

**55th Annual Meeting of the
State Convention of Baptists in Indiana
October 14-15, 2013
Northside Baptist Church
Indianapolis, IN**

SESSION ONE - MONDAY AFTERNOON

1. Pre-session music was played by the Praise Team of NorthWoods Church, Evansville, under the direction of Marvin Wilson.
2. Pre-session report from GuideStone was shared by O. S. Hawkins via video, sharing about Mission Dignity, GuideStone funds and how GuideStone is a health advocate for participants. Rick Wells, Senior Relations Manager for GuideStone, also spoke and invited us to the exhibit area for more information.
3. Marvin Wilson, Convention Music Director from NorthWoods, Evansville, led in congregational singing.
4. The meeting was called to order by the Pastor Randall Forsythe, Convention President.
5. Mrs. Sandy Irick, Recording Secretary, reported that at 1:20 p.m. 161 messengers and 51 guests had registered. Mrs. Irick made a motion that those messengers already registered and those who will be registered in later sessions be seated and approved to conduct the business of this 55th Annual Session of the State Convention of Baptist in Indiana. Motion was seconded and the motion carried.
6. John Reeder, Associate Pastor of Worship at the host church, Northside Baptist, welcomed the messengers and guests to Indianapolis and to their church for the convention. He shared that Northside Baptist Church would be celebrating their 50th anniversary as a church very shortly. Bro. Reeder then led us in prayer.
Indiana State Governor Mike Pence welcomed us to Indianapolis by video. He was sorry that he could not attend in person due to schedule conflicts, but sent his greetings by video.
7. Dr. Seagle, Executive Director for the State Convention, introduced Gary Frost our new North American Missions Board Midwest Regional Vice President.
8. Dr. Frost spoke to the convention messengers and shared about the North American Mission Board and how excited he was to work with the state convention.
9. President Randall Forsythe appointed the following committees to serve during this Annual Meeting:

ORDER OF BUSINESS COMMITTEE

Randall Forsythe, Chair
Sandy Irick, Recording Secretary
David Trimble
Bob Parnell
Ray Deeter
Marvin Wilson
Jim Bohrer
Cecil Seagle

REGISTRATION COMMITTEE

Larry Rudisill, Chair
Martha Beckman
Gayle Gullion

PRAYER COMMITTEE

Charlotte Jones, Chair
Kele` Cannon
Pat Storm
Stephanie Valadez

CREDENTIALS COMMITTEE

Bob Parnell, Chair
Terry Clark
John Clement
Becky Connor
Tom Kaufman
Brian Pinson
Mitch Tabla

TELLERS COMMITTEE

Gary Abell, Chair
Rick Hillard
Roger Kinion
Dave Nykamp
Tim Tesmer

ARRANGEMENTS COMMITTEE

Wayne Gullion, Chair
Todd Benkert
Chris Gustafson
Don Morris
Jim Walls

RESOLUTIONS COMMITTEE

David Trimble, Chair
Bill Bailey
Bruce Reynolds
Bill Sherfy
Dave Stauffer

NOMINATIONS COMMITTEE

Jeff Spencer, Chair
Jim Bohrer
Greg Byman
Bill Flanigan
Kenn Freeland
Darin Garton
Matt Higgins
Jim Jenkins
Charles McMahan
Tim Overton
Rick Porter
Dan Sager
Michael Wren
Gary Yochum

10. We were led in worship through music under the direction of Marvin Wilson and the NorthWoods Praise Team.
11. Dr. Fred Luter, President of the Southern Baptist Convention, brought the convention sermon using Romans 1:16-17. He shared that we had heard the report that 85% of the state in Indiana is lost and delivered his message titled, "What is it Going to Take for Us to Reach Indiana?"
12. Charlotte Jones, Chair of the Prayer Committee, shared some basics for us to pray about and we were called to pray silently.
13. President Forsythe then called for Committee Reports.
14. Matt Higgins, Nominations Committee member, presented his report which can be found on page 107 in the *Book of Reports*.

