

MINUTES
OF THE
TWENTY-SEVENTH ANNUAL SESSION

OF THE
Midway Freewill
Baptist Association

HELD WITH
WHITE POND CHURCH
Early County, Georgia
NOVEMBER 28th and 29th, 1925.

OFFICERS:

W. T. WILEY, Moderator, **D. F. WALKER**, Clerk,
Hilton, Ga. Elmodel, Ga.

JAMES CHESHER, Treasurer, Colquitt, Ga.

Next session will be held with Macedonia Church, Miller County, Georgia, beginning on Wednesday, before the First Sunday in November, 1926.

Collected by - Shivers

MINUTES

The Twenty-seventh Annual Session of the Midway Free-will Baptist Association convened with White Pond Church, Early County, Georgia, on November 28th and 29th.

The body was called to order at 10:30 o'clock by the Moderator, Rev. W. T. Wiley, and the 116th chapter of Psalms was read and prayer offered by the Moderator.

The body adjourned for preaching and the stand was filled by Rev. J. G. Harris. After preaching the body adjourned for dinner to meet again at 1:30 o'clock

Wednesday Evening.

The body was called to order at 1:30 o'clock by the Moderator. Prayer by Rev. C. C. White. The Moderator announced the body ready for the transaction of business.

Called for corresponding letters from different churches and Rev. J. G. Harris and W. B. Griffin were appointed to read said letters as follows:

Live Oak—T. J. Sanders, F. C. Williford, Ralph Phillips, D. F. Walker.

Macedonia—S. C. DeBerry, Mrs. Rossie DeBerry, James Chesher, Mrs. O. W. Gordon.

Pleasant Grove—W. S. Hatten.

Cedar Springs—G. E. Pyle, F. M. Moseley.

White Pond—Mrs. W. C. Hunt, J. B. Widner, C. C. Willis, J. L. Widner.

Open Pond—A. D. Ivey, T. J. Fort, A. B. Hays, J. B. Hays.

New Light—J. J. Kemp, Dannie Drakewater, Frank Jackson, G. W. Nix, J. W. Avery.

Palmas—W. B. Griffin, J. A. Jones.

Oak Grove—A. L. McDowell, J. A. Jones, C. C. Middleton.

Enterprise—P. C. Harrell, T. W. Jenkins, Mrs. Hattie Jenkins, Mrs. Stella Bailey.

Damascus—Willie Wiley, J. T. Gordon, W. L. Pool.

White Plain—J. L. Houston, J. W. Nix, C. P. Houston, D. S. Sheffield, L. J. White.

New Enterprise—H. E. Rich, Jessie Petterson, C. E. Wardel.
Zion—J. B. Chambers, Jimmie Wiley.

Next was the election of Moderator and Clerk, and Rev. W. T. Wiley was elected Moderator and D. F. Walker was elected Clerk.

Invite visiting Brothers and Sisters to seats with us. Call for Petitionary letters and none received. Appointment of committees. The following committees were appointed.

Devotional Committee—C. C. Willis H. F. Rodgers, W. C. Hunt.

Committee on Suggestion, to serve for 1926—F. M. Moseley, J. G. Harris, D. S. Sheffield, T. G. Harvey, James Chesher.

Committee on State of Churches and Correction of Minutes—T. J. Fort, W. B. Griffin, J. B. Chambers, A. L. McDonald, G. E. Pyle.

Committee on Sabbath Schools—J. L. Houston, S. C. DeBerry, A. D. Ivey.

Committee on Nomination—T. J. Sanders, P. C. Harrell, W. L. Pool.

Committee on Finance—Willie Wiley, W. R. Houston, C. E. Wardel.

Committee on Temperance—J. W. Avery, G. E. Pyle, Callie Middleton.

Motion that we suspend the regular order of business and take up such matters as may come before the body.

Call for correspondent from Sister Association, and J. M. Emanuel and C. J. Jordan, W. C. Tendel responded from the Martin Association and the right hand of fellowship was extended them by the Moderator.

Appointed correspondent to Sister Association, to the Martin Association, E. C. Williams, T. G. Harvey.

To Chattahoochee Association—Rev. E. C. Williams.

State Line Association—Rev. C. C. White.

Georgia Union—Rev. C. C. White.

South Georgia Association—James Chesher, J. G. Harris.

Little River Association—Rev. W. T. Wiley, W. B. Griffin.

Appointed delegates to State Convention, J. G. Harris, T. G. Harvey, James Chesher, A. D. Avery.

