



Tennessee Baptist Missionary and Educational Convention, Inc.

Post Office Box 280645

Nashville, TN 37228

(615) 254-3115 • FAX (615) 242-9312 • tbmec@bellsouth.net • WEB SITE: www.tbmec.org

Elder Dr. Joe B. Maddox, President
Ms. Pamela Chesney, Recording Secretary

Rev. Luther R. Williams, Vice-President At-Large
Ms. LaDalia Logan, Treasurer

From the President's Desk

January 16, 2017

It is with great pleasure and high expectation that I greet you in the name of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. Thank you for the confidence that you showed in me by electing me to the Presidency of our great Convention. I am very much aware of the fact that the election was close – indicating that we, as a Convention, were almost split down the middle. Therefore, I recognize the fact that almost half of our members were disappointed in the outcome of the election. But, as Rev. Wayne Johnson and I agreed during the campaign period, after the election is over, we would work together for the good of the Convention. Rev. Johnson and I have been in conversation several times since the election and I find him to be true to his word as he reiterates his willingness to help the Convention move forward. I appreciate his vote of confidence.

Now that the ballots have been cast and the election is over I solicit each of us to come together in our mind and efforts to do Kingdom business. All I ask is that I be given a chance. By the grace of God you will see that I, as a leader, will be transparent, trustworthy, tactful, touchable, and tenacious for the work of the Lord. Together we, with God's blessings, can be a resource to advance the Kingdom of God – for "...The harvest truly is plenteous..." (Mathew 9:37).

This year (2017) as we promote the central theme of the Convention, "*Take The Pew To The People*", and the sub-theme "*Recruiting/Reclaiming*" "...and go after that which is lost..." (Luke 15:4), the emphasis is to reach out to those pastors and churches who have (for whatever the reason) disassociated themselves from the Convention. The Congress and Missions staffs have been tasked with developing a certificated curriculum to promote the spread of the gospel of Jesus Christ from the members of our pews. The curriculum is to equip individuals to evangelize the lost as they go about their daily activities. Through the Regional Vice-Presidents I want to meet, shake hands, and dialogue with as many pastors as I can. I want to hear from pastors to identify and strategize to resolve solvable issues within our great Convention. God has given me a plan but I need pastors to make it efficient.

May these few words find you doing well and may they be encouraging to us as we plan to work together for the glory of God.

Yours in Christ,

Joe B. Maddox

Elder Dr. Joe B. Maddox, President
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