

1: ON THE MISSION FIELD IN RURAL AMERICA

WHEREAS, Scripture declares that Christ commands his church to make disciples of all nations and that we are called to be witnesses to the ends of the earth (Matthew 28:18-20; Acts 1:8); and

WHEREAS, Southern Baptists have endeavored since 1845 to spread the gospel across North America and around the globe; and

WHEREAS, Jesus regularly identified himself with rural and small places like Nazareth (Matthew 2:23); and

WHEREAS, Over 75 percent of all towns and cities in the United States are small nonurban communities of no more than 25,000 people; and

WHEREAS, Approximately 19 percent (or 60 million people) of the population in the United States resides in rural areas; and

WHEREAS, Rural church pastors often suffer from isolation and loneliness, lacking ministry partnerships and resources; and

WHEREAS, Every person in a rural community is made in the image of God and needs to hear the gospel; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That the messengers to the Southern Baptist Convention meeting in Anaheim, California, June 14-15, 2022, express our commitment to and recognition of the mission field in rural places; and be it further

RESOLVED, That we pledge to continue to support the work of the Cooperative Program to help spread the gospel in rural places; and be it further

RESOLVED, That we encourage our churches to look for opportunities to establish, help, and revitalize churches in rural communities; and be it further

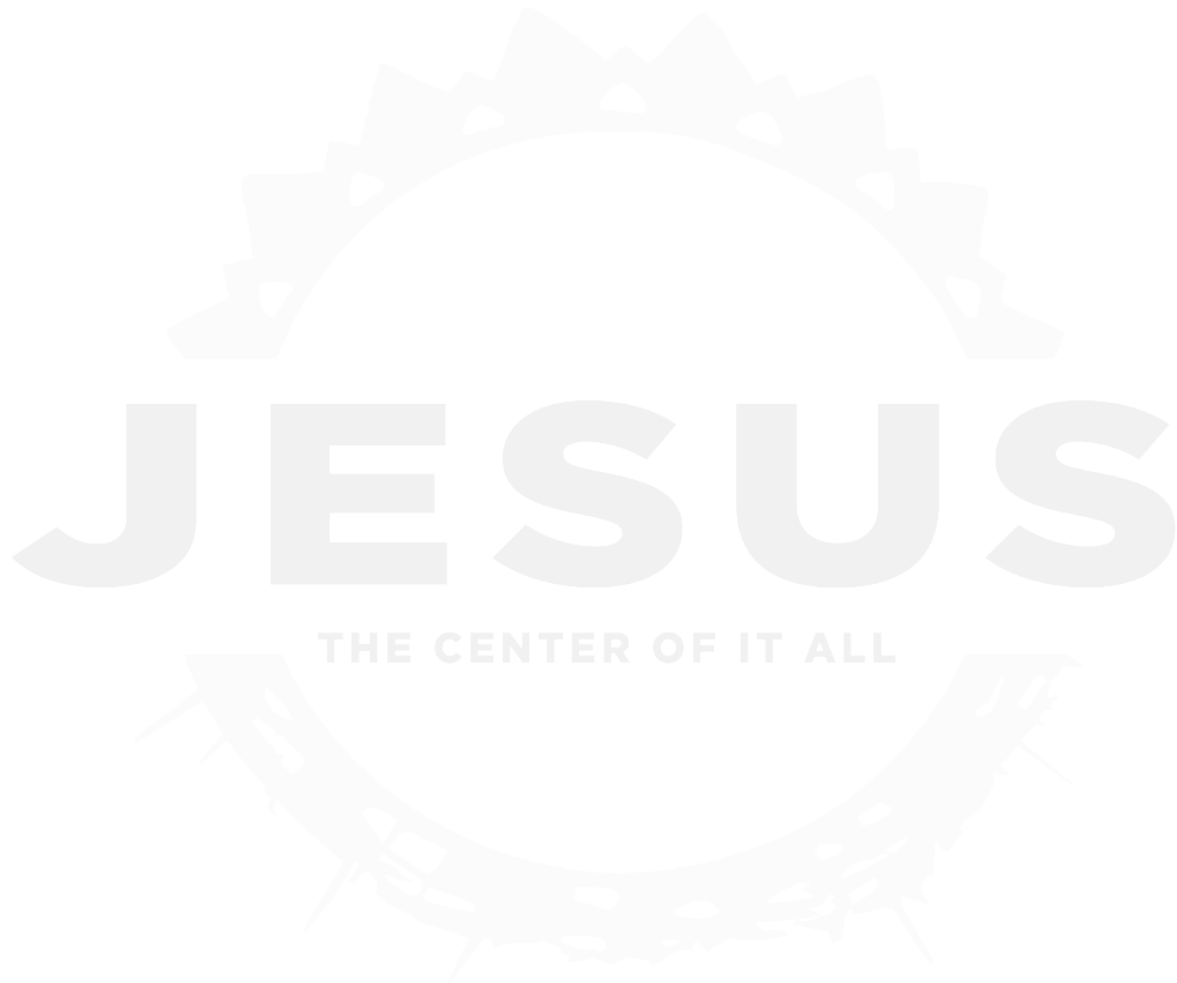
RESOLVED, That we state our support for the work rural churches do to spread the gospel; and be it further

