Baptist Church; and Rev. Lynn Walker, Rock Hill Baptist Church.

The Moderator began the first business session by calling on Don Martin, FBC, Lexington layman and Treasurer, to present the Treasurer's report (Printed on the green pages in the Book of Reports). After the report presentation there was a time for questions. There were no questions and the budget was accepted as printed.

Rev. John Heskett (Pastor, Sardis Baptist Church) Budget Committee Chairman, was recognized to present the 2011 Budget. He presented the budget (page 3 In the Book of Reports) as a motion from the Budget Committee so it required no second. The Moderator then called for anyone with questions or discussion to come to the microphone placed at the front of the sanctuary to make their presentation. David Autry,

Messenger of First Baptist Church of Parsons, questioned the distribution of funds in the budget, particularly those in the missions line item and the staff insurance line item. The Moderator called on the Budget Committee Chairman to answer this inquiry. Rev. Heskett stated that all budgeted items relate to missions and that some items simply cost more. David Autry responded but made no motions. Dr. Michael Adams, Pastor, Lexington, FBC, then moved the previous question. The 2011 Budget was then voted on as presented. It passed with 15 “no” votes.

Moderator Michael Crandall recognized Rev. Dale Gravatt for the Executive Board report. Rev. Gravatt (Pastor, Mt. Gilead) noted the Executive Board met 3 times in 2010 and received several reports. The Executive Board had no recommendations.

The business portion for this session was then closed by Moderator Crandall.

Dr. Mike Thrower, was recognized to present the Director of Missions report (attached to the minutes).

Rev. Jimmy Burroughs (Pastor, Pine Grove) was recognized to present the Centennial Fund Offering. While the offering was taken a video on our Disaster Relief/Baptist Builders work on the 3 churches in our association that burned in 2010 was presented. \$700.00 was taken for the Beech River Baptist Centennial Fund Offering.

Rev. Bob Hull, Minister of Music of First Baptist church, Lexington led all present in singing “Jesus Saves/Send The Light.”

The Moderator introduced Dr. Greg Thornbury Union University Vice President for Student Life, Campus Ministries; Dean of the School of Theology and Missions; and Associate Professor of Christian Thought and Tradition as the evenings speaker following the special music.

Rev. Hull led the Choir of First Baptist Church, Lexington in singing “He Reigns.”

Dr. Thornbury spoke on the differences between Christianity and Islam. John 1:1-18 was the scripture passage. Dr. Thornbury pointed out that there are 5 key questions that will impact bringing people to the Harvest. 1. How can I hear from God? 2. How can I see God? 3. How can I love God? 4. How can I serve God? 5. How can I live in a world that has gone so wrong?

Rev. Crandall thanked Dr. Thornbury for being with us. He encouraged everyone to stay for the food and fellowship to fellow. He thanked First Baptist Church, Lexington, for serving as hosts for this meeting. Rev. Crandall also thanked the ladies who prepared the refreshments.

The first session of the Beech River Baptist Association was closed in prayer by Rev. Tracy McCormick, Pastor of Hopewell Baptist Church.

**The 140th Annual Meeting of the Beech River Baptist Association
Session Two, October 19, 2010, First Baptist Church, Scotts Hill**

Rev. Michael Crandall, Moderator and Pastor of Bear Creek Baptist Church, called the second session of The Beech River Baptist Association to order at 7:00 P. M. and thanked First Baptist Church of Scotts Hill for hosting the Tuesday session. He recognized Rev. Tim Buffaloe, Associate and Interim Pastor of FBC, Scotts Hill, for a word of welcome and prayer. After the prayer Rev. Buffaloe then led the assembly in singing "Victory In Jesus."

The Moderator then made a few announcements and recognized Rev. Will McLauren representing the Tennessee Baptist Convention and Rev. Kenneth Sparkman who were present. Rev. Sparkman and Kathleen, his wife, attended both sessions. Rev. Sparkman is a previous DOM and a Minister of and in Beech River Baptist Association and the surrounding area.

Moderator Crandall recognized Rev. Jimmy Wallace (Pastor, Bath Springs Baptist Church), Chairman of the Nominating Committee, to present the 2010/2011 report of Officers and Workers located on pages 4 and 5 of the Book of Reports. The report was approved as printed (attached to the Minutes). Rev. Wallace asked the committee to stand for a period of recognition.

