

*L. C. Doyle*

**Minutes**  
**Of The**  
**Polk Bayou Association**  
**Of**  
**Free Will Baptist**

**Held With**  
**Island Church**  
**NEAR NEWPORT**  
**JACKSON COUNTY, ARKANSAS**

**SEPTEMBER 7, 8, 9, 1951**

The next annual session of the Association will convene with the Mt. Harmony Church 5 miles south of Strawberry, at Saffell, on Highway 25, Lawrence County, Arkansas, at 10 a. m., Friday before the Second Sunday in September, 1952.

Elder L. C. Doyle will preach the introductory sermon. Elder Ray Watkins is alternate.

**OFFICERS**

Moderator, Elder Owen Harvell, Lunenburg.

Assistant Moderator, Eld. L. C. Doyle, Newport.

Clerk and Treasurer, Mrs. M. B. Williams, Strawberry.

Assistant Clerk, Sidney Byrd, Newport.

**1951 Minutes of the Polk Bayou Association of Free Will Baptists**

**PROCEEDINGS**

At 10 o'clock on Friday morning on September 7, 1951, the Polk Bayou Association of Free Will Baptist met with the Island Church near Newport, in regular session.

The service was opened by singing several songs, after which the Moderator, Elder Henry Doyle, read Romans 10: 1-13, followed with prayer by Elder M. G. King.

The Moderator called for the introductory sermon. In the absence of Elder Owen Harvell, the one previously selected to bring the message, it was very ably delivered by the alterntae, Elder L. C. Doyle. He used the same scripture lesson as had been read by the Moderator.

The Moderator then took charge and the meeting was adjourned until 1:30 p. m. Benediction by Bro. O. Safirt.

Noon.

**Friday Afternoon Session**

The assembly was called together by congregational singing. Scripture St. John 14: 1-6 by Moderator. Prayer by Elder Austin Mullen.

The Moderator declared conference for the transaction of any business that might come before the body.

Enrolment of ministers and deacons was first order of business.

**Ministers**

M. G. King, Powhatan  
L. C. Doyle, Newport  
Henry Doyle, Newport  
Austin Mullen, Strawberry  
Othaniel Safirt, Grubbs  
Ray Watkins, Newport  
Henry Obarts, Hoxie  
J. W. Blanks, Newport  
B. Woodruff, Newport

**Visiting Ministers**

Wayne Tucker, Peach Orchard

**Deceased Minister**

W. M. Padgett, Tuckerman

### DEACONS PRESENT

Lloyd Mantooth  
John Reid  
W. N. McCoy  
Cleo Manuel  
Porter Hutchinson  
T. J. Adkisson

Leonard Milligan  
Virgil Ross  
A. T. Blanks  
Joe Woodruff  
Laman Hastings  
J. H. McTigue  
J. A. Roach

Letters from Quarterly Meetings called for. None received.

Letters from churches called for. Four were read and received and the delegates seated in conference by the right hand of fellowship.

The Moderator read the By-Laws.

Appointment of committees by Moderator as follows:

### Delegates

Bro. Dean Tucker, Sister Velda Tucker, Bro. Hoover Lewis, Bro. Jewell Johnson, Bro. Arvil Satterwhite, Sister Lois Satterwhite, Bro. Judson Welch, Sister Mae Waddill, Sister Bonnie Brown, Sister Pinkie Watkins, Sister Lela Milligan, Sister Zel-la Hankins, Bro. Horace Johnson, Bro. Jim McTigue, Bro. Shelby Callahan, Sister Valie Callahan, Sister Gladys Adkisson, Bro. Bill Robertson, Sister Lee Robertson, Bro. Allen Hanshaw, Bro. Horace Doyle, Sister Bessie Thomas, Sister Maude Fletcher, and Bro. W. T. Goodwin.

Divine Service—Bro. H. B. Doyle, Bro. W. N. McCoy and Bro. Bill Robertson.

Resolutions—Eld M. G. King, Eld. L. C. Doyle, and Eld. Austin Mullen.

Finance—Bro. John Reid, Bro. Allen Hanshaw, and Bro. W. T. Goodwin.