RESOLVED, That we pledge to remember that all of mankind is made in the image of God and deserving of our love and gospel outreach, regardless of the size of their community; and be it further

RESOLVED, That we encourage and celebrate the work of the North American Mission Board, state conventions, local associations, rural churches, and their ministry leaders in their ongoing efforts to spread the gospel, plant new churches, and revitalize established ones in rural places; and be it finally

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RESOLVED, That we urge all Southern Baptists to dedicate our time, money, and lives to the furtherance of the good news of Jesus Christ across every area of the world, home and abroad, in city centers, suburbs, small towns, and rural places.



2: ON THE PROSPERITY GOSPEL

WHEREAS, The prosperity gospel is the belief that Jesus' sacrificial and atoning death grants believers health, wealth, and the removal of sickness and poverty; and

WHEREAS, The prosperity gospel distorts biblical generosity, preys on the most vulnerable, solely blames people for their own sickness due to lack of faith, and corrupts a biblical understanding of suffering (John 9:2-3, Romans 5:1-5; 8:15-29, 2 Corinthians 9:6-8); and

WHEREAS, Scripture warns us to guard against false teaching, to beware of false prophets who come to us in sheep's clothing but inwardly are ravenous wolves, and to guard the integrity of Scripture (Matthew 7:15, Acts 20:28-30, 2 Timothy 4:3-4); now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That the messengers to the Southern Baptist Convention meeting in Anaheim, California, June 14-15, 2022, in accordance with sound doctrine and the gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ, denounce the teaching of the prosperity gospel; and be it further

RESOLVED, That God and God alone is our highest good and our supreme treasure, not health, wealth, or the removal of sickness (Philippians 4:10-13; Revelation 21:1-4); and be it finally

RESOLVED, That our confidence is in our eternal inheritance purchased through the work of Christ and is guaranteed by the indwelling work of the Holy Spirit (Ephesians 1:11-14; 1 Peter 1:1-7).

3: ON THE WAR IN UKRAINE

WHEREAS, The Scriptures clearly state that God is “the God of peace” (Hebrews 13:20), who maintains “the right of the afflicted and the destitute” (Psalm 82:3) and rescues “the weak and needy,” delivering them “from the hand of the wicked” (Psalm 82:4); and

WHEREAS, The Scriptures testify that Jesus is the “prince of peace” (Isaiah 9:6) who came to “reconcile to himself all things, whether in heaven or in the earth, making peace by the blood of his cross” (Colossians 1:20); and

WHEREAS, One day Christians will share in the peace that can only fully be accomplished under the rule and reign of Jesus Christ; and

WHEREAS, The Scriptures also declare that “blessed are the peacemakers, for they shall be called sons of God” (Matthew 5:9), because “a harvest of righteousness is sown in peace by those who make peace” (James 3:18), so “if possible, so far as it depends on you, live peaceably with all” (Romans 12:18); and

