



Minutes
Of The
Polk Bayou Association
Of
Free Will Baptists

Held With
Blackland Chapel Church
Near Oil Trough, Independence County, Arkansas

SEPTEMBER 12, 13, 1958

The next session of the Association will be held with Pool's Chapel Church, near Sandtown, Independence County, Arkansas, beginning at 7:30 p. m. Friday, before the second Sunday in September, 1959.

Rev. H. A. Lewis will be the introductory speaker, with Rev. Lonnie Clark, alternate.

OFFICERS

Moderator.....Rev. Clarence Burton, Grubbs
Ass't. Moderator.....Rev. Henry Doyle, Newport
Clerk and Treasurer.....Mrs. M. B. Williams, Strawberry
Ass't. Clerk.....Mrs. Geraldine Johnston, Salado



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PROCEEDINGS

On September 12, 1958, the annual session of the Polk Bayou Association of Free Will Baptists convened with the Blackland Chapel Church, near Oil Trough. The Association is composed of 15 churches. All were represented by letter and 14 had a delegation present. The voting body was composed of 10 ministers, 6 deacons, 8 church clerks, and 31 delegates. Total 55.

Friday Night

The session began with congregational singing followed with prayer by Rev. H. A. Lewis. Bro. Lewis then read scriptures from John I and Mark II and brought the message. His theme was "Bring Them to Jesus."

Benediction by Rev. Henry Doyle.

Saturday 9:00 A. M.

The assembly was called together by singing, directed by Horace Doyle with Ann Doyle as pianist.

Prayer by W. N. McCoy. Scripture, Psalm 95, by Rev. Bee Woodruff. Prayer by Rev. Ray Watkins. Ministers and deacons enrolled. Reading of By-Laws by Moderator Rev. Burton. The different church letters were read and the delegates seated in conference. Rev. Henry Doyle, assistant moderator, appointed the following committees:

DIVINE SERVICE—A. F. Richey, Hugh McTigue, and Bob Henley.

OBITUARY—M. B. Williams, W. N. McCoy, and Alton Vines.

RESOLUTIONS—Rev. Ray Watkins, Rev. H. A. Lewis, and Rev. John Riggs.

SUNDAY SCHOOLS—Hoover Lewis, Irene Vines, and Olene Smith.

FINANCE—Horace Doyle, George Snellgrove, and Howard Walker.

TEMPERANCE—Rev. Bee Woodruff, Rev. Austin Mullen, and Rev. Henry Obarts.

ORDINATION—Rev. H. A. Lewis, Rev. Owen Harvell, and Rev. John Riggs.

Rev. Owen Harvell, pastor of Blackland Chapel Church, appointed George Snellgrove as a delegate from that church.

ELECTION OF OFFICERS

Moderator, Rev. Clarence Burton; Asst'. Moderator, Rev. Henry Doyle; Clerk and Treasurer, Mrs. M. B. Williams; Ass't. Clerk, Mrs. Jeraldine Johnston. This re-election was by acclamation.

Recess

SATURDAY 11:00 A. M.

Congregational singing, directed by Horace Doyle, with Mrs. Ruth Leonard, pianist. Prayer by M. B. Williams. Rev. Ray Watkins read the scripture from II Samuel 12:15-23, using the 23rd verse as text and the theme was Heavenly Recognition.

Benediction by Bob Henley.

12:00 Noon Lunch

Thanks by Rev. Owen Harvell.

Saturday 1:30 P. M.

The assembly was called together by singing, directed by Mrs. Jeraldine Johnston, with Mrs. Ruth Leonard, pianist. Scripture, II Kings 2, Rev. Henry Obarts. Solo, "The Love of God," Mrs. Wilma Prince. Duet, "Hide Thou Me," Mrs. Wilma Prince and Rev. Austin Mullen.

Reports of committees were given, which are found elsewhere, also reports of ministers.

Motion by Alton Vines and second by Rev. Austin Mullen, to have programs printed for the Associational meetings.

Another motion, this one by Rev. H. A. Lewis, also second by Rev. Austin Mullen, that the host church be responsible for making out the programs each year. Motion carried.

Election of Delegates to Arkansas State Association

Delegates	Alternates
Mrs. Wilma Prince, Grubbs.	Miss Ann Doyle, Strawberry.
Mrs. Willa Jean Lewis, Batesville.	Mrs. Maude Fletcher, Newport.
Mrs. Gertie Doyle, Newport.	Mrs. Jeraldine Johnston, Salado.
Mrs. Vivian Burton, Grubbs.	Mrs. Jean Clark, Mt. Pleasant
Mrs. Nevaline Myers, Batesville.	Miss Winnie Grace Cole, Batesville.

