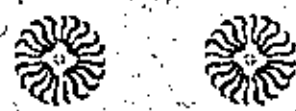


**MINUTES**  
**OF THE**  
**Seventy-fifth Annual Meeting**  
**OF THE**  
**Old Mt. Zion Association**  
**OF**  
**Freewill Baptists**



**HELD WITH**  
**HICKORY GROVE CHURCH**

**Four Miles West of Clifty, Madison County, Ark.**

**August 11 and 12,**  
**1916**

## **MINUTES**

Minutes of the Seventy-Fifth annual meeting of Old Mt. Zion Association of Freewill Baptists, held with Hickory Grove church, four miles west of Clifty P. O., Madison Co., Ark., on Aug. 11 and 12, 1916.

Association called to order by clerk, Geo. Been, as moderator, Eld. T. M. Sims being absent.

The introductory sermon was preached by Eld. W. T. Webb. Reading lesson 3rd chapter Malachi. Text: Ex. 14, 15, "Go Forward," and concluded by Eld. G. C. Bland, alternate.

The clerk then proceeded to organize the Association and appointed Eld. J. H. Roberts assistant clerk; then called for letters from the several churches composing the said association and the following responded, their letters read and their delegates named invited to seats in conference.

### **CHURCHES AND DELEGATES**

Mt. Zion—Loy Archer, Elmer Lawson, Sam Morris.  
New Hope—Truman Allred, Z. M. Allred, Loyd Bland.  
Hickory Grove—G. W. Lynch, Isaac Lynch, Claud Lynch.  
Oak Grove—Will R. S. Lane, J. G. Wilson, G. M. Byrd.  
Christian Home—D. A. Coger, T. F. McGinnis.  
Coal Gap—J. S. Turney, Louisa May Hegwood.  
Clifty—W. J. Nelson, T. B. Smith, F. C. Finn.  
Christian Union—C. W. Thornsburg, A. Howard, S. A. Wight.  
Hickory Flat—Riley Clairdy.  
Pilgrim's Rest—W. M. and Edna Reynolds.  
Antioch—Thos. Foister, J. S. Smith, E. M. Houston.  
Highland—D. A. Skinner, Jr.  
Lone Star—A. C. Cook, D. R. Lynch, R. F. Hardie.

### **SISTER ASSOCIATIONS**

New Mt. Zion—S. M. McMillon, Matt Smith.  
Union—R. A. Whiteley, R. P. Leatherberry, J. B. Snow.  
Mt. Pleasant—Not represented.  
Sugar Creek—Not represented.  
Horton's Creek—Not represented.

Newly organized churches called for and one responded, viz: Shady Grove, by petitionary letter and delegates as follows: John Henson, Alva Shrader and Aba Shrader.

Then a song was sung and the right hand of fellowship was extended and a general handshake was extended to all Christians present.

The association was then called into an election to elect a moderator and clerk for the ensuing year. Brethren L. S. Bowlin and E. M. Houston were appointed election clerks. The delegates then proceeded to vote by ballot. The election clerk declared Eld. G. C. Bland moderator, and Geo. Been, clerk.

Constitution and Rules of Order were read by moderator immediately after being elected. Then proceeded to appoint the following committees:

Resolution: J. H. P. Jones, W. T. Webb, Matt Smith.

Preaching: J. L. Todd, Ben Lynch, D. A. Coger.

Finance: Tom Smith, Will R. S. Lane, D. R. Lynch.

Temperance: G. W. Lynch, R. P. Leatherberry, R. A. Whiteley.

Sabbath School: J. S. Smith, J. B. Snow, J. H. Roberts.

Obituary: E. S. England, G. M. Byrd, J. S. Turney.

Non-represented churches: J. G. Wilson, J. H. Roberts, K. A. Moses.

Wishes of Committee on Preaching that Eld. R. P. Leatherberry and Eld. E. S. England preach Friday night. Motion and carried take recess until 4 p. m. Concluding prayer by Eld. G. W. Lynch. Benediction by Eld. J. H. Roberts.

