

New Hope District of Arkansas Annual Meeting Minutes-153th Session

Friendship Free Will Baptist Church, Rose Bud, Arkansas

March 20, 2021 9:30 AM

The New Hope District of Arkansas met for the annual meeting on March 20, 2021 for the 153rd session of the district. Socially distanced seating and face coverings were observed in light of the Covid 19 epidemic. There were 29 people in attendance. Seven churches represented in person and 7 had sent a letter/dues. In addition to standing delegates, there were 11 local delegates. Jan Morrison led the congregation in the hymn, "I Stand Amazed". Bro. Ken Winningham led in the opening prayer. Moderator, Michael Morrison, greeted the congregation and asked Jan Morrison, to read the letters from the local churches and delegates were seated. Any items of business were to be given to Jan Morrison, clerk, during the break.

The early service was brought by Bro. Brian Kesterson of Arkansas Student Ministries. Brian shared the history of Camp Beaverfork and the miracles that God is performing as the new camp kitchen/dining hall facilities are constructed. He used Proverbs 19:21 as a base "Man are the plans in the mind of a man, but it is the purpose of the Lord that will stand." He gave a personal testimony and shared a phrase that God has given him as a theme for his work, "Influence today...impact tomorrow." It was an encouraging service that glorified God and His ways! During the break, the offering of the day was received at a location in the rear of the church. \$154.00 was received. The executive board met to examine Bro. John Cross from Mt. Bethel for licensing.

The morning worship was started by Jan Morrison leading the congregation in two songs, "We Have Come into His House" & "I Just Keep Trusting My Lord". The obituary report was shared and Bro. David Taylor led in prayer. Jan gave the special music asking the congregation to sing along with the old favorite, "If That Isn't Love". Jan introduced Bro. Ken Winningham of Family Ministries to give updates on the ministry & bring the morning message. The executive committee rejoined the service at that time.

Bro. Ken continued the theme of the day that our youth are such an important ministry and need our support and care. He shared some of the statistics about the children's homes serving in Arkansas. He spoke on Psalm 90, a psalm of Moses. The themes of the message was that we should number our days, be found faithful, live in God's Presence and don't focus on dying but the joy of living each day for Him.

In the business session, Bro. Michael asked the clerk to read the report of the executive committee. The executive board had three motions: (1) That John Cross be licensed for 1 year, (2) that we give \$500 to Camp Beaverfork from the youth fund and (3) that we give \$400 to Family Ministries from the general fund. The motions were made, seconded and passed by the body. The possible constitutional change concerning meeting format was taken off the table and failed to have a motion to proceed to be voted on. There will be no District CTS competition and all competitors will be sent directly to state this year. In yearly elections, Bro. Mike Lyles will serve on the executive board for a three year term and the board will operate one member short during the next year. Re-elected officers are Michael Morrison (Moderator), Mike Lyles (Assistant Moderator), and Jan Morrison (Clerk). It was decided the host church would provide the song leader and musician(s) for each meeting. John and Abby Cross will serve as New Hope delegates to the state meeting. John Cross will serve as the national delegate from New Hope. South Heights in Searcy volunteered to host our next meeting on September 11, 2021. David Copeland, pastor of Chapel Lane led us in a closing prayer.

Unity Association Pastor's Meeting Minutes, March 9, 2021

Present: Kendall Ross, David Taylor, Kevin Johnson, Ray Copeland, Will Harmon, Johnny Miller, Nick Coleman, Tim Doss, Steve McClain, Jason Nichols

Kendall Ross call the meeting to order and Will Harmon opened in prayer

Minutes from last meeting presented

Items of Business

CE Board report & recommendations

- There will not be a Unity Youth Competition this year due to lack of participation. Individual churches will judge their contestants and send them directly to state

Randall University dorm remodel project

- Goal: raise \$40,000 to remodel A and B Dorms
- MSC to give \$10,000 to Randall University

Credentials Committee meeting next week with James Christian

Election of 2021-2022 Board Members

- MSC to keep officers the same and rotate Credentials Committee terms

502 reporting forms and State/National fees due April 2

MSC to have Unity Association Meeting on October 11, 2021 at First FWB Greenwood at 7:00 PM and Bro. Tim Doss will preach.

Misc. Business

- David Taylor gave an update on Camp Beaverfork Kitchen project
- Women's Auxiliary meets this Saturday for their state meeting
- State Youth Competition April 25
- State meeting Tuesday May 18, 9:00 AM- 5:00 PM, lunch will be available by North Little Rock FWB youth ministry taking donations for a fund raiser
- Nationals in July 18-21
- Minister's Retreat September 20-22
- August 15 is dedication for Cavanaugh's addition

Adjourn- Kevin Johnson dismissed in prayer