

MINUTES
OF THE
FIFTY-FIFTH ANNUAL SESSION OF THE
MIDWAY ASSOCIATION

OF THE ORIGINAL FREE WILL BAPTISTS OF GEORGIA

HELD WITH
TRAVELLER'S REST and PATMOS CHURCHES
BAKER COUNTY, GEORGIA

OCTOBER 28 AND 29, 1953

-:- OFFICERS -:-

REV. T. B. MELLETT	Moderator
REV. S. T. SHUTES	Clerk

Next session to convene with Mt. Zion and Blakely Churches, Early County, Georgia, on Wednesday and Thursday before the first Sunday in November, 1954. Session to open at ten o'clock. Rev. K. V. Shutes to preach the Introductory Sermon; Rev. J. N. Barnes, alternate.

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Officers

REV. T. B. MELLETTE, *Moderator*.....Blakely, Ga.
REV. J. N. BARNES, *Assistant Moderator*.....Blakely, Ga.
REV. S. T. SHUTES, *Clerk*.....Colquitt, Ga.
W. B. GRIFFIN, *Assistant Clerk*.....Jakin, Ga.
A. D. IVEY, *Treasurer*.....Jakin, Ga.

Executive Committee

J. F. Griffin, Chairman, Leary, Ga.; Martin W. Still, Blakely, Ga.; J. O. Irvin, Newton, Ga.; L. W. Wiley, Damascus, Ga.; Alvin Day, Blakely, Ga.; G. L. Bryant, Morgan, Ga.; B. Houston, Colquitt, Ga.

List of Ordained Ministers

Rev. E. C. Williams, Rev. T. B. Mellette, Rev. C. C. White, Rev. J. N. Barnes, Rev. S. T. Shutes, Rev. J. L. Tedder, Rev. C. J. Harvey, Rev. C. R. Houston, Rev. J. B. Lovering, Rev. K. V. Shutes, Rev. Calvin Williams, Rev. H. L. Roberts, Rev. W. S. Driggers, Rev. Burdette Dowdney, and Rev. F. W. Wade.

Licentiates

Cecil Strickland

James B. Miller

Annual Association – Order of Business

First Day's Session, 10 A. M. –

- Assembly of 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, Disbursements and Finance.
- Appointment of delegates to sister associations as the body may choose.
- Miscellaneous business and recess until second day.

Second Day's Session, 9:30 A. M. –

- Devotional service as per appointment.
- Call to order by the moderator.
- Reading, correction and adoption of the first day's minutes.
- Renewal of call for correspondence and visitors.
- Call for committee reports.
- Mid-day service 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 Message.
- Report of Finance Committee.
- Miscellaneous business.
- Election of officers, including the executive committee, etc.
- Report of Treasurer.
- Appointment of new committees.
- Completion of all unfinished business.
- Clearing of the clerk's table.
- Adjournment.

Annual Session Proceedings

The fifty-fifth annual session of the Midway Association of the Original Free Will Baptists of Georgia, convened with Traveller's Rest Church, Baker County, Georgia, October 28, and with Patmos Church near Newton, Georgia, October 29.

The session was opened by the Moderator, Rev. T. B. Mellette.

Devotions were conducted by Rev. J. N. Barnes which were very timely.

The Finance Committee was appointed by the Moderator as follows: Mrs. Martin Still, A. D. Ivey, E. C. Hudgens, and Alton Mercer.

The Moderator's message was timely and to the point.

Reading clerks appointed were: C. B. Dowdney and J. N. Barnes.

Letters from the churches composing the body were called for and the following responded:

Albany—Sergeant James M. Miller, Mrs. Grace Driggers, Miss Ruby Duncan.

Blakely—Mr. and Mrs. Alton Mercer, Alvin Day, Fred Middleton.

Bainbridge—C. L. Pickron.

Bethlehem—Mr. and Mrs. Bill Ferguson, Mrs. Evelyn Jones, Mrs. Lynett Aycock.

Cedar Springs—Mrs. Irene Dykes, Mrs. Wilmer Davis, Mrs. E. A. Reed, Mrs. Keaton Tiner.

