
Minutes
Of The
Polk Bayou Association
Of
Free Will Baptists

Held With
Pool's Chapel Church

NEAR SANDTOWN
INDEPENDENCE COUNTY, ARKANSAS
SEPTEMBER 10, 11, 12, 1954

The next annual session of the Association will convene with the New Home No. 2 Church near Gid, Izard County, Arkansas, at 10:00 a. m., Friday before the second Sunday in September, 1955.

Elder Obie Eagan will preach the introductory sermon.

Elder Lonnie Clark is alternate.

OFFICERS

Moderator _____ Elder Ernest Elms, Batesville
Asst. Moderator _____ Elder Henry Doyle, Newport
Clerk and Treasurer _____ Mrs. M. B. Williams, Strawberry
Asst. Clerk _____ Mrs. Joe Miller, Newport

PROCEEDINGS

The regular annual session of the Polk Bayou Association of Free Will Baptists met with the Pool's Chapel Church on September 10-12, 1954.

Friday A. M. Session

The session was opened with a song service conducted by Elder Austin Mullen with Sister Roach at the piano.

The Moderator, Elder Henry Doyle read St. John 15, followed with prayer by Elder Lonnie Clark.

In the absence of Elder J. W. Blanks, the one chosen to bring the introductory sermon at this time, the alternate, Elder H. A. Lewis, took charge of service. He read Matt. 21:17-23, offered prayer and the theme of his sermon was, "Some Things We Can Lose—Faith, Love, Light, Christian Life, Etc."

Benediction by Elder Lyle Cartwright.
Noon.

Friday P. M. Session

The Assembly was called together by singing, directed by Eld. H. A. Lewis.

Assistant Moderator, Elder Austin Mullen, read Eph. 4:1-24.
Prayer by Elder Ernest Elms.

Moderator Eld. Henry Doyle took charge and declared conference.

First order of business was the enrollment of ministers and deacons which is found elsewhere.

Letters from the different churches represented were read, received and delegates given the right hand of fellowship and seated in conference.

ELECTION OF OFFICERS

Elder Ernest Elms	Moderator
Elder Henry Doyle	Assistant Moderator
Mrs. M. B. Williams	Clerk and Treasurer
Mrs. Joe Miller	Assistant Clerk

Motion for pastor to investigate where some had joined the church and had not received baptism. Motion carried. At this time badges were pinned on ministers, deacons, delegates, and church clerks, by Sisters Juanita Hastings, Clyda Mae Hastings, and Willodene Satterwhite.

APPOINTMENT OF COMMITTEES

DIVINE SERVICE—Bro. Almond Hastings, Bro. Clint Treadway, Bro. W. T. Goodwin.

RESOLUTIONS—Elder H. A. Lewis, Elder Lyle Cartwright, Elder Austin Mullen.

FINANCE—Bro. Laman Hastings, Elder Morris Tucker, Bro. Jeff Crafton.

TEMPERANCE—Elder Obie Eagan, Bro. Gerphus Huskey, Bro. Leroy Scudder.

SUNDAY SCHOOLS—Sister Inez Adkisson, Sister Myrl Anderson, Sister Grace Treadway.

OBITUARIES—Bro. Horace Doyle, Bro. Shelby Callahan, Bro. Virgil Ross.

ORDINATION—Standing Committee—Eld. M. G. King, Elder H. A. Lewis, Elder Obie Eagan.

Conference adjourned until 9 a. m. Saturday.

Benediction Elder Owen Harvell.

Friday Night Divine Service

Elder Ernest Elms, Moderator, read Eph. 2.

Song "I'll Have A New Life", directed by Eld. H. A. Lewis

Sister Edith Elms conducted devotional services.

Elder Lonnie Clark and Elder Owen Harvell brought the message using for scripture text Hebrew 2:3 "How Shall We Escape, If We Neglect So Great Salvation."

Saturday 9:00 A. M.

Bro. Virgil Ross directed the singing. Moderator, Elder Ernest Elms read 2nd Peter 1:1-11. Prayer by Elder Lyle Cartwright and Elder Obie Eagan. Moderator read By-Laws and called for tardy church letters, some received.

11 A. M. Divine Service

Prayer by Eld. M. G. King. The Memorial Sermon was given by Elder Obie Eagan, using as scripture text, Psalm 116-15, "Precious in the sight of the Lord is the death of His saints."

Christian handshake.

Benediction by Elder Morris Tucker.

Dinner served on the church ground. Thanks expressed by Elder M. G. King.

Saturday 1:30 P. M.

Moderator read Ecclesiastes 1:1-12.

Prayer by Sister Josie King.

Moderator called for unfinished business, none reported.

The condition of the Bethel Church and its uniting with the New Home No. 2 Church was discussed.

Motion that we drop Keylon Chapel and New Home No. 1 Churches from our roll. Motion carried.

Call for ministers written report. None received.

Elder Obie Eagan was elected a member of the Executive Board to succeed Elder Owen Harvell, whose time had expired.

Delegates and alternates to the Arkansas State Association were elected.

Delegates

Geraldine Johnson
Valie Callahan
Inez Adkisson
Gertie Doyle
Leroy Scudder

Alternates

Ruth Leonard
Mahala Ross
Wanda Smith
Ethel Doyle
Charles Barnhill

Reports of committees were received and committees discharged. Reports found elsewhere.

The Home Missions treasurer, Sister Valie Callahan, gave a report.

Amount paid to her\$34.25

Amount paid out 4.00

Balance in treasury\$30.25

A public donation of \$32.00 was given.

\$9.00 went into the treasury to help pay for printing of minutes. \$23.00 was given to Elder M. G. King and Sister King

as a love offering. Bro. King gave a talk and offered a prayer of thanks at this time.

