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MINUTES

OF THE

EIGHTH ANNUAL MEETING

OF THE NORTH MISSOURI

FREE BAPTIST ASSOCIATION.

HELD WITH THE

WEST FORK CHURCH, WORTH COUNTY, MO.

SEPTEMBER, 1876.

GALLATIN, MO.

PRINTED AT THE DEMOCRAT JOB PRINTING OFFICE.

1876.

Minutes of the Eighth Annual Meeting
OF THE NORTH MISSOURI
FREE BAPTIST ASSOCIATION.

Association met with the West Fork Church, Worth county, Mo., on Friday before the second Lord's Day in September, 1876, at 10 o'clock A. M.

The introductory sermon was preached by Elder James Jones.
Text: Romans, I chapter, 16th verse.

Adjourned till 3 o'clock P. M.

AFTERNOON SESSION.

Met at 3 o'clock P. M.

Prayer by Eld. Wm. Leek.

Association called to order by the Moderator. E. W. Allee,
Clerk *pro tem*.

Committee on Arrangements—Brothers E. Delby, C. S. Williamson and Wm. McKown.

Committee on Religious Exercises—Brothers M. Davis, J. Logan, and N. Reed.

Committee on Finance—Brothers Ensier and J. Adams.

Committee to wait on visiting Brethren—J. Logan and C. C.

Wright.

Adjourned till 9 o'clock, Saturday, A. M.

SECOND DAY.

The Association met pursuant to adjournment Saturday at 9 o'clock A. M.

Prayer by Eld. J. Jones.

Report of Committee on Arrangements called for. Report read and received, and committee retained.

The following letters were received from the different churches :

CASTILE	Letter and Messenger
UNION THIRD FORK	Letter and Messenger
PIONEER	Letter and Messenger
PLEASANT VALLEY	Letter and Messenger
SWEET HOME	Letter and Messenger
MIDDLE FORK	Letter and Messenger

Moved to drop from the list of Churches in the minutes the name Stony Point Church. Carried.

The following is a list of Churches not represented :

St. Joseph Harmony, Friendship, New Lebanon, Bethel, Shilo, Providence, Pleasant Grove, Mt. Moriah, Union, Isadore, Lot's Grove, Pleasant Ridge, West Fork, Lewtston.

Moved to adjourn till 2 1-2 P. M.

AFTERNOON SESSION.

The Association met pursuant to adjournment 2 1-2 P. M.

Prayer by Eld. E. S. Williamson.

Called for letters from any Church desiring admittance in this body. One letter handed in from Center Point Church.

Moved we receive the Church in this body, and the delegates be invited to a seat in council with us.

Verbal report from Lot's Grove Church by Wm. K. Cowan.

Called for letters of correspondence from other religious bodies.

None.

Moved we elect a Moderator and Clerk for the ensuing year.

Eld. Wm. Leek elected Moderator and Joseph Stapp Clerk.

Moved we call for the report of the delegate appointed to visit the Iowa yearly meeting. Eld. C. S. Williamson said delegate. Report received and delegate discharged.

Shall we divide this Association, and where shall the dividing line be.

Moved we report this matter to the Churches, and be laid over until the next Association.

Shall we continue to hold quarterly meeting.

Moved we refer this matter to the quarterly meeting.

Moved we have a circular letter, and Eld. Wm. Leek write the same.

Moved we advise the Churches to adopt some system to defray their expenses, and that be the system of the Castile Church.

Moved that we appoint a committee of three—one from each quarterly meeting—to visit their respective Church and lay this matter before them.

Eld. J. Jones appointed on said committee, of St. Joseph quarterly meeting; Eld. P. H. Hunt, of Worth county quarterly meeting; Eld. A. J. Ward, of Grand River quarterly meeting.

Moved we encourage union Sabbath schools.

Shall we correspond with the *Morning Star* and *Baptist Union* papers.

Moved we do, and Eld. Wm. Leek be said committer.

Moved we send a delegate to the General Conference at New York, October 1877, and each Church to raise some money to defray said delegate's expenses.

Miscellaneous business called for.

Request from the St. Joseph quarterly meeting requesting the Association to dispense with the printing of the minutes and have the business of the Association printed in the *Morning Star*. Request taken up and laid on the table.

Called for report of committee on finance. Reported \$15.70.

Moved we have 500 copies of the minutes printed, and the Clerk superintend the same and receive \$5 for his work.

Moved we hold our next Association with the Center Point Church, Daviess county, Mo., 12 miles west of Gallatin and 8 miles southwest of Pattonsburg, and Eld. J. Jones preach the introductory sermon.

