

National Baptist Laymen's Movement  
91st Annual Laymen's Session

National Baptist Convention U.S.A., Inc.  
134<sup>th</sup> Annual Session  
New Orleans, LA  
September 1 – 5, 2014

## REPORT

### **Monday, September 1, 2014**

The Laymen Wives & Women Supporters Ministry held their annual planning meeting for the Annual Melinda J. Cade Wives & Women Supporters Spiritual Prayer Breakfast and other projects at the Doubletree Hotel at 5:00 p.m.

President Harold Simmons held his annual Pre-Convention meeting with the officers and ministry leaders at 5:00 p.m. at the Doubletree Hotel. The agenda for the meeting was:

- Prayer & Praise Period
- Greetings by Deacon Ronnie Joseph, president of the Greater Louisiana Baptist Convention laymen
- Registration Process and Procedures
- Programming For The Week
- Meeting locations and logistics
- Education Ministry - Seminars
- Evangelistic Ministries for the week
- Fellowship & Social Ministry
- Introduction of New State Laymen Presidents

### **Tuesday, Morning September 2, 2014**

The 24<sup>th</sup> Annual Melinda J. Cade Laymen Wives & Women Supporters Prayer Breakfast was held at 8:00 a.m. at the Ernest Morial Convention Center. The theme was, *Solidarity with the Savior, "Biblical Women in Solidarity with the Savior, The Voice of the Biblical Woman"*.

The program was:

Worship & Praise Service	Bahamas United Women Praise Team
Worship Leaders	Brother Edward & Cecilia Mayberry, KS
Opening Scripture	Brother L. C. Mitchell and Wife
Greetings	Dr. & Dr. Carrington Pender (Bahamas)
Purpose	Sister Betty Christian, CA
Selections	Bahamas United Women Praise Team
Special Presentations	Sister Eve Ridgeway & Sandi Jones
Remarks	President Harold Simmons, KS
Introduction of Speaker	President Harold Simmons, KS
Solo	Sister Alicia Saunders, KS
Speaker	Sister Doris Simmons, KS
Invitational Selection	Sister Sandra Jones
Departure Prayer	Dr. & Sister Richard Showers, Sr., AL

Simmons' text was Luke 1:46-48, titled, *"Appointed Approved, Anointed & Available"*.

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### **Tuesday, Afternoon September 2, 2014**

The Official Opening of the laymen's 91st Annual Session convened at 1:30 p.m. in rooms 343-345 of the Ernest Morial Convention Center.

Following the Praise and Worship period, the Fellowship and Social Ministry and the President's Advisory Council gave their report.

Rev. Donald Slack, pastor of the Eighth Street Baptist Church of Kansas City, Kansas delivered the morning message. The title of his message was, "*On the Edge of a Breakthrough*", Acts 1:11-13.

Following the message the laymen's Education Ministry conducted their annual Study Institute at 3:00 p.m. The seminars were:

Deacons Ministry – Luther Lewis  
Prison Ministry – Emerson Turner  
Determining & Developing Your Destiny – Ernest Tinsley  
Kingdom Women: The Pursuit of Purpose – Joice Tinsley  
Men Teaching Boys – I.V. Reeves  
Marriage Enrichment – Stephen & Lynn Perry  
State Presidents Class – I. V. Reeves

The National Laymen Street Evangelistic team went witnessing to work and prepare for the week's witnessing activities.

### **Wednesday, Morning September 3, 2014**

The morning session opened at 8:00 a.m. with a Prayer and Praise Service.

Reports were given by the Worship; Education, Adopt-A-School ministries and Foreign Mission ministries.

Following the reports, the keynote speaker was Bishop Joseph E. Simmons, pastor of the Greater St. Paul Church, Oakland, CA for the morning message. His title was "*The Game Changer*". John 5:8-9.

Following the message, the body was dismissed to Study Period No. 2

### **Wednesday, Afternoon September 3, 2014**

The laymen afternoon session called for President Harold Simmons to deliver his 14<sup>th</sup> Annual Address.

Prayer and Praise Service opened the afternoon session.

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Following the adoption of the recommendations, special guests who came to support President Simmons expressed greetings. They were:

Dr. Robert Baynham, Immediate Past President of the Missionary Baptist Convention of Kansas  
Dr. Carrington Pinder, pastor, St. Mark Native Baptist Church, Nassau, Bahamas  
Rev. Jimmie Banks, president, Missionary Baptist State Convention of Kansas  
Dr. Elliott Cuff, National Congress Dean  
Brother James McHenry, National Usher's President  
Dr. George Waddles, Sr., president, National Congress of Christian Education

President Simmons delivered his 14<sup>th</sup> Annual Address. His theme was, "*The Voice of a Biblical Man*" Acts 4:31-33.