EXECUTIVE BOARD MEMBERS NOMINEES

Group B, Two Years, Terms Expire 2015

Stephen (Steve) Cline	Southeastern Association
Jason Harris	White River Association
Bill Sherfy	Miami Association

Group C, Three Years, Terms Expire 2016

Todd Benkert	Northwest Association
Dale Eakes	Crossroads Association
Steve Eysers	Northeast Association
Clark Harless	North Central Association
Steve Johnson	Miami Association
Derrick Ousley	Southwestern Association
Dana Spurgeon	West Central Association

Cheri Taylor	Southwestern Association
Phil Thorne	White River Association
Bob Weeks	South Central Association
Jamie Woodyard	East Central Association

BAPTIST FOUNDATION BOARD NOMINEES

Terms Expire 2016

Ken Booster, Fishers
Max Garwood, Huntington
Dennis King, Liberty
Alan Marcum, New Albany

HISTORICAL COMMITTEE NOMINEES

Terms Expire 2016

Mary Fullhart, Muncie
Michael Wren, Jr., Greencastle

CHRISTIAN LIFE COMMITTEE NOMINEES

Terms Expire 2016

Darlene Spencer, Gary
Derrick Ousley, Mt. Vernon

Motion carried to approve the Nomination Committee's recommendations as presented.

15. The Arrangements Committee Recommendations are on page 109 of the *Book of Reports*.
- The committee recommended that the Annual Sermon in 2014 be presented by Rev. Reginald Fletcher and Rev. Jose Burgos, be the alternate.
 - They also recommended that the 2016 annual session be hosted by River's Edge Fellowship Church, Bedford on October 10-11 (Monday-Tuesday).

The motion carried to approve the Arrangements Committee's recommendations.

16. Rev. Kris Holzmeyer presented the Christian Life Committee Report which can be found on page 104 of the *Book of Reports*.
The committee strongly urged us to contact our state representatives regarding the same sex marriage amendment that will be looked at this year.

Motion carried to approve the Christian Life Committee's report as presented.

17. The Executive Board Report recommendations located on page 111-113 of the *Book of Reports*.
Rev. Ray Deeter, Chairman of the Executive Board, presented the report and recommendations.
- The Executive Board recommends the adoption of the 2014 proposed budget for a total of \$3,916,424 and a Cooperative Program budget of \$2,530,133. This includes an increase of the percentage of Cooperative Program contributions sent to the Southern Baptist Convention from 37.5% to 39% in 2014.
- Highland Lakes Baptist Camp - 16.5%
Mobilization/Equipping/Communications - 20.6%

Evangelism/Prayer - 5.8%
Church Planting 13.3%
Indiana Baptist Foundation - 0.7%
Business Services - 12.5%
Executive Office - 7.5%
Southern Baptist Convention - 23.1%

Bro. Ray Deeter shared that a Cooperative Program Task Force had been appointed by our Executive Board and they came and shared their report:

On behalf of the Cooperative Program Task Force, appointed by our Executive Board Chairman, Ray Deeter, I move the following:

That member churches of the State Convention of Baptists in Indiana be encouraged to prayerfully and aggressively accept and support the 1% challenge as advocated by the Executive Committee of the SBC.

Coming from a committee did not require a second and then he spoke to the motion:

The 1% challenge is a mission-minded campaign initiated by Dr. Frank Page, CEO of the SBC Executive Committee. It is a simple challenge with Kingdom benefits. In a nutshell, Dr. Page has challenged all Southern Baptist Churches to increase their Cooperative Program giving by 1% for the next budget year. (For example, if your church currently gives 5% we would encourage you to prayerfully increase your giving through the Cooperative Program to 6%; if you are giving 10%, increase it to 11%)

This challenge might seem simple--but think of the lasting Kingdom impact if Hoosier Southern Baptist Churches all would get on board with this campaign and increase giving through the Cooperative Program.

Since 1925 the Cooperative Program has been the single unifying driving force of all Southern Baptists. Giving to missions and ministry through the Cooperative Program allows me to lead my church to work toward fulfilling the Great Commission. Through our giving to the Cooperative Program, First Baptist Church is supporting the work of the State Convention, assisting students with conservative Bible-centered theological education. Through the Cooperative Program MY CHURCH is planting churches in North America and through the Cooperative Program my church is preaching the Gospel in 24 time zones...through the ministry of International Mission Board. Through the Cooperative Program our church is literally working to fulfill the Great Commission every day! There is no better – there is no greater program in the history of the Church – to allow us to be Great Commission churches than the Cooperative Program.

Your Board Chairman and Executive Director have proposed and you have adopted a budget that forwards *an all time high of 39%* of our CP dollars to convention causes. Imagine how much more we can do together through the Cooperative Program if Indiana Southern Baptist churches all adopted this challenge.

