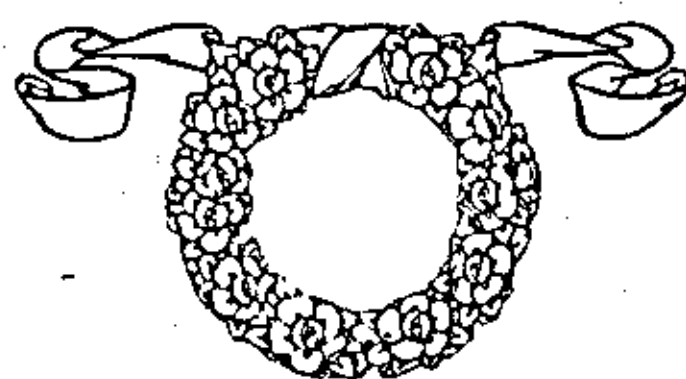


MINUTES OF SEVENTY-FIRST ANNUAL MEETING OF

OLD
MT. ZION ASSOCIATION
OF
FREEWILL BAPTISTS



HELD WITH COAL GAP CHURCH, AUGUST 8 AND 9

1912

**MINUTES OF THE SEVENTY-FIRST ANNUAL MEETING OF OLD
MT. ZION ASSOCIATION OF FREEWILL BAPTISTS, HELD
WITH COAL GAP CHURCH AUGUST 9 AND 10, 1912**

The Old Mt. Zion Association convened with Coal Gap Church, in Benton Co., Ark., Friday, August 9, 1912; with Eld. W. F. Webb as Moderator and G. C. Bland, clerk.

The Association was called to order by the Moderator, who invited the visiting ministers to seats.

Eld. J. H. P. Jones delivered introductory sermon, Matt. 27:19-20.

Letters called for and delegates invited to seats.

Letters called for from new churches; one reported. Two letters were presented from sister Associations: Union Association by J. H. P. Jones, R. P. Leatherberry and J. M. Logan; New Mt. Zion by J. L. Bunch.

The Association elected Eld. G. C. Bland, Moderator, and A. S. McGinnis, Clerk.

The Moderator appointed the following committees: Divine Worship, L. Bowlin, S. L. McGinnis and John Williams. Arrangements, K. A. Moses, R. P. Leatherberry and G. W. Lynch. Temperance, M. P. Capps, J. H. P. Jones and Geo. Bean. Sunday Schools, S. G. Moses, J. S. Turney, W. H. Elkins. Memorials, W. T. Webb, Jesse Roles, and Wm. Gausine.

Committee on Divine Worship appointed Elds. G. W. Lynch and R. P. Leatherberry to preach Friday night at 7:30. Adjourned with singing and prayer by Eld. Leatherberry.

Sermon at 7:30 by Eld. Lynch from Job 14:10.

Friday, August 10, 8:30 A. M. Association called to order; singing; prayer by Eld. Leatherberry.

Discussion of reports on committees.

Adjournment ordered until 4 P. M. Singing, and prayer by Bro. Robertson.

Sermon 11 A. M. by Eld. W. T. Webb from Matt. 7:21.

4:00 P. M. Association called to order; song, prayer by Bro. Williams.

Committee on Arrangements reported, report accepted and committee discharged.

Committee on Sunday Schools reported and committee discharged.

Resolutions:—

1st: That we have 650 copies of minutes printed and reserve 50 copies for each sister Association represented and that the Clerk superintend the printing and distribution of the minutes.

2nd. That we keep up a Memorial of our dead.

3d. That we correspond with sister Associations. That Elders G. W. Lynch and S. G. Moses write and bear the letter to New Mt. Zion Association and that Elders G. W. Lynch, J. G. Wilson, S. G. Moses, W. T. Webb write and bear the letters to Union Association.

4th. That we represent in the State Association and that the Moderator write and bear the corresponding letter.

5th. That the next Association be held with Hickory Flat church, Washington County, Ark.

6th. That Elder G. C. Bland preach the introductory sermon and J. H. P. Jones be his alternate.

7th. That all ministers of this Association endeavor to secure an interest in the State Association and means to send delegates to same.

8th. That all ministers of this Association may organize churches and take for members of such churches all professed believers who walk orderly and will conform with our mode of baptism.

9th. That a vote of thanks be given Coal Gap Church and people of this vicinity for interest shown and hospitality extended during this Association.

10th. That we drop Bethel and Antioch from Association.

On motion, the Moderator appointed G. W. Lynch, Geo. Bean, J. S. Turney, J. H. P. Jones and S. G. Moses to correct errors in the references of our Articles of Faith.

Resolved: That this Association adjourn to meet with Hickory Flat Church, Washington Co., Ark., Friday before the second Sunday in August, 1913.

G. C. BLAND,
Moderator.

A. S. McGINNIS,
Clerk.

MINUTE		FUND	
Mt. Zion Church	\$2.00	Clifty Church	\$1.55
New Hope Church	\$2.08	Hickory Flat Church	\$1.00
Hickory Grove Church	\$1.55	Pilgrims Rest Church	\$1.25
Oak Grove Church	\$.75	Cottage Hill Church	\$1.00
Christian Home Church	\$1.25	Christian Union Church	\$.50
Coal Gap Church	\$1.20	Total	\$14.13

MEMORIAL OF OUR DEAD

God in his wisdom has seen fit to take from our church our beloved Brother E. M. Hancock. We hope our loss is his gain. He was born in Indiana, July 7, 1831. He professed a hope in Christ in 1850. He joined the Freewill Baptist Church at Old Mt. Zion about 25 years ago, and lived a devoted member until his death December 12, 1911. He left a widow and eight children to mourn his loss. The bereaved friends have our sympathy.

