

MINUTES

—of the—

Seventy-Fourth Annual Meeting

—of the—

OLD MT. ZION ASSOCIATION

—of the—

FREE WILL BAPTIST

—Held with—

MT. PLEASANT CHURCH

August 6 and 7, 1915.

Ayden, North Carolina.

Ayden Free Will Baptist Printing Company,

Nineteen Hundred Sixteen

MINUTES

Minutes of the Seventy-Fourth Annual Meeting of the Old Mt. Zion Association of Free Will Baptist, held with Mt. Pleasant Church, nine miles East of Huntsville, Madison County, Ark., on Reeds Creek School House, commencing on Friday at 11 A. M. before the Second Sunday in Aug. 1915.

The introductory sermon was preached by Eld. T. M. Sims concluded by Geo. Been. Lesson Rev. 12 chapter. Prayer by Bro. E. S. England. Text Eph. 6:11. "Put on the whole armor of God."

Moderator being absent, the association was called to order by the clerk. Conference was opened by prayer by Eld. W. T. Webb.

The clerk then proceeded to organize the association, by calling for letters and delegates from the different churches composing said association. Letters and messengers were received from the following sister churches: Bro. J. W. Blackburn was appointed as reading clerk.

Churches

Delegates

Mt. Zion, Clide Lawson, Sam Morris, J. W. Blackburn.
New Hope, by letter.
Hickory Grove, J. N. Stafford, W. E. Lynch, B. F. Lynch.
Oak Grove, Geo. Byrd.
Christian Home, W. M. Gosvener.
Coal Gap, J. S. Turney.
Clifty, W. J. Nelson, F. C. Finn, T. B. Smith.
Christian Union, not represented.
Hickory Flatt, L. A. Coger, T. M. Sims.
Pilgrims Rest, J. R. Barnes, Joe Wilson.

Cottage Hill, Lum Miles, L. S. Bowlin, Pon Bodric.
Antioch,
Mt. Pleasant, N. J. Carlock, Ely Jones, Jasper Corlock.
Walnut Hill, not represented.
Sugar Creek, not represented.
Higland, Allen Skinner, Jr.
Lone Star, A. C. Cook, Chas. Sandlin.
Hortons Creek, J. H. Inman.

SISTER ASSOCIATIONS

New Mt. Zion, S. M. McMillon, W. R. Burnett, J. L.
Bunch.

Union Association

The clerk then called for newly organized churches.
Letters of petition and delegates received from two; viz,
Lone Star and Hortons Creek.

After the reading of their petitionary letters they
were counted orthodox and orderly, and upon motion and
second and vote without object the names of the
churches were received into our union. The clerk offic-
ing as moderator giving unto their delegates the right
hand of fellowship.

A general hand-shake of fellowship following among
the delegates and Christians. Then entered into the
election of a moderator and clerk. The clerk appointed
brethren L. S. Bowling and J. W. Blackburn as elec-
tion clerks. Then proceeded with the election.

The clerk reported Eld. T. M. Sims, moderator and
Geo. Been, clerk. Consecration prayer by Eld. T. M.
Sims. Then the reading of the rules of order from the
chair. The moderator appointed the following comm-
tees:

On Divine Service: L. S. Bowling, Matt. Smith, Chas
Sandlin.

Bill of Arrangement or Resolution: Geo. Byrd, Jasper Carlock, Ben Lynch. Moved that we take recess till 3 p. m.

AFTERNOON SESSION.

Association called to order at 4 p. m. Singing by the congregation. Prayer by Bro. Geo. Byrd.

Moved that Brethren J. G. Wilson and K. A. Moss be seated as delegates of Oak Grove church.

Further appointment of committees:

Finance: Jasper Carlock, J. W. Blackburn, L. S. Bowlin.

Temperance: Ely Jones, J. G. Wilson, W. M. Gosvenor.

Sabbath School: L. A. Coger, Mm. Hancock, K. A. Moses.

Obituary: W. E. Lynch, Matt. Smith, J. N. Stafford.

Credentials: Geo. Been, Geo. Byrd, J. G. Wilson.

Moved that John W. Whitley and Denmon Whitley be seated as delegates from Union Association.

Moved that we table the Bill of Resolution till Sat. 8. a. m.

Moved that we adjourn till Saturday 8. m. Prayer of dismissal by Allen Skinner, Jr.