Temperance—Bro. O. Safirt, Sister Pinkie Watkins and Sister Josie King.

Sunday Schools— Sister Bessie Thomas, Sister Mae Waddelle and Sister Lee Robertson.

Obituary—Bro. Lloyd Mantooth, Sister Bonnie Brown, and Sister Gladys Adkisson.

Ordination—Standing Committee—Eld. M. G. King, Eld. L. C. Doyle, and Eld. H. A. Lewis.

After five minutes intermission the Moderator read the Church Covenant.

The Divine Service Committee reported that Elder O. Safirt and Eld. Austin Mullen would preach Friday night.

Motion made and seconded that any church asking for the Polk Bayou Association meeting must state it in the letter to the Association.

The above motion was lost but the body asked that it be recorded.

Motion carried to record it.

Conference adjourned until 9 a. m. Saturday. Benediction: Bro. W. T. Goodwin.

### **Friday Night Divine Service**

Song service directed by Harold Howard, Allen Hanshaw, Horace Doyle, Mrs. Reid, and Dolph Goodwin.

Prayer by Bro. B. Woodruff.

Praise service conducted by Eld. Austin Mullen.

The Mesasge for the evening was given by Eld. O. Safirt, who used several different Scriptures. Among them, Acts 24: 16, I Cor. 1: 5-19, Hebrews 13: 8, and Romans 8: 1. Followed and concluded by Eld. Austin Mullen.

Prayer of dismissal by Sister Josie King.

### **Saturday Morning Session**

Congregational singing, Psalm I was read by Moderator. Prayer by Eld. Ray Watkins. The Moderator declared conference and officers were elected as follows: Moderator, Eld. Owen Harvell, Assistant Moderator, Eld. L. C. Doyle, Clerk-Treasurer, Mrs. M. B. Williams.

Letters from 6 other churches were read and received and the delegates seated in conference.

Th newly-elected assistant Moderator took charge.

Intermission.

The assembly was called together by singing.

The assistant Moderator called for Memorial sermon which was brought by Elder M. G. King, who read St. John 4: 1-6. Prayer by Elder Wayne Tucker.

At close of sermon there was a song and Christian handshake.

Service concluded by assistant Moderator. Adjourned until 2 p. m.

Thanks expressed by Bro. Wayne Tucker. Dinner served at Church building.

#### **Saturday, 2 p. m.**

Bro. Virgil Ross and Bro. Satterwhite directed the song service. The assistant Moderator read Romans 8 chapter.

Prayer by Bro. Virgil Ross.

Call for report of committees.

They reported as follows: Committees discharged.

Temperance—We your committee on Temperance beg leave to report as follows: That we should be free from all intoxicating drinks of any kind, and that any members of our churches being found guilty should make acknowledgment to the church. Scripture II Cor. 6: 17, I Thessalonians 5: 22, I Peter 2: 11, Peter 1: 6. I Cor. 9: 25, Gal. 5: 23, Titus 2: 2, and Gal. 3: 8.

We also urge that our members abstain from all worldly pleasures and ungodly conversation and let our lights so shine that the world may know we are disciples, or Christians—Com.

Sunday Schools—We, the Sunday School Committee urge that each church have a two weeks' Vacation Bible School once each year, and that we put our Sunday Schools before all trips and visits or anything that might interfere. That we might be found faithful.—Com.

Finance—We, the Finance Committee have received \$63.02 from the 10 churches reporting at this Associational meeting and have given the amount to the treasurer.—Com.

Obituary—The Obituary Committee failed to give their report but there had been 10 deaths in the Association.

Mt. Harmony Church was elected as the host church for the next meeting of the Association.

Eld. L. C. Doyle will preach the Introductory Sermon, with Elder Ray Watkins, alternate.

Elder Ray Watkins was selected to preach the Memorial Sermon in 1952 with Elder J. W. Blanks, alternate.

Election of Delegates to Arkansas State Association:

Sister Bonnie Brown, Bro. Bill Robertson, Bro. Hoover Lewis, Bro. Shelby Callahan, and Bro. Horace Doyle.

Call for reports from Ministers, which were received and read and are found elsewhere.

Bro. Mullen gave a brief talk about the camp at Conway.

