

84

MINUTES
OF THE
Eighty **Sixth Annual Session**
OF THE
CHATTAHOOCHEE
United Free-Will Baptist
ASSOCIATION

CONVENED WITH
LITTLE BETHEL CHURCH

Macon County, Georgia

**Commencing on Thursday Night Before the First
Sunday in October, 1921.**

OFFICERS:

REV. H. L. LUMPKIN, Moderator, _____ **Mauk, Ga.**
REV. W. D. GILL, Clerk, _____ **Junction City, Ga.**

The Next Session Will Meet With Providence
Muscookee County Georgia, Commencing on Thursday
Night Before the First Sunday in October, 1922.

HERALD PRINT, BUTLER, GA..
November, 1921.

CHURCH LETTER.

From _____ Church _____ County, Ga
To the members and messengers composing the Chattahoochee
United Free Will Baptist Association to convene with _____
Church _____ County,

We have called Bro. _____ for our pastor for the
ensuing year. Spiritual condition of the church _____
Time of meeting _____ Sunday, Served by Rev. _____
We send as representatives _____ Received by
letter _____; received by profession of faith _____;
received by experience _____; number expelled _____;
dismissed by letter _____; paid for minutes _____;
paid for correspondence _____; paid for building and repairing
churches _____; ordained ministers _____; P. O. _____;
total membership of church _____; number who have died _____
day of _____.

This done by order of the church in conference this _____
_____ Church Clerk, P. O. _____
_____ Moderator, P. O. _____

ORDER OF BUSINESS OF UNION MEETINGS.

1. The body called to order by the Moderator if he is present,
if not the body may select some suitable member to act
as Moderator, pro tem.
3. Election of Moderator and Clerk.
4. Invite visiting brethren to seats.
5. Appointment of committees.
6. Call for correspondent.
7. Appointment of correspondents.
8. Appoint time and place of holding next session.
9. Call for reports of committees.
10. Call for miscellaneous business.
11. Call for reading and adopting minutes.
12. Adjournment.

MINUTES.

The Eighty-Sixth Annual Session of the Chattahoochee United Freewill Baptist Association convened with Little Bethel Church, Macon County, Ga., commencing on Thursday night before the first Sunday in October 1921. The introductory sermon was preached Friday at 11:00 o'clock by Rev. H. L. Lumpkin.

After an intermission of one hour and half for refreshments the body was called to order by the former Moderator, Rev. A. J. Parker.

Next invited visiting brethren to seats with us in the body.

The next business in order was a call for Corresponding Letters and received letters from fourteen churches in the Association. On motion of the body Bros. H. L. Lumpkin and G. D. Perry were appointed to read the letters which duty they performed and the names of Delegates enrolled.

The Body was then permanently organized by electing Rev. H. L. Lumpkin Moderator, and Rev. W. D. Gill Clerk.

Next appointed the various committees as follows:

On Preaching,—R. N. McInvale, W. H. Stalnaker, R. H. Hamilton, B. Tomblin and J. H. Dunlap.

On State of the Churches and Character of the Ministry,—John Watson, E. L. Corley, G. D. Perry, M. E. Tomblin and J. H. Little.

On Finance,—W. H. Emerson, A. J. Parker and J. V. Klosser.

On Sabbath Schools,—J. M. Fuller, W. R. Lawhorn, and T. F. Hendricks.

On Temperance,—A. J. Parker, J. J. Jones and G. W. Lancaster.

Next called for Petitionary Letters and received one from Oak Grove Church, Chattahoochee County.

Next called for Corresponding Messengers and received Bro. W. O. Lanford from the Georgia Union and Rev. J. D. Little and B. O. Brown from the Little River Association.

On motion the Body adjourned until 8:30 o'clock Saturday A. M. Prayer by Bro. W. H. Hamilton.

SECOND DAY'S SESSION.

Saturday morning at 8:30 the body met according to adjournment. Singing and prayer by Rev. W. R. Lawhorn.

Next received Letters and Delegates from Pleasant Hill Church

REPORTS OF COMMITTEES

ON PREACHING.

Friday at 7:30 p. m. Rev. E. C. Grimsley to preach; T. F. Guinn to follow.

Saturday at 11:00 o'clock Rev. C. H. Moore to preach; W. T. Grimsley to follow.

Saturday at 3:30 p. m., Rev. W. R. Lawhorn to preach; W. N. Pruitt to follow.

Saturday at 7:30 p. m. Rev. J. D. Little to preach; D. E. Greene to follow.

Sunday at 9:30 a. m. Rev. J. J. Jones to preach; Rev. J. V. Klosser to follow.

Sunday at 11:00 o'clock Rev. A. J. Parker to preach.

