But one thing I do: forgetting what lies behind and straining forward to what lies ahead. I press on toward the goal for the prize of the upward call of God in Christ Jesus. (Philippians 3:13-14)
SOMETHING IN COMMON

Missouri Baptist churches are as unique as fingerprints. Yet through the Cooperative Program, we share a common DNA that enables us to do more ... together.

Watch, show, and share the latest CP video at mobaptist.org/cp
Welcome to Springfield and the 181st annual meeting of the Missouri Baptist Convention! It is hard for me to comprehend how rich a heritage we share when I remember that as far back as the early 1800s, Baptists gathered across this great state to advance the gospel and encourage one another. You and I stand on the shoulders of so many who have sacrificed in order that we may carry on the legacy of growing Great Commission churches.

Of course, much has changed over the years. (I’m pretty sure there were no smart phones ringing during the first “annual sermon.”) Yet at the same time, so much has remained the same. We are still committed to the Bible and sharing its good news with everyone in the state of Missouri. We still partner with our fellow Southern Baptists to get that same message to the ends of the earth. And most of all, we still need each other.

Which is why I wanted to continue the general idea from last year’s “Together” theme as we focus our attention on moving “Forward.” Not only do we want to remember the past and enjoy our time of fellowship together, but we want to continue to strain forward with Christ and each other.

I am not sure if our world has ever needed the gospel more than it does today considering world events, cultural “norms,” politics, etc., (the list could go on and on). What a wonderful testimony it is for the world to see a people who are called Baptists moving forward as one body. Almost an oxymoron, I know, but what an antidote to the cynicism and divisiveness we have experienced at other times.

So, as we gather together may we be reminded that to follow Jesus necessitates forward movement. One can’t follow by simply staying in the past. Rather, we must leverage all that we have as we pursue Christ and His lost world. May we do this for the glory of God and the good of man, and may it begin in Springfield at our 181st meeting.

Blessings,

Dr. Neil Franks, President

Blessings. There is a passion burning in the hearts of Missouri Baptists of every generation to make a difference in Jesus’ name. We understand that we are commissioned to take the gospel to our communities, the nation, and to the ends of the earth.

One observant Missouri Baptist pastor noted recently that Satan doesn’t need to attack a ministry sitting still; he attacks those making an impact for Christ. Recent attacks on the churches, our cooperative ministries, and Christian businesses make it clear that biblically based values are experiencing resistance that hasn’t existed since the founding of this nation.

In spite of cultural resistance, we do what we are commissioned to do by moving forward in the power of the Holy Spirit. If we attempt this in our flesh, we wear ourselves out and make little progress toward penetrating our culture with the gospel. Instead, we move forward, taking grand steps on our knees, acknowledging our complete dependence on the Lord.

We gather at this MBC Annual Meeting undeterred by recent cultural events, knowing that the Lord is still in charge and His commission for Missouri Baptists remains intact – for this generation and the ones to follow until the day Jesus returns as King.

Take a few moments to review our purpose in assembling: We worship together; participate in discussions; elect godly officers; hear amazing reports; and learn to become better leaders. On Wednesday morning, we hear a mission challenge from Nik Ripken and a visionary message from SBC President Ronnie Floyd.

Thanks for coming. Be attentive to divine opportunities to share the gospel with those who work at the Convention Center, hotels and restaurants. Make every effort to find someone each day to encourage in the faith. Let’s move forward with the gospel in all humility and grace.

Dr. John L. Yeats, Executive Director
Missouri State Evangelism Conference
February 4-5, 2016
Crossway Baptist Church, Springfield

“Desperate for Jesus,” the 2016 State Evangelism-Discipleship Conference, is for Missouri Baptists, particularly pastors, church staff, evangelism church leaders, Directors of Missions, and spouses.

- Join God on His mission despite uncertain circumstances.
- Be certain of your own “Macedonia” call.
- Lead your church with new zeal for making disciple-makers.
- Pre-conference with evangelists and dinner with Bill Elliff.
- Churches are encouraged to participate in 21 Days of spiritual preparation conducted Jan. 14-Feb. 3 to prepare for personal revival. Those who register prior to Friday January 1, 2016, are given a free guide. Ordering information is online at the Desperate for Jesus registration site.

Register online at mobaptist.org/desperate
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Bulletin Program & Book of Reports
This booklet contains all of the information you need to follow the program and conduct business at the MBC annual meeting. Messengers should carry it with them to all sessions and meetings.

Daily Business Update
The convention’s daily Business Update is available each day at 8 a.m. at the MBC information and registration desks. Business, information and reports not found in the Bulletin Program & Book of Reports are printed in the daily Business Update. Information for publication should be submitted to the Daily Bulletin and Website Office, located in the Expo Center, Hall 2, Breakout Room 2-A. (to the left of Exhibit Hall, Hall 2 at street level)

Local Restaurants and Fast Food
A complete list of restaurants for the Springfield area is available at the MBC information desk, located in the University Plaza Lobby (across from the Grand Ballroom) and at the Expo Center Atrium (Street Level-2). Representatives of the Springfield Convention and Visitors Bureau are available in the Expo Center Atrium to assist.

First Aid
There is no first-aid room. In case of emergency dial 911. Minor problems can be taken to the MBC administrative office, located near the MBC registration area, where a first-aid kit is available.

Information
Information is available at the MBC information desk, located in the University Plaza Lobby (across from the Grand Ballroom) and in the Expo Center Atrium (Street Level-2). Representatives of the Springfield Convention and Visitors Bureau are available in the Expo Center.

Messages and Announcements
Please bring all messages and announcements to the MBC administrative office, located in the Expo Center, Atrium (lower level 1) near registration.
Only emergency messages are announced from the platform. Other messages are posted on a bulletin board near the MBC administrative office.

Messenger Cards
A voting member of the Missouri Baptist Convention is called a “messenger.” Messenger forms were mailed to each Missouri Baptist church in September. Each church received its forms based on statistical information obtained from the Annual Church Profile (ACP). One messenger card is allotted for each 100 members or fraction thereof, up to a total of 15 messengers. Alternately, one card is allotted for every $2,500 given to the Missouri Baptist Convention through the Cooperative Program from July 1 through June 30 of the prior year. No church shall be entitled to more than 15 messengers.

Registration
Registration begins at 8 a.m. Monday, October 27, at the MBC registration area, located in the Expo Center Atrium (lower level 1). The bottom portion of your messenger card or your pre-registration confirmation form should be presented at the MBC registration desk in order to receive ballots.

Parenting Room
A parenting room is available in the Expo Center, Hall 2, Breakout Room 2-E (to the left of the Exhibit Hall) The parenting room opens 30 minutes prior to each session and closes 30 minutes after each session. A baby bed, changing table, chairs, and toys are provided. Parents must not leave children unattended at any time.

Although we want to encourage younger church staff and members to participate in the annual meeting, full-service child care using volunteers or paid workers is not provided. There are liability and legal risks for the Missouri Baptist Convention, the host facility, and parenting room workers. After thorough consideration and study of the options available, the decision was made to provide a well-equipped parenting room as close to the convention floor as possible.

Exhibits
An exhibit area is located in the Expo Center, Hall 2 (street level). Exhibit area hours are 8 a.m. to 7 p.m. Monday and Tuesday, and 8 a.m. to noon Wednesday.
MBC staff and related ministry partners from Missouri Baptist and Southern Baptist life, including our colleges and seminaries, and a LifeWay Christian Store are featured.
MBC annual meeting
office locations

Administrative Office: Expo Center Atrium (lower level)
Book Store: Expo Center Hall 2 (street level)
Credentials Committee: Expo Center Hall 2, Breakout Room 2-D (street level, behind the exhibit hall)
Committee on Continuing Review: Expo Center Hall 2, Breakout Room 2-D (street level, behind the exhibit hall)
Daily Bulletin Office: Expo Center Hall 2, Breakout Room 2-A (street level, behind the exhibit hall)
Exhibits: Expo Center Hall 2 (street level)
First Aid/Emergencies: Dial 911
Fast Food: Expo Center Hall 1 (lower level)
Information Desk: Expo Center Atrium (street level 2), and University Plaza Lobby
Nominating Committee: Expo Center Hall 2, Breakout Room 2-D (street level, behind the exhibit hall)
Parenting Room: Expo Center Hall 2, Breakout Room 2-E (street level, behind the exhibit hall)
Registration: Expo Center Atrium (lower level)
Resolutions Committee: Expo Center Hall 2, Breakout Room 2-B (street level, behind the exhibit hall)
Speakers “Green” Room: Expo Center Atrium (lower level, to the right of registration)
Ushers/Tellers Room: Expo Center Hall 2, Breakout Room 2-C (street level, behind the exhibit hall)
Website Office: Expo Center Hall 2, Breakout Room 2-A (street level, behind the exhibit hall)

The mb website is really old...

In fact, Missouri was the first Southern Baptist state convention to establish a presence on the world wide web! The mb website has been on the Internet since March 1996.

The mb website features videos, downloadable resources, a calendar of training events, and much more...to help your church partner with other churches to accomplish the Great Commission.

Also, check out the church finder and links to Missouri Baptist ministries, associations, and related ministry partners in Missouri and the SBC.

mobaptist.org

Disclaimer regarding exhibitors
It is possible that some exhibitors or exhibit materials at the MBC annual meeting are not affiliated with the Missouri Baptist Convention.

The Missouri Baptist Convention shall not be held responsible for any products, services, contracts, claims or expenses incurred with exhibitors.
the VISION of the MBC staff:
Transforming lives and communities with the gospel.

the MISSION of the MBC staff:
We are missionaries, cooperating with Missouri Baptists to make disciples, multiply churches, and develop leaders.
Missouri Baptist Pastors’ Conference Program
Monday, October 26, 2015
Springfield Expo Center, Springfield, Missouri

8:50 a.m. Music ........................................ Pleasant Ridge Worship Team
9:00 a.m. Welcome ......................................... Malachi O’Brien
9:05 a.m. Message ........................................ Dr. Jeremy Roberts/Chris Williams
9:50 a.m. Time of Prayer
10:00 a.m. Message ....................................... Dr. Brandon Park/Guest Speaker
10:45 a.m. Music .......................................... Pleasant Ridge Worship Team
10:50 a.m. Offering
10:55 a.m. Time of Prayer
11:10 a.m. Music .......................................... Pleasant Ridge Worship Team
11:15 a.m. Message ....................................... Dr. Steve Dighton/Guest Speaker
12:00 p.m. Dismiss for lunch
1:30 p.m. Sight & Sound Presentation
1:40 p.m. Revival Panel
2:00 p.m. Election of Officers
2:05 p.m. Music
2:10 p.m. Message ....................................... Byron Paulus/Guest Speaker
2:55 p.m. Music/Prayer .................................. Pleasant Ridge Worship Team
3:10 p.m. Final Election of Officers
3:20 p.m. Message ....................................... Dr. Alvin Reid
3:50 p.m. Offering
3:55 p.m. Call to Prayer
4:00 p.m. Message ....................................... Michael Catt
4:30 p.m. Dismiss

Save the date for the next RA Congress
April 15-16, 2016 • Missouri State Fairgrounds, Sedalia
Boys will meet a missionary and take part in traditional RA events.
Details are available at mobaptist.org/wmu
Franks, Yeats set to speak Monday evening

Neil Franks is president of the Missouri Baptist Convention and chair of the Executive Board. He serves as lead pastor of First Baptist Church, Branson. Under his leadership, FBC Branson has almost tripled in size and serves as a mission leader within the state and beyond with 13 percent of general receipts dedicated to reaching people with the gospel through Southern Baptist causes. He has led mission teams to various places including Central Asia, Central Mexico, San Francisco, New York and Iowa. He also has created church planting partnerships in St. Louis as part of the SEND City initiative, along the I-29 corridor with Missouri Baptists, and most recently a new church plant in Denver, Colo. He has led FBC Branson to partner with six different MBC church plants across the state. Prior to joining the church in 2007, Franks served churches in Missouri, Oklahoma, Texas, and Arkansas. He earned a Doctor of Ministry degree from Midwestern Baptist Theological Seminary (2009) and a Master of Divinity with Biblical Languages from Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary (1997). Franks met his wife, Kendra, while they were both students at Henderson State University. They have two boys, Nathan and Travis.

John Yeats is executive director of the Missouri Baptist Convention. He directs the state’s missionary staff; administers Cooperative Program funds given by Missouri Baptist churches; serves as publisher of The Pathway, the official news journal of the MBC; and sets the state’s cooperative strategy for fulfilling the Acts 1:8 mission mandate. Prior to his leadership in Missouri, he served as director of communications and public policy for the Louisiana Baptist Convention. He also served as editor of the Oklahoma Baptist Messenger and served the State Convention of Baptists in Indiana as director of communications and editor of the Indiana Baptist. Since 1997, he has been the recording secretary of the Southern Baptist Convention. He also served 20 years as pastor of churches in Texas and Kansas and has led several multi-staff churches through effective interim pastorates. He received a B.A. degree from Dallas Baptist University, a Master of Divinity from Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary, and a Doctor of Ministry from Midwestern Baptist Theological Seminary. He and his wife Sharon have three sons and nine grandchildren. They reside in Lohman.

Yeats to highlight MBC Mission and Vision

In the executive director’s address Monday evening, Dr. John Yeats highlights the reorientation of the MBC staff around a mission grounded in the historical purpose for which the convention was founded, and a clear and compelling vision for the future.

Tracing the MBC’s purpose back to its founding as the “Central Association” in 1835, Yeats demonstrates that the convention staff has existed from the beginning to make disciples, multiply churches, and develop leaders.

Last year, Yeats commissioned a survey of Missouri Baptist church leaders. He also formed a study group to research additional data from focus groups and personal visits with hundreds of pastors and lay leaders. The results showed many positive trends. At the same time, the data revealed a drift away from the historic purpose for which the convention was founded.

Consequently, Yeats has led a reorientation of the convention staff. One essential component is the MBC missionary staff’s vision and mission.

The Vision: Transforming lives and communities with the gospel.

The Mission: We are missionaries cooperating with Missouri Baptists to make disciples, multiply churches, and develop leaders.

Yeats expands on the vision and mission during his address. His message underscores the urgency of the MBC’s work going forward and calls on all Missouri Baptists to embrace a common vision of transforming lives and communities with the gospel.
Annual Meeting Provisional Program

181st Annual Session, October 26-28, 2015
University Plaza Hotel & Expo Center, Springfield

Officers
Neil Franks, President
Ken Parker, First Vice President
Doug Richey, Second Vice President
Jeremy Muniz, Recording Secretary

Theme: Forward—Phillipians 3:13-14 (ESV)

Monday Evening, October 26, 2015

6:30 Pre-Session Music .................................................. First Baptist Branson
6:45 Call to Order and Welcome — 181st Annual Session ......................... Neil Franks
Invocation ............................................................ John Marshall
Congregational Singing and Special Music ................................ First Baptist Branson
7:00 Report of Enrollment ..................................................... Jeremy Muniz
Announcement of Committee on Convention Committees and Tellers Committee ........ Neil Franks
Report, Committee on Order of Business ........................................ Kevin Rhodes
7:15 Choir/Orchestra .................................................... First Baptist Branson
7:25 Prayer for the President ................................................... Kendra Franks
7:30 President’s Address ........................................................ Neil Franks
8:05 Recognition of Past Presidents and New Pastors
8:15 Executive Director’s Address ............................................... Dr. John Yeats
9:00 Benediction ............................................................ Chad Grayson
Recess

Monday deadline for resolutions

Messengers may still submit resolution proposals, but they must do so by the end of the Monday evening session. MBC bylaws state that all proposed resolutions shall be submitted to the convention recording secretary by registered messengers before the end of the evening session on the first day of the convention.

Following are the steps for submitting proposals:

- Proposals must be submitted by registered messengers.
- Proposals should be legible; typewritten if possible.
- Each proposal should be titled, dated, and contain the name, address, and church membership of the messenger submitting the proposal.

The committee reviews each proposal and makes a report by the end of the annual meeting. The committee drafts, revises, combines or rejects proposals it feels are appropriate. They report on each resolution submitted with or without recommendation.

Ministry Wives Luncheon

Tuesday, October 27 — 12:30 p.m.
University Plaza Hotel and Convention Center
Colorado and Illinois Ballrooms

All ladies attending the annual meeting are invited to attend the luncheon.

Jennifer Rothschild, best selling author and Bible study teacher, speaks across the globe challenging women to “think about their faith, for a change.” Good Morning America, Dr. Phil, Billy Graham, Life Today, and Women of Faith have featured her. This event is hosted and funded by MBC Ministry Wives Fellowship, the Cooperative Program, and area southwest Missouri churches. Join us for dynamic, funny, upbeat, challenging, girlfriend time.

Cost at the Door: $20.
Shelton to preach annual sermon Tuesday morning

Robert Shelton has served as pastor of First Baptist Church, Plattsburg, since 1990, following his graduation from Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary, where he earned a Master of Divinity in biblical languages.

Saved at age 14 and called into the ministry six months later, Shelton began preparations for ministry at Southwest Baptist University where he received his Bachelor of Arts in religious studies and English in 1983.

Shelton served as associate pastor and minister of youth at Sycamore Hills Baptist Church, Independence, Mo., from 1983 to 1987.

