

THE
OLD MT. ZION
ASSOCIATION
of
FREE WILL BAPTIST

—

1946

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Proceedings
of the
105th Annual Session

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CONVENED AT
Farmer Church

MINUTES

of the

ONE HUNDRED AND FIFTH ANNUAL SESSION

of the

OLD MT. ZION ASSOCIATION

of

FREE WILL BAPTIST

held with

FARMER CHURCH

August 9th, 10th, 1946

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Officers

H. M. KNOX, Moderator

BRUCE PHILLIPS, Clerk

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The next session of Old Mt. Zion Association will convene with Christian Home Church, beginning at 10 o'clock on Friday before the Second Sunday in August, 1947.

ORDER OF BUSINESS

- 1 Association called to order by the Moderator, and in his absence, by the Clerk.
- 2 Introductory Sermon.
- 3 Letters from 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 the Constitution and Rules of Order by the Moderator or Clerk.
- 9 Appointment of committees:
(a) Resolutions, (b) Finance, (c) Arrangements for Preaching, (d) Temperance, (e) Sunday Schools, (f) Obituary, (g) Condition of Non-represented Churches, (h) Union of Churches.
- 10 Reports 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 the minutes.
- 16 Adjournment.

PROCEEDINGS

Association was called to order by Moderator, Eld. H. M. Knox.

Scripture reading by Moderator, 121 Psalms. Prayer by Eld. Geo. Been.

The 11 o'clock message by Eld. Bill Oxford. Scripture reading, Rev. 1: 1-11; 2:7. Prayer by Eld. J. B. Johnson.

A good message was delivered.

Church letters were then called for and the following responded and delegates given right hand of fellowship and invited to seats.

New Hope—Pearl Garrison, Manerva Shark, Elba Bland.

Shady Grove—Bertha Forrester, A. H. Henson, Ralph Randolph.

Christian Home—Arvil McGinnis, Kate McGinnis, Susie Davis.

Cottage Hill—Elsie Miles, Effie Anderson, Hellen Lynch.

Clifty—Lester Vanhook, Clarence Capps, Maggie Vanhook.

Pilgrim Rest—Jewell Everett, Theo Johnson, Harry Wright.

Mt. Zion—Robert Puryear, Elsie Phillips, Vena Archer.

Clear Creek—Lutie Jones, Eula Todd, Albert Todd.

Rock—Francis Oxford, Nellie Wilson, Josie Robinson.

Hickory Grove—Geo. Lindsey, Willie Bohannon, Gladys Lynch.

Rose Hill—Ray Jinnings, Clyde Walker, Dellar Walker.

Antioch—Hellen Duvall, Mrs. Elmo McKenney, Sid Smith.

Buckeye—Homer Bragg, Rachel Clark, Ora Trammel.

Farmer—Annie Shepherd, Betty Jean Gladden, Hazel Barron.

Sister Associations

Old Union—Cliff Sugg, Hester Sugg, Jeff Rodgers.

Cherokee Home—Eld. J. B. Johnson.

Newly Organized Churches—None.

ELECTION OF OFFICERS

ELD. H. M. KNOX ----- Moderator

ELD. BRUCE PHILLIPS ----- Clerk

APPOINTMENT OF COMMITTEES

Resolution—Eld. Geo. Been, Loss Woods, Bill Oxford.

Divine Service—Cecil Gladden, G. A. Lindsey, Theo Johnson.

Finance—Lester Vanhook, Kate McGinnis, Darrett Everett.

Temperance—C. O. Garrison, Samie Lane, Elmo McKinney.

Sunday School—Betty Jean Gladden, Elsie Phillips, Maggie Vanhook.

Obituary—Loy Archer, Harry Wright, Orval McGinnis.

Union of Churches—J. B. Johnson, Geo. Lynch, Jack Hobbs.

J. B. Johnson and Geo. Lynch to fill the stand Friday night.

Motion to adjourn until 2:30. Dismissed in prayer by Eld. J. H. Roberts.

FRIDAY AFTERNOON SESSION

Scripture reading by Moderator, 12th chapter of Romans. Prayer by Eld. J. H. Roberts.

