

2025 MBC ANNUAL MEETING BOOK OF REPORTS

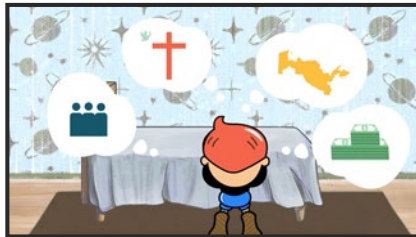
LET THEM SEE JESUS.

For we are **unable** to **stop**
speaking about what we
have **seen** and **heard** .

- Acts 4:20 (CSB)



JOIN A YOUNG MAN IN HIS QUEST TO FOLLOW GOD'S CALL TO THE MISSION FIELD.



SCAN ME!

Download, show, and share this video that helps Missouri Baptists celebrate the 100th anniversary of the Cooperative Program. Grab the QR code or visit mobaptist.org/cp100.

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A Message from Our President



Wesley Vance
President, Missouri Baptist Convention

Welcome to the 2025 Missouri Baptist Convention Annual Meeting in Branson! What a joy it is to gather with you – pastors, church leaders, and brothers and sisters in Christ – who faithfully represent Jesus in communities across our great state. I’m deeply grateful for you, your church, and the eternal impact you’re making for Jesus.

This year is a historic milestone as we celebrate 100 years of cooperative ministry through the Cooperative Program and 100 years of doctrinal fidelity through our commitment to *The Baptist Faith & Message*. For a century, Missouri Baptists have united to advance the gospel and stand firm on the truth of God’s Word, while pooling our resources to reach our state and the world for Christ. What a legacy to honor, and what a calling to carry forward.

This year, our theme is “Let Them See Jesus.” It comes from Acts 4, where followers of Jesus turned the world upside down through their bold witness for Christ. If our neighborhoods, towns, and cities are to be changed, it starts

with us letting them see Jesus through our lives and our churches. I truly believe this is a unique moment in history for you and your church to let the world see Jesus.

As we gather, we’ll hear powerful reports of what God is doing across Missouri, connect with and encourage one another, and handle the important business of our convention. But above all, we’ll worship Jesus – the One who saves, redeems, and transforms. I’m thrilled to serve alongside more than 400,000 Missouri Baptists, united in our passion to make Christ known.

My prayer is that the Lord moves mightily among us this week, deeply ministering to each of our souls, filling us with His joy and vision for the work ahead. With all my heart, I thank you for your faithfulness, your encouragement, and your sacrifice for our great Savior and King. Missouri Baptists, let us cry out from our souls, “Oh Lord, let them see Jesus!”

A Message from Our Executive Director

Wes Fowler

MBC Executive Director-Treasurer



It's hard to believe that two years have passed since you welcomed me as the Missouri Baptist Convention's new executive director. What a great time it's been for me. I've had the privilege of meeting thousands of Missouri Baptists, visiting many of our churches, and engaging in the cooperative ministries of our associations, entities, and affiliated organizations.

What continues to impress me most is the cooperative passion Missouri Baptists demonstrate as more than 1,700 local churches work together for the sake of the gospel. This passion is on display all around as we gather for the 2025 Annual Meeting of Missouri Baptists.

We're grateful for our MBC team and our hosts at the Branson Hilton Convention Center. Be sure to thank them as they welcome you and meet your needs.

If you're a messenger, thank you for representing your local church. Please carry home a sincere thank you from us for your church's generous support of the Cooperative Program. As we

celebrate CP's 100th anniversary this year, take a moment to think about the global impact of the \$775 million Missouri Baptists have contributed since 1925. You truly have skin in the game with what the Lord is doing in our state and around the world. Be sure to stop by the CP booth and receive a 100th anniversary commemorative gift.

Remember, as well, to visit the exhibit hall and talk with ministry leaders from the MBC, Southern Baptist Convention, and other affiliated organizations.

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

I look forward to laying out the strategic direction of our MBC ministries during my report to the convention on Monday afternoon. Until then, may the Lord bless you as you continue to faithfully serve Him.



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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 and use the MBC Annual Meeting App. Just visit your phone's app store and search for "Missouri Baptist Convention."

Concession Stands

Concession stands are available on the lower level near Exhibit Hall B, and the upper level, Pre-conference area.

Hours of operation are:

10 a.m. – 6:30 p.m. Monday, Oct. 27

10 a.m. – 1:30 p.m. Tuesday, Oct. 28

Business Update

The convention's Business Update is available at the MBC Help and Registration desks. Business, information, and reports not found in the Book of Reports are printed in the Business Update. They also are available through the MBC Annual Meeting App. Information for publication should be submitted to the Daily Bulletin Office, located in Show Management Office B on the upper level near the Pre-conference area.

Exhibits

Exhibits are located on the lower level in Exhibit Hall B and along the Pre-conference area on the upper level. Exhibit hours are 8 a.m. to 7 p.m. Monday, and Tuesday from 8 a.m. to 2 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

There is no first-aid room. In the event of an emergency, dial 911. Minor issues may be reported to the MBC Administration Office, where a first-aid kit is available.

Messages and Announcements

Please bring all messages and announcements to the MBC Help Desk, located on the upper level in the Pre-conference area 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 July. 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 given 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.

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. (MBC Bylaws: Bylaw 2, Messengers)

Childcare

Childcare is available on the upper level in Short Creek. It’s for children who have been pre-registered. MBC’s Disaster Relief team provides childcare for this event. Children must be picked up during lunch and dinner breaks (meals are not provided). These rooms are open at 8 a.m. each day.

Nursing Room

A nursing room is available in the Management Office, located on the upper level as you enter the convention center.

Registration

Registration begins at 8 a.m. Monday, Oct. 27, at the MBC Registration Desk, located on the upper level in the Pre-conference area. 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

Convention Center, lower level,
Exhibit Hall B

Childcare

Convention Center, upper level,
Short Creek 1-3

Concession Stands

Convention Center, lower level, near Exhibit
Hall B; upper level, Pre-conference area

Daily Bulletin Office

Convention Center, upper level, near Pre-
conference area, Show Manager's Office B

Exhibits

Convention Center, lower level, Exhibit
Hall B; upper level, Pre-conference area

First Aid/Emergencies

Dial 911

Help Desk

Convention Center, upper level,
Pre-conference area, near Registration

Information

Convention Center, lower level,
Exhibit Hall A

Production Room

Convention Center, lower level,
Exhibit Hall A

Registration

Convention Center, upper level,
Pre-conference area

Speakers' Green Room

Convention Center, lower level,
Exhibit Hall A

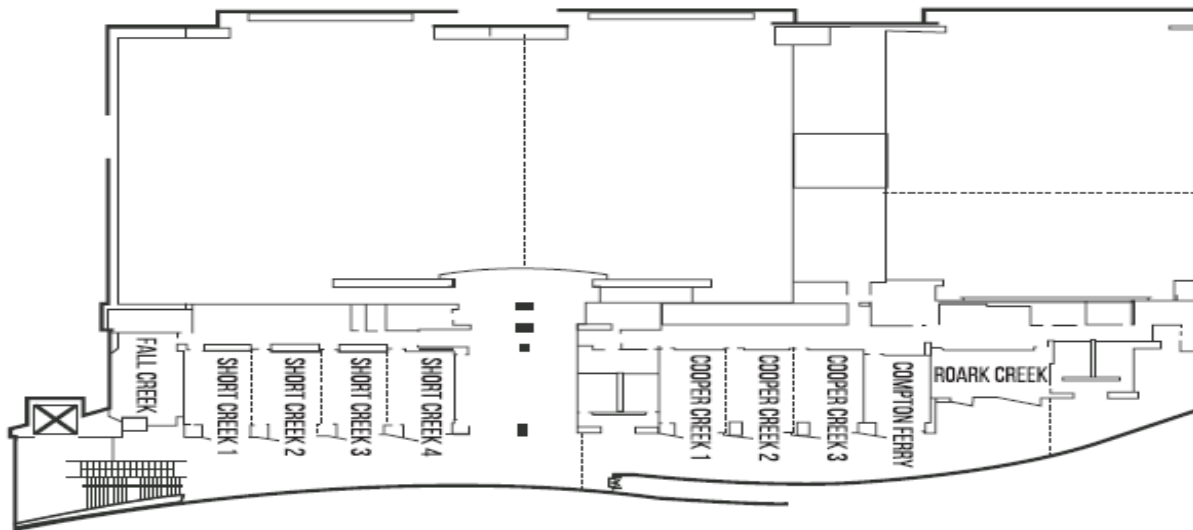
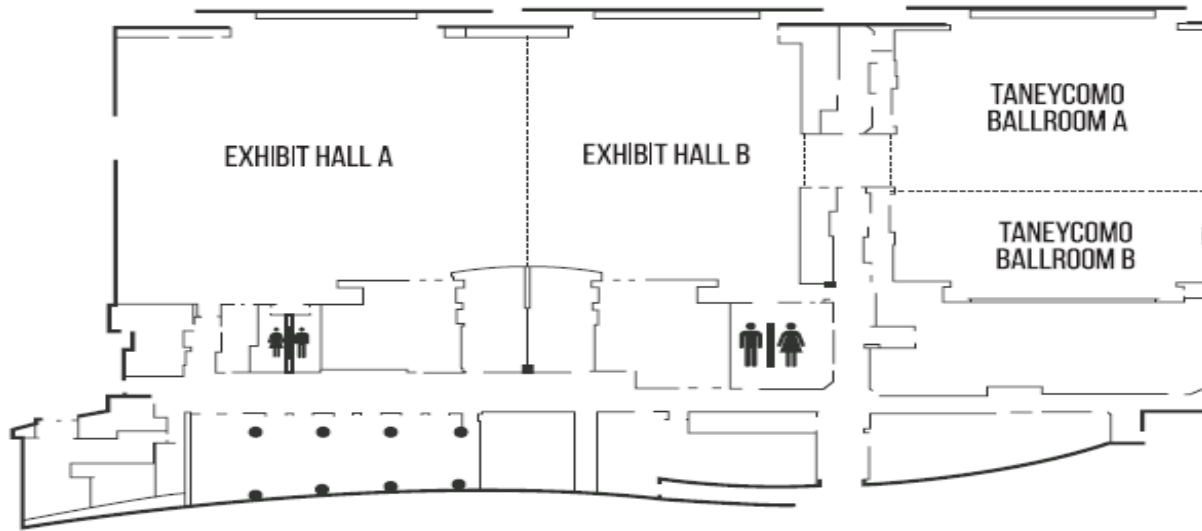
Ushers/Tellers Room

