

## SOUTH CAROLINA BAPTIST CONVENTION

BOOK OF REPORTS

EXIT



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#### 2022 South Carolina Baptist Convention *WAKE UP!*

Riverland Hills Baptist Church Irmo, South Carolina November 14–15, 2022

#### Monday Evening: Revitalization

6:00	Pre-Service Worship	Upstate Church
6:15	Call to Order	Wayne Bray Convention President
6:20	Organization of the Convention	<b>Rod Elliott</b> Registration Secretary
6:25	Order of Business	<b>Chuck Sprouse</b> Convention Vice President
6:30	Welcome from Riverland Hills Baptist	<b>Ryan Pack</b> Pastor
6:33	SC Baptist Ministries of Aging Report	<b>Tom Turner</b> President & CEO
6:38	<b>Revitalization Panel: AI Phillips</b> (DOM, Greenville) <b>James Nugent</b> (SCBC), <b>Travis Agnew</b> (Rocky Creek)	Wayne Bray Convention President
7:00	Worship	Upstate Church
7:15	Message	<b>Dr. Willie McLaurin</b> SBC Executive Committee, Interim President
7:45	Executive Board Report Part One	<b>Steve Hogg</b> Executive Board Chair

#### Tuesday Morning: *Renewal*

8:50	Pre-Service Worship	Upstate Church
9:00	Theme Interpretation	Will Broadus
		Reconcile Community Church

9:10	Greetings: Baptist Educational and Missionary Convention of South Carolina	Dr. Donald E. Greene President
9:15	SCBC Life Transformation Moments	Lee Clamp Chief Strategic Officer
9:35	Sexual Abuse Task Force Report	<b>DJ Horton</b> Chair
10:00	Worship	Upstate Church
10:10	New Business	Wayne Bray Convention President
10:20	BCM 100 <sup>th</sup> Anniversary	<b>Chad Stillwell</b> Collegiate Ministry Director
10:30	History Committee	<b>Michael Bryant</b> Chair
10:45	Election of Officers	Wayne Bray Convention President
11:00	Greetings	IMB, NAMB, Send Relief
11:05	<b>University Reports</b> Anderson University Charleston Southern University North Greenville University	Dr. Evans Whitaker Dr. Dondi Costin Dr. Gene Fant
11:15	Life Action Ministries	Wayne Bray Convention President
11:25	Worship	Life Action Ministries
11:30	Message	<b>John Avant</b> President, Life Action Ministries
11:50	Closing	Wayne Bray Convention President

## Tuesday Afternoon: *Refocus*

1:50	Pre-Service Worship	Upstate Church
1:58	The Baptist Courier Report	Rudy Gray
		Editor and President

2:03	Theme Interpretation	Dr. Andy McCraw Simpsonville First
2:10	Business Session	Wayne Bray Convention President
2:20	Worship	Upstate Church
2:25	President's Address	Wayne Bray Convention President
2:45	Bylaws Committee Report	<b>Ryan Goodroe</b> Chair
3:00	Nominations Committee Report	<b>Lisa Willard</b> Chair
3:10	Christian Life and Public Affairs Committee Report	<b>Mark Krieger</b> Chair
3:20	<b>Resolutions Committee Report</b>	<b>Doug Mize</b> Chair
3:30	Baptist Foundation of South Carolina Report	Nathan McCarthy President & CEO
3:35	Woman's Missionary Union Report	Laurie Register Executive Director-Treasurer
3:45	<b>Executive Board Report Part Two</b> Budget Presentation	<b>Steve Hogg</b> Executive Board Chair
4:00	Connie Maxwell Children's Ministries Report	Danny Nicholson President
4:05	Recognition of Officers	<b>Dr. Gary Hollingsworth</b> Executive Director-Treasurer
4:15	2023 Convention Theme	Albert Allen President-Elect
4:25	Worship	Upstate Church
4:35	Executive Director-Treasurer Report	<b>Dr. Gary Hollingsworth</b> Executive Director-Treasurer
4:50	Presentation of New Officers	<b>Dr. Gary Hollingsworth</b> Executive Director-Treasurer
5:00	Closing	Wayne Bray Convention President

#### Tuesday Evening: *Revival*

7:00	Pre-Service Worship	Upstate Church
7:05	Welcome	Wayne Bray Convention President
7:10	Theme Interpretation	<b>Will Bray</b> Upstate Church, Anderson
7:20	Worship	Upstate Church
7:30	Message	<b>Robby Gallaty</b> Pastor, Long Hollow Church Hendersonville, TN
7:55	Adjourn	Wayne Bray Convention President
8:00	Closing Prayer	Albert Allen

Albert Allen President-Elect



2022 SCBC Officers (Left to Right)

Rod Elliott, Registration Secretary; Albert Allen, President-Elect; Wayne Bray, President; Chuck Sprouse, Vice President

Not Pictured: David Brien and David Little, Convention Parliamentarians

## An Open Letter to South Carolina Baptists Wayne Bray, Convention President

Simpsonville First Baptist Church

## It's Time to Wake Up!

The past few years have certainly been a challenging season to serve in ministry, but I am certain that God will use all the challenges we've faced to make his church even stronger in the future. I have several recurring prayers for the church in America, and more specifically our convention of Baptist churches in South Carolina. I pray constantly for a return to a clear missional priority. Another consistent subject of prayer is the practical unity of Spirit in a bond of peace (Ephesians 4:3). We all know that Christ alone can bring this to pass, but I hope He uses the annual meeting in November to sound the alarm. We need a wake-up call.

With most churches plateaued or declining, we must wake up to the need for a movement of church revitalization. But we need much more than an organizational comeback. We need spiritual renewal. Pastors need a replenishing of their souls, a fresh touch from heaven. We also need to refocus our missional lens to reprioritize the needs before us. Quite frankly, we need to recommit our churches to evangelism again. We need Christians to weep over lost souls again. And finally, we need a Holy Spirit-filled, authentic revival across our state. My prayer for the 2022 South Carolina Baptist Convention is not simply that we have a good meeting, but that we have a God-meeting. We need an awakening!

Allow me to challenge you all to prepare your hearts now for a movement of God during our time together. May we all seek to meet first with Him, then with one another. May we come with a spirit of missional unity expressed in corporate praise. We are together in this mission. So, let us get ready for revival. Now is the time to wake up!

"Besides this you know the time, that the hour has come for you to wake from sleep. For salvation is nearer to us now than when we first believed." Romans 13:11

Charge on!

## An Open Letter to South Carolina Baptists Steve Hogg, Executive Board Chair

First Baptist Church of Rock Hill

It has been encouraging this past year to witness the ministries of our South Carolina Baptist churches, ministry partners, and convention staff making a positive impact for Jesus as the restrictions and fears created by COVID-19 receded. We have seen a fresh vision for focused ministries that evangelize the lost, grow disciples, and plant churches all across our state. Positive reports of what God is doing in many of our churches are heard regularly. Yes, some churches continue to struggle, but God is revitalizing many churches and we praise Him for this.

The generous giving of God's people and the faithfulness of our SC Baptist churches to support our state, national, and worldwide ministries through the Cooperative Program and our three annual mission offerings are making a difference. Continued commitment to our cooperative efforts despite some differences of opinion regarding various strategies will be a challenge we must overcome in the years ahead, just as we do in our local churches. Unity is a value in the New Testament and should be something we strive to maintain in our Baptist family.

An unexpected development this year was Dr. Gary Hollingsworth, our Executive Director-Treasurer, announcing his retirement to your Executive Board during our April meeting in Columbia. His leadership for the past seven years has been a blessing to our convention on so many levels. We have a talented Convention staff that is united in their passion to see our Convention fulfill its purpose and serve our churches. As divisive issues challenge our nation and national convention, Dr. Hollingsworth has led with a servant's heart that God has used to help South Carolina Baptists focus on why we truly exist—to make disciples of all peoples. I am grateful the Lord led him to us and will miss him. I know you join me in praying for him and his family as he begins this new season.

I also ask for your continued prayers for our EDT search team, chaired by Pastor lan Geimer. This team has met several times, prayed a lot, received a large number of recommendations, discussed the role of the EDT and characteristics important in the person who serves in that position, and is earnestly seeking the Holy Spirit's guidance in this search. When I say the team desires and needs your prayers, that is not just "preacher talk." Praying *really* is the most important thing you can do.

#### Report of the Executive Director-Treasurer Gary L. Hollingsworth

This time last year, we were celebrating the 200<sup>th</sup> birthday of the South Carolina Baptist Convention. As we ponder the possibility of another century of ministry, should Jesus tarry His Coming, this year's annual meeting will once again help remind us why we exist as a convention of churches. We came together two centuries ago around three primary causes: Missions, Christian Education and Cooperation.

While many things might cause division and disunity in our work, it is good to remind ourselves of the core values of who we are, what we do, and how we operate as a convention. This Book of Reports is full of wonderful stories of how God is at work around our state and, as you read them, celebrate the goodness of God that these are the things that will keep us unified for the sake of the Gospel.

While this is the last report I will write as your Executive Director-Treasurer, it will certainly not be the last time I reflect on God's work, not only here in South Carolina but around the world. While these seven years have passed quickly, I know beyond a shadow of a doubt that God called us to South Carolina, and I believe with all my heart the best days are yet to come. God already knows who will write this article next year, and whoever that might be, my challenge to every South Carolina Baptist is for you to pray for, encourage, support, and follow him as you have done for me!

My announcement to the Executive Board this past April that I would be retiring at the end of April 2023 does NOT mean I will be retiring from ministry. I do not know what God's next assignment might be, but I pray it will allow for more margin and flexibility than the past 45 years of ministry have allowed. Concluding my full-time ministry years here in South Carolina will truly be the highlight and pinnacle of these past four decades of service to Jesus.

The cooperative spirit of South Carolina Baptists is to be celebrated, and I pray it will be duplicated all around our national Baptist family. Every page in this Book of Reports is a shout of praise to our Almighty God for HIS work, done through HIS people, in order to advance HIS mission and all for His glory!

Blessings!

## 2023 South Carolina Baptist Convention Ministry Plan Recommendations

**Recommendation 1:** That the Convention commend to the churches the Cooperative Program as the wisest, most effective, and most efficient plan of giving. The South Carolina Baptist Convention recommends that we continue to honor and affirm the Cooperative Program as the most effective means of mobilizing our churches and extending our outreach and that designated giving to special causes is to be given as a supplement to the Cooperative Program and not as a substitute for Cooperative Program giving.

**Recommendation 2:** That special offerings for the benevolent institutions be continued, where it is consistent with the financial policy of the local churches, as follows: 1) first Sunday in each month for Connie Maxwell Children's Home; 2) annually on Mother's Day for the South Carolina Baptist Ministries for the Aging.

**Recommendation 3:** That the Executive Director-Treasurer report on a timely basis, cumulative gifts received from the churches and the allocation of the gifts as follows: 1) Total gifts to the South Carolina Baptist Convention Cooperative Program at the end of each quarter; 2) Designations for Southern Baptist Convention and South Carolina Baptist Convention ministries after the conclusion of the calendar year; 3) Weeks of Prayer offering gifts for home and state missions after the conclusion of the calendar year; 4) Lottie Moon offering gifts for international missions at the conclusion of the fiscal year for the offering. All gifts will be processed in accordance with the instructions of the contributor without any deduction for expenses.

**Recommendation 4:** That the Executive Director-Treasurer forward all Southern Baptist Convention funds on a monthly basis to the Executive Committee of the SBC in Nashville, Tennessee.

**Recommendation 5:** That the 2023 Cooperative Program Ministry Plan be \$26,500,000.

### 2023

## South Carolina Baptist Convention Cooperative Program Investments

Our State	Amount	Percent
South Carolina Baptist Convention	8,392,550	31.67
Anderson University	1,364,750	5.15
<b>Charleston Southern University</b>	1,264,050	4.77
North Greenville University	1,110,350	4.19
<b>Connie Maxwell Children's Ministries</b>	848,000	3.20
SCBMA	837,400	3.16
Woman's Missionary Union	463,750	1.75
Baptist Courier	161,650	0.61
	14,442,500	54.50
Our NATION		
North American Mission Board	2,476,134	9.34
Theological Seminaries	2,381,608	8.99
Executive Committee & SBC Operating	324,864	1.23
Ethics & Religious Liberty Commission	179,273	0.68
Historical Library & Archives	26,076	0.10
	5,387,955	20.34
Our World		
International Mission Board	6,669,545	25.16
	0,000,040	20.10
GRAND TOTAL	26,500,000	100.00

## Ministry Support Team Scott Lee, Chief Administrative Officer

It has been an incredible year as we've rebounded from the effects of Covid. Giving executive oversight to Human Resources, Building Services, Creative, I.T., and data management, as well as our standing committees, I'm reminded of the quality of the folks that we call our Ministry Support Team. We realize that this team often works in the background to provide the infrastructure for those in the field to most effectively share the Gospel.

We've continued to streamline our processes and increase the effectiveness of each committee and team. We worked on updating our building here in Columbia and have been able to make subtle changes that add to our effectiveness and efficiency as we serve here. We work persistently to build and maintain a culture of encouragement and facilitation for our staff and our 2,100 South Carolina Baptist Churches.

We completed the sale of White Oak Conference Center in early 2022 which allowed us to free up the ongoing expenses associated with that property. That sale and some needed repairs to some of our BCM buildings put us in a better position of stewardship moving forward.

#### Human Resources

- We were able to fill some much-needed positions this year thanks to the faithful giving of our cooperating churches.
- We updated our Employee Manual to maintain open communication and positive staff culture.

#### **Convention Committees**

• Our nomination process is now completely electronic, which allows us to more efficiently fill the needs of each of our committees and helps us to communicate with them easily.

#### Operations

- Our I.T. partner Enable Ministry Resources is replacing older servers, increasing our cyber security. We are comparing newer phone systems to replace the current outdated system as handsets and desk units are no longer available for purchase.
- Our Building Services Team has done an incredible job keeping our building in great shape. With the approval of our Operations and the Budget, Finance, and Audit Committees, we were able to resurface the parking lot.

#### Creative

- We developed a new website and found the information transfer simple and easy to access.
- We reorganized this department to allow a greater presence in our churches and better access to Life Transformation Stories, the lifeblood of Convention communication.

These are exciting days at the South Carolina Baptist Convention. With a change in leadership ahead, we hope that Dr. Hollingsworth will be able to hand off a healthy Convention culture and structure that is well-equipped for the days to come!

### PERSONNEL CHANGES

October 1, 2021–October 15, 2022

#### NEW STAFF

#### Field Service

- Charlie Swain, Next Gen Mobilization Strategist, Send Team, January 16, 2022
- Bryant Sims, Director, Denominational Relations, February 1, 2022
- Susan Peugh, Director, Disaster Relief, February 1, 2022
- Lesley Joseph (PT), Baptist Collegiate Minister, Collegiate Ministries, March 1, 2022
- Ricky Wilson, Next Gen Evangelism Strategist, Share Team, April 1, 2022
- Adriana Melendez, PT Creative Services Specialist Low Country, Creative Services, April 1, 2022
- Bryant Kent, Church Planting Strategist, Start Team, July 16, 2022
- Adam Venters, Baptist Collegiate Minister Columbia Area, Collegiate Ministries, August 16, 2022

#### Support Staff

- Anna Wilson-Stillwell (PT), Historian/Archivist, Ministry Support Team, October 4, 2021
- Kacie Woods, Ministry Assistant, Relational Evangelism, February 16, 2022
- Samantha Kilgore, Team Assistant, Send Team, March 1, 2022
- Amanda Cox, PT Ministry Assistant/Registrar, Camp McCall, March 23, 2022
- Aimee Allison, Church Services Representative, Ministry Support Team, April 16, 2022
- Amanda Trotter, PT Accounting Assistant, Accounting, August 8, 2022

#### **RESIGNATIONS/SEPARATIONS**

#### Field Service

- Darryl Gaddy, Start Team, October 14, 2021
- Justin Visserman (PT), Creative Services Specialist Low Country, Creative Services, February 7, 2022
- Hannah Coleman, (PT) Creative Services Specialist Upstate, Creative Services, August 5, 2022

 Jamie Rogers, Baptist Collegiate Minister – Columbia Area, Collegiate Ministries, August 22, 2022

#### Manager/Technical/Other

• Alex Cooke, Facilities Manager, December 15, 2021

#### Support Staff

- Kelly Strickland (PT) Accounting Assistant, Accounting January 13, 2022
- Joanie Kirkland, Ministry Assistant, Associational Relations, November 18, 2021
- Morgan Calvert, Church Services Representative, Ministry Support Team, February 15, 2022
- Chelsea Burgher, Digital Content Coordinator, Creative Services, July 14, 2022

#### White Oak Conference Center

- Darrell Atkinson, December 31, 2021
- Peyton Gilbert (PT), December 31, 2021
- Brenton Silvia (PT), December 31, 2021
- Kenny Belk (PT), May 6, 2022

#### RETIREMENTS

Scott Lee, Chief Administrative Officer, October 15, 2022

#### REASSIGNMENTS

- Allison Bardin, Team Assistant, Share Team to Executive Assistant, Convention Relations, January 1, 2022
- Melanie Ratcliffe, Evangelism Strategist to Relational Evangelism Director, January 1, 2022
- Isabella McElveen, Ministry Assistant, Generations to Creative Producer, Creative Services, September 16, 2022
- Jeff Dial, Associate Director, Building Services to Director, Building Services, October 1, 2022
- Alex Lyons, Creative Strategist to Director, Creative Services, October 1, 2022
- Aimee Allison, Church Services Representative to Team Assistant, Share Team, October 1, 2022

## How the Cooperative Program Works

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

## Here's how the Cooperative Program works, in three easy steps:



Your church shares a portion through the Cooperative Program.



The combined Cooperative Program giving of nearly 2,100 South Carolina Baptist churches supports ministries across our state, throughout North America, and around the world.

The Cooperative Program enables every giver and every local church to make an impact for Christ.

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





## Financial and Accounting Office Bryan Holley, Chief Financial Officer

As Chief Financial Officer, I assist the Executive Director-Treasurer in the operation of the Convention, Executive Board, and Convention staff. Our office is responsible for all financial and legal matters of the Executive Board and Convention. We support and foster ministries of the SCBC through financial expertise with integrity and accountability that inspires a culture of excellence to strengthen the bond of trust and confidence in the value of cooperative work.

#### MinistryHighlights

- Helped facilitate the sale of White Oak Conference Center
- Obtained an unqualified audit for 2021
- Monitored Operating Budget for 2022
- Planned Operating Budget for 2023
- Transitioned to a new events management system
- Transitioned to the new website
- Streamlined paperless accounting system
- Filed all government reporting requirements and tax returns in a timely manner
- Served as a resource for the Convention and its churches regarding financial matters
- During 2021, Cooperative Program (CP) receipts increased 0.6% or \$149,174 from 2020
- The 2021 CP Budget was \$26,500,000 and receipts were \$26,578,942

#### **Prayer Requests**

- Pray for wisdom to be good stewards of all the resources God has given us.
- Pray that churches will value the Cooperative Program so that every life will be saturated and transformed by the hope of the Gospel beginning in South Carolina.