Appointment of delegates to the General Conference which meets in Tennessee—Rev. E. C. Williams, W. T. Wiley.

Report of Devotional Committee was received and is as follows: Rev. E. C. Williams to preach tonight and Rev. C. C. White tomorrow at 11 o'clock.

Motion to adjourn to meet Thursday morning at 9 o'clock. Song and prayer by Rev. J. L. Tuddie.

Thursday Morning.

The body was called to order at 9 o'clock by the Moderator and prayer by the Moderator. The Moderator announced the body ready for the transaction of business.

Moderator read the decorum and called the roll, and same corrected.

Call for correspondents from Sister Associations and received Rev. E. A. Drake from the Martin Association, and Rev. J. L. Tuddie from State Line Association and the right hand of fellowship was extended them by the Moderator.

Call for reports of different committees. Suggestion made on the report and same was adopted by sections.

Take recess for preaching and the stand was filled by Rev. C. C. White, and the body adjourned for dinner.

Thursday Afternoon.

The body met at 1:30 o'clock. Song by the body and prayer by Brother F. M. Moseley, and then the Moderator announced the body ready for the transaction of business. Motion to appoint a committee of three to meet with a committee from Florida and Alabama, in regards to establishing a school for Georgia, Florida and Alabama T. G. Harvey, James Chesher and J. G. Harris were appointed on that committee.

A resolution was offered by Brother T. G. Harvey and same was read and adopted.

Committee on Sabbath School made their report and same was adopted as amended by Sister Ida Tucker.

Committee on State of churches and character of preachers made their report and same was adopted.

Committee on Temperance made their report and same was adopted.

Committee on nominations made their report and same was adopted.

Committee on finance made their report and same was adopted.

Next to pay to school at Aiken, N. C., \$50.00 out of the treasury.

Treasurer made his report and same was adopted.

Motion to draw on the treasurer for a sufficient amount to pay for the expense of getting the minutes out.

Motion to take up public collection for the support of the league and \$16.50 was received.

Motion to pay the clerk \$10.00 for his services.

Motion to pay to the league \$13.65 out of the treasury.

Motion to tender our thanks to the good people of White Pond church for their kindness shown us during our stay with them.

Motion to tender our thanks to our Moderator and Clerk for their faithful services.

Motion to ask each church in the Midway Association to raise a fund by the next association for the purpose of erecting a monument to our beloved Brother S. Eley.

To appoint a committee of three to write an obituary of Rev. S. Eley and same be published in the minutes, and Rev. J. G. Harris and E. C. Williams and W. A. McDonald were appointed on said committee.

Motion to adjourn to meet with Macedonia Church, Miller County, Georgia, on Wednesday before the first Sunday in November, 1926.

REV. W. T. WILEY, Moderator.

D. F. WALKER, Clerk.

Report of different committees are as follows:

REPORT OF PREACHING COMMITTEE.

We, your committee on preaching, beg leave to make the following report: That Rev. E. C. Williams preach tonight at 7 o'clock, and Rev. C. C. White tomorrow at 11 o'clock.

C. C. WILLIS, Chairman.

REPORT ON TEMPERANCE.

We, your committee on Temperance, beg leave to make the following report. We find the Temperance worse than it was two years ago, we urge our preachers and deacons and lay members to make a stronger effort to lessen this great evil that is so injurious to the churches and rising generation.

J. W. AVERY, Chairman.

COMMITTEE ON STATE OF CHURCHES AND CHARACTER OF PREACHERS.

We, your committee, wish to report the condition of our church and ministers. We find as far as we go, our churches

in order with our decorum and our preachers all standing up for the preaching the doctrine of our Freewill Baptist Faith.

T. J. FORT, Chairman.

COMMITTEE ON SABBATH SCHOOL.

We, your committee on Sabbath School, respectfully submit the following report: We recommend that the pastors of the different churches urge that the Sunday School work be enforced more and further recommend that the association appoint some Brother or Sister to visit the churches that have no Sunday School and try to help organize School. We believe that the ministry of Jesus and that of the new testament churches comprised two essential elements teaching and preaching, following the example of Jesus and of the new testament. We urge the churches of association to use the Sunday School as the teaching of God's word for we believe this service as important as we do preaching service. We believe that it should be directed by the church and guided by the Holy Spirit that the Holy Spirit should be entreated to guide in the selecting of officers and teachers to direct the policies and works and to bless its instructions.

S. C. DeBERRY, Chairman.

COMMITTEE ON SUGGESTIONS.

We, your committee on suggestions respectfully submit the following report:

Our Association outlook and recommendation of specific work led by Rev. W. T. Wiley.