The assistant Moderator appointed an ordination committee as two members of the standing committee were absent. Elders Austin Mullen, B. Wodruff and O. Safirt.

Bro. Arvil Satterwhite of Pool's Chapel Church was ordained as a deacon. Bro. Austin Mullen led the ordination prayer.

Conference adjourned to meet at 10 o'clock on Friday morning before the Second Sunday in September, 1952, with Mt. Harmony Church at Saffell.

Benediction by Bro. Arvil Satterwhite.

### **Saturday Night Divine Service**

Opened by singing.

Praise service conducted by Eld. L. C. Doyle. Scripture, Luke 11: 1-4, by J. W. Blanks. Prayer, L. C. Doyle.

Eld. J. W. Blanks preached, using Prayer as the subject, and was folowed by Elder B. Woodruff.

The assistant Moderator concluded the service and the benediction was given by Bro. W. N. McCoy.

### **MINISTERS' REPORTS**

Owen Harvell, Lunenburg, pastored 5 churches, held and assisted in five revivals. Received 7 members, baptized 11. Funerals held—3. Preached 118 sermons. Money received \$862.-02.



M. G. King, Powhatan, pastored 1 church, preached at 2 other places, held several funerals. Married several couples. Money received, \$214.13.

Ray Watkins Newport, pastored 3 churches, preached 180 sermons, helped in 7 revivals, witnessed 35 conversions, baptized 26, conducted 8 funerals, married 3 couples. Money received, \$1,229.00.

W. H. Obarts, Hoxie, pastored 1 church, and part of the year at another, preached some at Oldham's Chapel, held one revival, witnessed 7 conversions, received 5 members, baptized 2, preached 40 sermons. Money received \$108.13.

J. W. Blanks, Newport, pastored part time at 1 church, preached regularly at another, preached 22 sermons, baptized 4, Money received, \$115.00.

L. C. Doyle, Newport, gave an oral report. Pastored Island Church, received \$200.00. Preached on radio each Sunday except 2.

B. Woodruff, Newport, oral report.

Churches with clerk's name and address:

Allen's Chapel—Mrs. Opal Sturch, Salado, Batesville Rte.

Ballew's Chapel—Mr. Earl Clark, Newport, Rte. 2.

Bethel—Miss Inez Adkisson, Lunenburg.

Blackland Chapel—Mabel Bennett, Oil Trough.

Coffman—Mrs. Vera Johnson, Hoxie, Rte. 1.

Island—Mrs. Joe Miller, Newport, Rte. 3, Box 356.

Keylon Chapel—Robbie Dale, LaCrosse.

Macedonia—Mrs. Vina Harvell, Mt. Pleasant.

Mt. Harmony—Mr. A. I. Willmuth, Strawberry, Rte. 1.

New Home No. 2—Zelda Banning.

Oak Grove—Mr. Marvin Jean, Imboden.

Oldham's Chapel—Mrs. Henry Obarts, Hoxie.

Pine Hill—Mr. Ervin J. Baxter, Batesville, Rte. 1.

Pool's Chapel—Mr. Laman Roach, Cave City, Rte. 2, bx. 62.

Weaver's Chapel—Alene Milligan, Batesville.

## **BY-LAWS**

1. The Moderator or assistant moderator, and in their absence, the clerk shall call the Association into conference, and if a quorum be present, the moderator, and in his absence, the assistant moderator shall take charge; and if neither are present, then the senior minister in years of service shall act as moderator.

2. At every sitting of the Association, business shall be opened by reading a portion of the Bible and Prayer and closed by Prayer.

3. Those who speak shall rise and address the moderator. Personal reflections shall be avoided in all debates.

4. All motions made and seconded shall be open for discussion, but debate may be stopped at any time by a majority vote of the members present.

5. 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 then taken separately.

6. Motions made and lost shall not be recorded.

7. No one shall speak more than twice on the same subject without special leave of the body.

8. All questions shall be decided by a majority vote of the moderator.

10. Arrangements shall be made to insure at least two sermons each day of each session of the Association.

11. The moderator shall announce just before adjournment who shall preach at the next meeting.

12. Changes may be made in these By-Laws at any regular Session of the Association by a majority vote of members present.

