

**Knoxville District Baptist Association
May Executive Board Meeting Minutes
May 17, 2014, 10:00 a.m.
Held at Little Leaf Baptist Church, Oliver Springs, TN**

The meeting was called to order at 10:00 a.m. by Vice Moderator Joseph Tolbert (Pastor of Foster Chapel Baptist Church).

Devotion was led by KDBA Ushers with assistance from the KDBA Laymen's Ministry. Devotion included scripture reading (Psalm 100) by Bro. Jimmie McRae, congregational hymn (Blessed Assurance), and closed with prayer by Sis. Inell Thomas.

The official welcome was given by Elder Darris Waters and a solo was rendered by Sis. Carolyn Wilkerson (accompanied by Elder Tomma Battle).

The Devotional Message was delivered by Rev. Sanford Miller (Pastor of New Salem Baptist Church). Scripture text was Exodus 23:20-30 and the sermon was entitled "Little By Little." The message was followed by Invitation to Discipleship led by Vice Moderator Tolbert.

Annual Session/Congress Information:

119th Annual Session Dates: July 27—31, 2014, held at New Friendship Missionary Baptist Church

Congress Report (Elder Tommie Mims)

Members of the Congress Ministry have completed a walk-through of New Friendship and he is hoping that we can fill all the rooms with people. They have identified nine spaces for nine classes.

Elder Mims stated that he has not solidified all the teachers, but most have been confirmed. The classes are as follows:

- (1) Out of the Stands and Into the Game (Pastor Melvin Wright)
- (2) The Power of the Gospel to Motivate (Pastor Thomas Dews)
- (3) The Ministry of Music (Bro. Aaron Staples/Bro. Brandon Williams)
- (4) The Ministry of the Office Staff (Sis. Robin Whitmore/Sis. Brenda Brabson)
- (5) The Book of Acts (Elder Christopher Battle)
- (6) Scriptural Memorization (Elder Tommy Mims)
- (7) Facing the Giants
- (8) Developing a Wholesome Attitude

We had initially had a course for Deacons, but Elder Mims is suggesting that we establish a course for the entire brotherhood. He added that Youth and Children courses should parallel the adult classes:

- "Facing the Giants"
- "Out of the Stands and Into the Game"
- Scriptural Memorization

The question was asked if classes will be offered twice; Elder Mims stated that they will; the times for the classes will be 5 to 6 p.m. and 6 to 7 p.m.

Elder Christopher Battle and Elder Mims are requesting that District members “pre-register” so classes can be assigned appropriately.

Our District Moderator, Elder Dr. Joe B. Maddox, thanked Elder Mims for his dedication and hard work and stated that he is excited about the suggested courses.

The Moderator opened the Business Session and discussed the distributed agenda.

The minutes from the March Executive Board meeting were read by Sis. Robin Whitmore and it was properly moved and seconded to accept the minutes.

The Finance Report was given by Rev. Richard Brown who distributed an account statement from September 1 through May 15, 2014.

Old Business

KDBA Choir Day – The Moderator asked Sis. Carolyn Wilkerson to give a report concerning Choir Day. Sis. Wilkerson stated that she had a meeting with the Choir’s Vice President (Sis. Brenda Brabson) and Musician (Bro. Aaron Staples) to discuss the issue. It was decided and agreed upon that there will be a District Choir Day in December (date to be announced). She also announced that the District Choir will not conduct a musical concert prior to the start of our Annual Associational meetings. However, the District Choir will provide music on Sunday and Thursday evenings during the Association. The Moderator thanked Sis. Wilkerson for her work. He also requested that Pastor Tolbert contact Bro. Aaron Staples to remind him that part of his duties as the District Musician is to provide music during our Board meetings. Pastor Tolbert agreed to the Moderator’s request.

Moderator Maddox asked Elder Christopher Battle to give us an update on our District website. Elder Battle stated that he has met with the new Website Coordinator, Sis. Sharron Winston (New Hope Baptist Church) and the District Photographer (Sis. Teresa Seard) regarding the website. It has been updated and is currently functioning. We are in the process of adding current information. All information for the website should be sent to Elder Battle.

Elder Battle also gave a report on a new project that the District has established called the KDBA Scholastic Achievement Incentive Program. This program will allow high school students to collect advertisements to be compiled and printed in a souvenir booklet. The top three fund raisers will receive an incentive award to be given to them as they enter college. Letters were emailed and “snail” mailed to Pastors in April; however, many attendees stated that they had not heard anything about the program. The District Secretary stated that she would resend the information and asked for suggestions on other ways to communicate information for effectively. The General Secretary stated that she had entry forms and information sheets with her for those who were interested.

Sister Henrietta Caldwell gave a report from the Directory Committee. They will be contacting churches and sending new form for updated information for our KDBA Directory. They are asking that Pastors please fill in as much information as possible so that communication between churches and ministries can be improved.

Sister Brenda Alexander shared a report from the Children's Ministry and stated that she was excited to stand and give her first report on behalf of the KDBA Children's Ministry (ages 3 to 12). Sister Alexander shared various activities and events in which our children have participated including a youth program during the Tennessee BM&E Convention Eastern Regional Congress in February 2014. They also met in April 2014 to actively and purposely demonstrate their involvement with the Knoxville District during this year's Annual Session in which they plan to take part. Sister Alexander stated that she was thankful for the encouragement from the Women's Ministry.

Elder Tomma Battle gave a brief report regarding the youth of the District. Their focus during the Annual Session will be on scripture memorization. They plan to do drills, as well as biblical competitions so that the Word of God will come alive in the hearts of our young people. The Youth will hold their sessions at First Calvary Baptist Church. They will not be sponsoring a "Youth Rally" during the Thursday night "pre-session" time. They will, however, attend the Thursday evening worship service with the entire District Body.

Pastor Melvin Wright was unavailable, but he did submit a report from the Mission Ministry. The report is attached and available, as needed.

Moderator Maddox gave the details of the Scholarship Banquet:

- Banquet to held on July 25, 2014 at 6:00 p.m. at New Hope Missionary Baptist Church
- The Banquet Committee currently consists of Sis. LaDalia Logan and Sis. Carolyn Wilkerson who are responsible for catering the banquet and décor
- Banquet program information/format is done by Rev. Fredrick Brabson

Upcoming District Activities were shared with those present and Moderator Maddox closed the meeting with prayer at 11:50 a.m.

Minutes submitted by:
Robin McGhee Whitmore
General Secretary