WHEREAS, the Southern Baptist Convention in our 1968 resolution “On Peace” resolved to urge nations involved in conflict “to seek an honorable solution that will bring a just and durable peace that recognizes the dignity and values of human personality and the inalienable right of all men to be free”; and

WHEREAS, Southern Baptists have been serving in Eastern Europe and Ukraine since the fall of the Iron Curtain, seeing countless lives changed by the gospel of Jesus Christ through ongoing Great Commission efforts, including missions, church planting, and theological education; and

WHEREAS, Beginning on February 24, 2022, the Russian Federation has engaged in a war of aggression against the sovereign nation of Ukraine, which has led to widespread destruction among the cities of Ukraine, the displacement of nearly twelve million of its citizens, untold damage to communities, and a yet unknown number of casualties among both the Ukrainian and the Russian people; and

WHEREAS, The Ukrainian people have fought valiantly to defend their country and land from the invading Russian Federation while continuing to seek a peaceful solution to the conflict; and

WHEREAS, The Russian Federation has not engaged in good faith negotiations for peace, but instead has committed egregious acts of violence, hostility, and

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aggression against the people of Ukraine, including civilians and non-combatants; and

WHEREAS, The United Nations passed a resolution demanding aid access for Ukraine and denounced the Russian Federation for “creating a dire humanitarian crisis,” whose effects are and will be felt worldwide, and the 117th Congress passed House Resolution 956, demanding a “full withdrawal of Russian forces from Ukrainian territory”; and

WHEREAS, It is the responsibility of all Christians to “turn away from evil and do good” to “seek peace and pursue it” (1 Peter 3:11) and to “take no part in the unfruitful works of darkness, but instead expose them” (Ephesians 5:11); now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That the messengers to the Southern Baptist Convention meeting in Anaheim, California, June 14-15, 2022, strongly condemn the actions of the Russian Federation in her declaration and acts of war against the sovereign nation of Ukraine; and be it further

RESOLVED, That, in agreement with House Resolution 956, we call upon Russian President Vladimir Putin to cease hostilities immediately, withdraw the Russian military, and end this war of aggression against Ukraine and her people; and be it further

RESOLVED, That we implore the United States government to prioritize the admission of Ukrainian refugees into our country and provide resources for their support and resettlement; and be it further

RESOLVED, That we commend, appreciate, and will continue to support the ongoing relief efforts of Southern Baptists in Ukraine through the work of the International Mission Board and Send Relief, who are working diligently to aid Ukrainian refugees fleeing to other parts of Ukraine or to the safe harbors of neighboring countries; and be it further

RESOLVED, That we stand in solidarity with our Ukrainian brothers and sisters in Christ as well as the people of Ukraine who have endured these atrocities and who have witnessed the horrors of war firsthand while seeking to defend their country from an invasion by a hostile army; and be it further

RESOLVED, That we will pray for Ukrainian Baptist Theological Seminary, like-minded institutions, and our brothers and sisters in Christ throughout the country of Ukraine who continue to share the gospel, minister to the hurting, serve their churches, gather for worship, and exalt our Lord Jesus Christ in the

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midst of a warzone at great risk to themselves, their families, and their churches; and be it further

RESOLVED, That we likewise will pray for our brothers and sisters in Christ in the Russian Federation and for all who stand opposed to this war of Russian aggression, speaking out against it at great personal cost to themselves, their families, and their churches; and be it finally

RESOLVED, That we will earnestly and continually pray to the Lord, who is able to do all things, for an end to this war, for peace in Ukraine, for the presidents and leaders of both countries, and for the gospel of Jesus Christ to shine forth as a beacon of eternal peace, security, and salvation for all who will turn to him.