J. W. Bohannon, age 44 years, professed a hope in Christ in 1897. Joined the Freewill Baptist Church and lived a devoted Christian life. We believe our loss is his gain. W. T. Webb, Jesse Roles.

H. H. Ellis was born in Georgia, January 22, 1842; died April 10, 1912. Came to Arkansas in 1859 and was married to Susan Lane, October 5, 1865. Was converted September, 1867. Was a devoted member of the Freewill Baptist Church until death. He was a deacon in the church for many years. To this union was born nine children, seven of whom are living; all present but two, S. C. and T. M. Ellis, who live in Beaver Co., Oklahoma. He seemed to realize that the end was very near and all that appeared to worry him were his children that were not prepared to meet him in the great beyond. He was a great worker in the S. S. and church and a peace-maker among his fellow-men.

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 perpetrate 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 of 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 who 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 having 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 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 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 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.

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, arrangement 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 the Father, and the Holy Ghost. Isa. 45:5; 1st Cor. 8:6; 1st Jno. 5:7.

2. We believe that the scriptures of the Old and New Testaments are the Word of God, the only rule of faith, and are the only guide for our practice. 2nd Peter 1:21; 2nd Tim. 3:16.

3. We believe in the fall of Adam, and that by his transgressions all his posterity fell and were made sinners. Gen. 3:6; Rom. 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. Rom. 5:12; 1st Cor. 15:21-22.

5. We believe 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. 2:6-10; St. Jno. 3:36.

6. We believe that sinners are justified in the sight of God by the righteousness of Christ imputed to them, and the good works are the works of faith and follow after justification. Eph. 2:5-8; Rom. 5:1-16.

7. We believe that saints may preserve in grace and not be lost. Matt. 11:28; Rev. 22:14; 2:20; 1st Peter 3:18; 1st Thes. 5:23.

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. Matt. 25:32; 2nd Cor. 5:10; Rev. 20:12; Acts 17:31.

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. Matt. 16:17-18; 1st Cor. 1:12.

10. We believe that Jesus Christ is the great head of the church and that the government thereof is with the body. Eph. 2:20; Matt. 18:15-17.

11. We believe that Baptism and the Lord's Supper and the washing of feet are ordinances of the gospel of Jesus Christ, and should be continued until the second coming. Matt. 28:19; Jno. 13:5-10; 14:16; Col. 2:12; Rom. 6:4.

12. We believe that true believers are the only fit subjects of Baptism, and that immersion is the only true gospel mode. Matt. 3:16-17; Acts 8:36-37.

13. We believe that none but true believers are fit subjects to commune at the Lord's table. 1st Cor. 11:28-29; 2nd Cor. 13:5

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; work of piety, mercy and necessity excepted. Ex. 20:8-9; Lev. 26:2; Luke 13:14-16; 14:5.

LIST OF MINISTERS

Name	Age	Post Office
J. G. Wilson	72 years	
G. W. Lynch	65 years..	Hindsville, Madison Co., Ark.
S. G. Moses	64 years..	Whitener, Madison Co., Ark.
W. T. Webb	40 years..	Spring Valley, Ark.
W. O. Johnson	69 years..	Sydenham, Ark.
G. M. Copland.. . . .	38 years..	Fayetteville, Ark.
K. A. Moses	70 years..	Huntsville, Madison Co., Ark.
W. M. T. Dodd	50 years	
J. J. Rider.. . . .	71 years	
M. P. Capps	65 years..	Mundell, Carroll Co., Ark.
John Garvin	63 years..	Spring Valley, Ark.
C. G. Bland	54 years..	Larue, Benton Co., Ark.
J. H. Roberts.. . . .	— years..	Spring Valley, Ark.
J. S. Turney	58 years..	Larue, Benton Co., Ark.

LICENSED MINISTERS

W. H. Elkins.. . . .	— years..	Best, Benton Co., Ark.
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Churches	Names of Delegates	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Mt. Zion—	W. R. Hancock, Jesse Roles, J. R. Morris	0	0	0	4	0	1	30
New Hope—	H. P. Boydston, Z. M. Allred, J. Henson	1	0	0	0	1	0	84
Hickory Grove:	G.W.Lynch, W.E. Lynch, Ed Lawson	0	0	2	9	0	0	74
Oak Grove:	J.G.Wilson, F.E.Moses, G. V. Prichard	1	5	0	0	0	0	25
Sugar Creek—	Not represented.							
Christian Home:	W.M.Lee, J.W.Lynch, Wm. Gausine	0	0	0	0	0	1	39
Macedonia—	Not represented							
Coal Gap—								
	S. L. McGinnis, Alva McGinnis, S. E. Ruebottom	0	0	0	0	0	0	16
Clifty—	P. Forrister, N. E. Finn, F. C. Finn	18	1	6	1	0	0	62
Highland—	Not represented.							
Christian Union—								
	G. W. Thornsberry, D. A. Thornsberry, A. Howard	0	0	0	0	0	1	20
Hickory Flat:	L.A.Coger, John Means, S. Means	18	0	0	0	0	0	29
Pilgrims Rest:	John Right, Geo. Bean, A. Reynolds	0	1	1	0	0	0	27
Cottage Hill—	W. H. Elkins, L. S. Bowlin	2	0	0	0	0	0	12
New Mt. Zion Assn.—	J. L. Bunch.							
Union Assn.—	J. H. P. Jones, R. Leatherberry, J. M. Logan.							

TOTALS: 1—Received by Experience, 40. 2—By Recommendation, 7.
 3—Received by Letter, 9. 4—Dismissed by Letter, 14. 5—Excluded, 1. 6—Died, 3. 7—Total Membership, 418.