

B.M.A. of Florida: Baptist Missionary Association of Florida

B.M.A. of America websites:

WHO WE ARE: About Us – BMA America

- We are Baptist in our beliefs.
- We are Missionary in our actions.
- We are Associational in local church partnerships.

Doctrinal Statement: DOCTRINAL STATEMENT | BMA America

Statement of Principles of Cooperation:
STATEMENT OF PRINCIPLES OF COOPERATION | BMA America

B.M.A. of America Website: BMA America

2025 B.M.A.A.YEARBOOK: 75 Years of Global Missions
<https://bmaamerica.org/wp-content/uploads/2026/06/2025BMAYearbookWEB.pdf>

Baptist Publishing House: Baptist Publishing House

LifeWord.org

About Us: <https://lifeworld.org/who-we-are/about/>

Mission and Vision: <https://lifeworld.org/who-we-are/mission-vision/>

National Meeting: 2025 National Meeting – BMA America

B.M.A. Theological Seminary: <https://bmats.edu>

<https://healthychurchsolutions.org/course/how-to-create-a-prayer-system-at-your-church/certificate/>

**BAPTIST MISSIONARY ASSOCIATION
OF FLORIDA 70th
ANNUAL MINUTE BOOK
September 12th and 13th,
2025 SESSION**



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**2025 REPORT BOOK of the 70th ANNUAL SESSION of the
BAPTIST MISSIONARY ASSOCIATION OF FLORIDA**

HELD WITH: Rolling Hills Missionary Baptist Church, Jax, FL
On: September 13-14, 2025

CALENDAR FOR 2025-2026:

> _____ > Chg to Feb 6 & 7th. 2026

/2026 BIBLE CONFERENCE: \JANUARY 24-25th

SALVATION (CHURCH SPASENIE)

Pastor: Andrey Kravchuk 407-399-9567

701 Formosa Avenue, Winter Park, FL 32789

2026 BMA of FL and LIFEWORD RETREAT:

Date: June 19-21, 2025 CANCELLED

At: L.J. Stewart Baptist Campground, McDavid, FL
behind Grace Baptist Church,
1410 N Century Blvd, McDavid, FL 32568

2026 ANNUAL MEETING: SEPTEMBER 11-12th

At: Rolling Hills Missionary Baptist Church, Jax., FL

2026 ANNUAL MESSAGE:

FRIDAY: Speaker: _____

Larry Barker

SATURDAY:

Devotional: Pastor _____

SPEAKER: BRO. Luciana Giuliani, Associate Pastor Parkview

ALT: BRO. Tim Beasley.

**SATURDAY ORDER OF BUSINESS
FOR BMA OF FLORIDA ANNUAL MEETING**

- Song
- Opening Prayer
- Devotion:
- Reading of Minutes of Missionary Committee Meeting
- Adopt Missionary Committee Minutes
- Director of Missions Report and Recommendations
- Adopt Director of Missions Report
- Elect Director of Missions and Assistant
- Elect Trustee to fill the (5) year slot
- Elect Partnership Committeeman
- Treasurer's Report
- Elect Treasurer
- Elect Assistant Treasurer
- WMA Report
- Adopt WMA Report
- Election of Officers
- Moderator
- Assistant Moderator
- Clerk
- Assistant Clerk
- Congregational Song or Special
- Morning Message - National worker:
- Right Hand of Appreciation for Message
- Announcements
- Offering
- Closing Prayer and ask blessing for food

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FRIDAY ORDER OF BUSINESS FOR BMA of FL ANNUAL MTG

- Song:
- Opening Prayer
- Welcome
- Response
- Devotion/Report from Ashraf Sara [pg 19 of <https://bmaglobal.org/wp-content/uploads/2025/08/25MissionsProfileBooklet2.pdf>]
- Declare the 70th Annual session of the Association in order
- Congregational Song:
- Annual Message:
- Welcome New Pastors
- Report of the Enrollment Committee
- Election of Speaker and Alternate for the next Annual Meeting:
- Report of last year's Bible Conference Steering Committee (Pastor of Host Church, plus two others):
- Southeastern Baptist College Trustee Report
- Election of Trustee for Southeastern Baptist College
- Baptist Custom Report
- Elect Editor
- Elect Assistant Editor
- Report on Revolving Loan Fund
- Right hand of appreciation for Devotion and Message.
- Announcements
- Continental Breakfast Saturday morning at 8:00 AM.
- WMA and Missionary Committee Meetings at 9:00 AM.
- Closing Prayer.

OFFICERS

<u>Moderator:</u>	Larry Knight
<u>Assistant Moderator:</u>	Tim Beasley
<u>Clerk:</u>	Deidra Cox
<u>Assistant Clerk:</u>	Nancy Cribbs
<u>Treasurer:</u>	Mary Watson
<u>Assistant Treasurer:</u>	Patsy Green
<u>Director of Missions:</u>	William Chancery
<u>Assistant Director of Missions:</u>	Johnny Moore
<u>Baptist Custom Editor:</u>	Deidra W Cox
<u>Asst. Bapt. Custom Editor:</u>	Nancy Cribbs
<u>Missionary Committee Moderator:</u>	William Chancery
<u>Clerk:</u>	Tim Beasley
<u>Trustees:</u>	Paul Fickey; Larry Knight; Bill Horne; Abel Epstein; Tim Beasley
<u>Bible Conference Steering Committee:</u>	Andrey Kravchuk; Adam Batarseh; Larry Barker
<u>SE Baptist College Trustee:</u>	Larry Knight
<u>Partnership Committeeman:</u>	William Chancery

DIRECTORY OF CHURCHES AND MISSIONS

Arabic Baptist Mission of Orlando **Missionary:**
8116 Lake Eve Dr. Adam Batarseh
Orlando, FL 32810 Cell Ph: (407) 729-3493
E-mail: adambatarseh@gmail.com
<https://www.facebook.com/arabicchurch.orlando>

Christina Park Baptist Church
445 W. County Rd. 540A
Lakeland, Florida 33813 NO
Pastor: Henry Fuentes, Sr Phone: (863) 644-3440
E-mail: jfuentes21@tampabay.IT.com
<https://www.facebook.com/Christina-Park-Baptist-Church-156233167770705/>

Grace Baptist Church
1410 N. Century Blvd
McDavid, FL 32568
Pastor: Leonard Knight Phone: (850) 932-2966

North Lakeland Baptist Church
PO Box 93233
Lakeland FL 33809-3233
Pastor: Richard Mullins Cell: (863) 660-6262
E-mail: rpmbmlm@gmail.com
Phone:: (863)-859-1348

Parkview Baptist Church
119 Rosalyn Way
Pensacola, FL 3250
Pastor: William Chancery Phone: (850) 572-2161
61 Hwy, 164, McDavid, FL 32568
<https://www.facebook.com/parkviewpensacola/>

Rolling Hills Missionary Baptist Church
840 Permento Ave,
Jacksonville, FL 32221
Pastor: Bill Horne Ph: (904) 490-4906
Church: (904) 783-0524; rhbcjax.com

2025 ANNUAL LETTERS-REPORTS FROM CHURCHES (cont'd)

Rolling Hills Missionary
Baptist Church rhbcjax.com
840 Permento Ave,
Jacksonville, FL 32221
Membership Statistics: Last Year: 184;
Increase by: Baptism: 3;
Letter: 5; Statement: 7; Total: 9
Present Membership: 194.
Decrease: Death: 0;
Sunday School Enrollment: 10;
Sunday School Attendance: 10;

(Ordained Minister:) Bill Horne
Ph: (904) 993-4906
10928 Castle Pines Court,
Jacksonville, FL 32210
Church: (904) 783-0524;
Messengers: Johnny Moore
Duane Brown,
Robert Williams

Silver Lake Missionary Baptist Church, PO
Box 1638,
1288 Highway 19,
S Palatka, FL 32178
Membership Statistics: Last Year: 20;
Increase by: Baptism: 0;
Statement: 5; Total: 1
Present Membership: 21.
Sunday School Enrollment: 10;
Sunday School Attendance: 10;

(Ordained Minister:)
Timothy Beasley,
8014 Joffre Dr.,
Jacksonville, FL 32210
Ph: (904) 207-1308
Messengers:
Bro Tim Beasley;
Bro Ronald Beasley

Salvation (Church Spasenie)
701 Formosa Avenue
Winter Park, FL 32789
No Annual Letter received.

