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the Steel Valley Baptist Association COMMUNICATOR

July, 2021

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Theme for 2021: Advancing Through Adversity

A Proper Pride



Gary Frost

Pride is in most cases a sinful attitude to be abhorred and avoided. It is in its primary definition the root of all sin and transgression against God.

However, if you will allow me a bit of literary license in the adaptation of this concept, I would like to say that as I sat in the convention hall in Nashville during the 2021 SBC Meeting last month, I was proud to be a Southern Baptist. In spite of the many “ill-wishers” who predicted and expected pandemonium, I believe God allowed us to come to harmonious and nearly unanimous agreement in a resolution statement regarding the matters of race and racism.

Please find below the full text of the historic resolution entitled “On The Sufficiency Of Scripture For Race And Racial Reconciliation” *see Frost, next page*

Pastors’ Zoom Mtg

The next pastor Zoom Meeting for fellowship and prayer is the third Thursday in August 19 at 7 PM. The Zoom meeting ID is 84056187069 and can be accessed by clicking on the following button if this document is a PDF:

[Zoom Mtg](#)

SBC

A call went out for all to pray for the Southern Baptist Convention which met in Nashville a few weeks ago. Many potential problems lay in store for the meeting. However, ...



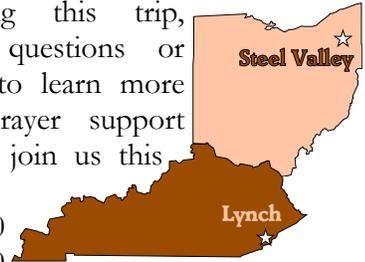
God was present at the meeting. People expressed themselves from various perspectives. Everybody maintained a spirit of unity while focusing primarily on God’s agenda.



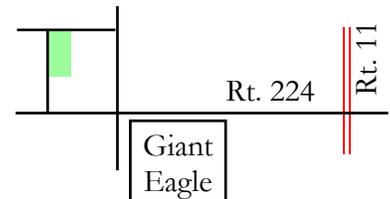
Our new president is Ed Litton who has served as pastor of the Redemption Church, in Saraland, Alabama. (He also played the role of the pastor in the “Courageous” movie.)

Mission Trip

Several months ago we began planning the Solomon's Porch Mission Trip. We are now 3 1/2 weeks away from our trip date and there is still room for you. If you are considering this trip, have questions or want to learn more for prayer support please join us this Sat., July 10 at 9:30



AM at Greasel Park, Canfield, OH. Contact Rafael Cruz 330-507-0117 or Cindy Burdick 330-482-9991 if not able to attend and for more information. If anyone has **donations** for Solomon's Porch please contact Cindy. The deadline for donation pick up is July 24.



Executive Board Mtg

Our next scheduled business meeting will be the Executive Board Meeting at Mercy Community in Youngstown, July 12, at 7 PM.

Mercy Community is offering light refreshments at 6:15 PM. Be a part of this fellowship and get to know what is going on in other sister churches!

Frost, from previous page

opted by the messengers gathered in Nashville:

WHEREAS, “All Scripture is inspired by God and is profitable for teaching, for rebuking, for correcting, for training in righteousness, so that the man of God may be complete, equipped for every good work” (2 Timothy 3:16-17); and

WHEREAS, The Baptist Faith and Message 2000 states, “All Scripture is totally true and trustworthy” (Article I); and

WHEREAS, “God created man in his own image” (Genesis 1:27); and WHEREAS, “From one man [God] has made every nationality to live over the whole earth” (Acts 17:26); and WHEREAS, In his prophetic vision John saw “a vast multitude from every nation, tribe, people, and language, which no one could number, standing before the throne and before the Lamb” (Revelation 7:9-10); and

WHEREAS, “Sin entered the world through one man, and death through sin, in this way death spread to all people, because all sinned” (Rom 5:12); and