4: ON RELIGIOUS LIBERTY, FORCED CONVERSION, AND THE FEDERAL INDIAN BOARDING SCHOOL INITIATIVE INVESTIGATIVE REPORT

WHEREAS, The Bureau of Indian Affairs Investigative Report, released in May 2022, documents and records that the United States maliciously targeted Native American, Alaska Natives, and Native Hawaiian children as part of a diabolical plan to dispossess these people groups from their native lands by forced assimilation through the establishment of mandatory boarding schools; and

WHEREAS, Between 1819 and 1969, the Federal Indian boarding school system consisted of 408 Federal Indian Boarding Schools across 37 states or then-territories, including 21 schools in Alaska and seven schools in Hawaii; and

WHEREAS, The Federal Government sub-contracted with religious organizations (the report does not include Southern Baptists) to operate these schools in order to accomplish the forced conversion and assimilation of indigenous children to Christianity; and

WHEREAS, The degradation and dehumanization included forced removal of children from their families, forced child labor, removal of their tribal identity, confinement, flogging, withholding food, whipping, slapping, and cuffing, as well as discouraging or preventing the use of Native American, Alaska Native, and Native Hawaiian languages, religions, and cultural practices; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That the messengers to the Southern Baptist Convention meeting in Anaheim, California, June 14-15, 2022, encourage Southern Baptists to decry the methods of forced assimilation and conversion, as well as the dehumanization of fellow image bearers; and be it further

RESOLVED, That Southern Baptists stand in support of Native Americans, Alaska Natives, and Native Hawaiians—especially those who are a part of our own family of churches—as they process the findings of this report and discern next steps toward healing; and be it further

RESOLVED, That Southern Baptists earnestly pray for the families of those targeted by the atrocities brought to light in this investigation (Psalm 82:3-4; Isaiah 1:17; Jeremiah 22:3); and be it further

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RESOLVED, That we condemn any federal government's policy, former or current, to replace "the tribal culture for its own" in an effort to ease their intent "to separate tribes from their territories."; and be it further

RESOLVED, That we declare the atrocities done against these people in the name of religious "conversions" as reprehensible, betraying the Great Commission (and our efforts to reach all nations with the gospel (Matthew 10:14; Matthew 28:18-20; John 3:8); and be it further

RESOLVED, That we stand against forced conversions and distorted missiological practices as contrary to our distinctive beliefs as Baptists in religious liberty and soul-freedom (*The Baptist Faith & Message*, Article XVII); and be it finally

RESOLVED, That we place our confidence for salvation in God alone, which is "offered freely to all who accept Jesus Christ as Lord and Savior, who by His own blood obtained eternal redemption for the believer" (*The Baptist Faith & Message*, Article IV; Romans 7:24-25)

JESUS

THE CENTER OF IT ALL

5: ON SUPPORT FOR CONSISTENT LAWS REGARDING PASTORAL SEXUAL ABUSE

WHEREAS, Those in pastoral ministry are entrusted with the responsibility, under the authority of Christ, to serve, shepherd, and guard those whom the Lord entrusts to their care (1 Timothy 3:1-7; Titus 1:7-9); and

WHEREAS, Scripture makes clear that teachers will receive a stricter judgment, and therefore overseers must be above reproach, keeping watch over their souls as those who will give an account (James 3:1, Hebrews 13:17); and

WHEREAS, *The Baptist Faith and Message*, Article XV, condemns “all forms of sexual immorality” and states, “We should work to provide for the orphaned, the needy, [and] the abused”; and

WHEREAS, The 2021 Southern Baptist Convention in Nashville, Tennessee, passed the resolution “On Abuse and Pastoral Qualifications” identifying sexual abuse by pastors as a permanently disqualifying action for all positions of church leadership; and

WHEREAS, Laws and codes of professional ethics in many states prohibit sexual relationships between professionals such as physicians, psychiatrists, attorneys, and their patients/clients, even with consent, because the position of authority held by the professional creates an unhealthy opportunity for abuse; and

WHEREAS, Pastors should be held to a standard for their conduct at least as high as that to which secular professionals are held; and

WHEREAS, Various states have passed laws that criminalize sexual acts between pastors and those under their care; and

WHEREAS, These laws make no exception for the consent of the victim since pastors and ministers are in a position of trust, which is broken when the one in authority engages in a sexual act with the victim (such states include Arkansas, Connecticut, Iowa, Minnesota, New Mexico, North Dakota, Texas, Utah, and Wisconsin); now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That the messengers to the Southern Baptist Convention meeting in Anaheim, California, June 14-15, 2022, encourage lawmakers in every state to pass laws that would provide consistent definitions and classification of sexual abuse by pastors, as sexual abuse committed by pastors constitutes a clear abuse of authority and trust (similarly seen in the relationships in the aforementioned professional settings); and be it further