Ministry wives luncheon scheduled Tuesday

All ladies coming to the 2015 Missouri Baptist Convention in Springfield are invited to attend the Jennifer Rothschild Unfailing Love Changes Everything luncheon on Tuesday, October 27, at the University Plaza Hotel and Convention Center. Jennifer, best selling author and Bible study teacher, speaks across the globe challenging women to “think about their faith, for a change.” Good Morning America, Dr. Phil, Billy Graham, Life Today, and Women of Faith have all featured her on their programs.

This event is hosted and funded by the MBC Ministry Wives Fellowship, the Cooperative Program, and Springfield area churches. Join us for dynamic, funny, upbeat, challenging, and girlfriend time.

Prior to the luncheon attendees may browse displays of organizations that serve women. Representatives are onsite to answer questions.

Menu
Springfield chicken salad: hand-crafted with honey and almonds and served on wheat berry bread. The meal includes cookies, iced tea, and coffee during the event. The meal is a chilled luncheon plate.

Cost
The cost at the Door is $20 per person.

Drop by the Women’s Ministry booth

...and sign up for a trip to Branson to see Sight and Sounds’ Jonah production. Also stop by and see all the new resources and helps for Women’s Ministry and pick up a calendar of events for 2016.
Tuesday Morning Program

Theme: Forward—Phillipians 3:13-14 (ESV)

8:15 Music ........................................ First Baptist Branson
8:30 Call to Worship ................................ Jon Franks

Invocation .............................................. Jon Nelson
Music ........................................ First Baptist Branson

8:40 Credentials Committee Report (partial) .................. Sam Owens
8:50 Southwest Baptist University Report .................. Pat Taylor
9:00 Hannibal-LaGrange University Report ................ Anthony Allen
9:10 Missouri Baptist Children’s Home Report ........... Russell Martin

Recognition of SBC agencies present .................. Neil Franks
9:20 Midwestern Baptist Theological Seminary Report ........ Jason Allen
9:30 North American Mission Board Report ............. Gary Frost
9:35 SBC Presentation ................................ Augie Boto
9:45 WMU Report ................................ Cherri Crump

9:50 Music ........................................ First Baptist Branson
10:00 Agency Restoration Group Report ................ Randy Comer
10:15 GLC Report .................................. Doug Austin
10:20 Executive Board Report/Recommendations .......... Larry Thomas

10:55 Election of President
11:05 Introduction of Miscellaneous Business (To be voted on Wednesday. Motions are printed in the daily bulletin. Titles of resolutions are read by the appointed person.)

11:15 Offering
11:20 Music ........................................ First Baptist Branson
11:35 Annual Sermon ................................ Robert Shelton

12:15 Benediction ................................ Billy Russell

Recess

For Spiritual Assistance call...1-888-JESUS-20

“Every church website, sign, and bulletin should carry this toll-free number.”
— Mark Snowden, MBC Evangelism-Discipleship Strategist
Parker to lead memorial service Tuesday afternoon

Ken Parker leads the memorial service honoring deceased pastors during the Tuesday afternoon session at 2:15 p.m.

Parker is first vice president of Missouri Baptist Convention and first vice chair of the Executive Board.

Parker became the senior pastor at First Baptist Church of Kearney, Mo., in January 2006. Prior to Kearney, he served as the founding pastor of Southpointe Family Church (SBC) in Fort Smith, Ark. He also served as pastor of Fianna Hills Baptist Church in Fort Smith and First Baptist Church in Union, Mo. Before becoming a senior pastor, He served churches in Illinois and Missouri as an associate pastor with responsibilities in music and youth ministry.

Parker has been a trustee at Midwestern Baptist Theological Seminary since 2008 and also has served as an adjunct professor at Midwestern Seminary and Midwestern Baptist College, SBC. He graduated from Missouri Baptist University in 1988, earning a bachelor’s degree in church music and vocal performance. He received an M.Div. in 1995 and D.Min. in 2002 from Midwestern Seminary. In 2013, he graduated with a Master of Arts in counseling from Midwestern.

Parker and his wife, Lori, have two sons, Zach and Luke.

CORE: Making Disciples scheduled for Tuesday

The CORE Conference at this year’s Annual Meeting is focused on the MBC core value of “Making Disciples.” This abbreviated conference provides a break from the business portion of the meeting and includes corporate worship, helpful resources, and insightful, personal teaching from disciple-making practitioners Greg Stier and Alvin Reid.

Stier has served as a church planter and pastor, and has equipped thousands of students and leaders in evangelism and disciple-making. Reid has served on church staff, state convention staff, and also has taught and mentored thousands of students and leaders as well. Their teaching promises to be a blessing and a challenge to Missouri Baptists.

Strategic Partners...

Connecting the local church, associations, and convention entities with the Missouri Baptist Convention.

We are here to assist you.

Jim Wells
Betty Benz Pulliam, Administrative Assistant
Tuesday Afternoon Program

Theme: Forward—Phillipians 3:13-14 (ESV)

2:00  Music .............................................................. First Baptist Branson
2:15  Memorial Service and Invocation ................................ Ken Parker
2:20  Second Election of Officers
2:25  Historical Commission Report ..................................... Jim McCaughan
2:30  Introduction of Miscellaneous Business (last time)
2:35  Nominating Committee Report ..................................... Jim Barnhart
2:45  MBC Core Value Conference: Making Disciples ................. Matt Kearns
4:45  Recess

Resolutions Committee meets Tuesday afternoon

The MBC Resolutions Committee meets on Tuesday to review, draft and consider for approval resolutions reported to the Convention on Wednesday. This is in accordance with MBC Bylaw III, Section 5b and VI, Section 1b(2).

Resolutions are to be formally submitted to the convention recording secretary, Jeremy Muniz, by the end of Monday’s evening session. Proposed resolutions must be submitted by registered messengers, should be titled, dated, and contain the name, address, and church membership of the messenger submitting the proposal.

The committee meets at Springfield Expo Center in Hall 2, Room 2-B (located behind the exhibit area and on street level) at 1:30 p.m. to draft, revise, combine or reject proposals as it feels appropriate, and reports on each resolution submitted with or without recommendation.

The Committee on Resolutions is scheduled to report at 9:00 a.m. Wednesday. Committee members are: Jim Albers, Joplin (chairman); Brian Credille, Jefferson City; Ron Lamb, Fulton; and Becky Quinn, Salisbury.

Visit the MMO/CP booth to sign up for mbConnect, the weekly e-newsletter of the Missouri Baptist Convention!
Reid, Stier to speak at CORE Tuesday

**Alvin L. Reid** serves as professor of evangelism and student ministry at Southeastern Baptist Theological Seminary, where he has been since 1995. He also is the founding Bailey Smith Chair of Evangelism.

Reid has spoken at a variety of conferences in almost every state and on four continents, including more than 2,000 churches, colleges, conferences and events. He has written extensively on evangelism, missional Christianity, spiritual awakening, and student ministry.

His passion is to equip leaders for the coming generation who will change the world for the glory of God and the sake of the gospel. He speaks extensively to churches and leaders on the subjects of disciple making, revival, and missional ways to reach the West, as well as to college students and youth on living for Christ.

Reid holds M.Div. and Ph.D. degrees from Southwestern Seminary and a B.A. from Samford University. He serves as director of the Young Professionals Ministry at Richland Creek Community Church in Wake Forest, N.C.

Reid and his wife Michelle have two married children.

**Greg Stier** leads a ministry that has equipped hundreds of thousands of teenagers to relationally and relentlessly share the gospel of Christ. As a former church planter and pastor, Stier believes in the power and potential of the church to transform entire cities with the gospel. A former youth leader, he is committed to seeing this transformation erupt from the next generation.

Stier is the author of 13 books and numerous articles. He has appeared on CNN, CBN, TBN, Focus on the Family and several national radio programs. He is a regular contributor to the Christian Post, Churchleaders.com and Group Magazine. He has been a featured speaker at Promise Keepers, Youth Specialties, Creation Festival, LifeFest and The Billy Graham Schools of Evangelism.

He and his wife, Debbie, have two children and reside in Arvada, Colo.

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**THE MACEDONIA PROJECT**

Launching February 2016

www.mobaptist.org/macedonia
Tuesday Evening Program

Theme: Forward—Phillipians 3:13-14 (ESV)

6:15 Call to Order and Invocation ................................................. Neil Franks
     Report on Enrollment
6:20 Third Election of Officers
6:30 MBC Core Values Conference: Making Disciples ....................... Matt Kearns (MBC)
8:30 Recess
Wednesday

Ripken, Floyd to speak Wednesday morning

Nik Ripken is set to speak Wednesday morning. He is the author of *The Insanity of God* and *The Insanity of Obedience*.

Ripken and his wife, Ruth, have served for more than 30 years as IMB personnel with the majority of that ministering in the midst of persecution.

The Ripkens are from Kentucky and graduated from Georgetown College and Southern Baptist Theological Seminary. They use pseudonyms for security reasons.

Ronnie Floyd has been a pastor for more than 38 years. His experience, wisdom, and passion for God make him a powerful proclaimer of God’s Word. He teaches biblical principles that encourage and uplift thousands of people all over the world via TV, the Internet, podcasts, radio, speaking engagements, and books.

Since 1986, Floyd has served as senior pastor of Cross Church, Northwest Arkansas. In June 2014, he was elected president of the Southern Baptist Convention. In June 2015, Floyd was nominated and elected to a second term.

Floyd’s proudest accomplishments stem from his personal life. He and his wife, Jeana, have been married for 38 years. They have two sons, Josh and Nick. Josh is married to Kate, and they have three sons, Peyton, Parker, and Jack. Nick is married to Meredith, and they have three daughters, Reese, Norah and Maya and a son, Beckham.

Ronnie Floyd

Arriola to lead worship Wednesday morning

Julio Arriola leads worship during the Wednesday morning sessions. He serves as global worship pastor of Cross Church, Springdale, Ark. He joined the staff there in August 2011.

Arriola was saved in Guadalajara, Mexico, in 1996. “After a students meeting at church where they explained the plan of salvation I realized I was lost and heading to hell. That evening I went home, cried to God to save me and wash me from all my sins with His Son’s blood,” said Arriola.

Arriola earned a B.S. degree, with a major in computer engineering, from the University of Guadalajara, Mexico; attended Bible studies at Word Of Life Bible Institute; and earned a B.S. degree, with a major in religion, from Liberty University.

Julio Arriola

Arriola and his wife, Carla, have three children, Daniel (9), David (8) and Elizabeth (5).
Wednesday Morning Program

Theme: Forward—Philippians 3:13-14 (ESV)

8:15 Music ................................................................. Julio Arriola
8:30 Call to Order and Invocation ................................. Doug Richey
8:35 Fourth Election of Officers
8:45 Pathway Report ................................................. Don Hinkle
8:50 Music ................................................................. Julio Arriola
9:05 Introduction of Nik Ripken ................................. Mark Snowden
9:10 Teaching ......................................................... Nik Ripken
9:45 Response
9:50 Discussion of Miscellaneous Business
  Credentials Committee Report (remainder) and Video ............... Sam Owens
  Resolutions Committee Report ................................ Jim Albers
  Committee on Continuing Review ................................ Shawn Wasson
  Committee on Convention Preacher .............................................. E. J. Barnes
  Committee on Convention Committees ........................................ John King
10:15 Fifth Election of Officers
10:20 Recognition of Retiring MBC Officers
10:25 Sixth Election of Officers
10:30 Introduction of Special Honored Guests
10:35 Introduction of SBC President ............................. Jim Wells
10:40 Music ................................................................. Julio Arriola
10:55 Message .......................................................... Ronnie Floyd
11:30 Response
11:40 Prayer for St. Louis SBC Annual Meeting
11:50 Announcements and Recognitions
12:00 Benediction ...................................................... New President

Adjournment of 181st Annual Session

Save the date for the next RA Congress
April 15-16, 2016 • Missouri State Fairgrounds, Sedalia
Boys will meet a missionary and take part in traditional RA events.

Details are available at mobaptist.org/wmu
Officers to preside at annual meeting

President

Neil Franks is president of the Missouri Baptist Convention and chair of the Executive Board.

He serves as lead pastor of First Baptist Church, Branson. Under his leadership, FBC Branson has almost tripled in size and serves as a mission leader within the state and beyond with 13 percent of general receipts dedicated to reaching people with the gospel through Southern Baptist causes. He has led mission teams to Central Asia, Central Mexico, San Francisco, New York and Iowa. He also has created church planting partnerships in St. Louis as part of the SEND City initiative, along the I-29 corridor with Missouri Baptists and most recently a new church plant in Denver, Colo. He has led FBC Branson to partner with six different MBC church plants across the state. Prior to joining the church in 2007, Franks served churches in Missouri, Oklahoma, Texas, and Arkansas. He earned a Doctor of Ministry degree from Midwestern Baptist Theological Seminary (2009) and a Master of Divinity with Biblical Languages from Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary (1997). Franks met his wife, Kendra, while they were both students at Henderson State University. They have two boys, Nathan and Travis.

Second Vice President

Doug Richey is second vice president of the Missouri Baptist Convention and second vice chair of the Executive Board.

Richey has served as Pisgah Baptist’s senior pastor since 2005. He earned a B.S. degree in finance from Central Missouri State University in 1994. He subsequently earned an M.Div. and an M.A. (Biblical Languages) from Midwestern Baptist Theological Seminary and is currently in the writing phase of a D.Min. He has served as president for the Missouri State Alumni Association (MBTS), the National Alumni Association (MBTS), the Pastors’ Conference for the Missouri Baptist Convention, and chairman of the SBC’s Committee on Nominations. Richey also serves as a chaplain for the Missouri State Highway Patrol and Clay County Sheriff’s Department and is a member of the speakers’ bureau of the Kansas City field office of the FBI. He also served for eight years as a combat engineer with the Missouri Army National Guard.

Richey and his wife, Jennifer, have two daughters, Brennan and Olivia.

First Vice President

Ken Parker is first vice president of the Missouri Baptist Convention and first vice chair of the Executive Board.

Parker became the senior pastor at First Baptist Church of Kearney, Mo., in January 2006. Prior to Kearney, he served as the founding pastor of Southpointe Family Church (SBC) in Fort Smith, Ark. He also served as pastor of Fianna Hills Baptist Church in Fort Smith, Ark., and First Baptist Church in Union, Mo. Before becoming a senior pastor, he served churches in Illinois and Missouri as an associate pastor with responsibilities in music and youth ministry.

Parker has been a trustee at Midwestern Baptist Theological Seminary since 2008 and also has served as an adjunct professor at Midwestern Seminary and Midwestern Baptist College, SBC. He graduated from Missouri Baptist University in 1988, earning a Bachelor’s degree in church music and vocal performance. He received an M.Div. in 1995 and D.Min. in 2002 from Midwestern Seminary. In 2013, he graduated with a Master of Arts in counseling from Midwestern.

Recording Secretary

Jeremy Muniz is recording secretary of the Missouri Baptist Convention and secretary of the Executive Board.

Muniz has served as senior pastor of First Baptist Church De Soto for 15 years and served as chairman of the Missouri Baptist Convention Nominating Committee from 2011-2013. He has served as senior pastor of churches in Illinois and Texas and also as a hospice chaplain in Fort Worth, Texas. He has led First Baptist De Soto to establish a partnership with CP missionaries in Taiwan for the purpose of planting churches.

Muniz earned his Doctor of Ministry degree from Covenant Theological Seminary (2009). He also holds a Master of Divinity with Biblical Language degree from Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary (2000) and a Bachelor of Arts degree in biblical studies from Mid-Continent University (1997).

Muniz and his wife, Jennifer, have two children, Averi and Zach.
Annual meeting program personalities

Albers, Jim — Chairman, MBC Committee on Resolutions; Pastor, First Baptist, Iantha
Allen, Anthony — President, Hannibal-LaGrange University, Hannibal
Allen, Jason — President, Midwestern Baptist Theological Seminary, Kansas City
Arriola, Julio — Global Worship Pastor, Cross Church, Springdale, Arkansas (see complete biographical information on page 16)
Barnhart, Jim — Chairman, MBC Nominating Committee; Associate Pastor, Miner Baptist, Sikeston
Austin, Doug — Chairman, MBC Christian Life Commission; Bethany Baptist, Jackson
Boto, Augie — Executive Vice President and General Counsel, SBC Executive Committee
Barnes, E. J. — Chairman, MBC Committee on Convention Preacher; Director of Missions, North Grand River Association
Comer, Randy — Chairman, Agency Restoration Group; Director of Missions, Barry Baptist Association
Crump, Cherri — President, Missouri Woman’s Missionary Union
Floyd, Ronnie — President, Southern Baptist Convention; Pastor, Cross Church, Springdale, Arkansas (see complete biographical information on page 16)
Franks, Neil — President, Missouri Baptist Convention; Pastor, First Baptist, Branson (see complete biographical information on page 18)
Grayson, Chad — Pastor, Ridgecrest Baptist, Springfield
Hedger, Rick — Team Leader, Missional Evangelism/Discipleship, Missouri Baptist Convention
Hess, Ben — Team Leader, Church Planting, Missouri Baptist Convention
Hinkle, Don — Team Leader, Pathway/Public Policy, Missouri Baptist Convention
Hutson, Spencer — Team Leader, Church Strengthening, Missouri Baptist Convention
Kearns, Matt — Team Leader, Leadership Development, Missouri Baptist Convention
King, John — Chairman, MBC Committee on Convention Committees; Pastor, Ozark Mountain Community Church, Blue Eye
Marshall, John — Pastor, Second Baptist, Springfield
McCaughan, Jim — Chairman, MBC Historical Commission, St. Charles
Marrs, Matt — Send City Coordinator, North American Mission Board
Martin, Russell — President, Missouri Baptist Children’s Home, Bridgeton
Muniz, Jeremy — Recording Secretary, Missouri Baptist Convention; Pastor, First Baptist, DeSoto (see complete biographical information on page 18)
Owens, Sam — Chairman, MBC Credentials Committee, First Baptist, Macon
Parker, Ken — First Vice President, Missouri Baptist Convention; Pastor, First Baptist, Kearney (see complete biographical information on page 18)
Phillips, Rob — Team Leader, Communications, Missouri Baptist Convention
Rhodes, Kevin — Chairman, MBC Committee on Order of Business; Pastor, First Baptist, Delta
Richey, Doug — Second Vice President, Missouri Baptist Convention; Pastor, Pisgah Baptist, Excelsior Springs (see complete biographical information on page 18)
Ripken, Nik — (see complete biographical information on page 16)
Russell, Billy — Pastor, First Baptist, Bolivar
Shelton, Robert — Pastor, First Baptist, Plattsburg (see complete biographical information on page 10)
Taylor, Pat — President, Southwest Baptist University, Bolivar
Thomas, Larry — Chairman, Administrative Committee of the MBC Executive Board, First Baptist, Raytown
Wasson, Shawn — Chairman, MBC Committee on Continuing Review; Bethany Baptist, Jackson
Wells, Jim — Team Leader, Strategic Partners, Missouri Baptist Convention
Yeats, John — Executive Director, Missouri Baptist Convention
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Committee on Convention Committees named

Ministers and lay people have been appointed to serve on the 2015 Missouri Baptist Convention Committee on Convention Committees by MBC President Neil Franks. One member is from each of Missouri’s eight regions.

