

MINUTES
OF THE
Fifty-Fifth Annual Session
OF THE
MOUNT MORIAH
FREEWILL BAPTIST ASSOCIATION
HELD WITH
Mount Zion Church,
TUSCALOOSA COUNTY ALABAMA,
October, 7th 8th and 9th 1905.

Woods Springfield Moderator.

H. A. McGee, Clerk.

The next session of this Association will be held with Macedonia Church, Pickens County Alabama, on Saturday before the 2nd Sunday in October 1906.

Proceedings
OF THE
MOUNT MORIAH FREEWILL BAPTIST
ASSOCIATION.

The fifty-fifth annual session of the Mount Moriah Freewill Baptist Association of Alabama was held at Mt. Zion church, Tuscaloosa Alabama, October 7th, 8th, and 9th, 1905. The introductory sermon was preached by Elder J. E. Mathis. His text was from the 19th chapter of St. John, part 30th verse.

After preaching an intermission of an hour and a half was taken for recreation and refreshments. In due time the ministers and messengers repaired to the house, and after prayer and song service the Association was called to order by Elder Woods Springfield, the former Moderator and the former Clerk officiating until the body was organized.

1. Letters from the various churches were called for, handed in and read, and names of delegates enrolled as per statistical table.

2. Proceeded to elect a Moderator and Clerk, whereupon Elder Woods Springfield was elected Moderator and N. A. McGee Clerk.

3. Opened the door for the reception of new churches. Received none.

4. Called for corresponding messengers from sister Associations. None were presented.

5. Invited visiting brethren to seats with us.

6. The following committees were appointed:

On Order of Business—Elders J E Mathis, W R Latham, W J Harbin, J S Hinton and W B Montgomery with Moderator and Clerk.

On Devotional Service—Bros. J E Woods and J W Powell, with deacons of Mount Zion Church.

On Temperance—Bros. J M Pinkerton and G B Johnson.

On Finance—Bros. J C Hickman and W J McAdams.

On Sabbath School—Bros. J A St. John, J R Hering and J T Williams.

On Deceased—Bros. S J Jones, J M Lynn and J C Winter.

On Resolutions and Queries—Bros. J P Montgomery, J A Hickman and Elder J S Hinton.

On Devotional Service.

We, your committee, beg leave to submit a partial report that Elder W R Latham preach Sunday at 9 o'clock a. m., Elder Woods Springfield at 11 a. m., and W J Harbin at night service.

Respectfully submitted,

J E WOODS, Chairman.

On motion the report was received.

The business of the day being concluded, on motion the Association adjourned until Monday morning at 8 o'clock.

Sunday Service.

Elder W R Latham preached at 9 o'clock a. m. His text was from Genesis, 1 chapter, 3 verse.

Elder Woods Springfield at 11 o'clock a. m. Subject: "Whosoever Will May Be Saved." Texts: Matthew 7-8, Acts 10-34 and 35, Revelations 21-6.

Elder W J Harbin preached at night service. Text: Romans 8-14.

All the sermons were edifying and were delivered to an orderly and quiet concourse of people.

Monday Morning, October Ninth.

The Association met pursuant to adjournment. After service in song and prayer the Moderator called the body to order.

1. Roll called and delegates answered to their names.

2. The minutes of Saturday were read and approved.

3. Reports of committees called for and presented as follows:

On Documents and Order of Business.

We, your committee, beg leave to recommend:

1. That we proceed after the usual order of business.

2. That the next annual session of this body be held at Macedonia church, Pickens County, Alabama, convening on Saturday before the second Sunday in October, 1906, and that Elder W B Montgomery preach the introductory sermon and Elder J M Pinkerton be his alternate.

3. That N A McGee be continued Treasurer and that he superintend the printing of the minutes, and be allowed five dollars for his service; that he have them printed where he thinks will best subserve the interests of the Association.

4. That the Secretary send up a detailed financial report to the Association, also the present worth of the church property. ELDER J. E. MATHIS, Chairman.

On motion the report was received and the committee discharged.

Committee on Investigation.

We, your committee, beg leave to report that we find our ministers all in good faith and standing.

On motion report was received and committee discharged. J G PEARSON, Chairman.

Committee on Temperance.

We, your Committee on Temperance, beg leave to report that the suppression of the liquor traffic is the greatest question now before the American people and that the only successful method of suppressing this evil is by means of an organized effort; therefore, let us organize Temperance Societies in all our churches and co-operate with each other in putting down this demon to both body and soul.

