

New Hope District of Arkansas Annual Meeting Minutes 156th Session
Friendship Free Will Baptist Church-Rose Bud, Arkansas
March 18, 2023 9:30 AM

The New Hope District of Arkansas met for the annual meeting on March 18, 2023 for the 156th session of the district. There were 36 people in attendance. Seven churches were represented both by person and by letter. In addition to standing delegates there were 16 delegates to represent local churches. Congregational Song, "My Savior's Love" was led by Jan Morrison, accompanied by Jayne Hannah. Moderator Michael Morrison gave opening remarks and Clerk Jan Morrison read the letters. Delegates were seated. The announcement and prayer request was shared that Donna Moon, long time member of Mt. Bethel had passed away overnight.

Session number 1 was a message by Robert McClure, Chapel Lane. Bro. Robert used the scripture passage of I Corinthians 1:26-29 as he "preached to the choir". The message reminded the listeners about those the God chooses...the foolish, not wise, not noble weak so that no flesh should receive the glory but God alone! As part of the concluding remarks, Bro. Robert encouraged that the small churches have a chance to connect with people in ways that larger churches cannot. It was a refreshing message of hope.

During the break, the executive board had a short meeting. All business matters were to be given to the clerk. Danishes and coffee were provided by Friendship Church.

Session 2 began with congregational singing led by Jan, Jessica and Marley Morrison of the song "Come Thou Fount". An offering of \$269.00 was received. Sister Jan gave the obituary report and Bro. Mike Lyles prayed. Congregational hymn "When We All Get to Heaven" was sung with joy and hope and all the "parts" SATB. The message was shared by David Copeland, Chapel Lane. Bro. David used Acts 17: 16-18 and challenged the listeners to examine their complacency as we studied Paul's mission. Paul's spirit was stirred as he observed the brokenness of those in idolatry. Paul saw the lostness of the city. Paul was moved to share the good news of Jesus.

The business session began with the election of a new moderator, Daniel Young. Bro. Daniel's assistant moderator will be Robert McClure. Debe Taylor will be the new clerk and Jan Morrison will serve as assistant clerk. Sister Debe has permission to use the bank of her choice and Sister Jan may close the New Hope account at Eagle bank. Board elections were as follows: Joel Kircher will replace Joel Kircher for a four year term on the executive board. Michael Morrison will replace Daniel Young and serve the remaining 2 year balance of that executive board term. Daniel Young will be ex officio member of the executive board as moderator. Jackie Fowlkes will replace Jackie Fowlkes on the CTS Board for a 3 year term. All of these were nominated and elected by acclamation.

Other business was the election of delegate Brittany Young to the State Meeting in Conway. Bro. Daniel Young or Bro. David Taylor may add other delegates if they are present for business at the state meeting. Debe Taylor was elected as New Hope delegate to the National in Raleigh, North Carolina. South Heights volunteered to host our next New Hope meeting on September 9, 2023.

Bro. David Taylor gave an update on the new building for our state offices. He also gave dates for CTS Expo (April 29th), State Meeting (May 22-23), Camps in June, National (July 16-19), Arkansas Women's Ministry Retreat (Sept 15-16), Minister's Retreat (September 18-20) Leadership Conference (December 4-5 in Nashville TN). He also gave each church a copy of the new Arkansas Women's Ministry brochure.

A rising vote of thanks was given to Friendship for hosting and a final prayer remembering the Moon family, David Taylor's eye surgery and Doug Johnston (cancer) plus blessings on the lunch was prayed by David Taylor. Lunch and fellowship followed the dismissal of the meeting.