Damascus—Mrs. H. J. Wright, Mrs. J. A. Walton, Jr., Mrs. L. W. Wiley.

Enterprise—Mrs. Irene Taylor, Mrs. P. C. Harrell, Miss Hattie Jenkins.

Hammock Springs—Mrs. R. B. Williams, Mrs. Mary Ann Williams, Mrs. Hilton Lynn, Mr. Russel Chance.

Live Oak—Robert Harrell and wife, J. M. Etheridge and wife, E. A. Sanders and wife.

Macedonia—Mrs. O. B. Everson, Mrs. H. L. McKan, Mrs. Rueben Tabb, B. Houston.

Mt. Zion—C. G. Jordan, E. C. Hudgens, Miss Ruby Hudgens, Miss Rachael Rabon.

New Enterprise—E. B. Ard, Ralph Bell, Henry Barber.

New Light—Grace Nix, Bennie Paul.

Oak Grove—S. F. Boyd and wife.

Jakin—Brock Averitt, Crawford Helms, Mrs. S. T. Dunning, Mrs. H. H. Reeves, Wayne Carr.

Patmos—W. B. Griffin, Mrs. Sallie Woodard, Mrs. W. A. Etheridge, Mrs. Myron Shiver, Herbert Woodard, Mrs. Grace Starr.

Pine View—Lena Williams, Blackshire Davis and wife.

Traveller's Rest—T. L. Edwards, Bown Edmonds, J. W. Edwards, Ralph Edwards.

White Plain—W. M. Murkerson, L. R. Lofton.

White Pond—Mrs. Dan McDowel, Mrs. Roy Widner, Mrs. Clyde Johnson.

Zion—Mrs. R. E. Mills, Mrs. Martin Still, Mrs. T. B. Mellette.

Delegates were seated by vote.

Visitors called for and the following answered: South Georgia: Rev. E. C.

Morris, State Promotional Secretary; Union: Revs. E. L. Sellers and K. V. Shutes; Martin: W. R. Barber and wife and W. J. Hilburn and wife; Chattahoochee: G. C. King and wife. Motion carried to seat them.

Roll call of ministers: Revs. T. B. Mellette, E. C. Williams, J. N. Barnes, J. L. Tedder, C. J. Harvey, J. B. Lovening, C. B. Dowdney, W. F. McDuffie, Scottie Driggers, C. R. Houston, H. L. Roberts, and F. W. Wade.

Recess for preaching by Rev. T. B. Mellette, reading Phil. 1:9, "That your love may increase more and more." A mighty inspirational message.

Lunch was served by the host church and enjoyed by a large congregation.

One forty-five singing led by Moderator; devotions by Rev. E. C. Morris.

Received call for letters and delegates; there was no response.

There was a request from Mt. Zion Church that Brothers Billy Raybon and E. C. Hudgens be ordained to the office of deacon. Request granted and prayerfully done by the Ordaining Council.

At this time a letter of dismissal and recommendation from Union Association for K. V. Shutes was read and he was received in to full fellowship of the Midway Association.

The Moderator made an appeal for the Unified Program and then took an offering in the amount of \$111.21.

Brother Driggers made a talk about the work in Albany that was very encouraging.

Committees appointed:

Education: K. V. Shutes, Mrs. Marjorie Hudson, Martin Murkerson.

Auxiliary: C. R. Houston, Mrs. Martha Everson, Mrs. Sallie Woodard.

State of Church and Characters of Ministers: Fred Middleton, Robert Pyle, Ralph Edwards.

Obituary: H. L. Roberts, W. F. Boyd, J. N. Barnes.

Mission: J. B. Lovering, W. F. McDuffie, C. B. Dowdney.

Nomination: J. N. Barnes, Scottie Driggers, Cliff Jordon.

At this time Rev. E. C. Morris presented the Promotional Program of the state. This was the best report in the history of our state work.

Motion to extend a rising vote of thanks to the church and community for their splendid entertainment.

Motion to adjourn to meet with Patmos Church, Thursday, October 29, at ten a. m.

THURSDAY

Met as per adjournment. Rev. K. V. Shutes led the devotions, followed with prayer by E. C. Williams.