REPORT OF COMMITTEES

- Report of Committee on Sunday School received and committee discharged.
- Report of Committee on Finance received and committee discharged.
- Report of Committee on Temperance received and committee discharged.
- Motion made and received for the Association to give Mt. Zion Church \$25.00 on their new church building.
- Motion made to adjourn until 9 o'clock Saturday morning. Eld. Bruce Phillips, Eld. C. O. Garrison to fill the stand at 11 o'clock Saturday.
- Dismissed in prayer by Eld. Geo. Been.

FRIDAY NIGHT SERVICE

Bros. Geo. Lynch, J. B. Johnson brought the message, afterward Communion service. 53 washed feet. Dismissed in prayer by Eld. Bob Smith.

SATURDAY MORNING SESSION

Scripture reading by Moderator, James 2, beginning at verse 12. Prayer by Bro. Elbert Lynch.

Report of Committee on Union of Churches received and committee discharged.

District Evangelist made his report: Revivals 15; Sermons preached 185; Professions witnessed 103; Additions to the church 28; Baptized 32; Churches pastored 1; Deacons ordained 3; Funerals conducted 20; Married 9 couples; Miles traveled 4,342; Money received by free-will offering \$968.37; Money received from the different churches \$221.17; Expense \$292.90; Years in service 14; Age 36.

The Resolution Committee made a partial report and the committee retained.

Report of Committee on Obituaries received and committee discharged.

Motion made to adjourn until 2 o'clock. Prayer by Samie Lane.

SATURDAY EVENING SESSION

Scripture reading by Moderator, Heb. 3:1-12.

Resolution Committee made their final report. Resolutions Nos. 1 and 2 adopted and committee discharged.

The Association re-elected C. O. Garrison District Evangelist for another year. Bro Darrett Everett was elected for a term of three years on Executive Board and Bro Isaac Lynch for one year.

The next session of Old Mt. Zion Association will convene with Christian Home Church beginning on Friday before the second Sunday in August, 1947.

Motion to represent in Old Union Association. Bros. A. E. Coonts, Geo. Lynch, Jack Hobbs, as volunteer delegates.

Motion to represent in Indian Creek Association. Fred Archer and wife, and Sister Willie Bohannon.

Cherokee Association, J. H. Roberts, J. R. Barnes. State Association, Eld. C. O. Garrison and wife, Geo. Lynch, Cecil Gladden, Eld. Geo. Been.

Motion to have 500 Minutes printed. Elders H. M. Knox and Elmo McKinney to fill the stand Saturday night. C. O. Garrison preached Sunday.

Dismissed in prayer by Eld. Geo. Been.

MINISTERS' REPORTS

Eld. Geo. Been—Preached 12 sermons, conducted 2 funerals, married 7 couples, served as Chaplain of the Washington County Singing Convention 3 sessions, attended all Council meetings, traveled 420 miles, money received \$30.00, age 65.

Eld. Jack Hobbs—Pastored 3 churches, preached 64 sermons, helped conduct one revival, witnessed 4 conversions, had 4 additions to church, helped ordain one minister, conducted two funerals, miles traveled approximately 540, money received \$104.50, age 42, years in service 6.

Eld. Bruce Phillips—Pastored 3 churches, preached 75 sermons, baptized 4, had 4 additions to church, married 1 couple, helped conduct 1 funeral, traveled approximately 1,000 miles, money received as free-will offering, \$358.99, age 43, years in service 11.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Bill of Thanks

Be it Resolved that we the Old Mt. Zion Association, Ministers, Deacons, Delegates and visitors express our hearty appreciation for the courtesy and hospitality shown us by the Farmer Church and community, during our stay among them, and pray God's blessing upon them.

Geo. Been,
Loss Woods,
Bill Oxford,
H. M. Knox, Moderator,
Bruce Phillips, Clerk.

TEMPERANCE

We, your Committee on Temperance, believe there is no greater evil than strong drink, or intemperance in any manner. Therefore, we urge every Christian to take God at His word, where He says, "Wine is a mocker, strong drink is raging, and whosoever is deceived thereby is not wise."

According to statistics crime caused by alcohol beverages has increased year by year since the repeal of prohibition. Therefore, may we as Christians and citizens do all in our power by the help of God to put down the evil of strong drink by voice and by vote.

We believe that God by His Divine providence has called us to keep our nation as clean as possible for the oncoming generation that they may be led to Christ and not be lost, for the Bible says no drunkard shall enter the kingdom of God.

Eld. C. O. Garrison,
Eld. Sammie Lane,
Eld. Elmo McKinney.