## Top 25 Churches Giving Through the Cooperative Program Twelve Months Ending June 2022

Rank	Church	Association	Amount
1	Taylors First	Three Rivers	622,416
2	Rock Springs	Piedmont	543,194
3	Simpsonville First	Greenville	330,420
4	Lancaster Second	Moriah	295,331
5	Riverland Hills	Lexington	291,075
6	Summerville	Screven	273,723
7	Mt Airy	Piedmont	251,178
8	Shandon	Columbia Metro	250,002
9	Spartanburg First	Spartanburg County	245,697
10	Columbia First	Columbia Metro	244,191
11	Brushy Creek	Greenville	225,950
12	Rocky Creek	Greenville	206,154
13	North Side	Lakelands	203,926
14	Gaffney First	Broad River	192,498
15	Fort Mill First	York	189,873
16	Concord	Saluda	188,217
17	Edwards Road	Greenville	181,976
18	Northside	Lexington	174,865
19	Holly Springs	Three Rivers	173,775
20	Rock Hill First	York	169,970
21	Ebenezer	Florence	153,420
22	Church at the Mill	Spartanburg County	150,000
23	Georgetown First	Southeast	149,742
24	Camden First	Kershaw	142,062
25	Newberry First	Reedy River	139,173

## Churches that Began Giving Through the Cooperative Program Twelve Months Ending June 2022

Church	Association	Amount
Overcome	Greenville	4,000
Bethlehem Clarks Hill	Lakelands	1,409
Coastway	Waccamaw	900
Iron City	Broad River	700
Hope Community	Unassigned	300
Pioneer	Unassigned	300
Ready	Unassigned	300
Upstate Family	Unassigned	240
Discovery	Columbia Metro	200
Purpose	Unassigned	180
Iglesia Refugio	Greenville	150
Crossway Community	Unassigned	100

#### Office of Denominational Relations Bryant Sims, Director

The Office of Denominational Relations was created in 2022 to serve as an extension of the Executive Office of the South Carolina Baptist Convention. The Director of Denominational Relations serves as a liaison with our ministry partners locally and nationally, champions and promotes the Cooperative Program, serves as a prayer catalyst, plans and executes the annual meeting, helps support and resource Convention Committees, serves as a liaison to special committees and task forces, and assists churches with Convention related concerns.

In April, a statewide Solemn Assembly was held at Willow Ridge Community Church in Lexington. Bill Elliff, pastor of Summit Church in Arkansas and national speaker on prayer and revival, led times of directed prayer. Participants prayed for our churches, our denomination, our nation, and our world.

In September, Parents of Prodigals provided a day of encouragement, hope, and prayer to parents in active ministry who are parenting children who have wandered from the faith. Phil Waldrep, pastor and conference leader from Decatur, Alabama, led this significant conference. This is the first time this type of conference has been held statewide.

Throughout the year, this office served as a liaison to our state Sexual Abuse Task Force. This group worked diligently to respond to the recommendations of our SBC counterpart.

I have had the opportunity to speak in 30 churches promoting the Cooperative Program and encouraging people to understand that we are better together!

Thank you for the opportunity to serve the churches of our Convention in this role. Please continue to pray for unity of heart and purpose as we run towards a day when "every life is saturated and transformed by the hope of the gospel beginning in South Carolina . . ."

# **IMPACT 2023**

## ENDURE FOCUS FINISH

February 23, 2023 **Church at The Mill - Moore, SC** scbaptist.org/impact

## ADVANCE Team Ministry Priorities Lee Clamp, Chief Strategic Officer

We are in the life transformation business. Kim was baptized in the ocean because a new church plant was launched. Megan heard the Gospel in a new small group because a church made the decision to start a revitalization process and make changes. Jakari was a homeless high schooler and without hope, but a church engaged his school and now he is flourishing in a Christian university. Lindsey is a new believer because Kelly Ann was being a good neighbor and invited her to dinner. Keith shifted his dreams of becoming an engineer during the Palmetto Collective and is now serving as a missionary in Thailand. Jamal (name changed for security) never heard the gospel in Bangladesh but is now a believer after being engaged at USC BCM. These stories would be radically different without the ministries of the SC Baptist Convention.

#### SCBAPTIST STAFF MISSION

Helping Each Church Advance the Great Commission Together

## EVERY LIFE. EACH CHURCH.

We believe every life counts! We see a day when every life is saturated and transformed by the hope of the Gospel beginning in SC. We are relentless to help the church love every life.

We believe each church can advance! SC Baptists are a family of churches helping each other advance the Great Commission by mobilizing missionaries and developing leaders.

#### THE HEARTBEAT OF ADVANCE

The heartbeat of advance to help each church is to first steward "moments" through intentional environments to help leaders determine where God is leading them to advance. Next, we help leaders develop plans to "map" out their next advance move. Ultimately, we connect them with like-minded leaders to climb the "mountain" together and give them courage in the valley. We pray that this new approach will be more customized, relational, and results-driven to make progress towards Great Commission Advance.



## **OUR MISSION**

## Helping each church advance the Great Commission together.

## OUR VALUES

#### the potential of EVERY LIFE

therefore, we network all kinds of churches to ensure that every person is seen, heard, and given a chance to experience hope.

#### the strength of COLLABORATION

therefore, we connect like-minded partners, share resources, and respect one another's perspectives.

#### the energy of **INNOVATION**

therefore, we experiment with new methods that spark breakthrough and encourage churches to do the same.

#### the lever of **LEADERSHIP**

therefore, we build intentional relationships with leaders of leaders to strengthen ongoing movement.

## OUR MEASURES

# of churches connected in process

# of churches advancing

# of new baptized believers

# of disciples deployed

# of communities transformed



## each church every life

## SERVE Team Jon Jamison, Team Leader

Siavash and Bobbie were two of thousands who were forced to flee for safety from their home in Afghanistan in late 2021. Desperate and willing to go anywhere in the world that was safe, by God's providence, they ended up being resettled in the upstate of South Carolina. Today, they are safe, thriving, and surrounded by a host of South Carolina Baptists who love and serve them well and who continually point them to Jesus. This is just one picture of how South Carolina Baptists SERVE communities in the name of Jesus.

In May, an SCBC church with a Reading Buddy partnership hosted the 5<sup>th</sup> grade graduation for the school where they were able to invite students to VBS and offer a free Bible to those students who were interested. One of the Reading Buddies came to VBS and accepted Jesus as his Savior. His family now attends church, and the student reads his Bible every day!

In response to Hurricane Ida, Disaster Relief units were deployed to Pennsylvania. While the chainsaw team worked to remove fallen trees, a team member took the opportunity to share their faith with the homeowner. Surrounded by debris and uncertainty, the homeowner accepted Jesus.

- Heart4Schools currently has partnerships with over 1/3 of public schools (452) in the state where a church is serving them and helping to meet their needs.
- Over 75 churches were trained in 13 associations to serve their schools.
- Through Heart4Schools collaboration, churches in six cities are now ministering to international teachers through welcome baskets, events, and friendships.
- Approximately 100 new teachers, representing 20 SCBC churches, have been trained to teach English as a Second Language.
- Through the Hunger Relief offering, SCBC churches shared meals with 62,315 individuals. Additionally, two professions of faith and 10 baptisms were recorded.
- Every inmate in SC received a Christmas Prisoner packet. Over 100 volunteers processed packets, collected by churches from 40 associations. In total, 24,489 packets were distributed.
- The SERVE Team started working with leaders across the state to partner every County DSS office with a church that will love, encourage, and serve them well as these workers face daily challenges serving children and families in the foster care system.

- South Carolina Baptists served Afghan, Syrian, and Ukrainian refugees arriving in South Carolina this past year. Through ESL classes, job trainings, and a host of other avenues, more than 300 refugees are being served by approximately 30 SCBC congregations.
- Disaster Relief volunteers and units were deployed to hurricane-impacted communities in Pennsylvania and Louisiana, tornado impact in Pickens and Allendale counties, and various local storm damage across South Carolina. Teams were also deployed internationally with childcare workers in Southeast Asia and to care for Ukrainian refugees in Romania.
- Disaster Relief volunteers made nearly 3,000 ministry contacts and led 12 people to faith.

#### **Prayer Requests**

Please pray for Jesus to be honored and for His love to be meaningfully displayed as South Carolina Baptists love and SERVE their communities in a multitude of ways, across this state.

## SHARE Team Michael Pigg, Team Leader

Pastor Taylor Little was burdened for students hanging out at the Hot Spot Skatepark in Spartanburg. One night his church made it a priority to take pizza and use some of the relational evangelism skills that they have learned from the Next Gen team of the SCBC. This part of town had no church presence and is a gathering place for many students who come from impoverished homes using the skatepark as a break from reality. Pastor Little shared the Gospel with a young man named Kaden. Kaden accepted the Gospel that night and is now sharing his passion for Jesus with other students at the skate park!

The Share Team exists to help the church create a culture of disciple-makers who share the hope of Jesus Christ through praying for the lost, caring for the broken, and sharing hope with every life that may lead to New Kingdom Citizen Celebrations.

- SCBC churches reported 7,718 baptisms which was up 2,000 baptisms from 2020.
- SCBC churches reported that 49,528 lost people were prayed for by name.
- One Night, a student evangelism event, was conducted in seven locations around the state with over 100 participating churches, 4,202 in total attendance, 218 salvation responses, and 34 sensing a call to ministry.
- The Neighboring Initiative has 15 new partnerships with churches attempting to be better neighbors in their communities.
- The Bless Every Home resource tracks the neighboring activity of our churches and their members. Through this resource, we know that South Carolina Baptists have prayed for 35,995 homes, cared for 2,863 people, and shared the Gospel 949 times.
- Collegiate evangelism catalysts allow us to partner with churches for the next generation of leaders. They communicated stories of hope with the lost, hosted block parties, and took gifts to 100 business owners praying for and sharing Christ with them.
- In the last 12 months, 137 women's ministry leaders were trained in relational evangelism in 45 churches.
- The Ministers' Wives ministry is vital for the health of our pastors' families and churches. We currently know the names of 1,011 ministers' wives and are serving them.

• We assisted with the spiritual and mental health of church planter wives in our LA partnership with the help of key SCBC pastors' wives mission trip.

#### **Prayer Requests**

- Every believer praying for a lost person by name
- Every believer equipped to have a Gospel conversation with a relative or friend
- Every SCBC church to have continuous celebrations of life transformation
- For more SCBC church members to answer the call to missions and ministry
- For future opportunities to advance the ministry of Camp McCall
- That every pulpit discovers new energy and zeal to make disciples who make disciples

## Baptist Collegiate Ministries (BCM) Chad Stillwell, Director

*SHARING* the Gospel with 275,000 college and university students

International students from across the world attend the University of South Carolina. Most international students come from countries where IMB missionaries cannot go or cannot gain access easily. Jamal\* (name changed for Jamal's security), an international student from Bangladesh, attended the BCM-sponsored international student lunch in the BCM building. Jamie Rogers and Kelsey Phillips, BCM Director and Associate BCM Director, built a relationship with Jamal through these lunches hosted in the SCBC-provided BCM building on campus. They felt like Jamal was interested in Jesus and was curious to talk about Him. Jamie invited Jamal and his wife to attend church where they were able to have coffee and tea with his family and began answering their questions. After a time of these meetups, Jamal walked into the BCM building and asked to speak to Jamie, and that day in an office at the BCM, Jamal prayed to receive Christ.

- Two new BCM groups were started this year Benedict College in Columbia, and USC-Lancaster
- BCM reported outreach to 12,924 students across SC
- 3,086 students involved in BCM

- There were 200 professions of faith this year through BCM, representing a 47% increase over the previous year
- 451 students participated in intentional leadership development
- 592 students served on mission locally, nationally, and internationally
- 1,120 students engaged in discipleship groups

## Camp McCall Matt Allen, Director

As he left Camp McCall, a dad shared with the staff, "Seeing my son experience McCall was a highlight of my life. I came to know Jesus here in 1999 and seeing him here this year was such a blessing. To God be the glory." Camp McCall, through its ministry of missions and evangelism, leaves a lasting impact.

Camp McCall works with SCBC churches to help evangelize, disciple, and inspire the next generation to live life on mission through summer camps, missions education, and hosting retreats. The theme this year was "Hold Fast" from Hebrews 10:23 which says, "let us hold fast the confession of our hope without wavering, for He who promised is faithful." Camp McCall will hold fast to its mission and ministry of impacting the next generation for Christ.

- 2,032 campers attended summer camp
- 26 decisions to become Christ followers
- 86 rededications to be a disciple
- 18 commitments to full-time Christian service
- 21 staff members on mission trips
- 22 external groups utilized Camp McCall during the non-summer months

## SEND Team Ken Owens, Team Leader

The Send Team is focused on helping churches send mission workers locally and globally to share the hope of the Gospel. In 2019, Chapin Baptist Church sent a team of volunteers with the Send Team to serve with IMB missionaries reaching Central Asian refugees in Athens, Greece. After participating in SCBC Send Me and Send Collaborative training, the church strengthened its mission partnership commitment, sending mission teams to Greece over the past three years. This included a retired couple that went to serve last fall. God gave them a heart to reach Afghan refugees coming to Columbia last year through that partnership. After being trained, they adopted an Afghan refugee family. In doing so, they discovered a need for providing English as a Second Language classes for area refugees and began serving many Afghan families through ESL and the good news of Jesus. They are now adopting a Ukrainian refugee family and sharing the love of Jesus with them.

- The Palmetto Collective is an intentional discipleship process for missional leaders. This year, 40 college juniors and seniors participated in the second year of the program. Students worked through a monthly journal with a mentor, participated in leadership retreats, and served on mission trips in New York, Boston, Paris, and Cairo.
- A Next Generation Mobilizer position was created to advance the missional sending of youth and college students, including the Palmetto Collective.
- Over 100 missions pastors and leaders from 42 churches participated in Outside the Walls, a new training co-sponsored with the Serve Team to equip mission pastors and leaders in the church. Paul Chitwood, IMB President, was the keynote speaker.
- 68 SCBC church leaders participated in 10 SCGo Vision/Mission Trips with Strategic Mission Partners in Boston, Los Angeles, Pittsburgh, Salt Lake City, Greece, France, Thailand, and Romania. The Romania team served refugees fleeing the Ukrainian war crisis.
- The Finish Initiative was launched. This program is an intentional effort to help associations and churches identify and reach ethnic groups in their local communities.
- 36 pastors and leaders participated in the first SCBC Multi-Ethnic Pastor Retreat.
- Three new Multi-Ethnic Church Plants began (Chinese Charleston, Slavic Spartanburg, and Haitian Columbia).

- Send Collaboratives and a Missions Partnership Expo were hosted for 84 mission pastors and leaders representing 53 churches across the state.
- A new Send Cohort began with mission pastors to share ideas and strengthen mission sending effectiveness in the local church.
- SCGo News, a bi-weekly mission e-newsletter, and Pray52, a weekly missionary prayer text, were sent to almost 800 SCBC mission leaders across the state, sharing missionary prayer needs and equipping leaders in mission mobilization.

#### **Prayer Requests**

- Pray for the 46 students from 10 universities and 28 SCBC churches who have been selected for the Palmetto Collective during the 2022-2023 school year.
- Pray for churches to develop strategic mission partnerships.
- Pray for more language churches to be started across the state.

## START Team Cliff Marshall, Team Leader

Hopewell Baptist Church is in the small town of Blacksburg. Phillip Martin was serving as a part-time Student Pastor at Hopewell when God began to burden his heart about starting a church. Phillip was already making disciples at his full-time job when he sensed God's calling to start a church. He had conversations with Eddie Bolin, who was Hopewell's pastor at the time. Because Phillip knew that he would continue to work full-time, he began praying for another man to come alongside him to co-pastor the new church. God led Phillip to reach out to Ashby Pruitt who grew up in Blacksburg and was just finishing seminary. Ashby moved back to Blacksburg after graduation, and Hopewell Baptist Church sent Phillip, Ashby, and their families out to plant Iron City Church in Blacksburg.

Iron City Church launched public worship services in May 2021 and baptized 16 new believers at their first service. Hopewell Baptist Church supports Iron City Church through prayer, sharing resources, and monthly financial gifts. Ashby is a teacher at Blacksburg High School and Phillip continues to work for the town of Blacksburg. Both have yet to take any salary from the new church. Phillip and Ashby completed the SCBC church planting assessment and training process. They are in relationship with an SCBC church planting coach, and Iron City Church receives monthly funding made possible by the generous giving of SCBC churches to the Janie Chapman State Missions Offering.

Three out of four South Carolinians are not connected to a bible-teaching church. Pastors across the state are burdened by this reality, and with the help of the Start Team, many are taking bold steps to start new churches.

- Since September 2021, 24 new churches received monthly covenant funding made possible by the Janie Chapman State Missions Offering. This number includes African American, Hispanic, Brazilian, Chinese, and Multi-ethnic congregations.
- 26 churches participated in a Multiplying Church Collaborative in the Charleston region and out of that number, four Multiplying Church Cohorts started with 18 pastors involved.
- Since September 2021, new SCBC churches receiving funding baptized 144 new believers and mobilized 527 members for mission projects.

- Two Multiplying Church Cohorts started from the Anderson Multiplying Church Collaborative. At the conclusion of the cohort meetings, seven pastors created a written church planter residency plan and identified men to invite into residency.
- 111 SCBC churches are in prayer partnerships with new SCBC churches and 56 SCBC churches are giving financially to new SCBC churches

#### **Prayer Requests**

- Pray that every SCBC church would partner with a new church either through prayer, finances, or sharing facilities.
- Pray that intentional evangelistic efforts among new SCBC churches will continue to increase.
- Pray the Multiplying Church Cohorts would result in pastors discipling church planters to be sent from their churches.

## STRONG Team Church Strengthening & Discipleship Steve Rohrlack, Team Leader

The Worship Leader Internship Program, a process made possible by the Janie Chapman Offering, is having a direct impact on the next generation of leadership. This impact is seen in the story of Erica Hughes. With a gift for leading worship and a passion for international missions, Erica recognized that there was still a missing piece to her formal education. With just her senior year at Charleston Southern University to complete, Erica knew that practical experience would round out her training for missions. The Worship Leader Internship Program would provide the perfect opportunity to polish her worship leading skills while also focusing on the spiritual development necessary to thrive as a short-term missionary in Africa. Erica excelled in the Internship Program. As a result, Charleston Southern University asked her to serve as a liaison for the University until leaving for Africa. In Erica's own words, "the Internship Program was a launching pad into the rest of my life and ended up having one of the biggest impacts of my life. I was challenged, encouraged, and poured into constantly by my mentors and other church leaders. It taught me how to love others well and lead others well, but most importantly, how to serve God and His people well."

