

**Resolution on Autonomy and Partnership Missions  
October 2018**

**WHEREAS**, The local Baptist congregation is understood as autonomous, with full power and authority to conduct its own affairs, and is thus free from any power of coercion by other local churches or any general Baptist body; and

**WHEREAS**, Local churches bear the sacred responsibility to maintain the basis of true Baptist cooperation, which lies in evangelical mission, faithful confession, and mutual accountability under the Word of God; and

**WHEREAS**, The Baptist Faith and Message is our guiding and unifying statement for our faith and practice; and

**WHEREAS**, Autonomous Baptist churches have voluntarily and freely entered into fellowship with and cooperation through general Baptist bodies (associations, state conventions, and the Southern Baptist Convention) for the purpose of eliciting and combining support for mission, education, and benevolence ministries; and

**WHEREAS**, the Mission Statement of the Cape Girardeau Baptist Association states that the Association exists as a community of churches embracing the inerrancy of the Bible that exists to assist one another as we partner together in carrying out God's Great Commission;

**THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, That the messengers of the Cape Girardeau Baptist Association member churches meeting in Perryville, MO affirm the autonomy of local Baptist churches; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, we form partnerships for the proclamation of The Gospel and the expansion of The Kingdom; and

**BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED**, That we affirm our mission to partner together in carrying out God's Great Commission by contributing to the Cape Girardeau Baptist Association's financial support, praying for one another, and serving together in mission and benevolence projects for the glory of God.

Jeremy Sells, Messenger First Baptist Church  
1102 2nd Street, Scott City, Missouri 63780

**Resolution On Christian Integrity  
October 2018**

**WHEREAS**, Scripture directs all Christ Followers to function as "Salt and Light"; and

**WHEREAS**, Christian leaders must be "above reproach" to effectively confront the moral errors contemporary to our culture in all sectors of society, including government; and

**WHEREAS**, Every Christian is equally called to live a life of personal integrity and biblical morality as a vocal witness for the Gospel in the sector of society God has placed them.

**Be it RESOLVED**, That we commend and support through our prayers religious, business, education, medical, and political leaders to fulfill their responsibilities with a Christ-like posture, and that we will not become a part of any growing pessimism but will instead persist in the hope that all Christian citizens will be examples of "Salt and Light", and

**Be it RESOLVED**, That we, the messengers of the Cape Girardeau Baptist Association, October 2018, affirm our unwavering commitment to absolute personal integrity so that we might be an example to fellow believers and the world, striving to not bring reproach on the name of Christ, and

**Be it further RESOLVED**, That we support our pastors and community leaders as they lead their congregations and communities, as "Salt and Light", showing the only hope for America and for the world, is Jesus Christ.

**Be it finally RESOLVED**, That we pray for all Missouri Baptists who serve in ministry-related leadership capacities and for Missouri elected officials to be aware constantly of the example of their lives, and to maintain biblical standards of honesty, fidelity, and integrity.

Doug Austin, Messenger Bethany Baptist Church  
1712 Randol, Cape Girardeau MO 63701

**Resolution On Cooperative Program  
October 2018**

**WHEREAS**, Biblical stewardship is a generous response of loving obedience that constitutes an essential part of our worship of God; and

**WHEREAS**, Good stewardship is essential for Kingdom work through the local church and ministries around the world; and

**WHEREAS**, The current economic climate and other factors have resulted in financial challenges for many of our churches and mission entities; and

**WHEREAS**, The Cooperative Program and Associational giving is the method which enables Cape Girardeau Baptist Association member churches to work together, demonstrating the value of cooperative endeavors throughout our Missouri Baptist Convention and our Southern Baptist Convention; so be it

**RESOLVED**, That the messengers of the Cape Girardeau Baptist Association member churches meeting in Perryville, MO., exhort all Missouri Baptists to exhibit biblical stewardship, to tithe cheerfully and give sacrificially as good stewards of God's blessings through their local churches; and be it further

**RESOLVED**, That we urge our member churches to thoroughly educate their members regarding the value of the Cooperative Program; and be it finally

**RESOLVED**, This annual meeting of our Cape Girardeau Baptist Association member churches respectfully urge all Missouri congregations to prayerfully review their gifts to the Cooperative Program and their local Baptist Association so that together we might carry out the Great Commission.

Doug Austin, Messenger Bethany Baptist Church  
1712 Randol, Cape Girardeau MO 63701