

SECTION II

STATE CONVENTION PROGRAM
Baptist Convention of Pennsylvania/South Jersey

November 3-4, 2016

CONVENTION OFFICERS
2015-2016

President.....Rev. Brian King, Sr.
First Vice President..... Dr. Kevin Roberts
Second Vice PresidentRev. George Tynes
Recording Secretary..... Rev. Ryan Knepp
ParliamentarianMr. Jeff Slagle

PROGRAM AND ARRANGEMENTS COMMITTEE

Nathaniel Holder Philadelphia Region
Debbie Knowles West Region
Richard Krieg..... Central Region
Ken Sachs..... West Region
Toby Steward Central Region

Annual Meeting 2016

November 3-4  Antiochian Village

Fostering Spiritual Transformation in a Changing World

2016 Annual Meeting Program

Pre-meeting Breakouts
Thursday, November 3, 2016, 1-2 p.m.

Breakout One: Coaching People through Conflict

Review Biblical as well as typical responses to conflict; then role play how to coach people through conflict using "Peacemaking Principles."

Meeting Room 6Rev. Gerald Mounce

Breakout Two: Understanding the EIN, Federal Tax Exemption, and State Sales Tax Exemption

Understanding the complexities of the legal existence of a church can be overwhelming to a pastor, church planter, church leader, and treasurer. The goal of this breakout is to help unpack the confusion and clearly articulate what the Employer Identification Number (EIN), 501(c)(3) Federal Tax Exemption, and the State Sales Tax Exemption are and how the church should utilize them.

Meeting Room 1/2Mr. Andy Weber

Breakout Three: Is your Church Secure?

This session will deal with the biblical, cultural, ethnical, and social issues in establishing and maintaining an effective and faith-centered Security Ministry.

Meeting Room 5Dr. James Jackson

Breakout Four: Focused Prayer Time

Praying for the Convention Meeting and the BRN Churches.

ChapelDr. Jerry Dixon

Breakout Five: ReadyChurch

Is your church ready to respond when a disaster happens in your community?

Meeting Room 9Rev. Kenton Hunt

RECOMMENDED ORDER OF BUSINESS

Fostering Spiritual Transformation in a Changing World

“Every good and perfect gift is from above, coming down from the Father of the heavenly lights, who does not change like shifting shadows.” James 1:17 (NIV)

Session One – Thursday Afternoon, November 3, 2016, 2:30 p.m.

Rev. Brian D. King Sr., Presiding

Auditorium

Transformation in His Light, I John 1:5

Praise & Worship..... Live Out Baptist Church Worship Team
Call to OrderRev. Brian D. King, Sr.
Welcome/Prayer..... Dr. Kevin Roberts
Credentials and Enrollment Report..... Mrs. Lise Sentell
Program and Arrangements Report Rev. Nathaniel J. Holder
All motions and new business must be presented to the Recording Secretary in writing before the Thursday evening session.
Praise & Worship..... Live Out Baptist Church Worship Team
Recognition and Greetings from agencies, trustees, and guests
BRN Highlight
PrayerDr. Larry Anderson
Executive Board Report, Part 1 Rev. Robert Conrad
Praise & Worship..... Live Out Baptist Church Worship Team
Miscellaneous Business
Election of Officers, Part 1
Report from Executive Committee of SBC Dr. Kim Grueser & Dr. Ken Weathersby
Prayer for Spiritual Transformation..... Dr. Jerry Dixon
Special Music.....Rev. George Tynes
President’s Address.....Rev. Brian D. King, Sr.
Closing Prayer..... Mr. Toby Steward

Dinner Service in The Cedars, cafeteria style, from 5:15-5:45 p.m.

(Entry with pre-purchased ticket only. Feel free to socialize in The Cedars until 6:15 p.m.)

Session Two – Thursday Evening, November 3, 2016, 6:30 p.m.
Rev. Brian D. King, Sr., Presiding

Auditorium

Transformation in His Gifts, James 1:17

Opening PrayerRev. Brian D. King, Sr.
Convention Choir..... Directed by Dr. Rachel Cornacchio
Congregational Singing
BRN Highlight
PrayerDr. Pam Smith
Recognition of New Workers and PastorsDr. Stan Smith
State Convention Report.....Dr. Stan Smith
Convention Choir
Closing Prayer Rev. Brian Harrison

Reception in The Cedars

Session Three – Friday Morning, November 4, 2016, 9:30 a.m.
Rev. Brian D. King, Sr., Presiding