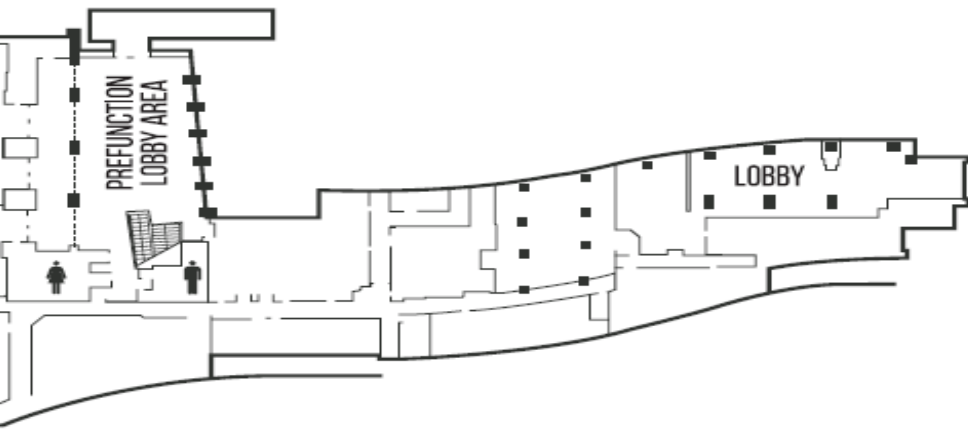
Convention Center, upper level,
Cooper Creek 1

Website Office

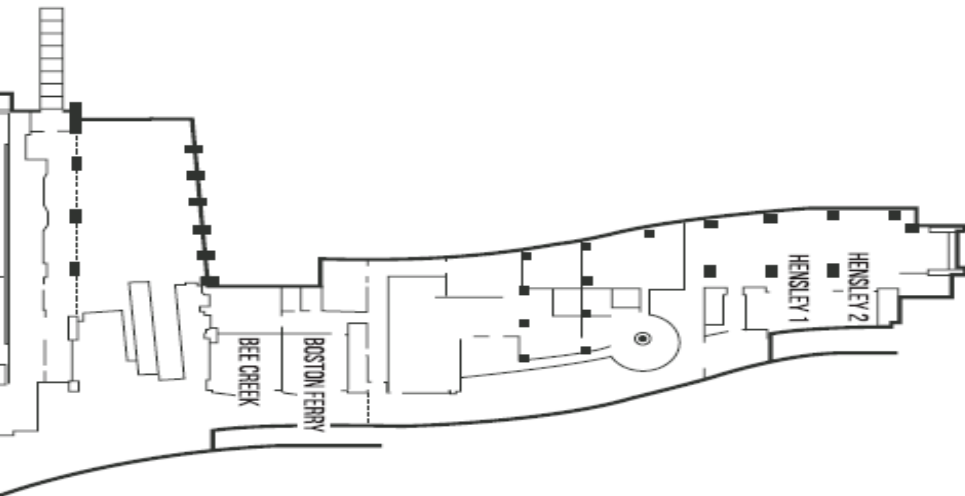
Convention Center, lower level, within
Production area, Exhibit Hall A

Branson Convention Center Maps





LOWER LEVEL



UPPER LEVEL

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Mario Gabriel
Director of Ministry on
Campus and Missions, HLGU

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Learn more about the MBC's Collegiate Ministries at mbcollegiate.org.
Discover how your gifts through CP are making a difference at mobaptist.org/cp.

Officers Presiding at Annual Meeting



PRESIDENT

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

Vance serves as executive pastor of Crossway Baptist Church in Springfield. See page 35 for his full biography.



FIRST VICE PRESIDENT

Brian Jump serves as first vice president of the Missouri Baptist Convention and first vice chairman of the Executive Board.

Jump is lead pastor of Forest Park Church, a multi-campus congregation located in Joplin and Carthage, Mo., committed to helping people put Jesus first in their lives. He has served in pastoral ministry for more than 15 years and is passionate about gospel-centered preaching, developing leaders, and strengthening the local church for greater kingdom impact.

Jump is a graduate of Baptist Bible College and Luther Seminary. He and his wife, Jade, have been married since 2004 and are blessed with three children. He has been honored to serve Missouri Baptists for over a decade in various roles, including participation on task forces, the Nominating Committee, the Executive Board, and now as an officer.

In addition to his ministry in the local church and across Missouri, Jump enjoys mentoring younger pastors and encouraging church health. In his free time, he enjoys hanging out with his family, watching and participating in sports, running, and reading presidential biographies.



SECOND VICE PRESIDENT

Justin Perry serves as second vice president of the Missouri Baptist Convention and second vice chairman of the Executive Board.

For the past 14 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 Bachelor of Arts in Bible from Hannibal-LaGrange University; a Master of Divinity from The Southern Baptist Theological Seminary; and a Master of Theology and Doctorate in Church Leadership from Midwestern Baptist Theological Seminary.

He and his wife, Jennifer, have two children.



RECORDING SECRETARY

Richard Young is recording secretary of the Missouri Baptist Convention and secretary 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 32 years, 16 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 results are faithful followers of Christ in every facet of their lives.

Young and his wife, Amy, have two sons, two daughters-in-law, and two granddaughters.



EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR-TREASURER

Wes Fowler 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 33 for his full biography.

■ WHAT IS THE COOPERATIVE PROGRAM?

The **Cooperative Program**, or CP, is the funding process Southern Baptists have used for 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.

CP is celebrating its 100th anniversary in 2025



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STEP 2

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STEP 3

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STEP 4

CTF will verify with the state and send a tax-credit certificate for you to submit with your tax return. Four year carryover provision if needed!



Children's
Tuition Fund

Program Personalities

Allen, Jason – President, Midwestern Baptist Theological Seminary

Gates, Juston - President, Missouri Baptist Children's Home

Ammons, Greg – Senior Pastor, First Baptist Church, Garland, Texas

Harrison, Rodney – President, Baptist Homes & Healthcare Ministries

Begg, Alistair – Bible Teacher, Truth For Life; Senior Pastor, Parkside Church, Chagrin, Ohio (1983-2025)

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

Boyt, Travis – Lead Pastor, LifePointe Church, Fulton

Hayworth, Joel – Chairman, Nominating Committee, Missouri Baptist Convention; Pastor, South Gate Baptist Church, Springfield

Caldwell, Bob – Pastor of Outreach and Evangelism, The Ridge Church, Sullivan

Howe, Jonathan – Vice President for Convention Administration, SBC Executive Committee

Fowler, Wes – Executive Director, Missouri Baptist Convention

Jump, Brian – First Vice President, Missouri Baptist Convention; Pastor, Forest Park Baptist Church, Joplin

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

Mathes, Gary – Chairman, Credentials Committee, Missouri Baptist Convention; Director of Missions, Clay-Platte Baptist Association

Funk, Buddy – Team Leader, Church Renewal, Missouri Baptist Convention

Gard, Dennis – Chairman, Committee on Order of Business; Pastor, Central Baptist Church, Eureka

Mathes, Mark – Music Minister, Crossway Baptist Church, Springfield

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

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

Melson, Rick – President, Southwest Baptist University, Bolivar

Strong, Robert – President, Missouri Baptist Pastor’s Conference; Lead Pastor / Elder, Freshwater Church, Jefferson City

Mick, Aaron – Chairman, Administrative Committee of the MBC Executive Board; Financial Secretary, Fellowship Church, Greenwood

Vance, Wesley – President, Missouri Baptist Convention; Executive Pastor, Crossway Baptist Church, Springfield

Pendergraft, Chadd – Lead Pastor, Crescent Valley Baptist Church, Tahlequah, Okla.

Whitney, Frank – Lead Church Planter, LifePointe Church, Fulton

Perry, Justin – Second Vice President, Missouri Baptist Convention; Pastor, First Baptist Church, Viburnum

Whitten, Ken – National Director, Pastoral Leadership, North American Mission Board

Phillips, Rob – Associate Executive Director, Missouri Baptist Convention

Winslow, Martin – Team Leader, Missions Mobilization, Missouri Baptist Convention

Pocek, Rob – Team Leader, Prayer & Evangelism, Missouri Baptist Convention

Young, Richard – Recording Secretary, Missouri Baptist Convention; Pastor, South Haven Baptist Church, Belton

Richey, Doug – Chairman, Resolutions Committee, Missouri Baptist Convention; First Baptist Church, Kearney; Treasurer, Clay-Platte Baptist Association

Pastor's Conference Program

Theme: Preaching for Pastors

Hebrews 4:12

October 27, 2025

Monday Morning, October 27, 2025

8:30 a.m.	Welcome and Prayer
8:35	Worship Led by Freshwater Praise Team
9:00	Sermon by Travis Boyt
9:35	Sermon by Bob Caldwell
10:05	Worship
10:15	Sermon by Greg Ammons
10:50	Invitation to Prayer Led by Freshwater Praise Team
11:00	Luncheon

HEBREWS 4:12

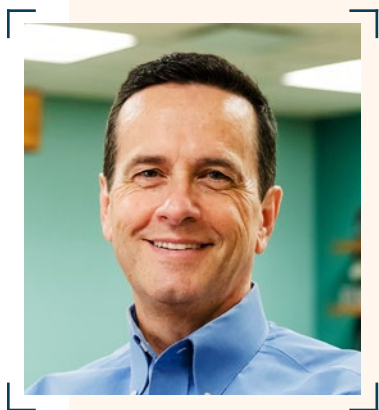
— For the word of God is living and active, sharper than any two-edged sword, piercing to the division of soul and of spirit, of joints and of marrow, and discerning the thoughts and intentions of the heart.

ESV 

Monday Afternoon, October 27, 2025

12:30 p.m.	Worship Led by Freshwater Praise Team
12:45	Sermon by Frank Whitney
1:20	Financial Secretary Vote
1:30	Worship Led by Freshwater Praise Team
1:40	Sermon by Chadd Pendergraft
2:20	Closing Prayer

Pastor's Conference Speakers



GREG AMMONS serves as senior pastor at First Baptist Church of Garland, Texas, and as a professor at Dallas Baptist University. Known for his exceptional preaching skills, Ammons delivers sermons that offer insightful and practical guidance for other preachers, making his messages feel like master classes in narrative preaching. His compelling storytelling and clear biblical exposition captivate and inspire audiences wherever he speaks.



TRAVIS BOYT is the lead pastor at LifePointe Church in Fulton, Mo., a thriving congregation that has grown to more than 300 attendees since he began serving there in 2024. Boyt started his journey in ministry as a student pastor, later serving as the senior pastor at First Baptist Church in Iola, Kan. He's a devoted husband to Amanda and the proud father of four children. Boyt is passionate about sharing the gospel, leading with authenticity, and seeing lives transformed through Christ.





BOB CALDWELL is a well-known and influential speaker throughout Missouri, recognized for his passion for evangelism and outreach. As a driving force behind Super Summer, Caldwell has played a pivotal role in hundreds of students hearing and responding to the gospel each year. He currently serves as the outreach and evangelism pastor at The Ridge Church in Sullivan, Mo., where his commitment to helping people encounter Jesus remains at the forefront of his ministry. His enthusiasm for spreading the gospel inspires others wherever he speaks.



CHADD PENDERGRAFT serves as lead pastor at Crescent Valley Baptist Church in Tahlequah, Okla. Previously, he was pastor of Split Log Baptist Church in Goodman, Mo. Known as a dynamic and passionate speaker, Pendergraft has a deep commitment to clearly and compellingly preach the gospel. He and his wife, Chasity, faithfully raise their children and are dedicated to seeing lives transformed by Christ.