Pastor: Andrey Kravchuk
Pastor's Ph: 407-399-9567
<https://churchspasenie.com/>

The First Slavic Baptist Church of Pensacola
4116 W Jackson Street
Pensacola, FL 32505
No Annual Letter received.

Pastor: Abel Epishin Ph: (850) 375-8114
1355 Portland Avenue, Pensacola,
FL 32534
<https://www.facebook.com/FirstSlavicBaptistChurch/>

2025 ANNUAL LETTERS-REPORTS FROM CHURCHES & MISSIONARIES:

Adam Batarseh, Missionary Phone: (407) 729-3493
8116 Lake Eve Dr. E-mail: adambatarseh@gmail.com
Orlando, FL 32810
No Annual Letter received.
<https://www.facebook.com/arabicchurch.orlando>

Christina Park Baptist Church Pastor: Henry Fuentes, Sr
445 W. County Rd. 540A Ph: (863) 644-3440
Lakeland, Florida 33813
No Annual Letter received.
E-mail: jfuentes21@tampabay.IT.com

Grace Baptist Church (Ordained Minister:) Leonard Knight
1410 N. Century Blvd Ph: (850) 417-2963
McDavid, FL 32568 1341 N Century Blvd, McDavid, FL 32568
Membership Statistics:
Last Year: 32; Increase by letter:
Present Membership 32.
Sunday School Enrollment: 13;
Sunday School Attendance: 10;
Messengers: Leonard Knight;
Patsy Green; Mary Watson
Alternate: Inez Chancery

North Lakeland Baptist Church (Ordained Minister:) Richard Mullins
PO Box 93233 306 Wilder Rd, Lakeland, FL 33809
Lakeland FL 33809-3233 Cell: (863) 660-6262
Church: (863) 660-6262 E-mail: cpmbmlm@gmail.com
Membership: Last Year: 63; Home: (863)-859-1348
Death: 1; Total Decrease: 1 (Minister:): Alan Stalvey,
Present Membership 62. 1422 Slash Pine St,
Ladies Bible Study: Enrolled: 5; Lakeland, FL 33809
Attendance: 4 Ph: (863)581-2523

Parkview Baptist Church (Ordained Minister:) William Chancery
119 Rosalyn Way 61 Hwy, 164, McDavid, FL 32568
Pensacola, FL 32505 email: WilliamChancery@yahoo.com
Membership: Last Year: 84;
Increase: Baptism: 1; Statement: 8; Messengers:
Decrease: Exclusion: 2; Death: 2; Sis Laura Chancery
Total = 4; Present Membership 93. Adam Batarseh
Sunday School Enrollment: 20; Bro William Chancery;
Sunday School Attendance: 15; Alt: Sherry Warner

DIRECTORY OF CHURCHES AND MISSIONS (cont'd)

Salvation (Church Spasenie)
701 Formosa Avenue, Winter Park, FL 32789
website: <https://churchspasenie.com/>
Pastor: Andrey Kravchuk Pastor's cell Ph: 407-399-9567

Silver Lake Missionary Baptist Church
PO Box 1638, Palatka, FL 32178
Pastor: Timothy Beasley Email: info@slmbc.net
Pastor's cell Phone: 904-207-1308
<https://www.youtube.com/@SilverLakeMissionaryBaptistChu>

The First Slavic Baptist Church of Pensacola
4116 W Jackson Street, Pensacola, FL 32505
Pastor: Abel Epishin Ph: (850) 375-8114
1355 Portland Avenue, Pensacola, FL 32534
<https://www.facebook.com/FirstSlavicBaptistChurch/>

ORDAINED MINISTERS:

Adam Batarseh Ph: (407) 729-3493
8116 Lake Eve Dr, Orlando, FL 32810
E-mail: adambatarseh@gmail.com

Ronald Beasley (904) 786-0964
8141 Joffre Dr., Jacksonville, FL 32210

Timothy Beasley Ph: (904) 207-1308
8014 Joffre Dr., Jacksonville, FL 32210
Email: info@slmbc.net

William Chancery Ph: (850) 572-2161
61 Hwy 164, McDavid, FL 32568

Abel Epishin Ph: (850) 375-8114
1355 Portland Ave., Pensacola, FL 32505

Henry Fuentes, Sr. Ph: (863) 640-3352
3250 Royal Oak Dr. S., Mulberry, FL 33860

Henry Fuentes, Jr. Ph: (863) 286-7872
445 W. Hwy. 540-A, Lakeland, FL 33813

Virgil Harper Home Ph: (904) 757-0103
6059 Cedar Point Rd., Jacksonville, FL 32226

ORDAINED MINISTERS (continued):

William (Bill) Horne Ph: (904) 993-4906
10928 Castle Pines Ct., Jacksonville, FL 32210

Leonard Knight Ph: (850) 932-2966
10795 Silver Creek Dr., Pensacola, FL 32506

Andrey Kravchuk Ph: (407) 399-9567
4236 N John Young Pkwy., Orlando, FL 32804

Richard Mullins Hm Ph: (863) 859-1348;
cell: (863) 660-6262
7429 Willow Wisp Dr., E., Lakeland, FL 33809

Alan Stalvey Ph: (863) 581-2523
1422 Slash Pine St., Lakeland, FL 33809

LICENSED MINISTERS:

Benito Huron Ph (863) 667-0087
2919 Woodstock Ave., Lakeland, FL 33803

CHURCH ELECTED MISSIONARY COMMITTEEMEN:

GRACE: Leonard Knight Ph: (850) 932-2966

PARKVIEW: William Chancery Ph: (850) 572-2361

ROLLING HILLS: Bill Horne 904-993-4906

SILVER LAKE: Timothy Beasley Ph: (904) 207-1308

PROCEEDINGS OF THE BMA OF FL 09/12/25 FRI MEETING:

1. The host church served the Evening Fellowship meal at 6:00 P.M.
2. The meeting was opened with a hymn, led by Bro Carlos Cifuentes.
3. Prayer
4. Report from Ashraf Sara on reaching Arabic-speaking people in America, leading efforts to plant Arabic Churches in Texas, Florida, California, and Arizona. Page 19 of 21 of this link ->

<https://bmaglobal.org/wp-content/uploads/2025/08/25MissionsProfileBooklet2.pdf>

STATEMENT OF PRINCIPLES OF COOPERATION (continued)

ARTICLE XIV - MEETINGS The annual meeting shall be held at such time and place as the messenger body may elect. The Missionary Committee may call an extraordinary session in case an emergency arises. The Association shall sponsor a Mid-Year Bible Conference. The planning of this conference shall be provided by a Steering Committee elected during the annual session. Time shall be provided during the conference for reports from Missions. The Baptist Custom and various field representatives. Expense for speakers shall be provided by special offerings and from the Mission Fund.

ARTICLE XV - SALARIES The Clerk will be paid for his/her services as the messenger body may direct. The Secretary of Missions and other salaried employees will be paid such salaries as are commensurate with their duties.

ARTICLE XVI - AMENDMENTS

Section 1. This Statement of Principles of Cooperation may be amended by two thirds ($\frac{2}{3}$) majority vote of the messengers present at any regular session of the Association. When an amendment is desired, it will be offered in writing on the first day of a regular session, its adoption moved and seconded and freely discussed, then lay over until a subsequent day when the vote shall be taken without any discussion.

