

MINUTES
OF THE 1983 SESSION
OF THE
BIG SPRINGS ASSOCIATION
OF FREE WILL BAPTISTS

HELD WITH THE DAVIS CHAPEL FREE WILL
BAPTISTS CHURCH, ELIZABETH, ARK.

ON THURSDAY, FRIDAY AND SATURDAY
SEPTEMBER 22, 23 and 24

THE NEXT REGULAR SESSION WILL CONVENE WITH
ZION FREE WILL BAPTIST CHURCH
CLARKRIDGE, ARK.

ON FRIDAY NIGHT MAY 25th, 1984
AND SATURDAY MAY 26th ALL DAY

MODERATOR

Howard Pruitt
Rt. 5, Box 280
Mtn. Home, Ark. 72653

ASSISTANT MODERATOR

Roy Gregg
Clarkridge, Ark. 72623

CLERK

Carolyn Walker
Rt. 1, Box 6
Elizabeth, Ark. 72531

ASSITANT MODERATOR

Willia Pruitt
Rt. 5, Box 280
Mtn. Home, Ark. 72653

BIG SPRINGS ASSOCIATIONAL MEETING

SEPTEMBER 22, 23 24

Held at Davis Chapel Free Will Baptist Church, Elizabeth, Ark.

THURSDAY NIGHT SESSION

Prayer Service 7:00 P.M.

Service began with singing led by Bro. Opie Hargraves with Sister Pat Hargraves at the piano. Songs: "He's A Wonderful Savior To Me", "Praise Him! Praise Him!".
Alter Prayer.

To start the business session, Moderator Bro. Howard Pruitt asked the Delegates from each church to stand. They were welcomed and seated.

PLEASANT FLAT CHURCH - Maxine Partee, Carolyn Pruitt,
Billy Foster

ZION CHURCH - Nona Abney, Marvene Decker, Lela Sellers,
Rosene Webber

DAVIS CHAPEL - Ricky Walker, Velma Walker, Oma Landrum

Since the clerk had resigned, a new clerk was elected. Carolyn Walker was elected.

Church letters and Ministers letters were turned over to the clerk. They are recorded elsewhere in the minutes.

The Moderator turned the services over to Bro. David Joslin. He read 2 Chronicles, chapter 12 verses 9-12. His text was "Shishak Stole The Gold".

Congregational Songs: "More Love To Thee", "I'll Be Satisfied", Beautiful Gleanings Bring".
Prayer led by Bro. Dwight Partee.

Moderator then passed out a Questionnaire for review concerning ordaining and licenseing of Ministers.

Committees were appointed by the Moderator as follows:

FINANCE - George Sellers (Chairman), Maxine Partee,
Willia Pruitt, Lena Dover

NOMINATING - Dwight Partee (Chairman), Ricky Walker,
Marvene Decker (Absent), Billy Foster,
Nova Abbney, Roy Gregg (Alternate)

RESOLUTIONS - Opie Hargraves (Chairman), Carolyn Pruitt,
Keith Partee, Velma Walker

CREDENTIALS - The Executive Council

Motion made and seconded to adjourn until Friday night,
at 7:00 p.m.

Refreshments were served by the ladies of the Davis Chapel
Church.

FRIDAY NIGHT SESSION

30 Minutes Prayer Service

The meeting began with the committees meeting.
Congregational Singing while the Executive Council met.
Songs: "Are You Washed In The Blood", "There Shall Be
Showers Of Blessing", "Kneel At The Cross", "I'm Getting
Ready", "All Alone".

The committees then read there reports as follows:

FINIANCE COMMITTEE REPORT

We the Finiance Committee find that the receipts for 1983
was \$30 from Davis Chapel, \$65 each from Zion and Pleasant
Flat Churches, an offering of \$1.57 was put in treasury.
There was a balance of \$20.43 in Treasury for a total of
\$182.00.