UNION OF CHURCHES

We, your Committee on Union of Churches, submit the following: Believing from the representation of churches in our present Association, that there is union among our churches. We believe that our churches should endeavour to keep the unity of the spirit in the bonds of peace. Eph. 4:3.

J. B. Johnson,
Jack Hobbs,
Geo. Lynch.

SUNDAY SCHOOL

We, your Committee on Sunday School, submit the following:

We believe all churches should maintain a Sunday School. We believe all leaders should be Christians, and their determination be to lead their pupils to Christ. We believe parents should go with their children to Sunday School for the Bible says, Ye fathers provoke not your children to wrath, but bring them up in the nurture and admonition of the Lord. Eph. 6:4. And when they are old they will not depart from it.

Betty Jean Gladden,
Maggie Vanhook,
Elsie Phillips.

FINANCE

We, your Committee on Finance, submit the following:

Pilgrim Rest	- - - - -	\$ 6.60
Christian Home	- - - - -	3.45
Clifty	- - - - -	3.25
Clearcreek	- - - - -	2.25
Farmer	- - - - -	7.00
Antioch	- - - - -	4.45
New Hope	- - - - -	7.85
Shady Grove	- - - - -	4.45
Rose Hill	- - - - -	4.00
Rock	- - - - -	5.10
Hickory Grove	- - - - -	3.35
Mt. Zion	- - - - -	4.50
Cottage Hill	- - - - -	3.75
Buckeye	- - - - -	3.25
Total	- - - - -	\$63.25

Lester Vanhook,
W. O. Everett,
Kate McGinniss

RESOLUTIONS

No. 1—Does it meet the approval of Old Mt. Zion Association to recommend to the local churches that they set up in the church a system of corre-

spondence with their non-residential members, keeping in close touch with them.

No. 2—Be it Resolved that this Association go on record as taking a firm stand against modernism, and earnestly contend for the Faith once delivered unto the Saints of old. And demand the testimony of true repentance and conversion before membership in the church.

Eld. Geo. Been,
Loss Woods,
Bill Oxford.

OBITUARIES

We, your Committee on Obituaries, find that death has called one Brother and two Sisters, namely: Bro. John Wesley Allred, Sister Hattie McCoy, and Sister Nettie Hobbs.

Loy Archer,
Arvil McGinnis,
Harry Wright.

Mrs. Hattie McCoy was born December 18, 1881, and departed this life the first day of March, 1946, at her home near Clifty, Ark. She was 64 years, 2 months and 11 days old. She is survived by her husband, Aden McCoy, and 3 sons, Charley of the home, Fay of Hindsville, and Kenneth of Clifty, Ark., and 6 grandchildren. She has three brothers, Buster Lewis of Clifty, Charley of Hindsville, Jim of Knoxville, Tenn., one sister, Pearl Yates, of Rogers, Ark. Mrs. McCoy was a member of the Free Will Baptist Church of Hickory Grove. W. L. Oxford and P. G. Kirk officiated.

Mrs. Edgar Kinsey Hobbs died in the City Hospital at Siloam Spring, Ark., May 16, 1946, 7:50 A. M., following a long illness.

Mrs. Hobbs was 50 years of age, born at Spring Valley, Ark., March 2, 1896. To know Nettie was to love her. She made friends with every one who met her. She was a faithful Christian and devoted wife and mother. There is a vacant place in the home that never can be filled. Our loss is heaven's gain. She was converted and joined the church at Pilgrim Rest when a girl. She is survived by her husband, Edgar Hobbs, and one daughter, Jaunita, of the home, her mother, Mrs. Nancy Kinsey of Siloam Springs, Ark., three sisters, Mrs. Rex Arncy of Peggs, Okla., Mrs. Cecil Diehm of Siloam Spring, Ark., Mrs. Ellis Hampton of Forsythe, Mo.; five brothers, Walter Kinsey, Welch, Okla., Oscar of Okemah, Okla., Henry and Otta of Siloam Springs, Ark., Ambrose in Idaho, and also a niece of Sister Nettie Homesley of Spring Valley, Ark.

