

MINUTES
OF THE
THIRTY-THIRD ANNUAL SESSION
OF THE
MIDWAY ASSOCIATION
OF THE
ORIGINAL FREE WILL BAPTIST OF GEORGIA.

Held With
TRAVELER'S REST CHURCH
Baker County, Georgia, October 28, 29, 1931.

OFFICERS

BRO. WILLIE WILEY, Moderator, ----- Damascus, Ga.
REV. JOE FORT, Clerk, (Pro tem) ----- Jakin, Ga.
BRO. JAS. CHESHIRE, Treasurer, ----- Colquitt, Ga.

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

JAMES CHESHIRE, Chairman ----- Colquitt, Ga.
W. R. HOUSTON, ----- Colquitt, Ga.
H. J. COSBY, ----- Blakely, Ga.
T. G. HARVEY, SR. ----- Jakin, Ga.
WILLIE WILEY, ----- Damascus, Ga.
F. M. MOSLEY, ----- Jakin, Ga.
W. B. GRIFFIN, ----- Milford, Ga.

The next Session will be held with Cedar Springs Church, Early County, Ga. on Wednesday and Thursday before the first Sunday in November 1932. Session to be open at 9:30 A. M. Rev. Joe Fort to preach the introductory sermon, with Rev. E. C. Williams as his alternate.

AYDEN, N. C.
FREE WILL BAPTIST PRESS
1931

PROCEEDINGS

The Midway Association of the Original Free Will Baptist of Georgia, held its Thirty-third Annual Session, with Traveler's Rest Church, Baker County, on October 28, 29, 1931.

The first service of this session was called to order by our moderator, Bro. Willie Wiley. We had a short song and prayer service, which was followed by the Scripture reading by the Moderator.

The Clerk was absent and the body elected Bro. Joe Fort to serve in that capacity during this session.

Bro. W. D. Griffin and Rev. Joe Fort were appointed to read the letters from the churches in our association.

Churches and Delegates as follows:

Bethlehem:—Charlie Barfield, Leonza Brown, Lynette Brown, Lyda Melton.

Cedar Springs:—F. M. Mosely, Miss Bernice Houston, G. E. Pyle, Miss Irene Pyle.

Damascus:—L. B. Perry, Miss Nancy Bridges, J. J. Holder, Aletha Roberts.

Enterprise:—By letter.

Live Oak:—F. C. Williford, C. F. Barnett, J. M. Ethridge, Beatrice Mimms, Stella Jarvis.

Mount Zion:—J. M. Emanuel, C. G. Jordan.

Macedonia:—J. W. Keen, H. L. McCann, Mrs. S. C. Deberry, Mrs. Westbrook, Jas. Cheshire.

New Light:—Mr. and Mrs. Eubanks, Geo. Nix, W. L. Turner, J. O. Morris.

New Enterprise:—J. L. Peters.

Oak Grove:—W. R. Houston, Mrs. A. L. McDonald, Fred Middleton.

Open Pond:—A. D. Ivey, T. J. Fort, Sr., T. G. Harvey, Sr., Miss Dot Harvey, Julia Fort.

Patmos:—Mrs. J. E. Griffin, Mrs. H. W. Dees, W. B. Griffin, Mrs. J. C. Woodard.

Pine View:—Luther Norris.

Pleasant Grove:—W. S. Hadden, G. C. Melton, W. C. Leslie, W. H. Hawk.

Traveler's Rest:—T. H. Edwards, Oscar Ervin, C. B. Butler, L. P. Ervin, R. R. Musgrove.

White Plains:—B. H. Hoover, D. S. Sheffield, J. W. Nix, Miss Gladys Cosby.

White Pond:—J. C. English.

Zion:—J. O. Lane, J. B. Chambers, Jimmie Wiley, Henry Wiley, J. S. Anderson, M. B. Woodlief.

Blakely:—Petitionary letter by W. W. Houston, Alvin Day.

At this point the business was suspended and Rev. T. B. Mellette brought us a splendid message on the "Lost Coin."

Adjournment was made at twelve o'clock to return back to the house at 1:15 P. M. for business.

AFTERNOON SESSION

Meeting was called to order by our moderator at the appointed time and we engaged in a short song and prayer service.

BUSINESS

Motion properly sustained that we abide by article 5 of our Constitution, and postpone the election of officers until the miscellaneous business at the close of the second day's service.

Motion sustained to accept the Petitory Letter from Blakely Free Will Baptist church, and receive her as a member of our association. The delegates from this church were then given the hand of fellowship.

