

MINUTES
OF THE
FIFTY-EIGHTH ANNUAL SESSION
OF THE
MOUNT MORIAH
Free Will Baptist Association,

CONVENED WITH
SHILOH CHURCH, PICKENS COUNTY, ALA.,
OCTOBER 10th, 11th and 12th, 1908.

J. D. BYARS, - - - Moderator.

J. A. BOSWELL, - - - Clerk.

The next session of the Association will be held with Mount Moriah Church, Pickens County, Alabama, on Saturday before the second Sunday in October, 1909.

AYDEN, N. C.
FREE WILL BAPTIST PRINT.
1909.

5-8-41
1-17-8-9

Subscription for Evangelistic Work.

Mount Moriah.....	\$ 20.00
Macedonia.....	20.00
Shiloh.....	20.00
Tabernacle.....	15.00
Antioch.....	10.00
Union.....	10.00
Phillip's Chapel.....	5.00
Hattie's Chapel.....	10.00
Mount Zion.....	10.00
Union Hill.....	10.00

Total, \$130.00

Rev. J. E. Mathis was elected association evangelist.

J. T. CUNNINGHAM	} Ex. Com.
L. E. PRIDMORE,	
W. H. KOON,	

ORDAINED MINISTERS AND ADDRESSES.

W. R. Latham.....Gordo.....Pickens Co.,.....Ala.
J. S. Hinton.....McConnells...Tuscaloosa, Co...Ala.
Woods Springfield...McShan.....Pickens Co.,.....Ala.
J. D. Byars.....Millport.....Lamar Co.,.....Ala.
J. E. Mathis.....Millport.....Lamar Co.,.....Ala.
W. J. Harben.....Kuykendall...Tuscaloosa Co.,Ala.
J. M. Pinkerton.....McConnells...Tuscaloosa, Co.,Ala.
W. B. Montgomery..McConnells...Tuscaloosa, Co.,Ala.

PROCEEDINGS.

—OF THE—

MOUNT MORIAH CONFERENCE.

The Fifty-Eighth Annual Session of the Mount Moriah Free Will Baptist Association of Alabama, was held at Shiloh church, Pickens county, Ala., October 10th, 11th and 12th, 1908.

The introductory sermon was preached by Rev. W. B. Montgomery—Text: Phil. 4:13.

After preaching, an intermission of one and one 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. J. D. Byars. The former moderator and the former clerk officiated until the body was organized.

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

Then proceeded to elect a moderator and clerk, whereupon, Rev. J. D. Byars was elected moderator and J. A. Boswell clerk. Opened the door for the reception of new churches, whereupon a letter was received from Union Hill church, asking for admittance to this association. By motion, she was received.

Called for corresponding messengers from sister associations.

Invited visiting brethren to seats with us.

The following committees were appointed:

Order of Business—Rev. W. R. Latham, Rev. Woods Springfield, Rev. J. E. Mathis with moderator and clerk.

Devotional Service—J. E. Woods, with deacons of Shiloh church.

Temperance—A. J. Taylor, A. O. Blake.

Finance—J. T. Cunningham, J. S. Stewart.

Sabbath Schools—Rev. J. M. Pinkerton, T. J. Conner.

Deceased Members—Murk, Montgomery, S. N. McAdams.

Resolutions and Queries—A. I. Atkins, J. T. Williams, W. V. Pool.

Publication, Education and Literature—Ministers resolve themselves into a committee of the whole.

REV. WOODS SPRINGFIELD, Chairman.

ROLL OF DELEGATES.

Mount Moriah—J. E. Woods, S. J. James.

Macedonia—Thomas Conner, S. N. McAdams, A. I. Atkins.

Shiloh—J. H. Hannah, J. C. Hickman, W. H. Koons.

Tabernacle—J. T. Cunningham, J. S. Loftis, Murk Montgomery.

Antioch—A. J. Taylor, J. T. Williams.

Union—W. V. Pool, J. A. Pool.

Phillips Chapel—W. A. Sanford, J. M. Lynn, M. J. Sanford.

Hattie's Chapel—A. O. Blake.

Mt. Zion—W. A. Winter, J. S. Ramsay, J. S. Montgomery.

Union Hill—J. S. Stewart, W. A. Harris.

Devotional Service—We your committee beg leave to report that Rev. J. M. Pinkerton preach Sunday 9 a. m. Rev. J. E. Mathis, preach Sunday at 11 a. m., Rev. Woods Springfield, preach Sunday at 6 p. m.