R. N. McINVALE, Chairman.

ON SABBATH SCHOOLS.

We, your Committee, make the following report: We find only four Sabbath Schools in the Association. We recommend that each pastor and church official strive to organize a Sabbath School in every church as we believe it is a good work.

T. F. HENDRICK, Chairman.

ON TEMPERANCE.

We your Committee beg to submit the following report: We note with gratitude that the spirit of sobriety is increasing in the bounds of our Association amongst our brethren and intemperance with its withering, blighting effects are decaying and gradually disappearing from our churches insofar. We commend our brethren for their persistent efforts to promote Temperance and we pray and insist that every member of all the churches in the Chattahoochee Association use all the honorable means in their power to suppress the illegal and unlawful manufacture and sale and use of intoxicating drinks.

Rev. A. J. PARKER, Chairman.

ON FINANCE.

We, your committee, find paid in for Minutes and Correspondence \$92.25. We find in the hands of the Treasurer \$16.45. total on hand \$108.70.

W. H. EMERSON, Chairman.

ON STATE OF THE CHURCHES AND CHARACTER OF THE MINISTERS.

We find Mt. Olive church is out of order. We find it divided and have called a pastor illegal and we recommend that they settle that between themselves we also find that Bro. W. B. Posey is out of order by disorderly conduct and we recommend that his name be dropped from the roll. We also find that the charges brought against Bro. W. H. Emerson in this body one year ago were investigated by his church and he was found not guilty of the charge.

G. D. PERRY, Chairman.

MISCELLANEOUS BUSINESS.

Appointed corresponding messengers to our sister Associations as follows:

To the Georgia Union, Revs. A. J. Parker, W. R. Lawhorn.

To the Little River, Bros. J H Little and G A Plymale.

South Georgia, Rev A. J. Parker..

To the Midway, Rev. W. H. Emerson.

Next appointed as delegates to the State Convention, Revs. E. C. Grimsley, H. L. Lumpkin.

By motion the body adjourned until 1:30 p. m.

AFTERNOON SESSION..

At 1:30 p. m. the body met according to adjournment after singing and prayer by Rev. J. V. Klosser

By motion of the body Rev W. D Gill was appointed to write the next circular letter to this body.

Next agreed to pay the expenses of our Correspondents which was \$25.65.

Next agreed that this body meet with Providence church Muscogee, County, Ga., commencing on Thursday night before first Sunday in October 1922 and that Rev. W. H. Emerson preach the Introductory Sermon Friday at 11:00 o'clock a. m., Rev D. E Greene alternate.

Delegates going by Railroad will be met at Columbus, Ga., on Thursday and also the early trains Friday morning.

Next appointed the same Executive Committee.

Next agreed that the Clerk have 600 copies of the minutes printed and that he be paid \$15.00 for his services.

By motion the body returned thanks to the church and community for their kindness and hospitalities during this session of the Association.

After singing and prayer by the Moderator the body adjourn

ed to meet with Providence church twelve months hence.

REV. H. L. LUMPKIN, Moderator.

REV. W. D. GILL, Clerk.

OBITUARIES.

IN MEMORY OF SISTER STELLA CLIFFORD WHITE.

We as members of New Prospect church do hereby offer our condolence to the bereaved father and all relatives in the loss of sister White who departed this life on June the 16th 1921 and succumbed to the common enemy of all mankind. Her friendship and fellowship were desirable and admirable. Whereas, we feel her loss from our fellowship and believe that our loss is her great good and eternal gain. We believe that Sister White died in the full triumph of a Christian faith and is now enjoying the realities of the heavenly bliss.

REV. S. N. LITTLE.

SISTER FRANCIS R. WATSON.

Departed this life June the 29th 1921, Sister Francis R. Watson. She was born January the 27th 1834, making her stay on earth 87 years five months and three days. She leaves four daughters and three sons and a host of relatives and friends to mourn their loss. She was a member of Trinity church for many years. She was a good mother and to know her was to love her. She lived as all Christians, live and died as all Christians die. We feel a great loss yet our loss is Heavens gain so we can only say:

Dearest sister thou hast left us, Thy loss we deeply feel.

But 'tis God who hath bereft us, He can all our sorrow heal.
Yet again we hope to meet thee, when the day of life is fled.

Then in Heaven with joy to greet thee, where no farewell tear is shed.

REV. E. C. GRIMSLEY.

BRO. G. W. FULFORD.

Departed this life January the 28th 1921 Bro. G. W. Fulford. He was born March the 24th 1868 making his stay on earth 53 years and 28 days. He leaves a wife and six children to mourn their loss. He was a member of Pleasant Hill church and while we mourn our loss we feel it is heaven's gain.

