# MINUTES

OF THE

# FIRST ANNUAL SESSION

OF THE CONSOLIDATED

# EUREKA and ROBERTS McGEE ASSOCIATION

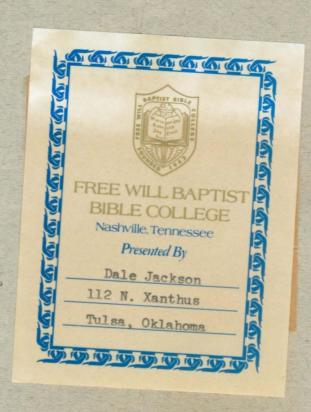
OF THE

# FREE WILL BAPTIST CHURCH OF GOD

Convened with the Mountain View Church Saturday Night before the First Sunday in September, A. D. 1918

The next Association will be held with the Harmony Grove Church, six miles northwest of Spiro, Okla., beginning Thursday Night before the First Sunday in September, 1919; Elder J. M. Roberts to Preach the Introductory Sermon, T. O. Barnes, Alt.

Elder J. M. Roberts,	Moderator
Elder T. M. Arnold,	Assistant Moderator
J. C. Smith,	Clerk
J. C. Nuby	Assistant Clerk



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#### PREAMBLE OF CHURCH CONFERENCE.

- 1. Song and prayer.
- 2. Call Church into Conference.
- 3. Invite visiting Bretheren and Sisters to seats in conference.
- 4. Read Minutes of last Conference and take up all unfinished business.
- 5. Call for peace of Church, answering by giving right hand of fellowship.
  - 6. Invitation for members.
  - 7. Is any member sick or in distress?
  - 8. New business.
  - 9. Motion to adjourn.

#### ORDER OF BUSINESS.

- 1. Read letters from the Churches.
- 2. Election of officers.
- 3. Reception of new members.
- 4. Invitation to visiting Bretheren to take seats.
- 5. Call for correspondence.
- 6. Appointment of committees.
- 7. Call for report of committees.
- 8. Miscellaneous business.
- 9. Appointments of correspondence.
- 10. Time and place of holding next session.
- 11. Election of minister to preach introductory.
- 1. Adjournment of the association.

# PROCEEDINGS OF THE ASSOCIATION

The First Annual session of the Eureka and Roberts McGee consolidated association of the Church of God, denominated Free Will Baptist, convened with the Mountain View church Saturday night before the First Sunday in September, A. D. 1918. Elder J. M. Roberts, moderator; Elder T. M. Arnold, assistant moderator; J. C. Smith, clerk; J. C. Nuby, assistant clerk.

The next association will be held with the Harmony Grove church, six miles northwest of Spiro, Okla., and will convene on Thursday night before the First Sunday in September, 1919. Elder J. M. Roberts to preach the introductory sermon; Elder T. O. Barnes, alternate.

### Saturday Night Session.

The introductory sermon was preached by Elder J. M. Roberts. No business was transacted. The meeting adjourned to meet Sunday morning at 9:00 o'clock a. m.

## Sunday Morning Session.

The association met as per adjournment. Preaching by Brother King. Theme: "God's Love to Man." The association adjourned to meet at 8:00 o'clock p. m.

## Sunday Night Session.

The association met as per adjournment. Prayer by Brother Charley Edwards. Preaching by Elder T. M. Arnold. Theme: "The Duty of Christians." The meeting adjourned to meet Monday morning at 8:00 o'clock.

## Monday Morning Session.

The association met as per adjournment, and the following business was transacted:

Brother J. M. Roberts was elected moderator; Elder T.

M. Arnold, assistant moderator; Brother J. C. Smith, clerk; Brother J. C. Nuby, assistant clerk.

Called for Corresponding Delegates. Received Brother J. M. Roberts and extended the right hand of fellowship.

Church letters called for and the following received:

Oak Valley Church—Brother W. H. Woodruff, Brother A. C. Cashner, Sister Grace Bice.

Panama Church—Brother Claud Thompson, Sister Maggie Wilcham, Sister Annie Manly; S. G. Frazier, pastor; Helen Hollie, clerk.

Prairie Grove Church—Brother J. A. Martin, Sister Luvina Martin, Sister Mollie Robertson, Brother G. B. Robertson; Elder T. O. Barnes, pastor; Sister Dovie Honeycutt, clerk.

