

**2008 Joint Annual Meeting of the
American Baptist Churches of Michigan (ABC-MI) &
Michigan Baptist Convention (MBC)
Rev. Dr. Kevin Turman, President**

I. Welcome & Prayer

Dr. Turman opened with prayer at 1:15 p.m.

Motion: **To accept 2008 Annual Meeting agenda**
Moved: Rev. Mary Beth Sarhatt
Second: Rev. Danny Langley
Motion passed

II. Rules of Procedure for 2008

Dr. Kevin Turman

Dr. Turman read the Rules of Procedure

III. Minutes of 2007 Annual Meeting

Mrs. Erin Bartels

Motion: **To approve the Minutes of the 2007 Annual Meeting**
Moved: Richard Saxman
Second: Rev. Jim Kent
Motion passed

IV. Report of the Executive Minister

Dr. Michael A. Williams

1. Welcome new churches to the ABC-MI

Dr. Williams named and welcomed new churches, pastors and transfers:

- Pastor Lee Austin, New Hope Baptist, Bay City
- Rev. Dr. Patricia Butler, St. Luke Tabernacle Community Church, Detroit
- Rev. Dr. Larry Donald, First Baptist Church of Walled Lake
- Rev. Dr. Ken Foltz, First Baptist Church of Grand Blanc
- Rev. David A. Ford, Huntly Memorial Baptist Church, Niles
- Pastor Andy Gibson, Minister of Christian Ed., West Highland Baptist, Milford
- Pastor John R. Mazarella, First Baptist Church of Sault Sainte Marie
- Pastor Chris Radcliffe, Minister of Relational and Contemporary Ministries, First Baptist Church of Davison
- Rev. Maurice Stimage, New Liberty Baptist Church, Detroit
- Rev. Gene Stringer, First Baptist Church of Charlevoix
- Dr. Dana L. Teamor, Mt Calvary House of Prayer, Detroit
- Rev. Frank Feltis, Clarklake Community Church, Clarklake (transfer)
- Rev. Daniel Mead, First Baptist Church of Alpena (transfer)

- Dr. Arie Van Brenk, First Baptist Church of Lincoln (transfer)

Newly aligned w/ABC:

- Dr. Williams presented a formal welcome and proclamation of membership to Dr. Teamor of Mt. Calvary House of Prayer, Southfield, MI
- Affirmed the affiliation of St. Luke Tabernacle Community Church and Rev. Dr. James H. Evans, Jr. and Rev. Dr. Patricia A. Butler

2. Dr. Williams gave his report, highlighting “words of hope and encouragement” during what is a difficult time for many people and churches. Dr. Williams called attention to a book called *The American Church in Crisis* by David T. Olson, particularly his chapter on why established churches thrive or decline, and the illustration of a stool with three legs (spirituality, chemistry, and strategy) supporting the seat (leadership). This book supports ABC-MI’s focus on improving, maturing, and supporting pastoral leadership in order to grow healthy churches.

Dr. Williams also updated us on the Future Search Initiative results and the eight principle areas of ministry on which to base strategic planning for the future: Technology; Spiritual Formation; Community Impact & Involvement; Church Growth & Planting; Inclusiveness/Diversity; Stewardship; Empowerment; and Connection.

Dr. Williams also covered the challenges facing our camping ministries and the decision to give further aid to the camps in the form of hiring consultants to help them move toward complete independence within three years.

Dr. Williams briefly discussed the denominational restructuring process.

3. ABCUSA Restructuring Proposal

Rev. Walker wanted to know what will happen with the results of the Future Search Report. Dr. Williams explained the Executive Committee’s (EC) affirmation of the 8 areas and assignment of each area to four ministry teams. EC has received a preliminary report back from teams. EC will review these reports and follow up with those who are charged with implementing change.

V. Presentation of Annual Reports

Motion: Receive Annual Reports as presented (ABC-MI)

Moved: Dr. Kevin Turman

Motion passed

VI. Report of the Nominating Committee

Rev. Tom Case

Rev. Case pointed the delegates to page 42 for the slate of officers

Additions to slate:

Chair of FMT: Cheryl Swaker-Coneal of Greater Christ Baptist Church, Detroit, MDA

Endowment Fund Trustee: Monica Hunt of First Baptist, Detroit, MDA

MBSS: Linnea Burg of First Baptist Church, Royal Oak, MDA

Motion: Elect officers & Ministries team members (ABC-MI)

Moved: Rev. Tom Case

Motion passed

Add Ed Ritzler as Treasurer for MBC

Motion: Elect officers (MBC)

Moved: Tom Case

Motion passed

VII. Report of the Treasurer

Mr. Michael Kingsbury on Mr. Ritzler's Behalf

Motion: To adopt the 2009 proposed budget as recommended by the Executive Committee (ABC-MI)

Moved: Rev. Michael Kingsbury

Discussion: Clarification of deficit, clarification of a \$50,000 line item/Region Offering

Motion passed

Motion: To adopt the 2009 proposed budget (MBC)

Moved: Rev. Michael Kingsbury

Motion passed

VIII. Recognitions

Dr. Michael A. Williams

1. Mr. Dave Johnson, Camp Lake Louise Resident Director

- Dr. Williams pointed out improvements—new programs; training for staff and volunteers; renovation of bath houses, ad building, kitchen, freezer, cabins (fireplaces/roofs) waterfront, director's house, and maintenance building; new maintenance equipment, new/improved water and electric systems, certification by CCCA, transition to Board of Directors, building of a new cabin
- Dave Johnson was presented with a gift by Mark Stevenson, chair of CLL Board; Stevenson announced the establishment of the Dave Johnson Scholarship Fund
- Dave Johnson offered his gratitude for the help LLC has received in the past; plugged the sale of days on the calendar to support the camp monetarily

2. Dr. Kevin Turman, Outgoing ABC-MI President
Dr. Williams offered his thanks and appreciation to Dr. Turman for his leadership over the past year; presented with a plaque
3. Rev. Joseph Huse, AB Foundation Representative
Dr. Williams recognized Rev. Huse as the new director of the AB Foundation
4. ABC-MI staff
Recognition of exiting Region Board members and current Region staff

IX. Adjournment

Dr. Turman closed in prayer at 2:38 p.m.

Respectfully submitted
Mrs. Erin Bartels
ABC-MI Secretary