The Moderator presided over the business session. The minutes of the previous day were read and approved.

Enterprise's delegates reported and were seated.

Correspondence from the State Line Association of Florida and Alabama: Ralph Bell and wife, Shirley Fowler and wife, Mrs. Susie Fowler.

Mr. W. B. Griffin and S. F. Boyd were appointed to work with Committee on State of Churches and Character of Ministers.

Visitors were received as follows: Martin Association: Rev. Drew Floyd, George Chambers, Mrs. Addison, and Oscar Brunson and wife; Chattahoochee Association: Rev. Coy Watson and wife.

Reports of committee on plans for governing superannuation work in the Midway Association was adopted (See Report).

Recess for preaching by motion. Rev. C. B. Dowdney very ably filled the stand at this hour. Scripture reading, 1 Cor. 4:1, 2; using as subject "Stewardship of Possession." A great message, it was.

At twelve o'clock a real, old southern Georgia-style dinner was served by Patmos Church and community.

One twenty, singing led by the Moderator. Devotions were conducted by James M. Miller, a sergeant in the U. S. Air Force. This was a very powerful and uplifting message. Prayer by the Moderator.

The business session resumed with the Moderator presiding.

A special offering for the K. V. Shutes Radio Program and the church in Cario amounting to \$64.03.

Christian Education reports by K. V. Shutes was adopted (See Report).

Auxiliary Committee reporting by Martha Everson was adopted (See Report).

Missions Committee reported by W. F. McDuffie was adopted (See Report).

State of Churches and Character of Ministers Committee reported by W. B. Griffin was adopted (See Report).

Obituary Committee reported by H. L. Roberts was adopted (See Report).

Nominating Committee reported by J. N. Barnes was adopted (See Report).

Motion amended that C. B. Dowdney preach at the Live Oak program for 1954. Reported by J. B. Lovering and adopted (See Report).

Finance Committee reported by A. D. Ivey was adopted (See Report).

Treasurer report by A. D. Ivey was adopted (See Report).

Appointment of Committees: T. B. Mellette, W. B. Griffin, B. Houston, E. A. Sanders, and S. T. Shutes.

Delegates were appointed as follows: *State Association*: A. B. Edmonds, Alton Mercer, W. B. Griffin, Mrs. R. B. Pyle; *National Association*: Mrs. T. B. Mellette; *State Line Association*: E. C. Williams, K. V. Shutes; *Union Association*: C. B. Dowdney, E. C. Hudgens; *Martin Association*: C. S. Jordon, E. C. Williams; *Chattahoochee Association*: Robert Pyle and wife.

Motion was made to appoint Mrs. Doris Sheffield as promotional helper.

COMMITTEES FOR THE 1954 SESSION

Auxiliaries—Traveller's Rest Church and pastor.

Christian Education—Zion Church and pastor.

Temperance—Patmos Church and pastor.

Missions—Cedar Springs Church and pastor.

Recommendations to the State Association for members to be appointed on the various boards.

Camp Committee retain T. B. Mellette.

Board of Education retain S. T. Shutes.

Motions to extend to Patmos Church and community a rising vote of thanks for their very elaborate entertainment.

Motion made to print 500 minutes.

Motion made to adjourn to meet with Damascus Church in January, 1954.

T. B. MELLETTE, *Moderator*

S. T. SHUTES, *Clerk*

The Moderator asked for pledges to be made for the purpose of retiring the debts on our denominational property, and these pledges be paid by April, 1954. One thousand and ten dollars was pledged.

A LETTER OF DISMISSION

This is to certify that Rev. K. V. Shutes is a member of the Union Association and in full fellowship, having served as Moderator and filled other offices in a very able manner; and since he is leaving the district, we are granting him this letter of dismission at his request.

Praying God's blessings upon him and the body to which he may unite.

MRS. J. B. RICE, *Clerk*, Union Association

EDUCATION REPORT

We, your Committee on Christian Education, submit the following report:

Education, says Mr. Webster, is to teach, train, instruct, inform, and enlighten. Then Christian Education is Christ-like education and not Christ-less education.