Let us pray and use our influence in every way for total abstinence throughout our entire membership.

J M PINKERTON, Chairman.

On motion the report was received and the committee discharged.

Committee on Sabbath Schools.

We, your Committee on Sabbath Schools, beg leave to report that we very much regret that we find but little interest taken in the Sabbath Schools among our people and we urge our ministers, brothers and sisters to pray daily that our people take more interest in Sabbath School work.

J A ST. JOHN, Chairman.

On motion the report was received and the committee discharged.

Committee on Deceased Members.

We, your Committee on Deceased Members, beg leave to report, though with the deepest regret, that eleven of our devoted members have fallen asleep in Jesus since our last annual meeting, to-wit: Mt. Moriah Church, Bro. G. A. Coward, Sisters Lena Brewer, Fannie May Springfield, Landie Hardin and Koreua Smith; Macedonia Church, Sister Nancy Sims; Tabernacle Church, Sister Alma Montgomery; Mt. Zion Church, Bro. J T Smith; Antioch Church, Bro. Wash Shipp and Davie Anders; Union Church, Tean Hawtin.

While we are thus compelled to miss them,

And we linger by the way,

We will pray to God to bless those

Who mourn them every day.

Oh, may He teach their saddened hearts,

In this world of toil and care,

Through this grief and sad affliction,

Carry all to Him in prayer.

May their faith in Him be strengthened,

And their joy made more sublime,

Till they're called to that reunion

Which will come in God's due time.

J C WINTER, Chairman.

On motion report received and the committee discharged.

Committee on Finance.

We, your committee, find in the hands of the Treasurer the sum of \$21.85. J. C. HICKMAN, Chairman.

Detailed Financial Report.

Mt. Moriah Church—

Pastorate.....	\$90.00	
Organ.....	54.00	
Church Erection.....	50.00	
Lamps.....	2.50	
Miscellaneous.....	12.00	\$208 50

Shiloh Church—

Pastorate.....	45 00	
Wine.....	..50	
Minutes.....	2.50	48.00

Union Church—

Pastorate.....	50.00	
Church Erection.....	410.00	
Miscellaneous.....	13.00	473.00

Hatties Chapel—

Pastorate.....	50 00	
Sabbath School.....	1.00	
Miscellaneous.....	10 00	61.00

\$790 50

N. A. McGEE, Clerk.

Committee on Resolutions and Queries.

We, your committee, beg leave to report the following resolutions:

1. Since the success of all our annual meetings depends on the faithful attendance of our ministers, therefore,

Be it resolved, That we urge upon them, to neglect their worldly affairs as far as possible and make the worship of God first of all things.

2. Be it further resolved, That we discourage the idea of our ministers engaging in any business for gain that will interfere with their pastoral work, as we are

taught that "He that worketh as a soldier. let him not be entangled with the world."

3. Resolved, That an evangelist be placed in the field during the coming year for the purpose of establishing churches.

4. Resolved, That we tender our deserved, sincere and heartfelt thanks to the good people of Mt. Zion Church and vicinity and especially to the ladies who have so nobly borne the heat and burden of the day, for their kindness and hospitality shown us during this session of our Association.

ELDER J. S. HINTON, Chairman,

On motion the above resolutions were adopted and the committee discharged.

Miscellaneous or New Business.

A resolution was offered by Elder J. S. Hinton that sufficient means be subscribed for the support of the Evangelist engaged in establishing churches within the Association. After discussion the resolution was adopted and a committee of one appointed from each church to raise the funds and to report before the Ministers and Deacons Meeting to be held with Shiloh church on Saturday before the 4th Sunday in May, 1906.

On motion it was voted to hold the Ministers and Deacons Meeting at Shiloh church on Saturday before the 4th Sunday in May, 1906.

Committee on Raising Funds

FOR THE PURPOSE OF ESTABLISHING NEW CHURCHES.

From Mt. Moriah Church.....	J E Woods
From Shiloh.....	J C Hickman
From Macedonia.....	W J McAdams
From Tabernacle.....	J R Logan
From Antioch.....	J T Williams
From Union.....	E Z Mayfield
From Phillips Chapel.....	W A Sanford
From Hatties Chapel.....	J A St. John
Mt. Zion Church.....	N A McGee

The Associational labors now being ended, the Association adjourned to meet at Macedonia Church, Pickens County, Ala. on Saturday before the second Sunday in October, 1906.

WOODS SPRINGFIELD, Moderator.

NEWTON A. McGEE, Clerk.

Ordained Ministers and Their Addresses.