True service as applied to individuals and churches, led by Rev. W. T. Wiley.

How we, as an Association should apply it collectively, discussed by Brother W. B. Griffin and Rev. W. A. McDonald.

Cooperative services by Brother James Chesher.

Auxiliary work in the churches, led by Willie Wiley.

Respectfully submitted,

H. J. CROSBY,
WILLIE WILEY,
T. G. HARVEY,

Committee.

Resolution offered by Brother T. G. Harvey, that we resolve that we ask our churches to have a Freewill Baptist league, also to have a Sunday School. Also we insist on the different churches to organize a lady Missionary Society in each church,

to subscribe for the F. W. B. paper, and to give our earnest support to our school at Aden, N. C.

Respectfully submitted,

T. J. HARVEY.

COMMITTEE ON NOMINATIONS.

We, your committee on Nominations, beg leave to make the following report. We recommend that the next session of the Association be held with Macedonia church, Miller County, Georgia, on Wednesday before the 1st Sunday in November, 1926, and that Rev. W. T. Wiley preach the introductory sermon.

P. C. HARRELL, Chairman.

FINANCE COMMITTEE REPORT.

We, your committee beg to make the following report. We received for Missions \$68.41, and received for Minutes \$36.42. We received for the college at Aden, N. C. \$41.25.

Respectfully submitted,

WILLIE WILEY, Chairman.

TREASURER'S REPORT ON MISSION FUNDS.

Amount on hand last session-----	\$386.59
Paid out to W. T. Wiley, State Committee-----	\$ 6.25
Paid to W. B. Griffin, State Committee-----	\$ 4.25
Paid to Willie Wiley, 1923-----	\$ 3.50
Paid to General Conference-----	\$ 10.00
Paid to Henry Melin for New Light-----	\$ 16.50
Paid to J. G. Harris for Oak Grove-----	\$ 7.00
Paid to Delegates, expense General Conference-----	\$ 3.25
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	\$50.00
Received at this session-----	\$ 69.41
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	\$456.00
To Balance on hand-----	\$405.25

REPORT OF MINUTE FUNDS.

At close of last session to Dr. to Treasurer----	\$ 9.77
Received from Damascus church-----	\$ 3.50
Received from Cedar Spring Church-----	\$ 2.50
Received from White Pond Church-----	\$ 2.40
Paid Clerk for Service-----	\$10.00

Paid for publishing Minutes.....	\$25.00
Paid postage for mailing minutes.....	\$ 1.20
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	\$45.97
Received at this session.....	\$ 37.42
To Dr. to Treasurer.....	.15
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	\$45.97

CORRESPONDENCE LETTER FROM MIDWAY ASSOCIATION.

To all liberal Baptist Associations, Greeting: Beloved Brethren, we have just closed the 27th Annual Session of our Association and we had a pleasant Session. Brotherly love seemed to prevail with us. We had only two associations to visit us, and that was the Martin and the State Line Associations. Now Brethren, we earnestly beg you to visit us in our association so we can get acquainted with each other, that we might do more for the cause in the future than we have in the past. So we beg our Sister Associations in the future to meet with us as our next session will convene with Macedonia church, Miller County, Georgia, on Wednesday before the 1st Sunday in November, 1926. We will be glad to see all the Associations in reach of us to come and be with us.

D. F. WALKER.

LIST OF EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE AND POST OFFICES.

James Chesher, Colquitt, Ga.
W. R. Houston, Colquitt, Ga.
H. J. Crosby, Blakely, Ga.
T. J. Harvey, Jakin, Ga.
W. B. Griffin, Milford, Ga.
Willie Wiley, Damascus, Ga.
F. M. Moseley, Cedar Spring, Ga.

LIST OF ORDAINED MINISTERS AND POST OFFICES.

W. A. McDonald, Colquitt, Ga.
W. T. Wiley, Hilton, Ga.
J. G. Harris, Arlington, Ga.
C. C. White, Blakeley, Ga.
E. C. Williams, Iron City, Ga.
E. S. Chesher, DeLand City, Fla.
Henry Edwards, Post Office not known.
W. J. Lumpkin, Edison, Ga.

LIST OF COMMITTEE ON PROGRAM FOR 1926.

F. M. Moseley, Cedar Springs, Ga.

J. G. Harris, Arlington, Ga.

D. S. Sheffield, Colquitt, Ga.

T. G. Harvey, Jakin, Ga.

James Chesher, Colquitt, Ga.