Moved we return a vote of thanks to the brethren and friends in this community for their kind hospitality extended to us while attending this Association.

On motion it was ordered that the Association adjourn to meet with the Center Point Church, Daviess county, Mo., on Friday before the second Lord's Day in September, 1877, at 10 o'clock A. M.

Prayer by Bro. Hunt.

The stand was filled on Sabbath at 11 o'clock by Eld. C. S. Williamson, and at candlelight by Eld. Wm. Leek, who acquitted themselves in an able and eloquent manner.

ELD. WM. LEEK, Moderator.

JOSEPH STAPP, Clerk.

ARTICLES OF FAITH.

ARTICLE 1. We believe that "To us there is but one God, the Father, of whom are all things, and we in him; and one Lord Jesus Christ, by whom are all things, and we by him."—Cor. viii, 6. And the Holy Ghost is that which proceedeth from the Father and the Son, and is the comforter of the Church and the reprover of the world.

ART. 2. We believe the Scriptures of the Old and New Testaments are the infallible Word of God, and the only rule of faith and practice.

ART. 3. We believe "Therefore being justified by faith we have peace with God, through our Lord Jesus Christ, by whom we also have access by faith into this grace wherein we stand and rejoice in hope of the glory of God."

ART. 4. We believe there will be a resurrection of the dead, and a general and universal judgment; that the happiness of the righteous and the punishment of the wicked will be eternal.

ART. 5. We believe that the visible Church of Christ is a congregation of faithful persons who have obtained fellowship with each other, and have given themselves up to their Lord and to one another, and having agreed to keep up a Godly discipline, according to the rules of the Gospel.

ART. 6. We believe that Jesus Christ is the head of the Church, and that government thereof is with the body.

ART. 7. We believe that water baptism, that the Lord's supper and washing of the feet are ordinances of the Lord, and to be continued by the Church until his second coming.

ART. 8. We believe that water baptism is the immersion of a believer in Christ, in the name of the Father, Son and Holy Ghost.

ART. 9. We believe that none have a right to commune at the Lord's Table only such as have the Spirit of God to bear witness with their spirit that they are His children.

RULES OF DECORUM.

1. We agree to meet annually at the times and places designated by the Association.

2. This Association shall be composed of delegates and Elders, members of this body in good standing.

3. A Moderator and a Clerk shall be chosen by a majority of all present in Association. It is the duty of the Moderator to keep order and put all subjects to vote, and to give the casting vote when the Association is equally divided, and extend the right hand of fellowship to Churches received into the Union. The Clerk shall keep a record of the proceedings of the Annual Meetings, preserve all papers and deliver them to his successor.

4. All meetings shall be opened by prayer, and closed by returning thanks on the bended knee.

5. This body, when assembled, shall be considered an advisory council, and shall acknowledge the power and independence of the Churches, and in no case exercise any power or authority over the Churches, except in case of corruption in principle or practice contrary to the Word of God.

6. All ordained Ministers, members of Churches forming this body, shall be members of the same by virtue of their office.

7. Any Church containing twenty members and under is entitled to three delegates to the Association and one additional delegate for every additional twenty members.

8. Visiting brethren to be invited to a seat to discuss all subjects, but not to vote.

9. No subject shall be taken up and voted upon but by a motion and second.

10. The members of this Association are not allowed to speak more than twice upon one subject, except by leave of the Moderator, ten minutes being the time allowed to speak.

11. No member shall absent himself in time of business without leave of the Moderator.

12. We advise that no Church receive into fellowship an excluded member from a sister Church until satisfaction be made to the Church from which they were excluded.

13. Any question containing two or more points shall be divided at the request of any brother, and the vote taken on each point separately.

14. We advise the Church to ask by their delegates at the Association for their Pastor.

15. Each Church shall report to Association at each annual meeting by letter and delegates, who has been their Pastor, and whether he has been faithful in the discharge his duties.

16. It shall be the duty of the Moderator to inquire whether the Churches have been faithful in the discharge of their duty.

Moved, that any Church failing to report to the Association for two years, successively, shall be waited on.

STATISTICAL TABLE.