We find that \$90 was sent to the State Association for
hosting the 1984 National Association. \$50 sent to the
State Association for fees and minutes. \$20 to the National
Association for 1984 fees.

We find that we have a balance of \$22 in Treasury.

We find that \$35 from each church is needed for State and
National fees and minutes for another year.

George Sellers(Chairman)
Lena Dover
Maxine Partee
Willia Pruitt

The report was accepted and the committee released.

NOMINATING COMMITTEE REPORT

The Nominating Committee nominate the following candidates for the respective offices.

Executive Council-----Bro. Opie Hargrave
Moderator-----Bro. Howard Pruitt
Assistant Moderator-----Bro. Roy Gregg
Assistant Clerk-----Willia Pruitt
Introductory Message----Bro. Dwight Partee
Alternate-----Bro. George Siler

Dwight Partee(Chairman)
Roy Gregg
Ricky Walker
Nova Abney
Billy Foster

The report was accepted and the committee released.

RESOLUTION COMMITTEE REPORT

Resolution #1 - Be it resolved that our annual meeting be held at an appointed time in the week before the fourth Sunday in May. CARRIED

Resolution #2 - Be it resolved that the quarterly meeting be dedicated to a specific cause, such as (1) Sunday School, (2) evangelism, (3) family worship, or (4) missions. CARRIED

Resolution #3 - Since there have been reports from outsiders that they have not been finding what they or their children need in our Sunday Schools, and recognizing the great importance of the Sunday School in the ministry of the Lord...Be it resolved that (1) the churches study the needs, problems, and opportunities of the Sun. Sch., in order that our young people and children will receive the training they need. (2) One quarterly meeting be devoted to the cause of the Sunday School. FAILED

Resolution #4 - Be it resolved that all members be urged to attend the National Association in Little Rock next year. FAILED

Resolution #5 - Be it resolved that we express appreciation and gratitude to the local church, for the hospitality in this meeting. CARRIED

Opie Hargrave, Chairman
Keith Partee
Velma Walker
Carolyn Pruitt

The report was accepted and committee released.

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE REPORT

We the Credential Committe find that we have. 3 active deacons:
Jesse Dover, Keith Partee and Marion Kendell.
Ministers: Opie Hargrave, Dwight Partee, George Siler,
Howard Pruitt. and Roy Gregg.

Howard Pruitt
George Siler
Keith Partee
George Sellers

The report was accepted and committe released.

MINISTERS LETTERS

To the Big Springs Association of Free Will Baptist
May 16th, 1982 thru September 21, 1983.

During this time I pastored Pleasant Flat Free Will Baptist Church, I have preached 90 Sermons, Baptised 1, Received 4 into Church. Helped in the Ordanition of 1 Minister, 1 Wedding, 2 Funerals. Traveled Approx. 4500 miles in church related work. Received from Pleasant Flat Church \$1859.00. From other places \$105.00.

Respectfully;
Howard Pruitt

To the Big Springs Association of Free Will Baptist.

During the Association year ending September 22, 1983 I preached 20 Messages, Received \$471.75 and Traveled approximately 3000 miles in Church related work.

Respectfully;
Howard Pruitt

To the Big Springs Association.

Brethern:

During the past associational year I traveled 1548 miles, Preached 43 sermons, Married 2 couples. Received \$863.67.

Respectfully;
George Siler

Big Springs Association,

Greeting,

This report of my work covers a time span from May 15, 1981 to Sept. 15, 1983. Some description and approximate data is as follows:

1. Teaching....There have been about 25 extended sessions in Free Will Baptist churches, most of which has not been well received. There is still the ruling mind that "to learn" by a teaching ministry is of the devil. Even the leaders mostly spurned these programs. This is contrary to the Word of God, and I abhor chosen ignorance "that wrests the scripture to the destruction of many", II Peter 3.16.
2. Lakeside services with the campers, in association with a program of the Baxter County Ministerial Alliance. This year there has been 14 Christian life sermons at Bidwell Point, apparently well received.
3. Radio...There were 5 sermons on 30 minute programs on KCTT, Yellville. I am in planning for a series of 15 minute programs on KZRO FM 104, Marshall.
4. Youth...I am now conducting a program for young Christians, meeting once per week.
5. Widows...Little work has been done on this program lately, but I'm now about ready with a quarterly publication for the widows.
6. Letters, articles and tracts...I have been distributing 2 tracts, "Power of God unto Salvation" and "Jesus, the Promised Saviour". There has been written perhaps 50 personal and general letters of exhortation and admonition and some articles pertaining to Christian life and fellowship and the light of Christ.
7. Church sermons in this area....15
8. Personal Visitation...This includes visiting and worshiping with some who are older and limited, no longer in attendance at the church.
9. India Ministeries...Included is a one month long trip to India, where I conducted 13 extended teaching programs for youth preachers and preached 8 sermons. Also were counseling, literature distribution, and personal correspondence. We helped provide food for a Christmas meal and message conducted by Samuel John. At this time we have a program of support for Free Will Baptist preachers under the leadership of Carlisle Hanna. We have been sending with others help enough to keep two preachers and families.
10. Receipts \$1627.95, Expenses \$5140.86

Respectfully;
Opie Hargrave

Motion made and seconded to adjourn. Prayer by Bro. Howard Pruitt.

Refreshments were served by the ladies of Davis Chapel Church.

SATURDAY NIGHT SESSION

30 Minutes Prayer Service.

The meeting was opened by Bro. Howard Pruitt with a reading so some activities of the State Association.

Church letters and Ministers letters were read and accepted. They are recorded elsewhere in Minutes.

Sister Pat Hargrave ask that the Church Constitution be printed and distributed. Bro. Opie Hargrave volunteered to copy approximately 10 copies. It was brought before the body and accepted.

The meeting was turned over to Bro. Opie Hargrave, for an exhortation to the Christian.

Services were turned over to Bro. Roy Gregg for the Indroductory Message. Song: "Where He Leads I Will Follow".

Motion made and seconded to adjourn.

Refreshments were served by the ladies of Davis Chapel Church.

OFFICERS OF THE BIG SPRINGS ASSOCIATION 1983-1984

MODERATOR.....Bro. Howard Pruitt

ASSISTANT MODERATOR.....Bro. Roy Gregg

CLERK.....Sister Carolyn Walker

ASSISTANT CLERK.....Sister Willia Pruitt

EXECUTIVE COUNCIL

HOWARD PRUITT----- 1 YEAR
 KEITH PARTEE----- 2 YEARS
 GEORGE SILER----- 3 YEARS
 GEORGE SELLERS----- 4 YEARS
 OPIE HARGRAVE----- 5 YEARS

ORDAINING COUNCIL

DWIGHT PARTEE
 OPIE HARGRAVE
 GEORGE SILER

MINISTERS OF ASSOCIATION

Bro. George Siler, Gainesville, MO 65655
 Bro. Dwight Partee, P.O. Box 64 Lakeview, Ark. 72642
 Bro. Howard Pruitt, Rt. 5, Box 280, Mtn. Home, Ark. 72653
 Bro. Opie Hargrave, Clarkridge, Ark. 72623
 Bro. Roy Gregg, Clarkridge, Ark. 72623