## **ORDER OF BUSINESS OF ASSOCIATION**

1. Convene on the Friday Morning before the second Sunday in September.

2. Scripture reading and prayer.



3. Association called to order by the moderator or assistant moderator, in their absence the clerk.

4. Moderator calls for introductory sermon.

5. Introductory sermon.

6. Enrollment of ministers and deacons.

7. Call for letters from quarterly meetings belonging to the Association.

8. Call for letters from churches belonging to the Association.

9. Call for petitionary letter.

10. Letters read, received, and delegates and church clerks given the right hand of fellowship.

11. Enrollment of delegates and clerks.

12. Clerk call the roll.

13. Elect a moderator.

14. Elect an assistant moderator.

15. Invite all visiting ministers and deacons to enroll.

16. Invite all Christians to take a seat in council.

17. Read the Constitution and By-Laws.

18. Appointment of the following committees: (a) Divine Service, (b) Resolutions, (c) Finance, (d) Temperance, (e) Sunday School, (f) Obituary, (g) Ordination, (h) Business.

19. Call for report of outstanding committees.

20. Call for unfinished business.

21. Call for appeals from quarterly meetings and churches.

22. Call for ordination of ministers and deacons.

23. Call for ministers' written reports.

24. Elect delegates to the State Association.

25. Call for report of different committees.

26. Call for someone to preach the introductory sermon at the next session.

27. Discharge all committees chosen for this session.

28. Adjourn with prayer.

## CHURCH COVENANT

Having given ourselves to God by faith in Christ, and adopted the Word of God as our rule of faith and practice, we now give ourselves to one another by the will of God in this solemn covenant. We promise by His grace to love and obey Him in all things, to avoid the appearance of evil, to abstain from all sinful amusements and unholy conformity to the World; from all sanction of the use and sale of intoxicating beverages, and to "provide things honest in the sight of all men."

We agree to accept Christian admonition and reproof with meekness, and to watch over one another in love, endeavoring to "keep the unity of Spirit," in bonds of peace, to be careful of one another's happiness and reputation, and seek to strengthen the weak, encourage the afflicted, admonish the erring, and as far as we are able, promote the success of the Church and of the Gospel.

We will everywhere hold Christian principle sacred and Christian obligations and enterprises supreme; counting it our chief business in life to extend the influence of Christ in society; constantly praying and toiling that the Kingdom of God may come, and His will be done on earth as it is in heaven.

We agree faithfully to discharge our obligations in reference and social worship; and by self-denial, faith and good works to the study of the Scripture, secret prayer, family devotions, endeavor to "grow in grace and the knowledge of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ." We will not forget the assembling of ourselves together for church conferences, public worship, and the observance of the ordinance of the Gospel, nor fail to pay according to our ability for the support of the Church, of its poor, and all its benevolent work.

To this end we agree to labor for the promotion of educational and denominational enterprises, the support of missions, the success of Sunday Schools, and evangelistic efforts for the salvation of souls, and the conversion of the word. And may the God of peace sanctify us wholly and preserve us blameless unto the coming of the Lord Jesus Christ.

## ARTICLES OF FAITH

1. We believe in one true and living God-the-Father, Son and Holy Ghost-and these three are equal in divine essence, power and glory, John 1:1; John 5:7; I Cor. 8:6; John 10:30.

2. We believe that the scripture in the Old and New Testaments are the words of God, and the only infallible rule of faith and practice. II Timothy 4:2; 3:16.

3. We believe that God created man good and gave him his commandments, whereby he should live holy, but man voluntarily transgressed the law and fell under the just condemnation of the same, whereby all men are sinners, not by constraint, but by choice, being partakers of the sinful nature attained by the angels for the suffering of death, crowned with glory; that the fall. But we see Jesus, who was made a little lower than He, by the grace of God should taste death for every man. Gen. 1:27; 2:16-17; 3:6; John 3:16-17; Heb. 2:9.

4. We believe that Christ, by His Death, burial and resurrection, purchased our pardon and offers it freely to all upon the principles of repentance toward God and faith in the Lord Jesus Christ. He now commands all men everywhere to repent, "Therefore look ye unto me all ye ends of the earth, for I am God, and beside me there is none else." Rom. 5:6-21; Matt. 4:7; Isa. 45:22; Heb. 11:16.