Auditorium

Transformation in His Presence, Malachi 3:6

Praise & Worship..... Faithbridge Community Church Worship Team
Opening PrayerRev. Darius Nable
Video GreetingsDr. Kevin Ezell, NAMB and Dr. David Platt, IMB
Report from NAMB..... Mrs. Paula Cordray & Rev. Barry Whitworth
Report from IMB Missionaries..... Mr. Gary and Mrs. Sis Tufts
Praise & Worship..... Faithbridge Community Church Worship Team
BRN Highlight
PrayerRev. Barry Whitworth
Miscellaneous Business
 Election of Officers, Part 2
 Committee on Committees
 Nominating Committee..... Rev. Joe Nock
 Program and Arrangements ReportRev. Nathaniel J. Holder
Praise & Worship..... Faithbridge Community Church Worship Team
Video Greetings Rev. Roger Manao & Dr. Russell Moore, ERLC
Executive Board Report, Part 2 (*Presentation of 2017 Budget*)..... Rev. Robert Conrad
Presentation of Board CertificatesDr. Stan Smith
Election of Officers, Part 3 (*if needed*)
Charge and Prayer for 2017 Convention Officers
Special Music
Convention SermonRev. James Hogan
Closing Prayer.....Newly-elected Convention President

Reminder: The Executive Board will meet briefly at the front of the room
immediately following the Closing Prayer.

General Information

Book Signing

Auditorium

Ms. Julianna Musser, author of title, will be at her display between general sessions for purchase and autographing of her new book. Don't miss getting your own personal copy.

Childcare

Childcare is in Meeting Room 4 and will be offered at the following times:

- First Session – drop off after 12:50 p.m.; pick up by 5 p.m. (before dinner).
- Second Session – drop off after 6:20 p.m.; pick up by 8:15 p.m. (before the reception).
- Third Session – drop off after 9:20 a.m.; pick up by 12 noon (before departure).

Displays

Throughout Antiochian Village & Conference Center

Consultants will be available at the displays to answer questions about BRN ministries. Be sure to drop by and pick up resources to use in your church.

LifeWay Bookstore

Meeting Room 3

Cathy Underwood, manager of LifeWay in Harrisburg, PA, set-up a LifeWay bookstore for your convenience. We certainly hope you'll stop in to meet Cathy and do some shopping while you're here.

Restaurants

Antiochian Village Bookstore, Light fare available

Brickyard Café, 632 Washington Street, Bolivar, PA 15923, (724) 676-5880 [9.2 miles]

Forks Inn, 3819 Route 711, Ligonier, PA 15658, (724) 238-7881 [3.8 miles]

New Florence Family Restaurant, 182 Ligonier Street, New Florence, PA 15944, (724) 235-2511 [8.1 miles]

Real McCoy's, 4750 Route 711, Bolivar, PA 15923, (724) 238-6587 [1.1 miles]

Sheetz, 3832 Route 711, Bolivar, PA, (724) 238-3980 [3.8 miles]