FRANK WHITNEY has faithfully served as a pastor for more than 40 years, specializing in church revitalization and small-church ministry. With a track record of guiding congregations to health and growth – including leading one church to more than 400 attendees – Whitney significantly impacted Holts Summit, Mo., during his 17 years as pastor of Union Hill Baptist Church. As the lead church planter for LifePointe Church in Fulton, Mo., he continues to serve there as an elder. He remains actively engaged in church revitalization, traveling throughout Mid-Missouri to help struggling churches transition from declining to thriving. Whitney is a powerful gospel preacher who’s sure to deliver messages focused on everyone’s need for Jesus.



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There are many ways for you to get involved and support MBCH other than the traditional ways of direct monetary gifts. Many choose to use their talents and connections in additional ways through Mission Projects, Church Engagement, Fostering, Volunteering, Prayer Partners, etc. Check out the ways you can connect and join the ministry efforts of MBCH and help make children, youth, and families stronger by providing hope, healing, and restoration.



Be a Foster Family

If you feel called to be a foster family or want to learn more, contact MBCH for a conversation or attend an informational meeting. Visit: mbch.org/contact



Church Engagement

Get your church involved with our trainings and ministries such as Stewards of Children training, CarePortal, and Women's Ministry. Visit: mbch.org/church-engagement



Mission Projects

Mission projects are not limited to any one type of group and we offer a variety of ideas. Visit: mbch.org/missionprojects for a booklet.



Birthday Offering

Celebrate your birthday by donating to MBCH and being part of the Birthday Mug Club. Visit: mbch.org/birthday-offering



Volunteer

MBCH has many volunteer opportunities for you or your church group. Visit: mbch.org/volunteer



Campus Needs & Prayer

Please join us in praying for the many needs of our campuses and clients. Visit: mbch.org/campus-needs-and-prayer

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kenny.vawter@mbch.org

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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.

Motions & Amendments, Parliamentarians, Resolutions

PRE-FILE MOTIONS AND AMENDMENTS

Messengers planning to submit motions at the 2025 MBC Annual Meeting may pre-file their motions with the recording secretary via email at recordingsecretary@mobaptist.org.

However, messengers who pre-file motions must appear at a microphone during time for the introduction of miscellaneous business (Oct. 27 at 3:55 p.m. or 6:45 p.m.) and introduce their motions to all messengers attending the annual meeting.

Messengers may also file amendments to motions 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 recording secretary to more readily see a messenger's exact wording for proposed motions and amendments.

BENTON AND WHITEHEAD NAMED PARLIAMENTARIANS

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

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

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A Cooperative Program Ministry of the Missouri Baptist Convention

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Annual Meeting Provisional Program

191st Annual Session | October 27-28 | 2025

Branson Convention Center

THEME: Let Them See Jesus, Acts 4:20 (CSB)

MONDAY AFTERNOON | OCTOBER 27 | 2025

3:30 p.m.	Music	Mark Mathes Crossway Baptist Church Choir & Orchestra
3:35	Call to Order	Wesley Vance
	Welcome & Invocation	Jay Todd, FBC Forsyth
	Report on Enrollment	Richard Young
3:45	Report of Committee on Order of Business	Dennis Gard
	Announce Tellers Committee (DR Volunteers)	Wesley Vance
	Credentials Committee Report – New Churches	Gary Mathes
3:55	Introduction of Miscellaneous Business – First Time	
4:05	CP100 Video	
4:10	Worship	Mark Mathes Crossway Baptist Church Choir & Orchestra
4:15	Executive Director's Address	Wes Fowler
5:00	Benediction	Brian Jump

OFFICERS

Wesley Vance, President
Justin Perry, Second Vice President

Brian Jump, First Vice President
Richard Young, Recording Secretary

MONDAY EVENING | OCTOBER 27 | 2025

6:30 p.m.	Music	Mark Mathes Crossway Baptist Church Choir & Orchestra
6:35	Call to Order	Wesley Vance
	Invocation	John Stroup Freeway Ministries
	Report on Enrollment	Richard Young
	Recognition of New Pastors	Wes Fowler
6:45	Miscellaneous Business – Second Time	
6:55	Worship	Mark Mathes Crossway Baptist Church Choir & Orchestra
7:10	President's Address	Wesley Vance
8:00	Benediction	Justin Perry

TUESDAY MORNING | OCTOBER 28 | 2025

7:45 a.m.	Prayer Emphasis	Richard Young
8:00	Call to Order	Wesley Vance
	Memorial Service	Brian Jump
8:10	Report from North American Mission Board	
8:18	Nominating Committee Report	Joel Hayworth
	Nominate New Members to Nominating Committee	Wesley Vance
8:30	Report from International Mission Board	
8:38	First Election of Officers	
8:48	Report from SBC Executive Committee	Jonathan Howe
8:56	Executive Board Recommendations	Aaron Mick
9:16	Report from Midwestern Baptist Theological Seminary	Jason Allen
9:31	Second Election of Officers	
9:41	Messages from Institutions of Higher Education:	
	Hannibal-LaGrange University	Robert Matz
	Missouri Baptist University	Keith Ross
	Southwest Baptist University	Rick Melson
10:30	Worship	Mark Mathes
		Crossway Baptist Church Choir & Orchestra
10:45	Guest Speaker	Alistair Begg
11:30	Benediction	Richard Young

TUESDAY AFTERNOON | OCTOBER 28 | 2025

1:00 p.m.	Pre-session Video	
1:05	Call to Order	Wesley Vance
	Invocation	Josh Wilson
1:07	Third Election of Officers	
1:15	Miscellaneous Business	Wesley Vance
1:30	Resolutions Committee Report	Doug Richey
1:50	Fourth Election of Officers	
2:00	Credentials Committee Report – Remainder	Gary Mathes
	Credentials Committee Task Force Report	
2:25	WMU Video and Report	Sarah Schmitt
2:30	Christian Life Commission Video	
2:35	Reports from MBC Entities (10 minutes each):	
	Missouri Baptist Children’s Home	Juston Gates
	Baptist Homes & Healthcare Ministries	Rodney Harrison
	Missouri Baptist Foundation	Neil Franks
3:05	Worship	Mark Mathes
		Crossway Baptist Church Choir & Orchestra
3:15	Final Message	Ken Whitten
3:55	Recognition of Outgoing Officers and Presentation of New Officers	Wes Fowler
4:00	Benediction	Wesley Vance

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Jesus said to them, "I am the bread of life; whoever comes to me shall not hunger, and whoever believes in me shall never thirst." John 6:35

Annual Meeting Speakers



Alistair Begg

Author & Bible Teacher, Truth For Life

ALISTAIR BEGG is the Bible teacher on Truth For Life, a daily and weekend program that brings the exposition of Scripture to a global audience through radio, podcasts, and a wide range of digital and streaming platforms. Since its launch in 1995, Truth For Life has featured teaching drawn from Begg's decades of faithful preaching at Parkside Church, Chagrin, Ohio, where he served as senior pastor from 1983 until 2025.

Today, Begg is actively engaged with Truth For Life and speaks frequently at conferences throughout the United States and around the world, where he encourages pastors, theology students, and believers, and proclaims the gospel to those who have yet to come to faith in Jesus Christ.

Begg is the author of several books, including *Name Above All Names*, *Pray Big*, and *Brave by Faith*. His books have been translated into many languages and are read by a global audience.

Begg began in pastoral ministry in 1975 after graduating from the London School of Theology. Before joining Parkside Church, he served for eight years in Scotland, ministering at Charlotte Chapel in Edinburgh and Hamilton Baptist Church.

He and his wife, Susan, have been married since 1975. They have three grown children and eight grandchildren.



Wes Fowler

MBC Executive Director-Treasurer

WES FOWLER serves as executive director-treasurer of the Missouri Baptist Convention. Since his election and installation in 2023, Fowler directs the state's missionary staff; administers Cooperative Program funds given by MBC churches; serves as publisher of *The Pathway*, the official news journal of the MBC; and sets the state's cooperative strategy for fulfilling the Acts 1:8 mission mandate.

Fowler served as senior pastor of First Baptist Church in Mayfield, Ky., 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.

While in Kentucky, Fowler served as chairman of the Board of Directors for Sunrise Children's Services, the state's largest foster/residential childcare provider. He also served as president of the Kentucky Baptist Convention (KBC); member of the Mission Board of the KBC; and chairman for the search committee that brought Todd Gray to the KBC as executive director-treasurer in 2019.

Fowler earned a Bachelor of Arts in Political Science at Valdosta State University; a Master of Divinity at New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary; and a Doctor of Ministry with an emphasis in Expository Preaching at The Southern Baptist Theological Seminary.

Fowler and his wife, Tara, have three children.



ACTS 4:20

LET THEM SEE JESUS

FOR WE ARE UNABLE
TO STOP SPEAKING
ABOUT WHAT WE
HAVE SEEN AND
HEARD.



MARK MATHES has served as music minister of Crossway Baptist Church in Springfield, Mo., since 2006, after serving in churches in Salem and Festus/Crystal City, Mo. He's been in music ministry since a young teenager and has led worship in Missouri Baptist churches for 35 years.

Southwest Baptist University conferred Mathes with an honorary degree of Doctor of Music Ministry in 2021. He's a Dove-nominated songwriter with more than 100 songs recorded by Christian artists and published in choral arrangements for churches.

Mathes earned a degree in Church Music from Baptist Bible College. His passion is to lead others to worship and to write new gospel songs.

He and his wife, Leisa, have two adult children, six grandchildren, and a new great-granddaughter.



WESLEY VANCE serves as president of the Missouri Baptist Convention and 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 in his current role 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.



KEN WHITTEN serves as national director of pastoral leadership at the North American Mission Board (NAMB). He loves mentoring pastors and is a gifted expository Bible preacher with a busy global speaking schedule.

Prior to his current ministry assignment with NAMB, Whitten served for nearly half a century in a range of Southern Baptist and other ministries.

He served 33 years as senior pastor of Idlewild Baptist Church in Lutz, Fla., leading two campus buildouts and seven church plants. In addition, he has served as president of the Florida Baptist Convention; president of the SBC Pastors' Conference; trustee of the International Mission Board; board member of GuideStone; chaplain for law-enforcement agencies; and leader in many other local and global initiatives.

Whitten and his wife, Ginny, are parents to four adult children, who all serve and follow Jesus, and grandparents of 13.