Math is complex. Current average giving through the Cooperative Program is about 5.5%. If all of our SCBI churches adopted this challenge, the increased revenue stream would result in an extra 20% of income:

-increased church plants in Indiana

- increased investment in the outreach ministry of Highland Lakes Baptist Camp
- increased leadership training opportunities
- increased support for calling out Hoosier missionaries
- increased evangelism and soul winning

And with the increased income, increased support of the world-wide influence of the Cooperative Program.

The Cooperative Program allows me and my church to obey the Great Commission. The 1% Challenge allows us to do more missions, ministry, and evangelism.

Please join me in support of this motion. And join churches all over America in support of the 1% challenge.

Task Force Members:
 Steve Davidson, Chair
 Reginald Fletcher
 Scott Smith
 Bob Weeks

The motion carried to approve the Task Force recommendation.

Rev. Deeter presented the SCBI Executive Board Facility, Property Proposal for 900 N. High School Road, Indianapolis, IN:

BACKGROUND:

What began as an analysis of current economic reality created and encouraged the examination of every area of SCBI's economic life, including debt service.

SCBI's annual debt service needs were identified. To service current debt requires \$95,000 annually. SCBI budgeted interest only 2011, 2012, and 2013, in the amount of \$20,814 (not explored beyond 2011).

Dr. Seagle and ELT (Executive Leader Team) found themselves needing to add nearly \$75,000 dollars to the budget for debt service. Servicing the debt through 2013 came from "profits" – fees generated via HLBC and program budgets or from reserves. Currently, fees are budgeted. There are little to no reserves.

This discovery could not have come at a more difficult time. The results:

- A review of each budget line item;
- A thorough review of current debt with an eye toward refinancing the existing loan;
- An intentional review of current office facility repair and renovation needs;
- On-going roof issue plus delayed maintenance needs were estimated between \$150,000 and \$200,000.

Dr. Seagle and the Executive Board Administrative Committee met reviewed the Cooperative Program income report, current debt/debt service requirements and authorized Dr. Seagle and Kyle Brennan to explore and determine, among other things, approximate land/building

value of current office space on North High School Road. Three commercial estimates were sought. Estimated value ranged from \$450,000 to \$1,100,000.

Conversation and thought consensus is that, if SCBI is able to sell the property on North High School Road, current debt could be significantly reduced or eliminated. A move and consolidation of operations, including SCBI offices at HLBC, with a continued master site development process seems both wise and prudent in light of current economic reality.

Recommendation:

The Administrative Committee recommends the following:

That the SCBI Administrative Committee recommends to the SCBI Executive Board the sale of 900 N. High School Rd. office complex with these caveats:

- 1. Revenues received from this sale should be significant enough to assist in the overall relocation and office space costs to reduce current indebtedness.**
- 2. That the SCBI Executive Director and the Business Services Director be authorized to pursue this process, prepared and bring a detailed recommendation to the Administrative Committee and Executive Board for approval--implementation.**

Motion carried to approve the proposal to sell 900 N. High School Rd., Indianapolis, IN, with the caveats.

18. Dr. John Rogers presented the Evangelism and Prayer report found on page 75-78.
19. Miscellaneous Business: Tim Overton, pastor and messenger from Halteman Village Baptist Church, made a motion that we include one person from each ethnic church on the executive board. The Convention President referred that motion to the Executive Board.
20. Dr. Seagle introduced the new pastors and wives from across the state.
21. Dr. Seagle presented Bro. James Harris a plaque for his service on the Historical Committee from 2010-2013. He also presented Rev. J. D. Traylor and J. D. Strouth with plaques for their service on the Christian Life Committee from 2010-2013.
22. Rev. David Trimble closed this session in prayer.

SESSION TWO - EVENING SESSION

23. Presession worship was led by Marvin Wilson and the NorthWoods Praise Team.
24. SBC agency reports were shared by the International Mission Board and LifeWay Christian Resources.
25. The convention was led in worship through music by Marvin Wilson.
26. Convention President Randall Forysthe called the session to order.
27. Steve McNeil presented the State Revitalization Emphasis.
28. Marvin Wilson led the congregation in worship through music.
29. Dr. Rick Hillard and Steve Blanchard presented a report for a link to begin a partnership with missionaries in Brazil with the M people group. A video as well as a report were shared from those that had traveled to Brazil. They encouraged messengers to consider going and serving for a week in that area.

