

Tuesday Evening

BUSINESS UPDATE

MBC ANNUAL MEETING • OCTOBER 24, 2017

Resolutions submitted for consideration

The Committee on Resolutions of the 183rd annual session (2017) of the Missouri Baptist Convention submits this report to the Convention.

Resolutions recommended for adoption:

The Committee on Resolutions recommends that the Convention adopt the following resolutions:

Resolution No. 1:

Courtesy Resolution to Express Appreciation

WHEREAS, the officers, committees, and staff of the Executive Board of the Missouri Baptist Convention have, through their preparation, labor, and spirit, contributed to a successful convention;

WHEREAS, the members of the Local Arrangement Committee along with Director of Missions and staff of the Blue River-Kansas City Baptist Association, have made every effort to make our stay in this area comfortable;

WHEREAS, Connection Point Church has assisted with preparations and have made their excellent facilities and competent staff available in hosting this meeting; be it

RESOLVED, we, the messengers to the 183rd Annual Session of the Missouri Baptist Convention meeting in Raytown, Missouri, October 24, 2017, express our grateful appreciation to the staff of the Executive Board and to the officers and committees of the Missouri Baptist Convention for an excellent

and orderly program and for their leadership in these convention sessions; be it further

RESOLVED, we express our sincere appreciation to the members of the Local Arrangements Committee; and to the Director of Missions and staff of the Blue River-Kansas City Baptist Association, whose thorough preparation and hospitality have contributed greatly to the comfort and convenience of the messengers and visitors of the convention; be it finally

RESOLVED, we thank the Connection Point Church for their hospitality and help during this session of the Missouri Baptist Convention.

Resolution No. 2:

Appreciation for Legislation Preserving Free Exercise of Religion

WHEREAS, the First Amendment to the United States Constitution and every state Constitution recognize the importance of and the need to protect the free exercise of religion; and

WHEREAS, the free exercise of religion is by definition, a public act encompassing all areas of our life, and

WHEREAS, The Baptist Faith and Message 2000 asserts, "God alone is Lord of the conscience, and He has left it free from the doctrines and commandments of men which are contrary to His Word or not contained in it;" and

WHEREAS, obedience to the Word of God is one of the primary expressions of faith and worship for a Christian (Deuteronomy 28:1; John 14:23), and

WHEREAS, the religious exemption in the Missouri Human Rights Act (MHRA) was severely limited by the interpretation by the Missouri Supreme Court in 2013, and

WHEREAS, following such legal actions religious institutions were left vulnerable to being forced to act contrary to the principles of their faith, and

WHEREAS, legislation recently restored the religious exemption clause to MHRA, was passed by the Missouri House of Representatives and Senate and was signed by Governor Eric Greitens into law on

Resolutions



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Wednesday Business

Resolutions submitted for consideration p. 1
Additional deceased ministers listed p. 3
Motions submitted for consideration p. 4



(continued on page 2)

Resolutions

(Resolutions continued from page 1)

June 30, 2017, and

WHEREAS, the Word of God instructs us to honor government officials as they are due (Romans 13:7; 1 Peter 2:17); now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, the messengers to the Missouri Baptist Convention meeting in Raytown, Missouri, October 24, 2017, express our appreciation to our Governor, House of Representatives, and State Senate for preserving and protecting our free exercise of religion, and be it further

RESOLVED, Missouri Baptists regularly pray for their elected officials to have wisdom as they uphold justice and legislate righteousness, and be it further

RESOLVED, Missouri Baptists encourage our legislators to continue to protect the free exercise of religion for all the citizens of our state and refrain from pressure to weaken such laws that would undermine the rights of the citizenry.