Related Meetings & Events

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 26, 2025

6:00 p.m.	Missouri Baptist Apologetics Network Meeting	Taneycomo B
8:00	Officers Meeting	Hensley Ferry 2 nd Floor, Hilton

MONDAY, OCTOBER 27, 2025

8:00 a.m.	Exhibit Hall Open	Exhibit Hall B & Upper-level Concourse
8:30	Credentials Committee Meeting	Compton Ferry
8:30	Pastor's Conference	Exhibit Hall A
10:00	Administrative Committee Meeting	Roark Creek
11:00	Pastor's Conference Lunch	Exhibit Hall A
11:00	Executive Board Meeting	Taneycomo
11:00	Nominating Committee Meeting/Lunch	Fall Creek
12:15 p.m.	Executive Board Luncheon	Taneycomo A
2:30	Historical Commission Meeting	Fall Creek
2:30	Christian Life Commission Meeting	Compton Ferry

5:00 p.m.	Bi-vocational Pastors Dinner (by invitation)	Taneycomo A&B
6:30	MBC Annual Meeting Resumes	Exhibit Hall A
8:00	Order of Business Committee Meeting	Hensley Ferry
8:00	Hannibal-LaGrange University Reception	Compton Ferry
8:00	Missouri Baptist University Reception	Cooper Creek 2&3
8:00	Southwest Baptist University Reception	Roark Creek
8:15	Church Renewal Meeting	Taneycomo A

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 28, 2025

8:00 a.m.	Exhibit Hall Open	Exhibit Hall B & Upper-level Concourse
11:30	Top CP/Top Baptism Luncheon (by invitation)	Taneycomo B
11:30	Women in Ministry Luncheon	Taneycomo A
11:30	New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary Alumni Lunch	Compton Ferry



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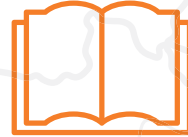
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As reported by IMB missionaries and partners



144,969

new Christ followers

68,268

baptisms around
the world

1,609,869

people who heard
the gospel



932,259

views of digital gospel
content in multiple
languages

282,692

individuals disciplined globally

84,430

national believers trained in
leadership and evangelism

41,623

national believers trained to send
missionaries cross-culturally



271,603

people served by human
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INTERNATIONAL
MISSION BOARD

Top CP Giving Churches in 2024

Based on completed ACP data.

300 OR MORE IN AVERAGE WORSHIP ATTENDANCE

Rank	Short Name	Pastor	CP Giving
1	Crossway Baptist Church, Springfield	Eddie Bumpers	\$769,259.37
2	Ridgecrest Baptist Church, Springfield	Jeremy Muniz	\$354,674.95
3	Second Baptist Church, Springfield	John Birchett, Jr	\$316,584.82
4	First Baptist Church, O'Fallon	Michael Atherton	\$279,725.52
5	Lynwood Baptist Church, Cape Girardeau	Mark Anderson	\$185,540.01
6	First Baptist Church, St Charles	Buddy Perstroppe	\$185,254.28
7	First Baptist Church, Bolivar	Adam Hughes	\$156,042.13
8	First Baptist Church, Kearney	Ken Parker	\$143,986.97
9	First Baptist Church, West Plains	J.D. Edie	\$127,602.72
10	Concord Baptist Church, Jefferson City	John King	\$114,633.94

126 TO 299 IN AVERAGE WORSHIP ATTENDANCE

Rank	Short Name	Pastor	CP Giving
1	Fruitland Community Church, Jackson	Mike Parry	\$147,425.76
2	Miner Baptist Church, Sikeston	Steve Francis	\$126,668.53
3	Parkway Baptist Church, St Louis	Cheston Pickard	\$87,174.30
4	First Baptist Church, Owensville	Kevin Sullivan	\$75,286.83
5	Ridgecrest Baptist Church, St Charles	Neal VanNatta	\$69,373.75
6	First Baptist Church, Richland	Matt Brady	\$68,954.36
7	Mt Carmel Baptist Church, Lake Ozark	Sonny Simpson	\$67,296.00
8	First Baptist Church, Salem	Gene Edwards	\$63,595.35
9	Temple Baptist Church, Poplar Bluff	Stephen Patterson	\$62,241.42
10	Parkade Baptist Church, Columbia	Chris Cook	\$60,716.51

125 OR FEWER IN AVERAGE WORSHIP ATTENDANCE

Rank	Short Name	Pastor	CP Giving
1	First Baptist Church, Charleston	Milton Harrington	\$57,505.89
2	First Baptist Church, Miller	Mike Willmouth	\$48,576.54
3	Sycamore Hills Baptist Church, Independence	Jim Lehman	\$48,060.14
4	First Baptist Church, Crane	Aragon Wyatt	\$40,846.00
5	Cornerstone Baptist Church, Richland	Chuck Baker	\$37,612.91
6	First Baptist Church, Sikeston	Glen Cantrell	\$32,250.00
7	Elm Spring Baptist Church, Kingsville	Robin Dale	\$31,428.00
8	Varner River Baptist Church, Kennett	Harold Dunbar	\$29,845.92
9	First Baptist Church, Paris	Wesley Hammond	\$29,698.39
10	First Baptist Church, Shelbina	Kaleb Mosley	\$29,514.49

New Churches in 2024-2025

Newly Affiliated Churches	Pastor	Association
Cornerstone Church, Raymore	Soonhwang Hahn	At Large
Newark Missions, Newark	Scott Montgomery	At Large
We Believe Kingdom Church, Florissant	Kenneth Robinson	St Louis Metro
Antioch, Troy	Jason Zellmer	Twin Rivers
Connexion Church, Mt View	Richie Jester	At Large
Joplin City Church, Joplin	Nate Gillen	At Large
Waypointe Church, Springfield	Josh Coleman	Greene County

Reaffiliation	Pastor	Association
First Baptist Church, Hillsboro	Chad Hodges	St Louis Metro
Genevieve Baptist Church, St Genevieve	Lonnie Harrison	Mineral Area
Grant City Baptist Church, Grant City	Darin Drury	New Life
Manes Baptist Church, Mt Grove	Tim Mulneix	Wright Douglas Ozark

Deceased Ministers

Name	Church Membership	City	Association
Don Bilbary Jr	First Baptist Church	Newburg	Phelps
Kevin Blackburn	Ulman Baptist Church	Ulman	Lake of the Ozarks
Gary Burr	Diggins Baptist Church	Seymour	Webster
Dale Butler	Mt Carmel Baptist Church	Lake Ozark	Lake of the Ozarks
Robert Compere Jr	Heritage Baptist Church	Lebanon	Laclede
Tony Darnell	AZ-U-R Ministries	Independence	Blue River-Kansas City
Terry Dorr	First Baptist Church	Crane	Blue River-Kansas City
Kevin Faulkner	East Sedalia Baptist Church	Sedalia	Harmony
Kenneth Gaines	Charity Baptist Church	Springfield	Greene
Edward Goodwin	Ironton First Baptist Church	Ironton	Mineral Area
Carl Gravatt	Hughesville Baptist Church	Hughesville	Harmony
Ben Hess	Faith Baptist Church	Festus	St Louis Metro
Jack Jones	First Baptist Church	Neosho	Shoal Creek
Charles Kempf	Mt Carmel Baptist Church	Lake Ozark	Lake of the Ozarks
Van Kirkwood	First Baptist Church	Plato	Texas County
Kenneth Lupton	Red Bank Baptist Church	Ava	Wright Douglas Ozark
Gerold McBride	Lithium Baptist Church	Perryville	Cape Girardeau
James McDonald	Enon Baptist Church	Russellville	Concord
Randall Miller	Emmanuel Baptist Church	Doniphan	Cane Creek Stoddard
Tom Muskrat	Neosho First Baptist Church	Neosho	Shoal Creek
Terry Pyles	First Baptist Church of Butterfield	Cassville	Barry
Lindell Reed	Grace Baptist Church	Oak Grove	Blue River-Kansas City
David Scudder	Macedonia Baptist Church	Rolla	Phelps
Tony Shaw	Laurie First Baptist Church	Gravois Mills	Lamine
Harold Singleton	Fellowship Baptist Association	Warsaw	Fellowship
Richard Wakefield	Little Creek Baptist Church	Hartville	Wright Douglas Ozark
Darrell Woods	Mt Olive Baptist Church	Cassville	Barry



MISSOURI BAPTISTS

THE ANNUAL CHURCH PROFILE (ACP)

Did your church complete its 2024 ACP Survey?

If not, there's still time to enter your data before the January 31, 2026, deadline. Submitting ACP data confirms that your congregation is still active. It provides historical trends to understand your present-day challenges. And it help you identify future opportunities.

For help completing your church's ACP, contact Pam Jeffries at
1-800-736-6227 ext. 337 or pjeffries@mobaptist.org.

Past MBC Presidents

MBC President	Year	MBC President	Year	MBC President	Year
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	Williams, Chris	2024
Spicer, T. O.	1994	McCoy, Bruce	2009	Vance, Wesley	2025

Future MBC Annual Meetings

October 26-27, 2026	St. Charles Convention Center, St. Charles
October 25-26, 2027	Second Baptist Church, Springfield (pending messenger approval)
October 23-24, 2028	St. Charles Convention Center, St. Charles (pending messenger approval)

Past MBC Annual Meetings

Year	Location	Visitors	Messengers	Total	Theme & Scripture	Annual Sermon Preacher
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
2023	Crossway Baptist Church Springfield October 23-24	275	1,265	1,540 524 churches	Restore My Soul Psalm 19:7	Chris Williams
2024	Convention Center St. Charles October 28-29	260	1,062	1,322 418 churches	My Story for His Glory Isaiah 48:10-11	Chris Williams

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Executive Board Report

NOVEMBER 2024 – OCTOBER 2025

Wesley Vance, Chairman

Wes Fowler, Executive Director

1. Since the last convention, the Board met three times in person and once via online media. Actions from these meetings are summarized in this report.
2. The following retirement occurred within the Executive Board staff: Carla Stegeman, Executive Assistant.
3. The following transitions away from the MBC occurred within the Executive Board staff: Jim Misloski, Church Renewal Team Leader; Brad Bennett, Director of Making Disciples; Brian Grout, Missions Mobilization Strategist; and Zach Doolittle, Missions Mobilization Strategist.
4. New staff members include Joseph Schroer, Media, Technology & Events Technician; Reggan Jett, Missions Mobilization Strategist; Dr. Rob Pochek, Prayer & Evangelism Team Leader; and Victor Ordonez, Missions Mobilization Strategist.
5. The Executive Director reported to the Administrative Committee and Board at each meeting.
6. Staff members were recognized and received bonuses at five-year tenure increments as follows: 25 years – Kelly Myers; 10 years – Mitch Canote; 5 years – Brent Longenecker.
7. 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.
8. The Board received detailed financial reports at each meeting.



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9. A contribution of \$60,216.63 for the Mission Dignity program was reported to the Board. These funds are to be used for qualified recipients living in Missouri.
10. The Board approved for recommendation to the MBC that the Convention approve the 2026 statewide offering goals. (See Recommendation #1)
11. A 2025-2026 Cooperative Program Allocations Budget was approved by the messengers at the 2024 Convention. (See Recommendation #2 for informational purposes only)
12. The Board approved for recommendation to the MBC the 2026 Cooperative Program Missouri Baptist Missions and Ministries Budget. (See Recommendation #3)
13. The Board approved for recommendation to the MBC a Rheubin L. South Missouri Missions Offering Allocations Budget to be distributed in 2026 (based on the 2025 MMO Offering Goal of \$800,000). (See Recommendation #4)
14. The 2024 MBC Audit Report, as prepared by CliftonLarsonAllen LLP, was received as presented.
15. The Board approved invitations for certain exhibitors during the 2025 Annual Meeting.
16. The Board approved for recommendation to the MBC the date and location of the 2027 Annual Meeting of the MBC. (See Recommendation #5)
17. The Board approved for recommendation to the MBC the date and location of the 2028 Annual Meeting of the MBC. (See Recommendation #6)
18. The Board approved the modification of paragraph sixteen (16) in the Nominating Committee Rules and Procedures.
19. The Board approved the modification of paragraph seven (7) in the Credentials Committee Rules and Procedures.
20. Action from any recommendations of the Executive Board on Monday morning, October 27, 2025, will be printed in the Business Update as part of the Executive Board Report and Recommendations to the Convention.



