

2023

MBL ANNUAL MEETING
BOOK OF REPORTS

RESTORE MY SOUL

“The Law of the LORD
is perfect, restoring the
soul; The testimony of
the LORD is sure, making
wise the simple.”

- PSALM 19:7 NASB



◆ ◆ ◆ ◆

When you give to your church, you care for our seniors.

A portion of the tithes and offerings given to your Missouri Baptist church goes to the Cooperative Program, which helps **Baptist Homes & Healthcare Ministries** provide compassionate care for those who have spent their lives caring for us.

Learn more about all the ministries of Baptist Homes at bhhm.org.

Learn how your gifts to the Cooperative Program help others in Missouri, across North America, and around the world at mobaptist.org/cp.



TABLE OF CONTENTS



A Message from Our President	2
A Message from Our Executive Director	3
General Information	5
Annual Meeting Office Locations	7
Crossway Baptist Church / DoubleTree Maps	8
Officers Presiding at Annual Meeting	12
Program Personalities	16
Motions & Amendments, Parliamentarians, Resolutions	18
Annual Meeting Provisional Program	20
Annual Meeting Speakers	27
Related Meetings/Events	32
Top CP Giving Churches in 2022	36
New Churches 2022-2023	37
Deceased Ministers	38
Past MBC Presidents	40
Future MBC Annual Meetings	40
Past MBC Annual Meetings	41
Executive Board Report	44
Executive Board Recommendations	45
Cooperative Program Allocations Plan Years 2023-24	46
SBC/MBC Shared Administration 2024 Proposed Spending Plan	47
Missouri Baptist Missions & Ministries 2024 Proposed Spending Plan	48
2024 Proposed Rheubin L. South Missouri Missions Offering Budget	50
Stopping Sexual Abuse: A Report to Missouri Baptists	93
Meet Our New Executive Director-Treasurer	100
Executive Board Staff Reports	103
Strategic Partners Reports	114
Higher Education Institution Reports	117
MBC Governing Documents	121

A MESSAGE FROM OUR PRESIDENT



Welcome to the 2023 Annual Meeting of Missouri Baptists. And thank you, Pastor Eddie Bumpers and the great folks of Crossway Baptist Church, for hosting our gathering in such a beautiful facility. Over the next two days, we will reconnect with old friends, make some new ones, conduct the business of the convention, worship the King, and restore our souls.

Our theme is “Restore My Soul.” It’s so very easy to become spiritually depleted in this broken, weary world. It’s crucially important that we continue to be well nourished in the Word and grounded in the gospel so we might continue the mission the Lord has given us.

My prayer for each of us is that, as we meet in Springfield, we would come away with renewed vitality, a fresh spiritual life, and a greater hunger for Jesus. Apart from a thriving relationship with Him, our souls shrivel up and lose their vitality. The

Scriptures tell us the Lord restores our soul in many ways. But the most sure way is through His Word, because every jot and tittle points to the Lord Jesus Christ.

As Psalm 19:7 says: “The Law of the LORD is perfect, restoring the soul.”

The goal of our time together is not simply to conduct business, although we will work through our processes to ensure we are maximizing our stewardship and fulfilling the mission to the best of our abilities as Missouri Baptists. It’s also to sing the Bible, pray the Bible, and hear the Bible preached in order that we all might be conformed to His image, for His glory, and for our good.

It has been a wonderful and rewarding experience to serve our great convention this past year. The more I see our cooperative work in action and watch the myriad ways our churches, convention staff, and entities are fulfilling the mission, I grow more impressed. Missouri Baptists: you are a great people, heralding the greatest message, that leads to the greatest good.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Chris Williams'. The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal line extending to the right.

Pastor Chris L. Williams, President, Missouri Baptist Convention

A MESSAGE FROM OUR EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR



Welcome to the 2023 Annual Meeting of Missouri Baptists. This year's theme is "Restore My Soul," taken from Psalm 19:7 – "The Law of the LORD is perfect, restoring the soul; The testimony of the LORD is sure, making wise the simple."

What a message for our time. We need the Lord's holy standards as our spiritual North Star, refreshing us, supplying us with His wisdom, and making us more like His Son.

We are grateful for our MBC team and our hosts at Crossway Baptist Church. Many thanks to Pastor Eddie Bumpers and his wonderful staff, making us feel welcome, comfortable, and spiritually refreshed. Be sure to thank them every time they provide assistance.

If you're a messenger, thank you for representing your local church. Please carry home a big thank you from us for your church's generous support of the Cooperative Program. Without CP, there wouldn't be an annual meeting. There wouldn't be a Missouri Baptist Children's Home or Baptist Homes & Healthcare Ministries. And there wouldn't be a Missouri Baptist Foundation or three outstanding universities. Through CP, you are richly invested in what the Lord Jesus is doing across our state and around the world.

Be sure to visit our exhibit hall and talk with ministry leaders from the MBC, Southern Baptist Convention, and other ministry organizations. And join me for a bittersweet reception Monday evening as Sharon and I step aside after joyously serving you for the last 12 years – and as we welcome a new executive director.

Please use this publication as a guide to activities, special events, and information about the work of Missouri Baptist missionaries and institutions as we seek to transform lives and communities with the gospel.

May the Lord bless you in the days ahead.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "John L. Yeats".

Dr. John L. Yeats, MBC Executive Director-Treasurer

"When you give to your church, you help me study the Bible and live out the call to be a servant leader wherever God takes me."

L.J. Hearn

MBU Junior, Ministry and Leadership Major

A portion of your tithes and offerings given to your Missouri Baptist church goes to the Cooperative Program, which supports the ministries of Missouri Baptist University - and students like L.J.

Learn how your gifts to the Cooperative Program help others in Missouri, across North America, and around the world at mobaptist.org/cp.

Learn more about MBU's academics, student life, mission, and vision at:

mobap.edu



GENERAL INFORMATION

Book of Reports

This booklet contains all the information you need to follow the order of events and to conduct business at the annual meeting. As a paperless alternative, you may wish to download the MBC Annual Meeting App. Just visit your phone's app store and search for "Missouri Baptist Convention."

Daily Business Update

The convention's daily Business Update is available at the MBC Administration and Registration desks. Business, information, and reports not found in the Book of Reports are printed in the daily Business Update. They also are available through the Annual Meeting App. Information for publication should be submitted to the Daily Bulletin office, located at Crossway Baptist Church, Room A-11.

Exhibits

Exhibits are located in the Middle School Gym, Main Lobby, College Lobby, and Worship Center Lobby at Crossway Baptist Church. Exhibit hours are 8 a.m. to 7 p.m. Monday, and Tuesday from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m.

MBC staff and related ministry partners are featured from Missouri Baptist and Southern Baptist life, including our entities, colleges, and seminaries.

The exhibit area also features a bookstore and hospitality area.

First Aid

In the event of an emergency, dial 911. Minor issues may be reported to the MBC Help Desk, where a first-aid kit is available.

Food Trucks

To assist with your meal needs, we have arranged for a variety of food trucks in the parking lot on the south side of the church. In addition, there are areas marked within the church where food is allowed if you wish to bring it inside.

Messages and Announcements

Please bring all messages and announcements to the MBC Help Desk located in the main lobby of Crossway Baptist Church, near registration. Only emergency messages are announced from the platform. Other messages are posted on a bulletin board near the help desk.

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 Cooperative Program giving and/or statistical information obtained from the Annual Church Profile (ACP).

Each affiliated church may send two (2) messengers to the annual meeting, plus the greater of: 1) one additional messenger for every \$6,000 contributed to the Cooperative Program (CP), and/or Missouri Baptist missions and ministries, and Southern Baptist missions, through the MBC in the prior calendar year (Jan. 1-Dec.31); or 2) one additional messenger for each full percent of the affiliated church's undesignated receipts contributed to CP and/or Missouri Baptist missions and ministries, and Southern Baptist missions, through the MBC. No affiliated church may send more than twelve (12) messengers. All messengers must be members of their sending affiliated church (MBC Bylaws: Bylaw 2, Messengers).

Childcare and Parenting Room

Childcare is available in the children's area off the main lobby. It is available for children who have been pre-registered. MBC's Disaster Relief team provides childcare for this event.

These rooms are open Monday from 8 a.m. to 9 p.m., and Tuesday from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. Please pick up your children during breaks. Meals are not provided, and workers need to have time to eat. Childcare is provided during lunch on Tuesday if you provide a meal for your child.

Registration

Registration begins at 8 a.m. Monday, Oct. 23, at the MBC registration area, located at Crossway Baptist Church. The bottom portion of your messenger card or your pre-registration confirmation barcode should be scanned at the kiosk to receive ballots. If you did not pre-register, please see an attendant to register as a messenger to receive your ballots.

ANNUAL MEETING OFFICE LOCATIONS

Bookstore:

Crossway Baptist Church, Middle School
Gym

Childcare:

Crossway Baptist Church, Children's Area

Daily Bulletin Office:

Crossway Baptist Church, Room A-11

Exhibits:

Crossway Baptist Church, Middle School
Gym, Main Lobby, College Lobby, and
Worship Center Lobby

First Aid/Emergencies:

Dial 911
For minor needs:
Crossway Baptist Church, Help Desk

Food Trucks

Crossway Baptist Church, Parking Lot, South
Entrance

Help Desk:

Crossway Baptist Church, Main Lobby

Information:

Crossway Baptist Church, Help Desk

Parenting Room:

Crossway Baptist Church, Children's Area

Production Room:

Crossway Baptist Church, Room W-5

Registration:

Crossway Baptist Church, Main Lobby

Staff Room:

Crossway Baptist Church, Room R-1

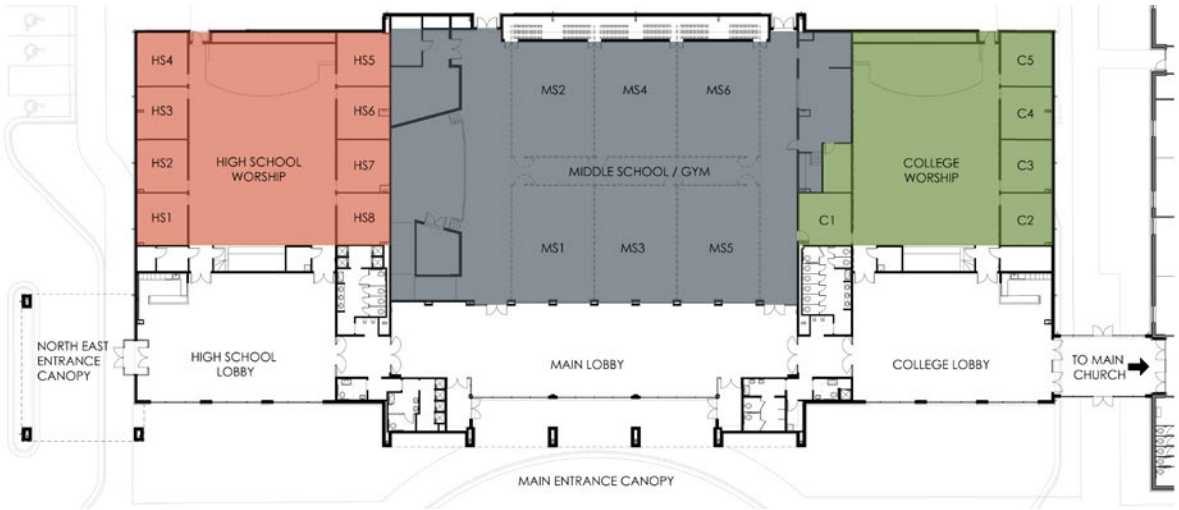
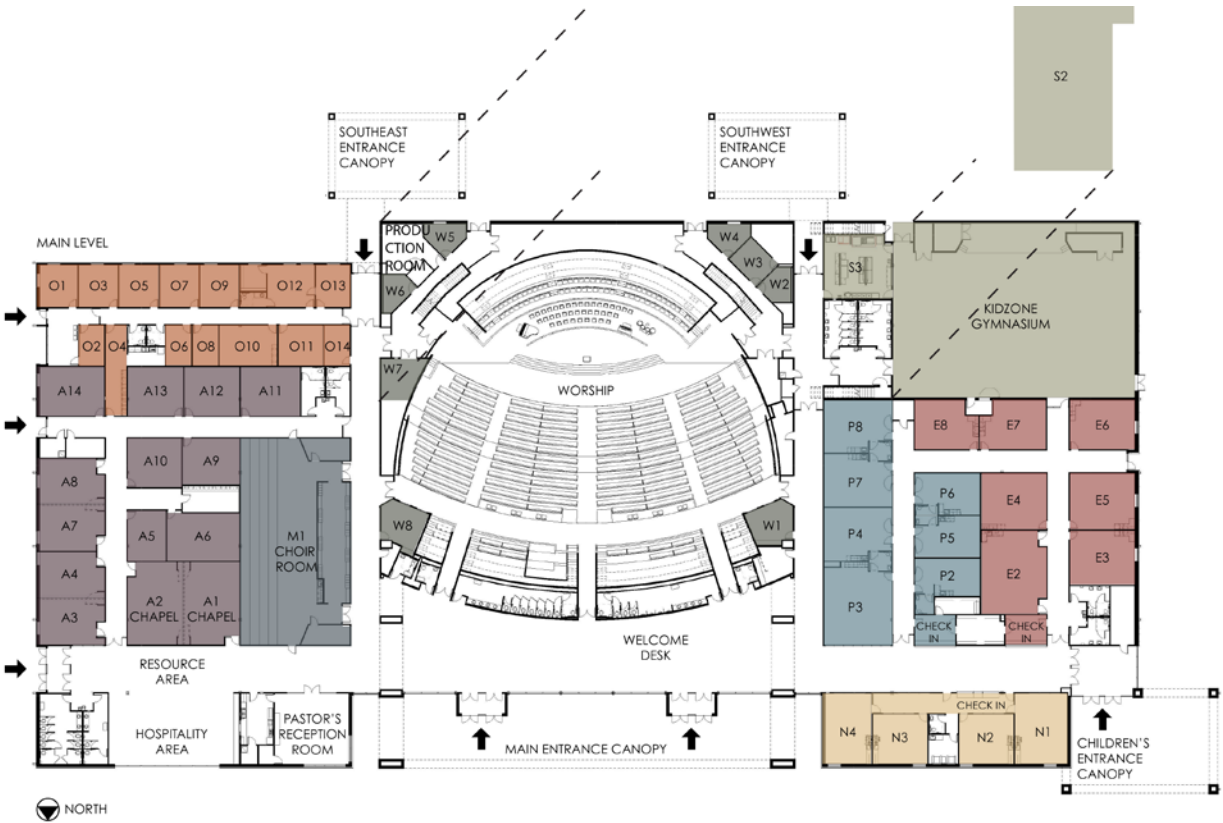
Speakers' Green Room:

Crossway Baptist Church, Room W-6

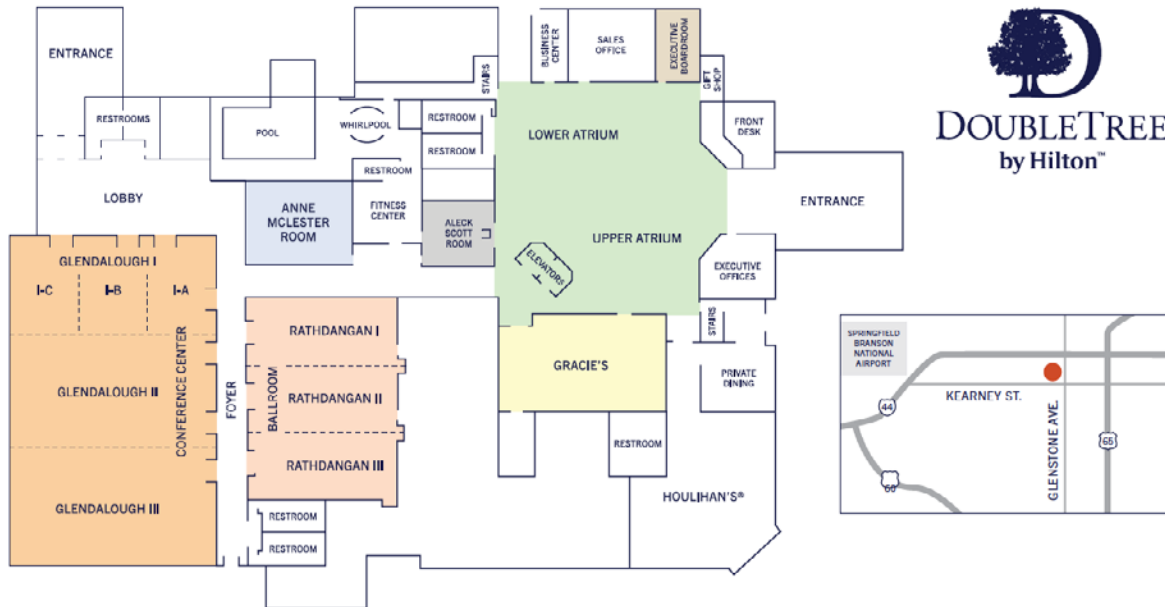
Ushers/Tellers Room:

Crossway Baptist Church, Room A-8

CROSSWAY BAPTIST CHURCH MAP



DOUBLETREE MAP





PREPARE FOR 2024

WE WILL OFFER TRAINING IN MULTIPLE CURRICULUMS!

YOU HAVE CHOICES!



Join us November 17, 2023, from 9 am – 2:30 pm for an overview of 2024 themes for Vacation Bible School. We will also be looking at ways to improve planning, preparation and follow-up for VBS!

FOR MORE INFO CONTACT:

Christy Nance
cdnance@swbell.net
(314) 795-0676

LOCATION:

The Baptist Building
in Jefferson City, MO

Scan Me!



mobaptist.org/vbs



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UNIVERSITY

"Financial aid has been extremely helpful to my education. I love SBU because it helps me mold my craft as an artist and follow God's plan!"

Kylie Yeast

Theater Major, Mexico, MO

Your Missouri Baptist church sends a portion of its budget to the Cooperative Program. Your giving supports students with financial aid, and faculty and staff at Southwest Baptist University to impact the next generation of servant leaders.

Discover how your gifts help others in Missouri, across North America, and around the world at mobaptist.org/cp.



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about SBU



OFFICERS PRESIDING AT ANNUAL MEETING



President

Chris Williams is president of the Missouri Baptist Convention and chairman of the Executive Board. He addresses the convention Monday evening.

Williams serves as senior pastor of Fellowship Church in suburban Kansas City. See page 29 for his full biography.



First Vice President

Wesley Vance serves as first vice president of the Missouri Baptist Convention and first vice chairman of the Executive Board.

Vance and his wife, Amy, have been married since 2001 and have two children, Addison and Owen. Prior to serving as executive pastor of Crossway Baptist Church in Springfield, he was the founding pastor of Fellowship Kansas City and on the pastoral staff at Lenexa Baptist Church.

He has served in several leadership roles with his local association, the Missouri Baptist Convention, and various Southern Baptist entities. Before his call to ministry, he owned a multi-state insurance agency focused on employee compensation packages.

Vance combines the passion of a preacher, the heart of a pastor, and the practical experience of a leader. He holds a bachelor's degree from Baylor University, and a master's degree and doctorate from Midwestern Baptist Theological Seminary. His desire is to see the gospel flourish around the world in this generation.



Second Vice President

Richard Young is second vice president of the Missouri Baptist Convention and second vice chairman of the Executive Board. He serves as senior pastor of South Haven Baptist Church in Belton, a suburb of Kansas City. South Haven is focused on discipleship, evangelism, missions, and community engagement – all to invite people to find hope in Christ.

Young has pastored for 30 years, 14 of those years in Missouri. He holds a bachelor's degree in accounting, a Master of Divinity from Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary, and a Doctor of Ministry from Midwestern Baptist Theological Seminary.

His desire is to see people move toward spiritual health and make “the most of their time because the days are evil” (Eph.

5:16). As God's people focus on their spiritual health, the consequences are faithful followers of Christ in every facet of their lives.

Young and his wife, Amy, have two sons and a granddaughter.



Recording Secretary

Justin Perry is recording secretary of the Missouri Baptist Convention and secretary of the Executive Board.

For the past 11 years, Perry has served as senior pastor of First Baptist Church, Viburnum, a church marked by glorifying God, loving one another, and making disciples.

As a third-generation pastor, he aims to leverage every aspect of his life to do the greatest good for God's kingdom. He also has led his church to develop the Love Thy Neighbor program, a construction-based local cooperative missions effort that aims to do for others what they cannot do for themselves. After all, Jesus has done for us what we cannot do for ourselves.

Perry holds a B.A. in Bible from Hannibal-LaGrange University; a Master of Divinity from The Southern Baptist Theological Seminary; a Master of Theology and a Doctorate in Church Leadership from Midwestern Baptist Theological Seminary.

He and his wife, Jennifer, have two children.



Executive Director-Treasurer

John Yeats is executive director-treasurer of the Missouri Baptist Convention. He directs the state's missionary staff; administers Cooperative Program funds given by MBC-affiliated churches; serves as publisher of *The Pathway*; and sets the state's cooperative strategy for fulfilling the Acts 1:8 mission mandate. See page 30 for his full biography.

What is the COOPERATIVE PROGRAM

The Cooperative Program, or CP, is the funding process Southern Baptists have used for nearly a century to support missions at the state, national, and international levels.

CP enables every Missouri Baptist and every MBC-affiliated church to make an impact for Christ at home and around the world.

THE WORLD'S GREATEST PROBLEM IS LOSTNESS

Today, over 3,000 people groups have no missionary presence and likely have no gospel access. Together, Southern Baptists must bring the gospel to every nation and all people.

WILL YOU JOIN US?

IMB.ORG



**INTERNATIONAL
MISSION BOARD**

PROGRAM PERSONALITIES

Allen, Jason – President, Midwestern Baptist Theological Seminary, Kansas City

Bartig, Matt – President, Missouri Baptist Pastors' Conference; Pastor, NorthRoad Community Church, Moscow Mills

Bennett, Brad – Director of Making Disciples, Missouri Baptist Convention

Bradford, Jeremiah – Chairman, Nominating Committee, Missouri Baptist Convention; Pastor, Cornerstone Baptist Church, St. Joseph

Bridges, Tyler – Chairman, Committee on Order of Business; Associate Pastor, Cornerstone Baptist Church, St. Joseph

Fowler, Wes – Newly Elected Executive Director-Treasurer, Missouri Baptist Convention

Franks, Neil – President, Missouri Baptist Foundation, Jefferson City

Gates, Justin – Chairman, Administrative Committee of the MBC Executive Board; Pastor, First Baptist Church, Forsyth

Harrison, Rodney – President, Baptist Homes & Healthcare Ministries

Hawkins, Ben – *The Pathway* Editor, Missouri Baptist Convention

Hearson, Blake – Chairman, Resolutions Committee, Missouri Baptist Convention; Northland Baptist Church, Kansas City

Hedger, Rick – Director of Multiplying Churches, Missouri Baptist Convention

Martin, Joby – Founder and Lead Pastor of The Church of Eleven22, Jacksonville, Fla.

Martin, Russell – President, Missouri Baptist Children's Home, Bridgeton

Matz, Robert – President, Hannibal-LaGrange University, Hannibal

Melson, Rick – President, Southwest Baptist University, Bolivar

Misloski, Jim – Director of Developing Leaders, Missouri Baptist Convention

Perry, Justin – Recording Secretary, Missouri Baptist Convention; Pastor, First Baptist Church, Viburnum

Phillips, Rob – Director of Ministry Support, Missouri Baptist Convention

Ross, Keith – President, Missouri Baptist University, St. Louis

Stier, Greg – Founder of Dare 2 Share Ministries, Colorado

Vance, Wesley – First Vice President, Missouri Baptist Convention; Associate Pastor, Crossway Baptist Church, Springfield

Williams, Chris – President, Missouri Baptist Convention; Pastor, Fellowship Church, Greenwood

Wilson, Josh – Chairman, Credentials Committee, Missouri Baptist Convention; Pastor, First Baptist Church, Park Hills

Yeats, John – Executive Director, Missouri Baptist Convention

Young, Richard – Second Vice President, Missouri Baptist Convention; Pastor, South Haven Baptist Church, Belton

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PRE-FILE MOTIONS AND AMENDMENTS

If messengers have motions they plan to submit at the 2023 MBC Annual Meeting, they are welcome to pre-file the motions with the recording secretary at recordingsecretary@mobaptist.org.

However, messengers who pre-file motions must appear at a microphone during time for introduction of miscellaneous business (Oct. 23 at 3:50 p.m. or 6:35 p.m.) and introduce their motions to the messengers attending the annual meeting.

Messengers who want to amend a motion may also file amendments with the recording secretary, but they must appear at a microphone and present the amendments to all messengers at the appropriate time.

Pre-filing allows the president and the recording secretary to more readily see a messenger's exact wording for the proposed motion or amendment.

BENTON AND WHITEHEAD NAMED PARLIAMENTARIANS

Convention President Chris Williams has appointed Judge Duane Benton, U.S. Court of Appeals, Eighth Circuit, Kansas City, and Jonathan Whitehead, attorney from Kansas City, to assist him with parliamentary procedures.

As parliamentarians, Benton and Whitehead advise and give parliamentary guidelines, but the chair rules during all sessions. The position of parliamentarian is not an elected position. The president of the convention appoints parliamentarians.

RESOLUTIONS

The process for submitting resolutions was completed before the annual meeting. To be considered, all resolutions had to be submitted in writing to the Committee on Resolutions at least sixty (60) days prior to the first session of the annual meeting. The person submitting a resolution had to certify that he or she would be a messenger to the annual meeting. Resolution authors were given the opportunity to address the Committee on Resolutions during the committee's deliberations. Only resolutions recommended by the Committee on Resolutions may be considered, with one exception: a properly submitted resolution not recommended by the committee may be considered by a two-thirds (2/3) vote of the messengers. No person may submit more than three (3) resolutions per year.

The Committee on Resolutions drafts and submits to the messengers such resolutions as it determines appropriate and provides a disposition report. Resolutions are approved by messengers during a regular session of the annual meeting. The adoption of any resolution is viewed as an expression of the messenger's sentiment and serves as guidance and information, but it does not direct action by MBC entities, churches, associations, or individual Missouri Baptists. The final report of the Committee on Resolutions is printed in the Tuesday bulletin. (Bylaws 5B & 6G)



**Christian
LIFE
Commission**
MISSOURI BAPTIST CONVENTION

YOU ARE THE
SALT OF THE EARTH • YOU ARE THE LIGHT OF THE WORLD
MATT. 5:12-13

The Commissioners of the CLC would like to encourage you and your church families to get to know your elected officials, more than just by name or a place to complain. Visit with them and commit to pray for them and see what God will do!

www.MBCCLC.org

ANNUAL MEETING PROVISIONAL PROGRAM

189th Annual Session, October 23-24, 2023

Crossway Baptist Church, Springfield

OFFICERS

Chris Williams, President Richard Young, Second Vice President
Wesley Vance, First Vice President Justin Perry, Recording Secretary

THEME: Restore My Soul,
Psalm 19:7 NASB

Monday Afternoon, October 23, 2023

	Music	Shaun Jones and the Fellowship Church Worship Team
3:30 p.m.	Call to Order	Chris Williams
	Prayer for the Nations	
	Welcome	Eddie Bumpers
	Report on Enrollment	Justin Perry
3:40	Report of Committee on Order of Business	Tyler Bridges
	Announce Tellers Committee	Chris Williams
	Credentials Committee Report - New Churches	Josh Wilson
3:50	Introduction of Miscellaneous Business - First Time	
3:55	WMU Video Report	
4:00	Sexual Abuse Response Team Report	
4:15	Worship	Fellowship Church Worship Team
4:25	Introduction of Speaker	Matt Bartig
	Guest speaker	Joby Martin
5:00	Benediction	Wesley Vance

Monday Evening, October 23, 2023

6:20 p.m.	Music	Fellowship Church Worship Team
6:30	Call to Order	Chris Williams
	Invocation	
	Report on Enrollment	Justin Perry
6:35	Miscellaneous Business - Second Time	
6:45-7:55	Recognition of New Pastors	John Yeats
	Remarks and Introduction of Speaker	John Yeats
	Guest Speaker	Tom Elliff
	Introduction of New Executive Director-Treasurer	Wesley Vance
	Remarks	Wes Fowler
7:55	Worship	Fellowship Church Worship Team
8:05	President's Address	Chris Williams
8:50	Announcements	Chris Williams
	Benediction	Richard Young
9:00	Celebration of John Yeats and Wes Fowler	DoubleTree by Hilton Ballroom Glendalough

Tuesday Morning, October 24, 2023

7:45 a.m.	Prayer Emphasis	Richard Young
8:00	Memorial Service	Wesley Vance
8:05	Hannibal-LaGrange University Report	Robert Matz
	Missouri Baptist University Report	Keith Ross
	Southwest Baptist University Report	Rick Melson

8:41	Nominating Committee Report	Jeremiah Bradford
8:46	Nominate New Members to Nominating Committee	Chris Williams
8:50	Historical Commission Video	
8:55	Report from North American Mission Board	
9:02	First Election of Officers	
9:07	Executive Board Recommendations	Juston Gates
9:27	Guest Speaker	Tom Elliff
10:05	Second Election of Officers	
10:15	Midwestern Baptist Theological Seminary Report	Jason Allen
10:25	Offering Prayer and Introduction of Offering	Rick Hedger
10:28	Praise and Worship	Fellowship Church Worship Team
10:45	Introduction of Guest Speaker	Chris Williams
	Guest Speaker	Greg Stier
11:30	Benediction	Justin Perry

Tuesday Afternoon, October 24, 2023

1:00 p.m.	Pre-session Video	
1:05	Call to Order	Chris Williams
	Invocation	Josh Hall
1:07	Third Election of Officers	
1:20	Miscellaneous Business	Tyler Bridges
1:30	Resolutions Committee Report	Blake Hearson
1:50	Fourth Election of Officers	

2:00	Reports from MBC Entities:	
	Missouri Baptist Children's Home	Russell Martin
	Baptist Homes & Healthcare Ministries	Rodney Harrison
	Missouri Baptist Foundation	Neil Franks
2:20	Credentials Committee Report - Remainder	Josh Wilson
2:30	Reports from SBC Ministry Partners:	
	International Mission Board	
	SBC Executive Committee	
	Ethics & Religious Liberty Commission	
2:45	Christian Life Commission Video Report	
2:50	Recognition of Outgoing Officers and Presentation of New Officers	John Yeats
2:55	Worship	Fellowship Church Worship Team
	Introduction of Speaker	Chris Williams
3:10	Final message	Wes Fowler
3:55	Benediction	

Thanks for Service

Missouri Baptists extend their special thanks to:

Crossway Baptist Church

Dr. Eddie Bumpers and the entire Crossway staff. Special thanks to Media Director Chris Rhodes for working long hours to meet all our needs.

DoubleTree Hotel by Hilton

Kyra Wieggers, Catering Sales Manager
Blake Edgar, Sales Coordinator
Kara Goodman, Reservation Manager
Wes Stoner, Director of Sales

Springfield Missouri Convention & Visitors Bureau

Melissa Evans, Sales Manager

Modern Litho/Brown Printing

Travis Stephens, Account Executive
Dawn Banta, Customer Service Consultant

Global Missions Security

Concilium has resourced and trained thousands of missionaries around the world.

Concilium's biblically based security principles not only keep missionaries safe, they empower Gospel advance.



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Crisis Management



Analysis



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Church Safety Programs

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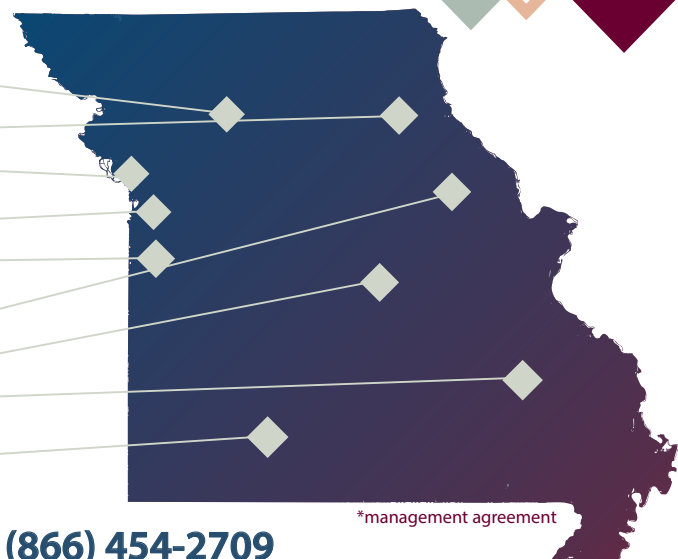
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& HEALTHCARE MINISTRIES

*A Voice for
the Aging*

REWRITING THE STANDARD to be
Christlike Compassionate
CARE TO THE AGING


THIS IS *Home*

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Shelbina*
Smithville
Independence
Adrian
Tri County
Ashland
Arcadia Valley
Ozark



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*management agreement





With a renewed intent, the CLC is striving to remind our churches that the commission offers help and encouragement in their specific communities with issues they may be facing. This can include educating churches, resourcing information for action regarding local policy issues, helping with voter registration, and providing information for upcoming elections.

