

MINUTES

of the

Eightieth Annual Meeting

of the

Old Mt. Zion Association

of

Freewill Baptists

Held With

CLIFTY CHURCH

Madison County, Arkansas

August 12th and 13th

1921

STATISTICAL TABLE OF ASSOCIATION

CHURCH	Organized	Retiring Pastor	Pastor Elect	New Clerk	C. C. Post Office	1	2	3	4	5
Mt. Zion	1886	Everett Bland	J. W. Allred	A. H. Morris	Spring Valley	-0	-0	-0	-0	49
New Hope	8-8-1886	Everett Bland	Everett Bland	A. S. McGinnis	Larue, Ark.	10	-0	-0	-0	97
Hickory Grove	8-8-1882	Geo. Been	Geo. Been	Claud Lynch	Clifty, R 1, Ark.	-3	-1	-4	-0	57
Christian Home	9-1-1892	J. H. Roberts	J. H. Roberts	Julia McGinnis		-0	-0	-0	-0	75
Coal Gap		G. C. Bland		S. L. McGinnis	Glade, Ark.	-0	-0	-0	-0	30
Clifty	4-12-1896	J. W. Allred	J. W. Allred	C. B. Prickett	Eureka Springs	-0	-2	-0	-1	69
Hickory Flatt	9-28-1911					-0	-0	-0	-0	62
Pilgrims Rest	1911	J. H. Roberts		Irene Wright		-1	-0	-0	-0	80
Cottage Hill	1912	W. T. Webb	J. W. Allred	Elsie Miles		14	-1	-0	-2	41
Sugar Creek			J. W. Allred	Sarah Crabtree		-0	-0	-0	-0	13
Antioch	10-25-1908					-0	-0	-0	-0	40
Highland						-0	-0	-0	-0	-0
Shady Grove						-0	-0	-0	-0	-0

1. Members received	28
2. Died	4
3. Dismissed by Letter	4
4. Excluded	3
5. Total Membership	614

MINUTES

Minutes of the Eightieth Annual meeting of the Old Mt. Zion Association of Freewill Baptists, held with Clifty Church, Madison Co., Arkansas, August 12 and 13, 1921.

On account of heavy rains and high water, the Association was not called to order until 3 p. m. Friday. For this reason the Introductory sermon was omitted. Prayer by Elder G. C. Bland.

Clerk being absent, Moderator W. T. Webb appointed Truman Allred, clerk, and Bro. I. T. Lynch, reading clerk, after which letters from the different churches composing the Association were called for and read and their delegates invited to seats in conference.

CHURCHES AND DELEGATES

Mt. Zion—W. R. Hancock, Loy Archer, Leonard Morris.

New Hope—Truman Allred, Eugene McGinnis, Dow Boydstun.

Hickory Grove—Emmet Watson, J. T. Lynch, Chas. Mason.

Christian Home—W. M. Gansun.

Coal Gap—Emma McGinnis, S. L. McGinnis.

Clifty—T. B. Smith, W. Capps, W. J. Nelson.

Hickory Flat—T. M. Sims, Bro. W. T. Webb.

Pilgrims Rest—Bro. Geo. Been.

Cottage Hill—L. S. Bowlin, Clyde Bowlin, John Miles.

Antioch—J. G. Wilson.

Sugar Creek—Albert Ellington.

Christian Union—Not represented.

Mt. Pleasant—Not represented.

Highland—Not represented.

Horton's Creek—Not represented.

Shady Grove—Not represented.

SISTER ASSOCIATIONS

Letters were then called for from Sister Associations and the following responded and their delegates invited to seats:

Union Association—Mr. and Mrs. D. W. Briley, M. M. Hagard.

The assembly was then called into election to elect a moderator and clerk for the ensuing year. Elder G. C. Bland was declared Moderator, and Truman Allred, clerk.

Next Rules of Order were read and the following committees were appointed:

Resolutions—W. T. Webb, M. M. Hagard, J. G. Wilson.

Finance—Dow Boydstun, J. T. Lynch and Albert Ellington.

Divine Service—T. B. Smith, S. L. McGinnis, Loy Archer.

Temperance—T. M. Sims, D. W. Briley, J. W. Allred.

Sunday Schools—Mrs. D. W. Briley, Emma McGinnis, L. S. Bowlin.

Obituary—Emmett Watson, John Miles, Clyde Bowlin.

Non-Represented Churches—Chas. Mason, W. J. Nelson, W. R. Hancock.

Union of Churches—Eugene McGinnis, Leonard Mason, J. W. Allred

Committee on Divine Service at this time announced that Elder M. M. Hagard and G. C. Bland should preach Friday night. Motion was then made to adjourn until 8:00 a. m. Saturday. Benediction was pronounced by Rev. J. W. Allred.

