

MINUTES
OF THE
SEVENTY-SECOND ANNUAL SESSION
OF THE
MOUNT MORIAH FREE WILL
BAPTIST ASSOCIATION
WAS HELD WITH
MT. ZION CHURCH
OCTOBER 7, 8, 9, 1922

OFFICERS:

REV. T. L. WALKER, Moderator

J. H. HARLESS, Clerk

The next session will be held with Sulphur Springs Church,
Tuscaloosa County, Ala., beginning on Saturday before
the second Sunday in October, 1923.

PROCEEDINGS

The Seventy Second Annual session of the Mount Moriah Free Baptist Association was held with Mt. Zion Church, Tuscaloosa County, Alabama, Oct. 7th, 8th and 9th, 1922. The introductory sermon was preached by Rev. Earnest Tilley—Text; First Cor. 15th C. 19th Verse. After which one and one half hours were taken for recreation and refreshments. In due time the minister and messengers re-assembled in the house after reading the 5th Chap. of Gal. and prayer by Rev. M. Montgomery, the Association was called to order by the former moderator, and the former clerk serving 'till the body was fully organized.

1st. The following business was transacted, the letters from the various Churches were called for, handed in, and read—and delegates enrolled as per statistical table.

2nd. Proceeded to elect Moderator and Clerk, whereby Rev. T. L. Walker was elected Moderator, and J. H. Harless, Clerk.

3rd. Extended an invitation for the reception of new churches—none present.

4th. Called for corresponding messengers from sister associations; whereby J. C. Pike, P. H. Pike, J. R. Morris, were present from The Morning Star, and Rev. B. M. Atkins, from the Jasper Association.

The following committees were appointed:

1st. On Document and Order of Business; Rev. W. J. Harkin, J. G. Pearson, W. R. Burkhalter, with Moderator and Clerk.

2nd. On Devotional Services: J. A. Hickman, P. A. Crawford, with Deacons of Mt. Zion Church.

3rd. On Temperance: Rev. W. E. Harkin, J. S. Stewart, P. J. Frazier.

4th. On Sabbath School: Rev. M. Montgomery, R. D. Belk, Jim Kurkendall.

5th. On finance: Rev. T. V. Wheat, J. H. Cole, S. Crawford.

6th. On deceased members: Rev. J. M. Spencer, M. J. Sanford, H. B. Logan.

7th. On Moral Reform: Rev. L. A. Williamson, W. J. Holloman, J. T. Johnson.

8th. On Resolutions and Queries: Rev. N. Wright, F. H. Ham, M. St. John.

The Committee on Devotion made their report as follows:

“Rev. J. H. Carmack preached at 9 A. M. and Rev. W. J. Harbin, preached at 11 A. M. and Rev. T. L. Walker 2:30 P. M. on Sunday.

SUNDAY SERVICES

Rev. G. F. Carmack preached at 9 A. M., subject of text, "As Moses Lifted up the Serpent in The Wilderness, so Shall the Son of Man be Lifted up."

W. J. Harbin preached at 11 A. M., text, "Be Thou Faithful Unto Death and I will Give Thee Life."

Rev. T. L. Walker preached at 2:30 to a full house who seemed to enjoy his sermon.

MONDAY MORNING

Monday morning met pursuant to adjournment; after reading 12th C. of Rom. and prayer by Johnnie Pike, the Association was called to order. The following business was transacted:

1st. Roll call of churches. The delegates from the various churches answered to their names, as per statistical table.

2nd. Minutes of Saturday, read and adopted.

The following reports were handed in and read:

Report of Committee on Document and order of business.

"We, your committee, on document and order of business, beg leave to report as follows: 1st. That we proceed after the usual order of business. 2nd. We recommend that the next session of this association be held with Sulphur Springs Church, Tuscaloosa County, Alabama commencing on Saturday before the second Sunday in October 1923. We further recommend that Rev. T. L. Walker preach the introductory sermon, and Rev. W. E. Harbin be his alternate. 3rd. We recommend that each church in this association represent annually by delegates and letters. 4th. We recommend and insist that each church elect a treasurer and that he report to association thru' the secretary what has been collected, for ministerial and other purposes during the year. We further recommend that we correspond with our sister association. Report received and the Committee discharged. Rev. W. J. Harbin, Chairman.

