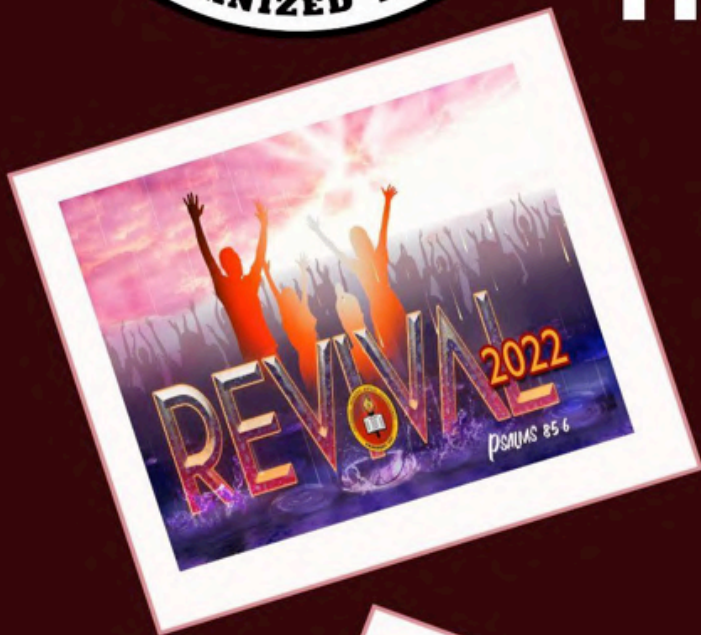




National Primitive Baptist Convention Convention Highlights

2022-2023



Check us out at npbccconvention.org



NPBC NEWS

January 2022-December 2023

From the General President

Elder Dr. Kenneth A. Duke



Greetings.

It goes without saying that God has been and continues to be mighty good to the National Primitive Baptist Convention. Our legacy stretches more than 100 years. We have a history rich with men and women who continue to be committed to serving God and

His people. As a Convention, God has called us into action to teach, serve, build, strengthen, and encourage each other, our church families, and our communities. It will take us as a collective force to accomplish what God has assigned to us.

Over the past two years, our theme has directed us in a mighty way. In Championsgate, FL God ushered us into a “Revival” and we experienced the power of God like no other. In Greensboro, God gave us a “Call to Action.” I am certain that God is unifying the body of Christ for such a time as this. We must work together unlike never before to combat the forces of darkness that are trying to destroy our communities, our churches, and our families.

Our Convention forefathers were spiritually wise enough to recognize that we are all different. As they came together to formulate our guiding principles, they ensured that each church had reserved rights to govern their congregations so long as it does not infringe on the rights of others. That is an important

feature of our denomination polity. Each of our churches has the ability to reach and teach in accordance with what is needed for their community with the understanding that the Bible is the foundation of all that we say and do. Today, more than ever, we must be a people who go beyond the four walls of our facilities to bring to the feet of our Lord our dying communities, neighbors, friends, and families by equipping them with the knowledge of and an ever-growing faith that Jesus Christ is the only way in which our life is acceptable to God.

I want to take this moment of personal privilege to thank each of you for your support. We thank the Vice President, Elder Dr. Oscar Montgomery, for his leadership and dedication to serving this Convention with excellence. We thank our Cabinet of men and women who give of themselves tirelessly to serve our great Convention. We were able to implement our new registration process. We extend our thanks to Elder Monte Lester, Elder Benji McMiller, and Sister Lessie Yates for their leadership. We thank our staff (Sister Jackie Brown, Regina Earls, Sister Barbara Williams, Sister Sabrina Floyd, and Sister Margaret Jones) for their dedication and commitment. We also thank Brother Stephen Smith who served us for many years as our webmaster. The website and social media platforms will now be maintained under our new Media and Communication Department under the leadership of Elder Roger Russell.

(Cont. to next page)

We thank our host region, Mid-Southwestern, under the leadership of Elder Chester Brown, III for hosting us in Greensboro, NC. During the week, we had some dynamic preachers to bless us with some powerful Word. We had amazing teaching from our Bible Expositor, Elder Jaymes Mooney. We enjoyed some great fellowship during our luncheons and sneaker ball. We received helpful information for our churches and church leadership which was facilitated by our Publishing Board Chair, Elder Terry Price, and our Retirement Board Chair, Elder Jerry Crutcher.

