

## **2013 Annual Meeting Resolutions**

### **Resolution No. 1**

#### **On Appreciation to Host Church for the 2013 Annual Meeting**

We, the messengers to the 2013 Baptist General Convention of Oklahoma, meeting at First Baptist Church, Broken Arrow, Oklahoma, November 11-12, 2013, express our profound appreciation to Pastor Nick Garland and to the staff and congregation of First Baptist Church, Broken Arrow, 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.

### **Resolution No. 2**

#### **On Oklahoma Baptist Disaster Relief's 40<sup>th</sup> Anniversary**

We, the messengers to the 2013 Baptist General Convention of Oklahoma, meeting at First Baptist Church, Broken Arrow, Oklahoma, November 11-12, 2013, congratulate the thousands of Oklahoma Baptist Disaster Relief volunteers, past and presently serving, on 40 years of providing relief and hope to victims of disasters. Whether serving in Oklahoma or around the world, the BGCO Disaster Relief workforce has truly been the hands and feet of Christ to people during their greatest hour of need, bringing glory to God.

### **Resolution No. 3**

#### **On Sunday School/Small Group Ministry**

We, the messengers to the 2013 Baptist General Convention of Oklahoma, meeting at First Baptist Church, Broken Arrow, Oklahoma, November 11-12, 2013, affirm Sunday School as a primary ministry in the church for discipleship and evangelism. We aim to reconnect Oklahoma Baptists with Sunday School and small group ministry. Sunday School/small group ministry continues to be the best, most proven means for organizing the church to reach the lost for Christ, caring for members and mobilizing for ministry.

### **Resolution No. 4**

#### **On Prayer, Spiritual Awakening and Revitalization**

We, the messengers to the 2013 Baptist General Convention of Oklahoma, meeting at First Baptist Church, Broken Arrow, Oklahoma, November 11-12, 2013, recognize that our greatest needs and challenges can only be met by God. Following the example of the Lord Jesus, we commit to a prayerful spirit in submission to His Lordship. We pursue this call to spiritual awakening and revitalization with humility and a servant's heart.

### **Resolution No. 5**

#### **On Immigration**

We, the messengers to the 2013 Baptist General Convention of Oklahoma, meeting at First Baptist Church, Broken Arrow, Oklahoma, November 11-12, 2013, recognize there are an estimated 11 million illegal immigrants currently living within the United States and their future is in question amid political rhetoric and debate. Many good citizens and leaders are divided as to the proper solution to the problem. We, as Oklahoma Baptists, affirming that all people are created in the image of God, commit ourselves to treat all people with the love of Christ, ministering to their human needs and seeking to share the good news of Christ regardless of their legal status. We also commit ourselves to follow the biblical mandate to pray for our national leaders to find a wise, just and compassionate resolution to the immigration issue in the near future.

**Resolution No. 6  
On Foster Care and Adoption**

We, the messengers to the 2013 Baptist General Convention of Oklahoma, meeting at First Baptist Church, Broken Arrow, Oklahoma, November 11-12, 2013, are alarmed that there are reportedly more than 10,000 children in the Foster Care System in Oklahoma awaiting a family. Through prayer and personal commitment, we want to encourage Oklahoma Baptists, in Christ-like love, to take action through foster care and adoption to minister to those without a permanent home. We further applaud individuals and organizations currently working with these children.

**Resolution No. 7  
On Marriage**

We, the messengers to the 2013 Baptist General Convention of Oklahoma, meeting at First Baptist Church, Broken Arrow, Oklahoma, November 11-12, 2013, recognize marriage is under attack from without and within the church. We recommit to taking no part in pornography, meanwhile actively seeking to curb divorce and cohabitation which threaten to weaken families within the church. Based on convictions from the Scriptures, we oppose any efforts to re-define marriage, recognizing it is the union of one man and one woman joined by God for life.

**Resolution No. 8  
On the Sanctity of All Human Life**

We, the messengers to the 2013 Baptist General Convention of Oklahoma, meeting at First Baptist Church, Broken Arrow, Oklahoma, November 11-12, 2013, recognize the sanctity, dignity and full value of each human life as created by God from conception to natural death. The culture of life is threatened from many directions including abortion, suicide, euthanasia, and other means that endanger innocent life. We encourage Oklahoma Baptists to take a pro-active role in promoting and upholding the sanctity of all human life at every stage.

**Resolution No. 9  
On Religious Liberty**

We, the messengers to the 2013 Baptist General Convention of Oklahoma, meeting at First Baptist Church, Broken Arrow, Oklahoma, November 11-12, 2013, unapologetically advocate religious liberty. We call on the President of the United States and other policy makers not to hinder but instead actively defend and protect our God-given liberty, as outlined in the First Amendment of the U.S. Constitution, guaranteeing the right of Christians, churches, military chaplains, and faith-based ministries to live and work freely by their Christian convictions.

**Resolution No. 10  
On Armed Forces**

We, the messengers to the 2013 Baptist General Convention of Oklahoma, meeting at First Baptist Church, Broken Arrow, Oklahoma, November 11-12, 2013, applaud the noble and faithful service of men and women of the United States Armed Forces, past and present, as well as their families. We specifically offer our prayers and condolences to families who have paid the ultimate price for the protection of our freedom, and we continue to pray God's protection for those serving during armed conflict.

**Resolution No. 11  
On Faithful Church Participation**

We, the messengers to the 2013 Baptist General Convention of Oklahoma, meeting at First Baptist Church, Broken Arrow, Oklahoma, November 11-12, 2013, understand that as the Scripture states, we should not forsake our own assembling together as is the habit of some, and all the more as you see the Day of the Lord drawing near. We resolve to remain faithful to the local church through attending, giving, serving, and growing to bring honor and glory to the Lord.