John King (Southwest Region) was named chairman of the committee. Other ministers serving on the committee are: Andy Braams (Northwest Region); Nathan Rose (West Central Region); Jake Adams (East Central Region); Mike Parry (Southeast Region).

Lay people serving on the committee are Rita Fera (Central Region); Don Colborn (Northeast Region); Larry Fackler (South Central Region).

The Committee on Convention Committees is responsible for nominating members to the following MBC standing committees: Committee on Convention Preacher — to serve and report in 2016; two members each for the Committee on Order of Business, Credentials Committee, and the Committee on Continuing Review, terms expiring 2018 — to begin serving following the 2015 convention; Committee on Resolutions and Committee on Enrollment — to serve in 2016; and Committee on Local Arrangements — to serve in 2017.

Benton and Ingold named Parliamentarians

Convention President Neil Franks has appointed Judge Duane Benton, U.S. Court of Appeals, Eighth Circuit, Kansas City, and attorney Robert Ingold of Springfield to assist him with parliamentary procedures.

As parliamentarians, they will advise and give parliamentary guidelines, but the chair rules during all sessions. The position of parliamentarian is not an elected position. The parliamentarian is appointed by the president of the convention.

Contact Rick Hedger at rhedger@mobaptist.org
“They will glorify God because of your submission that comes from your confession of the gospel of Christ, and the generosity of your contribution for them and for all others.”

2 Corinthians 9:13

2015 MISSOURI MISSIONS OFFERING

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You can give through your local MBC church, or donate as an individual at:

MOBAPTIST.ORG/ MMO
## Missouri Baptist deceased ministers 2014-2015

Ken Parker, first vice president, will lead the memorial prayer service honoring deceased Missouri Baptist ministers at 2:15 p.m. Tuesday.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Church</th>
<th>City</th>
<th>Association</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Delbert Bishop</td>
<td>Bement Baptist Church</td>
<td>Sikeston</td>
<td>Charleston</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ed Broyles</td>
<td>Hopewell Baptist Church</td>
<td>Sedalia</td>
<td>Harmony</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Randy Carter</td>
<td>Immanuel Baptist Church</td>
<td>Hannibal</td>
<td>Bethel</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>John Cook</td>
<td>First Baptist Church</td>
<td>Wheeling</td>
<td>Linn-Livingston</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>James Grubbs</td>
<td>First Baptist Church</td>
<td>Savannah</td>
<td>St. Joseph</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>John Duncan</td>
<td>First Baptist Church</td>
<td>Meadville</td>
<td>Linn-Livingston</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lawrence Hammond</td>
<td>First Baptist Church</td>
<td>Millersville</td>
<td>Cape Girardeau</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Daniel Hale</td>
<td>First Baptist Church</td>
<td>Dexter</td>
<td>Cape Girardeau</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lex Horner</td>
<td>Westside Baptist Church</td>
<td>Republic</td>
<td>Greene County</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kenneth Hull</td>
<td>First Baptist Church</td>
<td>Republic</td>
<td>Greene County</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cecil King</td>
<td>Fort Wyman Baptist Church</td>
<td>Rolla</td>
<td>Phelps County</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Harry Mathis</td>
<td>Fellowship Baptist Church</td>
<td>Warrenton</td>
<td>Twin Rivers</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Doug McGlaughlin</td>
<td>First Baptist Church</td>
<td>Troy</td>
<td>Twin Rivers</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Norman Noble</td>
<td>Crossway Baptist Church</td>
<td>Springfield</td>
<td>Greene County</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Stan Pruitt</td>
<td>Elm Grove Baptist Church</td>
<td>Richland</td>
<td>Laclede</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Glenn Rogers</td>
<td>Canalou Baptist Church</td>
<td>Canalou</td>
<td>Charleston</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Leonard Sanger</td>
<td>Bethany Baptist Church</td>
<td>Sedalia</td>
<td>Harmony</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>James Shope</td>
<td>Swars Prairie Baptist Church</td>
<td>Seneca</td>
<td>Shoal Creek</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Harold Smith</td>
<td>Little Zion Baptist Church</td>
<td>Mountain View</td>
<td>South Central</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Joe Smith</td>
<td>Braggadocio Baptist Church</td>
<td>Braggadocio</td>
<td>Southeast Missouri</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Darron Washington</td>
<td>St Louis Park Baptist Church</td>
<td>Saint Louis</td>
<td>St Louis Metro</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

This list was provided by information collected from the annual church profiles. It is current as of September 7, 2015. Please notify the MBC administrative office if names have been omitted or entries are incorrect.

### Thanks for Services

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

- **Wendy Wright**, sales manager, and **Sue Martin**, director of events, University Plaza Hotel & Convention Center, for coordination and provision of our annual meeting space, furnishings, and services.

---

**Missouri WMU**

wants to help grow missions education in your church! Visit our website at mobaptist.org/wmu for information on upcoming events and how to get help with your groups.
Meetings

Related Meetings

**Monday**
9:00 p.m. **One21 Late Night:** Illinois and Oklahoma Ballrooms, Hosted by Leadership Development Team. Everyone Welcome!

**Tuesday**
12:15 p.m. **Ministry Wives/Ladies Luncheon:** Colorado and Illinois Ballrooms. Reservations required.
12:15 p.m. **New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary Missouri Alumni Luncheon:** Bull Shoals Room.
12:15 p.m. **Partnership Missions Luncheon:** Oklahoma and Kansas Ballrooms. Reservations required.
9:00 p.m. **Hannibal-LaGrange University Alumni & Friends Meet and Greet Dessert Reception:** University Plaza, Kansas and Oklahoma Ballrooms. Everyone Welcome!
9:00 p.m. **Multiply — A Gathering of Pastors, Planters, and Leaders:** University Plaza, John Q Room. Join Joshua Hedger, Noah Oldham, Matt Marrs, and Rick Hedger of the Missouri Baptist Convention as they discuss strategy, opportunities, and dreams of church multiplication in Missouri. Seating limited to first 150.
9:00 p.m. **Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary Alumni Reception,** University Plaza, Texas Room.
9:00 p.m. **Southwest Baptist University Alumni & Friends Meet and Greet Dessert Reception,** University Plaza, Illinois and Colorado Ballrooms. Everyone Welcome!

**Wednesday**
No related meetings scheduled.

Make our website your main source

Did you know that MBC has been online since 1996? In fact, Missouri was the first Southern Baptist state convention to establish a website! The MBC communications team has redesigned the website to make it even better.

The website has a church finder, a real time calendar of events happening across the state, and many more resources you can use to get trained to help your church reach your local community.

It also has links to other Missouri and Southern Baptist Convention related partners and institutions.

Looking for a GREAT Women’s and Girls’ Outreach Event for the women in your church and community?

We’ll bring one to your church!

Contact: Wanda Shellenbarger, MBC’s Women’s Ministry Consultant, 417-529-0724
Email: Wanda4WomensMinistry@gmail.com
### Oldest Missouri churches listed

The following list is compiled from information received from Missouri Baptist churches on the Annual Church Profile.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Church</th>
<th>Year Organized</th>
<th>Association</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Fee Fee Baptist Church, Bridgeton.</td>
<td>1807</td>
<td>St. Louis Metro</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Salem Baptist Church, Florissant</td>
<td>1809</td>
<td>St. Louis Metro</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>First Baptist Church, New Franklin</td>
<td>1812</td>
<td>Mt. Zion</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>First Baptist Church, Troy</td>
<td>1815</td>
<td>Twin Rivers</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Liberty Baptist Church, Belgrade</td>
<td>1816</td>
<td>Mineral Area</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ramsey Creek Baptist Church, Clarksville</td>
<td>1816</td>
<td>Salt River</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Black River Baptist Church, Williamsville</td>
<td>1818</td>
<td>Cane Creek Stoddard</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Peno Baptist Church, Bowling Green</td>
<td>1819</td>
<td>Salt River</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pisgah Baptist Church, Prairie Home</td>
<td>1819</td>
<td>Concord</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>High Point Baptist Church, California</td>
<td>1820</td>
<td>Concord</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mt. Nebo Baptist Church, Pilot Grove</td>
<td>1820</td>
<td>Lamine</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mt. Pleasant Baptist Church, Piedmont</td>
<td>1820</td>
<td>Wayne</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>New Hope Baptist Church, Elsberry</td>
<td>1821</td>
<td>Twin Rivers</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bethel Baptist Church, Palmyra</td>
<td>1823</td>
<td>Bethel</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mt. Pleasant Baptist Church, Clarksburg</td>
<td>1823</td>
<td>Concord</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sulphur Lick Baptist Church, Troy</td>
<td>1823</td>
<td>Twin Rivers</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>First Baptist Church, Jackson</td>
<td>1824</td>
<td>Cape Girardeau</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sandy Baptist Church, Hillsboro</td>
<td>1824</td>
<td>Jefferson</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>First Baptist Church, Lexington</td>
<td>1825</td>
<td>West Central</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Six Mile Baptist Church, Sibley</td>
<td>1825</td>
<td>Blue River-Kansas City</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mt. Olive Missionary Baptist Church, Piedmont</td>
<td>1826</td>
<td>Wayne</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>New Salem Baptist Church, Independence</td>
<td>1826</td>
<td>Blue River-Kansas City</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Providence Baptist Church, New Bloomfield</td>
<td>1826</td>
<td>Grand Crossings</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>First Baptist Church, Clarence</td>
<td>1827</td>
<td>Thousand Hills</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>First Baptist Church, Elston</td>
<td>1827</td>
<td>Concord</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Zoar Baptist Church, Marshall</td>
<td>1827</td>
<td>Missouri Valley</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

This list is printed at the request of the Committee on Order of Business in response to a motion made at the 2002 Annual Meeting of the Missouri Baptist Convention.

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2015 Missouri Missions Offering

You can give through your local MBC church, or donate as an individual at MOBAPTIST.ORG/MMO
"For my determined purpose is that I may know Him, that I may progressively become more deeply and intimately acquainted with Him..."

PHILIPPIANS 3:10

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TGE 2016
Trust God in Everything
Constitution of the Missouri Baptist Convention

Article I—Name
This body shall be called the “Missouri Baptist Convention” (hereafter Convention).

Article II—Statement of Purpose
Missouri Baptists—serving together to grow Great Commission churches for the glory of God.

Article III—Time and Place of Meeting
The Convention shall meet annually during October or November at such time and place as the Convention or, in case of emergency, the Executive Board may decide.

Article IV—Membership
This Convention shall consist of messengers named by affiliated churches under the following conditions:

Section 1. Any Southern Baptist church singly aligned with the Convention and desiring to cooperate with the Convention in her program of single alignment with the Southern Baptist Convention and any Baptist church meeting the qualifications stated in Section 2 shall be entitled to one messenger for every one hundred members or fraction thereof, or for every $2,500.00 given to the Convention through the Cooperative Program in the previous reporting year, provided that no church shall be entitled to have more than fifteen messengers. Messengers shall be members of the Missouri Baptist Convention churches that elect them.

Section 2. In accordance with the agreement in the year 1919, Missouri Baptists shall continue in fellowship with the multiple aligned churches who were affiliated with the Missouri Baptist Convention as of 1961.

Section 3. Should the seating of any messenger or messengers from any church applying for membership in the Convention be challenged, the matter shall be referred to the credentials committee. The committee shall report to the Convention at the next session after the challenge and, if the committee’s ruling is appealed, the Convention shall make the final decision about the challenged messenger or messengers.

Section 4. Nothing in this article shall be construed to prohibit cooperation with the Convention by those Baptist churches with racial, ethnic, or cultural relations or other organizations, conventions, associations and affiliations so long as no part of those relations is contrary to this Convention’s Constitution, Bylaws and Business and Financial Plan and do not violate accepted Southern Baptist faith, polity and practice.

Article V—Relationship Between the Convention and Churches and Associations

Section 1. The doctrinal guidelines for this Convention and its work shall be the Baptist Faith and Message as adopted by the Southern Baptist Convention on June 14, 2000, understanding that any Southern Baptist church affiliated with the Convention has the right to affirm any historic Baptist confession of faith.

Section 2. The relation between the Convention and the churches and associations shall be fraternal and cooperative. The Convention shall never exercise any authority over the churches or do anything that would in any way interfere with their complete autonomy and independence as New Testament churches to limit the exercise of their freedom.

Section 3. The Convention shall always have the right to sit in judgment upon the qualification of its own members and may at any time decline to accept or continue cooperation with a church or to seat as a messenger any person who may be considered by the Convention disqualified on personal grounds or by reason of the character or attitude of the church from which such messenger or messengers shall come.

Article VI—Officers

Section 1. The officers of the Convention shall be president, first vice-president, second vice-president and recording secretary. These officers shall be chosen at each annual meeting. Officers shall serve from the close of the annual meeting of the Convention at which they were elected until the close of the next annual meeting of the Convention except, however, that the recording secretary shall be responsible for the preparation of minutes of the annual meeting at which he functioned.

Section 2. The president of the Convention may be elected for only two consecutive terms of office and shall not be eligible for reelection until one year has elapsed from the time a successor assumes the office.

Section 3. Each officer shall be a member of a church affiliated with this Convention. No salaried employee (nor a spouse of such salaried employee) of the Executive Board or of an agency owned or controlled by this Convention or to which the Convention makes direct appropriations and no person receiving supplemental aid from the Convention (nor a spouse of such person) shall be eligible to be an officer.

Section 4. Candidates for offices of this Convention shall be nominated from the floor, and officers shall be elected by ballots, cast by registered messengers at the annual meeting, provided, however, that a majority of votes cast is required for election to any office and provided further, that the vote may be taken via voice if there is only one nominee for any office. If a runoff election is necessary, only the names of the two persons receiving the most votes on the first ballot shall appear on the second ballot.

(Continued on page 29)
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Missouri Baptist Disaster Relief

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Missouri Baptist Disaster Relief
Missouri Baptist Collegiate Disaster Relief Team

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Email: disasterrelief@mobaptist.org
Website: mobaptist.org/dr
Article VII—Duties of Officers

Section 1. Duties of the president shall include presiding over the meetings of the Convention, keeping order, taking the vote on all questions properly brought up, and performing all other duties usually performed by a presiding officer.

Section 2. In case of the inability of the president to serve, the order of succession shall be first vice-president, second vice-president, and recording secretary. The president may request the first or the second vice-president to preside at any session or part thereof of the annual meeting.

Section 3. In case of death, resignation, disability or ineligibility of the secretary, first vice president and/or the second vice president, or of the succession of either to the office of president, the resulting vacancy or vacancies shall be filled by the Executive Board for the unexpired term. At the first Executive Board meeting after death, resignation, disability or ineligibility of the first vice president, the second vice president, and/or secretary, the Executive Board shall receive nominations from the floor with a simple majority being required for election.

Section 4. Duties of the recording secretary shall include keeping correct minutes of all the proceedings of Convention meetings and preparing minutes for publication. Assisted by the Executive Board’s administrative staff, the recording secretary shall arrange for such statistics and data necessary for faithfully and accurately reporting the Convention’s work to be collected, digested, tabulated and printed in the Convention’s Annual as supplements to the Convention’s minutes or printed in the Book of Reports available to messengers at each annual meeting. The recording secretary may appoint such assistants necessary to perform duties of the office at Convention meetings.

Section 5. Convention officers shall serve as ex officio members of the Executive Board with all rights of members. The president shall serve as an ex officio member without vote of all Convention committees, provided however, that the president shall not serve on the Convention Nominating Committee.