Program Participants

- Dr. Larry Anderson**, Director of Healthy Churches, Baptist Resource Network, Harrisburg, PA
and Pastor, Great Commission Church, Philadelphia, PA
- Rev. Robert Conrad**, Pastor, Oakwood Baptist Church, Camp Hill, PA
- Mrs. Paula Cordray**, Pastor's wife, Living Faith Community Church, Coraopolis, PA
- Dr. Rachel Cornacchio**, Worship Leader, Living Legacy Church, Hershey, PA
- Dr. Jerry Dixon**, Pastor, First Baptist Church of Hanover, Hanover, PA
- Faithbridge Community Church Worship Team**, Mc Kees Rocks, PA
- Dr. Kim Grueser**, Pastor, Pittsburgh Baptist Church, Pittsburgh, PA
- Rev. Brian Harrison**, Pastor, East Shore Baptist Church, Harrisburg, PA
- Rev. James Hogan**, Pastor, Faithbridge Community Church, Mc Kees Rocks, PA
- Rev. Nathaniel J. Holder**, Associate Minister, Greater Exodus Baptist Church, Philadelphia, PA
and Block Party Strategist, Baptist Resource Network, Harrisburg, PA
- Rev. Kenton Hunt**, Director of Disaster Relief, Baptist Resource Network, Harrisburg, PA
- Dr. James Jackson**, Pastor, Goodwin Memorial Baptist Church, Harrisburg, PA
- Rev. Brian D. King, Sr.**, Pastor, Ezekiel Baptist Church, Philadelphia, PA
- Live Out Baptist Church Worship Team**, Fombell, PA
- Rev. Roger Manao**, Pastor, Philadelphia Bible Church International, Upper Darby, PA
- Rev. Gerald Mounce**, Lead Consultant Reconciliation Ministries, Baptist Resource Network,
Harrisburg, PA and Church Planting Catalyst, North American Mission Board
- Ms. Julianna Musser**, Member, Bucks County Community Church, Langhorne, PA
- Rev. Darius Nable**, Pastor, Church of the Good Shepherd - Cherry Hill, Cherry Hill, NJ
- Rev. Joe Nock**, Pastor, Second Antioch Baptist Church, Philadelphia, PA
- Dr. Kevin Roberts**, Pastor, Community Baptist Church at Charleroi, Charleroi, PA
- Mrs. Lise Sentell**, Pastor's wife, Live Out Baptist Church, Fombell, PA
- Dr. Pam Smith**, Director of Missional Living, Baptist Resource Network, Harrisburg, PA
- Dr. Stan Smith**, Interim Executive Director-Treasurer, Baptist Resource Network, Harrisburg,
PA
- Mr. Toby Steward**, Layleader, First Southern Baptist Church Williamsport, Williamsport, PA
- Mr. Gary and Mrs. Sis Tufts**, Deaf Affinities Group, International Mission Board
- Rev. George Tynes**, Pastor, Truth Baptist Church, Philadelphia, PA
- Dr. Ken Weathersby**, Vice President for Convention Advancement, Southern Baptist
Convention, Nashville, TN
- Mr. Andrew Weber**, Director of Finance and Operations, Baptist Resource Network, Harrisburg,
PA
- Rev. Barry Whitworth**, Director of Multiplying Churches, Baptist Resource Network,
Harrisburg, PA and Send City Missionary, North American Mission Board

PROCEEDINGS

Session One – Thursday Afternoon, November 3, 2016, 2:30 p.m.

Rev. Brian D. King Sr., Presiding

Auditorium

Transformation in His Light, I John 1:5

Praise and worship was led by the Live Out Baptist Church Worship Team. The congregation sang three songs; (1) “Vision of You (2) “Holy Holy Holy” (3) “Amazing Grace” (4) “You are Good.” Brian King, Sr., Convention President, called Session I to order at 2:45 p.m. immediately following Praise and Worship.

Kevin Roberts gave the welcome address and prayer.

Lise Sentell gave the Credentials and Enrollment Report. There were 128 registered messengers and 67 guests. Lise Sentell reminded all those in attendance who planned to vote “as messengers” must be registered. If they had not registered as messengers, please complete registration right away at the registration table.

Nathaniel Holder, Program & Arrangements Committee chairman, requested that the program for the meeting be accepted as printed. Brian King asked that all in acceptance state “I.”

The congregation sang “Revelation,” “Your Great Name,” and “Be Thou My Vision” during another Praise and Worship session led by Live Out Baptist Church.

The following agencies, trustees, and guests were recognized and greeted: David Dresser (GuideStone), Cathy Underwood and Elizabeth Nieliwocki (LifeWay Bookstore), Kenton Hunt (Disaster Relief Director), Kathie Aiken (Appalachian Missions), Mark Abernathy (NC Partnerships), Mark Sentell (BRN Director of Communications) and Mark Croston (LifeWay Research). Dr. Croston presented both Stan Smith and Brian King with Bibles and books from LifeWay.

BRN Highlights included an announcement of the 2017 ReFresh Conference “Seek” to be held on March 20-21, 2017. James Betner and Chris Betner of the Delaware Valley Baptist Church gave highlights on the Expositional Preaching Training held at Frist Baptist Church of Wrightstown. Twelve to fourteen ministers received the training. BRN Highlights were followed by prayer lifted by Larry Anderson.

The Executive Board Report Part I was presented by Executive Board President Robert Conrad. The Executive Board recognized Stan Smith’s thirty-two years of service to the Baptist Resource Network. In February 2016, a Search Committee headed by Kim Grueser was formed to search for a new Executive Director-Treasurer. The Search Committee members met in March 2016 and spent a season in prayer. They then conducted listening sessions across Pennsylvania/South Jersey. Online surveys were also conducted. The pool of potential candidates was narrowed down to two candidates. The search committee entered into a second season of prayer and selected one candidate. Candidate #2 was emailed by the search committee, indicating that he needed to withdraw his application. The search committee members were Kim Grueser, K. Marshall Williams, Helen Paz, Buff McNickle, Brian King, Robert Conrad and Jennifer Musser.

