

Edith Duke - Shiver

MINUTES
OF THE
Forty-Third Annual Session
OF THE
MIDWAY ASSOCIATION
OF THE
Original Freewill Baptist of Georgia
HELD WITH
BLAKELY CHURCH
BLAKELY, GEORGIA
EARLY COUNTY, GEORGIA.
OCTOBER 29-30, 1941

Next session will be held with New Light Church, Calhoun County, on Wednesday and Thursday before the first Sunday in November 1942. Session to open at 10 o'clock (EST). Rev L. A. Norris to preach the Introductory Sermon, Rev. J. N. Barns as alternate

ANNUAL ASSOCIATION ORDER OF BUSINESS

FIRST DAY'S SESSION, 10 A. M.

Assembly of the body for worship by the moderator.

Worship period conducted by the moderator, or assistant moderator, or Clerk.

Call for corresponding church letters from churches, composing this body.

Appointment of reading clerks by the moderator.

Reading and adoption of all letters and the seating of all delegates, which is done by a majority vote of the delegate body.

Recess for the introductory message and refreshments.

AFTERNOON SESSION

Devotional services by the moderator, or at his discretion.

Renewal of call for correspondence.

Roll call of ministers.

Call for petitionary letters.

Invitation to visiting brethren from sister associations, and the hand of fellowship by the moderator.

Appointment of committees by the moderator—Devotional Nominating, Obituaries, Disbursement and Finance.

Appointment of delegates to sister association as the body may choose.

Miscellaneous business and recess until second day.

SECOND DAY 9:30 A. M.

Devotional service as per appointment.

Call to order by the moderator.

Reading, correction, and adoption of the first's days minutes.

Renewal of call for correspondence and visitors.

Call for committee reports.

Midday services with worship and praise and prayer.

Recess for refreshments.

AFTERNOON SESSION

Devotional—Worship period.

Renewing of call for committee reports.

Reports of Nomination committee. whose duty it is to make selection of place for next session of association, and introductory messenger.

Report of finance committee.

Miscellaneous Business.

Report of Treasurer.

Election of officers, including the executive committee, etc.

Appointment of new committees.

Completion of all unfinished business.

Clearing of all unfinished business.

Clearing of the clerk's table.

Adjournment.

OFFICERS

REV. T. B. MELLETTE, Moderator Blakely, Ga.
REV. JOE FORT, Assistant Moderator Elmodel. Ga.
W. B. GRIFFIN, Clerk Leary, Ga.
R. B. PYLE, Assistant clerk Cedar Springs, Ga.
A. D. IVEY, Treasurer Jakin, Ga.

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

W. P. RICHARDSON, Chairman Colquitt, Ga.
W. B. GRIFFIN Leary, Ga.
A. D. IVEY Jakin, Ga.
O. F. EVERSON Colquitt, Ga.
C. G. JORDAN Arlington, Ga.
H. J. COSBY Blakely, Ga.
E. A. REED Cedar Springs, Ga.

LIST OF ORDAINED MINISTERS

Rev. W. T. Wiley	Rev. Joe Fort
Rev. E. C. Williams	Rev. Cooper Fort
Rev. C. C. White	Rev. L. A. Norris
Rev. T. B. Mellette	Rev. J. B. Lovering
Rev. J. N. Barnes	Rev. W. F. McDuffee
Rev. J. M. Emanuel	Rev. J. L. Tedder
Rev. S. T. Shutes	Rev C. H. Chandler
	Rev. H. G. Harvey

LICENTIATES

Cecil Strickland

PROCEEDINGS

The 43 Annual Session of the United Free Will Baptist of the Midway Association met with Blakely Church, Early County Georgia on October the 29-30. After singing the Congregation led by Rev. J. B. Lovering and prayer by Brother F. M. Mosely. Scripture was read by the moderator, Rev. T. B. Mellotte, Romans 12: 9-21. Prayer by Brother J. F. Griffin.

The moderator called the body to order and called for a written report from the churches of this Association. The moderator appointed Rev. L. A. Norris and Rev. J. B. Lovering to read the reports and was read as follows;

Open Pond—Delegates—J. W. Bowens, S. T. Danning.

White Plains—Delegates—Louis Sheffield, J. W. Nix, F. A. White.