Article VIII—Executive Board

Section 1. The corporate powers of the Convention shall be reposed in the Executive Board of the Convention. The Board shall be incorporated under the laws of the State of Missouri and shall be responsible for the faithful observance of all legal requirements. This Board shall have charge of the missionary, educational, and benevolent work of the Convention.

Section 2.

a. The Executive Board shall be composed of Convention officers as at large members and three members from each of eight areas of the state, as defined in the Bylaws, which has a resident membership of affiliated churches of at least 16,000. For each additional 10,000 resident members or major fraction thereof above the basic 16,000, one additional board member are chosen, up to, but not to exceed, a total of nine Board members from each area. Each church in the area shall be invited to present names of prospective Board members to the area representatives of the Convention Nominating Committee no later than July 10, in the manner specified in the Bylaws.

b. Board members shall be elected to three-year terms, approximately one third of the members from each area being elected each year. Terms shall begin at the close of the annual meeting at which elected, or as provided in Article VIII, Section 2, d. All terms shall expire as scheduled. An area member may serve two successive three-year terms, but may be eligible for re-election after two years have transpired, provided, however, that one elected to a term expiring within one year may be eligible for two successive three-year terms. An area member who has not served two successive three-year terms may be eligible for re-election after one year has transpired. Only one person from an affiliated church may serve as an area member at a given time on the Board. An area member who moves out of the area, but within the State, may remain on the Board for the remainder of the current Convention year.

c. The Board shall declare vacant any position from which a member has been absent for two consecutive regular meetings of the full Board without an acceptable reason formally submitted to the Board chairman.

d. If a vacancy on the Board occurs between annual meetings of the Convention, the chairman of the Board shall promptly notify the chairperson of the Convention Nominating Committee, and the Nominating Committee shall, within sixty days, fill the position until the next annual meeting of the Convention.

e. No salaried employee (nor a spouse of such salaried employee) of the Executive Board or of any agency owned or controlled by this Convention or to which the Convention makes direct appropriations shall be eligible for membership on the Board during the period of employment.

Section 3.

a. The Convention officers shall serve as officers of the Board without pay as follows: the president as chairman, the first vice president as first vice chairman, the second vice president as second vice chairman and the recording secretary as secretary. The Board shall adopt all regulations necessary for the conduct of its business; appoint such committees as it or the Convention may deem wise; and report annually to the Convention. The Board may from time to time report its work to Convention constituents in ways calculated to inform them.

b. The Board shall have full power and authority to act for the Convention between annual meetings of the Convention in any and all matters pertaining to the Conventions business; but the Board shall not have power to reverse any action of the Convention,

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(Continued from page 29)

to do anything contrary to this Convention's Constitution, Bylaws, and Business and Financial Plan, or to violate accepted Baptist faith, polity, and practice.

c. The Board shall present to the Convention in its annual meeting a Cooperative Program allocations budget for the succeeding calendar year, including both Convention and Southern Baptist Convention objects, for the Convention’s consideration and adoption. All undesignated contributions to this Convention shall be faithfully distributed among the objects included in the budget upon the basis of the percentage or amount fixed for each object, and distribution shall be made in accordance with the Convention’s Business and Financial Plan.

d. The Board shall elect and determine the compensation of an executive director, who shall have general supervision of all work directed by the Board. The Board shall employ and determine the compensation of other persons necessary for directing the Board’s work.

e. The Board shall, consistent with Article IX, have general oversight over all educational and benevolent agencies owned, operated, or maintained in whole or in part by the Convention. It shall keep itself fully informed as to the conditions and the needs of all agencies, approve arrangements for all campaigns for funds, and conduct a continual campaign for enlightenment as to the claims and the needs of these agencies.

f. The treasurer of the Board shall be the executive director, who shall receive, maintain custody over, and disburse all funds as directed by the Convention or the Board. The treasurer shall maintain proper financial records, which shall be properly audited. The Board shall provide for bonding the treasurer adequately to protect the Convention’s and the Board’s interests.

Article IX — Agencies

Section 1. This Convention shall own, operate, or in covenant relationship contribute to such educational, benevolent, or other agencies approved by the Convention.

Section 2. All charters and charter changes shall be approved by the Convention upon recommendation by the Executive Board.

Section 3. The Convention shall elect or approve members of the governing board of each agency. Each board shall have full authority over the internal operation of the agency but shall be required to make a report of its operation and financial condition to the annual meeting of the Convention in accordance with the Business and Financial Plan.

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Section 4. Before an agency can borrow money for which the Convention is responsible, it shall secure formal approval in writing of the Executive Board.

Article X — Committees

Section 1. The Committee on Convention Committees consisting of eight persons — one from each area — shall be appointed by the president not fewer than ninety days prior to the annual meeting of the Convention. The names of committee members shall be published in the official news journal of the Missouri Baptist Convention. This committee shall nominate all standing committees of the Convention, except the Nominating Committee, according to provisions of Convention Bylaws.

Section 2. The Nominating Committee shall consist of twenty-four members, serving terms of three years each, eight of whom shall be nominated by the president in consultation with other Convention officers and elected by the Convention at each annual meeting. Terms shall begin at the close of the annual meeting at which elected, or as otherwise provided in this Section. Three members from each of the eight geographical areas shall make up the committee. One half of the committee shall be lay persons and one half ministers. This committee shall nominate persons to serve on the Executive Board, on the governing board of each agency, and on each commission. The area representatives on the Nominating Committee shall be responsible for inviting nominations from the churches for the Executive Board. The committee shall be guided by such rules and procedures as the Convention may adopt from time to time. The Nominating Committee shall declare vacant any position from which a member has been absent for two consecutive meetings without an acceptable reason or any position occupied by a member who moves out of the geographical area from which elected. The Convention president shall appoint a person to fill such vacancies until the next annual meeting of the Convention, at which time the position shall be filled for the remainder of the term.

Section 3. The Tellers Committee, consisting of an adequate number of members to carry out the tasks, shall be appointed by the president not fewer than thirty (30) days prior to the annual meeting of the Convention. This committee shall assist the presiding officer, as needed, with the taking of all votes by voice, hand and standing or ballot, collecting the ballots, tabulating the results, and announcing results to the presiding officer.

Section 4. The Convention shall have such other committees as authorized by the Bylaws.

Article XI — Amendments

This Constitution may be amended at any regular meeting by two-thirds of the messengers voting, provided that the text of the proposed amendment shall have been presented to the previous annual meeting, and provided further, that Article V shall not be subject to any amendment that would violate the principle that it embodies. Any proposed amendment to this Constitution shall, upon introduction and being seconded, stand referred to the Committee on Continuing Review, as established in the Bylaws of the Convention, for examination and hearing on such amendment and a report and recommendation to the Convention at its next annual meeting.

(End of Constitution)
SMITH & SPECK
IN
THE COOPERATIVE PROGRAM BIG DollarRide!

AND OF THE DOLLAR HE’LL PUT IN THE OFFERING PLATE THINK FOR THE COOPERATIVE PROGRAM.

...WHEN SUDDENLY...

DELIVERING PAPERS, SMITH THINKS OF THE CASH HE’LL EARN BY WEEK’S END...

KA-BOOM

HANG ON SPECK! THIS DOLLAR IS GOING AROUND THE WHOLE WORLD!

COMBINED WITH OTHER DOLLARS, THE CP DOLLAR GROWS BIGGER AND STARTS FLYING!

...TRAINING PASTORS IN PUEBLA, MEXICO, PROVIDING DISASTER RELIEF FOR VICTIMS OF EARTHQUAKES IN NEPAL...

...NOW THEY’RE OVER AMERICA, STARTING CHURCHES IN IOWA AND UPSTATE NEW YORK, AND FLOOD RELIEF IN TEXAS & NEBRASKA.

WOW! THAT’S HOW MR. JONES TEACHES SO GOOD. AND ALL BECAUSE OF MY DOLLAR! NEXT WEEK, I’M GIVING TWO DOLLARS THRU THE COOPERATIVE PROGRAM.

UNTIL...

HE LANDS BACK IN HIS CHURCH, DURING HIS TEACHER’S SUNDAY SCHOOL TRAINING BY MBC.

mobaptist.org/cp
I. Preparation for Annual Meeting

1. The time, the place (city), and the site of a particular annual meeting shall be set by the Convention in advance, on recommendation of the Executive Board after due consideration of available facilities and other factors.

2. In the event that unforeseen circumstances make it impossible or impractical to hold an annual meeting as scheduled, the Executive Board and the Convention officers, after consultation with the Committee on Local Arrangements, shall have power to determine its time and place, provided that an official notice of any change, signed by the Convention president, shall be mailed to each cooperating church at least thirty days prior to the first day of the rescheduled annual meeting. The notice shall be promptly and prominently carried in the Convention’s paper.

3. The Committee on Order of Business and officers of the Convention, assisted by the Executive Board staff, shall be responsible for the program of the Convention’s annual meeting.

4. The Convention staff, assisted by the Committee on Local Arrangements, shall be responsible for the physical arrangements for the Convention’s annual meeting.

5. The Executive Board shall cause to be published in the official news journal of the Missouri Baptist Convention at least thirty days prior to a regularly scheduled annual meeting the text of each of its recommendations, provided, however, that it may cause to be published in a Convention bulletin, not later than the day of the Executive Board’s report, any recommendation necessitated by any emergency.

6. The Executive Board, assisted by its administrative personnel, shall make available to messengers at the time they register, at nominal cost, a copy of Book of Reports containing the annual report of each Convention board, commission, agency, standing or special committee, or area of responsibility required to have its report in printed form prior to the Convention’s opening session.

7. Supervision of exhibits and displays incident to the annual meeting shall be the responsibility of the Executive Board, assisted by the executive director and staff.

II. Enrollment of Messengers

1. The Committee on Enrollment, assisted by the Executive Board staff, shall arrange for enrolling messengers before and during the annual meeting. Each messenger shall present approved credentials before being enrolled as a messenger. If a question about a messenger’s credentials arises, it shall be referred to the Credentials Committee for study and report or recommendation to the Convention for action. All duly enrolled messengers shall constitute the Convention. Each messenger shall have all rights and privileges granted by the Convention Constitution, Bylaws, and parliamentary authority.

III. Conduct of Annual Meeting

1. Each session shall be opened with a devotional exercise and a prayer.

2. The Committee on Order of Business shall present at the first session an agenda for the annual meeting. The agenda shall provide ample time for the promotion of the Convention’s objects. The agenda shall also provide time for miscellaneous business introduced by messengers. The Committee on Order of Business shall set the time for special orders. A list of ministers deceased since the last annual meeting shall be prepared from the Annual Church Profile and printed in the Convention’s Daily Bulletin, and a memorial prayer shall be scheduled during a convention session. The Committee on Order of Business shall also set aside a time for a memorial service to respectfully honor deceased Missouri Baptist ministers who have passed away the previous associational/church year as compiled from the Annual Church Profile. This service shall include reading the list of compiled names of such ministers.

3. The presidential address shall be scheduled for the first session and the annual sermon for the second session.

4. The names of persons appointed to the Committee on Convention Committees and the Tellers Committee shall be announced at the first session. On the final day the Committee on Convention Committees shall nominate persons to serve on committees that report at the next annual meeting: Committee on Continuing Review, Committee on Enrollment, Committee on Order of Business, Committee on Convention Preacher, and Committee on Resolutions. Messengers shall have liberty to nominate persons after the Committee on Convention Committees nominations. The Committee on Convention Committees also nominates the Committee on Local Arrangements to serve for two years to prepare for the annual meeting two years hence. If there are no nominations from the floor, the Convention shall act on

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Missions Celebration
2016 MWMU Annual Meeting
April 8-9, 2016
Midwestern Baptist Theological Seminary, Kansas City

MISSIONARIES, BREAKOUT SESSIONS
WMU AGE LEVEL TRAINING, SILENT AUCTION, BOOK STORE

EARLY BIRD Registration Fee until March 23, 2016 $30/person
Registration Fee AFTER MARCH 23 $40/person

SPEAKERS:
Rosalie Hunt, WMU
Jared & Michelle, IMB
Darrell & Kimberly Hathcock, IMB
Matt Marrs, NAMB
Dwain Carter, MBC

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Event sponsored by Missouri Woman’s Missionary Union and Missouri Baptist Convention
the Committee’s nominees by motion; there shall be a ballot on any contested position.

5. a. Any motion introduced as miscellaneous business shall be presented to the Convention in writing not later than the day before the final session. Each original motion presented as miscellaneous business shall be duplicated or visually projected as information to messengers before it can be debated.

b. Proposed resolutions should be sent to the Committee on Resolutions thirty (30) days before the annual meeting of the Convention in order to make possible more thorough consideration and to expedite the Committee’s work. All proposed resolutions including those previously sent to the Committee on Resolutions, shall be submitted to the Convention Secretary by registered messengers not later than the adjourning of the evening session on the first day of the Convention. Titles of proposed resolutions shall be read into the Convention record during the first time for introduction of miscellaneous business on the second day of the Convention by an individual appointed by the President. Only registered messengers are eligible to submit resolutions. Resolutions should be typewritten, if practicable; titled; dated; containing the names and addresses of the messengers submitting the resolution; and the church from which persons are messengers. Each resolution shall be referred to the Committee on Resolutions for review and revision, and this committee shall make a report on each properly introduced resolution not later than the last day of the annual meeting.

c. The text of a constitutional amendment proposed for action at the following annual meeting may be presented at any miscellaneous business session.

d. The Committee on Continuing Review may publicize a proposed amendment to Convention Bylaws or the Business and Financial Plan at least thirty days prior to the annual meeting and such amendment shall be printed in the Book of Reports or in the first day bulletin of the Convention, but any amendment to these Bylaws or the Business and Financial Plan proposed by a messenger shall be introduced as miscellaneous business not later than the day preceding the final day of the annual meeting.

6. The Convention shall elect Executive Board members not later than the day preceding the final day of the annual meeting in order to facilitate the organization of the new Board.

7. Election of officers shall be by ballot; provided, however, that, if there is only one nomination to a particular office, the Convention may designate the recording secretary or someone else to cast the Convention’s unanimous ballot. There may be only one nominating speech, not to exceed three minutes, for each nominee. The president shall be elected not later than the first full day of the annual meeting, provided, however, that a runoff may be held the following day. The first vice-president, the second vice-president, and the recording secretary, shall be elected sometime after the election of the president. Officers shall serve from the end of one annual meeting through the next annual meeting.

8. No personal appeal for funds shall be made at any session. No collection shall be taken for any cause at any session except by a special order approved by an affirmative vote of two thirds of all messengers voting.

9. No material may be distributed on the floor of the Convention, except material that pertains to business to come before the Convention, and that is identified by the name of the messenger, or agency or Executive Board program personnel distributing said material, or such materials that have been approved by the Executive Board.

10. The quorum for conducting business during the annual meeting of the Convention shall be a minimum of twenty percent (20%) of those duly registered and seated messengers.

IV. Parliamentary Authority


V. Follow-up of the Convention

1. Within thirty days following the annual meeting, the recording secretary responsible for recording the minutes of the meeting shall, by mail, notify each person whom the Convention elected to a board, a commission, or a committee; and he shall also mail to any board, agency, or commission a copy of any motion affecting it, adopted or referred by the Convention with or without instruction. The executive director shall provide such assistance as the recording secretary may request.
**VI. Standing and Special Committees**

1. The Convention shall elect standing committees as follows:
   
   **a. Reporting at the annual meeting following election with one-year terms for members.**
   
   (1) Committee on Enrollment, consisting of three members elected on the final day; it shall arrange for the enrolling of messengers before and during the annual meeting, assisted by the Executive Board staff.
   
   (2) Committee on Resolutions, consisting of five members elected on the final day; it shall draft and submit to the messengers such resolutions as it determines appropriate and shall also report, with or without recommendation, on all resolutions introduced by messengers and referred to it.
   
   (3) Committee on Convention Preacher, consisting of three members elected on the final day; it shall recommend the preacher of the annual sermon and an alternate at the next annual meeting.
   
   **b. Serving prior to and during the annual meeting two years following election:** Committee on Local Arrangements, consisting of eight members elected on the final day; it shall assist the staff in making all necessary local arrangements for conducting the annual meeting two years hence.
   
   **c. Reporting at the annual meeting following election with three-year terms for members:**
   
   (1) Committee on Continuing Review, consisting of six members, two of whom shall be elected each year on the final day; it shall review Convention operations and shall recommend for Convention action such revisions of the Constitution, Bylaws, or Business and Financial Plan as it determines necessary. Any amendment to the Missouri Baptist Convention Constitution proposed during the annual sessions shall upon introduction and being seconded, stand referred to this committee for examination and hearing on such amendment and a report and recommendation to the Convention at its next annual meeting.
Any proposed amendments to the Bylaws or Business and Financial Plan upon being seconded shall stand referred to this committee for report on the final day of the annual meeting.

(2) Committee on Order of Business, consisting of six members, two of whom are elected each year on the final day; and the officers of the Convention; it shall prepare the program for the annual meeting; present for adoption; at the first session an agenda for the annual meeting; and set time for special orders.

