

MINUTES
OF THE
Eighteenth Session of Liberty
Association No. 2
OF THE
UNITED FREEWILL BAPTIST
CHURCH OF CHRIST

HELD WITH
SHILOH CHURCH
Escambia County, Florida

October 6, 7, 8, 1927

OFFICERS

D. N. Rowland, Moderator R. P. Watts, Assistant Moderator
R. T. Shipp, Clerk and Treasurer
T. A. Smith and F. R. Shipp, Associational Deacons

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

R. T. Shipp, S. J. Louis, C. C. Hanks Jr.
N. A. Hardin, R. Z. Jerkins

The next session of the Association will be held with Range church,
at Range, Alabama, to begin on Thursday, before the
second Sunday in October, 1928 at 10 a. m.



PROCEEDINGS

Shiloh Church, October 6, 1927

The body met at 10:00 a. m. The former Moderator nor his assistant not being present, the former clerk enrolled the names of the ministers and delegates. After devotional services conducted by Brother R. P. Watts, he being appointed Temporary Moderator, we were permanently organized by electing Brother D. N. Rowland, Moderator; and Brother R. T. Shipp, Clerk and Treasurer. Brethren T. A. Smith and F. R. Shipp were elected Associational Delegates. We recessed until 2:00 p. m. We appointed A. H. Shipp and C. C. Hanks as Reading Clerks.

Ministers Present

W. H. Bailey, Jones Mill, Ala.; R. P. Watts, Bluff Springs, Ala.; D. N. Rowland, Range, Ala.; W. R. Thompson, Atmore, Ala., Rte. B; N. G. Baggett, Brewton, Ala., Rte. B; C. C. Hanks, Atmore, Ala. Rt. A; Warren Renfroe, Bluff Springs, Fla.; B. D. Boatright, Range, Ala.; T. H. Perry, Walnut Hill, Florida.

Ministers Not Present

G. W. Murphy, Uriah, Ala.; J. Z. Graham and J. A. Slay Atmore, Ala.

Visiting Ministers

R. J. Monie and T. D. Johnson from Association No. 1.

Churches And Their Delegates

Range—R. Z. Jerkin's, S. J. Louis. Oak Grove—R. W. Young, Harrison Gibson. Union Grove—N. A. Hardin, F. R. Shipp, A. H. Shipp. Shiloh—K. L. Rigsby, J. G. Toney, W. B. Godwin. Canaan—G. A. Summerlin, J. D. Grissett. Midway—N. G. Baggett. Magnolia Springs—A. V. Mitchell, Robert Stewart, E. T. Spence. New Home—T. H. Perry. Shaddy Grove—R. T. Little, B. Stewart.

Thursday Afternoon

The body met and was called to order by the Moderator, who read the 12th chapter of St. John. Prayer was led by Brother R. W. Young after which the body was declared ready for business.

The Moderator called for the reading of the minutes of the last session after which they were adopted. Letters were called for and several were brought in and the contents of the same noted. The right hand of fellowship was given those ministers and delegates present.

The following Committees were then appointed, after which we recessed until 8 a. m., Friday morning.

Committee on Divine Service—S. J. Louis, N. A. Hardin, G. A. Summerlin.

Committee on Sabbath and Temperance—R. Z. Jerkin's A. H. Shipp, N. G. Baggett.

Committee on the Standing of Ministers—R. W. Young, F. R. Shipp, J. G. Toney.

Committee on Suggestions—N. A. Hardin, S. J. Louis, K. L. Rigsby.

Committee on Fiance—G. A. Summerlin, H. G. Gibson, B. D. Boatright.

Committee on Obituaries—T. H. Perry, W. R. Thompson, W. B. Godwin.

Committee on Home Missions—A. H. Shipp, W. B. Godwin, R. P. Watts.