REV. E. C. GRIMSLEY.

BRO. P. F. TURNER.

Departed this life February the 5th 1921 Bro. P. F. Turner. Bro. Turner was born July the 13th 1854 making his stay on earth about 77 years for a number of years had been a Chris-

tian and faithful member of New Prospect church, Taylor county, Ga., Bro. Turner leaves a number of relatives and a host of sorrowing friends to mourn their loss. Farewell Bro. till we meet in that sweet by and by.

REV. A. L. LANE.

IN MEMORY OF SISTER McCARTY

In memory of Sister McCarty born March the 16th 1839 died December the 20th 1920. Sister McCarty was near 82 years old at the time of her death. She leaves a broken hearted husband several children, 58 grand children, 26 great grand children, to mourn their loss, yet we feel that our loss is her gain. Sister McCarty was a consistent member of the Freewill Baptist church for about 40 years. She is not only missed in her home but in her church also. Oh may we all prepare to meet her in Heaven. Farewell Sister till we meet again.

REV. W. H. EMERSON.

BRO. A. H. WINDHAM.

Departed this life October the 15th 1920 our beloved Bro. A. H. Windham. Bro. Windham was a consistent member of the Mt. Olive church, Taylor County, Ga. He was 68 years of age and had been a member of Mt. Olive church 20 years. He died as he lived in the triumphs of a living faith and has gone to reap his reward. He was a devoted husband, a loving father, a generous neighbor and an exemplary member of Mt. Olive church. Farewell Bro. until we meet again.

REV. A. J. PARKER.

BRO. J. J. MULLINS.

Departed this life November the 13th 1920 Bro J. J. Mullins. He was 74 years of age and had been a member of Mt. Olive Freewill Baptist church about 30 years. Bro. Jessie, as we called him, was a whole hearted consecrated christian, ever willing to spend and be spent for the cause he loved. He was a devoted husband, a loving father, a generous and obliging neighbor, an exemplary Christian. He died as he lived in the triumphs of a living faith and has gone to reap his reward. Farewell Bro. Jessie until we meet again.

REV. A. J. PARKER,

CIRCULAR LETTER.

Dear Brethren: It has pleased God for me to address you with a circular letter in Galatians 6:4 verse as follows: "But Let every man prove his own work with the promise of having rejoicing in himself alone and not in another." Well how do we prove our own work by the pattern the rule the word of God let us prove our work by teaching the children in Sunday School and by so doing we may bring them up in the way that they should go and they will not depart from it when they are old. Let us prove our own work by using prayer meeting. Remember the words of Christ have said "Not every one that saith Lord Lord shall enter into the kingdom of Heaven but he that doeth the will of my father which is in heaven" Matthew 7:21. So you see we must prove our own work, doing what we are commanded to do. The parable of the Talents teaches us that the measure of man's ability to do his duty to God unless our whole energies are exerted in the work of the church we are left out side the promises of God and if we are slumbering and sleeping we may come up without oil in our vessels. Brethren let us strive to know our duty and prove our own work.

Yours in Love,

REV. E. C. GRIMSLEY.

PROCEEDINGS OF UNION MEETINGS.

The Union meeting of the First District met with Beulah church, Taylor County, Ga., commencing on Friday before the third Sunday in August 1921 the Introductory sermon was preached Saturday at 11:00 o'clock a. m. by Rev. E. H. Moore. After 90 minutes for refreshments the body was called to order by Rev. J. J. Jones. Next called for and received letters from the various churches in the District. The body then organized by electing Rev. J. J. Jones, Moderator and Rev. D. E. Green, Clerk. Next appointed committees On Preaching, G. D. Perry, W. J. Mullins. E. J. Waniwright. A. R. Lawhorn. On Recommendation, G. D. Perry, J. H. Dunlap, W. R. Lawhorn. G. A. Plymale, F. L. Raburn, W. H. Cromer,

REPORTS OF COMMITTEES.

Rev. B. F. Greene to preach to-night, Rev. A. L. Laneto follow; Sunday at 9:00 o'clock Rev. S. A. Cromer to preach, Rev. G. A. Plymale to follow; Sunday at 11:00 o'clock Rev. D. E. Greene to preach, Rev. J. J. Jones to follow.

We, the committee, recommend that each church, when any envious feelings exist among preachers, use their best efforts to

abolish any such feelings. We also recommend that our union meetings take up the service of communion and washing feet at the last service as was our custom in the past.

By motion it was agreed that this body meet with Pleasant Hill church, Schley County, Ga., commencing on Friday night before the first Sunday in August 1922, Rev. A. L. Lane to preach the Introductory sermon Saturday at 11:00 o'clock, Rev W. R. Lawhorn, alternate.