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Executive Board Recommendations

1. The Executive Board recommends to the MBC that the Convention approve the following goals for 2026 statewide offerings:

Cooperative Program	\$15,000,000
Missouri Missions Offering (for 2027 missions)	\$825,000
Lottie Moon Offering for International Missions	\$4,000,000
Annie Armstrong Offering for North American Missions	\$2,200,000
World Hunger Funds	\$150,000

For informational purposes only: Approved by messengers at the 2024 convention.

2. The Executive Board recommends the 2025-2026 allocation goals of \$15,000,000 each year be allocated 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 receive a 50/50 allocation for the MBC/SBC (see pages 54-55).
3. The Executive Board recommends to the MBC that the Convention approve the 2026 Cooperative Program Missouri Baptist Missions & Ministries Budget (see pages 56-57).

COOPERATIVE PROGRAM ALLOCATIONS PLAN 2025-2026

	Approved 2024 Allocation	%	Approved 2025 Allocation	%
		Total		Total
Cooperative Program Goal	\$15,000,000		\$15,000,000	
SBC/MBC Shared Administration:				
Guidestone Pastor Protection	\$400,000		\$400,000	
<i>The Pathway</i> News Journal	350,000		350,000	
CP Promotion	150,000		150,000	
Total SBC/MBC/ Shared Administration	<u>\$900,000</u>	6.00%	<u>\$900,000</u>	6.00%
Total Cooperative Program Allocation	<u>\$14,100,000</u>		<u>\$14,100,000</u>	
Southern Baptist Convention	\$5,640,000	40.00%	\$5,640,000	40.00%
Missouri Baptist Missions & Ministries	\$5,194,737	36.84%	\$5,194,737	36.84%
Missouri Baptist Entities:				
The Children's Home	\$692,632	4.91%	\$692,632	4.91%
Baptist Homes & Healthcare Ministries	98,947	0.70%	98,947	0.70%
Christian Higher Education Operations ¹	2,374,737	16.84%	2,374,737	16.84%
Missouri Baptist Foundation	98,947	0.70%	98,947	0.70%
Total Missouri Baptist Entities	<u>\$3,265,263</u>	23.16%	<u>\$3,265,263</u>	23.16%
Total Cooperative Program Goal ²	<u>\$14,100,000</u>	100%	<u>\$14,100,000</u>	100%

¹ Allocations to SBU, MBU, and HLGU vary each year based on each school's full-time enrollment.

² CP receipts above the goal are allocated 50% to the SBC and 50% to Missouri Baptist Missions & Ministries.

	Approved 2026 Allocation	% Total
Cooperative Program Goal	\$15,000,000	
SBC/MBC Shared Administration:		
Guidestone Pastor Protection	\$400,000	
<i>The Pathway</i> News Journal	350,000	
CP Promotion	150,000	
Total SBC/MBC/ Shared Administration	\$900,000	6.00%
Total Cooperative Program Allocation	\$14,100,000	
Southern Baptist Convention	\$5,640,000	40.00%
Missouri Baptist Missions & Ministries	\$5,194,737	36.84%
Missouri Baptist Entities:		
The Children's Home	\$692,632	4.91%
Baptist Homes & Healthcare Ministries	98,947	0.70%
Christian Higher Education Operations ¹	2,374,737	16.84%
Missouri Baptist Foundation	98,947	0.70%
Total Missouri Baptist Entities	\$3,265,263	23.16%
Total Cooperative Program Goal²	\$14,100,000	100%

¹ Allocations to SBU, MBU, and HLGU vary each year based on each school's full-time enrollment.

² CP receipts above the goal are allocated 50% to the SBC and 50% to Missouri Baptist Missions & Ministries.

MISSOURI BAPTIST MISSIONS & MINISTRIES 2026 PROPOSED BUDGET

	2025 Approved	Percentage Income/ Expense	2026 Proposed	Percentage Income/ Expense
Income				
Cooperative Program Income:				
Missouri Baptist Missions & Ministries	\$5,194,737	78.65%	\$5,194,737	79.94%
SBC/MBC Shared Administration	\$900,000	13.63%	\$900,000	13.85%
NAMB Income	\$350,000	5.30%	\$240,000	3.69%
Generated Income	\$160,500	2.42%	\$163,500	2.52%
Total Income	<u>\$6,605,237</u>	<u>100.00%</u>	<u>\$6,498,237</u>	<u>100.00%</u>
Expenses				
Operating Expenses:				
Prayer & Evangelism				
Prayer & Evangelism	\$72,030		\$71,250	
Collegiate Ministries	19,770		25,250	
Missions Mobilization	77,800		63,500	
Church Renewal	70,020		69,020	
Media & Communications				
Associate Executive Office	28,215		27,215	
Communications	25,250		25,250	
Media, Technology & Events	283,306		283,306	
Executive Office				
Executive Office	49,845		47,825	
Business Services	137,180		131,900	
Operations	432,000		435,700	
Disaster Relief	29,080		36,230	
<i>The Pathway</i>	14,340		14,340	
Total Operating Expenses	<u>\$1,238,836</u>	<u>18.76%</u>	<u>\$1,230,786</u>	<u>18.95%</u>

	2025 Approved	Percentage Income/ Expense	2026 Proposed	Percentage Income/ Expense
Program Expenses:				
Prayer & Evangelism				
Prayer & Evangelism	\$236,000		\$175,000	
Collegiate Ministries	443,600		445,900	
Missions Mobilization	311,420		228,420	
Church Renewal	20,850		24,575	
Media & Communications				
Associate Executive Office	108,400		58,000	
Communications	26,000		56,900	
Media, Technologies & Events	12,750		12,750	
Executive Office				
Executive Office	96,900		96,200	
Operations	474,400		466,991	
Disaster Relief	5,000		-	
<i>The Pathway</i>	280,800		280,800	
Total Program Expenses	\$2,016,120	30.53%	\$1,845,536	28.40%
Personnel and Support Expenses	\$3,275,281	49.57%	\$3,346,915	51.50%
Other Capital Items	\$75,000	1.14%	\$75,000	1.15%
Total Expenses	\$6,605,237	100.00%	\$6,498,237	100.00%
Net Income/(Expense)	\$ -		\$ -	

- The Executive Board recommends to the MBC that the Convention approve the Rheubin L. South Missouri Missions Offering funds received during 2025 be distributed in 2026 as follows:

2026 PROPOSED RHEUBIN L. SOUTH MISSOURI MISSIONS OFFERING BUDGET

Ministry Area	Approved 2024 Offering for 2025 Ministries	Proposed 2025 Offering for 2026 Ministries
Prayer & Evangelism (formerly Making Disciples)	\$36,000	\$41,500
Collegiate Ministries	\$122,000	\$142,000
Missions Mobilization (formerly Multiplying Churches)	\$163,000	\$78,000
Church Planting/SEND Missouri (formerly part of Multiplying Churches)		\$65,000
Church Renewal (formerly Developing Leaders)	\$174,060	\$89,500
Disaster Relief (formerly part of Developing Leaders)	-	\$122,300
Entity Relations (formerly Synergy)	\$154,740	\$141,700
Standing Percentage Allocations	\$110,200	\$120,000
TOTAL MMO ALLOCATIONS	\$760,000	\$800,000

- The Executive Board recommends that the Convention approve the 2027 Annual Meeting of the Missouri Baptist Convention be held October 25-26 at Second Baptist Church, Springfield, Missouri.
- The Executive Board recommends that the Convention approve the 2028 Annual Meeting of the Missouri Baptist Convention be held October 23-24 at the St. Charles Convention Center, St. Charles, Missouri.



Get Connected, Stay Connected

mbConnect is the Missouri Baptist Convention's weekly email newsletter. Inside, you'll find timely information regarding Missouri Baptist news and resources.



SIGN UP HERE
mobaptist.org/mbconnect

Baptist Homes & Healthcare Ministries



Our *Purpose* is to please God and help others do the same.

Our *Mission* is to provide Christlike care, education, and advocacy for the aging.

Our *Values* include being a distinctively Christian ministry driven by an unwavering commitment to the sanctity of life.

- Shelbina**
(573) 588-4175
- Smithville**
(816) 873-6500
- Tri-County**
(573) 594-6467
- Adrian**
(816) 297-8901
- Ashland**
(573) 657-0506
- Arcadia Valley**
(573) 546-7429
- Ozark**
(417) 581-2101



www.BHBM.org | (866) 454-2709

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 1,700 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.



Executive Board Staff Reports

CHURCH PLANTING / SEND MISSOURI

Jason Zellmer, Director

The Send Missouri team has a vision to see a healthy, multiplying church in every community in Missouri. Because we believe churches plant churches, we come alongside church leaders to help them achieve their goals in multiplication.

Over the last year, we hosted nine Sending Labs, which helped churches develop a vision for planting and equipped them with practical tools. Additionally, we hosted two Residency Builder events, during which our team equipped pastors to identify, develop, and deploy future leaders from within their churches. The church planters of tomorrow are sitting in our churches today. Overall, we helped equip 80 Missouri Baptist churches through these strategic events.

Over the next decade, our prayer is to see 1 percent of the lost reached in our state. That's 42,168 people coming to a saving knowledge of Jesus Christ. To experience this type of kingdom impact, we believe 337 new churches need to be planted, or about 34 new churches each year. By God's grace, we celebrated 33 new church plants and affiliations in 2024. This growth almost doubles the previous year and is the largest number of new MBC churches in more than two decades. In 2025, we anticipate another large year of growth in new plants and affiliations.

Is your church interested in supporting or sending out a church plant? Or do you want to learn how to develop future pastors and leaders within your church? Contact one of our team members and let us know how we can partner with you today.

CHURCH RENEWAL

Buddy Funk, Team Leader

Resound Network, Church Renewal Strategies

The vision of Resound Network is to be a movement of churches that are renewed and always renewing for the glory of God. This year, there's evidence that Missouri Baptists are making positive progress towards this vision. In 2021, more than 60 percent of churches that reported on the Annual Church Profile (ACP) were plateaued or in decline. The 2024 ACP results revealed that the number of plateauing or declining churches has been reduced to 43 percent. Another encouraging stat is that almost 30 percent of churches experienced growth.