Section 2. In case the question of amending this Statement of Principles of Cooperation is referred to the churches composing the Association, and the churches send their vote by letter, or by instructed messengers, and a majority of the churches thus reporting express a desire for the amendment, the amendment shall pass. No particular form shall be required for the churches voting by letter.

STATEMENT OF PRINCIPLES OF COOPERATION (continued)

ARTICLE XII - APPOINTED COMMITTEES (cont'd)

XII.Section 1. Enrollment Committee. (continued)

XII.1.D. In the event any irregularity in voting cannot be corrected otherwise, a roll call of the churches shall be taken and the number of messengers from each church voting shall be ascertained.

XII.1.E. The Enrollment Committee shall compile an obituary list to be included in its annual report.

XII.1.F. The Enrollment Committee shall report all income to the Association received at the annual session for minutes and Clerk hire, and other offerings, and deliver said monies to the Treasurer for proper disposal.

The Enrollment Committee may begin functioning as soon as convenient after arriving at the place of an annual or called session.

XII.Section 2. Resolution Committee. This committee shall be appointed by the moderator and serve throughout the annual session to present resolutions and recommendations to the Association.

ARTICLE XIII - OTHER COMMITTEES The Association shall elect the following committees to report at the annual meeting:

Section 1. Bible Conference Steering Committee. This committee shall be elected by the Association body and shall include the pastor of the host church at which the Mid-Year Bible Conference shall be held. It shall be responsible for the securing of speakers, the raising of funds for the expense of the conference and care of the speakers. It shall prepare a program to be printed by The Baptist Custom, advertising the meeting, and report to the next annual session.

Section 2. The B.M.A. of Florida shall create any committee necessary to assist in the work of the Association.

PROCEEDINGS OF FRI (continued) 9/12/2025:

4.1. Their ministry focuses on

4.1.1. Church planting in major US cities with significant Arabic-speaking populations.

4.1.2. Assessing, training, and coaching missionaries to evangelize, disciple, and establish churches.

4.1.3. Building a movement of Arabic-speaking believers who follow Christ and spread the gospel.

4.2. Their primary goal is to plant Arabic-speaking churches across America.

4.2.1. Leading Arabic-speaking individuals to salvation in Christ.

4.2.2. Raising strong, gospel-centered communities of believers.

4.2.3. Equipping and mobilizing church members to fulfill the Great Commission.

Moderator: Bro Larry Knight declared the 70th annual session of the BMA of FL in order.

5. Recognition of new pastors.

6. ENROLLMENT COMMITTEE REPORT: by Mary Watson for Deidra Cox;

6.1. Five Church Letters received

6.2. Four Churches represented by letter and Messengers.

6.2.1. Grace messengers: Bro Larry Knight, Mary Watson.

6.2.2. Parkview: Bro William, Laura Chancery and Bro Adam.

6.2.3. Rolling Hills: Bro Johnny Moore, Dwayne Brown.

6.2.4. Silver Lake: Bro Tim Beasley.

6.3. Moved the seating of the named messengers.

6.4. 2d Motion CARRIED.

7. Speakers for next annual meeting:

7.1. Bro Luciana Giuliana, Associate Pastor at Parkview. Motion. 2d. Carried.

7.2. Alternate: Bro Tim Beasley. Motion. 2d. Carried

PROCEEDINGS OF FRI (continued) 9/12/2025:

8. 2025 MISSIONS CONFERENCE REPORT: by Bro Larry Barker

8.1. January 24-25th, 2025, END TIMES BIBLE CONFERENCE:

The Doctrine of Eschatology

8.2. Speaker: Dr Freddy Didier, Pastor of the Church without Walls, Cayey, Puerto Rico

8.3. Location: SALVATION RUSSIAN BAPTIST CHURCH,
701 Formosa Ave, Winter Park, FL.

8.4. The Mission Conference Steering Committee is the
Host Church Pastor and Bro Larry Barker..

8.5. Johnny Moore moved to accept report. 2d. By
Tim Beasley. Motion carried.

[INSIGHT TO 2026: BIBLE/MISSIONS CONFERENCE will be: held at
the SALVATION [Church Spasenie], Pastor Abdrey Kravchuk, 701
Formosa Avenue, Winter Park, FL. Bringing all Russian Church Planters,
and Boris who planted in Fort Walton Beach, who now is in Atlanta, GA.].

8.6. Prayer by Larry Barker for our Missionaries, their Families, their
Missions. Bro Larry handed out The Gleaner, celebrating 75 years of
Global Missions.

9. SOUTHEAST BAPTIST COLLEGE TRUSTEE REPORT by Larry Knight:

9.1. I've met with the SE Baptist College one time. They were in the
process of getting a new director, so I have not had a chance to meet
him yet. They had a meeting last month but I was not able to make
that meeting. I don't have much information other than they have
elected a new president and the next meeting I, Larry will attend.

9.2. Motion to accept report. 2d. Motion carried.

9.3. Election of Trustees for SE Baptist College. Larry Knight nominated
by Mary Watson. Made into a motion, everybody in favor say Amen.

10. 2025 BMA of FL and LifeWord RETREAT: @ L.J. Stewart
Campground, McDavid, FL was CANCELLED

STATEMENT OF PRINCIPLES OF COOPERATION (continued)

ARTICLE XI - TRUSTEE COMMITTEE (cont'd)

Section 2. The Trustee Committee shall act in its field as
executive of this Association between sessions, perform said
committee by the Association.

Section 3. The Trustee Committee shall act in its field of
work as Trustees of any and all properties which may be
acquired and owned at any time by the Association.

Section 4. The Trustee Committee will elect its own officers
required for the efficiency of its work, including a treasurer
who shall furnish bond for the due protection of the Association.
This committee shall make an annual report to the Association.

ARTICLE XII - APPOINTED COMMITTEES

ARTICLE XII. Section 1. Enrollment Committee.

XII.1.A. The Committee on Enrollment shall consist of two (2)
members appointed by the moderator prior to the annual
session.

XII.1.B. The duties of the Enrollment Committee:

XII.1.B.(1) To enroll the messengers and visitors at the
regular or called sessions of the Association;

XII.1.B.(2) To report to the messenger body the number
of messengers enrolled. The first report to be given
immediately after the moderator announces the
messengers are ready for permanent organization
or earlier if the body so orders;

XII.1.B.(3) A report shall be given any time after the
committee is ready with a report by request of any
presiding officer or messenger;

XII.1.B.(4) A final report shall be given at the closing
of the Association.

XII.1.C. Any time the number of votes exceeds the number
of messengers enrolled, the motion shall be suspended
until the irregularity is checked and corrected.

STATEMENT OF PRINCIPLES OF COOPERATION (continued)

ARTICLE X - PUBLICATION DEPARTMENT

Section X.1. The messengers of the churches in annual session shall elect a Publication Committee consisting of three (3) members, two (2) of which constitute a quorum.

Section X.2. - Duties of the Publication Committee:

X.2.A. This committee shall nominate annually, to the Association, an Editor of the Baptist Custom, the official publication of the B.M.A. of Florida.

X.2.B. This committee shall serve in advisory capacity to the editors of The Baptist Custom, in matters related to management, circulation, and financial transaction; and shall be responsible for the audit of all funds held and transacted by the editor of The Baptist Custom.

X.2.C. This Committee shall make recommendations to the Association concerning salaries and other compensation for the editor of The Baptist Custom.

X.2.D. This committee shall promote the use and support of sound Christian publications among the churches of the Association.

Section X.3. - The Publication Committee shall elect a Moderator and a Clerk to serve such time as the committee may be in session.

