

Geo. A. Been

MINUTES OF THE

Old Mt. Lion Association

— OF —

Freewill Baptist,



Held With Sugar Creek Church, Benton Co., Ark.,



SEPTEMBER 9—10, 1898.

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The Association met pursuant to adjournment with Sugar Creek Church on Friday, at 11 o'clock a. m., September 9th, 1898, with Eld. W. J. Blackburn Moderator and Clark Bland, Clerk.

The Association was called to order by the Moderator and the introductory sermon was delivered by Eld. W. J. Blackburn, from 1st Tim. 3d chap. 16 verse.

Letters were called for and read and their messengers invited to seats.

Called for corresponding letters. Received one from Carroll county Freewill Baptist Association by Eld. David McCullough.

Called for newly constituted churches, received none.

The Association organized by choosing Eld. W. J. Blackburn Moderator and Clark Bland Clerk.

The following committees were appointed: On bill of arrangements: Elders David McCullough, Wm. Bean and C. Roberts with the Moderator and Clerk. On preaching: Wm. Pratt, E. Boydston and F. M. Liner. On memorial of our dead: Elders David McCullough, Wm. Bean and C. Roberts.

Singing, "Keep Me Near the Cross," and prayer by Eld. Bean, the Association took recess until Saturday morning at 8:30 o'clock.

Friday, 7 p. m. Preaching by Elders Wm. Bean and David McCullough.

Saturday morning 7:30. The Association met pursuant to adjournment.

Singing, and prayer by the Moderator.

Roll call.

Bill of arrangements called for, read, received and committee discharged.

RESOLVED, That this Association have the minutes printed.

RESOLVED, That we have 500 copies printed and reserve 50 copies each for our sister associations.

RESOLVED, That G. C. Bland superintend printing and distributing minutes.

RESOLVED, That we keep up the memorial of our dead.

RESOLVED, That we keep up correspondence with our sister associations.

RESOLVED, That Elders Wm. Bean, C. Roberts and d. Lawson write and bear the corresponding letter to Carroll county, Freewill Baptist Association.

RESOLVED, That Jesse Vaughn and S. S. Sterman write and bear the corresponding letter to Union Association.

RESOLVED, That the next association be held with New Hope Church, four miles north of the old Van Winkle mill and one half mile east of LaRue, Benton county, Ark.

RESOLVED, That Eld. David McCullough deliver the introductory sermon and Eld. Wm. Bean be his assistant.

RESOLVED, That the ministers reports be spread upon these minutes.

RESOLVED, That we return a bill of thanks to the people of this vicinity for their kindness during the meeting of this Association.

RESOLVED, That this Association adjourns to meet with New Hope Church on Friday before the second Sabbath in September 1899.

Prayer by Eld. Wm. Bean, preaching at 11 a. m., by Elders W. J. Blackburn and C. Roberts, the Association took the parting hand.

CLARK BLAND, Clerk,
LaRue, Ark.

W. J. BLACKBURN, Moderator,
War Eagle, Ark.

CONSTITUTION

From a long series of experience, the church of Jesus Christ, being regularly baptised upon the profession of our faith in Christ, are convinced of the 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 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 last Association.

III. The members thus chosen and convinced 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 a 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 church with the minutes of the Association in proportion to the members in each church, the contributions 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 a failure of any church to attend, may enquire into the case.

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 questions but vote on none.

III. Those who speak shall rise and address the moderator, and personal reflections 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. Motions 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 the members present.

X. No member shall absent himself without leave from the moderator. If so his name shall be left off 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 one only true and living God and Father, the Word and the Holy Ghost. Isaiah 45:5; 1st Corinthians 8:6; 1st John 5:7.

2. We believe that the scriptures of the Old and New Testaments are the word of God, and the gospel by Jesus Christ, the only rule of faith and practice. 2nd Peter 1:21; 2nd Timothy 3:16.

3. We believe in the fall of Adam, and that by his transgression all his posterity fell and were made sinners. Genesis 3:6; Romans 3:11-19.

4. We believe in the corruptness of human nature and the inability of man to recover himself by his own free will and ability. Romans 5:12; St. John 6:44.

5. We believe that Jesus Christ by the Grace of God tasted death for every man and through his mediatorial death the way of salvation is made possible for God to have mercy upon all that come to Him upon gospel terms. Hebrews 2:6; St. John 3:36.

6. We believe that sinners are justified in the sight of God only by the righteousness of Christ imputed to them, and the good works are the fruits of faith, and follow after justification. Ephesians 2:5-8; Romans 6:22.