The CLC is a voice in Jefferson City for the passage of sensible value-oriented legislation, as well as protecting the rights of all citizens as they are guaranteed in the Constitution.

The CLC is a resource to those who are challenged by all that Christian citizenship demands or who need biblical insight for dealing with current cultural struggles. We can help organize, promote, and recruit other believers in your battle against the contemporary culture.

The CLC is an educator for churches and individuals on the current social issues of the day, including the sanctity and dignity of every human life, protecting religious liberty, restoring the biblical family, fighting substance abuse, and eliminating gambling and pornography and their devastating effects.

With commissioners from across the state of Missouri, we have both local and state assistance available. We believe that people are created for community and that the church is most effective when it is most unified.

www.MBCCLC.org

ANNUAL MEETING SPEAKERS



Tom Elliff

Tom Elliff speaks from more than 60 years in ministry as a pastor, ministry leader, and missionary. Most recently, he served as president of the International Mission Board, the global mission arm of the Southern Baptist Convention.

Elliff holds degrees from Ouachita Baptist University (BA), Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary (MDiv), and The Southern Baptist Theological Seminary (DMin). He often speaks and writes on Christian family life, the urgency of revival, and the necessity of prayer.

Tom's wife, Jeannie, passed away in 2015. He remarried the former Diana (Mrs. Wayne) Barber, and they share 33 grandchildren and a growing number of great-grandchildren.



Shaun Jones

Shaun Jones leads worship for this year's annual meeting. He serves as executive pastor of Fellowship Church in Greenwood, Mo.

Jones led worship at churches in Kansas and Nebraska before coming to Fellowship in 2014. His passion is to see people connect with the Father through enthusiastic, biblical worship, bringing glory to Christ.

Jones earned a Bachelor of Arts degree in Vocal Music Education from William Jewell College and a Master of Arts in Theological Studies from Midwestern Baptist Theological Seminary.

He and his wife, Kelly, have two teenage children.



Joby Martin

Joby Martin is the founder and lead pastor of The Church of Eleven22 in Jacksonville, Fla. Since launching the church in 2012, he has led a movement for all people to discover and deepen a relationship with Jesus Christ.

In addition to providing The Church of Eleven22 with vision and leadership, Martin is an author, and a national and international preacher and teacher.

He has been married to his wife, Gretchen, for more than 20 years, and they have a son, JP, and a daughter, Reagan.



Greg Stier

Greg Stier is a champion for unleashing this generation with the gospel. As the founder of Dare 2 Share Ministries, he is driven to help the church activate Christian teenagers to reach their friends.

In the last 30 years, Greg has trained millions of youth leaders and students to relationally engage their world with the good news of Jesus. A highly sought-after speaker, Greg is a former pastor, church planter, youth leader, and the author of numerous books, including his latest, *Unlikely Fighter: The Story of How a Fatherless Street Kid Overcame Violence, Chaos, and Confusion to Become a Radical Christ Follower*.



Chris Williams

Chris Williams is president of the Missouri Baptist Convention and chairman of the Executive Board.

Williams serves as senior pastor of Fellowship Church, a church focused on making disciples that follow Jesus and live to bless others as a demonstration and proclamation of the gospel in suburban Kansas City.

Since the inception of his ministry, Williams' main focus has been on helping people discover they were created on purpose and for a great purpose – namely, having a relationship with their Creator through faith in Jesus Christ. His desire is to help men, women, boys, and girls engage with God's purposes and live the lives they were redeemed to live – lives that aim for the good of others, the glory of Christ, and the salvation of all.

Williams is the husband of Kate and the father of six children.

PRESCHOOL, CHILDREN'S & FAMILY MINISTRY LEADERSHIP CONFERENCE

heart
of the child

April 5-6, 2024

Southwestern Baptist
Theological Seminary
Fort Worth, TX

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John Yeats

John Yeats is executive director-treasurer of the Missouri Baptist Convention. Since 2011, he has directed the state's missionary staff; administered Cooperative Program funds given by MBC churches; served as publisher of *The Pathway*, the official news journal of the MBC; and set the state's cooperative strategy for fulfilling the Acts 1:8 mission mandate.

Yeats is stepping aside in his role as executive director after 12 years of service during which Missouri Baptists witnessed significant advancement in cooperative ministries; a healthier and more transparent financial status; a reorientation of staff around a vision of transforming lives and communities with the gospel; and the return of The Baptist Home, Missouri Baptist University, and the Missouri Baptist Foundation to the MBC

ministry family.

Prior to his leadership in Missouri, Yeats 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*.

From 1997-2022, he served as 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.

Yeats holds a Bachelor of Arts degree from Dallas Baptist University, a Master of Divinity degree from Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary, and a Doctor of Ministry degree from Midwestern Baptist Theological Seminary.

He and his wife, Sharon, have three sons and nine grandchildren.

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RELATED MEETINGS/EVENTS

Sunday, October 22

6:00 – 8:30 p.m.	Missouri Baptist Apologetics Network Meeting and Debate	Crossway Baptist Church High School Worship Area
8:30 – 11:00 p.m.	Officers Meeting	DoubleTree by Hilton Ballroom Rathdangan III

Monday, October 23

8:00 – 10:00 a.m.	Credentials Committee Meeting	Crossway Baptist Church Room A-7
8:00 a.m. – 9:00 p.m.	Exhibit Hall Open	Crossway Baptist Church Middle School Worship Area
8:30 a.m. – 2:45 p.m.	Pastors' Conference	Crossway Baptist Church Worship Center
10:30 a.m. – 12:15 p.m.	Executive Board Meeting	DoubleTree by Hilton Ballroom Rathdangan I & II
11:00 a.m. – 12:15 p.m.	Nominating Committee Meeting & Lunch	DoubleTree by Hilton Ballroom Rathdangan III
11:15 a.m.	Pastors' Conference Lunch (Hosted by NAMB)	Crossway Baptist Church Kidzone Gymnasium
12:15 – 1:30 p.m.	Executive Board Luncheon (Includes new trustees)	DoubleTree by Hilton Ballroom Glendalough II & III
1:00 – 3:00 p.m.	New Trustee Orientation	DoubleTree by Hilton Annie McLester Room
2:30 – 3:30 p.m.	Historical Commission Meeting	Crossway Baptist Church Room A-7

3:30 p.m.	MBC Annual Meeting Begins	Crossway Baptist Church Worship Center
5:00 – 6:15 p.m.	Executive Board Officers & Order of Business Committee Dinner	Crossway Baptist Church Rooms A1 & A2
5:00 – 6:15 p.m.	Missouri Baptist Disaster Relief Dinner (By reservation only)	Crossway Baptist Church High School Worship Area
5:00 – 6:15 p.m.	Missouri Baptist Resound Dinner (By reservation only)	Crossway Baptist Church College Worship Area
6:15 p.m.	MBC Annual Meeting Resumes	Crossway Baptist Church Worship Center
9:00 – 10:00 p.m.	Order of Business Committee Meeting	DoubleTree by Hilton Ballroom Rathdangan III
9:00 – 11:00 p.m.	Celebration Reception (Everyone invited!)	DoubleTree by Hilton Ballroom Glendalough

Tuesday, October 24

6:00 a.m.	ERLC Breakfast (By Invitation)	Crossway Baptist Church College Worship Area
7:45 a.m.	MBC Annual Meeting Continues	Crossway Baptist Church Worship Center
8:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m.	Exhibit Hall Open	Crossway Baptist Church Middle School Worship Area
11:30 a.m. – 12:50 p.m.	Ministry Wives Luncheon (By reservation only)	Crossway Baptist Church Kidzone Gymnasium
11:30 a.m. – 12:50 p.m.	Small Town Pastors' Lunch (By pre-registration only)	Crossway Baptist Church College Worship Area
11:30 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.	Executive Board Officers & Order of Business Committee Lunch	Crossway Baptist Church Rooms A1 & A2
1:00 p.m.	MBC Annual Meeting Continues	Crossway Baptist Church Worship Center

HOW THE COOPERATIVE PROGRAM WORKS



When you give to your church, a portion goes to the Cooperative Program (CP), which advances the gospel in Missouri, across North America, and around the world.

Here's how CP works, in three easy steps:

- 1** You give to your local Missouri Baptist church.
- 2** Your church shares a portion through the Cooperative Program.
- 3** The combined CP giving of 1,750 Missouri Baptist churches supports ministries across our state, throughout North America, and around the world.

CP enables every giver and every local church to make an impact for Christ.

Learn more about the Cooperative Program at mobaptist.org/cp.



HOW YOUR COOPERATIVE PROGRAM DOLLAR IS INVESTED

When your church gives through the Cooperative Program, here's how each \$1 helps transform lives and communities with the gospel:*

Missouri Baptist Causes

\$0.02	Making Disciples
\$0.05	Multiplying Churches
\$0.04	Developing Leaders
\$0.05	Collegiate Ministries
\$0.12	Executive Office
\$0.07	Ministry Support & Apologetics

Missouri Baptist Entities

\$0.04	Missouri Baptist Children's Home
\$0.16	Christian Higher Education
\$0.01	Baptist Homes & Healthcare Ministries
\$0.01	Missouri Baptist Foundation

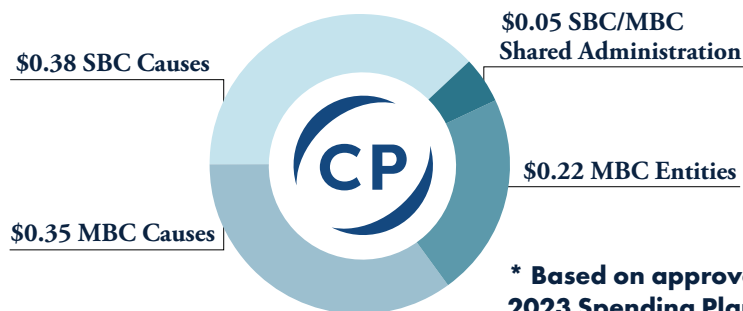
Southern Baptist Causes

\$0.19	International Mission Board
\$0.09	North American Mission Board
\$0.08	Theological Education
\$0.01	Ethics & Religious Liberty Commission
\$0.01	Executive Committee

SBC/MBC Shared Administration

\$0.05	GuideStone Pastor Protection; <i>The Pathway</i>
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\$1.00 Total



* Based on approved
2023 Spending Plan

TOP CP GIVING CHURCHES IN 2022

300 or more in average worship attendance

Rank	Short Name	Pastor	CP Giving
1	Springfield, Crossway	Eddie Bumpers	\$621,947.53
2	Springfield, Second	John Birchett, Jr	\$385,041.94
3	Springfield, Ridgecrest	Jeremy Muniz	\$350,188.36
4	O'Fallon, First	Michael Atherton	\$248,961.12
5	St Charles, First	Buddy Perstrobe	\$173,818.49
6	Cape Girardeau, Lynwood	Mark Anderson	\$166,407.14
7	Jefferson City, Concord	John King	\$151,076.75
8	West Plains, First	Steve Francis (Interim)	\$137,806.79
9	Kearney, First	Ken Parker	\$133,358.08
10	Bolivar, First	Adam Hughes	\$125,151.59

125 to 299 in average worship attendance

Rank	Short Name	Pastor	CP Giving
1	St Louis, Parkway	David Sheppard (Interim)	\$141,428.16
2	Sikeston, Miner	Mitchell Jackson	\$123,310.34
3	Owensville, First	Kevin Sullivan	\$85,227.04
4	Marshfield, First	Rich Cochran	\$77,737.16
5	St Charles, Ridgecrest	Neal VanNatta	\$70,966.08
6	Lake Ozark, Mt Carmel	Charles Kempf	\$69,280.74
7	Hannibal, Calvary	Jeff Anderson	\$66,999.96
8	Richland, First	Matt Brady	\$65,092.31
9	Salem, First	Joel Hayworth	\$64,979.69
10	Osage Beach, Riverview	Michael Beene	\$61,023.40

124 or less in average worship attendance

Rank	Short Name	Pastor	CP Giving
1	Charleston, First	Milton Harrington	\$58,908.76
2	Potosi, Potosi Southern	Rick Posey	\$44,045.56
3	Crane, First	Jim Cross	\$43,098.00
4	Mansfield, First	Jim Posey	\$39,154.91
5	Springfield, Macedonia	Craig Liscom	\$36,324.65
6	Jefferson City, Cornerstone	Brian Credille	\$34,665.42
7	Malden, First	Aulden LeBlanc, Jr	\$34,159.00
8	Miller, First	Mike Willmouth	\$32,268.65
9	Richmond, First	William Isaacson	\$31,943.25
10	Paris, First	Wesley Hammond	\$30,624.45

NEW CHURCHES 2022-2023

According to the governing documents of the convention, specifically the Credentials Committee Rules and Procedures, the committee recommends the churches listed below be granted membership in the Missouri Baptist Convention:

Newly Affiliated Churches	City	Pastor	Association
Glory Devine Mission Church	Nevada	Ricky Poe	Osage River
In Christ Alone Church	Fairview	John Bartholomew	Shoal Creek
NorthRoad Community	St Charles	Greg McGhee	St Louis Metro
Overflow Church	Lee's Summit	Alan Findley	Blue River-KC
Redemption River Church	Poplar Bluff	Krag Runzi	Cane Creek Stoddard
The Ridge Church in Pacific	Pacific	Austin Jackson	Franklin County
Shelter of St Charles	Hazelwood	Volodymyr Zolotov	St Louis Metro
Reaffiliation	City	Pastor	Association
Twin Oaks Baptist Church	Poplar Bluff	Tom Perren	Cane Creek Stoddard
Virginia Mines Baptist Church	Lonedell	Kevin Pewitt	Franklin

DECEASED MINISTERS

Name	Church Membership	City	Association
Gene Austin	Freshwater Church	Jefferson City	Concord
Edwin Burris	Hopedale Baptist Church	Ozark	Tri-County
Lawrence Chatman	Gasconade Baptist Church	Dixon	Pulaski
Jerry Coleman	Huntsdale Baptist Church	Columbia	Heart of Missouri
Leo Daugherty	First Baptist Church	Salem	Dent
Gerald Davidson	First Baptist Church	Arnold	Jefferson
Woodrow Martin	Union Hill Baptist Church	Vienna	Gasconade Valley
James McCoy	Sheldon Baptist Church	Sheldon	Ozark Prairie
Hubert Newman	Fellowship Baptist Church	Warrenton	Twin Rivers
Tom Patterson	Fort Wyman Baptist Church	Rolla	Phelps
Paul Powell	Bethel Church (formerly Kingshighway)	Saint Louis	St Louis Metro
Jack Sanders	New Salem Baptist Church	Neosho	Shoal Creek
Ron Satterwhite	First Baptist Church	Ewing	Mt Salem-Wyaconda
Charles Smith	Sonrise Baptist Church	Bonne Terre	Mineral Area
Steven Strauch	Hillcrest Baptist Church	Lebanon	Laclede
Don Wideman	First Baptist Church (MBC President 1980)	North Kansas City	Clay Platte

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PAST MBC PRESIDENTS

MBC President	Year	MBC President	Year	MBC President	Year
Swadley, Paul	1978	Spicer, T. O.	1994	McCoy, Bruce	2009
Delozier, Homer	1979	Brooks, Paul	1995	McCoy, Bruce	2010
Wideman, Donald	1980	Sager, Doyle	1996	Marshall, John	2011
Jeffries, Jim	1981	Mallory, Arthur	1997	Marshall, John	2012
Crabtree, T. T.	1982	Page, Wendell	1998	Hammond, Wesley	2013
Morris, Max	1983	Taylor, Gary	1999	Hammond, Wesley	2014
Garrett, Carl	1984	Scribner, Jay	2000	Franks, Neil	2015
Gilbert, John	1985	Collins, Robert D.	2001	Franks, Neil	2016
Jones, Wallace	1986	Curtis, Bob	2002	Parker, Ken	2017
Hughes, John	1987	Qualls, Kenny	2003	Parker, Ken	2018
Hufft, Charles	1988	Shinkle, Monte	2003	Muniz, Jeremy	2019
Joslin, James	1989	Tolliver, David	2004	Muniz, Jeremy	2020
Beaver, W. Lee	1990	Jackson, Mitchell	2005	Nelson, Jon	2021
Wakefield, Richard	1991	Sawyer, Ralph	2006	Nelson, Jon	2022
Davidson, Gerald	1992	Green, Mike	2007	Williams, Chris	2023
Travis, Rodney	1993	Davidson, Gerald	2008		

FUTURE ANNUAL MEETINGS

October 28-29, 2024	St. Charles Convention Center, St. Charles
October 27-28, 2025	Branson Hilton Convention Center, Branson
October 26-27, 2026	St. Charles Convention Center, St. Charles (Pending approval of messengers)

PAST MBC ANNUAL MEETINGS

Year	Location	Visitors	Messengers	Total	Theme & Scripture	Annual Sermon Preacher
2011	Tan-Tar-A Osage Beach October 31- November 2	364	939	1,303 419 churches	Count All as Loss Philippians 3:1-11	Joshua Hedger
2012	Millennium Hotel St. Louis October 29-31	225	916	1,141 396 churches	Gratitude Psalm 107:1	Kenny Qualls
2013	Sheraton KC Hotel at Crown Center Kansas City October 28-30	263	940	1,203 530 churches	The Holy Way Isaiah 35:8	Eddie Bumpers
2014	Tan-Tar-A Osage Beach October 27-29	269	937	1,206 390 churches	Together Colossians 2:2	Richie Rhea
2015	Expo Center Springfield October 26-28	228	1,014	1,242 439 churches	Forward Philippians 3:13-14	Robert Shelton
2016	Convention Center St. Charles October 24-26	195	861	1,056 366 churches	Never Alone Deuteronomy 31:6	Ron Ratliff
2017	Connection Point Church, Raytown October 23-25	234	883	1,117 391 churches	Who Is My Neighbor? Luke 10:29	Kirk Baker
2018	Crossway Baptist Church Springfield October 22-23	184	1,042	1,226 451 churches	Steady Exodus 17:8-16	Ken Parker
2019	Convention Center Branson October 28-29	252	1,234	1,486 490 churches	Christ is All! Colossians 1:15-23	Jeremy Muniz
2020	Convention Center St. Charles October 26-27	155	809	964 332 churches	Jesus Saves! Luke 19:10	Jeremy Muniz
2021	Convention Center Branson October 25-26	265	1,186	1,471 449 churches	Kingdom Focus Matthew 6:33	Jon Nelson
2022	Convention Center St. Charles October 24-25	222	1,016	1,238 462 churches	Reflecting Christ to a Watching World Acts 13:22	Jon Nelson

IN THE PAST YEAR MODR VOLUNTEERS:*

Worked: **3,667** volunteer days

Provided: **48,436** meals

Responded to : **17** disaster sites

Saw: **12** professions of faith.

**statistics from July 2022 to June 2023*

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- Pastoral Mentorship Initiative



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Janis Newbold (573) 636-0400 Ext. 321

EXECUTIVE BOARD REPORT

November 2022 - October 2023

Pastor Chris Williams, Chairman

Dr. John Yeats, Executive Director

1. Since the last convention the Board met three times in person and twice via online media. Actions from these meetings are summarized in this report.
2. The following retirements occurred within the Executive Board staff: Christie Dowell, administrative assistant, Ministry Support.
3. The Executive Board staff mourned the loss of Stacy Seaton, administrative assistant, Developing Leaders; and Gene Austin, Director of Collegiate Ministries.
4. The Executive Director reported to the Administrative Committee and Board each meeting.
5. The institutions and agencies – Missouri Baptist Children’s Home, Hannibal-LaGrange University, Southwest Baptist University, Missouri Baptist University, Baptist Homes & Healthcare Ministries, and the Missouri Baptist Foundation – reported at each meeting to the Entity Relations Committee and to the Board periodically on a rotation basis.
6. Staff members were recognized and received bonuses at five-year tenure increments as follows: 40 years – Carla Stegeman; 15 years - Beth Peeper; 10 years - Eric Barb, Tony Boes, Ben Hawkins, and Omar Segovia; 5 years - Brian Grout and Gaylon Moss.
7. The Board received detailed financial reports at each meeting.
8. A contribution of \$56,798.13 for the Mission Dignity program was reported to the Board. These monies are to be used for qualified recipients living in Missouri.
9. A 2024 Cooperative Program goal and related offering goals and budget recommendations were approved for recommendation to the Convention. (See Recommendations #1 and #2)
10. The Board approved for recommendation to the MBC the 2024 SBC/MBC Shared Administration and Missouri Baptist Missions and Ministries Spending Plans. (See Recommendation #3)
11. The Board approved for recommendation to the MBC a Rheubin L. South Missouri Missions Offering allocations budget to be distributed in 2024 (based on the 2023 MMO Offering Goal of \$750,000). (See Recommendation #4)
12. The 2022 MBC audit report, as prepared by CliftonLarsonAllen LLP, was received as presented.

13. The Board approved for recommendation to the Convention a special offering on Tuesday, October 24, 2023. The offering is to benefit pastoral care through the MBC Leader Care Network. (See Recommendation #5)
14. The Board approved invitations for certain exhibitors during the 2023 annual meeting.
15. The Board approved for recommendation to the MBC the date and location of the 2026 Annual Meeting of the MBC. (See Recommendation #6)
16. The Board approved for recommendation to the MBC an amendment to MBC Bylaw 2. (See Recommendation #7)
17. The Executive Board received the report and recommendations of the Sexual Abuse Response Team. (See pages 93-98)
18. The Board approved for recommendation to the MBC an amendment to the Missouri Baptist Foundation's governing documents. (See Recommendation #8)
19. The Board approved a change in the Credentials Committee Rules and Procedures.
20. The Board unanimously voted to call Dr. Wesley Fowler as Executive Director-Treasurer of the Missouri Baptist Convention.
21. Actions from any recommendations of the Executive Board on Monday morning, October 23, 2023, will be printed in the daily Business Update as part of the Executive Board Report and Recommendations to the Convention.

Recommendations from The Executive Board

1. The Executive Board recommends to the MBC that the Convention approve the following goals for 2024 statewide offerings:

Cooperative Program	\$15,000,000
Missouri Missions Offering*	\$760,000
Lottie Moon Offering for International Missions	\$4,000,000
Annie Armstrong Offering for North American Missions	\$2,200,000
World Hunger Funds	\$150,000

*From monies above MMO goal, up to \$25,000 to Baptist Homes & Healthcare Ministries for benevolence

2. The Executive Board recommends to the MBC that the Convention approve the 2024 allocation goal of \$15,000,000 be amended as follows: 6% SBC/MBC Shared Administrative Costs off the top and the balance distributed 40% to SBC missions and ministries, 36.84% to MBC missions and ministries, and 23.16% to Missouri Baptist Entities. It is also recommended that all Cooperative Program dollars received above the goal would receive a 50/50 allocation for the MBC/SBC.

Cooperative Program Allocations Plan Years 2023-2024

	Approved 2023 Allocation	% Total	Proposed 2024 Allocation	% Total
Cooperative Program Goal	\$15,000,000		\$15,000,000	
Less: SBC/MBC Shared Administration	\$(750,000)	5.00%	\$(900,000)	6.00%
Total Cooperative Program for Allocation	\$14,250,000		\$14,100,000	
Southern Baptist Convention	\$5,700,000	40.00%	\$5,640,000	40.00%
Missouri Baptist Missions & Ministries	\$5,250,000	36.84%	\$5,194,737	36.84%
Missouri Baptist Entities:				
The Children's Home	\$700,000	4.91%	\$692,632	4.91%
Baptist Homes & Healthcare Ministries	\$100,000	0.70%	\$98,947	0.70%
Christian Higher Ed Operations (SBU, HLGU, MBU)	\$2,400,000	16.84%	\$2,374,737	16.84%
Missouri Baptist Foundation	\$100,000	0.70%	\$98,947	0.70%
Total Missouri Baptist Entities	\$3,300,000	23.16%	\$3,265,263	23.16%
Total Cooperative Program Goal¹	\$14,250,000	100.00%	\$14,100,000	100.00%

¹ CP receipts above the goal are allocated 50% to the SBC and 50% to Missouri Baptist Missions & Ministries

3. The Executive Board recommends to the MBC that the Convention approve the 2024 SBC/MBC Shared Administration and the Missouri Baptist Missions and Ministries Spending Plan.

SBC/MBC Shared Administration 2024 Proposed Spending Plan

	2023 Approved	2024 Proposed	Dollar Change
Income			
SBC/MBC Shared Administrative Income:			
GuideStone Pastor Protection	\$400,000	\$400,000	-
Pathway	\$350,000	\$350,000	-
Cooperative Program Promotion	-	\$150,000	\$150,000
Total Income	\$750,000	\$900,000	\$150,000
Expenses			
SBC/MBC Shared Administrative Expenses:			
GuideStone Pastor Protection	\$400,000	\$400,000	-
Pathway	\$350,000	\$350,000	-
Cooperative Program Promotion	-	\$150,000	\$150,000
Total Expenses	\$750,000	\$900,000	\$150,000
Net Income/(Expense)	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -

Missouri Baptist Missions & Ministries 2024 Proposed Spending Plan

	2023 Approved	Percentage Income/ Expense	2024 Proposed	Percentage Income/ Expense
Income				
CP Missouri Missions & Ministries Income	\$5,250,000	91.35%	\$5,194,737	91.11%
NAMB Income	\$350,000	6.09%	\$350,000	6.14%
Generated Income	\$147,000	2.56%	\$157,000	2.75%
Total Income	\$5,747,000	100.00%	\$5,701,737	100.00%
Expenses				
Operating Expenses:				
Making Disciples	\$47,030		\$58,030	
Collegiate Ministries	\$36,530		\$36,530	
Multiplying Churches	\$83,800		\$80,800	
Developing Leaders	\$70,030		\$73,150	
Ministry Support	\$330,112		\$315,537	
Executive Office	\$54,345		\$54,845	
Business Services/Human Resources	\$257,600		\$295,674	
Properties Management	\$224,200		\$245,200	
Total Operating Expenses	\$1,103,647	19.20%	\$1,159,766	20.34%

	2023 Approved	Percentage Income/ Expense	2024 Proposed	Percentage Income/ Expense
Program Expenses:				
Making Disciples	\$280,500		\$275,500	
Collegiate Ministries	\$417,000		\$397,935	
Multiplying Churches	\$403,860		\$365,420	
Developing Leaders	\$49,725		\$23,750	
Ministry Support	\$97,000		\$84,400	
Executive Office	\$76,700		\$97,700	
Business Services/Human Resources	\$93,500		\$96,000	
Total Program Expenses	\$1,418,285	24.68%	\$1,340,705	23.51%
Personnel and Support Expenses*	\$3,060,858	53.26%	\$3,041,429	53.34%
Other Capital Items	\$75,000	1.31%	\$75,000	1.32%
SBC/MBC Shared Administration	\$89,210	1.55%	\$84,837	1.49%
Total Expenses	\$5,747,000	100.00%	\$5,701,737	100.00%
Net Income/(Expense)	\$ -		\$ -	

*Pathway personnel and support expenses reflected in SBC/MBC Shared Administration.

4. The Executive Board recommends to the MBC that the Convention approve the Rheubin L. South Missouri Mission Offering funds received during 2023 be distributed in 2024 as follows:

2024 Proposed Rheubin L. South Missouri Missions Offering Budget

Ministry Area	2022 Offering for 2023 Ministries	Proposed 2023 Offering for 2024 Ministries
Making Disciples	\$31,000	\$28,000
Collegiate Ministries	\$147,994	\$122,500
Multiplying Churches	\$160,000	\$173,000
Developing Leaders	\$185,000	\$174,575
Synergy (new in 2023-24)		\$33,000
Standing Percentage Allocations	\$216,006	\$218,925
Total MMO Allocations	\$740,000	\$750,000

5. The Executive Board recommends to the MBC that the Convention approve the 2023 Annual Meeting Offering be used to benefit pastoral care through the MBC Leader Care Network.
6. The Executive Board recommends to the MBC that the Convention approves the 2026 Annual Meeting of the Missouri Baptist Convention be held October 26-27 at the St. Charles Convention Center, St. Charles, Missouri.
7. The Executive Board recommends to the MBC that the Convention approve that Bylaw 2 of the Bylaws of the Missouri Baptist Convention be restated to read (changes in bold italics):

Bylaw 2 Messengers

Each affiliated church may send two (2) Messengers to the Annual Meeting, plus the greater of:
1) one additional Messenger for every \$6,000 contributed to the Cooperative Program (CP) and/or Missouri Baptist Missions and Ministries, and Southern Baptist Missions, through the MBC in the prior calendar year (Jan. 1 – Dec. 31); or 2) one additional Messenger for each full percent of the affiliated church's ~~undesignated~~ **total** receipts contributed to the Cooperative Program and/or Missouri Baptist Missions and Ministries, and Southern Baptist Missions, through the MBC. The second option is calculated as follows:

Church's contributions to CP and/or Missouri Baptist Missions and Ministries, and
Southern Baptist Missions, through the MBC for Jan. 1 – Dec. 31 of prior year

----- Divided by -----

Church's ~~undesignated~~ **total** receipts for prior year as reported in the Annual Church Profile (ACP)

No affiliated church may send more than twelve (12) Messengers. All Messengers must be members of their sending affiliated church.

Background: An approved recommendation from the floor of the 2022 Annual Meeting changed the Bylaw as stated above. The current proposed change is needed since SBC Missions contributions through the MBC now includes designated receipts. The calculation for Option 2 will now use **total** receipts.

8. The Executive Board recommends that the Messengers to the 2023 MBC Annual Meeting approve the amended and restated Articles of Incorporation and Bylaws for the Missouri Baptist Foundation (MBF) and for Straightway Holdings, Inc. (SHI). The documents submitted with this report were the final, revised versions, approved by the EBMBC and accepted by the MBF / SHI boards: Exhibit A (MBF Articles); Exhibit B (MBF Bylaws); Exhibit C (SHI Articles) and Exhibit D (SHI Bylaws). A two-thirds majority vote is required for approval.

EXHIBIT A
SECOND AMENDED and RESTATED
ARTICLES OF AGREEMENT OF
MISSOURI BAPTIST FOUNDATION

KNOW ALL MEN BY THESE PRESENTS

The following agreement, was entered into for the purpose of forming a corporation under the laws of Missouri, relating to benevolent, religious, scientific, educational and miscellaneous corporations under Article 10, Chapter 33, of the Revised Statutes, 1939, on June 28, 1946, as amended September 6, 1951, July 30, 1957, November 22, 1989, November 1, 1994, and October 25, 2016, (decree dated 4-10-2017, SoS Certificate issued 9-18-2017), October 29, 2019, (decree dated 12-5-2019; SoS Certificate issued 12-11-2019) and October 24, 2023, (decree dated _____, 2023, SoS Certificate issued ____, 2023), and now serves as the Articles of Agreement (“Articles”) of the Missouri Baptist Foundation, a not-for-profit Missouri Corporation which hereby accepts the provisions of the Missouri Nonprofit Corporations Act pursuant to Chapter 355 of the Revised Statutes of Missouri, as amended (the “Act”).

ARTICLE 1 – NAME AND TYPE OF CORPORATION

The name of this Corporation shall be Missouri Baptist Foundation (“MBF”, or “Corporation”).

ARTICLE 2 – PUBLIC BENEFIT CORPORATION

The Corporation shall be a public benefit corporation.

ARTICLE 3 - DURATION

The Corporation’s duration shall be perpetual.

ARTICLE 4 – LOCATION AND REGISTERED AGENT

The name and street address of the Registered Agent and Registered Address of the Corporation in Missouri is Neil Franks, 400 E. High Street, Suite 500, Jefferson City, MO 65101. The Board of Trustees is authorized to change the Registered Agent / Address without amending these Articles, by filing Mo Corp 59.

ARTICLE 5 - PURPOSES

- A. The purpose of the MBF is to glorify God by advancing the Gospel of Jesus Christ, strengthening the mission and ministry efforts of Missouri Baptists within the State of Missouri and around the world by developing, managing and distributing financial resources for the support of those efforts as the trust services agency of the MBC. In furtherance of such end, the MBF shall promote Christian estate stewardship and assist with planning and implementation of charitable gift arrangements, may receive by bequest, devise, gift, purchase or lease, either absolutely or in trust, any property (real, personal or mixed), and shall administer such property and invest and reinvest the same, or the proceeds thereof, in such manner as in the judgment of the Trustees will best promote such objects. In advancement of these purposes, MBF has authority to offer and sell investments; to issue certificates, notes, bonds, evidences of indebtedness, or any other financial instruments or securities, and to pay interest and to make distributions thereon, to a limited class of individuals, entities, and ministries, as may be defined by MBF and the MBC Executive Board.
- B. In addition to the denominational funds committed to the MBF, the MBF shall have authority to use its own judgment concerning which other funds it will receive and administer.
- C. Public Benefit Corporation. The MBF is a public benefit corporation that accepts and is operating and existing in accordance with the provisions of the Act.
- D. Exempt Organization. The MBF is organized and operated exclusively for charitable, educational, religious, and scientific purposes, which purposes then qualify it for exemption from federal income tax under the provisions of Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended (the “Code”) and as then qualify contributions to it for deductions under Section 170(c)(2), Section 2055(a)(2) and Section 2522 of the Code.

