

*Ta. Springfield*

**MINUTES**

OF

**Mount Moriah**

**FREE WILL BAPTIST ASSOCIATION**

**OF ALABAMA**

---

**SIXTY-SECOND ANNUAL SESSION**

HELD WITH

**UNION CHURCH**

**Pickens County, Alabama**

**OCTOBER 12, 13 AND 14, 1912**

---

Next Session to be held with Unity Grove Church,  
Lamar County, Alabama

RECEIVED

NOV 19 1964

RECEIVED

NOV 19 1964

RECEIVED

NOV 19 1964

RECEIVED

NOV 19 1964

RECEIVED

NOV 19 1964

RECEIVED

NOV 19 1964

## PROCEEDINGS

The Sixty-Second Annual Session of the Mount Moriah Freewill Baptist Association was held with Union Church, Pickens County, Alabama, October 12th, 13th and 14th, A. D., 1912. The introductory sermon was preached by Rev. J. D. Byars, text Rev. 22:12, after which an intermission of one hour and a half was taken for recreation and refreshments.

At the appointed time the ministers and messengers repaired to the house, and after reading the 1st and 23rd Psalms and prayer, the Association was called to order by Rev. W. B. Montgomery, the former moderator. The former clerk being absent, J. T. Cunningham was elected clerk pro tem until the body was fully organized.

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

Proceeded to elect moderator and clerk, whereupon Rev. J. D. Byars was elected moderator and J. T. Cunningham clerk.

Extended an invitation for the reception of new churches.

Called for corresponding messengers from sister associations.

Invited visiting brethren to seats with us.

The following Committees were appointed:

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

On Devotional Service—W. V. Curry, J. A. Hickman and W. H. Whatly

On Temperance—I. J. W. St. John, T. B. Smith, J. E. Fields.

On Sabbath Schools—J. G. Pearson, O. B. Hardin, J. C. Hardy.

On Finance—J. S. Stokes, L. E. Parker.

On Deceased Members—T. A. Guin, J. S. Loftis, J. P. Montgomery.

On Resolutions and Queries—M. T. Montgomery, L. W. Smith, T. C. Harless.

On Publication, Education and Literature—Revs. J. M. Pinkerton, Murk Montgomery, T. V. Wheat.

On Moral Reform—M. St. John, E. B. Belk, J. S. Curry.

On Devotion—We, your Committee, beg leave to report that Rev. J. E. Mathis preach Sunday 9:30 a. m., Rev. Woods Springfield 11 a. m., Rev. J. M. Pinkerton at 3 p. m.  
W. V. CURRY, Chairman.

On motion the report received and adopted, and the Committee discharged.

On motion the Association adjourned until Monday morning 8 o'clock.

### SUNDAY SERVICE

Rev. J. E. Mathis preached at 9:30 a. m., text John 1:4; Rev. Woods Springfield at 11 a. m., text, John 4:35; Rev. J. M. Pinkerton at 3 p. m., text, Hebrews 2:1. All the sermons were delivered to a large concourse of attentive people.



## MONDAY MORNING, 8 O'CLOCK

The Association met pursuant to adjournment. After song and prayer service the Moderator called the body to order, and the business was conducted as follows:

1. Roll was called and messengers answered to their names.
2. Minutes of Saturday was read and approved.
3. Reports of Committees called for.

Documents and Order of Business—We, your committee, beg leave to report. 1st, we proceed after the usual order of business.

2nd, That the next session of this Association be held with Unity Grove Church, Lamar County, Alabama, Commencing on Saturday before the second Sunday in October, 1913. Rev. Woods Springfield preach the introductory sermon, Rev. W. B. Montgomery be his alternate.

3. The Secretary be elected Treasurer, and he superintend the printing of the minutes and he be allowed seven dollars for his service.

4. Adopted the new Constitution.

WOODS SPRINGFIELD, Chairman.

Report received and adopted and committee discharged.

Temperance—We, your committee, beg leave to report in view of the fact that the subject of intemperance and by an organized effort of 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 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 the suppression of this evil.

I, J. W. ST. JOHN, Chairman.

Report received and adopted and Committee discharged.

Sabbath Schools—We, your Committee, beg leave to report: We find only a few of our churches have Sabbath Schools. We urge our people to organize a school in every church, believing that the usefulness of our children depend largely upon their training. We urge our ministers and delegates to impress upon our churches their duty on this, as we believe Sabbath Schools are a light to a church when carried on in the right way.