(3) Credentials Committee, consisting of six persons, at least two of whom shall be elected each year on the final day of the annual meeting.
   a. The Credentials Committee shall be a standing committee. Initially, two members shall serve a term of one year, two shall serve a term of two years and two members shall serve a term of three years. Thereafter, members shall serve three year terms.
   b. This committee shall review and make recommendation upon all questions which may arise regarding membership of churches or enrollment concerning the credentials of messengers.
   c. The committee shall be guided by such rules and procedures as the convention may adopt from time to time.
   d. Should the cooperation of any church in the convention be challenged or questioned the committee shall notify the church and seek the church’s reply. Upon completing such investigation as the committee deems appropriate the committee shall issue its recommendation and promptly notify the challenged or questioned messenger(s) and, if reasonable, their church. Such recommendation shall be presented to the messengers at the next business session of the annual meeting.

2. The Convention shall elect such standing and/or special committees using the following criteria:
   a. Give equal consideration to all recommendations made to MBC committees. Persons nominated to serve on all MBC committees, commissions or as trustees/directors of MBC agencies or as a member of the MBC Executive Board, be individuals who demonstrate high levels of honesty, sincerity, integrity, committed to the purposes of the MBC, and show other characteristics of Christian behavior and values. Persons nominated shall have special experience or expertise which he or she can bring to the board, committee or commission to which nominated.
   b. Each nominee shall: (1) give evidence of having received Jesus Christ as personal Lord & Savior; (2) be a member of an MBC church, which cooperates with the MBC by giving through the Cooperative Program (or Southern Baptist Convention in the case of out-of-the-state trustees); (3) be in good standing in their local congregation; (4) agree to abstain from drinking alcoholic beverages or advocating such use including sales or manufacturing, and using any other recreational drugs; and (5) support all the principles set forth in the 2000 Baptist Faith and Message or any other declaration of faith which parallels the doctrines of our historic Baptist faith.

3. The Convention may create such special committees as it considers necessary, fix the number of members and the duration of each special committee’s life, and define its assignments.

4. Should a vacancy occur between annual meetings, the president, in consultation with the other Convention officers, shall appoint a person to fill the vacancy. If the vacancy is for a term extending beyond the next annual meeting, the appointment shall be temporary and the Committee on Convention Committees shall nominate a person to complete the term.
VII. Boards and Agencies of the Convention

1. The Convention unit with ad interim powers between annual meetings is the Executive Board, consisting of persons as provided in the Constitution.

2. The agencies and the commissions of the Convention are:
   a. Education Agencies: Hannibal-LaGrange University, Hannibal; Missouri Baptist College, Creve Coeur in St. Louis County; and Southwest Baptist University, Bolivar.
   b. Benevolent Agencies: The Baptist Home, Ironton; and Missouri Baptist Children’s Home, Bridgeton in St. Louis County.
   d. Other: Missouri Baptist Foundation, Jefferson City; and Windermere Baptist Conference Center, Roach.

3. a. Anyone serving on any of the boards of agencies listed above shall be eligible for nomination to a second term. An unexpired term shall be considered a whole term unless otherwise defined by the Constitution or a board’s charter. After serving two consecutive terms on an agency’s board, one shall be ineligible for reelection to the same board for twelve months unless the agency’s charter permits more than two consecutive terms.

   b. If a vacancy occurs on any Convention board, the board chairman shall advise the chairman of the Convention Nominating Committee. This committee may fill the vacancy unless prevented by the board charter. If the board charter provides for election by the Executive Board, then the Nominating Committee shall nominate a person for election by the Executive Board. The Convention shall fill the position in accordance with the Constitution if any unexpired term extends beyond the next annual meeting.

4. No one may serve simultaneously on two or more of the boards of agencies listed in Article VII, subparagraph 2, under the same classification, and membership on no agency board listed above, except the Missouri Baptist Foundation shall cause a person to be ineligible for simultaneous service on the Convention Executive

(Continued on page 39)
Board. No person who serves on the board of an entity listed under Article VII, subparagraph 2 shall serve on the Inter-Agency Relations Committee of the Executive Board. Nothing contained herein shall prohibit the executive director or chairman of the Executive Board from serving on the Windermere Board of Trustees.

5. No person shall serve on the governing board of any Convention agency if he is an employee, full time or part time, of any agency listed in Article VII, subparagraph 2. When a member of any governing board becomes an employee, the member shall resign from the board and inform the chairman of the Convention Nominating Committee; and the vacancy shall be filled in accordance with established Convention procedure.

6. The Convention shall elect persons to such boards and commissions using the following criteria:

a. Give equal consideration to all recommendations made to MBC committees. Persons nominated to serve on all MBC committees, commissions or as trustees/directors of MBC agencies or as a member of the MBC Executive Board, be individuals who demonstrate high levels of honesty, sincerity, integrity, committed to the purposes of the MBC, and show other characteristics of Christian behavior and values. Persons nominated shall have special experience or expertise which he or she can bring to the board, committee or commission to which nominated.

b. Each nominee shall: (1) give evidence of having received Jesus Christ as personal Lord & Savior; (2) be a member of an MBC church, which cooperates with the MBC by giving through the Cooperative Program (or Southern Baptist Convention in the case of out-of-the-state trustees); (3) be in good standing in their local congregation; (4) agree to abstain from drinking alcoholic beverages or advocating such use including sales or manufacturing, and using any other recreational drugs; and (5) support all the principles set forth in the 2000 Baptist Faith and Message or any other declaration of faith which parallels the doctrines of our historic Baptist faith.

7. Each agency may adopt its own bylaws, provided that the bylaws are consistent with the Convention Constitution, Bylaws, and Business and Financial Plan and with all applicable federal and state laws. An agency shall deposit with the executive director of the Executive Board a copy of its bylaws or each amendment thereto, and all bylaws shall be open to any affiliated Missouri Baptist upon reasonable request.

VIII. Representation on Convention Committees, Boards, and Commissions

1. Each Convention committee, governing board of any agency, and commission shall include ministers and lay persons as members. Not more than two thirds of any group's members shall be from either category. The term minister is defined to mean ordained ministers or other church-related employees (pastors, directors of missions and ministerial staff members of churches and associations).

2. The Convention shall elect persons to such boards and commissions using the following criteria:

a. Give equal consideration to all recommendations made to MBC committees. Persons nominated to serve on all MBC committees, commissions or as trustees/directors of MBC agencies or as a member of the MBC Executive Board, be individuals who demonstrate high levels of honesty, sincerity, integrity, committed to the purposes of the MBC, and show other characteristics of Christian behavior and values. Persons nominated shall have special experience or expertise which he or she can bring to the board, committee or commission to which nominated.

b. Each nominee shall: (1) give evidence of having received Jesus Christ as personal Lord & Savior; (2) be a member of an MBC church, which cooperates with the MBC by giving through the Cooperative Program (or Southern Baptist Convention in the case of out-of-the-state trustees); (3) be in good standing in their local congregation; (4) agree to abstain from drinking alcoholic beverages or advocating such use including sales or manufacturing, and using any other recreational drugs; and (5) support all the principles set forth in the 2000 Baptist Faith and Message or any other declaration of faith which parallels the doctrines of our historic Baptist faith.

3. No person who has resigned from one agency's board before the expiration of the term to which elected shall be eligible for nomination or election to the same or any other board in the same classification until the term has expired.

4. For purposes of terms of service on Convention committees, boards, and commissions, a Convention year is defined as being from the close of one annual meeting to the close of the next annual meeting.

5. The rules concerning terms of service shall not apply to persons who have served on the boards of the following entities during the time when those agencies were
involved in litigation with the Convention: The Baptist Home; Missouri Baptist (College) University; Missouri Baptist Foundation; Windermere. Those trustees that have served the above-mentioned agencies during litigation are allowed to serve new terms following a verdict in favor of the Convention.

IX. Executive Board

In keeping with the Missouri Baptist Convention Constitution Article VIII on the Executive Board, the Board shall organize itself and conduct its work along the following lines.

1. Committee Structure
   a. The Executive Board shall organize itself into standing committees of approximately equal size including an Administrative Committee, Inter-Agency Relations Committee, and other committees deemed necessary by the executive board.
   b. The Administrative Committee shall have as full members the chairmen of the other standing committees.
   c. There shall be two special committees of the Executive Board: an Audit Committee composed of four members and a Committee on Executive Board Committees composed of six members. The Executive Board officers shall select and appoint the six members of the Committee on Executive Board Committees in the same proportion of laymen and ministers as constitute the Executive Board and designate its chairman. The members of this committee shall not be eligible to be elected as chairman of any standing Board committee or Audit committee while holding said office.
   d. The chairman of the Executive Board and the executive director shall be members without vote of all standing committees.

2. Committee Duties
   a. The Executive Board shall incorporate into its bylaws a description of all of its committees and their responsibilities.
   b. The duties of the Committee on Executive Board Committees shall be to nominate members of the standing committees, the Audit Committee and other committees and work groups as requested by the Board.
   c. The duties of the Audit Committee shall be as follows:
      (1) Recommend to the Board the employment of an auditor for the auditing of the books kept by the Board in keeping with the terms prescribed by the Business and Financial Plan.
      (2) Receive the audit from the auditor.
      (3) Report on the audit to the Administrative Committee and the Executive Board.

3. Staff Structure and Organization
   a. The Executive Board shall elect an executive director who shall also serve as treasurer for the Board. He shall be the chief executive officer of the Board and shall have the general oversight of all its staff and business activities. He shall be responsible and accountable at all times for carrying out the policies and the instructions of the Board.
   b. The Executive Board staff shall organize as specified in the Executive Board Bylaws.

4. Staff Administration
   a. Administration of Executive Board staff shall be specified in the Executive Board Bylaws.
   b. The Board shall provide job descriptions for all of its employees professional, clerical, and manual.
   c. The job description of the executive director shall be made part of the Executive Board Bylaws.

5. General Policies
   a. The Executive Board shall meet not fewer than four times each year, but as often as need requires.
   b. A majority shall constitute the quorum for the Executive Board and for each committee thereof.
   c. The Board president, the secretary and the administrative officer of each agency shall be provided with a copy of Executive Board minutes or minutes of any Board committee that may be informative to the particular agency.
   d. Except for executive sessions called by the chairman to handle sensitive matters, such as but not limited to purchase or sale of property or personnel matters, all meetings of the Board and its committees shall be open to all Missouri Baptists; and the editor or the reporter of the official news journal of the Missouri Baptist Convention shall be free to attend open meetings and to report on proceedings. The Board or a committee may submit a report to Missouri Baptists through the official news journal of the Missouri Baptist Convention, but such a report shall not prevent news reporting or editorial comment by personnel of the official news journal of the Missouri Baptist Convention.
regarded as an expression of the Convention’s will and therefore binding on any party or parties specified or implied therein until further action by the Convention. The adoption of any resolution shall be viewed as an expression of the Convention’s sentiment and may serve as guidance, but not instruction, to Convention agencies and as information to churches, associations, and individual Missouri Baptists until such time as the Convention, in a subsequent annual meeting, adopts another resolution on the subject.

XI. Areas

1. The areas of the state mentioned in Articles VIII and X of the Constitution are as set forth on the map attached hereto and hereby constitute a part of these Bylaws. (See area map below.)

XII. Amending Bylaws

1. These bylaws may be amended by two thirds of the messengers voting at any annual meeting, provided that any amendment to these bylaws shall be made by motion no later than the end of the business session on the day preceding the final day of the annual meeting, and upon receiving a second shall stand referred to the Committee on Continuing Review for report on the final day of the annual meeting.

(End of Bylaws)
Here’s how your gifts to MMO impact lives in Missouri:

- Training church planters and mission volunteers
- Feeding the hungry
- Reaching immigrants with the gospel
- Helping victims of disasters
- Rescuing women from slave/sex trafficking

Thousands of people and hundreds of churches give 100% is used to support missions projects in Missouri

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1. Cooperative Program and Special Offerings

The Convention approves the Cooperative Program of Southern Baptists as its major plan of world mission work, and it urges the churches in the state to support it and to look to the Convention to divide the Cooperative Program receipts equitably among all its programs.

The Convention also approves three mission offering plans: (1) the Lottie Moon Christmas Offering for international missions, (2) The Annie Armstrong Offering for North American missions, and (3) the Rheubin L. South Missouri Mission Offering, and others as determined by the Executive Board.

The Convention also approves promotion of the Southern Baptist Convention sponsored World Hunger Offering by the Missouri Baptist Christian Life Commission.

2. Budgets

A. The Executive Board shall develop for Convention approval the goal and the budgets as follows:
   a. A Cooperative Program Budget Goal showing the total amount of funds expected to be received for the Cooperative Program in the calendar year.
   b. A State Convention Cooperative Program Allocations Budget showing:
      (1) Percent of available funds going to the Southern Baptist Convention causes
      (2) Percent of available funds going to Missouri Baptist Institutions and Agencies of the Convention
      (3) Percent of available funds going to the Executive Board programs and the Missouri Baptist Convention
   c. An Executive Board Budget showing
      (1) Expected receipts from all sources for the Executive Board
      (2) Disbursements of all anticipated receipts for the Missouri Baptist Convention and Executive Board programs shown by category
      (3) Appropriation of any Executive Board money to causes not normally covered by any of its programs

B. The budget goal and the proposed budgets shall be printed and distributed to the messengers of the Convention.

C. At its annual meeting the Convention shall approve the Cooperative Program Budget Goal, the State Convention Cooperative Program Allocations Budget, and the Executive Board Budget allocated as to strategic initiatives.

D. Each agency of the Convention shall submit to the Executive Board a copy of its annual budget as adopted by its board.

3. Fiscal Years

The fiscal year of the Executive Board and the Convention shall be the calendar year. Each agency shall determine its own fiscal year, and any change shall be incorporated in this Plan. The fiscal years of the agencies of the Convention currently are as follows:

A. The Baptist Home: January 1-December 31
B. Missouri Baptist Children’s Home:
   January 1-December 31
C. Missouri Baptist Foundation: October 1-September 30
D. Hannibal-LaGrange University: August 1-July 31
E. Missouri Baptist College: July 1-June 30
F. Southwest Baptist University: July 1-June 30
G. Windermere Baptist Conference Center:
   January 1-December 31

4. Distribution of Funds

The Executive Board shall be the disbursing agency of the Convention.

The Southern Baptist Convention portion of the Cooperative Program Budget Goal received shall be remitted monthly within ten workdays after the end of the month.

The State Convention Cooperative Program Allocations Budget receipts — see 2.A.b. — shall be distributed according to the allocations voted by the Convention. Distribution shall be made monthly on a percentage basis proportionate to the amounts allocated until the approved budgets are met.

All designated funds received shall be distributed monthly within ten workdays after the end of the month.

5. Handling of Funds

The Convention and all agencies of the Convention shall be covered by a blanket bond, such bond to be determined by the amount of funds or securities involved and approved by the Convention or its Executive Board. Specific bond coverage shall be provided for those employees who handle funds or securities. The books of the Convention or any agency of the Convention shall be open for inspection by Convention officers, members of boards, and other cooperating Baptists upon reasonable written request.

The securities of the Convention or any agency of the Convention shall be placed in a safety deposit vault or in a commercial bank or trust company for safekeeping, such securities to be deposited and withdrawn by two bonded representatives of the Convention or the agency of the Convention in the manner prescribed by the commercial bank or the trust Company. In lieu of the blanket bond, the Executive Board may authorize individual bonds for those employees who handle funds or securities.
of this plan, the Convention or the agency of the Convention may deposit all securities with a commercial bank or a trust company, which will receipt for and handle them and be responsible for them.

6. Contracts

Construction contracts involving at least $25,000 shall only be negotiated with contractors that are adequately bonded.

7. Reporting

The Executive Board shall report quarterly to all of its members, to the Convention officers, and to the officers of the agencies of the Convention concerning the following: (1) receipts of all monies from all sources, including the Cooperative Program, and designated and other Executive Board and general Convention incomes and (2) disbursement of funds in accordance with the approved budgets.

The Executive Board shall report to the churches annually the receipts from the churches and the distribution of these funds in accordance with the budgets approved by the Convention.

Each agency of the Convention shall report quarterly to the Executive Board relative to its financial condition and operations.

8. Direct Solicitations

No appeals shall be made directly to churches by any agency of the Convention for financial needs without the approval of the Convention or the Executive Board.

9. Indebtedness

No Convention agency or any of its officers, committees, departments, or subsidiary corporations shall create any indebtedness except such as can be repaid out of anticipated receipts from the Convention (and other sources) within a period of three years without the formal approval in writing of the Executive Board. If the creation of indebtedness involves the erection of building or the purchase of real estate, the agency shall furnish the Executive Board, in writing, information relative to the source(s) of such receipts.

Neither the Executive Board nor any of its officers or subsidiary corporations shall create any indebtedness, either directly or indirectly, except such as can be repaid out of anticipated receipts from the Convention (and other sources) within a period of three years without the consent of the Convention.

10. Trust Funds

The Executive Board and each agency of the Convention must (Continued from page 43)
keep all trust funds separate and sacred to the trust or the cause for which they were received. Such funds are not to be used, even temporarily, except as specified by the Convention or the specific donor. There shall be no commingling of funds.

11. Investment of Funds
The Executive Board is encouraged, when appropriate, to use the Missouri Baptist Foundation for investment of funds, permanent or temporary, functioning as endowment or escrow. Each Convention agency is encouraged, when appropriate to use the services of the Missouri Baptist Foundation for similar investments. Neither the Convention nor the Foundation shall use its funds in any way to purchase securities issued by the Convention.

12. Cash Control
The Executive Board and the agencies of the Convention shall maintain appropriate internal control procedures in keeping with generally accepted accounting principles and sound fiscal accounting practices.