WHEREAS, “Through faith [we] are all sons of God in Christ Jesus ... There is no Jew or Greek, slave or free, male and female; since you are all one in Christ Jesus” (Galatians 3:26-28); and

WHEREAS, “God ... has reconciled us to himself through Christ and has given us the ministry of reconciliation” (2 Corinthians 5:18); and WHEREAS, The Baptist Faith and Message 2000 states, “Christians should oppose racism” (Article XV); now, therefore, be it RESOLVED, That the messengers to the Southern Baptist Convention meeting in Nashville, Tennessee, June 15–16, 2021, affirm the sufficiency of Scripture on race and racial reconciliation; and be it further

RESOLVED, That we reaffirm our agreement with historic, biblically-faithful Southern Baptist condemnations of racism in all forms; and be it further RESOLVED, That we reject any theory or worldview that finds the ultimate identity of human beings in ethnicity or in any other group dynamic; and be it further

RESOLVED, That we reject any theory or worldview that sees the primary problem of humanity as anything other

than sin against God and the ultimate solution as anything other than redemption found only in Christ; and be it further

RESOLVED, We, therefore, reject any theory or worldview that denies that racism, oppression, or discrimination is rooted, ultimately, in anything other than sin; and be it further

RESOLVED, That, understanding we live in a fallen world, we reaffirm the 1995 Resolution On Racial Reconciliation On The 150th Anniversary Of The Southern Baptist Convention, which includes, “That we apologize to all African-Americans for condoning and/or perpetuating individual and systemic racism in our lifetime; and we genuinely repent of racism of which we have been guilty, whether consciously (Psalm 19:13) or unconsciously (Leviticus 4:27),” applying this disposition to every instance of racism; and be it finally RESOLVED, We affirm that our reconciliation in Christ gives us the opportunity and responsibility to pursue reconciliation with others so that we can display and share the hope of the gospel with the world.

Association Music

Dear Brothers and Sisters of SVBA, Cornersburg Baptist Church has a Sunday evening Music Fest, a service of mostly music, prayer, and scripture whenever there are five Sundays in a month. Our next music fest will be August 29 at 6 pm. Would anyone from your church be willing to come and lead us with a solo, duet, praise team, choir, or any form of congregational singing?



Email jdjmosher@gmail.com or call/text Jennifer Mosher at 330-398-6882 telling your name and what you will bring. Listening worshipers are also very welcome! Let's worship our great God together.

Missions & Ministry

Acts 1:8 “*But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes on you; and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth.*”

The power of God was unleashed about 2000 years ago on the Day of Pentecost, when the disciples were empowered, and enabled, to share Jesus with thousands of Jews – even foreigners! We know from this passage that the main purpose of the outpouring of the Holy Spirit is to use God's children to share Jesus with others in the hope that they will be saved. Every believer is called to be a witness for Jesus. And we are living in what I believe to be the last generation before the seven years of tribulation begins.

In this mindset, I believe we are in a time of utmost urgency to share Jesus with others. Their time for salvation is running out. It is time for the church to rise up in power and break Satan's strongholds! It's time for the church to be faithful, giving an opportunity for the

Holy Spirit to be unleashed once more! I believe it's time for the church to get busy about the Father's business so that when we stand before Him, we can be counted as faithful! The eternal souls of the lost depend on the faithfulness of the church as we rise up, committed to fight the good fight in Jesus's name. Time is running out!

So, we are going to help our associational congregations prepare to share Jesus by hosting an outreach training day at the Renaissance Family Center 9005 Wil Verne Drive, Windham, on Sat., July 17, from 11 AM to 1 PM, followed by a brief lunch break, and then we will do an actual outreach event from 2 - 3:30 PM. We are asking that you send the faithful and committed from your congregation to learn how to share Jesus, and how to use the block party trailer for an outreach at your church this summer. Come ready to be prepared to experience the power of God this summer. God bless you all, Rafael Cruz Jr., (330) 507-0117