Below is a summary of some of the actions taken during the Convention:

- We established the Ecclesial Council that is charged with handling appeals and grievances brought to the attention of the National Primitive Baptist Convention.
- We approved a resolution allowing for churches to license women clergy if their Association so approves. This action must be adopted by each local Association in order for the local churches to license women in their church.
- Adopted a policy establishing who would qualify and be recognized as emeritus members of our Convention.

We have made quite a bit of progress over the past 2 years. We established a new National Convention database. A database which allows us to communicate more efficiently with our members. With this in mind we need every member of our Convention to be included in the system. It's super easy. You can log onto our website npbcconvention.org, scroll down to Get and Stay Connected. Click on to Connect Now and then follow the prompts. We finalized and implemented accounting policies and procedures. This allows us to maintain consistency in our accounting and managing the Convention's finances across all areas. We developed and implemented accounting procedures to govern how we manage and maintain our finances following acceptable accounting standards.

We have revived our Ambassadors program, under the leadership of Sister Dorothy Pendergrast. The Ambassadors have been charged with assisting the Convention in securing resources to support our continued efforts. To join this group or to get more information, please contact Sister Pendergrast at 615-969-9592.

We thank God that we had the resources to respond to churches that were impacted by hurricanes and other natural disasters. It was through your giving into our Mission and Evangelism fund over the last two years that we were able to assist our churches in Florida, Louisiana, and Tennessee. We will continue to build this fund through our evangelistic service at the Winter Board and Annual Convention, our National Day of Giving every November, and the generosity of the "Friends" of our Convention.

Although much has been accomplished, we will continue to work diligently to build and expand the work of the Convention. We are "Called to Action" and we must:

- Build and maintain a Convention Reserve fund of \$350,000 to be used to help with Pre - Convention and Board expenses to eliminate borrowing funds to cover expenses. The Convention must become financially stable and not operate from one meeting to the next.
- Work diligently to establish a Convention office. We presently operate out of the office of the church of whoever is President. Our records are in various locations. For long-term stability, we need to establish a permanent office.
- Reactivate and expand our Mobile Academic Training Academy to implement training courses in every region, State, and local District of our Convention.

We will hold our 46th F. L. Livingston Institute and Winter Board of Directors meeting in Pensacola, FL, February 18-21, 2024. As we move in unison to Pensacola, FL our theme for 2024 is "The Body In Action" Discovering Your Uniqueness. Please see the flier in this newsletter for more details. We will hold our 117th Annual Session of our National Convention in Birmingham, AL July 21-26, 2024. We will share more details on the Convention in early 2024.

In addition we are asking for every member of the Primitive Baptist Church to participate with us throughout the year whether that is in person, online participation, and sowing into the kingdom in our collective efforts. See the calendar of events and requests for which we are seeking full participation.

1. Winter Board & F.L. Livingston Institute - February 18th -21st, 2024 - (See Registration)
2. Maundy Thursday Worship - March 28th, 2024 - (SouthWest Region Hosting in Dallas, TX; generous general offering)
3. National Day of Prayer - May 2nd, 2024
4. National Giving Day - December 3rd, 2024 -(Every Christian Member and Friend \$20; Every Church a minimum of \$50)

We are looking forward, with great anticipation, to seeing what God has in store for our great Convention. Paul said it best when he wrote to the people in Corinth and us these words

"Eye has not seen, nor ear heard, Nor have entered into the heart of man. The things which God has prepared for those who love Him." 1 Corinthians 2:9 (NKJV).

Continue to have your way, Lord!

Servant to All,

Kenneth A. Duke

Elder Dr. Kenneth A. Duke
General President

General Convention President

It continues to be my honor to serve as your General President. I have had the pleasure of representing the National Primitive Baptist Convention, USA, Inc. throughout the nation. Below is a list of the General President's travel dates for 2022/23:



2022

January

January 7th - Attended the One Day Florida State Primitive Baptist Convention, Tallahassee, Florida

January 23rd - Ministered at the Greater New Zion PBC, Daytona Beach, Florida where Elder Jermaine Fuller is the Senior Pastor

February

February 20th - Ministered at the Connection Hill PB Church in Franklin, Tennessee, where Elder Corey Howse is the Senior Pastor

