

Bethany Theological Seminary board: David B. Eller (delegates also affirmed appointed members Jerry A. Davis and John D. Miller Jr., and Charles Boyer, elected by the alumni)

Brethren Benefit Trust board: John A. Braun

General Board, At-Large: Michael Benner (delegates also affirmed district appointees Ken Wenger, Mid-Atlantic District; Dale Minnich, Western Plains District; and Susan Kinsel Fitze, Southern Ohio District). The General Board selected Donna Shumate as chair, Glenn Mitchell as vice chair, and David Sollenberger, Doug Price, JD Glick, and Jeff Neuman-Lee as executive committee members.

On Earth Peace board: Robbie Miller (delegates also affirmed appointed members David Jehnsen and Bev Weaver)



UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

* **Functions and Qualifications of Local Church Moderator:** Adopted.

* **Denominational Name:** Adopted.

* **Congregational Disagreements with Annual Conference Decisions:** Adopted with an amendment to delete a suggestion that in extreme cases of disagreement district conferences not seat congregations.

NEW BUSINESS:

* **Query: Doing Church Business:** Accepted. A five-member study committee will report in 2005.

* **Query: Becoming a Multi-Ethnic Church and Query: The Need for Cross Cultural Ministries:**

Appointed a seven-member ethnically diverse study committee--including an ex-officio representative of the American Baptist Churches--and incorporated Standing Committee recommendations that cross-cultural ministry become an increased priority in the denomination and that a progress report be made each year for five years, with reassessment in 2010 by the Annual Conference.

* **Resolution on Iraq:** Adopted.

OTHER NOTES:

* Delegates approved a 3.1-percent pastoral scale increase.

CHARLESTON BITS

SITE: Charleston (W.Va.) Civic Center and Coliseum

REGISTRATION: This year's attendance of 4,038 was up from the 2003 total of 2,844 in Boise and included 920 delegates and Standing Committee members. In Baltimore in 2001 registration reached 5,029.

FUTURE SITES: San Diego, Calif., will be the 2009 site. Next year's Conference will be July 2-6 in Peoria, IL

NEW FELLOWSHIPS : Koinonia Fellowship, Charlottesville, Va., and Sunrise Church, Harrisonburg, Va.

AWARDS: The Association of Brethren Caregivers presented its first "Open Roof" award to Lansing (Mich.) Church of the Brethren.

GIFTS OF THE HEART: Conference-goers brought 2,500 Gift of the Heart kits and Clinic Boxes in a collection sponsored by the General Board's Emergency Response program. Brethren donated 164 pints of blood.

BBT FITNESS CHALLENGE: First-place finishers in the annual Brethren Benefit Trust 5K Fitness Challenge were Courtland Howard (17:40) and Deb Morris Crouse (21:30). First place walkers were Bev Anspaugh (33:23) and Don Shankster (34:01).

QUILT AUCTION: Three quilts and three wall hangings were sold during the 30th annual Quilt Auction sponsored by the Association for the Arts in the Church of the Brethren. The auction raised \$20,400.

ECUMENICAL CITATION: Kira Marriner of the Live Oak (Calif.) Church of the Brethren received a citation from the Committee on Interchurch Relations.

- Taken from Annual Conference *Wrap-up*