J. G. PEARSON, Chairman.

Report received and adopted and committee discharged.

Finance—We, your Committee, beg leave to report that we have received at this session.....\$28.85  
From J. T. Cunningham ..... 2.35

Total.....\$31.20

J. S. STOKES, Chairman.

Report received and adopted and Committee discharged.

Deceased Members—We, your Committee, beg leave to report that we find since our last annual meeting that eleven of our members have fallen asleep in Jesus, as follows:

Mt. Moriah—Sister Laura Guyton, Bro. J. W. Guyton

Shiloh—Sisters Mariah Estes, Martha Burkhalter and Seleah Sanders.

Union—Sister Curry.

Hattie Chapel—Sister Amanda Ponds and Bro. J. H. Pridmoore.

Union Hill—Bro. W. M. Guy.

Unity Grove—Bro. L. Robertson, Sister E. Cole, Bro. A. J. Walhall.

T. A. GUIN, Ghairman

Report received and adopted and Committee discharged.

Resolutions and Queries—We, your Committee, beg leave to report :

1. That each church in our association make an earnest effort to raise means to support our pastor and aid in mission work, and that we co-operate with our ministers by attending conferences, prayer-meetings and Sabbath Schools.

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

3. That we tender our thanks to the Good people of Union Church and vicinity, and especially the sisters who have borne the burdens of the day for their kindness and hospitality shown us during our stay with them.

M. T. MONTGOMERY, Chairman.

Report received and adopted and Committee discharged.

Publications, Education and Literature—We, your Committee, beg leave to report:

1. We recommend that the printing of our minutes be done where the churches can get in possession of them sooner than we have been.

2. Seeing we are in a progressive age, we recommend that our people take greater interest in educating and training our children, as the moral training of the mind has a great tendency to cause the mind to think, the heart to feel the necessity of higher attainments, and we especially urge our people to read and study the Bible as all of needed revelation comes from God through the Bible. The demands for education were never greater than now. Young men entering the ministry should be encouraged to strive for a more thorough education.

3. We recommend that we be very careful in selecting literature for our home reading, more especially for our children, believing that the reading of novels and histories on the lives of bad characters have a tendency to lead our young minds astray.

4. We recommend the Morning Star Freewill Baptist paper published



by the General Baptist Publishing House, Owensville, Ind. We also recommend that we use the Sunday School literature published by our own denomination.

J. M. PINKERTON, Chairman.

Report received and adopted and Committee discharged.

Moral Reform—We, your Committee, beg leave to report: Seemingly the minds of the people, more especially the young people, are inclined to seek after worldly amusements which are inclined to corrupt their morals.

1. We recommend that the churches take a closer oversight over them and that they condemn all and everything that has the least influence leading in the direction to corrupt the morals or stagnate the brain so it would render them unfit for usefulness as a christian. We should condemn such worldly amusements as dancing, gambling in any form, either by chance, in shooting matches, raffing, marble playing on Sundays or lying around railroad stations on Sunday when we have no business.

2. We recommend that our ministers make it their special business to warn the people on all these lines and persuade the church under their charge to abstain from all these things, and further recommend that we take no part in box suppers or anything on that line to raise money for the support of church work in any form.

M. ST. JOHN, Chairman.

Report received and adopted and committee discharged.

Executive report all the ministers in the Association are in good standing as far as we have been able to learn; also have six dollars and fifty cents mission money on hand.

J. A. HICKMAN, Chairman.

The business of the Association now being ended, adjourned to meet with Unity Grove Church, Lamar County, Alabama, on Saturday before the second Sunday in October, 1913.

J. D. BYARS, Moderator.

J. T. CUNNINGHAM, Clerk

#### ROLL OF DELEGATES

Mt. Moriah—I. W. J. St. John, T. B. Smith

Macedonia—J. E. Fields, O. B. Hardin, J. S. Stokes.

Shiloh—J. A. Hickman, B. C. Martin.

Tabernacle—J. P. Montgomery, M. T. Montgomery, J. S. Loftis.

Antioch—L. W. Shepperd, L. Crawly, E. B. Belk.

Union—E. S. Teer, A. C. Hamlin, J. S. Curry.

Phillips Chapel—J. M. Lynn, J. D. Montgomery.

Hattie's Chappel—W. N. St. John, M. St. John.

Mt. Zion—T. C. Harless, L. W. Smith, J. W. E. Shelby.