Kennady Church—Sister Minnie Dualls, Sister Jessie Shipley; T. O. Barnes, pastor; Jessie Shipley, clerk.

Shady Grove Church—Brother C. M. Thomas, Brother Lum Childres; Elder Mart, King, pastor; Brother C. M. Thomas, clerk.

Royal Oak Church—Brother Elbert Wilson, Sister Darneal, Sister Horn; H. Jones, pastor; M. T. Barnes, clerk.

Fair Hill Church—Brother G. T. Files, Brother J. H. Bridges; Elder H. Jones, pastor; J. C. Brock, clerk.

• Sugar Loaf Church—Brother J. E. Cooper, Brother S. T. Fisher; Rev. S. G. Frazier, pastor; R. L. Lewis, clerk.

Harmony Grove Church—Brother L. R. Crumb, Brother James Mathis, Brother W. M. Norris; Elder J. C. Nuby, pastor; Nancy Springman, clerk.

Prairie View Church—Brother James Lewis, Brother Clifford Trickett; S. G. Frazier, pastor; John Parsons, clerk.

Sculleyville Church—Sister Birdie Null; Birdie Null, clerk.

Rockey Point Church—Brother F. L. Thompson, Brother Ed Wright, Brother Dave Robertson, Brother R. M. Smith, Brother J. S. Donley; Elder T. M. Arnold, pastor; Josey Patton, clerk.

Eureka Church—Brother Chas. Kirkus, Sister Bertha Kirkus, Brother Ben Hickman; Elder G. W. Oliver, pastor; O. W. Spear, clerk.

Union Grove Church-Brother M. W. Wilson, Brother

Walter Letters, Brother John Francis, Brother John Shipman; Elder George M. Byrd, pastor; Lillie E. Stickney, clerk.

Cass Church—Brother A. M. Brown, Brother C. P. Gilstrap; Elder T. M. Arnold, pastor.

New Harmony Church—Brother W. R. Oller, T. B. Matthews, Sister Jerrydine Guthrie, Sister Yella Williams; Elder Robert Byrd, pastor; Emma Hardaway, clerk.

Rucker Church—Brother J. I. Gilstrap, Brother L. A. Hill; G. W. Oliver, pastor.

Boggy Church—Brother J. D. Adams, Sister Elsie Yancy, Sister Pearl Adams; Elder R. Allen, pastor; A. L. Conway, clerk.

Mountain View Church—Brother W. M. Southern, Brother W. T. McCuller; Elder L. B. Clark, pastor; W. M. Southern, clerk.

New Church Tucker—Brother Allen, pastor; Brother Sanders, clerk.

#### Word From Clerk.

Dear Bretheren: If I have failed to get your names all correct, I ask your forgiveness for some of the Church Letters were written on sorry paper and I had to guess at them.

J. C. SMITH, Clerk.

#### APPOINTMENT OF COMMITTEES

The following committees were appointed:

Committee on Bill of Arrangements:

A. J. Kinsey, J. C. Smith, F. L. Thomason, W. L. Roberts.

Committee on Sabbath Schools.

Bröther R. C. Bonds, I. F. Springer, R. M. Smith, W. Y. Sanders, W. F. McCuller, Sister Eva Hood, Emma Mathis, Nancy Springman, Luvina Martin.

#### Committee on Temperance:

Brother William Norris, David Robertson, J. S. Donley, J. H. Green, T. B. Matthews, B. W. McCuller, G. H. Vancie, L. B. Clark, B. C. McCuller.

#### Committee on Querries and Requests:

Brother J. G. Hood, J. T. McDaniel, G. T. Files, J. E. Cooper, J. H. Dawson, J. C. Cooper, J. A. Mathis.

#### Committee on Home Missions:

J. W. Mize, J. D. Wallace, C. L. Kirkus, C. P. Gilstrap, L. R. McAlyain, Clifford Trickett, S. F. Fisher.

#### Committee on Ministers' Credentials:

Brother A. N. Brown, C. W. Edwards, L. R. Crumb, Roy Dodson.

#### Committee on Periodicals and Literature:

Brother T. O. Barnes, R. P. Sanders, J. A. Martin.

#### Committee on Finance:

Brother W. M. Southern, J. M. King, John Frazier, C. H. Copeland, and J. I. Gilstrap.

