

MINUTES

—OF THE—

TWENTY-THIRD ANNUAL SESSION

—OF THE—

JASPER

Free Will Baptist Association,

CONVENED WITH

Mount Olive Church, Marion County, Ala.,

OCTOBER 2nd, 3rd and 4th, 1909.

OFFICERS:

REV. GEO C. ELLIOTT,.....Moderator,
JNO. W. ROBERSON,.....Clerk,
JNO. A. NELSON,.....Treasurer.

The next sesion of this Association will convene with Pleasant Ridge church, Miss , two miles west of Red Bay Station, on the I. C. R. R., Franklin county, Ala , the same to convene on Saturday before the first Sunday in October, 1910

AYDEN, N. C.
FREE WILL BAPTIST PRINT.
1910.



FREE WILL BAPTIST
BIBLE COLLEGE

Presented By

Wayne Martin

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PROCEEDINGS

—OF THE—

JASPER ASSOCIATION.

The twenty-third annual session of the Jasper Free Will Baptist Association convened with Mount Olive church, Marion county, Ala., Oct. 2-4, 1909.

The introductory sermon was preached by Rev. E. C. Thomas. Text—Rom. 6: 23; Rev. 20: 6.

After preaching, an intermission of one hour was taken for rest and refreshment, after which the ministers and delegates were requested to come together, organize and proceed to business.

Afternoon Session.

The association met pursuant to the request of Rev. J. L. Conner as Moderator.

An appropriate hymn was sung by the congregation, after which prayer was offered by Rev. J. J. Wesley.

Rev. J. L. Conner, former moderator, and Robt. Franks, former clerk, being present took their seats and the moderator called the body to order, then called for business and it was transacted as follows:

Rev. E. C. Thomas and J. W. Roberson were appointed reading clerks.

Letters from the churches were called for, handed in, read and contents noted as per statistical table.

Called for petitionary letters and opened the doors for the reception of new churches into the body, and received the following, to wit:

Mars Hill—This church being organized on our Articles of Faith and it was unanimously received and the right hand of fellowship extended to the delegates and welcomed them to seats with us.

On motion, it was agreed to permanently organize the body, which was done by electing Rev. Geo. C.

Elliott Moderator, Jno. W. Roberson Clerk and Jno. A. Nelson, Treasurer for the next associational year.

Called for correspondents from Sister Associations and received the following, to wit:

Vernon—Delegates as follows: Rev. J. W. Porter, G. C. Crews and J. T. Taylor.

Bear Creek—N. P. Hutcheson.

Offered opportunity for the reception of ministers to join this association and received the following, to wit: Rev. J. R. Halliday from the Morning Star Association, and the right hand of fellowship was extended and these brethren were cordially welcomed to seats with us.

On motion, it was agreed that the moderator appoint all committees.

On Preaching—Bros. J. H. Whitman, A. J. Ingle and J. R. Dutton, with the deacons of this church.

On Documents and Order of Business—Rev. J. L. Conner, Rev. R. C. Flippo, Rev. W. H. Ingram. Rev. E. C. Thomas.

On Sabbath Schools—Bros. W. T. Keeton, H. T. Warren and R. E. Keeton.

On Literature—Bro. W. C. Pearce, P. R. McCaig and J. B. Pollard.

On Deceased Ministers and Members—Bros. W. J. Crenshaw, J. A. Beasley and Rev. R. A. Nix.

On Finance—Bros. J. T. Tharp, John Keeton and Henry Crow.

On Associational funds—Bros. Jno. H. Frederick, W. A. Smith and E. D. Flurry.

The Committee on Preaching, reported that Rev. R. A. Nix, preach tomorrow at 9 o'clock a. m., Rev. John R. Halliday preach at 11 o'clock a. m., Rev. J. W. Porter, from the Vernon Association, preach at 7 o'clock p. m.

Respectfully submitted,

J. H. WHITMAN, Chm.

On motion, the report be received and adopted and the committee discharged.

On motion, the association adjourn to meet Monday morning at 8 o'clock.

Prayer by Rev. Geo. C. Elliott and benediction.

Sunday Services.

Sunday morning at 9 o'clock Rev. R. A. Nix preached to a large and attentive concourse of people. Text—Hebrew 12: 1, 2.