Union Hill—W. A. Harris, W. R. Robertson.

Pleasant Hill—J. G. Pearson, J. C. Hardy, W. D. Watts.

Friendship—By Pastor.

Unity—Not represented.

Unity Grove—L. E. Parker, L. T. Cole, T. A. Guin.

## ORDAINED MINISTERS AND THEIR ADDRESSES

J. S. Hinton.....	May, Alabama
Woods Springfield.....	McShan, Alabama
J. D. Byars.....	Millport, Alabama
J. E. Mathis.....	Millport, Alabama
W. J. Harbin.....	Kuykendall, Alabama
W. B. Montgomery.....	McConnell, Alabama
J. M. Pinkerton.....	McConnell, Alabama
M. Montgomery.....	McConnell, Alabama
T. V. Wheat.....	McConnell, Alabama
J. R. Robertson.....	Millport, Alabama
LICENTIAATE—John Hallman.....	Belk, Alabama

## EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

N. A. McGee,                      J. G. Pearson,                      J. A. Hickman

---

## PROCEEDINGS OF THE UNION MEETING

The Twenty-Third Annual Session of the Union Meeting Mt. Moriah Freewill Baptist Association met with Hattie's Chapel Church on Saturday before the fourth Sunday in July, 1912. The introductory sermon was preached by Rev. J. E. Mathis, text, Romans 1:15, after which an intermission of one and a half hours was taken for recreation and refreshments.

Pursuant to adjournment the ministers and delegates re-assembled in the house, and after reading the 19th Psalm and prayer the former moderator called the meeting to order.

Proceeded with the following business:

1. Called for the letters of the various churches, which was handed in and read.

2. Proceeded to the election of moderator and clerk. Rev. M. Montgomery was elected moderator and J. W. E. Shelby, clerk.

3. The following Committees were appointed:

Committee on Devotion—J. W. Montgomery, R. L. Burges, with the deacons of Hattie's Chappel Church.

Committee on Documents and Order of Business.—Revs. Woods Springfield, J. E. Mathis, W. B. Montgomery, J. M. Pinkerton, with moderator and Clerk.

Committee on Resolutions and Queries—J. G. Pearson, J. S. Loftis and Shanon Fields.

4. Committee on Devotion report that Rev. J. M. Pinkerton preach Sunday at 9 a. m.; Rev. W. B. Montgomery 11 a. m.; Rev Woods Springfield at 7:30 p. m.

5. Moved to adjourn until Monday morning 9 a. m.

## SUNDAY SERVICE

Rev. J. M. Pinkerton preached at 9 a. m., text, Hebrews 2:3; Rev. W. B. Montgomery at 11 a. m., text, John 11:15, Peter 1:3; Rev. Woods Springfield 7:30 p. m., text, Rev. 21:1.

After the 11 o'clock service a memorial service was held at 4:30 p. m. conducted by the Pastor of the Hattie's Chapel Church in memory of Bro. J. H. Pridmore and sister Amanda Ponds of Hattie Chapel Church and E. E. Halbert of the M. E. Church.

## MONDAY MORNING SESSION

Met pursuant to adjournment and was called to order by the moderator  
Roll was called and the delegates answered to their names.  
Minutes of Saturday was read and adopted.

## COMMITTEE ON DOCUMENTS AND ORDER OF BUSINESS

We, your Committee, beg leave to report:

1. We recommend that we proceed after the usual order of business.
2. We recommend that the next Union Meeting be held with Shiloh church, beginning on Saturday before the fourth Sunday in July, 1913; that Rev. M. Montgomery preach the introductory sermon, and that J. M. Pinkerton be his alternate.
3. We recommend that our churches organize Sunday Schools and be more interested in the study of the Bible.
4. We recommend that our ministers travel and preach as extensively as possible, and they teach our people that it is their duty to see that they receive a reasonable amount for their labor.
5. We recommend that pastors make a report annually to the churches and the churches be required to report the amount paid their pastor at each Association.
6. We recommend that our ministers organize a minister's conference, and they meet twice each year at our Union Meetings and Associations.
7. We recommend that our ministers stick to the articles of faith and be careful to preach and practice nothing but what is encouched in the same, practicing no other ordinances than is encouched in our articles of faith.

WOOD SPRINGFIELD, Chairman.

Report received and adopted and committee discharged.

