

MINUTES.

The Thirty-fourth Annual Session of the Middle Georgia Association of United Baptists convened with Rehoboth Church, Pike County, Georgia, September 17, 18 and 19, 1897. The introductory sermon was preached by Elder R. H. Goolsby from Hebrews, 10th chapter, 25th verse: "Not forsaking the assembling of ourselves together as the manner of some is."

The session was called to order by the Rev. W. R. White, former Moderator. W. B. Cook was elected Moderator, W. R. Young Clerk. Visiting brethren were invited to seats with the body, Bros. H. M. Pitman, W. Branan, F. M. Gardner, T. C. Branan, the former of the Chattahoochee Association.

Letters were read and the names of delegates from the churches enrolled as follows: Bethlehem, Jasper county, S. W. Garrett, C. A. Lumsden, E. D. Campbell, J. F. White, O. S. Cargel; Mt. Pleasant, J. J. Young; Union Hill, Paulding county, J. E. C. Daniel; Nazareth, B. A. Cook, J. F. Weaver; Hebron, J. W. Roberts, W. L. Goolsby, J. T. Blizzard, J. S. Post; Gladey Creek, T. B. Avent; Rehoboth, W. W. Cook, G. S. Gibson; Corinth, not represented.

The Moderator appointed committees as follows:

On Business—J. J. Young, E. D. Campbell, J. F. White, W. R. White.

On Sabbath Schools—J. E. O. Daniel, J. W. Roberts, C. A. Lumsden.

On Obituaries—W. L. Goolsby, J. F. Weaver, J. S. Post.

On Preaching—S. W. Garrett, B. A. Cook, J. T. Blizzard.

On Finance—O. S. Cargel, J. B. Avent, J. M. Gibson.

On Ministerial Character—J. J. Young, E. D. Campbell, W. L. Branan.

E. D. Campbell was re-elected Treasurer of the Association.

Adjourned to 8:30 o'clock Saturday morning.

SATURDAY MORNING.

The body was called to order by the Moderator, and the Rev. W. L. Goolsby led in prayer.

The following reports of committees were read.

BUSINESS.

We, your committee, report as follows: brethren to keep up a regular correspondence.

2. We invite all Christians to the con

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urge the brethren to send delegates to the different union meetings, and when they cannot do so to send corresponding letters, and we further recommend that this body appoint three preaching brethren to discuss some subject at the union meetings, and also appoint a subject for each one to discuss. 4. We recommend that all the churches send letters by the delegates chosen to represent them and that the letters state the amount, whether much or little, paid to the pastor in charge, and the amount sent to pay for minutes. 6. We recommend that each church appoint a committee to take up a collection for Home Mission and report to the next Association the amount collected. 7. We recommend that the Clerk of this Association make a statistical report of this Association and send up to the State Convention by their delegates. We recommend the doctrinal statement of general principles be reprinted in our minutes, also our decorum be printed again.

E. D. CAMPBELL, Chairman.

SABBATH SCHOOLS.

We, your committee, find flourishing union schools at Nazareth and Mt. Pleasant. The hope of our church lies to a great extent in the activity displayed by our people in this department of church work. We hope that every pastor and every church will see to it that every church has a well conducted Sabbath School.

J. W. ROBERTS, Chairman.

OBITUARIES.

We, your committee, find no deaths since our last Association.

W. L. GOOLSBY, Chairman.

FINANCE.

We, your committee, find money received for minutes as follows:

Nazareth.....	\$ 1 50
Bethlehem.....	3 50
Union Hill.....	2 00
Mt. Pleasant.....	1 00
Rehoboth.....	2 00
Hebron.....	4 00
Gladey Creek.....	1 25

Total.....\$15 25

We find the following amounts appropriated for ministerial services:

Hebron.....	\$10 00
.....	20 00
.....	20 00
.....	\$50 00

O. L. CARGEL, Chairman.

CHARACTER OF THE MINISTRY.

We, the committee, find all ministers in good standing, only we find that some of our licentiates are not discharging their duty in the ministerial work. We, the committee, ask each church to make a report of this in their letter to the Association.

J. F. WEAVER, Chairman.

Prayer by H. M. Pitman.

Adjourned to 2 p. m.

AFTERNOON SESSION.

MISCELLANEOUS BUSINESS.

Union meetings were appointed to be held at Bethlehem on the third Sunday in August and at Mt. Pleasant the fourth Sunday in July, 1898.

Bro. B. A. Cook was appointed to write the next circular, Bro. J. H. Avery to preach the next introductory sermon.

On motion of Bro. J. E. C. Daniel it was resolved that we republish our decorum.

The following preachers and subjects were appointed for discussion at the union meetings: For Mt. Pleasant, Bro. W. R. White, subject, "Sabbath Schools;" J. E. C. Daniel, subject, "The Church;" W. B. Cook, subject, "Love." For Bethlehem, J. H. Avery, subject, "Faith;" R. H. Goolsby, subject, "Work." W. R. Young, subject, "The Spirit."

It was resolved to spend \$12.00 for minutes and donate the remainder to the Clerk for his services.