Prior written approval of the executive director/treasurer of the Missouri Baptist Convention Executive Board is required for the establishment or modification of any depository bank account for funds related to the operation of Missouri Baptist Convention Executive Board programs and/or activities. The purpose of the account should be included in the written request for approval.

The authorized signatures must include the executive director/treasurer. Two signatures must be required for withdrawal of funds from any account.

The bank must be instructed to send monthly statements to the office of Financial Services.

13. Board Designated Funds (Net Assets)
Board Designated Net Assets are in the form of cash or investments (liquid assets). In order to maintain control of these assets, all non-budgeted use of funds are evaluated as follows:

A. The initial request for non-budgeted use of funds are submitted to the Executive Director/Treasurer in the format specified by the Administrative Staff.
B. The Executive Director/Treasurer and the Financial Services staff will analyze possible sources of available funds and the impact on net assets.
C. Upon completion of this analysis, an interview are conducted with the Administrative Staff and the person/group making the initial request.
D. The Administrative Staff will present the recommendation to the Administrative Committee of the Executive Board for possible recommendation to the Executive Board for approval.
E. A permanent file are maintained in the Financial Services office of Board action approving non-budgeted use of funds.
F. Designated funds are maintained in separate accounts.

14. New Enterprises and Expansions
A. As used in this section, the following terms shall have the meanings set forth: “Contingent liability” or “contingently liable,” means any new debt of an agency for which the Executive Board of the Convention must sign as a debtor or guarantor; or any debt of an agency for a plan of expansion which will not be fully collateralized according to customary banking practices; or any plan of expansion which would impair the ability of the agency to pay its current or future debts. “Plan of expansion” shall include but not be limited to construction of new plant facilities, extensive remodeling of existing plant facilities, additional degree programs at educational agencies, or additional care facilities at benevolent agencies.
B. No new educational or benevolent agency involving the expenditure of funds of the Convention or the contingent liability of the Convention shall be authorized except upon favorable action by the Convention in two succeeding annual meetings.
C. Any plan for expansion by any educational or benevolent agency beyond any commitment previously approved by the Convention for which the Executive Board of the Convention are contingently liable must be submitted to Inter-Agency Relations Committee for review, report and recommendation as to approval or disapproval by the Executive Board. The Executive Board shall then act on the report and recommendation of the Inter-Agency Relations Committee. If the Executive Board approves the plan for expansion by a vote of three-fourths (3/4) of those members present and voting, the plan may then be implemented. No such plan may be implemented without the prior approval of the Executive Board as herein set forth; provided, however, that any plan of expansion disapproved by the Executive Board may be implemented upon the approval of the Convention at the next annual session following disapproval by the Executive Board.
D. Written notice of intention to submit a plan for expansion as provided for in paragraph (C) of this section shall be given to the chairman of the Inter-Agency Relations Committee, the President of the Convention and the Executive Director within seven (7) days after an agency has submitted such a plan for expansion to its board of trustees and received authorization to pro-
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- Be certain of your own “Macedonia” call.
- Lead your church with new zeal for making disciple-makers.
- Pre-conference with evangelists and dinner with Bill Elliff.
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Register online at mobaptist.org/desperate
ceed with work regarding research and preparation of a formal proposal. The notice of intention to submit a plan for expansion shall contain all information available at the time of submission as to the nature of the project, total approximate cost and extent of Convention liability or financial participation.

E. The Executive Board may from its own funds employ personnel to study and review proposed plans of expansion.

15. Purchasing

The Executive Board shall establish purchasing procedures for the Executive Board staff which should recognize appropriate internal control procedures.

16. Charters

All proposed charters or amendments to charters of the agencies of the Convention shall be submitted to the Convention, upon recommendation by the Executive Board for approval before they become effective. This provision shall also apply to subsidiary corporations of all agencies.

Copies of all charters and amendments to charters shall be filed with the executive director of the Executive Board.

17. Contingent Reserve Fund

It is desirable for the Executive Board to raise and maintain a Contingent Reserve Fund equal to at least three months of its operational budget. This fund should be maintained by applying any unused funds at the years end or by budgeting an annual amount. The Executive Board shall determine and provide for the adequacy of such fund.

Each agency of the Convention shall set up a reserve for contingencies.

18. Audits

The Executive Board of the Convention shall upon recommendation from the Audit Committee of such Board employ an independent certified public accounting firm to conduct an annual audit of the financial condition and operations. The accounting firm shall submit a report of the audit to the board of the agency.

Copies of all audit reports of the financial condition and operations of the Convention and of its agencies shall be filed in the office of the Executive director of the Executive Board.

A copy of all audit reports shall be made available by the Executive Board or the agency to any Baptist who is a member of a church affiliated with the Convention upon reasonable written request.

The audit reports of the Convention and its agencies shall be printed in the Annual and the official news journal of the Missouri Baptist Convention and shall include such information as is determined appropriate by the accounting firms.

The Executive Board shall designate an appropriate committee to study and report to the Executive Board on agency audits. A general statement relative to the financial condition and operations of each agency shall be printed in the Annual.

19. Legal Services

The Executive Board of the Convention shall retain general counsel for the Executive Board and the Convention.

The Executive Board of the Convention shall upon annual recommendation from the Administrative Committee of such Board review and retain qualified legal counsel to perform such legal services.

20. Insurance

Any institution, agency, or body receiving substantial funds from the Convention must carry sufficient insurance to safeguard the Convention and the churches of the Convention in matters of property loss and/or liability.

21. Amendments

The Business and Financial Plan shall be published in the Annual following the Constitution and Bylaws for the Convention and may be amended at any annual session of the Convention by a two-thirds vote of the messengers present, provided that any amendment to this Business and Financial Plan shall be made by motion no later than the end of the business session on the day preceding the final day of the annual meeting, and upon receiving a second shall stand referred to the Committee on Continuing Review for report on the final day of the annual meeting.

“The term “agency,” as used in this Plan, means any unit other than the Convention and its Executive Board.

(End of Business & Financial Plan)
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Articles of Incorporation of the Missouri Baptist Convention Executive Board

1. The name of the corporation is: The Executive Board of The Missouri Baptist Convention.
2. The period of duration of the corporation is perpetual.
3. The address of the Registered Office in the State of Missouri is: Missouri Baptist Building, Jefferson City, Missouri, and the name of its Registered Agent at said address is John L. Yeats.
4. The principal office of the corporation shall be located in Jefferson City, Missouri, until otherwise ordered or directed by the Missouri Baptist Convention.
5. The purposes of the corporation are exclusively religious, missionary, benevolent and educational.
6. The corporation shall consist of fifty-four (54) members in which shall be vested the management of the affairs of the corporation, hereinafter referred to as “the Board”,
7. The officers of the Board shall consist of a Chairman, First Vice-Chairman, Second Vice-Chairman, and Secretary, all of whom shall serve without compensation. The executive director shall serve as Treasurer.
8. The Board shall elect and determine the compensation of an executive director, who shall have general supervision of all work directed by the Board. The Board shall employ and determine the compensation of other persons necessary for directing the Board’s work.
9. The Board shall have charge of the religious, missionary, educational and benevolent work of the Missouri Baptist Convention and shall have full power and authority to act for the Convention between its annual meetings in any and all matters pertaining to the Convention’s business, provided however, the Board shall not have power to reverse any action of the Convention or to do anything contrary to the Convention’s Constitution, Bylaws, and Business and Financial Plan, or to violate accepted Baptist faith, polity and practice. The Board shall report annually and present to the Missouri Baptist Convention in its annual meeting a Cooperative Program Allocations Budget for the succeeding calendar year, including both Convention and Southern Baptist Convention objects for the Convention’s consideration and adoption. All undesignated contributions to the Convention shall be faithfully distributed among the objects included in the budget upon the basis of the percentage or amount fixed for each object, and distribution shall be made in accordance with the Convention’s Business and Financial Plan.
10. The Board shall have general oversight over all educational and benevolent institutions which shall place themselves under its supervision and accept the conditions set forth in the Bylaws of the Board. The Board shall keep fully informed as to the conditions and needs of all such educational and benevolent institutions under its supervision, approve arrangements for all campaigns for funds, and conduct a continual campaign for enlightenment as to the claims and needs of said institutions. The Board shall not extend any financial or other assistance to any of such institutions whose property and funds are not safeguarded to the Baptist denomination.
11. The corporation shall have power to receive and expend funds, employ persons, guarantee any securities and evidence of indebtedness created by any corporation of this State or any other State, consistent with the purposes of this corporation, and the Constitution and Bylaws and any Resolutions of the Missouri Baptist Convention, perform such duties in religious, missionary, educational and benevolent work and activities of Baptists as may be consistent with the directions of the Missouri Baptist Convention and to exercise any, all and every power which a non-profit corporation organized under the General Not For Profit Corporation Act of Missouri may exercise.
12. The Board may adopt, repeal or amend Bylaws and may adopt new or additional Bylaws for the conduct of its business not inconsistent with the laws of the State of Missouri and with the Constitution and Bylaws of the Missouri Baptist Convention.

(End)
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Nominating Committee Rules & Procedures

In order to do their work in an orderly and fair manner, the nominating committee shall:

1. Obtain from the executive director’s office a list of vacancies on each governing board and commission on which the committee is to make a nomination.

2. The newly formed Nominating Committee shall meet immediately following the annual meeting, at which time all members shall receive orientation of the committee’s work, and are given a list of known vacancies on all boards, agencies and commissions that will need to be filled at the next annual meeting. Those members not present at said meeting are to be sent the same list.

3. Obtain from the chief administrator of each institution, and in coordination with the Executive Director, confirmation of each vacancy and request communication about any changes that may occur during the time of the committee’s work.

4. Consult with the chief administrator of each institution and/or chairman of each governing board concerning the particular needs which the committee should seek to meet as it recommends individuals to fill each vacancy.

5. Inform Missouri Baptists through the official news journal of the Missouri Baptist Convention about the procedure they may follow in recommending person(s) for the committee’s consideration and ask anyone making a suggestion to provide information which the committee needs (name of person recommended, address, church membership, activity in the church and/or association, occupational or professional credentials, board or commission for which suggested, reason for thinking that the recommended person would serve well in this capacity, etc.) The publication of known vacancies that will need to be filled shall be advertised no later than January 31 of the new year in The Pathway and on the MBC Website.

6. Prepare a biographical data form to be completed by each person nominated and, upon this person’s election by the Convention, deliver the completed form to the executive director for filing in Convention records.

7. All sub-committee members of the MBC Nominating Committee shall receive in a timely fashion the names and biographical data of all nominees to various vacancies of said sub-committee as they are received by the Chairman of the Nominating Committee and Missouri Baptist Building personnel responsible for said information.

8. That at least one copy of all sub-committee and full committee minutes be sent to and kept by the Executive Director’s Office.

9. Give equal consideration to all recommendations made to the nominating committee. Persons nominated shall be Christians of good reputation with a record of strong church involvement and support and from churches that show strong and ongoing support, including financial support for the work of the Missouri Baptist Convention (or Southern Baptist Convention in the case of out-of-the-state trustees). Cooperative Program support should be an important consideration. Persons nominated shall have special experience or expertise which he or she can bring to the board or commission to which nominated.

10. Nominate persons giving due regard to age, sex, and geographical location to insure proper balance on all boards, so as to adequately meet the needs of the institution or commission.

11. Contact all nominees to determine their willingness to serve.

12. Maintain a file of all persons recommended to the nominating committee for the future work of the committee should a vacancy occur between annual meetings.

13. Honor the Missouri Baptist Convention Constitution and Bylaws for major procedures for the committee’s actions.

14. Follow the policy that no person are eligible to serve on more than one of the MBC boards or commissions at a time.

15. Follow the policy that no immediate family members (spouse, child, parent) of a current Nominating Committee member shall be eligible for nomination on any board, agency or commission of the MBC.

16. Follow the policy that each MBC church shall be limited concerning the number of persons serving on the boards of the Convention. Churches with a total membership of 1,000 or less may be represented by a maximum of two (2) persons serving on Convention boards and commissions simultaneously. Churches with a total membership of more than 1,000 may be represented by a maximum of three (3) persons serving on Convention boards and commissions.

17. Follow the policy that Missouri Baptists serving on the various boards and commissions of the Convention be supportive of both the Missouri Baptist Convention and the Southern Baptist Convention.

(Continued on page 52)
(Continued from page 51)

18. Complete the work of the Nominating Committee provided for in paragraphs 1-8 not later than 30 days prior to the annual meeting of the Convention.

19. Identify persons eligible for a successive term not later than April 1 of each year; and determine if such persons continue to be willing and otherwise eligible to serve.

(End of Nominating Committee Rules & Procedures)

the VISION of the MBC staff:
Transforming lives and communities with the gospel.

the MISSION of the MBC staff:
We are missionaries, cooperating with Missouri Baptists to make disciples, multiply churches, and develop leaders.

the CORE VALUES of all MBC missionaries:
Devoted followers of Christ
Committed to cooperation
Engaged in missional living

Our core values define the behaviors that each state missionary must exhibit daily.
Credentials Committee Rules & Procedures

1. The Credentials Committee shall be made up of six individuals. Members shall serve three year terms and shall be nominated by the Committee on Convention Committees and submitted for vote on the final day of the annual meeting of the convention. Initially, two members shall be nominated and elected for a one year term each, two members nominated and elected for a two year term each and two members nominated and elected for a three year term each. Thereafter, two shall be nominated and elected each year on the final day of the annual meeting of the Convention.

2. Members elected to fill an unexpired term shall serve the remainder of the unexpired term.

3. The Credentials Committee shall be a standing committee of the Missouri Baptist Convention.

4. The committee shall have the right and responsibility to review and make recommendations upon all questions regarding cooperation of churches with the MBC or enrollment concerning the credentials of messengers. This includes churches which are petitioning the convention for membership and member churches questioned on the basis of faith, polity and practice. The committee may make this recommendation by evaluating the church based on origin, character, doctrine and practice.

5. The Committee shall have the right and responsibility to review and make recommendation upon all questions which may arise regarding cooperation of Churches or enrollment concerning the credentials of Messengers.

6. The Committee shall be guided by such rules and procedures as the Convention may adopt from time to time. In addition, the Annual Meeting may give direction and guidance to the Committee by its resolutions and votes while in session.

7. Any church which:
   a. has adopted a doctrinal statement which is consistent with and not in contravention of accepted, historical Southern Baptist faith, polity and practice,
   b. contributes financially to the work of the Southern Baptist Convention, and
   c. has not voted to elect to:
      (1) send representation or messenger(s) to,
      (2) to financially support the work of, or
      (3) budget funds to send to any other national convention or organization which serves and/or acts as a national convention shall be considered a national convention.

9. Any church which:
   a. contributes to the work of the Missouri Baptist Convention through the Cooperative Program on at least an annual basis, and
   b. does not belong to or contribute financially to the work of any other state convention or organization which serves and/or acts as a state convention in the State of Missouri shall be “singly aligned” with the Missouri Baptist Convention.

10. A church shall be considered as belonging and/or contributing financially to the work of another state convention or organization in the State of Missouri if the church votes to:
    a. send representation or messenger(s) to,
    b. financially support the work of, or
    c. budget funds to send to any other state convention or organization which serves, and/or acts as a state convention in the State of Missouri.

11. The Committee may investigate the qualifications of a Church to continue cooperation with the Convention or the qualifications of any person(s) to sit as messenger(s) to the Annual Meeting upon a challenge from a Church or Messenger or upon receipt or discovery of any information which causes the Committee to believe that, if true, the Church no longer meets the qualifications to continue cooperation with the Convention or the Messenger(s) do/does not meet the qualifications to serve as Messenger(s) to the Annual Meeting on personal grounds or by reason of the character or attitude of the church from which such Messenger(s) shall come, or because of failure to have obtained proper credentials as Messenger(s) from a Southern Baptist Church singly aligned with the Convention.

12. Where the Committee is required to give notice to messenger(s), a church or others regarding the Committee’s recommendation, such notice may be given orally or in writing, including telephonic or electronically by the most efficient means deemed appropriate by the Committee chair or his designee.

