

McGee

MINUTES
OF THE
Eighteenth Annual Session
OF THE
Arkansas State Association
OF
Freewill Baptists
HELD WITH
The Church at Macedonia
Cleveland County, Arkansas,
October 23-25, 1915.

ELD. GEO. BEEN, Spring Valley, Ark., Moderator.

W. F. McGEE, Atkins, Ark., Clerk.

J. A. BROWN, Glendale, Cor. Secretary.



W. F. McGEE, Atkins, Ark.

We heartily solicit communications from all Associations in Arkansas, in order that our next minutes may be more complete. Also from other states.

Elder Geo. Been, Moderator, Spring Valley, Ark.

W. F. McGee, Clerk, Atkins, Ark.

J. A. Brown, Cor. Secretary, Glendale, Ark.

Minutes.

The Eighteenth annual session of the Arkansas State Association of Free Will Baptists, convened with the church at Macedonia, Cleveland county, Arkansas, October 23-24-25, 1915.

Elder Been preached the introductory sermon at 11 o'clock, a. m., from 2 Thess. 3-13.

AFTERNOON SESSION SATURDAY.

After a recess of one hour the Association met in regular session. The Moderator being absent, the clerk, Elder George Been, opened the conference by reading the 6th chapter of Ephesians, prayer by Elder W. P. White. The following Associations responded to the roll call:

Saline, Antioch, Mt. Zion and Zion Hope No. 2. Newly organized Associations, none. Corresponding Associations, none.

Motion by W. F. McGee the rules be suspended and all christians be invited to take part in the fellowship handshake. Motion carried. The organization then was made perfect by electing Elder George Been of Spring Valley, Moderator, and W. F. McGee of Atkins, Clerk. Bro. J. A. Brown of Glendale, Lincoln county, was elected corresponding secretary.

After reading the rules of order and constitution by the Moderator, the Moderator then appointed the following committees:

On Resolutions—W. P. White, J. R. Hartley and O. A. Ashcraft.

On Finance—J. W. Blair, J. W. Bryant, J. N. Johnson.

On Divine Services—J. M. Myers, B. M. McClellan, J. A. Brown.

On Temperance—J. J. McDaniel, H. W. Wood.

On Sabbath Schools—J. R. Hartley, J. W. Bryant.

Committee on Divine Services reported that J. J. McDaniel was to preach at 7 p. m. The conference then adjourned until Monday morning at 8 a. m. with prayer by J. A. Brown.

The Divine services for Saturday evening were opened with singing by the choir, preaching by J. J. McDaniel, scrip-

ture lesson, 1st Cor. third chapter, text, Mark 2-6. "But there were certain of the scribes sitting there reasoning in their hearts." The Committee on Divine Services reported O. A. Ashcraft to preach Sunday at 11 a. m.

SUNDAY MORNING SESSION.

Singing by the choir. Preaching by O. A. Ashcraft, scripture lesson 7th chapter of Matthew, text, John 21-22. "Jesus saith unto him, if I will that he tarry till I come, what is that to thee? follow thou me." Committee on Divine Services reported that W. F. McGee deliver a lecture on Sabbath Schools at 4 p. m., at the close of the Sabbath School work, and Elder George Been preach at night. The afternoon session was opened with singing by the choir. Sabbath School was opened at 2:30 p. m. by the superintendent in the usual way. After the lessons were read, W. F. McGee of Atkins, Ark., proceeded to talk for thirty minutes on "Why we should organize and maintain Sabbath Schools," using in his closing argument the duties of children to parents and parents to children, the 6th chapter of Ephesians. This talk was responded to by a number of boys and girls who had been arranged on the front seats by W. P. White, telling in their little way why they liked to go to Sabbath School and the good they derived. The Sabbath School interest at Macedonia seemed to be greatly revived.

Sunday night services were opened with singing by the choir, preaching by Elder George Been. Scripture lesson, 2nd chapter of Ephesians, text, Eph. 2-8. "For by grace are we saved through faith; and that not of ourselves, it is the gift of God." Closing remarks by W. F. McGee.

MONDAY MORNING SESSION.

Was opened in regular order by the Moderator. Morning lesson the fourth chapter of 2nd Timothy. Song, "What a Friend we have in Jesus." Prayer by the Moderator. Order of Business was then taken up.

Motion that all Associations not represented be given a chance to represent by letter and the clerk assist the commit-

tees in getting up their reports. Resolutions Nos. 1, 2 and 3 were adopted.

Committee on Divine Services reported that H. W. Woods would preach at 11 o'clock. The conference adjourned with prayer by W. P. White.