Elder W R Latham Gordo, Pickens Co., Ala.
Elder W J Coward McShan, Pickens Co., Ala.
Elder John S Hinton May, Tuscaloosa Co., Ala.
Elder Woods Springfield Delmarville, Pickens Co., Ala.
Elder Jas. D Byars Millport, Lamar Co., Ala.
Elder J E Mathis Millport, Lamar Co., Ala.
Elder W J Harbin Kuykendall, Tuscaloosa Co., Ala.
Elder Jas. B Davis West Point, Clay Co., Miss.
Elder J M Pinkerton Reubin, Tuscaloosa Co., Ala.
Elder W B Montgomery McConnell's, Tuscaloosa Co., Ala.
Elder J W Cook Millport, Lamar Co., Ala.
Elder S W Williams Gordo, Pickens Co., Ala.

Constitution.

Article 1. This Association shall be known as the Mount Moriah Freewill Baptist Association of Alabama and shall be composed of delegates from the different churches forming the same, each church being entitled to three delegates.

Article 2. This body shall be considered an advisory council, but having no authority over the affairs of other churches, unless they depart from the articles of faith of this Association. In case any church departs from the articles of faith and support doctrines of hersy, or allows any minister of her body to teach doctrines not in keeping with our articles of faith, the same shall be dealt with by this Association as it may deem proper and right, according to the teachings of the Bible.

Article 3. Each church in this Association shall be considered an advisory body, and shall control its own internal affairs in matters of discipline, etc., though the church may in extreme cases call in aid from sister churches but the Association shall rule in all matters of doctrine and general interest.

Article 4. All questions of doctrine and matters of general interest shall be settled by a two-thirds vote of the Association, and the decision shall be final.

Article 5. The officers of the Association shall be Moderator, Clerk and Treasurer, who shall be chosen at each session by a majority of votes.

Article 6. The Association shall meet annually at such time and place as may be agreed upon by the previous annual session, and shall not adjourn finally until all the business is transacted.

Article 7. Churches wishing to become members of this Association must adopt its articles of faith and conform to its usages.

Article 8. We agree, as churches of this Association, to use our best influence, to promote the interest of all moral and benevolent institutions, such as the temperance cause, Sabbath schools, missionary work, etc

Rules of Verorum.

Rule 1. The Association shall be called to order by the Moderator who presided at the last session. The former Clerk also officiating until the body is fully organized.

Rule 2. The Association shall be opened and closed with singing and prayer.

Rule 3. The Moderator and Clerk shall be chosen by ballot at each session of the Association. A majority of votes by the delegates present elects.

Rule 4. The names of the delegates from the different churches shall be enrolled and called as often as necessary during the session.

Rule 5. A majority of delegates present shall rule in all cases, except in the reception of new churches then it shall be unanimous.

Rule 6. The Moderator shall not be entitled to vote, except in case of a tie, and then he shall give the deciding vote. He shall be entitled to speak on any question after others have spoken, provided, he shall appoint some one to the chair while he is speaking.

Rule 7. Only one person shall speak at the same time, who shall arise and address the Moderator.

Rule 8. No brother shall be interrupted while speaking, unless he depart from the subject under discussion, or use words of personal reflection.

Rule 9. No person shall be allowed to speak more than twice on the same subject, without leave of the Association, nor more than fifteen minutes at a time.

Rule 10. No member shall talk or laugh during the time the debates are going on.

Rule 11. No member shall absent himself from the Association without leave of the Moderator.

Rule 12. The Moderator shall have power to call the Association together at any time upon a petition of two-thirds of the churches composing the Association over which he presides.

Rule 13. That the appointment of all committees by the Moderator be confined to the ministers and delegates

composing the Association.

Articles of Faith.

Article 1. We believe there is one true and living God, who is the Supreme Ruler of Heaven and earth, self-existent Creator of all things, and revealed under the personal distinction of Father, Son and Holy Ghost, equal in every divine perfection, and existing in distinct but harmonious offices in the great work of redemption.

Article 2. We believe the Holy Bible was written by men divinely inspired, and is a perfect treasure of Heavenly instruction; that it has God for its author, truth for its matter and salvation for its end; that it reveals the principles by which God will judge us, and therefore is, and shall remain to the end of the world, the center of Christian union, the supreme standard by which all human conduct, creeds and opinions will be tried.

Article 3. We believe that man was created holy, under the law of his Maker, but from voluntary transgression fell from that happy state, in consequence of which all mankind are depraved, and wholly unable of their own free will and ability, to recover from the fallen state in which they are by nature.