13. Nothing herein shall be construed to prohibit cooperation with the Convention by those Baptist churches with racial, ethnic, or cultural relations or other organizations, conventions, associations and affiliations so long as no part of those relations are contrary to the Missouri Baptist Convention’s Constitution, Bylaws and Business and Financial Plan and do not violate accepted Southern Baptist faith, polity and practice. (End)
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Executive Board Report

November 2014—October 2015
Dr. Neil Franks, Chairman
Dr. John Yeats, Executive Director
Carla Stegeman, Administrative Assistant to the Executive Board

1. Since the last convention the Board met four times. Actions from these meetings are summarized in this report.
2. The following retirements occurred within the Executive Board staff: Jerry Field, Support Services Team Leader.
3. The Executive Board standing committees and chairman were elected upon recommendation of the Committee on Executive Board Committees. Board officers were assigned to committees.
4. The Executive Director reported to the Administrative Committee and Board each quarter.
5. The Board received reports from the Agency Restoration Group.
6. The institutions and agencies—Missouri Baptist Children’s Home, Hannibal-LaGrange University, and Southwest Baptist University—reported at each meeting to the Inter-Agency Relations Committee and to the Board periodically on a rotation basis. A representative of Midwestern Baptist Theological Seminary met twice with the Inter-Agency Relations Committee.
7. Staff members were recognized and received bonuses at five-year tenure increments as follows: Ten Years-David Ellis, Cindy Reichard, Becky Wolfe; Five Years-Jeff Carson, Rick Hedger, David Hendrick, Cathie Kirkweg, Sean McMackins, Stacy Seaton.
8. The Board received resignations from Donny Ford, minister, Southeast; and Don Clifford, layman, East Central.
9. The Board received quarterly detailed financial reports, including reports of legal expenses.
10. The Board approved a contribution of $32,466.19 for the Mission Dignity program in 2014. These monies are to be used for qualified recipients living in Missouri. The Human Resources Specialist was instructed to notify the Guidestone Financial Resources of the Southern Baptist Convention of this decision. The Human Resources Team Leader was instructed to request a transfer of the necessary funds, $32,466.19, from the Missouri Annuitant Fund to Guidestone.
11. A 2016 Cooperative Program goal and related offering goals and budget recommendations were approved for recommendation to the Convention. (See Recommendations #1 and #2)
12. The Board approved for recommendation to the MBC a Rheubin L. South Missouri Missions Offering allocations budget to be distributed in 2016 (based on the 2015 MMO Offering Goal of $710,000). (See Recommendation #4)
13. The 2014 audit report, as prepared by Capin Crouse, Certified Public Accountants, was received as presented.
14. The Board approved for recommendation to the Convention a special offering on Tuesday, October 27, 2015. The offering arent the Disaster Relief Summer Missionary Program. (See Recommendation #5)
15. The Board approved funding for various repairs and restorations to the Baptist Building at 400 East High Street.
16. Affirmed the reorientation process for the MBC missionary staff around the vision (Transforming lives and communities with the gospel.) and the mission (We are missionaries cooperating with Missouri Baptists to make disciples, multiply churches, and develop leaders.) and amended the severance agreements of the past for current use.
17. The Board heard reports from the Governing Documents and Processes Task Force.
18. The Board approved invitations for the following entities to exhibit during the 181st Annual Meeting: Baptist Global Response, Bott Radio, GuideOne Insurance, Luther Rice College & Seminary, Miller Management Systems, Sight & Sound Theatres, Strategos International, and Brotherhood Mutual.
19. The Board approved for recommendation to the MBC the location of the 2017 MBC Annual Meeting. (See Recommendation #6)
20. The Board approved for recommendation to the MBC a four year partnership with Italy. (See Recommendation #7)
21. Chairman Neil Franks made appointments to the Committee on Executive Board Committees — Brian Baker, Jeremy Sells, and Linda Welch; to serve with current members - Chuck Baker, Stella Brinley, and Bob Parker. Stella Brinley was named chairman.
22. It is understood that any recommendations of the Executive Board on Monday afternoon, October 26, 2015, are printed in the daily business update as part of the Executive Board Report and Recommendations to the Convention.

(End)
missions for life

• PRESCHOOL — Mission Friends
• CHILDREN — Girls in Action, Royal Ambassadors, Children in Action
• STUDENTS — Acteens, Challengers, Youth on Mission
• YOUNG WOMEN — MyMission
• ADULT — Women on Mission, Adults on Mission

Learning-Praying-Giving-Growing-Doing-Going

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Executive Board Recommendations

1. That the following goals be set for 2016:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Program</th>
<th>2016 Goals</th>
<th>(FYI) 2015 Goals</th>
<th>2014 Actual Receipts</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Cooperative Program</td>
<td>$14,828,008</td>
<td>$14,500,000</td>
<td>$14,828,008</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lottie Moon</td>
<td>$4,000,000</td>
<td>$4,000,000</td>
<td>$3,794,671</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Annie Armstrong</td>
<td>$2,000,000</td>
<td>$2,000,000</td>
<td>$2,061,808</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>World Hunger</td>
<td>$250,000</td>
<td>$250,000</td>
<td>$241,136</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MMO (distribute in 2017)</td>
<td>$705,000</td>
<td>$710,000</td>
<td>$701,681</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

2. That the following be approved for recommendation to the MBC: That the 2016 Cooperative Program Goal of $14,828,008 be allocated 5% shared and the balance distributed 42.5% for Southern Baptist Convention Causes and 57.5% for Missouri Baptist Convention causes; and that the allocations be as follows:

### Cooperative Program Allocations Budget (Proposed 2016)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Plan A 2016</th>
<th>Plan B 2016</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Amount</td>
<td>Total</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>--------------</td>
<td>-------------</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cooperative Program Allocations Budget</td>
<td>$6,227,763</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Less: Shared Ministry Items</td>
<td>$(311,388)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total Cooperative Program Budget for Allocation</td>
<td>$5,916,375</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Southern Baptist Convention Causes**

- $2,514,459 (42.50%) of $5,916,375
- $3,472,349 (42.50%) of $8,170,233

**Missouri Baptist Convention Causes:**

- **Institutions/Agencies:**
  - The Children’s Home: $135,485 (2.29%) of $1,307,238
  - Christian Higher Education Operations: $637,785 (10.78%) of $1,307,238
  - Agency Restoration: $177,491 (3.00%) of $1,307,238
- **Total Institutions/Agencies:** $950,761 (16.07%) of $5,916,375
- **MBC Executive Board Budget:** $2,451,155 (41.43%) of $5,916,375
- **Total Missouri Baptist Causes:** $3,401,916 (57.50%) of $5,916,375
- **Total Cooperative Program Budget:** $5,916,375 (100.00%) of $14,086,608

### Background Information

- **2015 MBC Executive Board Portion of Budget:** $6,641,363
- **2016 MBC Executive Board Portion of Budget:** $6,583,201
- **Difference:** $(58,162)

*Hypothetical numbers

---

**Cooperative Program Allocations Budget (After 5% Shared Items)**

- **Southern Baptist Convention Causes:** 42.50% (5,986,808)
- **Entities (CH, HLGU, SBU):** 16.00% (2,257,999)
- **MBC Ministries & Missions:** 41.50% (5,841,801)
- **Total:** 100.00% (14,086,608)
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3. The Executive Board recommends to the MBC that the Convention approves the 2016 Executive Board budget.  
(See page 61.)

4. That the Rheubin L. South Missouri Mission Offering funds received during 2015 be distributed in 2016 as follows  
(based on the 2015 MMO Offering Goal of $710,000).

---

### Rheubin L. South Missouri Missions Offering Budget

#### 2015 Requests for 2016 Ministries

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Ministry Area</th>
<th>2015 Offering for 2016 Ministries</th>
<th>2014 Offering for 2015 Ministries</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>SHARING Christ’s love throughout Missouri</td>
<td>$212,536</td>
<td>$221,250</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SENDING Missouri missionaries</td>
<td>$275,264</td>
<td>$266,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>STARTING more Missouri churches</td>
<td>$144,000</td>
<td>$144,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>STRENGTHENING Missouri churches</td>
<td>$78,200</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Total MMO Allocations</strong></td>
<td><strong>$710,000</strong></td>
<td><strong>$700,000</strong></td>
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2012 Promotion for 2013: Goal $675,000  
2013 Promotion for 2014: Goal $700,000  
2014 Promotion for 2015: Goal $700,000  
2015 Promotion for 2016: Goal $710,000

5. That the Convention authorize a special offering to be taken on Tuesday, October 27, 2015, to benefit the Disaster Relief Summer Missionary Program.

6. The Executive Board recommends to the MBC that the 2017 Annual Meeting of the Missouri Baptist Convention be held October 23-25, 2017, at First Baptist Church, Raytown, Missouri.

7. The Executive Board recommends to the MBC that the MBC enter into a four (4) year partnership with our IMB and Great Commission Partners in Italy beginning January 1, 2016, through December 31, 2019; with a possible extension of up to four (4) additional years should the Lord continue to lead in such a strategy.

*(End of Executive Board Recommendations)*
“The best Christian news app... up to date content with smooth, easy navigation.”

★★★★★

“Great stories, fresh content.”
“User friendly.”
“Easy to use and clean design.”

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## Missouri Baptist Convention Budget (Proposed 2016)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Summary Budget</th>
<th>2015 Budget</th>
<th>Percentage Income/Expense</th>
<th>2016 Proposed</th>
<th>Percentage Income/Expense</th>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Income</strong></td>
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<td>Cooperative Program Income</td>
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<td><strong>Net Income/(Expense)</strong></td>
<td>$-</td>
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<td>$-</td>
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</table>

*(End of Budget)*

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**mbConnect**

**Visit the MMO/CP booth to sign up for mbConnect, the weekly e-newsletter of the Missouri Baptist Convention!**
Is God calling your church to partner in New York?
This memorial at Williamstown, Massachusetts, near Albany, New York, marks the beginning of the American Foreign Mission Society, where college students prayed for international missions in a haystack during a thunderstorm.

Contact Rick Hedger at rhedger@mobaptist.org
Executive Board Staff Reports

Church Planting Team

Ben Hess, Team Leader

The MBC church planting team is moving forward through faith in God’s kingdom coming through the planting of churches. A church planting process utilizing regional assessment and basic training with video enhancements has been implemented in St. Louis, Springfield, and Kansas City. NAMB continues to develop new resources that greatly assist in identifying and resourcing church planting missionaries through mobilizeme.sendnetwork.com and plantingprojector.com.

Results reported through the MBC Kingdom Growth Tracking System (mobaptisttracking.org) from June 2014 through May 2015 include more than 4,500 evangelistic encounters; 425 professions of faith; 207 baptisms; 84 new Bible studies; 1,614 Bibles distributed; a current church membership of 1,950; and Cooperative Program giving of $106,280. A recent evaluation of MBC-funded church planting missionaries from 2009 to May 2015 indicates that 80 percent of the 104 church plants are continuing to be a positive influence for the kingdom of God.

Assessment of 19 new church planting missionaries took place from June 2014 to May 2015 in Kansas City, Springfield and St. Louis. Twenty-three church planting teams participated in basic training. In the first year of regionalization, training participation increased from 78 to 178 individuals.

Church Strengthening Team

Spencer Hutson, Team Leader

The church strengthening team is made up of the following areas of ministry: Sunday school/discipleship/small groups; childhood ministry; stewardship/church facilities/capital funding; pastoral ministry; and women’s ministry. Some areas are resourced by networks, including worship; transitional pastors; church health/revitalization; men’s ministry; family ministry; and church administration.

A key team project is mb125, designed for churches with a Sunday morning attendance of 125 or fewer. This year’s event, held at Skyline Baptist Church in Branson, saw 75 pastors and their families come together for encouragement, strengthening, and leadership development; two-thirds were first-time attendees.

Church revitalization is a process in the forefront of all the team does. It is also working with the church planting team on legacy church plants; that is, restarts using an existing facility under new leadership by a sponsoring church.

This year the team worked with Midwestern Seminary and Missouri Baptist Biker’s Fellowship on the Heartland Interstate Strategy with a Road Rally/Mission trip to Fargo, N.D. This strategy is to encourage and raise the awareness of church planting.

Stewardship/Church Facilities/Capital Funding

Spencer Hutson

The MBC has made available a series of brochures to promote Biblical stewardship and the Cooperative Program. The annual stewardship emphasis, Impact, was featured at more than a dozen associations and shared with individual churches as requested. Team members consulted with more than 50 churches on stewardship and budget issues, church facilities needs, and capital funds needs. The MBC capital funds campaign, Building For Tomorrow, is being updated and soon are available with Show Me God’s Way, Seize The Day, and New Challenge.

Family Ministry

Joe Ulveling, Family Ministries Specialist

The family ministry specialist spoke at numerous marriage, parenting and family events around the state. As a result, many churches are now starting family/marriage ministries.

The family is the core of our society. The goal of MBC family ministry is to help reverse the trend of broken families and show God’s plan for marriage and family. By strengthening our families, we will in turn be strengthening our churches.

The Minister's Juggling Act had another great year, meeting a need by encouraging ministers and their wives. Last year 75 couples attended. The MBC continues to hear comments about how marriages are being restored.

Churches are only as strong as the families in them. Through the Cooperative Program, all Missouri Baptists have a part in making a difference in marriages and families in our state. Thank you for your part in strengthening families as we work together.

Pastoral Ministries

Gary Mathes, Pastoral Ministries Specialist

Church revitalization continues to be a great need within our state. This past year the church strengthening team launched Momentum, A Church Revitalization Strategy. Momentum is a process that helps struggling churches evaluate their current reality, envision a better future, and execute actions plans that result in churches becoming more healthy and effective in transforming their communities with the gospel.

To help churches with a thorough assessment of their health and needs, the MBC has updated the Vital Signs Health Assessment Tool, a free download from our website. Additionally, the MBC consults with churches that have utilized the Transformational Church Assessment Tool (TCAT) in order to help them interpret and process the survey results leading them to identify action priorities.

The MBC also offered transitional pastor ministry training (Continued on page 65)
Is God calling your church to partner in Puebla?
Partnership Missions catalyst Rick Hedger shakes hands with pastor Alfonso, the original pastor for the Nahuatl people of Puebla, Mexico.

Contact Rick Hedger at rhedger@mobaptist.org
events in Lawson and Hannibal to prepare more men to help churches that have lost pastors, and the convention staff assisted a number of churches in finding transitional pastors.

Three deacon-training events were conducted in churches and associations to help equip men called to deacon ministry. Help with conflict resolution, church administration, men’s ministry and leadership development was given to many churches.

**Sunday School/Discipleship/Small Group Ministries**

*Mark Donnell, MBC Sunday School/Discipleship/Small Group Specialist*

Sunday school/discipleship ministries has trained and resourced MBC churches and associations in many different ways. It has helped plan and conduct training in five associations, nine churches, and at four regional Sunday school training clinics. The team also co-hosted a “Black Sunday School Celebration” training conference in East St. Louis and a “National Sunday School Director Seminar” at FBC Raytown with LifeWay Christian Resources. More than 1,000 Sunday school leaders have been trained in these conferences.

In addition, Sunday school/small group ministries has represented the MBC by speaking at Sunday school teacher appreciation banquets, presenting Sunday school growth awards and teacher certificates, providing state missions promotion, and providing pulpitt supply for churches.

Discipleship ministries assisted the Mid-Missouri Baptist Association (formerly the Little Bonne Femme Association) in conducting an “Experiencing God Retreat” with Claude King, co-author of the Experiencing God materials as the guest speaker.

Consultations and resources are offered to pastors and church leaders through personal visits, phone calls, emails, texting and the MBC Sunday school/discipleship websites.

Vital Signs Church Health Assessments for associations and individual churches are provided as requested and as time allows.

**Childhood Ministries Report**

*Mark Donnell, MBC Sunday School/Discipleship/Small Group Specialist*

Mark Donnell oversees the convention staff’s childhood ministry. Sondi Scroggins continues to serve as a contract worker to help with childhood ministry consultations and training.

In addition, three state children’s Bible drill coordinators provided training and coordinated four regional children’s Bible drills in April. Nearly 150 children participated in this year’s state drills, representing 51 churches and 29 associations. The MBC also has one state high school and youth Bible drill coordinator, and Christy Nance continues to serve as state VBS coordinator to oversee VBS training for associational VBS directors and their VBS teams. Numerous resources on childhood ministry are available on the MBC Childhood Ministry website.

**Women’s Ministry**

*Wanda Shellenbarger, Contract Worker, Women’s Ministry*

In February, women’s ministry held its Fifth Annual TGE (Trust God In Everything) Conference in Branson for girls in grades 3-12 and for women. In March the team hosted its Second Annual TGE event at Tan-Tar-A with five accepting the Lord as Savior. More than 25 churches were represented, with many bringing lost friends from their communities to the events. Teachers and workers from 12 churches around the state assisted at both conferences.

In April, Wanda Shellenbarger and many regional leaders spoke at the Annual WMU Meeting in St. Charles. In June the ministry held a retreat for girls in the Crisis Pregnancy and TLP Units in Branson. Leaders conducted parenting classes, Bible study classes, and they treated the young ladies to the production of “Jonah” at the Sight and Sound Theatre.

Wanda Shellenbarger was the plenary speaker for women at the mb125 Conference that the church strengthening team provided for pastors and their families. Pam Melton, Irene Hurt and Carol Tatman, regional women’s ministry leaders, provided breakout classes/information for the women as well. The Lord has blessed abundantly this year with numerous opportunities to share Christ, proclaim His Word, and encourage Christians.

**Worship**

*Position Vacant, submitted by Tanya McMillan*

Partnerships with Hannibal-LaGrange University and Southwest Baptist University continue to be a valuable part of the worship ministry area. Both universities are committed to providing training opportunities to help church worship leaders grow in their ministries.

Once again this year the MBC partnered with the Illinois State Baptist Association for a Summer Worship University for youth at Hannibal-LaGrange University. In addition, the MBC provided help in advertising this event to Missouri churches.

The Senior Adult Share-A-Tune in Branson and the Regional Keyboard Festivals held in multiple locations continue to provide training opportunities for senior adults and children as they use their gifts for service.

Regional worship consultants are always available to help churches improve their worship ministries.

**Communications Team**

*Rob Phillips, Team Leader*

The communications team enhanced the mobaptist.org website in 2015, improving its look, speed, and ease of use. One key upgrade makes it easier to view the website from any computer or mobile device. The team also improved integration of video, audio, and social media into the MBC’s web presence.

In June, the team unveiled the Scripture theme for the 2015
Is God calling your church to partner in Italy?
Stop by the Partnership Missions booth to talk about the possibilities with Charles Worthy, IMB Connector for Italy.