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RESOLVED, That we encourage lawmakers in every state to pass laws that would empower churches by shielding them from civil liability when they share information about alleged abuse with other organizations or institutions; and be it further

RESOLVED, That while we hold convictions about and celebrate ecclesial autonomy, we also believe that it is both important and biblical (1 Corinthians 14:33) to develop a culture of transparency and mutual responsibility between churches, so that it is clear that our churches are not places for predators to hide, as we, “contend for the sanctity of all human life from conception to natural death,” seeking “to bring industry, government, and society as a whole under the sway of the principles of righteousness, truth, and brotherly love” (BFM Art. XV); and be it further

RESOLVED, That while in this world we must face the temporal consequences of our sin, such as disqualification, we joyfully acknowledge that there is no sin that cannot be forgiven and no person who cannot be restored to Christ (Psalm 103:12, Ephesians 1:7-8); and be it finally

RESOLVED, That we support actions that protect the innocent within the churches of the Southern Baptist convention from wolves in shepherd's clothing and embrace actions that empower churches to be able to report instances of abuse to appropriate authorities without fear of civil liability.

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6: ON LAMENT AND REPENTANCE FOR SEXUAL ABUSE

WHEREAS, Sexual abuse is an abomination before God and an affront to the teachings of Scripture (Psalm 11:5; Proverbs 6:16-20; Mark 7:20-34; 1 Corinthians 5:1-2; Hebrews 13:4; 1 Peter 1:15-17); and

WHEREAS, Sexual abuse grieves Christ and contradicts the heart of the gospel (Mark 12:31; 1 Corinthians 6:18-19; 2 Corinthians 5:10; Ephesians 4:1; Philippians 1:27); and

WHEREAS, Sexual abuse abandons the demands of Scripture for the holy living of God's people (1 Corinthians 6:18-19; Galatians 5:19-21; 1 Thessalonians 4:1-8; 1 Timothy 1:8-11); and

WHEREAS, Sexual abuse is a violation of the *Imago Dei*, dishonoring and degrading human dignity, especially in those most vulnerable among us (Genesis 1:26-27; Genesis 9:6; Psalm 8:3-5); and

WHEREAS, Sexual abuse causes harm to those who are entrusted to the church's care and protection (Proverbs 31:8-9; Isaiah 1:17; Jeremiah 22:3-5; Micah 6:8; 1 John 3:16-18); and

WHEREAS, The Southern Baptist Convention declared in our 2021 Resolution "On Abuse and Pastoral Qualifications" that sexual abuse "is an action repugnant to the teachings of Scripture and reprehensible even to those who are not believers"; and

WHEREAS, Sexual abuse perpetrated by pastoral leaders or church members is a violation of the sacred trust for pastoral leaders and all believers to care for and minister to people (Psalm 82:3-4; Proverbs 28:13; 1 Timothy 3:1-7; Titus 1:5-9); and

WHEREAS, Sexual abuse in the church is a failure of personal and public witness (1 Corinthians 5:1-13; 1 Corinthians 10:8; Ephesians 5:1-15; Ephesians 5:25-27); and

WHEREAS, Sexual abuse has occurred in and among our churches, sometimes at the hands of church members and sometimes at the hands of pastoral leaders; and

WHEREAS, In too many cases our convention of churches has failed to care well for those who have been abused; and

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WHEREAS, Our responses have at times sought first to protect the reputation of our leaders, churches, and institutions rather than to care for survivors of sexual abuse; and

WHEREAS, Our institutional responses have at times caused irreparable personal harm to survivors of sexual abuse, leaving them feeling isolated, powerless, and without a voice; and

WHEREAS, We have failed to educate and thus adequately prepare church leaders to respond to abuse; and

WHEREAS, Our churches have failed at times properly to report cases of abuse to the appropriate authorities (Romans 13:1-7); now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That the messengers to the Southern Baptist Convention meeting in Anaheim, California, June 14-15, 2022, denounce in the strongest possible terms every instance of sexual abuse, those who perpetrate abuse, and those who seek to defend or protect these perpetrators; and be it further

