

MINUTES

OF THE

Eighty-First Annual Meeting

OF THE

Old Mt. Zion Association

OF

Freewill Baptists

HELD WITH

COTTAGE HILL CHURCH

August 11th and 12th

1922

MINUTES

Minutes of the Eighty-first Annual meeting of Old Mt. Zion Association held with Cottage Hill Church, on August 11 and 12th 1922.

The Association was called to order by Moderator Eld. G. C. Bland, and J. H. Roberts being absent the Introductory Sermon was delivered by Eld. G. C. Bland, after which H. E. Boydston was called to the stand as reading clerk.

Then letters from different churches were called for and the following responded, being represented with letter and delegates:

CHURCHES AND DELEGATES

Mt. Zion—Albert Morris, Rena Lee, Sister Edith Nelson.
New Hope—Truman Allred, H. E. Boydston, A. L. Webb.
Hickory Grove—Alvin Cook, Chas. Mason, Emmet Watson.
Christian Home—Mrs. M. L. Sanders, J. D. Sanders.
Clifty—Ervan Jones, T. B. Smith, Lawrence Capps.
Pilgrim's Rest—Henry Savage, Harry Wright, Mrs. Irena Wright.
Cottage Hill—Herman Lawson, John Miles, Perry Sandlin.
Sugar Creek—R. R. Bray, Albert Ellington.
Shady Grove—Mr. and Mrs. Will Townsend, John Henson.

SISTER ASSOCIATIONS

Letters were then called for from Sister Associations.

Union Association responded with letter and delegates as follows:

Mr. and Mrs. D. W. Briley, Rev. C. C. Mathews. The letter being read the delegates were given the right hand of fellowship and invited to seats.

The body was then called upon to elect a Moderator and Clerk for the ensuing year. Eld Geo. Been was elected Moderator and Truman Allred, Clerk.

After which rules of order and order of business was read by moderator, and the following committees were appointed:

Resolution—J. D. Sanders, H. E. Boydston, Rev. C. C. Mathews.

Divine Service—Herm Lawson, Alvin Cook, Henry Savage.

The Association then adjourned until 3:30 p. m.

Friday afternoon session was called to order by singing.

Scriptural Lesson—part of 15 chapter of Acts. Prayer by Eld. J. H. P. Jones, then the Moderator appointed the following committees:

Finance—A. L. Webb, Albert Ellington, Ervan Jones.

Temperance—Mrs. D. W. Briley, M. L. Sanders, Irena Wright.

Sunday Schools—D. W. Briley, Harry Wright, Emmet Watson.

Obituaries—R. R. Bray, Alvin Cook, Chas. Mathews.

Non-Represented Churches—Henry Savage, Rena Lee, Perry Sandlin.

Union of Churches—Will Townsend, John Henson, John Miles.

The list of ministers was read by moderator and corrected by the body. W. T. Webb's name was dropped from the list and the action of Mt. Zion Church, in the case of said W. T. Webb be sustained by the Association.

Eld. W. S. Copeland's name was discontinued from our list because he has moved into the bounds of Zion Hope Association and is faciliated with them and not with this association.

W. M. Todd and J. J. Rider's names were discontinued because the association had lost trace of these brethren.

The association then adjourned until 8 a. m. Saturday morning.

Divine Services, Saturday night, were conducted by Rev. C. C. Mathews and J. H. P. Jones.

SATURDAY MORNING

Saturday morning session was opened by reading the 122 Psalm, and prayer by Sister D. W. Briley.

Report of committies were then called for and the following reported at this time.

COMMITTEE ON RESOLUTIONS

Resolutions—Report read and except for discussion and consideration of body, each item to be taken up separately. Committee was then discharged.

COMMITTEE ON UNION OF CHURCHES

We, your committee on Union of Churches, submit the following realizing the great need of all Christ's followers working together in Union, and as we find all the churches in this association are working in union we further believe this Union should exist in each of our hearts and in our homes. Signed—Will Townsend, John Henson, John Miles.

COMMITTEE ON SABBATH SCHOOLS

We, the committee on Sabbath Schools, do believe with all our hearts that there is no other work more beneficial to a community than a good Sunday School. We also believe we should make a greater effort to encourage the young generation to attend more regular and that we should use our influence with parents to see that their children attend each Sunday for we believe that children attending Sunday school when young from habits which will not depart from them when older. Signed—D. W. Briley, E. H. Watson, H. E. Wright.