## RESOLUTIONS AND QUERIES.

We, your Committee, beg leave to report:

RESOLVED, That this body tender its sincere thanks to the Hattie Chapel Church and the good people of the community for the able manner



in supporting this Union Meeting, and for their kind hospitality shown us during our stay with them. J. S. FIELDS, Chairman

Report received and adopted and Committee discharged.

The valedictory sermon was preached by Rev. Mathis.

A motion to adjourn to meet with Shiloh Church, Pickens County, Alabama, on Saturday before the fourth Sunday in July, 1913. Carried.

REV. M. MONTGOMERY, Moderator.

J. W. E. SHELBY, Clerk.

#### ROLL OF DELEGATES TO UNION MEETING

Mt. Moriah—I. W. J. St. John, T. B. Smith.

Macedonia—J. W. Fields, W. B. Fields, J. S. Fields.

Shiloh—J. A. Hickman, Charley Zeanah.

Tabernacle—J. W. Montgomery, M. T. Montgomery, J. S. Loftis.

Union—J. W. Powell.

Phillip's Chapel—J. M. Lynn, George Pinkerton.

Hattie Chapel—M. St. John, A. O. Blake, C. J. St. John.

Mt. Zion—J. W. E. Shelby, H. T. Ramsy.

Union Hill—W. A. Harris, J. T. Guy, J. L. Perrigen.

Pleasant Hill—J. G. Pearson, J. C. Hardy.

Friendship—Not represented.

Unity—Not represented.

Unity Grove—J. T. Johnson, J. H. Cole.

## CONSTITUTION

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

Art. 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.

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

Art. 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.

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

Art. 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.

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

Art 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 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 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 debate is 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.

Art. 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; and 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.

Art. 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.

Art. 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.

Art. 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.

Art. 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 natural corruption is incapable either of thinking or doing anything spiritually good.

Art. 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.

Art. 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. Hebrews 11:12, 13; Romans 12:14; Mark 14:12; Ezekel 18:24; Rev. 2:3; Ezekel 33:13 and 28; 1st Tim. 4:1; Hebrews 3:5; 1st Cor; 10:12 and 22; 1st Peter 1:10.

Art. 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 of Timothy and Titus.

Art. 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.

Art. 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.

Art. 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.

Art. 13. We believe in open and mixed communion and the churches of our body are authorized, 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 MOUNT MORIAH FREE WILL BAPTIST ASSOCIATION

CHURCHES AND COUNTIES	PASTORS	CLERKS AND P. O.	Baptized	Received by letter	Dismissed by letter	Restored	Deceased	Excluded	Meeting Days	No. Members	Minute Fund
Mt. Moriah ..... Pickens County	J. D. Byars .....	W. T. Carroll, Delmaville, Ala.	2	2			1		2	117	\$ 2 15
Macedonia ..... " "	J. D. Byars .....	J. S. Stokes, Millport, .....	16						1	187	2 00
Shiloh ..... " "	J. E. Mathis .....	J. H. Zeanah, Gordo, .....	1	3	5	1	3		3	83	2 00
Tabernacle, Tuscaloosa ..	W. B. Montgomery ..	J. T. Cunningham, May, .....	5	1	1			1	1	79	2 00
Antioch, ..... Fayette ..	W. B. Montgomery ..	T. H. Ham, Belk, .....		4					2	93	2 00
Union ..... Pickens .....	J. E. Mathis .....	W. V. Pool, Gordo, .....	1	1	1		1		1	77	1 00
Phillip's Chapel, Tuscaloosa	W. J. Harbin .....	George Phillips, McConnell's, ..	14	3		2			4	107	1 50
Hattie's Chapel, ..... Pickens	Woods Springfield ..	L. F. Pridemore, Ethelville, ..	4				2		1	51	2 00
Mt. Zion ..... Tuscaloosa ..	W. B. Montgomery ..	H. T. Ramsy, McConnell's, .....	6		2				3	69	2 00
Union Hill ..... Pickens ..	Woods Springfield ..	W. A. Harris, Gordo, .....	2	2			1		3	52	2 00
Pleasant Hill ..... Tuscaloosa	Woods Springfield ..	L. L. Barrett, Holman, .....	4	7					2	35	1 50
Friendship ..... Fayette ..	J. M. Pinkerton .....	J. C. Phillips, Bankston, .....							4	9	1 00
Unity ..... Tuscaloosa ..	Not represented .....	Not represented .....									
Unity Grove ..... Lamar ..	J. E. Mathis .....	L. E. Parker, Millport, .....		7			3		4	74	2 00

933315