- E. Not a Private Foundation. Notwithstanding any other provision of these Articles, the Act, or any other law, rule or regulation, in the event that the MBF is classified as a private foundation under Section 509 of the Code, the MBF shall distribute its income for each tax year at such time and in such manner as not to become subject to the tax on undistributed income imposed by Code Section 4942. Further, the MBF shall not engage in any act of self-dealing as defined in Code Section 4941(d), nor retain any excess business holdings as defined in Code Section 4943(c), nor make any investments in such manner as to incur tax liability under Code Section 4944, nor make any taxable expenditure as defined in Code Section 4945(d).
- F. Religious Liberty. Nothing in the Articles or Bylaws of the MBF requires the MBF, its trustees, officers or agents to follow any civil law, rule or ruling that requires any act or omission that violates Scripture or any religious belief or practice based on Scripture, compatible with the Baptist Faith & Message, as currently adopted by the MBC, or that violates the right of Religious Freedom and Free Exercise which God has granted to all people and which the First Amendment to the U.S. Constitution was intended to protect.
- G. MBC Entity. The MBF is an Entity of the Missouri Baptist Convention (“MBC”) and is subject to the governing documents of the MBC, as amended (See Exec. Board Bylaw 1). MBF adopts as its statement of faith the Baptist Faith and Message, as currently adopted by the MBC.

ARTICLE 6 – CORPORATE MEMBER

The Corporation has a member, as defined in the Act. The MBC is the sole member of the MBF (the “Member”). The MBF and its Trustees have a fiduciary relationship to the MBC, to honor its rights as sole Member of the MBF. MBC has, in its sole and absolute discretion, the following rights of membership:

1. the sole and exclusive right to elect and remove Trustees of the MBF;
2. the right to notice of all meetings of the MBF's Board of Trustees;
3. the right to recommend, approve, or reject, in writing, any addition, deletion or other amendment to the MBF's Articles and Bylaws;
4. the right to approve or reject the sale, mortgage, lease, pledge or transfer of all or substantially all of the MBF's assets;
5. the right to approve or reject the creation, amendment or dissolution of any subsidiary of the MBF;

6. the right to be represented by an MBC officer at all meetings of the MBF's Board of Trustees;
7. the right to have the MBC president and MBC Executive Director serve as ex officio Trustees, without vote, of the MBF's Board;
8. the right to have the MBC Executive Director serve as a non-voting member of any search committee for MBF's Chief Executive Officer; and
9. the right to approve or reject any material change of the ministry of the MBF.

ARTICLE 7 - AUTHORITY

The MBF shall have authority to succeed to all of the rights and powers of the corporation known as The Executive Board of the Missouri Baptist General Association created by pro forma Decree of the Circuit Court of Jackson County, Missouri, on July 2, 1917, filed in the office of the Secretary of State on July 18, 1917.

ARTICLE 8 - GOVERNANCE

Except to the extent that such power is held by the Member, management of the property, affairs, business and activities of the MBF shall be supervised or managed by or under the direction of the Board of Trustees, including but not limited to the following authority:

1. manage, invest, reinvest, and administer all funds and property acquired or transferred to the MBF; and
2. execute transfers, assignments, contracts, deeds, releases, receipts, acquittances, and any other instruments that may be necessary in the administration of the property and assets of the MBF.

Other requirements such as number, qualifications, and election of Trustees are further defined in MBF's Bylaws.

ARTICLE 9 - NO PRIVATE INUREMENT

The MBF does not operate for profit or pecuniary gain. No part of the income, corpus, or principal assets of the MBF shall ever inure to the benefit of, and shall not be distributable to, its Trustees, officers, or any other private person, except that the MBF may pay reasonable compensation for goods provided and services actually rendered and make payments and distributions in furtherance of its purposes. No Trustee of the MBF shall receive, or be lawfully entitled to receive, any salary or remuneration for services connected with the administration of the affairs of the MBF. Actual expenses incurred by any such person may be reimbursed when authorized by the Trustees.

ARTICLE 10 – POLITICAL ACTIVITY

The MBF shall not, as a substantial part of its activities, carry on propaganda or otherwise attempt to influence legislation and the MBF does not participate in or intervene in electioneering or political campaigns for elective office (including the publishing or distribution of statements) in any political campaign on behalf of (or in opposition to) any candidate for public office.

ARTICLE 11 – AMENDMENTS

The Trustees shall have the authority, at a regular or a special called meeting of the Board of Trustees, to amend these Articles in any manner consistent with the purposes of the MBF as described in Article 5(A) herein, upon receiving the vote of a majority of the Trustees in office, by submitting any such amendment to the Executive Board of the MBC for its recommendation of approval to the MBC and, upon receiving the approval of the MBC of such amendment, by the President, file the amended Articles in the Office of the Secretary of State of Missouri. These Articles, including this Article, the Consent Clause, cannot be deleted or amended by Trustees without approval in writing by the MBC Messengers at an Annual Meeting, the “in writing” requirement being satisfied when the MBC records the result of the Messenger vote.

ARTICLE 12- BYLAWS

The Trustees shall have authority to adopt such Bylaws as they may deem advisable and not inconsistent with the provisions of these Articles. A Bylaw amendment, like Articles amendment, must also be approved in writing by the MBC Messengers, after recommendation by the Executive Board.

ARTICLE 13 – DISSOLUTION

Dissolution, merger, or the sale, lease, exchange or other disposition of all or substantially all of the MBF's property must be approved by the MBC at its annual meeting. In the event of the dissolution or complete liquidation of the MBF, the Board of Trustees shall, after paying or making provisions for the payment of all of the liabilities and debts of the MBF, distribute all the remaining assets of the MBF to the Executive Board of the MBC; provided, however, that at the time said distribution is to be made to said Executive Board it is an organization which: (i) is organized and operated exclusively for charitable, religious or educational purposes which are consistent with the purposes of the MBF as described in Article IV(A); (ii) is exempt from federal income tax under Section 501(c)(3) of the Code; (iii) is not a private foundation within the meaning of Section 509(a) of the Code; and (iv) is operated as a Baptist institution under the supervision of the MBC. In the event that said Executive Board is not such an organization, said distribution shall be made to one or more organizations fulfilling the above described criteria. No Trustee or officer and no private individual will be entitled to share in the distribution of any assets of the MBF in the event of its dissolution, and no part of the net earnings of the MBF shall inure to any such person.

These Second Amended and Restated Articles of Agreement were recommended by MBF Trustees and the Executive Board of the MBC and were approved in writing by the MBC annual meeting on October 24, 2023, by recorded vote of the Messengers.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the undersigned Corporation has caused these Second Amended and Restated Articles of Agreement to be executed in its name by its President-Treasurer, and its Secretary this _____ day of _____, 2023.

EXHIBIT B

BYLAWS OF THE MISSOURI BAPTIST FOUNDATION

PREAMBLE

The Missouri Baptist Foundation (“MBF”, or “Corporation”) declares the Bible as the foundation for its faith and practice and affirms as its confession of faith, the Baptist Faith and Message (“BF&M”) as currently adopted by the Missouri Baptist Convention (“MBC”).

BYLAW 1 - Meetings

- Section 1.** *Time:* The Board of Trustees (“Board”) of the MBF shall have a minimum of three regular meetings each year, one of which shall be the annual meeting. Dates of regular meetings shall be set by Board action at least thirty (30) days in advance. Special meetings may be called by the President with one member of the Executive Committee, or by a majority of the Executive Committee.
- 1.1. *Meeting with Digital Participation.* The Board may permit any or all Trustees to participate in a meeting of the Board or a committee of the Board by, or may conduct the meeting through use of, any means of communication by which all Trustees participating may simultaneously hear and speak to each other during the meeting. A Trustee participating in a meeting by this means is deemed to be present in person at the meeting; proxy attendance is prohibited. Votes cast digitally during or after such meeting are subject to the normal quorum rule.
- 1.2. *Digital Voting without Meeting.* If a special circumstance arises whereby the Board is required to vote on a matter but a special meeting, in person or digital, cannot reasonably be called, in the opinion of the Chair, then an electronic or mail vote is authorized, provided:
- 1.2.1 Proxy voting is prohibited.
 - 1.2.2 The vote is authorized in advance by the Board or at the request of the President and a majority of the Officers.
 - 1.2.3 The quorum for the ballot without a meeting is a three-fourths majority of the members of the Board.
 - 1.2.4 The Trustees have access to the question to be voted on in writing, either by mail, fax, or electronic means, allowing reasonable time to consider the question before the vote is taken.

- 1.2.5 A telephone conference call, or other electronic means, such as “web conferencing,” whereby collaborative interaction is possible, is provided to discuss the question, unless three-fourths majority of the Board agrees a meeting is not needed.
- 1.2.6 Every Trustee has an opportunity to cast a vote by mail, fax, or electronic means.
- 1.2.7 The Secretary reviews and certifies the vote total, and that the quorum requirement has been met.

1.3. *Cancellation of Meetings.* In the event of a catastrophe, disaster, condition endangering life or health, or other grave emergency likely to affect a meeting, the Executive Committee of the Board, by majority vote (cast electronically, if needed) may cancel a previously scheduled regular or special meeting, giving reasonable notice to all Trustees and the President. The Executive Committee of the Board may either reschedule the meeting date, time and place, conduct the meeting electronically, or may make provision for any extensions of terms of officers and committee assignments, and other adjustments necessary for legal compliance, subject to the ratification of the Board at its next meeting.

Section 2. *Quorum:* A majority of the incumbent members of the Board (including at least one Board officer) shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of business at any meeting of the Board.

Section 3. *Consents:* Any action which is required to be or may be taken at a meeting of the Board, or of the Executive Committee or any other committee of the Board, may be taken without a meeting if consents in writing, setting forth the action so taken, are signed by a three fourths majority of the members of the Board or of the committee as the case may be. The consents shall have the same force and effect as a majority vote at a meeting duly held, and may be stated as such in any certificate or document filed under the Missouri Nonprofit Corporation Act, Chapter 355 RSMo (the “Act”). The Secretary shall file the consents with the minutes of the meetings of the Board or of the committee as the case may be. Consents approved by email are treated as signed by the Trustee.

- Section 4.** *Notice:* Notice of any regular meeting shall be given at least five days prior thereto by written notice delivered personally, mailed, faxed or e-mailed to each Trustee at such Trustee's address of record. If mailed, such notices shall be deemed to be delivered when deposited in the United States mail in a sealed envelope so addressed, with postage thereon prepaid. The President with one member of the Executive Committee of the Board, or the Executive Committee of the Board, by majority vote (cast electronically, if needed), may call a special meeting with 24-hour notice. Any Trustee may waive notice of any meeting. The attendance of a Trustee at any meeting shall constitute a waiver of notice of such meeting, except where a Trustee attends a meeting for the express purpose of objecting to the transaction of any business because the meeting is not lawfully called or convened. The subject matter to be transacted at, or the text of any motion or recommendation of, any special meeting of the Board must be specified in the notice or waiver of notice of such meeting.
- Section 5.** *Manner of Acting:* The act of the majority of the Trustees present at a meeting of the Trustees at which a quorum is present shall be the act of the Board unless a greater number is required under the Articles of Agreement, these Bylaws or any applicable laws of the State of Missouri.

BYLAW 2 - Officers and Employees

- Section 1.** *Officers of the Board:* The officers of the Board shall be a chair, a first vice-chair and a second vice-chair.
- 1.1 *Election.* The Board officers shall be elected annually by the Board of Trustees at the first regular meeting of the Board following the start of the MBF's fiscal year.
- 1.2 *Tenure.* Each Board officer shall hold office until his or her successor is elected or until he or she sooner dies, resigns, is suspended or removed or becomes disqualified.
- 1.3 *Resignation.* A Board officer may resign by delivering a written resignation to an officer of the MBF at its principal office. Such resignation shall be effective upon delivery (unless specified to be effective at some other time), and acceptance thereof shall not be necessary to make it effective unless it so states.

- Section 2.** *Officers of the Corporation:* The Trustees shall elect a President (who may be called Chief Executive Officer), a Chief Operating Officer, a Treasurer, a Secretary, and an Assistant Secretary, with each to serve in his or her respective position until such time as he or she resigns or is suspended or removed. The Corporation may also have such other officers as may be appointed by the Trustees in accordance with the provisions of these Bylaws or as may be provided for in a Board Policy Manual. Any two or more of the offices may be filled by the same individual, except the offices of President and Secretary or Assistant Secretary. The officers of the Corporation may also select a fiscal agent or agents, and other representatives which they may deem necessary for the proper discharge of the duties of the Corporation, and select such banking and-or trust company or companies as they may deem needed in the conduct of the business of the Corporation.
- Section 3.** *Employees:* Trustees shall not be employees.
- Section 4.** *Vacancies:* If the office of any officer becomes vacant, the Board may elect a successor. The election of a successor to such a vacant office may be conducted at either a regular or a special called Board meeting. Each such elected successor shall assume and hold office for the unexpired term, and until a successor is elected and assumes office or in each case until he or she sooner dies, resigns or becomes disqualified.

BYLAW 3- Powers and Duties of Officers

Officers, qualifications, duties and organizational relationships may be set out in a Board Policy Manual.

- Section 1.** *Chair of the Board:* The Chair of the Board may preside when present at all meetings of the Board and is an official spokesperson for the Board. The Chair of the Board shall advise and counsel the President and other officers of the MBF and shall exercise such other powers and perform such duties as shall be assigned to or required of such office from time to time by the Board. In the event of the absence or disability of the Chair of the Board, the duties of such office shall be performed and the powers of such office may be exercised by the First Vice-Chair or in the event of the absence or disability of the First Vice-Chair, by the Second Vice-Chair, unless otherwise determined by the Chair of the Board or the Board of Trustees.

MINISTRY WIVES,
JOIN US FOR OUR ANNUAL

Ministry Wives Luncheon

Tuesday, October 24

11:30 AM- 1:30 PM

KidZone Gym

\$20

FOOD - FELLOWSHIP

SPEAKER: **MARY WILEY**, AUTHOR OF *EVERYDAY THEOLOGY*

Childcare provided by
Missouri Disaster Relief

Refresh

ARE YOU A WOMAN IN A VOCATIONAL OR VOLUNTEER
MINISTRY ROLE?

JOIN US FOR THE FIRST

Women in Ministry Panel

Tuesday, October 24

1:45 - 3:00 PM

Location: KidZone Gym

FINDING REFRESHMENT IN MINISTRY
OPEN Q & A

- Section 2.** *President:* The President shall be the Chief Executive Officer (“CEO”) of the MBF; shall have general supervision, direction and management of the business of the MBF; shall have general and active control thereof; shall hire and fire employees; shall execute all deeds, contracts, agreements, transfers, and any other instruments that may be ordered by the Board; and shall have such other powers and perform such other duties as shall from time to time be delegated to such office by the Chair of the Board or the Board of Trustees. In the event of the absence or disability of the President, the duties of such office shall be performed and the powers may be exercised by the Chief Operating Officer (“COO”), or in the event of the absence or disability of the COO, the duties of such office shall be performed and the powers may be exercised as determined by the Chair of the Board or the Board of Trustees.
- Section 3.** *Chief Operating Officer:* The Chief Operating Officer (“COO”) shall generally assist the President, shall be in charge of the endowment development work of the Corporation, and shall have such powers and perform such duties as shall from time to time be delegated to such office by the Chair of the Board, the President or the Board of Trustees. In the event of the absence of CEO and COO, the Board will determine interim leadership.
- Section 4.** *Secretary:* The Secretary shall see that required notice is given of all meetings of the Board and shall keep and attest true records of all proceedings at all meetings of the Board. The Secretary shall have charge of the corporate seal, which shall be in circular form and bear on it the following inscription: MISSOURI BAPTIST FOUNDATION with the date 1946 at the bottom, and shall have authority to attest any and all instruments of writing to which the same may be affixed. The Secretary shall keep and account for all books, documents, papers and records of the MBF, except those for which some other officer or agent is properly accountable. The Secretary shall generally perform all duties usually appertaining to the office of secretary of a corporation. In the event of the absence or unavailability of the Secretary, the duties of such office shall be performed and the powers thereof may be exercised by the Assistant Secretary, unless otherwise determined by the Secretary, the Chair of the Board, the President or the Board of Trustees.
- Section 5.** *Treasurer:* The Treasurer, subject to the provisions hereof and to other regulations which may from time to time be prescribed by the Board, shall have custody of the funds, securities, and other properties of the MBF. He or she shall deposit funds belonging to the MBF in such bank or trust company or companies as may from time to time be designated by the Board. He or she shall also, in the company with another person or persons, designated by the Trustees, have access to the safety boxes or vault in which

funds, securities or other properties of the MBF, not in the hands of the Fiscal Agent or Agents, are deposited. In case of the absence or unavailability of the Treasurer or when an emergency demands immediate access to the box, it may be entered by the President or COO or the Chair of the Board and any other individual designated by the Board.

The Treasurer shall cause to be prepared a monthly report of all income and disbursements and shall distribute at regular intervals all available designated income. He or she shall furnish any interested institution with any information requested concerning the investment of funds, the income from which is designated for the use of said institution.

The Treasurer shall furnish to the Trustees a bond satisfactory to them for the faithful performance of his or her duties, amount of said bond to be fixed by the Board and the expense of such to be paid by the MBF as an operating expense.

Section 6. *Assistant Secretary:* The Assistant Secretary shall generally assist the Secretary and shall have such powers and perform such duties and services as shall from time to time be prescribed or delegated to such office by the Secretary, the Chair of the Board, the President, or the Board.

Section 7. *Fiscal Agents:* The Fiscal Agents of the MBF, if selected, may be given custody by the Board of all or any part of the properties of the MBF; may be authorized by the Board to make and alter investments committed to their custody and to keep the financial books of the MBF in respect to any and all properties of the MBF so committed to their custody; but shall make such accounting as the Board may require and receive such compensation for their services as the Board shall stipulate from time to time. Said Agent or Agents shall give bond with such security as the Trustees may require.

Section 8. *Additional Powers and Duties:*

- 8.1 *Contracts.* The Board may authorize any officer or officers, or agent or agents, of the MBF, in addition to the officers so authorized by these Bylaws, to enter into any contract or execute and deliver any instrument in the name of and on behalf of the MBF, and such authority may be general or confined to specific instances.
- 8.2 *Checks, Drafts or Orders for Payment.* All checks, drafts or orders for the payment of money, notes or other evidences of indebtedness issued in the name of the MBF shall be signed by such officer or officers, or agent or agents, of the MBF and in such manner as shall from time to time be determined by resolution of the Board. In the absence of such determination, such instruments shall be signed by any two of the following officers: the President, the COO, the Secretary, the Treasurer and the Assistant Secretary.

BYLAW 4 - Compensation

- Section 1.** The members of the Board shall serve without compensation, but may receive funds of the MBF as reimbursements for expenses incurred in attending meetings of the Board, and in the performance of special duties for the MBF.
- Section 2.** The salary of the Chief Executive Officer and the salaries of other employees shall be fixed by the Board through adoption of the annual budget and paid from the receipts of the MBF.

BYLAW 5 - Audits

- Section 1.** The Books of the MBF and those of its Fiscal Agents dealing with the MBF's business shall be audited annually by a Certified Public Accountant appointed by the Board, and a certified statement of such auditor showing in detail the investments held by the MBF, the amount of income received during the year, the purpose to which the income and-or the principal has been applied, and a classified statement of the expenses shall be published annually in the minutes of the MBC.
- Section 2.** The books of the MBF shall be open at all reasonable hours to any committee named by the MBC or its Executive Board to inspect the same.
- Section 3.** The fiscal year of the MBF shall end September 30 of each year.

BYLAW 6 - The Board of Trustees

- Section 1.** *General Powers.* Except to the extent that powers may be exercised by the MBC as member, all corporate powers shall be exercised by or under the authority of, and the business and affairs of the Corporation shall be managed by, its board of trustees, except as otherwise provided in the Act, the Articles or these Bylaws.
- Section 2.** *Duties:* The Trustees shall have and exercise full authority with reference to the investment, reinvestment and administration of the principal of all funds and property devised, bequeathed, given or transferred to the MBF, and shall have authority to authorize the execution of proper transfers, assignments, contracts, deeds, releases, receipts, acquittances, and any and all instruments that may be necessary in the administration of the property and assets for the MBF, subject to provisions of the Articles of the MBF.

Section 3. *Distributions and Disbursements:*

- 3.1 *Distributions.* All funds so received and administered by the MBF and distributed as herein provided, shall be administered and distributed for the benefit of Baptist institutions and agencies including those of the MBC, the Southern Baptist Convention (“SBC”), other institutions and agencies acceptable to the Board.
- 3.2 *Disbursements.* Disbursements of the funds available for distribution, except Undesignated Funds, shall be made upon instructions of the Board to its Treasurer at any regular meeting or at a special meeting duly called. Distribution and disbursements of Undesignated Funds and income therefrom shall be made as described in the Bylaw on Designated and Undesignated Trust Funds below.

Section 4. *Number, Election, and Requirements for Trustees:*

- 4.1 *Number.* The number of Trustees shall be twelve (12), not counting ex officio Trustees, as shall be fixed from time to time by the MBC.
- 4.1.1 The Trustees shall be composed of both laypersons and persons who are ordained ministers of the Gospel, or in other church-related vocations, and shall include no less than eight (8) laypersons.
- 4.1.2 Up to three (3) of twelve (12) Trustees may reside outside of Missouri if they are members of SBC Baptist churches, and that have a faith and practice which closely identifies with the SBC BF&M.
- 4.1.3 No amendment of this section shall reduce the number of Trustees to less than the number required by the Act, which at the time of adoption of these Bylaws is three (3).
- 4.2 *Election.* The Trustees shall be nominated and elected in accordance with the procedures and practices of the Nominating Committee of the MBC.
- 4.3 *Requirements.* Each Trustee shall meet the following requirements:
- 4.3.1 A baptized believer, affirming the Baptist Faith & Message (“BF&M”) currently adopted by the MBC;
- 4.3.2 A member in good standing in a Baptist church affiliated with the MBC and the SBC and strongly supporting the Cooperative Program; and
- 4.3.3 Trustees may be asked annually to indicate their approval of BF&M currently adopted by the MBC.

Section 5. *Qualifications:* In electing Trustees of the MBF due consideration should be given to both geographical and vocational representation. Prerequisite vocational qualifications for nomination of the lay Trustees shall include, among other things:

- 5.1 extensive personal knowledge in business affairs which is gained from actual experience in conducting a business or profession;
- 5.2 an established good reputation in his or her section of the state as a sound and stable business or professional person; and
- 5.3 a person whom the general public would normally respect and rely upon in making their financial investments and decisions.

Section 6. *Term of Trustees:* Trustees shall be elected to four-year terms, with one-fourth of the members being elected each year. A Trustee may serve two successive four-year terms and, after one year has transpired whereby the Trustee is ineligible to serve on the Board, may be eligible for re-election at the end of such one year period. A Trustee elected to an unexpired term that expires within one year shall not be deemed to have served a full four-year term and may be eligible for election to two successive four-year terms.

For a Trustee newly elected to a full term as MBF Trustee, at a regular meeting of the MBC, the new term will commence at the close of the first regular meeting of the MBF Board after the Convention and after the start of MBF's new fiscal year. This will allow the trustee-elect to attend the first meeting for observation and training, and will permit the outgoing Trustee to finish any pending business before handing off his or her seat. For a Trustee elected by the Executive Board of the MBC to fill a vacancy for the unexpired portion of a term, the new term will commence immediately upon election.

Section 7. *Vacancy:* In the event there should be any vacancy in the Board: (1) The Nominating Committee of the MBC may fill any vacancy in the Board occurring between regular meetings of the MBC, and the persons appointed to fill such vacancies shall serve until the next regular meeting of the MBC; and (2) The MBC shall, at its annual meeting, fill the vacancy by election of the unexpired term.

Section 8. *Advisors:* Subject to the approval of the Trustees of the MBF, the President may annually appoint one or more persons, not to exceed five (5) in number, to serve in an advisory capacity to the Board for a period of one (1) year. Advisors shall receive notices and minutes of all Board meetings and general publications of the MBF. Advisors shall not have the right to vote, provided that they may attend Board meetings, may be nominated to serve on Board committees, other than the Executive Committee, and may chair such committees and vote as members of such committees, provided that a majority of the members of all committees shall be Trustees.

Section 9. *Committees:* The Board may by resolution adopted by a majority of the Trustees in office establish one or more committees, each of which shall consist of two or more Trustees, under such terms and with such powers as shall be specified in such resolution.

9.1 *Executive Committee.* An Executive Committee of the Board shall be composed of the Chair of the Board, the First Vice-Chair of the Board and the Second Vice-Chair of the Board, and it shall have and exercise the powers of the Board of the MBF in any matters in which it is specifically authorized or directed by the Board to handle.

9.2 *Authority.* Committees shall have and may exercise all of the authority of the Board, except as prohibited by law or the Articles. The delegation of authority to any committee shall not operate to relieve the Board or any member of the Board from any responsibility or standard of conduct imposed by law or these Bylaws. Rules governing procedures for meetings of any committee shall be the same as those set forth in these Bylaws or the Act for the Board unless the Board or the committee itself determines otherwise.

Section 10. *Removal and Suspension:* A Trustee may be removed from the Board for any reason by the MBC. The Executive Board of the MBC may suspend a Trustee until the MBC acts to remove the Trustee and replace him or her.

For good cause, including but not limited to the failure of a Trustee to attend two (2) consecutive Board meetings, the Board may by a three-fourths vote suspend a Trustee for one regular meeting, without voting privileges, and without access to notices and minutes of such meeting, and report the cause immediately to the MBC Executive Board chairman with a request for continued suspension or removal. If the suspended Trustee does not resign, and if the MBC Executive Board does not vote to sustain the suspension, the Trustee must be restored to full service. If the MBC Executive Board sustains the suspension and recommends that the MBC remove the Trustee at the next annual meeting, the MBC Nominating committee nominates a successor for the remainder of the term of the Trustee. MBC governing documents control the election, suspension, removal and replacement process, notwithstanding other procedures of the Act. In the foregoing process, the MBC Executive Board acts in its legal capacity as the Convention ad interim, between annual meetings, and works with the standing committee, Nominating Committee, in following the directions of the MBC's bylaws.

Section 11. *Emeritus Trustees:* The Board may from time-to-time appoint Emeritus Trustees who shall be former Trustees who have demonstrated outstanding interest and long-term commitment to the program of the MBF. There shall be no limit on the number of Emeritus Trustees or their length of term. Emeritus Trustees shall receive notices and minutes of all Board meetings and general publications of the MBF. They shall not have voting privileges, but they shall be consulted on issues as deemed appropriate by the Board, Board committees, the Chair and the President. Attendance at Board meetings and other events of the MBF shall be encouraged. Emeritus Trustees may be nominated to serve on Board committees, other than the Executive Committee, and may chair such committees and vote as members of such committees, provided that a majority of the members of all committees shall be Trustees.

BYLAW 7 - Conflicts of Interest

Trustees have a fiduciary relationship to the MBC who elects them and to the MBF. These relationships do not constitute a conflict of interest.

MBF shall adopt a conflict-of-interest policy, which may be amended from time to time and which is included in the Board Policy Manual.

BYLAW 8 - Confidentiality

Trustees, officers, and other representatives of the MBF may be bound by confidentiality requirements adopted by MBF and included in an operations manual, which may be amended from time to time.

BYLAW 9 - Amendments

These Bylaws may be amended by a recommendation of a two-thirds vote of the members of the Board at any regular meeting, or at a special meeting called for that purpose, provided that at least 30 days notice of the proposed amendment has been made to the members of the Board; and provided that any amendment proposed after November 1, 2017, is approved by the MBC Executive Board and the Messengers to the Annual Meeting of the MBC.

BYLAW 10 – Indemnification

Section 1. The MBF shall and does hereby indemnify any person who is or was a Trustee or officer of the MBF (or any subsidiary) who was successful, on the merits or otherwise, against reasonable expenses (including without limitation, reasonable attorney's fees), judgments, fines and/or amounts paid in settlement, which are actually incurred by such person in connection with the defense of any civil, criminal, administrative or investigative action, suit, proceeding or claim, whether formal or informal, (other than an action by or in the right of the MBF or a subsidiary) by reason of the fact that such person is or was serving in such capacity for MBF; provided, however, that no such person shall be entitled to any indemnification pursuant to this Section 1 on account of conduct which is finally adjudged to have been grossly negligent, knowingly fraudulent or deliberately dishonest or to have constituted willful misconduct.

Section 2. The MBF may, to the extent that the Board deems appropriate, and as set forth in a Bylaw or resolution, indemnify any person who is or was an employee or agent of the MBF (or any subsidiary) or who is or was serving at the request of the MBF as a director, officer, employee or agent of another corporation, partnership, joint venture, trust or other enterprise (including an employee benefit plan) who was successful, on the merits or otherwise, against reasonable expenses (including without limitation, reasonable attorneys' fees), judgments, fines and/or amounts paid in settlement, which are actually incurred by such person in connection with the defense of any civil, criminal, administrative or investigative action, suit, proceeding or claim (other than an action by or in the right of the MBF or a subsidiary) by reason of the fact that such person is or was serving in such capacity for MBF if such person acted in good faith and in a manner that person reasonably believed to be in or not opposed to the best interests

of the Corporation, and, with respect to any criminal action or proceeding, such person had no reasonable cause to believe such conduct was unlawful; provided, however, that no such person shall be entitled to any indemnification pursuant to this Section 2 on account of conduct which is finally adjudged to have been grossly negligent, knowingly fraudulent, or deliberately dishonest or to have constituted willful misconduct or be liable for negligence or misconduct in the performance of such person's duty to the Corporation unless and only to the extent that the court in which the action or suit was brought determines upon application that, despite the adjudication of liability and in view of all the circumstances of the case, the person is fairly and reasonably entitled to indemnity for such expenses which the court shall deem proper. .

Section 3. The MBF may, to the extent that the Board deems appropriate, make advances of expenses, including, without limitation, reasonable attorney's fees, incurred prior to the final disposition of a civil, criminal, administrative or investigative action, suit, proceeding or claim (other than an action by or in the right of the MBF or a subsidiary) to any person to whom indemnification is or may be available under this Bylaw; provided, however, that prior to making advances, the MBF shall receive a written undertaking by or on behalf of such person to repay such amounts advanced in the event that it shall be ultimately determined that such person is not entitled to such indemnification.

Section 4. The indemnification and other rights provided by this Bylaw shall not be exclusive or any other right(s) to which a person, to whom indemnification is or may be otherwise available, may be entitled under the Act, MBF's Articles and/or Bylaws, or pursuant to any agreement, vote of disinterested directors or otherwise. The MBF is authorized to purchase and maintain insurance on behalf of the MBF, or any person to whom indemnification is or may be available, against any liability asserted against such person in, or arising out of, or connected with, such person's status as Trustee, officer, employee or agent of the MBF (or any subsidiary) or of another corporation, partnership, joint venture, trust or other enterprise (including an employee benefit plan) for which such person is serving at the request of the MBF.

Section 5. Each person to whom indemnification is granted under Section 1 or 2 of this Bylaw is entitled to rely upon the indemnification and other rights granted in this Bylaw as a contract with the MBF and such person and such person's heirs, executors, administrators and estate shall be entitled to enforce against the MBF all indemnification and other rights granted to such person by Sections 1 and 2, and this Section 5 shall survive amendment, modification or repeal of all or any part of this Bylaw and no such amendment, modification or repeal shall act to reduce, terminate

or otherwise adversely affect the rights to indemnification granted hereby, with respect to any reasonable expense(s), judgment(s), fine(s) and/or amount(s) paid in settlement, which are actually incurred by a person to whom indemnification is granted under Section 1 of this Bylaw with respect to any action, suit, proceeding or claim that arises out of any act(s) or omission(s) of such person that occurred prior to the effective date of such amendment, modification or repeal.

Section 6. For the purposes of this Bylaw, the term “subsidiary” shall mean any corporation, partnership, joint venture, trust or other enterprise of which a majority of the voting power, equity or ownership interest is directly or indirectly owned by or for the benefit of the MBF.

BYLAW 11 – Designated and Undesignated Trust Funds.

Section 1. *No Specific Instructions Provided* – Undesignated Funds. In the absence of specific instructions by the donor, grantor or testator or testatrix, as to charitable objects and purposes, gifts, bequests, and donations entrusted to the MBF shall be deemed to be Undesignated Funds, or property of the MBC, held and managed by MBF, in trust for MBC. The Undesignated Funds will be held and managed according to the current Letter of Understanding and Agreement between Executive Board of the MBC and the MBF (“LOU”) in place when the Undesignated Funds were received. At the adoption of these Bylaws, the most recent LOU was executed April 11, 2018, and which may be updated from time to time. A copy of LOU is appended to the Bylaw copy furnished to EBMBC.

