

MINUTES
OF THE
74TH ANNUAL SESSION
OF THE
MOUNT MORIAH FREE WILL BAPTIST
Association

HELD WITH

Union Church, Pickens County Ala.

October 11, 12 and 13 1924

OFFICERS

W. E. HARBIN, Moderator
O. L. STOKES, Clerk

**The Next Session will be held with Pleasant Hill Church,
Tuscaloosa Co., Ala. Beginning on Saturday
before the second Sunday in October 1925**

The Stokes-Ray Printery, Gordo, Ala.

PROCEEDINGS

The Seventy-Fourth Annual Session of the Mt. Moriah Free Will Baptist Association was held with Union church, Pickens County, Ala., Oct. 11, 12 and 13, 1924. The introductory sermon was preached by Rev. J. E. Mathis, text, in 1st. Thes. 5th chapter. After which one and one-half hours were taken for refreshments. In due time the ministers and messengers reassembled in the house, after reading 8th chapter Romans, and prayer by Rev. W. E. Harbin, the Association was called to order. The former moderator being absent the clerk appointed Rev. W. E. Harbin to act as Moderator 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 listed as per roll.

2nd. Proceeded to elect moderator and clerk, whereby Rev. W. E. Harbin was elected moderator and O. L. (Lee) Stokes was elected clerk.

3rd. Extended an invitation for the reception of new churches and Espy Springs was received by letter and delegates to this body.

4th. Called for corresponding messengers from sister Association; none present.

The following committees were appointed:

1st. On Documents and Order of Business: Rev. J. E. Mathis, chairman; Rev. T. L. Walker and J. H. Cole, with moderator and clerk.

2nd. On Devotional service: J. G. Pearson, E. L. Crawford and J. T. Williams, with deacons of Union Church.

3rd. On Temperance: Rev. M. Montgomery, Rev. T. A. Springfield, J. C. Hardy and Rev. N. Wright.

4th. On Sabbath School: Rev. J. M. Spencer, Rev. S. T. Traweck, J. W. Hallman, W. L. Burkhalter and P. J. Spencer.

5th. On Finance: T. A. Guin, A. J. Burkhalter, J. M. Lynn, I. B. Robertson.

6th. On Deceased Members: T. J. Shipp, C. D. Newman, B. K. Montgomery, H. B. Logan and W. L. Sanford.

7th On Moral Reform: Rev. J. E. Tilley, T. J. Lancaster, J. A. Hickman, W. E. Harless and J. S. Loftis.

8. On Resolutions and Queries: J. S. Stokes, J. H. Waldrop, J. R. Hall, O. C. Weaver, G. D. Sanford and W. R. Logan.

Moved and carried that the committee on Forms of letters, etc., be released and appoint a committee of three: Rev. T. L. Walker, O. L. Stokes and T. A. Springfield were appointed.

The committee on Devotion made their report as follows: Rev. Sam T. Traweek, preach at 9:30 a. m., Rev. W. E. Harbin at 11 a. m. and Rev. M. Montgomery at 3:00 p. m. Sunday.

J. G. PEARSON, Chairman.

SUNDAY SERVICE

Rev. Sam T. Traweek preached at 9:30 a. m. Subject: "Obedience." Text, Gen. 3:9, Rev. W. E. Harbin preached at 11:00 a. m. Subject: "Plans of God." Text, St. Luke 9:59. Rev. M. Montgomery preached at 3:00 p. m. Text, Matt. 7:21.

MONDAY MORNING

The Association was called to order, after which the following business was transacted: 1st. Roll call of churches. The delegates from the various churches answered to their names as per roll.

2nd. Minutes of Saturday were read and adopted.

3rd. The reports of the various committees called and adopted as called.

On Document and Order of Business

Read and adopted by sections:

We, your committee on Document and Order of Business, report as follows: 1st. We recommend the usual order of business. 2nd. We recommend that the next session of the Association be held with Pleasant Hill Church and that Rev. W. E. Harbin preach the introductory sermon and Rev. J. E. Tilley be his alternate. 3rd. We recommend that the clerk superintend the printing of the minutes and that he be paid \$20 for his service. Report received and committee discharged.

REV. J. E. MATHIS, Chairman.

On Temperance.

We, your committee on Temperance, beg to report that our people are progressing so far as this committee is aware. Intoxicating liquors are not disturbing the church as they once did. We further recommend that we all abstain from the use of soft drinks of any kind, and that our pastors preach at least one sermon a year on this important subject. Report received and committee discharged.

REV. M. MONTGOMERY, Chairman.

On Finance.

We, your committee on Finance, report as follows:

Collected at this session -----	\$61.00
In treasury -----	5.00

Total -----	\$66.00
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Report received and committee discharged.