February 20th - Encouraged and ministered through preaching at the Green Grove PB Church- Franklin, Tennessee

February 21st - 23rd - Attended the National PB Convention Board Meeting and F. L. Livingston Institute in Franklin, Tennessee where the Locust Ridge PB Church served as our host

February 27th - Ministered at the Mt. Moriah PB Church, Tampa, FL where Elder B. R. Fulton is the Senior Pastor

March

March 4th - Served as the Eulogist for Elder Richard Lloyd's Funeral in Nashville, Tennessee

April

April 5th - Attended the funeral of Elder Franklin Rush in Tallahassee, FL

April 6th - 7th - Visited and met with Dr. Thomas Samuels, President Emeritus of Nation PB Convention in Charlotte, NC

April 19th - 22nd - Attended the Florida State PB Convention in Tallahassee, FL

April 24th - 25th - Ministered at the Pastoral Anniversary of Elder Kyle Hampton, Sweet Leaf PB Church in Louisville, Kentucky

April 24th - 28th - Represented the Convention at the IC3 Ministers Conference in Houston, TX

May

May 11th -12th - Visited and met with Dr. Thomas Samuels, President Emeritus of Nation PB Convention in Charlotte, NC

May 24th -25th - Ministered at the Friendship PB Church in Quincy, FL

May 28th – Attended the First Southern Regional conference at Crumbey Bethel PB Church in Fairfield, AL in Birmingham, AL

May 29th - Ministered at the New Rising Star PB Church in Fairfield, AL, additionally, provided encouragement to the church in search of a pastor

June

June 10th -13th – Ministered at the Zion Hope PB Church- Pensacola, FL. Additionally, provided encouragement to the church in search of a pastor

July

July 15th -22nd - Attended the National PB Convention in Orlando, FL

September

September 4th – Ministered at the Orthodox Zion PB Church- West Palm Beach, FL, Elder Dr. James Chester

October

October 10th - Provided Hurricane Relief (gift cards) at Mt Pleasant Baptist Church & Followers of Christ Ministries in Ft Myers, FL

October 13th - Provided Hurricane Relief to Macedonia PB Church in Bowling Green, FL

October 14th - Ministered at the Old West PB District Association in Tallahassee, FL

October 19th - 21st - Attended the East Florida PB District Association in West Palm Beach, FL

October 22nd Ministered at the Zion Hope PB Church for the Pastoral Installation of Elder Brandon Mason in Pensacola, FL

October 23rd - Ministered at the Church Anniversary at St. Mary PB Church in Haines City, FL where Elder Terry Burwell is the Senior Pastor

November

November 4th - Delivered truck load of items to several churches for victims affected by Hurricane Ian in Ft. Myers, FL.& Arcadia, FL Antioch MB church & Mt pleasant Baptist church of, Ft Myers FL, Elizabeth Baptist Church Arcadia, FL

November 27th - Ministered at Locust Ridge PB Church in Franklin, TN, additionally, provided encouragement to the church in search of a pastor

November 28th – 29th – Visited and met with Dr. Thomas Samuels, President Emeritus of National PB Convention- Charlotte, NC

December

December 1st – 3rd – Visited and met with PB Churches in the Los Angeles, CA area

2023

January

January 6th – Attended One-Day Session for the Florida State PB Convention

February

February 2nd - Attended a site visit in Greensboro, NC

February 3rd - Visited and met with Dr. Thomas Samuels, President Emeritus of Nation PB Convention in Charlotte, NC

February 4th – Attended One-Day Session East, Florida District Association in Deland, FL

February 19th - Preached at the Saint Mark Primitive Baptist Church in Tallahassee, Florida, Elder Dr. Chris Burney

February 19th – February 22nd - Attended the National PB Convention Board Meeting and 45th F. L. Livingston in Tallahassee, FL

March

March 6th - Visited Regional Vice President Clemson Leech (Northeastern Region)

April

April 6th - Attended Maundy Thursday Service at Mt Moriah PB Church, Elder Chester Brown

April 7th - Visited and met with Dr. Thomas Samuels, President Emeritus of Nation PB Convention in Charlotte, NC

April 22nd - 24th Attended the 40th Pastoral Anniversary for Elder Hewitt Sawyers 40th in Franklin, TN

April 25th -28th Represented the National PB Convention at IC3 Conference in Houston, TX