Resolution No. 3: In Support of and Appreciation for 2017 Pro-Life Legislation Passed in Missouri

WHEREAS, Scripture clearly affirms the sanctity of human life from the point of conception to the point of natural death (Psalm 139:13-16); and

WHEREAS, God abhors the shedding of innocent blood and requires His people to do all in their power to rescue persons from such acts (Proverbs 6:16-17; 24:11-12); and

WHEREAS, in The Baptist Faith & Message 2000 and in many resolutions Missouri Baptists have repeatedly affirmed our commitment to the sanctity of human life and our desire for stronger laws regulating and restricting abortion in Missouri;

RESOLVED, the messengers to the Missouri Baptist Convention meeting in Raytown, Missouri, October 24, 2017, express their gratitude and appreciation for the efforts of the Missouri State Legislature and Governor Eric Greitens to pass and sign into law historic legislation protecting the health and safety of women across Missouri through the implementation of common sense regulations on abortion providers in the State of Missouri; and be it further

RESOLVED, the messengers of this convention encourage every MBC Church to “not be weary in well doing” (Galatians 6:9) but rather, with renewed zeal, to continue to support the efforts of local pregnancy resource centers and The Missouri Baptist Children’s Home as well as other local, regional and national groups working towards the goal of ending abortion and upholding the sanctity of human life in the State of Missouri, across America and around the world.

Resolution No. 4: On Adoption and Orphan Care

WHEREAS, the hope of the gospel includes rescue from slavery to sin and adoption as sons and daughters (Romans 8:12-25); and

WHEREAS, we have now received the “spirit of adoption” as a gift of God’s grace through the redemption of Christ (Galatians 3:27-4:9); and

WHEREAS, pure and undefiled religion is “to look after orphans and widows in their distress” (James 1:27); and

WHEREAS, orphan care has long been a part of Southern Baptist life in creating orphanages and supporting orphan care ministry; and

WHEREAS, the word “orphan” refers not only to those who have no living parents, but also those who may be unable to live at home due to situations of abuse, neglect, and/or behavioral issues, and

WHEREAS, the Baptist Faith and Message 2000 states, “We should work to provide for the orphaned, the needy, the abused, the aged, the helpless, and the sick. We should speak on behalf of the unborn and contend for the sanctity of all human life from conception to natural death;” now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, the messengers of the 2017 Missouri Baptist Convention would commit to pray for orphans and foster children in our state and around the world; and be it further

RESOLVED, our churches would seek to meet the needs of those in our communities to prevent the separation of children from parents due to financial poverty; and be it further

RESOLVED, we call on each Southern Baptist family to pray for guidance as to whether God is calling them to adopt or foster a child or children; and be it further

RESOLVED, we encourage our pastors and church leaders to preach and teach on God’s concern for orphans; and be it further

RESOLVED, Southern Baptist churches in Missouri would encourage and promote orphan care ministries in their churches and communities for the glory of Christ; and be it further

RESOLVED, Southern Baptist churches in Missouri would especially pray for, promote, encourage and support the ministries of Missouri Baptist Children’s Home as it “serves God by responding to the needs of children, youth and families to make a lasting difference in their lives.”

Resolutions

(Resolutions continued from page 2)

Resolution No. 5: On the Five Hundredth Anniversary of the Protestant Reformation

WHEREAS, October 31, 2017, marks the five hundredth anniversary of the start of the Protestant Reformation with Martin Luther's posting of the Ninety-Five Theses to the Castle Church door in Wittenberg, Germany; and

WHEREAS, The Reformation stressed a return to the sufficiency and primacy of Scripture as the supreme guide for faith and practice in the church of Jesus Christ; and

WHEREAS, The Reformation was driven by the biblical conviction that sinners are saved by grace alone through faith alone in Christ alone based on Scripture alone to the glory of God alone; and

WHEREAS, Missouri Baptists trace much of their theological heritage to the events, figures, and principles of the Magisterial Reformation and the Radical Reformation; and

WHEREAS, Missouri Baptists particularly value the principles of the Reformation that inspired subsequent generations of Baptists to advocate for the religious liberty of all people; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, the messengers to the Missouri Baptist Convention meeting in Raytown, Missouri, October 24, 2017, express our gratitude to God for the courage and conviction of our Reformation forebears; and be it further

RESOLVED, we commit ourselves anew to the biblical convictions of the Reformation, calling all people everywhere to personal repentance and faith in Jesus Christ as taught by holy Scripture; and be it further

RESOLVED, we will promote the sufficiency of Scripture, the power of Christ's grace, and the personal accountability of all humanity before God even as we advocate for the fundamental right of all people to exercise religious liberty; and be it finally

RESOLVED, we will proclaim the priority and preeminence of Christ and His kingdom above all earthly powers to the glory of God alone.