## Church Leadership & Administration Donald King, Director

- Six NextStep Small Groups started as a new leadership development resource for ministry leaders interested in benefiting from peer-to-peer dialogue, knowledge, and experience.
- Ministry leaders engaged in the NextStep Leadership Development process are now eligible for Priority Advance Matching Grants to fund ministry projects that develop leaders, fulfill the church's mission, and result in Kingdom advancement.
- In response to increased requests, consultants have been enlisted and trained to assist churches in reviewing and updating their Bylaws.
- To better assist churches in identifying ministerial candidates for open positions, the SCBC Job Board was revised and updated to create a more user-friendly experience for employers and job seekers.

## Church Strategies Group James Nugent, Director

- RE, an interactive cohort for pastors and replanters launched in 2021, is now equipping 80 pastors in 12 cohorts meeting monthly across South Carolina. The process equips pastors to apply Biblical principles and revitalization strategies in their specific context.
- From September to August, 21 churches affirmed recommendations for revitalization or reSTART. We are seeing an increase in partnering churches seeking to foster or adopt at-risk churches for a hopeful future.
- We continue to train interim pastors and transitional pastors to help churches prepare for a renewed mission and new pastoral leadership.
- While working with our AMS leaders to prepare churches for hopeful futures, we see a growing need to train future pastors to lead congregations toward greater strength. Our Group is working to develop pathways for training future revitalization pastors and replanters.

## Generations Group Bobby Howard, Director

- The South Carolina Baptist Discipleship Network partnered with the National Disciple Leaders Network to make online and in-person training available at the annual conference/meeting in Nashville, TN, as well as other regular live video and recorded equipping events throughout the year. As a partner convention, we can make this training free to every church leader (paid and volunteer) in the state.
- 90 Weekday Education Directors and 400+ Weekday Education teachers received state-approved in-person training.
- VBS Expos in Moncks Corner, Columbia, and Greenville allowed our Generations Group an opportunity to provide training for multiple churches around the state as they prepared for summer VBS 2022.
- Both SummerSalt and KidSalt had successful weeks of camp at Charleston Southern University. We were able to offer all seven weeks of camp with 3,938 in attendance. During the seven weeks of camp, we witnessed children and students make 515 salvation, repentance, and ministry decisions.

## Worship and Music Matt Freeman, Associate Director

- The Worship & Music Office facilitated two regional summer internship opportunities for college-aged students discerning a call to ministry. A third location in the upstate will join the Columbia and Charleston hubs in 2023.
- Regional cohorts continue to be a vibrant source of leadership development and networking among worship leaders. A focus on developing new worship leaders through these cohorts has emerged as a collaborative effort that will help raise the next generation of worship leaders.
- The Worship & Music Office partnered with SummerSalt, providing worship leadership training during all weeks of camp. Over 300 students attended during the five weeks of camp.
- In partnership with the three SC Baptist universities, middle and high school student worship leader training will be offered at uWorship Weekend. (Formerly known as Baptist AllState.) Areas covered are choir, orchestra, and worship band ministries.
- ONWARD, the one-day worship leader conference, will be led by the worship team from the Worship Initiative, including Aaron Williams and John Marc Kohl. The main sessions will be taught by Zac Hicks, author of *The Worship Pastor*.

# Associational Relations Scott Shields, Director

The Office of Associational Relations exists to create a Kingdom movement among our 42 Associations impacting our state and beyond so that we can help each church advance the Great Commission together.

- Our January AMS/DOM retreat in Myrtle Beach, SC was a great gathering with guest speaker Dr. Dondi Costin, President of Charleston Southern University.
- The Spring AMS/DOM Summit was held on March 31 with the theme "We Help Each Church Advance the Great Commission." This was a continued focus on collaboration and partnership between SCBC teams and Associations across the state.
- Aiken, Columbia Metro, Waccamaw, Screven, Broad River, Orangeburg-Calhoun, Chester, and York all called new AMS/DOM leaders in 2022.
- The Church Strengthening Team and our office continued a strong partnership among our associations with online training for revitalization/reSTART and the Hope for Churches website with continued resources and updates.
  - 12 groups of RE-Cohorts currently meet monthly around the state.
  - 29 AMS/DOM leaders are trained in RPL; 10 were certified, 16 have Revitalization Teams, and 16 attended RE Facilitator Training
- SCBC partnered with three associations to receive consulting on mission, vision, and values.
- Each month the Associational Liaison office has the opportunity in the shepherding process to CARE, COLLABORATE, and CONNECT with all AMS/DOMs in SC for building support, encouragement, and leadership development.
- Janie Chapman State Missions Offerings were dispersed to associations to help the church advance around the state.

# **Prayer Requests**

- We currently have three SC Associations in leadership transition—Union, Colleton, and Savannah River. Pray for these Associations as they are searching for their next leaders in the coming months.
- Pray for the 2023 AMS/DOM gatherings and trainings that are offered for support, encouragement, and prayer.

# Bylaws Committee Ryan Goodroe, Chair Nate Hutson, Vice-Chair

The Bylaws Committee placed the following notice in the Baptist Courier and on the SCBC website on September 15, 2022, after we realized last year's amendments included an unintended requirement for Ministry Partner trustees:

The Bylaws Committee moves to waive the normal bylaws amendment process requirements and amend a very small section of the bylaws at the 2022 Annual Meeting using the emergency provision spelled out in Bylaws Part 1, Article XII, Section B, Item 2. The section in question can be found in Bylaws Part 1, Article VII, Section D, Item 4, and is shown below in italics, with the proposed deletion identified by strikethrough font.

The elected membership of the Board of Trustees shall be divided into two (2) groupings: one (1) group comprised of ordained church employees, and one (1) group comprised of others. No more than eighty (80) percent of the members of the Board shall be drawn from either grouping. The Board will include, within the two (2) groupings, persons with business expertise, women, and ethnically diverse people for the purpose of providing a capable and inclusive membership. Only one (1) person from an affiliated church may serve as an elected member of the Board at a given time. At the time of the member's election, the member shall have been a member for at least one (1) year of a church in the area of the association from which the person is elected.

The Bylaws Committee believes an emergency exists for three reasons:

 The two sentences we move to strike were never intended to be in the bylaws. These sentences were added by accident in the changes approved during last year's Annual Meeting. The sentences were mistakenly inserted into this section in the effort to make wording consistent throughout different sections. (The sentences were copied from Article VI, which applies to the Executive Board, but the Bylaws Committee never intended for those sentences to apply to Institution Trustees.) Unfortunately, the Bylaws Committee (2020 and 2021) did not catch this mistake until after it was adopted at the 2021 Annual Meeting.

- 2. This (accidental) change to the requirements for Institution Trustees does not meet the criteria of "mutual agreement" between the Nominations Committee and the Institution Presidents, as agreed upon during the changes suggested by the Great Commission Resurgence Task Force and adopted by the Convention messengers at the 2011 Annual Meeting. The Institution Presidents were not made aware of this change and did not agree to this change, because this change was never the intention of the Bylaws Committee.
- 3. Perhaps the most important reason to amend this part of the bylaws immediately is the fact that we are currently out of compliance with this provision. We have multiple Institutions that have multiple Trustees from the same church. The options for coming back into compliance are either to delete these two sentences at this year's Annual Meeting (which is the recommendation of the Bylaws Committee) or to remove several Trustees.

The emergency provision for amendments calls for the Convention to be notified of the intended changes at least thirty days before the Annual Meeting and requires a three-fourths (3/4) vote by the messengers at the Annual Meeting. The Bylaws Committee will explain the rationale for the emergency amendment during their presentation at the Annual Meeting before they call for a vote.

Additionally, the Bylaws Committee presents the following amendments to the Articles of Incorporation and Bylaws, Part I, as a first reading this year. Proposed changes are indicated in **bold**, red font and <del>strikethroughs</del>. A vote to incorporate these amendments will be taken at the annual meeting in 2023.

#### SOUTH CAROLINA BAPTIST CONVENTION ARTICLES OF INCORPORATION

Pursuant to the provisions of the South Carolina Nonprofit Corporation Act, the undersigned corporation, presently named General Board of South Carolina Baptist Convention, hereby submits its Amended and Restated Charter, amending its present charter by deleting it in its entirety. This Amended and Restated Charter supersedes the corporation's original charter and all prior amendments thereto.

# **ARTICLE I**

The name of the corporation is South Carolina Baptist Convention. ARTICLE II

The corporation is a religious corporation.

# **ARTICLE III**

The corporation has no members.

# **ARTICLE IV**

The corporation will have messengers (delegates) who shall constitute the Convention in session. The characteristics, qualifications, rights, limitations, and obligations of messengers, together with provisions for calling, noticing, holding, and conducting meetings of messengers, and the carrying on of corporate activities during and between meetings, shall be provided for in these Articles and the corporation's Bylaws.

#### **ARTICLE V**

- A. The Convention reserves the right to determine the identity of those persons who participate as messengers. The Convention shall consist of messengers who are members of Baptist churches in the state which are in friendly cooperation with the South Carolina Baptist Convention and evidence their concern by financial support through the Cooperative Program. Only members of the electing church may be seated as messengers from that church.
- B. Churches shall qualify for the seating of messengers as determined by the Bylaws.

# **ARTICLE VI**

The address of the principle office for the corporation is 190 Stoneridge Drive, Columbia, South Carolina 29210-8239.

# **ARTICLE VII**

The South Carolina Baptist Convention has the sole right to govern itself under the Lordship of Christ and recognizes the autonomy of churches and other Baptist bodies.

# **ARTICLE VIII**

The comprehensive purpose of the South Carolina Baptist Convention shall be to serve churches throughout the state in efforts to advance the Kingdom of Christ in the world through evangelism, missions, education, benevolence, social ministries, public morals, and any other interests in the Kingdom of our Lord which the Convention shall undertake.

# **ARTICLE IX**

The South Carolina Baptist Convention approves the Cooperative Program as the basic channel of support for our total world mission outreach. The Convention appeals to the churches to contribute through the Cooperative Program and to recognize the right and responsibility of the Convention to divide equitably Cooperative Program receipts.

# **ARTICLE X**

The corporation shall be governed by a board of directors which shall be the Executive Board as elected by the messengers. All corporate powers and affairs of the corporation shall be exercised by, under the authority of, and under the direction of the Executive Board except to the extent that the Articles of Incorporation or Bylaws give the messengers the authority to declare the annual meeting in session.

# **ARTICLE XI**

The corporation is nonprofit. The purposes for which the corporation is organized are to operate exclusively for religious purposes within the meaning of Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, or corresponding section of any future federal tax code. No part of the net earnings of the corporation shall inure to the benefit of, or be distributable to, its directors, officers, or other private individuals or persons, except that the corporation shall be authorized and empowered to pay reasonable compensation for goods and services rendered and to make payments in furtherance of the purposes set forth above. No substantial part of the activities of the corporation shall be the carrying on of propaganda or otherwise attempting to influence legislation and the corporation shall not participate in, or intervene in (including the publishing or distribution of statements) any political campaign on behalf of or in opposition to any candidate for public office. Notwithstanding any other provision of these Articles, the corporation shall not carry on any activities not permitted to be carried on by a corporation exempt from federal income tax under Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, or corresponding section of any future federal tax code, or by a corporation, contributions to which are deductible under Section 170(c)(2) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, or corresponding section of any future federal tax code.

# **ARTICLE XII**

Upon dissolution, after all creditors of the corporation have been paid, the assets of the corporation shall be distributed to one (1) or more organizations which qualify as exempt organizations under Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, or corresponding section of any future tax code.

# ARTICLE XIII

- A. After first reading to the Convention, amendments offered to this amended and restated Articles of Incorporation shall automatically be referred to the Bylaws Committee for study and report at the next annual meeting. Study by the committee shall not prevent consideration of the proposed amendment by the messengers.
- B. Amendments may be made in these Articles by a vote of two-thirds (2/3) of the messengers present and voting at any meeting of the Convention, and provided that:

- 1. All amendments must be presented before the final session, and
- 2. The amendment shall have been presented at a previous meeting of the Convention before action is taken on it.
- 3. Any amendment proposed to an amendment that has already had a first reading (at the previous meeting of the Convention) must be presented to the Bylaws Committee at least sixty (60) days before the annual meeting so that it can be considered by the Bylaws Committee and presented in advance to the Convention.
- C. The requirements of Sections A and B above may be waived if the messengers evidence their belief that an emergency exists by a vote of three-fourths (3/4) of the messengers present and voting and if the substance of the amendment has been presented at least thirty (30) days in advance of the Convention to the Bylaws Committee, the Executive Board, and to the *Baptist Courier* for publication in one (1) of the following three (3) ways: (i) in a print edition; (ii) in an electronic edition; or (iii) on its website.
- D. Upon approval by the messengers, the amendment to the Articles of Incorporation shall be filed according to state law.

## SOUTH CAROLINA BAPTIST CONVENTION BYLAWS PART I

# ARTICLE I

#### ΝΑΜΕ

The name of this corporation is South Carolina Baptist Convention. The Bylaws, as that term is understood by the law, of **the** South Carolina Baptist Convention shall consist of Bylaws as determined by the messengers. The Executive Board Standing Rules and Business and Financial Plan are determined by the Executive Board. No portion of the Bylaws may be inconsistent with the Articles of Incorporation. The Business and Financial Plan and the Executive Board Standing Rules shall not be inconsistent with the Bylaws.

# ARTICLE II

Churches shall qualify for the seating of messengers as follows:

- A. One (1) messenger from each church which is in friendly cooperation with this Convention and sympathetic with its purposes and work and has, during the fiscal year preceding, been a bona fide contributor to the Convention's work, which must include having made a monetary contribution to the Cooperative Program.
- B. One (1) additional messenger for each one thousand dollars (\$1,000.00) contributed to the work of the Convention through the Cooperative Program,

during the fiscal year preceding the annual meeting.

- C. Newly organized and constituted churches will be eligible for messengers to the state annual meeting in the first year the church becomes a bona fide contributor to the work of the State Convention. Contributions to the State Convention must be received by October 31 of the first year.
- D. The maximum number of messengers allowed to any church shall be twenty-five (25).
- E. Messengers to the annual meeting shall be registered upon presentation of proper credentials. Credentials shall be presented by each messenger, in person at the annual meeting Registration Desk. Messengers registered in compliance with the provisions shall constitute the Convention **in session**.

#### **ARTICLE III**

#### CHURCH MEMBERSHIP OF OFFICERS, BOARDS, APPOINTEES, COMMITTEES

Except as provided in Bylaws Part I, Section D, Article VII, Section D, Item 3, for outof-state trustees of institutions, all officers of the Convention, all appointees, and all persons elected to membership of the Executive Board, boards of trustees of the institutions, and Convention committees shall be members of Baptist churches who are in friendly cooperation with the South Carolina Baptist Convention, and are sympathetic with its purposes and work, and have during the fiscal year preceding been bona fide contributors to the Convention's work, which must include having made a monetary contribution to the Cooperative Program.

# **ARTICLE IV**

#### OFFICERS

- A. The officers of the Convention shall be President, President-Elect, Vice President, Registration Secretary, and Treasurer (non-voting). The Executive Director-Treasurer of the Convention shall serve as Treasurer of the Convention.
- B. In case of the President's death, resignation, move from the state, or removal from office pursuant to Bylaws Part I, Article VI, Section B, Item 7, the Vice President shall automatically succeed to the office of President, and the President-Elect shall automatically succeed to the office of Vice President while continuing to serve as the President-Elect. Should the President-Elect no longer be able to fulfill the duties of the office, the office of the President-Elect shall remain vacant until the next annual session of the Convention, at which time both a President and a President-Elect will be elected pursuant to Bylaws Part II, Article I, Section E. Except as specified above, the Executive Board may fill any vacancies which may occur between annual meetings. Removal of an officer prior to the expiration of the term of office may occur only by a vote of two-thirds (2/3) of the messengers voting and after the officer has been advised of an intent to remove and after the officer has been afforded an opportunity to be

heard.

- C. These officers shall perform the duties described by the Bylaws and by the parliamentary authority adopted by this Convention and as directed by the Convention.
- D. Officers, other than-the President and the Treasurer, shall hold office for one (1) year or until their successors are elected and shall not be eligible to succeed themselves until one (1) year has elapsed. Any officer filling an unexpired term shall be eligible for election for one (1) full term. The President shall hold office for one (1) year and shall be succeeded by the President-Elect as provided in Bylaws Part II, Article I, Section E. The President may not serve as both President and President-Elect simultaneously.
- E. Officers shall begin their terms of service upon adjournment of the annual meeting at which they are elected.
- F. Except as provided in these Bylaws, the President-Elect shall have no duties, powers, or responsibilities, but shall be included on all correspondence and notices provided to the officers of the Convention, and shall have the opportunity to attend and observe, without voting power or authority, all meetings that may be attended by the President, whether in person or through some other mode of communication.

# **ARTICLE V**

# MEETINGS

A. Annual Meetings

The South Carolina Baptist Convention shall hold its meetings annually at such time and place as it may choose.

B. Special Meetings

In cases of important concern(s), the Executive Board shall instruct the Convention President to call a special meeting of the Convention provided two (2) weeks written notice is given through the South Carolina Baptist Convention website and the *Baptist Courier*.

# **ARTICLE VI**

# EXECUTIVE BOARD

- A. Authority and Function
  - The Executive Board shall constitute the board of directors of the South Carolina Baptist Convention. The work of the Convention, except as otherwise specified, shall be committed to the Executive Board of the South Carolina Baptist Convention. The Executive Board shall not have authority to control the other boards of corporations sponsored by the Convention but shall maintain general care and responsibility for the work of these boards in the following manner: study annually their reports, interpret and apply the

rules of the Bylaws of the Convention and the Business and Financial Plan of the Executive Board, make recommendations directly to these boards, and make whatever recommendations to the Convention concerning them it may deem advisable.

- 2. While the messengers and the members of the Executive Board shall mutually respect the rights which the Articles of Incorporation and the Bylaws vested in the Convention in session and in the Executive Board, the directives to the Executive Board, not contrary to the Articles of Incorporation and Bylaws of the Convention and not invasive upon the rights of boards of trustees of the sponsored institutions, shall be carried out by the Executive Board.
- 3. All actions of the corporation and all decisions concerning the investment, management, and utilization of the Executive Board contingent reserve, shall be made by the Executive Board or by persons pursuant to the authority vested in them by the Executive Board.
- 4. It shall also be the responsibility and prerogative of the Executive Board to determine when a member of the Executive Board or a trustee of an institution should be removed from office prior to the expiration of the member's or trustee's term.
  - a. If the Executive Board finds that a member or trustee has been absent for three (3) consecutive meetings of the board, the member or trustee shall be deemed to have resigned, and the position shall be declared vacant.
  - b. If the Executive Board determines by a vote of at least two-thirds (2/3) of the members of the Executive Board in office that one (1) or more of the cited causes for removal of a member of the Executive Board or a trustee of an institution exists (see Bylaws Part I, Article VI, Section B, Item 7), the member's or trustee's position shall be declared vacant.
  - c. Upon the occurrence of either of the two above events, the Executive Board shall advise the member or trustee. The Executive Board shall advise the secretary of the board on which the trustee serves of the Executive Board's action. This notice shall occur not less than sixty (60) days prior to the annual meeting. Unless a written appeal is filed in the office of the Executive Director-Treasurer within ten (10) days of the effective date of the notice, the position held by the member or trustee shall be deemed vacant and the Nominations Committee so advised. If a timely appeal occurs, the matter shall be reconsidered. The member or trustee shall be afforded a hearing before the Executive Board if such a request is contained in the appeal.
  - d. If the Executive Board determines by an affirmative vote of two-thirds
    (2/3) of the members of the Executive Board in office that the

absences should not be excused or reaffirms its conclusion that the cause for removal does exist, the Executive Board shall recommend to the Convention removal of the member or trustee and shall so advise the Nominations Committee. The Executive Board's decision on appeal shall be communicated to the member or trustee and the secretary of the affected board.

