
Minutes
Of The
Polk Bayou Association
Of
Free Will Baptists

Held With
Allen's Chapel Church

Near Batesville, Independence County, Arkansas

SEPTEMBER 9, 10, 1960

The 1961 session of the Association will be held with Oakland Church near Bradford, White County, Arkansas, beginning at 9:00 a. m. Saturday before the second Sunday in September.

REV. W. H. DOYLE, Moderator
Newport, Arkansas

MRS. M. B. WILLIAMS, Clerk
Strawberry, Arkansas

OFFICERS

Moderator, Rev. W. H. Doyle.....Newport
Asst. Moderator, Rev. Owen Harvell.....Melbourne
Clerk & Treasurer, Mrs. M. B. Williams.....Strawberry
Asst. Clerk, Mrs. Ruth Leonard.....Salado

EXECUTIVE BOARD

Rev. Bob King, 5 years, 1965.....Salado
Rev. Obie Eagan, 4 years, 1964.....Saffell
Deacon M. B. Williams, 3 years, 1963.....Strawberry
Rev. H. A. Lewis, 2 years, 1962.....Batesville
Rev. J. W. Blanks, 1 year, 1961.....Newport

ORDAINING COUNCIL

Rev. H. A. Lewis.....Batesville
Rev. Owen Harvell.....Melbourne
Rev. Obie Eagan.....Saffell

Program Committee

Oakland Church.....Bradford

Memorial Speaker

Rev. H. A. Lewis.....Batesville

Alternate

Rev. Obie Eagan.....Saffell

**PASTORS AND CHURCH CLERKS
OF POLK BAYOU ASSOCIATION**

Allen's Chapel—Rev. Bob King, Batesville Rte. Salado; Mrs. Opal Sturch, Batesville Rte., Salado.

Ballew's Chapel—Rev. Clarence Campbell, Grubbs; Mr. Earl Morgan, Rt. 2, Box 275, Newport.

Blackland Chapel—Rev. Hoover Lewis, Newport Rte., Batesville; Mrs. Mabel Huckaba, Oil Trough.

Bethel—Rev. H. A. Lewis, Newport Rte., Batesville; Mrs. Sibyl Harvell, Melbourne.

Coffman—Rev. Grady Linebaugh, Walnut Ridge; Mrs. Jessie Fern Oldham, Rt. 1, Hoxie.

Island—Not listed; Mrs. Eva Miller, Rt. 4, Box 318, Newport.

Newport—Rev. J. W. Blanks, 1104 Josephine, Newport; Mrs. Virginia Drummond, 602 McLain, Newport.

Macedonia—Rev. Lonnie Clark, Mt. Pleasant; Mrs. Vina Harvell, Mt. Pleasant.

Mt. Harmony—Not listed. Mrs. Lewis Croom, Rt. 1, Strawberry.

New Home No. 2—Rev. Hoover Lewis, Newport Rte., Batesville; Mrs. Earle Sims, Mt. Pleasant.

Oak Grove—Rev. Obie Eagan, Saffell; Mr. Winford Davis, Rt. 1, Smithville.

Oakland—Rev. Henry Obarts, Box 75, Portia; Mrs. Lorene Burrow, Rt. 1, Box 217, Bradford.

Pine Hill—Rev. Owen Harvell, Melbourne; Mrs. Jay Roach, Rt. 1, Box 178, Batesville.

Pool's Chapel—Rev. Owen Harvell, Melbourne; Mr. Laman Roach, Rt. 2, Box 174, Cave City.

Weaver's Chapel—Rev. Austin Mullen, Newport Rte., Batesville; Mrs. Alene Milligan, Rte. 2, Batesville.

PROCEEDINGS

Friday Evening, September 9, 1960

The first session of the Polk Bayou Associational meeting was opened with congregational singing, directed by Rev. Ernest Elms, with Larry Worshem and Wilma Manuel accompanists at the piano and organ.

Rev. Bob King, pastor of the host church, Allen's Chapel, introduced the Rev. H. A. Lewis, senior minister, to serve as moderator in the absence of the moderator, assistant moderator and the clerk.

Scripture I Timothy, 2:1, and prayer by Rev. H. A. Lewis.

Rev. Lonnie Clark read from Matthew 12; 22-37 and brought the message, followed with comments by Rev. Hoover Lewis.

Benediction by Rev. Bob King.

Saturday 9:00 A. M.

The session began with singing directed by Bro. Ernest Elms with accompanists Ruth Leonard and Wilma Manuel at piano and organ.

In the absence of the moderator, Rev. Clarence Burton, who had moved to Missouri, the assistant moderator, Rev. W. H. Doyle, read Psalm I and had charge of business.

Prayer by Rev. Owen Harvell. Assistant moderator read By-Laws.

Letters from the 15 different churches were read by the clerk and the several delegates were seated in conference by the right hand of fellowship.

