

**MISSISSIPPI DISTRICT COUNCIL ASSEMBLIES OF GOD  
E-3 CONFERENCE  
THE ASSEMBLY COLUMBUS  
COLUMBUS, MS  
May 4 – 6, 2021**

**Tuesday Evening  
May 4, 2021  
Missions Celebration Service  
7:00 P.M.**

The 2021 E-3 Conference opened with the Missions Celebration Service. Praise and worship was led by The Assembly Columbus Worship Team. Rev. Matt Taylor welcomed everyone, offered prayer and made announcements, giving details regarding the church, restaurant reservations, Kids Council and shopping the Thrift Store. He introduced Assistant Superintendent Gene Emswiler.

Rev. Emswiler gave a word from the Lord – He knows your tomorrows, anchor in Him and He will anchor you. He offered prayer, recognized US and World Missionaries and introduced Light for the Lost Director, Rev. Jody Gurley.

Pastor Gurley referenced Faith Promise cards, stated Fire Bible sponsored the Missions Banquet and introduced Missionary Joil Marbut. A video was presented introducing their work. Brother Marbut delivered the evening's message.

Following the message, Pastor Gurley invited all Mississippi Missionaries to come forward. He requested Faith Promise cards be completed, then offered prayer. He then asked for everyone to bring their Faith Promise cards and present them to the Missionaries.

Rev. Matt Taylor and Pastor Gurley gave details concerning the needs of certain missionaries.

A song by The Assembly Columbus Worship Team was given, as all rejoiced over the response of new and increased missionary commitments.

Rev. Keith Kirkwood spoke a blessing over the missionaries and ended service with prayer.

**Wednesday Morning  
May 5, 2021  
Workshops  
9:30 A.M.**

In a brief general session, Superintendent Wilburn gave instructions regarding the workshops to follow that morning, led by Rev. Jim Reed and Rev. Matt Taylor.

**Wednesday Afternoon  
May 5, 2021  
Leadership Forum  
2:00 P.M.**

Superintendent Wilburn opened the afternoon session with the introduction of Conference Speaker, Dr. Bryan Jarrett, who led two Sessions - The Role of Leadership in Managing Operational Change and How Holy Spirit Empowerment Uniquely Contributes to Leading Change.

**Wednesday Evening Service  
May 5, 2021  
Ministry Celebration Service  
Ordination Service  
7:00 P.M.**

Host Pastor, Jody Gurley, opened the service with a welcome and greeting; praise and worship was led by Cody McKee and the worship team of The Assembly Columbus.

Following a time of praise and worship, Assistant District Superintendent, Gene Emswiler, led in a congregational prayer followed by an expression of appreciation to the Host Pastor, Jody Gurley and The Assembly Columbus staff. There was a video presentation of the ministers to be memorialized, as their names were called, family members, if present, were invited to come forward to receive a memorial flag. Rev. Emswiler led in a prayer in remembrance of all. The ministers memorialized were Rev. Jim Dickey, Rev. Harold Griffin, Rev. Spencer Holliday, Rev. Clifford Jinkerson, Rev. Allen Mason, Rev. Becky Selman, Rev. Douglas Townsend, and Rev. Judy Warren.

The congregation was led by Cody McKee and The Assembly Columbus worship team in a worship song.

Rev. Keith Kirkwood, Executive Presbyter South, led the portion of the service honoring those ministers with 50 years of Ordained Ministry in the Assemblies of God, giving a brief biography of each. Honorees were Rev. Mike Cauley, Rev. Gene Emswiler and Rev. Otis Moore. Each were called forward and presented with a Certificate of Recognition and lapel pin from the General Council of the Assemblies of God. Rev. Otis Moore was unable to attend.

Rev. Jody Gurley, Executive Presbyter North, led in honoring those who, within the last year, were newly credentialed or upgraded their credential. Those present were called forward and presented with ministry certificates. Ministers recognized were Rev. Jesus Amador, Rev. Shay Anderson, Rev. Paula Boone, Rev. Caden Goodnight, Rev. Andy Houston, Rev. Shane Lovett, Rev. Matt Runnels, Rev. Shelby Smith, Rev. Janice Stewart, Rev. Timothy Wiginton, Rev. Stuart Woods, and Rev. Eric Wright.

Rev. Gene Emswiler introduced Superintendent Wilburn as the speaker for the service, after which he shared his message entitled, "The Post-Covid Pre-Rapture Church". The message was followed by a time of worship and prayer at the altars.

Superintendent Wilburn and Assistant Superintendent, Gene Emswiler, conducted the Ordination Ceremony for the Ordination candidates, Rev. Alicia Bonner, Rev. Jay Bonner, Rev. Wendall Durham, Rev. Jonathan Fulcher, Rev. Nicholas Mitchell, Rev. Duane Smith, and Rev. Lauren Upchurch. Superintendent Wilburn read the Charge to Ordinands after which stoles were placed upon them, and prayer was offered as the Presbytery laid hands upon them.

The service closed with worship led by Cody McKee and a time of fellowship with family and friends of the Ordained.

**Thursday Morning  
May 6, 2021  
10:00 A.M.**

The Worship Team of the host church opened the service with praise and worship.

Superintendent Bob Wilburn made remarks and introduced speaker, Dr. Bryan Jarrett.

A video was presented on Safe Net Ministry. Dr. Jarrett offered the morning's message followed by communion. A time of prayer was led by Rev. Gene Emswiler.

Superintendent Wilburn gave instructions about the Senior Minister's Luncheon and dismissed the service.

**Thursday Afternoon  
May 6, 2021  
Business Session  
2:00 P.M.**

Superintendent Bob Wilburn, hereinafter referred to as the Chair, opened the Business Session by requesting Rev. Wayne Hall lead in Prayer. Following prayer, the Chair declared the session in order and divided the house asking all voting members to move to the center section of the sanctuary. The Chair called for a motion to close the Roster which was seconded and carried. The Roster report was given as follows: 120 Ministers, 24 Delegates for a total of 144 voting; 54 Visitors and Minister's Spouses brought total registered to 198. Motion was made, seconded, and carried to accept the report and the Chair declared Registration to be closed.

The Chair requested the Tellers distribute the voter tally fobs. The Chair referenced the Annual Report, allowing time for review, then requested a motion to accept with exception of the Financial Report. Motion was made to accept; seconded and carried.

The Chair recognized the Parliamentary Committee and Resolutions Committees. Chair referenced the Financial Report offering information and details, also indicating any questions would be answered by himself, as District Superintendent and/or District Bookkeeper, Sandi Cook. Chair then called for a motion to accept the Financial Report. Motion was made, seconded, and carried to accept the Financial Report.

Chair took opportunity to explain a loan that was made to the Youth Department and referenced the Financial Report in which the Youth Department was no longer showing a deficit. Chair explained a loan was given to the District Youth Department, requiring a monthly repayment of \$500.00 plus extra, as funds are available. Chair asked the DYD, Rev. Matt Taylor to address the Council. Bro. Matt fielded questions from the council floor and discussed the need for District churches to assist the District Youth Department in the servicing of the loan.

The Chair recognized Church Planters, Pastor Ryan Hoover and Pastor Justin Welford that were present and emphasized the need for church planting as he referenced banners on either side of the platform representing 31 counties in Mississippi and over a half-million people that do not have an Assemblies of God church near them.

Chair recognized Rev. Keith Kirkwood as a representative of the new Mississippi Acts 2 Journey Program. Bro. Kirkwood addressed the Council regarding the new program and requested those interested to contact him. Chair referenced an email that would be sent within the next few minutes to pastors' email with a response option to ask for more information.

Chair recognized the Chairman of the Resolutions Committee, Rev. Bryan Wilson, and requested Rev. Matt Taylor give instructions regarding use of the voting fobs. Following a time of instruction and test questions, Resolutions Committee Chairman, Pastor Bryan Wilson announced that the sponsors of Resolution B-1 made the request to withdraw the resolution. Chair stated that according to Robert's Rules of Order, a resolution not read or acknowledged by the Chair is not debatable.

Chair accepted withdrawal of Resolution B-1 to be returned to Committee for further consideration. Chair then referenced an Emergency Resolution to be brought before the House. Resolutions Committee Chairman, Pastor Bryan Wilson read Resolution B-2 which read:

### **Resolution B3**

**WHEREAS**, the current descriptive wording of the office of Secretary-Treasurer requires the Secretary-Treasurer to be a full time officer, and

**WHEREAS**, the assignment of the Needs vs Structure Study Committee is to study all aspects of our current and anticipated needs and structure, and

**WHEREAS**, said Study Committee may recommend a redefining of the responsibilities of the Secretary-Treasurer that would no longer require that officer to be a **full-time** officer, be it therefore

**RESOLVED**, that Article IV Section 3-C, be amended to read:

**ARTICLE IV – DUTIES OF OFFICERS**  
**SECTION 3. DUTIES OF SECRETARY-TREASURER**  
**C.** He shall be a ~~full-time~~ an officer.

Sponsored by,  
The Executive Presbytery

Following the reading of Resolution B-2, Chairman of Resolutions Committee made motion to adopt the resolution. Chair requested Assistant District Superintendent, Gene Emswiler address Resolution B-2. Bro. Gene Emswiler spoke to the issue of Rev. Derek Youngblood's death which moved the Executive Presbytery to put forth this Resolution.

Chair opened the floor for discussion; He expressed it was acceptable to voice differing opinions and opened the floor to any Executive Presbyters or Sectional Presbyters to speak to Resolution B-2.

A member expressed opposition to the resolution, disputing its "emergency nature". Chair acknowledged the member's remarks and asked if anyone wished to speak in support of the resolution. A member then addressed the House stating that the resolution allows the newly elected Secretary Treasurer to work out the details of the resolution over the time remaining in the unfulfilled term of Rev. Youngblood.

Another member expressed opposition to the resolution, stating the responsibilities of the Secretary Treasurer would interfere with those of pastoring a church at the same time. He also stated that money should not influence the decision to change the position.

A member stood to be recognized by Chair; he asked for clarification as to whether or not the position must be part-time.

Chair asked Assistant District Superintendent, Gene Emswiler to take position as Chair; District Superintendent, Bob Wilburn then addressed the Council stating that Resolution B-2 was requested by him, resulting from conversations between he and former Secretary Treasurer, Rev. Derek Youngblood. Superintendent stated that if resolution is passed, the person elected as Secretary Treasurer would have same responsibilities as is stated in Constitution & Bylaws, noting some responsibilities are or have been delegated; the Study Committee is to be determining needs versus structure. Superintendent returned to Chair the meeting and asked for a position or statement in opposition.

A member then addressed the Chair and asked if the person elected today as Secretary Treasurer would be part-time or full-time. Chair responded that salary will be adjusted accordingly, as person elected may choose full-time or part-time as this is open. Member commented on fact that the part-time or full-time option should be made prior to election, asking the Chair what would be required of Secretary Treasurer at time of today's election; Chair responded, part-time.

A member then spoke to the need to table this resolution or at least consider combination of new job title, i.e., Pastoral Care. Member then made a motion to table the resolution. Chair asked for second, which was received, then requested verbal response in favor of tabling the resolution, and same verbal response against. Motion not determined. Chair called for electronic vote, with option Yes or No. Votes cast, Result: Not in favor of Tabling resolution. Chair announced discussion is again open on Resolution B-2.

A member questioned if MS-SOM would continue. The Chair responded the hope was that the person elected would choose to continue it even though they are not required to according to the Bylaws; Chair responded that it was to be determined.

A member then addressed the Chair and stated the Chair had made conflicting responses as to today's Secretary Treasurer position, stating it was part-time, yet also stated the person elected would choose. Member then spoke against the part-time position of Secretary Treasurer.

Member spoke in support of the resolution stating flexibility is the key; and stated his understanding was that the newly elected Secretary Treasurer will be full-time if resolution fails, part-time if resolution passes.

Member spoke to the resolution as he personally pastors two churches, teaches school and stressed concern about how effective one could be while serving in more than one capacity is the real question and encouraged all to trust God for direction.

Question was then asked by a member if there was a mechanism in place for the part-time process and issues to be addressed. Chair responded there was not.

From the floor, the Question was called for, and seconded, which Chair recognized, but allowed an additional member to address the House in opposition to the resolution.

Chair called for a voice vote to end discussion/debate on Resolution B-2, carried. Chair declared now ready to vote on Resolution B-2. Chair called for voice vote which was undeterminable. Ballots were then cast, and Resolution B-2 passed 73 – yes & 36 -- No.

Chair announced voting would now move to Election of Secretary-Treasurer. A list of those ministers eligible to serve was presented. Chair read Article 3, Section 3 on qualifications regarding Election of Secretary-Treasurer. Prayer was offered.

Chair stated Ballot is now open. Results are as follows:

Results of Nominating Ballot Secretary Treasurer:

Scott Davis	32
Jeff Fillmore	06
Keith Kirkwood	09
Jim Mannon	06
Robert Null	07
Darrell Worley	13

Received	106
Needed to Elect	71
No Election	

Chair gave opportunity to remove name from balloting.

Results of First Ballot Secretary Treasurer:

Scott Davis	43
Keith Kirkwood	14
Darrell Worley	25

Received	110
Needed to Elect	74
No Election	

Results of Second Ballot Secretary Treasurer:

Scott Davis	56
Darrell Worley	31

Received	110
Needed to Elect	74
No Election	

Results of Third Ballot Secretary Treasurer:

Scott Davis	73
Darrell Worley	36

Received	109
Needed to Elect	73

Rev. Scott Davis elected Secretary Treasurer.

Chair called Pastor Scott and Janice Davis forward. Following Superintendent Wilburn's comments, and at the Chair's invitation, Pastor Davis made remarks and prayer was offered by Rev. Emswiler.

Business resumed with Nominee for Non-Resident EP under 40. Results are as follows:

Results of Nominating Ballot Nonresident Executive Presbyter Under 40 Nominee:

Mack Clements	05
Courtney Clements	12
Ransom Gilbert	08
Destin Morris	12
Justin Myers	06
Bret Nettles	14
Matt Taylor	15
Lee Watson	08

Received	105
Needed to Elect	70
No Election	

Results of First Ballot Nonresident Executive Presbyter Under 40 Nominee:

Courtney Clements	16
Bret Nettles	19
Matt Taylor	27

Received	107
Needed to Elect	72
No Election	

Results of Second Ballot Nonresident Executive Presbyter Under 40 Nominee:

Bret Nettles	30
Matt Taylor	45

Received	101
Needed to Elect	68
No Election	

Results of Third Ballot Nonresident Executive Presbyter Under 40 Nominee:

Bret Nettles	52
Matt Taylor	54

Received	106
Needed to Elect	71
No Election	

Results of Fourth Ballot Nonresident Executive Presbyter Under 40 Nominee:

Bret Nettles	52
Matt Taylor	58

Received	110
----------	-----



Needed to Elect 74  
No Election

Results of Fifth Ballot Nonresident Executive Presbyter Under 40 Nominee:

Bret Nettles 49  
Matthew Taylor 60

Received 109  
Needed to Elect 73  
No Election

Results of Sixth Ballot Nonresident Executive Presbyter Under 40 Nominee:

Bret Nettles 44  
Matt Taylor 63

Received 107  
Needed to Elect 72  
No Election

Results of Seventh Ballot Nonresident Executive Presbyter Under 40 Nominee:

Bret Nettles 40  
Matt Taylor 66

Received 106  
Needed to Elect 71  
No Election

Results of Eighth Ballot Nonresident Executive Presbyter Under 40 Nominee:

Bret Nettles 36  
Matt Taylor 67

Received 103  
Needed to Elect 69  
No Election

Results of Ninth Ballot Nonresident Executive Presbyter Under 40 Nominee:

Bret Nettles 23  
Matt Taylor 79

Received 102  
Needed to Elect 68

Rev. Matt Taylor elected Nonresident Executive Presbyter Under 40 Nominee.

At the chair's invitation, Pastor Matt Taylor addressed the Council.

Chair stated next election was for Nominee for African American EP, first allowing SAGU Representative, Dr. Robinson to address the Council.

Rev. Mozart Dor addressed the Chair and was recognized, stating that he is not eligible as he is not a US Citizen.

Chair declared Ballot was open for Nominee for African American EP.

Results are as follows:

Results of Nominating Ballot Nonresident Executive Presbyter African American Nominee:

Margaret Dawson	05
Johnny Hill	05
Curtis Hooper	08
Ruthie Hooper	08
Havard McDonald	15
Ann Sheared	56

Received	99
Needed to Elect	66
No Election	

Results of First Ballot Nonresident Executive Presbyter African American Nominee:

Havard McDonald	12
Ann Sheared	85

Received	106
Needed to Elect	71

Rev. Ann Sheared elected Nonresident Executive Presbyter African American Nominee.

Chair invited Rev. Sheared to address the Council.

Chair recognized Rev. Lee Watson to address the Council regarding Mississippi Foster Care ministry.

Chair then referenced the Statement of Position on Missions Giving; All pastors should involve their churches in Missions, that lack of participation is unacceptable. Chair stated, if in agreement with statement to indicate with applause, which the House did so.

Chair expressed appreciation for unity and recognized a motion to adjourn, MSC, meeting adjourned.

**Thursday Evening  
May 6, 2021  
7:00 P.M.**

Service began with ministry in song by The Harvesters of SAGU. Rev. Scott Davis welcomed everyone, offered announcements, and expressed appreciation to Pastor Jody Gurley and the host church.

Rev. Matt Taylor and Rev. Michael Watkins, spoke regarding Church Ministries Expo on October 15-16 at Cornerstone in Tupelo.

A time of praise and worship was led by The Assembly Columbus Worship Team.

Superintendent, Bob Wilburn thanked the church for hosting the Conference and introduced Dr. Bryan Jarrett, guest speaker, who brought the evening message.

A season of prayer and worship followed the evening message.

Pastor Jody Gurley thanked the attendees and dismissed the service.

Respectfully Submitted,

Rev. Scott A. Davis  
District Secretary-Treasurer