Resound's primary strategy remains to walk alongside churches, discovering God's plan for His church in a specific location. Other renewal strategies last year included the Resound Summit with SBC Executive Committee President and CEO Jeff Iorg, which drew approxi-

mately 200 attendees; the Resound newsletter, which has more than 400 followers and is produced bi-monthly; and several training sessions on how to use the Facilitating Renewal Guide. This summer, Resound hosted an internship/cohort with 13 in attendance.

Looking forward, Resound anticipates focusing on the personal renewal of leaders. Over the last couple of years, it has become clear that when the Lord begins to work, He usually starts with an individual. Therefore, Resound is intentional about assisting leaders in renewal.

Resound Network, Leader Renewal Strategies

Leader Renewal efforts are marked by intentional engagement, structural clarity, and strategic development. The August emphasis on Calling out the Called, and events like the New Ministers Retreat, NAMB Replant Lab, the Non-Ignorable Conference, and the Leading Major Change Webinar set the tone for leader development as a renewal strategy this year.

Under the leadership of Adrianna Anderson, the Ministry Wives Network is experiencing strong momentum following realignment under the Resound Network. Structural clarity is advancing, with leadership roles in the Ministry Wives Network being defined to increase sustainability and empower volunteers. Monthly webinars and the April retreat continue to bear fruit.

Engagement with associational leaders increased through Pastor Readiness Assess-

ments and Network Leader Readiness Assessments. The bi-monthly DOM Zoom call is connecting associational leaders throughout the state.

Across all fronts, leader renewal is fostering relational trust, scalable systems, and kingdom-minded strategy. Coaching, sabbaticals, retreats, assessments, and leadership realignment are bearing early signs of fruitfulness — all grounded in prayer and supported by a deepening sense of spiritual joy and clarity.

EXECUTIVE OFFICE

Wes Fowler, Executive Director-Treasurer

Disaster Relief

Gaylon Moss, Director

Missouri Baptist Disaster Relief (MODR) helps churches transform lives and communities with the gospel by bringing help, hope, and healing. Disasters tear a hole in the fabric of darkness, letting in the light.

Over the last 12 months, MODR shined the light of Jesus, responding to hurricanes in several states. We began the season in Louisiana, where Hurricane Francine wreaked havoc. Next, Hurricane Helene affected five states; MODR served in Augusta, Ga. In addition, hundreds of Missouri Baptist volunteers travelled to Burnsville, N.C., to repair several homes affected by the hurricane.

Disaster Relief

Here are a few statistics from July 2024 – June 2025:

Salvations – 9	Volunteer Days – 8,423	Volunteer Hours – 63,798	Meals – 150,032
Showers – 4,576	Laundry loads – 2,861	Cleanup jobs – 1,253	

In Missouri, we started 2025 with an ice storm and then a record-breaking number of tornados from March to May. In total, we set up 15 sites from southwest to southeast Missouri. We provided hot meals, shower units, chaplaincy, and chainsaw cleanup in St. Louis after an EF-3 tornado ripped through a densely populated area.

California Baptists requested help with fire recovery after hundreds of homes were burned near Los Angeles. MODR supported Iowa DR with trainers.

The Pathway

Benjamin Hawkins, Editor

As the official newspaper of the Missouri Baptist Convention, *The Pathway* remains committed to providing Christian worldview journalism that shares stories of truth and redemption.

The Pathway has received national recognition from peers in Christian journalism, and this year *The Pathway's* print edition earned the Evangelical Press Association's Award of Excellence. The print edition remains strong, with nearly 30,000 print subscribers across the state and around the globe.

The online edition of *The Pathway* (mbcpathway.com) also remains strong and is expanding. As of this year, *The Pathway* website includes a section for featured videos, as well as an e-edition format of the print edition, available at mbcpathway.com/e-edition/.

The Pathway also continues to train a new generation of Christian journalists through an annual journalism retreat. Dozens of students from communications programs at the Missouri Baptist Convention's three universities take part in the retreat, learning from experienced Christian practitioners in the field. This year, *The Pathway* also helped train two journalism students from

Spurgeon College (at Midwestern Baptist Theological Seminary), who served as interns during the summer.

The Pathway is made possible at no cost to subscribers thanks 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 Dec. 31, 2024, are as follows:

Cooperative Program

\$15,272,771

Rheubin L. South Missouri Missions Offering

\$1,072,207

Lottie Moon Offering

\$4,293,014

Annie Armstrong Offering

\$2,356,314

The MBC is honored to bless associations with a 10 percent gift from the Missouri Missions Offering made up of the funds given by their churches. From the 2024 offering, \$86,498 was distributed to 56 associations for ministry by the Business Services Group.

As directed in MBC's bylaws, the financial statements have been audited by a certified public accountant for the year ending Dec. 31, 2024.

Paula Earls, Chief Operations Officer

Chief Operations Officer Paula Earls administers the new 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 Baptist Building. She also assists Missouri Baptist churches with finance and personnel issues and helps pastor search committees with retirement plan setup, church compensation, and financial matters.

Over the past year, Earls 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.

Earls additionally assists with various special projects as assigned.

Brooks Crawford, Properties Management Specialist

The Properties Management staff maintains the Jefferson City convention building, Disaster Relief Readiness Center, seven 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.

MEDIA & COMMUNICATIONS

Rob Phillips, Associate Executive Director

Media & Communications consists of two support groups: Communications; and Media, Technology & Events (MT&E). Together, they provide the MBC staff with communications services, media and technology support, and

assistance with the staging and production of MBC events.

Under the leadership of Tony Boes, Communications 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.

Communications staff members work closely with all MBC ministry groups to enhance their communications needs.

Under Chris Brizendine, 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.

Associate Executive Director Rob Phillips assists the Executive Office with communications and administrative support; directs the promotion of the Cooperative Program and Missouri Missions Offering; and leads the convention's statewide apologetics ministry.

MISSIONS MOBILIZATION

Martin Winslow, Team Leader

The Missions Mobilization Group helps churches transform lives and communities with the gospel through engagement in missions.

With more than 41 percent of the world's population still considered unreached with the gospel, Missions Mobilization seeks to help Missouri Baptist churches be faithful to the commission Jesus gave in Acts 1:8: "... and you will be my wit-

nesses in Jerusalem, in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth.” Staff members are committed to helping MBC-affiliated churches develop and carry out strategies to reach the world with the gospel by providing partnerships that help local churches connect locally, state-to-state, and to the ends of the earth.

Missions Mobilization also connects new church plants with the North American Mission Board for assessment and funding. In addition, the group works with the MBC Credentials Committee to assess churches that wish to affiliate with the convention.

Is your church looking to mobilize people in meaningful mission work in Montana or Minnesota/Wisconsin? Pastors, do you have a desire to help train international pastors in the Word of God in strategic locations around the world? Missions Mobilization would love to visit with you and your church about partnering to take the gospel to the ends of the earth.

Missouri Woman’s Missionary Union (MWMU)
Sarah Schmitt, Executive Director, Missouri WMU

In August, Missouri WMU partnered with the International Mission Board to host 55 missionary students. Missouri Baptist churches and WMU raised funds to make that happen.

In April, MWMU celebrated 102 years in Kirksville. Attendees enjoyed a wonderful time with inspiring speakers, missionaries, and church planters. A student conference held during the event encouraged young people to live life on mission, even while working in secular jobs.

MWMU is especially excited about a growing partnership with the MBC’s Missions Mobilization Group.

We’ve equipped churches across Missouri to strengthen their missions discipleship programs. These efforts continue to help churches make disciples who live on mission for Jesus.

In addition, a MWMU team traveled to Montana to teach at a Southern Baptist women’s gathering. Team members led mission-focused training for preschoolers, children, and teens.

MWMU has joyfully sent off dear friends who are returning to the mission field and planting churches in Montana. Amy Dolittle and her family are dearly missed, as are Cheryl Stahlman and her family, but they have responded faithfully to God’s call to missions and church planting.

Thanks for your support of the Annie Armstrong, Lottie Moon, and Missouri Missions Offerings, the latter of which set a record for giving in 2024.

Travis Webb, RA’s and Challengers Consultant

RA Congress went well in 2024, with 132 boys, 71 leaders, 50 volunteers, and 18 churches represented. Berean Baptist of Waynesville brought home the traveling trophy for the second year in a row.

Overall trophy winners:

- *1st place:* Wyatt Gormley, Berean Baptist, Waynesville
- *2nd place (tie):* Oliver Humphrey, FBC Willard; Bryce Chastain, Berean Baptist, Waynesville
- *3rd place:* Gabriel Haney, Berean Baptist, Waynesville

RA Racers:

- Lad Division (1st–3rd grade) winner: Paxton Vaughn, 3rd grade, FBC Paris
- Crusader Division (4th–6th grade) winner: Knox Carney, 6th grade, FBC Paris

These winners earned the right to go to Dallas to compete nationally at the WMU National Missions Celebration.

The RA Congress missionary speaker was David Stahlman, who is now in Glendive, Mont., to plant a church. The Missions Run raised \$233.01, and the offering at the closing rally totaled \$352.20, bringing the grand total to \$585.21, which was donated to church planting efforts in Montana.

Abigail Moore, Children’s Consultant

Girls in Action / Children in Action

GEM (Girls Experiencing Missions) 2024 was held at Pulaski Baptist Camp in October, with 114 in attendance. GEM 2025 took place at Laclede Baptist Camp in Richland, Mo., Oct. 17–18.

There is now a new achievement badge available specifically for GEM.

Ordering for the 2025–26 curriculum has been updated to streamline deliveries, making the process much easier for churches and groups. A new curriculum slate has just been launched; visit wmu.com to learn more.

Starting a missions discipleship program for children has never been easier or more important. Visit wmu.com/getstarted today to learn more and receive a free month of curriculum.

Questions? Contact Moore at 573-501-1239 or abbiemomof4@hotmail.com.

PRAYER & EVANGELISM

Rob Pohek, Team Leader

The Prayer & Evangelism Group is establishing a strong statewide prayer ministry that seeks to involve every Missouri Baptist and every MBC-affiliated church. In addition, the group is engaged in a movement to help churches refocus and reprioritize their call to take the gospel to the lost.

Over the past year, the group (formerly known as Making Disciples) has conducted numerous age-graded disciple-making events. Below is a sampling.

- **LIFE Outreach Events**

Four LIFE Outreach events were held statewide, drawing more than 3,200 attendees. These resulted in 240 documented decisions for Christ and 400 church members trained in one-on-one evangelism.

- **Camps & Conferences**

Super Summer 2025 welcomed more than 1,600 students and leaders for three weeks of camp, focused on the theme “Called,” helping students explore God’s call to faith, ministry, and missions.

Student Evangelism Conference 2024 brought hundreds to Concord Baptist Church in Jefferson City under the theme “Send Me.” Students heard from Scooter Kellum, worshiped with Kyle Kicker, and participated in gospel training and local outreach.

- **Supporting Student Leaders**

Conclave 2025 gathered Missouri leaders in Chattanooga, Tenn., for training alongside 10 state conventions. Leader development was supported through national events like NAMB's Youth Leader Coaching Network and Lifeway's Experience Preaching Lab.

