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MINUTES OF THE  
SIXTY-SECOND ANNUAL  
ASSOCIATION  
OF  
FREEWILL BAPTISTS.



HELD WITH  
NEW HOPE CHURCH, BENTON COUNTY,  
ARKANSAS.



OCTOBER 9 and 10, 1903.

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*Arthur Lee Galloway*

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SIXTY-SECOND ANNUAL ASSOCIATION  
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OCTOBER 9 and 10, 1903.

The meeting met pursuant to adjournment, with the New Hope Church, Benton County, Arkansas, October 9, 1903, at 11 A. M.

The introductory sermon was delivered by Elder Granville Evans, from Ephesians 2:13.

The Moderator and Clerk being absent, Elder David Mason was elected Moderator pro tem and G. C. Bland, Clerk pro tem.

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

Letters were called for from corresponding Associations and two were received: One from New Mt. Zion, by Elders David McCullough and W. R. Burnett; and the other from Union Association, by Elder J. H. P. Jones and S. D. Smith and J. O. Disheroon, the Moderator extending the right hand of fellowship.

Officers were elected for the ensuing year as follows: Elder L. J. Macon, moderator, and G. C. Bland, clerk.

Rules or order were read by the Moderator, after which the following committees were appointed: Bill of Arrangements—Elder J. H. P. Jones, David McCullough and David Mason; on Preaching—J. W. Alfred, H. P. Boydston and Z. M. Alfred; on Memorial of the Dead—Robert Henson, James Lewis and J. O. Hawthorn.

Committee on Preaching appointed M. P. Capps and M. M. Haggard to preach at 7:30 P. M., and J. H. P. Jones and Robert Henson to preach Saturday 11 A. M.

Committee on Memorial of Dead report no deaths.

After song and prayer by Elder L. J. Macon, the Association adjourned until 8:30 Saturday morning.

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

Report of committee:

Resolved: That we have 500 copies of minutes printed and reserve 50 for each corresponding Association.

That the Clerk superintend the printing and distribution of the minutes

That we continue to correspond with our sister Associations.

That Elder L. J. Macon, M. P. Capps and J. O. Hawthorn write and bear the corresponding letter to New Mt. Zion Association, and that L. J. Macon, M. P. Capps and Robert Henson write and bear the corresponding letter to Union Association.

That we keep up the memorial of our dead.

That we return a vote of thanks to the people of this vicinity for their hospitable kindness extended to us during this Association.

That Elder J. H. P. Jones preach the introductory sermon, and Elder L. J. Macon be his assistant.

That next annual Association be held with Old Mt. Zion Church, Washington County, Arkansas, on Friday before the second Sunday in October, 1904.

On motion, the Association adjourned until next annual meeting to be held with Old Mt. Zion church, Washington County, Arkansas, on Friday before the second Sunday in October, 1904.

G. C. BLAND, Clerk.

L. J. MACON, Moderator.



## 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 the 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 churches 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. Minister 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 negated, shall be dismissed.

VI. If any proposition or motion under debate contains two or more points, it shall be divided at the request of a 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 meeting 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 mediatorial 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 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 faithful 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 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 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 11:23, 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.

Collection for Printing and Distributing of the Minutes:

Mt. Zion.....	\$2.00
Sugar Creek.....	1.30
New Hope.....	1.65
Salem.....	50
Clifty.....	1.00
Mt. Perrin.....	75
Total.....	\$6 60

CHURCHES	NAMES OF DELEGATES.	Received by Experience	Recommended by Letter	Dismissed by Letter	Excluded	Withdrawn	Died	Total
Mt. Zion....	L. J. Macon, Jesse Vaughan, Jesse Roles.....	6	0	0	3	3	0	75
Sugar Creek	Joseph Ruddick, Beny Ruddick and Joseph Ellington.....	0	0	0	3	0	16	38
New Hope..	J. W. Alred, S. M. Bland and G. C. Bland.....	1	0	0	2	2	2	78
Salem.....	David Mason.....	0	0	0	0	0	0	18
Clifty.....	M. P. Capps.....	0	0	0	0	0	0	15
Mt. Perrin..	James Hambrich.....	0	0	0	0	0	0	11

Corresponding Delegates:

New Mt. Zion—David McCullough and W. R. Burnett.

Union—J. H. P. Jones, S. D. Smith and J. C. Disheroon.