- e. A member or trustee who is removed from office prior to the expiration of the term to which he or she has been elected shall not be eligible for election to any board whose members are chosen by the Convention for the unexpired term to which the member or trustee had been elected.
- f. Notice under this section may be oral unless specifically required to be in writing. Notice may be communicated in person, by telephone, fax, email, or by certified mail.
- B. Membership
  - 1. The membership of the Executive Board shall include two (2) members from each of twelve (12) geographic regions as determined by the Bylaws Committee (Bylaws Part II, Article III, Section F, Item 2) with at least one (1) of the two (2) members in each region coming from a church with fewer than 200 in worship attendance and four (4) at-large members selected by the Nominations Committee. Only one (1) person from a church affiliated with the Convention may serve as an elected member of the Board at a given time. No region shall have more than three (3) members. Members may come from unassigned churches within a given region and not participating in an association, but affiliated with the South Carolina Baptist Convention within that region. At the time of the member's election, the member shall have been a member for at least one (1) year of a church in the area of the region from which the person is elected. The Convention President is a voting member of the Executive Board completing a twenty-nine (29) member Board. Membership of the Executive Board shall also include the following nonvoting ex officio members: Convention officers, the state president of the Woman's Missionary Union, and the state president of the Baptist Collegiate Ministries. No member of the Executive Board, except ex officio members, shall serve simultaneously on a board of trustees of a South Carolina Baptist Convention-sponsored institution.
  - 2. The Executive Director-Treasurer of the Executive Board, who also serves as Treasurer of the Convention, shall serve as an ex officio, non-voting member of the Executive Board, and aid by furnishing information, printed material, and needed guidance for the work of the Executive Board.
  - 3. The elected members of the Executive Board shall be divided into two (2)

groupings: one (1) group comprised of ordained church employees, and one (1) group comprised of others. No more than eighty (80) percent of the members of the Board shall be drawn from either grouping. The Board will include, within the two (2) groupings, persons with business expertise, women, and ethnically diverse people to provide a capable and inclusive membership. Only one (1) person from an affiliated church may serve as an elected member of the Board at a given time. At the time of the member's election, the member shall have been a member for a least one (1) year of a church in the region from which the person is elected.

- 4. The term of office of elected members of the Executive Board shall be four (4) years. Terms commence January 1 following election by the messengers. Members of the Board shall not succeed themselves, except in the case of the Convention President serving one (1) year or a member who has first been elected to fill less than one-half (1/2) of an unexpired term. The terms of approximately one-fourth (1/4) of the membership of the Board shall expire annually. One (1) year shall elapse before a member may be returned to the Executive Board or be elected to any other board of the Convention.
- 5. No member of the Executive Board, except ex officio members, shall have any official connection with any of the institutions of the Convention, nor shall the member be an employee of the Convention<del>,</del> or an institution of the Convention<del>, or an association</del>.
- 6. Any member of the Executive Board who moves church membership to another region in the state shall remain on the Board until the Convention fills that vacancy. Any member of the Board who becomes a member of a church in another state shall thereby terminate membership on the Board. Any vacancy occurring on the Board shall be filled for the remainder of the term by the Convention's nominating and election process. The Board may temporarily fill the vacancy pending the Convention's election.
- 7. The Convention may remove an elected member of the Executive Board prior to the expiration of the term for which the member has been elected, upon the recommendation of the Executive Board, by a vote of two-thirds (2/3) of the messengers voting. Removal may occur only upon the Convention's finding that removal of the member is in the best interest of the convention and one (1) or more of the following causes for removal are deemed in the judgment of the Convention to exist: breach of trust, neglect of duty, physical or mental incapacity of the member; conduct by the member which is deemed by the Convention to be immoral, fraudulent, or dishonest; or the member's engaging in a conflict of interest transaction.
- C. Organization Documents, Officers, and Committees

The Executive Board shall govern itself by the election of such officers and committees, and by the adoption of the Executive Board Standing Rules and such other rules, and **the** procedures **of that** the Executive Board deems desirable. The Executive Board shall adopt a Business and Financial Plan.

- D. Convention Employees
  - 1. Executive Director-Treasurer
    - a. The Executive Director-Treasurer shall be nominated by the Board and elected by the messengers for an indefinite term. When a vacancy occurs, nominations from the floor shall be allowed. The Executive Board is empowered to manage and terminate the Executive Director-Treasurer.
    - b. The Executive Director-Treasurer shall be the chief executive officer supervising and coordinating the work of all the employees of the Convention through the administrative staff. The Executive Director-Treasurer shall, as Treasurer of the Convention, authenticate records of the corporation.
  - 2. Other Employees

The Executive Director-Treasurer shall be solely authorized to employ, manage, and terminate all Convention staff.

#### **ARTICLE VII**

#### INSTITUTIONS

A. Purposes

The Convention shall sponsor institutions for the accomplishment of the purposes of the Convention and shall elect the members of the boards of trustees (directors) to which the governance of these institutions shall be committed in accordance with their charters.

B. Identification of Sponsored Institutions

The following are the institutions sponsored pursuant to the Convention's Bylaws: Anderson University, *Baptist Courier*, Baptist Foundation of South Carolina, Charleston Southern University, Connie Maxwell Children's Home Ministries, North Greenville University, and South Carolina Baptist Ministries for the Aging, Inc.

- C. Changes Regarding Sponsored Institutions
  - 1. A motion made to the Convention to dissolve or substantially alter the relationship between the Convention and a sponsored institution or to add a sponsored institution may be made by the Executive Board. Any such motion not originating in the Executive Board shall be referred to the Executive Board for study and a recommendation to the following Convention. If the motion is in the nature of or contains an amendment to the Bylaws, the motion shall be considered in keeping with the amendment provisions of these

# Bylaws. A majority two-thirds (2/3) of those voting is needed to dissolve or substantially alter the relationship between the Convention and that institution.

- 2. A request by the board of trustees of an institution to dissolve or substantially alter the relationship between the Convention and that institution shall be conveyed in writing to the Executive Board. The Executive Board shall submit the institution request, along with the Board recommendation, and call for a vote by the messengers at the annual meeting. A majority two-thirds (2/3) of those voting is needed to dissolve or substantially alter the relationship between the Convention and that institution.
- D. Terms of Trustees' Service
  - Trustees shall be elected to a term of five (5) years, except trustees being elected to complete an unexpired term. One-fifth (1/5) of the trustees shall retire from each board each year. Board members shall not be eligible to succeed themselves or be elected to any other board until one (1) year has elapsed, except in the case of a board member who has first been elected to fill less than one-half (1/2) of an unexpired term. Terms commence January 1 following election by the Convention.
  - 2. No person shall serve on more than one (1) board of trustees at the same time. A person who is an employee of or who has an official connection with an institution of South Carolina Baptist Convention or the Executive Board, except officers of the Convention, may not serve as a member of a board of trustees of an institution sponsored by the Convention.
  - 3. At least four-fifths (4/5) of the trustees of each institution must be South Carolina residents who are members of a South Carolina churches in friendly cooperation with the Convention. and the trustee affirms the Baptist Faith and Message 2000 as provided in Bylaws Part II, Article III, Section B, Item 4.d.ii. Up to one-fifth (1/5) of the trustees of each institution may be nonresidents of South Carolina provided they are members of churches in friendly cooperation with the Southern Baptist Convention. and the All trustees must affirms the Baptist Faith and Message 2000 and meet other criteria as provided in Bylaws Part II, Article III, Section & B, Item 4.d.<del>ii.</del> The date for determining whether a trustee is an in-state or out-of-state trustee shall be the date of his or her election by the Convention. However, if an instate trustee ceases to be a South Carolina resident during his or her term of office, and thereby causes more than one-fifth (1/5) of the trustees of the affected institution to be out-of-state trustees, then the Convention may, by a two-thirds (2/3) vote, terminate the trustee's membership on the institution's board.

- 4. The elected membership of the Board of Trustees shall be divided into two (2) groupings: one (1) group comprised of ordained ministers church employees, and one (1) group comprised of others. No more than eighty (80) percent of the members of the Board shall be drawn from either grouping. The Board will include, within the two (2) groupings, persons with business expertise, women, and ethnically diverse people for the purpose of providing a capable and inclusive membership. Only one (1) person from an affiliated church may serve as an elected member of the Board at a given time. At the time of the member's election, the member shall have been a member for at least one (1) year of a church in the area of the association from which the person is elected.
- E. Trustee Attendance

The Secretary of each institution shall report to **an officer of the Executive Board the Executive Director Treasurer** those trustees who are absent for three (3) consecutive meetings of the board.

F. Articles of Incorporation

All proposed Articles of Incorporation, or changes or amendments to Articles of Incorporation of institutions sponsored by the Convention under these Bylaws, and of a subsidiary corporation created by a sponsored institution, shall be submitted by the institution to the Convention or the Executive Board, according to the criteria set forth below in Section G, Item 6, for approval before they become effective.

G. Contents of Articles of Incorporation

The Articles of Incorporation of an institution sponsored by the Convention under these Bylaws shall contain the following provisions:

- 1. The board of directors (trustees), consisting of (*a specific number of*) persons, a number sanctioned by the South Carolina Baptist Convention, shall be elected by the South Carolina Baptist Convention in session.
- 2. Trustees shall be elected for terms of five (5) years. Trustees' terms shall be staggered.
- 3. South Carolina Baptist Convention may remove trustees prior to the expiration of the term of the trustees' election upon the recommendation of the Convention's Executive Board, by a vote of two-thirds (2/3) of the messengers voting. Removal may occur only upon the Convention's finding that removal of the trustee is in the best interest of the corporation and one (1) or more of the following causes for removal are deemed in the judgment of the Convention to exist: breach of trust, neglect of duty, physical or mental incapacity of the trustee; conduct by the trustee which is deemed by the Convention to be immoral, fraudulent or dishonest; the trustee's engaging in a conflict of interest transaction.

- 4. Vacancies in the board of trustees may be filled temporarily by the Executive Board pending the filling of the vacancy for the unexpired term by the South Carolina Baptist Convention.
- 5. The trustees may adopt Bylaws consistent with the Articles of Incorporation.
- 6. Any proposed amendment to the Articles of Incorporation must be approved in writing by the Executive Board of South Carolina Baptist Convention or by South Carolina Baptist Convention. Any amendment to the Articles of Incorporation that would change the relationship of the institution with the South Carolina Baptist Convention must be approved by messengers at the annual meeting.
- 7. Any merger shall require the consent of the South Carolina Baptist Convention.
- 8. Before the corporation may sell, lease, exchange, or otherwise dispose of all or substantially all of its property other than in the usual and regular course of its activities, the permission of the South Carolina Baptist Convention must be secured.
- 9. Dissolution of the corporation may occur only with the permission of the South Carolina Baptist Convention, and upon dissolution, the assets of the corporation shall pass to South Carolina Baptist Convention if at that time the Convention is a nonprofit corporation within the meaning of 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code or corresponding section of any future federal tax code. If the Convention is not a nonprofit corporation, then the assets of the corporation shall be distributed to one (1) or more nonprofit organizations selected by the Convention.
- 10. The corporation is a religious nonprofit corporation.
- 11. The Articles shall contain language appropriate for a corporation exempt from federal taxation under 501(c)(3) or a successor section of the Internal Revenue Code.

#### **ARTICLE VIII**

#### **GIFTS AND LEGACIES**

The Convention shall receive contributions, legacies, and bequests for the several objects which it fosters. All **properly** designated gifts for South Carolina Baptist Convention and Southern Baptist Convention causes shall be applied **to the objects as** specified by the donor. When any contribution or bequest is made without designation, the same shall be applied to the Cooperative Program. The Baptist Foundation of South Carolina is the institution designated for the management of trust funds.

#### **ARTICLE IX**

#### SUPREME AUTHORITY

The Holy Bible shall be the supreme and final authority for all of the activities of the Convention and for all decisions that are made by or on behalf of the Convention.

#### **ARTICLE X**

#### STATEMENT OF FAITH

While the Holy Bible shall be the supreme and final authority, the *Baptist Faith and Message 2000* shall be the Convention's statement of faith.

#### **ARTICLE XI**

#### PARLIAMENTARY AUTHORITY

The rules contained in the latest edition of *Robert's Rules of Order, Newly Revised* shall govern the Convention in all cases to which they are applicable and in which they are not inconsistent with the Articles of Incorporation or these Bylaws and/or any special rules of order the Convention may adopt.

#### **ARTICLE XII**

#### AMENDMENTS

- A. After a first reading to the Convention, amendments offered to Part I of the Bylaws shall automatically be referred to the Bylaws Committee for study and report at the next annual or special meeting of the Convention. Study by the committee shall not prevent consideration of the proposed amendment by the Convention.
- B. Voting
  - Amendments may be made to these Bylaws, Part I, by a vote of two-thirds (2/3) of the messengers present and voting at any meeting of the Convention, provided that:
    - a. Amendments must be presented before the final session, and
    - b. The amendment shall have been presented at the previous annual or special meeting of the Convention before action is taken on it.
    - c. Any amendment proposed to an amendment that has already had a first reading (at the previous meeting of the Convention) must be presented to the Bylaws Committee at least sixty (60) days before the annual meeting so that it can be considered by the Bylaws Committee and presented in advance to the Convention.
  - The requirements of Section B, Item 1 (a and b) above may be waived if the messengers evidence their belief that an emergency exists by a vote of three-fourths (3/4) of the messengers present and voting, and if the substance of the amendment has been presented at least thirty (30) days in

advance of the Convention to the Bylaws Committee, the Executive Board, and to the *Baptist Courier* for publication in one (1) of the following three (3) ways: (i) in a print edition; (ii) in an electronic edition; or (iii) on its website.

Bylaws Part I last amended November 9, 2021

# Christian Life and Public Affairs Mark Krieger, Chair Laura Hudson, Vice-Chair

The Christian Life and Public Affairs Committee (CLPAC) addresses current moral, social, and cultural trends and events. Committee members work closely with the Office of Public Policy to educate, inform, and engage the public on current issues and pending legislation that affects families and churches. The committee formally meets four or five times throughout the year to stay abreast of current issues and to develop action plans.

According to Convention bylaws, the Christian Life and Public Affairs Committee is composed of ten members. Two members' terms expire each year.

An annual highlight is the announcement of the three committee awards. The E.A. McDowell award recognizes an individual who exemplifies Christian action in the public arena—politics, government, or community action. Additionally, the committee recognizes one church in our Convention that shows a similar commitment to social and moral concerns by conferring the Impact Your World award. The Public Service Award recognizes a public official that went above and beyond in representing Christian ideals through their role in the public square.

The 2022 recipients are:

E. A. McDowell Award	Gary Hollingsworth
Impact Your World Award	Slater Baptist Church, Scott Catoe, pastor
Public Servant Award	Senator Billy Garrett, Greenwood

The CLPAC works in cooperation with the SCBC Office of Public Policy, which is under the direction of Dr. Tony Beam. During the 2021-2022 SC Legislative Session, Dr. Beam worked in cooperation with the CLPAC to testify and coordinate testimony before several House and Senate Subcommittees in support of legislation that reflects SCBC biblical values expressed through resolutions passed at the SCBC Annual Meeting.

Significant legislation passed during the 2021-2022 session included:

- **The Heartbeat Bill** (protecting life in the womb after a heartbeat is detected)
- Save Women's Sports (preventing biological males from competing against females)
- **Medical Rights of Conscience** (protecting the liberty of medical workers and counselors)
- **Religious Freedom Act** (declaring House of Worship as essential during an emergency)

• **REACH Act** (requiring undergraduate students to complete a 3-credit course on the content, meaning, and significance of the founding documents of the United States).

Significant contributions were made by the Office of Public Policy and the CLPAC in defeating a bill that would have legalized the use of medical marijuana and hate crimes legislation that would have codified LGBTQ language into the South Carolina legal system.

The Office of Public Policy and CLPAC kept Baptist pastors and leaders informed about key pieces of legislation and activity associated with the SC Statehouse through Action Alerts and the SCBC Office of Public Policy Newsletter.

Members of the committee are grateful for the opportunity to serve South Carolina Baptists and look forward to continuing to make a positive impact in the future.

Mark Krieger, Chair Laura Hudson, Vice-Chair Chad Connelly Daniel McGaha Rod Elliott Eddie Hill Michael Post Terrye Seckinger Tommy Shelley

# 2022 Report of the Committee on Committees Josh Powell, Chair Jamie Duncan, Vice-Chair

The Committee on Committees is selected by the outgoing president from the previous year. This group is comprised of members from all sizes of churches from across the state. We appreciate the time each member devoted to recruiting capable candidates who expressed interest in the committee for which they agreed to serve.

#### The 2022 Committee on Committees

Josh Powell, Chair		
Jamie Duncan,		
Vice-Chair		
Ashely Adams		
Travis Agnew		
Hayley Atkins		

Marshall Blalock Lee Butler Ryan Goodroe Michael McCormick Johnny McDaniel Daniel McGaha

Brett Myers Kathy Robinson Andre Rogers Trell Ross

The Committee on Committees accepts nominations to fill vacancies on Standing Committees of the Convention. The length of service varies, but all terms begin on January 1, 2023.