So Christ is our example in anything, and Dr. Luke says in 2:40, 52, "And the child grew and waxed strong in the spirit, filled with wisdom: and the grace of God was upon him . . . And Jesus increased in wisdom, and stature, and in favour with God and man."

In these verses we have the requisites for a well-rounded education. It starts in the home, at the family altar, and is continued through the Sunday School, League, Prayer Meeting, the Ladies' Auxiliary, and Christian Institutions. This should help us to see the need of a Sunday school, for 64% of our Christians came from the teaching agencies of the church. Also the League, which is the training service of the church; the Prayer Meeting, which is the power house of the church; and the Ladies' Auxiliary which is the arms of the church.

Surely it should show us the need of our State Youth Camp, Ashburn, Georgia, and the Free Will Baptist Bible College, 3609 Richland Avenue, Nashville 5,

CHURCHES	Baptized	Received by Letter	Restored	Dismissed by Letter	Expelled	Died	Total Members	Paid Pastor	Evangelist	Building and Repairs	Incidentals	Superannuation	Home Missions	Foreign Missions	Christian Education	Publication	Miscellaneous	Youth Camp	Ass'n. Fund	Value Church Property	Children's Home	Unified Program	Meeting Days
Albany	25	36	0	0	0	0	89	\$2,882.50	\$ 83.30	\$1,752.04	\$1,871.56	\$ 9.60	\$ 22.00	\$ 22.00	\$ 55.00	\$ 48.95	\$ 12.40	\$ 50.10	\$101.50	\$ 9,359.25	\$ 6.00	\$	Full-Time
Blakely	7	2	0	3	0	0	119	857.79	185.40	3,500.00	215.00		31.00	33.00	8.55		6.85		96.00	20,000.00			1-3
Bainbridge	0	0	0	3	0	0	8	311.00	6.00										20.00	300.00			1-3
Cedar Springs	0	0	0	0	0	0	94	797.02	81.35	721.34	47.56				37.00		175.45		80.00	5,000.00			1-3
Damascus	1	0	0	1	0	0	50	416.06	60.00	105.00	100.00								25.00	10,000.00	20.00		3
Enterprise	1	0	0	0	0	0	68	392.74	10.45										50.00	4,000.00	60.00		4
Hammock Springs	12	3	2	2	0	1	27	457.00	119.00	265.10		8.50	5.50	10.40	11.00				30.00	7,600.00		52.50	1-3
Live Oak	9	0	0	7	0	0	40	300.00	26.00										48.00	5,000.00			3
Macedonia	1	1	0	1	0	2	82	1,000.00	135.15		117.90	2.64	31.95	30.45	8.25	31.09	109.18	9.90	70.00	7,500.00	12.77		1-3
Mt. Zion	4	4	2	2	0	0	41	337.00	107.07	65.94		15.00		79.00	10.00	35.00			60.00	4,000.00			2-4
New Enterprise	3	0	0	0	0	1	56	270.00	93.91		21.31				50.00				40.00	2,500.00			1
New Light	1	1	1	1	1	1	235	690.00	145.00	100.00		125.00			275.00	112.00			60.00	3,000.00			4
Oak Grove	0	0	0	1	0	2	76	345.00	50.00	136.00	30.00		10.00	14.37	200.00	20.00	48.00		60.00	3,000.00			3
Jakin	0	2	0	1	0	1	140	1,200.00	200.00	329.03	6.54	15.25	30.41	48.41	71.00	74.83	16.74		80.00	15,000.00		128.62	2-4
Patmos	4	0	0	3	0	1	190	881.00	85.00	790.49	21.70		36.02	36.03		132.39	84.00		60.00	5,000.00		180.00	2-4
Pine View	0	0	0	6	0	0	30	250.00						13.12					40.00	2,000.00			2-4
Traveller's Rest	3	2	0	7	0	3	156	588.69	46.50		194.96		259.00				257.00		60.00	5,000.00			2-4
White Plain	0	0	0	2	0	3	80	331.33	80.00		12.00		40.15		47.00		115.00		60.00	5,000.00			1-3
White Pond	2	2	0	0	0	1	115	375.27	100.00		5.13		4.12	4.13	58.80	59.39	37.27		60.00	3,500.00	96.21		2-4
Zion	0	0	0	1	0	0	133	315.00	100.00					16.70					72.00	3,000.00	5.00		2-4
Bethlehem	3	0	0	2	0	2	78	695.50			54.86	30.00			14.00		12.37		30.00	5,000.00			4