Friday Morning

The body met at 8 o'clock and was called to order by the Moderator who read the second chapter of First Peter. Prayer was led by R. T. Shipp, after which the roll was called and all were found to be present. The body was then declared ready for business. A call was made for Church Letters and one was brought in, that of Cold Water asking for a withdrawal. A motion was made and carried that the withdrawal be granted. A call was made for the reading of the minutes of the Fifth Sunday meeting. These were read and adopted, after which a recess of ten minutes was given.

On reassembling, business was resumed and a call was made for Pertinary Letters and one was brought in from Magnolia Springs. After some discussion it was moved and carried that the Moderator extend the right hand of fellowship to the delegates and a special prayer was offered in behalf of Brother D. S. Cane and his family. After this a recess was taken until 2:30 p. m.

Friday Afternoon

The body was called to order by singing and prayer led by Brother W. Renfro, after which the body was declared ready for business. The Clerk read a letter from Mississippi, which was as follows:

Piave, Miss. August 18, 1927.

Brother R. T. Shipp,
Castleberry, Alabama,

Dear Clerk of Liberty Association No. 2:—

We the people of the State of Mississippi want to thank the association of Alabama, Florida and elsewhere for Rev. N. G. Baggett of Brewton, Alabama with his great power and influence over the people of Mississippi.

This disciple of Jesus Christ has been in the state of Mississippi for the past weeks and has done a wonderful work here. He has drawn larger crowds together in our community than any man that has ever presented himself to us people in this State. Billy Sunday has visited this state but not with so wonderful a power as this man.

Brother Baggett of Brewton, Alabama, with his great influence over the young people received sixty three members during the revival. We thank the State of Alabama for this great man. He has done more spiritual work in a short while than some have done in years. We

can see by his fruits that God has sent him on this great mission. We the people of Lovewell Church of Greene County, Mississippi request that this letter be read in the Association before the body in behalf of this man. He is working and has been working hard over here in this state and he deserves some great honor.

Yours truly,
Lovewell Church

The body next recessed for thirty minutes and on reassembling reports from the committee were called for. Several were given and the state and contents of the same noted.

Saturday Morning

The body was called to order by the Moderator who read the 5th chapter of Matthew. Prayer was led by Brother C. C. Hanks, after which the body was declared ready for business. A call was made for reports and some were brought in. A recess of 20 minutes taken and on reassembling the Executive Committee was elected as follows: R. T. Shipp, S. J. Louis, C. C. Hanks Jr., N. A. Hardin, R. Z. Jerkins. Reports were again called for, reports from several ministers were received. Brother T. H. Perry was chosen to preach the introductory sermon at the next session. W. R. Thompson was chosen as alternate. T. H. Perry, W. R. Thompson and J. G. Tonie were elected as delegates to association No. 1. The question of the boundary line came up and after some discussion it was moved and carried that the boundary line stand as it has been. It was moved and carried that the letter sent the clerk, R. T. Shipp, by Brother W. I. Wallery of Piave, Mississippi in honor of our beloved Brother N. G. Baggett, be carried in the minutes. The letter speaks for itself. There being no further business, the body adjourned to meet with Range Church on Thursday before the second Sunday in October 1928, at 10:00 a. m. A vote of thanks was offered to the good people of Shiloh Church and community at large for their kind hospitality shown during the session of the Association. May the Lord continue His blessings upon them.

Committee Reports

We, the committee on the Standing of the Ministry beg to report that we find all our ministers in No. 2 Association in good standing so far as we can ascertain. We do urge our preacher brethren to be more prompt to attend their appointments.

R. W. Young, Chairman.

The report was received and adopted.

We, the Committee on Suggestions beg to report that we suggest that our fifth Sunday meeting be held with Union Grove Church, 6 miles east of Castleberry, Alabama, to begin on Friday before the fifth Sunday in July 1928 at 10:00 a. m. We suggest that we have a

program of scriptural topics for discussion. We suggest that we hold the next Association with Range Church, at Range, Alabama, to begin on Thursday before the Second Sunday in October, 1928, at 10:00 a. m. We suggest that each church bring in \$5.00 at each session for minutes and Associational purposes.

N. A. Hardin, Chairman.

The report was received and adopted.