# Filling an Unexpired Term * Laity	<b>Convention Committees</b>	
Committee Bylaws ( <i>3-year term</i> )	<b>Nominee</b> #Creech, Jeremy Barnwell First, Barnwell-Bamberg	<b>Term Expires</b> 12/31/2024
	Dewease, Chris Taylors First, Three Rivers	12/31/2025
	Henderson, Brian Jackson First, Aiken	12/31/2025
	Ladd, Benji Brushy Creek, Greenville	12/31/2025

<b>Christian Life &amp; Public Affairs</b> ( <i>3-year term</i> )	#*Bynum, Patty Reconcile Community Church, Greenville	12/31/2023
	Sands, Alex Kingdom Life, Greenville	12/31/2025
Enrollment & Credentials (1-year term)	Banks, Dennis Shandon, Columbia Metro	12/31/2023
	*Dickinson, Stacey Shandon, Columbia Metro	12/31/2023
	Harmon, Mike Shandon, Columbia Metro	12/31/2023
	*Helmadollar, Sara Shandon, Columbia Metro	12/31/2023
	*Osepchuk, Conor Shandon, Columbia Metro	12/31/2023
	*Turner, Dawn Shandon, Columbia Metro	12/31/2023
<b>History</b> ( <i>3-year term</i> )	Johnson, Walter Berea First, Three Rivers	12/31/2025
	Nix, Greg Calvary, Lakelands	12/31/2025
Nominations ( <i>3-year term</i> )		
Region 1	Dean, Jeromy Bethel, Beaverdam	12/31/2025
Region 2	*Keagy, Tim Rocky Creek, Greenville	12/31/2025

Region 2	Steed, Ryan Riverside, Palmetto	12/31/2025
Region 3	Lewis, Ken Crosspoint, Pickens-Twelve Mile	12/31/2025
Region 4	Garrett, Danny Antioch, Woodruff	12/31/2025
Region 6	#How, Michael Ninety Six First, Lakelands	12/31/2023
	*West, Dewayne Kittiwake, Lexington	12/31/2025
Region 8	Kelley, Bart Barnwell First, Barnwell-Bamberg	12/31/2025
Region 9	Corder, Terry Mt. Pisgah, Kershaw	12/31/2025
Region 12	*Cox, Rob Mullins First, Marion	12/31/2025
<b>Resolutions</b> ( <i>3-year term</i> )	Bennett, David Lake Murray, Lexington	12/31/2025
	Ofenloch, Ryan Murrells Inlet First, Waccamaw	12/31/2025

# History Committee Michael Bryant, Chair Greg Nix, Vice-Chair

The SCBC began in December 1821 when nine Baptist leaders from three associations gathered with a shared vision for cooperation, missions, and education. From this initial meeting emerged many churches and associations over two centuries, each with a distinctive history of God's work among them. The History Committee's task is to preserve their stories.

Anna Wilson-Stillwell joined the SCBC staff in October 2021 to serve as a part-time Historian/Archivist. Her education and experience in theological and academic libraries offers a unique skill set that will be a great resource for churches and individuals seeking Historical Services.

On October 14, 2021, the History Committee hosted a virtual event, "Learning from Our Past, Seeking to Serve Faithfully in the Future: The 200<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Founding of the SCBC." The program was moderated by Dr. Michael Bryant of Charleston Southern University and featured presentations from Rev. Josh Powell, past President of the SCBC and Senior Pastor of Taylors First Baptist, as well as professors from Anderson University (Dr. Luke Stamps), Charleston Southern University (Dr. Peter Beck), and North Greenville University (Dr. Nathan Finn).

With the leadership of Dr. Gary Hollingsworth, the History Committee has worked to identify a new location for the SCBC Archives in one of the three SC Baptist universities. At the time of submitting this report, the History Committee continues to dialogue with NGU's leadership to explore the possibility of housing the archives at the Tigerville campus. Formal approval for housing the archives at NGU (or another location) will be given by the SCBC.

The History Committee entered into a new contractual agreement with Josh Powell to write a history of the SCBC commemorating its 200<sup>th</sup> anniversary. The final draft will be completed in July 2023. Extenuating circumstances (e.g., Covid, relocation to a new pastorate) delayed the completion of the project in the past.

The History Committee continues to work with the SCBC staff to encourage churches to send Anna Wilson-Stillwell copies of church business meeting minutes, listings of staff and their ministry service dates, and any written church histories.

All SCBC associations are also encouraged to send copies of associational minutes and histories to be added to the SCBC Archives.

The committee is grateful for the sincere commitment to Christ and the Gospel displayed by the SCBC churches.

Michael Bryant, Chair Greg Nix, Vice Chair H. E. Barkley Carol Bryan Fred Lewis Paul Noe

# 2022 SCBC Nominations Committee Report Lisa Willard, Chair Clay Smith, Vice-Chair

The Nominations Committee is comprised of two members from each of the 12 geographic regions. Their work is invaluable in choosing knowledgeable people to conduct the work of the Convention and our Partner Institutions. We are grateful for each committee member and appreciate the time they invested in naming these candidates for election to the 2023 boards.

Executive Board members serve a four-year tenure unless fulfilling an unexpired term. The number of members of the Executive Board is in transition as the 2021 bylaws amendments allow natural attrition to bring the size down to 29 members (including the Convention President as a voting member of the board).

Trustees serve a five-year term unless filling an unexpired term. All terms begin on January 1, 2023.

# **Executive Board**

Region	Nominee	Term Expires
7	Todd Johnson The Master's, Reedy River	12/31/2026
12	John Goudelock Living Water, Waccamaw	12/31/2026
12	*Donna Williams Fork Baptist, Pee Dee	12/31/2026
<b>3</b> At-Large	Keith Shorter Mt. Airy, Piedmont	12/31/2026

# **Ministry Partners**

Ministry Partner	Nominee	Term Expires
Anderson University	*Don Harper Utica, Beaverdam	12/31/2027
	*Brian McKay Rocky Creek, Greenville	12/31/2027
	Michael Bearden Fountain Inn First, Greenville	12/31/2027
	#*Kip Miller Rocky Creek, Greenville	12/31/2024
	Benjamin Smoak Mountain springs, Piedmont	12/31/2027
	Rudy Gray Pickens First, Pickens- Twelve Mile	12/31/2027
Charleston Southern University	*Julia Martin Northbridge, Charleston	12/31/2027
	*Joseph Russell Summit Church, Charleston	12/31/2027
	Ryan Pack Riverland Hills, Lexington	12/31/2027
	*Tim Spurling Lake Swamp, Welsh Neck	12/31/2027
	*Terri Austin Moncks Corner First, Charleston	12/31/2027

North Greenville University	*Jim Alexander Pickens First, Pickens- Twelve Mile	12/31/2027
	*Mike Hamrick Spartanburg First, Spartanburg Network	12/31/2027
	*Angela Carter James Brushy Creek, Greenville	12/31/2027
	Josh Powell Taylors First, Three Rivers	12/31/2027
	*Kay Powers Hendersonville, NC	12/31/2027
	#*Pierce Williams Fairview, Three Rivers	12/31/2026
Baptist Courier	Dwight Easler Corinth, Broad River	12/31/2027
	*Deborah Grooms Simpsonville First, Greenville	12/31/2027
	Jerry Gray Iva First, Saluda	12/31/2027
Baptist Foundation	*Jeremy Bishop N Spartanburg First, Spartanburg Network	12/31/2027
	*Patrick Griswold Rehoboth, Edgefield	12/31/2027
	*Susan Kilby Utica, Beaverdam	12/31/2027

Connie Maxwell Children's Ministries	*B. M. Cave Redbank, Lexington	12/31/2027
	*Stewart Cooner Trinity, Lexington	12/31/2027
	*Marie Hancock Pinewood, Santee	12/31/2027
	*Phillip Rine FBC of Rock Hill, York	12/31/2027
	*Brian Whitaker North Side, Lakelands	12/31/2027
<b>SCBMA</b> (Ministries for the Aging)	*Bill Crute FBC of Rock Hill, York	12/31/2027
	*Garris Haynes Columbia First, Columbia Metro	12/31/2027
	Kevin Massey New Salem, Santee	12/31/2027



Shandon Baptist Church 5250 Forest Drive Columbia, SC 29206

November 13-14, 2023

# South Carolina WMU God's mission. Our passion.

# Auxiliary to South Carolina Baptist Convention Laurie Register, Executive Director-Treasurer

September 2021 through August 2022

Through Woman's Missionary Union<sup>®</sup> (WMU<sup>®</sup>), age-level organizations, and churchwide participation, South Carolina Baptists are equipped to understand God's purpose for their lives and are challenged to live out that purpose—to make disciples of Jesus who live on mission. Through missions praying, missions giving (including the Cooperative Program and our special offerings), and personal involvement in missions, WMU members and participants develop a lifestyle of missions. WMU is biblically rooted, missions-focused, church-based, world aware, and denominationally supportive.

#### **Missions Emphases**

- Lottie Moon Christmas Offering and Annie Armstrong Easter Offering
  - Distributed posters, offering envelopes, and prayer guides in English, Spanish, Chinese, and Korean.
- Janie Chapman Offering for State Missions, Missions Education, and Kingdom ADVANCE
  - Planned, produced, and provided materials to promote South Carolina state missions. Five videos, Leader's Guide and teaching plans for each age group, sermon ideas, bulletin insert, and other materials were posted on janiechapmanoffering.org for church use. Posters, prayer guides, and envelopes were distributed by mail. Zoom prayer calls with the missions representatives during the Week of Prayer.
  - Three checks were sent to the South Carolina Baptist Convention (SCBC) for missions causes. South Carolina WMU sent \$1,019,950 to the Convention allocated for approved projects. The WMU Executive Board voted to return \$45,000 of unused funds from the 2020 offering to SCBC and \$90,000 from the 2021 overage.

# Missionary Support

- In September, 31 missionaries and staff enjoyed Missionary Day at Camp La Vida.
- In November, SC WMU hosted dinner for the parents of missionaries who were being commissioned during the South Carolina Baptist Convention at First Baptist

Columbia SC. Fourteen parents attended along with SC WMU staff members and members of SC Missionary Parents Fellowship for a total of 24 people.

- The fall and spring meetings of Missionary Parents Fellowship were attended by 6 and 15 people respectively. The fall meeting was held at the SCBC Building, and the spring meeting was held in conjunction with the SC WMU Missions Encounter in Goose Creek.
- This year, 49 checks for \$50, totaling \$2,450, were sent to South Carolina-related missionary kids (MKs).

# **Missions Opportunities**

- South Carolina BNF works through regional chapters led by regional directors. Our desire is to use our medical skills to serve others, build relationships with people who are far from God, and teach them how to love, live, and look like Jesus. SC BNF distributed gift bags with scriptures and prayers to graduating nursing students at 10 nursing schools across the state. Ministered to and assisted the medical staff at Martha Franks Retirement Community. Performed Blessing of the Hands in several locations across the state.
- Ministry Health Kits were distributed in associations throughout South Carolina.
- South Carolina WMU partnered with the Convention to promote, collect, and distribute Prisoner Packets.
- A new Christian Women's Job Corps (CWJC) site is in the process of opening in Greenwood. CWJC walks alongside women on their journey to self-sufficiency. It joins the oldest CWJC site in the country which operates under the name "Grounds of Grace" and is located in Rock Hill.
- Refugees Served, built relationships with, and discipled refugees weekly in Columbia. Most are from unreached areas of the world. Assisted Afghan Humanitarian Parolees with basic needs and navigating their new culture.
- Once again South Carolina WMU prepared Christmas Backpacks to be distributed by various ministries in Georgia, South Carolina, and Kentucky. There were 3,600 backpacks collected. Thirty individuals from ten churches in upstate South Carolina made a trip to Kentucky to give out over 1,700 backpacks at different elementary and middle schools.

# **Missions Camping**

- We had 1,192 campers at Camp La Vida. The theme was *Step It Up*.
- Camp staff hosted six groups in the fall of 2021 and three in the spring of 2022. Also had two productive workdays in April to get ready for the summer with about 15 volunteers and staff.

# **Missions Discipleship**

- Equipped student leaders to model/teach their students how to make disciples that multiply locally and globally. Started small disciple-making groups through WMU student groups.
- Catalyst to start small disciple-making groups in the marketplace locally and globally. Coached men and women who feel led to make disciples globally through the marketplace.
- In September, SC WMU partnered with Impact to host 84 students and their leaders for a ministry event in Myrtle Beach. They participated in day camps, played with children, and taught Bible stories. They provided cookies to hotel staff, played Bible frisbee on the beach, and provided face painting to kids. They learned what it means to make disciples locally and globally and that every follower of Jesus is commanded to make disciples.
- In October, Women on Mission and myMISSION members gathered at Connie Maxwell Children's Ministries to worship, hear missionaries, and prayer walk. Forty attended.
- In January, GA Day was held at Beaumont Baptist Church in Spartanburg, SC. Forty-nine attended with 23 volunteers/WMU staff/Camp La Vida staff.
- In February, 26 associational WMU directors and WMU specialists attended an update led by staff.
- Thirty-six associational WMU spring meetings were held this spring. A WMU staff member participated in each, as well as secured a missions speaker for those who requested it.
- In March, WMU Missions Encounter and the Annual Meeting were held at First Baptist Church, Goose Creek.
- In April, associational WMU leadership met at Camp La Vida for training where 87 participants were equipped to guide the leaders in their association in making disciples of Jesus who live on mission. It is through capable leadership that we make our greatest connections to our future work.
- In August, church leaders gathered in two locations for leadership development. A total of 171 registered. Age-level training and specialized conferences were offered at each.

# THE COURIER

# Rudy Gray, Editor and President

As the oldest ministry partner of the South Carolina Baptist Convention, The Courier considers it an honor to serve over 2,100 churches and many more Baptists individually.

Founded in 1869, The Courier has grown from a newsprint weekly publication to a full-color, glossy paper, monthly magazine. Along the way, we are continuing to develop into a multi-faceted denominational communication ministry.

• Today, we produce a magazine that has won numerous awards from the South Carolina Press Association in editorial writing, feature writing, faith reporting, cover page, design, and more. The e-edition of the magazine releases each month following the publication of the print edition. In addition, we keep an active, daily-updated website.

• Courier Publishing, our book publishing arm, is growing significantly. Alabama resident Rosalie Hunt, a former missionary, is our most successful author, having published four books with us. She is in demand as a WMU speaker nationally and makes her books available at her speaking engagements, giving the profits from her book sales to missions.

 Courier Tours was slowed due to COVID but is now booking more trips mostly domestic, but overseas trips are also planned.

• We produce a twice-monthly podcast, "Courier Conservations," where we have conversations with Baptists from various ministries and individuals who share their unusual and exciting experiences while serving Christ.

• We also publish to our website, as well as YouTube, Facebook, Twitter, and other digital avenues video features, news, and stories of those who are telling the story of Jesus and His Gospel.

• Finally, we are so grateful for our faithful donors, "Friends of The Courier." Their prayers, financial support, and encouragement are a blessing to our entire staff.



# Nathan McCarthy, President

Whatever you do, do it from the heart, as something done for the Lord and not for people, knowing that you will receive the reward of an inheritance from the Lord. You serve the Lord Christ. Colossians 3:23-24 CSB

The Baptist Foundation of South Carolina's vision is to see every Christian prayerfully steward their resources as an act of worship. What an impact we could make for Christ if everyone that professes to follow Jesus eagerly sought the Holy Spirit's leading in stewarding well both today's resources of time, talent, and treasure, as well as those financial resources that are left at the end of our lives? This world would dramatically be changed! Christian educational institutions and seminaries would be equipping Christian lay leaders and pastors, Christian children's homes and senior care centers would be providing even more excellent care in the name of Jesus, Christian foster care and adoption would more than provide for children needing homes, more missionaries would be deployed around our nation and world, and our churches would be overflowing because every Christian would be evangelizing and discipling. Every Christian would be bringing glory to Christ and bringing others to Christ. What if we prayerfully stewarded ALL that God has given us?

The Baptist Foundation's focus is on prayerful financial stewardship in life and death. However, we know that those who steward their finances well are typically those that are also stewarding their time and talents well. Stewardship of financial matters is an important part of discipleship. Our focus this year has been to find more ways to equip leaders in our churches to teach about stewardship and generosity from the perspective that Jesus taught – as a matter of the heart. God does own it all but He is gracious in giving us the opportunity to be good stewards of HIS good gifts. Our prayer is that more prayerful stewards will be raised to reach a lost world!

Major accomplishments of the Baptist Foundation of South Carolina this year include:

 Established a new church lending program on June 1, 2022! Our trustees voted to reestablish this line of business that was initially part of the Foundation's services in our early years. A new business entity, Seed Financial Services, Inc., has been established and Kelly Banks, a retired banker with over 30 years of commercial and church lending experience, will lead this endeavor. The Foundation views our church lending service as a ministry arm that complements the goals of the Foundation. Seed Financial Services will provide free counsel and advice about church readiness, lending, and fundraising options to help churches make wise decisions. Regardless of whether a church uses our services or not, we encourage churches to contact us to receive solid counsel and advice.

- Took steps to begin offering Certificates of Growth through Seed Financial Services, Inc. This investment offering will be available to ministries and individuals and will be similar to bank Certificates of Deposit. We are anticipating these instruments to be available in the Fall of 2022.
- We distributed over \$4.08 million to primarily Baptist ministries through endowment and investment income in our fiscal year ending 12/31/2021. This is the first year that we have distributed over \$4 million in one year! Since its inception, the Foundation has distributed over \$91 million to Kingdom ministries—from churches in South Carolina to ministries and missions projects around the world.
- Continued to tithe our own ministry resources to provide grants to help fund evangelistic projects. In 2021, grants totaling \$102,445.55 were awarded. Since the program began in 2002, endowed gifts and the Foundation's tithe have resulted in almost \$1,300,000 in ministry grants.
- Continued to actively engage in redemptive investments that please God and honor others. Not only does the Foundation screen out investments such as alcohol, tobacco, abortion, and pornography, but we actively seek to invest in high-quality, solid investments that support Kingdom initiatives!
- Provided a redemptive investment conference opportunity to help leaders learn more about investment strategies and the impact of redemptive investing.
- Provided counsel and training to church finance and stewardship leadership to discuss how to invest from a strategic standpoint instead of basing decisions on market volatility.
- Provided a Stewardship Impact Workshop to specifically teach about Biblical generosity and how the church can begin a stewardship ministry that focuses on worship and God's ownership. Additional workshops are being scheduled.
- Continued to assist ministries (churches and associations) with online giving platforms, including custom pages and monthly support to help promote generosity. Since March 2020, we have **assisted 81 churches** with this service.

- Provided customized estate planning for families or individuals who desire to leave a portion of their estates to Kingdom ministries. To date, more than 240 families have completed estate plans with anticipated future gifts of over \$77 million for primarily Baptist ministries.
- Since 2016, the Foundation has operated with NO Cooperative Program financial assistance. Our goal is to efficiently manage and invest Foundation dollars to meet needs so other ministries may benefit from Cooperative Program dollars. The Foundation has distributed to ministries a return of \$9.46 for every Cooperative Program dollar we have received in our 71-year history.
- As of July 31, 2022, the Foundation manages over \$163.8 million in assets for the benefit of churches, associations, and Baptist institutions across our state, nation, and world.

The Foundation continues to seek ways to resource and engage churches and ministries in the areas of biblical stewardship and generosity. Our hope is that more Christians will have hearts that are inclined towards Christ and serving His Church through the resources He allows us to steward.

We humbly request prayer for the following needs:

- Wisdom in making investment and business decisions that will bring honor and glory to God;
- Discernment and humble understanding that will help us effectively teach and serve churches;
- Guidance towards godly business-minded men and women to serve alongside us on our staff and Board; and
- Yearning in the hearts of God's people to prayerfully steward their resources as an act of worship!