At 11 o'clock, Rev. John R. Halliday preached to a very large audience, all of whom seemed to be deeply interested. Text—Rev. 6: 17.

After preaching the Lord's Supper was administered and Christians of different denominations partook with us. It was a free communion service and was a practical demonstration of the liberal doctrine we preach.

At 7 o'clock p. m. Rev. J. W. Porter from the Vernon Association preached a most interesting and instructive sermon to a large and well behaved concourse of people.

Monday Morning, Oct. 4th, 1909.

The association met pursuant to adjournment.

The congregation sang a hymn after which prayer was ably offered by Rev. W. B. Benson.

Rev. Geo. C. Elliott, moderator, called the body to order.

The clerk called the roll, and the ministers and delegates answered to their names.

The moderator announced the association ready for business.

Called for visiting ministers of other denominations to seats with us. None present.

On motion Saturday's proceedings were read and adopted.

Reports of committees were called for and reported as follows:

On Documents and Order of Business—We your committee on Documents and Order of Business, beg to report as follows:

We find four petitionary letters, asking for the next association, and recommend that the body decide where it shall be held. We also recommend that we hold during this year two union meetings, composed of the ministers and two delegates from each church. We also recommend that this body discuss the question as to whether or not we have or send a missionary to work in the bounds of this association. We also recommend that the clerk superintend the printing of our minutes and have them done to the best advantage and that he have six dollars for his services. Also that the moderator have five dollars for his services, to be paid out of the associational funds, and that the various churches contribute to the support of the State Convention.

Respectfully submitted,

REV. J. L. CONNER, Chairman.

On motion, the report was adopted and the committee discharged.

On Denominational Literature—We your committee on Denominational Literature report as follows, viz:

We do not know of anything better to recommend than THE FREE WILL BAPTIST, and we also recommend that our Sabbath Schools all use Free Will Baptist Literature and we also recommend a careful and prayerful study of the Holy Scriptures be observed.

Respectfully submitted

W. C. PEARCE, Chm.

On motion, the report was received and adopted and the committee discharged.

On Sabbath Schools—We your committee on Sabbath Schools beg to report as follows: We find only 3 Sabbath Schools reported. We recommend that our people co-operate with the State Organization of Sabbath Schools and make report of work done and amounts collected and expended, the number of pupils enrolled; also that the pastors encourage the work in their churches and encourage the study of the Holy Bible, because the divine teacher said, Search the Scriptures for in them ye think ye have eternal life and they are they that testify of me.

Respectfully submitted,

W. T. KEETON, Chm.

On motion, the report was adopted and committee discharged.

On Deceased Ministers and Members—We your committee on Deceased Ministers and Members, report as follows: Since our last association, death has removed from the church militant on earth, to the church triumphant in heaven. From Mount Olive, Sister N. J. Bryan, age about 53 years; Sister Delia Shirley, age 34 years, 10 months and 16 days; Sister Louisa Burleson, age 72 years, 7 months and 6 days. From Union Hill, Sister S. L. Jones, age 50 years; Sister N. J. Mitchell, age 24 years. Mount Pleasant, Sister Mary F. Moore, age 26 years; Sister Rosa J. Wesley, age 21 years; Bro. W. H. Webb Jr. age 36 years; Sister Alice Webb, age 32 years. New Oak Grove, Sister Janey Smith, age 27 years. Liberty church, Bro. H. D. Wilson, age 69 years 8 months and 6 days. All of whom died in the triumph of a living faith. Therefore, Be it Resolved,

That we thank God for such Christians to have been permitted to live and bear fruits of righteousness among us, and while we mourn their loss we believe it is Heaven's eternal gain.

Respectfully submitted,

W. J. CRENSHAW, Chm.

On motion, the report was received and adopted and committee discharged.

On Associational Funds—We, your committee on Associational Funds report as follows: Paid in from the various churches of this association the following amounts, to wit: Mt. Olive, \$1.90. Mt. Pleasant, 85c. Oak Grove, 50c. New Oak Grove, 30c. Friendship, Gum Swamp, Union Chapel, Union Hill, \$1.45. Free Water, 75c. Liberty, Pleasant Ridge, \$2.65. Shady Grove, \$1.15. Brilliant, Pearce Chapel, \$1.00. Pactolus, \$2.00. New Hope, \$2.50. Mt. Joy, 10c. Pleasant Grove, 50c. Mars Hill, 25c.

