

# National Baptist Congress of Christian Education

*An Auxiliary of the National Baptist Convention, USA, Inc.*

Dr. Julius R. Scruggs  
*Convention President*



Dr. George W. Waddles, Sr.  
*Congress President*

## **Report of the Congress President Tuesday, January 22, 2013 – Nashville, Tennessee**

### **Our Congress – Our Team – God’s Vision**

The National Congress of Christian Education is the arm of the Convention that provides Christian Education for constituents of the National Baptist Convention. It also provides resources for churches in meeting the needs of today’s Christians. With these goals in mind, the Congress is committed to:

- Emphasizing the need for every National Baptist Church to have a strong weekly Bible education experience that will result in church memberships growing in their knowledge of God and His word.
- Encouraging member churches to have trained and certified teachers who have the skills to accurately interpret the Word of God for the spiritual transformation of believers.
- Recognizing the authority of the Word of God as our basis for Christian education.
- Recognizing the value of spiritual formation in the home environment that will promote biblical values and nurturing opportunities for spiritual transformation.

### **2013 Conferences**

*Leadership: Dr. Stan Hilliard and Mrs. Genesis Waddles-Watkins*

The National Congress has planned several events designed to bring together Congress constituents in various areas of importance. These events include:

- **Marriage and Family Conference** - February 13-16, 2013 • Memphis, TN  
*Leadership: Dr. Stan Hilliard and Dr. Leo D. Cyrus, Sr.*
- **Superintendents Conference** – March 22-23, 2013 • Baptist World Center • Nashville, TN  
*Leadership: Dr. Frances Davis and Mrs. Panielius Howell Foster*

- **Singles Conference** – July 31-August 3, 2013• Dallas, TX  
*Leadership: Dr. Stan Hilliard*

### **Certification of Sunday Schools and Sunday School Teachers**

A new certification program is being developed that will enable the National Baptist Congress of Christian Education to award and recognize Certified Sunday Schools and Certified Sunday School Teachers in local National Baptist Churches. This program will include structured guidelines, uniformed reporting tools designed to enhancing our emphasis on strong weekly Bible education experiences.

### **Congress Medallion**

In June 2012, the National Baptist Congress of Christian Education awarded a Congress Medallion to State Congress Presidents of State Conventions that donated \$1,500 to the Scholarship Fund. These Congress Medallions will again be awarded during the Annual Congress Session in June 2013. State Presidents should report their \$1,500 Scholarship Fund donation to the General Secretary.

### **Sunday School Teacher and Superintendent of the Year**

The National Baptist Congress of Christian Education is working to develop a program and reporting process to review the work of Sunday School and Teachers in local churches of National Baptist constituent churches. Utilizing well established goals and procedures, the work of local Sunday School Teachers and Superintendents will be reviewed and Sunday School Teacher of the Year and Sunday School Superintendent of the Year Awards will be presented during the annual session of the National Baptist Congress of Christian Education.

### **Year of the Sunday School**

The National Baptist Congress of Christian Education has designated 2013 The Year of the Sunday School. During this year the Congress is encouraging National Baptist constituent churches to focus on Biblical literacy and transformational teaching.

### **Annual Session**

The Annual Session of the National Baptist Congress of Christian Education will be held June 17-21, 2013, in St. Louis, Missouri. Congress registration materials (including course book, housing and registration forms) are available during this week. In addition, the Congress course book has been posted on the National Baptist Website. The mailing of materials to the nearly 6,000 constituents on the mailing list will be completed this month and all materials should be in the hands of church pastors prior to February 1.

During the Annual Session the annual Oratorical Contest will be held on Wednesday, June 19 at 1:00 pm. All pertinent information for the Oratorical Contest, including the theme, is posted to the National Baptist Website.

### **College Fair**

In an effort to provide the young people that attend the National Baptist Congress with exposure to Colleges and Universities throughout the country, during the 2012 Annual Session, the National Congress sponsored a College Fair. Held in a central location in the America's Convention Center in St. Louis, this College Fair allowed young people attending the Congress to get printed materials, applications and one-on-one information from representatives of Colleges and Universities that participating in the fair. The National Baptist Congress has partnered with the United Negro College Fund. Through this partnership, the college fair will receive additional exposure to Colleges and Universities that are recipients of UNCF funding. In anticipation of the 2013 College fair, invitations are being extended to historically Black Colleges and Universities as well as other Colleges and Universities located in and near the St. Louis area.