Disposition of Resolutions

The Committee on Resolutions took the following actions respecting disposition of resolutions submitted to the Convention, the subject matters of which are addressed in the resolutions recommended for adoption:

Resolution submitted by the Christian Life Commission on Appreciation for SB 43, see Resolution #2.

Resolution submitted by the Christian Life Commission in Support of and Appreciation for 2017 Pro-Life Legislation Passed in Missouri, see Resolution #3.

Resolution submitted by Nathan Eikenberry, messenger from First Baptist Church, Millersville, on Adoption and Orphan Care, see Resolution #4.

Resolution submitted by the Christian Life Commission on the Five Hundredth Anniversary of the Protestant Reformation, see Resolution #5.

Respectfully submitted, Committee on Resolutions

Mike Quinn (chairman), First Baptist Church, Salisbury; Pat Crisler, Providence Baptist Church, Kansas City; Brandon Mammen, Lawson Baptist Church, Lawson; and Nathan Eikenberry, First Baptist Church, Millersville

(End)

Additional deceased ministers listed

Listed below are additions to the list of 2016-2107 deceased ministers printed in the *Book of Reports*. These additions include those received by the administrative office during the annual meeting.

Jeremy Muniz, current MBC first vice president, led the annual memorial prayer service honoring deceased Missouri Baptist ministers during the Tuesday morning session.

Please notify the MBC administrative office of additions or corrections to the list.

Name	Church	City	Association
Chauncey Clay	Lighthouse Baptist Church	Union	Franklin
Kenneth Dill	Evergreen Baptist Church	Leslie	Franklin

Motions

Thanks for Services

The MBC Executive Board and staff express appreciation to the following groups and individuals for their help in making this year's annual meeting run smoothly.

Church

Dr. Brandon Park and the staff of Connection Point Church, Raytown, for hosting this year's meeting.

Facilities

Mike Lisec, Account Executive of Fern Exposition & Event Services Company, for exhibit services including pipe, drape, and signage.

Book of Reports

Travis Stephens, account executive, and **Dawn Banta**, customer service consultant, of Modern Litho/Brown Printing, Jefferson City, Mo., for quality and timely printing of the *Bulletin Program & Book of Reports*.

Daily Bulletins

Franklin Lugenbeel, Creative Director/Printshop Manager, Connection Point Church, Raytown, for quality and timely onsite printing of the *Daily Bulletins*.

Motions submitted for consideration

Motion No. 1

Submitted by:

David Mason, Messenger
Green Valley Baptist, St. Joseph

I request the executive board to study and provide a safe means for pastors of the Missouri Baptist Convention to receive assistance regarding sexual addiction.

Recommendation:

Refer to Executive Board. As a common practice when a motion requests that the MBC Executive Board examine a subject matter, the motion is referred to the Executive Board for a report at the Annual Meeting, October 2018.

Motion No. 2

Submitted by:

Edward Forbus, Messenger
First Baptist Church, Butler

I make a motion to make the benevolence fund made into one account rather than each church having their own. That way if a church fund runs out, they will still have access to funds.

Recommendation:

Rule out of order. The motion identifies a need for benevolence gifts and potential management systems for those funds. Because need is local, local churches and associations are best to accomplish this kind of work. However, this kind of work is outside the scope of the Missouri Baptist Convention mission.

Respectfully submitted,

Committee on Order of Business

Jon Nelson, (chairman); Soma Community Church, Jefferson City; Maya Howell, Crossway Baptist Church, Springfield; Kay Payne, Cornerstone Baptist Church, Jefferson City; John Vernon, First Baptist Church, Millersville; Allen Nichols, First Baptist Church, Lilbourn; Kirk Baker, First Baptist Church, Camdenton.

(End)



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