

Minutes
Of The
Sixty-First Annual Session
Of The
OLD MT. ZION ASSOCIATION
Of
Freewill Baptists.

1902

Arthur Lee Galloway

MINUTES
Of the
OLD MT. ZION ASSOCIATION
of
Freewill Baptists.

Held With Mt. Zion Church, Washington Co., Ark., Aug. 8 and 9, 1902

The Association met pursuant to adjournment with Hickory Grove church, Madison county, Ark., at 11 a. m., on Friday before the second Sabbath in Aug. 1902. The Association was called to order by the moderator and the introductory sermon delivered by Eld. W. R. Burnett, from Hebrews 2:3. How shall we escape if we neglect so great salvation.

Letters were called for from the various churches, and their messengers invited to seats. Called for corresponding letters; two received. One from New Mt. Zion Association, by Eld. David McCullough and W. R. Burnett. One from Union Association, by Eld. Albert Corlock, and G. G. Newton. Called for newly constituted churches; received none.

The Association was organized by appointing Ed Lawson Clerk. The Association elected G. W. Lynch Moderator, Ed Lawson, Clerk. The rules of the order were read by the Moderator, after which the following Committees were appointed: On bill of arrangements, Eld. Moses, Bro. Capps, Eld. Mason, Moderator and Clerk. On preaching, T. P. Rogers, J. W. Blackburn, J. W. Alfred. On Memorial of our dead, Eld. L. J. Macon, Jesse Stanback, and Billy Elkins. Committee on preaching appointed Eld. Albert Corlock, and Eld. Moses to preach at 7:30 p. m.

The Association elected Ed Lawson a delegate from Old Mt. Zion church; elected Eld. David Mason a delegate from Salem church. Singing and prayer by Eld. David McCullough. Association adjourned until 8:30 a. m. Saturday.

The Association was called to order by the Moderator at 8:30 Saturday morning. After singing and prayer by Eld. W. R. Burnett, the report of the committee on arrangement was read, received, and committee was discharged.

Resolved, that the Association have the minutes printed.

Resolved; that we have 500 copies printed and reserve 50 copies for each sister association in correspondence with us.

Resolved; that the Clerk superintend the printing and distribution of said minutes.

Resolved; that Eld. L. J. Mason, and Eld. John Garvin, write and bear the corresponding letter to Old Union Association.

Resolved; that Elder G. W. Lynch, Eld. L. J. Macon and Eld. John Garvin write and bear the letter to New Mt. Zion Association.

Resolved; that we keep up the memorial of our dead.

Resolved; that the Association change the time of her an-

ual meeting from Friday before 2d Sunday in August, to Friday before 2d Sunday in October.

Resolved; that the next Association be held with New Hope church, 8 miles North-east of War Eagle Mills.

Resolved; that Eld. Granville Evins preach the Introductory sermon, and Eld. John Garvin be his assistant.

Resolved; that we return a vote of thanks to the people of this vicinity, for their kind hospitality to the delegates of this Association. Took recess until 4 o'clock, Saturday evening.

The Association was called to order by the Moderator at 4 p. m. Prayer by the Moderator. On motion, the Association adjourned to meet with New Hope church, Benton county, Ark., 8 miles North-east of War Eagle Mills.

ED LAWSON, Clerk, Spring Valley, Ark.

G. W. LYNCH, Moderator, Hindsville, Ark.

CONSTITUTION.

From a long series of experience, the church of Jesus Christ, being regularly baptised upon the profession of our faith in Christ, is 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 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 our 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 any failure of any church to attend, may inquire 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 and invited to seats with us may debate on all questions but vote on none.

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

IV. No question shall be discussed without being seconded.

V. If, when a motion has been made and seconded, 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 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 the 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; 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 transgressions 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 free will 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 mediatorial death the way of salvation is made possible for God to have mercy upon all who come to him on 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 that good works are the fruit 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 judgment, and the happiness of the righteous and the punishment of the wicked will be eternal. St. Matthew 25:32; 1st Corinthians 13, 14, 15.

9. We believe the visible church of Christ is a congregation of faith

ful men and women who have obtained fellowship with each other and given themselves to the Lord and one another. St. Matthew 16, 17, 18.

10. We believe that Jesus Christ is the great head of the church, and that 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 his 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 true gospel mode. St. Mark 16:16; St. Matthew 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.

Sister Josie Reynolds was born June 22, 1878. Professed a hope in Christ in 1892. Was a devoted member of New Hope church, and died in full triumph of a living faith, October 23, 1900.

Bro. Brit. Stevenson was a member of Old Mt. Zion church. He professed a hope in Christ in an early day, and lived a devoted life until God called him home, June 16, 1902.

CHURCHES	NAMES OF DELEGATES.	Total	Died	Withdrawn	Excluded	Dismissed by Letter	Received by Letter	Recommendation	Rec'd. by Experience
Mt. Zion	Eld L. Macon, Ed Lawson	1	0	0	0	2	0	1	68
Salem	Eld D. Mason	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	22
New Hope	J. W. Alfred, H. P. Boydston, Merit Bland	1	0	0	1	0	0	1	83
Hickory Grove	G. W. Lynch, W. E. Lynch, Fred Stanback	1	0	0	1	0	0	0	68
Christian Home	Eld G. Evans, H. Wilks	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	16
Clifty	M. P. Capps	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	14

Collection for Printing and Distributing of the Minutes.

Mt. Zion	\$1.85.
Salem	25.
New Hope	2.05.
Hickory Grove	1.00.
Christian Home	30.
Clifty	80.
Total	\$6.35.