John Wesley Allred was born October 13, 1870 in Randolph County, N. C., and moved with his parents to Benton County, Ark., at the age of 10. Married Emily May Hawthorn October 30, 1891. Survived by his wife and 3 children, Mrs. H. E. Boydstun, Mrs. Dow Boydstun, of Rogers, Ark., O. T. Allred of St. Louis, Mo. Ordained August 18, 1918 by G. C. Bland, J. H. P. Jones and Whitely. Died December 4, 1945.

NAMES AND AGES OF MINISTERS

R. A. Smith, Marble R. R. 1—80
J. H. Roberts, Springdale—74
C. Knox, La Rue—74
Geo. Been, Springdale, R. R. 2—65
P. G. Kirk, Rogers, R. R. 5—60
Claud Lynch, Rogers—53
Clark Baker, Rogers—46
Bill Oxford, Rogers, R. R. 5—45
W. E. Bland, Rogers—44
Bruce Phillips, Springdale, R. 2—43
Jack Hobbs, Marble, R. R. 1—42
H. M. Knox, Rogers, R. R. 5—40
Willie Capps, Rogers—39
Samie Lane, Rogers, R. R. 5—38
C. O. Garrison, Huntsville, R. 3—36
Geo. Lynch, Best—36

CHURCH COVENANT

Having been brought, as we believe, by the divine grace to accept the Lord Jesus Christ as our Saviour and Preserver, we do now solemnly and joyfully covenant and agree, by God's help, to walk together in brotherly love.

We, therefore enter into covenant as members of this church, and as Christians, that we will watch over each other in love, sharing together each others joys and sorrows; that we will not forsake the assembling of ourselves together, nor omit the great duty of prayer for ourselves and others; that by Divine assistance we will endeavor to bring up those under our care in the nurture and admonition of the Lord; that in all things we will strive to exemplify our profession by a corresponding practice, to abstain from all sinful conformity to the world, to be just in our dealings, faithful in our agreements, and exemplary in all our deportment; that we will abstain from the sale and use of intoxicating liquor as a beverage; that we will sustain the worship, ordinance, discipline and the doctrine of this church; that we will contribute cheerfully, according to our ability, to the support of the ministry, the expense of the church, the relief of the poor and the general spread of the Gospel.

In keeping this solemn covenant, may we ever enjoy the blessings and presence of the Great Head of the church, which is Jesus Christ the Saviour.

RULES OF ORDER

1. At every sitting of the Association, business shall be opened and concluded by prayer by the Moderator or whomsoever he may request.
2. Ministers and deacons present are invited to seats, allowed to take part in debates on all subjects, and to vote.
3. Those who speak shall arise and address the Moderator. Personal reflections shall be avoided in all debates.

4. No motion shall be discussed without a second.
5. When a motion has been made and seconded, and a member opposes its discussion, the Moderator shall put the question "Shall it be discussed?" If negative, the question shall be dismissed.
6. If any proposition or motion under debate contains two or more points, it shall be divided at the request of any member, and the vote taken separately.
7. Motions made and lost shall not be recorded.
8. No one shall speak more than twice on the same subject without special leave of the Moderator.
9. All questions shall be decided by a majority vote of all members present.
10. No member shall absent himself without special leave of the Moderator.
11. Minutes shall be liesurely read and corrected if necessary before the close of the Association.
12. At all future sessions of the Association, arrangements shall be made to insure two sermons, or other devotional exercises equivalent thereto, during each day of the session, and the chair shall announce just before adjournment who shall.
13. These Rules of Order shall be distinctly read from the chair immediately after organization of the Association.
14. Alterations may be made in these rules at any regular session of the Association.

CONSTITUTION

From long experience, we, the members of the Church of God (denominated Free Will Baptist), being regularly baptized upon a profession of our faith in our Lord Jesus Christ, and being convinced of the necessity of a combination of churches to perpetuate a union among us, and to preserve and maintain correspondence with each other, do therefore ordain this Constitution for our better Church government.

Art. 1. MEMBERSHIP. This Association shall be composed of members chosen by the different churches of our union, not exceeding three messengers from each church, and upon producing letters, they shall be entitled to seats. All ordained ministers and deacons of said union shall be regular members, when present, by virtue of their office.

Art. 2. NAME. The members thus chosen and assembled with the ministers and deacons, to be denominated the Old Mt. Zion Association of Free Will Baptists, being composed of the several churches of our union, the Association having no power to lord it over God's heritage, nor having any ecclesiastical power over the churches, reserving the right of withdrawing from any church becoming disorderly.