CHURCHES	PASTORS AND ADDRESSES	CLERKS AND ADDRESSES	Sunday School Roll	Average Attendance	F.W.B. League Roll	Average Attendance	Woman's Auxiliary Roll	Average Attendance	Prayer Meetings
Albany	W. S. Driggers, 1513 Highland Ave., Albany, Ga.	Ellis C. Conger, 1815 Whitney Ave., Albany, Ga.	139	90	63	35	20	15	1
Blakely	K. V. Shutes, Blakely, Ga.	S. W. Mercer, Blakely, Ga.	65	40	66	37	12	10	1
Bainbridge	C. B. Dowdney, 1203 E. Broughton, Blakely, Ga.	C. L. Pickron, Bainbridge, Ga.	22	18	0	0	0	0	1
Bethlehem	D. F. Pelt, Marianna, Fla.	Mrs. Evelyn Jones, Shellman, Ga.	40	25	35	20	0	0	0
Cedar Springs	W. F. McDuffie, Cedar Springs, Ga.	Pat Polar, Jakin, Ga.	50	38	55	49	11	6	0
Damascus	John D. Ellis, 1140 Mill Dr., Columbus, Ga.	L. W. Wiley, Damascus, Ga.	52	40	0	0	0	0	0
Enterprise	L. S. Anthony, Thomaston, Ga.	Miss Hattie Jenkins, Blakely, Ga.	0	0	0	0	10	8	0
Hammock Springs	G. W. Nobles, Cottonwood, Ala.	Z. R. Jones, Donaldsonville, Ga.	32	27	45	35	11	10	0
Live Oak	H. L. Catrett, Colquitt, Ga.	Miss Kitty Tyson, Leary, Ga.	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Macedonia	J. B. Lovering, Colquitt, Ga.	J. M. Craft, Colquitt, Ga.	32	25	0	0	14	12	1
Mt. Zion	C. B. Dowdney, Blakely, Ga.	Miss Rachel Roban, Arlington, Ga.	35	25	41	35	13	8	1
New Enterprise	C. R. Houston, Colquitt, Ga.	E. B. Ard, Brinson, Ga.	87	36	36	18	0	0	0
New Light	D. F. Pelt, Marianna, Fla.	B. E. Paul, Morgan, Ga.	115	90	85	55	0	0	0
Oak Grove	C. R. Houston, Colquitt, Ga.	Emory Boyd, Colquitt, Ga.	40	20	0	0	15	12	1
Jakin	I. J. Blackwelder, Alma, Ga.	John Hudson, Donaldsonville, Ga.	90	47	44	35	21	12	1
Patmos	C. R. Houston, Colquitt, Ga.	Miss Eloise Griffin, Leary, Ga.	65	60	65	60	14	8	1
Pine View	C. J. Harvey, Camilla, Ga.	Mrs. Inez Pon, Colquitt, Ga.	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Traveller's Rest	H. L. Roberts, Colquitt, Ga.	Ralph Edwards, Newton, Ga.	90	60	109	0	29	0	1
White Plain	H. L. Roberts, Colquitt, Ga.	Mrs. Jack White, Blakely, Ga.	33	22	0	0	0	0	1
White Pond	W. F. McDuffie, Cedar Springs, Ga.	Mrs. Marcine Ezell, Blakely, Ga.	66	45	36	25	14	12	0
Zion	I. N. Barnes, Blakely, Ga.	Hallie Murkerson, Hilton, Ga.	50	40	50	42	12	6	1

Tennessee. These two institutions are doing more for us than anything else we have. Will we back them with our prayers and support?

