

MINUTES  
OF THE 1986 SESSION  
OF THE  
BIG SPRINGS ASSOCIATION  
OF FREE WILL BAPTISTS

HELD WITH ZION FREE WILL BAPTIST CHURCH  
CLARKRIDGE, ARKANSAS  
ON FRIDAY AND SATURDAY  
JUNE 6-7

THE NEXT REGUALR SESSION WILL CONVENE WITH  
PLEASANT FLAT FREE WILL BAPTIST CHURCH  
LAKEVIEW, ARKANSAS

ON FRIDAY NIGHT JUNE 12th, 1987 AT 7:00 P.M.  
AND SATURDAY JUNE 13th, 1987 AT 10:00 A.M.

MODERATOR

HOWARD PRUITT  
RTE. 5 BOX 280  
MTN. HOME, AR 72653

ASSISTANT MODERATOR

TERRY LATHAM  
PO BOX 205  
BULL SHOALS, AR 72619

CLERK

LELA SELLERS  
CLARKRIDGE, AR 72623

## FRIDAY NIGHT SESSION

Service was opened with prayer led by the moderator, Bro. Roy Gregg. It was followed by congregational singing led by Bro. George Siler with Lela Sellers at the piano. There was special singing by Maxine Partee, Rosine Webber, and Lela Sellers. There was a testamonial service led by the moderator, followed by an altar prayer. There was more congregational singing, then the service was turned over to Bro. Howard Pruitt for the message. The text was taken from Luke 6:43-47, centering on the fact that we must live our lives so that Christ can be seen in us by the world. Charge of service was then given to the moderator who opened the invitation.

Carolyn Walker read the following letter from Davis Chapel:

Brothers and Sisters:

We the Davis Chapel Church wish to dissove our membership with the Big Springs Association as of this date June 6, 1986.

We don't feel that we are growing in the Association. There is no fellowship in the meetings and our fifth Sunday Meetings are not reaching out to the needs of our church, and not working toward saving souls. We feel a need to strive among ourselves to do the will of the Lord.

We wish to continue participating in your revivals, and any other church activities you may have and hope that you will feel welcome to come to our church at any time and especially during revivals.

Through much prayer we feel that this is the way the Lord is leading us. We continue to pray for the Association and ask that you remember us in prayer that we will grow in our faith and always seek the will of the Lord.

Bro. Roy Gregg then withdrew his membership from the Association, and turned the service over to Asst. Moderator Bro. Opie Hargrave. The congregation was then called into a bussiness session.

Movement was made and seconded to accept the resignations. Motion carried. Church letters were given to the clerk. Willia Pruitt was voted in as asst. clerk.

Bro Opie talked about old time revivals. The members from Davis Chapel Church were then called to the front for a handshake, and service was dismissed with that.

#### SATURDAY SERVICES

Service was opened with congregational singing led by Bro. George Siler, with Lela Sellers at the piano. Moderator Bro. Opie Hargraves read Matthew 7:1-5, John 7:23-24, and I Corinthians 2:12-16, then led in prayer. The meeting was called to order and delegates were seated.

PLEASANT FLAT- Maxine Partee, Marie Conley and Euna Pruitt.

ZION - Lela Sellers and Rosine Webber.

DEACONS - Keith Partee, Bay Kendall and Lee Allen Kendall.

CHURCH CLERKS - George Sellers and Willia Pruitt.

Committies were appointed by the moderator as follows:

FINANCE - Bay Kendall, Chairman, Rosine Webber, and Euna Pruitt.

RESOLUTIONS - George Siler, Chairman, Terry Latham, and Maxine Partee.

CREDENTIALS - Howard Pruitt, Chairman, Lela Sellers, and Bernice Siler.

NOMINATING - Keith Partee, Chairman, George Sellers.

Assembly was then dismissed for individual committee work.

Service resumed with congregational singing. Prayer led by Bro. Keith Partee. Service was then turned over to Bro. Terry Latham for the morning message. The theme of Bro. Latham's message was "Getting rid of the doubt in our lives. Believing and trusting that the Lord can do all things." Scriptures used came from Mark 9:20-27, and Joshua 6:15-20.

Service was turned back to Moderator. Bro. Opie Hargraves resigned as a minister of the Big Springs Association, with an exhortation to study and know the word of God.

Bro. Terry Latham took charge of the service, which was then dismissed for lunch with prayer by Bro. Howard Pruitt.