## Danny Nicholson, President

Connie Maxwell's Family is growing! On June 27, 2022, our first grandchild, Oliver Wooten Nicholson, entered the world. In a moment, our lives were changed by this extraordinary miracle, and we will never be the same. You may ask, "what does this have to do with providing an annual report to the convention?" My answer, Everything.

As Debra and I observed the miracle of birth, held Wooten's little hands and feet, kissed his precious forehead, and even changed his diapers, we were constantly reminded of the miracle of life. More than ever before, we embrace the sacred privilege of loving, protecting, and cherishing God's most unique creation, a child.

The combination of the recent Supreme Court decision, the birth of our first grandchild, and the passing of my mother carried me to a place of greater conviction than ever before. Connie Maxwell now stands at the threshold of a bright and promising future, a future that holds the fate of thousands of children in our hands. In fact, a generation of children awaits our obedience and compassionate response.

As Debra and I celebrate our fifth anniversary at CM, near completion of our second year of "A Decade of Dreams" strategic plan, and proudly recognize CM's 130th anniversary, it is with great excitement that we report on progress made towards our future dreams. These bold dreams, wrapped in the cradle of our history and prayerfully nurtured in the hearts of faithful saints, stand ready to take form and carry Connie Maxwell to an even greater level of excellence.

This summer, we successfully completed a Campaign Planning Study that prepared us to launch the beginning phases of our efforts to fund many of the initiatives in our "Decade of Dreams" plan. We will keep everyone updated as the Campaign unfolds. We continue to step forward in identifying land and preparing to build a Connie Maxwell campus in the Charleston area. Much prayer and support has been given as we move closer to establishing a home and healing for children and families in the Low country.

Additionally, we are making progress towards our ambitious "Decade of Dreams" goals. Our Residential Care served 238 children and families and completed renovations on our 5th cottage since our arrival in 2017. Family Care provided services for nine families, which consisted of nine single parents and their 16 children, while garnering a significant leadership gift to renovate the Eason Building, one of the oldest structures on campus. This project preserves our history while increasing our capacity to minister to 4 more families. Foster Care continues to grow as services have 38 homes licensed and have served 50 children in the past year. In September, the "Everyone Can Do Something" Foster Care Tour will be launched across South Carolina, featuring Jason Johnson, CAFO'S Foster Care expert speaking in Charleston, Greenville, and Columbia. Crisis Care has served 36 children and families, and the Higher Education/Independent Living program served 18 children this year.

A sense of momentum continues to bolster our fundraising and volunteer efforts to new levels. We are already seeing record-breaking numbers in our Annual Fund. This year, "Giving Tuesday" secured \$430,000 from more than 500 donors. Besides financial support, since January, Connie Maxwell welcomed 783 individuals, 30 church groups, and 15 civic groups to serve on campus. These volunteers completed over 6000 hours of volunteer activities!! Additionally, over 500 alumni attended the Connie Maxwell Reunion this summer, and over 18,000 participated in Connie Maxwell Christmas.

As always, we want to thank each South Carolina Baptist for your prayers and support. Debra and I sincerely appreciate your prayers for Oliver Wooten as he begins his faith journey and for all of God's children who desperately need us during these unprecedented times of crisis and challenge in our world.



## Tom Turner, President

SCBMA takes pride in knowing for over 60 years, we have provided a safe place for almost 400 seniors and their families to celebrate life and continue to serve the Lord.

As we look back over this past year, we cannot help but notice God continues to enable SCBMA to achieve much through our ministry. I am pleased to share several recent accomplishments:

- In January 2021, our campus in Darlington, Bethea Retirement Community, opened its new 88-bed, state-of-the-art nursing and rehabilitation facility. It has consistently maintained a 90% or above occupancy since opening, thereby continuing to provide needed healthcare services to Pee Dee residents.
- Martha Franks' residents and staff members continued to serve a call center following the Billy Graham televised crusades. Since May 2013, there have been 2,727 total calls resulting in 812 salvations, 226 rededications, and 310 assurances.
- Since launching our Bethea and Martha Franks' Helping Seniors Thrive Giving Society in 2016, we have raised over \$742,000 in donations and pledges, added 56 members to the Society, and have grown the total donor support to 454 patrons. Faithful supporters of this campaign enable us to continue providing financial assistance to those who need it for residential living expenses each month.
- Our 2021 Mother's Day Offering campaign raised \$117,587 with 56 new churches or individuals participating. This scholarship provides financial assistance for pastors, missionaries, and their spouses who live in our communities.

Our Trustees recognize that there will be many issues to manage in the years ahead—a growing senior population, maintaining a capable and caring workforce, and assuring our communities are prepared to meet the challenges of a competitive and ever-evolving retirement community industry. Our faith and confidence remain in the Lord as we continue to provide professional services for seniors with compassionate care in the name of Jesus Christ, so all we serve may thrive. The future looks to be exciting for SCBMA and South Carolina Baptists!

#### **Prayer Requests**

- Continue to meet the healthcare needs of the people in the Pee Dee
- Continue to reach people for the Lord at our Martha Franks Billy Graham Call Center in Laurens
- Expand our ministry into the Midlands of South Carolina
- Launch our newest initiative, Senior Smart Services, which offers smart and practical solutions for people to stay safe in their own homes.



## Dr. Evans P. Whitaker, President

For God and humanity, Anderson University seeks to be an innovative, entrepreneurial, premier comprehensive university where liberal arts, professional studies, and graduate studies thrive within an uplifting, welcoming, and distinctively Christian community of diverse faculty, staff, and students dedicated to intellectually rigorous learning, a caring and hospitable campus culture, and personal transformation.

#### Highlights 2022

- A total of 899 new students will join the Anderson University family in the fall.
- Anderson University continues to be recognized as one of the best universities by nationwide publications. Its latest rankings and distinctions include:
  - Best Student Engagement: Ranked 25<sup>th</sup> among *the top 800* universities in the United States (Wall Street Journal/ Times Higher Education, 2022)
  - Among the **"Best Southeastern"** universities (*The Princeton Review*)
  - U.S. News & World Report, 2022 ranks Anderson University:
    - "Best First-Year Experience" among all colleges and universities;
    - **#2** in South Carolina for **Online Graduate Nursing programs**;
    - #2 in SC for Online Master of Business Administration (MBA);
    - **#5** in SC for **Online Bachelor Programs**
  - South Carolina's Business Journals' Top Workplace Survey recognized:
    - Anderson University as **#7** among the state's large employers;
    - President Evans P. Whitaker as top leader in the Large Company category
- In May, the University broke ground on a 45,000-square-foot Football Operations Center. It will host Trojan Football, Sports Medicine facilities, and other support functions.
- Anderson University welcomed Dr. Tracy C. Jessup, Ph.D., as Vice President for Christian Life and Senior Minister to the University this Summer.

- This fall, Anderson University begins several new programs including undergraduate degrees in engineering, a Pathologists' Assistant Program, and a Ph.D. in Preaching.
- This Spring, the 31 student-athletes of Women's Lacrosse will play their first season.

#### **Prayer Requests**

- Please join us in continuing to pray for our students and God's will for their lives.
- Join us in praying for the mission and health of faithful Christian institutions, like Anderson University, as we face increased cultural and social pressure against our Christ-centered values and practice. Pray that religious freedom will be respected and upheld.
- Please pray for our campus as we continue our ambitious capital projects campaign.



## Dr. Dondi E. Costin, President

Preparing graduates to advance God's kingdom defines our approach to helping students live on mission. In Great Commission terms, our role in making disciples is coordinating a comprehensive system to ensure students have the opportunity to discover God's plan for their lives by way of our *Passport to Purpose* initiative.

#### **Highlights:**

- We praise God that 49 CSU students received Jesus Christ as their Lord and Savior during formal campus ministry events this academic year. We thank the Lord as well that 400 SummerSalt students made decisions (including 117 salvations, 168 repentances, and 115 calls to ministry) on campus this summer.
- Charleston Metro Chamber of Commerce recognized CSU as the Lowcountry's 2022 Business of the Year, the only winner of its most prestigious award.
- Operation Christmas Child. CSU students, faculty, and staff set the national collegiate record for the third straight year, packing 10,924 shoeboxes in 2021.
- CSU awarded 776 academic degrees in 2021-2022, setting a record for the total number of CSU graduates in a single year.
- *U.S. News & World Report* ranked CSU No. 29 nationally in its Best Online Undergraduate Bachelor's Programs category and No. 21 for Veterans.
- Doctor of Education in Leadership. We awarded our first doctoral degree in university history, finishing the academic year with 32 new doctoral graduates.
- Doctor of Physical Therapy. CSU's new Physical Therapy program received its first cohort of 48 Physical Therapy doctoral students in May 2022.
- The FAA recognized our Aeronautics Program as an official Part-141 Pilot School. Graduates receive a B.S. degree and complete all FAA ratings and certificates (Private, Commercial, Multi-Engine, Instrument, and Flight Instructor) to pursue professional careers as military, commercial, or missionary pilots.

- Dewey Center for Chaplaincy hosted its first annual conference. This year's theme was Faith and Mental Health, which equipped participants in suicide intervention, post-traumatic stress, and the impact of faith on human flourishing.
- We celebrated God's provision from a generous alumnus to name the Hans A. Nielsen College of Business, the first named college in CSU history.
- We launched Charleston's first year-long Colson Fellows cohort, immersing eight professors in biblical worldview training to enhance their faith integration skills.
- Next Generation Mentoring Initiative. We partnered with the Charleston Baptist Association to connect CSU students to marketplace leaders in local churches.
- CSU Athletics had its best year in history, winning three Big South Conference championships, finishing second in another, and finishing third in the Big South's Sasser Cup competition (best all-around Athletics program).



## Dr. Gene Fant, President

In the academic year 2021-2022, the university's theme word—for a second year was Accelerate!, continuing the previous year's theme and echoing the words of Philippians 3:13-15: "I press toward the mark for the prize of the high calling of God in Christ Jesus."

This theme reflected our response to the pandemic and other challenges and opportunities. When driving a car in curves, there is an "inflection point" when it is possible to accelerate and use gravity to enhance the velocity of the vehicle. We believed that the power of the Holy Spirit would allow NGU to double down on its Christ-first mission as we moved out of the pandemic and into a new kind of normal. We seek to bring all things under the Lordship of Christ, including our mission of equipping transformational leaders for church & society, keeping Him at the forefront of everything we do, from academics to personnel recruitment, from campus ministries to athletics and cultural activities. We are guided in our work by a variety of documents and philosophical frameworks, including our Statement on Human Flourishing (https://ngu.edu/wp-content/uploads/2021/04/A-Statement-on-Human-Flourishing.pdf), which the Board of Trustees affirms at its first meeting of each year.

The university had an outstanding year. Our regional accreditor (SACSCOC) approved a third site for instruction, Pine Mountain GA, where we offer a Master of Arts in Leadership in conjunction with Impact 360 Institute, a Chick-fil-A-related foundation. This program equips leaders in a high-contact mentorship structure that reflects Chick-fil-A's commitment to servant leadership. A foundation provided the university with its largest single non-endowed scholarship gift, which will allow the opportunity for approximately ten students in the incoming class to attend all four years of their degree debt-free. The gift covers all unfunded tuition, room, board, and fees. We announced the largest capital project of the new administration, a complete renovation of historic Donnan Hall, which will house the executive offices and the College of Business & Entrepreneurship; we expect to complete the project in 2023, at a total cost of about \$8.5MM. While our financial audit is being finalized, we finished the year with a strong balance sheet. We continue to have no long-term, interest-bearing debt, allowing our tuition costs to

be less than many other similar institutions. We also completed certification / membership in both Excellence in Giving (https://excellenceingiving.com) and the Evangelical Council for Financial Accountability (https://www.ecfa.org). NGU is one of the only universities in the nation with both certifications, which evaluate our financial operations and commitment to transparency.

Athletics had a banner year—literally. NGU's baseball team won the national championship for NCAA Division II, sweeping its way through the College World Series; it also won its fourth straight Conference Carolinas championship. Men's volleyball not only won its Conference Carolinas championship but went on to play in the NCAA Division I playoffs in the legendary Pawley Pavilion at UCLA. The team swept Princeton University in the first round before losing to the eventual national champions, the University of Hawaii. These performances are proof that excellence and Christ-centeredness are not mutually exclusive, even in a secular context.

NGU continues to provide leaders who serve our churches and denominational structures. This year, an unusual number of leaders were named:

- Alum Daniel Dickard was named President of the SBC Pastor's Conference
- Alum Alex Sands was elected 2nd Vice President of the Southern Baptist Convention
- NGU Provost Nathan Finn was elected Recording Secretary of the SBC
- Alum David Sons was named chair-elect of the Executive Committee of the SBC
- Alum Josh Powell was elected chair of the Board of Trustees of the Southern Baptist Theological Seminary
- Alum Michael Pardue was elected President of the North Carolina Baptist Convention

We also had two former employees commissioned as IMB missionaries.

The university continues to hold a campus revival, "Ignite," to open our year's sessions and a Global Missions Conference in the fall semester. We also have a Worldview Week that allows students to consider important issues from a biblically faithful perspective. We consecrate our new academic year each fall with a public reading of the Bible, from Genesis to Revelation. We also have an annual marketplace ministry emphasis, bringing national and regional leaders to campus who can address how to integrate faith, business, and leadership. Even with the pandemic, we saw students come to faith in Christ and discern callings to church-related vocations.

This year marked the fifth of Pres. Fant's administration, with the board extending his contract. We look forward to many more years of stable leadership as we seek to glorify God in every aspect of the university's work. For over seventy years now, North Greenville University has been a part of the South Carolina Baptist Convention's network of ministry partnership entities. We are grateful for our partnerships and friendships, which have been incredibly encouraging during a year that has been complicated and sometimes discouraging. We value the support, accountability, and prayers of the convention and look forward to being partners in God's redemptive work in our state, nation, and world!

#### **Prayer Requests**

- Pray for wisdom and discernment as we navigate an increasingly hostile culture and weaponized legal and financial context.
- Pray for our faculty and staff as we continue to perform the ministry of intellectual discipleship, particularly as students pose questions and struggle with their spiritual formation and mental health in the wake of the pandemic.
- Pray for our students as they discover God's design for their lives and discern God's calling for their lives.
- Pray that God will allow us to be an irenic place of solace for those in our surrounding communities, as they see our love for Him and for our fellow persons lived out in our hearts, minds, souls, and strength.

## 2023 Committee on Committees

In accordance with the South Carolina Baptist Convention Bylaws, Part II, Article II, Convention President Wayne Bray has selected his Committee on Committees.

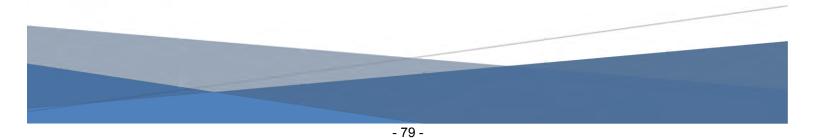
The Committee consists of at least one (1) from churches with five hundred (500) in worship or more, at least three (3) persons from churches with two hundred to four hundred and ninety-nine (200–499) in worship; at least three (3) from churches with fewer than two hundred (200) in worship, and at least one (1) from churches that are new works (church plants) which have been in existence between one (1) and five (5) years. Worship attendance shall be based on the latest published Annual Church Profile Report. The President is strongly encouraged to seek people who accurately reflect the ethnic diversity and regional representation of the South Carolina Baptist Convention.

The Committee on Committees nominates the Standing Committee members and, unless otherwise provided for, any special committees authorized by the Convention.

Member	Church, Association	Average Worship Attendance
Pat Gillen	Simpsonville First, Greenville	1,542
Cory Horton	Brushy Creek, Greenville	395
Chris Spires	Murrells Inlet First, Waccamaw	400
Mike McMinn	Whitefield, Palmetto	261
Anna Richardson	Fountain Inn First, Greenville	250
Michael Crawford	Florence First, Florence	101
Chuck Sprouse	Ninety Six First, Lakelands	183
Terry Corder	Mt. Pisgah, Kershaw	76
Clark McCrary	Irmo First, Lexington	121
Kyle Caudell	North Anderson, Saluda	89
Philip Beacham	Wise Drive, Santee	50
Dale Wood	Memorial (St. George) Screven	91
Nathan Dye	Selma, Woodruff	85
Ken Frederick	Blackville First, Barnwell-Bamberg	29
Arnaldo Silva	Iglesia Refugio, Greenville (2021)	

# 2022 South Carolina Baptist Convention

Articles of Incorporation Bylaws Part I Bylaws Part II



#### SOUTH CAROLINA BAPTIST CONVENTION

#### ARTICLES OF INCORPORATION

Pursuant to the provisions of the South Carolina Nonprofit Corporation Act, the undersigned corporation, presently named General Board of South Carolina Baptist Convention, hereby submits its Amended and Restated Charter, amending its present charter by deleting it in its entirety. This Amended and Restated Charter supersedes the corporation's original charter and all prior amendments thereto.

#### **ARTICLE I**

The name of the corporation is South Carolina Baptist Convention.

#### **ARTICLE II**

The corporation is a religious corporation

#### **ARTICLE III**

The corporation has no members.

#### **ARTICLE IV**

The corporation will have messengers (delegates) who shall constitute the Convention in session. The characteristics, qualifications, rights, limitations, and obligations of messengers, together with provisions for calling, noticing, holding, and conducting meetings of messengers, and the carrying on of corporate activities during and between meetings, shall be provided for in these Articles and the corporation's Bylaws.

#### **ARTICLE V**

- A. The Convention reserves the right to determine the identity of those persons who participate as messengers. The Convention shall consist of messengers who are members of Baptist churches in the state which are in friendly cooperation with the South Carolina Baptist Convention and evidence their concern by financial support through the Cooperative Program. Only members of the electing church may be seated as messengers from that church.
- B. Churches shall qualify for the seating of messengers as determined by the Bylaws.

#### **ARTICLE VI**

The address of the principle office for the corporation is 190 Stoneridge Drive, Columbia, South Carolina 29210-8239.

#### **ARTICLE VII**

The South Carolina Baptist Convention has the sole right to govern itself under the Lordship of Christ and recognizes the autonomy of churches and other Baptist bodies.

#### **ARTICLE VIII**

The comprehensive purpose of the South Carolina Baptist Convention shall be to serve churches throughout the state in efforts to advance the Kingdom of Christ in the world through evangelism, missions, education, benevolence, social ministries, public morals, and any other interests in the Kingdom of our Lord which the Convention shall undertake.

#### **ARTICLE IX**

The South Carolina Baptist Convention approves the Cooperative Program as the basic channel of support for our total world mission outreach. The Convention appeals to the churches to contribute through the Cooperative Program and to recognize the right and responsibility of the Convention to divide equitably Cooperative Program receipts.