Delegates going by railroad will be met at Rupert, Ga., on Friday.

REV. J. J. JONES, Moderator.

REV. D. E. GREENE, Clerk.

The Union meeting of the Second District met with New Life church, Macon County, Ga., commencing on Friday night before the third Sunday in July, 1921. The Introductory sermon was preached Saturday at 11:00 o'clock a. m. by Rev. W. J. Lumpkin. After 90 minutes for refreshments the body was called to order by the former Moderator, Rev. E. C. Grimsley. Next called for and received letters from the various churches in the District. The body then organized by electing Rev. Grimsley Moderator and Rev B. F. Greene, Clerk. Next appointed the various committees. Next called for Correspondents and received Bro. G. D. Perry from the First District. Next appointed Revs. H. L. Lumpkin and W. D. Gill as correspondents to the first District Union meeting.

By motion it was agreed that this body meet with Trinity church, Taylor County, Ga., commencing on Friday night before the fourth Sunday in July 1922. Rev H. L. Lumpkin to preach the Introductory sermon, Saturday at 11:00 o'clock a. m.

Delegates going by railroads will be met at Charing and Mauk, Ga., on Friday.

Next received and adopted reports of committees.

Motion made and carried that we pay the Clerk \$2.85 for his services.

REV. E. C. GRIMSLEY, Moderator.

REV. B F. GREENE, Clerk

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE.

G. D. Perry, Ideal, Ga.; A. R. Lawhorn, Butler, Ga.; A D Foster, Mauk, Ga.

CHURCHES CLERKS AND POSTOFFICES

Trinity, Buford Watson, -----	Charing, Ga
Liberty Chapel, W. H. Bossman, -----	Macon, Ga
Peaceant Hill, J. W. Brewer -----	Rupert, Ga.
New Prospect, A. B. Posey, -----	Reynolds, Ga
Little Bethel, R. N. McInvale -----	Ideal, Ga.
New Prospect, G. C. King, -----	Shingler, Ga.
Beulah, A. R. Lawhorn, -----	Butler, Ga
Bethony, John Grimsley, -----	Geneva, Ga
Turner's Chapel, Miss Alice Wainwright -----	Butler, Ga.
Bethel, C. M. Mosley, -----	Warwick, Ga.
Mt. Olive, W. J. Mullins -----	Reynolds, Ga.
New Life, A. D. Foster -----	Mauk, Ga.
Spring Hill, S. R. Lawhorn, -----	Buena Vista, Ga.
Province, J. M. Tomblin, -----	Columbus, Ga
Phoenix City, W. B. McDaniel, -----	Phoenix City, Ala.
Oak Grove, H. Faucyth, -----	Box Springs, Ga.

MINISTERIAL ROLL.

Rev. W. M. Sherley, -----	Macon, Ga
Rev. C. W. Richardson, -----	Forsyth, Ga.
Rev. D. E. Green, -----	Ideal, Ga
Rev. J. J. Jones, -----	Ideal, Ga
Rev. B. F. Green, -----	Mauk, Ga
Rev. W. J. Lumpkin, -----	Mauk, Ga
Rev. E. C. Grimsley, -----	Mauk, Ga
Rev. W. T. Lovick, -----	Reynolds, Ga
Rev. W. D. Gill, -----	Junction City, Ga
Rev. W. H. Emerson, -----	Butler, Ga
Rev. H. L. Lumpkin, -----	Mauk, Ga
Rev. A. J. Parker, -----	Ellaville, Ga
Rev. S. N. Little, -----	Ashburn, Ga
Rev. W. B. Posey, -----	Butler, Ga
Rev. J. V. Klosser, -----	Reynolds, Ga
Rev. A. L. Lane, -----	Charing, Ga
Rev. O. C. Bridges, -----	Cordele, Ga.
Rev. W. R. Lawhorn, -----	Butler, Ga
Rev. W. T. Grimsley, -----	Mauk, Ga
C. H. Moore, -----	Reynolds, Ga.
W. C. Jones, -----	1018 Elm St., Macon, Ga

LICENTIATES.

D. G. Belknap, -----	Crump's Park, Ga
S. A. Cromer, -----	Ellaville, Ga
E. J. Wade, -----	Warwick, Ga
G. A. Plymale, -----	Reynolds, Ga
W. N. Pruitt, -----	Ashburn, Ga.
J. F. Gwynn -----	Butler, Ga.

CHURCH ORGANIZATION.