J. E. Woods, Chairman.

Motion to discuss a query brought to union meeting at Mount Zion church as to the propriety of the continuance or discontinuance of the Union Meeting. Was carried.

Motion to adjourn until Monday at 8 a. m. Was carried.

Sunday Services.

Rev. J. M. Pinkerton preach at 9 a. m.—Text James 4:17. Rev. J. E. Mathis preached at 11 a. m.—Text: Mark 16:15-16. Rev. Woods Springfield preached at 6 p. m.—Text: Job 16: latter clause of 19th and 22nd verses. The sacrament of the Lord's supper was commemorated after the midday service and all Christians were invited to participate with no restriction but that of God's Word. "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 8. a. m.

The association met pursuant to adjournment. After song and prayer service the moderator called the body to order.

Roll was called and delegates answered to their names. Minutes of Saturday were read and approved.

Reports of committees were called for and they reported as follows:

Reports of Committees.

ORDER OF BUSINESS—We your committee on document and order of business report as follows:

1. We recommend that we proceed after the usual order of business.
2. We recommend that the next session of this association be held with Mount Moriah church, Pickens Co., Ala., and that Rev. J. E. Mathis preach the introductory sermon, Rev. W. B. Montgomery be his alternate.
3. We recommend that the secretary be elected treasurer, and he superintend the printing of the minutes, that he be allowed \$5.00 for his services.
4. We recommend that this body take steps to put an evangelist in the field of this association, and that

he be allowed \$2.00 per day for actual service rendered.

5. We recommend that this association request the State Convention to put out a State Evangelist who will be subject to the call of the state executive committee, and that committee contract with him.

6. We recommend that this body elect an executive committee of three, who shall take oversight of churches and ministers contract, and pay the evangelist for his services.

W. R. LATHAM, Chairman.

Motion to receive report of committee and discharge same was carried.

On motion, 1st section of the report was adopted. Motion to adopt 2nd section was discussed and voted that the association be held with Antioch church, Fayette Co., Ala.

The 3rd, 4th, 5th and 6th were considered by sections adopted entire.

Motion to adjourn for preaching was carried.

The body reassembled at 11 a. m. for preaching by Rev. W. R. Latham. His text was: "I have a baptism to be baptized with and how I am straightened until it be accomplished."

He requested the people to search the Scriptures for his text.

EDUCATION—Report as follows: Whereas, we have a fine school, a Theological Seminary, at Ayden, N. C. and, whereas, we see the necessity of a better educated ministry, we urge our people to use their greatest effort to help push forward our young men who enter the ministry, to educate for the ministry, also let us take every advantage possible to educate our children.

2. We recommend the taking and reading of our denominational paper and literature published at Ayden, N. C., and we heartily recommend the Editor of the FREE WILL BAPTIST Pub. Co., in his efforts in the defense of truth and right. WOODS SPRINGFIELD, Chm.

Report received, adopted and committee discharged.

TEMPERANCE—We your committee beg leave to report in view of the fact that the subject of intemperance has been discussed, and by an organized effort by the various denominations and thinking citizens for good morals and religion, there has been a glorious victory in putting out the sale and making of intoxicating drinks. We recommend that we use our greatest efforts and influence against the use, making and selling in violation of the laws of our state, and that we will see so far as they come to our knowledge that all persons violating laws will be prosecuted, also recommend that the ministers will be faithful in warning the members to abstain from its use as a beverage and that our churches see that the discipline is strictly executed in suppression of its evils.

A. J. TAYLOR, Chairman.

On motion, the report was received, adopted and the committee discharged.

FINANCE—We your committee on finance beg leave to report that we find in hands of the treasurer from last year, \$5.11; collected at present session, \$20.50; Total \$25.61.

J. T. CUNNINGHAM, Chairman.

On motion, the report was received, adopted and the committee discharged.

SUNDAY SCHOOL—We your committee beg leave to report that we find no Sabbath Schools reported in the various churches, therefore, we urge upon each church that they organize and perpetuate a Sabbath School, realizing that the usefulness of our children depends largely upon their training. We sincerely urge upon our ministers to impress upon our churches their duty on this line as we believe Sabbath Schools are a light to a community and a prop to a church.

REV. J. M. PINKERTON, Chairman.

On motion, report received, adopted and committee discharged.