Contact Rick Hedger at rhedger@mobaptist.org
Missouri Missions Offering — 2 Corinthians 9:13 — and produced electronic resources that reduced mailing costs and made it easier for Missouri Baptists to download and share MMO materials.

The MBC’s graphic designers supported numerous ministries and events, developing comprehensive designs that integrated print, web, and electronic communications.

Video continued to play an expanding role in MBC ministries, with dozens of new releases including a Cooperative Program countdown timer, a Spanish language church-planting series, and promotional videos for new resources.

The team also provided audio-visual and set design support for all major MBC events.

Finally, the team produced two new apologetics resources in print and Kindle editions: What Every Christian Should Know about Islam and What Every Christian Should Know about Same-sex Attraction.

Missional Evangelism/Discipleship Team
Rick Hedger, Team Leader

Disaster Relief
Dwain Carter, Disaster Relief Strategist

The last half of 2014 was fairly quiet with only a few call-outs, enabling many DR volunteers to train and prepare for the future. Remodeling was completed on the disaster relief warehouse in Jefferson City. In addition to serving as a warehouse, this building also is utilized for housing volunteers and students when needed.

Flooding was a major challenge in 2015. Disaster Relief sent teams throughout Missouri, Texas, Oklahoma and Nebraska. DR also was involved in the Nepal relief efforts after a major earthquake there. Two volunteers from the state represented Missouri Baptists in Nepal.

Evangelism-Discipleship
Mark Snowden, Evangelism/Discipleship Strategist

The State Evangelism-Discipleship Conference was conducted as FURNACE, based on Daniel 3. It was preceded by 21 days of prayer and fasting.

Churches engaged in Light Up Missouri, the two-year GPS emphasis on servant evangelism projects. Church members painted houses, buildings and even one train depot; distributed food and clothing; honored police, firemen, and teachers; and shared the gospel in moments, days, and seasons of service. During the emphasis, Missouri Baptist churches distributed nearly 25,000 Bibles and New Testaments.

The state evangelism/discipleship strategist led 10 regional or associational evangelism workshops, nine on Bible storying, and launched a new workshop called Workers in the Harvest, which trained church members as missionaries.

Baptisms declined statewide. There were 8,248 baptisms, about 1,450 less than last year, but praise God for His gospel that continues to ring out among the lost! Since new believers typically know more lost people, a new free five-lesson resource was developed titled “New Believers Following Jesus.”

Phase 1 of GPS 2016-17 was launched among 30 churches. The Macedonia Project is set to launch in 2016 for churches to engage the lost in personal evangelism and partner with MBC churches in St. Louis and Kansas City.

Missouri Woman’s Missionary Union
Laura Wells, Contract Worker, WMU

Missouri WMU organizations have grown over the last year with several new starts. Each church that started a new group was honored at the 2015 WMU Missions Celebration/Annual Meeting at First Baptist Church, St. Charles. The theme was “All for You: Surrender, Sacrifice, Serve.” More than 360 women and men attended the event. Wanda Lee, National WMU executive director, gave the theme interpretations.

Missionary testimonies were given by IMB missionaries Don and Diane Combs, European Peoples; and by RW, Sub-Saharan African Peoples. NAMB church-planting coordinator, Noah Oldham, shared about his work with SEND St. Louis, and Rob Phillips from the MBC gave his personal testimony and shared about what Christians should know about Islam.

Approximately 60 people were involved in mission projects. More than 230 completed buckets were collected for the Buckets of Love project. The WMU Missions Celebration was made possible in part through Cooperative Program funds.

In March, the sixth annual Parents of Missionaries Retreat was held in Jefferson City. Twenty-two were in attendance. Each year there have been new missionary parents in attendance.

In October, more than 40 emeritus missionaries attended Missionary Retreat held at Cross Pointe Retreat Center.

Partnership Missions
Rick Hedger, Strategist

The MBC partnership in Puebla and Tlaxcala, Mexico is in its third year. Pastor Ahner Florez has been elected to lead this vital partnership, which desires see 10,000 baptisms and 100 new church starts (with 50 actually becoming local churches) by 2020. More than 20 MBC churches are partnering and ministering in Puebla, ranging from two to eight trips per year for each church.

Much prayer, research and a vision trip to northern Italy to meet with IMB personnel revealed that the northeast region of Veneto is only 0.046 percent evangelical. A potential partnership is being presented to the MBC where our IMB missionaries are ask-
Is God calling your church to partner in the Interstate 29 corridor?
Stop by the Partnership Missions booth to talk about leading your church to transform lives and communities with the gospel in the Heartland of America.

Contact Rick Hedger at rhedger@mobaptist.org
Preschool/Children/Student Missions
Teri Broeker, Contract Worker, Children/Youth Mission Education

The Emerging Leader Summit was held in Jefferson City with 13 in attendance. Teen girls prepared for leadership during training sessions and activities. They served in leadership roles during the year.

Five regional GA Retreats were held in October. Girls in Action celebrated with the theme “Hats Off to Missions!” Girls in first through sixth grades met missionaries, enjoyed general sessions, and participated in mission activities.

More than 100 teen girls and their leaders attended PURSUIT at Baptist Hill in Mt. Vernon. Girls heard testimony from Tish Hedger, attended breakout sessions and participated in ministry projects in the community.

Many Missouri mission organizations took part in Children’s Ministry Day in February. “Generation Reach” was the theme.

Christy Goff, Elizabeth Stark, and Emily Dehner were chosen for the 2015-16 Missouri Acteen Council. They served as pages during the MWMU Missions Celebration, are planning the 2016 Pursuit conference, and will volunteer for several mission activities/events this year.

Three hundred were in attendance at the 2015 RA Congress in Sedalia. Royal Ambassadors met missionary Daniel Goomb and his family. The Goombis minister to Native Americans in Kansas. First through sixth grade boys took part in general sessions and participated in the traditional RA Congress competitions.

Leadership Development Team
Matt Kearns, Team Leader

Collegiate Ministry

The collegiate ministry team members are excited to be a part of what God is doing in and through the lives of students in Missouri. God is mobilizing the next generation to reach the lost on college campuses and beyond. Here are a few highlights from the last year.

Engage Leadership Development Conference: 192 college students, campus missionaries, and leaders attended Engage 2015 for a weekend of teaching on growing as a leader and developing a new generation of leaders for the kingdom. Other conference topics addressed making disciples, living on mission, effective communication, and utilizing your strengths.

Summer Missions: 60 summer missionaries were commissioned to serve with 33 mentors in associations and camps across Missouri. As of July 1, there were reports of 926 spiritual encounters, 162 professions of faith, and four baptisms taking place through their ministry.

Youth Evangelism

Super Summer: The MBC hosted two weeks of Super Summer at Hannibal-LaGrange University in June. Nearly 630 students and leaders from 58 churches participated in the two weeks of camp. During Super Summer, 32 students gave their lives to Christ, 72 expressed a call from God on their lives to serve Him in ministry/missions, and 48 made other decisions.

The Project: Through our partnership with Global Encounter Ministries we had the opportunity to serve alongside 61 churches with more than 702 students, youth leaders and staff to minister to 1,548 children through VBS ministry in churches and parks across St. Louis, Kansas City, and Denver, Colo. During those three weeks of ministry we had the privilege of seeing over 36 children and youth give their lives to Christ.

The Pathway/Public Policy Team
Don Hinkle, Team Leader

For the first time in The Pathway’s history, readership topped 50,000 in 2015. Readership on all three platforms — print, website and app — experienced unprecedented increases. 2015 saw The Pathway launch its new app for smartphones. The Pathway staff also won five awards at the annual Evangelical Press Association and Baptist Communicators Association journalism competitions. Pathway Founding Editor Don Hinkle completed a one-year term as president of the Association of Southern Baptist Publications (state newspapers).

The 10th annual Legislative Prayer Service — sponsored by The Pathway, Concord Baptist Church and the Missouri Baptist Convention’s Christian Life Commission — was held in January at Concord Baptist Church and drew a record number of attendees. Hannibal-LaGrange University (HLGU) President Anthony Allen served as the keynote speaker. Attendees included a record number of members of the Missouri General Assembly and Supreme Court.

The Pathway, along with the Christian Life Commission and Hannibal-LaGrange University, sponsored the fifth annual Christian Worldview Conference in April. It was held at HLGU. Among the speakers were Michael McAfee, vice president of faith relations for...
Missions Celebration

2016 MWMU Annual Meeting
April 8-9, 2016
Midwestern Baptist Theological Seminary, Kansas City

MISSIONARIES, BREAKOUT SESSIONS
WMU AGE LEVEL TRAINING, SILENT AUCTION, BOOK STORE

EARLY BIRD Registration Fee until March 23, 2016 $30/person
Registration Fee AFTER MARCH 23 $40/person

SPEAKERS:

Rosalie Hunt, WMU
Jared & Michelle, IMB
Darrell & Kimberly Hathcock, IMB
Matt Marrs, NAMB
Dwain Carter, MBC

ALL FOR YOU
Surrender • Sacrifice • Serve

Online registration begins January, 2016 at mobaptist.org/wmu

Event sponsored by Missouri Woman’s Missionary Union and Missouri Baptist Convention
Hobby Lobby; and Joshua Hawley, constitutional law professor at the University of Missouri Law School.

Support Services Team

Joe Ulveling, Team Leader

Business Services

Samantha Spencer, Controller

The Business Services office is the Cooperative Program’s entry portal for the MBC. The office accounts for all church receipts and allocates the monies to the appropriate ministries and missions. Below are the receipts processed by Business Services for the year ending December 31, 2014:

- Cooperative Program: $14,828,008
- Rheubin L. South Missouri Missions Offering: $701,681
- Lottie Moon Offering: $3,794,671
- Annie Armstrong Offering: $2,061,808

A clean audit opinion was received from auditors for the year ending December 31, 2014.

Human Resources/GuideStone/Church Ministries

Gene Foster, Specialist

The HR/GuideStone office helped more than 900 churches participate in the church retirement plan this year. There were more than 100 new participants added to the GuideStone church retirement plan. HR/GuideStone participated in 12 compensation planning seminars, 15 church tax-filing seminars and five planning-for-retirement seminars. HR also administered the MBC personnel policies and benefits.

HR/GuideStone assisted many Missouri Baptists with individual needs such as retirement option choices, retirement applications, insurance applications, ACA questions, trouble shooting claims requests, coverage questions, etc. In addition, the HR office facilitated the continued participation by the MBC in the “Mission Dignity” Program.

Other work included participation in several statewide meetings such as the MBC annual meeting, mb125, and evangelism conference.

Properties Management

Kenny Shaw, Specialist

Properties management serves in the area of building maintenance, housekeeping, building receptionist, and fleet management.

The properties consist of the convention building, High Point Road conference center, Disaster Relief, and five BSU buildings. The properties management staff serves by cleaning, setting up for meetings, conducting light construction, repair and maintenance, and transporting material to events across the state.

The building receptionist monitors the MBC information line, forwarding requests to the appropriate MBC staff for follow-up, and supplies Southern Baptist Convention messenger card requests.

Technology

Jody Burkett, Specialist
Dave Ellis, Specialist

The technology staff works behind the scenes to technically enable state missionaries to do their jobs. They also work to reduce operating costs while maintaining/improving services and technologies.

Highlights:

- A leased printing solution was optimized, reducing costs by $1,000 per month.
- A new solution for Internet service was found, resulting in a significant speed increase and cost reduction.
- The mobile communications solution was optimized, netting further savings of $1,300 per month.
- The MBC launched a new database application in 2014 for ACP collection and to help expand the ministry offerings for churches and associations.

The Strategic Partners Team

Jim Wells, Team Leader

The strategic partners team hosted a fall and spring Director of Missions Conference. The fall conference theme was “Associations and MBC Partnering Together to Expand His Kingdom” and the spring conference theme was built around “Coaching and Mentoring; Leadership Training for DOMs.” The team assisted the directors of missions with the Missouri State Fair ministry, seeing many people profess faith in Christ.

The team co-sponsored several prayer summits, a prayer gathering for pastors and leaders in Missouri focusing on revival and spiritual awakening. In addition, the team developed a prayer strategy called “Praying 10” for churches to use as part of a broader strategy of praying across Missouri. The team also is coordinating a task force to involve Missouri Baptists with the Missouri National Guard’s “Partners in Care” ministry.

Team members serve as advisors to the Ministers’ Wives and the Baptist Secretaries Association of Missouri (BSAM), assisting with luncheons and conferences as well as the planning of many other MBC events. Finally, the team serves as the liaison to MBC entities and Midwestern Seminary.

(End of Executive Board Staff Reports)
Quality education, supportive faculty, and a Christ-centered approach to academics and campus life will set you up for success. At Southwest Baptist University, you won't be prepared for just a job, but for your future — academically, spiritually, and socially.

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Related Ministry Partners Reports

Christian Life Commission

Doug Austin, Chairman

The Christian Life Commission (CLC) has adopted three words to more clearly identify the commission and what it wants to accomplish: Intentional - Visible -_measureable.

The CLC is dedicated to addressing the concerns of today from a Christian worldview, with particular attention to Missouri families and their faith. The CLC provides a voice at the state Capitol, as well as MBC churches and associations, helping serve as an educator on current social issues, especially the sanctity of human life, the sanctity of marriage, and Christian citizenship.

In January, the CLC helped host the annual Legislative Prayer Service at Concord Baptist Church in Jefferson City. The CLC also served as host for the Worldview Conference at Hannibal-LaGrange University in April. And the CLC hosted three regional meetings on “Celebrate America — Defending Religious Liberty.”

Lastly, the CLC presented its Distinguished Service Award to Dick Bott and Josh Hawley at the 2014 Annual Meeting.

Missouri Baptist Children’s Home

Russell Martin, President and Treasurer

The Missouri Baptist Children’s Home “Serves God by Assisting Children, Youth and Families.”

MBCH Children and Family Ministries (MBCHCFM) delivered 306,146 days of service (one consumer for one day) in 2014. Ninety-two percent of all ministries were provided in communities rather than on residential campuses.

One hundred and eight children were served in therapeutic family foster homes while 461 children were served in family foster care.

One hundred and fifty-one young women facing unplanned pregnancies received counseling and supportive services to make good decisions for themselves and their babies. This includes those in three campus-based maternity homes (36) and in community-based services (115). Seventy-six babies were born to the girls in the Pregnancy Services programs.

MBCHCFM served 78 children in therapeutic group homes — “traditional” residential services on campuses in Bridgeton, Peculiar, and Mount Vernon. Fifty-six youth were served through Transitional Living programs in group homes and scattered site apartments.

Intensive Family Reunification Services offers hope to families and assists with reunification of children and families. Eleven families were served in 2014. There were 13 professions of faith among the children and youth served at MBCH.

The newest ministry is the “Freedom 4:3:19” rescue ministry for girls enslaved in human trafficking. Twenty-five clients were served in 2014.

Plan now to host a 2016 Apologetics Workshop in your church or association

Choose from topics including: Biblical worldview; Islam; same-sex attraction; world religions and cults; prosperity gospel; and more.

Learn more at mobaptist.org/apologetics
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573-636-0400 ext. 304 / rphillips@mobaptist.org
Contact an admissions representative today for more information.

Charles.Rapp@hlg.edu
Western Missouri & western states
573.629.3167

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Hannibal-LaGrange University

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Higher Education Institution Reports

**Hannibal-LaGrange University**

*Anthony Allen,* President

August 2014-2015 School Year Highlights:

For the 12th year in a row, HLGU was named one of America’s Best Christian Colleges by Institutional Research & Evaluation, Inc. In addition, 13 of 17 athletic teams were named All-Scholar Teams by the NAIA for earning an average GPA of 3.0 or higher for the fall and spring semesters.

During Welcome Week, HLGU students once again took part in Hannibal’s Helping Hands, a community service project. This year, close to 200 students went into the Hannibal community and performed more than 400 hours of community service.

Construction of the new Carroll Science Center is now complete. The 40,000 square-foot facility opened for classes August 25. The university is exceedingly grateful for the gifts of more than 500 friends and alumni of the institution that made this building possible. A dedication ceremony was held Oct. 15.

On August 28, the University celebrated its first graduating class of the Master of Arts in Leadership degree. The program has two tracks, Christian ministry and organizational management, and can be completed online in just one year.

The school continues to offer a 50-percent tuition scholarship for fulltime Southern Baptist students.

**Southwest Baptist University**

*C. Pat Taylor,* President

Southwest Baptist University is a Christ-centered, caring academic community preparing students to be servant leaders in a global society.

The 2014-15 school year finished strong with 571 graduates who are prepared academically, spiritually and socially for a lifetime of success. About 300 students ministered around the world as part of 25 mission teams trained through the Center for Global Connections.

SBU has begun a number of expansion and renovation projects that will poise the university for future growth.

Recent and projected growth in the Robert W. Plaster College of Business and Computer Science, and reinstatement of the Master of Business Administration degree, are catalysts for the $2.7 million fundraising campaign for renovation and expansion of the Gene Taylor National Free Enterprise Center.

SBU purchased a 15,000-square-foot commercial building near the Springfield campus that meets the needs of the growing health sciences programs in the Mercy College of Nursing and Health Sciences of SBU, which had enrollment of 730 students during the fall 2014 semester.

Landen Hall has been renovated, and the Merrill Burnidge Memorial Forum received major renovations that included replacing the fountain with a water sculpture that represents the Great Commission.
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