K. V. SHUTES
MRS. H. G. HUDSON
MARK MURKERSON

REPORT OF TREASURER

RECEIVED

July 24 Balance on Hand	\$ 36.69	
July 24 Received from Association	243.50	
July 24 Received Collection	57.31	
Aug. 1 Jakin Church	20.00	
Total Received	\$357.50	\$357.50

DISBURSEMENTS

July 24 Mrs. W. T. Wiley	\$ 25.00	
July 24 Mrs. J. M. Emanuel	20.00	
July 24 Rev. J. L. Tedder	15.00	
July 24 Rev. E. C. Williams	15.00	
July 24 R. B. Pyle, State Superintendent	25.00	
July 24 G. C. King, Camp	50.00	
July 24 Rev. E. C. Morris, State Budget	50.00	
July 24 Bainbridge Church	25.00	
July 24 Albany Church	25.00	
Total Disbursements	\$250.00	\$250.00

Oct. 18 Balance on Hand	\$107.50	
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REPORT OF FINANCE COMMITTEE

We, the Finance Committee, recommend that the following be allotted as stated:

RECEIVED

<i>Churches</i>	<i>Associational Fund</i>
Albany	\$ 7.50
Bainbridge	5.00
Bethlehem	7.50
Blakely	24.00
Cedar Springs	35.00
Damascus	7.00
Enterprise	10.00
Hammock Springs	7.50
Jakin	35.35
Live Oak	10.00
Macedonia	17.50
Mt. Zion	15.00
New Enterprise	65.00
New Light	20.00
Oak Grove	12.50
Patmos	20.00
Pine View	10.00
Traveller's Rest	20.00
White Plains	12.50
White Pond	12.50

Zion	25.00
Collections	112.10
Total	\$490.45

DISBURSEMENTS

Superannuation	\$ 80.00
Bainbridge Church	150.00
Education	50.00
Home Missions	15.35
Mt. Bethel	50.00
Albany Mission	65.00
College Building Fund	80.10
Total	\$490.45

\$15.00 goes to each superannuate and \$20.00 to State Superannuation Treasury.

RECOMMENDED BUDGET FOR 1953 AND 1954

<i>Churches</i>	<i>Associational Fund</i>
Albany	\$ 30.00
Bainbridge	20.00
Bethlehem	50.00
Blakely	70.00
Cedar Springs	80.00
Damascus	28.00
Enterprise	50.00
Jakin	80.00
Live Oak	48.00
Macedonia	70.00
Mt. Zion	60.00
New Light	80.00
Hammock Springs	30.00
New Enterprise	40.00
Oak Grove	60.00
Patmos	80.00
Pine View	40.00
Traveller's Rest	80.00
White Plains	50.00
White Pond	50.00
Zion	72.00

A. D. IVEY

J. A. MERCER

E. C. HUDGENS

MRS. BERNICE STILL

AUXILIARY REPORT

In Acts 20:28 we find these words, "Take heed therefore unto yourselves, and to all the flock, over the which the Holy Ghost hath made you overseers, to feed the church of God, which he hath purchased with his own blood." One of the first things we think of when we think of feeding a crowd is the amount of work involved. Probably the next thing that comes to mind is, where can we get help? Everyone likes to have help to do his work. Feeding the church of God is a tremendous work, but we have some helpers that can surely be depended on if we will only use them.

One of the first, of course, is the mid-week prayer service. Prayer is the link that pulls down the power. "Call unto me, and I will answer thee, and shew thee great and mighty things, which thou knowest not" (Jer. 33:3). "If ye shall ask any thing in my name, I will do it" (John 14:14). What a glorious promise! And yet, we churches sometimes neglect our mid-week prayer services.

Next, the people should be fed on the Scriptures. You know we are told to "search the Scriptures daily." Paul commends the Thessalonians for studying the Scriptures. The church members should study the Scriptures together as the people did in the eighth chapter of Nehemiah. We can do this through a properly organized Sunday school.

Then this study should be put into practice. James tells us "Faith without works is dead," therefore, one isn't any better off by just studying the Scriptures. We need training to use these things. The League helps in this respect.

Another eager helper is the woman's auxiliary. Its real purpose is to further the cause of Christianity. Women have played an important part in the church from its beginning. Untold good can be accomplished through the united efforts of a group of Christian women.