April 28th -29th - Attended the First Southern Regional Meeting in Nashville Tennessee hosted by Ephesian PB Church

April 30th - Visited the St Mark Church in Huntsville, AL

May

May 1st – Attended meeting with a developer for National Convention property in Huntsville, AL

May 2nd – Represented the National Convention at the installation service for Pastor Carl Johnson as president of the Florida General Baptist Convention

May 4th – Participated in the National Day of Prayer

May 15th - Attended meeting with Primitive Baptist in California at the New Jerusalem Primitive Baptist Church

May 16th - 17th – Attended the Fuller Theological Seminary Conference in Pasadena, CA

June

June 22nd – 23rd - Attended the East Florida District Association Church School Convention in Fort Pierce, FL

July

July 13th – 22nd - Attended the National Primitive Baptist Convention in Greensboro, NC

August

August 6th – Visited St Bartley Primitive Baptist Church

September

September 9th -11th - Ministered at the installation for Elder Vincent Stokes, Senior Pastor at New Sardis Primitive Baptist Church in Cleveland, OH

September 27th - Met with several Primitive pastors in Austin, TX

September 28th - 29th - Attended the Zion Rest District Association in Dallas, TX

October

October 18th – 20th - Attended the East Florida District Association in Fort Pierce, FL

October 21st -23rd – Ministered at the first Pastoral Anniversary for Elder Brandon Mason at Zion Hope PB Church

December

December 15th - Attended Dr. John Clay's Retirement Celebration from Huntsville Bible College, Huntsville, AL

Highlights from the 115th and 116th Annual Session

General Convention

At our 115th Annual Session we were elated to recognize Elder Hewitt Sawyer for the Vision Award. Elder Sawyer has blessed our National Convention with many years of dedicated service as our National Treasurer. We recognized Crumbey Bethel Primitive Baptist Church for our Candlestick Award. Crumbey Bethel has opened its doors to our National Convention, our Region, Associations and community. We also recognized Deacon Irvin Pride with the Servant Award recipient. Deacon Pride has been a faithful member of our Convention serving in many capacities including registration.

During our 116th Annual Session we were able to recognize a few more faithful servants to our NPBC. The Vision Awards went to Elder Dr. Jeffrey Rainey for the leadership he has given to our National Convention as our past Bible Expositor and to Elder Dr. Ronnie Russell for the leadership he has given to our National Convention as our Financial Secretary. Our Servant Award went to Deacon Marvin Carter. Deacon Carter has been a faithful member of our Convention for many years. He serves in the Laymen Congress, he has represented the Laymen in registration for countless years giving valuable insight and leadership.

We congratulate each of our awardees and thank them for their commitment and dedication to our National Convention.

115th Awards Recipient



116th Awards Recipient





Reflections





the
Best
is yet
To come

National Women Congress



Women Congress Officers (right to left)

President – Sandra E. Ming, Vice President – Taleah Hill
Second Vice President – Peggy Miller, Third Vice President – Carolyn McCray
Registrar - Elizabeth Strong, Assistant Recording Secretary – Tonya Robinson
Recording Secretary – Shirley Lewis (not shown)

Tuesday session exploration of the theme from Evangelist
Dominique Moore (Florida)

For our Sister Reaching a Sister,
Evangelist Sonja Patterson of Bethel AME Church in
Greensboro, NC was our speaker.

Mamye C Batts/Lillian J. Brantley/Betty S. Brown Making a Difference Award

Recipient: Selena Joy Robinson of Mt. Olive PB Church,
Jacksonville, Florida





DORCAS Award for 2023

Presented to Mother Blannie Q. Batts of Huntsville, AL

2023 Patton Raye Scholarship

The 2023 Patton Raye Scholarship had eight applications. Five of the eight applicants each received a \$1,000 scholarship: Kelsie A. Boley (AL), Taylor Martin (AL), Sarai Simpson (FL), Shemiah Walker (GA), and Amaya Wayman (FL).