Brother George Snellgrove was ordained as a deacon by the Ordination Committee. Rev. John Riggs read 1st Timothy 3:1-12. Rev. H. A. Lewis offered prayer of Ordination.

Pool's Chapel Church was chosen as the host church for the Association in 1959.

Rev. H. A. Lewis will be introductory speaker, with Rev. Lonnie Clark, alternate.

Rev. Obie Eagan, memorial speaker on Saturday. Rev. Owen Harvell, alternate.

The moderator gave a short talk on the possibility of a minister-deacon conference to be held during this year.

Executive Board

Rev. H. A. Lewis	1957-1962
Rev. J. W. Blanks	1956-1961
Rev. Owen Harvell	1955-1960
Rev. Obie Eagan	1954-1959

Conference adjourned and the majority of the delegation returned to their homes.

Rev. Austin Mullen preached Saturday night.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

DIVINE SERVICE—We your committee report as follows: Ministers will fill the stand in order named here. Saturday morning, Rev. Ray Watkins; Saturday night, Rev. Austin Mullen.

FINANCE—We your committee have received \$91.10 from the 15 churches, and have given it to the treasurer.

TEMPERANCE—We your committee recommend that all our members refuse to take part in all sinful amusements, and use of all intoxicating drinks in any form; that our ministers teach the scriptures pure and untainted about such; that we put the service of God first in our daily lives, in the places we go, and the things we do, and that we keep the Lord's Day apart especially to the service of God. Finally, that we use all our influence, personally and politically, including our votes, to abolish the use, sale or transportation of beer, wine or liquor of any kind in our county and state.

73.
 6
 79
 11,26
 90,24
 442
 85.
 45
 40,84

SUNDAY SCHOOLS—We your committee are happy to report as follows: 14 of the churches reported a Sunday School with a total attendance of 1,073, an increase of 145 since last year's report. One church reported no Sunday School. We urge parents to take their children to Sunday School.

OBITUARIES—We your committee find that 8 of our members have been claimed by the death angel, but feel sure our loss is heaven's gain.

Allen's Chapel—Brothers E. H. Hynes, Henry Dawson, and John Teague.

Ballew's Chapel—Brothers Roland Watts, W. A. Bradley and C. W. Byrd.

Mt. Harmony—Sister Anna Bell Ward.

New Home—Sister Pearl Reed.

REPORT OF TREASURER

Received from Finance Committee	\$ 91.10
Balance from last year	14.48
TOTAL	\$105.58
Amount to Arkansas State Association	45.00
Balance in Treasury	\$ 60.58

MINISTERS REPORTS

H. A. Lewis—Pastored 2 churches, held 2 revival, preached 52 sermons, witnessed 2 conversions, baptized 2, received 2 into membership, married 2 couples, held 15 funerals, money received \$425.20.

W. H. Obarts—Pastored 1 church beginning in June, preached some at other places, helped in 1 revival, preached 20 sermons, money received \$171.00.

J. W. Blanks—Peastord 2 churches, preached 111 sermons, witnessed 14 conversions, baptized 20, received 22 into membership, held 4 funerals, married 4 couples, money received \$1,325.00.

Austin Mullen—By God's grace and power, I have pastored 2 churches, one-half time each, and preached 104 ser-

mons, assisted through 5 revivals, witnessing 19 professions of faith, and baptized 2. I visited 2 more revivals, assisting when needed ,and received \$310.11. Anyone needing my services anywhere let me know.

W. H. Doyle—Helped in 2 revivals, witnessed 12 conversions, baptized 7, held some funerals. Hope nxt year to be better.

Lonnie Calrk—pastored 2 churches one-half time each, witnessed 4 conversions, baptized 20, married 3 couples, held 3 funerals.

Clarence H. Burton—Pastored 1 church, baptized 16, salary \$2,720.00.