We, the Committee on Sabbath Schools and Temperance, beg to report that from the letters, we find that there are only two Sabbath Schools in our Association. We urge the fathers and mothers to take more interest in this grand work. As to Temperance, the Bible says "Be ye temperate in all things."

A. H. Shipp, Chairman

The report was received and adopted.

We, the Committee on Obituaries beg to report, that from the letters we find one death in Shiloh Church, Sister Miller, aged 79 and one at Union Grove, Sister Mattie King, aged 80 and two at Shady Grove, Sister Mary Owens, aged 69 and Lula Owens. We hate to part with our loved ones but our loss is their eternal gain.

T. H. Perry, Chairman.

The report was received and adopted.

We, the Committee on Finance, beg to report that we find \$32.00 brought in with the letters. We suggest that our Clerk be paid \$15.00 for his services.

G. A. Summerlin, Chairman.

The report was received and adopted.

We, the Committee on Home Missions, wish to insist that our members donate to this fund as it is of great importance.

A. H. Shipp, Chairman.

The report was received and adopted.

ARTICLES OF FAITH

1. As to God—One God and Father of all. Eph. 4-6.
2. As to the Scripture—All Scripture is given by inspiration of God. 2, Tim., 3:16.
3. As to Freedom of the Will—Ye will not come unto me. John 5:40, Whosoever will, let him take the water of life freely. Rev. 22:17.
4. As to Conditions of Salvation—He (Christ) died for all. 2nd Cor. 5:15. For whosoever shall call upon the name of the Lord shall be saved. Rom. 10:13. For in due season we shall reap if we faint not. Gal. 6:9. Be thou faithful unto death and I will give thee a crown of life. Rev. 2:10.
5. As to Election—God is no respecter of persons, but in every nation he that feareth Him and worketh righteousness is accepted with him. Acts 10:34-35.

6. As to Grace—For the grace of God that bringeth salvation hath appeared to all men. Titus 2:11. For by grace are ye saved through faith. Eph. 2:8.

7. As to Faith—Justified by faith. Rom. 5:1. This is the victory which overcometh the world, even our faith. 1st John 5:4.

8. As to Works—Faith without works is dead. James 2:6. God hath before ordained that we should walk in them. Eph. 2:10.

9. As to Baptism—And they went down both into the water and when they were come up out of the water. Acts 8:39. We are buried with Him by Baptism unto death. Rom. 6:4.

10. As to Subject to Baptism—If thou believest with all thine heart thou mayest. Acts 8:39. So then anyone of you will give an account of himself unto God. Rom. 14:12.

11. As to the Oneness of the Christian Church—Is Christ divided? 1 Cor. 1:33. I am the vine, ye are the branches. John 15:5. That they may be one as we are. John 17:11-21. There is one body and one spirit, even as ye are called in one hope of your calling. Eph. 4:4.

12. As to Communion—This do in remembrance of Me. Luke 22:19. But let a man examine himself so let him eat the bread and drink of the cup. 1 Cor. 11:28. Let no man therefore judge you. Col. 2:16.

13. As to the Resurrection—For the hour cometh in which all that are in the grave shall hear His voice and shall come forth. John 5:28. For the trumpet shall sound and the dead shall be raised incorruptible, and we shall be changed. 1 Cor. 15:52.

14. As to the Judgment, Reward and Punishment—For we shall stand before the judgment seat of Christ. Rom. 14:10. And these shall go away into everlasting punishment, but the righteous into life eternal. Matt. 25:46.

15. As to Feet Washing—Ye also ought to wash one another's feet. John 13:14. For I have given you an example. John 13:15. Verily, verily, I say unto you, the servant is no greater than his lord. John. John 13:16. If ye know these things, happy are ye if ye do them. John 13:17. Because Christ also suffered for us, leaving us an example. 1 Peter 2:21.

CHURCH COVENANT

In order to have more perfect and free Christian love and fellowship for each other, and to advance the cause of our Lord and Master, we do hereby agree and covenant by the help of God our Father, and aided by the Holy Spirit, to keep the ordinances, precepts and examples as laid down in the New Testament of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.