Article 4. We believe that God has not fixed the future state of mankind by an absolute and unalterable decree; but salvation is offered in the gospel free to all, and if sinners are lost forever it will be their own fault.

Article 5. We believe that Christ, by His death and suffering, made an atonement for the sins of all mankind in general, and every individual in particular; however, that none but those who believe in Him can be partakers of the divine benefits.

Article 6. We believe that true faith cannot proceed from the exercise of our natural faculties and powers, or from the force and operation of the free will, since man in consequence of his nature corruption is incapable either of thinking or doing anything spiritually good.

Article 7. We believe in the general application of the grace of God for fallen man sufficient to enable him morally and actually to obey the requirements of the law

of liberty—James 1:25, this is to act saving faith; John 1:9, however, none but those who believe or acquiesce in Christ will be saved thereby; Acts 17:32; Romans 2:9; John 3:19.

Article 8. We believe in the free moral agency of man, by the grace of God, before and after conversion; that he is laid under no invincible necessity, by his Creator, to act in a given way, that if he lives after the flesh he shall die, but if he, through the Spirit, to modify the deeds of the body he shall live, and therefore, man is always a proper subject of admonition and exhortation. Hebrew 11:12-13; Romans 12:14; Mark 14:12; Eze. 18:24; Rev. 2 and 3; Eze. 33:13 and 28; 1st Tim. 4:1; Heb. 3:5; 1st Cor. 10:12 and 22; 1st Peter 1:10.

Article 9. We believe that the visible church of Christ is a congregation of believers, associated by covenant in faith and fellowship of the gospel, observing the ordinances of Christ, governed by His laws, and exercising the gifts, rights and privileges invested in them by His word; that its only proper officers are bishops, pastors and deacons, whose qualifications, claims and duties are defined in the Epistles to Timothy and Titus.

Article 10. We believe that Christian baptism is immersion in water in the name of the Father, Son and Holy Ghost, and that believers are proper subjects.

Article 11. We believe in the Lord's Supper is a perpetual obligation, by which the members of the church in the use of bread and wine, are to commemorate together the dying love of Christ, proceeded always by solemn self-examination.

Article 12. We believe in the resurrection of the dead and the general judgment; and joys of the righteous and the punishment of the wicked will be eternal upon principles of grace and justice.

Article 13. We believe in open or mixed communion and the churches of our body are authorized, through their pastors, to invite Christians of all orthodox churches who are in good standing in their respective churches, to commune with us at the Lord's table.

Proceedings
OF THE
UNION MEETING,
OF THE
MOUNT MORIAH FREEWILL BAPTIST
ASSOCIATION.

The Union Meeting of the Mount Moriah Freewill Baptist Association met in the Sixteenth Annual Session at Union Church, Pickens County, Alabama, on Saturday before the second Sunday in August, 1905.

Elder Woods Springfield preached the Introductory Sermon selecting his text from First Corinthians 14-40 and St. John 17-11.

An intermission of one and one-half hours was taken after preaching for refreshments.

The ministers and delegates assembled in the house immediately after intermission and Elder W. B. Montgomery called the body to order. Former Moderator J. T. Cunningham acted as Clerk until the body was fully organized.

After prayer by Elder Woods Springfield the business of the meeting was taken up and transacted in the following order:

1. Letters from different churches were called for and read.

2. Proceeded to the election of Moderator and Clerk whereupon Elder W. B. Montgomery was elected Moderator and E. Z. Mayfield, Clerk.

3. Extended an invitation for the reception of new churches. None joined.

4. Extended invitation to visiting brethren to seats with us.

5. Appointed the following committees:

Order of Business—Elder Woods Springfield, J. T. Cunningham, R. E. Hardin, Elder W. B. Montgomery and E. Z. Mayfield.

Devotional Exercises—Bro. Jeff Sanford with the deacons of the Union Church.

Resolutions and Queries—R L Burgers, M T Montgomery and J W Powell.

The committee on Devotional Exercises reported as follows:

We your committee beg leave to report that Elder W B Montgomery preach at 9 o'clock a. m. and Elder Woods Springfield at 11 o'clock a. m.

Elder Woods Springfield introduced the following query: "What is the intention of the Union Meeting?" The question was discussed but not accepted.

Owing to inclement weather Sunday Service did not commence until 11 o'clock. Elder W B Montgomery preached. His text was from Romans 10-7. Elder Woods Springfield preached at 4 o'clock. His text was from Hebrews 12-1 and 2. A large audience listened attentively to both sermons.