By request of Mt. Pleasant church W. R. Young was ordained to the ministry. (Bros. W. R. White, J. H. Avery and W. B. Cook, Presbytery.)

Bros. W. R. White and J. H. Avery were elected delegates to the State Convention.

It was resolved to pay 5 cents a head to defray the expenses of the delegates to the State Convention. Also, to send \$2.00 for the printing of State Convention minutes.

Resolved, That a delegate from each church be appointed to raise a bounty for our worthy Brother, John J. Weaver, who is not able to work for a support. He has been in the ministry for a number of years, and walked eighteen miles to preach to his churches.

Resolved, That we tender our thanks to the community for the kindness shown us during our stay with them. May the blessing of Almighty God ever attend them.

Read and received a corresponding letter from our beloved Brother, J. H. Jenkins, of the Chattahoochee Association, asking special prayer for him in the work, feeling more determined to do more in the cause of Christ, by the help of God intending to give

half of 1898 to the evangelical work. May God bless the brother and crown his work with great success.

Elected Bros. R. H. Goolsby and W. B. Cook as corresponding members to the Chattahoochee Association.

Resolved, That we consolidate the minutes of all F. B.'s in Georgia together with the S. C.

Adjourned till next session to convene with Hebron church, Jasper county, Georgia, 2 1/2 miles south of Monticello, Ga.

After the ordination Sunday evening we took the parting hand, which resulted in a glorious outpouring of the Holy Spirit. Closing prayer by old Father Branan.

PREACHING SERVICES.

The pulpit was filled on Friday night by Brother H. M. Pitman; Saturday, at 11 a. m., by Brother J. H. Avery, followed by Brother W. R. White; Saturday night by J. E. O. Daniel, followed by H. M. Pitman; Sunday, at 11 a. m., by H. M. Pitman.

W. R. Young, Clerk.

W. B. Cook, Moderator.

CIRCULAR LETTER.

To the Churches Composing the Middle Georgia Association of United Baptists—Greeting:

In the 133d Psalm I read these words: "Behold, how good and how pleasant it is for brethren to dwell together in unity." Can it be possible that there is a man or woman here to-day that would blame me for being a United Baptist after hearing what the Psalmist, the man after God's own heart, says about unity. Unity is God's sweetest word and the Devil's bitterest word. Unity unites the church down here into a little heaven, without unity it divides it, and it becomes almost like a little hell. There is nothing that pleases the Devil more than for him to get God's people divided, for then he knows he can make them do any mean, low down things he wants them to do. And my sole prayer to God has been for him to keep us united. And Christ saw how hurtful division was, that He prayed the Father to make us one. We are not only Baptists, but we are United Baptists; we love the souls of all nations, of every man, woman and child; we believe God wants to save all, and will save all that will come to Christ, no matter if it is the whole world. He don't want the Devil to get a single soul. God made us neither obedient nor disobedient, we are responsible. We must say amen to our own damnation, for we are left to make our own choice. God makes no man bow the knee to Him. You can treat God with scorn and contempt if you want o, and can serve Him with all the

heart and soul if you want to. Oh, what a surprise it would be to Paul, or to Peter, or Apollos, if they could come back here now and see the strifes, bickerings and divisions in the different churches. It seems as if they don't care no way, they wouldn't be united if they could, they add and leave out so as to be disunited. Would to God that every person would search the Scriptures, and obey their Lord and Master by doing what He has told us to do to the very letter, not some things, but all, not omit anything because it would please men, and we could be large in numbers by so doing; but let us show to the world that as our Lord and Master did things that the world, and even some churches, churches mind you, think is too low and disgracing for them to do, that we will do them, and all of them, and so continue in unity now and always.

WILEY A. COOK.

DECORUM OF THE ASSOCIATION.

ARTICLE 1. We, the churches hereafter mentioned, resolve ourselves into a body to be known as the Middle Georgia Association of United Baptists, which shall meet annually at such times and places as may be agreed upon by the body at its annual meeting.

ART. 2. This Association shall not have any right or authority whatever to lord it over the churches, but only act as advisory counsel.

ART. 3. The Association when assembled shall be composed of all ministers of the Association, both ordained and licentiates, and of delegates chosen by the several churches from time to time for that purpose.

ART. 4. The number of delegates to be determined by the membership of the respective churches. Any church to be entitled to two after it has obtained fifty members. It shall be entitled to one delegate for every twenty-five or fractional part thereof.

ART. 5. That when any church fails to be represented by delegates or by letter for two years in succession it shall be the duty of the Association to appoint a committee to ascertain the cause of failure and report the same to the next session of the Association.

ART. 6. The officers of the Association shall consist of a Moderator, Clerk and Treasurer, to be chosen annually from the members present in any way the body may see fit.

ART. 7. It shall be the duty of the Moderator to preside over the body during the session at which he is elected, call the next succeeding session, to preside until a re-organization is effected by the election and installation of his successor. It shall be his duty

to keep order, enforce the rules of decorum, decide all questions of discipline, and in case of a tie to cast a deciding vote. He shall have the privilege of speaking, but must call upon some brother to preside in his stead while speaking.