#### **ARTICLE X**

The corporation shall be governed by a board of directors which shall be the Executive Board as elected by the messengers. All corporate powers and affairs of the corporation shall be exercised by, under the authority of, and under the direction of the Executive Board except to the extent that the Articles of Incorporation or Bylaws give the messengers the authority to declare the annual meeting in session.

#### **ARTICLE XI**

The corporation is nonprofit. The purposes for which the corporation is organized are to operate exclusively for religious purposes within the meaning of Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, or corresponding section of any future federal tax code. No part of the net earnings of the corporation shall inure to the benefit of, or be distributable to, its directors, officers, or other private individuals or persons, except that the corporation shall be authorized and empowered to pay reasonable compensation for goods and services rendered and to make payments in furtherance of the purposes set forth above. No substantial part of the activities of the corporation shall be the carrying on of propaganda or otherwise attempting to influence legislation and the corporation shall not participate in, or intervene in (including the publishing or distribution of statements) any political campaign on behalf of or in opposition to any candidate for public office. Notwithstanding any other provision of these Articles, the corporation shall not carry on any activities not permitted to be carried on by a corporation exempt from federal income tax under Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, or corresponding section of any future federal tax code, or by a corporation, contributions to which are deductible under Section 170(c)(2) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, or corresponding section of any future federal tax code.

#### **ARTICLE XII**

Upon dissolution, after all creditors of the corporation have been paid, the assets of the corporation shall be distributed to one (1) or more organizations which qualify as exempt organizations under Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, or corresponding section of any future tax code.

#### **ARTICLE XIII**

- A. After first reading to the Convention, amendments offered to this amended and restated Articles of Incorporation shall automatically be referred to the Bylaws Committee for study and report at the next annual meeting. Study by the committee shall not prevent consideration of the proposed amendment by the messengers.
- B. Amendments may be made in these Articles by a vote of two-thirds (2/3) of the messengers present and voting at any meeting of the Convention, and provided that:
  - 1. All amendments must be presented before the final session, and
  - 2. The amendment shall have been presented at a previous meeting of the Convention before action is taken on it.
- C. The requirements of Sections A and B above may be waived if the messengers evidence their belief that an emergency exists by a vote of three-fourths (3/4) of the messengers present and voting and if the substance of the amendment has been presented at least thirty (30) days in advance of the Convention to the Bylaws Committee, the Executive Board, and to the *Baptist Courier* for publication in one (1) of the following three (3) ways: (i) in a print edition; (ii) in an electronic edition; or (iii) on its website.
- D. Upon approval by the messengers, the amendment to the Articles of Incorporation shall be filed according to state law.

#### SOUTH CAROLINA BAPTIST CONVENTION

## BYLAWS PART I

#### ARTICLE I

#### ΝΑΜΕ

The name of this corporation is South Carolina Baptist Convention. The Bylaws, as that term is understood by the law, of the South Carolina Baptist Convention shall consist of Bylaws as determined by the messengers. The Executive Board Standing Rules and Business and Financial Plan are determined by the Executive Board. No portion of the Bylaws may be inconsistent with the Articles of Incorporation. The Business and Financial Plan and the Executive Board Standing Rules shall not be inconsistent with the Bylaws.

#### ARTICLE II

Churches shall qualify for the seating of messengers as follows:

- A. One (1) messenger from each church which is in friendly cooperation with this Convention and sympathetic with its purposes and work and has, during the fiscal year preceding, been a bona fide contributor to the Convention's work, which must include having made a monetary contribution to the Cooperative Program.
- B. One (1) additional messenger for each one thousand dollars (\$1,000.00) contributed to the work of the Convention through the Cooperative Program, during the fiscal year preceding the annual meeting.
- C. Newly organized and constituted churches will be eligible for messengers to the state annual meeting in the first year the church becomes a bona fide contributor to the work of the State Convention. Contributions to the State Convention must be received by October 31 of the first year.
- D. The maximum number of messengers allowed to any church shall be twenty-five (25).
- E. Messengers to the annual meeting shall be registered upon presentation of proper credentials. Credentials shall be presented by each messenger, in person at the annual meeting Registration Desk. Messengers registered in compliance with the provisions shall constitute the Convention.

#### **ARTICLE III**

#### CHURCH MEMBERSHIP OF OFFICERS, BOARDS, APPOINTEES, COMMITTEES

Except as provided in Bylaws Part I, Section D, Article VII, Item 3, for out-of-state trustees of institutions, all officers of the Convention, all appointees, and all persons elected to membership of the Executive Board, boards of trustees of the institutions, and Convention committees shall be members of Baptist churches in friendly cooperation with the South

Carolina Baptist Convention and sympathetic with its purposes and work and have during the fiscal year preceding been bona fide contributors to the Convention's work, which must include having made a monetary contribution to the Cooperative Program.

#### **ARTICLE IV**

#### OFFICERS

- A. The officers of the Convention shall be President, President-Elect, Vice President, Registration Secretary, and Treasurer (non-voting). The Executive Director-Treasurer of the Convention shall serve as Treasurer of the Convention.
- B. In case of the President's death, resignation, move from the state, or removal from office pursuant to Bylaws Part I, Article VI, Section B, Item 7, the Vice President shall automatically succeed to the office of President, and the President-Elect shall automatically succeed to the office of Vice President while continuing to serve as the President-Elect. Should the President-Elect no longer be able to fulfill the duties of the office, the office of the President-Elect shall remain vacant until the next annual session of the Convention, at which time both a President and a President-Elect will be elected pursuant to Bylaws Part II, Article I, Section E. Except as specified above, the Executive Board may fill any vacancies which may occur between annual meetings. Removal of an officer prior to the expiration of the term of office may occur only by a vote of two-thirds (2/3) of the messengers voting and after the officer has been advised of an intent to remove and after the officer has been advised of an intent.
- C. These officers shall perform the duties described by the Bylaws and by the parliamentary authority adopted by this Convention and as directed by the Convention.
- D. Officers, other than the President and the Treasurer, shall hold office for one (1) year or until their successors are elected and shall not be eligible to succeed themselves until one (1) year has elapsed. Any officer filling an unexpired term shall be eligible for election for one (1) full term. The President shall hold office for one (1) year and shall be succeeded by the President-Elect as provided in Bylaws Part II, Article I, Section E. The President may not serve as both President and President-Elect simultaneously.
- E. Officers shall begin their terms of service upon adjournment of the annual meeting at which they are elected.
- F. Except as provided in these Bylaws, the President-Elect shall have no duties, powers, or responsibilities, but shall be included on all correspondence and notices provided to the officers of the Convention, and shall have the opportunity to attend and observe, without voting power or authority, all meetings that may be attended by the President, whether in person or through some other mode of communication.

#### **ARTICLE V**

#### MEETINGS

A. Annual Meetings

The South Carolina Baptist Convention shall hold its meetings annually at such time and place as it may choose.

B. Special Meetings

In cases of important concern(s), the Executive Board shall instruct the Convention President to call a special meeting of the Convention provided two (2) weeks written notice is given through the South Carolina Baptist Convention website and the *Baptist Courier*.

#### **ARTICLE VI**

#### **EXECUTIVE BOARD**

- A. Authority and Function
  - 1. The Executive Board shall constitute the board of directors of the South Carolina Baptist Convention. The work of the Convention, except as otherwise specified, shall be committed to the Executive Board of the South Carolina Baptist Convention. The Executive Board shall not have authority to control the other boards of corporations sponsored by the Convention but shall maintain general care and responsibility for the work of these boards in the following manner: study annually their reports, interpret and apply the rules of the Bylaws of the Convention and the Business and Financial Plan of the Executive Board, make recommendations boards. directlv to these and make whatever recommendations to the Convention concerning them it may deem advisable.
  - 2. While the messengers and the members of the Executive Board shall mutually respect the rights which the Articles of Incorporation and the Bylaws vested in the Convention in session and in the Executive Board, the directives to the Executive Board, not contrary to the Articles of Incorporation and Bylaws of the Convention and not invasive upon the rights of boards of trustees of the sponsored institutions, shall be carried out by the Executive Board.
  - 3. All actions of the corporation and all decisions concerning the investment, management, and utilization of the Executive Board contingent reserve, shall be made by the Executive Board or by persons pursuant to the authority vested in them by the Executive Board.
  - 4. It shall also be the responsibility and prerogative of the Executive Board to determine when a member of the Executive Board or a trustee of an institution should be removed from office prior to the expiration of the member's or trustee's term.
    - a. If the Executive Board finds that a member or trustee has been absent for three (3) consecutive meetings of the board, the member or trustee shall be deemed to have resigned, and the position shall be declared vacant.

- b. If the Executive Board determines by a vote of at least two-thirds (2/3) of the members of the Executive Board in office that one (1) or more of the cited causes for removal of a member of the Executive Board or a trustee of an institution exists (see Bylaws Part I, Article VI, Section B, Item 7), the member's or trustee's position shall be declared vacant.
- c. Upon the occurrence of either of the two above events, the Executive Board shall advise the member or trustee. The Executive Board shall advise the secretary of the board on which the trustee serves of the Executive Board's action. This notice shall occur not less than sixty (60) days prior to the annual meeting. Unless a written appeal is filed in the office of the Executive Director-Treasurer within ten (10) days of the effective date of the notice, the position held by the member or trustee shall be deemed vacant and the Nominations Committee so advised. If a timely appeal occurs, the matter shall be reconsidered. The member or trustee shall be afforded a hearing before the Executive Board if such a request is contained in the appeal.
- d. If the Executive Board determines by an affirmative vote of two-thirds (2/3) of the members of the Executive Board in office that the absences should not be excused or reaffirms its conclusion that the cause for removal does exist, the Executive Board shall recommend to the Convention removal of the member or trustee and shall so advise the Nominations Committee. The Executive Board's decision on appeal shall be communicated to the member or trustee and the secretary of the affected board.
- e. A member or trustee who is removed from office prior to the expiration of the term to which he or she has been elected shall not be eligible for election to any board whose members are chosen by the Convention for the unexpired term to which the member or trustee had been elected.
- f. Notice under this section may be oral unless specifically required to be in writing. Notice may be communicated in person, by telephone, fax, email, or by certified mail.
- B. Membership
  - 1. The membership of the Executive Board shall include two (2) members from each of twelve (12) geographic regions as determined by the Bylaws Committee (Bylaws Part II, Article III, Section F, Item 2) with at least one (1) of the two (2) members in each region coming from a church with fewer than 200 in worship attendance and four (4) at-large members selected by the Nominations Committee. Only one (1) person from a church affiliated with the Convention may serve as an elected member of the Board at a given time. No region shall have more than three (3) members. Members may come from unassigned churches within a given region and not participating in an association, but affiliated with the South Carolina Baptist Convention within that region. At the time of the

member's election, the member shall have been a member for at least one (1) year of a church in the area of the region from which the person is elected. The Convention President is a voting member of the Executive Board completing a twenty-nine (29) member Board. Membership of the Executive Board shall also include the following non-voting ex officio members: Convention officers, the state president of the Woman's Missionary Union, and the state president of the Baptist Collegiate Ministries. No member of the Executive Board, except ex officio members, shall serve simultaneously on a board of trustees of a South Carolina Baptist Convention-sponsored institution.

- 2. The Executive Director-Treasurer of the Executive Board, who also serves as Treasurer of the Convention, shall serve as an ex officio, non-voting member of the Executive Board, and aid by furnishing information, printed material, and needed guidance for the work of the Executive Board.
- 3. The elected members of the Executive Board shall be divided into two (2) groupings: one (1) group comprised of ordained church employees, and one (1) group comprised of others. No more than eighty (80) percent of the members of the Board shall be drawn from either grouping. The Board will include, within the two (2) groupings, persons with business expertise, women, and ethnically diverse people to provide a capable and inclusive membership. Only one (1) person from an affiliated church may serve as an elected member of the Board at a given time. At the time of the member's election, the member shall have been a member for a least one (1) year of a church in the region from which the person is elected.
- 4. The term of office of elected members of the Executive Board shall be four (4) years. Terms commence January 1 following election by the messengers. Members of the Board shall not succeed themselves, except in the case of the Convention President serving one (1) year or a member who has first been elected to fill less than one-half (1/2) of an unexpired term. The terms of approximately one-fourth (1/4) of the membership of the Board shall expire annually. One (1) year shall elapse before a member may be returned to the Executive Board or be elected to any other board of the Convention.
- 5. No member of the Executive Board, except ex officio members, shall have any official connection with any of the institutions of the Convention, nor shall the member be an employee of the Convention, an institution of the Convention, or an association.
- 6. Any member of the Executive Board who moves church membership to another region in the state shall remain on the Board until the Convention fills that vacancy. Any member of the Board who becomes a member of a church in another state shall thereby terminate membership on the Board. Any vacancy occurring on the Board shall be filled for the remainder of the term by the Convention's nominating and election process. The Board may temporarily fill the vacancy pending the Convention's election.

- 7. The Convention may remove an elected member of the Executive Board prior to the expiration of the term for which the member has been elected, upon the recommendation of the Executive Board, by a vote of two-thirds (2/3) of the messengers voting. Removal may occur only upon the Convention's finding that removal of the member is in the best interest of the convention and one (1) or more of the following causes for removal are deemed in the judgment of the Convention to exist: breach of trust, neglect of duty, physical or mental incapacity of the member; conduct by the member which is deemed by the Convention to be immoral, fraudulent, or dishonest; or the member's engaging in a conflict of interest transaction.
- C. Organization Documents, Officers, and Committees

The Executive Board shall govern itself by the election of such officers and committees, and by the adoption of the Executive Board Standing Rules and such other rules, and the procedures of the Executive Board deems desirable. The Executive Board shall adopt a Business and Financial Plan.

- D. Convention Employees
  - 1. Executive Director-Treasurer
    - a. The Executive Director-Treasurer shall be nominated by the Board and elected by the messengers for an indefinite term. When a vacancy occurs, nominations from the floor shall be allowed. The Executive Board is empowered to manage and terminate the ExecutiveDirector-Treasurer.
    - b. The Executive Director-Treasurer shall be the chief executive officer supervising and coordinating the work of all the employees of the Convention through the administrative staff. The Executive Director-Treasurer shall, as Treasurer of the Convention, authenticate records of the corporation.
  - 2. Other Employees

The Executive Director-Treasurer shall be solely authorized to employ, manage, and terminate all Convention staff.

#### **ARTICLE VII**

#### INSTITUTIONS

A. Purposes

The Convention shall sponsor institutions for the accomplishment of the purposes of the Convention and shall elect the members of the boards of trustees (directors) to which the governance of these institutions shall be committed in accordance with their charters.

B. Identification of Sponsored Institutions

The following are the institutions sponsored pursuant to the Convention's Bylaws: Anderson University, *Baptist Courier*, Baptist Foundation of South Carolina, Charleston Southern University, Connie Maxwell Children's Ministries, North Greenville University, and South Carolina Baptist Ministries for the Aging, Inc.

- C. Changes Regarding Sponsored Institutions
  - 1. A motion made to the Convention to dissolve or substantially alter the relationship between the Convention and a sponsored institution or to add a sponsored institution may be made by the Executive Board. Any such motion not originating in the Executive Board shall be referred to the Executive Board for study and a recommendation to the following Convention. If the motion is in the nature of or contains an amendment to the Bylaws, the motion shall be considered in keeping with the amendment provisions of these Bylaws.
  - 2. A request by the board of trustees of an institution to dissolve or substantially alter the relationship between the Convention and that institution shall be conveyed in writing to the Executive Board. The Executive Board shall submit the institution request, along with the Board recommendation, and call for a vote by the messengers at the annual meeting.
- D. Terms of Trustees' Service
  - 1. Trustees shall be elected to a term of five (5) years, except trustees being elected to complete an unexpired term. One-fifth (1/5) of the trustees shall retire from each board each year. Board members shall not be eligible to succeed themselves or be elected to any other board until one (1) year has elapsed, except in the case of a board member who has first been elected to fill less than one-half (1/2) of an unexpired term. Terms commence January 1 following election by the Convention.
  - 2. No person shall serve on more than one (1) board of trustees at the same time. A person who is an employee of or who has an official connection with an institution of South Carolina Baptist Convention or the Executive Board, except officers of the Convention, may not serve as a member of a board of trustees of an institution sponsored by the Convention.
  - 3. At least four-fifths (4/5) of the trustees of each institution must be South Carolina residents who are members of a South Carolina church in friendly cooperation with the Convention and the trustee affirms the *Baptist Faith and Message 2000* as provided in Bylaws Part II, Article III, Section C, Item 4.d.ii. Up to one-fifth (1/5) of the trustees of each institution may be nonresidents of South Carolina provided they are members of churches in friendly cooperation with the Southern Baptist Convention and the trustee affirms the *Baptist Faith and Message 2000* as provided in Bylaws Part II, Article III, Section C, Item 4.d.ii. Up to one-fifth (1/5) of the trustees of each institution may be nonresidents of South Carolina provided they are members of churches in friendly cooperation with the Southern Baptist Convention and the trustee affirms the *Baptist Faith and Message 2000* as provided in Bylaws Part II, Article III, Section C, Item 4.d.ii. The date for determining whether a trustee is an in-state or out-of-state trustee shall be the date of his or her election by the Convention. However, if an in-state trustee ceases to be a South Carolina resident during his or her term of office, and thereby causes more than one-fifth (1/5) of the trustees of the affected institution to be out-of-state trustee's membership on the institution's board.
  - 4. The elected membership of the Board of Trustees shall be divided into two (2) groupings: one (1) group comprised of ordained church employees, and one (1)

group comprised of others. No more than eighty (80) percent of the members of the Board shall be drawn from either grouping. The Board will include, within the two (2) groupings, persons with business expertise, women, and ethnically diverse people for the purpose of providing a capable and inclusive membership. Only one (1) person from an affiliated church may serve as an elected member of the Board at a given time. At the time of the member's election, the member shall have been a member for at least one (1) year of a church in the area of the association from which the person is elected.

E. Trustee Attendance

The Secretary of each institution shall report to the Executive Director-Treasurer those trustees who are absent for three (3) consecutive meetings of the board.

F. Articles of Incorporation

All proposed Articles of Incorporation, or changes or amendments to Articles of Incorporation of institutions sponsored by the Convention under these Bylaws, and of a subsidiary corporation created by a sponsored institution, shall be submitted by the institution to the Convention or the Executive Board, according to the criteria set forth below in Section G, Item 6, for approval before they become effective.