T. A. GUIN, Chairman.

On Sabbath School.

After having seen the neglect of our churches in regard to our Sabbath school, we beg that our pastors take up the subject at the earliest possible date and urge the same in each church in our Association and have a Bible class in each church in connection with literature of the F. W. B. Denomination. The Sabbath school is the protection for our young people against seducing doctrines. We beg the co-operation of parents in the care of their children. Report received and committee discharged.

J. M. SPENCER, Chairman.

On Deceased Members.

We, your committee on deceased members beg leave to report as follows: Since our last session we find that eleven of our members have fallen asleep, names as follows: Shiloh, Bro. Gilford Stripland; Tabernacle, Bro. W. N. Harold Macedonia, Easler Dobson; Antioch, Sisters Merrill Horton, Rhoda E. Carmack and Sister Lizzie Alexander (one which should have been reported last year, Sister Alpha Taylor) Phillips Chapel, Sister Ann Hallman; Sulphur Springs, Bro. G. W. Johns, Sister Jane Jenkins; Unity Grove, Bro.

Reuben Guyton, Sister Frances Robertson, Sister Lizer Nations. Report received and committee discharged.

T. J. SHIPP, Chairman.

On Moral Reform.

We, your committee on Moral Reform, beg leave to report as follows: We recommend that the officers of our churches take a closer oversight of the members of our churches, seeing that some of our members are being led off by the enticing ways of those that are of the world. We further recommend that parents be more careful in their rule over their children, that they may bring them up in the nurture and admonition of the Lord, and teach them the Word of God in their homes, that they may be brought up of good morals.

REV. J. E. TILLEY, Chairman.

Report of Executive Committee.

We, your Executive Committee, reports as follows: We find that the Christian character of our ministers are good, we find that our churches in general are not making the progress that they possibly could make. We urge the ministers and laymen to grasp every opportunity for a better progress in the coming year. We received report from our Evangelist, Rev. W. E. Harbin, as follows: Gave his service to Espy Springs community from Feb. 1st to Sept. 1st, 1924. Including a protracted service. He also organized a church, Espy Springs. Also gave his service to two other communities. We have paid our evangelist \$48.00, his collection \$12.00. Total \$60.00.

(J. A. HICKMAN, Chairman.

Report received and resignation of the committee accepted. The moderator appointed the following committee to take their place: J. A. Hickman, E. Z. Mayfield, L. E. Parker and Brice Logan.

On Resolutions and Queries.

We, your committee on Resolutions and Queries, report as follows: 1st. That this body tender its sincere thanks to Union church and community for the able manner in which they have supported and cared for this association during our stay with them. 2nd. That the clerk have the

minutes published at the earliest date possible. 3rd. We further suggest that the delegates report to their churches the proceedings of this association. We recommend that each church send in a full and short letter to the Association. Report received and committee discharged.

J. R. HALL, Chairman.

ENDORSEMENTS

Moved and carried to appoint three delegates to attend General Conference at Dothan, Ala., as follows: Rev. T. L. Walker, Rev. W. E. Harbin and E. Z. Mayfield. Moved and carried that the association pay their expenses.

Moved and carried to elect an Evangelist to go into the field and Rev. W. E. Harbin was elected.

General collection for building of church \$25.40.

11:00 A. M. had preaching by Rev. N. Wright. Text, St. John 1:29. There being no further business, moved and carried to adjourn. The parting hand was taken to meet with Pleasant Hill church Saturday before the second Sunday in October, 1925.

List of Ordained Ministers.

J. E. Mathis, Millport, Ala., Route 3.
J. D. Byars, Millport, Ala.
W. J. Harbin, Berry, Ala., Route 2.
M. Montgomery, McConnells, Ala., Route 1.
T. V. Wheat, Coker, Ala., Route 1.
T. L. Walker, Gordo, Ala., Route 1.
W. R. Robinson, Coal Fire, Ala.
J. M. Spencer, Fayette, Ala., Route 7.
W. E. Harbin, Samantha, Ala., Route 1.
J. E. Tilley, Reform, Ala., Route 3.
L. A. Williamson, Fayette, Ala.
T. A. Springfield, Gordo, Ala., Route 1.
N. Wright, Berry, Ala., Route 4.
G. F. Carmack, Covin, Ala.
S. T. Traweck, Samantha, Ala., Route 2.

Licentiates.

W. V. Pool, Gordo, Ala., Route 2.

Roll of Delegates.