NAMES OF CHURCHES.	Excluded.	Died.	Dismissed by letter	Rec'd into Church during the year	Total Members.	Con for Printing Minutes
Albanus Grove.....	1				33	\$ 2 00
Garden Grove.....					29	
Philadelphia.....	1	1	11	4	58	1 00
Providence (St. Joseph).....					29	
St. Joseph Harmony.....					76	
Castile.....	1	2		49	157	5 00
Friendship.....					40	
Bethel.....					62	
Shiloh.....					88	
Pleasant Grove.....					90	
Union (Third Fork).....		1	3	26	88	3 00
Mount Moriah.....					25	
Union.....					78	
Isadore.....					38	
Pioneer.....					29	2 00
Pleasant Ridge.....					11	
West Fork.....					16	50
Sweet Home.....					12	
Center Point.....	1				38	1 00
Pleasant Valley.....					25	1 80
Pioneer.....					25	
Lucen.....					20	
Middle Fork.....					12	
Lewiston.....					20	
New Lebanon.....					25	
Lot's Grove.....					68	
Public contribution.....						4 30
					1182	\$20 60

TO THE CHURCH CLERK:—

You will please bring a correct statistics of your Churches at our next Association; number received into the Church during the year, number excluded, number died, number dismissed by letter, and total number.

LIST OF CHURCHES, MESSENGERS, CLERKS, AND THEIR POSTOFFICE ADDRESS,

ARRANGED AND REVISED BY JOSEPH STAPP.

(Absentees marked thus *)

- Alanthus Grove—Clerk, S. L. Beery, Alanthus Grove, Mo.
 Garden Grove—Clerk, H. Pennington, Stewartville, Mo.
 Philadelphia—Clerk, S. M. Conover, Civil Bend, Mo.
 Providence (St. Joe)—Clerk, Samuel Creal, St. Joseph, Mo.
 St. Joseph Harmony—Clerk, J. S. Sullivan, St. Joseph, Mo.
 Castile—Messengers, Wm. McKowen, J. Belk,* Nathan Reed, Wm. Livingston,*
 Willis McKowen, Abert Heater,* John McCowen, John Adams; Clerk Alex. Davis,
 Plattsburg, Mo.
 Friendship—Clerk, T. J. Taylor, Trenton, Mo.
 Bethel—Clerk, Lewis Bargdell, Chillicothe, Mo.
 Shilo—Clerk, F. W. Dodd, Modena, Mo.
 Providence—Clerk, S. O. Towls, Trenton, Mo.
 Pleasant Grove—Clerk, John Edmonson, Bethany, Mo.
 Union—Clerk, Wm. Colman, Bethany, Mo.
 Mount Moriah—
 Union (Third Fork)—Messengers, Joseph Stapp, Isaac Barnett, Jackson An-
 tie*, Clerk, Allen Stroud, Easton, Mo.
 Issadore—
 Lot's Grove—Clerk, John Cowan, Allensville, Mo.
 Pioneer—Messengers, Richard Buckmaster, Leary Coffman, Jacob Noler; Clerk,
 E. O. Walden, Allensville, Mo.
 Pleasant Ridge—
 West Fork—Messenger, C. S. Davis; Clerk, C. S. Davis, Grant City, Mo.
 Lucen—
 Sweet Home—Messenger, Moses Speer, Clerk, Moses Speer,
 Center Point—Messengers, S. B. Lewis, Charles Kink, J. H. Simpson; Clerk,
 J. H. Simpson, Pattonburg, Mo.
 Middle Fork—Clerk, Daniel McCoy, Grant City, Mo.
 Issadore—
 Lewiston—
 Pleasant Valley—Messenger, Nathan Essor, John Roberts; Clerk, John Roberts
 New Lebanon—

NAMES OF MINISTERS AND POST OFFICE ADDRESS.

Pastors of Churches marked thus (P).

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|---|--------------------------------------|
| Eld. S. H. Kerns, Plattsburg, Mo. | Eld. Thos. Hawkins, (P) Easton, Mo. |
| " James Hummer, Springfield, Mo. | " C. H. Churchill, Jamesport, Mo. |
| " Wm. Leek (P), Trenton, Mo. | " A. J. Ward, Pattonburg, Mo. |
| " J. E. Sapper, Bethany, Mo. | " W. E. Dalby, Alanthus, Mo. |
| " W. B. Williamson, Easton, Mo. | " James Jones, (P) Bridgewater, Mo. |
| " C. S. Williamson, (P) Plattsburg, Mo. | " O. S. Harding, (P) St. Joseph, Mo. |
| " D. S. Miller, Trenton, Mo. | " T. J. Neal, (P) Pattonburg, Mo. |
| " E. Antle, Easton, Mo. | " E. Hunt, (P) Grant City, Mo. |
| | Eld. D. Mills, Issadore, Mo. |

LICENTIATES.

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|------------------------------|----------------------------------|
| W. T. Glen, Allensville, Mo. | T. J. Dickerson, Gallatin, Mo. |
| — Scott, Plattsville, Iowa. | Sylvester Lewis, Civil Bend, Mo. |
| | James Watson, Pattonburg, Mo. |