Respectfully submitted

JOHN H. FREDERICK, Chm.

On motion, the report was received and adopted and the committee discharged.

On Finance—We, your committee on Finance, submit

the following report: We find paid in by the various churches as minute funds \$20.45.

Respectfully submitted,
J. T. THARP, Chm.

On motion, the report was adopted and the committee turn the minute funds over to the clerk to pay for printing the minutes.

Treasurer's Report—The amount of associational funds left in my hands on Oct. 5th, 1908, was \$81.80. Interest on same \$6.54. Total \$88.34. Received from the various churches \$15.90. Grand total, \$104.24. Paid Rev. J. L. Conner \$5.00 for services as moderator. Paid J. A. Nelson \$5.00 for his services as treasurer, which leaves \$94.24 in my hands, Oct. 4th, 1909.

Respectfully submitted,
J. A. Nelson, Treas.

On motion the report is adopted.

On motion, the treasurer is ordered to loan the Associational funds at 8 per cent interest, with note or notes with two good securities. Notes to be paid on Oct. 1st, 1910.

We, your standing committee on Ministerial Character, find all our ministers in good standing so far as we know and we urge all our ministers to be at each session of the Association as much as possible.

Respectfully submitted,
W. T. KEETON, Chm.

Miscellaneous Business—On motion, we adopt Miscellaneous Business down to Sec. 8, and strike Sec. 5 and amend Sec. 7. (See printed list hereto attached.)

On motion the moderator appoint corresponding delegates to the various associations, to wit:

Bear Creek—Rev. R. A. Nix and Bro. P. R. McCraig.

Little Brown's Creek—Bros. W. T. Keeton and J. T. Tharp.

State Line—Rev. J. J. Wesley and Rev. W. H. Ingram.

Morning Star—Bro. W. J. Crenshaw and Rev. J. R. Halliday.

Vernon—Rev. J. L. Conner and Rev. E. C. Thomas.

To State Convention—Rev. J. L. Conner and Bro. Robert Franks.

On motion, it is agreed that the next session of this Association be held with Pleasant Ridge church Itawamba county, Miss., 2 miles West of Red Bay Station on the I. C. Rail Road, the same to convene on Saturday before the 1st Sunday in October, 1910.

On motion, Rev. J. L. Conner preach the introductory sermon, and Rev. J. J. Wesley, alternate.

On motion, Shady Grove have the first Union Meeting to be held on Saturday before 3rd Sunday in July, 1910, and Rev. G. C. Elliott to preach the introductory sermon, E. C. Thomas, alternate.

On motion, New Hope church, Walker county, Ala., one mile from Galloway, have the 2nd Union Meeting, the same to convene on Saturday before the 2nd Sunday in August, 1910, introductory sermon to be preached by Rev. J. J. Wesley, Rev. J. L. Conner, alternate.

On motion, Be it Resolved, That this Association assembled at Mount Olive church, Marion county, Ala., tender our thanks to the church and community especially to the good sisters for their hospitality, and to the young men and young ladies, for their good behavior and the officers are especially thanked for the faithful manner in which they have discharged their duties.

On motion, the Association adjourn to meet at the time and place above named.

Prayer by Rev. John L. Conner.

Closing services conducted by the moderator with feeling and appropriate remarks.

A Hymn was sung and the parting hand was taken amid tears and joy.

REV. GEO. C. ELLIOTT, Mod.

JNO. W. ROBERSON, Clerk.

ORDAINED MINISTERS AND THEIR POST OFFICES.

Rev. R. A. Nix, Philcampbell, Ala. R. No. 3.
 Rev. Geo. C. Elliott, Guin, Ala. R. No. 1.
 Rev. Robert C. Flippo, Guin, Ala.
 Rev. John L. Conner, Guin, Ala. R. No. 1.
 Rev. Jas. J. Wesley, Guin, Ala. R. No. 3.
 Rev. W. H. Ingram, Brilliant, Ala. R. No. 1.
 Rev. H. B. Fowler, Nauvoo, Ala. R. No. 2.
 Rev. W. B. Benson, Carbon Hill, Ala.
 Rev. E. C. Thomas, Winfield, Ala. R. 4.
 Rev. J. R. Halliday, Cardova, Ala.
 Rev. L. F. Black, Adamsville, Ala.
 Rev. W. M. Buzbee, Nauvoo, Ala. R. 1.
 Rev. T. M. Camp, Red Bay, Ala.
 Rev. Geo. W. Flippo, Pearce's Mills, Ala.
 Rev. Jas. E. Cochran, Winfield, Ala. R. 3.
 Rev. S. B. Ramsey, Russellville, Ala.