Online Cohorts covered topics like volunteer ministry, student communication, and longevity in ministry. The Thursday Morning Debrief remains an ongoing weekly space for leaders to connect, encourage, and grow together.

- **Vacation Bible School**

The Prayer & Evangelism Group led 11 VBS training events involving 33 associations, 58 churches, and 345 participants across Missouri.

Collegiate Ministries

Jerome Stockert, Director

MBCollegiate is dedicated to strengthening campus ministries, starting new ones, and partnering with local churches to reach college students and young adults with the gospel. Each semester focuses on deepening spiritual founda-

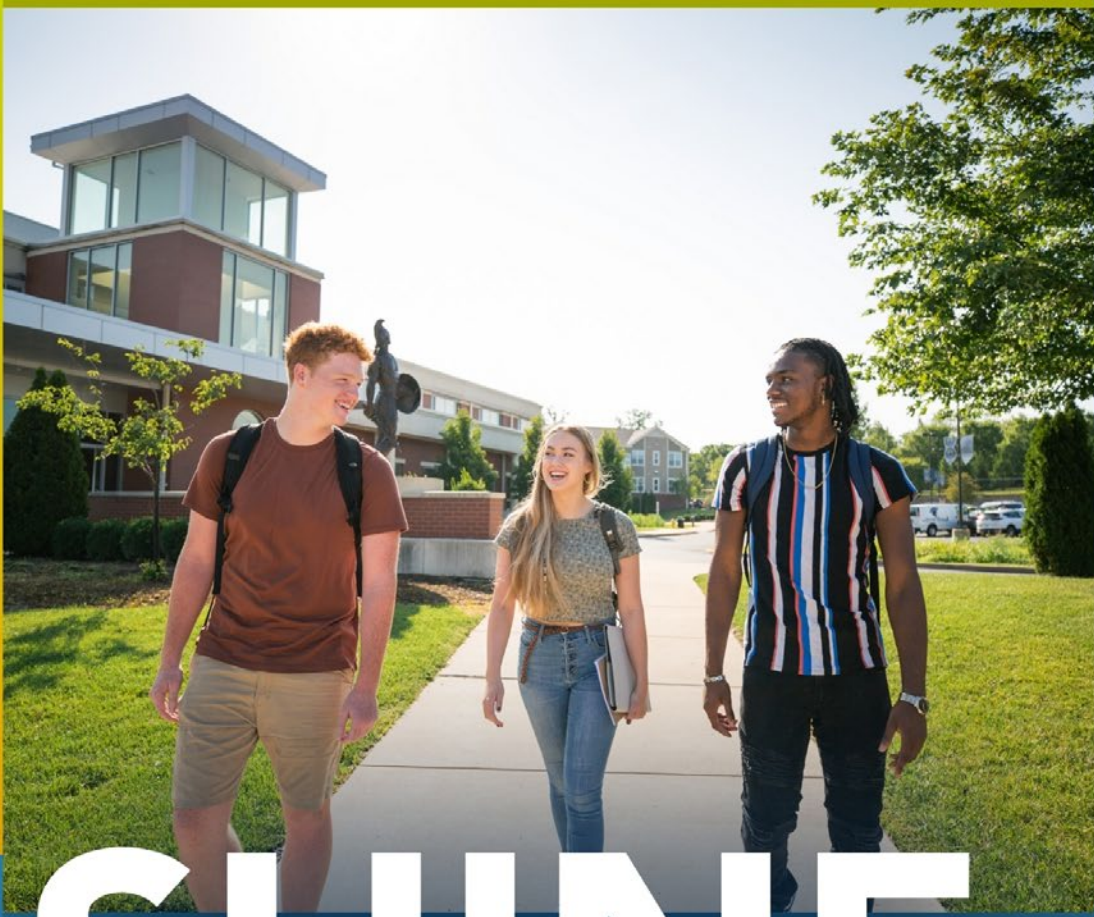
tions, building leaders, and expanding evangelistic efforts.

This fall, a strategic focus was launched in the St. Louis metro area, home to nearly 40 percent of Missouri's college students and representing 110 countries. The region's diversity makes it a prime mission field for gospel outreach, with coordinated efforts enhancing existing local church involvement on campuses.

To expand ministry reach, new apprenticeships were introduced. These two-year opportunities equip recent graduates for vocational campus ministry, helping them connect with students and discern their calling.

Additionally, new collaboration with local churches has allowed us to continue to play a vital role in creating spaces for students to encounter and grow in Christ, whether on campus or through church ministries. By equipping churches for relational engagement on our campuses, MBCollegiate ensures that students are introduced to the gospel and disciplined into lifelong faith.

Together, MBCollegiate and partnering churches are transforming lives, raising leaders, and mobilizing a generation to make Christ known in their communities and beyond.



SHINE ON

Missouri Baptist
UNIVERSITY



www.mobap.edu

Strategic Partners Reports

Missouri Baptist Children’s Home (MBCH) **Dr. Juston Gates, President**

Since 1886, the Missouri Baptist Children’s Home has been a strategic partner with the Missouri Baptist Convention and MBC-affiliated churches, serving God together by responding to the needs of children, youth, and families to make a lasting difference in their lives. In 2024, the following were some of the most exciting ministry accomplishments for MBCH Children & Family Ministries and The LIGHT House:

- With significant growth in all ministry platforms, MBCH collectively provided services to 1,938 children, youth, and families, resulting in 19 professions of faith and baptisms for those in our care.
- MBCH helped 223 children find their “forever homes” (permanency), while maintaining 451 foster care-related homes.
- MBCH served 834 clients in its Family Foster Care program, while serving an additional 168 in Treatment Family Care.
- Twelve youth resided in Therapeutic Group Homes, with 37 clients residing in Transitional Living locations.
- MBCH served 347 mothers and babies through Pregnancy Services, while 17 clients were served in Maternity Homes.

- Through Intellectually & Developmentally Disabled Services, 31 clients were served residentially, with an additional 12 clients being served in Anti-Trafficking Services.

Together, the MBCH, the Missouri Baptist Convention, nearly 60 associations, and more than 1,700 MBC-affiliated churches are impacting the lives of children, youth, and families across the state.

Baptist Homes & Healthcare Ministries (BHHM) **Dr. Rodney A. Harrison, President and CEO**

As we celebrate 112 years of ministry, Baptist Homes & Healthcare Ministries continues to grow in reach and impact. This year marks two significant milestones: the opening of a campus in Shelbina, and the completion of the assisted-living and skilled-care facility in Ashland.

By God’s grace, BHHM served more seniors this past year than ever before. Baptist Homes is a statewide network of Christ-centered senior care that accepts private pay, Medicaid, Medicare A & B, private insurance, and many Medicare Advantage plans – a testament to a strong commitment to accessibility and compassion.

In the past year, BHHM experienced record-breaking volunteer engagement, with the high-

est number of volunteers coming from churches of the Missouri Baptist Convention. Their faithful service was instrumental in Baptist Homes receiving the 2024 Hunting Heritage Award from the National Deer Association – a meaningful recognition of BHHM’s commitment to innovation and quality of life.

BHHM is dedicated to supporting and educating men and women in partnership with MBC churches. We offer church-based conferences and workshops on Medicare, Medicaid, retirement planning, and faithful aging, as well as providing pulpit supply at no cost to MBC churches.

BHHM’s purpose is to please God and help others do the same. Our mission is to provide Christlike care, education, and advocacy for the aging. Our values include being a distinctively Christian ministry driven by an unwavering commitment to the sanctity of life.

Christian Life Commission (CLC)

William Isaacson, Chairman

The Christian Life Commission advocates public policy, bears witness to a faithful God who commanded us to be salt and light, and works to educate and inform Missouri Baptists about issues affecting families, communities, and nations.

The CLC hosted a dinner encouraging pastors to lead their people to be more involved in the public square with the gospel message and biblical ethics. Chris Williams and Bev Ehlen were guest speakers.

The CLC and Concord Baptist Church co-sponsored the Legislative Prayer Breakfast. Legislators were challenged to stand for what is right, just, and good. Prayers for wisdom, discernment, and boldness were offered for all

Missouri’s elected officials and public servants. Wes Fowler served as keynote speaker.

The CLC’s Prayer Initiative connected 44 churches with legislative members, supporting them in prayer.

Resources and commissioners are available to all churches to assist in voter registration, voter participation, and understanding a biblical worldview.

All Missouri Baptists are encouraged to continue to stand for life. There is a constitutional amendment on the ballot in the fall of 2026 to repeal the abortion amendment to the constitution. The battle is not over! Be informed and act!

Missouri Baptist Foundation (MBF)

Dr. Neil Franks, President and CEO

As the Missouri Baptist Foundation enters its 79th year of ministry, it celebrates how Missouri Baptists are using financial resources to make a lasting kingdom impact.

In 2024, MBF awarded \$75,000 in grants to support missions and ministry across the state. These funds empowered churches to expand food ministries, host outreach events, improve facilities, and create welcoming spaces for children. This is just a portion of the millions distributed through the faithful planning and generosity of Missouri Baptists committed to advancing the gospel.

Participation also increased in the MBF Cash Fund and Cash Reserve Fund, which offer competitive interest rates and daily liquidity. MBF now manages more than 1,100 accounts, with total assets exceeding \$220 million.

The Kingdom, Harvest, and Storehouse funds continue to invest in redemptive initiatives that promote human flourishing and share the hope

of Christ. From worship-leader resources to farmland, MBF helps clients make a meaningful difference. MBF also assisted individuals in leaving a legacy of generosity through estate gifts, several of which began benefiting ministries this past year.

MBF is grateful for the partnership of Missouri Baptists and is excited to launch new products and services to serve churches and individuals in the year ahead.

Missouri Baptist Historical Commission **Gaylord L. Mustin, Chairman**

The Historical Commission exists to help churches remember their past by assisting in the preservation of church records and by recognizing special anniversaries.

In 2025, the Historical Commission awarded four scholarships to students from four Missouri Southern Baptist colleges and universities. The four winners and their essay titles are:

- Amelia Bordean (HLGU) – *Margin to Mission: The Missouri Baptist Conference of the Deaf and Its Vital Role in Missouri Baptist History*
- Kadence Simino (MBU) – *Coming Together for the Gospel: The Birth of the Missouri Baptist Convention*
- Henry Walker (SBU) – *Sunday School and Missouri Baptists: The Story of Sunday Schools in Missouri Baptist Churches and the Men and Women Who Started Them*
- Bethany Campbell (Spurgeon) – *The Missionary Legacy of Old Bethel*
- Honorable Mention: Caleb Burchett (SBU) – *Southwest Baptist University: The Journey from College to University*

The Historical Commission continues to give oversight to Old Bethel Baptist Church. Old Bethel is available for tours and special events. April 30, 2024, marked the 200th anniversary of First Baptist Church of Jackson, Mo.

Over the last year, there's been an increase in requests for church anniversary plaques, along with requests for MBC Executive Director Wes Fowler to speak at these anniversaries.



MAKING DISCIPLES OF JESUS WHO LIVE ON MISSION

Missouri WMU

God's mission. Our passion.