RESOLVED, That we affirm the Bible's teaching to seek justice for those who have been harmed, protect the vulnerable, and honor the dignity and worth of survivors of sexual abuse (Genesis 1:26, Psalm 82:2-4, Isaiah 1:17, Micah 6:8); and be it further

RESOLVED, That we publicly lament the harm our actions and inactions have caused to survivors of sexual abuse; and be it further

RESOLVED, That we publicly apologize to and ask forgiveness from survivors of sexual abuse for our failure to care well for survivors, for our failure to hold perpetrators of sexual abuse adequately accountable in our churches and institutions, for our institutional responses which have prioritized the reputation of our institutions over protection and justice for survivors, and for the unspeakable harm this failure has caused to survivors through both our action and inaction; and be it further

RESOLVED, That we publicly repent and acknowledge our need for comprehensive change in caring well for survivors of sexual abuse; and be it further

RESOLVED, That amid our failures, we express our hope in Christ, who never fails to care for those who have been harmed, that he watches over the vulnerable members of our churches, that he can bring healing to survivors of sexual abuse, and that he can bring both retributive justice to perpetrators of

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sexual abuse and restorative justice to survivors of sexual abuse; and be it further

RESOLVED, That we prayerfully endeavor to eliminate all instances of sexual abuse among our churches; and be it further

RESOLVED, That we commit ourselves to the ongoing moral demands of the gospel in relation to sexual abuse, observing the command of our Lord to “teach everything I have commanded you” (Matthew 28:20), including the command to “love your neighbor as yourself” (Mark 12:31; Luke 10:27, 34-35); and be it further

RESOLVED, That we call for churches to teach the importance of honoring one another and treating one another virtuously in the area of sexuality so churches can become safe places that protect the vulnerable; and be it further

RESOLVED, That we give of our time and resources to bind the wounds of the broken, hold accountable perpetrators of sexual abuse and those who seek to defend them, and care well for survivors of sexual abuse; and be it finally

RESOLVED, That we recognize and appreciate the work and advocacy of sexual abuse survivors, repent of our resistance and neglect of their efforts, and unreservedly apologize to survivors mentioned in the report, including Christa Brown, Susan Codone, Megan Lively, Jennifer Lyell, Anne Marie Miller, David Pittman, Tiffany Thigpen, Debbie Vasquez, Hannah-Kate Williams, and Jules Woodson, for our not heeding their collective warnings and taking swift action to address clergy sexual abuse sooner.¹

¹ These are the survivors mentioned in the report who have given their consent to have their names listed.

7: ON ANTICIPATION OF A HISTORIC MOMENT IN THE PRO-LIFE MOVEMENT

WHEREAS, Scripture reveals that all human life is created in the image of God, and therefore sacred to our Creator (Genesis 1:27; 9:6); and

WHEREAS, The Bible affirms that the preborn child is a person, bearing the image of God, from the moment of conception (Psalm 139:13–16; Luke 1:44); and

WHEREAS, Southern Baptists have historically recognized the sanctity of life in the womb and repeatedly reaffirmed our pro-life ethic, our opposition to the heinous act of abortion, and our support for abortion-vulnerable women in more than 20 resolutions² over the course of 40 years; and

WHEREAS, beginning with our 1989 Resolution “On Encouraging Laws Regulating Abortion,” we have supported laws in the various state legislatures that have brought us incrementally to the threshold of a moment of great victory in the pro-life cause; and

WHEREAS, Southern Baptists pray for a historic United States Supreme Court ruling in the coming days in *Dobbs v. Jackson Women’s Health Organization*, which may overturn the precedent established by the 1973 Supreme Court ruling in *Roe v. Wade* and reaffirmed in the 1992 ruling in *Planned Parenthood v. Casey*; and

WHEREAS, Southern Baptists stand in prayerful expectation and hopeful anticipation of this ruling from the nation’s highest court, which will enable state legislators to affirm the truth that life begins at conception and that the preborn are worthy of dignity and protection; and