MINISTER'S WIVES AND WIDOWS

2024 ELECTED OFFICERS

President – Sister Gwenevere A. Weatherspoon
Vice President – Sister Wilhelmina Burwell
Recording Secretary – Sister Sharon Wilson
Financial Secretary – Sister Joyce Fitzgerald
Parliamentarian – Sister Patricia A. G. Mayes
President Emeritus – Mother Dorothy Sampson



MOTHERS/DEACONESS COUNCIL

2024 elected officers

President – Mother Joanna Little
Vice President – Mother Cherry Alexander
Recording Secretary – Mother Sandra Weatherspoon
Treasurer – Mother Carolyn McCray
Parliamentarian – Mother Bertha Davis
Instructor – Mother D. Duffel



MATRONS MINISTRY

Matrons elected 2024 officers are:

President - Sister Paulette Tatum

Vice President - Sister Elizabeth Meeks

Secretary - Evangelist Dominique Moore

Financial Secretary - Sister Willette Harvell

Advisor – Sister Helen Hunter



The Matrons ministry were the winners of The One Hundred Dollar Marchers Educational Programs for the most One Hundred Dollars contributors.

Sister Elizabeth Meeks of Greater Mt. Moriah PB Church, Charlotte, NC was crowned queen representing the Matrons.



WOMEN OF THE CHURCH

2023 officers – due to deficiency of a quorum officers for 2024 were not voted on

President – Sister Teela Alexander

Vice President – Sister Chada Sanders

Secretary – Sister Velinda Cofield

Assistant Secretary – Open

Instructor – Open

Chaplin – Open

National Laymen Congress



2022 Championsgate, FL

It was in Champions Gate, FL that the Laymen Congress elected Deacon Gregory Floyd (FL) as their Congress President. The Laymen sincerely thank Deacon Harold Spann for his leadership of our Laymen Council. The Laymen officers and members are committed to build on the great foundation that he laid. The officers elected are Deacon Jerome Lindsey (FL), Vice President, Deacon Willie Craig (FL) Recording Secretary, and Deacon Michael Stewart (AL) Assistant Recording Secretary.

2023 Greensboro, NC

This year the Church School Congress requested the Laymen explore the topic of *Mold a Male* during our Church School time. We had an opportunity to dig into our responsibility in mentoring other brothers and the benefit of men being active in service to our churches. We shared ideas on attracting and engaging men in our ministries. The discussion was edifying; we didn't want the session to end. During our Laymen meetings, we

discussed various topics such as the meeting dates for our Annual Session. We also voted to submit former President, Harold Spann, for emeritus status. It was a unanimous decision. We thank Deacon Spann

for his many years of service to the Laymen and our Convention.

Our preacher for the Annual Laymen Service was Pastor Freddy Clark of St Louis, MO. What a powerful Word he gave to us. If you missed it or would like to hear it again, please go to the National Primitive Baptist Convention YouTube, and check it out.

The Laymen have established a quarterly newsletter to share information as well as to highlight what the brothers of the Convention are doing. Laymen are asked to please share upcoming events and/or praise reports from your Churches, Associations, State Conventions, etc. President Floyd at gfloyd453@yahoo.com. In addition to the newsletter to stay connected with the brothers we will host quarterly virtual meetings via Zoom. We held our first Zoom on October 29th. The Zoom meetings are a time of providing information that can assist your ministry or your personal spiritual growth. It is also a great time of fellowship. If there are some specific topics that you want to have us address, please contact President Floyd at the email listed above.

We invite all Laymen to plan to be with us in Birmingham, AL July 21-26, 2024.

National Ushers Congress



115th Annual Session “Revival” -- Orlando, Florida

The National Ushers arrived in Orlando excited to reconnect with our brothers and sisters. We came to serve, learn, and build one another up. We gathered from the Garden State of New Jersey, from North Carolina, Tennessee, and Texas through to the sunshine state of Florida. We are grateful for servants such as Sister Janie Morris and the South Florida Convention ushers who came to serve on Monday for the Welcome Program. The National Ushers served with joy daily and praised God for His goodness. Our Annual Worship Service was truly a blessing hearing the word from Elder Benjamin Curry of the New Salem Church of Tampa, Florida, “It’s Amazing What Jesus Can Do for You.”

116th Annual Session “A Call To Action” -- Greensboro, North Carolina

We would like to express our heartfelt thanks to the North Carolina Delegation and Elder Chester Brown III for the exceptional hospitality shown during the 116th Annual Session. It was evident that much thought went into the preparation for our arrival. Thanks to Sister Pamela Bennett, President of the NC State Convention Ushers, Minister Gayle Breakley, President of the Sandy Ridge District Ushers and the North Carolina ushers for their dedicated service during the week. A big thank you to every usher who came with a mind to do the work.