Another Praise and Worship session was led by the Live Out Baptist worship team. The congregation sang (1) “Be Unto Your Name” and (2) “All I Have is Christ.”

Presiding Officer Brian King opened the floor for nominations for the BRN Convention President. Brian nominated Kevin Roberts. Corey Mitchell seconded the nomination. Brian asked all those in favor of electing Kevin Roberts to state “yes.” All those present said “yes.” No objections were raised.

Brian King stated Dr. Frank Page is President of the Southern Baptist Convention; the two-day Annual Conference meets in June 2017 in Phoenix, Arizona. Chuck Kelly stated, “What is worse than being lost?” “Being lost and no one is looking for you.” He thanked the messengers for serving and stated that 13 million lost people in the Pennsylvania/South Jersey territory needed to hear the gospel. The Cooperative Program levels the playing field. The current CP budget of \$473,472 was 5% over budget. According to Dr. Page, all churches should participate in the Cooperative Program.

Kim Grueser introduced Dr. Ken Weathersby. Dr. Weathersby stated the BRN Leadership Team are there to serve on all advisory councils. He mentioned a new advisory council was being formed to identify and develop young leaders (millennials) within Pennsylvania/South Jersey. He also asked for names of those interested in serving in this capacity as well as recommendations. Dr. Weathersby stated the Southern Baptist Conference is the most diversified convention of churches in North America. He indicated there are 320 unreached people groups who need the Gospel.

Jerry Dixon followed with prayer and then told a story about George Washington; we need to spend more time “appealing to heaven.” He asked those in attendance to pray individually. Then Jerry led the messengers and guests in a corporate prayer. An additional prayer was lifted by Jerry for a special blessing for Brian, outgoing Convention President.

George Tynes, second vice-president, was called to render a special musical selection entitled, “Once was Enough Forever” before Rev. King’s President’s Address.

Rev. King opened his address with prayer. His message was taken from Galatians 4:4-5 [HCSB]. Rev. King stated that he was approaching his message from an application standpoint. He acknowledged his wife, Cynthia King, his support. He indicated there was a divine time table that man did not understand. When Jesus was born, Jews were seeking a Messiah. It was the worst of times. After 400 years, God showed up. Problems (sin) separated man from God. God works through order and processes. He knows and operates under laws on He (God) knows. Man does not know these laws. God works within boxes [e.g. born of a woman.] Change “What Would Jesus Do?” to “What Did Jesus Do?” Bible references were Hebrews 10:5, 2 Corinthians 4, and 2 Peter 1.

John B. Miller wrote “QBQ,” “Question before the Question.” He expressed that we serve an awesome God. If we serve the living God, when your church is struggling, reach out to the BRN office. Push our Convention staff. The God we serve is better and bigger than our problems. He works within our limitations. We need to press on and ask the right questions. The President’s Address was concluded with Brother Miller’s closing thought, “The time is right for us. There are enough sinners. If 10% of the sinners in your neighborhood join your church, then you will have to build a new building.”

Brian adjourned Session I at 4:49 p.m. Toby Steward provided dinner instructions – dinner will be served from 5:15-6:15 p.m. Toby dismissed attendees at 4:55 p.m.

Session Two – Thursday Evening, November 3, 2016, 6:30 p.m.

Rev. Brian D. King, Sr., Presiding

Auditorium

Transformation in His Gifts, James 1:17

Dr. Stan Smith gave the State Convention Report. He testified the Annual Meeting 2016 was his 40th State Convention. Stan acknowledged and thanked his family – wife Lynda, son Keith and daughter Beth. He expressed appreciation and gratitude to Jesus Christ for his 32 years with the BRN through Philippians 1:6 “being confident of this very thing, that He who has begun a good work in you will complete it until the day of Jesus Christ.” NKJV

Stan acknowledged BRN team leaders, then recognized the Harrisburg office support staff and presented each with a gift. Stan indicated that this evening session will end earlier than scheduled to allow time for fellowship and prayer. Promising young author, Juliana Musser’s book signing would be held in the auditorium. She is the author of *The Bored Dog* (available for sale) and her next book *The Bored Fish* would soon be released.

Mark Sentell, Director of Communications re-introduced Dr. Stan Smith to address the congregation.