Section 2. *Specific Instructions Provided* – Designated Gift. In every case where specific instructions have been given to the MBF, a Trustee, by the donor, grantor, testator or testatrix, the funds or property received by gift, bequest or other donation shall be understood to be a Designated Gift. The instructions shall be binding upon the MBF and shall be faithfully carried out unless the object or purpose to which such Designated Gift was made shall cease to exist, or be impossible to perform. In such circumstances, the MBF Board will seek to honor donor wishes by finding a similar agency or institution within Missouri or outside of the state. When necessary, the MBF Board may seek direction from a court with jurisdiction to reframe charitable trusts under the Cy Pres doctrine.

BYLAW 12 – Miscellaneous Rights and Duties.

- Section 1.** The MBF shall have authority to succeed to all of the rights and powers of the corporation known as The Executive Board of the Missouri Baptist General Association created by pro forma Decree of the Circuit Court of Jackson County, Missouri, on July 2, 1917, filed in the office of the Secretary of State on July 18, 1917, under Article 10 of the Articles of Agreement of said corporation made a part of said Decree, and to execute the trusts now being executed by said Executive Board, and to receive from said Board conveyances of real property or transfers of personal property and funds now held by said Board, provided such transfer does not conflict with the intentions of the testator, grantor or donor creating the trust. Upon such transfer to the MBF such property or funds shall be administered as Designated Gifts if so administered by the Executive Board, or undesignated gifts, by direction of the MBC as herein provided.
- Section 2.** The MBF shall have authority and power to act as personal representative, trustee and/or conservator, with such powers as are delineated in the creating document or established by the laws of the State of Missouri or the state of jurisdiction.
- Section 3.** The MBF shall make regular reports to the Executive Board of the MBC.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the undersigned President attests that the foregoing Revised Bylaws were approved by the Missouri Baptist Convention, in annual meeting on October 24, 2023, upon recommendation of the Executive Board of the MBC. Signed this ____ day of ____, 2023.

EXHIBIT C

FIRST AMENDED AND RESTATED

ARTICLES OF INCORPORATION

of

STRAIGHTWAY HOLDINGS, INC.

The undersigned Corporation, for the purposes of amending its Articles of Incorporation, hereby executes the following First Amended and Restated Articles of Incorporation:

1. **Name.** The name of the corporation is **STRAIGHTWAY HOLDINGS, INC.** (“SHI”, or “Corporation”).
2. **Benefit.** The Corporation is a Public Benefit Corporation.
3. **Duration.** The period of duration of the Corporation is perpetual.
4. **Registered Agent / Address.** The name and street address of the Registered Agent and Registered Address of the Corporation in Missouri is Neil Franks, 400 E. High Street, Suite 500, Jefferson City, MO 65101. The Board of Trustees is authorized to change the Registered Agent / Address without amending these Articles, by filing Mo Corp 59.
5. **Purposes.**
 - 5.1. **Religious and Charitable Purposes.** The purpose of SHI as an entity related to the Missouri Baptist Convention (MBC) and to Missouri Baptist Foundation (“MBF”), is to glorify God by engaging in transactions involving real and personal property which advance, are compatible with, and are supportive of the religious and charitable purposes of the MBF, and MBC, and its statement of faith.
 - 5.1.1. SHI is evangelical, gospel-driven, and Christ-centered in faith, mission, values and worldview, and is dedicated to the highest standards of Christian moral character, honesty, integrity, diligence, and service in the various fields of human endeavor and Christian commitment.
 - 5.1.2. The final authority for faith and practice in SHI operations is God and His Word. SHI affirms the Baptist Faith & Message (“BF&M”) as currently adopted by the Missouri Baptist Convention (“MBC”) as SHI’s Statement of Faith.

- 5.2. **Exempt Organization.** SHI is organized and operated exclusively as a non-profit organization under Missouri law to engage in any lawful act or activity for which corporations may be organized under the Missouri Nonprofit Corporation Act, Chapter 355, RSMo, as amended (the “Act”) and for charitable, educational, religious, and scientific purposes which purposes qualify it for exemption from federal income tax under the provisions of Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended (the “Code”), and as then qualifies contributions to it for deductions under Section 170(c)(2), Section 2055(a)(2), and Section 2522 of the Code.
6. **Governance.** Except to the extent that powers are exercised by the Member, all SHI powers are exercised by or under the authority of, and the affairs of SHI managed under the direction of, SHI’s Board of Trustees (“Board”).
- 6.1. The Trustees elected to the MBF by the messengers of the MBC also serve as Trustees of SHI.
- 6.2. The Board adopts Bylaws to govern its proceedings and to direct its work in overseeing SHI. Bylaws must not be contrary to law or the provisions of these Articles of Incorporation (“Articles”). The MBC Executive Board and the MBC must approve in writing any amendments to Bylaws, in the manner set forth in the Bylaws.
- 6.3. Other requirements such as number, qualifications, and election of trustees are further defined in SHI’s Bylaws.
7. **Corporate Member.** The Corporation has one (1) member: the MBC as the term “Member” is defined in the Act. MBC is also the sole member of any corporation created by or subject to SHI, sometimes referred to as a “subsidiary.”
- 7.1. MBC has, in its sole and absolute discretion, the following rights:
- 7.1.1. The sole and exclusive right to **elect and remove** Trustees of SHI or any subsidiary;
- 7.1.2. The right to recommend, approve or reject, in writing, any addition, deletion, or other amendment to the Articles and/or Bylaws of SHI or any subsidiary.
- 7.1.3. The right to approve or reject the sale, mortgage, lease, pledge, or transfer of all or substantially all of the assets of SHI or any subsidiary.
- 7.1.4. The right to approve or reject the creation, amendment, or dissolution of any subsidiary of SHI.
- 7.1.5. The right to have notice of all meetings of the Board of SHI or any subsidiary, to be sent to the MBC Executive Director.

- 7.1.6. The right to have the MBC President serve as a non-voting ex officio Trustee of the SHI Board.
- 7.1.7. The right to have the MBC Executive Director serve as a non-voting ex officio Trustee of the SHI board and as a non-voting member of any search committee for SHI's president.
- 7.1.8. The right to have an MBC officer or representative attend any meeting of the Board, if the MBC President is absent and designates his representative.
- 7.1.9. The right to approve or reject any material change in the ministry purposes or strategies of SHI or any subsidiary.
- 7.2. SHI and its Trustees have a fiduciary relationship to the MBC to honor the rights of the MBC in this Article 7 as the Corporate Member, in perpetuity.
- 7.3. MBC has designated SHI as an entity of the MBC, with all the rights and duties of an entity as are set forth in the MBC's governing documents, and SHI is subject to the MBC and its governing documents, as they may be amended from time to time, as fully as if the Board had approved and signed the MBC governing documents. (See Executive Board Bylaw 1.)
- 7.4. MBC, as the Member, is an express beneficiary of these Articles, with all rights and standing to bring a derivative proceeding or such other action or proceeding as the Member determines to enforce or give effect to the Member's rights herein.
- 7.5. In addition to Member rights, MBC has legal standing to protect and enforce its rights listed above, including the right to approve amendments to SHI articles and bylaws, pursuant to §355.606 RSMo., and any action to enforce these rights does not implicate §355.141 RSMo regarding challenges to the corporation's power to act.
- 8. **No Private Inurement.** SHI does not operate for profit or pecuniary gain. No part of the income, corpus, or principal assets of SHI shall ever inure to the benefit of, and shall not be distributable to its Trustees, officers or any other private persons, except that SHI may pay reasonable compensation for goods and services actually rendered and make payments and distributions in furtherance of its purposes. No Trustee of SHI shall receive, or be lawfully entitled to receive, any salary or remuneration for services connected with the administration of the affairs of SHI. Actual expenses incurred by any such person may be reimbursed when authorized by the Trustees.

9. **Political Activity.** SHI shall not, as a substantial part of its activities, carry on propaganda or otherwise attempt to influence legislation and SHI does not participate or intervene in any political campaign on behalf of or in opposition to any candidate for elective public office, including the publishing or distribution of statements.
10. **Dissolution.** Dissolution, merger, or the sale, lease, exchange or other disposition of all or substantially all of the Corporation's property, other than in the usual and regular course of its activities, must be approved by the MBF and by MBC at its annual meeting. Upon the dissolution or complete liquidation of the Corporation, the Board shall, after paying or making provisions for the payment of all of the liabilities and debts of SHI, distribute all of the remaining assets to MBF; provided, however, that at the time said distribution is to be made to MBF, it is an organization which: (i) is organized and operated exclusively for charitable, religious or educational purposes which are consistent with the purposes of the SHI as described herein; (ii) is exempt from federal income tax under Section 501(c)(3) of the Code; (iii) is not a private foundation within the meaning of Section 509(a) of the Code; and (iv) is operated as a Baptist institution under the supervision of the MBC. In the event that said MBF is not such an organization, said distribution shall be made to MBC or one or more organizations fulfilling the above described criteria as directed by MBC. No Trustee or officer and no private individual will be entitled to share in the distribution of any assets of the SHI in the event of its dissolution, and no part of the net earnings of the SHI shall inure to any such person.
11. **Amendments.** The Board may adopt one or more amendments to these Articles subject to the approval in writing of the MBC upon the recommendation to approve of the MBC Executive Board, pursuant to the Act. SHI must provide notice of any meeting at which an amendment is to be voted upon, in accordance with the requirements of the Act and these Articles and the Bylaws of SHI. The notice states that the purpose, or one of the purposes, of the meeting is to consider a proposed amendment to the Articles and the notice contains or accompanies a copy or summary of the amendment, stating the general nature of the amendment. The amendment must be approved by a majority of the Trustees in office at the time the amendment is adopted before going to the MBC Executive Board, and if it recommends approval, then to the MBC for approval in writing.

12. **Religious Liberty.** The Articles and Bylaws do not require SHI to follow any civil law, rule or ruling that requires any act or omission that violates any religious belief or practice based on Scripture, compatible with the BF&M as currently adopted by MBC, or that violates the rights of Religious Freedom and Free Exercise which God has granted to all people and which the Constitution's First Amendment protects.
13. **Not a Private Foundation.** Notwithstanding any other provision of these Articles, the Act, or any other law, rule or regulation, in the event that SHI is classified as a private foundation under Section 509 of the Code, SHI shall distribute its income for each tax year at such time and in such manner as not to become subject to the tax on undistributed income imposed by Code Section 4942. Further, SHI shall not engage in any act of self-dealing as defined in Code Section 4941(d), nor retain any excess business holdings as defined in Code Section 4943(c), nor make any investments in such manner as to incur tax liability under Code Section 4944, nor make any taxable expenditure as defined in Code Section 4945(d).

WHEREFORE, on recommendation by the MBC Executive Board, these First Amended and Restated Articles of Incorporation were authorized in writing by the MBC, by its messengers, at a regular meeting on October 23-24, 2023, pursuant to MBC and MBF governing documents and the Act, and were approved by MBC general counsel.

The undersigned understands that false statements made in this filing are subject to the penalties provided under Section 575.040, RSMo).

In Affirmation thereof, the facts stated above are true and correct.

EXHIBIT D

BYLAWS OF STRAIGHTWAY HOLDINGS, INC.

PREAMBLE

Straightway Holdings Inc. (“SHI”, or “Corporation”) declares the Bible as the foundation for its faith and practice and affirms as its confession of faith, the Baptist Faith and Message (“BF&M”) as currently adopted by the Missouri Baptist Convention (“MBC”).

BYLAW 1 - Meetings

- Section 1.** *Time:* The Board of Trustees of SHI (“Board”) shall have a minimum of three regular meetings each year, one of which shall be the annual meeting. Dates of regular meetings shall be set by Board action at least thirty (30) days in advance. Special meetings may be called by the President with one member of the Executive committee, or by a majority of the Executive Committee.
- 1.1 *Meeting with Digital Participation.* The Board may permit any or all Trustees to participate in a meeting of the Board or a committee of the Board by, or may conduct the meeting through use of, any means of communication by which all Trustees participating may simultaneously hear and speak to each other during the meeting. A Trustee participating in a meeting by this means is deemed to be present in person at the meeting; proxy attendance is prohibited. Votes cast digitally during or after such meeting are subject to the normal quorum rule.
- 1.2 *Digital Voting without Meeting.* If a special circumstance arises whereby the Board is required to vote on a matter but a special meeting, in person or digital, cannot reasonably be called, in the opinion of the Chair, then an electronic or mail vote is authorized, provided:
- 1.2.1 Proxy voting is prohibited.
 - 1.2.2 The vote is authorized in advance by the Board or at the request of the President and a majority of the Officers.
 - 1.2.3 The quorum for the ballot without a meeting is a three-fourths majority of the members of the Board.
 - 1.2.4 The Trustees have access to the question to be voted on in writing, either by mail, fax, or electronic means, allowing reasonable time to consider the question before the vote is taken.
 - 1.2.5 A telephone conference call, or other electronic means, such as “web conferencing,” whereby collaborative interaction is possible, is provided to discuss the question.

1.2.6 Every Trustee has an opportunity to cast a vote by mail, fax, or electronic means.

1.2.7 The Secretary reviews and certifies the vote total, and that the quorum requirement has been met.

1.3 *Cancellation of Meetings.* In the event of a catastrophe, disaster, condition endangering life or health, or other grave emergency likely to affect a meeting, the Executive Committee of the Board, by majority vote (cast electronically, if needed) may cancel a previously scheduled regular or special meeting, giving reasonable notice to all Trustees and the President. The Executive Committee of the Board may either reschedule the meeting date, time and place, conduct the meeting electronically, or may make provision for any extensions of terms of officers and committee assignments, and other adjustments necessary for legal compliance, subject to the ratification of the Board at its next meeting.

Section 2. *Quorum:* A majority of the incumbent members of the Board (including at least one Board officer) shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of business at any meeting of the Board.

Section 3. *Consents:* Any action which is required to be or may be taken at a meeting of the Board, or of the Executive Committee or any other committee of the Board, may be taken without a meeting if consents in writing, setting forth the action so taken, are signed by a three fourths majority of the members of the Board or of the committee as the case may be. The consents shall have the same force and effect as a majority vote at a meeting duly held, and may be stated as such in any certificate or document filed under the Missouri Nonprofit Corporation Act, Chapter 355 RSMo (the “Act”). The Secretary shall file the consents with the minutes of the meetings of the Board or of the committee as the case may be. Consents approved by email are treated as signed by the Trustee.

- Section 4.** *Notice:* Notice of any regular meeting shall be given at least five days prior thereto by written notice delivered personally, mailed, faxed or e-mailed to each Trustee at such Trustee's address of record. If mailed, such notices shall be deemed to be delivered when deposited in the United States mail in a sealed envelope so addressed, with postage thereon prepaid. The President with one member of the Executive Committee of the Board, or the Executive Committee of the Board, by majority vote (cast electronically, if needed), may call a special meeting with 24-hour notice. Any Trustee may waive notice of any meeting. The attendance of a Trustee at any meeting shall constitute a waiver of notice of such meeting, except where a Trustee attends a meeting for the express purpose of objecting to the transaction of any business because the meeting is not lawfully called or convened. The subject matter to be transacted at, or the text of any motion or recommendation of, any special meeting of the Board must be specified in the notice or waiver of notice of such meeting.
- Section 5.** *Manner of Acting:* The act of the majority of the Trustees present at a meeting of the Trustees at which a quorum is present shall be the act of the Board unless a greater number is required under the Articles of Incorporation ("Articles"), these Bylaws or any applicable laws of the State of Missouri.

BYLAW 2 - Officers and Employees

- Section 1.** *Officers of the Board:* The officers of the Board shall be a chair and such other officers as may be provided for in a Board Policy Manual.
- 1.1. Election. The Board officers are elected annually by the Board at its first regular meeting following the start of SHI's fiscal year. The same persons who hold a particular office on the Missouri Baptist Foundation ("MBF") Board will normally be elected to hold the same office on the SHI Board, as provided in a Board Policy Manual.
 - 1.2. Tenure. Each Board officer shall hold office until his or her successor is elected or until he or she sooner dies, resigns, is suspended or removed or becomes disqualified.
 - 1.3. Resignation. A Board officer may resign by delivering a written resignation to an SHI officer at its principal office. Such resignation shall be effective upon delivery (unless specified to be effective at some other time), and acceptance thereof shall not be necessary to make it effective unless it so states.

Section 2. *Officers of the Corporation:* The Trustees shall elect a President (who may be called Chief Executive Officer), a Chief Operating Officer, a Secretary, a Treasurer and such other officers as may be provided for in a Board Policy Manual. Each officer shall hold office until his or her successor is elected or until he or she sooner dies, resigns, is suspended or removed or becomes disqualified. Any two or more of the offices may be filled by the same individual, except the offices of President and Secretary.

Section 3. *Employees:* Trustees shall not be employees.

Section 4. *Vacancies:* If the office of any officer becomes vacant, the Board may elect a successor. The election of a successor to such a vacant office may be conducted at either a regular or a special called Board meeting. Each such elected successor shall assume and hold office for the unexpired term, and until a successor is elected and assumes office or in each case until he/she sooner dies, resigns or becomes disqualified.

BYLAW 3 - Powers and Duties of Officers

Officers, qualifications, duties and organizational relationships may be set out in a Board Policy Manual.

Section 1. *Chair of the Board:* The Chair of the Board may preside when present at all meetings of the Board and is an official spokesperson for the Board. The Chair of the Board shall advise and counsel the President and other officers of SHI and shall exercise such other powers and perform such duties as shall be assigned to or required of such office from time to time by the Board. In the event of the absence or disability of the Chair of the Board, the duties of such office shall be performed and the powers of such office may be exercised by a Vice-Chair or other officer as designated by the Board and as provided in a Board Policy Manual.

Section 2. *President:* The President shall be the Chief Executive Officer (“CEO”) of SHI; shall have general supervision, direction and management of the business of SHI; shall have general and active control thereof; shall hire and fire employees; shall execute all deeds, contracts, agreements, transfers, and any other instruments that may be ordered by the Board; and shall have such other powers and perform such other duties as shall from time to time be delegated to such office by the Chair of the Board or the Board of Trustees. In the event of the absence or disability of the President, the duties of such office shall be performed and the powers may be exercised by the Chief Operating Officer (“COO”), unless otherwise determined by the Board as provided in a Board Policy Manual.

- Section 3.** *Chief Operating Officer:* The Chief Operating Officer (“COO”) shall generally assist the President, and shall have such powers and perform such duties as shall from time to time be delegated to such office by the Chair of the Board, the President or the Board of Trustees. In the event of the absence of CEO and COO, the Board will determine interim leadership.
- Section 4.** *Secretary:* The Secretary has such powers and performs such duties as are required by law and as may be delegated to such office by the Board, as provided in a Board Policy Manual. In the event of the absence or unavailability of the Secretary, the duties of such office may be performed and the powers thereof may be exercised by an Assistant Secretary, as provided in a Board Policy Manual.
- Section 5.** *Treasurer:* The Treasurer has such powers and performs such duties as are required by law and as may be delegated to such office by the Board, as provided in a Board Policy Manual.
- Section 6.** *Additional Powers and Duties:*
- 6.1. *Contracts.* The Board may authorize any officer or officers, or agent or agents, of SHI, in addition to the officers so authorized by these Bylaws, to enter into any contract or execute and deliver any instrument in the name of and on behalf of SHI, and such authority may be general or confined to specific instances.
- 6.2. *Checks, Draft or Orders for Payment.* All checks, drafts or orders for the payment of money, notes or other evidences of indebtedness issued in the name of SHI shall be signed by such officer or officers, or agent or agents, of SHI and in such manner as shall from time to time be determined by resolution of the Board. In the absence of such resolutions, such instruments shall be signed by any two of the following officers: the President, the COO, the Secretary, the Treasurer or the Assistant Secretary.

BYLAW 4 – Compensation

- Section 1.** The members of the Board shall serve without compensation, but may receive funds of SHI as reimbursements for expenses incurred in attending meetings of the Board, and in the performance of special duties for SHI.
- Section 2.** The salary of the Chief Executive Officer and the salaries of other employees shall be fixed by the Board through adoption of the annual budget and paid from the receipts of SHI.

BYLAW 5 - Audits

- Section 1.** The Books of SHI shall be audited annually, and included in the MBF consolidated financial statements, in the manner set forth in a Board Policy Manual.
- Section 2.** The books of SHI shall be open at all reasonable hours to any committee named by the MBC or its Executive Board to inspect the same.
- Section 3.** The fiscal year of SHI shall end September 30 of each year.

BYLAW 6 - The Board of Trustees

- Section 1.** *General Powers:* Except to the extent that powers may be exercised by the MBC as member, all corporate powers shall be exercised by or under the authority of, and the business and affairs of SHI shall be managed by, its Board, except as otherwise provided in the Act, the Articles or these Bylaws.
- Section 2.** *Duties:* The Trustees shall have and exercise full authority with reference to the management, investment, reinvestment and administration of all funds and property acquired or transferred to SHI, and shall have authority to authorize the execution of proper transfers, assignments, contracts, deeds, releases, receipts, acquittances, and any and all instruments that may be necessary in the administration of the property and assets for SHI, subject to provisions of these Bylaws, the Articles, or as may be set forth in a Board Policy Manual.
- Section 3.** *Number, Election and Requirements for Trustees:* The Trustees of SHI shall be the same as the Trustees for MBF.
- 3.1 *Number.* The number of Trustees shall be twelve (12), not counting ex officio trustees, as shall be fixed from time to time by the MBF.
- 3.1.1 The Trustees shall be composed of both laypersons and persons who are ordained ministers of the Gospel, or in other church-related vocations, and shall include no less than eight (8) laypersons.
- 3.1.2 Up to three (3) of twelve (12) Trustees may reside outside of Missouri if they are members of SBC Baptist churches, and that have a faith and practice which closely identifies with the SBC BF&M.
- 3.1.3 No amendment of this section shall reduce the number of Trustees to less than the number required by the Act, which at the time of adoption of these Bylaws is three (3).

3.2 *Election.* The Trustees shall be nominated and elected in accordance with the procedures and practices of the Nominating Committee of the MBC.

3.3 *Requirements.* Each Trustee shall meet the following requirements:

3.3.1 A baptized believer, affirming the Baptist Faith & Message (“BF&M”) currently adopted by the MBC;

3.3.2 A member in good standing in a Baptist church affiliated with the MBC and the SBC, and strongly supporting the Cooperative Program; and

3.3.3 Trustees may be asked annually to indicate their approval of BF&M currently adopted by the MBC.

Section 4. *Qualifications:* In electing Trustees of SHI due consideration should be given to both geographical and vocational representation. Prerequisite vocational qualifications for nomination of the lay Trustees shall include, among other things:

4.1 extensive personal knowledge in business affairs which is gained from actual experience in conducting a business or profession;

4.2 an established good reputation in his or her section of the state as a sound and stable business or professional person; and

4.3 a person whom the general public would normally respect and rely upon in making their financial investments and decisions.

Section 5. *Term of Trustees:* Trustees shall be elected to four-year terms, with one-fourth of the members being elected each year. A Trustee may serve two successive four-year terms and, after one year has transpired whereby the Trustee is ineligible to serve on the Board, may be eligible for re-election at the end of such one year period. A Trustee elected to an unexpired term that expires within one year shall not be deemed to have served a full four-year term and may be eligible for election to two successive four-year terms.

For a Trustee newly elected to a full term as SHI Trustee, at a regular meeting of the MBC, the new term will commence at the close of the first regular meeting of the SHI Board after the Convention and after the start of SHI's new fiscal year. This will allow the trustee-elect to attend the first meeting for observation and training, and will permit the outgoing Trustee to finish any pending business before handing off his or her seat. For a Trustee elected by the Executive Board of the MBC to fill a vacancy for the unexpired portion of a term, the new term will commence immediately upon election.

Section 6. *Vacancy:* In the event there should be any vacancy in the Board: (1) The Nominating Committee of the MBC may fill any vacancy in the Board occurring between regular meetings of the MBC, and the persons appointed to fill such vacancies shall serve until the next regular meeting of the MBC; and (2) The Convention shall, at its annual meeting, fill the vacancy by election for the unexpired term.

Section 7. *Advisors:* Subject to the approval of the Trustees of SHI, the President may annually appoint one or more persons, not to exceed five (5) in number, to serve in an advisory capacity to the Board for a period of one (1) year. Advisors shall receive notices and minutes of all board meetings and general publications of SHI. Advisors shall not have the right to vote, provided that they may attend Board meetings, may be nominated to serve on Board committees, other than the Executive Committee, and may chair such committees and vote as members of such committees, provided that a majority of the members of all committees shall be Trustees.

Section 8. *Committees:* The Board may by resolution adopted by a majority of the Trustees in office establish one or more committees, each of which shall consist of two or more Trustees, under such terms and with such powers as shall be specified in such resolution.

8.1 *Executive Committee.* An Executive Committee of the Board shall be composed of the Chair of the Board, the First Vice-Chair of the Board and the Second Vice-Chair of the Board, and it shall have and exercise the powers of the Board of SHI in any matters in which it is specifically authorized or directed by the Board to handle.

- 8.2 *Authority.* Committees shall have and may exercise all of the authority of the Board, except as prohibited by law or the Articles. The delegation of authority to any committee shall not operate to relieve the Board or any member of the Board from any responsibility or standard of conduct imposed by law or these Bylaws. Rules governing procedures for meetings of any committee shall be the same as those set forth in these Bylaws or the Non-Profit Code for the Board unless the Board or the committee itself determines otherwise.

Section 9. *Removal and Suspension:* A Trustee may be removed from the Board for any reason by the MBC. The Executive Board of the MBC may suspend a Trustee until the MBC acts to remove the Trustee and replace him or her.

For good cause, including but not limited to the failure of a Trustee to attend two (2) consecutive Board meetings, the SHI Board may by a three-fourths vote suspend a Trustee for one regular meeting, without voting privileges and without access to notices and minutes of such meeting, and report the cause immediately to the MBC Executive Board chairman with a request for continued suspension or removal. If the Trustee does not resign, and if the MBC Executive Board does not vote to sustain the suspension, the Trustee must be restored to full service. If the MBC Executive Board sustains the suspension, and recommends that the MBC remove the Trustee at the next annual meeting, the MBC Nominating committee nominates a successor for the remainder of the term of the Trustee. MBC governing documents control the election, suspension, removal and replacement process, notwithstanding other procedures of the Act. In the foregoing process, the MBC Executive Board acts in its legal capacity as the Convention ad interim, between annual meetings, and works with the standing committee, Nominating Committee, in following the directions of the MBC's bylaws.

Section 10. *Emeritus Trustees.* The Board may from time to time appoint Emeritus Trustees who shall be former Trustees who have demonstrated outstanding interest and long-term commitment to the program of the SHI. There shall be no limit on the number of Emeritus Trustees or their length of term. Emeritus Trustees shall receive notices and minutes of all Board meetings and general publications of the SHI. They shall not have voting privileges, but they shall be consulted on issues as deemed appropriate by the Board, Board committees, the Chair and the President. Attendance at Board meetings and other events of the SHI shall be encouraged. Emeritus Trustees may be nominated to serve on Board committees, other than the Executive Committee, and may chair such committees and vote as members of such committees, provided that a majority of the members of all committees shall be Trustees.

BYLAW 7 - Conflicts of Interest

Trustees have a fiduciary relationship to the MBC who elects them and to the common purposes of the Convention, to the MBF, and to SHI. These relationships do not constitute a material conflict of interest.

SHI or MBF, as applicable, shall adopt a conflict of interest policy, which may be amended from time to time and which is included in the Board Policy Manual.

BYLAW 8 - Confidentiality

Trustees, officers, and other representatives of SHI may be bound by confidentiality requirements adopted by SHI or MBF and included in an operations manual, which may be amended from time to time.

BYLAW 9 - Amendments

These Bylaws may be amended by a recommendation of a two-thirds vote of the members of the Board at any regular meeting, or at a special meeting called for that purpose, provided that at least 30 days notice of the proposed amendment has been made to the members of the Board; and provided that any amendment is approved by the MBC Executive Board and the Messengers to the Annual Meeting of the MBC.

BYLAW 10 – Indemnification

- Section 1.** SHI shall and does hereby indemnify any person who is or was a Trustee or officer of SHI (or any subsidiary) who was successful, on the merits or otherwise, against reasonable expenses (including without limitation, reasonable attorney's fees), judgments, fines and/or amounts paid in settlement, which are actually incurred by such person in connection with the defense of any civil, criminal, administrative or investigative action, suit, proceeding or claim, whether formal or informal, (other than an action by or in the right of SHI or a subsidiary) by reason of the fact that such person is or was serving in such capacity for SHI; provided, however, that no such person shall be entitled to any indemnification pursuant to this Section 1 on account of conduct which is finally adjudged to have been knowingly fraudulent or deliberately dishonest or to have constituted willful misconduct.
- Section 2.** SHI may, to the extent that the Board deems appropriate, and as set forth in a Bylaw or resolution, indemnify any person who is or was an employee or agent of SHI (or any subsidiary) or who is or was serving at the request of SHI as a director, officer, employee or agent of another corporation, partnership, joint venture, trust or other enterprise (including an employee benefit plan) who was successful, on the merits or otherwise, against reasonable expenses (including without limitation, reasonable attorneys' fees), judgments, fines and/or amounts paid in settlement, which are actually incurred by such person in connection with the defense of any civil, criminal, administrative or investigative action, suit, proceeding or claim (other than an action by or in the right of SHI or a subsidiary) by reason of the fact that such person is or was serving in such capacity for SHI if such person acted in good faith and in a manner that person reasonably believed to be in or not opposed to the best interests of the Corporation, and, with respect to any criminal action or proceeding, such person had no reasonable cause to believe such conduct was unlawful; provided, however, that no such person shall be entitled to any indemnification pursuant to this Section 2 on account of conduct which is finally adjudged to have been grossly negligent, knowingly fraudulent or deliberately dishonest or to have constituted willful misconduct or be liable for negligence or misconduct in the performance of such person's duty to the Corporation unless and only to the extent that the court in which the action or suit was brought determines upon application that, despite the adjudication of liability and in view of all the circumstances of the case, the person is fairly and reasonably entitled to indemnity for such expenses which the court shall deem proper.

- Section 3.** SHI may, to the extent that the Board deems appropriate, make advances of expenses, including, without limitation, reasonable attorney's fees, incurred prior to the final disposition of a civil, criminal, administrative or investigative action, suit, proceeding or claim (other than an action by or in the right of SHI or a subsidiary) to any person to whom indemnification is or may be available under this Bylaw; provided, however, that prior to making advances, SHI shall receive a written undertaking by or on behalf of such person to repay such amounts advanced in the event that it shall be ultimately determined that such person is not entitled to such indemnification.
- Section 4.** The indemnification and other rights provided by this Bylaw shall not be exclusive or any other right(s) to which a person, to whom indemnification is or may be otherwise available, may be entitled under the Act, SHI's Articles and/or Bylaws, or pursuant to any agreement, vote of disinterested directors or otherwise. SHI is authorized to purchase and maintain insurance on behalf of SHI, or any person to whom indemnification is or may be available, against any liability asserted against such person in, or arising out of, or connected with, such person's status as Trustee, officer, employee or agent of SHI (or any subsidiary) or of another corporation, partnership, joint venture, trust or other enterprise (including an employee benefit plan) for which such person is serving at the request of SHI.
- Section 5.** Each person to whom indemnification is granted under Section 1 or 2 of this Bylaw is entitled to rely upon the indemnification and other rights granted in this Bylaw as a contract with SHI and such person and such person's heirs, executors, administrators and estate shall be entitled to enforce against SHI all indemnification and other rights granted to such person by Sections 1 and 2, and this Section 5 shall survive amendment, modification or repeal of all or any part of this Bylaw and no such amendment, modification or repeal shall act to reduce, terminate or otherwise adversely affect the rights to indemnification granted hereby, with respect to any reasonable expense(s), judgment(s), fine(s) and/or amount(s) paid in settlement, which are actually incurred by a person to whom indemnification is granted under Section 1 of this Bylaw with respect to any action, suit, proceeding or claim that arises out of any act(s) or omission(s) of such person that occurred prior to the effective date of such amendment, modification or repeal.
- Section 6.** For the purposes of this Bylaw, the term "subsidiary" shall mean any corporation, partnership, joint venture, trust or other enterprise of which a majority of the voting power, equity or ownership interest is directly or indirectly owned by or for the benefit of SHI.

BYLAW 11 – Parliamentary Authority

Roberts Rules of Order Newly Revised (latest edition) shall be the parliamentary authority for all meetings of this corporation, except as otherwise specified by law, the Articles, these Bylaws, or as may be provided in a Board Policy Manual.

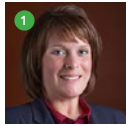
IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the undersigned Corporation has caused these Bylaws to be adopted, and approved by MBC, on and effective as of October 24, 2023, and to be executed in its name by its President and attested by its Secretary this ____ day of _____, 2023.