The mid-day service was commemorated with the Lord's Supper.

Monday Morning Session.

The meeting met pursuant to adjournment and was called to order by the Moderator.

After roll call the minutes of Saturday were read and adopted.

The committee on Order of Business reported as follows:

1. We recommend that the meeting proceed after the usual order of business.
2. That the next session of the Union Meeting convene with Tabernacle Church, Tuscaloosa Co., Ala., on Wednesday before the second Sunday in August, 1906, and that Elder J S Hinton preach the Introductory Sermon with Elder J M Pinkerton as alternate.
3. That we earnestly request the ministers and churches to attend these Union Meetings and to take an active part in the transaction of all necessary business.
4. That we change the time of convening from Saturday to Wednesday and the meeting to continue until all nec-

essary business is completed. 5. That we hold four services each day after the first day at the following hours: 9 o'clock and 11 o'clock a. m., 4 o'clock p. m., and at night.

Respectfully submitted,

WOODS SPRINGFIELD, Chairman.

On motion the report was adopted and the committee discharged.

Committee on Resolutions and Queries:

We your committee beg leave to submit the following: 1. Are ministers excused from active ministerial work, in any degree, when they have no charge? If so, why? 2. What is the duty of a church towards a visiting minister who assiste in protracted meetings and other extra appointments? 3. Was it necessary for Judas to sin? Who is the proper person to visit unruly members? 5. Resolved, That the ministers and messengers composing this Union Meeting tender their heartfelt thanks to the Union Church and the good people of the neighborhood for their hospitality and kindness shown during our stay with them and especially the good sisters whose labors have been the greatest.

Respectfully submitted,

R. L. BURGERS, Chairman.

The business of the meeting having ended Elder Woods Springfield preached and at the conclusion of the service the parting hand was given and the meeting adjourned to meet in its next session with the Tabernacle Church, Tuscaloosa Co., Ala., on Wednesday before the 2nd Sunday in August, 1906.

ELDER W B MONTGOMERY, Moderator.

E. Z. MAYFIELD, Clerk.

Roll of Delegates.

- Mount Moriah Church—R L Burgess and R E Hardin.
Macedonia Church—None.
Shiloh Church—W H Koon.
Tabernacle Church—J T Cunningham, M T Montgomery and J P Frazier.
Antioch Church—None.
Union Church—J W Powell, J K Powell and E Z Mayfield.
Phillip's Chapel—J M Lynn and M J Sanford.
Hattie's Chapel—L F Pridmore and A J St. John.
Mount Zion Church—None.

Statistical Table.

Chnrches and counties,	Names of Delegates.	Pastors	Clerks and their address.										
				Baptized	Received by Letter	Dismissed by Confess'n	Restored	Deceased	Excluded	Days Meetings	Members	For Minutes	
Mount Moriah, Pickens County	S J Jones, J E Woods	Woods Springfield	R E Hardin, McShan, Ala	.4	.1	.9	.1	.5	.1	.2	127	2.50	
Macadonia, Pickens County	W J McAdams, W H Conner, Lee McAdams	J E Mathis	J S Stokes, Millport, Ala					.1		.1	157	2.50	
Shiloh, Pickens County	J C Hickman, J R Hering, J A Hickman	Woods Springfield	J H Hannah, Gordo, Ala		.3						.61	2.50	
Tabernacle, Tuscaloosa County	J P Montgomery, J S Loftis, J R Logan	J M Pinkerton	J T Cunningham, May, Ala		.1	.3		.1	.2		.67	2.50	
Antioch, Fayette County	G B Johnson, J W Williams, J P Williams	J M Pinkerton	Jeff Richardson, Kennedy, Ala	.8				.2			.66	2.00	
Union, Pickens County	J W Powell, E Z Mayfield	Woods Springfield	E Z Mayfield, Mayfield, Ala					.1		.3	103	2.00	
Phillips Chapel, Tuscaloosa Co	J M Lynn, N J Sanford, George Phillips	W J Harbin	J C Philipps, Redden, Ala	.3		.1	.2	.1	.2	.4	.62	2.00	
Hatties Chapel, Pickens County	J A St. John	Woods Springfield	L F Pridmore, Ethelville, Ala	.5	.5						.28	1.50	
Mount Zion, Tuscaloosa County	T C Harless, J C Winter J S Montgomery	W B Montgomery	N A McGee, McConnells, Ala				.2	.1		.3	.27	1.50	

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