

MINUTES
OF
MOUNT MORIAH
FREE WILL BAPTIST ASSOCIATION
OF ALABAMA

SIXTY-THIRD ANNUAL SESSION

HELD WITH

UNITY GROVE CHURCH

LAMAR COUNTY, ALABAMA

OCTOBER 11, 12 AND 13, 1913

Next Session to be held with Sulphur Springs Church,
Tuskaloosa County, Alabama, on Saturday before
the second Sunday in October, 1914

PROCEEDINGS.

The Sixty-Third Annual Session of the Mount Moriah Freewill Baptist Association was held with Unity Grove Church, Lamar County, Ala., October 11, 12, and 13, 1913. The introductory sermon was preached by Rev. Woods Springville, text Isaiah 21, 6 11 and 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 84 Psalm and prayer, the body was called to order by the former moderator. The former clerk serving until the body was fully organized.

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

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

Extended an invitation for the reception of new churches, when Pleasant Ridge and Sulphur Spring were received.

Called for corresponding messengers, received Rev. G. B. Taylor from Vernon association as correspondence.

Invited visiting brethren to seats with us.

The following committees were appointed:

On Order of Business—Rev. Woods Springville, J. M. Pinkerton, W. B. Montgomery, with moderator and clerk.

On Devotional Services—J. G. Pearson with deacons of Unity Grove Church.

On Temperance—J. A. Hickman, B. R. Montgomery, J. M. Fields.

Sabbath Schools—W. V. Curry, J. C. Hardy and T. A. Springfield.

On Finance—J. S. Stokes, O. B. Hardin and J. S. Stewart.

On Deceased Members—W. R. Burkhalter, J. M. Spencer, J. D. Montgomery.

On Resolutions and Queries—T. A. Guin, J. E. Mathis, J. W. Montgomery, B. C. Strickland.

On Publication, Education and Literature—E. L. Crawford, W. T. Driver, Ross Beams.

On Moral Reform—W. R. Robinson, D. L. Robinson and C. B. Belk.

On Devotion—We, your Committee, beg leave to report that Rev. J. M. Pinkerton preach Sunday 9:30 a. m., Rev. W. B. Montgomery at 11 a. m., Rev. J. D. Byars at 3 p. m.

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

SUNDAY SERVICES.

Rev. J. M. Pinkerton preached at 9:30 text John 4:24-26. Rev. W. B. Montgomery at 11 a. m., text St. John 4:33. Rev. J. D. Byars at 3 p. m., Corinthians 3:9. All these sermons were delivered to a large concourse of attentive people. After the midday service the Sacrament of the Lords Supper was commemorated.

MONDAY MORNING, 8 O'CLOCK.

The Association met pursuant to adjournment and after reading Scriptural Lessons and prayer, the moderator called the body to order, and the following business was conducted:

1. Roll was called and messengers answered to names.
2. Minutes of Saturday was read and approved.
3. Reports of the various committees was called for and read.

COMMITTEE ON DOCUMENTS AND ORDER OF BUSINESS

Beg leave to report as follows:

1. That we proceed after the usual order of business.
2. We recommend that the next session of the Association be held with the Sulphur Spring Church, Tuscaloosa County, Ala., and that Rev. J. D. Byars preach the introductory Sermon. J. E. Mathis to be his alternate.
3. We recommend that the Secretary be continued Treasurer, and he superintend the printing of the minutes, and that he be allowed seven dollars (\$7.00) for his services.
4. We recommend that each Church make an earnest effort to raise money to be sent to the Chairman of the Mission Committee, and that they employ some one of our Ministers to work in the Mission field as extensively as means will justify.
7. We recommend that this body elect two delegates to represent our Association in the State Convention, should we be able to convene, and that the Secretary prepare the letter for same.
6. We Recommend that we send corresponding messengers to the Vernon Association, 1914.

WOODS SPRINGFIELD, Chairman.

Report received. Committee discharged.

TEMPERANCE.

On 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 of 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 the laws will be prosecuted. We recommend that the ministers will be faithful in warning the members to abstain from its use as a beverage and that the Churches see that the discipline is strictly executed.

J. A. HICKMAN, Chairman.

Report received. Committee discharged.

SABBATH SCHOOLS.

We, your committee, submit the following: Some of our Churches have good Sabbath Schools, as the Sabbath School is the training department of the Church for our boys and girls. We recommend that all of our churches organize and maintain Sabbath Schools. We recommend and insist that our people will take their children to Sunday School and not send them for the Church should be in the Sunday School. We further recommend that the Churches use their best members as officers and teachers.

W. V. CURRY, Chairman.

Report received and committee discharged.

FINANCE.

Finance—We, your Committee, on finance beg leave to report that we have collected at this session.....\$28.60

We find in hand of Treasurer.....2.60

Total.....\$31.20

J. S. STOKES, Chairman.

Report received and adopted. Committee discharged.

DECEASED MEMBERS.

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

Mt. Moriah—Bro. J. A. Gore, Sister Ada Springfield.

Union—Bro. Andy Colvin, and Sister Ann Hatcher.