COMMITTEE ON OBITUARIES

We, your committee on Obituaries, find that God in his Wisdom, has called from labor to reward, one brother and one sister:

BROTHER CHARLES F. FINN

was born January 11th, 1899, died November 4th, 1921. Professed a hope-in Christ in 1915 and joined the Freewill Baptist Church. He left a loving companion and two darling little ones, besides father and mother, three brothers and three sisters, many friends and loved ones to mourn their loss. But their loss is his gain for blessed is the dead that die in the Lord. They shall rest from their labors henceforth and their works do follow them. But a precious one from us is gone; A voice we loved is stilled, a vacant place in our home which never can be filled. It was hard to say good bye but by the grace of God, we shall meet again in that sweet bye and bye.

MRS. WILBURN FORD

Ellen Quinten, was born April 2nd, 1857, was married to Wilburn Ford, October 1875. To this union was born six children, five whom survive her. Mrs. Ford professed a hope in Christ and joined the Missionary Baptist church in early life and about eight years ago she withdrew from this church and joined the Freewill Baptist church at Clifty, and remained faithful until death. To know her was to love her. She leaves a host of friends besides her own family to mourn her loss but our loss is her gain. Signed—Rev. C. C. Mathews, R. R. Bray, Alvin Cook.

COMMITTEE ON TEMPERANCE

We, your Committee on Temperance, beg leave to submit the following: We believe that a child of God should not be drunk with wine wherein is excess but should be filled with the Spirit and be a lover of hospitality, a lover of good men, sober, just, holy, temperate and sound in the faith and then add to your knowledge, temperance, to patience and to patience, Godliness, and to Godliness, brotherly kindness and to brotherly kindness, charity, for in these things be in you and about they make you that Ye shall be neither barren nor unfruitful in the knowledge of our Lord Jesus Christ, for everyone that striveth for the mastery is temperate in all things. Signed—Mrs. D. W. Briley, Lany Sanders, Irena Wright.

Resolved, we have 500 copies of our minutes printed and reserve 50 copies each for our Sister Association.

Resolved, We keep up correspondence with Union Association. Eld. Geo. Been, Elbert Lynch and Mr. and Mrs. J. D. Sanders write and bear the corresponding letter.

Resolved, We keep a memorial of our dead.

Resolved, We represent in the State Association by letter and delegate, Eld. J. G. Wilson and Truman Allred, volunteered as delegates.

Resolved, We require each minister to represent in each Annual Session in person, by proxy or letter, and give a report of their ministerial work for the past year.

Resolved, That Eld. T. M. Sim's name be dropped from our list of ministers according to his request as he desires to join the Union Association.

Resolved, Elmer Lawson's name be added to our list of Licensed Ministers. The Association then adjourned until 2:30 p. m.

Saturday at 11 a. m. being the hour for memorial service in honor of our deceased who have been called since our last annual meeting, Eld. J. H. P. Jones and J. G. Wilson conducted the service:

SATURDAY AFTERNOON

Saturday afternoon session was opened by reading 1st John-4th chapter and prayer by W. H. Elkins.

COMMITTEE ON NON-REPRESENTED CHURCHES

We, your Committee on Non-Represented Churches, find Coal Gap, Hickory Flat and Highland are in destitute condition, we further recomend that the Home Mission committee investigate Antioch. Signed—Perry Sandlin, Henry Savage, Renny Lee.

COMMITTEE ON FINANCE

We, your Committee on Finance, find the churches have sent by their delegates the following amounts: Hickory Grove, \$3.00; Sugar Creek, \$1.00; Clifty, \$2.10; Christian Home, \$2.50; Shady Grove, \$1.25; Cottage Hill, \$2.00; Mt. Zion, \$2.50; New Hope, \$2.35; Pilgrims Rest, \$2.34; amount carried over from last year, \$2.03. General donation, \$5.93; total \$27.00. Signed—A. L. Webb, Irvan Jones, Albert Ellington.

HOME MISSION BOARD

The Home Mission Board, made a report of the work which had been done by them, the report was received and resolution passed to retain a Home Mission Board.

Resolved, We put our churches on better financial basis and recommend each church which has not a steward to elect a wide awake one to look after the financial interests of the church.

Resolved, The next Association be held with Shady Grove Church.