Mt. Moriah, by letter; Macedonia, J. S. Stokes, Lee Stokes; Shiloh, A. J. Burkhalter, W. L. Burkhalter, J. A. Hickman; Tabernacle, J. S. Loftis, W. R. Logan; B. K. Montgomery; Antioch, J. T. Williams, Jones Waldrop; Oak Union, J. D. Vaughan, T. D. Driver, T. J. Lancaster; Phillips Chapel, J. M. Lynn, M. L. Sanford, J. W. Hallman; Union Hill, J. O. Perrigen, Thomas Lancaster; Mt. Zion, H. B. Logan, W. E. Harless, T. J. Shipp; Hatties Chapel, M. St. John; Pleasant Hill, J. G. Pearson, J. C. Hardy, J. A. Pool; Friendship, by letter; Unity Grove, T. A. Guinn, Bart Robertson, J. H. Cole; Pleasant Ridge, by letter; Sulphur Springs, J. R. Hall, P. A. Crawford, E. L. Crawford; Espy Springs, C. D. Newman, P. J. Spencer, O. C. Weaver.

PROCEEDINGS

Of the Union meeting, 1924.

The thirty-third annual session of the Union meeting of the Mt. Moriah Free Will Baptist Association, was held with Shiloh church on Saturday before the fourth Sunday in July, 1924.

The introductory sermon was preached by Rev. J. E. Tilley, after which one and one-half hours were taken for recreation and refreshments.

At the appointed time the ministers and messengers re-assembled in the house. After the reading of the 24th chapter of Psalms and prayer by the moderator, the house was called to order by the former moderator. The former clerk being absent J. S. Stokes was appointed clerk until the body was organized.

(1) Letters from various churches were called for, handed in and read. Delegates listed as per roll.

(2). Proceeded to elect moderator and clerk, whereby Rev. T. L. Walker was elected moderator and J. S. Stokes, clerk.

(3) The following committees were appointed: on documents and order of business, Rev. J. D. Byars, Rev. J. M. Spencer, J. T. Lancaster, with moderator and clerk.

On devotions, J. M. Fields, E. L. Crawford with deacons of Shiloh church.

On evangelism: Rev. W. E. Harbin, W. R. Curry, J. M. Lynn.

Resolutions and Queries: Rev. T. V. Wheat, T. J. Shipp, T. J. Lancaster.

Committee on devotions made the following report: Rev. W. E. Harbin preach at 9:30 o'clock Sunday; Rev. J. D. Byars preach at 11 o'clock; Rev. T. L. Walker preach at 3:00 o'clock; Rev. J. D. Byars preach the valedictory sermon. Report received and committee discharged.

J. M. Fields, Chairman.

SUNDAY SERVICE

Rev. W. E. Harbin preached at 9:30 o'clock. Text, Romans 11:13. Rev. J. D. Byars preached at 11 o'clock. After reading the fifth chapter of Ephesians, preached on the subject of Love and obedience. Rev. T. L. Walker preached at 3 o'clock. Text 1 Corinthians 10:15.

MONDAY MORNING

Monday morning, met pursuant to adjournment. After reading 12th chapter of Romans by moderator, and prayer by Bro. Mayfield, the Union meeting was called to order by the moderator.

Minutes of Saturday read and adopted. Roll call of churches. The delegates of various churches answered to their names, and listed as per roll.

Report of Committees.

We, your committee on documents and order of business beg leave to report as follows: That we proceed after the usual order of business. We recommend that the next session of the union meeting be held with Union Hill church Pickens county, Ala., on Saturday before the fourth Sunday in July, 1925. We recommend that Rev. W. E. Harbin preach the introductory sermon and Rev. M. Montgomery be his alternate. Report received and committee discharged.

J. D. BYARS, Chairman.

On Evangelism.

Moved that the report on evangelism be taken up by sections as follows. (1) Knowing the world needs evangelism so bad; finding the world is dying on account of the true Gospel, we recommend that a minister be in the field all the time and that he be cut loose entirely and that he have the co-operation of the association in full. We recommend that the delegates take up this and discuss plans how to raise funds for the support of said evangelist. We recommend that our preachers put greater stress on the greatest evils that we are confronted with today. We recommend that our churches pay pastors sufficiently to give them time to study their Bible that they may be able to preach the Word in its purity. Report received and adopted and committee discharged.

W. E. HARBIN, Chairman.

Roll of Delegates.

Mt. Moriah—J. T. Lancaster.

Macdonia—J. M. Fields, J. M. Stokes, W. C. Smith

Shiloh—W. H. Koon, Lester Koon.

Tabernacle—P. J. Frazier, B. K. and Archie Montgomery

Antioch—Not represented.

Union—W. R. Curry, T. J. Lancaster, W. R. Burkhalter.

Phillips Chapel—J. M. Lynn, C. M. Hager

Union Hill—J. S. Stewart.

