

Podcast: Confessing The Faith

Episode 21: Update on the 2016 ARBCA General Assembly

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Q1: What is the ARBCA General Assembly?

From arbca.com/about: "The ASSOCIATION OF REFORMED BAPTIST CHURCHES OF AMERICA (ARBCA) was founded on March 11, 1997. On that day at the Cornerstone Church in Mesa, AZ the first General Assembly met to establish a charter membership of 24 churches from 14 states. Now in 2016 there are 59 member churches.

Association churches cooperate in four areas:

Home Missions

Member churches may present a home missionary to the Church Planting Committee for support to help them plant a church.

Foreign Missions

The Reformed Baptist Mission Services (RBMS) is a service organization that assists local churches in sending men to plant churches in countries around the world.

Theological Education

The Institute of Reformed Baptist Studies (IRBS), located in Escondido, CA, gives our called men five Baptist courses on the campus of Westminster Seminary California. The men receive an M.Div from WSC and a certificate from IRBS.

Publications

Reformed Baptist Publications (RBP) publishes helpful booklets that are marketed by Solid-Ground Christian Books.

In addition to the cooperative efforts (ARBCA) is designed to advance Christ's kingdom by providing a fellowship in which churches of common confession may find mutual encouragement, assistance, edification, and counsel.

ARBCA can provide an organized forum of godly men, each holding to the same confession of faith, to help churches work through various difficulties together. As needed, it can also serve the interest of individual church members whenever "any member of any church is injured, in or by any proceedings in censures not agreeable to truth and order. . ." (London Baptist Confession, 26:15)."

Q2: Are we considering joining ARBCA?

Q3: What went on at the GA?

Business

Receiving of new member churches

Missions reports

Church planting reports

Plans for a stand alone seminary

Prayer

Singing

Teaching

Preaching

Fellowship

Q4: What were your impressions?

Serious about doctrine

Serious about the church (local, universal, and associationalism)

Serious about local and foreign missions

Serious about theological training for ministers

Serious about integrity

Brotherly love (multi-generational)

Q5: What's next?

Pray for ARBCA (go to arbca.com).

Pray for wisdom in regard joining ARBCA.

My wife and I will be going to the school of church planting that ARBCA puts on in Gilbert, Az. Pray for that, please.

Listen to the audio from the ARBCA GA that I post.

Let's get active in SCARBC.

Quarterly gathering on July 31
Interviews with SCARBC Pastors coming soon