#### Committee on Obituaries:

Josey Yancy, Mattie Clark, Birdie Null, Mattie Robertson, Beckie Files, A. L. Conway, Sarah Vaughan, Lestile Springer.

The association adjourned till 1:30 o'clock, p. m.

Preaching at 11 a. m. by Brother C. A. Bonds.

#### Monday Afternoon Session.

The association met as per adjournment. The house was called to order by the moderator. Prayer by Brother R. P. Sanders, after which the following business was taken up:

Called for report of committees and received the following reports:

#### BILL OF ARRANGEMENTS.

"We your committee on Bill of Arrangements beg leave to submit the following report:

"First. That each minister keep a true record of his ministerial and official work and report the same at the next association and that each church elect a treasurer and at each regular meeting let every member contribute to the treasurer as God has prospered and let the treasurer pay out as the church directs and that this association require each treasurer

to report at the next association and that this association make this report compulsory.

"J. C. SMITH, Chairman."

#### QUERRIES AND REQUESTS.

"We your committee on Querries and Requests beg to submit the following report:

- "1. 'Does Jesus Christ have power on Earth to forgive sins?' Answer: 'Yes.'
- "2. 'Has a minister the right to do Official and church work, holding a letter?' We answer 'No.'
- "3. To all Whom It May Concern: Be it known that J. B. Bland is not recognized as a member of this association and has no right to preach or perform any church work in the name of this organization.

"J. T. M'DANIELS, Chairman."

#### MINISTERS' CHARACTER AND CREDENTIALS.

"We your committee on Ministers' Character and Credentials submit the following report in regard to the Brother that was not in good standing last year. We find him sorry of anything he had said or done. We find all the rest in good standing.

"A. N. BROWN, Chairman."

#### TEMPERANCE.

"We your committee on Temperance beg to submit the following report:

"Believing that intemperance is one of the greatest curses to humanity and knowing that it wrecks homes, blights lives and ruins character, we recommend and require that the Freewill Baptist church eliminate the use of any and all intoxicating liquors from its entire membership. Further no Christian will indulge in intoxicating drink as we know that it puts a stumbling block in the way of sinners and a Christian will not do that that will hinder the cause of Christ.

"REV. L. B. CLARK, Chairman."

#### HOME MISSIONS.

"We your committee on Home Missions report as follows:

"We recommend that the pastors of the various churches in this association take the matter up with their

churches and have a committee appointed in each church for the purpose of collecting home missions for the support of an evangelist, also for paying preachers who are called as assistants in revival meetings.

"L. R. M'ALVAIN, Chairman."

#### BOOKS AND PERIODICALS.

"We your committee on Books and Periodicals report as follows:

"We recommend that the Bible be used as our Discipline and the only infallible rule of our Doctrine, Faith, and Practice; and we urge all of our bretheren to use it as such.

"We recommend that the Freewill Baptist Banner be used in every home if they can do so, or its equivalent.

"T. O. BARNES, Chairman."

#### SABBATH SCHOOLS.

"We your committee on Sabbath Schools beg leave to report the following:

"That it is the duty of each church to maintain a Sabbath School and that we as the church of God recommend union as a basis for all the people of God to do the will of our Father in Heaven; that we unite all our efforts to keep all of our children in Sabbath School that it may be the means of bringing them to Christ. Further request that there be no games of sport on the ground during the hours of worship.

"W. Y. SANDERS, Chairman.

#### OBITUARIES.

"We your committee on Obituaries beg leave to report as follows:

"We sorrow with great loss over the death of our departed Brothers and Sisters, to-wit: Sister Sarah Kinsey. Rev. Joe Smith, and Sister Bertha Patton of Rocky Point.

"While we greatly miss them and mourn their loss we would not recall them for we feel that they passed away in a living faith and are now in the Glory Land where the weary are at rest. We feel that our loss is Heaven's gain, for Jesus said, "Blessed are they that die in the Lord, yea, henceforth, saith the Spirit, they shall rest from their labor and their works." Do follow them, and we should take courage and live as Jesus said.

"R. C. BONDS, Chairman.