Zion—Delegates—J. B. Chambers, Martin Still, Mrs. E. A. Cannon, Mrs. W. T. Wiley, Mrs. Clarence Mosely.

New Light—Delegates—J. M. Avra.

White Pond—Delegates—Earl Willis—Mrs. W. E. McDowell, Erin Lewis.

Traveler's Rest—Delegates—E. C. Musgrove, Joe Thompkins, A. B. Edmonds, Mrs. M. W. Irvin, Miss Othela Edwards.

Mt. Zion—Delegates—C. G. Jordan and wife, Mrs. Willie Clowers, Mrs. C. E. Fincher, Mrs. Annie Wiley.

Damascus—Delegates—L. W. Wiley, L. B. Perry, Mrs. Christine Cheshire, Mrs. Alma McDonald.

Macedonia—Delegates—B. Houston, H. L. McCan, W. P. Richardson, John Richardson, J. B. Joiner.

Pine View—Delegates—Mrs. Mattie Runells, John Widner and wife, Bennie Lovering.

Oak Grove—Delegates—S. F. Eoyd, O. F. Everson and wife, E. H. Mock.

Patmos—Delegates—Mrs. J. E. Griffin, J. F. Griffin and wife, Mrs. W. A. Etheredge.

Blakely—Delegates—J. L. Houston, Alvin Day.

Cedar Springs—Delegates—R. B. Pyles and wife, J. A. Mercer and wife.

New Enterprise—Delegates—C. E. Wardell and wife.

Live Oak—Delegates—J. M. Etheredge and wife, Mrs. Allen Hamill, Mrs. Louise Temple, Mrs. Stella Jarvis.

Enterprise—Delegates—Wilbern Harrel, Ralph Jenkins, W. J. Flanigan Jr.

The report was read and adopted and the delegates seated. All visitors were invited to seats with us.

The body recessed for preaching and refreshments, to re-assemble at 1:30 o'clock. Rev. J. M. Emanuel brought the 11 o'clock message, from Jeremiah 21. His subject Bring God, Our Rightousness.

Benedictions by Rev. W. T. Wiley.

MINUTES OF THE

WEDNESDAY P. M.

After refreshments the body was called to order by the moderator. The devotion was led by Rev. Joe Fort.

The ministerial roll was called with all ministers present except Rev. Cooper Fort and he was in the Navy.

The moderator called for delegates from other Associations. Rev. C. J. Harvey from Union Association; Rev. P. A. Bracklins from the state line; Rev. H. L. Caffrett from the Martin Responded. And was given a hand of welcome in our body by the moderator and assistant moderator.

At this time the moderator appointed the following committee nominations: W. F. McDuffee, John Avra, A. B. Edmond, Obituaries, Rev. J. B. Lovering, C. G. Jordan, Rev. L. A. Norris.

Budget—Rev. J. N. Barns, J. F. Griffin. R. B. Pyle.

State of churches and charters of ministers—Rev. J. M. Emanuel, B. Houston, S. T. Duning.

There was a motion made that the chair appoint a committee on Documents, and Rev. W. T. Wiley, Rev. John Barns and A. D. Ivey were appointed.

The moderator called for a report from the delegates that visited other Associations. Rev. J. M. Emanuel visited the Martin, Rev. C. C. White the State line and A. D. Ivey the National Association. All reported that was signs of Progress and Christian fellowship.

A call was made for volunteers to go to sister Associations. The Brethrens responded as follows: Rev. H. G. Harvey to the Martin, Next session to convene with Hebrew Church 10 miles south of Donalsonville, Ga., Friday and Saturday before the 4th Sunday in October 1942.

Rev. E. C. Williams Union of Georgia next session to be at Bethel church 9 miles north of Sylvester on Thursday and Friday before 4th Sunday in October 1942.

Rev. L. A. Norris, State line next session to meet with New Home Church 10 miles south of Malone, Florida. On Thursday and Friday before the 2nd Sunday in October.

Rev. J. M. Emanuel to the Chattahoochee next session to convene with Little Bethel near Ideal, Georgia on Friday and Saturday before the 1st Sunday in October.

Rev. T. B. Mellette to the South Eastern. Next session to meet with Good Water Church, Vicksburg, Alabama. On Friday and Saturday before the 3rd Sunday in October.