DECEASED MEMBERS—We your committee beg leave

to report that we find six of our devoted members have fallen asleep in Jesus since our last annual meeting as follows: Mount Moriah—Bro. Walter Burgess, Sister Lulie Magees. Union—Bro. W. J. Clayton, Sister Hattie Legins. Macedonia—Sister Mariah Stokes. Mt. Zion—Bro. W. W. Shipp.

MURK MONTGOMERY, Chairman.

On motion, report received, adopted and committee discharged.

TRIBUTE.

Don't grieve for those who are gone,
Who are better off than we,
But cheer the drooping heart
With thoughts of eternity.

As death is but a sleep,
A rest for the weary soul,
A bridge to pass us over,
To that joyous heavenly goal.

Grieve not for those who've passed
Death's limit here below,
And entered into glory,
In that world we do not know.

But joyous let us live,
As we know all things are best,
Done by our Lord and Savior,
Who'll give us eternal rest.

FINANCIAL REPORT OF CHURCHES—Mount Moriah—church property \$1000; mission \$25.00; Pastor \$100; minutes \$2.50; total \$1127.50. Tabernacle—church property \$800; repairing house \$25.40; missions \$10; minutes \$2; pastor \$30; total \$867.40. Union—church property \$500; pastor \$37.70; minutes \$1.50; total \$539.20.

No report from other churches.

RESOLUTIONS AND QUERRIES—We your committee beg leave to report the following resolutions: Be it

Resolved, 1. That each church in our association

make an earnest effort to raise means to support our pastors and aid in the mission work and that we cooperate with our ministers, by attending our conferences, prayer meetings, Sunday Schools etc.

2. That we urge our ministers to devote all the time they can to the work of the ministry and that they travel as extensively as possible and spread the good tidings of salvation.

3. That we tender our sincere thanks to the good people of Shiloh and vicinity and especially the good sisters who have so nobly borne the burdens of the day for kindness and hospitality shown us during this session.

A. J. ATKINS, Chairman.

Report received, adopted and committee discharged.

MISCELLANEOUS—Motion that treasurer of state committee pay Woods Springfield, State Evangelist, \$30 for services in the field. Was carried.

Motion made to elect two delegates to state convention.

Revs. J. E. Mathis, J. D. Byars, Woods Springfield and W. B. Montgomery were nominated. After the vote was taken, Revs. J. E. Mathis and Woods Springfield were declared elected.

Motion made to appoint W. H. Sanford and Rev. J. M. Pinkerton corresponding messengers to North River association; Revs. Woods Springfield and J. E. Mathis to Vernon association.

The associational labors now being ended, the association adjourned to meet at Antioch, Fayette Co., Ala., on Saturday before the 2nd Sunday in Oct., 1909.

J. D. BYARS, Moderator.

J. A. BOSWELL, Clerk.

PROCEEDINGS OF UNION MEETING.

The Union Meeting of the Mt. Moriah Free Will Baptist Association, met in its 19th annual session with Mt. Zion church, Tuscaloosa county, Ala., on Saturday before the 4th Sunday in July, 1908.

The introductory sermon was preached by Rev. W. B. Montgomery from Romans 13:1.

An intermission of one and one half hours 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, being absent, the former clerk officiated until the body was organized.

After prayer by Rev. Woods Springfield, the business was transacted in the following order:

1. Letters from the various churches were called for, handed in and read.

2. Proceeded to elect moderator and clerk. Rev. W. B. Montgomery was elected moderator and J. A. Boswell clerk.

3. Appointed the following committees:
Devotion—J. A. Pool, with deacons of Mount Zion church.

Order of business—Rev. Woods Springfield, J. A. Hickman, Rev. J. S. Hinton with moderator and clerk.

Resolutions and Queries—T. A. Springfield, J. W. Powell and J. T. Cunningham.

Your committee on devotion makes a partial report, that J. S. Hinton preach at 9 a. m. and Rev. Woods Springfield preach at 11 a. m. Sunday.

Adjourned until Monday 8 a. m.

Sunday Services.

Rev. J. S. Hinton preached at 9 a. m., text: II Cor. 13:5; Rev. Woods Springfield preached at 11 a. m. from Matt. 16:13-21. Your committee on devotion further

report that we meet at 5 p. m. for prayer and praise service, and that Rev. W. B. Montgomery preach at early candle light, his text was, Hebrew 12:3.

Monday Morning 8 a. m.

The union meeting met pursuant to adjournment with Rev. W. B. Montgomery, moderator, in the chair.

The roll was called and delegates answered to their names. Saturday's minutes were read and approved.

Reports of committees were called for and presented as follows:

Reports of Committees.

DOCUMENTS—We your committee on documents and order of business report as follows: Whereas, The churches of this association seems so negligent in attending the union meeting, and owing to the great failure of the ministers in attending the same, we recommend that we refer the subject of the continuance of the union meeting to the next association for a query as to the propriety or the impropriety of continuing the same. We further recommend that the association make a definite decision with reference to the same.

WOODS SPRINGFIELD, Chairman.

Report was received, adopted and committee discharged.

RESOLUTIONS AND QUERIES—Your committee beg leave to report blank as to queries.

Resolved, That we tender our sincere and heartfelt thanks to the Mount Zion church and people of the vicinity for their kindness and hospitality and especially to the sisters and ladies for their painstaking care in supporting this union meeting.

T. A. SPRINGFIELD, Chairman.

Report received, adopted and committee discharged.

Rev. Woods Springfield preached the valedictory sermon from Prov. 16:25, to a large and attentive audience.

Roll of Delegates.

Mt. Moriah, Pickens Co., Ala.—S. J. James, R. E. Hardy, and T. A. Springfield.

Macedonia—Not represented.

Shiloh, Pickens Co., Ala.—J. L. Carbaniss, W. G. Hickman, J. A. Hickman.

Tabernacle, Tuscaloosa Co., Ala.—J. T. Cunningham, Murk Montgomery, P. J. Frazier.

Antioch, Fayette Co., Ala.—B. D. Williams, S. H. Williams, R. D. Belk.

Union, Pickens Co., Ala.—J. W. Powell, J. A. Pool,

Phillip's Chapel, Tuscaloosa Co., Ala.—W. A. Sanford
J. W. Hallman, M. J. Sanford.

Hattie's Chapel, Pickens Co., Ala.—J. A. St. Johns, A. J. Pridmore, J. H. Pridmore.

Mt. Zion, Tuscaloosa Co., Ala.—J. A. Boswell, W. A. Winters, J. W. E. Shelby.

After all the business was completed the union meeting closed by taking the parting hand to meet with association at Shiloh, Pickens Co., Ala., on Saturday before the second Sunday in October 1909.

REV. W. B. MONTGOMERY, Moderator.

J. A. BOSWELL, Clerk.

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 ministers 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 and 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 matter 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 Association 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 debate is 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 officers 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 unalternate 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 consequences 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 giving 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 preceeded 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.

STATISTICAL TABLE.

CHURCHES AND COUNTIES.	PASTORS	CLERKS AND THEIR POST OFFICES.	Baptized.	Rec. by Letter.	Dis by Letter.	Restored.	Deceased.	Excluded.	Meeting Days.	No. Members.	Minute Fund.	Joined Other Churches	
Mt. Moriah, Pickens Co.....	J D Byars.....	A. R. Wing, McShan, Ala....	13		12		2	1		148	\$2 50	1	
Macedonia, Pickens Co.....	J. D. Byars	J. S. Stokes. Millport, Ala.....	7	1			1			93	2 50		
Shiloh, Pickens Co.....	J. D. Byars	J. H. Zeanah. Gordo, Ala.....	2	3	6					65	2 50		
Tabernacle, Tuscaloosa Co..	W. B. Montgomery	J. T. Cunningham, May, Ala...	13	2	1	2				82	2 00		
Antioch, Fayette Co.....	J. M. Pinkerton ...	David Belk, Belk, Ala... ..	2	2						88	2 00		
Union, Pickens Co.....	W. B. Montgomery	E. S. Teer, Mayfield, Ala.....	2	2	5					86	1 50		
Phillips Ch'l Tuscaloosa Co	J. M. Pinkerton....	George Phillips, McConnells Ala	8	3		1		1		72	2 00		
Hattie's Chapel Pickens Co	Woods Springfield.	L. F. Pridmore, Ethelville, Ala	4	2						40	2 00		
Mt. Zion, Tuscaloosa Co ...	W. B. Montgomery	J. A. Boswell, McConnells, Ala	7		2		1		3	59	2 00		
Union Hill, Pickens Co.....	Woods Springfield	W. A. Harris, McShan. Ala.....	6	10						25	1 50		