ON TEMPERANCE

Whereas the evils of intemperance is growing more and more in every way we recommend that we take the admonition of the Apostle Paul and live temperate in all things, especially let us abstain from the use of intoxicating drinks, and use our influence against the making and selling of the same. That we discourage the drinking of soft drinks in every way. We further recommend that our pastor preach a temperance sermon once a year in all their churches, that our young people may learn the growing evil of intemperate habits. Report received and committee discharged.

Signed, Rev. M. Montgomery, Chairman.

ON FINANCE

We, your committee on finance beg leave to report as follows: "What we have collected at this session for minute funds, etc., \$49.75. Report received, and committee discharged.

Rev. T. V. Wheat, Chairman.

ON DECEASED MEMBERS

We, your committee on deceased members, beg leave to report as follows: "Since our last session we find that six of our members have fallen asleep, as follows; Mt. Moriah, Sister Addie Acker; Tabernacle, Sister Margurite Shelby, and I. D. Gilliland; Antioch, Sister Mary Williams; Union Hill, Sister Lena Reynolds; Hattie's Chapel, Rev. Woods Springfield.

Report received and committee discharged.

Rev. J. M. Spencer, Chairman.

MORAL REFORM

"We the Committee on Moral Reform beg leave to report as follows: Because of the incline tendencies of the young people to friendship with worldly amusements, such as dancing, gambling, matching, card playing, or public cream suppers, or any other public frolic or hanging around any stations or places where business does not call them; we recommend that the church take a closer oversight over them and encourage them into the pathways of opportunity leading into the vast fields of moral and christian accomplishments. Therefore to sincerely suppress and encourage their duty and co-operation, in moral and christian living, in rural home and church life, therefore endeavoring to drive out the poison allurements of immorality and graft into their minds welcome of principles and character which shall promote to Christianity. Report received and committee discharged.

Rev. L. A. Williams, Chairman.

REPORT OF EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

We, your executive committee, beg leave to report as follows: We find the christian character of our ministers good, except Rev. C. E. Best, who we have been informed, has withdrawn from us. We find the progress of the churches not so good as last year, and we ardently urge everybody, both ministers and laymen to strike for a great report in the forward movement in the coming year. We urge the attendance of all ministers at the Annual Association. Report received and committee discharged.

J. A. Hickman, Chairman.

RESOLUTIONS AND QUERIES

We, your committee on Resolutions and Queries, beg leave to report as follows: That this body tenders its sincere thanks to the Mt. Zion Church and the good people of the community for the able manner in which they have supported this association during our stay with them. We recommend that the body seek substitutes in place of the absent delegates.

Report received and committee discharged.

Rev. N. Wright, Chairman.

FINANCIAL ASSESSMENT

This Association recommends that each church elect three of its most prominent members as a financial committee, the members of same assess themselves according to their circumstances, and then offer the opportunity to all members to assess themselves according to their circumstances. Report adopted.

Moved to elect corresponding messengers to the following associations To Vernon Association, J. T. Johnson, J. H. Cole, Johnnie Williams, R. D. Belk. Morning Star, J. R. Hall, P. A. Crawford.

The following delegates were elected to attend State Conference, J. A. Hickman, J. T. Johnson, Sterling Crawford.

There being no further business, Rev. B. M. Atkins preached the valedictory sermon, after which the parting hand was taken to meet the Sulphus Springs Church on Saturday before the second Sunday in October, 1923.

Rev. T. L. Walker, Mod.
J. H. Harless, Clerk.

LIST OF ORDAINED MINISTERS

J. E. Mathis, Millport, R. F. D. 3; J. D. Bayars, Millport; W. J. Harbin, Samantha, R. F. D. 1; M. Montgomery, Buhl; T. W. Wheat, McConnells, R. F. D. 1; T. L. Walker, Gordo, R.F.D. 1; W. R. Robertson, Reform, R. F. D 2; J M Spencer, Samantha, R. F. D. 2; O. M. Archa, Samantha, R. F. D. 1; W. E. Harbin, Samantha, R. F. D. 1; J E. Tilley, Refoform, R. F. D. 3; G. F. Carmack, Belk; L. A. Williamson, Berry, R. F. D. 2.