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Higher Education Institution Reports

Hannibal-LaGrange University (HLGU)

Dr. Robert J. Matz, President

The Lord's kind hand rests on Hannibal-La-Grange University. Over the last year, we've seen students saved, called to ministry, and equipped with knowledge for service. Our financial health has increased significantly; this is the first year in the last 20 in which we don't anticipate using short-term debt.

There's never been a better time to become an HLGU Trojan. Students are challenged to grow in their faith through chapel, spiritual emphasis week, Bible studies, and mission opportunities. Vocational evangelist and SBC First Vice President Daniel Ritchie was on campus in September for spiritual emphasis week.

With nearly 40 degree programs, HLGU graduates go on to success in fields ranging from ministry to medicine. Enrollment is up significantly for on-campus and online programs.

The Bachelor of Arts in Biblical Studies program at Jefferson City Correctional Center continues to produce great fruit. The men in this program are being equipped to minister and plant churches in the state's prisons. The first cohort of men graduated in May 2025. They have planted three churches and baptized more than 100 men.

HLGU has become a hub for promoting Christian values in northeast Missouri. In recent months, several special guests were on campus: Ben Carson, who challenged our community to

depend on God; Andrew Peterson, who led our campus in a night of praise and worship; and Melissa Ohden, who shared her story of surviving abortion and encouraged everyone to advocate for life.

Please make plans now to attend the annual Booster Night on Nov. 8. Tickets are available at hlg.edu/news/boostergala.

Missouri Baptist University (MBU)

Dr. Keith Ross, President

Greetings from Missouri Baptist University. This year has been one of continued growth and kingdom impact as we remain steadfast in our mission to equip students to serve boldly in the world, guided by God's Word and Spirit.

MBU students and faculty have actively participated in global missions, with recent teams serving in Bulgaria, Greece, and Mexico. Engaging in hands-on ministry to families and entire communities, students and faculty have served others while also deepening their own faith and global perspectives.

This spring, we celebrated a major milestone by breaking ground on the Pillsbury Wainwright Academic & Welcome Center — a new 22,000-square-foot facility that will serve as a beautiful front door to our campus. The building will house the Mary Pillsbury School of Nursing and the Robert W. Plaster College of Business & Entrepreneurship. With state-of-the-art class-

rooms, a welcome hub for prospective students, and collaborative learning spaces, this facility embodies MBU's commitment to academic excellence and Christian hospitality.

We are deeply grateful for the prayers and support of Missouri Baptists. Your partnership strengthens our commitment to disciple and educate the next generation of servant leaders for Christ. To God be the glory!

Southwest Baptist University (SBU)

Dr. Rick Melson, President

SBU continued its momentum with enrollment growth and new initiatives in 2024-2025.

Fall enrollment was up 4 percent from the previous year to 2,230 students, with a 4.4 percent growth in undergraduate and 2.7 percent growth in graduate students. Including the spring and summer semesters, SBU welcomed more than 1,000 new students and 2,500 total students across all five campuses. The university has also had three straight years of freshmen enrollment growth.

New athletics programs (men's and women's swimming, and men's volleyball) began recruiting students for their inaugural seasons in 2025. The university introduced a podcast titled "Unapologetic" hosted by Dr. Jonathon Woodyard and Brandt Merritt, highlighting campus news, faculty and staff insights, and current event commentary.

SBU launched new master's programs in Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics (STEM) fields such as Artificial Intelligence, Computer Science, and Data Science.

Spiritual formation continued to flourish through expanded discipleship groups, student-led worship events, and bi-weekly chapels that featured guest speakers such as David Mathis of Desiring God, Troy Nesbitt of the Salt Network, and Missouri Baptist leaders Wes Fowler, Wesley Vance, and Adam Hughes.

The Center for Worldview and Culture is expanding offerings in 2025-2026 with new conferences and resources for students and the church at large.

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2025

MBC GOVERNING DOCUMENTS

MBC ANNUAL MEETING

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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 & 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.



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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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- 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 does 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 re-nomination 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 & 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 500 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 500 and less than 1,000 may be represented by a maximum of three (3) 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 four (4) persons serving on MBC boards and commissions. No more than two (2) persons from the same church may serve 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 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 105-106 for the MBC Nominating Committee Profile Sheet.)

**Hunger Met
Hope Shared
Lives Changed**

hunger relief
network

IN 2024...

- \$10,000** in grants given to hunger ministries
- 24,976** people fed across Missouri
- 15** professions of faith through Gospel witness

That's the impact of Missouri Baptists working together!

Find out more at mobaptist.org/hunger



**MBC Nominating Committee
PROFILE SHEET**

Name _____ Date of Birth _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Home Phone _____ Work Phone _____

Cell Number _____ Email _____

Are you a Lay Person 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 and offices held in the local church, association, or MBC/SBC boards, committees, commissions, and institutions.

Occupation _____ Employed By _____

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 & Message* (current edition) while serving as a Trustee for the MBC? yes no

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 & 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 the 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,
 - i. A church not contributing to the Cooperative Program in the previous year will enter a one-year grace period.
 - ii. During the grace period, the church retains full affiliation and receives additional resources and support to encourage Cooperative Program participation.
 - iii. If no contributions are made for two consecutive years, the church may be recommended for disaffiliation.
 - 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.



Missouri is giving voters
another opportunity to
**VOTE to SAVE
WOMEN & BABIES
AND**

“MAKE MISSOURI PRO-LIFE AGAIN”

We are honored to stand with Missouri Baptists as we work
together to protect innocent human lives
at every stage of development.

In 2026 Missouri Right to Life PAC will be working
and supporting a constitutional amendment to
Restore Respect for Women and Babies
in our Missouri Constitution.

Go to our website www.missourilifepac.org for specific
details on how you can help in this pro-life effort.

PAC
website



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 Wes Fowler.

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 & 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;



TOGETHER,

WE GO FURTHER

TO PURSUE THE LOST,

REACH MORE PEOPLE

WITH THE GOSPEL,

AND SEE MORE LIVES

CHANGED.



INTERNATIONAL
MISSION BOARD

imb.org

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.

IN THE PAST YEAR MODR volunteers:

From 8/1/24 – 7/31/25

Worked **8,663** volunteer days

Provided **153,781** meals

Saw **9** professions of faith

Carried out **3,220** laundry loads

Performed **1,501** clean up jobs



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Help . Hope . Healing

modr.org

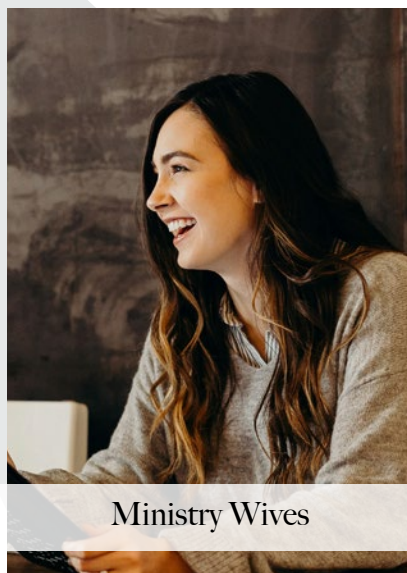


@MOBaptistsDR

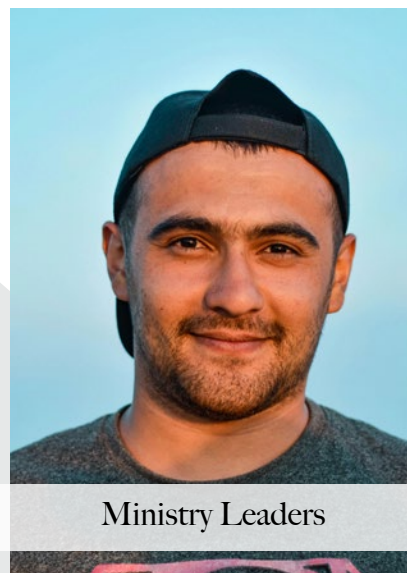
Let's create a path to thriving in life *and* leadership.



Pastors



Ministry Wives



Ministry Leaders

Schedule your free session.

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PastorServe exists to strengthen the church through providing coaching, consulting, soul care, leadership development, and crisis care to church leaders.

All of the PastorServe staff have been in church ministry and understand the pressures and challenges involved. **Scan the QR code to schedule a free 50-minute session.**

Visit the Church Renewal Booth to learn more and meet the staff.

 PastorServe

- 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.
 - 4. Review and organize the MBC into regions as needed.

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This benefit is paid to your beneficiary if you die prior to retirement. The benefit amount depends upon a participant's age at death but can be as much as \$100,000.* It is paid in addition to the accumulations in your retirement account.

YOUR AGE AT DEATH	MAXIMUM BENEFIT PAYABLE*
35 & under	\$100,000
36–45	\$75,000
46–55	\$50,000
56–65	\$25,000
66–70	\$16,000



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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 II

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.




**CHRISTIAN LIFE
COMMISSION**
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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!

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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.

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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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MISSOURI BAPTISTS



- 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 & 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.

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CHRISTIAN LIFE
COMMISSION
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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.

WE ARE THEREFORE CHRIST'S
AMBASSADORS. AS THOUGH GOD WERE
MAKING HIS APPEAL THROUGH US.

Influence



↓ **DATES** | 2025 ↓

- 10/17-18 + **SULLIVAN, MO - THE RIDGE**
- 10/24-25 + **SEDALIA, MO - LIFEPOINTE**
- 11/07-08 + **SPRINGFIELD, MO - FBC SPRINGFIELD**
- 11/14-15 + **JACKSON, MO - FBC JACKSON**
- 01/18-19 + **KEARNEY, MO - FBC KEARNEY**

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SCAN HERE FOR MORE INFO.



■ 2 CORINTHIANS 5:21

YOU HAVE MORE THAN YOU THINK.



FUTURE EVENTS



Fall: Nov. 7-9, 2025
* **Deaf Youth Retreat**
Mt. Vernon, MO

* **Spring: March 13-15, 2026**
Deaf Youth Retreat
Mt. Vernon, MO

* **Summer: June 21-26, 2026**
Deaf Youth Camp
Warsaw, MO

Ages: 9 to
High
School

Contact Us:

deafyouthcamp1982@gmail.com

www.deafyouthcamp.com



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GOD'S WORKMANSHIP

Eph 2:10 (CSB)

"FOR WE ARE HIS WORKMANSHIP, CREATED IN CHRIST JESUS FOR GOOD WORKS, WHICH GOD PREPARED AHEAD OF TIME FOR US TO DO."

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CHRISTIAN HIGHER EDUCATION



Hannibal-LaGrange University



Missouri Baptist University



Southwest Baptist University

BENEVOLENT MINISTRIES



Missouri Baptist Children's Home



Baptist Homes & Healthcare Ministries

LEGACY MINISTRIES



Missouri Baptist Foundation

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Gateway Seminary



Midwestern Baptist Theological Seminary



New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary



The Southern Baptist Theological Seminary



Southeastern Baptist Theological Seminary



Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary

