



REEDY RIVER BAPTIST ASSOCIATION INC.

107 Flemming Street • Greenville, South Carolina 29607

www.RRBAL.org

A Proposal

For The Merging

The Reedy River Baptist Union

Into the Reedy River Baptist Association

Submitted By Dr. Phillip M. Baldwin, Moderator

June 20, 2009



The following is a proposal to merge the works of the Reedy River Baptist Union (henceforth known as the “The Union”) into the Reedy River Baptist Association henceforth known as the (“The Association”). The Association has 7 Auxiliaries. The Women’s, Brotherhood, Young Women’s, Youth, Ushers, Congress of Christian Education, and the Union are the auxiliaries of the Association. The Association meets only two times per year. The Association is in session only two times per year. The Association meets in September for its Annual Session and in April for its One Day Session. The Union is in session 4 times per year. The Union is in session every Saturday before the 5th Sunday of each quarter.

The reasons for the merger are as follows. One reason for the merger is that Union which is an auxiliary of the Association meets more than the Association which is also known as the Parent Body. Due to meeting only Bi-Annually the flexibility of the Association is limited in the timeliness of which the Association can react and transact business. If the Association meets quarterly, we could transact business more effectively and communicate the goals of the Association more thoroughly. The Association would carry out the meeting. The other part of our current Union Meeting would not change in regards to the other auxiliaries presenting.

Secondly, it is a challenge to get church members placed in the leadership of the Association and Union. Hence, we currently find ourselves rotating the same people in and out of offices. If we merge the Union and Association we would be able to combine the workload of our officers thus guarding against worker burnout and the reducing the struggle to find people to hold office.

There would also be a reduction of expense for administrative costs and love offerings with a combining of the Union and Association. We would also have a more efficient organization with the elimination of repetitive organizational structures. Two sets of moderators, vice moderators, secretaries, treasurers, etc. is could be streamlined into one set that would carry out the same basic mission and vision that we both share anyway. When we have the current Union meetings, the other auxiliaries make presentations, not the Union.

This proposal would eliminate the One Day Session since we would be able to transact any Association business every quarter along with our Annual Session, thus eliminating the \$100 per church doorway fee. Not having a One Day Session will also reduce some of the commitments we all have on our Saturdays (at least on that Saturday). The time and money spent planning and executing the One Day session will also be gone.



In lieu of the \$100 per church doorway fee, this proposal would ask each church to pay \$3 per quarterly meeting more than they are currently paying. The \$3 increase would simply move the Quarterly Meeting to \$70 instead of \$67. This \$3 increase will be to revitalize our Youth Ministry. Quite frankly it is embarrassing to say we give \$2 per quarter to minister to our Youth. To say we give \$5 to work with our young people is not much, but *2 dollars!* Even with the \$3 increase per quarter there would be net *decrease* of \$88 dollars per year on *requested* income per church.

The Association would emphasize that each church register with their correct doorway fee of \$5 per member and the separate \$1,000 per church for Martin Webb Learning. Therefore the Association would be asking less but could do more if every church at least gave something towards the ministries we are trying to support. The financial breakdown for each church for the Association would be as follows.

Doorway -- \$5 per member

Quarterly Meeting -- \$70 per church includes \$5 for Youth

Martin Webb -- \$1000 per church

There would be no other financial requests from the Association. (Morris and Benedict Colleges are not included in this proposal.)

Under this proposal every officer in the Union would be placed either in line to work the same or similar position in the Association or placed in a similar position immediately. Our secretarial staff for the Union would be utilized immediately to help with posting information on the website, recording minutes of our quarterly meetings and other administrative duties. We would add all the finance people into a Finance Ministry. The bank accounts for the Union would be added to the Association's bank account thus eliminating all service charges and banking fees for the Union's bank account. Since our current Moderator Winestock is in her last year and the Vice Moderator Simpson was elected by the recommendation of Moderator Winestock to complete this year, (2009) therefore would be no moderator in place at the end of 2009 without some action by the body. Therefore we are not forcing anyone out of a position of Moderator.

It is important to note that the Moderator, 1st Vice Moderator, and 2nd Vice Moderator of the Association will have to be committed to the Quarterly Meetings of the Association. Currently the attendance of the moderators in Union meetings

has been sporadic. Under this proposal, the moderators will be responsible for conducting these meetings.

In conclusion this proposal recommends merging the work of the Reedy River Baptist Union into the Reedy River Baptist Association so that we would be a more streamlined, efficient, and cost effective organization. I pray that each of you will prayerfully consider this recommendation.

Thank you,

Phillip M. Baldwin

Dr. Phillip M. Baldwin, Moderator



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