Your Campus Missionaries

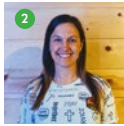
Find the location of your Campus Missionaries by matching the numbers in front of their names with the numbers on the map to the right.



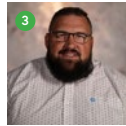
COLLEGIATE MINISTRIES



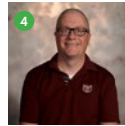
Tricia Alberts
William Woods & Westminster



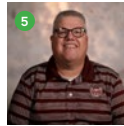
Marita Avilez
Missouri Valley College



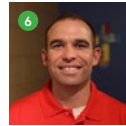
Scott Westfall
University of Missouri



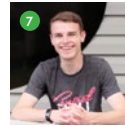
Chris Wilson
Springfield Area Collegiate Ministries



David Stone
Springfield Area Collegiate Ministries



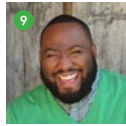
Reese Hammond
Southeast Missouri State University



Benjamin Kirtley
University of Missouri-Kansas City



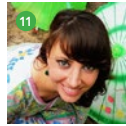
Clint Mahan
Lincoln University



Jon Nelson
Lincoln University



James Mohler
Three Rivers College



Heather Murray
Washington University



Brent Masters
Blue River & Longview Community Colleges



TBD
College of the Ozarks



Brad Russell
St. Louis University & Washington University



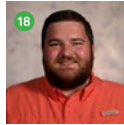
Jon Smith
Missouri Southern State University



Jerome Stockert
University of Central Missouri



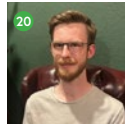
Greg Xander
Truman State University



Titus Vester
Hannibal-LaGrange University



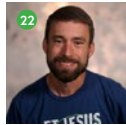
Bruce Wade
Missouri S&T



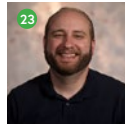
Austin Pfrimmer
Crowder College



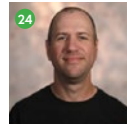
Bob Curtis
Mineral Area College



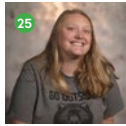
Paul Damery
Missouri Western State University



Travis Hamm
Kansas City Area



Jason Yarnell
Northwest Missouri State University



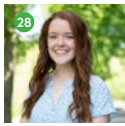
Christina Boatright
North Central Missouri College



David Hendrick
University of Missouri-St. Louis



Katrinka Goldberg
State Tech



Emily Ramage
Missouri Baptist University



Stedman Valentine
Southwest Baptist University

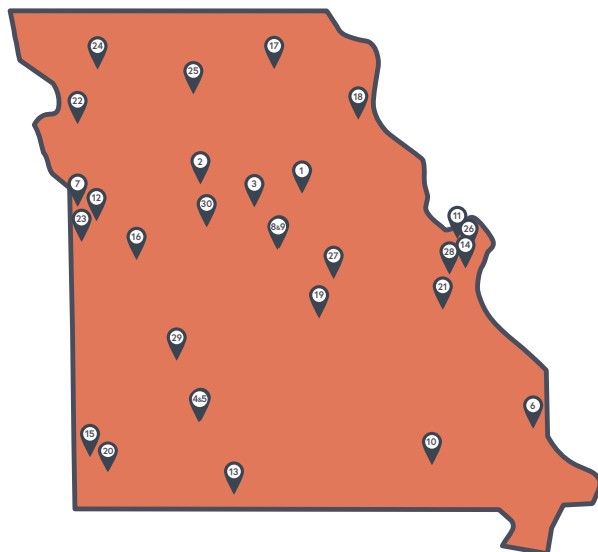


C3 Christian Campus Connection
State Fair Community

There are approximately **300,000** college students in Missouri. They represent one of the most strategic and unreached affinity groups in our state. Your Campus Missionaries seek to saturate every campus in Missouri with the gospel and equip every student to make disciples wherever they go.

Text **MBCOLLEGIATE** to **33222** to sign up for campus missionary prayer updates.

For more information on MBCollegiate visit: www.mbcolligate.org.



STOPPING SEXUAL ABUSE: A REPORT TO MISSOURI BAPTISTS

Provided by the Missouri Baptist Convention's Sexual Abuse Response Team

To Messengers of the Missouri Baptist Convention:

On May 22, 2022, everyone who cares deeply about Southern Baptists was affected by the release of the Southern Baptist Convention's Sexual Abuse Task Force Report, with the understanding that our convention of churches would never be the same. The primary emotions were deep sorrow and righteous anger as the report revealed much and caused much debate in our churches and online.

However, amidst an array of reactions, there was a strong consensus in every circle that we must learn from this and do better to ensure this particularly egregious sin does not continue to have a foothold in our churches. As Southern Baptists, we recognize we are imperfect people. Still, we have been historically and rightly defined by our commitment to the Bible's inerrancy and the Great Commission's task.

The abuse of anyone, especially the sexual abuse experienced by survivors, is contrary to everything we hold dear about the gospel and the call of Christ on our lives to love and cherish one another as those created by God in His image. This undergirding reality is the foundation for the content of this report.

The task of your MBC Sexual Abuse Response Team (SART) was the simple charge of taking the findings from the national report, assessing the report, assimilating the best information available, and providing Missouri Baptists with resources. Connected to that task was to improve our ability to protect and care for survivors, prevent sexual abuse in affiliated churches and institutions, and adequately respond to abusers in a redemptive way that reflects the heart and calling of Jesus Christ toward those we are blessed to minister to and alongside.

The following report is a synopsis of the work we have to do in response to the gross iniquity of sexual abuse.

Respectfully submitted,

The Missouri Baptist Convention's Sexual Abuse Response Team:

George Fulgham, Mike Leake, Pam Lilly, Becky Moyer, Jon Nelson

Why should I care about sexual abuse?

Biblical reasons

The gospel compels us to protect God's flock (1 Pet. 5:1-3).

Sexual abuse is a sin (2 Sam. 13, Gen. 34).

We are called to speak up for the vulnerable (Prov. 31:8).

Social reasons

Child sexual abuse is the root cause of many social problems, which impact every church family and extended family:

- Violent crime and other criminal activity
- Homelessness
- Runaway behavior
- Teen pregnancy, motherhood, and the possibility of abortion
- Sexual promiscuity
- HIV and other sexually transmitted diseases
- Substance abuse

Both physical and mental health problems also are linked with enduring sexual abuse.

Additionally, there are:

- Educational problems
- Increased need of taxpayer funding for various services
- Increased probability of civil and criminal liability

Statistical Reasons in Missouri

At least one in seven children has experienced child abuse and/or neglect in the last year.

Likely, child sexual abuse is the most prevalent health problem children face, with the most severe consequences. Before they turn 18, about one in 10 children is sexually abused, including one in seven girls and one in 25 boys.

Does this happen in churches?

The simple answer is: Yes, and on multiple levels. First, clergy sexual abuse is happening. Consider this:

- More than 7,000 claims of sexual abuse by church staff, congregation members, volunteers, or the clergy were made to just three insurance companies over a 20-year period (*Seattle Post-Intelligencer*, 2007).
- Second, churches often are easy targets for sexual predators.
- Finally, even if the incident doesn't happen in your church, what does the gospel of Christ call us to do for the care of the vulnerable? We are called to bring the gospel to the broken-hearted.

Acknowledging that sexual abuse is an issue is only a part of the battle. We must also educate ourselves to know how to help and not harm. When abuse victims are inadvertently or intentionally mistreated by those they thought they could trust with their story, they experience trauma again.

Where do I start?

We recommend that every church consider starting with the Caring Well Challenge (caringwell.com). This resource is already paid for through your church's Cooperative Program giving. The Caring Well Challenge is a unified call to action on the sexual abuse crisis in the Southern Baptist Convention. It provides churches with an adaptable and attainable pathway to immediately enhance their efforts to prevent abuse and care for abuse survivors.

The Caring Well Challenge is a great place to begin, but it's not enough by itself. It starts the conversation. But, as you go through the challenge, you likely will discover areas where further training is needed and where writing better policies could help. To that end, we have a few more recommendations.

Do I need more training?

As you discover that more training could be helpful, we recommend a couple of resources.

First, MinistrySafe (ministrysafe.com). MinistrySafe is an industry-leading organization that specializes in training and prevention that the MBC currently works alongside. The training is phenomenal in helping spot potential predators. Your staff and volunteers also can be tested and certified.

Second, Darkness 2 Light (d2l.org). This organization provides phenomenal training that is survivor-centered and trauma-informed. It's available at no cost to participants. It comes highly recommended by advocates and survivors, and it works in tandem with the Missouri Baptist Children's Home (MBCH). Contact David Burch of MBCH Children & Family Ministries at david.burch@mbch.org.

Need help walking through a crisis?

The State of Missouri provides a Sexual Abuse Hotline (800-392-3738). You are not required to provide any proof. Anyone making a good-faith report, based on reasonable grounds, is immune from prosecution.

For survivors, Missouri Child Advocacy Centers (CAC) can help answer questions about where to find resources related to child sexual abuse. To find the one closest to you, go online to nationalcac.org.

One of the best at writing policy and walking through a situation is GRACE (God's Response to Abuse in the Christian Environment). This organization has a team of helpers to assist your church in writing policy that is unique to your congregation, as well as consultants to help you navigate difficult situations. We should note, however, that GRACE (netgrace.org) can be costly.

To read the full SART report, visit mobaptist.org/SART.



MBC LEADER CARE NETWORK

Get Well • Lead Well • Finish Well

For more information go to mobaptist.org/help or visit us at the Developing Leaders booth in the exhibit hall.

Don't forget to schedule your no-cost, pastoral coaching session with **PastorServe** while you attend the MBC Annual Meeting. You can scan the QR code or register at the Developing Leaders booth.

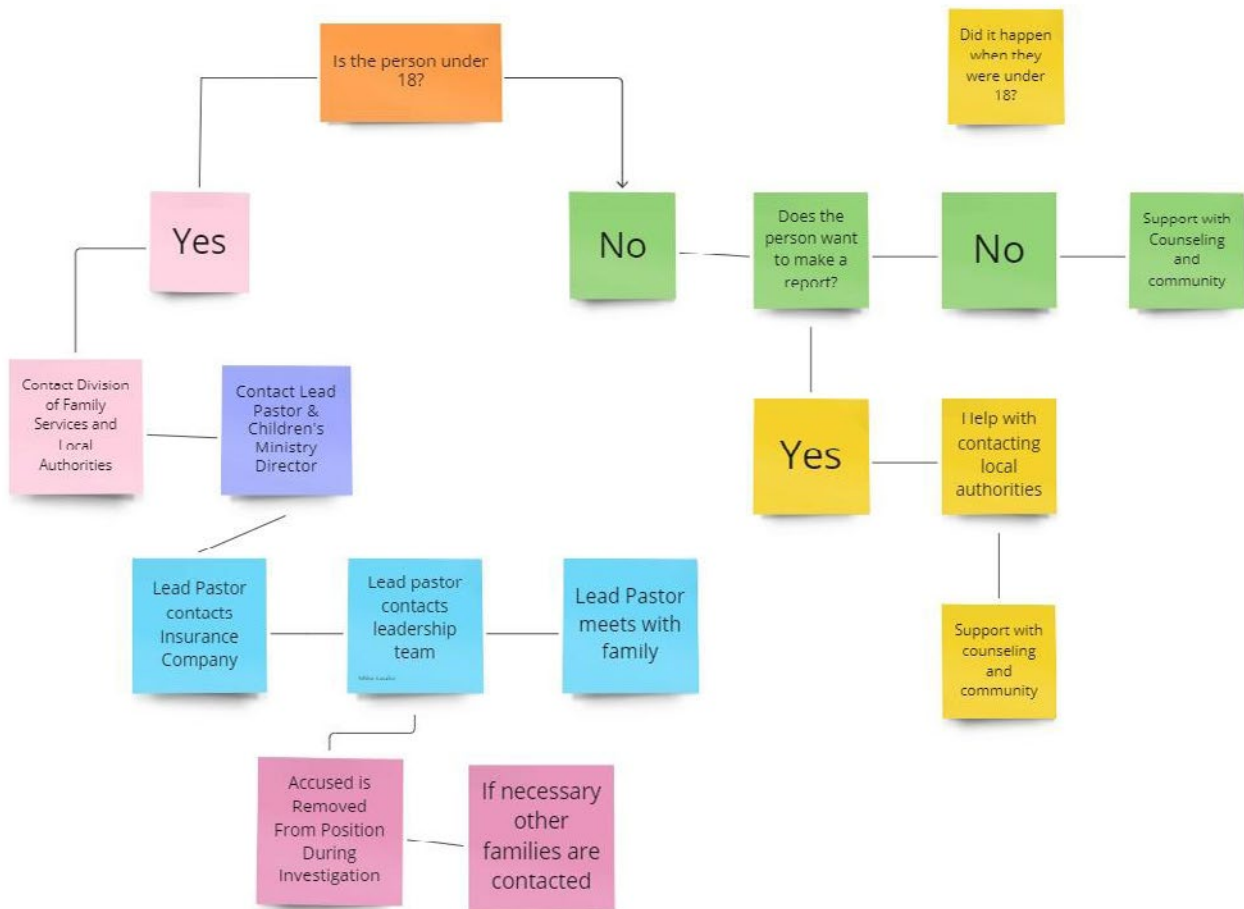


If and when something happens

If someone discloses an episode of abuse, or if any of the following happens:

1. You witness a pattern of boundary violations by an adult or youth
2. You intervene in boundary violations, and yet the person continues
3. You receive a disclosure of abuse or boundary violation from a child
4. You see physical signs of abuse

... then, take the steps indicated below:



Now that I know this, what should I do?

Policies and procedures

Our goal is that every MBC church would:

- Implement policies and procedures to reduce the risk of sexual misconduct
- Conduct training to identify grooming activities and potential concerns
- Be prepared to respond appropriately and with compassion if an allegation arises
- Have proper insurance in place in the event of sexual misconduct

Every church should have a written child/youth protection policy. You may view a sample policy online for considerations to include in your plan (vfris.com/Portals/vfris/emergency-service-operations/Sexual-Abuse-Sample-Policy-VFIS.pdf). You also may consider sample child/youth protection policies provided by MinistrySafe (ministrysafe.com) and SafeChurch (guideone.com/resources/guidevantage/safechurch).

Also, consider checking with your insurance company to receive any guidance or sample policies it can provide to customize policies and procedures to reflect your individual church's programs and facilities.

Each church also should establish counseling boundaries and include training on sexual harassment to reduce the risk of adult-to-adult sexual misconduct. It's wise to ask your local legal counsel to review your policies and procedures.

Providing survivor care

We highly recommend developing programs within your church, association, or even on a state-convention level to help with counseling for victims of sexual abuse. It's important that survivors are able to pick their own counselors, and that a relationship of dependence is not created between the organization and the persons harmed. It also might be helpful to keep a list of trusted counselors in the area to suggest as a resource.

News on church and culture from a biblical worldview

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A Cooperative Program Ministry of the Missouri Baptist Convention



MEET DR. WES FOWLER, NEW MBC EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR-TREASURER



On Aug. 28, the Executive Board of the Missouri Baptist Convention (MBC) named Dr. Wes Fowler, senior pastor of First Baptist Church, Mayfield, Ky., the next MBC executive director-treasurer. Fowler is being introduced in person to Missouri Baptists at the MBC Annual Meeting, Oct. 23-24, at Crossway Baptist Church, Springfield.

Fowler has served as senior pastor of First Baptist Church in Mayfield since 2011. He grew up in that church, and was saved and baptized there at the age of eight. He accepted the church's call to return as senior pastor after serving as student pastor at First Baptist Church, Valdosta, Ga., and senior pastor of First Baptist Church, Homerville, Ga.

Fowler currently serves as chairman of the Board of Directors for Sunrise Children's Services, the state's largest foster/residential childcare provider. He also has served as president of the Kentucky Baptist Convention (KBC, 2020-21); member of the Mission Board of the Kentucky Baptist Convention (2017-19); and chairman for the search committee that brought Dr. Todd Gray to the KBC as executive director-treasurer in 2019. He also served on the SBC Committee on Committees in 2022.

Fowler earned a Bachelor of Arts in political science at Valdosta State University (2003); a Master of Divinity at New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary (2007); and a Doctor of Ministry with an emphasis in expository preaching at The Southern Baptist Theological Seminary (2015). In 2022, Southern Seminary honored Fowler as Alumnus of the Year.

Fowler and his wife, Tara, married in 2004. They have three children: Brax, Bryley, and Pierre.

Mission in Mayfield and beyond

During his tenure as senior pastor in Mayfield, Fowler has led his church to implement multiple local, domestic, and international mission opportunities. First Baptist also has increased its giving to the Cooperative Program from 4 percent in 2011 to 8.75 percent in 2023.

On Dec. 10, 2021, a massive tornado ripped through Mayfield, rendering useless the entire campus of First Baptist. Despite this challenge, the Lord has blessed the church and its ministry under Fowler's leadership. Church members gather for corporate worship in a borrowed theater; rent facilities for children's and youth activities; meet in homes for small-group discipleship; regularly celebrate professions of faith, baptisms, and new members; and continue to give generously. Average church attendance continues in the 300-350 range.

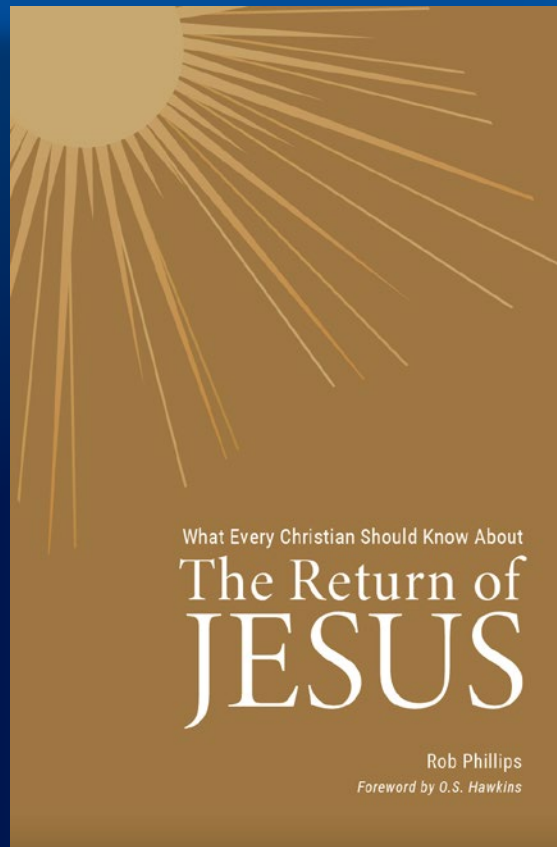
Fowler's leadership at the local, state, and national levels has helped shape his philosophy of ministry. "I believe the primary role of convention leadership is that of a servant – serving the local church to fulfill its God-ordained mission," he says. "The highest calling in SBC life is pastoring a local church. Therefore, the most pressing need for any state convention is to serve the local church by equipping, consulting, supporting, encouraging, motivating, and praying for those who answer the highest calling on earth."

From conviction and experience, Fowler understands that state convention leadership significantly impacts the local church. "After 22 years of being a beneficiary of state convention ministry in Kentucky and Georgia, I'm honored to provide that same encouragement to others," he says.

"Although every local church is autonomous, convention leaders should speak clearly on all matters that are biblically non-negotiable. Likewise, on all secondary and tertiary issues, convention leaders should promote grace, unity, and cooperation. I've experienced this approach firsthand in Kentucky and believe it would serve all state conventions well."

Meet Fowler and his family in person, and say thanks to outgoing MBC Executive Director John Yeats and his wife, Sharon, at a joint reception at 9 p.m. Monday in the Ballroom Glendalough at the DoubleTree by Hilton.

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EXECUTIVE BOARD STAFF REPORTS

Collegiate Ministries - Jason Yarnell, Interim Director

With the pandemic behind us, Collegiate Ministries are building momentum on campus. In partnership with local Baptist churches, Collegiate Ministries continue providing meals for students, filling stomachs with food and feeding souls with the gospel.

In addition to regular meal programs, the BSU at Southeast Missouri State (SEMO) fed 150 international students in August 2022. The Missouri State BSU fed more than 400 football players, marching band, and color guard members each week last fall, and Truman State BSU fed 150 collegians during winter finals.

Nine ministries took 78 staff and students on spring break trips in March across North and Central America. They proclaimed the gospel as they met physical and spiritual needs. The group of 15 from Missouri Western prayed for 280 partying college students on Florida beaches and shared the gospel with 235.

As the Asbury Revival swept across college campuses in February, Hannibal-LaGrange University (HLGU) held its 17th Annual Spiritual Emphasis Week. Twenty-five students professed faith. Collegiate Impact in Kansas City has grown exponentially, expanding ministry from four campuses to eight, growing its staff from four to nine, starting a new program pairing local church members with college students for mentoring, and launching a formal partnership with Spurgeon College.

Collegiate Ministries continue to build on the legacy left by long-time director Gene Austin, who passed away in May after a battle with cancer.

Developing Leaders - Jim Misloski, Director

The Developing Leaders Group is composed of the Resound Network for church revitalization, Missouri Baptist Disaster Relief, and the MBC Leader Care Network. You can read more about Missouri Baptist Disaster Relief and Resound Network in their respective reports.

The MBC Leader Care Network exists to help leaders get well, lead well, and finish well. Members cooperate with Missouri Baptist associational leaders to create a network of support for Missouri Baptist church leaders and their families. In the 2022-2023 season, notable assistance in the form of coaching and counseling was provided to multiple pastors and families who experienced significant loss. The network expanded to include support for ministry wives through the Ministry Wives Network led by Becca Moore and Dana Young.

The Leader Care Network took on the responsibilities of the Associational Liaison when Spencer Hutson finished his contract with MBC and directed all his attention to serving at Baptist Homes & Healthcare Ministries. In total, the network provided support to more than 320 MBC churches and leaders. Requests to the network continue to increase in each successive season. The greatest challenge is the limited capacity of the network.

Brandon Moore, Resound Network

Prayerfully seeking renewal from the Lord, the Resound Network has mobilized leaders across Missouri to catalyze revitalization and replanting through partnerships in a variety of contexts. The network focuses on three priorities: equipping leaders, engaging churches, and encouraging multiplication.

The annual Resound Network Summit hosted more than 125 pastors and directors of missions (DOMs) for equipping as revitalizers, replanters, and consultants. The Resound Network hosted its third annual event at the 2022 MBC Annual Meeting, during which 75 pastors and lay leaders were equipped to assess and develop next steps toward renewal. Twelve churches have embraced recommendations to revitalize, replant, or repurpose, and an additional 15 churches have started the Resound process. Lastly, to encourage multiplication, the network hosted the second Partnership Summit with about 35 pastors and DOMs who worked together to identify next steps toward partnering with struggling churches.

Seeking to address the leadership gap among MBC churches, the Resound Leaders Initiative has hosted about 15 workshops across the state to develop tools to help churches discover, develop, discern, and deploy people for ministry leadership. Over 300 leaders engaged in building the network further and were equipped with resources to begin calling out the called in their churches.

Gaylon Moss, Disaster Relief

Missouri Baptist Disaster Relief (MODR) transforms lives and communities with the gospel by bringing help, hope, and healing. Churches participate in MODR by praying, giving, and going.

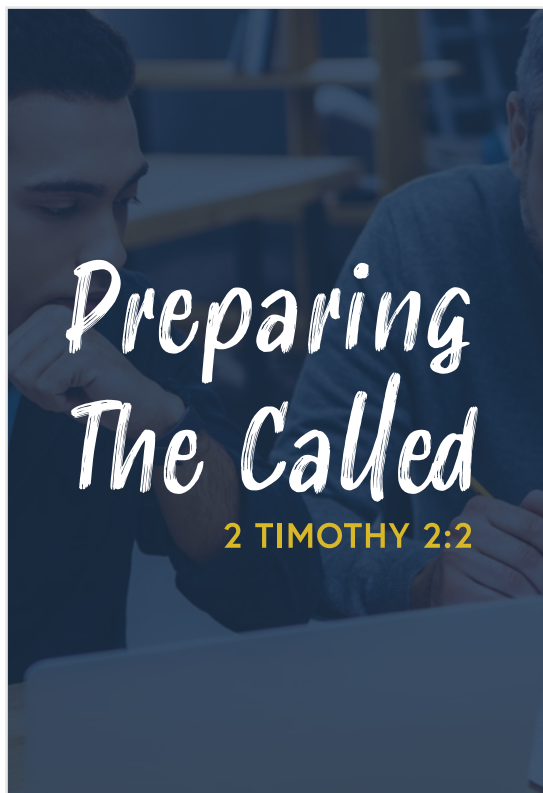
Missouri Baptist churches responded to 20 disasters either in-state, nationally, or internationally through MODR from July 2022-June 2023. Those church members shared the gospel, and at least 20 people were saved!

We began a partnership with Central Asia through Send Relief International. Our plans shifted dramatically from planning development and disaster training to actual response in Turkey for a historic and deadly earthquake. Teams assisted survivors with water purification and helped construct semi-permanent housing.

St. Louis experienced a record flood requiring assistance from MODR and several supporting states. More than 300 homes were assisted, and we repaired more than 20 homes that were damaged.

MODR responded to assist FBC Venice, Fla., with community cleanup after Hurricane Ian. Working with 18 state conventions, we saw seven people saved, 322 homes cleaned up, and 38,500 hot meals prepared during the month-long response.

Winning a grant from the American Red Cross and Lowe's Home Improvement, and securing gifts-in-kind from local vendors, MODR built two new homes for homeowners affected by a December 2021 tornado in Hayti, Mo.



PASTORAL MENTORSHIP INITIATIVE

“And what you have heard from me in the presence of many witnesses entrust to **faithful** men, who will be able to teach others also.”

For more information contact:
Dr. Rick Hedger (573) 680-2085
Janis Newbold (573) 636-0400 Ext. 321

Executive Office - Dr. John Yeats, Executive Director-Treasurer

The Pathway - Benjamin Hawkins, Editor

During the past two decades, under the leadership of the late founding editor Don Hinkle (1954-2022), *The Pathway* has become nationally respected for espousing a biblical approach to journalism. Today, the newspaper remains committed to providing Missouri Baptists with Christian worldview journalism that shares stories of truth and redemption.

This year, *Pathway* readership has remained strong, with nearly 30,000 subscribers across the state and around the world. *The Pathway* also had a record-setting year in its online readership. Estimated total readership of *The Pathway* has topped 100,000, with 60,000 due to the print edition.

The Pathway is also training up a new generation of Christian journalists. For nearly 15 years, *The Pathway* has held a journalism retreat for staff and freelance writers. But in recent years, dozens of students from communications programs at the Missouri Baptist Convention’s three universities have taken part in the retreat, learning from highly experienced Christian practitioners in the field. *The Pathway* also helps train journalism students from Spurgeon College, at Midwestern Baptist Theological Seminary, by working with interns from the college.

The Pathway is made possible at no cost to subscribers due to the support of Missouri Baptists through the Cooperative Program.

Business Services & Properties Management

Samantha Spencer, Chief Financial Officer

The Business Services Group is the Cooperative Program’s entry portal for the MBC. The group accounts for all church receipts and allocates the monies to the appropriate ministries and missions. The receipts processed by Business Services for the year ending December 31, 2022, are as follows:

Cooperative Program	\$14,700,603
Rheubin L. South Missouri Missions Offering	\$ 990,740
Lottie Moon Offering	\$ 4,220,835
Annie Armstrong Offering	\$ 2,323,265

As directed in the MBC Bylaws, the financial statements have been audited by a certified public accountant for the year ending December 31, 2022.

Gene Foster, Church Benefits Specialist

Gene Foster, church benefits specialist, helped churches with retirement plans this year. He held compensation-planning seminars and church tax-filing seminars for different associations throughout the state.

He assisted Missouri Baptists with church finance, personnel, and pastor search committees with payroll tax questions, retirement plan setup, and church compensation and financial issues.

Paula Earls, Chief Operations Officer

Paula Earls, MBC's chief operations officer, administered the MBC retirement plan, property and casualty insurance policy, personnel policies, and benefits. She serves as the main point person for the activities and leases at the MBC building.

Over the past year, she completed insurance applications, assisted with claim requests, responded to insurance-coverage questions, and much more. Other work includes planning the MBC Annual Meeting and other statewide meetings throughout the year. She additionally assists with various special projects as assigned.



Brooks Crawford, Properties Management Specialist

The Properties Management staff maintains the Jefferson City convention building, High Point Road Conference Center, Disaster Relief warehouse, six BSU buildings, and the MBC fleet of vehicles and trailers.

The staff serves by cleaning, setting up for meetings, conducting light construction, and doing repairs and regular maintenance at these locations.

Staff members have completed renovation of most of the Baptist Building. Remodeling of the ground floor is now finished, with a makeover of the postal center conducted during the spring. In addition, new signage has been installed on the front of the building for easier identification.

Missouri Woman's Missionary Union

Cheryl Stahlman, Missouri WMU Executive Director

This has been a BIG year for Missouri Woman's Missionary Union (MWMU). The state staff team, along with leaders of the MWMU Board and local WMU volunteers, went back to the beginning by holding this year's Missions Celebration at First Baptist Church, Poplar Bluff, on April 15-16 to celebrate a monumental 100 years!

We heard from National WMU Executive Director/Treasurer Sandy Wisdom-Martin, International Mission Board (IMB) and North American Mission Board (NAMB) missionaries, special video congratulations/updates from Kevin Ezell, NAMB; Paul Chitwood, IMB; and David George, WMU Foundation.

MBC Executive Director John Yeats joined in to present MWMU with a certificate to mark the milestone and a check to honor the hard work of members across the state that helped raise funds for the Missouri Missions Offering.

Missouri PrayerWays impacts our IMB and NAMB missionaries from Missouri, who know Missouri Baptists are praying for them. Many churches plan events and services on missionaries' birthdays with that in mind.

Three offerings met or exceeded their goals in 2022, with MMO raising more than \$250,000 above its goal; Lottie Moon at \$4,220,835; and Annie Armstrong at \$2,323,265. What an amazing testimony of how God uses us as we partner together to make disciples for Christ!

Abigail Moore, Children's Missions Consultant

In October of 2022, we held a Girls Experiencing Missions (GEM) retreat at Concord Baptist Church in Jefferson City, registering 57. A Disaster Relief mobile kitchen was set up, providing lunch and a tour of the kitchen for the girls to experience. A mission offering for the Cooperative Program was taken, and \$66 was received.

Throughout the year, a total of 13 new Children in Action and Girls in Action groups have been started by churches across the state. We held a GEM retreat Oct. 20-21 at Laclede Baptist Camp near Richland, Mo.

Sarah Schmitt, Student Mission and MyMissions Consultant

MWMU has had the privilege of working with Missouri Baptists for 100 years. This year, members elected to have three young women represent the Missouri Acteen Council (Celia and Cerfornia Shortell, Hannah Stalman) to learn alongside MWMU leaders to work on conferences, meetings, and leadership skills.

The Student Conference at Missions Celebration was well attended. The conference was led by students from Fusion at Midwestern Seminary. Fusion led a Night of the Nations event, and it was very convicting for the students. One student even felt God call her to missions. Praise God!

The student leadership team is looking forward to two conferences in 2024. One is for all high school and college students, and one is for girls in junior high and high school.

Making Disciples - Brad Bennett, Director

The Making Disciples Group's mission is to assist Missouri Baptists in biblical strategies and processes for making disciples who make disciples. Our aim is to cultivate a gospel-centered culture and community of disciple-making in obedience to the Great Commission. In light of our mission, we have developed the LIFE initiative, a holistic approach to evangelism and discipleship.

Over the last year, the Making Disciples Group has held numerous age-graded disciple-making equipping events. Below is a partial list.

LIFE Outreach

A LIFE Outreach is a community-wide equipping and outreach event. Over the past year, there were seven LIFE Outreaches held, with more than 8,450 in attendance and 605 documented decisions for Christ.

Super Summer Camp

In June, the Making Disciples Group held two weeks of Super Summer on the campuses of Hannibal-LaGrange University and Southwest Baptist University. Super Summer hosted 629 students and leaders over the two weeks. Students were equipped in evangelism and discipleship. More than 50 students surrendered their lives to Christ.

Youth Evangelism Conference

The 2023 Youth Evangelism Conference was held at Freshwater Church in Jefferson City. More than 400 attended. YEC was held to inspire, instruct, and encourage students to share their faith.

Vacation Bible School

The Making Disciples Group held eight different VBS associational trainings across the state, with 26 associations involved and 192 participants.

Ministry Support & Apologetics - Rob Phillips, Director

The Ministry Support & Apologetics Group provides the state missionary staff with creative services, media and technology support, and assistance with the staging and production of MBC events.

Creative Services (CS) promotes the Cooperative Program through ads, videos, articles, and social media, partnering with MBC entities to show the value of our cooperative ministries. The group also promotes the Missouri Missions Offering, producing print and electronic resources that show the impact of more than two dozen mission projects across the state.

Under the leadership of Tony Boes, CS works closely with all MBC ministry groups to enhance their communications needs; expand the role of video in MBC ministries; and keep the convention's presence on social media one of the most active among SBC state conventions.