Resolved, That Eld. C. C. Mathews preach the Introductory Sermon, and Eld. Geo. Been be his alternate.

Resolved, That H. E. Boydston, superintend the printing and distributing of the minutes.

Resolved, The Moderator appoint the Home Mission Board. The Moderator then re-appointed J. T. Lynch, Albert Morris Truman Allred and added J. D. Sanders.

Resolved, We recommend the State Association re-appoint Eld. Geo. Been on the State Home Mission Board.

Resolved, We grant only members in good standing letters of dismission from the church and then only in cases where the one desiring the letter desires to unite with another church, which must be done within one year from the time the letter is received, the church granting such letter hold full authority over such members until united with another church. Any withdrawal without such letter is equal to ex-communication and treated as such by the church.

Resolved, We vote a bill of thanks to the church and community for their kind hospitality shown us while in their midst.

Resolved, The Association grant the Moderator of the Association the right to act as moderator of any church within the bounds of this Association in the absence of the churches' moderator.

COMMITTEE ON DIVINE SERVICE

Committee on Divine Service, report Eld. J. W. Allred and Sam Garvin to preach Saturday night and C. C. Mathews and Geo. Been Sunday at 11 a. m.

Resolved, The Association adjourn to meet with Shady Grove Church on Friday before second Sunday in August 1923.

ELDER GEO. BEEN, Moderator

TRUMAN ALLRED, Clerk.

ORDAINED MINISTERS

.. Name	Age	Postoffice
J. G. Wilson,.....	80	Huntsville, Arkansas.
S. G. Moses,.....	75	Oklahoma.
W. O. Johnson,.....	78	Harris, Arkansas
G. C. Bland,.....	64	Larue, Arkansas
John Garvin,	73	Spring Valley, Ark
Everett Bland.	20	Vilas, Colorado
J. H. Roberts,.....	50	Spring Valley, Arkansas
J. S. Smith,.....	53	Marble, Arkansas
Sam Garvin,.....	—	Spring Valley, Arkansas
E. S. England,.....	54	Rhea, Arkansas
E. M. Houston,.....	—	—————
Geo.. Been,	41	Spring Valley, Arkansas
J. W. Allred,.....	52.....	Larue, Arkansas

LICENSED PREACHERS

W. H. Elkins,	War Eagle, Arkansas
Elmer Lawson,.....	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 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 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 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. 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 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.

STATISTICAL TABLE OF ASSOCIATION

CHURCH	Organized	Retiring Pastor	Pastor Elect	Clerk	Clerks	P. O.	1	2	3	4	5
Mt. Zion.....	1886	J. W. Allred....	J. W. Allred....	A. H. Morris..	Spring Valley.		.5	.0	.0	.1	.53
New Hope.....	8—8—1886	Everett Bland...	J. W. Allred...	E. McGinnis...	Larue, Ark.,...		.1	.1	.0	.0	.97
Hickory Grove....	8—8—1882	Geo. Been.....	G. C. Bland....	J. T. Lynch...	Clifty, R. 1 Ark.		.2	.0	.0	.0	.59
Christian Home...	9—1—1832	J. H. Roberts...	Geo. Been.....	Mrs. W. M. Lee	.....		.0	.0	.1	.0	.71
Coal Gap.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....		.0	.0	.0	.0	.30
Clifty.....	4—12—1896	J. W. Allred....	J. W. Allred...	C. B. Pritchett.	Eureka Springs		.22	.1	.0	.0	.90
Hickory Flat	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....		.0	.0	.0	.0	.62
Pilgrims Rest	.....1911	Geo. Been.....	Geo. Been.....	Irena Wright..	Spring Valley-		.3	.0	.1	.0	.82
Cottage Hill	.....1912	J. W. Allred....	J. W. Allred...	Elsie Miles....	.....		.0	.0	.0	.0	.41
Sugar Creek	.....	J. W. Allred....	.....	Sarah Crabtree	.....		.4	.0	.0	.0	.16
Antioch.....	10—25—1908	.....	.....	.....	.....		.0	.0	.0	.0	.40
Highland.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....		.0	.0	.0	.0	.0
Shady Grove.	.....	.....	G. C. Bland..	B. Forriester..	Sedalia, Mo....		.0	.0	.0	.0	.23

- 1 Members received..... 37
- 2 Died..... 2
- 3 Dismissed by Letter..... 2
- 4 Excluded..... 1
- 5 Total Members..... 664