LICENTIATES

C. L. Wing, N. Wright.

ROLL OF DELEGATES

Mt. Moriah, by letter; Macedonia, not represented; Shiloh, T. A. Springfield, J. A. Hickman, W. R. Burkhalter; Tabernacle, P. J. Frazier, M. T. Montgomery, A. L. Montgomery; Antioch, R D. Belk, W. J. Holloman, F. H. Ham; Union, not represented;

Phillips Chapel, M. J. Sanford, W. O. Falls, J. T. Watson; Union Hill, J. S. Stewart; Mt. Zion, T. J. Shipp, H. B. Logan, J. F. Smith; Hatie's Chapel, M. St. John, Roy Ashmore; Pleasant Hill, J. G. Pearson, J. H. Harless; Friendship, by letter; Unity Grove, J. P. Johnson, J. H. Cole; Pleasant Ridge, by letter; Sulphur Springs, J. R. Hall, P. A. Crawford, Jim Kurkendall.

PROCEEDINGS OF UNION MEETING

The Thirty First annual session of the Union meeting of the Mount Moriah Free Will Baptist Association was held with Phillips Chapel Church on Saturday before the Fourth Sunday in July, 1922. The introductory sermon was preached by Rev. J. D. Bowers, Text, "St. John 3rd C. and 3rd V. After which 1 1-2 hours was taken for recreation and refreshments. At the appointed time the ministers and messengers reassembled in the house, after reading the 86th Psalm, and prayer by the Moderator, the body was called to order by the former Moderator, the former Clerk serving until the body was fully organized.

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

2nd. Proceeded to elect Moderator and Clerk. Whereby Rev. J. M. Spencer was elected Moderator, and J. H. Harless Clerk.

3rd. The following committees were appointed:

1st. On Document and Order of Business, Rev. J. D. Byers, P. A. Crawford, P. J. Frazier, with Moderator and Clerk.

2nd. On Devotion, M. T. Montgomery, J. G. Pearson, with deacon of Phillips Chapel Church.

3rd. On Evangelism, R. L. Burgess, J. T. Watson, Walter Phillips, M. J. Sanford.

4th. On Resolutions and Queries, L. A. Williamson, J. T. Williams, Rev. T. L. Walker.

5th. The Committee on Devotion made their report as follows:

That Rev. G. F. Carmack preached at 9 A. M., Rev. T. L. Walker, 11 A. M., W. E. Harbin, 2:30 P M. on Sunday.

SUNDAY SERVICES

Rev. G. F. Carmack preached at 9 A. M., text, 2nd Tim. 4th C.C. 6-7-8 Vs. Rev. T. L. Walker preached at 11 A. M., text, St. John 1st C. 14th V. Subject "Four Views of Christ" W. E. Harbin preached at 3 P. M., text, 2nd Cor. 4th C. 1st clause of 2nd V.

MONDAY MORNING

Monday morning met pursuant to adjournment. After reading the 34th Psalm, and prayer by the Moderator, the Union meeting was called to order.

1st. Minutes of Saturday, read and adopted. 2nd. Roll call of churches. The delegates of the various churches answered to their names, as per statistical table.

REPORTS OF COMMITTEES

On Document and Order of Business. We, your committee on Document and Order of Business beg leave to report as follows, that we proceed after the usual order of business. 2nd. We recommend that the next session of the Union Meeting be held with Tabernacle Church, commencing on Saturday before the 4th Sunday in July 1923. We recommend that J. A. Mathis preach the introductory sermon, and Rev. G. F. Carmack be his alternate.

Report received and committee discharged.

Rev. J. D. Byers, Chairman.

On Devotion. This report made Sunday.

On Evangelism. We your committee on Evangelism beg leave to report as follows: We recommend that the churches raise all the funds that they can, and send to Association for this purpose. We recommend that the churches take up a collection at various times for same. We further recommend that the ministers encourage the churches. We further recommend that the churches each elect a treasurer to look after the finances of their church. Report received and committee discharged.

R. L. Burgess, Chairman.

On Resolution and Queries: We your committee on Resolution and Queries beg leave to report as follows: We recommend that we tender our sincere thanks to the good people of Phillips's Chapel Church for the able manner in which they have supported this Union meeting, and pray God's richest blessings on them.

Report received and committee discharged.

Rev. L. A. Willimason, Chairman.

There being no further business the Valedictory sermon was preached by Rev. J. D. Byars. Text———After which the parting hand was taken to meet with Tabernacle Church on Saturday before the 4th Sunday in July, 1923.

Rev. J. M. Spencer, Moderator.