Art 3. LETTERS. Letters from the different churches representing are to express their number in fellowship, including the names and addresses of ordained and licensed ministers, the number of members received upon profession of faith, by letter or recommendation, by restoration or denomina-

tional choice; the number dismissed by letter, excluded, and those having died since last Association. Churches, in sending their letters, may send obituaries of any who died during the year, that we may keep up the memorial of our dead.

Art. 4. OFFICERS. The Association to have a Moderator, a Clerk, and an Executive Committee of three ordained elected by the suffrage of the members of the Association at each annual association. The Executive Committee shall be elected as follows: One for three years, one for two years, and one for one year. Then one each year following to succeed the outgoing members.

Art. 5. NEW CHURCHES. Newly constituted churches may be admitted to the Association, which are to petition by letter and delegates, and if upon examination, they are found to be orthodox and orderly, they may be received into the Association, the Moderator giving the right hand of fellowship.

Art. 6. QUESTIONS. No question from any church shall come under the consideration of the Association unless it has been first considered in its own church.

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

Art. 8. MINUTES. The Association is to endeavor to furnish the churches with minutes of the Association in proportion to the amount paid by each church, the distribution to be at the discretion of the Association.

Art. 9. CLERK. It shall be the duty of the Clerk to keep a regular file of the minutes of the Association in a book to be kept by the Association for that purpose.

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

Art. 11. AMENDMENTS. Amendments of this Constitution may be made, when necessary, by a two-thirds vote of the members present at any regular session.

Art. 12. NON-ATTENDANCE. The Association in case of the failure of any church to attend, shall inquire into the case.

ARTICLES OF FAITH

1. GOD. We believe in one true and living, Triune God; composed of the Father, Son and Holy Spirit, equal in divine Essence, Purpose, Power and Glory.—St. John 1:1; 1 Cor. 8:6; St. John 10:30.

2. CHRIST. We believe that Jesus Christ is the divine Son of God. Was with the Father and the Holy Spirit at the time of the Creation, left the Courts of Heaven and came to this earth. Took upon Himself the form of humanity, sin excepted, by being born of the Virgin Mary, manifested His power, was crucified, placed in Joseph's tomb, rose from the dead the third day, completed the great plan of salvation, walked and talked with His disciples, publicly ascended up to Heaven, and that He will descend again to

gather His jewels home.—Isaiah 9:6; St. John 1:14; Luke 1:26-28; Matt. 14:13-21; Mark 16:9-19; Luke 24; 50:53; Acts 1:9-12; Mark 15:22-47.

3. HOLY SPIRIT. We believe that the Holy Spirit has visited true believers in all ages, and especially since the ascension of the SON back to the Father, and His coming on the day of Pentecost. Has taken up His office work among all nations of people, as a Divine Reprover, Comforter and Guide.—Judges 6:34; 11:29; St. John 16:8-14; Isaiah 63:10-12; Ephesians 4:30; Acts 8:17-20; Ezek. 36:27; Joel 2:28.

4. THE BIBLE. We believe the Bible, which is composed of the Scriptures of the Old and New Testaments, was given by inspiration of God, is our way-bill from earth to heaven, and the only infallible rule of faith and practice.—2 Peter 1:19-21; 2 Tim. 3:14-17; Daniel 10:21; Acts 1:16-17; Matt. 21:42.

5. THE FALL OF MAN. We believe that GOD created man good, gave him a just law by which he should be governed; with promise of reward for faithfulness and with penalties of punishment for disobedience. Gave man power of free moral agency to choose the right and reject the wrong. But our first parents heeded the voice of the great enemy of souls, voluntarily transgressed the law of GOD, fell, with their posterity, under the just penalty of the same, and were unable of their own power to extricate or save themselves from the great dilemma into which they had fallen. God gave them the hope of salvation through the coming CHRIST.—Gen. 1:27; 2:16-17; Psalms 51:5; Gen. 3; Gen. 6:5; Rom. 5:12-19; John 3:6; Eph. 2:3.

6. REDEMPTION, SALVATION, ADOPTION. We believe that Jesus Christ by His birth, death, burial, resurrection and ascension paid the purchase price for the redemption of the whole human race, arranged a pardon for all who come upon Gospel terms; and a law of adoption into the Kingdom of Heaven, and an eternal inheritance into the glorified Kingdom above.—Heb. 9:12; Gal. 3:13; 4:4-5; Titus 2:14; Heb. 1:4; St. John 3:16; Isaiah 15:22.