ARTICLE XI - TRUSTEE COMMITTEE

Section 1. The messengers of the church in annual session will elect a Trustee Committee consisting of five (5) members, three (3) of whom shall constitute a quorum. The trustees shall be recommended to the association by the Missionary Committee with no more than one (1) Trustee from any church. Trustees shall be elected as follows: one for one year, one for two years, one for three years, one for four years, and one for five years. Once their term expires, they are eligible for election.

PROCEEDINGS OF FRI (continued) 9/12/2025:

11. BAPTIST CUSTOM Report by Deidra Cox: In accordance with Article X, Publication Dept., Section X.2. , Subparagraph D., promoting the use and support of sound Christian publications among the Churches of the Association. Recommend The Henry Morris Study Bible, On-line: LifeBible.com/Bible, KJVLBS: KJVLIFEAPPLICATIONSTUDYBIBLE; The BlueLetterBible.org; The Baptist Publishing House. Daily Individual, and Group Bible Study; <https://www.gty.org/fof> A 13 week study that can be used in one on one mentoring, small groups, or Sunday School groups; Daily Prayer Journaling: AWAKEN: <https://dq5pwpq1q8ru0.cloudfront.net/2025/11/30/03/17/37/d7712576-6066-4740-8cd2-499c0b124330/AWAKEN.pdf>; Claude V King on Growing Disciples: <https://growingdisciples.net/my-resources/>

11.1. Baptist Custom Financial Report: Sept 1, 2024 - August 31, 2025:		
Brought Forward		\$4,494.54
Received:	Grace:	\$300.00
	North Lakeland:	\$120.00
	Parkview:	\$240.00
	Rolling Hills:	\$455.00
	Silver Lake:	\$165.00
	TOTAL	\$1,280.00
Disbursements: Deidra Cox (Editor & Supplies):		
	-\$1,560.00	-\$1,560.00
Balance:		\$4,214.54

11.2. Baptist Custom Financial Report given by Mary Watson. Motion and second to accept the report as given. So moved. Motion carried.

11..3. ELECTION OF THE BAPTIST CUSTOM EDITOR and ASSISTANT.: Johnny Moore made a motion to continue with Editor and Assistant. 2d. Approved.

PROCEEDINGS OF FRI-SAT (continued) 9/12/2025:

12, REVOLVING LOAN FUND: Sep 1, 2024 - Aug 31, 2025:

	Brought Forward:	\$15,746.35
RECEIVED:	Anchor:	\$175.00
	BMA of NW Florida:	\$2,400.00
	Parkview:	\$115.00
	Rolling Hills:	\$260.00
	TOTAL:	\$2,950.00
	BALANCE:	\$18,746.35

12.1. Revolving Loan Fund given by Mary Watson. Motion and second to accept the report as given. Carried.

12.2. Bro William discussed possibly borrowing from revolving loan fund next January.

13. Dismissed:

13.1. Announcements: Breakfast at 8:00 AM, Saturday, Sep 14th.

13.2. Missionary Committee and WMA Meeting at 9:00 AM.

13.3. Bro Tim Beasley dismissed in prayer.

14. 20250913, Saturday: BMA of FL Annual Business Meeting:

14.1. The host church served Breakfast at 8:00 A.M.

14.2. The Missionary Committee and WMA met at 9:00 A.M.

14.3. The Saturday session opened with Hymn: 302, Rejoice the Lord is King, vs 1, 4.

14.4. Opening Prayer by Bro William Chancery.

14.5. Special by Jeremy and Melissa Minix: Leave with Nothing Left.

14.6. Moderator: Bro Larry Knight opened the business meeting.

15. MORNING DEVOTION: Pastor: Tim Beasley: EPHESIANS 6: 10

Finally my brethren, be strong in the LORD and in the power of His might. Ephesians 6

- BMA OF FL SEPTEMBER 13, 2025 ANNUAL SATURDAY MORNING DEVOTIONAL BY PASTOR TIM BEASLEY AND RECORDED MEETING:

When was the last time you were intentional and spoke about the things you ought to?

<https://dn711409.ca.archive.org/0/items/202509131010-bmaof-fl-mtg/202509131010%20BMAofFL%20Mtg%20.m4a>

STATEMENT OF PRINCIPLES OF COOPERATION (continued)

Section 4. Missions Policies (continued)

IX. Section 4.K.(4) The Treasurer of the B.M.A. of Florida will maintain records of the support provided to each and every pre-existing church, church, or mission. In the event that the congregation of a pre-existing church, church or mission ceases to be affiliated with or ceases to actively support the associated work of the B.M.A. of Florida, or deviates from the Articles of Faith and Doctrine as set forth by the Association, the Treasurer of the B.M.A. of Florida shall provide the pre-existing church, church or mission with an accounting of all financial support provided to said pre-existing church, church or mission. The pre-existing church, church or mission shall then be required to repay to the B.M.A. of Florida, or make arrangements satisfactory to the B.M.A. of Florida to repay the funds, with interest (at a rate of ten (10) percent per annum running from the time the support was received until the support is repaid) within one (1) month of receipt of the accounting. Should the pre-existing church, church or mission fail to repay said support, or fail to make satisfactory arrangements to repay the support within one (1) month of receipt of the accounting, then the property of the pre-existing church, church or mission shall be forfeited to the B.M.A. of Florida. Should the pre-existing church, church or mission meet their obligation to repay the support, with interest, the B.M.A. of Florida will then deed the property back to the pre-existing church, church or mission.

4.L. A pre-existing church is one that has been organized under its own constitution and by-laws and is autonomous. If a pre-existing church goes back to a Mission church, it will operate under the authority of another church.

STATEMENT OF PRINCIPLES OF COOPERATION (continued)

Section 4. Missions Policies (continued)

IX. Section 4.J. In the event circumstances require a change in these guidelines, those changes can be made by the Missionary Committee and the Director of Missions on an individual basis only. Any permanent changes must be approved by the Association in regular session.

IX. Section 4.K.(1) At the time it is determined that a pre-existing church, church or mission (see definitions in Paragraph L below) will receive funding from the B.M.A. of Florida, the pre-existing church, church or mission shall immediately execute deeds in favor of the B.M.A. of Florida for all improved and unimproved property owned by the mission. Said deeds shall be recorded in the public records in the county where the property is located.

IX. Section 4.K.(2) In the event that additional property is acquired by the pre-existing church, church or mission during the time support is being received, said property shall also be deeded to the B.M.A. of Florida. All taxes on property of a pre-existing church, church, or mission. Failure of the pre-existing church, church, or mission to pay taxes on the property shall be grounds for permanent forfeiture of the property to the B.M.A. of Florida, at its sole discretion.

IX. Section 4.K.(3) The property shall be administered by five (5) trustees, [three (3) of whom shall constitute a quorum] appointed or elected by the Association and in accordance with the will and direction of the Association. The Trustees shall be recommended to the Association by the Missionary Committee yearly or as needed. Only by direction and approval of the Association shall the pre-existing church, church or mission property be sold. If the Association approves the sale of any pre-existing church, church, or mission property, then all proceeds of the sale shall go to the Association.

PROCEEDINGS OF THE BMA OF FL 09/13/25 SAT. MEETING:

16. MISSIONARY COMMITTEE REPORT given by Bro Tim Beasley: Mission Meeting called to order by Bro William Chancery. Bro Chancery opened and went around the room with introductions; four Committeeman in attendance. Bro Chancery gave an update on the Arab Mission and the Ukrainian Mission.

16.1. Recommendations of the Missionary Committee::

16.2. Continue supporting Bro. Adam Bartaseh from the State, at \$1,000/mo.

16.3. Continue supporting Bro. Vlad Kouvocahyl from the State at \$500.00

16.4. Bro Tim asks each member of every church to please give something, because that gift will touch somebody.

16.5. Bro Johnny Moore motioned to accept recommendation of Missionarymen Committee as reported above. 2d. Approved by Amen.