The following Committees were appointed by the moderator as ordered by the body.

First.—On Missions.—Zion Church and pastor.

Second.—Christian Education:—Mt. Zion Church and pastor.

Third.—Sunday Schools and Leagues.—White Plains Church and pastor.

Fourth.—On Temperance.—New Light Church and pastor.

Fifth.—On Suggestions.—Cedar Springs Church and pastor.

Sixth.—On Character of Ministers and State of Churches.—W. B. Griffin, A. D. Ivey, J. B. Chambers.

The above named committees are to report at the 1932 session.

The following committees are to report at this session:

First.—On Devotions.—Traveler's Rest Church and pastor.

Second.—On Finance.—W. R. Houston, L. B. Perry, G. E. Pyle.

Third.—On Nominations.—A. D. Ivey, H. J. Cosby, C. F. Barnette, J. B. Chambers.

Delegates from Other Associations:

Alabama. State Line:—Rev. M. M. Hicks, Rev. J. N. Barnes.

From Zion Bible School:—Rev. T. B. Mellette.

Visiting Ministers:—Rev. K. V. Shutes, Kynesville, Fla., Rev. Rufus Hyman, Marianna, Fla.

We then had a round-table discussion, and the central theme was Zion Bible School.

WEDNESDAY NIGHT SESSION

Rev. J. N. Barnes brought an inspirational message. Bro. Barnes is from Zion Bible School.

THURSDAY MORNING SESSION

This session was opened by a short song and prayer service. The moderator read a portion of God's Holy Word and then led us into a prayer for the Association.

The roll of Delegates was called: Minutes of first day's session read and adopted.

REPORT OF COMMITTEES

Report of Committee on Missions, adopted with one amendment (see report).

Report of Committee on Education, made and adopted (see report).

Motion properly sustained to draw \$15.00 from the Treasury to pay for books and board of Bro. Luther Norris.

Business was here suspended until the afternoon, and Rev. _____ brought us an inspirational Message.

AFTERNOON SESSION

This session opened with a devotional consisting of songs and prayer.

Motion sustained to accept report of committees on Sunday Schools and Free Will Baptist Leagues.

Delegates from Bethlehem church being absent, there was no report on Temperance, however, the subject was discussed very freely and a motion was sustained that we put on record that this body stands against the sale and use of intoxicating liquors in any way.

Report of Delegate from Woman's Auxiliary Convention was adopted by the Association.

Report of Treasurer adopted (see report).

Report of Finance Committee adopted (see report).

Report of Committee on Character of Ministers and State of Churches was adopted.

Report of Committee on Nominations was adopted.

Moderator appointed Rev. T. B. Mellette and Rev. W. T. Wiley delegates to the Chattahooche Association.

Moderator appointed Rev. E. C. Williams and Rev. J. M. Emanuel delegates to the Martin Association.

Moderator appointed Rev. J. L. Tedder and Rev. M. B. Woodlief as delegates to the State Line Association of Alabama and Florida.

The moderator appointed Rev. M. B. Woodlief as delegate to the South Eastern Association.

Motion properly sustained that Bro. Jas. Cheshire and Rev. W. T. Wiley represent the Midway Association at the General Conference.

Motion sustained that the General Conference, be invited to hold its 1933 session at Open Pond Church, Jakin, Ga.

Announcement was made that Bro. Maynard Woodlief would be ordained

at the union meeting on Friday before the fifth Sunday in November 1931, with Rev. W. T. Wiley, Rev. J. M. Emanuel, and Rev. T. B. Mellette officiating in this service.

Motion properly sustained that Bros. Cooper Fort and Luther Norris be allowed to draw on the loan fund as Rev. Joe Fort pays it into the Treasury.

Motion sustained that we enter into the election of officers for the next term in our association. The following were elected:

Rev. W. T. Wiley	-----	Moderator.
Bro. W. B. Griffin	-----	Clerk
Bro. Jas. Cheshire	-----	Treasurer.

Motion properly sustained that a vote of thanks be extended to Bro. Willie Wiley, for his faithful services as moderator for the last two years.

Motion sustained that the clerk be paid Ten Dollars for his services.

Motion carried that a rising vote of thanks be extended to Traveler's Rest Church and community for their hospitality to us during this session.

Motion carried to adjourn.

WILLIE WILEY, Moderator.

REV. JOE FORT, Clerk Pro tem.

