

# **Lifeway Retiree Fellowship 2023 Highlights**

## **Spring Gathering – April 27**

- On April 27, retirees met at Brentwood Baptist Church for the Spring Gathering to celebrate the 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Lifeway name and listen to an update from Lifeway President Ben Mandrell. Koin Credit Union provided door prizes. Phyllis Young, Tom McMinn and Becky Rau planned and coordinated the program.
- For the first time, the Spring Gathering was videotaped and made available on the website. These videos will continue in the future.

## **Fall Gathering – October 20**

- On October 20, retirees met at the Lifeway Building for the Fall Gathering. They received the report from the Nominating Committee for 2024 officer nominees, received the treasurer's report, and approved the 2024 budget. Johnnie Godwin was recognized as the 2023 retiree Spotlight recipient, and Art Snead gave an update on Ridgecrest. Koin Credit Union provided door prizes.
- Tom McMinn planned and coordinated the Retiree Spotlight recognition for 2023.
- The LRF Nominating Committee recommended Ron Samuels as President-elect and Patti Baker as Events Associate and both were elected unanimously. The other 2023 officers were re-elected for 2024. At the conclusion of 2023, Charles Businaro rotates off the committee as President and Events Associate Tom McMinn declines to serve in 2024.

## **Email and Website**

- The monthly email, edited by Morlee Maynard, continues to be enthusiastically received. 100<sup>th</sup> year birthday celebrations were added to the Birthday section. Mary Darby and Lillian Hamilton were celebrated in 2023. We have six centenarian celebrations in 2024. The email list ends the year with 486 subscribers engaged at a rate of 78%.
- In January a memorial section which listed retirees who had died during 2022 was added to the website. Steve Gateley provided photos when available and Jim Garrett designed this segment.
- Jim Garrett updates the website monthly with birthdays, memorials, and new retirees. Photos and a video of gatherings are added seasonally.

## **Other Activities**

- Soon after the new Lifeway building opened in the spring, the Executive Committee met there to pray for employees, Ben Mandrell, executive leadership, and the facility.
- A new Lifeway Retiree Fellowship logo was developed that incorporates the current Lifeway logo along with three short phrases related to retirees.
- Treasurer Jim Lowry reported a beginning balance of \$5,930.02 on December 31, 2022, and a balance of \$5,891.60 on November 30, 2023. Dues totaling \$1,198.26 were received in 2023.
- Pat Raymer, Membership Associate, sent 95 sympathy cards to families of retirees and 21 welcome letters to new retirees through November.

Prepared by Charles Businaro  
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