Met at 6 p. m. Called to order by moderator. Song and prayer by Eld. J. H. Roberts.

Then the roll was called by clerk.

The association was asked to seat Bro. Hugh Becker as a delegate for Christian Home church and request granted.

The association was asked to seat Brethren W. T. Webb and Zion Dawson as delegates for Hickory Flatt church and desire granted.

Association asked to seat Bro. Geo. Been as delegate for Pilgrim Rest church; desire granted.

Association asked to seat Bro. E. S. England as delegate for Highland church; desire granted.

Association asked to seat Sister Z. A. Turney as delegate for Coal Gap church; desire granted.

Report of Committee on Temperance received and committee discharged. Report, Resolved, That we re-adopt report of last year and retain the same. R. P. Leatherberry, chairman.

Moved that the Finance Committee's report be tabled until future when completed.

### RESOLUTIONS

Resolved, That we keep the Memorial of our dead.

Resolved, That we keep up our correspondence with our sister associations.

The following brethren volunteered to write and bear the letter



and represent us in New Mt. Zion association, viz: Ben Lynch, J. G. Wilson, R. P. Lynch, with J. S. Smith, alternate.

The following brethren volunteered to write and bear the corresponding letter and represent us in Union association, viz: G. W. Lynch J. G. Wilson, G. C. Bland, with J. S. Turney, alternate.

Resolved, That we represent in the state association, and that we send Bro. Geo. Been to write and bear the corresponding letter and represent Old Mt. Zion association in the State Association to convene on Friday night before the fourth Sunday in October with St. Joe church, Antioch association, seven miles from Atkins, Pope Co., Ark. Christian Home church contributed \$4.30, Mt. Zion church \$3.79, and Pilgrim's Rest \$2.00 to defray his expenses and for minute fund; total \$10.09.

Resolved, That the next association be held with Pilgrim's Rest church 2½ miles west of Spring Valley on the Huntsville and Springdale Highway, via Sonora and the bridge.

Resolved, That the introductory sermon be preached by Eld. G. C. Bland, and Geo. Been be his alternate.

Moved we take recess until 3 p. m. Prayer by Eld. W. T. Webb and benediction by Eld. J. S. Turney.

Preaching at 11 a. m. Saturday by Eld. J. H. P. Jones and Eld. G. W. Lynch. Scripture lesson Heb. 1; text Rev. 14: 3.

Afternoon session Saturday called to order at 3 p. m. by moderator after singing and prayer by Bro. E. M. Houston.

Report of Committee on Sabbath School received and committee discharged.

Moved and approved we endorse Eld. W. T. Webb's General Baptist Ministers Credentials, and thereby endorse him in full as a minister of our connection.

Moved and approved we endorse Eld. E. S. England's Oklahoma Freewill Baptist Credentials also.

Resolution coming in from New Hope asking this association to repeal the action taken in our last session as in 1915, relative to an Ordaining Council or yearly Presbytery on the complaint it took too much authority from the church. (See Sec. 13 in Order of Business of 1915; also Resolution on Page 5.) Resolution carried.

Resolution coming in from Cottage Hill church asking this association to repeal the action taken at Cottage Hill session in 1914, to-wit: "Resolved we will support our pastors." Resolution tabled until next association, 1917.

Resolution from Cottage Hill church respectfully petition this association to require all ministers that have come or may come into this

association from other denominations to immediately present their credentials from the church in which they have cast their membership and if their credentials are found to be orthodox with the Freewill Baptists, then the moderator and clerk may endorse their credentials, giving them authority to the free ministerial work, and if their credentials are not orthodox with the teachings of the Freewill Baptists, to immediately require or accept from the church to which they belong; and on failure to comply with this resolution, to debar them from transacting any business in the churches or Association unless sent as a messenger from the church to which they belong.

Resolved that we have 600 copies of our minutes printed and reserve 50 for each sister Association, if we have the finances.

Moved that the report of the Committee on Resolutions be accepted and the committee discharged.