MINISTERS' REPORTS.

Since our last Association, I have preached 54 sermons, offered 75 public prayers, baptized 9 persons, received into the church 17, visits to the sick room, 18, conducted 2 burials, married 1 couple, traveled 1,002 miles, and received for my services from the various churches as follows: New Hope \$14.05 Pleasant Ridge \$26.80 Mt. Joy \$2.00 Received for marriages \$1.00 Total \$43.85.

Respectfully submitted,
 E. C. THOMAS.

Since our last association, I have preached 175 sermons, delivered 7 exhortations, offered 208 public prayers, baptized 22 persons, preached 3 funerals, attended 10 burials, married 1 couple, traveled about 1,200 miles, and received from Liberty \$7.50 Gum Springs \$40.00 Union Chapel \$33.00 and Pearce Chapel \$—

Respectfully,
 J. L. CONNER.

Since our last Association I have preached 18 times, have offered 36 public prayers, baptized 7, attended 7 burials, preached 1 funeral, traveled 274 miles, served 1 church, received from Mt. William church \$18.25;

in all \$18.75. Have paid out State Evangelists \$5.00 home pastors \$5.00 Convention minutes 50c, home minutes 10c, for burn outs \$9.00, to the sick, \$4.25 for pulpit Bible 25c.

Respectfully submitted,
 Geo. C. ELLIOTT.

RULES OF DECORUM.

ARTICLE 1. The Association shall be called to order by the Moderator who presided at the last session; former Clerk also officiating until the body is fully organized.

2. The Association shall be opened and closed with singing and prayer.

3. The moderator and clerk shall be chosen by ballot at each session of the Association. A majority of votes by the delegates present elects.

4. The names of delegates from the different churches shall be enrolled and called as often as necessary during the session.

5. A majority of delegates present shall rule in all cases except the reception of members, then it shall be unanimous.

6. The moderator shall not be entitled to vote, except in case of a tie, and then he shall give the deciding vote. He shall also speak on any question after others have spoken, provided he appoint some one to the chair while he is speaking.

7. Only one person shall speak at the same time, and he shall arise and address the moderator, and after recognition by the moderator, proceed.

8. No brother shall be interrupted while speaking, unless he depart from the subject under discussion, or use words of personal reflection.

9. No person shall be allowed to speak more than twice on the same subject without leave of the Association, nor more than fifteen minutes at a time.

10. No person shall laugh or talk during the time the debates are going on.

11. No member shall absent himself from the Association without leave of the Moderator.

CONSTITUTION.

ARTICLE 1. This association shall be known as the Jasper Free Will Baptist Association of Alabama, and being composed of ministers and delegates from the different churches forming the same, each church being entitled to three delegates.

2. This body shall be considered an advisory council.

3. All questions of doctrine and matters of general interest shall be decided by a two-thirds vote of the Association, and the decision shall be final.

4. The officers of this Association shall be a Moderator, Clerk and Treasurer, which shall be chosen by a majority vote at each session of the Association.

5. The Association shall meet annually at such time and place as may be agreed upon by a previous annual session and shall not adjourn finally, until all the business is transacted.

6. Churches wishing to become members of this Association must adopt its Articles of Faith and conform to its usages.

7. We agree as churches of this Association to use our best influence to promote the interest of all moral and benevolent institutions, such as the Temperance Cause, Sunday Schools, Missionary work, etc.

8. No member of this Association shall be eligible to the office of Moderator more than two successive sessions, unless no other member be competent to act in that capacity.

9. Any church of this association failing to be represented for two years in succession, the same shall be dropped from our minutes.

ARTICLES OF FAITH.

GOD—ARTICLE 1. We believe there is one, and but one living and true God. Who is in personality, the Father, the Son and Holy Ghost. Equal and harmonious in every Divine perfection.