17. ELECTION OF DIRECTOR OF MISSIONS AND ASSISTANT: A motion to retain: Bro William Chancery, Director of Missions; and Johnny Moore as Assistant Director of Missions.2d. Motion carried..

18. TRUSTEE COMMITTEE: Motion to keep: Paul Fickey, Larry Knight, Bill Horne, Abel Epishin, and Tim Beasley. Seconded. Motion Carried.

19. PARTNERSHIP COMMITTEEMAN [Director of Missions]: Represents the State of FL and helps Bro Larry Barker. Motion by Bro Tim Beasley to retain Bro William Chancery. 2d. Carried.

20. BMA of FL ANNUAL FINANCIAL REPORT:

September 1, 2024 - August 31, 2025			
BROUGHT FORWARD: \$9,497.22			
RECEIVED:	MISSIONS:	MINUTE FUND	
BMA OF CENTRAL FL	\$23,047.05		
Grace	\$1,022.00		
North Lakeland	\$3,668.64		
Parkview	\$1,806.43		
Rolling Hills	\$1,672.32	\$25.00	
Silver Lake	\$1,171.51		
Annual Meeting	\$86.00	\$75.00	
BMA of Mississippi			
Int. Earned	\$126.51		
Sub Totals:	\$32,612.46	+\$100.00	TOTAL: \$42,209.68

PROCEEDINGS OF BMA OF FL 09/13/25 SAT MEETING (cont'd)

DISBURSEMENTS: BMAA Dept of Missions (for Adam Batarseh)	\$12,000.00
BMAA Dept of Missions (for Vlad Kozubovl)	\$800.00
Freddy Didler [Bible Conference]	\$500.00
Total:	\$13,300.00

TOTAL: \$28,909.68

Mary Watson moved for the adoption of this Report as read.

2nd. Motion carried.

22. WMA REPORT by Mary Watson: The WMA of the BMA of FL met at Rolling Hills Baptist Church, September 13th, 2025. The meeting was called to order by Deidra Cox, prayer by Mary Watson, welcome by Janice Keene; response by Laura Chancery; devotional by Deidra Cox on Psalm 37:4 Delight thyself also in the LORD, and He shall give thee the desires of thine heart.; Minutes were read by Mary Watson. Treasurer's report by Mary Watson. Bal forward \$337.26. Offering today \$40. Total \$377.26. Motion by Deidra Cox to send \$50 to the WMA National Project. Motion 2d. Motion carried. Election of Officers: Motion by Laura Chancery to retain the same officers. Motion 2d and carried. Deidra talked about Families reading together, encouraging Parents to read aloud 15 minutes a day to their Children. Pray requests; and dismiss in prayer by Mary Watson. I move the adoption of this report. Motion 2d. Motion carried.

23. ELECTION OF OFFICERS: Motion to retain Moderator and Assistant; Motion by Bro William Chancery to elect Deidra Cox as Clerk, and Nancy Cribbs as Assistant. 2d by Stella Williams; Motion carried.

Moderator: Larry Knight

Assistant Moderator: Tim Beasley

Clerk: Deidra Cox

Assistant Clerk: Nancy Cribbs

24, Congregational Song! Because He Lives.

24.1. Message by: Pastor Leonard Knight. Message: What must I do to be saved?

<https://dq5pwpg1q8ru0.cloudfront.net/2026/09/08/23/14/10/ac0079d9-be44-49c6-b509-ad645c97fb9b/2025-09-131055-Pastor%20Leonard%20Knight.mp3>

24.2. Bro Johnny Moore gave Bro Leonard Knight, and Tim Beasley the right hand of fellowship in appreciation for the sermon.

24.3. An offering was taken in the amount of \$113.00.

24.4. Dismissed in prayer by Larry Knight.

STATEMENT OF PRINCIPLES OF COOPERATION (continued)

Section 4. Missions Policies (cont'd)

IX. Section 4.D. Each missionary is required to submit a weekly report form supplied by the Director of Missions. This report will be given the Baptist Custom for publication monthly. Failure to send in a weekly report will result in the withholding of the monthly check.

IX. Section 4.E. The base salary for full time missionaries will be set by the Association yearly. The Missionary Committee will make recommendations in its report to the Association. The Missionary Committee will counsel with the missionary prior to the annual Associational meeting. The time and place to be announced by the Director of Missions.

IX. Section 4.F. Beginning with the fifth (5th) year, the Missions' congregations will begin to assume a portion of the Missionary's pay of \$25 per month unless they are able to begin sooner. This amount will be increased by \$25 each month until the conclusion of the eighth (8th) year unless the Mission organizes into a church prior to the conclusion of the eighth (8th) year. This amount should be added to the present level of support received by the State Treasurer monthly from the mission congregation and continue until such time as the mission congregation is able to assume full pastoral support. In the event of necessity, the mission's congregation may suspend this plan for 60 days upon approval of the Director of Missions, and if additional time is needed, they shall counsel with the Director of Missions and the Missionary Committee concerning their future plans.

IX. Section 4.G. Mission congregations will not organize into a church until such time as they are able to assume full financial responsibility for their building program and operation expenses of the church.

IX. Section 4.H. The benefit package will be set annually by the Association.

IX. Section 4.I. Upon investigation, if the Director of Missions finds any missionary's work to be unsatisfactory, the Missionary Committee is to be notified and make a detailed study of the problem. A vote will then be taken to retain or dismiss the missionary.

STATEMENT OF PRINCIPLES OF COOPERATION (continued)

Section 4. Missions Policies (continued)

IX. Section 4.J. In the event circumstances require a change in these guidelines, those changes can be made by the Missionary Committee and the Secretary of Missions on an individual basis only. Any permanent changes must be approved by the Association in regular session.

IX. Section 4.K.(1) At the time it is determined that a pre-existing church, church or mission (see definitions in Paragraph L below) will receive funding from the B.M.A. of Florida, the pre-existing church, church or mission shall immediately execute deeds in favor of the B.M.A. of Florida for all improved and unimproved property owned by the mission. Said deeds shall be recorded in the public records in the county where the property is located.

IX. Section 4.K.(2) In the event that additional property is acquired by the pre-existing church, church or mission during the time support is being received, said property shall also be deeded to the B.M.A. of Florida. All taxes on property of a pre-existing church, church, or mission. Failure of the pre-existing church, church, or mission to pay taxes on the property shall be grounds for permanent forfeiture of the property to the B.M.A. of Florida, at its sole discretion.

IX. Section 4.K.(3) The property shall be administered by five (5) trustees, [three (3) of whom shall constitute a quorum] appointed or elected by the Association and in accordance with the will and direction of the Association. The Trustees shall be recommended to the Association by the Missionary Committee yearly or as needed. Only by direction and approval of the Association shall the pre-existing church, church or mission property be sold. If the Association approves the sale of any pre-existing church, church, or mission property, then all proceeds of the sale shall go to the Association.

DOCTRINAL STATEMENT

I. GOD There is one living and true God, the creator of the universe (Exod. 15:11; Isa. 45:11; Jer. 27:5). He is revealed in the unity of the Godhead as God the Father, God the Son, and God the Holy Spirit, who are equal in every divine perfection (Exod. 15:11; Matt. 28:19; II Cor. 13:14).

A. God the Father is the supreme ruler of the universe. He providentially directs the affairs of history according to the purposes of His grace (Gen. 1; Ps. 19:1; Ps. 104; Heb. 1:1-3).

B. God the Son is the Savior of the world. Born of the virgin Mary (Matt. 1:18; Luke 1:26-35), He declared His deity among men (John 1:14, 18; Matt. 9:6), died on the cross as the only sacrifice for sin (Phil. 2:6-11), arose bodily from the grave (Luke 24:6, 7, 24-26; I Cor. 15:3-6), and ascended back to the Father (Acts 1:9-11; Mark 16:19). He is at the right hand of the Father, interceding for believers (Rom. 8:34; Heb. 7:25) until He returns to rapture them from the world (Acts 1:11; I Thess. 4:16-18).