Moved that the report of the Committee on Finance be received and committee discharged. (See Report)

Moved that this Association vote a bill of thanks to Hickory Grove church and the good people of this vicinity for the kindness and courtesy shown us during our stay among them.

Moved that we receive the report of the Committee on Preaching and the committee be discharged.

Moved we come to an adjournment after services tonight to meet with Pilgrim's Rest Church, 2½ miles west of Spring Valley on Friday at 10:00 a. m., before the second Sunday in August, 1917.

Minutes read and approved and signed by moderator and clerk.

Eld. G. C. Bland, Moderator, Geo. Been, Clerk,  
Larue, Benton Co., Ark. Spring Valley, Ark.

Preaching Saturday night by Eld. G. C. Bland and R. A. Whiteley. Lesson: St. Matt. 2:6. Text: St. John 13:17, "If ye know these things, happy are ye if ye do them." After which the Lord's Supper was observed, Elds. G. C. Bland and J. H. P. Jones officiating. Then the parting hand was taken and then came adjournment.

Services Sunday at 11 a. m. by Elds. W. T. Webb and Geo. Been. Scriptural lesson, St. Matt. 7, Text, Matt. 3:2, "Repent ye for the Kingdom of Heaven is at Hand."

#### FINANCE COMMITTEE

Mt. Zion \$2.05; New Hope \$1.90; Hickory Grove \$1.80; Oak Grove 50c; Christian \$2.00; Coal Gap \$1.00; Clifty \$1.25; Hickory Flat \$1.50; Pilgrims Rest \$1.55; Cottage Hill \$1.00; Antioch 75c; Highland 38c; Christian Union 91c; Lone Star 75c; Shady Grove 70c; Total—\$18.04.

Will R. S. Lane, D. R. Lynch, T. B. Smith, Committee

## COMMITTEE ON TEMPERANCE

We, the Committee on Temperance, having examined the item on Temperance as is specified on the minutes, endorse it.

R. A. Whiteley, R. P. Leatherberry, G. W. Lynch, Com.

## COMMITTEE ON SABBATH SCHOOL

We, as Freewill Baptists, believe that Christ commissioned the Church to teach all nations, and that they may teach from the pulpit and in the Sunday School. That the Bible may be taught and such other helps as are scriptural. Farther, that we make a strong effort to maintain a Sunday School in each of our churches. We further request that each church in the Association make a full report of their Sunday School with their church letter, and if they have no school, to please state so in the letter. We farther request that the Association make a statistical report of the Sunday Schools and have it printed in the minutes of our Association.

J. H. Roberts, J. S. Smith, J. B. Snow, Committee

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## OBITUARIES

We, the Committee on Memorials, recommend that we keep up the Memorial of Our Dead.

J. S. Turney, E. S. England, Geo. W. Byrd, Committee

### SISTER MAGGIE J. HARDIE

was born November 2, 1866; united in matrimony with R. F. Hardie June 7, 1885. To this union was born twelve children, six boys and six girls; four of them are dead; all have professed religion except two that have not reached the years of accountability. All were present at her death except one. She professed a hope in Christ at the early age of fourteen and joined the Cumberland Presbyterian church, and later the M. E. Church, South, and remained in that church until September 18, 1915, when she withdrew to the Freewill Baptists and remained in that church (Lone Star) until death June 9, 1916. She was laid to rest in the home cemetery in Johnson Co., Ark. She was faithful to Christ and bore her afflictions with patience. She was always about her Father's business, in Sabbath School and in preaching and home. She leaves a faithful husband and eight children and a host of friends and relatives to mourn her death.

## BRO. ALEXANDER FOSTER

was born in Tennessee in 1837. Moved to Arkansas when a small boy and was united in matrimony to Sarah Gage in the year 1858. Professed a hope in Christ at the age of 15 years; joined the Primitive Baptist church and was a member of same until nine years ago and then joined the Freewill Baptist church known as Antioch; lived a devoted Christian until death when God called for him May 31, 1916. He leaves a wife and four children to mourn his loss in this world but rejoice of his gain in the paradistical region. May God by his spirit help each Brother and Sister to live a devoted Christian that when the last trump shall sound they will hear the welcome "Come ye blessed of my Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you."