THE HOLY SCRIPTURES—2. We believe that God is the Author of the Holy Bible, and that its teachings constitute the only infallible doctrine for the government of his church.

ORIGINAL APOSTASY—3. We believe that Adam was created holy; but by voluntary transgression fell into

depravity, and consequently involved his posterity in sin

FREE GRACE—4. We believe that the Grace of God comprehends all spiritual blessings. That the Gospel is the power of God unto salvation. That the Holy Spirit not only reproves the world of sin, but is the means whereby sinners are converted, regenerated and saved.

CHRISTIAN FAITH—5. We believe that Christian Faith is belief in Jesus Christ as the Son of God and Redeemer of the world, and we believe in the inspiration of the Holy Scriptures. That "Faith comes by hearing and hearing by the Word of God."

REPENTANCE—6. We believe that Repentance is sorrow for sin, and the kind of sorrow which constitutes godly repentance must be preceded by effectual conviction for sin.

FREE AGENCY—7. We believe that the human will is free, and that men have ability to accept or reject the conditions of salvation as they are revealed in the Holy Scriptures.

PERSEVERANCE—8. We do not believe under the Gospel dispensation that any soul is elected to eternal life unconditionally; but those who by faith persevere to the end will be saved. That it is possible for men who have been converted, to "Make ship wreck of the faith," turn again to sin and be finally lost!

GOOD WORK—9. We believe that good work is the result of Faith, and not of necessity. That those who have Faith will do works of righteousness; while those have no Faith can not do anything pleasing or acceptable unto God.

CHRISTIAN BAPTISM—10. We believe that Christian Baptism is the immersion in water of a believer in the names of the Father, Son and Holy Ghost. That baptism cannot be Scripturally administered without Faith in the subject who receives it.

THE LORD'S SUPPER—11. We believe the Supper was instituted by our Savior as a commemorative ordinance. That the bread and wine represent his body and blood. That it was instituted for Christians and that all Christians should unite in observing that sacred service, regardless of names or denominational distinctions.

THE SOUL—12. We believe that man is a living soul. That the body will die, but that the soul is immortal. That death is the separation of the mortal and immortal parts of human beings.

THE RESURRECTION—13. We believe in the Resurrection of the dead. When the resurrection shall take place the soul and body will reunite and form an immortal being. That the righteous will be received into a state of everlasting happiness, to reign with God forever and ever. But the wicked will be bound hand and foot and be cast into outer darkness. "The wicked are driven away in their wickedness, but the righteous have hope in their death."

CHURCHES AND COUNTIES	DELEGATES
Shady Grove, Franklin County.....	D. H. Nix, J. H. Duncan, I. J. Jackson
Mars Hill, Franklin Co.....	W. N. Moore.....
Oak Grove, Walker Co.....	J. R. Dulton, W. W. Ingram.....
Pleasant Grove, Walker Co.....	S. G. Walker.....
Pearces Chapel, Marion Co.....	J. H. Crow, Cliff Hollis, Ed Clark....
Mount Pleasant, Marion Co.....	W. A. Smith, J. H. Whitman, R. But
Mount Olive, Marion Co.....	A. J. Westbrook, J. W. Burleson, G. V
Friendship Marion Co.....	W. A. Wilson, J. T. Cantrell, L. B. Ba
New Oak Grove, Walker Co.....	W. H. Bridgman.....
Union Chapel, Fayette Co.....	R. J. Erwin, J. T. Beasley, J. R. Bishop
Union Hill, Marion Co.....	J. H. Frederick, R. E. Kenedy.....
Free Waters, Marion Co	W. H. Franks Jr., W. C. Pearce J. B. Po
Pleasant Ridge, Itawamba Co. Miss	J. A. Keeton, J. T. Tharp.....
Mount Joy, Marion Co. Ala.....	G. W. Burleson, J. A. Burleson.....
New Hope, Walker Co.....	J. F. Mays, J. H. Masson, J. W. and W. M
Pokahontas, Walker Co	W. J. Crenshaw, B. M. Atkins.....
Gum Spring, Marion Co.....	A. J. Ingle... ..
Liberty, Marion Co.....	M. K. Williams, E. D. Flurry.....
Brilliant, Marion Co.....	Not represented.....