

MINUTES

—OF THE OLD—

Mt. Zion Association

—OF—

FREE WILL BAPTISTS,

—HELD WITH—

MT. ZION CHURCH,

Washington Co., Arkansas,

SEPTEMBER 11, 1891.

1891

**THE SUN PRINT,
BENTONVILLE, ARKANSAS.**

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— *and and and and* —
The introductory sermon was preached by Eld. W. J. Blackburn, from Heb. vii, 25.

Letters were then called for from the different churches and their messengers invited to seats.

Called for newly constituted churches and received none.

Called for corresponding letters from sister Associations, and received one from Union Association by the hands of David McCollough, A. B. Carlock and I. J. Whitely.

The Association then organized by

choosing Eld. J. R. Guinn Moderator, and Clark Bland, Clerk.

Then appointed Elds. I. J. Whitely, David McCollough and G. W. Lynch with the Moderator and Clerk to frame a bill of arrangements and W. T. Blackburn, D. W. Lynch and W. H. Rackley to arrange preaching.

The Association then adjourned with prayer by Eld. I. J. Whitely until 8:30 o'clock Saturday morning.

SATURDAY MORNING, SEPT. 12.

Met pursuant to adjournment. Prayer by Moderator. Bill of arrangements was called for, read and received and the committee discharged.

1st Resolved, That we have our minutes printed, and we have 500 printed and reserve fifty for our sister Associations.

2nd Resolved, That Clark Bland superintend the printing and distributing the same.

3rd Resolved, That we keep up correspondence with our sister Union Associations and that W. T. Blackburn, Adam Frazee and Clark Bland write and bear the corresponding letters to Union Association to be held with New Bethel church, Carroll county, Arkansas, on Friday before the 4th Sabbath in September, 1891.

4th Resolved, That we keep up the memorial of our dead.

5th Resolved, That our next Association be held with Hickory Grove church, Madison county, Arkansas, eight miles east of War Eagle mills commencing on Friday at 11 o'clock, before the 2nd Sunday in September, 1892.

6th Resolved, That Eld. David Mason preach the introductory sermon and that Eld. I. J. Whitely supply in case of failure.

7th Resolved, That we return a bill of thanks to the citizens of this vicinity for their kindness during the Association.

8th Resolved, That we adjourn to meet with Hickory Grove church; Madison county, Arkansas, to begin on Friday, at 11 o'clock a. m., before the 2nd Sabbath in September, 1892.

CLARK BLAND,

Clerk.

J. R. GUINN,

Moderator.

CONSTITUTION.

From a long series of experience, we, the Church of Jesus Christ, being regularly baptised upon the profession of our faith in Christ, are convinced of a necessity of a combination of churches to perpetuate Union and Communion amongst us and to preserve and maintain a correspondence with each other. We therefore propose to

keep order and rules of our association according to the following plan or form of government.

I. The Association shall be composed of members chosen by the different churches in our union, not exceeding three messengers from each church, and producing letters; they shall be entitled to seats.

II. Letters from the different churches are to express their number of fellowship, the number received by experience, letter or recommendation, dismissed, excluded, restored, and those that have died since the last Association.

III. The members thus chosen and convened to be denominated the "Old Mt. Zion Association of Free Will Baptists," be composed of sundry churches in the state of Arkansas; the Association to have no power to lord it over God's heritage, nor to have ecclesiastical power over churches, reserving the right of withdrawing from any church acting disorderly.

IV. The Association to have a Moderator and Clerk, who are to be chosen by the suffrage of the members present.

V. New churches to be admitted into the Association which are to petition by letter and delegates; and if, on examination they are found to be orthodox and orderly they may be received by the Association, the Moderator giving the right hand of fellowship.

VI. No question presented by the delegates of any church shall be discussed in the Association unless it has been thoroughly discussed in their own church.

VII. Every motion made and seconded shall come under the consideration of the Association, except it be withdrawn by the member who made it.

VIII. The Association is to endeavor to furnish the churches with the minutes of the Association in proportion to the members in each church, the contribution being at the direction of the Association.

IX. It shall be the duty of the Clerk to keep a regular file of the minutes.

X. The minutes of the Association shall be read and corrected, if needed, and signed by the Moderator and Clerk before the Association closes.

XI. Amendments to this plan of government may be made at any time when a majority of the members may deem it necessary.

XII. The Association, in case of the failure of any church to attend, may inquire into the cause.

OUR DEAD.

J. W. Burks was born June the 17th, 1833, in Benton county, Arkansas, married Rachel Blackburn, January 11th, 1852, with whom he lived until his death. Professed a hope in Christ the third Sunday

in October, 1871, was a never tiring Sunday school worker and was one of Old Mt. Zion's strongest supports. Died of heart failure, November the 11th. 1890.

G. W. Fine was born in Dade county, Missouri, came to Arkansas with his widowed mother about 1866. Professed a hope in Christ in 1874. Died in the triumph of a living faith in the state of Texas, December the 26th. 1890, at the age of 27 years, ten months and sixteen days.

Jim Creek was about 35 years of age, was a member of Old Mount Zion church for some time. Died in the state of Texas January the 16th. 1891.

RULES OF ORDER.

I. At every sitting, business shall be opened or concluded by prayer by the Moderator, or whoever he may require.

II. Ministers present, invited to seats with us, may debate on all subjects, but vote on none.

III. Those who speak shall rise and address the Moderator, and personal reflection shall be avoided in all debates.

IV. No motion shall be discussed without being seconded.

V. If when a motion has been made and seconded, and a member opposes its

discussion, the Moderator shall put the question: "Shall this question be discussed?" which, if negatived, shall be dismissed.

