

MINUTES
OF THE
FIFTY-SIXTH ANNUAL SESSION
OF THE
MOUNT MORIAH
Free Will Baptist Association
CONVENED WITH
MACEDONIA CHURCH, PICKENS CO., ALA.,
OCTOBER 13th, 14th and 15th, 1906.

WOODS SPRINGFIELD, Moderator.
N. A. McGEE, - - - Clerk.

The next Session of the Association will be held with Phillips
Chapel, Tuscaloosa County, Alabama, on Saturday be-
fore the Second Sunday in October, 1907.

AYDEN, N. C.
FREE WILL BAPTIST PRINT
1907.

PROCEEDINGS

—OF THE—

MOUNT MORIAH CONFERENCE.

The fifty sixth annual session of the Mount Moriah Free Will Baptist Association of Alabama, was held at Macedonia church, Pickens county, Ala., October 13th, 14th and 15th 1906.

The introductory sermon was preached by Rev. W. B. Montgomery, his text was from the 14th verse of Philemon.

After preaching, an intermission of one and a half hours 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 Rev. Woods Springfield. The former moderator, and the former clerk officiated until the body was organized.

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

Then proceeded to elect a moderator and clerk, where upon Rev. Woods Springfield was elected moderator and N. A. McGee, clerk.

Opened the door for the reception of new churches. None received.

Called for corresponding messengers from sister associations. None were presented.

Invited visiting brethren to seats with us.

The following committees were appointed:

On Order of Business—Rev. J. D. Byars, J. E. Mathis, and W. B. Montgomery with moderator and clerk.

Devotional Service—Bro. J. E. Woods, with the deacons of Macedonia church.

Temperance—Bros. A. J. Taylor and J. H. Hannah.

Finance—Bros. L. F. Pridmore and W. J. Mcadams.

Sabbath Schools—Bros. J. M. Pinkerton and W. A. Sanford.

Deceased Ministers—Bros. J. T. Cunningham, and J. M. Lynn.

Resolutions and Queries—Bros. John Williams and S. J. Janes.

Education—Bros. J. P. Montgomery, O. B. Harden and T. P. Montgomery.

Devotional Service.

We your committee beg leave to submit a partial report, that Rev. J. M. Pinkerton preach Sunday at 9 o'clock, a. m., Rev. Wood Springfields at 12 o'clock, Rev. J. D. Byars be his alternate.

On motion the association adjourned until Monday morning at 8 o'clock a. m.

Sunday Service.

Rev. J. M. Pinkerton preached at 9 o'clock a. m. Text: Acts 4: 11. Rev. N. M. Davis from the Cahaba Association, preached at 11 o'clock. Text: St. John 11:39. The midday service was commemorated by taking of the Lord's Supper. All christians of other churches, who were in good standing in their churches, were invited to participate with no restriction, save that of the Scripture, "But let a man examine himself and so let him eat of that bread, and drink of that cup, for he that eateth and drinketh unworthily, eateth and drinketh damnation to himself not discerning the Lord's body."

Monday Morning Session.

The association met pursuant to adjournment. After song and prayer service, the moderator called the body to order. Roll called and delegates answered to their names. Minutes of Saturday were read and approved. Reports of committees were called for and presented as follows.

Reports of Committees.

We your committee on documents and order of business beg leave to report:

1. That we proceed after the usual order of business.
2. That the next association be held with Phillips Chapel, Tuscaloosa county, Ala.
3. That the introductory sermon be preached by Rev. J. D. Byars and that Rev. J. E. Mathis be his alternate.

4. That N. A. McGee be continued treasurer, and that he superintend the printing of the minutes and he have them printed at Ayden, N. C., and that he have five dollars for his service.

5. We recommend that there be 3 delegates elected to attend a State Convention to be held some time in the future to effect a state organization that one of the same be made corresponding Secretary.

6. We recommend that we adopt the FREE WILL BAPTIST, published at Ayden, N. C., as our organ for the present and we use the Sunday School literature printed by same.

Respectfully Submitted,

J. D. BYARS, Chairman.

On motion report received and committee discharged.

After considering by sections it was adopted as a whole.

Went into an election of delegates to represent us in State Convention resulting in the election of Revs. Woods Springfield, J. D. Byars, W. B. Montgomery. Rev. Woods Springfield Sec., of this delegation. Raised fund for the expenses of the delegates as follows: Mt. Moriah, \$15.00; Macedonia, \$10.00; Tabernacle, \$10.00; Antioch, \$5.00; Union, \$10.00; Phillips Chapel, \$10.00; Hattie's Chapel, \$10.00; Mt. Zion, \$5.00. Total \$70.00.

INVESTIGATION.—We your committee beg leave to report that we find our ministers all in good standing, except Brother S. W. Williams. We recommend that his name be dropped from our ministers' roll. We recommend that the name of brother J. W. Cork be dropped as he is not an ordained minister.