7. We believe that saints may persevere in grace and not one be lost. Matthew 11:28; Revelations 22:14; 2:10.

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 will be eternal. St. Math. 25, 32. 1st Cor. 15, 13, 14.

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 to the Lord and one another. St. Math. 18, 17, 16, 18.

10. We believe that Jesus Christ is the great head of the church and the government thereof is with the body. St. John 20:11, Cor. 1:18.

11. We believe that Baptism and the Lord's Supper and the washing of feet are ordinances of the gospel of Jesus Christ, and to be continued until the second coming. St. Math. 28:19, St. John 13:5-10, 14, 16.

12. We believe that true believers are the only fit subjects of Baptism, and that immersion is the only gospel mode. St. Mark 16:16, St. Math 3:16, Acts 8:36.

13. We believe that none but true believers are fit subjects to commune at the Lord's Table. 1st Cor. 11:28, 29.

14. We believe that the Lord's day ought to be observed and set apart for the worship of God, and that no work or worldly business ought to be transacted thereon, works of piety, mercy and necessity excepted. Exo. 20:8-9.

OUR DEAD.

LaFayette Ruddle professed a hope in Christ in 1880, joined the Sugar Creek church in August 1881, lived a devoted life till God called him home Dec 31, 1897.

Mary S. Capps of Clifty church professed a hope in Christ in 1873, lived a faithful life till God called her home Jan. 13, 1898.

Jesse Roles of Mt. Zion church died Dec. 29, 1897, was about 75 years old, had lived a faithful member among us since 1848.

Life and death of sister Lucinda Vaughn. She departed this life April 17, A. D. 1897; she professed a hope in Christ in 1845 and united herself with the church and lived a devoted life till God saw fit to call her home.

Mary Roberts professed a hope in Christ in 1867 and lived a member of old Mt. Zion church till God called her home Dec. 30, 1897. Aged about 75 years.

Collection for printing and distributing of the minutes:

Mt. Zion,	\$1.50
Sugar Creek,	1.00
New Hope,	2.75
Hickory Grov.,	1.10
Christian Home,	1.00
Clifty,	50
Union Gap,	50
Total,	\$8.35.

CHURCHES.	NAMES OF DELEGATES.	Rec'd by experience...	Recommendation...	Received by letter....	Dismissed by letter..	Excluded.....	Died.....	Total.....
Mt. Zion.....	Ed. Lawson, Wm. Bean, Eld. O. Roberts...	1	0	0	5	0	3	60
Sugar Creek.....	Benj. Ruddick, Benj. Tiner, F. M. Liner....	1	2	0	6	0	1	52
Salem.....	Elder W. J. Blackburn.....	0	1	0	0	0	0	26
New Hope.....	E. Boydston, J. O. Hawthorn, Clark Bland	8	2	1	1	0	0	38
Hickory Grove.....	Wm. Rockley, Elbert Lynch, Press Rogers	3	0	0	0	4	0	56
Long Valley.....	Not represented							
Christian Home.....	L. B. Trolinger.....	2	0	0	0	0	0	20
Clifty.....	M. B. Capps, A. M. Beach, J. N. Stafford..	5	0	0	0	0	1	13
Union Gap.....	I. F. Paschal, G. H. Hankin.....	6	3	0	0	0	0	16
Shady Grove.....	Not represented							

MINISTERS.	AGE.	POST-OFFICE ADDRESS.
Caloway Roberts.....	40 yrs.	Spring Valley, Washington Co., Ark.
W. J. Blackburn.....	62 "	War Eagle Mills, Benton county, Ark.
David Mason.....	57 "	" " " "
J. R. Guinn.....	65 "	Huntsville, Madison " "
G. W. Lynch.....	51 "	Clifty, " "
R. L. Shaw.....	49 "	Drake's Creek, Madison " "
S. G. Moses.....	51 "	" " " "
Granville Evans.....	54 "	Hindsville, " " "
L. A. Edwards.....	56 "	Goshen, Washington " "
Wm. Bean.....	39 "	Spring Valley, " " "
LICENSED MINISTERS.		
A. A. Marr.....	64 "	Farmington, " " "
I. N. Bailey.....	43 "	Aurora, Madison " "
G. E. Babcock.....	37 "	Drake's Creek, Madison " "

REPORT OF MINISTERS.

ELD. W. J. BLACKBURN.

Miles traveled.....	544
Preached sermons.....	87
Received in church.....	5
Baptised.....	2
Days lost.....	69
Received.....	\$32.75

ELDER WM. BEAN

Miles traveled.....	364
Preached sermons.....	50
Received in church.....	13
Baptised.....	9
Received.....	\$35.00