AS TO RULES—ARTICLE 1

Section 1. When a sufficient number of members are ready for organization the articles of faith and church covenant shall be read and if adopted the right hand of fellowship shall be extended, and

after prayer they shall proceed to the election of officers, after which they shall be declared organized and ready for business.

Section 2. No church shall be organized with less than three male members, nor within six miles of another church of the same faith, unless in towns or cities.

Section 3. The officers of a church shall be a pastor, one or more deacons and a clerk and a treasurer, and not less than three trustees.

Section 4. The church shall call their pastor at the next conference preceding the last regular conference, in the associational year, unless in case of a vacancy; in such case they may call a conference for that purpose.

Section 5. Any church in case of necessity may call a conference and elect one of their members or a visiting minister as moderator.

Section 6. The church may hold a conference as often as it deems it necessary.

Section 7. It is suggested that the church commune and wash the members' feet as often as convenient, and it shall not be postponed on account of disobedient members.

Section 8. The church shall not try a member without a hearing unless said member refuses to attend the conference, when notified to do so.

Section 9. The church may grant a license to any member in good standing to preach the gospel if it deems him worthy and competent and said license shall be good as long as he is an advantage to the cause, but he shall be ordained only by the recommendation or order of the church.

Section 10. When ministers or deacons are to be ordained the church shall call a presbytery or instruct their pastor to do so for that purpose. And said Presbytery shall be composed of two ministers or one minister and two deacons.

Section 11. Deacons shall not be ordained until they are tried.

Section 12. Each minister shall be a member of some live church and in good standing with the church.

Section 13. 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 a spiritual manner by giving plain and pointed lessons on doctrine and discipline, and the rule of holy living and the church members' duties.

Section 14. No member shall give or attend card parties or attend other places of worldly amusement, or allow such things to be held in their homes, and drunkenness is strictly forbidden.

ARTICLE 2

Section 1. The pastor shall attend his church monthly unless providentially hindered, and shall sit as moderator and see that justice is done, but he may appoint some suitable brother to sit in his stead

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when he thinks proper for the cause, he shall also hold a protracted meeting with his churches once a year.

Section 2. The deacons shall be elected by the church and shall hold offices at the direction of the church; they shall watch over the flock, advise the unruly members and report such to the church in conference when necessary, and may administer the ordinance of Baptism; they shall make all necessary arrangements for the communion, look into needs of the church, and the support of the pastor; they shall take notice of such members as refuse or neglect to partake of the Lord's Supper and wash each other's feet, and endeavor to ascertain the cause that the same may be laid before the church in conference if necessary.

Section 3. The clerk shall be elected by the church and shall hold office at the discretion of the church; he shall keep a record of the members and a minute of the business transactions of the church, and shall read same at the conference as often as church may demand, and shall turn all books and papers to his successor in office.

Section 4. The treasurer shall be elected by the church, shall hold office at the will of the church, shall hold all monies paid into the church for general expenses, and pay out the same only on an order from the church, in conference, and shall turn over all money and papers to his successor.

Section 5. The trustees shall be elected by the church, and shall hold office for two years and until their successors are elected, unless removed for cause; they have charge of the deeds and all other church property, and shall look after the repairs of the church, but they cannot sell or otherwise dispose of the church property without an order from the church in conference.

Section 6. No one shall be received in the church unless scripturally baptized, by an ordained baptizer.

Section 7. Members must pay all debts contracted by them or make satisfactory arrangements with their creditors, and they shall help pay their pastors.

Section 8. We recommend that each church elect a Home Mission Treasurer and all money collected for Home Missions be retained in the church and paid out only by order of the church.

ORDER OF CONFERENCE

1. Invite visiting brethren to seats with us.
2. Opportunity for members.
3. Reading the minutes of last conference.
4. Church report of acknowledgements.
5. Deacons' report.
6. Unfinished business.
7. Miscellaneous business.
8. Motion to adjourn.

