**Mission Board Report**

18 May 2021

The Arkansas Mission Board has been busy since the last State Meeting. We have met once via zoom and five times in person.

On August 6th, the Board elected the following officers. Ron Parker- Chairman, Tim Forman-Vice Chairman, and Travis Alexander-Secretary.

The board felt that a good communication among the board members and with the state needed to be established.

A discussion of establishing a job description for the Hispanic Director and plans are in the works to draw up a job description for the director and for the board have a better understanding of the duties of the Hispanic Director.

The New Horizon FWB Church in Springdale closed and gave the property to Arkansas Free Will Baptist. A Hispanic work was started in the building and the board made a commitment to assist in the maintenance the property for one year.

The New Jerusalem Free Will Baptist Church in Dardanelle has been meeting in rented facilities and had the opportunity to purchase the property. The board has loaned them the money from the APPLE Fund to purchase the property. The loan will be for three months at which time they will secure other financing.

Three of our Hispanic works are joining the local Associations in their area. We are encouraging the other Hispanic Churches to consider doing the same. This will bring us into a closer relationship with our Hispanic Brethren

The Arkansas Missions Board has owned property in Cabot for several years. It has been leased to a day care. Due to the size of the property, no current plans to return to Cabot to start a Free Will Baptist Church, the expense of maintenance on the property and the liability of the property, the board decided to sell the property and place the proceeds in the APPLE Fund.

The Board discussed hiring a Missions Director. The State Constitution and By-Laws in Article IX Section 4 states “It shall be the responsibility of the board to employ a State Missions Director.” Following the directive of the Constitution and By-laws the Board received resumes and interviewed candidates for the position. Travis Alexander was elected to fill the position of Missions Director and began his duties on May 1st.

Tom Harkness, a church planter in Pennsylvania has been receiving support from the Arkansas Mission Board. After reviewing his ministry, the board felt it would be better if he would seek support from NAM or IM. Also, our budget would not support the continuance of support and support a State Missions Director, the board voted to discontinue support to Tom Harkness.

Your current Missions Board has only been serving for a short time. One member has only served for over 3 years, two only 2 years and one less than a year, with a new member to be elected at this meeting. We appreciate your patience and understanding as we work serve Arkansas Free Will Baptist and to further the cause of Christ in and through Arkansas Free Will Baptist.

Ron Parker, Tim Forman, Bobby Shepherd, Joe Ray Short, and Larry Little.