

CHURCH OF THE BRETHREN
SUMMARY OF ACTIONS OF THE 2009 ANNUAL CONFERENCE
(See Official 2009 Minutes when published)

Refer to 2009 Annual Conference Booklet pages as identified

Reports, Numbers 1-9 (pages 75 through 192)

Reports numbers 1-9 were received, as well as reports from Standing Committee, Caring Ministries, and the 300th Anniversary Committee.

New Business Items 1-5

- 1. A Structural Framework for Dealing with Strongly Controversial Issues** (pgs. 193-202)
Action of the 2009 Annual Conference: Annual Conference adopted an update to A Structural Framework for Dealing with Strongly Controversial Issues, with the following amendment:

Page 197, lines 10-11: Change the words “one and a half minutes per person” to “one minute per person.”
- 2. Query: Language on Same Sex Covenantal Relationships** (page 203)
Action of the 2009 Annual Conference: Annual Conference approved a motion that the concern of the query on Language on Same Sex Covenantal Relationships be accepted, and that the intent be combined with the Statement of Confession and Commitment in the strongly controversial issues process. (See Item 4 below.) The item will be carried on successive Conference agendas as unfinished until the special issues response is completed.
- 3. Query: Secret Oath-Bound Societies** (pgs. 204-205)
Action of the 2009 Annual Conference: Annual Conference approved a motion that the query on Secret Oath-Bound Societies be respectfully returned and that Conference reaffirm the statement on Membership in Secret Societies passed by the 1954 Conference as an adequate answer to the questions raised in the query. The officers of the 2009 AC shall appoint a team of three people to develop a listing of resources that affirms the Conference action of 1954 to educate and inform the church concerning membership in secret oath-bound societies.
- 4. A Statement of Confession and Commitment** (pgs. 206-207)
Action of the 2009 Annual Conference: Annual Conference approved a motion that the Statement of Confession and Commitment from the 2008 Standing Committee be approved as a Special Response Statement, using the procedure for dealing with strongly controversial issues. (Note: In a later action, the concern of New Business Item # 2 was combined with this study of a special response issue. See # 2 above.) The item will be carried on successive Conference agendas as unfinished until the special issues response is completed.
- 5. Bylaws of the Church of the Brethren, Inc. (the “Corporation”)** (pgs 208-224)
Action of the 2009 Annual Conference: A revised document of bylaws for the Church of the Brethren was presented for a “first reading” only. The final document will be brought to the 2010 Annual Conference.

An Additional Action

Adjustment to the Recommended Minimum Cash Salary Table for Pastors

Action of the 2009 Annual Conference: Annual Conference approved the recommendation of the Pastoral Compensation and Benefits Advisory Committee that the annual adjustment to the Recommended Minimum Cash Salary Table for Pastors for 2010 be zero percent.

Elections and Appointments

Elections

Moderator-Elect – Robert Earl Alley

Program and Arrangements Committee – Victoria Jean (Sayers) Smith

Bethany Theological Seminary Trustee, Colleges – David Witkovsky

Brethren Benefit Trust Board – Carol Hess

Committee on Interchurch Relations – Jim Hardenbrook

On Earth Peace Board – David R. Miller

Pastoral Compensation and Benefits Advisory Committee (District Executive) –
Tim Button-Harrison

Appointments Confirmed

Brethren Benefit Trust Board – Carol Ann Greenwood, Donna Forbes Steiner

Bethany Theological Seminary Trustees – Jerry Davis, John D. Miller, Rhonda
Pittman Gingrich

On Earth Peace Board – James S. Replogle, Robbie Miller

Special Response Resource Committee (appointed by Standing Committee)

Karen Long Garrett, Jim Myer, Marie Rhoades, John E. Wenger, Carol Wise

Resource Team for Query on Secret Oath-Bound Societies (appointed by the Annual Conference officers)

Judy Mills Reimer, Dan Ulrich, Harold Martin

Standing Committee Nominating Committee, Class of 2011

Mark Bausman (Idaho/Western Montana), Luci Landes (Missouri/Arkansas),

Nelda Rhoades Clark (Northern Plains), Roger L. Forry (Western Pennsylvania)

Standing Committee Appeals Committee 2009-2010

Terry Porter (Northern Ohio), Mark Bowman (Southern Ohio), Myrna Baer

(Western Pennsylvania). 1st alternate: John Moyers (West Marva), 2nd alternate:
Charles Eldridge (Middle Pennsylvania)

Elected to the Ministers Association Executive Committee

Rebecca House (2013)

Mission and Ministry Board Reorganization – Executive Committee

Chair – Dale Minnich

Chair Elect – Ben Barlow

At-Large – Vernne Greiner

At-Large – Andy Hamilton