

*Geo. A. Beer*

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MINUTES OF THE  
OLD MT. ZION ❧  
❧ ASSOCIATION  
OF  
FREEWILL BAPTISTS,



HELD WITH NEW HOPE CHURCH, BENTON COUNTY, ARK.,

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SEPTEMBER 8 and 9,

....1899....

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MINUTES OF THE  
Old Mt. Zion Association  
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HELD WITH NEW HOPE CHURCH, BENTON COUNTY, ARK.,  
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The Association met pursuant to adjournment with New Hope church on Friday, September 8, 1899, at 11 o'clock a. m., with Elder W. J. Blackburn, Moderator, and Clark Bland, Clerk.

The Association was called to order by the Moderator and after prayer the introductory sermon was delivered by Eld. David McCullough from St. Math. 4:17.

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

Called for corresponding letters from sister Associations: Received one from Carroll County Freewill Baptist Association by the hands of Elder David McCullough and Bro. J. S. Turney—the Moderator giving the right hand of fellowship.

The Association then organized by choosing Elder W. J. Blackburn Moderator and Clark Bland Clerk. The rules of order were immediately read by the Moderator and the following committees appointed: On preaching—Ed. Lawson, J. O. Hawthorn and Sol Shaddox. On bill of arrangements—Elders David McCullough, G. W. Lynch and Wm. Bean with Moderator and Clerk. On memorial of the dead—Elders David Mason, Wm. Bean and Brother L. M. Miles.

Committee on preaching report that Elders G. W. Lynch and J. G. Wilson occupy the pulpit at 7 p. m.

On motion the Association adjourned until Saturday morning at 8:30 a. m.

Saturday, Sept. 9, 1899: Association met pursuant to adjournment; prayer by Moderator. Bill of arrangement called for, received and committee discharged.

RESOLVED: That the Association have the minutes printed.

RESOLVED: That we have five hundred copies printed and reserve 50 copies for each sister association in correspondence with us.

RESOLVED: That Clark Bland superintend the printing of the minutes.

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

RESOLVED: That Elders J. G. Wilson, Wm. Bean and G. W. Lynch write and bear the corresponding letter to Carroll County Freewill Baptist Association.

RESOLVED: That Elders J. G. Wilson, Wm. Bean and S. G. Moses write and bear the corresponding letters to Union Association.

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

RESOLVED: That the next Association be held with Long Valley church, four miles south west of Huntsville, Madison county, Ark., on Friday, at 11 a. m., before the second Sabbath in September, 1900.

RESOLVED; That Elder W. J. Blackburn preach the introductory sermon and Elder Wm. Bean be his assistant.

RESOLVED: That we return a vote of thanks to the people of this vicinity for their kind hospitality to the delegates composing the Association.

On motion the minutes were read and adopted.

On motion the Association adjourned.

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 Freewill Baptists," to 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 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 unless 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. Alterations 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 3:19.

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

5. We believe that Jesus Christ by the Grace of God tasted death for every man and through his mediterial death the way of salvation is made possible for God to have mercy upon all that come to Him upon gospel terms. Heb. 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 follows 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 judgement, and the happiness of the righteous and the punishment of the wicked will be eternal. St. Matthew 25, 32; 1st Corinthians 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. Matthew 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; Corinthians 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. Matthew 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 Corinthians 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. Exodus 20:8-9.

## OUR DEAD.

Bro. J. K. Sharp was born January 26, 1836; professed a hope in Christ September 1868, was a member of Salem church, died January 27, 1899.

Bro. I. S. Ford was born March 22, 1833; professed a hope in Christ in 1870, was a member of Sugar Creek church until God called him home in May, 1899.

Bro. Thomas Clifton was a member of New Hope church for ten years and died in 1899 in hope of a glorious rest.

Sister Georgia A. Blackburn was a member of Salem church for five years and died in 1899 and entered eternal rest.



Collection for printing and distributing of the minutes:

Mt. Zion.....	\$2.00
Sugar Creek.....	1.65
Salem.....	1.10
New Hope.....	2.65
Hickory Grove.....	1.15
Long Valley.....	.75
Christian Home.....	.75
Clifty.....	.50
Union Gap.....	.40
Total.....	\$10.95

CHURCHES.	NAMES OF DELEGATES.	Received by Experience	Recommendation	Received by letter	Dismissed by letter	Excluded	Withdrawn	Died	Total
Mt. Zion...	Eld. Wm. Bean, L. M. Mills, Ed. Lawson..	11	0	2	7	1	0	0	74
Sugar Creek ..	Joseph Ruddick, M. Carter, James Hambrick	2	1	0	1	1	0	1	57
Salem .....	Eld. W. J. and W. E. Blackburn, D. Mason...	7	0	0	0	1	0	2	30
New Hope.....	J. O. Hawthorn, John Moss, Clark Bland....	31	7	2	1	0	0	1	76
Hickory Grove	Eld. G. W. Lynch, D. W. Lynch, W. E. Lynch	0	2	0	0	2	1	0	55
Long Valley...	Elders G. E. Babcock and J. G. Wilson.....	0	1	4	0	0	0	0	22
Christian Home	H. W. Ellis.....	0	0	0	7	0	0	0	13
Clifty .....	M. P. Capps.....	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	13
Union Gap... ..	Elder S. G. Moses, J. F. Paschal.....	0	0	0	3	0	0	0	13
	Corresponding delegates - Elder David McCullough, J. S. Turney								

MINISTERS:	AGE.	POST-OFFICE ADDRESS.
Caloway Roberts.....	41 yrs.	Spring Valley, Washington Co., Ark.
W. J. Blackburn.....	63 yrs.	War Eagle Mills, Benton County, "
David Mason.....	58 yrs.	" " " " " "
J. R. Guinn .....	66 yrs.	Huntsville, Madison County, "
J. G. Willson.....	53 yrs.	" " " " " "
G. W. Lynch.....	52 yrs.	Clifty, " " " "
R. L. Shaw.....	50 yrs.	Drakes Creek " " " "
S. G. Moses .....	52 yrs.	Drakes Creek " " " "
G. E. Babcock.....	38 yrs.	Drakes Creek " " " "
Granville Evans ..	55 yrs.	Hindsville, " " " "
L. A. Edwards.....	57 yrs.	Goshen, Washington County, "
Wm. Bean.....	40 yrs.	Spring Valley, " " " "
LICENSED MINISTERS.		
A. A. Marr.....	65 yrs.	Farmington, Washington County "
I. N. Bailey .....	44 yrs.	Aurora, Madison County, "