#### FINANCE.

"We your committee on Finance find that the following churches have paid the amount below:

Eureka Church	\$2.00
Rocky Point	3.00
Rocky Point	1.50
Prairie View	4.00
Panama	3.35
Prairie Grove	2.50
Harmony Crove	250
Sugar Loaf	2.00
Cass Church	2.50
Union Crovo	. 3.60
Royal Oak	1.50
Fair Hill	3.00
Kennedy	2.00
New Harmony	4.35
Roddy	3.50
Rucker	3.80
Tucker	2.00
Shady Grove	2.50
	<del>*</del> .
TOTAL.	\$49.10

"W. M. SOUTHERN, Chairman."

#### DIVINE SERVICES.

Introductory Sermon Saturday night by Elder J. M. Roberts.

Sunday, 11 a. m. preaching by M. King, concluded by Brother Sanders.

Sunday night, preaching by T. M. Arnold.

Monday, 11 a. m., preaching by Brother C. A. Bonds, concluded by Brother J. M. Roberts.

Monday night, preaching by Brother J. C. Nuby, concluded by Brother S. F. Frazier. Theme: "Can a Man Fall?"

J. H. GREEN, Chairman.

#### MINISTERS' REPORTS.

I beg leave to submit the following: I have preached about 34 sermons, preached eight funerals, married fixe couples, witnessed 21 conversions.

Spiro, Okla. REV. L. B. CLARK.

I beg leave to submit the following report: I have been in the field for 66 days, received 84 members, organized three churches, received from the treasurer \$100.00, outside collections about \$45.75, total about \$145.75. My expenses have been a considerable amount. I feel like I have done the best I could. I think there is about \$29.00 in the treasury. I anshaw, Okla.

REV. J. C. NUBY, Evangelist.

I beg leave to submit the following: I have traveled 200 miles; preached 100 sermons; witnessed 90 conversions; baptised 39; received 55 members in the church at Rocky Point and Cass; received for pastoral work, \$45.00.

T. M. ARNOLD.

I beg leave to submit the following: I have preached 42 sermons; pastored two churches; received in the church one; witnessed seven conversions; married four couples; preached nine funerals. Received for pastoral work \$136.25; total amount received on work, \$163.15; paid out, \$26.50.

REV. T. D. ARY.

I beg leave to report as follows: I have traveled 562 miles; preached 63 sermons; received for pastoral work \$28.95; witnessed 31 conversions; baptised two; received in the church one; organized one Sunday School; preached one funeral; married two couples; pastored two churches.

McCurtain, Okla.

G. W. CLOVER.

Received from Oak Grove church \$15.00; Shady Grove church \$38.50; Panama church \$46.00; Kenedy, \$7.00; Sculleyville, \$10.00; Sugar Loaf, \$5.50; total amount \$147.00 for pastoral work and evangelistic work. Preached 95 sermons; witnessed 60 conversions; baptised 17; helped organize two churches; held six funerals; married six couples. My expenses have been about \$25.00.

S. G. FRAZIER.

I beg leave to submit the following report: I have traveled about 500 miles; preached 115 sermons; preached 18 funerals; maried 10 couples; baptised 40; witnessed 54 conversions; received 57 in the church. Pastored one church. Received for my work \$112.50.

T. O. BARNES.

# MINUTE BUSINESS

Motion made and seconded that we turn the printing of the Minutes over to the clerk and for him to have them printed where he can get the best rates.

## Monday Night Session.

House called to order by moderator. Prayer by Brother T. O. Barnes. Preaching by Brother J. C. Nuby, concluded by Brother S. G. Frazier. Theme: "Can a Man Fall." Following the sermon, Brother Luther Crum, Brother J. A. Mathis, Brother R. P. Sanders, Brother W. M. Norris were ordained to the ministry of the Gospel. Ordaining council, Rev. T. M. Arnold, Rev. J. C. Nuby, Rev. T. O. Barnes.

Motion and seconded that this delegation tend to Mountain View church and vicinity our heartfelt thanks for the hospitality shown us during our stay with them, and we pray that God's blessings may continue with them both spiritually and financially.

Motion made and seconded to adjourn to meet with the Harmony Grove church on Thursday night before the First Sunday in September, A. D. 1919. Brother J. M. Roberts to preach the introductory sermon, Elder T. O. Barnes, alternate.

J. M. ROBERTS,
Moderator.

J. C. SMITH,

Clerk.

#### TO THE MEMBERS OF THE ASSOCIATION:

Dear Bretheren:

Owing to war conditions I am late getting the Minutes out. I realize the Minutes are not just what they ought to have been, but under present conditions I have done my best.