WHEREAS, Southern Baptists remain committed to our ongoing pro-life efforts and partnerships with state and local governments, pro-life legislators, and like-minded pro-life organizations; and

WHEREAS, Southern Baptists have been on the forefront of this work beginning with the election of Richard Land to the Christian Life Commission and continuing through the work of the Ethics & Religious Liberty Commission staff and leadership today; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That the messengers to the Southern Baptist Convention meeting in Anaheim, California, June 14-15, 2022, encourage all Southern Baptists to pray for the overturning of the disastrous precedent set in *Roe v. Wade* and *Planned Parenthood v. Casey*; and be it further

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RESOLVED, That we commend the Ethics & Religious Liberty Commission's frontline work on the pro-life cause and urge all Southern Baptists to continue our faithful pro-life advocacy by partnering with local, state, and federal governments to enact pro-life and pro-family policies that serve and support vulnerable women, children, and families; and be it further

RESOLVED, That we implore Southern Baptists to continue and increase their efforts to serve and support local pregnancy resource centers, pro-life organizations, churches, foster-care and adoptive families, doing invaluable and often under-recognized work in the care of women and children at every stage of life; and be it further

RESOLVED, That we commit to stand with and pray for abortion-vulnerable women, to eliminate any perceived need for the horror of abortion, and to oppose Planned Parenthood and other predatory organizations or institutions who exploit vulnerable women for profit; and be it finally

RESOLVED, That we urge the Supreme Court of the United States to overturn the precedent set in *Roe v. Wade* and *Planned Parenthood v. Casey*, and urge the state legislatures to enact pro-life policies that uphold the dignity and value of every human life, including both vulnerable women and children.

² 1980 Resolution "On Abortion," 1982 Resolution "On Abortion & Infanticide," 1984 Resolution "On Abortion," 1986 Resolution "On Sex Education & Adolescent Pregnancy," 1987 Resolution "On Abortion," 1988 Resolution "Pro-Life Actions of SBC Agencies," 1989 Resolution "On Encouraging Laws Regulating Abortion," 1991 Resolution "On the Sanctity of Human Life," 1992 Resolution "On Fetal Tissue Experimentation," 1993 Resolution "On the Freedom Of Choice Act, Hyde Amendment," 1994 Resolution "On RU486, The French Abortion Pill," 1995 Resolution "On Surgeon General Nominee Dr. Henry Foster," 1996 Resolution "On the Partial Birth Abortion Ban," 1996 Resolution "On Requiring all Political Parties to Include a Pro-Life Actions Platform," 1999 Resolution "On Human Embryonic & Stem Cell Research," 2000 Resolution "On Fetal Tissue Trafficking," 2002 Resolution "On Partial Birth Abortion," 2003 Resolution "On Thirty Years of *Roe v. Wade*," 2008 Resolution "On Planned Parenthood," 2015 Resolution "On the Sanctity of Human Life," 2017 Resolution "On Defunding and Investigating Planned Parenthood," 2018 Resolution "On Reaffirming the Full Dignity of Every Human Being," 2019 Resolution "On Celebrating the Advancement of Pro-Life Legislation in State Legislators," 2021 Resolution "On Abolishing Abortion."

8: ON THE *IMAGO DEI* AND THE HELPFUL CONTENT SUBMITTED IN SEVERAL RESOLUTIONS

WHEREAS, God has spoken clearly throughout Scripture to the value and dignity of every human being as created in the image of God and to the goodness of his design for every aspect of human life in accordance with his will (Genesis 1:26-30, 9:6, Matthew 19:4, Luke 12:22–31, 2 Corinthians 5:17-21, 1 Peter 1:13-16); and

WHEREAS, All people are called to love God and love our neighbors as ourselves (Matt. 22:37-39) and to trust in the Lord with all our heart—not leaning on our own understandings or being wise in our own eyes (Proverbs 3:5-7); and

WHEREAS, Rejecting God’s good design for the Christian life and seeking to craft an ethic based on our individualistic will and desires is not only an affront to God, but also a grave sin of selfishness, rebellion, and pride (Judges 21:25, Romans 1:18-32); and