#### SATURDAY AFTERNOON SERVICE

The afternoon service began with congregational singing led by Bro. George Siler. Since the moderator, and assistant moderator resigned, Bro. George Siler, Chairman of the Executive Council, asked Bro. Howard Pruitt to act as Moderator. Bro. Pruitt requested altar prayer before entering into business quoting II Chronicles 7:14 "If my people, which are called by my name, shall humble themselves, and pray, and seek my face, and turn from their wicked ways; then will I hear from heaven, and will forgive their sin, and will heal their land."

The question of whether or not to continue the Association was put before the body, who voted to continue. Committee reports were then read and accepted.

#### FINANCE REPORT

We the Finance Committee find that the receipts for 1986 were \$35.00 from each church for a total of \$70.00. We find that \$50.00 was turned in to be sent to the State Association for fees and minutes and \$20.00 to be sent to the National Association. We request that 25 copies of the minutes be printed, and money from the Treasury be used to pay for the expenses of printing.

Bay Kendall, Chairman  
Rosine Webber  
Euna Pruitt



## CREDENTIALS COMMITTEE REPORT

We the Credentials Committee find we have 3 active deacons: Keith Partee, Marion Kendall, and Lee Allen Kendall. 1 inactive deacon - Jessie Dover. Ministers: Howard Pruitt, Terry Latham, and George Siler.

Howard Pruitt, Chairman  
Bernice Siler  
Lela Sellers

## NOMINATING COMMITTEE REPORT

We the Nominating Committee recommend Bro. Bay Kendall to finish out Bro. Dwight Partee's term, and Bro. George Siler to replace Bro. Opie Hargrave, and Bro. Lee Allen Kendall as the new member on the Executive Council. For the 1987 session, we nominate Bro. Howard Pruitt as moderator, and Bro. Terry Latham as assistant. For clerk, we nominate Lela Sellers, for the introductory message, Bro. George Siler, For Saturday's 11:00 o'clock message, Bro. Terry Latham.

Keith Partee, Chairman  
George Sellers

## RESOLUTION COMMITTEE REPORT

BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED:

1. The 11:00 o'clock service be of God's leading as opposed to Evangelism and Soul saving. Carried.
2. Each quarterly meeting be dedicated to business at hand, as opposed to a specific cause such as Sunday School, Evangelism, etc. Carried.
3. To drop the resolution stating; That each church audit their membership roles and remove the names of those that have continued to be absent for three years or more, except those unable to attend. Carried.

4. That Resolution #3 be amended to read: That the clerk prepare and mimeograph 25 copies of the minutes to be distributed as required by the Association. Carried.

George Siler, Chairman  
Terry Latham  
Maxine Partee

Exhortation was given by Bro. George Siler that we should pull together and work harder to build up our churches and the Association. Dismissed to meet with Pleasant Flat Church on June 12-13, 1987.

#### MINISTERS LETTERS

Big Springs Association of Free Will Baptists:

The past year I have worked at Pleasant Flat Free Will Baptist Church. I have delivered 52 messages. I have witnessed in the towns in which I work. I have witnessed one rededication. I have traveled at least 3000 miles in church related work. I have received from Pleasant Flat Church-\$1490.00.

Respectfully,

Howard Pruitt

Big Springs Association of Free Will Baptists:

It has been a blessing to have pastored Zion Free Will Baptist Church for the past associational year. God has really blessed us in this work. We hope to continue working in this field for the next year and we pray that God will continue to bless in our services and in our visitation so that many souls will be saved.

Respectfully,

Terry Latham

Big Springs Association of Free Will Baptists:

First I would like to apologize for not writing a letter in 1985. Due in part to circumstances beyond my control, plus a slip in memory.

In the past associational year I have preached very few sermons. However, I have been meeting with a group regularly, (which are not affiliated with any denominational church) in exhortation to walking and living in the Holy Spirit. I feel I can do more constructive work in the Kingdom of God there than I can in the churches. At least I feel they have not become hardened to the Word of God as of yet.

Therefore, having stated the above, I respectfully request a leave of absence from Big Springs Association until and if God leads me from this group.

I do not feel as though I cannot render the service that may be required of me in the churches at this time.

I earnestly ask for your continual prayers that your work and my work would somehow work together for the enlargement of the Holy Kingdom of God.

May God bless in every good work.

Respectfully,

Dwight Partee

TO BIG SPRINGS ASSOCIATION

From June 1985 to June 1986 I pastored Centerpoint Free Will Baptist Church. I recieved \$2700 in offerings and traveled 6000 miles for Sunday services, visitations, and revivals. During the year I preformed two weddings.