Preaching Friday night by S. G. Moses and E. S. England. Lesson 23 Psalm. Text: "Worship God." Rev. 22:9.

SATURDAY MORNING SESSION

Met at 8:30 a. m. Singing by Eld. T. M. Sims. Song: "Mother's Own Beautiful Hands." Reading from St. John 14:1-21. Congregation sang, "A Charge to Keep I Have." Prayer by Bro. W. R. Burnett. Then

singing, "Time Speeds Away."

Antioch's letter read and delegates invited to seats; viz, Orecia Foster, Sid Smith and Riley Foster.

Moved that we receive the Bill of Arrangement (or Resolutions) and discharge the committee.

Resolved that we have our minutes printed, ordering 600 copies, reserving 50 for each sister association.

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

Resolved that we will represent in sister associations by delegates and letter. Brethren Ben Lynch, J. G. Wilson, and Geo. Byrd volunteered to go as delegates and Bro. W. T. Webb as alternate.

Resolved that we will represent in Mt. Zion Association by delegate and Brethren W. T. Webb, J. S. Turney and W. E. Lynch volunteered their services to go as delegates to represent Old Mt. Zion Association, and Bro. Jasper Carlock as alternate.

Moved that we table the question of representing in the State Convention till the evening.

Resolved that we adopt as Order of Business, conforming with that of the state association, same to be permanent in our minutes for further convenience.

Resolved that Macedonia's church name be dropped from our minutes as dead.

Resolved that Bethel church be dropped from our roll as they have disbanded.

Preaching Saturday at 11 a. m. by Eld. Andrew Wall and Geo. Byrd.

Text: "Her ways are ways of pleasantness and all her paths are peace." Prov. 3:17.

AFTERNOON SESSION

After recess for preaching, the association was call-

ed to order by the moderator, at 4 p. m. and proceeded with the business.

1915-
Resolved that we have an Ordaining Council or Presbety of three of our legally authorized ministers of our connection to investigate Character, Qualification, and Credentials of our ministry and to administer the ordinance of ordination. At least one of the Presbety shall be present at each ordination in our con
Titus 1: 5-6; I Tim. 4:14; Gal. 2:9.

Elds. T. M. Sims, W. T. Webb and E. S. England were chosen as Ordaining Council or Yearly Presbety.

Resolved that we elect Bro. Geo. Been to represent us in the State Association and Eld. G. C. Bland as alternate. Further that we use our influence against the ordination of women, setting her apart to the full work of the ministry, using Bible strength. Not, however, forbidding her teaching in the Sabbath School or praying or testifying or working in public, but against her ordination.

Resolved that the next association will be held with Hickory Grove Church, four miles west of City P. O. Madison County, in Lynch Hollow, beginning Friday at 11 o'clock, before the second Sunday in Aug. 1916. (If the Lord willeth). Moved that the report of the Temperance Committee be received and the committee discharged.

Moved that we receive the Sabbath School Committee's Report and discharge the committee.

Moved that the report of the Finance Committee be received and the committee discharged. (A Minute fund of \$15.15).

Brethren L. S. Bowlin and J. W. Blackburn appointed tellers of election for a man to preach the introductory sermon of the next association, time and place afore mentioned.

Resolved that Eld. W. T. Webb preach the introductory at the next association and Eld. G. C. Bland be his alternate.

Resolved that our delegate to the State Convention ask that association to recind the action taken by it at its last year's session, relative to all district associations adopting the Constitution, Rules of Order, and Articles of Faith of the State Association. But that the State Association and all district associations comes to the Articles of Faith and Rules as laid down in the Church Discipline of Free Will Baptist. Let us come to the old landmarks, get in line and have a genuine uniformity.

Resolved that we vote a bill of thanks to the good people of this vicinity and church for their kindness and hospitality shown us during our stay among them. May God bless them and give them Spiritual gain and that the moderator express our thanks at the close of the nigh's service.

Minutes read and approved after due corrections.

Moved and passed that we adjourn to meet with Hickory Grove Church on Friday before the second Sunday in August in 1916.

There was preaching Saturday night by Elds. W. T. Webb and John W. Whitley from St. Matthew 28: 19-30 "The Broad Commission."

Sunday at 11 a. m., there was preaching by Elds. W. R. Burnett and S. M. McMillion. Lesson: Psa. 34 (Text: Matt. 7:21). "Not everyone that saith to me Lord, Lord, shall enter into the kingdom of heaven; but he that doeth the will of my Father which is in heaven."