Preliminaries. When several believers wish to be organized into a church, they request a council from some sister church. This council or committee (commonly called an arm) examines into the Christian character, doctrine and fellowship of the applicants, and their ability to sustain a church. If the examination is satisfactory, the organization proceeds as follows:

The Bible is presented as the only rule of faith and practice. A church covenant is read and adopted. A prayer of consecration is offered. The hand of fellowship is given. The church then proceeds to elect its officers, which are a clerk, a treasurer, a pastor, and a board of directors, who constitute, with the pastor, a committee to promote order, activity, attendance, and the means of grace, benevolence, and sufficient discipline in the church. Deacons should possess sound piety, good business capacity and large benevolence. They hold office at the pleasure of the church. They assist in baptism and the Lord's Supper, have care of the poor, and conduct religious meetings in the absence of the pastor.

CONSTITUTION.

Resolved, That we form an association upon the principles laid down in the Holy Scriptures, to-wit: Associations appear from Scripture and ecclesiastical history to have been originally formed, not from any positive injunction, either from Christ or His Apostles, but from mere expediency for the purpose of concentrating the efforts of individual churches and bringing them to bear with greater energy upon the subjects designed to be accomplished by those churches. They were also considered as advisory council, and resorted to as such, but never claimed any right of lording it over God's heritage, nor was their advice considered binding on the churches. In a word, associations were wholly dependent on churches, and churches were not dependent upon associations, and notwithstanding the power abrogated to themselves by some modern Baptist associations, we view them as being nowhere preceded by the primitive usages of any self-created bodies.

We, the delegates from our respective churches, being authorized by our churches, to agree to form ourselves into an association, to be known by the name of the Chattahoochee United Free Will Baptist Association, and we promise not to withdraw ourselves from this association without first stating our reasons to the body for such intended withdrawal.

It is proposed by the association, first to promote revivals of religion by camp and protracted meetings. Secondly, to take an active part in Home Missions. It is not intended by this association to discuss queries. It is not the design of this association to interfere in any way with the independence of churches composing it. It was not intended to establish creeds, rules of discipline, or make any law whatever to bind the churches, but to leave each church to regulate its own affairs.

We, as an association, take the Old and New Testaments as

our confession of faith, as relates to the independency.

We believe that a duly organized church consists of a congregation of saints baptized upon a creditable profession of faith in Christ. Christ is the only Christian lawgiver and supreme head of the churches, and the word of God the only infallible rule of faith and practice. Every man has an inalienable right to private judgment in concerns of religion, and an equal right to express his opinion in any way which will not violate the laws of God or the rights of his fellow man.

A church has a right to adopt such measures only as are in accordance with the Word of God, and such are deemed necessary to carry into effect the great system of practice.

The church is the highest ecclesiastical tribunal on earth, from whose decision there is no appeal.

No change, alteration or amendment shall be made to this constitution until such change, alteration or amendment shall have been presented to all the churches composing this association, and when two-thirds of all the churches composing this association shall have adopted or recommended in two of their regular conferences successively such change, alteration or amendment, it shall then become a part and parcel of this constitution.

Read and adopted the above as the constitution of the Chattahoochee United Free Will Baptist Association.

CHURCH DECORUM.

1. The church may choose a pastor annually at the last regular conference in the associational year; or, if they prefer, it may choose a pastor for an indefinite length of time to continue from year to year, so long as they may deem it proper to keep up the connection.

2. When it becomes necessary, a pastor may be chosen at any other time; but if the choice be made at a special conference, the time must be appointed at a monthly meeting of the church.

3. The pastor shall be moderator of the church, but when he is absent or does not sit as moderator, some suitable brother shall be appointed to sit in his place.

4. There shall be two or more deacons in the church whose duty it shall be to superintend the collection and disbursement of the contributions made by the church for the pastor, etc., and to distribute the bread and wine in the administration of the Lord's Supper.

5. The deacons shall take notice of such members as refuse or neglect to partake of the Lord's Supper and endeavor to ascertain the cause, that the same may be laid before the church in conference if necessary.

6. Some suitable member shall be appointed clerk and it shall be his duty to do all the recording and other writing pertaining to the business of the church, and to preserve a file of the minutes of the association.

7. When a new clerk is appointed, all the books, etc., belonging to the clerk shall be immediately delivered to him by

his predecessor.

8. When it becomes necessary, a committee of not less than three male members well acquainted with business, shall be appointed, whose duty it shall be to give advice to brethren who apply to them relative to cases of dealing, etc., with the church.

9. The church shall hold a two days meeting monthly, embracing Saturday and the Lord's Day following, the first of which shall be the regular time of conference.

10. It shall be the duty of every member, male and female, to attend each conference meeting if they can, for on that day the pastor is expected to instruct the church in spiritual manner by giving plain and pointed lessons on doctrine, discipline and the rule of holy living.