O. B. HARDEN, Chairman.

The report received, adopted and committee discharged.

TEMPERANCE.—We your committee beg leave to report that the suppression of the liquor traffic is the greatest question now before the American people, and only successful method of suppressing this evil is by means and 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.

A. J. TAYLOR, Chairman.

Report received, adopted and committee discharged.

SABBATH SCHOOLS.—We your committee beg leave to report that we are cheered to know that the people of our association are becoming more interested in Sabbath Schools, and we urge our brothers and sisters to pray and labor to create a deeper interest in the work.

J. M. Pinkerton, Chairman.

Report received, adopted and committee discharged.

DECEASED MEMBERS.—We, your committee beg leave to report that we find that eight of our devoted members have fallen asleep in Jesus since our last annual meeting as follows: Mt. Moriah—sister M. F. Woods. Macedonia—Bros. W. J. Coward, W. C. Stokes and sister Ann Atkins. Antioch—Sister Emma Taylor. Phillips Chapel—Sister Catharine Phillips. Union—Bros. W. R. Pierce and R. M. Fagan.

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. T. CUNNINGHAM, Chairman.

On motion, report received and committee discharged.

FINANCE REPORT.—We, your committee beg leave to report that we find in the hands of the Treasurer the sum of (\$23.15) twenty-three dollars and fifteen cents.

L. F. PRIDMORE, Chairman.

On motion, report received and committee discharged.

FINANCIAL REPORT OF CHURCHES.—Mt. Moriah,—Church property \$1,000, for pastor, \$83.30, for minutes, \$2.00, total, \$1,085.30 Hatties Chapel—church property, \$1,000, for pastor, \$50.00, for ceiling church \$100, Sunday School \$1.00, pecuniary, \$2.00, for minutes, \$2.00, total, \$1,155.00. No report from the other churches.

ON RESOLUTIONS AND QUERIES.—We, your committee beg leave to report the following resolution: Be it

RESOLVED, 1st. That we urge upon our ministers to leave the worldly affairs as much as possible and give their services to the study of the Bible and the preaching of God's word and that each church create a system whereby they may be supported.

RESOLVED 2ND. That we tender our sincere thanks to the good people of Macedonia church and vicinity, and especially to the good sisters who have so nobly borne the heat and burden of the day for kindness and hospitality shown us.

JOHN WILLIAMS, Chairman.

Report received, adopted and committee discharged.

EDUCATION.—We, your committee beg leave to report that we recommend that we make greater efforts to educate our children, that they may be better prepared for usefulness in this life.

J. P. MONTGOMERY, Chairman.

Report received, adopted and committee discharged.

RESOLVED, That we tender our thanks to Rev. N. M. Davis for his attendance and aid with us.

The associational labors now being ended, the association adjourned to meet at Phillips Chapel, Tuscaloosa Co., Ala., on Saturday before the second Sunday in October, 1907.

REV. WOODS SPRINGFIELD, Moderator.

N. A. MCGEE, Clerk.

Ordained Ministers and their Addresses.

Rev. W. R. Latham,	Gordo, Pickens Co., Ala.
Rev. John S. Hinton,	May, Tuscaloosa Co., Ala.
Rev. Woods Springfield,	McShan, Pickens Co., Ala.
Rev. J. D. Byars,	Millport, Lamar Co., Ala.
Rev. J. E. Mathis,	Millport, Lamar Co., Ala.
Rev. W. J. Harben,	Kuykendall, Tuscaloosa Co., Ala.
Rev. J. B. Davis,	West Point, Clay Co., Miss.
Rev. J. M. Pinkerton,	Newlexington, R. F. D. Ala.
Rev. W. B. Montgomery,	McConnells. Ala.

CONSTITUTION.

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

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 heresy, 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.

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.

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.

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

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.

7. Churches wishing to become members of this As-

sociation must adopt its articles of faith and conform to its usages.

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 DECORUM.

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.

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

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.

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

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

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.

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

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

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.

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

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

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.

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.

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.

3. We believe that man was created holy, under the law of his Maker, but from voluntary transgression fell from that holy 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.

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.

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.

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.

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.

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, do mortify 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; Ezek. 18:24; Rev. 2:3; Ezek. 33: 13 and 28; 1st Tim. 4: 1; Heb. 3:5; 1st Cor. 10:12 and 22; 1st Peter 1:10.

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.

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.

11. We believe 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 preceded always by solemn self-examination.

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.