7. CONDITIONS OF SALVATION. We believe that all persons, dying in infancy and all idiots are saved by the atoning merits of the Son of God without any act on their part that persons coming to the years of accountability, transgressing the law of God, must upon their part, exercise faith in Jesus Christ through repentance toward God, at the completion of which pardon takes place in the mind of the Father and by the Holy Spirit they pass through the ordeal of regeneration, are washed in the blood of the Lamb and are planted in the Kingdom of Christ.—John 3rd chapter; Matt. 19:13-22; I Cor. 7:10; Luke 18:16-17; St. John 4:11-16; Psalms 98:3.

8. SALVATION FREE. We believe that God desires the salvation of all; Christ died for all; the Gospel invites all; the Holy Spirit strives with all; and whosoever will may come and be saved upon the terms of the Gospel.—1 Peter 1:9-25; 2:9-25; Revelation 22:17.

9. BAPTISM. We believe that Christian baptism is the immersion of believers in water, in the name of the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, in which are represented the burial and resurrection of Christ; also represents

our death to sin, and only those who have come under the presbytery of the elders are qualified to administer the same.—Matt. 3:14-16; 3:5-6; 1 Peter 3:21; St. John 3:23; Acts 10:47; Matt. 28:19.

10. COMMUNION AND FEET WASHING. We believe that the Lord's Supper and the washing of the saints' feet are ordinances of the Gospel of Christ; the Lord's Supper was instituted by our Saviour to commemorate His broken body and shed blood for the sins of the world, and to show our remembrance of Him till He comes. All Christians have a right to the Lord's Supper and should be invited: "Let a man examine himself and so let him eat."

The washing of feet was instituted by our Lord at the same time that the Supper was instituted as an act of humility to show our love for each other, and both ordinances should be perpetuated by all Christians until His second coming.—Luke 22:19-20; 1 Cor. 11:20-29; St. John 13:1-17; Matt. 26:26-29.

11. THE SABBATH. We believe that the Christian Sabbath should be observed as a day of rest and for the worship of God; that we should abstain from all sinful amusements and secular employments, works of mercy and piety excepted.—Exodus 20:11; 31:12-18; Deut. 5:12-15; Ezek. 20:12; Matt. 28:1; Luke 23:56; Acts 13:42-48; Mark 2:27.

12. CALL TO THE MINISTRY. We believe in a divine call of the ministry; that God in His goodness and power of grace, impresses His ministers with the burden of lost souls, to the extent that the call becomes irresistible with personal contentment that when they yield to the call and exercise the native gifts according to the Scriptures, with a full reliance upon Him. He accompanies them in the person of the Holy Spirit to guide them in the way of truth and to bless their labors according to His purpose.—Jonah 1:1; Jer. 1:5; Mark 3:14; Acts 1:22-26; Matt. 28:19.

13. THE INVISIBLE CHURCH. We believe that the Invisible or Spiritual Church is the redeemed in the aggregate, is the family of God, is composed of all true Christians of every congregation from righteous Abel to the restitution of all things, from every kindred, nation, tongue and people.—Eph. 3:16-21; Heb. 12:22-23; 1 Pet. 2:5; Eph. 2:20-22; Acts 2:47; Matt. 16:18.

14. THE VISIBLE CHURCH. We believe that a visible church of Christ is a congregation of faithful men and women, having obtained fellowship with the Lord and with each other, agreeing to keep up a good discipline and doctrine according to the rules of the Gospel.—2 Thess. 1:1; Acts 16:5; 3 John 1:10; Matt. 18:17; Acts 20:28; Revelation 1:4-20.