11. Any male member who shall fail to attend three successive conferences, and any member whatever who may be generally remiss in attending the meetings of the church according to the covenant (Article 10), shall be cited to appear in conference and answer for his neglect, but the church may exempt members from this rule if necessary.

12. Conferences shall be opened and conducted as follows:

1. Prayer (unless divine service has just been conducted and generally then). 2. Invite visiting brethren to seats. 3. Open the door for the reception of members. 4. Call for absentees. 5. For acknowledgements. 6. For references or deferred business. 7. For matters of dealing which are in order to come before the church. 8. Miscellaneous business.

13. Visiting brethren, as helps called in from sister churches, shall be allowed to speak and make motions or seconds, but not allowed to vote.

14. Any orderly member of the Baptist church who does not hold this church in membership, may be received into the church without a letter, when it is made apparent that his Christian character is unimpeachable, and that he has applied for a letter and could not obtain it because he desired to join this or some sister church. All other members must join by letter or baptism.

15. No member shall be received without the unanimous consent of the members present, but unreasonable objections shall not be valid, and unless withdrawn the member who makes them shall be liable to be taken under dealing by the church.

16. When the moderator calls for absentees, the clerk shall inform the church that members have been absent for three successive conferences, and the moderator shall appoint some brother or brethren to cite each of them to the next conference.

17. No member shall be expelled unless he has been cited verbally or in writing, to attend his trial; provided his residence be known to the church.

18. When a witness, not a member of the church, is introduced, he shall not be examined till the question has been put to the church: "Will you hear the testimony of this witness?"

19. The evidence in every case of dealing and acknowledgment shall be minuted in the church book.

20. Members dismissed from the church by letter who be-

some disorderly, or continue to hold their letters without a good reason, shall be cited to the conference to answer for their conduct.

21. Expelled members may be restored to fellowship on their petition if their walk since expulsion has convinced the church that they have sincerely repented of their former evil.

22. A vote shall not be taken on any question without a move and a second, and in all important questions the vote shall be taken by rising on their feet.

23. No other motion shall be considered while a previous motion and second is before the conference.

24. It shall be considered disorderly for a member to absent himself from conference when an important question is to be decided; but a member upon his request, may be excused by the church from voting on either side in peculiar cases.

25. No member shall leave the house during conference without a sufficient cause nor engage in conversation or whispering without being subject to be called to order by the moderator.

26. All discussions in conference must be conducted with calmness and good feeling; those who speak must rise to their feet and address the moderator, and keep to the point in debate.

27. No one shall speak more than three times on the same motion without permission from the moderator, nor shall the remarks of any one be unreasonably long.

28. When the moderator speaks he must nominate some brother in his stead.

29. No one shall be interrupted while speaking unless it be necessary to call the speaker to order.

30. It shall be the rule of the church to attend to the administration of the Lord's Supper at least four times a year, and the expenses are to be paid by the church.

31. Members not in good standing shall not commune, but the administration shall not be deferred on account of any ordinary matter of dealing.

32. Feet washing shall be attended to as the church sees proper.

33. Public fasting, humiliation and prayer shall be observed on proper occasions.

34. This decorum may be amended or altered by the vote of two-thirds of the members present at any two successive monthly meetings.

GOVERNMENT AND ORDINANCES.

1. We believe that a Gospel Church, or a church of Christ, is a congregation of Christians constituted and governed according to the rules laid down in the New Testament.

2. That those rules require churches to preserve the form of government and the ordinances of the first Christian churches and to be composed of baptized believers in Christ.

3. That the visible church as the aggregate or whole-number of Gospel churches, and that the invisible church is composed of the redeemed now in heaven, and of such Christians on earth as are not attached to the visible church, according to the Gospel rules.

4. That the establishment of a central or catholic government over the visible church, or any part thereof, is a devise of earthly ambition repugnant to the Word of God, subservient to the churches and dangerous to the liberty of men.

5. The Gospel churches are the only ecclesiastical bodies or tribunals authorized by the Scriptures; that each church has the unrestricted right to administer its own government without supervision or interference, being under Christ essentially, independent and absolute; and that if this right be surrendered to a superintending jurisdiction by delegation or otherwise, the assembly ceases to be a Gospel church.

6. That churches may nevertheless, we suppose, meet by delegates, form an association and declare the terms upon which they will keep up the correspondence; but that the rights and authority of churches being inalienable, or in no wise compromised or hindered by entering into an association, and therefore an association has no authority over churches or individuals, their only power being to transact business which does not pertain to churches in their ecclesiastical capacity; to promote mutual intercourse, and a concentration of voluntary effort, and to give that advice to churches which might with equal authority be given by any individual.