SATURDAY MORNING

Saturday morning session was called by singing, Scriptural reading—15th Psalm. Prayer by Bro. T. M. Sims. Roll was called and a majority found present.

Call was made for report of out standing committee to visit Mt. Pleasant Church and find cause of non-representation. Verbal report given. Cause found to be that the Mt. Pleasant Church was representing in Union Association. The report was received and committee discharged. It was then moved that Mt. Pleasant Church be dropped from our list.

Committee on Historical Report read their report. The Association moved that the report be received and transcribed on Historical Record book and the committee discharged.

Committee to visit Horton's Creek Church recommended that Horton's Creek be dropped from the list of churches. Their request was granted and the church dropped from the list.

Report of new committees were then called for.

COMMITTEE ON UNION OF CHURCHES

We, your Committee on Union of Churches, realize the great need of all Christs followers working together in union. We further believe that this union should be in each of our hearts and should exist in each of our homes and in our churches. Signed—Leonard Morris, Eugene McGinnis, J. W. Allred.

COMMITTEE ON SABBATH SCHOOLS

We, as Freewill Baptists, believe that Christ commissioned the Church to teach all nations and that they may teach in the pulpit and in the Sunday Schools, using the Bible and such other helps as may be scriptural. Further that we make a strong effort to maintain a Sunday School in each of our churches and other communities where there is no church organization. We further request that each of our ministers encourage Sunday School work. We further request that each church make a full report to the Association of their Sunday Schools in their church letter. We further request that the Association make a statistical report of the Sunday Schools and have same printed in the minutes. Signed—Mrs. D. W. Briley, Emma McGinnis, L. S. Bowlin.

FINANCE COMMITTEE

We, your Committee on Finance, submit the following: We find that the churches have sent by their delegates the following sums: Mt. Zion, \$2.54; New Hope \$2.75; Hickory Grove, \$2.08; Christian Home, \$2.45; Coal Gap, .50; Clifty, \$2.00; Pilgrims Rest, \$1.60; Cottage Hill, \$1.75; Sugar Creek, \$1.00; amount carried over from last year, \$20.65; for State Minutes from Coal Gap, 75c; total, \$38.03.

NON-REPRESENTED CHURCHES

We, your Committee find that six of our churches, namely, Christian Union, Antioch, Mt. Pleasant, Highland, Horton's Creek and Shady Grove—have failed to represent, and that Lone Star has disbanded since the last Association. We request that the Association appoint a committee to investigate this matter and make a report at next annual meeting. Signed—W. J. Nelson, W. C. Mason, W. R. Hancock.

COMMITTEE ON TEMPERANCE

We, your Committee on Temperance, believe it the duty of each follower of Christ to abstain himself from all intoxicating liquors as a beverage, and to practice temperance in all things. We believe this should be taught in the pulpit, Sunday Schools and in the home. Signed—J. W. Allred, T. M. Sims, D. W. Briley.

Divine Service Saturday, 11:00 a. m., being the hour set aside for Memorial Service in honor of those of the Association who have been called to rest since our last annual meeting. Services were conducted by Bro. W. T. Webb and T. M. Sims. Text, Jobe 14:14. "If a man die shall he live again?"

COMMITTEE ON OBITUARIES

We, as your Committee on Obituaries, wish to submit the following report:—E. H. Watson, Clyde Bowlin, J. W. Miles.

BROTHER LEWIS MILES

was born March 5, 1857; professed a hope in Christ in July, 1895; united with the Freewill Baptist Church and lived a devoted Christian life until God called him home July 12, 1921. Cottage Hill has lost one of her best members. He leaves a wife, two sons and one daughter, and a host of friends to mourn his absence. We feel that our loss is his eternal gain. We mourn with those who mourn over the loss of their loved one but say weep not as those who have no hope for they are at rest. May we all continue in the faith unto the end, and then wear a crown of glory with Christ, our Savior.

BROTHER W. A. FORD

was born November 19, 1856; professed a hope in Christ many years ago; joined the Missionary Church and was baptized. He later transferred his membership to the Freewill Baptist Church of Clifty and lived a faithful member until death July, 10, 1921. Bro. Ford leaves a wife, five children and a host of relatives and friends to mourn his loss, but we trust our loss is his gain.

BROTHER F. C. FINN

was born October 25, 1876; professed a hope in Christ about fifteen years ago, joined the church at Clifty, and was baptized in 1908, and lived a devoted life until death February 25, 1921. In Bro. Finn's death his family has lost a kind and loving husband and father, the Church one of its strongest supporters, and a faithful clerk; the neighborhood a true and worthy citizen. His seat is vacant in his home and the Church, but we cherish his memory in our hearts.