The 11 o'clock service was opened with singing by the choir. Preaching by H. W. Wood. Scripture lesson, first chapter of James, text, 1st Peter 2-5. "Ye also as lively stones are built up a spiritual house, an holy Priesthood to offer up spiritual sacrifices acceptable to God by Jesus Christ."

MONDAY AFTERNOON SESSION.

Opening lesson, 2nd John. Song by the choir. Prayer by J. N. Johnson. Order of business was then taken up: Motion that the clerk superintend the printing of the minutes and that he have the minutes of last year printed with the minutes of this year, carried. Reports of the different committees received and committees discharged.

St. Joe church, Atkins, Pope county, Arkansas, was the place selected for the next meeting to convene Friday night before the fourth Sunday in October, 1916, Elder H. W. Wood to preach the introductory sermon, Elder J. R. Hartley as alternate. Minutes of the meeting read by clerk and approved by the body.

Contributions:

To stable one team.....	\$ 3.00
To Clerk for stationery.....	3.75
To Corresponding Secretary.....	3.06
From Zion Hope No. 1. as minute funds.....	2.00
For Minute fund.....	13.66
Balance on hand from last year.....	7.60

Total Minute fund.....\$23.26

Monday night session was devoted to the communion and washing of the saint's feet, conducted by Moderator George

Been. Remarks on a christian's duties and the Lord's supper by W. E. McGee. The conference closed with prayer by the Moderator.

Report of Committee on Sabbath Schools.

We, your Committee on Sabbath Schools submit the following report: That it be the duty of pastors to see that a Sunday School exist in all our churches.. We recommend that pastors and superintendents encourage our schools to represent in our annual meetings, since for a church not to have a Sunday School indicates that said church is not prospering and accomplishing what it might. We recommend our pastors and laymen have a motto or watchword: "A good Sunday School to report at our next conference."

O. A. ASHCRAFT, Chairman.

Report of Committee on Temperance.

We, your Committee on Temperance, submit the following report: That we condemn the liquor traffic in all its forms, knowing that it causes more deaths, widows and orphan children, hungry children, unhappy homes, miserable companions, causes more suicides, more assassinations; it makes men do those things which God forbids them do, and there are so many counsels in Holy Writ that condemn strong drink, we unite with all Christians everywhere in an effort to remove this destructive stuff from our midst.

J. J. McDANIEL, Chairman.

Report of Committee on Resolutions.

First. Resolved that the Clerk superintend the printing of the Minutes.

Second. That the Minutes of last Association be printed with this year's Minutes.

Third. That each letter to the Association show the Sunday School enrollment.

Fourth. That we advise a fifth Sunday meeting.

Fifth. That we extend our thanks to the good people at and around Macedonia church for their kind hospitality shown us while with them.

J. R. HARTLEY, Chairman.

ELDER GEORGE BEEN, Moderator.

W. F. McGEE, Clerk.

J. A. BROWN, Corresp. Sec.

P. S. The reason that the minutes of last year was not printed in this minute as directed was on the account of Finance.

Obituary.

Antioch Association.

BRO. W. T. BOWEN, Moreland.

BRO. H. H. HUBBARD, Atkins.

BRO. R. C. WEST, Gumlog.

SISTER L. G. POPE, Atkins.

Arkansas Association.

BRO. VAUGHT.

SISTER IDA KNOTT.

BRO. W. B. BLAYOCK.

BRO. W. F. HOGUE.

SISTER CLARA H. ROBINSON.

Zion Hope Association No. 1.

SISTER BECCA CURTIS.

"Yea, though I walk through the Valley of the Shadow of death, I will fear no evil; for thou art with me; thy rod and thy staff they comfort me." Ps. 23-4.

Blessed are the dead which die in the Lord.

List of Ordained Ministers.

Old Mt. Zion.—J. G. Wilson, Mante; G. W. Lynch, Clifty, Route 1; S. G. Moses, Whitener; W. T. Webb, Spring Valley, Route 1; John Garvin, Spring Valley, Route 1; J. H. Roberts, Spring Valley, Route 1; W. O. Johnson, Sydenham; W. S. Copland, Fayetteville; K. A. Moses, Huntsville; W. P. Caps, Mundell; G. C. Bland, Larue, J. S. Turney, Larue, T. S. Sims, Moderator.

New Mt. Zion.—J. A. Kesner, Kingston; J. M. Berden, Delmar; W. R. Burnett, Hilltop; J. M. Richardson, Copton; John Harington, Delmar; S. M. McMillon, Delmar; W. C. Curnentt, Compton; W. C. Watts.