On Tuesday our motivational address presented by Minister Breakley was insightful and engaging. We are grateful to God for her. Our annual worship service on Tuesday evening was pure joy with Elder Carl Palmer of Chicago River bringing the message. Special recognition was made to Sister Mary McClendon (North Carolina) and Sister Lillie Mae Brown (New Jersey) for their longevity. Even at their seasoned ages they have remained faithful members of the National Usher’s Congress. Last but not least our appreciation to the deacons and Deacon Floyd for standing in as ushers. Great job! We are also extremely grateful for the support and leadership of our General President, Elder Kenneth Duke. All had a glorious time in the Lord.



Chosen Generation Congress



Chosen Generation Congress (CGC) of the National Primitive Baptist Convention, USA, extends warm wishes and blessings to all youth, teens, and collegiate members of our Primitive Baptist Churches across the nation.

Years 2022-2023 have been exciting and challenging when it comes to rebuilding youth ministries and creating collegiate ministries and spaces for students who have graduated from the traditional youth ministry. Let's face it. Ministry during the pandemic was unprecedented and many of our churches are still feeling the impact, as the absence of youth and young adults is visible and a hard truth.

Rebuilding can be overwhelming. As ministry leaders learn to adjust and cope with new ways of reaching youth and young adults, the question becomes, "Do I still have what it takes to appeal to the young generation?" Trying to navigate the doubts and questions of young people is a crucial aspect of ministry, as the context of faith is more transformative now than ever!

TENx10 Initiative

In May 2023, CGC President, Elder Jermaine N. Fuller, and Dr. Kenneth A. Duke, General President, took a leap of faith and vetted a partnership with Fuller Theological Seminary and its TENx10 Initiative. So, what is the TENx10 Initiative? It's the vehicle of helpful strategies and concepts with the goal of bringing 10 million souls to Christ in the next 10 years (that's 1 million souls each year)! We are excited to share some of those FREE tools and strategies below.



At our 116th Annual Session in Greensboro, NC, we were blessed to have Jonathan Banks, author of *Raise Your GPA: God's Way to Win @ School & Life*, and partner of Fuller Theological Seminary at our session who introduced *Faith Foundations: Quick Tips to Sparking Real Conversations About the Essential Tenets of Faith*. With this partnership, we are able to assist many of our local churches and associations with a youth and young adult rebuild. The future is bright as we work collectively to win the young generation back to Christ.

Useful Articles and Links:

[How do I respond to young people's doubts and questions?](#)

[How can I help young people understand their purpose beyond school and career?](#)

[Faith Foundation](https://www.tenx10.org/faith-foundations) – <https://www.tenx10.org/faith-foundations>

Church School Congress



The National Primitive Baptist Convention's Church School and McMillian Training Union Congress Unity has to do with oneness of purpose. Unity is not sameness. It is distinctiveness going in the same direction in order to achieve a common purpose. Unity is purpose-driven, not personal-driven. The NPBC was organized with the mission to promote unity among its people; foster the cause of education, evangelism, and mission; and participate in worship experiences. The responsibility of the NPBC Church School and R.E. McMillian Training Union Congress is to "Equip believers in affecting the mission of the gospel of Jesus Christ. The mission of the NPBC Congress is to teach, exhort, and empower believers to live and walk close to Christ to be effective witnesses to the world.

The Church School Congress is committed to fulfilling the Great Commission of Jesus Christ as set forth in Matthew 28:18-20. To be effective in realizing our mission there has to be a sound process of connecting with those we are tasked to serve. The National Church School Congress must be actively and successfully connected with the leadership of our District Sunday School and State Church School Conventions. In our 2023 National Convention, the theme was, "A Call to Action: Together We Can Rebuild Hope, Jeremiah 2: 17-18, NKJV. Before the building process began Nehemiah spent time getting himself and the people ready. First, he identified the problem. (1:2-4). Nehemiah inquired about the status of the Jews and the wall around Jerusalem. The people's problem became his problem and burden to bear. Second, he spent time in prayer, (1:4-11). Third, he approached the key influencers (2:1-9). Fourth, he assessed the situation (2:11-15). Fifth, he met with the people and cast the vision (2:16, 17). (The vision shared) The call to action of the NPBC Church School and McMillian Training Union for the 2024 National Primitive Baptist Convention, USA, Inc. is to invite and encourage Christian Education leaders and influencers to plan to attend the 117th session of the Church School and Gibson School of Religion in Birmingham, Alabama July 21-24, 2023. A Special session/s in the Gibson School of Religion will be conducted for Pastors, Superintendents, Christian Education Directors, Youth Ministers, District, and State Church School Presidents. We are challenged across the world of Christendom with different, but yet the same obstacles in meeting the ministry needs of kingdom building. Let's talk about them and plan strategies to successfully conquer them. Additional information regarding the purpose, process, and scope of the sessions is forthcoming.