DORCAS T. MASON

was born November 15, 1839; professed a hope in Christ when fifteen years old; united with Hickory Grove Church the fourth Sunday in August, 1891, and lived a devoted Christian life until God called her home July 17, 1921, at the of 81 years, 8 months and two days old. She was married to David Mason August 23, 1867, and to this union was born six children—three boys and three girls. She was laid to rest in the home cemetery in Madison county, Ark., with her companion. A precious one from us has gone, a voice we loved is still; a vacant place is in our home, that never can be filled.

SATURDAY AFTERNOON

COMMITTEE ON RESOLUTIONS

Resolved, That we have 600 copies of our minutes printed and reserve 50 copies for each of our Sister Association.

Resolved, That we keep up our representation with our Sister Associations. J. T. Lynch, W. T. Webb and T. M. Sims, with W. C. Mason as alternate, volunteered to write and bear the corresponding letter to Union Association.

Resolved, That we keep up a Memorial of our Dead.

Resolved, That we represent in the State Association. Bro. Elkins, Elbert Lynch, Clyde Bowlin, Loy Archer and L. S. Bowlin, with A. C. Cook, Truman Allred, J. T. Lynch, W. C. Mason and E. H. Watson, as alternates, volunteered as delegates.

Resolved, That we hold our next annual meeting with Cottage Hill church, four and one-half miles southeast of War Eagle Mills, on Friday and Saturday before the second Sunday in August, 1922.

Resolved, That Bro. J. H. Roberts preach the Introductory Sermon, G. C. Bland being his alternate.

Resolved, That we revise our list of ministers and require each minister to attend each annual meeting, in person, by proxy or by letter.

Resolved, That we place our churches on better financial basis, and recommend that each church elect a wide-awake steward to look after the financial interests of the church.

Resolved, That J. W. Allred superintend the printing and distribution of the minutes.

Resolved, That we reject Question carried over from last meeting as to whether we would adopt code of Articles of Faith as adopted by State Association. The question was rejected on the ground that the Association was satisfied with Articles of Faith now in use.

Resolved, That we vote a Bill of Thanks to the church and community in general of Clifty for their kind hospitality shown us while in their midst.

Committee on Divine Service at this time reported that Bro. Geo. Been and J. G. Wilson would preach Saturday night.

Resolved, That this Association adjourn to meet with Cottage Hill church on Friday at 10 a. m., before second Sunday in August, 1922.

ELDER G. C. BLAND, Moderator

TRUMAN ALLRED, Clerk.

LIST OF MINISTERS

Name	Age	Postoffice
J. G. Wilson,	80 years,	Huntsville, Ark.
S. G. Moses,	74 years,	Huntsville, Arkansas
W. Webb,	51 years,	R. 1, Spring Valley, Arkansas
W. O. Johnson,	77 years,	Harris, Arkansas
W. S. Copeland,	47 years,	Odell, Arkansas
W. M. T. Todd,	59 years	
J. J. Rider,	80 years	
G. C. Bland,	63 years,	Larue, Arkansas
John Garvin,	72 years,	R. 1, Spring Valley, Arkansas
Everett Bland,	19,	Larue, Ark.
J. H. Roberts,	74 years,	Spring Valley, Arkansas
J. S. Smith,	52 years,	Marble, Arkansas
Sam Garvin,		Spring Valley, Arkansas
E. S. England,	53 years,	Rhea, Arkansas
E. M. Houston,		Tarkiln, Arkansas.
George Been,	40 years,	Spring Valley, Arkansas
T. M. Sims,		Fayetteville, Arkansas
J. W. Allred,	51 years,	Larue, Arkansas

LICENSED MINISTERS

W. H. Elkins, War Eagle, Arkansas

CONSTITUTION

From a long series of experiences, 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 purpose to keep order and rules of this 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 or 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 or 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.

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 arise and address the Moderator and personal reflections shall be avoided on 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 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 organizations 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. Corresponding Associations.
5. Right hand of fellowship.
6. Call for letters from newly organized churches.
7. Election for 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 school. (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. Report of new committees.

12. New business.
13. Choosing place for our next Association.
14. Who shall preach the introductory Sermon.
15. Reading and adopting the minutes.
16. 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 Testaments 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 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 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 to 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; John 3:5-16; Col. 2:12.
12. We believe that true believers are the only fit subjects for 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, works of piety, mercy and necessity excepted. Ex. 20:8-9; Lev. 26:2; Luke 13:14-16; 14:5.