Lately our denomination has added another helper by providing material for auxiliaries for our boys and girls. ". . . Gather me the people together, and I will make them hear my words, that they may learn to fear me all the days that they shall live upon the earth, and that they may teach their children" (Deut. 4:10). Every year we realize more the necessity of training our youth for Christian service.

Now, let us mention one more helper—the Daily Vacation Bible School. We recommend that each church in this association sponsor a Vacation Bible School during this coming year. This will help us to promote interest among our boys and girls to learn more about the teaching of the Scriptures.

We have listed briefly some of the assistants that are willing to help "feed the church of God." We recommend that each church use a full staff of these helpers so that we might work more efficiently.

Respectfully submitted,

REV. C. R. HOUSTON
MRS. MARTHA EVERSON
MRS. SALLIE WOODARD

PROGRAM COMMITTEE REPORT

We, the Program Committee, request the adoption of the following for discussion in the three one-day sessions of the Association in the year of our Lord, nineteen hundred fifty-four.

1. January: Following Christ in Benevolence, Mrs. Martha Everson.
2. April: Following Christ in Education, Mrs. Doris Sheffield.
2. July: Following Christ in Missions, speaker to be announced later.

Humbly submitted by your committee,

J. B. LOVERING
C. R. HOUSTON
J. M. CRAFT

OBITUARY REPORT

We, your Committee on Obituaries, report as follows:

A number of our beloved members have answered the last call and we trust they are at rest. Truly we will miss their presence, but, as a body, we offer our prayers and sympathy to their homes, churches, and families.

H. L. ROBERTS

J. N. BARNES

S. F. BOYD

STATE OF CHURCHES AND CHARACTER OF MINISTERS

We, the Committee on State of Churches and Character of Ministers, report as follows:

As far as we can see everything is not just as good as it should be, but we don't know what could be done to better the matter. At present we feel it best to let matters settle themselves. So we, as a Committee, admonish both churches and pastors to be cooperative in all matters that concern either the church or pastor.

R. B. PYLE

S. F. BOYD

W. B. GRIFFIN

NOMINATING COMMITTEE REPORT

We, your Committee on Nominations, recommend that the quarterly sessions be held at the following places:

First session in January with Damascus Church. Rev. W. F. McDuffie to preach with Rev. J. B. Lovering as alternate.

Second session in April with Live Oak Church. Rev. C. B. Dowdney to preach with Rev. T. B. Mellette as alternate.

Third session in July with Pine View Church. Rev. E. C. Williams to preach with Rev. W. S. Driggers as alternate.

Annual session to meet in October. The first day with Mt. Zion Church with Rev. K. V. Shutes preaching and Rev. J. N. Barnes as alternate. The second day with the Blakely Church.

Respectfully submitted,

COMMITTEE ON NOMINATIONS

COMMITTEE ON REGULATIONS

We, your Committee appointed by the Moderator of the Midway Association to draw up plans for the Superannuation Board to be governed by, report as follows:

1. That ministers who have served the Midway Association for a period of at least five years, be given a quarterly supplement of money, the amount depending upon the financial status of the Association, when they shall have attained the age of 65, provided the annual income of said ministers does not exceed \$600.00.

2. That at the minister's death, this same amount shall be paid to his widow so long as she shall live or remain a widow, provided her annual income does not exceed \$600.00.

3. We further recommend that any minister of this Association who by accident or any type of providential hinderance has been rendered unable to continue as a minister of the gospel, be given this supplement, provided his income does not exceed \$600.00 per year.

4. We further state that the recommendations set forth herein do not prevent the Association from taking a "love offering" or making a "love gift" to any minister or any layman at any time the members of the Association so desire.

5. Further, we recommend that a committee be appointed to investigate the possibilities of setting up a Retirement Plan for the ministers of this association.

Respectfully submitted, this the 29th day of October, 1953.

The Committee on Regulations,

E. A. SANDERS

W. B. GRIFFIN

B. HOUSTON

REPORT ON HOME MISSIONS

We, your Committee on Home Missions or Expansion report as follows:

Fifty-five years ago the Midway Association was formed by an unknown number of churches pulling out of the present Martin Association. This withdrawal was on the grounds of Christian Education and Missions, both abroad and at home. It is good that we still cling to their principle and are growing.