REPORTS

Report of Committee on Devotions

We your committee on Devotions recommend that Bro. J. N. Barnes preach to night (Wednesday) and Rev. K. V. Shutes, Thursday morning at 11 o'clock.

Report of Committee on Character of Ministers and State of Churches

We your committee beg leave to report that we find all the churches in good standing but one. Rev. Henry Edwards is out of the bounds of our Association and we think he should be looked up, in order to see if he is still living as he should and if he is still a member of this association.

A. D. IVEY, Chairman.

Report of Committee on Christian Education

We, your committee on Christian Education, wish to report at this time that our people seem to be very active in the various organizations of our denomination. Seemingly, they have had a vision, thereby realizing the great opportunity to teach, train and hold our young people. We recommend that every church organize a Sunday School, F. W. B. L., and a Ladies' Aid, where it is practicable. We feel that there is no better way to train and hold our young people than through these organizations.

Realizing that the foundation must be laid at home around the altar and after the foundation is laid in the home, and the training is given at the church, and God has called them into definite service, whether it be to preach, teach, or lead in any way; we are glad to recommend our Bible School at Zion as the place to train for that definite service.

Report of Committee on Nominations.

We, your committee on Nominations, recommend that the next session of the association be held with Cedar Springs Church, and we further recommend that Rev. Joe Fort preach the introductory sermon, with Rev. E. C. Williams as his alternate.

A. D. IVEY, Chairman.

Report of Committee on Missions

We, your committee on Missions, submit the following report: We find that there has been a great neglect in regard to Home and Foreign Missionary activities. Jesus said, "Go ye, therefore, and teach all nations," but we have not taught a nation. We believe that this has been a sin of negligence. There are a great many states and hundreds of counties that know us only through history. Therefore, we say it is time for us to become interested in Home and Foreign Missionary work. We endorse the work of the General Conference in regards to putting native missionaries on the field under the General Missionary Society, in the name of the Free Will Baptist Denomination; and we wish to pledge our support each year to this drive. We do not know a better use for, at least, a part of our mission money than to put it in Zion Bible School and its students in helping them to carry on this missionary work in both town and rural districts. Brethren, the towns are calling us as well as the rural districts. Will we hear the "Macedonian call?" Then, "Come over and help us." The lack of Missionary zeal was the burst up of the first church, and we know that the lack of zeal for mission work has hampered the progress of our church. We recommend the election of a Mission Board to keep the work before the people of our Association.

K. V. SHUTES, Chairman.

Amendment. We recommend that each church take an offering at the monthly appointment in November, or as soon after as possible, to be turned over to the Blakely Church and designated as Mission Money.

K. V. SHUTES, Chairman.

REPORT FROM AUXILIARY CONVENTION

The second session of the Woman's Auxiliary Convention was held at Oak Grove Church on October 3rd. A goodly number of delegates were

present. The following subjects were well presented to the edification of those present: 1. "Woman's Influence." 2. "Prayer." 3. "Stewardship of Influence." The music and a special number by a Sunday School Class, contributed to the theme of the day's program—"Influencing by Daily Doing of the Master's Service."

The Business Meeting was begun by discussion of our Field Work, Co-operation of Ministers, Ministerial Loan Fund, and Zion Bible School.

The five churches reporting gave the following totals from their auxiliaries. Enrollment 334. Average attendance, 213; Collections, \$398.64; Paid out: \$358.67. Contributions to convention \$17.00, \$15.00 of which was sent to Blakely on their building fund. \$73.25 was given by F. W. B. Leagues to supplement the Ministerial Loan Fund to Bro. Joe Fort. Most of the remainder of the \$398.64 went for educational purposes and literature. \$1.00 was pledged to be paid on the first of each month by the auxiliaries of Damascus, Zion, Open Pond, and Oak Grove Churches to Zion Bible School. Other churches in this Association are urged to comply with the plan thus providing \$19.00 each month. Please send the money to Mrs. H. G. Hudson, Jakin, Ga.

REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON SUN. SCHOOL AND LEAGUE WORK.

We your committee on Sunday School and League Work submit the following report: We find that from reports given from 17 churches with a membership of 1704, there are only thirteen Sunday Schools with a membership of 677, nine F. W. B. L's. with 403 members and five Ladies Aid Societies with a membership of 65.

There is a supreme need of more interest in Sunday Schools, and to meet this need, we recommend that this body petition our Sunday School Secretary to get out a manual on Sunday School work.