C. God the Holy Spirit is the manifest presence of deity. He convicts of sin (John 16:8-11), teaches spiritual truths according to the written Word (John 16:12-15), permanently indwells believers (Acts 5:32; John 14:16, 17, 20, 23), and confers on every believer at conversion the ability to render effective spiritual service (I Peter 4:10, 11).

II. THE SCRIPTURES

A. The Scriptures are God's inerrant revelation, complete in the Old and New Testaments, written by divinely inspired men as they were moved by the Holy Spirit (II Tim. 3:16; II Peter 1:21). Those men wrote not in words of human wisdom but in words taught by the Holy Spirit (I Cor. 2:13).

B. The Scriptures provide the standard for the believer's faith and practice (II Tim. 3:16, 17), reveal the principles by which God will judge all (Heb. 4:12; John 12:48), and express the true basis of Christian fellowship (Gal. 1:8, 9; II John 9-11).

DOCTRINAL STATEMENT (Continued):

III. CREATION

A. The World—God created all things for His own pleasure and glory, as revealed in the biblical account of creation (Gen. 1; Rev. 4:11; John 1:2, 3; Col. 1:16).

B. The Angels—God created an innumerable host of spirit beings called angels. Holy angels worship God and execute His will; while fallen angels serve Satan, seeking to hinder God's purposes (Col. 1:16; Luke 20:35, 36; Matt. 22:29, 30; Ps. 103:20; Jude 6).

C. Man—As the crowning work of His creation, God created humankind (male and female) in His own image (Psa. 8; Gen. 1:27; 2:7). Consequently, every person from conception is of inherent dignity and worth and merits the respect of all other persons (Psa. 51:5; Psa. 139:13-16; Gen. 9:6; Matt. 10:28-31; James 3:9).

D. Marriage—God created marriage (Gen. 1:27-28; 2:23-24). Jesus Christ declared the creator's intention for marriage to be the inseparable and exclusive union between a man and a woman (natural man and natural woman) (Matt. 19:4-6; Mark 10:6-9). Marriage testifies of the union between Christ and the church (Eph. 5:31-32; Rom. 1:25-27).

IV. SATAN Satan is a person rather than a personification of evil (John 8:44), and he with his demons opposes all that is true and godly by blinding the world to the gospel (II Cor. 4:3, 4), tempting saints to do evil (Eph. 6:11; I Peter 5:8), and warring against the Son of God (Gen. 3:15; Rev. 20:1-10).

V. DEPRAVITY Although man was created in the image of God (Gen. 1:26; 2:17), he fell through sin and that image was marred (Rom. 5:12; James 3:9). In his unregenerate state, he is void of spiritual life, is under the influence of the devil, and lacks any power to save himself (Eph. 2:1-3; John 1:13). The sin nature has been transmitted to every member of the human race, the man Jesus Christ alone being excepted (Rom. 3:23; I Peter 2:22). Because of the sin nature, man possesses no divine life and is essentially and unchangeably depraved apart from divine grace (Rom. 3:10-19; Jer. 17:9).

STATEMENT OF PRINCIPLES OF COOPERATION (continued)

Section 4. Missions Policies (cont'd)

IX. Section 4.D. Each missionary is required to submit a weekly report form supplied by the Director of Missions. This report will be given the Baptist Custom for publication monthly. Failure to send in a weekly report will result in the withholding of the monthly check.

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IX. Section 4.H. The benefit package will be set annually by the Association.

IX. Section 4.I. Upon investigation, if the Director of Missions finds any missionary's work to be unsatisfactory, the Missionary Committee is to be notified and make a detailed study of the problem. A vote will then be taken to retain or dismiss the missionary.

STATEMENT OF PRINCIPLES OF COOPERATION (continued)

ARTICLE VIII - FUNDS AND PROPERTIES (cont'd)

Section 2. Distribution of funds will be authorized by an act of this Association, or by an act of a properly authorized committee of the Association, but, in no event, will the Association or any committee of the Association use funds in violation of the expressed will of the donors.

Section 3. All funds of this Association will pass through the hands of the treasurer of the funds to which the funds properly belong in the manner herein provided. This includes money, deeds, or whatever may be entrusted to any committee to be used by said committee as directed by the Association.

Section 4. The Treasurer of this Association will hold all funds received between sessions of the Association subject to the order of the committee entitled to use.

ARTICLE IX - MISSIONS DEPARTMENT

Section 1. Each church of the BMA of Florida shall be entitled to one (1) Missionary Committeeman. Said committeeman shall be elected and certified by the church to the annual Associational Meeting.

Section 2. Duties of the Missionary Committee:

A. It is the duty of the Missionary Committee of the Association to act between sessions in carrying out the purpose and objectives of the Association; to fill vacancies which may appear in the Missionary staff, and attend to all other necessary business not otherwise provided for; and to render an annual report to the Association.

B. The Missionary Committee shall elect a moderator and a clerk annually to serve in all meetings of said committee.

DOCTRINAL STATEMENT [continued]

VI. SALVATION

A. The Meaning of Salvation—Salvation is the gracious work of God whereby He delivers undeserving sinners from sin and its results (Matt. 1:21; Eph. 2:8, 9). In justification He declares righteous all who put faith in Christ as Savior (Rom. 3:20-22), giving them freedom from condemnation, peace with God, and full assurance of future glorification (Rom. 3:24-26).

B. The Way of Salvation—Salvation is based wholly on the grace of God apart from works (Titus 3:5; Eph. 2:9). Anyone who will exercise repentance toward God and faith in the Lord Jesus Christ will be saved (Acts 16:30-32; Luke 24:47; Rom. 10:17).

C. The Provision of Salvation—Christ died for the sins of the whole world (John 1:29; 3:16; I John 2:1, 2). Through His blood, atonement is made without respect of persons (I Tim. 2:4-6). All sinners can be saved by this gracious provision (Heb. 2:9; John 3:18).

VII. DIVINE SOVEREIGNTY AND HUMAN FREEDOM God's sovereignty and man's freedom are two inseparable factors in the salvation experience (Eph. 2:4-6). The two Bible truths are in no way contradictory, but they are amazingly complementary in the great salvation so freely provided. God, in His sovereignty purposed, planned and executed salvation in eternity while man's freedom enables him to make a personal choice in time, either to receive this salvation and be saved, or to reject it and be damned (Eph. 1:9-12; 1:13, 14; John 1:12, 13).

VIII. SANCTIFICATION All believers are set apart unto God (Heb. 10:12-14) at the time of their regeneration (I Cor. 6:11). They should grow in grace (II Peter 1:5-8) by allowing the Holy Spirit to apply God's Word to their lives (I Peter 2:2), conforming them to the principles of divine righteousness (Rom. 12:1, 2; I Thess. 4:3-7) and making them partakers of the holiness of God (II Cor. 7:1; I Peter 1:15, 16).

DOCTRINAL STATEMENT (Continued):

IX. SECURITY All believers are eternally secure in Jesus Christ (John 10:24-30; Rom. 8:35-39). They are born again (John 3:3-5; I John 5:1; I Peter 1:23), made new creatures in Christ (II Cor. 5:17; II Peter 1:4), and indwelt by the Holy Spirit (Rom. 8:9; I John 4:4), enabling their perseverance in good works (Eph. 2:10). A special providence watches over them (Rom. 8:28; I Cor. 10:13), and they are kept by the power of God (Phil. 1:6; 2:12, 13; I Peter 1:3-5; Heb. 13:5).

X. CHURCH

A. The Nature of the Church—A New Testament church is a local congregation (Acts 16:5; I Cor. 4:17) of baptized believers in Jesus Christ (Acts 2:41) who are united by covenant in belief of what God has revealed and in obedience to what He has commanded (Acts 2:41, 42).