The Union meeting will convene with _____
Church on Friday before the 5th Sunday in August, 1926, and
that Rev. E. C. Williams to preach the Introductory Sermon.

JAMES CHESHER, Moderator.

The Midway Sunday School Convention will meet with Open
Pond Church, Early County, Georgia, on the third Friday in
June, 1926.

JAMES CHESHER, President.

T. J. FORT, Secretary.

OBITUARY.

Brother S. Eley was born in 1855 somewhere in South Georgia. We are sorry that we cannot give this information.

He was married to Miss Elizabeth Perry in May 1875, and two years later joined the church at Open Pond, in Early County, Georgia, after which he became an active member in the church, and four years later, in 1882, he became a minister of the Gospel, and for over forty years preached the Gospel through all South Georgia and also in Florida and Alabama, doing good everywhere, building up churches and establishing the faith.

He had many friends and comrades in all parts of these states, although there were many who did not altogether agree with his firm stand and views of the Gospel, for all of these years he proved his faith by his works.

His manner of life proved his stand that he had taken for his God, church and country.

One who drove through the cold, the heat and the rain to carry the glad tidings, his life, like all other preachers was a sacrifice.

For the last several years he made his home in Decatur County, near Brinson, Ga., (now Seminole County), where there were six children born to him, namely: S. H. Eley, Alda Roberson, Ellie Eley (dead), W. H. Eley, Belle Godby, J. H. Eley, and his wife, Mrs. S. Eley, who is yet at the old home, who for many years held the home together while the good man of God

went with the bread of life, and it may be said of her too, that she preached the silent message, that will be read in golden letters in the Heaven of rest.

May God's richest blessings rest on this good wife and children. The many prayers that have gone on from the lips of this good man may live in the hearts and home of all his posterity.

W. A. McDONALD,
E. C. WILLIAMS,
J. G. HARRIS,
Committee.

STATISTICAL TABLE

NAME OF CHURCH AND PASTOR	NAME OF CLERK AND POSTOFFICE	Received by Letter	Received on Profession	Restored	Baptised	Dismissed by Letter	Expelled	Dead	Total Numbers	Pd. for Mis. Work	Paid for Minutes	For Building Purpose	For School	For Pastor
White Pond, J. M. Emanuel	J. E. Widener, Blakely, Ga.	4	11		10	1		2	76	\$3.57	\$2.55		\$3.00	\$125.08
Cedar Springs, W. T. Wiley	F. M. Moseley, Cedar Spring, Ga.				2				82	5.25	2.05			150.00
Patmos, E. C. Williams	J. F. Griffin, Milford, Ga.				8	2			54	3.00	3.00	65.00	23.25	102.60
Macedonia, J. M. Emanuel	W. P. Harrell, Colquitt, Ga.	3			6	1	6	3	175	10.00	5.00			186.80
Enterprise, J. L. Tudder	P. C. Harrell, Blakeley, Ga.				1	1		1	42	1.00	1.00			51.85
Pine View, E. C. Williams	T. W. Stephens, Donalsonville, Ga					2			134	1.00	.50			46.00
Live Oak, J. M. Emanuel	H. R. Sanders, Milford, Ga.					1		1	131		2.50			125.00
Bethlehem, W. T. Wiley	D. B. Hooks, Shellman, Ga.							1	60	6.00	2.05			175.00
Oak Grove, W. T. Wiley	C. C. Middleton, Colquitt, Ga.		11		11				68	6.95	1.25			106.55
Zion, J. L. Tudder	Jimmie Wiley, Hilton, Ga.	1	15	3	15	1		1	144	4.25	3.00			78.83
Open Pond, W. H. Emerson	M. M. Harvey, Jakin, Ga.		10	2	9	3		2	109	11.00	3.00	\$100.		278.43
New Light, W. T. Wiley	B. E. Paul, Morgain, Ga.		11	11	11	2		3	126	7.15	2.00			150.00
New Enterprise, A. P. Norris	C. E. Wardell, Iron City, Ga.	1							56		3.00		5.00	45.00
Travelers Rest, J. M. Emanuel	H. D. Parker, Newton, Ga.	6			14				149		2.00			133.83
White Plain, G. W. Cherry	J. A. Sheffield, Blakeley, Ga.					4			109	5.00	2.50	10.00	10.00	101.00
Damascus, W. T. Wiley	L. W. Wiley, Damascus, Ga.					2			29	5.25	3.00			166.00
Pleasant Grove, J. G. Harris	M. C. Leslie, Shellman, Ga.								36		1.00			40.00