Arkansas Asso.—W. M. Swift, Webb City; W. M. Snow, Webb City; J. N. Dearman, Ratchiff; O. C. Hunt, Waldron; J. S. Lovette, Chismville; J. M. Wilson, Gravelly; A. N. Best, Chismville; S. A. Morgan, Bluffton; W. W. Little, Walnut Tree; I. J. Wilson, Gravelly; W. M. Taylor, Ola; G. W. Garner, Blue Ball; J. G. Lewis, Walnut Tree; G. W. Ingraham, Mansfield; M. R. Read, Greenwood; I. J. Wilson, Little Cedar; J. M. Wilson, Macedonia; I. J. Wilson, Mt. Olive, No. 2.

Zion Hope No. 1.—J. M. Prince, Tag; J. H. Treadwell, Northwood; D. J. Coffman Gumlog; M. A. Thompson, Appleton; N. A. Read, Appleton; Robert, Taylor, Watts; Joe Harris, Tag; H. D. Harris, Gumlog; A. F. Taylor, Appleton, H. B. Savage, Watts.

Zion Hope No. 2.—O. D. Dugan, A. J. Phillips, J. K. Davis.

Saline Asso.—W. P. White, New Edinburg; J. H. Patrick, Rowell; O. A. Ashcraft, Herbine; J. R. Hartley, Herbine; J. J. McDaniel, Kingsland; J. F. Brown, Kingsland; Bro. Golden, Kingsland; T. D. White, Lehigh; G. E. White, Lehigh; Bro. Graves, Warren; Riley Ruthler, New Edinburg.

Mountain Home Asso.—A. W. Holder, Belleville; W. W. Mangum, Danville; G. S. Rogers, Havana; R. L. Sisk, Magazine; G. W. Ewing, Millard; J. T. Ross, Blue Mountain.

Antioch Asso.—R. M. Johnson, Gumlog; R. E. L. Duvall, Atkins; J. A. Venable, Atkins; J. B. Vaughn, Moreland; Jesse Jeffries, Gumlog; E. Henderson, Atkins; R. B. Venable, Gumlog; H. J. Walker, Geren; J. H. Horshaw, Altus; J. W. Curran, Russellville; W. C. Smith, Pottsville; Carl Duvall, Gumlog; N. S. Coffman, Gumlog; H. E. Singleton, Gumlog; G. H. McDaniel, Dublin; K. Dunkin, Clarksville; Arthur Reid, Cleveland; Dave Thompson, Atkins; Fred Duvall, Atkins; R. A. Johnson, Utey; J. T. Burris, Moreland; F. M. Hudson, Moreland; J. Starks, Silex; Esom Baker, Scottsville; J. A. Lemons, Gumlog; Fate Bowen, Appleton; Cardus Johnson, Deleware; W. H. Whisnant, Silex.

CONSTITUTION.

From a long series of experience, we, the churches of Jesus Christ, being regularly baptised upon the profession of our faith in Christ, are convinced of the necessity of a combination of churches to perpetuate a union and communion among us, and to preserve and maintain a correspondence with each other, we therefore propose to keep orders and rules of our Association according to the following plan or form of government:

1. That the State Association shall be composed of members chosen by the different associations in our union and each association is entitled to five Messengers. All ordained ministers of our faith and order shall be members when present.

2. Letters from the different associations are to express their number in fellowship, the number received by experience, letter or recommendation, dismissed, excluded, restored, and that have died since last association; and the name of the clerk, moderator, county, post-office, Sabbath of meeting, and the amount paid for minute funds.

3. The members thus chosen and convened, to be denominated the State Association of Freewill Baptists, being composed of the Subordinate Associations of the State of Arkansas and the Association to have no power to lord over God's heritage, nor to have any ecclesiastical power of the Associations reserving the right of withdrawing from any Association becoming disorderly.

4. The Association shall have a Moderator and a Clerk and a corresponding clerk, who are to be chosen by the suffrages of the members present.

5. New Associations may be admitted into the Association by letter or delegates, if found to be orthodox in the faith of the Freewill Baptists, the Moderator giving the right hand of fellowship.

6. No question presented by the delegates of any association shall be discussed in the Association unless it has been thoroughly discussed in their own Association.

7. Every motion made and seconded shall come under the consideration of the Association unless it be withdrawn by the members making it.

8. The Association is to endeavor to furnish the Association with the Minutes of this Association in proportion to the number of members in each Association, the distribution being at the discretion of the Association.