Phillips Chapel—W. R. Falls, and Sister Sallie Wright.

Unity Grove—Rev. J. R. Robertson.

Friendship—Sister Fannie Baker.

Macedonia—Bro. Jerry Bradly.

J. M. SPENCER, Chairman.

Report received and adopted. Committee discharged.

RESOLUTIONS AND QUERIES.

We, your Committee, on resolutions and Queries resolve that this body tender its sincere thanks to the Unity Grove Church and the good people of the community for the able manner in supporting this Association and for their kindness shown us during our stay with them.

J. E. MATHIS, Chairman.

Report adopted and Committee discharged.

PUBLICATION, EDUCATION AND LITERATURE.

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

1. We recommend that the printing of our minutes be done where the Church can get in possession of them soon as possible.
2. Seeing we are in 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 Revelations comes from God through the Bible. The demand for education was 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 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 that we use the Sunday School Literature Published by our own denomination.
5. We recommend that our Church use some good paper published by our own denomination.

E. L. CRAWFORD, Chairman.

MORAL REFORM.

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 in the direction to corrupt the morals or stagnate the brain so it would render them unfit for usefulness as Christians. We should condemn such worldly amusements such as dancing, gambling in any form either by chance, in shooting, matching, raffling, marble playing on Sunday's or lying around railroad stations or when we have no business.

W. R. ROBERSON, Chairman.

EXECUTIVE.

We, your Executive Committee, beg leave to report as follows;

1. All our Ministers are in good standing as far as we have been able to learn.

2. We recommend that Friendship Church be carried over another year and that Unity Church be dropped from our roll.
3. We have \$6.50 Mission money on hand.
4. We recommend that this Association put out an Evangelist in the field.

J. A. HICKMAN, Chairman.

Moved that the Moderator appoint three members of the Executive Committee.

Executive Committee—J. A. Hickman, J. G. Pearson, W. T. Springfield, O. B. Hardin, M. T. Montgomery.

Mission Committee—W. R. Roberson, W. V. Curry, T. A. Guin, S. L. Montgomery and Ross Beams.

Corresponding Messengers to Vernon Association—W. B. Montgomery, Wood Springfield and O. B. Harden.

Delegates to State Convention—J. A. Hickman and J. T. Cunningham.

The Valdictory Sermon was preached by Rev. Woods Springfield.

The business of the Association now being ended, the Association adjourned to meet with Suphur Springs Church, Tuscaloosa County, on Saturday, before the second Sunday in October 1914.

REV. J. D. BRYARS, Moderator.

J. T. CUNNINGHAM, Clerk.

ROLL OF DELEGATES.

Mt. Moriah—I. J. W. St. John, T. A. Springfield, J. L. Lancaster.

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

Shiloh—W. W. Tilly, B. C. Martin, J. A. Hickman.

Tabernacle—J. T. Cunningham, J. W. Montgomery, B. R. Montgomery.

Antioch—C. B. Belk.

Union—W. V. Curry.

Phillips Chapel—J. D. Montgomery.

Hattie's Chapel—A. O. Blake, A. J. Pridmore.

Mt. Zion—J. M. Spencer.

Union Hill—W. R. Roberson, L. L. Robertson, J. S. Stewart.

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

Friendship—Not represented.

Unity Grove—J. L. Roberson, J. R. Cole, T. A. Guin.

Pleasant Ridge—B. C. Strickland, W. T. Driver, Ross Beams.

Sulphur Springs—Ben Sullivant, E. L. Crawford, Lee Fields.

ORDAINED MINISTERS AND THEIR ADDRESSES.

J. S. Hinton.....	McConnell's, Ala
Woods Springfield.....	McShan, Ala
J. D. Byars.....	Millport, Ala

J. C. Mathis.....	Millport, Ala
J. P. Robertson.....	Millport, Ala
W. J. Hardin.....	Kuykendall, Ala
W. B. Montgomery.....	McConnells, Ala
J. M. Pinkerton.....	McConnell, Ala
M. Montgomery.....	McConnells, Ala
T. V. Wheat.....	McConnells, Ala
T. T. Walker.....	New Lexington, Ala
W. E. Hardin.....	New Lexington, Ala
O. M. Archey.....	New Lexington Ala
Licentiates—John Hallman.....	Belk, Ala
“ —Willie Kuykendall.....	Samantha, Ala., R. 1.

PROCEEDINGS OF UNION MEETING.

The Twenty-Third Annual Session of the Union Meeting was held with Shiloh Church, Pickens County, Ala., on Saturday before the fourth Sunday in July, 1913. The introductory sermon was preached by Rev. M. Montgomery, text, Hebrews 13:8, after which an intermission of one and one half hour was taken for recreation and refreshments.

Pursuant to adjournment the body reassembled and after reading the 23 Psalm, and prayer by Bro. Weaver, the following business was transacted:

1. Called for the letters from the various churches, which was handed in and read and contents noted.

2. As Phillips Chapel failed to have a letter, it was moved that Bros. J. M. Lynn and J. D. Montgomery be called as delegates.