15. PERSEVERENCE. We believe that all true believers in Christ should persevere in divine grace, and in the knowledge of the truth, and that God's grace is sufficient to help them to overcome all the obstacles of life, and that all the combined forces of the great enemy of souls on earth and in hell (or in his eternal abode) are not able to pluck them from His hand so long as they walk in the path of duty; but those who sidestep and wilfully refuse or neglect to perform their duty, they would backslide if persistently continued, would be eternally lost.—2 Pet. 1:12; 2 Cor. 9:10; 2 Peter 1:4-8; 2 Peter 2:2; Rom. 8:35-39; Apostasy: 2 Peter 1:8-9; 1 Cor. 10:1-13; Heb. 12:15-17;

1 John 5:16; Heb. 6:1-6; 1 Tim. 4:1-2; Heb. 3:12; St. John 15:1-7; Matt. 12:31-32.

16. CHRIST THE HEAD OF THE CHURCH. We believe that Christ is the Head of the Church, and that the government of the local church is with the body.—Col. 1:18-19; Matt. 16:18; Heb. 12:23; Matt. 21:42; Eph. 1:22; Acts 16:4-5.

17. SANCTIFICATION. Sanctification is a work of God's grace, by which the soul is cleansed from all sin and wholly consecrated to Christ. It takes place in regeneration, and the Christian can and should abide in this state to the end of life, constantly growing in the grace and the knowledge of our Lord Jesus Christ.—1 Cor. 6:11; 2 Thess. 2:13; Heb. 12:14; Phil. 3:21; 2 Thess. 5:19-23; St. John 17:17-19; 2 Tim. 2:20-21.

18. THE RESURRECTION. We believe in the resurrection of the dead, both of the righteous and the wicked. When the resurrection shall take place, the soul and body shall be united, the righteous shall be received into everlasting happiness to reign with God for ever; but the wicked shall go away into everlasting punishment.—Matt. 28:6; John 5:28-29; 1 Cor. 15:51-58.

19. THE SOUL. The soul is endless, hence does not die with the body, but immediately after death enters into a conscious state of happiness or misery, according to the spiritual character here possessed.—Phil. 1:23; Luke 23:43; Rev. 6:9; Luke 16:19-25; Matt. 10:28.

20. JUDGMENT. We believe that there will be a general universal judgment, when all men shall be judged according to their works, whether they be good or bad, and that immediately thereafter the wicked shall enter into everlasting punishment, and the righteous into eternal happiness.—2 Thess. 1:4-9; Rev. 14:9-13; Luke 16:23; Rev. 21:8; 2 Cor. 5:10; Matt. 12:36-37; Rev. 20:12-13; Acts 17:31.

STATISTICAL REPORT

Church	Organized	Retiring Pastor	Pastor-elect	Church Clerk	Experience and Baptism	Recommendation	Received by Letter	Dismissed by Letter	Excluded	Died	Total Membership
Mt. Zion -----	1866	Bruce Phillips -----	Bruce Phillips -----	Ola Puryear -----	1	0	0	0	0	0	131
Pilgrim Rest -----	1911	Bruce Phillips -----	Bruce Phillips -----	Harry Wright -----	3	0	0	4	0	1	181
New Hope -----	1886	H. M. Knox -----	H. M. Knox -----	Dow Boydstun -----	0	0	0	1	0	1	105
Hickory Grove -----	1886	Samie Lane -----	H. M. Knox -----	Iva Earl Lynch -----	8	0	0	0	0	1	69
Clear Creek -----	-----	Geo. Lynch -----	Geo. Lynch -----	Albert Todd -----	0	0	0	0	0	0	10
Christian Home -----	1892	Bruce Phillips -----	Bruce Phillips -----	Kate McGinnis -----	0	0	0	0	0	0	31
Clifty -----	1892	H. M. Knox -----	Geo. Lynch -----	Geo. Vanhook -----	8	0	0	1	0	0	74
Antioch -----	1910	Jack Hobbs -----	Jack Hobbs -----	Eula Wood -----	0	0	0	0	0	0	28
Shady Grove -----	1936	H. M. Knox -----	W. L. Oxford -----	Nadene Knox -----	0	0	0	1	0	0	20
Rose Hill -----	1937	Jack Hobbs -----	Elmo McKenney -----	Dellar Walker -----	0	0	0	0	0	0	25
Cottage Hill -----	1938	Bill Oxford -----	H. M. Knox -----	Elsie Miles -----	0	0	0	1	0	0	20
Rock -----	1938	Willie Capps -----	Samie Lane -----	Samie Lane -----	0	0	0	0	1	0	68
Buckeye -----	1945	C. O. Garrison -----	C. O. Garrison -----	Ezra Clark -----	0	0	0	0	0	0	18
Farmer -----	1945	Willie Capps -----	Bruce Phillips -----	Ethel Gladden -----	4	0	0	0	0	0	14