CS also works closely with High Street Press, the MBC's publishing imprint, releasing three books in 2023, including *What Every Christian Should Know About the Return of Jesus*.

Under Chris Brizendine, Media, Technology & Events (MT&E) continues to improve the speed and reliability of information networks, enhance the convention's database, increase participation in the Annual Church Profile, and lower the cost of IT services.

MT&E also provides superior audio-visual and set design support for all major MBC events.



PastorServe Pastoral Coaching Appointments MBC Annual Meeting Oct 23 - 24, 2023

PastorServe is a national ministry whose mission is to strengthen the Church by serving pastors and ministry leaders. PastorServe provides coaching, consulting, and crisis care for pastors, pastors' spouses, and ministry leaders all across the United States.

At the invitation of the MBC Leader Care Network, PastorServe will be providing Pastoral Coaching at the Missouri Baptist Convention Annual Meeting **October 23-24, 2023**.

These sessions provide a confidential setting to talk with a trained PastorServe staff person about anything that is on your mind - related to you personally or to your ministry. All of their staff have been in pastoral ministry for more than 20 years, so they understand the pressures and challenges of ministry. We are thankful for trusted partners like PastorServe who can come alongside pastors, pastors' spouses, and ministry leaders to provide a listening ear and guidance.

Instructions for scheduling your no-cost coaching session will be emailed to everyone who registers for the Annual Meeting. The PastorServe team will have a table during the Pastors' Conference and the Annual Meeting. Please visit their table if you would like to get to know some of their team.



To register for your free pastoral coaching appointment, scan the QR code or visit us at the **Developing Leaders booth**.

Multiplying Churches - Rick Hedger, Director

The phone rings in your church office. The caller is from the International Mission Board (IMB), asking about your congregation's global mission activities – and rejoicing to hear about them. Then comes the question: “What is your church doing to reach the nations in your community?” Silence fills the heart.

The Multiplying Churches Group works tirelessly to discover the nations living within the borders of Missouri and helps Missouri Baptist churches reach them. Among the top 50 people groups in our state, 17 are listed by the IMB as unreached people, and 11 of those groups remain unengaged.

Through resources like *The Nations in Missouri*, a prayer guide focused on ethnic groups in Missouri, a church can wisely establish a prayer strategy for reaching these groups for Christ's kingdom.

Through demographic studies unique to each church's location, the nations are identified, and the church is informed.

And through worldview training, members of that local church are equipped to engage the nations living around them.

As the Lord stirs the hearts of MBC-affiliated church members, the unengaged and unreached peoples at last may be reached for Christ. What will your church do?





Making a Difference, One Heart at a Time

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mbch
MISSION

Missouri Baptist Children's Home is committed to serving God by responding to the needs of children, youth and families to make a lasting difference in their lives.

STRATEGIC PARTNERS REPORTS

Missouri Baptist Children's Home - Russell Martin, President and Treasurer

Missouri Baptist Children's Home (MBCH) helps turn the idea of hope into concrete life changes. When Jesus takes charge of broken lives, despair crumbles into dust as children find homes, youth find direction, parents find resources, and families find a future.

In the past year, MBCH served 2,853 children, youth, and families. A new partnership with CarePortal connected MBCH with Missouri churches for greater community impact. Preparations for the Martin Youth Center, opening later in 2023, were put in place so homeless teens will have access to meals, showers, and laundry facilities while working with a case manager.

Other highlights include bringing 190 children into forever homes, providing safe haven to 22 survivors of human trafficking, connecting 276 mothers and babies with resources and support, and leading five children and youth to accept Christ. MBCH also served families through therapeutic group homes, residential care for adults with developmental disabilities, foster care support, transitional living for youth aging out of foster care, and counseling.

While it's easy to count the number of people served, there's no measuring the impact Jesus made. Above all, MBCH ministries focused on one heart at a time, as they brought HOPE, HEALING, and RESTORATION to children, youth, and families.

Baptist Homes & Healthcare Ministries - Rodney A. Harrison, President and CEO

The Baptist Homes mission as a distinctively Christian ministry providing Christlike care, education, and advocacy for the aging was advanced through the following initiatives this year:

Affordable independent living opened in the remodeled second floor of the 100-year-old Riggs-Scott Building. Seniors can now enjoy a million-dollar view for under \$1000/month at the Arcadia Valley campus.

The addition of the Tri-County campus in Vandalia was completed. This facility offers CMS-certified skilled and memory care services.

Baptist Homes of Adrian received the first residents. Once completed, the campus will provide comfortable assisted-living apartments and all private-room and lavatory-skilled care accommodations.

Construction on the Veteran's Home in Smithville is nearing completion. This campus is currently hiring staff for a fall opening.

Three campuses hosted senior deer hunts in partnership with the National Deer Association. These hunts will be featured this fall in the *Missouri Conservationist* magazine and a Bass Pro video. The senior hunts will expand this season to include the Tri-County campus.

Baptist Homes is blessed to be a voice for the aging among Southern Baptists. These efforts are undergirded by volunteer groups, prayer, and the generosity of Missouri Baptists, whose partnership greatly enhances the lives of each resident and neighbor.

Christian Life Commission - William Isaacson, Chairman

It's been a busy year for the CLC, serving the churches of the MBC, advocating public policy and bearing witness to a faithful God who has commanded us all to be salt and light in the world.

The CLC hosted an event (sponsored by the American Renewal Project) to encourage Christian participation in the political arena. In addition, the CLC awarded Governor Mike Parson a Distinguished Service Award for his actions eliminating abortions in Missouri.

Last November, a letter of admonishment was sent to Senator Roy Blunt, urging him to reverse his preliminary vote on the "Respect for Marriage Act."

The CLC co-sponsors, with Concord Baptist Church, the Legislative Prayer Breakfast, held on the opening day of the legislative session. An Amicus Brief was filed, along with our three universities, in support of College of the Ozarks dealing with sexuality and housing on college campuses.

The CLC researched regulated psychedelic therapy for one MBC-affiliated church dealing with this issue in its community. A formal letter was drafted on behalf of MBC churches supporting the sister churches in Jackson County opposing the banning of conversion therapy.

Missouri Baptist Foundation - Neil Franks, President and Treasurer

The Missouri Baptist Foundation (MBF) embarked on its 77th year of ministry by taking a big step and launching a new way to serve Missouri Baptists. For many years, MBF has offered pooled Cash Fund investments to help institutional clients preserve principal. The solid interest rate has allowed churches, associations, and Christian institutions to better steward the resources entrusted to them.

For the first time in its history, MBF offers the MBF Cash Fund to qualified individuals. (The rates can change monthly, and minimum requirements and qualifications apply.) This offering has already helped individuals increase their ability to establish a lasting legacy.

MBF remains committed to providing exemplary service and investment options to Missouri Baptist churches, associations, and ministries through its Kingdom, Harvest, and Storehouse Funds. These funds adhere to our redemptive investing strategy, which involves filtering out harmful elements while actively selecting investments that promote positive God-honoring outcomes, including human capital development, affordable medicines, and farmland cultivation.

Additionally, MBF continues to assist generous individuals in making legacy and planned estate gifts to kingdom causes. To learn more about MBF funds, or how you can leave a legacy, call (573) 761-0717 or go online at mbfn.org.

Historical Commission - Gaylord L. Mustin, Chairman

The Historical Commission awarded the Missouri Baptist Heritage Scholarship to four students, who were asked to submit research papers on some aspect of Missouri Baptist history. Each student receives a \$2,000 scholarship for the next academic year. Half of the funding comes from the Cooperative Program, and the other half from the students' institutions.

The winners are: Caleb Brittain, Southwest Baptist University (from Knob Noster); Morgan Smith, Missouri Baptist University (from Wright City); Gabriel Gard, Hannibal-LaGrange University (from Eureka); and Ezra Richardson, Spurgeon College (from Thorp, Wash.).

Brittain wrote "The Early Development of Baptist Educational Institutions In Missouri, 1849-1906." Smith's paper covered "The History of Baptist Missions to the Native Americans in Missouri." Gard wrote "The History of Hannibal-LaGrange University." Richardson wrote "Early Missouri Baptist History."

April 30, 2024, marks the 200th anniversary of First Baptist Church of Jackson, Mo. Planning has begun for a celebration to be held from April 21-28, 2024. Plans include a "Walk of Faith," to begin at Old Bethel Church and end at FBC with an old-fashioned "dinner on the grounds." First Baptist Jackson was the ninth church organized by members of Bethel Baptist Church and the only one that is still functioning today.

HIGHER EDUCATION INSTITUTION REPORTS

Hannibal-LaGrange University - Dr. Robert J. Matz, President

Last year, God began a new work. In the spring, revival came to Hannibal-LaGrange University. Dozens of students came to faith in Christ, and dozens more recommitted their lives or surrendered to vocational ministry. It is our genuine prayer that the Lord's new work would continue.

The Lord's work was also seen through his gracious financial and numerical provision. Financially, HLGU is now practicing biblical stewardship through a balanced budget, and numerically significant increases in applications and admitted students have been realized in residential, online, and graduate programs.

With secular universities embracing antibiblical presuppositions, it is no wonder Christian parents and students increasingly question the value of a college education. Anchored in a biblical worldview, HLGU stands as the best investment students can make in their future.

At HLGU, students are equipped through a relevant education to become transformational leaders who make a generational impact. Faculty are trained in a Christian worldview in partnership with the Colson Institute and annually affirm *The Baptist Faith & Message*, a literal creation, and a biblical understanding of sexual relations and God's gift of gender.

Missouri Baptists can rest assured that the education students receive at HLGU is deeply rooted in our collective biblical and baptistic identity. We invite Missouri Baptists to send a new generation of students to become HLGU Trojans.

Missouri Baptist University - Dr. Keith Ross, President

Like the city on the hill Jesus so vividly described in Matthew's Gospel, Missouri Baptist University has been a shining light for more than 60 years. MBU's vibrant community continues to pursue the twin values of lifelong learning and service.

Anticipating an increasingly brighter future, the university launched Together We Shine, a campaign that will fund a new academic building and welcome center, while also growing the endowment and enhancing academic programs. In short, this campaign allows MBU to attract and equip more students to serve communities across St. Louis and around the world.

A new partnership with the MBC's Resound Network enables the university to offer an academic program in church revitalization. This fall, students will gain practical skills aimed at strengthening church unity and evangelistic effectiveness.

Furthermore, students from MBU's School of Nursing traveled to Greece in March, conducting healthcare clinics for refugee populations, sharing the gospel, and encouraging local evangelical churches.

These are just a few of the many initiatives and interactions that, through God's kindness and guidance, allow the university to be a beacon of hope in a world yearning for the healing power of the gospel.

Southwest Baptist University - Rick Melson, Ph.D., President

SBU continued its momentum over the past year. The university accomplished a five-percent enrollment growth in its Fall 2022 class, and maintained year-over-year increases of more than 30 percent in applicants and admissions for the Fall 2023 class.

More than 200 student-athletes received All-Conference Academic honors in the Great Lakes Valley Conference.

The university successfully hosted an accreditation site-visit team from the Higher Learning Commission in May. SBU looks forward to the HLC's board meeting in November, where it is confident its accreditation will be reaffirmed for another 10 years and its probation designation removed.

New degree programs launched this fall include a bachelor's degree in data science, and MBA concentrations in data analytics and marketing. The new online campus, SBU Worldwide, launched this fall with degree programs in business administration and health sciences.

All seats on the executive cabinet were filled by the spring. Experienced leaders from across the country will shape the new five-year strategic plan that takes the university through its 150th anniversary in 2028. This includes establishing SBU as a resource for Baptist churches, as evidenced by the recent "We Believe" series launched online at baptistfaithandmessage.com.

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MBC GOVERNING DOCUMENTS

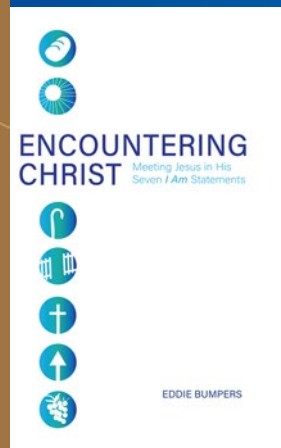
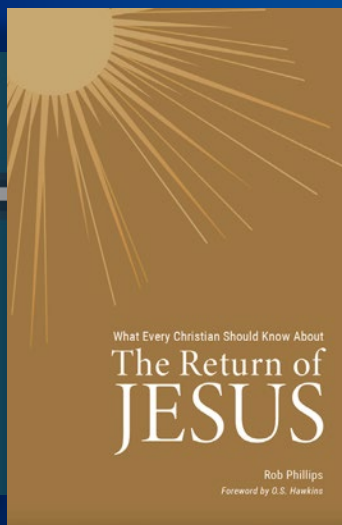
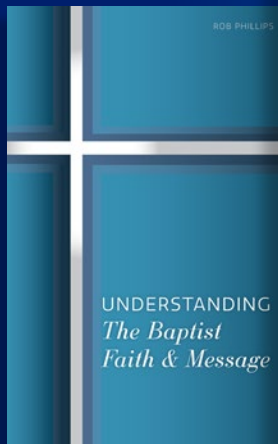
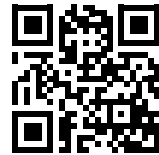


TABLE OF CONTENTS

Charter of the Missouri Baptist Convention	124
Restated and Amended Constitution	126
Bylaws of the Missouri Baptist Convention	131
Nominating Committee Rules and Procedures	145
Credentials Committee Rules and Procedures	151
Amended and Restated Articles of Incorporation of the Executive Board of the Missouri Baptist Convention	154
Bylaws of the Executive Board of the Missouri Baptist Convention	159
Business and Financial Plan of the Missouri Baptist Convention	170
Addendum: Commission Bylaws	
Christian Life Commission	179
Historical Commission	181



Discover resources from Missouri Baptists.



CHARTER OF THE MISSOURI BAPTIST CONVENTION

The Messengers and the undersigned Officers of the Missouri Baptist Convention, who are natural persons of the age of eighteen years or more, adopt the following Articles of Agreement, which are hereby declared to be the Charter of the Missouri Baptist Convention:

Article I

NAME & DURATION

The name of the corporation is: Missouri Baptist Convention. The period of duration of the corporation is perpetual.

Article II

COMPOSITION & MEETINGS

The Missouri Baptist Convention (“MBC”) is composed of Messengers who are members of affiliated Baptist churches in cooperation with the MBC and the Southern Baptist Convention (“SBC”), as provided in the MBC Constitution and Bylaws. The MBC holds a meeting of Messengers at least annually to conduct MBC business. The time, place, and manner of such meeting is determined by the Messengers, or otherwise provided in the MBC’s Constitution and Bylaws. Messengers do not vote by proxy.

Article III

PURPOSE STATEMENT

- A. It is the purpose of the MBC to provide a general organization for Baptists, primarily in the State of Missouri, who cooperate with the SBC, and such other associations and affiliations as the MBC deems appropriate; for the promotion of Christian missions at home and abroad; to serve Great Commission churches for the glory of God; and such other religious, missionary, benevolent, charitable, or educational purposes as the Messengers determine. It adopts all necessary regulations for the conduct of its business not inconsistent with this Charter, including, without limitation, a Constitution and Bylaws.
- B. The Corporation is organized and operates exclusively for religious purposes as a convention of churches appointing Messengers, and not for the private benefit of any person. No part of the net earnings of the MBC shall inure to the benefit of or be distributable to any private person, including officers, employees, or agents of the MBC, except that the MBC is authorized and empowered to pay reasonable compensation for services rendered and to make payments and distributions in furtherance of the religious purposes set forth in this Charter, the Constitution, or the Bylaws.

- C. Nothing in the Charter, Constitution, Bylaws, and other governing documents of the MBC requires the MBC, its officers, agents, or affiliated churches to follow any civil law, rule, or ruling that requires any act or omission that violates Scripture or any religious belief or practice based on Scripture, according to their religious conscience, or that violates the right of Religious Freedom and Free Exercise which God has granted to all people and which the First Amendment to the U.S. Constitution was intended to protect.

Article IV

OFFICERS

The Officers of the MBC are defined in its Constitution and Bylaws. Except as provided in the Constitution and Bylaws, such Officers must be elected by the Messengers.

Article V

AMENDMENTS

This Charter may be amended at any meeting of the MBC by a two-thirds (2/3) vote, provided that the text of the proposed amendment has been introduced at the previous Annual Meeting. Any proposed amendment by a Messenger, upon introduction and being seconded, stands referred to the Executive Board for examination and hearing on such amendment and a report and recommendation to the Convention at the next Annual Meeting. Amendments originated by the Executive Board must be approved by a two-thirds (2/3) vote of the entire Board. Before MBC action, the proposed amendment(s) are published on the official website of the MBC at least thirty (30) days prior to the Annual Meeting. Amendments are then filed with government agencies as required by Chapter 352, RS Mo, as amended.

Article VI

DISSOLUTION

In the event of dissolution, the net assets of the corporation will be distributed to the Southern Baptist Convention, or as otherwise directed by the MBC Messengers by a two-thirds (2/3) vote, to one or more Southern Baptist associations, churches, or religious organizations of the same or similar religious purpose.

RESTATED AND AMENDED CONSTITUTION

Missouri Baptist Convention

A Chapter 352 RS Mo Corporation

(October 23, 2017)

Article I

FORMATION

Pursuant to a decree of the Circuit Court of Cole County, Missouri, the Missouri Baptist Convention became a Missouri corporation after the October 2017 annual meeting. It succeeds in all respects the unincorporated Association known as the Missouri Baptist Convention. Such association was previously known as the Missouri Baptist General Association, the General Association of United Baptists, and the Baptist Central Society of Missouri. In this document, the “MBC” and the “Convention” refer to the Corporation.

Article II

COMPOSITION

The Missouri Baptist Convention (“MBC”) is composed of Messengers from Southern Baptist churches singly aligned with the MBC, and cooperating with the MBC in its program of single alignment with the Southern Baptist Convention (“SBC”).

Baptist churches are autonomous and may associate with other organizations, conventions, associations, or affiliations, so long as no part of those associations is incompatible with the MBC’s Charter, Constitution, Bylaws, and statement of faith, as determined by the MBC. The MBC always has the right to determine the qualification of its own Messengers and affiliated churches. The MBC may at any time accept, decline, or discontinue a church’s affiliation, or may seat, decline to seat, or remove as Messenger(s) any person(s) challenged as disqualified by reason of personal grounds or by reason of the character or attitude of the church sending such Messenger(s).

Article III

PURPOSE STATEMENT

Pursuant to its Charter, the MBC serves Great Commission churches for the glory of God, and such other religious, missionary, benevolent, charitable, or educational purposes as the Messengers may determine. The MBC cooperates with the SBC and other associations and affiliations as it deems appropriate.

Article IV

STATEMENT OF FAITH

God's Word as revealed in the Holy Bible is the sole authority in matters of faith and practice among Baptists. Confessions are only guides in interpretation, having no authority over the conscience. However, in order to set forth certain principles on which persons who are Baptists generally agree, we adopt as the Statement of Faith of the MBC the Baptist Faith and Message, in the current edition adopted by the SBC.

Article V

OFFICERS

The Officers of the MBC consist of a President, First Vice-President, Second Vice-President, and Secretary. The Executive Director of the Convention, as selected by the Executive Board, serves as Treasurer of the Convention.

Article VI

ANNUAL MEETING

1. Messengers meet at least annually at such time, place, and manner as the Messengers or the Executive Board may decide.
2. Each affiliated church may name Messengers with authority to attend and participate as Messengers at regular or special meetings of the MBC.
3. Messengers elect the Officers and Executive Board of the MBC.
4. The Executive Director reports on the activities and financial condition of the MBC during the Annual Meeting.
5. The Executive Director's staff records and summarizes the proceedings of the Annual Meeting and publishes them in the Annual: Reports and Statistics, after approval by the Executive Board.

Article VII

MBC POWERS AND THE EXECUTIVE BOARD

1. The corporate powers of the MBC are exercised by Messengers at regular or special meetings. The act of the majority of the Messengers voting at a business session is the act of the corporation, unless a greater number is required for a particular act by the Charter, Constitution, or the Bylaws. The MBC may delegate the management of the activities of the MBC to any person, corporation, or committee, provided that the activities and affairs of the MBC are exercised under the ultimate direction of the Messengers.

2. The Executive Board of the Missouri Baptist Convention, a Missouri nonprofit corporation (“Executive Board”), is the fiduciary, the fiscal, and the executive Entity of the MBC in all its affairs not specifically committed to some other Entity. The Executive Board has full power and authority to act for the MBC between Annual Meetings in any and all matters pertaining to the MBC, unless otherwise provided by the MBC. The Executive Board does not have power to contravene any motion to take action adopted by the MBC’s Messengers or to do anything contrary to the MBC’s Charter, Constitution, or Bylaws.
3. The Executive Board Trustees are the MBC’s Officers and such other Trustees elected by the Messengers at the Annual Meeting. The number and composition of the Executive Board are determined as set forth in the Bylaws of the Executive Board. Each Executive Board Trustee must be a member of an affiliated church.

Article VIII

ENTITIES

1. An MBC Entity is an educational, benevolent, or religious corporation approved by the Messengers and listed as its Entity in the Bylaws. In order to safeguard such institutions to the MBC, the MBC is a member of each Entity’s corporation.
2. Each Entity’s governing board of Trustees has a fiduciary relationship to the Entity and the MBC. The Charters of MBC Entities (and all their subsidiaries) must include a provision requiring their charters and any changes to their charters to be approved in writing by the MBC during an Annual Meeting, after review by the Executive Board. As defined in the Bylaws, any vote to approve or disapprove is made by Messengers at an Annual Meeting, with the result recorded in writing.
3. The MBC elects the governing board of each of its Entities. An Entity may suspend a Trustee for cause. After the Messengers, or Executive Board, present to the Entity a formal charge or accusation of cause, and if the Entity does not suspend a Trustee, the Trustee may be suspended by the Executive Board. A Trustee may be removed only by vote of the Messengers.
4. Each governing board has full authority over the internal operation of the Entity and reports the Entity’s operation and financial condition to the Messengers.

Article IX

COMMITTEES

The MBC has such standing committees as authorized by the Bylaws or the Messengers. Special committees may be appointed by the Messengers, President, or the Executive Board.

Article X

RELATION TO BYLAWS

This Constitution is superior to the Bylaws and all other governing documents of the Convention, except for the Convention's Charter. The Convention may not take any act inconsistent with this Constitution and/or its Charter.

Article XI

AMENDMENTS

This Constitution may be amended at any meeting of the MBC by a two-thirds (2/3) vote, provided that the text of the proposed amendment has been introduced at the previous Annual Meeting. Any proposed amendment to this Constitution by a Messenger, upon proper motion and second, stands referred to the Executive Board for examination and hearing on such amendment and a report and recommendation to the Convention at the next Annual Meeting. Amendments originated by the Executive Board must be approved by a two-thirds (2/3) vote of the entire Board. Before MBC action, the proposed amendment(s) are published on the official website of the MBC at least thirty (30) days prior to the Annual Meeting.

A poster for the 2024 MBCollegiate Conference. The background is a blurred green field. In the center, a pair of hands holds a small green seedling with three leaves. The word "ENTRUSTED" is written in large, bold, yellow capital letters at the top. Below it, "Matthew 25:20-21" is written in yellow. To the right, "2024 MBCOLLEGIATE CONFERENCE" is written in bold black letters, followed by "February 23 - 24". At the bottom left, the MBCollegiate logo is shown with the website "mbcollegiate.org/entrusted". At the bottom right, the location "Parkade Baptist Church in Columbia, MO" and the speakers "Speaker - Rev. Dr. James Choung" and "Music - Jami Smith" are listed.

ENTRUSTED
Matthew 25:20-21

**2024 MBCOLLEGIATE
CONFERENCE**
February 23 - 24

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Parkade Baptist Church in Columbia, MO
Speaker - Rev. Dr. James Choung
Music - Jami Smith



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BYLAWS OF THE MISSOURI BAPTIST CONVENTION

BYLAW 1

COMPOSITION

The Missouri Baptist Convention (“MBC”) consists of Messengers from those cooperating Southern Baptist churches recognized as affiliated by the MBC as provided in the Constitution or these Bylaws.

BYLAW 2

MESSENGERS

Each affiliated church may send two (2) Messengers to the Annual Meeting, plus the greater of: 1) one additional Messenger for every \$6,000 contributed to the Cooperative Program (CP) and/or Missouri Baptist Missions and Ministries, and Southern Baptist missions, through the MBC in the prior calendar year (Jan. 1 – Dec. 31); or 2) one additional Messenger for each full percent of the affiliated church’s undesignated receipts contributed to the Cooperative Program and/or Missouri Baptist Missions and Ministries, and Southern Baptist missions, through the MBC. The second option is calculated as follows:

Church’s contributions to CP and/or Missouri Baptist Missions and Ministries, and Southern Baptist missions, through the MBC for Jan. 1 – Dec. 31 of prior year

----- Divided by -----

Church’s undesignated receipts for prior year as reported in the Annual Church Profile (ACP)

No affiliated church may send more than twelve (12) Messengers. All Messengers must be members of their sending affiliated church.

BYLAW 3

OFFICERS

- A. The elected MBC Officers are the President, First Vice-President, Second Vice-President, and Secretary. The Executive Director serves as the Treasurer. Elected Officers must be members of cooperating MBC-affiliated churches and elected at the Annual Meeting. All elected Officers are ex officio Trustees of the Executive Board. Except for the Executive Director/ Treasurer, Officers serve from the end of one Annual Meeting through the next Annual Meeting.
- B. The President is the presiding Officer of the MBC during the Annual Meeting and of the Executive Board with the following responsibilities:

1. To work with the Executive Director and the Committee on Order of Business to develop the theme and program for the Annual Meeting.
 2. To work with the Executive Director to set the agenda for all Executive Board meetings.
 3. To serve as an ex officio member of the Executive Board Administrative Committee.
 4. To appoint the members of the Executive Board Committee on Executive Board Committees.
 5. To nominate the members of the MBC Nominating Committee who are elected at the Annual Meeting.
 6. To serve as an ex officio member of the committees of the MBC, except for the Nominating Committee.
 7. To serve as an ex officio member of the committees of the Executive Board, or to designate another Officer to serve, except for the Committee on Executive Board Committees.
 8. To serve as an ex officio Trustee, without vote, of each MBC Entity board, except the Executive Board where the President is a voting Trustee.
 9. To deliver an address at the Annual Meeting.
- C. In the event the President is unable to serve, the order of succession is the First Vice-President, Second Vice-President, and Secretary. In the event an elected Officer other than the President is unable to serve, the position remains vacant until filled at the next Annual Meeting. The President may assign the duties and functions of a vacant office among the remaining Officers as needed.
- D. The Secretary is responsible to determine the presence or absence of a quorum for all meetings of the Executive Board; to prepare minutes of the Executive Board's meetings; to oversee preparation of proceedings of the Annual Meeting; and to authenticate records of the MBC.
- E. In any action taken by the MBC as a member of an Entity corporation, the Secretary reduces such action to writing, and communicates the written action to the affected Entity.
- F. A person is ineligible for nomination, election, or service as an elected MBC Officer if the person or his/her spouse is a salaried employee of the MBC, MBC Entities, or any Entity to which the MBC makes direct appropriations.

- G. A candidate for elected office must be a Messenger who is nominated by another Messenger from the floor. Voting is by secret ballot. To be elected, the winning candidate must receive a majority of votes cast for the office. If there is only one nominee, the presiding Officer requests the Secretary to cast the ballot of the Convention on behalf of that nominee, and declares said nominee to be elected by the Convention to the office. If a runoff election is necessary, only the names of the two persons receiving the most votes on the first ballot appear on the runoff ballot.
- H. A person who is elected and serves as President for two (2) full, consecutive annual terms is ineligible to be nominated or elected as any Officer until after the passage of one (1) year after the conclusion of his second full term.
- I. No person can serve more than four (4) consecutive annual terms as an Officer. After a year sabbatical, a person is not term limited from being elected to any office.

BYLAW 4

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR-TREASURER

The Chief Executive Officer of the MBC and the Executive Board is the Executive Director and Treasurer who communicates the story of how God is working through the cooperative efforts of Missouri Baptists and who represents and carries out the policies of the MBC and the Executive Board. With the exception of the Nominating Committee, or where there is a conflict of interest, the Executive Director serves as a non-voting member of all boards, committees, and commissions of the MBC. The Executive Director delivers an annual address at the Annual Meeting. The Executive Board employs and evaluates the Executive Director. When authorized by the Executive Board, he may function as the legal representative of its interests.

He functions under the general direction of the Executive Board with wide latitude for independent decision-making within the framework of the governing documents, and within the limits of such other policies and directives which the MBC or the Executive Board may adopt. He serves the Board as its Chief Executive Officer and as the general manager of its work and staff ("Executive Board Staff").

BYLAW 5

COMMITTEES AND OFFICIALS

The MBC may create standing and special committees, establishing the number of members, purpose, and duration of each. Committees are guided by such rules and procedures as the MBC may adopt. Unless otherwise specifically provided in the MBC Constitution or Bylaws, an elected or appointed committee member is eligible to serve two (2) successive three-year terms, and then is ineligible for nomination for the same position until after two (2) years have transpired. A committee member who has not served two (2) full successive three-year terms may be eligible for nomination after one (1) year has transpired.

The MBC has the following committees and officials:

A. Elected Standing Committees

1. Nominating Committee

- a. Is governed by the Nominating Committee Rules and Procedures as approved by the Executive Board.
- b. Nominates persons to serve on the Executive Board, on the governing board of each Entity, a Committee on Order of Business, a Credentials Committee, and on each Commission.
- c. Consists of twenty-four (24) members fairly representative of the geographic regions of the MBC as referenced in the Executive Board Bylaws.
- d. The President nominates one-third (1/3) at each Annual Meeting, and recommends the Chairperson.
- e. Members serve three-year terms beginning at the close of the Annual Meeting at which elected.

2. Committee on Order of Business

- a. Proposes the order of business and an agenda for the next meeting of the Messengers and recommends the scheduling or disposition of motions from the floor.

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church,
you help
leave a
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legacy.



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- b. Provides periods of time during the Convention for the introduction of all matters requiring a vote not scheduled on the agenda, and, when introduced, shall fix times for the consideration of the same, unless the Convention then gives its unanimous consent for its immediate consideration, or by two-thirds (2/3) vote instructs the Committee to arrange for consideration at a subsequent session of the same Convention, subject to these bylaws. When practicable, it gives notice in the Convention Bulletin of the substance of the motion or resolution and the time for its consideration. If unable to give notice in the Bulletin, it causes announcement to be made during a business session, action thereon to be taken at the subsequent session of that Convention.
- c. Consists of three (3) members; one (1) elected at each Annual Meeting. Chairperson is recommended by Nominating Committee.
- d. Members serve three-year terms beginning at the close of the Annual Meeting at which elected.

3. Credentials Committee

- a. Is governed by the Credentials Committee Rules and Procedures as approved by the Executive Board.
- b. Reviews and makes recommendations regarding affiliation of churches and their Messengers.
- c. Consists of six (6) members – two (2) elected at each Annual Meeting. Chairperson is recommended by Nominating Committee.
- d. Members serve three-year terms beginning at the close of the Annual Meeting at which elected.

B. Appointed Standing Committees

1. Committee on Resolutions

- a. Consists of five (5) members appointed by the President within ninety (90) days after his election.
- b. The Committee drafts and submits to the Messengers such resolutions as it determines appropriate and provides a disposition report.
- c. Member's one-year term of service is completed upon adjournment of Annual Meeting, and a member is eligible for reappointment in successive years.

2. Tellers Committee

- a. Assists the presiding Officer with the taking of all votes, collecting the ballots, tabulating the results, and delivering results to the presiding Officer.
- b. Consists of an adequate number of members to carry out the tasks.
- c. Appointed by the President not fewer than thirty (30) days prior to the Annual Meeting.
- d. Members serve one-year terms and are eligible for reappointment in successive years, without a waiting period.

C. Vacancies: Should a vacancy occur between Annual Meetings, the vacancy can be filled using the same process by which the member was originally nominated. If the member was elected during the Annual Meeting, the appointment is temporary until the next Annual Meeting. A member filling an unexpired term is eligible to be elected to a full term.

D. Officials: The MBC has such standing and other officials as established by the Messengers or the Executive Board.

1. Officials are appointed by the MBC President.
2. Officials recruit such persons to assist in completing the duties.
3. Officials serve a two-year term following appointment, and are eligible for reappointment to successive terms, without a waiting period.
4. The MBC has a standing Official on Local Arrangements to assist the staff in making all necessary local arrangements for conducting the Annual Meeting.

BYLAW 6

ANNUAL MEETING

- A. The Annual Meeting of the MBC is a private religious gathering. The MBC reserves the right to limit attendance to Messengers and guests of affiliated churches. The MBC retains the right to take legal recourse against disruptive persons.