13. We believe in open and 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.

The union meeting of the Mount Moriah Free Will Baptist Association met in its 17th annual session with Tabernacle church, Tuscaloosa county, on the 8th day of August, 1906. The introductory sermon was preached by Rev. John S. Hinton. His text was Rom. 12.11. An intermission of one hour and a half was taken for refreshments. At the appointed time the ministers and messengers assembled in the house and the body was called to order by Rev. W. B. Montgomery, the former moderator. The former clerk being absent, Bro. J. T. Cunningham was chosen clerk pro tem. After prayer by Rev. Woods Springfield the business was transacted in the following order:

1. Letters from the various churches were handed in and read. 2. Proceeded to elect moderator and clerk. Rev. J. M. Pinkerton was elected moderator and J. T. Cunningham, clerk. 3. Extended an invitation for new churches. 4. Invited visiting brethren to seats with us. 5. Appointed the following committees:

1. On Order of Business—Rev. Woods Springfield, Rev. W. B. Montgomery, Rev. John S. Hinton, with moderator and clerk.

On Devotional Service—Bro. B. D. Williams with the deacons of Tabernacle church.

On Resolutions and Queries—Bro. J. E. Woods, R. E. Harden and J. A. St John.

Moved to take up the queries and discuss them. Query No. 1, answer, no. No. 2, That make him reasonably whole for service rendered. No. 3, answer no. No. 4, the Deacons.

REPORT OF DEVOTIONAL COMMITTEE.

Rev. Woods Springfield preach to-morrow at 11 a. m.

Thursday, August 9th.

The union met pursuant to adjournment. was called to order by the moderator.

REPORT OF COMMITTEES.

Order of business—We your committee on order of business report: First, we recommend the usual order of business. 2. That union meeting meet annually on Saturday before the 4th Sunday in July, and convene at the wishes of the church that we hold four services each day after the first day, at 9 a. m and 11 a. m., at 4 p. m. and at night. That the next session be held with Antioch church, Fayette county, Ala., and Rev. J. D. Byars preach the introductory sermon and J. E. Matthews be his alternate. 3. We recommend that we consider the state organization of the Free Will into a general conference.

WOODS SPRINGFIELD, Chm.

At 11 o'clock Rev. Woods Springfield preached a very able and instructive sermon—text: John 11:44.

On Resolutions and Queries.—1. Resolved that we make greater efforts to pay our pastors and thereby enable them to give us better service. 2. That we tender our sincere and heartfelt thanks to the people of Tabernacle church and vicinity and especially the ladies who have borne the heat and burden of the day, for their kindness shown us. After all the business was completed the union meeting closed by taking the parting hand, to meet with Antioch church, Fayette Co., Ala., on Saturday before the fourth Sunday in July, 1907.

REV. I. M. PINKERTON, Moderator.

J. T. CUNNINGHAM, Clerk.

ROLL OF DELEGATES.

Mount Moriah—Pickens Co., Ala., R. E. Hardin, J. E. Woods.

Macedonia—Not represented.

Snioh—Pickens Co., Ala., J. A. Hickman, J. H. Pinkerton.

Tabernacle—Tuskaloosa Co., Ala. J. P. Frazier, M. Montgomery, B. R. Montgomery.

Antioch—Fayette Co., Ala., B. D. Williams.

Union—Pickens Co., Ala., T. M. Baily.

Phillips Chapel—Jeff Sanford, Mac Lynn, J. C. Phillips.

Hatties Chapel—Pickens Co., Ala., J. A. St John.

Mount Zion—Tuskaloosa Co., Ala., N. A. McGee.

STATISTICAL TABLE.

CHURCHES AND COUNTIES.	PASTORS.	CLERKS and THEIR P. O's	Baptized	Received by L.	Dismissed by L.	Restored	Decased.	Excluded	Days of M.	No. members	Minute Fund
Mount Moriah, Pickens Co									2		\$.....
Macedonia, Pickens Co.....	J. D. Byars.....	J. S. Stokes, Millport, Ala.....					3	7	1	165	2.50
Shiloh, Pickens Co	Woods Springfield	J. H. Zenat, Gordo, Ala.....	2							68	2.50
Tabernacle, Tuscaloosa Co	J. E. Mathis.....	J. T. Cunningham, May, Ala.	1	1				3		60	2.50
Antioch, Fayette Co.....	J. M. Pinkerton ...	J. A. Richards, Kenneday, Ala.					1			58	2.00
Union, Pickens Co	W. B. Montgomery	J. B. Bailey, Mayfield, Ala.....			1		2	1	1		2 00
Phillips Ch'l, Tuscaloosa Co.	W. B. Montgomery	J. C. Phillips Moore Bridge "	5	3		1	1			70	1.50
Hattie's Chapel, Pickens Co	Woods Springfield	L. F. Pridmore, Ethelville Ala.	2							30	2.00
Mt. Zion, Tuscaloosa Co.....	W. B. Montgomery	N. A. McGee, McConnells, Ala.	9	10		1			3	46	2.00
		J. G. Kuykendall, Berry Station, R. F. D. No. 1. for minutes,									1.00