MINISTERS

Present

Henry Doyle, Newport
Clarence Burton, Grubbs
Bee Woodruff, Newport
Ray Watkins, Newport
Austin Mullen, Batesville
Herman Lewis, Batesville
John Riggs, Batesville
Henry Obarts, Portia
Owen Harvell, Melbourne
Lonnie Clark, Mt. Pleasant

Absent

Ernest Elms, Batesville
Coy Staggs, Batesville
Othaniel Safirt, Newport
E. M. Phillips, Guion
D. W. Pinkston, Hoxie
Archie Warnick, Wal. Ridge
Obie Eagan, Saffell
J. W. Blanks, Newport
H. H. Ring
W. C. Keylon, Union
M. A. Wolfe

Deacons Present

W. N. McCoy, Newport; Horace Doyle, Strawberry; Millard Williams, Strawberry; W. F. Richey, Powhatan; Alfred Myers, Batesville, Rt. 1; Vick Rutledge, Oil Trough.

Church Clerks

Mrs. Alene Milligan, Miss Ethel Doyle, Mrs. J. D. Burrow, Mrs. Myrl Anderson, Mrs. Mabel Huckaba, Roy McTigue, Mrs. Eva Miller, Mrs. Iva Adkisson.

DELEGATES

ALLEN'S CHAPEL—Mr. and Mrs. Bob Henley, and Hoover Lewis.

BALLEW'S CHAPEL—Elton Vines, Irene Vines, and Mrs. Wilma Prince.

BLACKLAND CHAPEL—George Snellgrove and Mildred Ruddell.

BETHEL—Gilmore Adkisson, Bethel Richardson, G. E. Richardson and Syble Harvell.

ISLAND—Howard Walker.

MACEDONIA—Claude Anderson and Lillian Johnson.

MT. HARMONY—Ann Doyle and Jimmy Crabtree.

NEW HOME No. 2—Lewis Adkisson and Mrs. Abbie Adkisson.

NEWPORT—Mrs. Maud Fletcher and Mrs. Gertie Doyle.

OAK GROVE—Robert Smith, Mrs. Bessie Smith, and Olene Smith.

OAKLAND—Barbara Burrow.

PINE HILL—Mrs. Zelma Roach, Fay McTigue, and Hugh McTigue.

POOL'S CHAPEL—Mrs. Alfred Myers.

WEAVER'S CHAPEL—Joy Goforth, Lena Justus, and Mildred Justus.

CHURCHES WITH PASTORS' AND CLERKS' NAMES AND ADDRESSES

ALLEN'S CHAPEL—Rev. Grady Linebaugh, Walnut Ridge; Mrs. Opal Sturch, Batesville Rt., Salado.

BALLEW'S CHAPEL—Rev. Clarence Burton, Grubbs; Earl Morgan, Newport.

BETHEL—Rev. H. A. Lewis, Newport Rt., Batesville; Mrs. Syble Harvell, Melbourne.

COFFMAN—

Mrs. Jessie Fern Oldham, Rt. 1, Hoxie.

BLACKLAND CHAPEL—Rev. Owen Harvell, Melbourne; Mrs. Mabel Huckaba, Oil Trough.

ISLAND—Rev. Lonnie Clark, Mt. Pleasant; Mrs. Eva Miller,
Rt. 4, Box 318, Newport.

^FMACEDONIA—Rev. Austin Mullen, Newport Rt., Batesville;
Mrs. Myrl Anderson, Mt. Pleasant.

MT. HARMONY—

Mrs. Avanell Saffell, Saffell.

NEW HOME No. 2—Rev. Owen Harvell, Melbourne; Mrs.
Earle Sims, Mt. Pleasant.

FIRST FREEWILL BAPTIST CHURCH OF NEWPORT—Rev.
J. W. Blanks, Newport; Miss Ethel Doyle, 1005 McLain,
Newport.

OAK GROVE—Rev. Henry Doyle, Newport; Winford Davis,
Rt. 1, Smithville.

OAKLAND—Rev. Henry Obarts, Box 45, Portia; Mrs. J. D.
Burrow, Rt. 1, Box 217, Bradford.

PINE HILL—Rev. H. A. Lewis, Newport Rt., Batesville; Roy
McTigue, Rt. 1, Batesville.

POOL'S CHAPEL—Rev. Henry Doyle, Newport; Laman
Roach, Rt. 2, Box 174, Cave City.

WEAVER'S CHAPEL—Rev. Austin Mullen, Newport Rt.,
Batesville; Mrs. Alene Milligan, Rt. 2, 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 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 night 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 & 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 unit 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, pub-

lic 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 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; 3:16-7; 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 babies require food for bodily devel-

opment, 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 this 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 blessed 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 Lords 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.