- B. The time, the place (city), and the site of a particular Annual Meeting is set by the Messengers in advance, on recommendation of the Executive Board after due consideration of available facilities and other factors. In the event that unforeseen circumstances make it impossible to have an Annual Meeting as scheduled, the MBC Executive Board has the authority to determine a new time, place, and manner (as needed) or to cancel the Annual Meeting, and to make provision for extensions of terms of offices, committees and boards, and other adjustments or actions necessary for compliance with law or governing documents.
- C. The MBC staff makes arrangements for registering Messengers before and during the Annual Meeting. Each Messenger must present approved credentials before being registered as a Messenger. If a question about a Messenger's credentials arises, the matter is referred to the Credentials Committee for study and report or recommendation to the Convention for action. All duly registered Messengers constitute the Annual Meeting. Each Messenger possesses all rights and privileges granted by the MBC Charter, Constitution, Bylaws, and parliamentary authority.
- D. During the first session of the Annual Meeting, the Committee on Order of Business introduces an agenda.
- E. Motions are brought to the floor by any registered Messenger at the time designated for miscellaneous business. Such motions are immediately referred to the Committee on Order of Business for scheduling or other disposition.
- F. The adoption of recommendations contained in reports to the Convention do not bind the Convention on any other matters in the body of the reports; but the Convention reserves the right to consider and amend the body of all reports. The reception of a report does not bind the MBC as to any recommendations contained therein, unless expressly adopted. The adoption of any motion or recommendation, including amendments, is regarded as an expression of the will of the Messengers and therefore binding on Convention officials under the Convention's authority.
- G. The adoption of any resolution is viewed as an expression of the Messengers' sentiment and serves as guidance and information, but does not direct action by MBC Entities, churches, associations, or individual Missouri Baptists.

- H. Resolutions must be submitted in writing to the Committee on Resolutions at least sixty (60) days prior to the first session of the Annual Meeting. The person submitting a resolution must certify that he or she will be a Messenger to the Annual Meeting. The Christian Life Commission may submit resolutions directly to the Committee on Resolutions. The author of any resolution may address the Committee on Resolutions during their deliberations. Only resolutions recommended by the Committee on Resolutions may be considered, except a properly submitted resolution not recommended by the Committee may be considered by a two-thirds (2/3) vote of the Messengers. No person may submit more than three (3) resolutions per year. The Resolutions Committee shall publish all resolutions they intend to submit to MBC Messengers not less than one week before the Annual Meeting on the MBC website.
- I. Personal appeals for funds are prohibited. No collection is taken for any cause at any session except by a special order approved in advance by the MBC Executive Board or by a two-thirds (2/3) vote of Messengers.
- J. All materials distributed in the general session meeting hall and foyer of the Annual Meeting must be approved by the MBC Executive Board.
- K. All exhibitors must be approved by the MBC Executive Board.
- L. Final decisions relating to the procedures and processes of the Annual Meeting are determined by the MBC Executive Board.

BYLAW 7

ENTITIES AND COMMISSIONS OF THE MBC

A. The Entities and the Commissions of the MBC are:

1. Education Entities: Hannibal-LaGrange University, Missouri Baptist University, and Southwest Baptist University.
2. Benevolent Entities: The Baptist Home and Missouri Baptist Children's Home.
3. Commissions: Christian Life Commission and Missouri Baptist Historical Commission.
4. Other Entities: The Executive Board of the Missouri Baptist Convention and Missouri Baptist Foundation.

B. Each Commission is overseen by Commissioners elected by the MBC.

C. Each Entity is governed by a Board of Trustees elected by the MBC.

1. Each Entity's governing Board of Trustees has a fiduciary relationship both with the Entity and the MBC and holds the assets as stewards in trust for the MBC.

2. An Entity trustee serving a full or partial term is eligible for consideration to be nominated and elected to a (one) consecutive term, but after serving a consecutive term, is ineligible for renomination to that board for one year. Service of a partial term counts as a full term under these bylaws.
 3. If a vacancy occurs on any board, the board Chairman advises the Chairman of the MBC Nominating Committee. This Committee fills the vacancy temporarily in accord with the Entity's governing documents.
- D. No person may serve on more than one (1) board or commission simultaneously.
- E. No MBC or Entity employee, except for the Executive Director, may serve on the board of any Entity of the MBC. When a Trustee of any Entity board becomes an employee, the Trustee position is vacated immediately.
- F. Each Entity's governing documents must provide that the MBC is a member of the Entity corporation, and must acknowledge that Entity Trustees have a fiduciary relationship both to the Entity and to the MBC, and provide the MBC, in its sole and absolute discretion, the following:
1. the sole and exclusive right to elect and remove Trustees of the Entity;
 2. the right to notice of all meetings of the Entity's Board of Trustees;
 3. the right to recommend, approve, or reject, in writing, any addition, deletion, or other amendment to the Entity's Articles of Incorporation or Charter, Constitution, and/or Bylaws;
 4. the right to approve or reject the sale, mortgage, lease, pledge, or transfer of all, or substantially all, of the Entity's assets;
 5. the right to approve or reject the creation, amendment, or dissolution of any subsidiary of the Entity;
 6. the right to be present by an Officer at all meetings of the Entity's Board of Trustees;
 7. the right for the MBC President to serve as an ex officio Trustee, without vote, of the Entity's board;
 8. the right for the MBC Executive Director to serve as a non-voting ex officio Trustee of the Entity's board and as a non-voting member of any search committee for any Entity's Chief Executive Officer; and
 9. the right to approve or reject any material change of the ministry of the Entity.

BYLAW 8

REPRESENTATION ON MBC COMMITTEES, BOARDS, AND COMMISSIONS

- A. Each MBC committee, Entity board, and commission includes ministers and lay persons as members or Trustees or Commissioners. Not more than two thirds (2/3) of any group's members are from either category. The term minister is defined to mean active ordained ministers or other ministry staff. Non-ordained or retired ministry staff is considered laity.
- B. For purposes of terms of service on MBC committees, boards, and commissions, an MBC program year is defined as being from the close of one Annual Meeting to the close of the next Annual Meeting.
- C. The rules limiting consecutive terms of service were suspended from 2002 to 2016 for the Entity boards involved in litigation with the MBC: The Baptist Home; Missouri Baptist University; Missouri Baptist Foundation. A trustee for such Entity elected to serve a term beginning before September 21, 2016, (the date of the first final judgment in favor of MBC) is eligible for re-nomination to one consecutive term after that date, but after serving a consecutive term, is ineligible for renomination to that board for one year. (This temporary Bylaw 8C expires automatically on October 27, 2021.)

BYLAW 9

QUALIFICATIONS

Persons nominated, elected, or appointed to serve on committees, boards, or commissions meet the following qualifications:

- A. Give evidence of having received Jesus Christ as personal Lord and Savior.
- B. Be an active member, in good standing, of an affiliated church or in the case of out-of-state Trustees, the nominee must be an active member of a church in good standing with the Southern Baptist Convention.
- C. Be in agreement with the Baptist Faith and Message (current edition).
- D. Demonstrate decorum of holiness consistent with New Testament character, including the abstention from recreational use of controlled substances.
- E. Demonstrate a commitment to the cooperative purposes of the MBC/SBC.
- F. Complete the MBC new Trustee orientation after election or appointment.
- G. Possess experience or expertise helpful for the particular position.



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BYLAW 10

RESIGNATION OR REMOVAL OF PERSONS ON MBC COMMITTEES, BOARDS, AND COMMISSIONS

- A. An Officer may resign at any time by delivering notice to the other Officers and the Executive Director.
- B. Any person may resign at any time by delivering notice to the Chairman of the Committee, Board, or Commission on which he/she serves, to the MBC President, or to the Executive Director.
- C. Unless otherwise specified, any resignation is effective immediately.
- D. Before any person can be removed from office, the Chairman of the MBC Committee, Board, or Commission, an Officer of the MBC, and the Executive Director must be involved in the attempt to bring Christian resolution.
- E. Any appointee of the President of the MBC may be removed by a two-thirds (2/3) vote at a special meeting of the Officers called for the express purpose of such removal.

BYLAW 11

BUSINESS AND FINANCIAL PLAN

The MBC has a Business and Financial Plan. The Business and Financial Plan is published in the Annual following the Constitution and Bylaws for the MBC. It may be amended at the Annual Meeting by vote of the Messengers as provided in the Business and Financial Plan.

BYLAW 12

ENTITY CHARTERS

The Charter of any of the Entities of the MBC may only be amended at the Annual Meeting by a two-thirds (2/3) vote. All proposed charters or amendments to charters of the Entities of the MBC must be submitted to the Annual Meeting, after prior review and report by the Executive Board. Before MBC action, the proposed amendment(s) are published on the official website of the MBC at least thirty (30) days prior to the Annual Meeting. After MBC approval, copies of all charters and amendments are delivered by Entities to the Executive Director within thirty (30) days of filing with the state. This Bylaw also applies to subsidiary or auxiliary corporations of all Entities.

BYLAW 13

LEGAL COUNSEL

The Executive Board retains legal counsel for the MBC and the Executive Board.

BYLAW 14

OFFICIAL NEWS JOURNAL

The Pathway is the official news journal of the MBC, in both its print and digital formats. The Executive Director is the publisher of the official news journal. The Executive Board maintains editorial authority through the Editor of the official news journal.

BYLAW 15

INDEMNIFICATION

The MBC indemnifies present and former Messengers, affiliated churches, Officers, employees, and Agents of the Corporation from any legal liability regarding the Corporation and the affairs of the Corporation, to the fullest extent permitted by RS Mo 355.471 and .476, incorporated by reference to this Chapter 352 corporation, or by any other laws of the State of Missouri.

The Executive Board maintains liability insurance to cover such risk.

BYLAW 16

QUORUM

The quorum for any meeting of the MBC is the number of registered, credentialed Messengers present at the time of a vote.

The quorum for all meetings of the Executive Board, Commissions, and Committees is a majority of the persons eligible to vote, unless the Executive Board authorizes a different quorum due to special circumstances.

BYLAW 17

FISCAL YEAR

The fiscal year of the MBC is the calendar year. Each Entity determines its own fiscal year.

BYLAW 18**PARLIAMENTARY AUTHORITY**

The parliamentary authority of the MBC is Robert's Rules of Order Newly Revised (latest edition). It governs the MBC in all cases to which they are applicable and in which they are not inconsistent with the Charter, Constitution, Bylaws, Business and Financial Plan, and any special rules of order the MBC may adopt. In keeping with a spirit of Christian fellowship, all business meetings are conducted with a minimum of formality so as to maintain fairness and order, while encouraging comfort and participation.

BYLAW 19**AMENDMENT TO BYLAWS**

These Bylaws may be amended at any Annual Meeting by two-thirds (2/3) of the votes cast. An amendment to these Bylaws proposed by a Messenger by motion and a second stands referred to the Executive Board for a report to the Messengers no later than the next Annual Meeting. Amendments originated by the Executive Board must be approved by a two-thirds (2/3) vote of the entire Board. Before MBC action, the proposed amendment(s) are published on the official website of the MBC at least thirty (30) days prior to the Annual Meeting.

NOMINATING COMMITTEE RULES AND PROCEDURES

The Nominating Committee, working in an orderly and fair manner:

1. Obtains from the Executive Director's office a list of vacancies and expiring terms on each governing board and commission on which the Committee is to make a nomination.
2. Convenes at the first meeting called by the Chairman of the Nominating Committee, where orientation of the Committee's work is given, along with a list of known vacancies on all boards, committees, 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. Communicates with each Entity president to confirm each vacancy and expiring term, to discuss persons eligible for a second term, and to request information about the particular needs of the institution and its board, in terms of personal attributes, skills, education, or experience. Since trustees are to provide accountability for administrators, Entity presidents and chairmen of Entity trustee boards who inform the Nominating Committee of eligible individuals to serve as a board trustee for their respective Entity understand that the Nominating Committee alone selects well-qualified nominees to serve on MBC Entity boards of trustees and brings those nominees to the messengers for affirmation.

4. Consults with the Executive Director and other MBC leaders in evaluating the needs of institutions and boards, including evaluating candidates for a second term and new candidates for service. The Nominating Committee is not required to give deference to recommendations from any individual or institution, but is charged to use its collective judgment, on behalf of MBC churches, to select well-qualified nominees to serve on MBC Entity boards of trustees.
5. Informs Missouri Baptists, through the official news journal of the Missouri Baptist Convention (MBC), about the procedure they may follow in recommending person(s) for the Committee's consideration and asks anyone making a suggestion to provide information which the Committee needs (name of person recommended, address, church membership, CP giving of the church, 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 need to be filled is printed or posted online after the Committee's first meeting.
6. Ensures a biographical profile form (as approved by the Executive Board) is completed by each person recommended or nominated and, upon this person's election by the Messengers, is delivered to the Executive Director for filing in MBC records. A previous profile may suffice for a person eligible for a second term, provided the data is static and the Nominating Committee verifies the information.
7. Ensures, in a timely fashion, that all members of the MBC Nominating Committee receive the names and biographical data of all recommendations as they are received by the Chairman of the Nominating Committee and MBC staff responsible for said information.
8. Ensures that at least one copy of all Committee minutes is archived by the Executive Director's Office.
9. Gives due consideration to all recommendations made to the Nominating Committee. Persons nominated are 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 MBC (or Southern Baptist Convention in the case of out-of-the-state Trustees). Cooperative Program support should be an important consideration (See item 17). The expectation is that persons nominated have special experience or expertise that he or she can bring to the respective board or commission.
10. Nominates persons to ensure geographical balance, while also broadening representation as to race, gender, age, and fresh experience on all boards and commissions.

11. Contacts all recommended persons to determine their willingness to serve if elected and to confirm their references.
12. Maintains 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. Honors the MBC Charter, Constitution, and Bylaws for major procedures for the Committee's actions.
14. Follows MBC Bylaw 7D that no person may serve on more than one (1) board or commission simultaneously. Similarly, a member of the Nominating Committee shall not simultaneously serve on a board or commission. If a member of a board, commission, or Nominating Committee is elected as an MBC officer, the seat is vacated temporarily during the term of officer service. The vacant seat may be temporarily filled by the Nominating Committee and the Executive Board, following the MBC Bylaws and these Rules, until the completion of officer service, at which time the former officer may resume the vacant seat for the remainder of the term, provided that the Nominating Committee and Executive Board retain discretion to make adjustments in the implementation of this rule, in order to comply with MBC Bylaws and these Rules.
15. Follows the policy that no immediate family members (spouse, child, parent) of a current Nominating Committee member is eligible for nomination on any Entity or commission of the MBC.
16. Follows the policy that each MBC church is limited concerning the number of persons serving on the boards of the MBC. Churches with a total membership of 1,000 or less may be represented by a maximum of two (2) persons serving on MBC 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 MBC boards and commissions. However, in the case of the larger congregation, no more than two (2) on the same board or commission.
17. Follows 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 and an advocate for the Cooperative Program.

The Committee strongly prefers that a trustee's local church should give through the Cooperative Program at least the national average. Local church context may be a factor that temporarily impedes giving through the Cooperative Program at or above that level. However, for trustee consideration, the minimum objective should normally be at least one half (1/2) of the CP national average.

18. Provides a list of proposed nominations to the Executive Director a reasonable time prior to the Annual Meeting, so candidates can be invited to the trustee orientation at the Annual Meeting of the Convention. The Committee is not required, in advance of the Convention, to provide such list or other information about its work to persons making recommendations or to Entity leaders. The Executive Director will publish the Nominating Committee Report in the daily Business Update for messengers at the Convention.
19. Identifies persons eligible for a successive term not later than April 1 of each year; and determines if such persons continue to be willing and otherwise qualified to serve. The Committee is not required to nominate a current trustee who is eligible for a second term, but will prayerfully select those nominees who will best serve as trustees of MBC entities, in the ultimate discretion of the Committee.

(See pages 149-150 for the MBC Nominating Committee Profile Sheet.)

ANNUAL MEETING 2023 FOOD TRUCKS



Located in the South Parking Lot
Seating inside Crossway Baptist Church

Lunch & Dinner - Monday
Lunch - Tuesday

TACOS · GOURMET PASTIES · MAC N' CHEESE
BBQ PULLED PORK · BRATS · FRITO PIES · CHILI CONEYS
CORN DOGS · ICE CREAM · NACHOS · BBQ SANDWICHES
FOODS ON A STICK · SMASH BURGERS

See page 168 for available trucks.





**MBC Nominating Committee
PROFILE SHEET**

Name _____ Date of Birth _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Home Phone _____ Work Phone _____

Cell Number _____ Email _____

Are you a Layperson or Minister: ☐ layperson (Non-ordained or retired ministry staff is considered laity.)
☐ minister (Active ordained ministers or other ministry staff.)

Please write a brief personal salvation testimony _____

Church Membership (Name of Church) _____

City and State _____

Church's Cooperative Program Contributions Last Year:

Amount \$ _____ Percentage of undesignated receipts _____%

Do you personally support and/or financially contribute to your local church and consequently the work of the Missouri Baptist Convention and Southern Baptist Convention through the Cooperative Program? ☐ yes
☐ no

List positions served in the local church, association, or MBC/SBC boards, committees, commissions, institutions served and offices held.

Occupation _____ Employed By _____

BOOK OF REPORTS

Give a brief statement of unique business/professional experience that might be beneficial to the Entity or commission you would serve.

Have you read, do you agree with, and affirm the Baptist Faith and Message (current edition) while serving as a Trustee for the MBC? ☐ yes ☐ no

(For a copy of *The Baptist Faith and Message*, go to mobaptist.org/about-us/what-we-believe.)

Please give two references familiar with your local church involvement and your lifestyle that demonstrates a decorum of holiness consistent with New Testament character, including the abstention from recreational use of controlled substances.

Name _____ Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Phone _____ Email _____

Name _____ Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Phone _____ Email _____

I pledge to complete the MBC new trustee orientation, as well as the orientation of the Entity or commission where I may be elected to serve. ☐ yes ☐ no

Once elected to your position, you agree to a background check by the Missouri Baptist Convention or the Entity you are nominated to serve? ☐ yes ☐ no

Subject to election by the MBC at the Annual Meeting, I would like to serve on (choose all that apply):

- | | |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> MBC Executive Board | <input type="checkbox"/> Hannibal-LaGrange University |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Missouri Baptist Children's Home | <input type="checkbox"/> Missouri Baptist University |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Missouri Baptist Historical Commission | <input type="checkbox"/> Southwest Baptist University |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Christian Life Commission | <input type="checkbox"/> Missouri Baptist Foundation |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Baptist Homes & Healthcare Ministries | <input type="checkbox"/> Credentials Committee |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Committee on Order of Business | |

Return form to: MBC Nominating Committee, Missouri Baptist Convention, 400 E. High Street, Jefferson City, MO 65101.

For Committee Use Only

Geographic Region _____ Association _____

CREDENTIALS COMMITTEE RULES AND PROCEDURES

1. The Credentials Committee is made up of six (6) individuals. Members serve terms of three (3) years and are nominated by the Nominating Committee and submitted for vote on the final day of the Annual Meeting. Two (2) are nominated and elected each year.
2. Members elected to fill an unexpired term serve the remainder of the unexpired term.
3. The Credentials Committee is a standing committee of the Missouri Baptist Convention (MBC).
4. The Committee has the right and responsibility to review and make recommendations regarding affiliation of churches with the MBC or enrollment concerning the credentials of Messengers. This includes churches that are petitioning the MBC for affiliation and affiliated churches or Messengers challenged on the basis of faith, polity, origin, character, doctrine, or practice.
5. The Committee is guided by such rules and procedures as the MBC may adopt from time to time. In addition, the Messengers may give direction and guidance to the Committee by its resolutions and votes while in session. The duly elected Credentials Committee is the interpreter of each qualification.
6. To be eligible for affiliation, a church must complete the following steps:
 - a. Any Baptist church desiring affiliation with MBC completes an affiliation application, affirming the Baptist Faith and Message (current edition), or a doctrinal statement that is compatible with it. The church must also make an initial contribution to the Cooperative Program through the MBC.
 - b. The application form and contribution must be received at the MBC office during the fiscal year prior to the Annual Meeting to which the church sends Messengers for the first time.
 - c. All churches submitting an affiliation application form are examined by the Credentials Committee as to their qualifications. If the Credentials Committee recommends affiliation status, and if the MBC approves by majority vote, the churches are welcomed to affiliation and the Committee issues credentials to their Messengers.
7. To remain an affiliated church, singly aligned with MBC, the church must meet the following qualifications:
 - a. Has contributed to the work of the MBC through the Cooperative Program on at least an annual basis, and

- b. Has not contributed to the work of any other national convention of churches or organization that acts as a national convention, and has not sent representative(s) or Messenger(s) to such a convention (Any organization that independently sends and ordains ministers to the United States military services is considered a national convention), and
 - c. Has not contributed financially to the work of any other state convention or organization that acts as a state convention in Missouri.
- 8. The Committee investigates the qualifications of a church to continue affiliation with the MBC or the qualifications of any person to serve as Messenger at the Annual Meeting upon a challenge from a credentialed Messenger or upon receipt or discovery of any information that, if true, causes the Committee to believe that the Messenger or church is disqualified, on personal grounds, or by reason of the character or attitude of the church.
- 9. 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 electronic, by the means deemed most appropriate by the Committee chair or his designee.
- 10. If a church has not given to the MBC through the Cooperative Program for the appropriate annual giving period mentioned in this document, there shall be no provision for any messenger, outside of the membership of said church, to submit a contribution to the Cooperative Program on their behalf during the MBC Annual Meeting.
- 11. Nothing herein is construed to prohibit affiliation with the MBC by those Baptist churches with racial, ethnic, cultural, or organizational relations, so long as no part of those relations is contrary to the MBC Charter, Constitution, Bylaws, Business and Financial Plan, or Statement of Faith.



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- The Blair Center for Training and Pastoral Health
- We Believe, SBU's video series unpacking the Baptist Faith and Message 2000



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AMENDED AND RESTATED ARTICLES OF INCORPORATION OF THE EXECUTIVE BOARD OF THE MISSOURI BAPTIST CONVENTION

Article I

NAME

The name of the corporation is: The Executive Board of the Missouri Baptist Convention.

Article II

DURATION

The period of duration of the corporation is perpetual.

Article III

REGISTERED OFFICE AND AGENT

The address of the Registered Office in the State of Missouri is: 400 E. High Street, Jefferson City, Missouri, and the name of its Registered Agent at said address is John Yeats.

Article IV

PRINCIPAL OFFICE

The principal office of the corporation is located in Jefferson City, Missouri, until otherwise ordered or directed by the Missouri Baptist Convention (“MBC”).

Article V

PURPOSE

The purposes of the corporation are exclusively religious, missionary, benevolent, charitable, and educational.

1. The Executive Board is the fiduciary, the fiscal, and the executive Entity of the MBC in all its affairs not specifically committed to some other Entity.
2. The theological basis for practice of the Executive Board is the Baptist Faith and Message (current edition).
3. The Executive Board has full power and authority to act for the MBC between Annual Meetings in any and all matters pertaining to the MBC, unless otherwise provided by the MBC.

4. The Executive Board does not have power to countermand any action of the MBC adopted by the MBC's Messengers, or to do anything contrary to the MBC's Charter, Constitution, or Bylaws.

Article VI

TRUSTEES

The Directors of the Executive Board are called Trustees and elected by the Messengers at the Annual Meeting. Each Executive Board Trustee must be an active member of an affiliated church.

The corporation consists of Trustees, the number to be provided in the corporation's Bylaws, in which is vested the management of the affairs of the corporation, hereinafter referred to as "the Board."

Article VII

OFFICERS

The Officers of the Board consist of a Chairman, First Vice-Chairman, Second Vice-Chairman, and Secretary, all of whom serve without compensation. The Executive Director serves as Treasurer.

Article VIII

POWERS

The corporation has the 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 Charter, Constitution, and Bylaws of the MBC; perform such duties in religious, missionary, educational, charitable, and benevolent work and activities of the MBC as may be consistent with the directions of the MBC; 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.

Article IX

BYLAWS

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 Charter, Constitution, and Bylaws of the MBC.

Article X

DISSOLUTION

In the event of dissolution, the residual assets of the corporation will be distributed to the Southern Baptist Convention, or, if otherwise directed by the MBC Messengers at a meeting of the MBC by a two-thirds (2/3) majority of votes cast, to one or more Southern Baptist associations, churches, or religious organizations of similar mission, vision, and purpose. No person associated with this corporation may derive benefit or gain from such an assignment of residual assets.

Article XI

AMENDMENTS

The Executive Board may amend these Articles by: (a) a two-thirds (2/3) vote of the entire membership of the Board at any regular meeting thereof, provided a written notice of the proposed changes is given at the previous meeting of the Board; and (b) approval of proposed amendments by the MBC as required by the MBC Charter, Constitution, and Bylaws.

Article XII

SOLE MEMBER

The MBC is the sole member of the Executive Board corporation, and its Trustees have a fiduciary relationship to the MBC and the Executive Board corporation. The Annual Meeting of the MBC is the Annual Meeting of the Member. The Board gives the MBC, in the MBC's sole and absolute discretion, the following rights:

1. the sole and exclusive right to elect and remove Trustees of the Board;
2. the right to notice of all meetings of the Board;
3. the right to direct, approve, or reject, in writing, any addition, deletion, or other amendment to the articles of incorporation and/or Bylaws of the Board or its subsidiary corporations, if any;
4. the right to approve or reject the sale, mortgage, lease, pledge, or transfer of all or substantially all of the Entity's assets;
5. the right to approve or reject the creation, amendment, or dissolution of any subsidiary or similar incorporated Entity of the Board;
6. the right for the MBC, by its Officers or Agents, to be present at all meetings of the Board;
7. the right for the MBC President to serve as an ex officio voting Trustee of the Board, and Chairman of the Board;



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Learn more at mbch.org.

Discover how your gifts help others in Missouri, across North America, and around the world at **mobaptist.org/cp**.



8. the right for the MBC Executive Director to serve as a non-voting ex officio member of the Board.

Article XIII

ELECTRONIC VOTING

If a special circumstance arises whereby the Board is required to vote on a matter but unable to call a special meeting, an electronic or mail vote may be authorized provided:

1. Proxy voting is prohibited.
2. The vote is authorized in advance by the Board or at the request of the Executive Director and a majority of the Officers.
3. The quorum for the ballot is the number of all qualified trustees.
4. The Board Trustees have access to the question to be voted on in writing, either by mail, fax, or electronic means.
5. A telephone conference call, or other electronic means, such as “web conferencing,” whereby collaborative interaction is possible, is provided to discuss the question.
6. Every Board Trustee has opportunity to cast a vote by mail, fax, or electronic means.
7. The Secretary reviews and certifies the vote total, and that the quorum requirement has been met.

Article XIV

THIRD PARTY APPROVAL RIGHTS

If the foregoing member rights are rescinded, repealed for any reason, or declared void or unenforceable for any reason by a court, then MBC shall have the rights to approve charter amendments as a third party pursuant to Chapter 355.606. RS Mo.

BYLAWS OF THE EXECUTIVE BOARD OF THE MISSOURI BAPTIST CONVENTION

BYLAW 1

GOVERNING DOCUMENTS

The Executive Board of the Missouri Baptist Convention (“Executive Board”) adopts the following Bylaws, which, along with the Charter, Constitution, Bylaws, and Business and Financial Plan of the Missouri Baptist Convention (“MBC”), and the Articles of Incorporation of the Executive Board, govern its business and operations.

BYLAW 2

TRUSTEES OF THE EXECUTIVE BOARD

- A. The MBC elects, removes, and fills vacancies of Trustees on the Executive Board.
- B. To reflect the demographic diversity of the MBC, the Executive Board organizes the MBC into geographic regions. Each region is represented by an equal number of Trustees. The Messengers have authority to fix or alter by motion the number of regions and their boundaries, or the number of Trustees per region, or the maximum number of elected Trustees, subject to these Bylaws. (In 2018, it is expected that six (6) trustees in each of eight (8) regions, plus the officers, will represent the Executive Board.)
- C. All Trustees, except the Trustees that are Officers of the MBC, are elected to terms of three (3) years, approximately one-third (1/3) of the Trustees from each region elected each year. All terms expire as scheduled. A regional Trustee may serve two (2) successive three-year terms, and is ineligible for nomination until after two (2) years have transpired. A regional Trustee that has not served two (2) full successive three-year terms may be eligible for re-election after one (1) year has transpired. Only one (1) person from an affiliated church may serve as a regional Trustee at a given time on the Executive Board. A Trustee who moves out of the region, but continues to be a member of an MBC affiliated church, may remain on the Executive Board for the remainder of the current Convention year.
- D. Each Executive Board Trustee:
 - 1. is a steward of the resources affiliated churches have entrusted to the MBC,
 - 2. is an advocate for the MBC in the Trustee’s respective region, and
 - 3. serves in accord with MBC governing documents.

- E. If a vacancy occurs between Annual Meetings of the MBC, the Chairman of the Executive Board promptly notifies the Chairman of the MBC Nominating Committee. Within sixty (60) days of the vacancy, the Nominating Committee fills the position until the next Annual Meeting of the MBC. If such vacancy occurs by reason of an Officer of the MBC being an area Trustee of the Executive Board, or within ninety (90) days prior to the next Annual Meeting, the vacancy is filled at the Annual Meeting by vote of Messengers.
- F. No salaried employee of the MBC or any Entity to which the MBC makes direct appropriations, and no spouse of such employee, is eligible to serve as an Officer or Trustee of the Executive Board during the period of employment, except for the Executive Director-Treasurer.

BYLAW 3

MEETINGS

- A. The Executive Board meets at least three (3) times each year.
- B. Meetings are held on the Monday/Tuesday following the first Sunday in March; the Monday/Tuesday following the fourth Sunday in August; and preceding the Annual Meeting of the MBC at the same place as the Annual Meeting, unless otherwise established at a previous Executive Board meeting.
- C. All meetings of the Executive Board and its committees are private religious gatherings. The Executive Board reserves the right to limit attendance to Trustees and members of affiliated churches, and to declare executive session.
- D. Special meetings may be called by the Chairman, a majority of the Administrative Committee, or by the request of a majority of the Trustees of the Executive Board.
- E. In the event of a catastrophe, disaster, condition endangering life or health, or other grave emergency, the officers of the Executive Board and members of the Administrative Committee, acting as a body, by majority vote (cast electronically) may cancel a regular or special meeting, and may either reschedule the meeting date, time and place, or make provision for any extensions of terms of offices, committees assignments, and other adjustments necessary for legal compliance, subject to the ratification of the Executive Board at its next meeting.

BYLAW 4

OFFICERS

- A. The Officers of the MBC serve as the Officers of the Executive Board without compensation as follows: The President as Chairman, the First Vice-President as First Vice-Chairman, the Second Vice-President as Second Vice-Chairman, and the Secretary as Secretary. The MBC Executive Director serves as Treasurer.

- B. The Treasurer maintains proper financial records and has custody of all the funds that may come into the possession of the MBC, and disburses as directed by the MBC and/or the Executive Board, and for the purposes for which they were contributed. The Executive Board provides for the bonding of the Treasurer adequately to protect the interests of the MBC and the Executive Board. The accounts of the Treasurer are audited by a certified public accountant each year at the expense of the Executive Board.

BYLAW 5

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR-TREASURER

- A. The Executive Board elects, determines the compensation, and evaluates the Executive Director. The functions of the Executive Director, the annual performance evaluation procedures, and all other personnel-related issues for the Executive Director are located in the Operations Manual.
- B. The Executive Director is the Chief Executive Officer of the MBC and the Executive Board and is the one who communicates the story of how God is working through the cooperative efforts of Missouri Baptists and who represents and carries out the policies of the MBC and the Executive Board.
- C. With the exceptions of the Nominating Committee or where there is a conflict of interest, the Executive Director serves as a non-voting member of all boards, committees, and commissions of the MBC. The Executive Director delivers an address at the Annual Meeting. When authorized by the Executive Board, he may function as the legal representative of its interests.
- D. The Executive Director is a fiduciary of the MBC and the Executive Board, and is accountable at all times for carrying out the policies and instructions of the MBC and Executive Board.
- E. The Executive Director assigns staff to assist the Executive Board Trustees in fulfillment of their functions.
- F. The Executive Director reports to the Executive Board at each regular meeting and has the opportunity to promote any items of MBC business.
- G. The Executive Board employs personnel (“Executive Board Staff”) and determines the compensation necessary for performing the Executive Board’s work. The Executive Director may be classified as an employee of the MBC and the Executive Board while compensation and benefits are furnished by the Executive Board.
- H. The Executive Board has authority to suspend, terminate, and remove the Executive Director.