Rev. C. C. White to the Salem. Next session to meet with Holly Grove Church south of Maryland, Florida on Thursday and

Friday before 1st Sunday in October.

Brother W. P. Richardson and Brother C. G. Jordan to the State Association.

The moderator called for report of the committee on devotion. The committee recommended that Rev. J. B. Lovering preach tonight and Rev. W. S. Drigars preach Thursday at 11 o'clock. This recommendation was adopted and a motion to adjourn until 10 o'clock Thursday A. M. Benediction by the moderator.

THURSDAY A. M.

The body was called to order by the moderator. The Devotion was conducted by Rev. P. A. Brackins a student of the Zion Bible School Prayer by Rev. J. B. Lovering.

The minutes of the previous day were read. Corrected and adopted. The moderator read at this time the Association Government.

The Committee on Christian Education reported which was received and discussed by Rev. T. B. Mellette, Rev. J. B. Lovering, W. P. Griffin and others and was adopted. See report.

Rev. Joe Fort asked to be excused to preach a funeral. His request was granted. The body was recessed for Preaching and noon hour. Rev. W. D. Drigers filled the stand. And brought us a message from Luke 12 Let Your Loins be girded and your light shine.

Adjourned to meet at 1:30 o'clock Benediction by Rev. C. C. White.

THURSDAY P. M.

After the noon hour the body was called together on time with Congregational singing. Devotion by Rev. H. L. Catrett of the Martine Association.

The call for committee reports was resumed.

White Plains church and Pastor gave the report on Temperance.

The report was adopted. (see report).

Travelers Rest Church and pastor gave the report on missions. The report was discussed by Rev. M. L. Wiley, Rev. J. B. Lovering and others and was adopted (see report).

The committee on state of churches and character of ministers reported.

They found the churches all in harmony and good standing with one another. Except Rev. S. T. Shutes. And since he has served his sentence humbly and satisfactorily that this body does here and now release his sentence.

The report was adopted. And a motion and second was made that the moderator give Brother Shutes a hand of welcome and that he be restored back in full fellowship with the association.

The committee on Sunday Schools and Leagues reported after much discussion the report was adopted. See report.

The committee on obituaries read their report. and was adopted. See report.

The committee on Documents ask for more time and they are to report to the executive committee at the next Union meeting.

The committee on Disbursements reported. The report was read and adopted. (see report).

The treasurer gave his report. There was a motion and second that the report be amended to read that the Treasurer be paid five dollars for money he had spent of his own for the association.

Rev. J. M. Emanuel as Association Missionary reported some of his work. His report was verbal. He has done a good bit of work through the year. If any church would like to have him visit them just drop him a card giving the date and place, signed by clerk and pastor and he will be glad to help you in anyway he can.

The moderator called for the election of officers. It was moved and carried that the same officers be retained, namely T. B. Mellette, Moderator; Joe Fort, Assistant Moderator; W. B. Griffin, Clerk; R. B. Pyle, Assistant Clerk; A. D. Ivey, Treasurer; W. P. Richardson; Executive Chairman; W. B. Griffin, A. D. Ivey, O. F. Everson, C. G. Jordan, H. J. Cosby, E. A. Reed, Rev. T. B. Mellette, Presbetary, Rev. W. T. Wiley, Rev. J. M. Emanuel.

Rev. J. M. Emanuel Associational Missionary, Rev. H. G. Harvey was appointed as Sunday school secretary.

There was a motion and second that brother R. B. Pyle be appointed as delegate to the National Association and that Brother Louis Sheffield as his alternate.

The moderator appointed the committees as follows:

Missions—Enterprise Church and Pastor

Temperance—Mt Zion Church and Pastor

Christian Education—Macedonia Church and Pastor

Sunday School and League—Oak Grove and Pastor

The Community on nominations reported that the next session of the Association convent with New Light church in Calhoun County on Wednesday and Thursday before the first Sunday in November 1942 and that Rev. L. A. Norris preach the Introductory sermon and Rev. J. N. Barns be his alternate.

Motion to adjourn to meet with New Light Church in 1942.