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## LIST OF MINISTERS

Name	Age	Postoffice
J. G. Wilson,	76 years,	Mante, Ark.
G. W. Lynch,	69 years,	R 1, box 14, Clifty, Ark.
S. G. Moses,	69 years,	Huntsville, Madison Co., Ark.
W. T. Webb,	46 years,	R 1, Spring Valley, Ark.
W. O. Johnson,	72 years,	Sydenham, Ark.
W. S. Copeland,	42 years,	Fayetteville, Ark.
K. A. Moses,	74 years,	Huntsville, Ark.
W. M. T. Todd,	54 years,	
J. J. Rider,	74 years,	
G. C. Bland,	58 years,	Larue, Ark.
John Garvin,	67 years,	R 1, Spring Valley, Ark.
M. P. Capps,	69 years,	Mundell, Ark.
J. H. Roberts,	49 years,	Spring Valley, Ark.
J. S. Turney,	62 years,	Larue, Ark.
J. S. Smith,	47 years,	Marble, Ark.
R. A. Smith,	50 years,	Marble, Ark.
Sam Garvin,		Spring Valley, Ark.

### LICENSED MINISTERS

W. H. Elkins, — years, War Eagle, Ark.



## STATISTICAL TABLE

Churches	Pastors	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Mt. Zion.....	Geo. Been.....	1	0	0	1	0	0	32
New Hope .....	G. C. Bland .....	13	0	0	7	0	0	88
Hickory Grove .....	G. W. Lynch.....	7	0	0	1	1	0	69
Oak Grove .....	S. G. Moses .....	0	0	0	0	0	0	29
Christian Home .....	Geo. Been.....	32	3	2	0	0	0	70
Coal Gap .....	J. H. Roberts.....	0	0	0	0	0	0	44
Clifty.....	G. C. Bland .....	2	0	0	0	0	0	73
Christian Union .....	T. M. Sims.....	8	1	0	0	0	0	41
Hickory Flat.....	T. M. Sims.....	10	0	1	0	0	0	62
Pilgrims Rest.....	Geo. Been.....	2	2	0	0	0	1	46
Cottage Hill.....	Sam Garvin.....	0	0	0	0	0	0	32
Antioch.....	J. G. Wilson .....	14	1	0	0	0	1	45
Mt. Pleasant.....								18
Highland .....	E. S. England .....	0	0	0	0	0	0	18
Lone Star.....	G. W. Lynch.....	4	0	1	0	0	1	10
Horton's Creek .....								7
Shady Grove .....	M. P. Capps .....	6	0	0	0	0	0	13
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TOTALS—1. Received by Experience and Baptism.....								99
2. Received by Recommendation .....								7
3. Received by Letter .....								4
4. Dismissed by Letter.....								9
5. Excluded .....								1
6. Died.....								3
								<hr/>
								13
								110
Total Membership.....								697



## CONSTITUTION

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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 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.

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 into the case.

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## RULES OF ORDER

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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. Motion 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, arrangements 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. Alternations may be made in these rules at any regular session of the Association.

## **ORDER OF BUSINESS**

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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 seats.
4. Corresponding associations.
5. Right hand of fellowship.
6. Call for letters from newly organized churches.
7. Election of permanent officers.
8. Reading Constitution and Rules 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.
11. Reports of new committees.
12. New business.
13. Choosing place for our next Association.
14. Who shall preach the Introductory Sermon.
15. Reading and adopting of the Minutes.
16. Adjournment.

## **ARTICLES OF FAITH**

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1. We believe in only one true and living God, 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 Testaments are the 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 freewill 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 thru 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 the works of faith and follow after justification. Eph. 2:5-8; Rom. 5:1-16.

7. We believe that saints may persevere 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.