

Six resolutions were presented by the Resolutions Committee during the 2011 Annual Meeting in Martinsburg, West Virginia, November 4 and 5. Committee members Raymond Bouchoc, Dick Howie, James Smith, Don Chandler, David Sommerville, and Dennis Cherry.

Resolution #1

Appreciation for Officers and State Staff

Whereas, Our convention president, Seth Polk has served faithfully with distinction as pastor and has led our convention as president with dedication to his mission spirit and the fulfillment of Across West Virginia; and

Whereas, Our First Vice President Greg Varndell, Second Vice President David Dockery, have ably assisted the president and the staff of the West Virginia Convention of Southern Baptists in preparation for this meeting; and

Whereas, Terry Harper and the staff of the West Virginia Convention of Southern Baptists have lead us in the vision of Across West Virginia to reach 1.2 million lost people in; therefore, be it

Resolved, That the messengers of the 41st Annual Meeting of the West Virginia Convention of Southern Baptists West Virginia Convention of Southern Baptists express our sincere thanks and appreciation for their exemplary leadership.

Resolution #2

Appreciation for Westview Baptist Church, the Tri County Baptist Association, and the Employees of the West Virginia Convention of Southern Baptists

Whereas, The staff and members of the Westview Baptist Church have been so gracious to host the 41st Annual Meeting of the West Virginia Convention of Southern Baptists; and

Whereas, The employees of the West Virginia Convention of Southern Baptists have played an extended role in planning and organizing this year's Annual Meeting; and

Whereas, The employees of the West Virginia Convention of Southern Baptists have been faithful to minister through encouragement and prayer for those in West Virginia and faithfully serve the people and churches of West Virginia through their travelling of many miles and their sacrifice of time; therefore, be it

Resolved, That we the messengers of the 41st Annual Meeting of the West Virginia Convention of Southern Baptists express our sincere appreciation for their continued ministry to us, and to their attendance to our comfort and needs during these days of celebration and renewal.

Resolution #3

Affirming NAMB Missionaries in West Virginia: Associational Missionaries, BCM, CCM, and Church Planters

Whereas, The NAMB missionaries serving in West Virginia serve faithfully, fruitfully, and with great focus in accomplishing their respective tasks;

Whereas, Their sacrificial service to the Lord and to Across West Virginia is reaping benefits for the kingdom of God;

Whereas, Associational Missionaries in West Virginia are critical to Across West Virginia and have cooperated in and coordinated the planting new congregations in West Virginia since;

Whereas, Baptist Collegiate Ministry missionaries serving on the campuses of West Virginia's colleges and universities are engaging students with the gospel of Christ, discipling the saved, and involving students in ministry;

Whereas, The Church and Community Ministry Missionaries at Ministry centers are reaching into their communities to the meet physical needs of hurting people while sharing the hope found only in Christ and, are involving West Virginia churches in their ministries;

Whereas, Starting new churches is critical to reaching West Virginia's 1.2 million lost citizens for Christ and church planters are making progress in started churches in underserved and unreached areas of West Virginia; therefore, be it

Resolved, We express our sincere appreciation to NAMB missionaries in West Virginia for their continuing labor in their respective ministries; and be it further

Resolved, That we commit ourselves to pray for and support these servants as we are enabled by the Lord; and be it finally

Resolved, That the messengers to the 41st annual meeting of the West Virginia Convention of Southern Baptists Annual Meeting in Martinsburg, West Virginia, November 4 and 5, 2011, respectfully request the trustees of the North American Mission Board to continue their financial support of their missionaries in West Virginia.

Resolution #4

Starting and Strengthening of Churches

Whereas, God has left us with the Great Commission to make disciples and teach them in the ways of the Lord (Matt 28:19-20); and

Whereas, the local church is the most effective way of completing the Great Commission and has been establish by God; and

Whereas, starting new churches helps reach the unreached with the gospel of Christ and disciples those people; and

Whereas, There is a natural tendency of drift of the church away from mission that results in areas of weakness or need within the church; therefore, be it

Resolved, That the messengers of the 41st Annual Meeting of the West Virginia Convention of Southern Baptists call churches of West Virginia to continue to recognize the urgency of the need around them and remain committed to Across West Virginia to continue the effort to start new churches in West Virginia; and be it further

Resolved, That all churches continue to strengthen themselves, availing themselves to the resources that God has provided through our state convention, and remain committed to the commission that Christ has given His church.

Resolution #5

Affirmation of Armed Forces Personnel

Whereas, Thousand of American military men and women are deployed around the world in many places; therefore, be it

Resolved, That we as West Virginia Baptists continue to affirm, appreciate, and applaud the commitment and sacrifice of the members of the armed forces and their families. We express our concern for the wounded and our condolences to the families of those lost in battles for freedom.

Resolution #6 ON PRAYING FOR ISRAEL

WHEREAS, We recognize that long-standing hostility has existed between Israel and her neighbors; and

WHEREAS, The Scriptures call for us to pray for the peace of Israel (Psalm 122:6); and

WHEREAS, We affirm God's love for and offer of salvation in Christ to all people, including both Jewish and Palestinian people; and

WHEREAS, Both Old and New Testaments affirm God's special purposes and providential care for the Jewish people (Genesis 12:1-3; Genesis 17:1-21; Romans 9-11); and

WHEREAS, The Jewish people have an historic connection to the land of Israel, a connection that is rooted in the promises of God Himself; and

WHEREAS, The international community restored land to the Jewish people in 1947 to provide a homeland for them and re-establish the nation of Israel; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That the messengers to the West Virginia Convention of Southern Baptists meeting at Westview Baptist Church, Martinsburg, West Virginia, November 4-5, 2011, support the right of Israel to exist as a sovereign state; and be it further

RESOLVED, That we express our abhorrence of all forms of terrorism as inexcusable, barbaric, and cowardly acts; and be it further

RESOLVED, That we denounce revenge in any form as a response to past offenses (Romans 12:17-21) but support the right of sovereign nations to use force to defend themselves against aggressors; and be it further

RESOLVED, That we affirm that Israel must always be held accountable to the same standards of national righteousness as any other nation, particularly in light of the Old Testament mandate that Israel maintain justice for the strangers and aliens in her midst (Exodus 22:21; Deuteronomy 10:19); and be it further

RESOLVED, That we call on the Palestinian people to reform their government structures to repudiate terrorism and tyranny; and be it further

RESOLVED, That we call on the Israeli and Palestinian people to pursue policies that promote genuine religious liberty and peace between themselves and their neighbors; and be it further

RESOLVED, That we call on the United States and the nations of the world to offer whatever assistance they can to help secure peace in the Middle East; and be it further

RESOLVED, That we pledge to pray for peace in the Middle East, and especially for Israel; and be it finally

RESOLVED, That we pray that the true peace of our Lord will reign in the lives of the Israeli and Palestinian people and that this peace will bring blessing to this war-torn land.