While we are saying so much about missions, the most important phase of missionary work, home missions, has no consistent method of being cared for.

Though we are all happy over the new churches and new prospects, they have no definite place in our budget other than through the state and national plan, which is inadequate. Please, we urge you, give this worthy phase of missions a place in the budget of our Association, and begin working forward to the time when we can put a full-time missionary on the field.

Yours hopefully in Christ,

J. B. LOVERING

C. B. DOWDNEY

W. F. McDUFFIE

Quarterly Sessions, 55th Associational Year

THE FIRST QUARTERLY SESSION

This session convened with Macedonia Church, Miller County, Georgia, January 23, 1953, 10:00 a. m. The Moderator presided over the meeting. Scripture reading, Romans 12, also by the Moderator. He made timely comments on the Scripture.

Letters were then called for. Reading clerk appointed, Rev. E. C. Morris.

Finance Committee—J. A. Mercer, T. L. Edwards, and Jessie Griffin.

There were twenty churches reporting, and the reports were good. Nine ministers were present and three visiting ministers. Money presented for the pro-

grams was \$239.12. The sermon was presented by Rev. C. J. Harvey, John 3:16, a good message. The host church entertained with a bountiful spread.

At one-thirty the Moderator presided over the meeting, and devotions by B. W. Clenny. The program subject, "The Laymen in the Church, His Duty, Responsibility, and Privilege," was discussed by Bro. Willard Tedder. State Promotional Secretary reported progress. Motion made that W. B. Griffin be in charge of the camp work in the Midway Association. Treasurer report was made and accepted. Rising vote of thanks to host church and community for entertainment.

Adjourned. The clerk being in the hospital, Rev. J. B. Lovering served for him.

Signed: T. B. MELLETTE, *Moderator*

S. T. SHUTES, *Clerk*

THE SECOND QUARTERLY SESSION

Second session convening with New Light Church, near Morgan, Ga., April 25, 1953, 10:00 a. m. Moderator presiding, reading and commenting on Acts 17: 20, 27.

Letters were called for. Reading clerks appointed were: Revs. J. B. Lovering and J. N. Barnes. Finance Committee—A. D. Ovey, Martin Murherson, and W. B. Griffin. Twenty-one churches reported. Nine ministers were present and nine visiting ministers. The Bible College Quartet rendered the singing. Sermon presented by Bro. H. L. Roberts, "Story of the Prodigal Son." The noonday meal was enjoyed by all.

At one-thirty the Moderator presided over the meeting. Rev. H. L. Knighton gave the timely devotions.

A timely tribute to Rev. W. T. Wiley, deceased, by brethren of New Light Church. Brother Clower made a talk and presentation to the widow, Sister Wiley. Special offering for the programs was \$101.00. Motion was made that all churches call their pastor by the July quarterly session. Music was rendered by Mrs. Pauline Bush. Treasurer's report was accepted. Rising vote of thanks to the host church and community for entertainment.

Signed: T. B. MELLETTE, *Moderator*

S. T. SHUTES, *Clerk*

THE THIRD QUARTERLY SESSION

This session met with White Pond Church, July, 1953, 10 a. m. Singing by J. N. Barnes. Scripture by the Moderator and a timely talk. Letters called for. Finance Committee—David Still, Larry Houston, Elizabeth Cleveland, and A. D. Ivey. Twenty churches reported. Nine ministers present and three visiting ministers. Motion made to excuse S. T. Shutes from the afternoon session to conduct a funeral. Motion made that Bro. Lovering serve as clerk pro tem. Sermon by Rev. J. L. Tedder, 1 Thess. 5:22. The noonday meal was a treat to all present.

Moderator presided over the afternoon meeting. Devotions by J. B. Lovering. Topic for the afternoon, "Church Administration," by Rev. Louis Moulton in the

absence of S. T. Shutes. A special offering of \$58.31 for the programs. Treasurer's report adopted. Motion that a committee be appointed to investigate the superannuates and report at the next session as to their standing and needs.

Rising vote of thanks to local church and community. Adjourned.

Signed: T. B. MELLETTE, *Moderator*

J. B. LOVERING, *Clerk pro tem.*