Yeats challenges Missouri Baptists to stand firm on the gospel

Executive Director John Yeats challenged Missouri Baptists to stand firm on the solid ground of the gospel in a message concluding the first day of the MBC Annual Meeting.

Building on the meeting’s theme of “Steady,” taken from Exodus 17:8-16, Yeats reminded messengers that Aaron and Hur, who held up Moses’ hands during a fierce battle, required solid ground to carry out their task.

In a similar way, followers of Jesus must stand on the solid rock of Jesus and His finished work on the cross in order to fulfill their calling.

“If you find yourself in a place of ministry where you sense you are stuck in the muddy clay, then consider afresh that the Lord is your solid rock,” said Yeats. “Let’s agree that it is the gospel that changes lives, not all the popular propositions that want to attach themselves to the church.”

Yeats reminded messengers what the gospel is not: (1) merely a desperate cry, or foxhole thinking; (2) performance; (3) Bible knowledge; (4) health and wealth; (5) consumerism; (6) a religious contract.

“These are gospels of human invention,” he said.

Citing disciple-making pastor and teacher Bill Hull, Yeats said “the true gospel consists of four rock-solid, biblical declarations, followed by three responses.”

The four declarations are:

(1) The kingdom of God is here. “The rights and privileges of a citizen of the kingdom are available only to those who have acknowledged Jesus as Lord.”

(2) Jesus is the King. “When we make our churches our little organizational kingdoms, we have rebelled against the King.”

(3) Jesus died on the cross for us. “I deserve to die for my sin in rebellion to my king. But God so loved me that He gave His only begotten Son to die on the cross of Calvary.”

(4) Jesus was buried and bodily rose from the grave and lives today. “His resurrection brings out every ounce of our praise for the one whose name is Jesus.”

These declarations demand a three-fold response, said Yeats. First, we must repent. “There is no salvation apart from a repentant heart.”

Second, Yeats said we must believe – not merely offering mental assent to the facts about the historical Jesus, but placing our trust completely in Him.

Third, he said we must follow Jesus in all things. “This is the solid ground of the gospel that will transform lives, marriages, and communities. It must be the core of who we are as Southern Baptists.”
Nominating Committee recommendations

An (M) following a nominee’s name denotes a minister and an (L) denotes a layperson. Listings followed by an asterisk (*) indicate proposed re-election to a second term.

Executive Board

Term Expiring 2019
1. James Barnhart (M), Miner, Sikeston (SE)
2. Donald Combs (M), Grandview, Centralia (C)
3. Joshua Hall (M), Selmore, Ozark (SW)
4. Nathan Johnson (M), Redeemer, Springfield (SW)
5. Garrett Trunk (M), FBC, Gallatin (NW)
6. Susan Welsh (L), Lancaster, Lancaster (NE)

Term Expiring 2020
1. Don Amelung (M), Dover, Clarksville (NE)
2. Ron Boyer (M), New Melle, Defiance (EC)
3. Rodney Everage (L), Hillcrest, Lebanon
4. JoAnn Hahs (L), FBC, Oak Ridge (SE) (Filling unexpired term of Sarah Wasson)
5. Steven Nelson (M), Hamilton Street, Kirksville (NE)
6. Carl Rees (L), Ridgecrest, Springfield (SW) (Filling unexpired term of Tim Burgess)
7. David Slusher (M), Gill Memorial, Marshall (NW)
8. Mark Spradley (M), Enon, Dawn (NW)
9. Wesley Vance (M), Fellowship, Kansas City (WC)
10. Paul Wellinoff (M), FBC, Eminence (SE)

Term Expiring 2021
1. Doug Austin (L), Bethany, Cape Girardeau
2. Caleb Smith (M), Aurora Springs, Eldon

Committee on Order of Business
2019 Chairman: John Vernon

Term Expiring 2021
1. Doug Austin (L), Bethany, Cape Girardeau

Credentials Committee
2019 Chairman: Thomas Phillips

Term Expiring 2021
1. Josh Andrews (L), Gashland, Kansas City
2. Caleb Smith (M), Aurora Springs, Eldon

Missouri Baptist Christian Life Commission

Term Expiring 2021
1. Bev Ehlen (L), The Way, Warrenton*
2. Timothy Faber (M), Aurora Springs, Eldon
3. Patti Irvin (L), Glenstone, Springfield
4. Jeff Wells (M), Chesterfield Community, Chesterfield*