Following the president's address, a reception was sponsored and hosted by the Louisiana State Laymen, Charles Hunter, director, at the New Zion Baptist Church, Dr. C. S. Gordon, pastor.

A Prison Ministry team of nine went to the Orleans Parish Prison to conduct an outreach worship ministry. The team met with 54 inmates. Nine persons accepted Jesus Christ as lord and savior. The team members were Emerson Turner, chairman, Joe Miller, Beverly Goldman, Dorothy Smith, Joice Tinsley, Douglas Hayes, Doc Netterville, Reginald Jackson and Ernest Tinsley.

### **Thursday, September 4, 2014**

The morning session opened at 8:00 a.m. with a Prayer & Praise Service.

The Mission Ministry, Wives & Women Supporters and Prison Ministry gave their reports.

Following the reports, the annual **Memorial Period** was observed acknowledging workers and love ones who have passed away since the last annual session. The program was comprised of the following memorial presentations offered:

Our Beloved Spouses – James Girley, MS  
Our Cherished Parents – Melvin Paden, NJ  
Selection – Sandra Jones, MO  
Our Dear Relatives – Jimmie Maxwell, MS  
Our Faithful Workers – Edward Mayberry, KS  
Memorial Prayer – Wilbert Nobles, NJ  
Selection – Sandra Jones, MO

There was a special tribute to Curtis Savannah, former general secretary and vice president. Following the tribute by Emile Henry, his pastor, Dr. B. R. Daniels of the Beth Eden Missionary Baptist Church, Fort Worth, TX also gave words of tribute about Savannah.

At the conclusion of the Memorial Period, the delegates were dismissed to attend Dr. Julius R. Scruggs' 5th annual address.

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At 1:30 p.m., the homeless shelter ministry led by the evangelism leaders of Michael Washington, Delester Jefferson, William Foster, Jr., Leo Williams, Jr., Jimmie Maxwell, Doris Simmons, Sandra Jones, L. C. Mitchell, Minister Grant Lewis, Alcion Ambler and Thelma Miller ministered at the New Orleans Rescue Mission. Also there were more than 1,500 Acts of Kindness personal care items delivered to the shelter. There were a total of twelve workers, eight men and four women. Ten residents came to rededicate their lives.

At 6:00 p.m. at the Doubletree Hotel, the annual King contest was held.

The top three places were: 1<sup>st</sup> – Sammie Spencer, Jr., Mississippi General

2<sup>nd</sup> – Melvin Paden, New Jersey

3<sup>rd</sup> – Arthur J. Robinson, North Mississippi

Sammie Spencer, Jr., Mississippi will serve as the 2014 – 2015 King.

At 7:15 p.m. the annual John L. Webb Awards and Recognition Banquet was held at the Doubletree Hotel. Dr. Elliott Cuff, pastor of the Lincoln Heights Missionary Baptist Church of Woodlawn, OH and National Congress dean was the keynote speaker. The title of his message was "*Without Your Approval*". Matt. 20:1-16. During the banquet, the layman-of-the-year award was presented to Lonnie Williams of Stephens, AR. He is the recipient of the John L. Webb Award.

### **Friday, September 5, 2014**

The morning session opened with a Prayer and Praise Service.

The General Secretary and Evangelistic ministries gave their annual reports.

The keynote speaker was Jeff Ridgeway, Detroit, MI who serves on the budget committee. His message was "*Let Us Do Good*", Gal. 6:10.

Study Period No. 3 was at 9:30 a.m.

The laymen reconvened at 11:00 a.m. for the closing session. Rev. Samuel Nero, pastor of the Second Baptist Church, Independence, MO delivered the closing message for the session.

This week the laymen evangelism activities included:

Nightly canvassing and witnessing was done at the Sojourner Truth Neighborhood Center, 2200 LaFitte Street, New Orleans. The main service will be held at 3:00 p.m. Candidates won to Christ will be baptized at the baptism and communion service.

With a week of witnessing and during the climax service, there were 68 persons won to Christ and candidates for baptism. Of the 68, 16 came to the convention center to be baptized.

Willie Luvert, Recording Secretary

Thad Jones, General Secretary

Harold Simmons, President