CHURCH

Pleasant Flat
 Lakeview, AR 72642

Davis Chapel
 Elizabeth, AR
 72531

Zion
 Clarkridge, AR
 72623

PASTOR

Howard Pruitt
 Rt. 5 Box 280
 Mtn. Home, AR
 72653

INTERIM PASTOR

Dwight Partee
 Lakeview, AR
 72642

Roy Gregg
 Clarkridge, AR
 72623

CLERK

Willia Pruitt
 Rt. 5 Box 280
 Mtn. Home, AR
 72653

Carolyn Walker
 Elizabeth, AR
 72531

Georgie Sellers
 Clarkridge, AR
 72623

STATISTICS 1982 - 1983

Church Membership	108	Total Spent	\$ 5,320.99
S.S. Membership	80	Pastors Salaries	\$ 2,759.00
League Membership	45	Evangelistic Work	\$ 1,366.40
Members Received	11	Bldg. and Repair	\$ 1,363.90
Members Dismissed	0	Literature	\$ 753.44
Members Deceased	2	Misc.	\$ 388.73

STANDING TEMPERANCE AND LITERATURE REPORT

We are thankful for the freedoms we enjoy; in speech, press, and choice. Clean reading material is recommended by this association. We encourage daily Bible study and Prayer. We recommend our members be exhorted to vote dry to all issues pertaining to alcoholic beverages.

STANDING MOTIONS AND RESOLUTIONS OF BIG SPRINGS ASSOCIATION

1. MOTION PASSED ON SEPT. 14, 1964, THAT THE CLERK PRINT CONSTITUTION AND CHURCH COVENANT IN BOOKLET FORM FOR DISTRIBUTION AS NEEDED, AND TO PRINT MINUTES IN SHEET FORM EACH YEAR.
2. RESOLUTION PASSED JUNE 1970. RESOLVED; THAT THE MODERATOR EXTEND TO MINISTERS AND DEACONS WIVES THAT ARE PRESENT, THE PRIVILEGES OF A REGULAR DELEGATE.
3. RESOLVED; THAT THE CLERK PREPARE AND MIMOGRAPH 60 COPIES OF THE MINUTES.
4. MOTION MADE AND PASSED JUNE 26, 1971, THAT THREE COMMITTEE REPORTS (OBITUARY, AUXILIARY, AND TEMPERANCE AND LITERATURE) BE DROPPED, OBITUARY AND LITERATURE REPORT IS TO BE INCLUDED IN THE MINUTES.
5. RESOLUTIONS PASSED JUNE 1978. RESOLVED; THAT WE REQUEST THE PASTORS TO INSTRUCT DELEGATES AND OTHER REPRESENTATIVES FROM THE CHURCHES, OF THE ASSOCIATIONAL ACTIVITIES.
6. RESOLVED; THAT EACH CHURCH ELECT FOUR DELEGATES AND FOUR ALTERNATES INSTEAD OF TWO, TO THE ANNUAL ASSOCIATION MEETING.
7. RESOLUTION PASSED JUNE 1979. RESOLVED; THAT INSTEAD OF THE MEMORIAL MESSAGE A TESTIMONY SERVICE BE HELD.
8. MOTION PASSED JUNE 20, 1980, THAT THE CLERK SEND A COPY OF THE MINUTES EACH YEAR TO THE FREE WILL BAPTIST HISTORICAL COMMISSION, P.O. BOX 50117, NASHVILLE, TENNESSEE 37205
9. RESOLVED; THAT THE MINISTERS LETTERS BE READ AT THE ASSOCIATIONAL MEETING, RESOLUTION PASSED MAY 1981.
10. RESOLVED; THAT THERE BE A QUARTERLY FELLOWSHIP MEETING IN ASSOCIATION NEXT YEAR.
11. RESOLVED; ASSOCIATION MEETING TO BE HELD AT AN APPOINTED TIME IN THE WEEK BEFORE THE FOURTH SUNDAY IN MAY. 1983
12. RESOLVED; THAT THE QUARTERLY MEETING BE DEDICATED TO A SPECIFIC CAUSE SUCH AS SUNDAY SCHOOL, EVANGELISM, ETC. 1983
13. RESOLVED; THAT WE EXPRESS APPRECIATION AND GRATITUDE TO THE LOCAL CHURCH, FOR THE HOSPITALITY IN THIS MEETING. 1983