Respectfully,

Roy Gregg

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"For whosoever shall call upon the name of the Lord shall be saved. How then shall they call on him in whom they have not believed? And how shall they believe in him of whom they have not heard? And how shall they hear without a preacher? And how shall they preach, except they be sent? As it is written, How beautiful are the feet of them that preach the gospel of peace, and bring glad tidings of good things!" Romans 10:13-15.

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June 6, 1986

Big Springs Association

Greetings:

Summary of past years work.

In literature:

Letters sent,	Pastoral	43
	Evangelism	48
	Study commentaries	392
	Personal exhortation	4
	Political	4
Tracts distributed	100	
Articles published	1	

In teaching:

class teaching	71
Seminars	2

Directed:

Lakeside Worship	5
Nursing home worship	3
Funeral	1

Participated in:

Youth Camp	
Ministerial Alliance	
World Vision fund raising program	
"Revivals"	2

Prayer meetings	34
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Other activities:

Personal visitation	120
Exhortation	
and counselling	10
Sermons	12

No converts.

Finance:

	Receipts	Expenses
Miscelanous	\$ 95.40	\$ 187.55
Contributions	20.70	1351.14
	8000 miles @ .20	1600.00
Total	<u>\$116.10</u>	<u>\$3138.69</u>

Opie C. Hargrave



## 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 privilege of a regular delegate.
3. RESOLVED: that the clerk prepare and mimeograph 25 copies of the minutes.
4. Resolutions passed June 1978, RESOLVED: that we request the pastors to instruct delegate and other representative from the churches of associational activities.
5. RESOLVED: that each church elect four delegates and four alternates instead of two, to the annual association meeting.
6. 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, TN 37205.
7. RESOLVED: that the ministers letters be read at the Associational meeting, passed May 1981.
8. RESOLVED: that there be a quarterly fellowship meeting in Association next year.
9. RESOLVED: that the quarterly meeting be dedicated to business at hand, 1986.
10. RESOLVED: that when anyone is elected delegate or alternate delegate to our Association that they know at the time of selection that they can't attend, when delegates or alternate delegates cannot attend the Association they should inform the moderator, 1984.
11. RESOLVED: that the churches elect their delegates to the Association thirty days prior to the setting of Association and the moderator be given a list of these delegates, 1984.
12. RESOLVED: that the Moderator and Assistant Moderator select the committees from the list provided by the churches and committee members be notified prior to the setting of the Association, 1984.

13. RESOLVED: Association meeting to be held at an appointed time in the week before the second sunday in June, 1985.
14. RESOLVED: That the 11:00 service be of God's leading, 1986.
15. RESOLVED: Short memorial service such as scripture, prayer, mention of names, or moment of silence be observed, 1985.
16. RESOLVED: That the Executive counsel meet quarterly during the year, 1985.
17. RESOLVED: That we express appreciation and gratitude to Zion Church for the hospitality in this meeting.

### 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 exorted to vote dry to all issues pertaining to alcoholic beverages.

### STATISTICS 1985 - 1986

CHURCH MEMBERSHIP	44	TOTAL SPENT	\$4942.39
S.S. MEMBERSHIP	40	PASTORS SALARIES	2309.75
MEMBERS RECEIVED	1		
MEMBERS DISMISSED	2		
MEMBERS DECEASED	0		

OFFICERS OF THE BIG SPRINGS ASSOCIATION 1986-1987

MODERATOR . . . . . HOWARD PRUITT  
ASSISTANT MODERATOR . . . . . TERRY LATHAM  
CLERK . . . . . LELA SELLERS

EXECUTIVE COUNCIL

GEORGE SELLERS . . . . . 1 year  
GEORGE SILER . . . . . 2 years  
BAY KENDALL . . . . . 3 years  
HOWARD PRUITT . . . . . 4 years  
LEE ALLEN KENDALL . . . . . 5 years

MINISTERS OF ASSOCIATION

BRO. HOWARD PRUITT, RT 5 BOX 280, MTN. HOME, AR 72653  
BRO. GEORGE SILER, GAINSVILLE, MO 65655  
BRO. TERRY LATHAM, PO BOX 205, BULL SHOALS, AR 72619

CHURCH

PASTOR

CLERK

PLEASANT FLAT  
LAKEVIEW, AR 72642

HOWARD PRUITT  
RT. 5 BOX 280  
MTN. HOME, AR 72653

MARIE CONLEY  
RT. 8 BOX 233  
MTN. HOME, AR 72653

ZION  
CLARKRIDGE, AR 72623

TERRY LATHAM  
PO BOX 205  
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