9. It shall be the duty of the Clerk to keep a regular file of minutes.

10. The minutes of the Association shall be read and corrected, if needed, and signed by the Moderator and Clerk before the Association closes.

11. The Association shall have a fund for her support, which shall be supplied by voluntary contribution of the Associations, whose duty it shall be to send it by the hands of the messengers, which money so sent shall be deposited in the hands of the Treasurer for that purpose, and he shall be accountable to the Association for all money received by him until paid out as they may direct.

12. The Association, in case of failure of any Association to attend, may inquire into the cause.

13. It is the duty of the Association to see after the union of the Associations.

14. Amendments to this plan or form of government may be made at any time when a majority of the members may deem it necessary.

ARTICLES OF FAITH. . .

1. We believe in one true and living God—the father, Son and Holy Ghost—and these three are equal in divine essence, power and glory. Rom. 1:21; 1 John 5:7.

2. We believe that the scriptures in the Old and New Testaments are the words of God, and the only infallible rule of faith and practice. 2. Tim. 4:2, John 10:30.

3. We believe that God created man good and gave him holy commandments, whereby he should live holy, but man voluntarily disobeyed the commandments of God, transgressed the law and fell under the just condemnation of the same, whereby all men are sinners, not by constraint, but by choice, being partakers of the sinful nature attained by the fall. But we see Jesus, who was made a little lower than the angels for the suffering of death, crowned with glory and honor: then He by the grace of God should taste death for every man. Gen. 1:27, Gen. 2:16-17, Gen. 3:6, John 3:16, Heb. 2:9,

4. We believe that Christ by his death, burial and resurrection purchased our pardon and offers it freely to all men upon the principle of repentance toward God and faith in the Lord Jesus Christ. He now commands all men everywhere to repent, therefore look unto me and be ye saved of all the ends of the earth, for I am God, and there is none else. Matt. 4:17; Isaiah 45:22, John 20:21.

5. We believe that all adult persons must be regenerated and born of the spirit of God if they inherit eternal life. John 1:6-14, Gal. 6:15, Titus 3:5, John 3:1-13, Rom. 8:9.

6. We believe that regeneration is an instantaneous renewal of the heart by the Holy Spirit whereby the penitent sinner receives a new life, becomes a child of God and is disposed to serve Him. Hence as babies require constant food for bodily development, the new born babe in Christ requires spiritual food that they may develop by a gradual growth into full stature of Christian manhood. John 3:5, Ez. 36:26-7, Jer. 32:29, Titus, 3:5, Heb. 12:14, Gal. 5:1-21, Eph. 2:10; Rom. 8:16, John 1:12, Matt. 13:31, Mark 4:26.

7. We believe that the doctrine of Sanctification or Holiness as taught in the Bible is applicable to the soul or inner man, and to it alone, and that the sanctification of the body will not take place until the resurrection of the dead, when this mortal shall put on immortality and this corruptible body shall put on incorruption. 1 Cor. 6:11, Rom. 7, 8; Phil. 3, 21; 1 Cor. 15, 44.

8. We believe that all Christians should persevere in grace, and be faithful to the end if they inherit eternal life, for blessed are they that do His commandments that they have a right to the tree of life and enter in through the gates of the city. 1 Cor. 10, 12:3; Rev. 22, 14; Rom. 11, 20-21; John 3, 24. Heb. 10, 26; John, 15:2-6.

9. We believe a visible church of Christ is a congregation of faithful men and women who have obtained fellowship with each other and have given themselves to the Lord and one another, having agreed to keep up good discipline according to the rules of the Gospel. John 1, 7. Matt. 18, 15-20.

10. We believe that the church is the family of God, in the Aggregate composed of all the redeemed from righteous Able to the restitution of all things from every nation kindred and tongue. Matt. 16, 18; Acts 2, 47; Heb. 12, 23; Eph. 1, 22.

11. We believe that Jesus Christ is the great head of the church, and the government thereof is with the body. Eph. 5, 23; Col. 1, 18; Matt. 18, 17-18.

12. We believe that baptism by immersion is the apostolic mode, even the burial of a believer in water, and that Christ, who is our life, showed this humble example to his children and bade them walk therein. Matt. 3:5-16; Matt. 28, 19-20; Mark 1, 9-11; Acts 8, 38.

13. We believe that God in his goodness displays power of grace in a great degree in calling and qualifying his servants by the teaching of the Holy Ghost and by the instruction of his blessed word to go forth and proclaim life and salvation without price. He bids us freely

to come and nothing prevents the salvation of any but their own stubborn rebellion and sinful refusal to come. 2, 7-8. 1 Tim. 2:16; 1 Cor. 1, 23; 1 Tim, 1, 15-16, John 3, 4-18.

