

**2009 Joint Annual Meeting of the
American Baptist Churches of Michigan (ABC-MI) and
Michigan Baptist Convention (MBC)
October 17, 2009
Covenant Baptist Church, West Bloomfield
Rev. Heidi DeMott Shanes, President**

I. Welcome and Opening Prayer **Rev. Heidi DeMott Shanes**
Rev. Heidi DeMott Shanes opened the meeting with prayer at 1:45 p.m.

II. Rules of Procedure for 2009 **Rev. Heidi DeMott Shanes**
Rev. DeMott Shanes read the Rules of Procedure for this meeting's participants

Motion: To accept the 2009 Annual Meeting Agenda

Moved: Rev. Ray Strawser
Second: Dr. Samuel White
Vote: Passed

III. Minutes of 2008 Annual Meeting **Rev. Dave Leisman**
The minutes of the 2008 Annual Meeting were reviewed by meeting participants and President Heidi DeMott Shanes called for a motion for approval.

Motion: To approved the minutes of the 2008 Annual Meeting

Moved: Ms. Prudy Bannick
Second: Rev. Bruce Burfield
Vote: Passed

IV. Report of the President **Rev. Heidi DeMott Shanes**

1. Future Search Initiatives
Reviewed the eight Future Search initiatives, their process and the progress which is being made as each is implemented. President DeMott Shanes' progress report is attached as Exhibit "A" to these minutes.
2. Camping Task Force
Rev. Heidi DeMott Shanes reviewed the rational and purposes behind the movement of each camp to financial independence. This progress is being facilitated through a newly created Camp Task Force. This task force is not another layer of bureaucracy but an opportunity to improve communications between each Camp and the Region, and to better organize each camp as they move toward the 2011 financial independence deadline.

Camp consultants from Green Lake, Mr. Ben Mott, and Mr. Ken Giacoletto have been secured by the Region to help each camp develop and implement business plans which will organize and assist them in their push toward financial independence. On the Task Force are: Rev. Dr. Michael Williams, Mr. Michael Kingsbury, and Rev. Heidi DeMott Shanes as well as two (2) representatives from each Camp's Board of Directors.

3. In conclusion, President DeMott Shanes expressed her thanks to the Region, the Region's churches and the Region staff, especially Executive Minister Rev. Dr. Williams for the privilege of serving the Region as their board president.

V. Report of the Executive Minister

Rev. Dr. Michael Williams

1. Welcome new pastors to the Region.
Dr. Williams publicly welcomed pastors newly called to the region since the 2008 meeting. They are:
 - Rev. Mike Dunkelburger called to Christ Community Church, Lansing
 - Rev. Dennis Henderson called to First Baptist Church, Muskegon
 - Rev. Dr. David Laisum called to First Baptist Church, Battle Creek
 - Rev. Jeffrey Noble called to Praise Baptist Church, Plymouth
 - Rev. Alex Pickens III called to University Baptist Church, East Lansing
 - Rev. David Behling called to First Baptist Church, Charlevoix
2. Lay Pastor Certificate Presentation
Upon the call of Dr. Williams, Rev. Ronald Cary was asked to recognize Mr. Dan Miller for his completion of the Lay Pastor Certificate Program. Mr. Miller was awarded a certificate for his accomplishment.
3. ABCUSA Restructuring
Rev. Dr. Williams reviewed recent movement within the National American Baptist Churches organization to change the structure and composition of the General Board. Proposed changes would have changed the way the Board accepted representation from each member Region. However, the vote failed for a lack of a two-thirds majority vote. The implication of this failed vote is continued representation of the ABC-MI Region, as in the past, by two (2) representatives. One representative has already agreed to serve (Rev. Robin Crouch – FBC Charlotte), and the other is currently being recruited.

VI. Presentation of Annual Reports

Rev. Dr. Michael Williams

Dr. Williams presented the annual reports for participant approval.

Motion: To Receive the Annual Reports as approved and presented (ABC-MI) by the Region Executive Committee.

Vote: Passed

VII. Report of the Nominating Committee

Rev. Dr. Kevin Turman

Rev. Dr. Turman directed the delegates to the separate sheet which delineates those nomintaed to open positions. There was general discussion regarding these positions before a motion was made that they be approved by the delegates.

Motion: To elect officers and Ministry Team Leaders (ABC-MI) as approved and presented by the Region Executive Committee.

Vote: Passed

VIII. Report of the Treasurer

Mr. Ed Ritzler

Mr. Ed Ritzler presented and explained the Region’s current financial situation and provided current performance to 2009 budget. Further, he explained how projections were made as the 2010 budget was prepared. There was general discussion regarding 2009 budget performance and the proposed 2010 budget before a motion to approve the 2010 budget as presented was made.

A copy of the 2010 budget is available upon request through the ABC-MI Region office.

Motion: To approve the 2010 Region budget as approved and presented by the Region Executive Committee.

Vote: Passed

IX. By Law Changes

Rev. Heidi DeMott Shanes

The President reviewed proposed changes to the Region’s by-laws as recommended by the Region’s Executive Committee. There was minimal discussion regarding these changes before a motion was made to adopt these changes as proposed by the Region Executive Committee. These changes are available upon request from the ABC-MI Region office.

Motion: To approve changes to the Region’s By Laws as recommended by the Region Executive Committee.

Vote: Passed

X. Recognition

Rev. Dr. Michael Williams

Dr. Williams recognized the following:

- Rev. Heidi DeMott Shanes. President DeMott Shanes was presented with a plaque acknowledging her commitment and service to the Region , as Vice President, and subsequently as President of the Region’s Executive Committee.
- As well, Dr. Williams recognized and thanked past Region presidents in attendance for their service.
- Mr. Jeff Rector, a law student at Michigan State University who has served as chaplain for the American Baptist Student Foundation at Michigan State University for the past two (2) years.

- The Region staff for their commitment, dedication and service to the Region and the Region's churches over the past year. Recognized were:
 - Rev. Ron Cary
 - Rev. Patricia Hernandez
 - Rev. Tucker Gunnerman
 - Region Support Staff
 - Ms. Trina Knox
 - Ms. Sheila Kaminski
 - Ms. Debbie Hart
 - Ms. Debbie Reetz

- Finally, Dr. Williams thanked the Region and it's churches for the privilege of serving the Region over the past year. Special recognition was given to Mr. Ed Ritzler for his assistance, wisdom and expertise with the Region's financial affairs.

Rev. Heidi DeMott Shanes was given the floor and then recognized Rev. Dr. Michael Williams for his commitment and service to the Region with a plaque of appreciation and gift certificate. Amen.

XI. Adjournment

Rev. Heidi DeMott Shanes

A motion was made to adjourn the meeting.

Motion: To adjourn the meeting.

Moved:	Ms. Prudy Bannick
Second	Ms. Helen Johnson
Vote:	passed

Rev. Heidi DeMott Shanes closed the meeting in prayer. At 3:34 p.m.