Action Items of The 2023 Session of the Church School Congress:

1. Appointed a Standard Operating Procedure (SOP) Committee to develop operating Greetings to each of you my brothers and sisters in the Primitive Baptist faith and to all of those who name the name of Jesus Christ. Procedures for the Congress and its departments.
2. Appointed a Scholarship Committee to reinstitute the Church School R.H. Frazier (President) Scholarship.



Sister Eunice Scott receives Lifetime Service award

From the desk of the Vice President



Greetings to each of you my brothers and sisters in the Primitive Baptist faith and to all of those who name the name of Jesus Christ.

These greetings are being extended in the strong and sufficient name of our Soon-Coming Savior and King – Jesus the Christ. To our illustrious President, The Elder Dr. Kenneth A. Duke, national officers, conventioners, associations, churches, and members who labor under the banner of Primitive Baptist for the advancement of the Kingdom of God, I rejoice greatly at the opportunity to extend greetings and salutations.

Despite the social, cultural, and spiritual upheavals ravaging this nation and the world, I confess that I still have hope. Not only do I have hope, but I am also a convinced that these are indeed the best of times, for it is in the darkest of times that we, through the power of the indwelling Holy Spirit are granted the opportunity to shine our light so that men and women, boys and girls traveling in darkness might be drawn to Him who is **“The Light” – Jesus the Christ.**

Having been caught up in the confluence of a global pandemic and gross political polarization, not only have we been thrust into a time and era which we could not have anticipated, but one for which none of our previous training or experience has prepared us to minister. Despite the seemingly insurmountable task before us I thought it would be appropriate to repeat my previous words of encouragement to you. Brothers and sisters let me encourage you to center your thoughts on some inalienable and unalterable truths. First of all, never lose sight of the fact that nothing ever catches our omnipresent, omniscient, and omnipotent, God by surprise. While it is true that He never slumbers or sleep, be assured that He’s not pacing Heaven’s floor trying to figure out what to do. Second, know assuredly that God is firmly in control and that He is working all things together for our good and His glory. Thirdly, rest in His promise that whatever He brings us to, He is well able to bring us through. Again, let me be clear, the admonition to rest in His promise is not to be received as a license to cease from our worship, witness, and work.

The clarion call to every member of this body of Christ in these challenging times is for bold and visionary leadership that is inextricably connected and intertwined with a unified fellowship and fellowship. The demand for progressive leadership, fellowship, and fellowship has never been greater. You and I have a responsibility which we can neither vacate nor abdicate. A responsibility to work together to meet our primary organizational objective - **“taking the gospel message to the ends of the earth.”**

In spite of the challenges, I consider it an honor and a privilege to serve as your Vice President. Please know that I am resolute in my commitment to the mission of this National Convention of Primitive Baptist for fellowship, worship, and teaching for the glory of the Kingdom of God.

My commitment to the vision offered to us by our National President, Elder Dr. Kenneth A. Duke is undiminished as together we chart the course ahead for this old ship of the National Primitive Baptist Convention through uncharted waters rife with political, social, and religious turbulence on its ways to Kingdom’s Shore.

As always, I solicit your prayers, presence, and participation. I look forward to seeing and greeting each of you in our upcoming F.L. Livingston Institute and the Winter Board Meeting there in Pensacola, Florida, February 18-21, 2024, should the Lord say the same.

Yours in Christ,

Elder Dr. Oscar L. Montgomery

Vice President

Thank You

To each of you who have
supported our National
Primitive Baptist Convention,
USA, Inc.