J. H. Harless, Clerk.

ROLL OF DELEGATES, ATTENDING UNION MEETING

Mt. Moriah: R. L. Burgess, Jno. Lancaster; Macedonia: Not represented; Shiloah: Not represented; Tabernacle: P. J. Frazier, M. T. Montgomery, J. T. Cunningham; Antioch: B. D. Williams, F. H. Ham; Union: Represented by letter; Phillips Chapel: W. L. Sanford, J. M. Lynn, J. T. Watson; Union Hill: J. S. Stewart; Mt. Zion: T. J. Shipp, H. B. Logan, J. F. Smith; Hattie's Chapel: By letter; Pleasant Hill: J. G. Pearson, J. H. Harless; Friendship: Walter Phillips; Unity Grove: Not represented; Pleasant Ridge: By letter; Sulpher Springs: P. A. Crawford.

LIST OF MINISTERS ATTENDING MEETING

J. D. Byars, T. L. Walker, W. E. Harbin, J. M. Spencer, T. V. Wheat, J. F. Carmack, L. A. Williamson.

CONSTITUTION

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

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 two-third 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.

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. 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 opinion 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 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 men 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 these 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 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 for admonition and exhortation. Hebrews 11:12-13; Romans 12:14; Mark 14:12; Ezekiel 18:24; Rev. 2:3; Ezekiel 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, right 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

CHURCHES COUNTIES AND STATE	PASTORS	CLERKS, AND THEIR POSTOFFICES	Baptized	Rec. by Letter	Dis. by Letter	Restored	Deceased	Excluded	Meeting Days	No. Members	Minute Fund	Paid Pastor
Mt. Moriah, Pickens County, Ala.....	T. L. Walker.....	C. C. Gore, McShan, Ala.....	3	0	0	0	1	0	2	103	\$ 3.00	\$ 72.00
Macedonia, Pickens County, Ala.....	J. D. Byars.....	J. S. Stokes, Millport, Ala.....	16	0	0	0	0	0	1	152	4.00	97.00
Shiloah, Pickens County, Ala.....	J. E. Tilley.....	Luther Burkhalter.....	1	2	1	0	0	1	3	125	3.00	82.00
Tabernacle, Tuscaloosa County, Ala....	M. Montgomery.....	J. T. Cunningham, Coker, Ala.....	5	2	0	1	2	0	1	115	5.00	55.00
Antioch, Fayette County, Ala.....	J. D. Byars.....	F. H. Ham, Belk, Ala.....	0	0	0	0	1	0	2	114	5.00	67.00
Union, Pickens County, Ala.....	T. J. Adair.....	W. V. Pool, Gordo, Ala.....	6	2	0	0	0	0	3	88	3.00
Phillip's Chapel, Tuscaloosa Co., Ala.	M. Montgomery.....	W. L. Sanford, Fayette, Rt. 7.....	15	2	0	5	0	0	4	162	5.00
Union Hill, Pickens County, Ala.....	W. R. Robertson.....	E. C. Perrigen, Reform, Rt. 2.....	4	2	0	0	1	4	3	82	1.50
Mt. Zion, Tuscaloosa County, Ala.....	W. E. Harbin.....	S. E. Harless, McConels, Ala.....	2	0	2	0	0	0	3	89	5.00	90.00
Hattie's Chapel, Pickens Co., Ala.....	W. R. Robertson.....	U. M. Springfield.....	2	0	5	0	1	0	1	79	2.00
Pleasant Hill, Tuscaloosa Co., Ala.....	T. L. Walker.....	J. H. Harless, Elrod, Ala.....	7	0	1	0	0	2	3	46	2.00	130.00
Friendship, Fayette County, Ala.....	G. F. Carmack.....	J. C. Phillips, Bankston, Ala.....	1	1	0	0	0	5	2	29	1.50
Unity Grove, Lamar County, Ala.....	T. L. Walker.....	G. P. Robinson, Millport, Ala.....	7	0	1	0	0	0	4	101	2.00	107.00
Pleasant Ridge, Tuscaloosa, Co., Ala.	J. E. Tilley.....	G. Strickland, Moore's Bridge, Ala....	0	0	5	0	0	0	4	31	2.00	30.00
Sulphur Springs, Tuscaloosa Co., Ala.	W. E. Harbin.....	A. Harbin, Samantha, Ala., Rt. 1.....	11	5	0	0	0	0	2	136	5.00	102.00