Benediction by Rev. E. C. Williams

Rev. T. B. MELLETTE, moderator

W. B. GRIFFIN, Clerk

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

By Zion Church and Pastor

By viewing the field of Christian Education among the Free Will Baptist denomination we are glad that some progress is being made by our people and some achievements are noted.

First we call your attention to the continued efforts that are made voluntary by T. B. Mellette in keeping Zion Bible School alive, and which efforts this school which was begun twelve years ago is continued. The dean of this school received maintenance by volunteer donations and these donations come from Associations, Union Meeting, Ladies Aid Society and individual from different section of the denomination field.

Second, we realize that the Tri-State Training Camp is an asset to our young people and the efforts as put forth several years ago and which is being continued is worthy of encouragement and proper Christian support. This work is now seeking a home for permanent location as an annual place of meeting and training.

Thirdly, our Sunday School and young peoples leagues are worthy of our ardent support because they are auxiliaries in our local churches and where parents and offsprings can all attend together for the bettering of Christian training and social conditions in the church and community.

Fourth, we are aware of an investment for a National Bible School in West Nashville, Tenn, and though the National Board of Education has not been able to begin activities in school work; yet the work is commendable. May we pray in faith that our people hearts desire may be realized.

Fifth, we are glad that our North Carolina Brethren are now planning and putting forth efforts for the establishments of a junior college. This I believe will materialize and become a great asset to our denomination and blessing to our youth. May as time passes prove our appreciation by support of same. These last items have been gathered from the Free Will Baptist paper. Other training institutes are in progress sponsored by the National Board of Education. These institutes are conducted on two weeks period, and already these institutes are being held in the states west of the Mississippi River.

We commend the work which has been accomplished during these past twelve years at Zion Bible School urge its support for maintenance; also, we are mindful that the property in Dothan is yet before our people, and we pray that a fair undertaking satisfactory to all will be accomplished in plan and purpose by the authorities by our next annual association one year from now. The heroic efforts and faithfulness of Brother A. D. Ivey is com-

MINUTES OF THE

mendable and we urge that our people rally to his aid, and if God so will may this dream become a reality.

Brethren, while others are planning and going ahead, may we earnestly contend for the faith once delivered to the saints and may we keep ourselves alive to our duty and support of Christian Education here in the Tri-State Section.

TEMPERANCE

To the Midway Association in session with Blakely Free Will Baptist Church, we your committee on temperance, submit the following report.

We enclose the report of the committee on temperance of last session to the extent that drinking of intoxicating drinks seems to be on the increase, and to discourage this sinful practice, we make the following recommendations for the consideration of our people:

1. That our pastors condemn this practice from the pulpit.

And as often as they are led by the Lord preach sermons showing its effects upon the welfare of the souls of men.

2. That our churches be more careful and diligent in admonishing their members who participate in the sale and use of intoxicating drinks, and withdraw fellowship from such as will not repent and discontinue this participation.

We further call the attention of our people to the fact that waste, and wasteful spending are condemned by the Scripture. We recommend that our people be as economical as possible in this respect during this wave of free spending.

Respectfully Submitted,

WHITE PLAINS CHURCH AND PASTOR

MISSIONS

We, your committee on missions, make the following report to the Midway Association in session with Blakely Free Will Baptist Church.

We urge the churches to take a greater interest in Missionary activities in sponsoring programs on missions regularly, that they invite our Missionaries to speak from our pulpits whenever it is possible to have them, and that our pastors stress the cause of missions from the pulpit both through announcements and in sermons. Since there is no fundamental differences in Home and Foreign Missions, we urge that our people be taught the importance of its support.

We further recommend that this Association adopt the unified program sponsored by the National Association, and that all offerings be appropriated according to the percentage plan of the National Association.

We express our sincere appreciation to our Missionary to India, Miss Laura Belle Barnard, for her visit among us and are gratified with the around enthusiasm among our people because of her visit.

We recommend that the clerk of this Association be empowered to write Miss Barnard a letter of appreciation for her visit.

Signed:

TRAVELERS REST CHURCH AND PASTER
SUNDAY SCHOOL & FREE WILL BAPTIST LEAGUE REPORT

We your committee on Sunday schools and League work beg to make the following report.