Missouri Baptist Historical Commission

Term Expiring 2021
1. James Harriss (M), FBC, Galena
2. Brian Massey (L), Central, Eureka
3. Robert Smith (M), FBC, Salisbury

Missouri Baptist Foundation

Term Expiring 2021
1. William Friese (L), Hazelwood, Hazelwood*
2. Jennifer Ross (L), Fellowship of Grace
3. Larry Shoaf (L), FBC, Jackson*
4. Scott Sullivan (L), Pleasant Valley, Liberty*

Missouri Baptist Children’s Home

Term Expiring 2021
1. Tim Abanathy (M), FBC, Portageville*
2. Patsy Austin (L), Unity, Fulton*
3. Michael Beasley (L), Trimble, Trimble
4. Leah Capps (L), Second, Springfield*
5. Beverly Corum (L), FBC, Kearney*
6. Elmer McCully (M), Northside, Houston*
7. Donald Robinson (M), FBC, Van Buren*
8. Clarissa Ross (L), Word Church, Hazelwood
9. David Stephenson (M), FBC, Tipton

(continued on page 3)
Nominations continued from page 2

Baptist Home

Term Expiring 2019
1. Sandra Hedger (L), Freshwater, Jefferson City
   (Filling unexpired term of Ryan Bliss)

Nominating Committee members nominated

Missouri Baptist Convention president Ken Parker, in consultation with the other officers, has nominated eight new members for three-year terms on the Nominating Committee.

Ryan Kunce, First Baptist, Bethany, has been nominated to serve as chairman for 2019.

New Members term expiring 2021
1. Chris Bass (M), FBC, Versailles (C)
2. Todd Buck (M), Esther, Park Hills (SE)
3. Dave Dexheimer (L), Calvary, Hannibal (NW)
4. Scott Gordon (M), Ozark Mountain Community, Blue Eye*
5. Ronald Shrum (L), Miner, Sikeston*
6. Donald Strodtman (L), Stouts Creek, Ironton*
7. Charles Stults (L), New Hope, Exeter*
8. Sandra Hedger (L), Freshwater, Jefferson City*
   (Filling unexpired term of Ryan Bliss)

Term Expiring 2021
1. David Cotter (L), Crossway, Springfield*
2. Kenneth Crawley (L), FBC, Cainesville*
3. Ted Middleton (M), FBC, Lewistown*
4. Jason Moore (M), Ozark Mountain Community, Blue Eye*
5. Anthony Hays (L), FBC, Branson (SW)
6. Chris Pearson (M), FBC, Ferguson (EC)
7. Becky Roberts (L), FBC, Pattonsburg (NE)
8. Carissa Schroer (L), FBC, Crocker (SC)

Hannibal-LaGrange University

Term Expiring 2020
1. Richard Clouse (M), Carpenter Street, Moberly
   (Filling unexpired term of Brad Collier)

Term Expiring 2023
1. Nate Adams (M), Western Oaks, Springfield, IL
2. Mark Anderson (M), Lynwood, Cape Girardeau*
3. Dwight Blankenship (M), Parkway, St. Louis*

The new members will serve with the following members already on the committee.

Missouri Baptist University

Term Expiring 2021
1. Dan Burns (L), Central, Eureka
2. Cynthia Christopher (L), Canaan, St. Louis
3. Dowell Kincaid (L), FBC, Chillicothe*
4. Allan Lane (M), Calvary, St. Joseph*
5. Larry Lewis (M), Calvary, Columbia
6. Gary Robnett (M), FBC, St. Charles*
7. James Scoggins (L), Bass Chapel, Strafford*
8. Robert Smith (L), First Harvester, St. Charles
9. Tom Willoughby (M), Northern Hills, Holt*

Southwest Baptist University

Term Expiring 2020
1. Brandon Jackley (L) (Filling unexpired term of
   David Bennett)

Term Expiring 2023
1. Eddie Bumpers (M), Crossway, Springfield
2. Syndee Chase (L), FBC, Lebanon*
3. Terry Delaney (M), Union, Mexico
4. Kyle Lee (M), Southern Hills, Bolivar
5. Glenn Miller (L), Fellowship, Kansas City*
6. Girard Secker (L), Fifth Street, Hannibal*
7. Chris Williams (M), Fellowship, Greenwood

