

Meet Some Folks Who are Important to Us in the PCBA

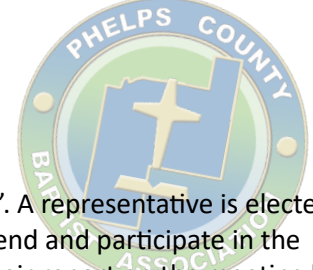
What is a Messenger and what do they do??

In Southern Baptist life, we voluntarily join together believing that we can do more for the Kingdom of God together than we could as individual churches. Locally, we do this by electing messengers to the Phelps County Baptist Association's annual meeting. They are elected to attend the annual meeting* and celebrate what God has done and is doing in the life of our churches and Association, as well as to vote *as they are led* on items during the Association's business sessions.

Non-Messenger guests are always welcome at the Annual Meeting.

"Representative" or "Messenger"?

Southern Baptists make a distinction between "representatives" and "messengers". A representative is elected and tasked with voting as instructed by their church. A messenger is elected to attend and participate in the annual meeting (voting in business sessions as their conscience leads) and bring their report on the meeting back to their churches.



Who is a Messenger at the Phelps County Baptist Association?

PCBA churches may elect a minimum of three messengers (there's a formula for additional messengers, but no church may have more than fifteen messengers) to the Association. This may require a little math.



There is provision for alternate messengers as well. Messengers and alternates, of course, must be members of the churches that elect them.

Additionally, all current PCBA Pastors and members of the Executive Board and the Director of Missions are seated as messengers at the Annual Meeting and are entitled to vote in the business sessions. So, Pastors, Executive Board Members, and the DOM are counted in addition to the elected messengers.

What Does an Executive Board Member Do?

This article has mentioned the Executive Board, so it might be good to say what they do. The Executive Board is responsible for carrying out the business of the Association between its annual meetings. The Board meets in January, April, and July (and rare, called, special sessions). That's three meetings a year in addition to the Association's Annual Meeting. These meetings are kept as brief as possible, but are important to the work of the Association. So, being the Executive Board Member from one of the PCBA churches is an important responsibility and their attendance and participation is needed. Each church may elect one Executive Board member to represent their church in addition to their pastor.

And, then, there are the Corporate Officers....

Who are the Corporate Officers and What do They do?

The Phelps County Baptist Association has three Corporate Officers. They serve three-year term with one elected at the Annual Meeting each year. The Corporate Officers are needed to sign official documents, etc.

*This same idea applies to Messengers to the Missouri Baptist Convention and the Southern Baptist Convention as well. Some of our churches elect separate slates of messengers to each Baptist entity.