

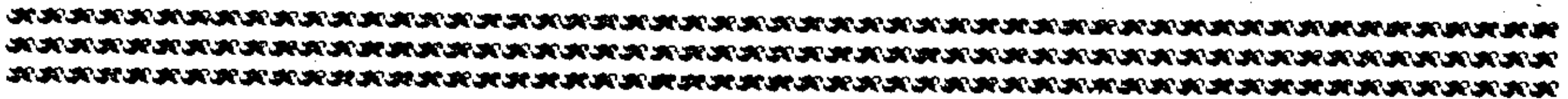
MINUTES OF THE
SIXTY-THIRD ANNUAL
ASSOCIATION
....OF....
FREEWILL BAPTISTS.



HELD WITH
MT. ZION CHURCH, WASHINGTON COUNTY,
ARKANSAS.



OCTOBER 7 AND 8, 1904.



Minutes of the Sixty-Third Annual Association of Freewill Baptists, held with Mt. Zion Church, Washington County, Arkansas, October 7 and 8, 1904:

The Association met pursuant to adjournment, with the Mt. Zion church, Washington County, Ark., October 7, 1904, at 11 a. m. The Association was called to order by the Moderator, L. J. Macon.

Introductory sermon was delivered by Elder L. J. Macon from I Peter 4:17,18.

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

Letters were called for from sister Associations, and one received from New Mt. Zion by Elder David McCullough, the Moderator extending the right hand of fellowship.

Officers were elected for the ensuing year as follows: Moderator—Elder G. W. Lynch, Hindsville, Ark.; Clerk—G. C. Bland, Larue, Ark.

Rules of order were read by the Moderator, after which the following committees were appointed: Bill of Arrangements—Elders David McCullough, David Mason and John Garvin. Preaching—Jess Roles, Ed. Lawson and J. O. Hawthorn. Memorial of our Dead—Elder John Garvin, H. K. Ellis and J. W. Allred.

Committee on preaching appoint Elders S. G. Moses and G. W. Lynch to preach at 7:30 p. m.; Elders M. P. Capps and David McCulloch Saturday at 11 a. m.; David Mason and G. W. Lynch at 4 p. m.; G. E. Babcock and J. G. Wilson at 7:30 p. m.; David McCulloch and John Garvin on Sunday at 11 a. m.

After singing and prayer by the Moderator, adjourned until 8:30 Saturday morning.

The Association was called to order by the Moderator at 8:30 Saturday morning. Prayer by the Moderator.

By action of the Association, Elder G. E. Babcock was elected delegate for Long Valley church and Elder S. G. Moses for Union Gap church.

Report of committee on Bill of Arrangements received and committee discharged. Bill of Arrangements was as follows:

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

That the clerk superintend the distribution of the minutes;

That we continue to correspond with our sister associations;

That Elders J. G. Wilson, M. P. Capps and Jess Vaughn write and bear the corresponding letter to Union, and Elders S. G. Moses, J. G. Wilson, David Mason and Elder G. W. Lynch write and bear the corresponding letter to New Mt. Zion Associations.

That we keep up the memorial of our dead;

That the next Association be held with Christian Home church, two and one-half miles north of Hindsville, Madison county, Arkansas;

That Elder David McCullough deliver the introductory sermon and Elder John Garvin be his assistant.

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

That we adjourn to meet with Christian Home church on Friday at 11 a. m., before the second Sunday in October, 1905.

Prayer by Elder John Garvin.

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

G. C. BLAND, Clerk,
Larue, 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 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 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 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 be 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 only one true and living God and Father, the Word and the Holy Ghost. Isaiah 45:5; 1st Corinthians 8:6; 1st John 5:7.

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 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 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 preserve 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 11:28, 29.

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

OUR DEAD.

Bro. Jesse Stamback was a member of Hickory Grove church about ten years. Died March 14, 1904.

Sister Bell Lee, member of Hickory Grove church, died December, 1903.

Sister Margaret Evans, member Christian Home church, died March 25, 1904. She died in the triumph of a living faith, requesting friends to meet her in heaven.

Sister Rachael Lyall, born in 1825, professed a hope in Christ in 1880, lived a devoted member of Freewill Baptist church till death called her home, August 18, 1904. She was a member of Mt. Zion church.

Sister Nancy Lane died May 31, 1904, after illness of 7 months. In her death the church loses a faithful and honored member, her children a dear kind loving mother, the community one of its best Christian women. No person lived that had a better, sweeter disposition than she. She found the good traits in every one she came in contact with. It is grand to live such a pure, noble Christian life. She was born Aug. 7, 1826; married Samuel Lane Sept. 16, 1841; professed religion in 1842 and joined Freewill Baptist church. She leaves 7 children, a number of grandchildren and great-grandchildren, one sister and other relatives, and a host of friends to mourn her loss.

Collection for Printing and Distribution of the Minutes:

| | | | |
|---------------------|--------|------------------|--------|
| Mt. Zion..... | \$2.25 | Clifty..... | \$1.00 |
| Salem..... | .25 | Long Valley..... | .40 |
| New Hope..... | 1.75 | | |
| Hickory Grove..... | .60 | Total..... | \$7.30 |
| Christian Home..... | 1.00 | | |

| MINISTERS. | AGE | POST-OFFICE ADDRESS. |
|----------------------|--------|--|
| David Mason..... | 63 yrs | Canuck, Benton county, Arkansas. |
| J. R. Guinn..... | 71 yrs | Huntsville, Madison county, Arkansas |
| J. G. Wilson..... | 65 yrs | Huntsville, Madison county, Arkansas |
| G. W. Lynch..... | 56 yrs | Hindsville, Madison county, Arkansas |
| S. G. Moses..... | 57 yrs | Drakes Creek, Madison county, Arkansas |
| G. E. Babcock..... | 43 yrs | Huntsville, Madison county, Arkansas |
| Granville Evans..... | 60 yrs | Hindsville, Madison county, Arkansas |
| M. P. Capps..... | .. yrs | Mundell, Carroll county, Arkansas |
| John Garvin..... | 56 yrs | Spring Valley, Washington county, Ark. |
| L. J. Macon..... | 54 yrs | War Eagle, Benton county, Arkansas |

| CHURCHES | NAMES OF DELEGATES. | Received by Experience | Recommendation..... | Received by Letter..... | Dismissed by Letter... | Excluded..... | Withdrawn..... | Died..... | Total..... |
|----------------|--|------------------------|---------------------|-------------------------|------------------------|---------------|----------------|-----------|------------|
| Mt. Zion..... | L. J. Macon, John Garwin, J. W. Blackburn..... | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 2 | 72 |
| Salem..... | David Mason..... | 0 | 0 | 0 | 3 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 16 |
| New Hope.... | J. O. Hawthorn, J. W. Allred and G. Bland..... | 3 | 2 | 0 | 4 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 75 |
| Hickory Grove | G. W. Lynch, Mat Lynch, E. Lynch | 1 | 0 | 0 | 2 | 0 | 2 | 2 | 35 |
| Clifty..... | M. P. Capps, Ben Prickett..... | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 15 |
| Long Valley... | G. E. Babcock, J. G. Wilson..... | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 16 |
| Union Gap.... | S. G. Moses..... | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 12 |
| Christian Home | H. K. Ellis, Joseph Lain, Robt. Lynch | 14 | 2 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 2 | 32 |

Corresponding Delegate: New Mt. Zion—Elder David McCullough.