New Home No. 2 Church was selected as the next meeting place of the Association.

Elder Obie Eagan will preach the introductory sermon. Elder Lonnie Clark is alternate.

Elder Ray Watkins will preach the memorial sermon. Elder H. A. Lewis is alternate.

The entire congregation showed respect to Bro. and Sister King and Sister Doyle (widow of Eld. L. C. Doyle) by shaking hands with them at the close of the afternoon session.

Ministers Present

H. A. Lewis, Batesville.	Lonnie Clark, Mt. Pleasant.
Henry Doyle, Newport.	Owen Harvell, Lunenburg.
Lyle Cartwright, Batesville.	Obie Eagan, Saffell.
Ernest Elms, Batesville.	Henry Obarts, Black Rock.
Austin Mullen, Strawberry.	M. G. King, Powhatan.
Ray Watkins, Newport.	Morris Tucker,

Deacons Present

Laman Hastings	Horace Doyle
Millard Williams	Virgil Ross
Ernest Elms	Gerphus Huskey
Shelby Callahan	Ervin Baxter
Frank Richey	W. N. McCoy
Jay Roach	Arvil Satterwhite

Church Clerks Present

Eva Miller, Myrl Anderson, Inez Adkisson.

Delegates

Allen Chapel—Bro. Preston Cole, Sister Ruth Leonard.

Blackland Chapel—Bro. Morris Tucker, Bro. Ray Tucker.

Coffman—Bro. Leroy Scudder, Bro. Charles Barnhill, Bro. R. F. Townsley.

Island—Bro. W. T. Goodwin, Sister Maude Fletcher, Sister Gertie Doyle.

Macedonia—Bro. Frank Brooks, Sister Margie Reeves, Sister Laura Fleetwood.

Mt. Harmony—Sister Olene Huskey, Bro. Jeff Chandler.
 New Home No. 2—Sister Inez Adkisson, Bro. Earl Sims.
 Oak Grove—Sister Ora Richey, Sister Alice Oldham.
 Oldham Chapel—Sister Samantha Toles.
 Pine Hill—Sister Ella Baxter, Sister Emma Lee McDaniel.
 Pool's Chapel—Sister Eva Roach, Bro. Almond Hastings,
 Sister Wanda Lee Roach.
 Weaver's Chapel—Bro. Joe Gordon, Sister Grace Tread-
 way, Bro. Clint Treadway.

EXECUTIVE BOARD

Elder Obie Eagan	5 Years
Bro. Millard Williams	4 Years
Elder H. A. Lewis	3 Years
Elder Ray Watkins	2 Years
Bro. A. T. Blanks	1 Year

REPORT OF COMMITTEES

Divine Service—We your committee report that the pulpit will be supplied as follows: Elder H. A. Lewis, Friday 11 a. m. Elder Lonnie Clark and Elder Owen Harvell, Friday night. Elder Obie Eagan, Saturday 11 a. m. Elder Henry Doyle, Saturday night.

Finance—We your committee have collected \$73.00 from thirteen of the churches in the Association and have given it to the Clerk.

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

Obituaries—We your committee find there have been eleven of our brethren and sisters called to their reward since our meeting a year ago. We feel that our loss is Heaven's gain:

Allen Chapel—Sister Laura Milligan.

Mt. Harmony—Sister LaVesta Doyle.

New Home No. 2—Bro. R. G. Sims and Sister Viola Coleman.

Oak Grove—Bro. Arde Ring.

Pool's Chapel—Bro. Leonard Love and Sister Evelyn Haigwood.

Weaver's Chapel—Sister Zeda Goforth.

Ballew's Chapel—Bro. George Dillon and Bro. Jackson Sexton.

Keylon Chapel—Bro. Theodore Weaver.

Non Represented Churches—We your committee appointed last year, have investigated four churches not represented at the Association. They were Bethel, Weaver's Chapel, Keylon Chapel, and New Home No. 1. Bethel is considering moving to New Home No. 2. Weaver's Chapel is revived. Keylon Chapel and New Home No. 1 have not been active as a church for some time.

Signed: H. A. Lewis, Lyle Cartwright, Ernest Elms, Com.

Sunday Schools—We the Sunday Schools committee believe that all Christians, especially parents, should go to Sunday School every Sunday. Teach the importance of Sunday School to children at home. Don't send them, but take them.

Churches With Clerks' Names and Address

Allen Chapel—Mrs. Opal Sturch, Salado, Batesville Rt.

Ballew's Chapel—Mr. Floyd Coleman, Swifton Rte. 1.

Bethel—Miss Inez Adkisson, Lunenburg.

Blackland Chapel—Mrs. Mabel Bennett, Oil Trough.

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

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

Macedonia—Myrl Anderson, Mt. Pleasant.

Mt. Harmony—Mrs. Billie Saffell, Strawberry Rte.

New Home No. 2—Mrs. Abbie Adkisson, Gid.

Oak Grove—Mrs. Walter Smith, Smithville Rte. 2.

Oldham Chapel—Mrs. Katherine Starnes, Black Rock.

Pine Hill—Mr. Ray McTigue, Batesville, Rte. 1.

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

Weaver's Chapel—Alene Milligan, Batesville, Rte. 2.

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 members present.

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.
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 Saviour 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 world. 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 fall. But we see Jesus, who was made a little lower than the angels for the suffering of death, crowned with glory; that He, by the grace of God should taste death for every man. Gen. 1:27; 2:16-17; 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. 3:8-9; 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 teaching of the Holy Ghost and by instruction of His bles-

sed word to go forth and proclaim life and salvation without price. He bids us freely to come and nothing prevents the salvation of anyone 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.