Eld. T. M. Sims, Moderator;

Wesley, Ark., Route No. 1.

Geo. Been, Clerk,

Spring Valley, Ark., Route 1., Wash. Co.

REPORTS OF COMMITTEES.

TEMPERANCE.

Resolved that intemperance is the cause directly or indirectly of nine-tenths of all the crimes committed on earth. That we will not tolerate the drinking of one dram as a beverage, for liquor drinkers are companions of devils, murderers of women, robbers of children, and builders of monopoly. We also favor the suspension of any Free Will Baptist minister or lay member that drinks an intoxicant. He should be investigated by the church and with by the same. We also recommend that each minister having the care of a church or churches deliver one or more sermons on temperance to each church in his charge.

SABBATH SCHOOL

We as Free Will Baptist believe that Christ commissioned the church to teach all nations, and that they may teach from the pulpit and the Sunday School. That the Bible may be taught and such other helps as are Scriptural. Further, that we make a strong effort to maintain a Sunday School in each of our churches.

FINANCE

Minute Funds from Churches

Mt. Zion, \$2.00; Hickory Grove \$1.05; Christian Home \$1.00; Clifty 1.15; Pilgrims Rest 1.50; Antioch 75c; Lone Star .75c; New Hope 1.95; Oak Grove .50c; Coal Gap 1.25; Hickory Flatt 1.00; Cottage Hill 1.00; Mt. Pleasant 90c Hortons Creek .35c; Grand Total \$15.15

OBITUARY

We find that the following brethren and sisters have called to their long home above. Therefore their labors on earth are ended. So let us all live faithful so that we may meet them where parting is no more.

Some precious ones from us have gone,
Some voices we loved is stilled;
Some places are vacant in our homes,
That never can be filled.

MEMORIALS

Uncle Joseph Puddick departed this life Jan. 21, 1916 at his home on Sugar Creek, south of Garfield. Funeral services were conducted by Eld. G. C. Bland at the Ruddick School House on the 22nd at 1 p. m. After which the remains were laid to rest in the Ruddick Cemetery. They were held under the auspices of the Garfield Masonic Lodge, of which he was a member, assisted by visiting brethren from Seligman, Bright Water, and War-Eagle. Joseph Ruddick was born in Vermillion County, Ill., Aug. 11, 1829; Settled with his brother at Elks Horn, Benton County, Ark., in 1834, where he grew to manhood. He professed faith in Christ May 1848. He was married to Mary Louisa Reynolds in 1849, who departed this life Oct. 30th, 1858. He married Sarah C. Taylor, "May 12th, 1861. She was called from this life July 18th, 1905. Mr. Ruddick enlisted in Co. F. 18th Iowa Infantry, Oct. 4, 1863. Dismissed from services July 20, 1865. Served as a soldier of his country two years and as a soldier of the Cross 67 years. "Be thou faithful unto death and I will give thee a crown of life." Prov. 2:10. "Blessed are the dead which die in the Lord

from hence forth; yea, saith the spirit, that they may rest from their labors; and their works do follow them." Rev. 14:13. "For me to live is Christ and to die is gain." Phil. 1:21. There survives him eight children; four sons and four daughters: Mrs. M. T. C. Marshall, Tex-aniah, Neb.; Mrs. J. C. Sams, J. C. Ruddick, Mrs. J. W. Moon, B. F. Ruddick of Garfield, Ark.; Mrs. F. E. Cline, Mineral Wells, Tex., U. S. Ruddick, Pittsburg, Kansas; E. B. Ruddick, Rogers, Ark. They were scattered from north to south; but they were permitted to return and in a grand reunion and minister to their father during the last weeks of his life. In the death of Uncle Joseph his children lost an affectionate father. His church its strongest support; His lodge one of its oldest and most faithful members; The community one of its oldest and best citizens.

MRS. MARTHA C. LYNCH.

Sister Martha C. Lynch, wife of Eld. G. W. Lynch, was born Feb. 6, 1851 and died March 28, 1915. She was united in matrimony with G. W. Lynch, Sept. 27, 1866. She united with the Free Will Baptist church in 1867. To this union was born nine children; five boys and four girls, and all claiming to be Christians. She was always a kind loving wife and mother. She was always ready to visit the sick and help the needy. She was always interested in having the Gospel preached, and did all she could to keep and encourage her husband in his work of the ministry. She leaves an aged companion and a host of relatives and friends to mourn their loss. May we all be prepared to meet her on the sunny banks of Sweet Deliverance, where God will wipe all tears from the eyes.