J. C. SMITH.

#### CONSTITUTION

From long experience, we, the members of the Free Will Baptist Church of Christ, being regularly baptised upon a profession of our faith in Jesus Christ, and being convinced of the necessity of the combination of churches to perpetuate a union and communion among us, and to preserve and maintain correspondence with each other, do therefore ordain this constitution for our better church government:

- 1. This Association shall be composed of members chosen by different churches in our union, not exceeding three delegates from each church, and on producing letters shall be entitled to seats.
- 2. Letters from the different churches are to expresss the number in fellowship, the number received by experience, letters of recommendation, the number dismissed, excluded, restored and those who have died since the Association.
- 3. The members thus chosen and convened to be denominated the Eureka and Roberts McGee Consolidated Association of Free Will Baptists, being composed of sundry churches in Oklahoma—the Association having no power to lord over God's heritage, nor to have any ecclesiastical power over the churches reserving the right of withdrawing from any church becoming disorderly.
- 4. The Association to have a Moderator, Clerk and Treasurer, who are to be chosen by the suffrage of the members present.
- 5. Newly constituted churches may be admitted to the Association, who are to petition by letter and delegates, and if upon examination they are found to be orthodox and orderly, they may be received in the Association, the Moderator giving the right hand of fellowship.
- 6. No question from any church shall come under the consideration of the Association, unless it has first been discussed in its own church.
- 7. Every motion made and seconded shall come under the consideration of the Association, except it be withdrawn by the member who made it.

- 8. The Association is to endeavor to furnish the churches with minutes of the Association in proportion to the number of members in each church, distribution being at the discretion of the Association.
- 9. It shall be the duty of the Clerk to keep a regular file of the minutes of the Association, a book to be kept by the Association for this purpose.
- 10. The minutes of the Association shall be read and corrected, if needed, and signed by the Moderator and Clerk before the close of the Association.

# ARTICLES OF FAITH OF THE OKLAHOMA STATE ASSOCIATION

We believe in one true and living God, the Father, the Son and Holy Spirit and these three are one in divine essence, power and glory.—Rom. 1:20; St. John 1:1.

- 2. We believe the scriptures of the Old and New Testament are of divine origin and the only infallible rule of faith and practise.—II Tim. 3:15; II Pet. 1:21.
- 3. We believe that God created man good and gave His holy commandments whereby he should live holy, but man voluntarily disobeyed the commands of God, transgressed the law; fell under the just condemnation of same, and that man is unable to save himself with his own power. But we see Jesus, for the suffering of death, crowned with glory and honor that he by the grace of God tasted death for every man.—Gen. 1:31; Heb. 2:9.
- 4. We believe that Christ by his death and suffering and resurrection purchased our pardon and offers it freely upon the principles of repentance toward God and faith in our Lord Jesus Christ.—St. John 3:16; Acts 20:21.
- 5. We believe that adult persons must be regenerated or born again if they inherit eternal life.—John 3;35.
- 6. We believe that infants are in a saved condition, and we must be like them in innocency if we are saved.—Luke 18:16; Matt. 18:13.
  - 7. We believe that all regenerated persons must per-

serve in faith and be faithful to the end if they gain an entrance into the City of God.—Rev. 22:24; Matt. 10:24.

- 8. We believe that baptism by immersion in water is the apostolic mode; even the burial of the believer in water and Christ obeyed it thus and bids us to follow him.—John 3:22; Matt. 3:16, 18:16; Rom. 6:3-4.
- 9. We believe that God in His goodness displayed His power of grace in a great degree in calling and qualifying His servants by teaching of the Holy Spirit and by the instruction of His word to go forth and proclaim life and salvation without price.—John 14:16; II Tim. 2:25.
- 10. We believe that remission of sin and eternal life are free to all who will accept them.—John 3:16; Pet. 3:9.
- 11. We believe that baptism, the Lord's supper and the washing of the saints feet are the ordinances of Jesus Christ are appointed in the church and none but true believers are proper subjects and the only proper mode of baptism is immersion.—Mark 1:4, 9:10; Luke 2:30; St. John 13:30.
- 12. We believe that none have a right to baptism only those who have obtained a living hope in the Lord Jesus Christ, and none are authorized to officiate in the ordinance of baptism only those who are called of God and have been ordained by laying on of hands.—Acts 8:37, first clause, 38:30.
- 13. We believe that each church should have a pastor, deacons and clerk so as to keep house for the Lord accordingly.—Acts 6:1-6; 28:20.
- 14. We believe that in dealing with disorderly members that reference should be had to the 18th chapter of Matt., and other scripture relative to dealing with disorderly members.
- 15. We believe that it is the duty of each church to assemble together as often as Providence will permit and in commemorating the Lord's death and washing the saint's feet a man should examine himself and so let him eat.—Heb. 10: 25; I Cor. 11:28.
- 16. We believe that the Lord's supper should be observed at night and night only.
  - 17. We believe in the resurrection of the dead, of both