30. Mrs. Charlotte Jones had the convention messengers to divide into groups of 3 or 4 and pray for the Brazilian partnership.
31. Convention President Randall Forysthe stated that we would have our First Election of Officers at this time for the positions of President and First Vice President. He then called Bro. Bob Parnell, First Vice President, to moderate this period.
 - Rev. Randall Forysthe's name was placed in nomination to serve as State Convention President. There being no other nominations Recording Secretary Sandy Irick cast a unanimous ballot for Randy Forsythe to serve as the President of our State Convention.
 - Rev. Forysthe as President opened the floor for nominations for First Vice-President. Rev. David Trimble was placed in nomination for First Vice-President. There being no other nominations Recording Secretary Sandy Irick cast an unanimous ballot for David Trimble to serve as First Vice-President.
32. Bobby Pell presented the Church Planting report which can be found on pages 67-73 of the *Book of Reports* and recognized the following church plants: The Bridge Church in Evansville, the Integra Community Church in Albany, Soma Church in Indianapolis and City Life Church in Greenwood. Each of the church plants was presented with a plaque in their recognition.
33. Miscellaneous Business: NONE.
34. Steve McNeil presented the Mobilization, Equipping and Communications Report found on pages 83-97. They used "Mythbusters" to present their report.
35. Worship in song led by Marvin Wilson.
36. Convention President Randall Forysthe brought the President Message. His text was from Acts 1:1-14 and his title was "What's Next?" He shared that we need to be faithful to God and He will bless us. We need to pray and be in unity and one accord with one another. We also need to be filled with the Holy Spirit and need to acknowledge Jesus as Lord.
37. Bob Parnell, Second Vice President closed this session in prayer.

SESSION THREE - TUESDAY MORNING

38. Presession music by Marvin Wilson and the NorthWoods Praise Team.
39. We were shown presession video reports by the Ethics and Religious Liberty Commission by Russell Moore, the new president of the ERLC.
40. Marvin Wilson led in music.
41. President Forsythe called the meeting to order.
42. John Rogers presented his State Evangelism Emphasis report. He shared a video from Waynedale Baptist in Ft. Wayne regarding the GPS effort. They handed out 4,300 New Testaments and they have baptized over 23 people.
43. Marvin Wilson led us in worship in song.
44. J. D. Traylor brought the Annual sermon. His text was from John 8:31-32. He shared we should have an uncommon love for Jesus and an uncommon love for the Word and an uncommon love for fellow believers. We must have an uncommon love for the lost and an uncommon desire to advance. He closed in prayer.
45. The Resolutions Committee report was given by David Trimble. The following resolutions were submitted to the 55th Annual Meeting:

RESOLUTION FOR APPRECIATION FOR HOSTING THE 2013 ANNUAL MEETING

WHEREAS, the 55th Annual Meeting of the State Convention of Baptists in Indiana convened at Northside Baptist Church in Indianapolis, Indiana, on October 14-15, 2013 and,

WHEREAS, Northside Baptist Church has demonstrated a Christ-like spirit and a servant's heart in receiving the messengers and guests of the 55th Annual Meeting of the State Convention of Baptists in Indiana,

BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED, that we, the messengers to the 55th Annual Meeting of the State Convention of Baptists in Indiana, meeting in Indianapolis, Indiana, on October 14-15, 2013, express our sincere gratitude and deep appreciation to the pastoral and administrative staff as well as the members of Northside Baptist Church for their gracious hospitality and service to the messengers and guests of this Convention.

They also presented a **RESOLUTION ON SANCTITY OF MARRIAGE**

WHEREAS, God established the family as the primary and most influential social institution of mankind and ordained that each human family began only with the marriage of one man and one woman (Genesis 2:18-25; Matthew 19:4-6; Mark 10:6-8; Hebrews 13:4) and

WHEREAS, the Baptist Faith and Message, adopted by the Southern Baptist Convention in 2000, contains Article XVIII. The Family, which states, "Marriage is the unity of one man and one woman in covenant commitment for a lifetime;" and

WHEREAS, the sacred institution of marriage is now under destructive attack, especially in some state courts; and

WHEREAS, five state high courts have proven unable to defend traditional marriage, ruling instead that God's design for marriage as only the union of one man and one woman is unconstitutional; and