B. The Autonomy of the Church—She acknowledges Jesus as her only Head (Eph. 5:23; Col. 1:18) and the Holy Bible as her only rule of faith and practice (Isa. 8:20; II Tim. 3:16, 17), governing herself by democratic principles (Acts 6:1-6; I Cor. 5:1-5) under the oversight of her pastors (Acts 20:28; Heb. 13:7, 17, 24).

C. The Perpetuity of the Church—Instituted by Jesus during His personal ministry on earth (Matt. 16:18; Mark 3:13-19; John 1:35-51), true churches have continued to the present and will continue until Jesus returns (Matt. 16:18; 28:20)

D. The Ordinances of the Church—Her two ordinances are baptism and the Lord's Supper. Baptism is the immersion in water of a believer as a confession of his faith in Jesus Christ (Matt. 28:19; Rom. 6:4) and is prerequisite to church membership and participation in the Lord's Supper (Acts 2:41, 42). The Lord's Supper is the sacred sharing of the bread of communion and the cup of blessing by the assembled church (Acts 20:7) as a memorial to the crucified body and shed blood of Jesus Christ (Luke 22:19, 20; I Cor. 11:23-26). Both ordinances must be administered by the authority of a New Testament church (Matt. 28:18-20; I Cor. 11:23-26).

STATEMENT OF PRINCIPLES OF COOPERATION (continued)

ARTICLE VII - OFFICERS (continued)

Section 5. The duties of the general officers are outlined as follows:

Section 5.A. Moderator - The Moderator is to call the session of the B.M.A. of Florida into sessions for the purpose of conducting whatever business that comes before the Association. The Moderator is to set the agenda for the Associational meetings, including the reports from the National organizations. The Moderator is to preside over the business meeting of the Association. Robert's Rules of Order are to be used as a guide for the conducting of Associational business. As the need arises, special meetings of the B.M.A. of Florida can be called by the Moderator. The Moderator shall appoint "ad hoc" committees not otherwise provided for. The Moderator shall vote only in case of a tie vote.

Section 5.B. Assistant Moderator - The Assistant Moderator shall assist the Moderator during the session, preside in the absence of the Moderator, and serve as the "Sergeant-Of-Arms" during the session.

Section 5.C. Clerk - The Clerk shall take all minutes of the business transaction during the session and maintain accurate records of all proceedings of each Associational meeting, put the minutes in printed form and distribute copies to the churches of the B.M.A. of Florida. The Clerk shall include an annual letter form in the printed minutes. No business of the B.M.A. of Florida can be conducted in the absence of a Clerk.

Section 5.D. Treasurer/Assistant Treasurer - The Treasurer shall deposit all funds into the checking/savings accounts of the B.M.A. of Florida, and keep accurate records of all funds received and expended.

ARTICLE VIII - FUNDS AND PROPERTIES

Section 1. All funds of this Association will be raised by voluntary contributions secured solely upon the merits of the cause for which appeals for the gifts are made, and such funds as may be derived from property that may be made to the Association.

STATEMENT OF PRINCIPLES OF COOPERATION (continued)

ARTICLE V - DOCTRINAL POSITION (cont'd)

Section 2. That whatever expression of faith and practice as may be incorporated in this Statement of Principles of Cooperation is designed on as an interpretation of the will of the Lord to be effective in His churches.

Section 3. This Association recognizes that freedom of speech is essential to the highest achievement in its work and as a corollary to this freedom, this Association shall ever maintain the principle of separation of Church and State.

ARTICLE VI - POWERS The powers of this Association are limited to the expressed will of the churches composing it according to the teachings of the New Testament Scriptures, and the Association in its annual session will elect such officers as are necessary for the expediting of its deliberation and work, and appoint such committees as are necessary, and transact any business as may be directed by the churches composing it.

ARTICLE VII - OFFICERS

Section 1. The officers of this Association are as follows: Moderator, Assistant Moderator, Clerk, Assistant Clerk, Treasurer, and Assistant Treasurer.

Section 2. Officers of the B.M.A. of Florida are to be elected Annually to assume the duties at the conclusion of the annual session in which they are elected, whose term of office (excluding Treasurer, Assistant Treasurer, Clerk, Assistant Clerk) shall not exceed two (2) years each.

Section 3. The Association will elect its officers during its Final session; said officers to be chosen by the messengers enrolled at the annual meeting. This does not include officers who make an annual report to the Association. These are to be elected after their reports have been made to and received by the body.

Section 4. All questions are to be decided by a majority of the messengers present, except the questions amending the Statement of Principles of Cooperation or as otherwise provided.

DOCTRINAL STATEMENT (Continued):

E. The Officers of the Church—Pastors and deacons are the permanent officers divinely ordained in a New Testament church (Phil. 1:1). Each church may select men of her choice to fill those offices under the leading of the Holy Spirit (Acts 6:1-6; 20:17, 18) according to the divinely given qualifications (I Tim. 3:1-13).

Pastors (elders, bishops) are authorized to oversee and teach the churches under the Lordship of Jesus Christ (Acts 20:28; Heb. 13:7, 17, 24; I Peter 5:1-4). Each church is responsible to follow them as they follow Christ (I Cor. 11:1; I Thess. 1:6; Heb. 13:17) and to provide a livelihood for them that they might fulfill their ministries (I Tim. 5:17, 18; Phil. 4:15-18). Pastors are equal in the service of God (Matt. 23:8-12).

Deacons (ministers, servants) are servants of the churches and assistants to the pastors, particularly in benevolent ministries. Each church may select her own deacons according to her needs, and no church is bound by the act of another church in that selection (Acts 6:1-6).

F. The Ministry of the Church—Her mission is evangelizing sinners by preaching the gospel (Matt. 28:19; Luke 24:45-47), baptizing those who believe (Acts 2:41; 8:12, 35-38), and maturing them by instruction (Matt. 28:20; Acts 2:42) and discipline (Matt. 18:17, 18; I Cor. 5:1-5).

G. The Fellowship of the Church—She is free to associate with true churches in furthering the faith (II Cor. 11:8; Phil. 4:10, 15, 16) but is responsible to keep herself from those who hold doctrines or practices contrary to Holy Scripture (Gal. 1:8, 9; I John 2:19). In association with other churches, each church is equal and is the sole judge of the measure and method of her cooperation (Matt. 20:25-28). In all matters of polity and practice, the will of each church is final (Matt. 18:18).

DOCTRINAL STATEMENT (Continued):

XI. CIVIL AUTHORITY Human government was instituted by God to protect the innocent and punish the guilty. It is separate from the church, though both church and state exercise complementary ministries for the benefit of society (Matt. 22:21). Christians should submit to the authority of the government under which they live, obeying all laws which do not contradict the laws of God, respecting officers of government, paying taxes, rendering military service, and praying for the welfare of the nation and its leaders (Rom. 13:1-7; I Peter 2:13, 17; I Tim. 2:1, 2). They should vote, hold office, and exercise influence to direct the nation after the principles of Holy Scripture. Civil authority is not to interfere in matters of conscience or disturb the institutions of religion (Acts 4:18-20), but it should preserve for every citizen the free exercise of his religious convictions. Churches should receive no subsidy from the government, but they should be exempt from taxation on property and money used for the common good through worship, education, or benevolence.

XII. LAST THINGS

A. Return—Our risen Lord will return personally in bodily form to receive His redeemed unto Himself. His return is imminent (I Thess. 4:13-17; Rev. 22:20).

B. Resurrections—After Jesus returns, all of the dead will be raised bodily, each in his own order: the righteous dead in “the resurrection of life” and the wicked dead in “the resurrection of damnation” (John 5:24-29; I Cor. 15:20-28).

C. Judgments—Prior to the eternal state, God will judge everyone to confer rewards or to consign to punishment (Matt. 25:31-46; II Cor. 5:10; Rev. 20:11-15).