Stan stated that his thirty-two years is a testament to members of the convention. As he reflected on his time with the BRN, he categorized his tenure in terms of behaviors and values. Under his leadership, it was important to focus, instill and underscore trust. Through those efforts faithful giving increased by 39%. Churches were more unified. Communications improved. Convention churches were more engaged and their participation numbers increased. That was demonstrated by 100 participants in a Prayer Boot Camp, 300 VBS volunteers trained, 700 Disaster Relief volunteers trained and serving in North Carolina, South Carolina, Louisiana, and WMU hosted a pre-retreat 12-week Bible Study. 45 new church plants were birthed under the multiplication of churches. Through the BRN’s partnership with NAMB there will be budget increases in 2018-2020. BRN obtained a \$60,000 grant from LifeWay. Also in development is the 2017 ReFRESH Conference.

There was an intentional focus on values as well. Commendable gains were made in areas of diversity, being Kingdom-focused, relationships, being grace-filled and being risk-takers (willingness to accept risks in regional transformation).

Stan graciously acknowledged and thanked the BRN agencies and directors that served with him; Kim Grueser, Paula Cordray, Nancy Patrick, Toby Steward, Steve Sheldon, Stanley Mauldin, George Tynes, Madeline Harris, Barry Whitworth, Larry Anderson, Samuel Rodriguez, Roger Manao, Peter Yanes, Kenton Hunt and Hal Hopkins.

Stan also reminded us to not forget BRN’s power and influence. He shared some of his pre-retirement planning for life after retirement: (1) overseas mission service, (2) growing to know God more deeply, (3) living an unhurried life, (4) living a life of loving well.

Stan stated that he still thinks as a pastor even after 32 years of service at the BRN. *Colossians 3:12-14* “Therefore, as the elect of God, holy and beloved, put on tender mercies, kindness, humility, meekness, longsuffering; bearing with one another, and forgiving one another, if anyone has a complaint against another; even as Christ forgave you, so you also must do. But above all these things put on love, which is the bond of perfection.” NKJV

In his closing comments, Stan posed a couple of questions, “What image do you have of God? We have inadequate images of God. God loves you. Do you know how deeply you are loved by God?” Stan stated the world needs to see Christians of this convention live like the Christians in Colossians 3:12-14.

An endowment fund for missions in the amount of \$10,000 was established in Dr. Stan Smith's name in honor of his service at the BRN; a floral gift basket and gift bag were presented to his wife, Lynda, along with a book of remembrance. Brian King thanked Stan for leading the charge in working with the North American Mission Board (NAMB). The presentations were followed by the choir singing Stan's favorite hymn, "Amazing Grace" arranged by director Rachel Cornacchio.

Barry Whitworth came forward to lead a tribute to Stan. He applauded Stan for modeling courage, caring and commitment to Jesus Christ and to Kingdom-building. He commended Stan for being "steadfast and unmovable."

Barry closed by stating to Stan, "as the BRN Convention moves forward, we will build on the foundation laid by you." A video made for Stan was then shown.

Brian Harrison closed the session in prayer at 8:36 p.m.

Session Three – Friday Morning, November 4, 2016, 9:30 a.m.

Rev. Brian D. King, Sr., Presiding

Auditorium

Transformation in His Presence, Malachi 3:6

Praise and Worship was led by the Faithbridge Community Church worship team. The congregation sang "On Our Side," "You Only," as well as a third song.

Brian King called the session to order at 9:45 a.m. Darius Nable gave the opening prayer. Video greetings from Kevin Ezell of NAMB and David Platt of IMB were shown.

Paula Cordray and Barry Whitworth presented the NAMB Report. Paula introduced Barry, Multiplying Churches Team Leader. Barry shared his passion for church planting and making disciples and showed a video entitled "Send Relief." The NAMB video highlighted how to become a "sending or supporting church." Barry also spoke about the unprecedented giving throughout the Southern Baptist Convention (SBC) and thanked the BRN churches for their increased giving. Within the past five years, national giving increased by 25%. Barry encouraged churches to reach out to the Regional Catalyst Leader. NAMB's commitment to Disaster Relief was mentioned as well as some issues and projects undertaken by NAMB including "Back Packs of Hope," "home fires," "adoption," and "human trafficking."