VI. If any proposition or motion under debate contains two or more points it shall be divided at the request of any member, and the vote taken separately.

VII. Motion made and lost shall not be recorded on the minutes unless so ordered at the time.

VIII. No one shall speak more than twice on any subject without special leave from the Moderator.

IX. All questions shall be decided by a majority of members present.

X. No member shall absent himself without leave from the Moderator. If so, his name shall be left off of the minutes.

XI. The minutes shall be leisurely read and corrected before the rising of the Association.

XII. That in the future sessions of this Association arrangements be made so as to insure two sermons or other devotional exercises, which will be equivalent thereto, during each day of the session.

XIII. The Rules of Order shall be distinctly read from the chair immediately after the organization of the Association.

XIV. Alteration may be made in these rules at any regular session of the Association.

ARTICLES OF FAITH.

1. We believe in the only true and living God, the Father, the word and the Holy Ghost, and these three are one: Isa. xlv 5; 1st Cor. viii, 6.

2. We believe that the scriptures of the Old and New Testaments are the word of God, and the Gospel by Jesus Christ is the only rule of faith and practice: 2d Peter, i, 21; 2d Timothy iii, 16.

3. We believe in the fall of Adam, and that by his transgression all his posterity fell and were made sinners: Gen. iii, 6; Rom. v, 19.

4. We believe in the corruption of human nature and the inability of man to recover himself by his own free will and ability: Rom. v, 12; St. John vi, 44.

5. We believe that Jesus Christ, by the grace of God, tasted death for every man, and that through His mediatorial death, the way of salvation is made possible for God to have mercy upon all who come to Him upon the terms of the Gospel: Heb. ii, 9; St. John iii, 36.

6. We believe that sinners are justified in the sight of God only by the imputed righteousness of Christ, and that good works are the fruits of faith and follow after justification: Eph. ii, 5-8; Rom. vi, 22.

7. We believe that saints persevere in grace and not one of them will be finally lost: Mat. xi, 28; Rev. xxii, 2-10-14.

8. We believe there will be a resurrection of the dead and a general judgment and the happiness of the righteous, and the punishment of the wicked everlasting-Mat. xxv, 32.

9. We believe the visible Church of Christ is a congregation of faithful men and women who have obtained fellowship with each other and given themselves unto the Lord and one another, having agreed to keep up a Godly discipline, according to the rules of the Gospel: St. Mat. xviii, 17; xvi, 18.

10. We believe that Jesus Christ is the great head of the church and the government thereof is with the body: St. John i, 11; Col. i, 18.

11. We believe that Baptism, the Lord's Supper and the Washing of the saints' feet, are ordinances of the Gospel of Jesus Christ and to be continued until His second coming: St. Mat. xxviii, 19; St. John xiii, 5; x, 14-15.

12. We believe that true believers are the only fit subjects of Baptism, and that immersion is the only Gospel mode: St. Mark xvi, 16; St. Mat. xiii, 16; Acts viii, 30.

13. We believe that none but true

believers are fit subjects to commune at the Lord's table: Cor. xi, 28-29.

14. We believe that the Lord's day ought to be observed and set apart for the worship of God, and no work or worldly business ought to be transacted thereon, works of piety, mercy and necessity excepted: Ex. xx; viii, 9.

MINISTERS.	AGE.	POST OFFICE ADDRESS.
W. J. Blackburn.....	55	War Eagle Mills, Benton Co., Arkansas.
J. R. Guinn	58	Aurora, Madison County, “
G. W. Lynch.....	51	Clifty, “ “ “
J. M. Martin	49	Fancher, “ “ “
R. L. Shaw.....	42	Drakes Creek, “ “ “
Ezekiel Hendrickson	71	Springtown, Benton County, “
Wm. Ellington.....	47	“ “ “ “
S. G. Moses.....	..	Drake Creek, “ “
LICENSED MINISTERS.		
A. A. Marrs.....	58	Farmington, Washington Co., Arkansas.
A. M. Whitely .....	..	Drakes Creek, Madison “ “
Calaway Roberts.....	..	War Eagle Mills, Benton “ “
M. L. Evans.....	..	Drake Creek, “ “

TABLE SHOWING THE CONDITION OF THE CHURCHES.

CHURCHES.	DELEGATES.	Rec'd by experience	Received by letter..	Recommendation . . .	Dismissed by letter..	Excluded	Dead	Total
Mt. Zion.....	Jesse Ralls, Sr., John Sparks, W. T. Blackburn,	0	1	0	0	1	3	59
Sugar Creek.....	.....	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
Big Fork.....	Elder J. R. Guinn,.....	0	0	0	0	0	0	44
Salem.....	.....	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
Willow Springs...	.....	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
Highland.....	.....	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
Hickory Grove...	D. W. Lynch, J. W. Lynch. W. H. Rackley,..	12	1	7	0	0	0	37
New Hope.....	Clark Bland,.....	0	0	0	0	0	0	13
Big Spring.....	.....	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
Shady Grove.....	.....	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
Long Valley.....	Adam Frazee, G. E. Babcock, W. A. Race,	3	1	0	0	0	0	10
Union.....	Eld. McCollough, A. B. Carlock, S. J. Whitely,	.	.	.	.	.	.	.