First, we wish to commend and endorse the work already accomplished in connection with the encomment, and appreciate the efforts of those who have labored in its cause thus far. But we feel that a more general and more nearly unanimous support from all the churches is needed. We urgently request that adequate steps be taken to establish a permanent camp of our own.

Second; we believe that a more concerted effort to establish Sunday Schools in churches where there are none is needed. Also a closer cooperation in the sponsoring of this work is needed. We believe that this could best be accomplished through the medium of a Sunday Convention organized and operated along the line recommended by the National Association, and in complete harmony with it.

OFEN POND CHURCH AND PASTOR
FLOYD CHERRY

THE COMMITTEE REPORT ON OBITUARIES

We the committee find that since we last met, there has been taken from our midst the following brothers and sisters;

From Oak Grove—Sister Eva Worlch, age 49.

White Plains—Brother C. P. Houston, age 65; sister P. A. White, age 70; sister Lucy Harris, age 43; sister H. G. Cosby, age 63; brother Alvin Sheffield.

Macedonia—; sister Lula Joiner, age 50; sister Sallie Welch, age 88; sister Myrah Phillips, age 25; brother W. L. Everett age 81.

Mt. Zion—sister Mattie Tindal age 58.

Travelers Rest—Brother J. P. Edwards, age 44.

Zion—sister Lenor Chambers, age 65.

Open Pond—sister Lula Fenderburch, age 78.

We are made to mourn at their departing. But may we bow in humble submission to him who doeth all things well. As we remember the saving grace of our Lord we are made to believe that our loss is heavens gain. Humbly submitted

J. B. LOVERING
C. G. JORDAN
L. A. NORRIS

REPORT OF TREASURER

October 31, 1940 balance on hand	\$ 12.38	
Special Collection	15.00	
Paid in by Association	200.75	
Paid out to W. B. Griffin		\$10.00
Paid to W. B. Griffin for State Association		8.00
Paid to Home Mission Board		25.00
Paid to Zion Bible School		40.00
Paid to Blakely Church		10.00
November 4th Paid to Dothan Property		50.00
November 6th Paid I. J. Blackwelder Secretary of Foreign Mission Board		8.00
January 26, 1941 Received from New Light Church	8.00	
March 2 paid for minutes and Express		26.40
April 18 paid for Treatises		4.17
July 11 paid to Nat'l Association		5.00
July 11 paid Delegates expenses to the National Association		25.00
The Treasurer was paid for money he spent of his own		5.00
TOTAL	\$236.13	\$216.57
Balance on hand	\$ 19.56	

REPORT OF DISBURSEMENTS

Balance on hand	\$ 19.56	
Received at this Association	221.25	
And we do hereby recommend the following to be paid		
Zion Bible School		\$ 50.00
Dothan Property		40.00
National Association		5.00
Delegates expense to Nat'l Association		10.00
National Program		25.00
Tenn. Orphanage		20.00
Minutes		30.00
J. M. Emanuel		5.00
Clerk Service		10.00
Training Camp		30.00
A. D. Ivey, our Treasurer		5.00
State Association		10.00
TOTAL	\$240.81	\$240.00
Balance on hand81	

We further recommend the churches to use the same budget for

1942 as was used in 1941. As follows:

Blakely	\$ 10.00
Bethlehem	10.00
Cedar Springs	20.00
Damascus	12.00
Enterprise	7.50
New Enterprise	6.00
Live Oak	15.00
Mt. Zion	10.00
Macedonia	22.00
New Light	15.00
Open Pond	35.00
Pine View	12.00
Travelers Rest	20.00
Patmos	20.00
Oak Grove	10.00
White Pond	7.50
White Plain	15.00
Zion	12.00

