

Florida East Coast Missionary Baptist Association, Inc.

Reverend Toby T. Philpart, Moderator
Reverend Dr. C. P. Preston, Jr., Moderator Emeritus
Sister Gloria Jackson-Davis, Women's Auxiliary President
Deacon Raymond Smith, Jr., Laymen's Auxiliary President

Florida East Coast Baptist Association Board of Directors Meeting
08 February 2021, 07:00 pm

Rev. Dr. Jimmie L. Bryant, Presiding Officer

NOTE: The minutes reflect a synopsis of the meeting. The entire meeting is recorded and a copy may be requested.

Invocation was given by Deacon Raymond Smith.

After the invocation, an Inspirational Word was given by Pastor Nathaniel Ward. Pastor Ward's text was taken from Jeremiah 29.11, and Acts 1.8. He spoke from the topic: "Christ Centered." The points of his timely, powerful message were: promise, power, presence, and two purposes.

Rev. Dr. Jimmie L. Bryant called the FECBA Board Meeting to order at 7:13 pm. Chairman Bryant called for the Reading of the Agenda and Adoption. President Howard Barr moved to adopt the agenda. President Benjamin Parrott seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Chairman Bryant called for Mrs. Valerie Brant Wilson, FECBA Parliamentarian, to read selections from Roberts' Rules of Order according to the Bylaws. Parliamentarian Wilson also included tips on how to handle motions using Roberts' Rules of Order as a guide.

Chairman Bryant called for phone numbers that did not have a name displayed on the zoom call to be identified. Rev. Demetric Ford identified Dr. Venita Timpson and Sis. Daisy Fulton.

Chairman Bryant called for the reading of the 2020 Joint Session Board of Directors Meeting Minutes by Rev. Wendell H. Paris, Jr. Rev. Paris indicated that the board meeting's minutes were emailed to the board. Chairman Bryant asked if any board members did not receive a copy of the board minutes. All had. Chairman Bryant gave the board time to peruse the minutes. Dr. Venita Timpson raised a point of concern: In consideration of timing, Dr. Timpson suggests that all minutes be sent to the board at least a day in advance, to allow the board ample time to peruse, edit and

correct the minutes. The motion to receive the minutes for information purposes was made by Rev. T.T. Shellman, seconded by Rev. Larrie Lovett, and carried unanimously.

REFLECTIONS & PROPOSALS

MODERATOR PHILPART

Moderator Philpart reported the Moderator's Reflections and Proposals for the 118th Annual Session:

Special Guest: Dr. Uzell Williams, CPA

Dr. Williams will be given oversight in record keeping. He will also help with making better use of foundation and not-for-profit statuses.

Special Guests: Pastor Wayne Lomax & Dr. Rosalind Osgood

Dr. Osgood and Pastor Lomax discussed how to become a better board and maximizing board potential. They gave starting strategies for improvement in May. These included:

1. Monetary contributions and in-kind donations from outside sources
2. Make the budget committee a standing committee
3. Make the election committee a standing committee
4. Committee members should be comprised of representatives from each auxiliary:
 1. Northern Fellowship
 2. Southern Fellowship
 3. Congress of Christian Education
 4. Laymen/Men & Women's Auxiliary
 5. Youth and Young Adult Auxiliary
5. Create a guidebook that will assist board/ministries to provide with guidelines that are rich and good for our past and future.
6. The vision of the moderator goes beyond church alone. The board must reflect, embrace and activate that vision.

STATUS OF VACANT CHURCHES

IMMEDIATE PAST MODERATOR JOHNNY BARBER

Immediate Past Moderator Johnny Barber reported the status of vacant churches within the Association.

1. Mount Calvary of Pompano called Rev. Brandon Jones as pastor.
2. Mount Moriah of Perrine called Rev. Romeo Lockwood.
3. Friendship of Fort Pierce remains vacant.

Immediate Past Moderator Barber yielded to the Presidents of the Northern and Southern Fellowships to supplement his report.

1. President Barr, Northern Fellowship:
 - a. St. Matthew's of Wabasa: Due COVID, the Pastoral Search Committee has paused all activity until further notice.

- b. Mount Calvary of Pompano: Closing on final candidates.
- 2. President Ramsey, Southern Fellowship:
 - a. First Baptist Church of Bunche Park: Vacant

COVENANT PARTNER UPDATES

REV. DEMETRIC FORD & DR. VENITA TIMPSON

Covenant Partnership Updates were rendered. As of Friday, 05 February, there were one hundred twenty-one (121) total Covenant Partnerships and three (3) Corporate Covenant Partners. To wit: Faithlife Corporation, Nova Southeastern University, and First Prestige Insurance.

From 01 January – 05 February, \$6924.76 in Covenant Partnership funds have been renewed or added.

SCHOLARSHIP COMMITTEE UPDATES

SIS. ANGELIA SHELLMAN

Sister Angelia Shellman rendered the Scholarship Committee Update.

- 1. Cameron Mills, of Saint Paul of Delray Beach is the only scholarship applicant to date.
- 2. The Leroy and Alberta Brant Scholarship was established by Sis. Valerie Brant Wilson. This is a \$1000 scholarship preferentially offered to applicants attending Florida Memorial University. If there are no eligible FECBA students, FMU will bless students in need.
- 3. Moderator Philpart and FECBA will match funds, making the scholarship \$2000 total.
- 4. 2021 applicants will be ready in mid-April; returning to original distribution in April.
- 5. Deadline for the scholarship is 21 August 2021.
- 6. Youth leaders can make application.
- 7. On 15 February, an education emphasis hour will be held in conjunction with Pastor Parrott, the messenger of the hour.
- 8. Covenant Partnership funds funnel into the scholarship.
 - a. Moderator Philpart noted that we have an educational foundation. Therefore, Pastors Lomax, Barber, and Osgood should be consulted in how to make better use of that foundation.

PARTNERSHIPS & AFFILIATIONS

IMMEDIATE PAST WOMEN'S AUXILIARY PRESIDENT ANGELA WILLIAMS

Immediate Past Women's Auxiliary President Angela Williams reported on FECBA partnerships and affiliations. FECBA is actively affiliated with:

- 1. National Baptist Convention USA & Congress of Christian Education
- 2. Florida General Baptist Convention, Inc. & Congress of Christian Education
- 3. Florida Memorial University "Donation Day"
- 4. North America Baptist Union, Inc. World Day of Prayer Global Mission
- 5. Virgin Island Missions

FECBA is in good standing with all partnerships and affiliations. Immediate Past President Williams indicated that she is awaiting their session with the Moderator to receive his vision and direction regarding board fees and re-registering for the Mid-Winter Board Meeting.

CONSTITUTION & BYLAW COMMITTEE

REV. LARRIE M. LOVETT, II

Rev. Larrie M. Lovett, II reported on updates from the Constitution and By-Law Committee. The original task of the committee was to prepare six amendments to the Constitution for FECBA approval—FECBA has this authority granted in Article XV of the Constitution—“This constitution may be altered or amended at any (“annual” is deleted) session by a majority vote, providing notice has been given in the previous session.” As such, the authority to amend the Constitution and By-Laws is given in Article XV.

The document is an altered document, not an amended document. When a constitution is amended, it is done outside of the existing document, and is added and indicated by a numerical, or alphanumeric designation.

The existing constitution is a structural and informative document. When we deal with how we will govern ourselves, that’s a separate document called the Bylaws. The Constitution and Bylaws are separate documents, as indicated on the NBC, USA, Inc. website, www.nationalbaptist.com

All communications to the constitution committee must be done in writing, and should be submitted by email to James B. Darling, Jr. at jbdmz7@comcast.net. Or, to Pastor Larrie Lovett by telephone, at 954.830.0862. The Committee will answer each question back in writing. All questions will be answered, not all comments. Prior to the One Day Session, all questions and comments will be submitted to all board members.

DISCUSSION: Dr. Venita Timpson raised the potential for women. Deacon Raymond Smith raised the potential for deacons.

FOR THE GOOD OF THE ORDER: EXECUTIVE CABINET REPORTS

Reports were given by the Moderator’s Executive Officers:

Women’s Auxiliary: President Gloria Jackson-Davis

President Jackson-Davis noted that the Women’s Auxiliary is prepared for the 118th Annual Session.

Men/Laymen’s Auxiliary: President Raymond Smith, Sr.

President Smith indicated that the Laymen’s Auxiliary is excited to meet with pastors, laymen and deacons. Dr. Harold Simmons, NBC Laymen’s President Emeritus is the national guest at 9:30 am. The First Annual Address by Deacon Smith will be given. The goal of the auxiliary is to increase the participation of men and boys throughout the association, growing to three hundred (300) registered men this year, and to participate with a financial gift in Covenant Partners.

Congress of Christian Education: President Benjamin H. Parrott, Sr.

President Parrott reported that the Congress of Christian Education is planning for a virtual Congress again this year, due to the persistent preponderance of COVID-19 in South Florida. President Parrott is planning for morning and afternoon programming, and increased class offerings.

Southern Fellowship & Women: Presidents W. M. Ramsey and Pauline Scott

Presidents Ramsey and Scott reported that the Southern Fellowship has had two unions since election to lead the churches in the Southern area. They referred us to the written report submitted to the Chief of Staff (see 2020 Joint Session Fellowship Board of Directors Meeting Minutes, 25 October 2020, 6 pm). President Scott offered commentary on the role of women in FECBA.

Northern Fellowship & Women: Presidents Howard B. Barr, Jr. and Malinda Collins

The Presidents of the Northern Fellowship informed us that all 12 officers of the Northern Fellowship are covenant partners. And, they referred the body to their report emailed to the General Secretary. It follows:

The Northern fellowship makes the following report: Since our last gathering in Oct 2020 the FEC Northern Union Fellowship has continuously done its best to Equip, Empower and Encourage all ACTIVE churches in our northern fellowship.

We have met virtually in November and December for a status and wellness of our Pastors, Churches, and families.

In Dec. we gathered virtually for our "O Taste and See" Christmas fellowship. The Christmas joy was shared and experienced as we shared our deserts and love.

Jan., We held our 1st 2021 Virtual Session from the Greater Antioch Baptist Church in Pompano Beach, pastored by Dr. Freeman.

All our workshops, messages and information centered on Evangelism. The Women's Department workshop topic was "Are you a Naomi or a Ruth. "Our Youth Zoom" explosion closed us out as always on a high note.

As of today we are excited to announce that all immediate cabinet members are covenant partners for 2021

As we move forward we will continue our monthly virtual fellowship and wellness with Pastors and churches. Along with preparation for our April virtual session live streamed from the Historical St. Paul Ministry of Delray Beach.

To God Be the Glory for the Great things he has done.

*Humbly Submitted,
Presidents H. B. Barr, Jr. & Malinda Collins*

Youth and Young Adults: Sister Lawana Parrott

Sis. Lawana Parrott has met with youth and young adults. She is working on a project for the Moderator, to be completed by the time the Congress of Christian Education begins.

FECBA WEBSITE AND TECHNICAL STATUS

Chief of Staff Demetric Ford reported on FECBA's website and technical status. Pastor Ford is working to make FECBA lives as easy as possible. He recommends that we refer to the website first when we are in need of any information about our association.

Pastor Ford also reported on the slow receipt of commercials for churches for Florida East Coast Night. The deadline to submit all pre-recorded commercials is Wednesday, 10 February 2021, at 10:00 am.

PRINTED AGENDA CONCLUDED

SUPPLEMENTAL DISCUSSIONS:

1. Rev. T. T. Shellman reminded all pastors who hadn't contacted him yet to make offering for Jimmy King to contact him and donate ASAP.
2. Rev. Parrott asked that we remember the widows of the brethren who pass. We contribute an offering to the widows of our fallen brothers. We are asking that we share a gift to Sister Mary King, in the passing of our brother, Pastor Jimmy King of First Baptist Church of Bunche Park.

CLOSING REMARKS: MODERATOR PHILPART

Moderator Philpart recognized Dr. Kissner of Tabernacle Baptist Church, Pastor Jones and Pastor Lockwood. He asked that all churches register online at fecbaptist.org, and select pay later if you choose to mail in your registration fees.

Moderator Philpart further acknowledged Pastors Woodrow Jenkins, Ellis McKenzie and Vincent Brown.

Moderator Philpart stated that the goal of FEC Night is one thousand (1000) people on the ZOOM call.

CLOSING PRAYER & ADJOURNMENT

Pastor Bemley gave the closing prayer, and the meeting was adjourned at 08:54 pm by Chairman Bryant.