14. We believe that only those who have obtained a living hope in the Lord Jesus Christ, have a right to baptism and those only who have been called of God and have come under the Presbytery of Elders have a right to administer the same. Titus 1:15; Mar. 16:16; Matt. 23:8-9, Acts 10:47.

15. The soul is immortal, hence does not die with the body, but immediately after death enters into a conscious state of happiness or misery according to the spiritual character here possessed. Eccl. 12-7; Phil. 1-23; Luke 23:43; Rev. 6-9.

16. We believe that there will be a general or universal judgment when all men shall be judged according to the deeds done in the body whether good or bad and that immediately thereafter the wicked shall enter into everlasting punishment, and the righteous into eternal happiness. Rom. 1-5; Eccl. 1-14; Matt. 12-36-37; Rom. 14-10. Heb. 9-27; Matt. 12-41; Matt. 24-46, Mark 9, 34-46; 2 Thess 1, 8-9. Rev. 14-11 Rev. 21-8. Luke 16-23, 2 Cor. 5-10.

17. We believe it is the duty of each church to assemble themselves together at least once a month, and that it is the duty of the pastor of the church, when setting forth the Lord's Supper and washing the saints' feet, to invite all Christians, according to the rule of the gospel. Mark 14, 24-25, John 15, 4-5, 1st Cor. 11th chapter, 1st Cor. 1, 2-10, Heb. 10-25, 2nd Cor. 11, 27-28.

18. We believe in a divine call to the ministry, that the minister shall heed the admonition of Paul to Timothy to study the Scripture, that the churches donate of their substances as the Lord prospers them to the support of their pastors, that said ministers may have better opportunities to store their minds with that spiritual food so necessary to Christian development. To this end we recommended that each church have a finance committee of three to consist of two deacons and a clerk to collect and store such funds. 2nd Tim. 2-12, 1st Cor. 16, 1-2.

ORDER OF BUSINESS.

1. Introductory sermon.
2. Association called to order by the Moderator, in his absence, the Clerk.
3. Letters from the Associations of this Association called for, read and messengers invited to seats.
4. Call for letters from newly organized churches.
5. Corresponding Associations.
6. Right hand of fellowship.
7. Election of permanent officers.
8. Reading Rules of Order and Minutes of last Association by Chair or Clerk.
9. Appointment of following committees: (a) Resolutions, (b) Finance, (c) Arrangement of Preaching, (d) Temperance, (e) Sabbath Schools, (f) Obituary, (g) Condition of Non-represented Churches; (h) Union of Churches.
10. Report of committees appointed at last Association, and other unfinished business.
11. Report of new committees.
12. New business.
13. Adjournment.

RULES OF ORDER.

1. At every sitting of the Association, business shall be opened and concluded by prayer.
2. Those who speak shall rise, address the Moderator, and personal reflections shall be avoided.
3. All motions made and seconded shall be open for discussion, but debate may be shut off at any time by a majority of the members of the Association.
4. If any proposition or motion under debate contain two or more points, it shall be divided at the request of any member and the vote taken separately.
5. Motions made and lost shall not be recorded on the minutes unless so ordered at the time.
6. No one shall speak more than once on the same subject without special leave from the body.
7. All questions shall be decided by a majority of the members present.
8. No member shall absent himself without leave of the Moderator.
9. At the future sessions of this Association arrangements shall be made so as to insure two sermons, or other devotional exercises which shall be equivalent thereto, during each day of the session, and that the chair announce just before adjournment who shall fill the stand at the next meeting.
10. Alterations may be made in these rules at any regular meeting of the Association.

Statistical Table.

Association	Moderator	Post Office	Clerk	Post Office	Ordained Ministers.	Number Churches.	Total Members'p
Antioch	R.M. Johnson	Gumlog	W. F. McGee	Atkins	28	19	836
Arkansas	I. J. Wilson	Graveley	R.P. Robinson	Branch	18	10	480
Saline	W. P. White	New Edingburg	J. H. Meeks	Rye	11	8	619
Zion Hope No. 2	O. D. Dugan	Hackett	R. E. Tucker	Hackett	4	5	100
New Mt. Zion					8		
Old Mt. Zion	T. M. Sims		Geo. Been	Spring Valley	12	19	581
Mountain Home					6		
Little River	T. M. Dixon						
Zion Hope No. 1			J. M. Voss	Hector	10	10	485
Pope Bayou							