W. N. Barns Chairman

J. F. Griffin

R. B. Pyle

STATISTICAL TABLE NO. 2

CHURCHES	Sunday School Superintendent and Secretaries	F. W. B. League Presidents and Secretaries		Ladies Aid Presidents and Secretaries
		No. Classes	No. Enrolled	No. Enrolled
Blakely	J. L. Houston, Blakely	4	58	
Bethlehem	C. Dowdney, Blakely	4	40	
Cedar Springs	Mrs. Albert Fulford, Shellman	3	35	Mrs. A. B. Paul, Hilton
Damascus	Mrs. Evelyn Jones, Shellman	5	30	Miss Doris Hadock Dam.
Enterprise	E. A. Reed, Cedar Springs			L. W. Wiley Damascus
New Enterprise	E. A. Reed, Cedar Springs			
Live Oak	L. W. Wiley, Damascus			
Mt. Zion	Eula L. Wiley, Damascus			
Macedonia	C. G. Jordan, Arlington	5	40	Mrs. Willie Clowers,
New Light	L. A. Wiley, Arlington	4	37	Mrs. C. E. Fincher
Open Pond	B. Houston, Damascus	4	50	Arlington
Oak Grove	M. Craft, Colquitt	5	68	Mrs. W. O. Fort, Jakin
Patmos	Earnest Paul, Shellman	3	40	Miss Dot Harvey Jakin
Pine View	Mrs. Doc Beard, Morgan	4	30	Mrs. S F Boyd Colquitt
Travelers Rest	Quinten Ivey, Jakin			Mrs L M Mock Colquitt
White Pond	O. F. Everson, Colquitt	3	40	Mary E. Adams, Leary
White Plains	Mrs. T. M. Mock, Colquitt	4	30	Grace Starr Arlington
Zion	J. F. Griffin, Leary	4	100	Mrs. Lorene Edwards,
	Edwena Woodard, Leary			Mrs. Irene Rhodes
	G. R. Parker, Newton	3	40	Mrs. R. B. Widner, Blakely
	Othella Edwards, Newton	2	30	Mrs E. E. McDowell, Dam
	Mrs. Clyde Johnson, Blakely			Jannita Smith Blakely
	Mrs. W. B. Widener, Blakely	3	40	Hubert Sheffield, Blakely
	Howard Shaw, Blakely			Robert Anglin, Blakely
	W. B. Cobb, Blakely			Geraldine Cashwell Hilton
	G. R. Ammonds, Hilton			
	Jannita Wiley, Hilton			

4

STATISTICAL TABLE NO. 1

Churches	Pastors	CLERKS AND ADDRESSES	Rec. by Letter	Baptised	Restored	Dis. by Letter	Expelled	Died	Meeting Days	Total Members	Associational Purpose	Paid Pastor
Blakely	T. B. Mellette	J. E. Houston, Blakely	2	2						42	\$ 12.00	111.31
Bethlehem	W. T. Wiley	Mrs. Evelyn Jones, Shellman	1			3			4	102	7.00	101.00
Cedar Springs	T. B. Mellette	R. B. Pyle, Cedar Springs	3	1					1	79	20.00	100.00
Damascus	H. G. Harvey	L. W. Wiley, Damascus						1	3	63	12.00	119.65
Enterprise	J. B. Lovering	Hattie Jenkins, Blakely	1	3		4			2	36	7.50	66.28
New Enterprise	W. H. Ely	E. B. Ard, Iron City							4	25	2.00	25.00
Live Oak	H. L. Catrett	J. T. Sanders Jr, Leary		3		2			4	229	10.00	87.35
Mt. Zion	J. N. Barns	Mrs. W. W. Clowers, Arlington		2				1	4	60	6.50	61.00
Macedonia	W. T. Wiley	J. M. Craft, Colquitt	1	9				5	1	94	22.00	161.00
New Light	W. T. Wiley	B. E. Paul, Shellman		10	1	1			4	205	12.00	124.00
Open Pond	Floyd Cherry	J. C. Hudson, Jakin		10		2		1	13	119	36.95	238.00
Oak Grove	H. L. Catrett	Poney Mock, Colquitt		2				1	2	64	10.00	96.30
Patmos	W. F. McDuffee	J. F. Griffin, Leary	1			1			2	139	20.00	107.12
Pine View	J. M. Rich	Bennie Lovering Colquitt		1				1	4	107	13.25	130.00
Travelers Rest	Joe Fort	G. R. Parker, Newton	4	9		2		1	4	110	10.00	100.00
White Plains	J. M. Rich	S. A. White, Blakely	4	2				5	1	74	12.00	82.50
White Pond	W. F. McDuffee	Erin Lewis, Blakely	1	9					4	65	5.00	75.00
Zion	T. B. Melette	Timmie Wiley, Hilton	2	3				1	3	112	15.00	101.00