### **Host Committee Guidelines**

In an effort to provide consistency and uniformity in the structure of National Baptist Congress Host Committees, the President of the National Baptist Congress is working with the National Baptist Convention President to develop standardized guidelines and structure for Host Committees for the National Congress. An initial step in development of these materials is the mandate that Host Committee Chairmen be appointed by National Convention President rather than selections made by state or local host. These printed guidelines will be completed by the office of the National Congress President and submitted to the National Baptist Convention President for approval.

Humbly submitted,

Dr. George W. Waddles, Sr.  
Congress President

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**Dr. Elliott Cuff, *Congress Dean***

## **Dean's Report to the Board of Directors January 22, 2013**

We give praise to the God who has brought us out of darkness into His marvelous light. The 107<sup>th</sup> Annual Session of the National Baptist Congress of Christian Education was opened on Tuesday, June 19<sup>th</sup> by Dr. George W. Waddles, President and ended Friday, June 22<sup>nd</sup>. This is the Dean's Report for this session.

### **Registration**

A total of 15,552 delegates registered for classes during the 107<sup>th</sup> Annual Session of the National Baptist Congress of Christian Education. Approximately 450 delegates of the total registered, however, did not take a class.

This is the second year that the Congress has offered a 12:00 noon class for delegates as well as allows delegates to sign up for two classes for the week instead of one. Approximately 600 delegates registered for two classes this year with positive feedback toward offering more than one class to the delegates per year. The total registration by class start time is as follows: a) 8:00 a.m. - 6,200; b) 10:00 a.m. - 4,979; c) 12:00 p.m. - 793; d) 1:00 p.m. - 1,776.

#### The Youth Department Registration Report:

Youth Registered 1000

Youth Institute 660

Youth Rally = 1,776

#### The Children's Department's Registration Report:

Children's Institute = 600

Children's Labs (classes) = 100

Children's Rally = 743

**Graduates**

During the week of study 357 Congress delegates completed the requirements for graduation in 23 areas and were awarded Certificates of Completion at the Commencement Service on Friday afternoon. This represents a 16% increase in total graduates versus a year ago. 115 candidates are within the COPP program and 242 candidates are from the Congress Programs. Certificates were awarded in the following areas:

- |   |  |
|---|--|
| Adv. Leadership Development – 5                 | Minister's Seminar – 7                     |
| Biblical Studies – 4                            | Minister's Wives Seminar – 8               |
| Division of Theology – 1                        | Organizing and Maintaining a Church        |
| Christian Counseling - 1                        | Library/Media Center – 3                   |
| Christian Education Administration              | Recognition Award #1 – 26                  |
| Workshop – 12                                   | Recognition Award #2 – 9                   |
| Church Leadership Development – 1               | Recognition Award #3 – 7                   |
| Church Secretaries/Clerks - 25                  | Seminar for Deans and Presidents – 43      |
| Family Ministry - 7                             | Sign Language/Ministry to the Deaf - 3     |
| Foreign Mission Workshop – 3                    | Superintendent's Clinic – 12               |
| Jernigan Theological Studies Seminar – 8        | William J. Shaw Master Teacher Series - 22 |
| Lucie E. Campbell Workshop on Church Music – 13 | Young Adult Work – 3                       |
|   | Youth Work – 4                             |

COPP graduate breakdown by Phases:

- |              |   |
|--------------|---|
| Phase 1 = 19 | Specialization = 1                                  |
| Phase 2 = 22 | Dean = 2  |
| Phase 3 = 16 | PATC* = 9   |
| Phase 4 = 46 | (*PATC = Pastors Alternative Teacher Certification) |

**Curriculum Update**

A critical and seminal review of the current curriculum continues. Those courses that have consistently experienced a declining enrollment have been recovered to the Dean's Office for re-tooling or purged. A concerted effort continues to better align the stand-alone and pre-requisite courses – particularly during the first and second placement phases.

Six years ago, we implemented the William J. Shaw Master Teacher Program. This 4-year program includes courses designed to focus on an in-depth understanding of (a) instructional theory; (b) learning styles of various age groups; and (c) effective communication skills for the classroom. It also provides teachers with Bible study methods for effective teaching from doctrinally-sound biblical principles to include methodologies that will help teachers translate concepts and ideas to applications. One chief aim: teaching for results where personal transformations are realized through using up-to-date teaching methodologies, strategies, and technology.

The annual analysis of this program reveals that students enrolled in this course of study continued to meet the course prerequisites that included: Introduction to the Bible, Intro to the Old Testament, Intro to the New Testament, Baptist Doctrine, and Creative Ways of Teaching. Courses in this series include: 2301 – Introduction to Master Teacher Certification; 2302 – Bible Study Methods for Master Teachers; 2303 – Teaching for Application and Transformation; and 2304 – Technology Training for Master Teachers. In the areas evaluated, the William J. Shaw Master Teacher Program is viewed as successful. We will continue our analysis and continue to improve this program over time.

In the Congress, as a viable nurturing alternative, classes for youth and children are offered at the same time of the traditional Youth and Children's Rallies for those children and youth who do not attend the rallies. This curricula option remains a strong component of our youth and children's ministry. Nonetheless, there was a noticeable surge of enthusiasm and increased fervency among the last 3 year's participants.

### **Theme Books**

Theme Books were distributed to each Department on Tuesday for distribution to delegates attending courses offered by the Congress. This year we introduced a new form and process to insure 100% accountability for the Theme Books. With this new process, the Dean's Office delivered the Theme Books to the Department Administrators, who assigned a designate to assume responsibility for the distribution of those books to the Divisions/Instructors/Classes. With this new process we sold 3,888 Theme Books (100% of the books available for sale). There are no remaining theme books available for distribution.

### **Congress 2013**

As we begin plans for the 108<sup>th</sup> Annual Session of the National Baptist Congress of Christian Education, which will meet in St. Louis, MO, plans are underway in the following areas:

**Curriculum** – We will continue to work on improving and revising the curriculum offered during the week of study. This process will include careful evaluation of the attendance records for each course and the possible elimination of courses that are affected by increased technology, lack of student interest and other dependent variables. Additionally, any proposed initiatives adopted by the Board of Directors that impacts the curriculum will be a part of preparing for next year's Congress. We will continue to build upon offering 12 noon classes, evaluating the best time to host these classes, insure assemblies are in place and conveniently accessible. We will also build upon the successful launch of allowing delegates to take two classes in one annual session at the national level.

**Textbooks** –We continue to review the textbooks used by instructors and make recommendations for updated textbook assignments considered appropriate for each course offered by the Congress. In conjunction with proposed innovative programs, to include any "distance learning" and technology initiative adopted programs, other textbooks will be eliminated.

**Faculty** – A critical review of the data from this year's evaluations (to include a succinct review of the methodology employed in data collection) coupled with observations, evaluations and recommendations from division and department administrators will be used in a full review of the faculty. The goal of this process is to ensure that the standard of teaching excellence that is in 'Solidarity with the Savior' through His Word, is maintained in all teachers. Therefore a "hard assessment" of the faculty will be completed over the next several months to improve the comprehensive excellence of teaching styles, methods and strategies.

### **The 108<sup>th</sup> Annual Session**

Again, we will be returning to St. Louis, Missouri, for the 108<sup>th</sup> Annual Session. The dean's office has electronically and regularly mailed invitations to serve to more than 530 current and new faculty for this year's session. To date, more than ninety per cent of those invited have accepted the invitation to serve. Nearly 300 courses of instructions will be offered in this year's session. This year's theme is Solidarity

with the Savior through His Work, Matthew 5:16; John 10:32; Titus 2:14; Hebrews 13:21. Lecturers, group discussion leaders for this year's session will be notified during this Mid-Winter Board meeting about this year's theme and its challenge. We are planning to have the greatest youth and children's rally to date. As well, the Young Adult Explosion plans to be our greatest production of combining the digital and non-linear as young adults lift up the name of Jesus Christ in Solidarity with the Savior. In conjunction, with the year of the Sunday school, in this year's session, we will be recognizing the persons who have completed the first offered four-year curriculum for Sunday school superintendents through the Super Superintendent's Conference.

Humbly Submitted,

Dr. Elliott Cuff  
Dean