7. That the authority of the churches is designed for the perpetuation of the true religion of the Gospel, and for the preservation of a true and orderly body of Christians on earth; that it is fully sufficient for the purpose intended, but that it does not extend to persons, property or the consciences of men in any manner whatever.

8. That the only requisites to church membership are faith in Christ and obedience to the Gospel; that faith in Christ necessarily exists in connection with the belief in the fundamental truths of Christianity, and that to prescribe any other requisite of such membership is an assumption of authority on the part of the church and a departure from the Gospel plan.

9. That the officers of a church are elders and deacons; that the elders are also called bishops or pastors; and all the elders are equal in rank, though they may perform different functions—since some may be the bishops or pastors of particular churches, while others may be simply elders, having no pastoral charge.

10. That the authority of a minister of the Gospel extends to teaching, exhortation and rebuke, but no further; that he cannot perform any acts that belong to the authority of the church—such as the reception of members into the church compact, or the expulsion of offenders; that as a member of the church, he is no more than any other member, and if he is guilty of transgression he is to be brought to trial before his brethren and convicted or acquitted in the same manner as if he was a private person; yet we think it prudent to call in advisory help, especially if the minister is to be tried upon a charge of heresy.

11. That Christian baptism is the immersion of a believer in water, in the name of the Father, and of the Son and of the Holy Ghost.

12. That the Lord's Supper and washing the saints' feet are ordinances to be observed in the church until the Lord comes.

13. That elders and deacons must be set apart to their office by ordination, or the imposition of the hands of the presbytery and prayer, without which they are not authorized to administer the ordinances pertaining to their respective offices.

14. No preacher shall be ordained unless called to take charge of a church as pastor, or for some other good and sufficient reason.

ARTICLES OF FAITH AND DOCTRINAL VIEWS

1. We believe that the Holy Bible was written by men divinely inspired and is a treasure of heavenly instruction; that it has God for its author, salvation for its end, the truth without any mixture of error for its matter; that it reveals the principles by which God will judge us, and therefore it shall remain with us to the end of time the true center of Christian union and the supreme standard to which all human conduct and opinions conform.—Rev. 13:14; John 5:39.

That there is one true and living God, whose name is Jehovah, the maker and ruler of heaven and earth, inexpressible glorious in holiness, worthy of all possible honor, confidence and love, revealed in the personal distinction of Father, Son and Holy Ghost, equal in every divine perfection, and executing distinct but harmonious offices in the great work of redemption.—Ex. 6:3; Psa. 33:18.

3. That man was created in a state of holiness under the law of his maker, but by voluntary transgression fell from that holy and happy state, in consequence of which men are now sinners, not by constraint, but by choice, being by nature utterly devoid of holiness required by the law of God, wholly given to the gratification of the world, of Satan and their own sinful passions, and therefore are under just condemnation to eternal ruin without defense or excuse.—Gen. 1:27, 2:7, 3:6, 19, 23.

4. That the salvation of sinners is wholly of grace, through the mediatorial office of the Son of God, who took upon himself our nature, yet without sin, honored the law by his own personal obedience, and made atonement for sin by his death;

being risen from the dead, he is now enthroned in heaven, and uniting in his wonderful person the tenderest sympathies with divine perfection in every way qualified to be suitable, compassionate and all sufficient Savior.—Eph. 2:5, 5:8, Rom. 7:11.

5. That the Gospel blessings which Christ in his fullness bestows on such as believe in him, is justification. That this justification consists in the pardon of sin and promise of eternal life, upon principles of righteousness; that it is bestowed not in consideration of anything we do, but solely through his own righteousness and atonement, and that it brings us into a state of most blessed peace and favor with God.—Rom. 8:30, Ezek. 18:28; John 3:14, 16, Rom. 8:17.

6. That the blessings of salvation are made free to all by the Gospel; that it is the immediate duty of all to receive them by a cordial and obedient faith and that nothing prevents the salvation of the greatest sinner upon earth, but his own voluntary refusal to submit to the Lord Jesus Christ, which refusal will subject him to an aggravated condemnation.—Mark 16:16, John 17:20; Isa. 20.

7. That in order to be saved we must be regenerated, or obedience to the Gospel; and that its evidence is found in the holy fruits which we bring forth to God.—John 3:3-8, Matt. 3:8-10.

8. That election is the gracious purpose of God, according to which he regenerates, sanctifies and saves sinners, it being perfectly consistent with the free agency of man, that it comprehends all means with the end; that it is a glorious display of God's goodness, being infinitely wise, holy, unchangeable; born again; that regeneration consists of giving a holy disposition to the mind and is affected in a manner above our comprehension by the power of the Holy Spirit, producing voluntary that it utterly excludes boasting and promotes humility, prayer, praise, trust in God and active imitation of his free mercy, that it encourages the use of means in the highest degree; that it is the foundation of Christian assurance, and that to ascertain it with regard to ourselves, demands and deserves our utmost diligence.