Nominating Committee members nominated

4. Todd Higgins (M), Living Stone, Portageville
   (Southeast)
5. Ryan Kunce (M), Bethany, (Northwest)
6. Barry Reynolds (L), FBC, Licking (South Central)
7. Brenda Sharpe (L), FBC, Lewistown (Northeast)
8. David Wells (M), Sandy Baptist, Hillsboro (East
   Central)
9. Tom Willoughby (M), Northern Hills, Holt*

Hannibal-LaGrange University

Term Expiring 2020
1. Brian Beadle (L), FBC, Branson (Southwest)
2. John Davis (L), Claycomo Baptist, Kansas City
   (West Central)
3. Cathy DeGraffenreid (L), Riverview, Osage
Credentials Committee report

Monday evening update

The MBC Credentials Committee reported to the Convention on Monday afternoon and made the recommendation on page 29 of the *Book of Reports* with the following additions to the list of newly affiliated churches:

**New Churches**

- Crossing Fellowship
- Grace Church
- Grace Covenant
- Rooted Church

**City**

- St. Jacob, IL
- Independence
- Hannibal
- Joplin

**Pastor**

- David Hendrick
- Joey Candillo
- Chuck Todd
- Rodney Rambo

**Association**

- Blue River-Kansas City
- Bethel
- Spring River

**Re-affiliating Churches**

- Primera Iglesia Bautista
- Second Missionary

**City**

- Milan
- Grandview

**Pastor**

- Joe Curtis
- John Lewis, Jr.

**Association**

- Thousand Hills
- Blue River-Kansas City

Parker appoints tellers for 2018 meeting

Missouri Baptist Convention President Ken Parker presented his appointments to the 2018 Tellers Committee during the Monday evening session of the Missouri Baptist Convention. This committee serves during this year’s annual meeting.

The Tellers Committee assists the presiding officer with vote-taking, collecting ballots, tabulating results and announcing the results to the presiding officer.

Those appointed to the Tellers Committee are all currently serving as Disaster Relief volunteers. The list includes: David Wells, Sandy Baptist, Hillsboro – Chairman; Mike Beasley, Trimble Baptist, Trimble; Ruth Beasley, Trimble Baptist, Trimble; Cheryl Blackburn, Glenstone, Springfield; Malcom Blackburn, Glenstone, Springfield; Jim Bone, FBC, Arnold; Joe Brattin, Solid Rock Southern, Exeter; Nick Catrow, Faith, Waynesville; Roy Christie, Northern Hills, Holt; Joe Dayringer, Northern Hills, Holt; Carol Ethington, Oakwood, Kansas City; Cathy Fox, New Hope, Elsberry; Eugene Fox, New Hope, Elsberry; Renee Gardner, Concord, Jefferson City; Doug Irvin, Glenstone, Springfield; Bill Johnson, Pleasant Valley, Liberty; Charles “Bo” Keeney, FBC, Van Buren; Jennifer McCrary, Pisgah, Excelsior Springs; Terry McCrary, Pisgah, Excelsior Springs; Randy Shipman, FBC, Clinton; Cynthia Todd, Cantwell, Desloge; Charles Washburn, FBC, Chillicothe; John Wheeler, FBC, O’Fallon.

Retiring Executive Board members listed

During Monday’s Executive Board meeting the following MBC Executive Board members were recognized for their service to the Missouri Baptist Convention:

- Eddie Bumpers, serving 2015-2018
- Randy Conn, serving 2014-2018
- Stephen Dennis, serving 2012-2018
- Bill Dudley, serving 2013-2018
- Jim Erwin, serving 2013-2018
- Terry Gentry, serving 2012-2018
- Daniel Kitinoja, serving 2015-2018
- Doug Schildknecht, serving 2011-2018
- Glenn Scott, serving 2012-2018

Additions to Executive Board report

During the Monday morning meeting of the Executive Board the following items were reported for inclusion in the Executive Board report, in addition to the Executive Board Report on page 33 of the *Book of Reports*.

- 1. The Board heard and accepted the report and plan of action of the Agency Restoration Group.

(End)