3. Proceeded to elect Moderator and Clerk. Rev. M. Montgomery was elected Moderator and J. W. C. Shelby, Clerk.

4. Moved that Bro. Weaver and his mother be given the hand of welcome, as visitors from the Cahaba Association.

5. The following Committees were appointed on devotion:

J. L. Montgomery, J. G. Pearson with the deacons of Shiloh Church.

On Order of Business—Rev. E. Mathis, Rev. J. M. Pinkerton with Moderator and Clerk.

On Resolutions and Queries—O. A. Blake, J. S. Loftis and R. D. Belk.

We, your Committee, beg leave to report: Rev. W. R. Weaver preach 9 a. m. Rev. J. D. Byars, 11 a. m., T. V. Wheat, 7:30 p. m.

Adjourned until Monday morning 8 o'clock.

SUNDAY SERVICE.

Rev. W. R. Weaver preached at 9 a. m., text, John 14:27. Rev. J. D. Byars at 11 a. m., text, Romans 10:12-13. Rev. T. V. Wheat at 7:30 p. m. text 2 Peter 1:2.

MOMDAY MORNING SESSION.

Met pursuant to adjournment and was called to order by the Moderator.

1. Roll called and the delegates answered to their names.
2. Minutes of Saturday read and adopted. Report of Committee called for: We, your Committee on Documents and order of business, beg leave to report:

1. We recommend the usual order of business.
2. We recommend that the next session of the Union meeting convene with the Macedonia Church on Saturday before the fourth Sunday in July, 1914. Rev. J. M. Pinkerton preach the introductory sermon, Rev. W. B. Montgomery to be his alternate.

REV. J. C. MATHIS, Chairman.

We, your Committee on Resolutions and Queries. Resolved, that this body tender its sincere thanks to the Shiloh Church and the good people of the community for the able manner in supporting the Union Meeting and the kindness shown us during the stay with them.

O. A. BLAKE, Chairman.

The valdictory sermon was preached by Rev. Woods Springfield, text, Hebrew 4:9 Psalm 5:5-6. Adjourned to meet with Macedonia Church on Saturday before the fourth Sunday in July, 1914. J. M. Pinkerton to preach the introductory sermon, W. B. Montgomery, alternate.

REV. M. MONTGOMERY, Moderator.

J. W. E. SHELBY, Clerk.

ROLL OF DELEGATES TO UNION MEETING.

Mt. Moriah—R. L. Burgess, T. B. Smith.

Macedonia—J. M. McAdams.

Shiloh—W. M. Sander, J. C. Hickman, J. H. Hanna.

Tabernacle—J. L. Montgemery, J. S. Loftis, M. T. Montgomery.

Antioch—R. D. Belk.

Union—W. V. Pool, E. S. Teer, W. V. Curry.

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

Hattie's Chapel—A. O. Blake, M. T. St. John.

Mt. Zion—T. C. Harless, J. W. E. Shelby, J. M. Spencer.

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

Pleasant Hill—R. B. Tilly, J. G. Pearson.

Unity Grove—Represented by letter and Pastor.

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 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 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. 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 devine 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, but 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 the 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	Wood Springfield	T. A. Springfield...McShan, Ala.					2		2	115	\$ 2 00
Macedonia....." "	J. E. Mathis	J. S. Stokes.....Millport, "	6	2			1	5	1	188	2 00
Shiloh....." "	J. E. Mathis	J. H. Zeanah.....Gordo, "	2		2			3	3	78	2 50
Tabernacle, Tuscaloosa	W. B. Montgomery	J. T. Cunningham ...May, "	4	2		1		2	1	85	2 00
Antioch.....Fayette	J. M. Pinkerton.....	F. H. Ham.....Belk, "	3	1	1				2	96	2 00
Union.....Pickens	Wood Springfield	J. A. Pierce.....Mayfield, "				1	2		2	51	2 00
Phillips Chapel, Tuscaloosa	W. J. Harbin.....	Geo. Phillips ...McConnell's, "							4		
Hattie's Chapel....Pickens	Wood Springfield	L. F. Pridemore, Ethelville, "	1	1					1	53	2 00
Mt. Zion.....Tuscaloosa	W. B. Montgomery	John Spencer, McConnell's, "		2				1	3	53	2 00
Union Hill.....Pickens	Wood Springfield	W. A. Harris, Reform, R. 2, "	4					1	3	55	2 00
Pleasant Hill...Tuscaloosa	J. M. Pinkerton.....	L. L. Barrett.....Holman, "	2	3	2				2	40	1 50
Friendship.....Fayette	J. M. Pinkerton.....	J. C. Phillips.....Bankston, "							4	35	1 00
Unity Grove.....Lamar	J. E. Mathis	L. C. Parker.....Millport, "	2	2			1		4	74	2 00
Pleasant Ridge, Tuscaloosa	J. M. Pinkerton.....	Ross Beams.....Moorbridge, "								23	1 35
Sulphur Springs, " "	W. B. Montgomery	C. L. Crawford, New Lexiton, "	1		4	3		1	2	81	2 25
										757	26 60

92
58

115
92
58

168
58
40