the just and the unjust. The resurrection of the just to everlasting life; glory and immortality in the presence of God; and the resurrection of the unjust to everlasting shame and punishment from the presence of God.—Matt. 25:41; I Cor. 15:42-45; II Thes. 1:7-9.

- 18. We believe that the visible church of God as it now exists had its beginning during the personal ministry of Jesus Christ.
- 19. We believe that every member of the church of God should contribute of his means as the Lord has prospered him in the support of the ministry as the scripture says.—Rom. 10.

#### CHURCH COVENANT

Having been bought, as we humble by divine grace truly to embrace the Lord Jesus Christ as our Saviour and having obtained justification by faith in His name, we, as members of several churches that constitute the Eureka and Roberts McGee Consolidated Association of Free Will Baptists, adopt the following as our Church Covenant:

- 1. To watch each other in love—to pray for each other as members of a common faith, even striving to keep the unity of spirit in the bonds of peace.
- 2. We will not speak evil of each other nor will we persecute or expose the faults of the weak member or our church; but we will endeavor to be governed by Paul's instruction to Timothy. "That we will reprove; rebuke and exhort" each other as members of a common brotherhood.
- 3: We are commanded to do good unto all men especially to those who are of the household of faith, but we should remember that our relations to each other are closer, and the obligations more binding than that of a common bond of Christian charity. In adopting this Covenant we become as a family and assume in a Christian sense the care and responsibility that the members of a family should feel for each other.
  - 4: We will attend the stated meeting of our church

unless we are Providently hindered or uncontrollable circumstances prevent us. And we will iontribute of our means, as the Lord has prospered us for the support of our pastor and other necessary expenses of our church. And we will prefer the service of our own church to that of any other and will pray for our pastor while he is preaching the word of God to us.

- 5. We will not injure our influence in the house of the Lord by occupying seats among the ungodly and sinners, but will occupy seats near the pulpit and use the natural powers which the Lord hath given us, to praise His holy name. We will sing with those who sing and pray with those who pray.
- 6. We will not be guilty of the sins of Sabbath breaking by making Sunday visits to our neighbors which is a double sin against the law of God, for in so doing we fail to attend the house of the Lord and hinder others who might wish to do so. Let us remember the law of Moses which condemns Sabbath breaking and the words of the inspired apostle which says: "Forsake not the assembling of yourselves together as the manner of some is."
- 7. We will not neglect secret and public prayers and those of us who are heads of families will strive to dedicate our household to the service of God by teaching our children the great necessity of the Christian religion as the only hope of happiness after death.

#### RULES OF ORDER

- 1. At every meeting, business shall be opened and conducted by prayer by moderator or whomsoever he may request.
- 2. Ministers present are invited to seats are allowed to take part in the debate on all subjects and votes.
- 3. Those who speak shall arise and address the Moderator. Personal reflection shall be avoided in all debates.
  - 4. No motion shall be discussed without a second.

- 5. When a motion has been made and seconded and a member opposes its discussion, the Moderator shall put the question: "Shall it be discussed?" If negative, the question shall be dismissed.
- 6. If any proposition or motion under debate contains two or more points it shall be divided at the request of any member and a vote taken.
  - 7. Motions made and lost shall not be recorded.
- 8. No one shall speak more than twice on any question without special leave of the Moderator.
- 9. All questions decided by majority of the members present.
- 10. No member shall absent himself without special leave of the Moderator.
- 11. Minutes shall be leisurely read and corrected, if necessary, before the close of the Association.
- 12. In the future sessions of the Association arrangements shall be made to insure two or more sermons each day or other equivalent exercises.
- 13. The Rules of order shall be distinctly read from the chair immediately after the organization of the Association.
- 14. Alteration may be made in these rules at any regular session of the Association.