STATEMENT OF PRINCIPLES OF COOPERATION (continued)

Section 3. The desire and willingness of any regular missionary Baptist church, as defined above, to cooperate will be expressed to the messenger body of this association in writing by January 31 of the calendar year. Presiding officers will make direct contact with each petitioning church for verification. The petitioning church will state that she has, in conference, duly adopted this Statement of Principles of Cooperation and the Doctrinal Statement of the Baptist Missionary Association of America, and is ready to work in harmony and in fellowship with all other churches of this association contingent upon a positive vote of the messengers.

Section 4. This association reserves the right to withdraw associational fellowship from any church which may be found to be out of harmony with this Statement of Principles of Cooperation and/or Doctrinal Statement.

Section 5. Each church in this association is entitled to three (3) messengers chosen from 17 her own membership. The qualifications of messengers are determined by the church electing them.

ARTICLE IV - NATURE

Section 1. This association is, in its very nature, is the joint cooperation and fellowship of the churches composing it. The cooperation may be expressed by means of messengers, letters, or contributions.

Section 2. Each church in this Association shall have a voice in every enterprise sponsored by the Association, according to the principles of work agreed upon.

ARTICLE V - DOCTRINAL POSITION

Section 1. The Association shall recognize and respect the basic principles and practices of Missionary Baptists maintaining that they were originally given by the Lord Jesus Christ through His Inspired writers.

STATEMENT OF PRINCIPLES OF COOPERATION:

PREAMBLE With a profound conviction of the Bible doctrines of church and ministerial equality, and with unbounded faith in God for leadership, protection, and blessing, and with unquestioning acceptance of the Word of God as our all-sufficient rule of faith and practice, and with a strong desire for fellowship and cooperation with all Baptists of this belief, we prayerfully and heartily offer to all true Missionary Baptists who believe in the true Associational way of cooperation, the following Statement of Principles of Cooperation.

ARTICLE I - NAME The name of this cooperative work is the Baptist Missionary Association of Florida, Inc.

ARTICLE II - PURPOSE

II. Section 1. The purpose of this Association is to put into effect in a cooperative way the will of the Lord as delivered to His churches.

II. Section 2. In compliance with the Master's will, this Association will seek to promote interest in adequate support of missionaries, Christian principles, and to provide a medium through which the churches may cooperate in these enterprises.

ARTICLE III - MEMBERSHIP

III. Section 1. This association is composed of regular missionary Baptist churches which are in sympathy with its efforts in providing this medium of cooperation. By regular missionary Baptist churches is meant those churches which hold tenaciously to the doctrines of the New Testament, believe in the principles of cooperation, fellowship, or association as taught in the New Testament, and as defined in the Doctrinal Statement.

III. Section 2. Any church which knowingly and habitually practices or upholds heresies or other human innovations which are not in harmony with the Word of God, such as open communion, alien baptism, pulpit affiliation with heretical churches, ecstatic speaking in tongues and other kindred evils arising from these unscriptural practices departs from the distinctive doctrines of this association and makes herself liable to exclusion from this association.

DOCTRINAL STATEMENT (Continued):

E. The Officers of the Church—Pastors and deacons are the permanent officers divinely ordained in a New Testament church (Phil. 1:1). Each church may select men of her choice to fill those offices under the leading of the Holy Spirit (Acts 6:1-6; 20:17, 18) according to the divinely given qualifications (I Tim. 3:1-13).

Pastors (elders, bishops) are authorized to oversee and teach the churches under the Lordship of Jesus Christ (Acts 20:28; Heb. 13:7, 17, 24; I Peter 5:1-4). Each church is responsible to follow them as they follow Christ (I Cor. 11:1; I Thess. 1:6; Heb. 13:17) and to provide a livelihood for them that they might fulfill their ministries (I Tim. 5:17, 18; Phil. 4:15-18). Pastors are equal in the service of God (Matt. 23:8-12).

Deacons (ministers, servants) are servants of the churches and assistants to the pastors, particularly in benevolent ministries. Each church may select her own deacons according to her needs, and no church is bound by the act of another church in that selection (Acts 6:1-6).

F. The Ministry of the Church—Her mission is evangelizing sinners by preaching the gospel (Matt. 28:19; Luke 24:45-47), baptizing those who believe (Acts 2:41; 8:12, 35-38), and maturing them by instruction (Matt. 28:20; Acts 2:42) and discipline (Matt. 18:17, 18; I Cor. 5:1-5).

G. The Fellowship of the Church—She is free to associate with true churches in furthering the faith (II Cor. 11:8; Phil. 4:10, 15, 16) but is responsible to keep herself from those who hold doctrines or practices contrary to Holy Scripture (Gal. 1:8, 9; I John 2:19). In association with other churches, each church is equal and is the sole judge of the measure and method of her cooperation (Matt. 20:25-28). In all matters of polity and practice, the will of each church is final (Matt. 18:18).

DOCTRINAL STATEMENT (Continued):

XI. CIVIL AUTHORITY Human government was instituted by God to protect the innocent and punish the guilty. It is separate from the church, though both church and state exercise complementary ministries for the benefit of society (Matt. 22:21). Christians should submit to the authority of the government under which they live, obeying all laws which do not contradict the laws of God, respecting officers of government, paying taxes, rendering military service, and praying for the welfare of the nation and its leaders (Rom. 13:1-7; I Peter 2:13, 17; I Tim. 2:1, 2). They should vote, hold office, and exercise influence to direct the nation after the principles of Holy Scripture. Civil authority is not to interfere in matters of conscience or disturb the institutions of religion (Acts 4:18-20), but it should preserve for every citizen the free exercise of his religious convictions. Churches should receive no subsidy from the government, but they should be exempt from taxation on property and money used for the common good through worship, education, or benevolence.

XII. LAST THINGS

XII.A. Return—Our risen Lord will return personally in bodily form to receive His redeemed unto Himself. His return is imminent (I Thess. 4:13-17; Rev. 22:20).

XII.B. Resurrections—After Jesus returns, all of the dead will be raised bodily, each in his own order: the righteous dead in “the resurrection of life” and the wicked dead in “the resurrection of damnation” (John 5:24-29; I Cor. 15:20-28).

XII.C. Judgments—Prior to the eternal state, God will judge everyone to confer rewards or to consign to punishment (Matt. 25:31-46; II Cor. 5:10; Rev. 20:11-15).

DOCTRINAL STATEMENT (Continued):

XII.D. Eternal States—

Heaven is the eternal home of the redeemed (John 14:1-3) who, in their glorified bodies (I Cor. 15:51-58), will live in the presence of God forever (I Thess. 4:17) in ultimate blessing (Rev. 21, 22).

Hell is the place of eternal punishment and suffering (Luke 16:19-31) for the devil, his angels (Matt. 25:41), and the unredeemed (Rev. 20:10-15).

ADDENDUM NOTE: The following statements are not to be binding upon the churches already affiliated with this association, or to require adoption by churches petitioning this body for privilege of cooperation, or to be a test of fellowship between brethren or churches. However, they do express the preponderance of opinion among the churches of the Baptist Missionary Association of America.

1. We believe in the premillennial return of Christ to earth, after which He shall reign in peace upon the earth for a thousand years (Rev. 20:4-6).

2. We believe the Scriptures to teach two resurrections: the first of the righteous at Christ’s coming; the second of the wicked at the close of the thousand-year reign (I Thess. 4:13-17; Rev. 20:6, 12-15). We endorse the New Hampshire Confession of Faith as a representative compendium of what Baptists have historically believed through the centuries. This confession was consulted and provided a pattern and guide for the formulation of these doctrinal statements. As there are several versions and editions, we refer particularly to the edition in J. E. Cobb’s Church Manual third edition, published by the Baptist Publications Committee of Texarkana, TX.