5. We believe that all adult persons must be regenerated and born of the Spirit of God if they inherit eternal life. John 1:6; Titus 3:5; John 3:1-12; Rom. 8:9.

6. We believe that regeneration is an instantaneous renewal of the heart by the Holy Ghost whereby the penitent sinner receives a new life, becomes a child of God and is disposed to serve Him. As babes require food for bodily development, so the new born babe in Christ requires spiritual food, that he may develop by gradual growth into full stature of Christian manhood. John 3:3; Ez. 36:26-27; Titus 3:5; Gal. 5:21; Eph. 2:10; John 1:12; Matt. 13:31; Mark 4:36; I Peter 2:3.

7. We believe that the doctrine of sanctification or holiness in this life as taught in the Bible is applicable to the soul of inner man, and to it alone, and that the sanctification of the body will not take place until the resurrection of the dead, when this mortal shall put on immortality and his corruptible body shall put on incorruption. I Cor. 6:11; Rom. 7:7-25; Phil. 3:21; I Cor. 15:44.

8. We believe that all Christians should preserve in grace and be faithful to the end if they inherit eternal life, for "Blessed are they that do His commandments that they may have a right to the tree of life and enter in through the gates into the

city." I Cor. 10:12-13; Rev. 22:14; Rom. 11:20-21; Hebrews 10:26; John 15:2-6.

9. We believe that a visible church of Christ is a congregation of men and women who have obtained fellowship with each other and given themselves to the Lord, and one another, having agreed to keep up Godly discipline to the rules of the Gospel. Matt. 18:16-20.

10. We believe that the invisible church is the family of God; composed in the aggregate of all redeemed from righteous Abel to the restitution of all things from every nation, kindred and tongue. Matt. 16:18; Acts 2:47; Heb. 12:33; Acts 10:34-35; Eph. 1:22.

11. We believe that Jesus Christ is the great head of the church and that the government thereof is within the body. Eph. 2:23; Col. 1:18-21; Matt. 18:17.

12. We believe that baptism by immersion is the apostolic mode, even the burial of a believer in water, and that Christ, who is the new life, showed this example to His children and bade them walk therein. Matt. 3:5-16; 28:19-20; Mark 1:8-11; Acts 8:38; Rom. 6:16.

13. We believe that baptism, the Lord's Supper and the Washing of the saints' feet are ordinances of the Gospel of Jesus Christ and to be contained until His second coming. Matt. 28:19; Luke 22:19-20; John 13:5.

14. We believe that only those who have obtained a living hope in the Lord Jesus Christ have a right to baptism, and only those who have been called of God and have come under the Presbytery of elders have a right to administer the same. Titus 1:16; Mark 16:16; Matt. 3:3-9; Acts 10:47; I Tim. 4:14-16.

15. We believe that the soul is immortal, hence does not die, 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.

16. We believe that there will be a general universal judgment when all men shall be judged according to the deeds done in the body, whether good or bad, and that immediately thereafter the wicked shall enter into everlasting punishment and the righteous into everlasting happiness. Eccl. 1:14; Matt. 12:36-37; II Thes. 1:8-9; Rev. 14:11; 21:18; Luke 16:23; II Cor. 5:10.

17. We believe that God in His goodness displays power of grace in a great degree in calling and qualifying His servants by the teaching of the Holy Ghost and by instruction of His blessed word to go forth and proclaim life and salvation without price. He bids us freely to come and nothing prevents the salvation of any one but his own stubborn and sinful refusal to come. Acts 9:15; I Tim. 1:15-16; I Cor. 1:23.

18. We believe in a divine call to the ministry, that the minister shall heed the admonition of Paul to Timothy to study the Scriptures that the church donate of their substance as the Lord prospers them to the support of their pastors, that said ministers may have better opportunities to store their minds with spiritual food that is necessary to Christian development. To this end we recommend that each church have a finance committee of three to consist of two deacons and a clerk to collect and store such funds. II Tim. 2:15; I Cor. 16:1-2.