JAMES DURHAM

Brother James Durham was born March 8, 1842, died July 13, 1915; his age being 73 years. He professed a hope in Christ in early life and joined the Missionary Baptist church. He latter joined the Free Will Baptist church. He lived a devoted Christian life from the day of his conversion until death. He leaves many relatives and friends to mourn his absence.

ROBERT ELKINS

Brother Robt. Elkins was born Nov. 19, 1888. Died March 8, 1915, his stay being 25 years. He professed faith in Christ and joined the Free Will Baptist Church (Called Cottage Hill) at the age of 15 years. He lived a devoted Christian life until death. He leaves a wife and three little children. He also leaves many relatives and a host of friends to mourn his absence. We trust, "Loss will be his eternal gain."

G. C. GOSVENOR

Brother G. C. Gosvenor, son of Wm and Susan Gosvenor was born in Arkansas in Madison County, June 23, 1869. Professed faith in Christ and joined Mt. Zion Free Will Baptist Church at the age of 19. He lived a devoted member till his death, Jan. 2, 1915. In his last hours he told his friends and children not to weep for him, but prepare to meet him in heaven. "Blessed are the dead which die in the Lord from henceforth: yea, saith the spirit, that they may rest from their labor and their works do follow them."

S. E. RUBOTTOM

Brother S. E. Rubottom was born March 18, 1847. He was united in matrimony to Miss Sarah Sping March 7, 1866. To this union was born eleven children; eight girls and three boys. He professed a faith in Christ the age of 36 years. He first united with the Missionary Baptist Church and afterward joined the Free Will Baptist Church at Coal Gap. He lived a devoted member t death, which occurred Aug. 4, 1915. His age was 68 years, 4 months and 14 days.

PRICE FORRISTER.

Brother Price Forrister professed a hope in Christ and united with the Free Will Baptist Church in 1911. He lived a devoted Christian life until death, which occurred April 11, 1915. Bro. Forrister was 29 years of age. Leaves a wife and three little children to mourn their loss.

LIST OF MINISTERS.

Name	Age	Postoffice.
J. G. Wilson,	75 years,	Mante, Ark.
G. W. Lynch,	68 years,	R1, box 14, Clifty, Ark.
S. G. Moses,	68 years,	Huntsville, Madison Co., Ark.
W. T. Webb,	45 years,	R. 1, Spring Valley, Ark.
W. O. Johnson,	71 years,	Sydenham, Ark.
W. S. Copeland,	41 years,	Fayetteville, Ark.
K. A. Moses,	73 years,	Huntsville, Ark.
W. M. T. Todd,	53 years,	
J. J. Rider,	74 years,	

G. C. Bland, 57 years, Larue, Ark.

John Garvin, 66 years, R. 1, Spring Valley, Ark.

M. P. Capps, 68 years, Mundell, Ark.

J. H. Roberts, Spring Valley, Ark.

J. S. Turney, 61 years, Larue, Ark.

J. S. Smith, 46 years, Marble, Ark.

R. A. Smith, 49 years, Marble, Ark.

Samuel Garvin, Spring Valley, Ark.

LICENSED MINISTERS

W. H. Elkins, — years, Wareagle, Ark.

STATISTICAL TABLE

Churches—	—Delegates—	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Mt. Zion, J. W. Blackburn, Clide Lawson, Sam Morris		0	0	0	0	0	1	50
New Hope, by letter,		0	0	1	0	2	1	85
Hickory Grove, J. N. Stafford, W. E. and B. F. Lynch,		0	0	0	2	0	1	63
Oak Grove, Geo. Byrd, J. G. Wilson, K. A. Moses		0	2	0	0	0	0	29
Christian Home, W. M. Gosvenor,		0	1	0	0	0	1	30
Coal Gap, J. S. Turney,		0	0	0	0	0	1	44
Clifty, W. J. Nelson, T. B. Smith, F. C. Finn		3	1	0	0	0	0	71
Christian Union, not represented								
Hickory Flatt, L. A. Coger, Eld. T. M. Sims,		0	1	0	0	0	0	53
Pilgrims Rest, J. R. Barnes, Joe Wilson, Geo. Been		0	0	0	1	0	0	43
Cottage Hill, Lum Miles, L. S. Bolin, Pon Brodric		16	2	1	0	2	2	31
Antioch, Creca Foster, Riley Foster, Sid Smith,		0	1	0	1	0	0	31
Mt. Pleasant, J. and Jasper Carlock, Ely Jones		0	0	0	0	0	0	18
Sugar Creek, not represented								
Highland, Allen Skinner, Jr.		0	7	0	0	0	0	19
Lone Star, A. C. Cook, Charles Sandlin		0	0	0	0	0	0	5
Hortons Creek, John H. Inman,		0	0	0	0	0	0	7
New Mt. Zion Association, S. M. McMillon, W. R. Burnett, J. L. Bunch.								
Union Association, John W. Whitley, Denmon Whitley.								