REV. JOE FORT, Chairman.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

The General Conference meets June, 15, 16, and 17th, 1932 at Bryan, Texas. Tri-State F. W. B. League convenes with Red Bay Free Will Baptist Church, Red Bay, Ala. on June 21, and 22nd, 1932. Sunday School Convention of Midway Association convenes with Damascus Free Will Baptist Church, Damascus, Ga. June 10, 1932. The Woman's Auxiliary Convention of Midway Association meets with Live Oak Church on Friday before the first Sunday in Sept. 1932.

REPORT OF FINANCE COMMITTEE

We your committee on Finance submit the following report:

Received for Missions -----	\$48.10
Received for minutes -----	36.25
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Total received -----	\$84.35

TREASURER'S REPORT

1930 for Minutes.

Received from Finance Committee -----	\$41.50
By Public Collection -----	11.86
From Cedar Springs Church -----	2.50
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Total Received -----	\$55.86

DISBURSEMENTS

1930—Due Treasurer -----	\$23.55
Paid Clerk -----	10.00
Paid Early Co. News for minutes -----	22.50
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Total -----	\$56.05
Due Treasurer -----	\$.19

1930—Missions received from Finance Committee ----- \$71.55

DISBURSEMENTS

Due Treasurer -----	\$20.64
Paid Gen. Conference Dues -----	10.00
Paid Delegates expenses -----	20.00
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Total disbursements -----	\$50.64
Balance in treasury -----	\$20.91

JAS. CHESHIRE, Treasurer.

STATISTICAL TABLE, NO. 1

Churches	Pastors	Clerks and Addresses	Rec. by Letter	Baptized	Dis. by Letter	Expelled	Died	Restored	Total Membership	Meeting Day	Paid for Missions	Paid for Minutes	Paid Pastor	For School
Pleasant Grove	J. M. Emanuel	M. C. Leslie, Shellman, Ga.					1		29		\$	\$1.00	\$ 33.65	\$
Bethlehem	W. T. Wiley	Miss Lyda Melton, Shellman, Ga.	1	4	1				97	4	2.00	1.00	67.50	
Pine View	T. B. Mellette	T. G. Williams, Donalsonville, Ga.	1	6	1				125	4	2.00	1.00	51.60	
White Plains	J. M. Emanuel	H. J. Cosby, Blakely, Ga.	1	4				1	140	2		2.00	87.67	
Macedonia	W. T. Wiley	W. R. Tabb, Colquitt, Ga.	1	3	5	6	1	2	175	1	10.00	5.00	130.00	
Damascus	W. T. Wiley	L. W. Wiley, Damascus, Ga.	1	4					31	3	6.00	3.00	147.00	
Oak Grove	Joe Fort	C. C. Middleton, Colquitt, Ga.		5	1		1		81	3		1.75	105.97	11.50
New Enterprise	A. P. Norris	J. L. Peters, Iron City, Ga.		4					53	3			32.95	
New Light	W. T. Wiley	B. E. Paul, Morgan, Ga.	2	8	2				156	4	3.10	2.00	82.05	
Traveler's Rest	J. L. Tedder	G. R. Parker, Newton, Ga.	3	5	1		5		168	3	2.50	2.50	57.60	
Cedar Springs	T. B. Mellette	J. A. Mercer, Cedar Sps., Ga.	1		2				120	1	5.00	2.00	84.25	
Enterprise	J. C. Ingram	T. W. Jenkins, Blakely, Ga.		1	1		1		34	1		1.00	37.65	
White Pond	T. B. Mellette	J. L. Widner, Blakely, Ga.		2		1		1	76	2	1.25	1.04	40.00	
Open Pond	K. V. Shutes	M. M. Harvey, Jakin, Ga.	2	6	8		1		120	2	5.00	5.00	225.00	15.00
Live Oak	W. T. Wiley	T. J. Riley, Arlington, Ga.		4	1		4		132	2	5.00	3.00	65.00	
Patmos	W. T. Wiley	J. F. Griffin, Milford, Ga.	4	23					99	2	4.00	3.00	81.25	13.00
Zion	K. V. Shutes	Jimmie Wiley, Hilton, Ga.	2	1					62	1	1.00	1.00	75.00	
Mt. Zion No. 1	E. C. Williams	E. G. Tindol, Arlington, Ga.	2	7	3	2			66	2	1.00	1.00	70.00	
Blakely	K. V. Shutes	W. W. Houston, Blakely, Ga.	10	2					12	1		1.50	15.00	