Rev. Greg Stanford (Pastor, Calvary Baptist Church), Chairman of the Time and Place Committee, was called on to give the Time and Place report. He noted that the 2012 Annual Meeting take place on Monday, **October 15, 2012**, at Sand Ridge Baptist Church and Tuesday, **October 16, 2012**, at First Baptist Church, Decaturville. As previously voted the 2011 Annual Meeting will take place Monday, **October 17, 2011**, at First Baptist Church, Parsons and Tuesday, **October 18, 2011**, at Union Grove Baptist Church, Beech Bluff. This report was accepted as presented. Rev. Stanford recognized Rev. Mark Burton, Pastor of First Baptist Church, Saltillo, and Rev. Jeff Todd, Pastor of House of Worship Baptist Church, who also served on the Time and Place committee.

Rev. Lynn Walker, Pastor of Rock Hill Baptist Church and Chairman of the Resolutions Committee, brought the three resolutions listed on page 6 of the Book of Reports. They were brought and voted on individually. Each Resolution was passed as printed.

The next order of business was the election of officers for the 2010/2011 associational year.

The chair opened the floor for nominations for the office of Moderator. Rev. Michael Crandall was nominated by Rev. Greg Stanford. Rev. Crandall as Moderator called on Vice-Moderator, Rev. Dale Gravatt, Pastor of Mt. Gilead Baptist Church, to take over the election of Moderator. Dr. Hoyt Wilson, Pastor of Chapel Hill Baptist Church, moved that Rev. Crandall be elected by acclamation. Rev. Crandall was elected with no opposition.

The chair opened the floor for nominations for the office of Vice-Moderator. Rev. Dale Gravatt was nominated by Rev. Kevin Bromley, Pastor of First Baptist Church, Parsons. Dr. Christopher Young, Pastor of Union Baptist Church, moved Rev. Gravatt be elected by acclimation. Rev. Gravatt was elected with no opposition.

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. Dale Gravatt. Dr. Hoyt Wilson moved Mr. Martin be elected by acclimation. Rev. Gravatt was elected with no opposition.

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 Dr. Christopher Young. Rev. Dale Gravatt moved Mrs. Thrower be elected by acclimation. Mrs. Thrower was elected with no opposition.

The Moderator called for any miscellaneous business. There was none .

Rev. Tim Buffaloe led the assembly in singing "When We All Get To Heaven."

The chair recognized Dr. Gilbert Cubbison, Senior Adult Minister of FBC, Lexington, for a time of memorial. Dr. Cubbison read the names of those members from our various churches who had gone on to be with the Lord during the past year. Following this time of memorial Rev. Buffaloe led the assembled in singing "Amazing Grace, My Chains Are Gone."

Before the Special Music Rev. Michael Crandall introduced the evenings speaker, Rev. Kevin Bromley. Rev. Bromley is currently Pastor of First Baptist Church, Parsons. He has served our association in several positions.

Special music was presented by Mr. Kenny Scott, a member of Scotts Hill Baptist Church, who sang "He Saw It All."

Rev. Kevin Bromley spoke on "Why Do Churches Die?" Revelation 3:1-6 was his text:

¹"To the angel of the church in Sardis write: These are the words of him who holds the seven spirits of God and the seven stars. I know your deeds; you have a reputation of being alive, but you are dead. ²Wake up! Strengthen what remains and is about to die, for I have not found your deeds complete in the sight of my God. ³Remember, therefore, what you have received and heard; obey it, and repent. But if you do not wake up, I will come like a thief, and you will not know at what time I will come to you. ⁴Yet you have a few people in Sardis who have not soiled their clothes. They will walk with me, dressed in white, for they are worthy. ⁵He who overcomes will, like them, be dressed in white. I will never blot out his name from the book of life, but will acknowledge his name before my Father and his angels. ⁶He who has an ear, let him hear what the Spirit says to the churches.

Rev. Bromley had three main points. 1. Churches die from strangulation. 2. Churches die from starvation. 3. Churches die from suffocation.

The Moderator thanked Rev. Bromley for his timely message.

The Director of Missions, Dr. Mike Thrower, presented the 2010/2011 officers of the association. He noted all the officers remain the same for the coming year.

Moderator Michael Crandall then called on Rev. Will McLauren to address the assembly. Rev. McLauren spoke briefly and brought greetings on behalf of the Tennessee Baptist Convention.

The Moderator gave a few personal words and asked all the Beech River Baptist Associational Pastors to come forward for a time of dedication and prayer. The 2009/2010 meeting of the Beech River Baptist Association was then adjourned.

There was a time of food and fellowship provided by the First Baptist Church of Scotts Hill afterwards.

Total Registered Messengers: 187 from 37 Churches

Total Registered Guests: 47