- I. Search Committee for the MBC Executive Director in the event of the loss of an Executive Director:
 1. The MBC Executive Board selects a nine-member (9) Search Committee from nominees determined by the Administrative Committee. The sitting President of the convention serves as one member of the Search Committee and the Administrative Committee selects four (4) additional members from the Executive Board and four (4) members at large who may or may not be Trustees of the Executive Board. In addition, the MBC Entity Presidents cooperatively select one of themselves to serve without vote.
 2. The Search Committee elects its Chair, Vice-Chair, and Secretary who serve for the duration of the process.
 3. The Search Committee may solicit a professional consultant firm to assist in the process of selecting a candidate. The funds for a consultant are to be taken from general funds or if necessary, from reserve accounts.
 4. Once a candidate is selected, the Committee must prepare a salary package and covenant that is agreeable to the Committee and the candidate.
 5. The Search Committee presents the candidate and the covenant agreement to the Administrative Committee for interview and salary approval.
 6. The Search Committee and the Administrative Committee make a combined recommendation to the Executive Board for approval.
 7. Twenty-four (24) months after the selection of the Executive Director, the Search Committee members receive a one-time invitation to participate in the Executive Director evaluation process.

BYLAW 6

EXECUTIVE BOARD STAFF

- A. The Executive Board prepares an Operations Manual, which is available upon written request to all Executive Board members and employees. This Operations Manual includes a formal appeals system, an evaluation system, wage policies including grade and step salary plan, and other Executive Board policies on such things as retirement, vacations, terminations, travel, honoraria, building administration, purchasing procedures, etc. The Operations Manual includes both Executive Board and administrative policies and processes.
- B. All personnel are supervised as outlined in the Executive Board Operations Manual.

BYLAW 7

COMMITTEES OF THE EXECUTIVE BOARD

- A. The Executive Board can form itself into committees.
- B. The Officers of the Executive Board are assigned to the committees of the Board by the Chairman unless an Officer is a duly elected area Trustee.
- C. A person may serve as Chairman of an Executive Board committee a maximum of three (3) consecutive years.
- D. The Executive Board can authorize the Chairman to form a committee or task force for a specific purpose and term.
- E. All committees of the Executive Board may meet as necessary.
- F. Chairpersons prepare agendas in collaboration with the staff liaison, and the Executive Director communicates the agendas at least ten (10) days prior to convening.

BYLAW 8

ADMINISTRATIVE COMMITTEE – STANDING COMMITTEE

- A. Purpose: Serves with the Executive Director in the implementation of Executive Board policies, programs, and ministries assigned to its general care.
- B. Scope: The Administrative Committee is concerned with the following areas affecting the life and work of the MBC, but not limited to them: personnel management, public relations, and MBC operations.
- C. Membership: The Administrative Committee consists of four (4) at-large Trustees of the Executive Board, the Chairman of the Executive Board, the Executive Director, the Chair of the Entity Relations Committee, and the Chair of each ministry committee. The First Vice-Chairman of the Executive Board attends the meetings of the Administrative Committee without vote.
- D. Responsibilities:
 - 1. Monitor the effectiveness of the services and programs assigned to its general oversight.
 - 2. Study and propose changes in the MBC and Executive Board governing documents as appropriate.
 - 3. Recommend to the Executive Board the procedures to govern the Executive Board's operation.

A woman with glasses, wearing a dark blue t-shirt with the 'Send Relief' logo, is walking towards the camera. She is carrying two blue backpacks with yellow straps. In the background, there are other people, including a woman and a child, and a building made of corrugated metal and brick. The scene is set in a rural village with dirt paths and trees.

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4. Review and organize the MBC into regions as needed.
5. Recommend to the Executive Board all personnel policies.
6. Oversee the permanent keeping of all MBC and Executive Board minutes and other official documents.
7. Provide for the oversight of the business and administrative affairs of the Executive Board and for the monitoring of the MBC Business and Financial Plan.
8. Receive a report from and serve as the liaison for the official news journal of the MBC.
9. Recommend to the Executive Board the Cooperative Program Allocations Budget and the Operations Budget.
10. Maintain oversight of the Operations Manual that includes a uniform grievance policy and annual review policy.
11. Oversee the evaluation of the Executive Director following the criteria in the Operations Manual. The Chairman of the Administrative Committee appoints an Executive Director Evaluation Subcommittee.

BYLAW 9

ENTITY RELATIONS COMMITTEE – STANDING COMMITTEE

- A. Purpose: To advocate for and respond to all Entities of the MBC, other than the Executive Board.
- B. Scope: The Entity Relations Committee is concerned with the dual roles of advocacy and support for Entities while ensuring the interests of Missouri Baptists are served and protected. The Committee recognizes the basic responsibility of each Entity to direct, manage, and administer its own internal and operational affairs.
- C. Membership: The Entity Relations Committee consists of six (6) Trustees of the Executive Board. The Executive Director's designee serves as staff liaison to the Committee.
- D. Meetings: The Entity Relations Committee meets at least two (2) times each year in conjunction with the regular meetings of the Executive Board. Entity Presidents, or their designee, are encouraged to attend and give a report at each regularly scheduled meeting.
- E. Responsibilities:
 1. Develop and implement effective procedures for Entities to liaise with the Executive Board.

2. Review the allocation of funds available for distribution to the various Entities and advise the Executive Director.
3. Receive and make recommendation in relation to:
 - a. Removal of any MBC elected or appointed Trustee from an Entity's board;
 - b. An amendment to articles of incorporation and bylaws of an Entity or the governing documents of its subsidiaries;
 - c. The sale, mortgage, lease, pledge, or transfer of all, or substantially all, of an Entity's assets;
 - d. The acquisition, formation, or dissolution by the Entity of any subsidiary, affiliate, or other jural body operated by or for the benefit of the Entity; and
 - e. Any material change of the ministry of an Entity.
4. Annually receive, review, and report to the Executive Board regarding Entity audits.
5. Report to the Administrative Committee and Executive Board in their regular meetings.

BYLAW 10

AUDIT COMMITTEE – STANDING COMMITTEE

- A. Purpose: Recommend and oversee the independent audit process and recommend the implementation of internal controls.
- B. Scope: The Audit Committee's work is limited to the matter of auditing and internal controls. The Committee recommends a qualified auditing firm to the Executive Board.
- C. Membership: The Audit Committee has four (4) members selected from the Executive Board: two (2) from the Support Services Committee and two (2) at large. The Executive Director's designee serves as staff liaison to the Committee.
- D. Meetings: The Audit Committee meets at least two (2) times annually.
- E. Committee Functions and Responsibilities:
 1. Recommends a qualified auditing firm for the purpose of rendering an opinion annually on the financial records maintained by the Executive Board.
 2. Receives the audit from the auditing firm.
 3. Reports the audit to the Administrative Committee and the Executive Board.

4. Assures the audit is conducted in keeping with the terms prescribed by the MBC Business and Financial Plan.
5. Reviews the management letter from the auditor with the Executive Director.
6. Makes internal control recommendations.

BYLAW 11

COMMITTEE ON EXECUTIVE BOARD COMMITTEES – SPECIAL COMMITTEE

- A. Purpose: The purpose of the Committee on Executive Board Committees is to nominate the members and the chair of each committee of the Executive Board.
- B. Membership: The Committee on Executive Board Committees consists of six (6) Trustees of the Executive Board. The Executive Director serves as an ex officio member. The Executive Board Chairman, in consultation with the Officers, selects and appoints the members of the Committee on Executive Board Committees in the same proportion of laymen and ministers as constitute the Executive Board, and designates the Committee's Chair. These appointments are made and reported to the Executive Board at the close of the meeting held in the spring. Each member of this Committee is appointed for a term of two (2) years. Terms of three (3) members of this Committee expire each year. The Chair's position is for one (1) year. If a vacancy occurs, the position is filled by the Executive Board Chairman in consultation with the Officers. The members of this Committee are not eligible to serve on the Administrative Committee.
- C. Meetings: Meets as necessary. They submit their report to the Executive Board prior to the Annual Meeting for adoption, subject to the MBC adoption of the Nominating Committee Report.
- D. Responsibilities: Annually nominates each Trustee of the Executive Board to one (1) of the Executive Board Committees, and nominates a Chair for each Committee. Studies biographical material concerning Trustees of the Executive Board and attempts to make nominations on the basis of expertise, interest, and tenure. Efforts should be made to avoid conflicts of interests, e.g., persons serving on other boards with related interests, etc. Attention should be given to expiration of terms and balance of skills in each Committee so as to avoid depletion of experience and skills within a given Committee in future years. Communicates with the Chairman of the MBC Nominating Committee and requests biographical material on nominees for election to the Executive Board.

BYLAW 12

MINISTRY COMMITTEES

- A. Purpose: Each Ministry Committee addresses one of the vital functions of the MBC to assist the Executive Director.
- B. Membership: The membership of each Ministry Committee consists of an equal distribution of the Executive Board. The Executive Director's designee serves as staff liaison to the Committee.
- C. Meetings: The Ministry Committees meet at the regular times of the Executive Board and as necessary.
- D. Responsibilities: Each Ministry Committee approves for recommendation to the Executive Board all matters within its scope:
 1. Monitors the effectiveness of the initiatives and services under its general oversight.
 2. Recommends to the Administrative Committee items that change the Executive Board's policies and procedures, and/or approval of use of non-budgeted funds.

FOOD TRUCKS ON SITE

Tinga Tacos

Available

*Monday - Lunch & Dinner
Tuesday - Lunch*



Available

*Monday - Lunch & Dinner
Tuesday - Lunch*

SMASH BURGER BOSS

Available

*Monday - Lunch & Dinner
Tuesday - Lunch*

Old School Smoking LLC

Available

Monday - Dinner

BOSS HOG'S

BBQ

OZARK, MO

Available

Tuesday - Lunch





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3. Provides support and counsel to the staff liaison assigned to the Ministry Committee.
4. Brings recommendations to the Administrative Committee as necessary.
5. Brings a report to the Executive Board in its regular meetings.

BYLAW 13

GENERAL PROCEDURES FOR THE EXECUTIVE BOARD

- A. The Executive Board reports annually and presents to the MBC in its Annual Meeting a Cooperative Program Allocations Budget for the succeeding calendar year, including both MBC and Southern Baptist Convention objects for the Convention's consideration and adoption. All undesignated contributions to the Convention are distributed in accordance with the allocations budget and the MBC Business and Financial Plan.
- B. Miscellaneous items are automatically referred to the Administrative Committee, which may refer to the appropriate committee before consideration by the Executive Board. Immediate consideration may be given on approval of a simple majority of the Executive Board.
- C. The removal or transfer of any monies from the Reserve Fund(s) administered by the Executive Board requires the affirmative vote of two-thirds (2/3) of votes cast.

BYLAW 14

AMENDMENTS

These Bylaws may be amended by a two-thirds (2/3) vote of all eligible Trustees of the Executive Board at any regular meeting thereof, provided that a written notice of the proposed amendment is given thirty (30) days before the next meeting of the Executive Board, and provided that the proposed amendment is published on the official website of the MBC at least thirty (30) days before the Annual Meeting and the MBC approves the amendment by a two-thirds (2/3) vote.

BUSINESS AND FINANCIAL PLAN OF THE MISSOURI BAPTIST CONVENTION

1. Cooperative Program and Special Offerings
 - A. The Cooperative Program ("CP") is Southern Baptists' unified plan of giving, through which cooperating Southern Baptist churches give a percentage of their undesignated receipts in support of their respective state convention and the Southern Baptist Convention's ("SBC") missions and ministries. The Missouri Baptist Convention ("MBC") is committed to the CP as the primary method for supporting missions and ministry through the MBC and its Entities, and the SBC and its Entities.

- B. The MBC also promotes four Special Offerings: (1) the Lottie Moon Christmas Offering for International Missions, (2) the Annie Armstrong Easter Offering for North American Missions, (3) the Rheubin L. South Missouri Missions Offering, and (4) the SBC World Hunger Offering.

2. Budgets

- A. Each Entity of the MBC submits to the Executive Board a copy of its annual budget as adopted by its board showing an itemized estimate of receipts and expenditures for the next fiscal year.
- B. The Executive Board develops and submits for MBC approval the goal and the budgets as follows:
 - 1. A CP Budget Goal showing the total amount of funds expected to be received through the MBC for the Cooperative Program in the fiscal year.
 - 2. An MBC CP Allocations Budget showing:
 - (a) Percent of available funds allocated to the SBC causes;
 - (b) Percent of available funds allocated to MBC Entities;
 - (c) Percent of available funds allocated to the ministries of the MBC and its ministry partners.
 - 3. An Executive Board Budget displaying:
 - (a) Expected receipts from all sources for the MBC and the Executive Board.
 - (b) Proposed disbursements for the MBC and Executive Board ministries.
- C. The CP Budget Goal and the proposed CP Budget Goal, the MBC CP Allocations Budget, and the Executive Board Budget are printed and distributed to the Messengers via the Book of Reports.
- D. At its Annual Meeting, the MBC approves the CP Budget Goal, the MBC CP Allocations Budget, and the Executive Board Budget.

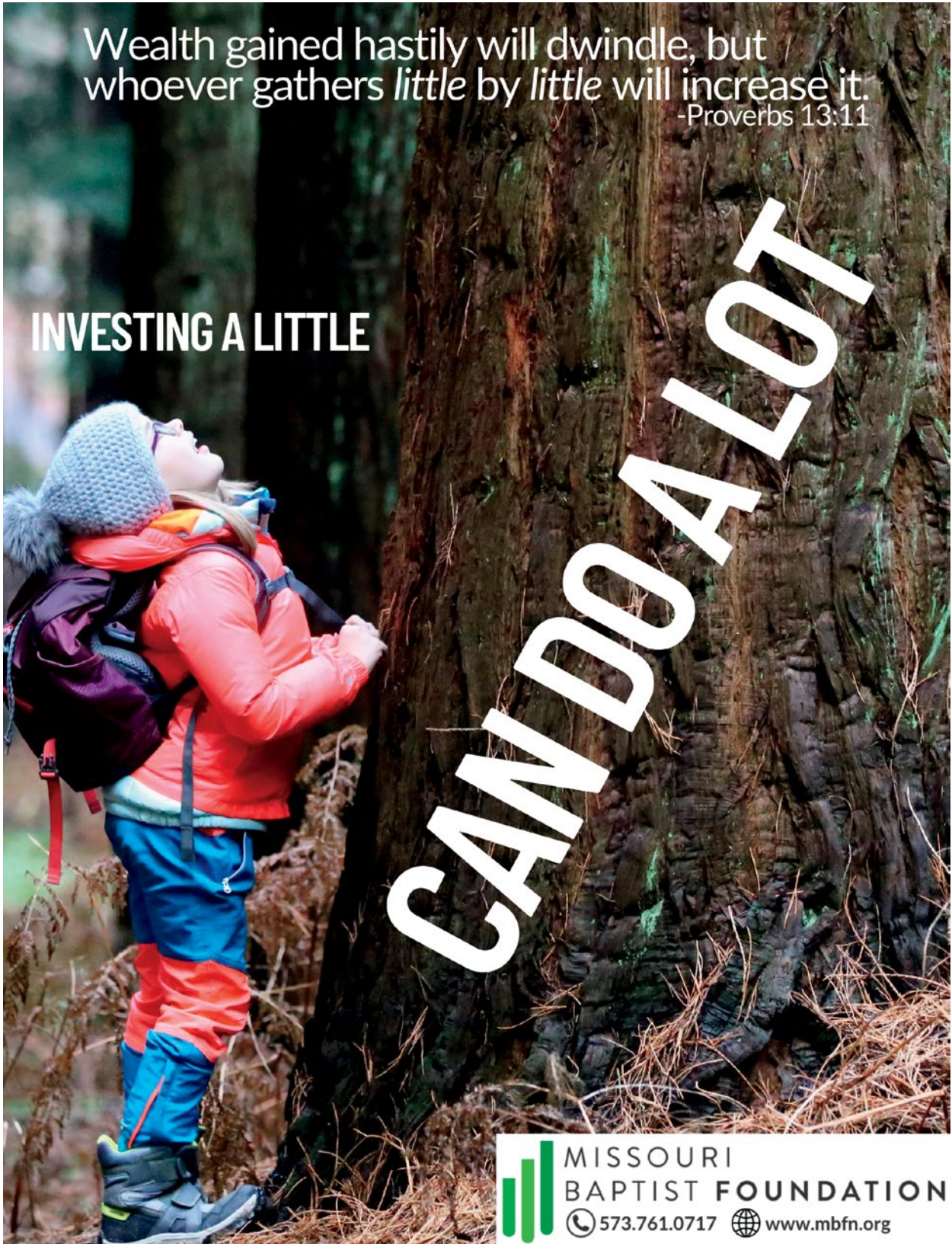
3. Distribution of Funds

- A. The Executive Board is the disbursing Entity of the MBC.
- B. The SBC portion of the CP Budget Goal received is remitted monthly within ten (10) workdays after close of each month.

Wealth gained hastily will dwindle, but
whoever gathers *little by little* will increase it.
-Proverbs 13:11

INVESTING A LITTLE

CAN DO A LOT



MISSOURI
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- C. The MBC CP Allocations Budget receipts are distributed according to the allocations approved by the MBC. Distribution is made monthly on a percentage basis proportionate to the amounts allocated until the approved budgets are met. All designated funds received for SBC causes are distributed monthly.

4. Handling of Funds

- A. All persons who transfer or safeguard funds or securities of the MBC or any Entity of the MBC must be bonded in the amount sufficient to protect against the loss of the funds or securities involved. Such bonds may be reviewed and approved by the Executive Board.
- B. The financial records of the MBC or any Entity of the MBC are open for inspection by MBC Officers, Trustees, and members of any affiliated Baptist church upon reasonable written request. A written request may be directed to the appropriate board or Entity. A reply may be expected within ninety (90) days.

5. Contracts

- A. Construction contracts in excess of \$25,000 are only negotiated with contractors that are adequately bonded.

6. Reporting

- A. The Executive Director reports to the Executive Board and to the Officers of the Entities of the MBC at each regularly scheduled Executive Board meeting concerning the following: (1) receipts of all monies, including the CP and designated and other Executive Board and general MBC incomes, and (2) disbursement of funds.
- B. The Executive Board reports to the churches at least annually the receipts from the churches and the distribution of these funds in accordance with the budgets approved by the MBC.
- C. Each Entity of the MBC reports to the Executive Board at least annually relative to its financial condition and operations.

7. Direct Solicitations

- A. No appeals are to be made directly to churches by any Entity of the MBC or the SBC for financial needs without the approval of the MBC or the Executive Board.

8. Indebtedness

- A. No MBC Entity or any of its Officers, committees, departments, or subsidiary corporations may create any indebtedness exceeding \$100,000 or 2% of the MBC Entity's annual operating budget, whichever is greater, except such as can be repaid out of anticipated receipts and/or other sources within a period of three (3) years without the formal approval in writing of the Executive Board. If the creation of indebtedness involves the erection of building(s) or the purchase of real estate, the Entity shall furnish the Executive Board, in writing, information relative to the source(s) of such receipts.
- B. Neither the Executive Board nor any of its Officers or subsidiary corporations may create any indebtedness, either directly or indirectly, exceeding \$100,000 or 2% of the Executive Board's annual operating budget, whichever is greater, except such as can be repaid out of anticipated receipts from the MBC (and other sources) within a period of three (3) years without the consent of the Messengers.

9. Trust Funds

- A. Each Entity of the MBC must keep all trust funds and donor-designated funds separate and sacred to the trust or the cause for which they are designated. Commingling of trust funds with general funds is prohibited.

10. Investment of Funds

- A. Each MBC Entity is encouraged, when appropriate, to use the Missouri Baptist Foundation or another qualified Baptist Foundation for investment of funds, permanent or temporary, functioning as endowment or escrow. Neither the MBC, nor its Entities, may use its funds in any way to purchase securities issued by the MBC or any other MBC Entity.

11. Cash Control

- A. Each Entity of the MBC maintains appropriate internal control procedures in keeping with generally accepted accounting principles and sound fiscal accounting practices.
- B. On behalf of the MBC or the Executive Board, prior written approval of the Executive Director-Treasurer of the MBC is required for the establishment or modification of any depository bank account.
- C. The list of authorized signatures must include the Executive Director-Treasurer.
- D. Two (2) authorized signatures must be required for withdrawal of funds from any account.
- E. The bank must be instructed to send monthly statements to the office of Financial Services.

12. Executive Board Designated Funds (Net Assets)

- A. Executive 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 is evaluated as follows:
1. The initial request for non-budgeted use of funds is submitted to the Executive Director-Treasurer.
 2. The Executive Director-Treasurer and the Financial Services staff analyze possible sources of available funds and the impact on net assets.
 3. The Executive Director or his designee presents the recommendation to the Administrative Committee of the Executive Board that may recommend the proposal to the Executive Board for action.
 4. A permanent file of Executive Board actions approving non-budgeted use of funds is maintained in the Financial Services office.
 5. Designated funds are maintained in separate accounts.

13. New Enterprises and Expansions involving MBC Contingent Liability

- A. As used in this section, the following terms have the meanings set forth:
1. “Contingent liability” or “contingently liable” means any new debt of an Entity for which the MBC must sign as a debtor or guarantor; or any debt of an Entity 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 Entity to pay its current or future debts.
 2. “Plan of expansion” includes but is not limited to construction of new plant facilities, remodeling of existing plant facilities, additional degree programs at educational Entities, or additional care facilities at benevolent Entities.
- B. No new Entity involving the expenditure of funds of the MBC or the contingent liability of the MBC is authorized except upon favorable action by the Messengers at an MBC meeting.

- C. Any plan for expansion by any Entity beyond any commitment previously approved by the Messengers for which the MBC is contingently liable must be submitted to the Entity Relations Committee for review, report, and recommendation as to approval or disapproval by the Executive Board. The Executive Board responds to the report and recommendation of the Entity Relations Committee. If the Executive Board approves the plan for expansion by a vote of three-fourths (3/4) of those Trustees 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 Messengers at the next Annual Meeting 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 is given to the Chairman of the Entity Relations Committee, the President of the MBC, and the Executive Director within thirty (30) days after an Entity has submitted such a plan for expansion to its Board of Trustees and received authorization to proceed with work regarding research and preparation of a formal proposal. The notice of intention to submit a plan for expansion contains all information available at the time of submission as to the nature of the project, total approximate cost, and extent of MBC liability or financial participation.
- E. The Executive Board may from its own funds employ personnel to study and review proposed plans of expansion.

14. Purchasing

- A. The Executive Board establishes purchasing protocols for the Executive Board staff, which should recognize appropriate internal control procedures.

15. Charters

- A. The Charter of the MBC or any of the Entities of the MBC may only be amended at the Annual Meeting by a two-thirds (2/3) vote. All proposed charters or amendments to charters of the Entities of the MBC must be submitted to the Annual Meeting, after prior review and report by the Executive Board. This provision also applies to subsidiary or auxiliary corporations of all Entities. Copies of all charters and amendments to charters are delivered to the Executive Director within thirty (30) days of filing with the state.

16. Contingent Reserve Fund

- A. It is desired that the Executive Board raise and maintain a Contingent Reserve Fund equal to at least three (3) months of its operational budget. This fund is maintained by applying unused funds at the year's end and/or by budgeting an annual amount. The Executive Board determines and provides for the adequacy of such fund.

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Freshman at HLGU
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- B. Each Entity of the MBC has a protocol for holding a reserve for contingencies.

17. Audits

- A. The Executive Board, upon recommendation from its Audit Committee, employs an independent certified public accounting firm to conduct an annual audit of the financial condition and operations of the MBC. The accounting firm submits a report of the audit through the Audit Committee. The Executive Board submits a report of the audit to the MBC.
- B. Each Entity employs an independent certified public accounting firm to conduct an annual audit of its financial condition and operations. The accounting firm submits a report of the audit to the board of the Entity.
- C. Copies of all audit reports of the financial condition and operations of the MBC and of its Entities are filed in the office of the Executive Director.
- D. A copy of any audit report of the MBC or any Entity of the MBC is open for inspection by MBC Officers, Trustees, and members of any affiliated Baptist church upon reasonable written request. A written request may be directed to the appropriate board or Entity. A response is expected within ninety (90) days.
- E. A general statement relative to the financial condition and operations of each Entity is printed in the Book of Reports and the MBC Annual: Reports & Statistics.

18. Legal Counsel

- A. The Executive Board is responsible to retain legal counsel for the MBC. The relationship is reviewed at least every three (3) years.

19. Limitation on Activities

- A. Subject to the declaration of religious liberty contained in MBC's charter, the MBC and Executive Board do not carry on any activities not permitted to be carried on: (a) by a corporation exempt from federal income tax under section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code, or the corresponding section of any future federal tax code, or (b) by a corporation, contributions to which are deductible under section 170(c)(2) of the Internal Revenue Code, or the corresponding section of any future federal tax code. Upon the dissolution or winding-up of the corporation, assets shall be distributed for one or more exempt purposes as provided in the corporate articles, and within the meaning of section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code, or the corresponding section of any future federal tax code.

20. Amendments

- A. The Business and Financial Plan is published in the Book of Reports following the MBC Charter, Constitution and Bylaws. All motions related to amending the Business and Financial Plan are referred to the Executive Board. The Executive Board may make recommendations for amendment to the MBC Business and Financial Plan at the Annual Meeting. Amendments require a two-thirds (2/3) majority vote by Messengers. Before MBC action, the proposed amendment(s) are published, or posted on the official website of the MBC, at least thirty (30) days prior to the Annual Meeting.

BYLAWS OF THE CHRISTIAN LIFE COMMISSION OF THE MISSOURI BAPTIST CONVENTION

BYLAW 1

STATEMENT OF PURPOSE AND RESPONSIBILITY

Section 1. The Christian Life Commission (“CLC”) of the Missouri Baptist Convention (“MBC”) assists Missouri Baptists in the propagation of the Gospel by challenging them to be Salt & Light in accordance with Matthew 5:13-16.

Section 2. The purpose and the responsibility of the CLC is to educate and encourage the churches of the MBC to challenge their memberships to the ideal of biblical living as outlined in the Baptist Faith and Message (current edition).

Section 3. The CLC assumes responsibility for the study and the promotion of materials and information regarding, but not limited to, the following issues: (1) Family Life, (2) Human Rights, (3) Economics, (4) Moral Concepts, (5) Citizenship, and (6) Religious Liberty. The CLC cooperates with the Ethics and Religious Liberty Commission of the Southern Baptist Convention in areas of mutual agreement.

Section 4. In accordance with the Constitution and the Bylaws of the MBC, the CLC proposes resolutions, and/or other statements related to the Commission’s scope of responsibilities, to the Annual Meeting Resolutions Committee or to other public square venues.

BYLAW 2

MEMBERSHIP

Section 1. The twelve (12) Commissioners of the CLC are elected by the MBC in accordance with the Charter, Constitution, and Bylaws of the MBC.

Section 2. All Commissioners of the CLC are active members of affiliated MBC churches. Each Commissioner is chosen with particular reference to his/her qualifications for the special work of the CLC, in accordance with the manner and the qualifications required by the MBC.

Section 3. Attendance at all meetings is expected of all Commissioners. Commissioners who miss should notify the Chairman at the earliest possible time, in advance of the meeting. Commissioners who miss four (4) regular meetings in one (1) year should tender their resignation from the CLC for the remainder of their term, unless they are able to show good cause for such absence and can demonstrate a reasonable expectation for further participation.

Section 4. The MBC President and the Executive Director of the MBC or his designee are ex officio members of the CLC.

BYLAW 3

MEETINGS

Section 1. The CLC has at least four (4) regular meetings each year.

Section 2. Called meetings are held upon the call of the Chairman, the Executive Director of the MBC, or upon the request of any seven (7) Commissioners of the CLC made to the Chairman or the Executive Director. Ten (10) days' notice of time and place of each meeting is required.

Section 3. A quorum of the CLC consists of at least a majority of Commissioners.

BYLAW 4

OFFICERS AND THEIR DUTIES

Section 1. Officers of the CLC are elected annually by the CLC at its first regular business meeting following the Annual Meeting of the MBC and shall consist of a Chairman, a Vice-Chairman, and a Secretary. Other offices or positions may be established by the CLC, as such offices are deemed beneficial to the furtherance of the CLC endeavors. Any additional Officers not herein named are elected by the CLC.

Section 2. The Chairman of the CLC presides at all meetings of the CLC and performs all other duties as ordinarily pertain to that office.

Section 3. The Vice-Chairman is to act for the Chairman in his absence; and in case of the resignation or death of the Chairman, he assumes all of the duties of the Chairman until the vacancy is filled by the CLC.

Section 4. The duty of the Secretary is to keep full and accurate minutes of each meeting of the CLC, to preserve all records of the CLC, and to perform such other duties as are usually related to the office of Secretary.

BYLAW 5

COMMITTEES

At the discretion of the CLC, the Chairman of the CLC appoints such committees from among the members of the CLC as may be necessary and proper to carry out the policies, programs, and business of the CLC. The Chairman of the CLC is an ex officio member of all committees. The CLC may authorize the appointment of special committees, as needs may arise, which may include Missouri Baptists other than Commissioners.

BYLAW 6

GOVERNING INSTRUMENTS

The Charter, Constitution, and Bylaws of the MBC are considered the governing instruments of the CLC; and all procedures, policies, and programs of the CLC are in harmony with and subject to the Constitution and the Bylaws of the MBC and its policies and programs. In accordance with Bylaw 1, the CLC is not a self-perpetuating board.

BYLAW 7

AMENDMENTS

These Bylaws may be amended at any regular meeting of the CLC or at a called meeting after ten (10) days' notice has been given in writing, with the purpose of the meeting stated in the notice, by a two-thirds (2/3) vote of the Commissioners present. All Bylaw amendments must be approved by the MBC Executive Board.

BYLAWS OF THE MISSOURI BAPTIST HISTORICAL COMMISSION

BYLAW 1

COMMISSIONERS

Section 1. The Historical Commission of the Missouri Baptist Convention (MBC), herein designated as the Commission, has nine (9) Commissioners, each of whom is elected by the MBC in the manner it chooses members of its boards and commissions. Three (3) of these are elected each year, serving for three (3) years each. A committee member is eligible to serve two (2) successive three-year terms, and then is eligible for re-nomination after one (1) year has transpired. A committee member who has not served two (2) full successive three-year terms may be eligible for nomination after one year has transpired.

Section 2. Should a vacancy of a Commissioner occur during his/her term, the same is reported to the MBC Nominating Committee to be filled in accordance with its rules.

BYLAW 2

MEETINGS

Section 1. The Commission meets semi-annually upon the call of the Chairman.

Section 2. The Chairman or any three (3) Commissioners may call a special meeting by sending written notification twenty (20) days prior to the meeting.

Section 3. A quorum of the Commission consists of at least fifty percent (50%) of the Commissioners.

Section 4. The meetings of the Commission are conducted according to the principles of the latest version of Robert's Rules of Order.

BYLAW 3

OFFICERS AND THEIR DUTIES

The Officers of the Commission and their duties are as follows:

Section 1. The Chairman of the Commission presides at all meetings and performs such other duties as are ordinarily pertinent to the office.

Section 2. The Vice-Chairman acts for the Chairman in his absence or incapacity, and in case of the resignation or death of the Chairman, assumes all the duties of the Chairman until the vacancy is duly filled by the Commission.

Section 3. The Secretary keeps full and accurate minutes of each meeting of the Commissioners, to preserve all records and to perform such other duties as are usual to the office of the Secretary.

Section 4. The Chairman, Vice-Chairman, and Secretary of the Commission are elected by the Commissioners at their regular spring meeting and begin their terms at the close of that meeting and serve for a term of one (1) year or until their successors are duly elected.

BYLAW 4

COMMITTEES

Section 1. The Commissioners may appoint from their own number such committees as they deem necessary and then delegate to them such authority as the Commissioners deem advisable so long as they function in behalf of and subject to the Commissioners.

Section 2. The Bylaws Committee is a standing committee which consists of at least two (2) Commissioners. The committee is responsible for reviewing the Bylaws on a periodic basis and presenting such information as is pertinent to the Commission.

Section 3. The Budget Committee has the responsibility of reviewing the past recommendations and activities and presents to the whole Commission their recommendation for the budget in a timely manner.

BYLAW 5

GOVERNING INSTRUMENTS

The Charter, Constitution, and Bylaws of the MBC are considered the governing instruments of this Commission; and all procedures, policies, and programs of the Commission are in harmony with and subject to the Charter, Constitution, and Bylaws of the MBC and its policies and programs. In accordance with Bylaw 1, the Historical Commission of the MBC is not a self-perpetuating board.

BYLAW 6

AMENDMENTS

The Bylaws may be amended by a majority vote of the Commissioners at any regular meeting of the Commission or a called meeting. In either case, written notice must be given stating the purpose of amending the Bylaws. All Bylaws amendments must be approved by the MBC Executive Board.

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NOTES

[illegible]

[illegible]



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-  Hannibal-LaGrange University
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-  Southwest Baptist University













Benevolent Ministries

-  Missouri Baptist Children's Home
-  Baptist Homes & Healthcare Ministries

Legacy Ministries

-  Missouri Baptist Foundation

National Partners

-  Executive Committee of the SBC
-  International Mission Board
-  North American Mission Board
-  Ethics and Religious Liberty Commission
-  Lifeway Christian Resources
-  GuideStone Financial Services
-  Gateway Seminary
-  Midwestern Baptist Theological Seminary
-  New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary
-  The Southern Baptist Theological Seminary
-  Southeastern Baptist Theological Seminary
-  Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary

