

2014 Annual Meeting Resolutions

Resolution No. 1

On Appreciation to Host Church for the 2014 Annual Meeting

We, the messengers to the 2014 Baptist General Convention of Oklahoma, meeting at Quail Springs Baptist Church, Oklahoma City, Oklahoma, November 10-11, 2014, express our profound appreciation to Pastor Hance Dilbeck and to the staff and congregation of Quail Springs Baptist Church for the countless hours in support and preparation for this convention. We further state that this church is an outstanding model of genuine Christian service and hospitality. We offer our prayers for God's continued blessing in future ministry.

Phil. 1:3-11; Philemon 4-7

Resolution No. 2

On Prayer, Fasting, Spiritual Awakening and Revitalization

We, the messengers to the 2014 Baptist General Convention of Oklahoma, meeting at Quail Springs Baptist Church, Oklahoma City, Oklahoma, November 10-11, 2014, recognize that the challenges facing our nation today can only be met by God. Following the example of the Lord Jesus, we commit ourselves to fervent prayer, fasting, and a spirit of submission to His Lordship. We pursue this call to spiritual awakening and revitalization with humility and a servant's heart.

II Chron. 7:14; Matt. 6:16-18; I Thess. 5:17

Resolution No. 3

On Religious Liberty in America and Abroad

We, the messengers to the 2014 Baptist General Convention of Oklahoma, meeting at Quail Springs Baptist Church, Oklahoma City, Oklahoma, November 10-11, 2014, recognize the growing threat to religious liberty in America and throughout the world today. We call on the President of the United States and other world leaders to protect the freedom of religion for all people in private and public worship, as well as other public expressions and manifestations of faith.

John 8:36; Acts 4:19-20; Gal. 5:1, 13

Resolution No. 4

On the Call to Evangelism

We, the messengers to the 2014 Baptist General Convention of Oklahoma, meeting at Quail Springs Baptist Church, Oklahoma City, Oklahoma, November 10-11, 2014, recommit to sharing the Gospel of Jesus Christ with every person in Oklahoma and beyond. Fulfilling the Great Commission, it is clear that evangelism is an everyday action to take the Gospel to our "Jerusalem, Judea, Samaria and to the ends of the earth." We exhort the local church to proclaim the Gospel. And we further express appreciation for the tools and resources made available through the BGCO and its related ministries, such as the ReConnect Sunday School initiative.

Matt. 9:37-38; Matt. 28:18-20; Acts 1:8

Resolution No. 5
On the Cooperative Program and the “1% Challenge”

We, the messengers to the 2014 Baptist General Convention of Oklahoma, meeting at Quail Springs Baptist Church, Oklahoma City, Oklahoma, November 10-11, 2014, affirm the Cooperative Program as the primary funding approach that unites our churches and fuels the missions and ministry of all Southern Baptists. We recognize the importance of this God-given strategy in providing for every avenue of our shared mission to spread the Gospel and make disciples of all nations. Consequently, we encourage Oklahoma churches to consider joining with other Southern Baptist churches across our nation to take the “1% Challenge” by increasing their church budget giving through the Cooperative Program by one percentage point for the furthering of Kingdom work.

Lev. 27:30; Eccl. 4:9; Mal. 3:10; II Cor. 8:5-7

Resolution No. 6
On Rose Day and the Sanctity of Human Life

We, the messengers to the 2014 Baptist General Convention of Oklahoma, meeting at Quail Springs Baptist Church, Oklahoma City, Oklahoma, November 10-11, 2014, recognize the sanctity, dignity and full value of each human life as created by God from conception to natural death. The annual Rose Day Pro-Life Rally, held at the Oklahoma State Capitol, is the signature pro-life event by which church members and all citizens can positively express their pro-life convictions. We encourage Oklahoma Baptists to be pro-active in promoting the sanctity of all human life at every stage through positive events like Rose Day.

Gen 2:7; Psalm 139; John 10:10

Resolution No. 7
On Marijuana and Other Illicit Drug Use

We, the messengers to the 2014 Baptist General Convention of Oklahoma, meeting at Quail Springs Baptist Church, Oklahoma City, Oklahoma, November 10-11, 2014, are alarmed about the growing acceptance of illicit drugs, as well as the public push for the recreational use of marijuana. We recognize that these drugs impair mental capacity, increase the likelihood of negligent behavior, can become addictive, and also serve as a destructive force to the family. Therefore, we oppose any efforts to legalize or normalize these intoxicating influences. Furthermore, we encourage churches to take a compassionate and Christ-like role in helping individuals and their families battling addictions.

Prov. 20:1; Rom. 12:1; Eph. 5:18

Resolution No. 8
On Marriage

We, the messengers to the 2014 Baptist General Convention of Oklahoma, meeting at Quail Springs Baptist Church, Oklahoma City, Oklahoma, November 10-11, 2014, affirm that marriage is central to our faith and is the centerpiece of the family, which is the building block of society. Based on convictions from the Scriptures, we acknowledge marriage as the sacred union of one man and one woman joined by God for life. We will defend and promote marriage with our lives and words, knowing marriage is a portrait of the Gospel and central to God’s design for the family.

Gen. 1:26-28; Mark 10:6-12

Resolution No. 9
On Compassion for Homosexuals

We, the messengers to the 2014 Baptist General Convention of Oklahoma, meeting at Quail Springs Baptist Church, Oklahoma City, Oklahoma, November 10-11, 2014, believe every person is created in the image of God and has inherent value. In contrast to the growing acceptance of homosexuality today, the Old and New Testaments clearly declare homosexual acts as sinful. Meanwhile, we freely admit that each of us is a sinner in need of repentance and God's grace. We, therefore, commit to love all our neighbors in word and deed, that all may be won to Christ and redeemed from sin.

Gen. 1:26; Isaiah 53:6; Rom. 1:26-32; Rom. 3:23; I Cor. 6:9-11

Resolution No. 10
On Confronting Domestic Violence

We, the messengers to the 2014 Baptist General Convention of Oklahoma, meeting at Quail Springs Baptist Church, Oklahoma City, Oklahoma, November 10-11, 2014, are grieved that domestic violence continues to manifest itself in all areas of life. Sadly, those least able to defend themselves are often the victims of violent abusers. Acts of domestic violence are a direct affront to God's creation. As Christians, we promote the value of life and the need to respond biblically. Furthermore, we call Oklahoma Baptists to become increasingly aware of this blight within our community, to educate our families, and to protect the abused, thus following the ultimate example of love and meekness of Jesus Christ.

Psalms 11:5; I Cor. 13:4-7; II Tim. 3:1-8; Col. 3:19

Resolution No. 11
On the Lottery and Gambling

We, the messengers to the 2014 Baptist General Convention of Oklahoma, meeting at Quail Springs Baptist Church, Oklahoma City, Oklahoma, November 10-11, 2014, are deeply concerned about the rise in casino gambling in Oklahoma, and we believe gambling is addictive, wasteful and has a negative effect on communities and families. Ten years ago, Oklahoma voters approved a state-sponsored lottery based on promises of substantial additional funding to schools. Recent news reports from *The Oklahoman* and other sources have established that the projected revenue estimates by policy leaders at the time have fallen woefully short by tens of millions of dollars. Oklahoma Baptists and others at that time provided a consistent voice of caution against a state lottery and the dangers of gambling. We urge pastors and churches to educate people about the spiritual, financial and moral dangers of gambling, and we pray this trend of increased gambling stops.

Ecclesiastes 5:10; Proverbs 13:11; John 19:23