9. That the preserving attachments of true believers to Christ is the grand mark which distinguishes them from superficial possessors; that a special Providence watches over their welfare, and that they are kept by the power of God through faith unto salvation.—Eph. 1:1-2.

10. That the law of God is the eternal, unchangeable rule of his Government; that it is holy, just and good; that the inability which the Scriptures ascribe to fallen man to fulfill its precepts, arises entirely from his love of sin; to deliver him through a mediator to unfeigned obedience to the holy law, is one design of the Gospel and of the means of grace connected with the establishment of the visible church.—Matt. 5:13, Luke 10:13-20, 14:17.

11. That the first day of the week is the Lord's day, or Christian Sabbath; that it should be kept sacred to religious purposes by abstaining from all secular labor and recreation;

by the direct observance of all means of grace, both public and private, and preparation for that rest which remains for the children of God.—Ex. 19:8, Heb. 4:9, Thess. 1:7, Psa. 16:9.

12. That civil government is of divine appointment for the interest and good order of human society, that magistrates are to be prayed for conscientiously, honored and obeyed in all things not contrary to the will of our Lord Jesus Christ, who is the Lord of the conscience and Prince of the kings on earth.—Ex. 23:7, Acts 23:5, Tim. 5:17.

13. That there is a radical and essential difference between the righteous and the wicked; that such only as are justified by faith in the name of the Lord Jesus, and sanctified by the Spirit of God are truly righteous in his esteem, while such as continue in impenitence and in unbelief, are in his sight wicked and under this curse, and this distinction holds good among men both in and after death.—Matt. 25:46; Mark 16:16.

14. That the end of this world is approaching, when Christ will descend from heaven and raise the dead from their graves to final retribution; that a solemn separation will then take place, the righteous being adjudged to everlasting happiness, and the wicked to endless punishment, and this judgment will fix forever the final state of man in heaven or hell, on principles of righteousness.—John 5:25, Matt. 25:34:41:46.

STATISTICAL TABLE

CHURCHES	COUNTIES	DELEGATES:	PASTORS	Baptized	Died	Rec'd by Letter	Dis. by Letter	Excluded	Total	Minute Fund
New Life -----	Marion -----	S. Daniel, J. W. Daniel, A. D. Foster -----	H. L. Lumpkin	1	---	1	1	73	\$ 5.00	
Mt. Olive -----	Taylor -----	G. B. Windham, C. V. Blair J. H. Merritt -----	A. J. Parker	19	2	2	7	129	10.00	
Spring Hill -----	Marion -----	T. F. Hendrick, G. W. Lancaster, R. H. Hamilton -----	W. H. Emerson	---	---	---	---	45	5.00	
Turner's Chapel -----	Taylor -----	E. J. Wainwright, H. S. Moore, J. H. Dunlap -----	C. H. Moore	1	2	11	84	6.50		
Providence -----	Muscogee -----	Fate Parto and Elwood Tomblin -----	H. L. Lumpkin	16	1	1	---	114	10.00	
Beulah -----	Taylor -----	A. R. Lawhorn, J. G. Hill -----	J. J. Jones	---	1	---	4	37	3.00	
Bethany -----	Marion -----	E. I. Corley, J. Grimsley, H. Grimsley -----	W. J. Lumpkin	1	---	2	---	55	5.00	
New Prospect -----	Turner -----	J. A. Little, T. J. Little, W. M. Pruett -----	L. S. Yates	17	1	1	---	145	12.00	
Liberty Church -----	Bibb -----	By Letters -----	W. C. Jones	---	---	---	3	41	5.00	
Trinity -----	Taylor -----	John Watson, B. F. Waller -----	E. C. Grimsley	---	---	---	1	30	4.00	
Little Bethel -----	Macon -----	G. D. Perry, F. L. Rayburn, R. N. McInvale -----	H. L. Lumpkin	17	1	1	5	127	12.00	
Phoenix City -----	Lee-Ala. -----	Jas. Fuller -----	W. T. Grimsley	---	2	1	4	21	3.00	
Bethel -----	Worth -----	By Letters -----	E. J. Wade	---	---	1	2	27	3.00	
New Prospect -----	Taylor -----	D. Moore -----	A. L. Lane	---	1	---	---	43	4.00	
Oak Grove -----	Chattahoochee -----	Walter Jones -----	W. T. Grimsley	---	---	---	---	10	1.00	
Pleasant Hill -----	Schley -----	J. W. Brewer, J. T. Guy, W. L. Smith -----	E. C. Grimsley	---	1	3	1	---	1.50	