Mt. Zion—T. J. Shipp, E. W. Shipp, W. E. Harless

Hatties Chapel—U. M. Springfield.

Pleasant Hill—J. G. Pearson, W. W. Tilley, T. W. Pool.

Friendship—Not represented.

Unity Grove—Not represented.

Pleasant Ridge—Not represented.

Sulphur Springs—E. L. Crawford, T. A. Crawford.

List of Ministers Attending Union Meeting.

Revs. J. D. Ryars, M. Montgomery, W. E. Harbin, J. E. Tilley, E. M. Spencer, T. V. Wheat, T. L. Walker, T. A. Springfield.

Resolutions and Queries

Report as follows: We tender our sincere thanks to the good people of Shiloh church for their able manner in which they supported this union meeting, and pray God's richest blessings on them. Report received and committee discharged.

J. T. SHIPP, Chairman.

There being no other business the valedictory sermon was preached by Rev. J. D. Byars. After reading the 25th chapter of Matt. preached from the subject of Gifts and Callings of God. After which the parting hand was taken to meet with Union Hill Church, Pickens County, Ala., Saturday before the fourth Sunday in July, 1925.

REV. T. L. WALKER, Moderator.

J. S. STOKES, Clerk.

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 elect.

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 As-

sociation 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 divine perfection, and existing in distinct but harmonious 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, nowever, 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 States.	Pastors.	Clerks and Their Postoffices.	Ex-Pastors	Paid Ex-Pastor	Paid Helper	Baptized	Rec'd by Letter	Dismissed by Letter	Restored	Deceased	Excluded	Meeting Days	No. of Members	Minute Fund
Mt. Moriah, Pickens Co., Ala.	T. L. Walker	C. C. Gore, McShan, Ala.	T. L. Walker	\$148.10		8		1				2	104	\$3.50
Macedonia, Pickens Co., Ala.	T. L. Walker	J. S. Stokes, Millport, Ala. R. 3	T. L. Walker	131.58	\$136.58	17	2	2		1	2	1	290	4.00
Shiloh, Pickens Co., Ala.	T. L. Walker	W. L. Burkhalter, Gordo, Ala. R. 1	J. E. Tilley	\$114.40		11				1	4	3	137	7.00
Tabernacle, Tuscaloosa Co., Ala.	M. Montgomery	J. F. Cunningham, Coker, Ala. R. 1	W. E. Harbin			5	1			1		1	102	5.00
Antioch, Fayette, Co., Ala.	M. L. Hollis	F. H. Ham, Belk, Ala.	J. D. Byars	100.40	30.00	11	1			4		2	134	5.00
Union, Pickens Co., Ala.	J. E. Tilley	T. J. Lancaster, Gordo, Ala., R. 2	J. E. Tilley	123.00		10		2				2	98	5.65
Phillips Chapel, Tuscaloosa, Co., Ala.	M. Montgomery	W. L. Sanford, McConnells, Ala. R. 1	M. Montgomery			2	1	4		1	1	4	155	4.00
Union Hill, Pickens Co., Ala.	W. R. Robertson	J. S. Stewart, Reform, Ala., R. 2	W. R. Robertson			2	1		1			3	88	1.50
Mt. Zion, Tuscaloosa Co., Ala.	M. Montgomery	E. W. Shipp, McConnells, Ala.	M. Montgomery	75.00	17.56	9	6	6				3	96	5.00
Hatties Chapel, Pickens Co., Ala.	W. R. Robertson	M. St. John, Ethelville, Ala.	W. R. Robertson			2						1		2.00
Pleasant Hill, Tuscaloosa Co., Ala.	T. L. Walker	W. W. Tilley, pro tem, Elrod, Ala.	T. L. Walker	83.90	36.50	8	1		3			3	92	3.50
Friendship, Fayette, Co., Ala.	G. F. Carmack	J. C. Phillips, Bankston, Ala.	G. F. Carmack									2	32	1.00
Unity Grove, Lamar Co., Ala.	T. L. Walker	Luther Cole, Millport, Ala. Rt. 1	T. L. Walker	89.30		4				3		4	103	4.00
Pleasant Ridge, Tuscaloosa Co., Ala.	T. A. Springfield	Belton Driver, Echola, Ala.	J. E. Tilley					2		1		4	31	2.00
Sulphur Springs, Tuscaloosa Co., Ala.	W. E. Harbin	E. L. Crawford, Samantha, Ala., Rt. 1	W. E. Harbin	133.80	10.00	5			2	2		2	140	5.00
Espy Springs, Tuscaloosa Co., Ala.	W. E. Harbin	L. G. Weaver, Samantha, Ala., R. 1				5	6					1	26	2.85