WHEREAS, state legislative remedies protecting traditional marriage are vulnerable to judicial rulings, and

WHEREAS, Americans in 31 other states have voted to amend their state constitutions to define marriage as only the union of one man and one woman; and

WHEREAS, while the U. S. Supreme Court issued a ruling in *Hollingsworth v. Perry* on June 26, 2013, against the proponents of California's pro-marriage Proposition 8 due to their lack of legal standing to appeal the case, the high court also struck down a portion of the Defense of Marriage Act the same day in *United States v. Windsor* but did not prohibit individual states from protecting marriage as exclusively between one man and one woman; and

WHEREAS, the 117th Indiana General Assembly passed House Joint Resolution (HJR) 6 in 2011, a step in amending Indiana's Constitution to define marriage as only the union of one man and one woman; and

WHEREAS, the 118th Indiana General Assembly failed to pass HJR 6 this year and now must pass it in 2014 in order for Hoosiers to be able to vote on this referendum in 2014; now,

BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED, that we the messengers to State Convention of Baptists in Indiana, meeting in annual session October 14-15, 2013, declare our support for HJR 6; and

BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED that we call upon our state senators and representatives to pass HJR 6 during the 2014 legislative session.

Motion carried to adopt the resolution as presented.

46. Ken Weathersby from the Executive Committee showed a video regarding the 1% challenge to increase our giving to the Cooperative Program. He asked, "What is worse than being lost?" He stated, "being lost and no one looking for you." He asked that we put down the Calvinism issue and work at reaching others for Christ.
47. President Forysthe brought us to business to elect our second vice president.

- Bob Parnell was nominated and being there were no other nominations clerk, Sandy Irick cast an unanimous ballot to elect Bob Parnell.
- Sandy Irick was nominated for clerk. Motion was seconded and by voice vote the motion carried.

MISCELLANEOUS BUSINESS: The president reminded messengers to fill out their evaluation forms.

48. Marvin Wilson led in music.
49. Steve McNeil did a Skype interview with our missionaries in the Middle East. They have 3 boys ages 6, 4, and 2 and have found that the children are adjusting well. They have found their best opportunities are to teach English.
50. Concert of prayer led by Charlotte Jones for our missionaries.
51. The WMU report was presented by Allison Kinion and State WMU President Mary Fullhart. Their report is located on page 86 in the *Book of Reports*. They introduced two students that had received scholarships from the Margaret E. Gillaspie Fund and they shared what they had done with the scholarships.
52. Ray Barrett shared the Indiana Baptist Foundation report. The report is located on page 66 of the *Book of Reports*. Ray will have surgery Friday; we were asked to pray for him. Ray Barrett presented a plaque to Randall Forysthe, who has served on the Foundation Board. Dr. Seagle presented a plaque to Ray Barrett for his 15 years of service from 1999-2013. Ray is retiring from the SCBI but not from the Foundation.
53. Dave Wilson was recognized to share the Highland Lakes Baptist Camp report located on pages 100-101 in the *Book of Reports*. He shared that he and his wife will be leaving to go to Ecuador as missionaries. He introduced Miss Emily Edwards and her family. Emily shared the influence Highland Lakes Camp has had on her family. After Emily attended Mission Adventure Camp and met missionaries from China, she went on a mission trip to China. She met a little girl in an orphanage who would later be adopted by her family.
54. Dr. Seagle introduced Larry Snyder and he introduced Ms. Marlene Griffin who came and sang, "Calvary, the Reason Why."
55. A video was shown about a new movie being released, "A Rebel Against God."
56. Dr. Seagle brought the Executive Director's Message, using Romans 1:16. He shared that the Gospel was nothing more, nothing less, than Jesus the Christ. He asked how long has it been since the Word of God has been spoken instead of words About God. People need to hear a Word from God, revealed to you and your people through God. Jesus Christ must be the absolute center. We must proclaim the liberated Gospel of Jesus Christ.
57. The officers for 2014: President Randall Forysthe, First Vice-President Dave Trimble, Second Vice-President Bob Parnell and Recording Secretary Sandy Irick were recognized and installed as the officers for 2014.
58. President Forysthe led in prayer.
59. President Forysthe adjourned the 55th Annual Meeting.

Final Enrollment

Messengers: 185
 Guests: 94

Churches: 88
 States Outside Indiana: 5

Respectfully submitted,
 Mrs. Sandy Irick
 Recording Secretary