WHEREAS, God’s design for human sexuality is rooted in the very nature of man and woman as image-bearers who are the “crowning work of His creation” (*The Baptist Faith & Message*, Article III) and were designed for a life-long covenant of marriage of one man and one woman (Matthew 19:4-6, Ephesians 5:31-33); and

WHEREAS, All people, including our children, are exposed each day to countless narratives often at odds with God’s design for sexuality through mass media and various forms of entertainment, like social media, that promote ideologies that run contrary to the scientific and biological realities of the created order rooted in the dignity of every human being (Romans 12:2); and

WHEREAS, Southern Baptists, in our 2018 Resolution “On Gun Violence and Mass Shootings,” have “expressed solidarity with all those victimized by gun violence” and encouraged churches to seek “every available opportunity to minister to them in the name of Jesus Christ” because “the shedding of innocent blood is a repugnant and wicked evil that transgresses the moral law of God” as well as an affront to human dignity; and

WHEREAS, The scourge of gun violence continues to plague our society, inflicting devastating pain and the loss of precious human life in our families, churches, schools, and communities across our country; and

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WHEREAS, God's glory is on display among all people that he has created, including our fellow precious image-bearers affected by disabilities (John 9:3) and how God has worked mightily through people affected by disabilities (Genesis 32:31-32, 2 Samuel 4:4, 2 Corinthians 12:9); now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That the messengers to the Southern Baptist Convention meeting in Anaheim, California, June 14-15, 2022, encourage all Southern Baptists to affirm the dignity and value of every person as created in God's image and to proclaim the fullness of the Christian ethic throughout our churches and in the public square as we seek the flourishing of all people in accordance with God's good design for humanity; and be it further

RESOLVED, That we uphold the beauty of the Christian sexual ethic in a world that promotes dangerous and dehumanizing ideologies such as those within the LGBTQ+ movement and other sexual perversions including abuse, pedophilic behavior, and the use of pornography, all of which are fundamentally at odds with God's design for human sexuality; and be it further

RESOLVED, That we seek to love our neighbors as ourselves, standing firm on God's created order which recognizes that any sexual desire or attraction outside of God's design for human sexuality is sin and is disordered regardless of whether or not it creates feelings of guilt, shame, or anxiety on the one hand or pride on the other hand; and be it further

RESOLVED, That we seek to proclaim to the next generation God's love for all and his good design for human sexuality, modeling how to faithfully engage others with both truth and grace, and that we redouble our ongoing efforts to cultivate a heart of wisdom and discernment in the next generation especially in regards to various forms of entertainment and social media; and be it further

RESOLVED, That we reaffirm our 2018 Resolution "On Gun Violence and Mass Shootings" and earnestly pray for our local, state, and federal leaders to recognize the seriousness of the ongoing threat of mass shootings throughout our society and to take concrete steps, towards solutions that uphold the dignity and value of every human life, especially the most vulnerable among us, and to minimize the threat of gun violence throughout our society; and be it finally

RESOLVED, That the worth of every human being, including those affected by disabilities, is found in Christ, the true *Imago Dei* (Colossians 1:15-17), not in people's fallen perceptions of worth or abilities.

9: ON APPRECIATION FOR THE CITY OF ANAHEIM

WHEREAS, That the messengers to the Southern Baptist Convention meeting in Anaheim, California, June 14-15, 2022, express grateful appreciation to the citizens of the greater Los Angeles area and the city of Anaheim for the hospitality extended to the messengers of the Convention; and

WHEREAS, We acknowledge our debt of gratitude to the California Southern Baptist Convention, the Baptists of the Los Angeles area, and hundreds of volunteers from California who have worked so diligently to make our stay a pleasant one; and

WHEREAS, We especially acknowledge the Lord's grace in enabling our Southern Baptist Convention president, officers, various committees, musicians, and other platform personnel to conduct the affairs of this Convention with dignity and a Christlike spirit; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That the messengers to the Southern Baptist Convention meeting in Anaheim, California, June 14-15, 2022, express our profound gratitude to the Lord and to all those through whom He is working to bring about an annual meeting characterized by prayer, grace, evangelism, worship, encouragement, unity, and purpose.

JESUS

THE CENTER OF IT ALL