TOTALS:—(1) Received by Experience 25; (2) Received by Recommendation 15; (3) Received by Letter 2; (4) Dismissed by Letter 6; (5) Expelled 4; (6) Died 7; (7) Total Membership 581.

CONSTITUTION

From a long series of experience, the Church of Jesus Christ, being regularly baptized 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.

1. 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.

2. Letters from different churches are to express their number of fellowship, the number received by experience, letters or recommendation, dismissed, excluded, restored, and those who have died since the last Association.

3. The members thus chosen and convinced to be denominated the "Old Mt. Zion Association of Free Will 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.

4. The Association to have a Moderator and a Clerk who are to be chosen by the suffrage of the members present.

5. 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.

6. 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.

7. Every motion made and seconded shall come under the consideration of the Association unless it be withdrawn by the member who made it.

8. 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.

9. It shall be the duty of the Clerk to keep file of the minutes.

10. The minutes of the Association shall be read and corrected if needed, and signed by the Moderator and Clerk before the Association closes.

11. Amendments to this plan of government may be made at any time when a majority of the members may deem it necessary.

12. The Association, in case of failure of any church to attend, may inquire in to the case.

RULES OF ORDER

1. At every sitting business shall be opened or concluded by prayer by the Moderator or whoever he may require.

2. Ministers present invited to seats with us may debate on all questions but vote on none.

3. Those who speak shall rise and address the Moderator, and personal reflections shall be avoided in all debates.

4. No motion shall be discussed without being seconded.

5. 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.

6. 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.

7. Motions made and lost shall not be recorded on the minutes unless so ordered at the time.

8. No one shall speak more than twice on any subject without special leave from the Moderator.

9. All questions shall be decided by a majority of the members present.

10. No member shall absent himself without leave from the Moderator; if so, his name shall be left off the minutes.

11. The minutes shall be leisurely read and corrected before the rising of the Association.

12. 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.

13. The Rules of Order shall be distinctly read from the chair immediately after the organization of the Association.

14. Alterations may be made in these rules at any regular session of the Association.

ORDER OF BUSINESS

1. Association called to order by the moderator and in his absence the clerk.

2. Introductory sermon.

3. Letters from the churches composing the association called for, read and messengers invited to seat.

4. Call for letters from newly organized churches.

5. Corresponding associations.

6. Right hand of fellowship.

7. Election of permanent officers.
8. Reading Constitution and Rulers of Order by Chair or Clerk.
9. Appointment of the following committees: (a) Resolution. (b) Finance. (c) Arrangement of preaching. (d) Temperance. (e) Sabbath Schools. (f) Obituary. (g) Condition of non represented churches. (h) Union of churches.
10. Report of committees appointed at last Association and other unfinished business.
 1. Reports of new committees.
 2. New business.
13. Choosing a Yearly Presbytery, or Ordaining Council of three of our strongest ministers to investigate Character, qualification and credentials of our ministry, and to administer in the Ordinance of Ordination.
14. Choosing place for our next Association.
15. Who shall preach the Introductory Sermon.
16. Reading and adopting of the Minutes.
17. Adjournment.

ARTICLES OF FAITH.

1. We believe in only one true and living God, the Father, the Word and the Holy Ghost. Isaiah 45:5; 1st Cor. 8:6; 1st John 5:7.

2. We believe that the scriptures of the Old and New Testament are the word of God, and the Gospel by Jesus Christ, the only rule of faith and 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. John 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 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 judgment, and the happiness of the righteous and the punishment of the wicked will be eternal. Matt. 25:32-40; 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. 12:12; Rom. 12:4-5.

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. 13:5-16; Col. 2:12.

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; Rom.

4:6.

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.