Beth Whitworth introduced Gary and Sis Tufts, who presented the International Mission Board (IMB) Report. They highlighted the Deaf Ministry in Mexico. The IMB Report included monies raised in 2015 for the Cooperative Program's \$95.2 million and Lottie Moon Christmas Offering \$165.8 million. IMB also introduced a new vision statement. However, IMB mission teams shrank from over 5,200 to below 4,000. Attendees were urged to stop by the IMB display and pick up materials to help churches better understand how the Lottie Moon Christmas Offering is disbursed. There are 2.8 billion unreached people and 35 million deaf people unreached. They gave some insight into the process of "Story Crafting" that is translating written Spanish into Sign Language. Gary and Sis talked about developing a "Story Telling in Sign Language" program. They concluded their remarks by sharing that in Mexico the deaf population are in difficult places but hearing people are learning sign language specific to their respective countries. "Sign Drama" presentations are being used to witness to Mexico's deaf population.

The Faithbridge Community Church worship team once again led the congregation in Praise and Worship. Songs lifted were (1) “Old Rugged Cross Remix,” (2) “Christ is Risen from the Dead; Rise Up from Your Grave,” (3) “Lovely Day.”

During the BRN Highlights, Rev. Adam Sewell of The Well Church shared about their homeless ministry in Pittsburgh. Barry Whitworth then led the congregation in prayer.

Miscellaneous business – Brian conducted the election of officers. He opened the floor for nominations for First Vice-President. Brian nominated George Tynes for First Vice-President. The nomination was seconded by Michael Riley. The congregation approved Rev. George Tynes for First Vice-President by a voice vote. The floor was opened for nominations for Second Vice-President. There were no nominations. The office of Second Vice-President was left vacant as stated by the Parliamentarian. The vacancy was seconded by Rick Baker. Joe Nock presented the Nominating Committee Report. The report was seconded by Jack Peters. Nathaniel Holder gave the Program and Arrangements Committee Report. He announced the BRN Annual Meeting in 2017 will take place in York, Pennsylvania on November 2-3, 2017.

Faithbridge Community Church Worship Team led the congregation in the final Praise and Worship segment. The congregation sang (1) “How Great is Our God” (2) “Stand By Me.”

Roger Manao introduced a video featuring Russell Moore (ERLC).

The Executive Board Report Part 2 was conducted by Robert Conrad. He called upon Corey Mitchell to present the 2017 Budget that reflected a 4.8% increase in the Cooperative Program budget which resulted in improved budgeting processes for the BRN. In 2016, 39% of BRN churches had increased their giving. Also, there was significant growth in church plants. The floor was opened to approve the 2017 Budget. It was approved by voice vote.

Stan Smith was called upon to present certificates to the board members whose term was ending - Corey Mitchell, Kevin Roberts, Robert Conrad, and Brian D. King, Sr. Some staff were also recognized for their length of service at the BRN. Hal Hopkins was recognized for 20 years of service. Robert Turner was recognized for 25 years of service; Robert does Collegiate Ministry.

Brian offered a charge for the new Convention Officers then Robert Conrad prayed for them. Kevin Roberts, newly-elected President; George Tynes, Vice-President; Fred Boehlke, Historian, and Elizabeth Benge, Recording Secretary.

Robert Conrad introduced the Convention Sermon speaker, Rev. James Hogan, Pastor at Faithbridge Community Church. His Worship Team blessed the congregation with a special musical selection, “No One Like You.”

Following the beautiful musical selection, James delivered his sermon entitled “First Fruits – Bring Forth the Next Generation.” Before delivering his message, he acknowledged his wife, Theresa. His text was taken from James 1:17-18 with supporting verses from Romans 1:8, 1 John 3:1, Philippians 3:20, 2 Corinthians 5:17-18, and 1 Corinthians 9:19-23 (NKJV).

He pointed out you have to reach your hearers and receivers. In order to have an effective ministry, Christian churches should focus on three important areas: theology, sound doctrine, and methodology.

Theology – the lifelong pursuit of Biblical, God-revealed understanding of God Himself, His ways and man’s interaction with Him.

Sound Doctrine – a system of biblical beliefs and teaching those beliefs for understanding and application in life.

Methodology – how each local body in the church at-large approaches its Christian mission and expresses itself in outreach and worship. (Ask yourself if you are wishing people). Methodology is subject to true theological understanding and sound [solid, firm] doctrine.

James Hogan’s favorite Bible verse is James 3:18, “Now the fruit of righteousness is sown in peace by those who make peace.” NKJV

Pastor Hogan is passionate about Faithbridge Community Church’s group disciple program called, *“Learning It For Living It.”*

Newly-elected Convention President, Kevin Roberts, closed the BRN Annual Meeting 2016 with a heartfelt prayer. Session III was adjourned at approximately 12:30 p.m.