ART. 8. It shall be the duty of the Clerk to keep a minute of the proceedings, read the same when called upon, to be corrected at the discretion of the body, and shall prepare the minutes for publication, unless the Association shall appoint someone for that purpose.

ART. 9. It shall be the duty of the Treasurer to keep all money committed to him by the Association, and an account of receipts and expenditures, make a report at each Association if called upon, pay out money whenever ordered to do so by the Association.

ART. 10. When the Association is assembled a majority of the members enrolled shall be required to form a quorum for the transaction of business.

ART. 11. The majority of the members present shall rule in all cases except upon admission of new churches, which shall require a unanimous vote.

ART. 12. No member shall absent himself from the house without leave from the Moderator, and no member shall leave the Association without the consent of the body.

ART. 13. All business shall be brought before the body by move and second and shall be disposed of according to good usage.

ART. 14. No person shall be allowed to speak more than twice on the same subject, nor more than fifteen minutes each time without permission from the body.

ART. 15. No person shall be disturbed while speaking, unless he departs from the subject and it be necessary to call him to order.

ART. 16. Only one person will be allowed to speak at a time and he must rise to his feet and address the Moderator, and must not use abusive language or personal reflection on any one without being subject to a call to order by the Moderator.

ART. 17. This decorum may be altered, amended or abridged at any session of the Association by a majority of the members present.

E. D. CAMPBELL, Chairman.

Doctrinal Statements of General Principles Taught By United Free Will and Other Liberal Baptists.

1. As to God: "One God and Father of all."—Eph. 4:6.
2. As to the Scriptures: "All Scripture is given by inspiration of God."—2 Timothy 3:16.
3. As to Freedom of the Will: "Ye will not come to me."—John 5:40. "Whosoever will let him take of the water of life freely."—Rev. 22:17.

4. As to Conditions of Salvation: "He (Christ) died for all."—2 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.

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."—John 5-4.

8. As to Works: "Faith without works is dead."—James 2-26. "God hath before ordained that we should walk in them."—Eph. 2-10.

9. As to Baptism: "They went down both into the water."—Acts 8-48. "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 Subjects for Baptism: "If thou believest with all thy heart, thou mayest."—Acts 8-37. "Every one of us shall give an account of himself to God."—Rom. 14-12.

11. As to the Oneness of the Christian Church: "Is Christ divided?"—1 Cor. 1-13. "I am the vine, ye are the branches."—John 15-5. "That they may be one as we are."—John 17-11-22. "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, and so let him eat of that bread and drink of that cup."—1 Cor. 11-28. "Let no man judge you."—Col. 2-16.

13. As to Feet-Washing: "I have given you an example."—John 13-16.

14. As to the Resurrection: "For the hour is coming in which all that are in the graves 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.

15. As to Judgment, Reward and Punishment? "For we shall all stand before the judgement seat of Christ."—Rom. 14-19. "And these shall go away into everlasting punishment, but the righteous into life eternal."—Matt. 25-16.

STATISTICAL TABLE.

CHURCH.	COUNTY	PASTOR.	Meeting Day	Baptized	Received by Letter...	Expelled	Dismissed by Letter...	Total Membership.....
Bethlehem ..	Jasper.....	R. H. Goolsby.	3	17	1	—	4	90
Corinth	Butts.....	Butts.....	—	—	—	—	—	3
Union Hill..	Paulding.	J. E. O. Daniel	4	—	—	—	—	131
Nazareth	Pike.....	W. R. White...	3	—	—	—	—	17
Mt. Pleasant	Carroll....	J. H. Avery....	4	—	—	—	—	19
Hebron.....	Jasper....	R. H. Goolsby.	1	—	—	—	—	65
Rehoboth...	Pike.....	W. R. White..	1	—	—	—	—	55
Gladey Cr'k.	Jones.....	R. H. Goolsby.	4	—	—	—	—	18

NAMES OF CHURCH CLERKS AND POSTOFFICES.

CHURCH.	CLERK.	POSTOFFICE.
Union Hill,	E. C. Brock,	Crowsville, Ga.
Hebron,	Sam Freeman,	Adgateville, Ga.
Nazareth,	J. B. Weaver,	Weaver, Ga.
Mt. Pleasant,	W. R. Young,	Roscoe, Ga.
Bethlehem,	J. C. Moore,	Mechanicsville, Ga.
Rehoboth,	W. W. Cook,	Weaver, Ga.
Gladey Creek,	John Waits,	Round Oak, Ga.
Corinth,	F. W. Gilmore,	Jackson, Ga.

MINISTERS AND POSTOFFICES.

ORDAINED.

W. R. White, Weaver, Ga.; W. B. Cook, Lisey, Ga.; J. J. Weaver, Woodbury, Ga.; J. H. Avery, Holland's Mill, Ga.; R. H. Goolsby, Monticello, Ga.; Laramie Gibson, Lisey, Ga.; W. R. Young, Roscoe, Ga.

LICENTIATES.

Ga.; Gaston Evans, Crowsville, Ga.; W.