G. Contents of Articles of Incorporation

The Articles of Incorporation of an institution sponsored by the Convention under these Bylaws shall contain the following provisions:

- 1. The board of directors (trustees), consisting of (*a specific number of*) persons, a number sanctioned by the South Carolina Baptist Convention, shall be elected by the South Carolina Baptist Convention in session.
- 2. Trustees shall be elected for terms of five (5) years. Trustees' terms shall be staggered.
- 3. South Carolina Baptist Convention may remove trustees prior to the expiration of the term of the trustees' election upon the recommendation of the Convention's Executive Board, by a vote of two-thirds (2/3) of the messengers voting. Removal may occur only upon the Convention's finding that removal of the trustee is in the best interest of the corporation and one (1) or more of the following causes for removal are deemed in the judgment of the Convention to exist: breach of trust, neglect of duty, physical or mental incapacity of the trustee; conduct by the trustee which is deemed by the Convention to be immoral, fraudulent or dishonest; the trustee's engaging in a conflict of interest transaction.
- 4. Vacancies in the board of trustees may be filled temporarily by the Executive Board pending the filling of the vacancy for the unexpired term by the South Carolina Baptist Convention.
- 5. The trustees may adopt Bylaws consistent with the Articles of Incorporation.
- 6. Any proposed amendment to the Articles of Incorporation must be approved in writing by the Executive Board of South Carolina Baptist Convention or by South Carolina Baptist Convention. Any amendment to the Articles of Incorporation that

would change the relationship of the institution with the South Carolina Baptist Convention must be approved by messengers at the annual meeting.

- 7. Any merger shall require the consent of the South Carolina Baptist Convention.
- 8. Before the corporation may sell, lease, exchange, or otherwise dispose of all or substantially all of its property other than in the usual and regular course of its activities, the permission of the South Carolina Baptist Convention must be secured.
- 9. Dissolution of the corporation may occur only with the permission of the South Carolina Baptist Convention, and upon dissolution, the assets of the corporation shall pass to South Carolina Baptist Convention if at that time the Convention is a nonprofit corporation within the meaning of 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code or corresponding section of any future federal tax code. If the Convention is not a nonprofit corporation, then the assets of the corporation shall be distributed to one (1) or more nonprofit organizations selected by the Convention.
- 10. The corporation is a religious nonprofit corporation.
- The Articles shall contain language appropriate for a corporation exempt from federal taxation under 501(c)(3) or a successor section of the Internal Revenue Code.

#### **ARTICLE VIII**

#### **GIFTS AND LEGACIES**

The Convention shall receive contributions, legacies, and bequests for the several objects which it fosters. All designated gifts for South Carolina Baptist Convention and Southern Baptist Convention causes shall be applied to the objects specified by the donor. When any contribution or bequest is made without designation, the same shall be applied to the Cooperative Program. The Baptist Foundation of South Carolina is the institution designated for the management of trust funds.

#### **ARTICLE IX**

#### SUPREME AUTHORITY

The Holy Bible shall be the supreme and final authority for all of the activities of the Convention and for all decisions that are made by or on behalf of the Convention.

#### **ARTICLE X**

#### STATEMENT OF FAITH

While the Holy Bible shall be the supreme and final authority, the *Baptist Faith and Message 2000* shall be the Convention's statement of faith.

#### **ARTICLE XI**

#### PARLIAMENTARY AUTHORITY

The rules contained in the latest edition of *Robert's Rules of Order, Newly Revised* shall govern the Convention in all cases to which they are applicable and in which they are not

inconsistent with the Articles of Incorporation or these Bylaws and/or any special rules of order the Convention may adopt.

#### ARTICLE XII

#### AMENDMENTS

- A. After a first reading to the Convention, amendments offered to Part I of the Bylaws shall automatically be referred to the Bylaws Committee for study and report at the next annual or special meeting of the Convention. Study by the committee shall not prevent consideration of the proposed amendment by the Convention.
- B. Voting
  - 1. Amendments may be made to these Bylaws, Part I, by a vote of two-thirds (2/3) of the messengers present and voting at any meeting of the Convention, provided that:
    - a. Amendments must be presented before the final session, and
    - b. The amendment shall have been presented at the previous annual or special meeting of the Convention before action is taken on it.
  - 2. The requirements of Section B, Item 1 (a and b) above may be waived if the messengers evidence their belief that an emergency exists by a vote of three-fourths (3/4) of the messengers present and voting, and if the substance of the amendment has been presented at least thirty (30) days in advance of the Convention to the Bylaws Committee, the Executive Board, and to the *Baptist Courier* for publication in one (1) of the following three (3) ways: (i) in a print edition; (ii) in an electronic edition; or (iii) on its website.

Bylaws Part I last amended November 9, 2021

#### SOUTH CAROLINA BAPTIST CONVENTION

#### BYLAWS

#### PART II

#### ARTICLE I

#### **CONVENTION PROCEDURE**

A. Order of Business

- 1. Time shall be provided throughout the annual meeting for devotional exercises.
- 2. As the first order of business, the annual meeting shall organize itself by enrolling messengers upon recommendation of the Enrollment and Credentials Committee.
- 3. New associations shall be recognized upon recommendation of the Executive Board.
- 4. Periods of time during the annual meeting shall be provided for the introduction of all matters requiring a vote not scheduled on the agenda. Such matters shall have time for consideration scheduled by Convention staff in conjunction with the Elected Convention Officers and the Executive Director-Treasurer. The time set for consideration shall be announced by the Convention President or his designee and action taken thereon at a subsequent meeting during that session of the annual meeting unless the Convention gives its consent by a vote of two-thirds (2/3) of the messengers present and voting for immediate consideration.
- 5. Reports from the South Carolina Baptist Convention Ministry Partners (institutions) shall be provided.
- B. Minutes
  - 1. Minutes of the annual meeting proceedings shall be kept by the office of the Executive Director-Treasurer.
  - 2. The South Carolina Baptist Convention Annual shall include the minutes of the Convention proceedings.
  - 3. Any requests made regarding the dedication of the South Carolina Baptist Convention Annual in memory or in honor of someone shall be brought to the Executive Board of the South Carolina Baptist Convention no later than October 1. The Executive Board shall have the responsibility of presenting to the Convention any requests for the dedication of the Annual as it may deem wise. Exceptions may be made in the case of an emergency or by a two-thirds (2/3) vote of the Convention messengers present and voting.
- C. Convention Bulletin

A Convention bulletin shall be provided for messengers during each session of the annual meeting.

D. Parliamentarian

The President shall appoint two (2) Convention Parliamentarians, whose duties shall be those described in the latest edition of *Robert's Rules of Order, Newly Revised*.

- E. Elections
  - 1. The President-Elect, Vice President, and Registration Secretary shall be elected at the second session of the annual meeting. Election of officers shall proceed in order without waiting for a report of tellers from one (1) office before making a nomination for the next office. The President each year shall be the President-Elect who was in office immediately before the election of officers; provided, however, that in the event the office of the President-Elect has been vacated prior to the election of officers, a President shall be elected at the time provided in this paragraph and prior to the election of the other officers.
  - 2. Election shall be by ballot following a nomination from the floor. A written ballot may be waived in the event of only one (1) nominee. In the event no one receives a majority of votes cast, a second ballot shall be taken on the two (2) nominees receiving the highest number of votes. A second ballot shall become the next order of business. The person receiving the second-highest number of votes in one (1) election may not be elected to another office without regular nomination and ballot for that office.
- F. Voting Procedures

In order to cast a ballot, a messenger must be present in the meeting room(s) at the time a ballot is taken. Voting by proxy is not permitted. G. Resolutions

- 1. The parliamentary authority adopted by this Convention shall be used to differentiate between a motion and a resolution.
- 2. All resolutions to be offered to the Convention shall be submitted to the Committee on Resolutions in writing at least thirty (30) days prior to the annual meeting. Individuals desiring to speak to a resolution shall have the right to appear before the Committee.
- 3. Exceptions may be made in the case of emergency resolutions dealing with developments such as national disasters or public tragedies. The rules may be suspended, and a resolution considered if the Convention directs by a two-thirds (2/3) vote of the messengers present and voting. Exceptions must be introduced during the first session of the annual meeting and made available to messengers in print prior to voting on the resolution.

- 4. The Committee on Resolutions shall report the title, name of presenter, and disposition of every resolution received. The report of the Committee on Resolutions shall be printed in the Convention bulletin prior to the time of its first report.
- H. Nominations

Whenever nominations are made by committees, other individuals may be nominated from the floor, with the exception of nominations for institutional trusteeships, which shall be made solely by the Nominations Committee according to the procedures set forth in Article III, Section C, Item 4.d below.

I. Quorum

Twenty-five (25) percent of the registered messengers shall constitute a quorum.

J. Annual Meeting Cancellation

The Convention Officers, the Executive Advisory Team, the President of the Woman's Missionary Union, and the Presidents of the Convention Ministry Partners, acting as a body, may cancel or change the place or time of the annual meeting in case of an emergency. In this instance, all elected officers, committee members, Executive Board members, and Trustees shall continue to fulfill their positions until the next annual meeting.

#### ARTICLE II

Committee on Committees

- A. The President, in consultation with the Executive Director-Treasurer, shall appoint at each annual meeting fifteen (15) persons to act as a Committee on Committees to function from the close of the annual session in which they are appointed through the next annual session. The fifteen (15) persons shall be made up of at least one (1) from churches with five hundred (500) in worship or more, at least three (3) persons from churches with two hundred to four hundred and ninety-nine (200–499) in worship; at least three (3) from churches with fewer than two hundred (200) in worship, and at least one (1) from churches that are new works (church plants) which have been in existence between one (1) and five (5) years. Worship attendance shall be based on the latest published Annual Church Profile Report. The President is strongly encouraged to seek people who accurately reflect the ethnic diversity and regional representation of the South Carolina Baptist Convention.
- B. The duty of the Committee on Committees shall be to nominate at the next annual meeting the Standing Committees and, unless otherwise provided for, any special committees authorized by the Convention. At

least thirty (30) days before the annual meeting, the names of those nominated shall be released to the *Baptist Courier* for publication in one (1) of the following three (3) ways: (i) in a print edition; (ii) in an electronic edition; or (iii) on its website. The Committee shall meet at least twice a year, with the first meeting for orientation purposes. The Committee, in consultation with the Executive Director-Treasurer, shall organize its work and seek suggestions from Baptist individuals and churches in such ways, including the use of the South Carolina Baptist Convention website and the *Baptist Courier*, as to provide the various committees with membership which is best suited to represent the Convention in providing the type of leadership required and meeting the special needs of each standing committee.

#### ARTICLE III

#### STANDING COMMITTEES

Unless otherwise specified, all terms on Standing Committees shall be for one (1) year, and no person shall serve two (2) consecutive terms on the same committee. However, for committees with specified terms of more than one (1) year, a person first elected to fill less than one-half (1/2) of an unexpired term may be re-elected to a full term without waiting a year. No person shall serve on more than one (1) standing committee at the same time by election or appointment. Terms commence January 1 following election by the Convention. If a member of a standing committee has been absent for three (3) consecutive meetings of the committee, the member shall be deemed to have resigned, and the position to be declared vacant. The chair of the standing committee shall notify the Committee member that the position is declared vacant, and notify the Executive Director-Treasurer's office and the Committee on Committees for a new member to be nominated to the Convention to serve on the standing committee.

A person must serve at least one (1) year on a standing committee before being elected as its chairperson with the exception of one (1) year committees.

There shall be the following Standing Committees:

- A. Enrollment and Credentials
  - 1. This committee shall be composed of seven (7) members, one (1) of whom shall be the Registration Secretary of the Convention.
  - 2. This committee shall be available at all times at the annual meeting to address any problems that arise concerning the seating of messengers. The decision of this committee may be appealed to the

Convention by any person whose eligibility to be seated as a messenger is questioned.

- B. Nominations
  - This committee shall be composed of twenty-four (24) members two (2) members from each of twelve (12) geographic regions. Each member shall be from churches in different associations. The committee shall be divided into two (2) groupings: one (1) group comprised of ordained church employees, and one (1) group comprised of others. No more than eighty (80) percent of the committee shall be drawn from either grouping. A member shall serve a term of three (3) years. The terms of approximately onethird (1/3) of the members shall expire annually. A member who moves church membership from one (1) geographic region to another within the state shall remain on the committee until the next annual meeting. A member who moves church membership from the state shall, thereby, terminate membership on the committee. Vacancies occurring on his committee shall be filled by action of the Convention at its next annual session. No member of this committee may serve or be nominated as a member of the Executive Board or a board of trustees of any institution of the Convention while serving on the Committee on Nominations.
  - 2. It shall be the responsibility of this committee to nominate members of the Executive Board and boards of trustees of institutions of the Convention. The committee shall organize its work and seek suggestions from Baptist individuals, churches, and chief executive officers, and trustee chairpersons of institutions in such ways, including the use of the South Carolina Baptist Convention website and the *Baptist Courier*, as to provide the various boards with membership which is best suited to represent the Convention in providing the type of leadership required and meeting the special needs of institutions. The committee shall endeavor to provide that representation from every segment of Baptist constituency is afforded participation in Convention life. The committee should seek people who accurately reflect the ethnic diversity of the South Carolina Baptist Convention.
  - 3. Thirty (30) days prior to the annual session of the Convention the names of those nominated and of those the Executive Board will recommend for removal shall be released to the *Baptist Courier* for publication in one (1) of the following three (3) ways: (i) in a print edition; (ii) in an electronic edition; or (iii) on its website.
  - 4. The first annual meeting of the Nominations Committee shall be given to a thorough orientation process. The Executive Director-

Treasurer shall be responsible for developing, implementing, and monitoring the orientation efforts.

- a. A member shall have served at least one (1) year in the current term to be eligible to serve as chair of the committee.
- b. The Nominations Committee shall strive to consider nominees from as many different churches in various parts of the state as possible. Deliberations by the committee on prospective nominees to serve on boards shall be substantive. Records of the Nominations Committee meetings shall be kept in the office of the Executive Director-Treasurer.
- c. The Nominations Committee shall consider the criteria developed by the respective institutions of the Convention in making nominations for trustees to serve those institutions. The criteria shall not be inconsistent with existing requirements in the Convention Bylaws and the Expectations of Prospective Trustees and Executive Board Members.
- d. Written expectations for the respective positions of service shall be submitted to prospective candidates considered by the Nominations Committee. All prospective candidates must commit in writing to these expectations before they are approved by the Nominations Committee for presentation to the Convention for election. These expectations are that the nominee and the nominee's Southern Baptist Convention Church of membership must: 1) affirm and reflect in practice the vision and mission of the South Carolina Baptist Convention; 2) affirm and reflect in practice the *Baptist Faith and Message 2000*; and 3) affirm and reflect in practice sacrificial support for Great Commission giving, including the Cooperative Program.
- e. The following procedures shall be followed in electing institutional trustees.
  - The Nominations Committee shall be subdivided into seven (7) subcommittees—one (1) for each institution. A committee member may serve on no more than two (2) subcommittees.
  - ii. Each subcommittee, together with the President of its designated institution, shall select the nominees for the offices of trustee of the designated institution, which nominees shall have affirmed the *Baptist Faith and Message 2000*. The agreement of both the subcommittee and the President of the designated institution shall be required to advance a nomination to the full Nominations Committee no less than two (2) weeks prior to the full Nominations

Committee meeting. Only one (1) nomination shall be advanced for each trusteeship.

- iii. The full Nominations Committee shall separately consider each nomination advanced by the subcommittees. The committee shall vote whether to advance each nomination to the Convention, which shall require a majority vote. If a nomination does not receive the required votes for advancement to the Convention, such nominee shall not be eligible for renomination to the trusteeship then under consideration, and the process described in Subpart (ii) above shall be repeated until the Nominations Committee has voted to advance a nominee to the Convention for each trusteeship to be filled.
- iv. The full Convention in session shall separately consider each nomination advanced by the Nominations Committee. The Convention shall vote whether to confirm each nomination, which shall require a majority vote. If a nomination does not receive the required votes for confirmation, the process shall proceed in accordance with Subpart (vi) below.
- v. No person shall be eligible for nomination or appointment to an institutional trusteeship whose previous nomination to any institutional trusteeship failed to receive the votes necessary for confirmation by the Convention in session during its current or most recent annual meeting.
- vi. If a nominee for an institutional trusteeship is not confirmed by the Convention in session and the Executive Board, by a two-thirds (2/3) vote, certifies that there is a critical need to fill the vacant trusteeship before the next annual meeting of the full Convention, the Executive Board shall require Subparts (ii) and (iii) to be repeated, and shall, subject to Subpart (v) above, have the full authority of the Convention to confirm, by majority vote, the nominee advanced by the Nominations Committee.
- C. Resolutions
  - 1. This committee shall be composed of six (6) members. Two (2) members will rotate off each year and serve a three-year (3) term.
  - It shall be the responsibility of this committee to receive written resolutions and review, comment on, draft, and recommend to the Convention any memorials or resolutions it may deem wise. The procedure for receiving and reporting resolutions are given in Bylaws, Part II, Article I, Section G, Resolutions.
- D. Christian Life and Public Affairs
  - 1. This committee shall be composed of nine (9) members, three (3) to be elected each year to serve for three (3) years.

- 2. It shall be the responsibility of this committee to study moral, social, and cultural conditions of society and bring reports and recommendations to the Convention as it may deem advisable. It shall report actions of the Convention in the realm of Christian life and public affairs to the public and seek to assist churches and associations in educational programs to inform Baptists on moral issues and Christian citizenship responsibilities.
- E. Bylaws
  - 1. This committee shall be composed of nine (9) members, three (3) to be elected each year to serve for three (3) years.
  - 2. It shall be the responsibility of this committee to review periodically the Convention's procedures, to study matters concerning the corporation's Articles of Incorporation (charter) and these Bylaws Part I and Part II, to review the geographic boundaries that determine the membership of the Executive Board, and to report its findings and/or recommendations to the Convention.
- F. History
  - 1. This committee shall be composed of six (6) members, two (2) to be elected each year to serve for three (3) years.
  - 2. It shall be the responsibility of this committee to:
    - a. Provide general oversight for the South Carolina Baptist Convention Historical Room and archives room located in the South Carolina Baptist Convention Building;
    - b. Maintain contact with the curator of the South Carolina Baptist Historical Collection housed at Furman University;
    - c. Inform South Carolina Baptists of their Southern Baptist heritage in various ways including an annual report to the Convention;
    - d. Encourage churches to maintain their church histories;
    - e. Develop appropriate recognition of the Convention's anniversaries in twenty-five (25) year increments, and;
    - f. Relate to the South Carolina Baptist Historical Society on behalf of the South Carolina Baptist Convention as needed.

#### **ARTICLE IV**

#### AMENDMENTS

Part II of these Bylaws may be amended by a vote of two-thirds (2/3) of the messengers present and voting at any meeting of the Convention, provided that:

- 1. An amendment shall have been submitted in writing during the first session, and
- 2. No amendment may be considered after the second session of the annual meeting, and
- 3. An amendment shall have been printed in the Convention bulletin or made available to the messengers in print prior to voting, and
- 4. An amendment shall have been submitted to the *Baptist Courier* for publication in one (1) of the following three (3) ways: (i) in a print edition; (ii) in an electronic edition;

or (iii) on its website and to the Bylaws Committee and to the Executive Board not less than thirty (30) days prior to the first day of the session.

Bylaws Part II last amended November 9, 2021

HELPING EACH CHURCH ADVANCE THE GREAT COMMISSION TOGETHER

## each church every life

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