The following committees were appointed:

FINANCE—Rev. Owen Harvell, Rev. Archie Warnick and Floyd Chambless.

SUNDAY SCHOOLS—Larkin Whitlock, David Cordell, and Mildred Ruddell.

OBITUARY—Rev. Ernest Elms, Steve Goforth and Neal Reid.

DIVINE SERVICE—M. B. Williams, Jay Roach and Gerald Harris.

The following officers were elected:

Moderator, Rev. W. H. Doyle; Asst. Moderator, Rev. Owen Harvell; Clerk and Treasurer, Mrs. M. B. Williams; Assistant Clerk, Mrs. Ruth Leonard.

Recess

11:00 a. m. Divine Service

Congregational singing directed by Horace Doyle.

Prayer by Rev. Clarence Campbell.

Assistant moderator introduced the speaker, Rev. Ray Watkins, who led the congregation in singing "What a Friend We Have in Jesus", then read Ecclesiastes 12th chapter and brought the memorial message.

Remarks and adjournment by Moderator Doyle.

Benediction and thanks for meal by Rev. H. A. Lewis.

Noon

Saturday 1:15 P. M.

Congregational singing directed by Rev. Ernest Elms.

Special songs included:

"Not My Will", solo by Chesley Campbell.

"Breathe on Me", solo by Sandra Campbell.

Organist for special, Sonja Campbell.

Roll call by the clerk, of ministers, deacons, delegates, and church clerks. 77 answered present and there was a larger number of visiting members. The greatest attendance present for several meetings.

Scripture, Romans 12th chapter, by Rev. J. W. Roach.

Prayer by Rev. Bob King.

Reports of committees found elsewhere.

Motion was sustained to discontinue the use of a Divine Service committee since its service was no longer needed.

Motion and second to receive the reports of other committees and discharge each committee, carried.

Rev. Bob King was elected to replace Rev. Owen Harvell, whose 5 years term on the Executive Board had expired.

During the Ordination Service, Rev. Obie Eagan read some thoughts from Romans 10:15, Ezekiel 3, I Timothy 4 and II Timothy 4.

Bro. J. W. Roach and Bro. Hoover Lewis were ordained to preach the gospel.

Rev. H. A. Lewis led the prayer of Ordination.

Tommy and Kenneth Manuel were licensed to preach the Gospel for one year.

Oakland Church, near Bradford, was chosen for the meeting place in 1961.

A motion was sustained to discontinue the Friday night services, and to meet on Saturday morning at 9 o'clock before the second Sunday in September, 1961.

Memorial speaker will be Rev. H. A. Lewis; alternate, Rev. Obie Eagan.

Delegates to the Arkansas State Association were elected:

| Delegates | Alternates |
|----------------------|-------------------------|
| Mrs. Maude Fletcher. | Mrs. Gertie Doyle |
| Mr. Larkin Whitlock | Mrs. Vera Campbell |
| Miss Jewell Danner | Miss Shirley Reynolds |
| Mr. Dale Leslie | Miss Sonja Campbell |
| Mrs. Nellie King. | Mrs. Geraldine Johnston |

Conference adjourned with benediction by Rev. Bob King.

REPORTS OF COMMITTEES

FINANCE—We, the finance committee, have received \$93.00 from the 15 churches and have given it to the treasurer.

Rev. Owen Harvell, Chm.

SUNDAY SCHOOLS—We, the committee find each of the 15 churches have a Sunday School, with an enrollment of 1,168. Coffman failed to list their enrollment. We recommend that the average attendance be listed on the report.

Larkin Whitlock, Chm.

OBITUARY—We, your committee find that 12 of our members have been called away by death, but feel our loss is Heaven's gain. They are as follows:

Allen's Chapel—Mrs. Emma Adkisson.

Ballew's Chapel—Mr. Ira Prince.

Mt. Harmony—Mrs. Cora Walker, Mrs. Kate Williams, Mrs. Willene Sharp, Mrs. Laura Cason.

New Home—Mrs. Frances Lewis.

Oak Grove—Mrs. Josie King, Mrs. Leona Richey, Mr. C. L. Davis.

Pine Hill—Guy Boyce McTigue.

Pool's Chapel—Olen Poole.

Rev. Ernest Elms, Chm.

TREASURER'S REPORT

| | |
|--|----------|
| Received from Finance Committee | \$ 93.00 |
| Balance in treasury | 9.03 |
| | <hr/> |
| Total | \$102.03 |
| Paid to Arkansas State Association | 45.00 |
| | <hr/> |
| Balance in treasury | \$ 57.03 |

Ministers Present

J. W. Blanks, Newport.
Clarence Campbell, Grubbs.
Lonnie Clark, Mt. Pleasant.
Henry Doyle, Newport.
Obie Eagan, Saffell.
Ernest Elms, Oil Trough.
Owen Harvell, Melbourne.
Bob King, Batesville Rte.,
Salado.
H. A. Lewis, Newport Rte.,
Batesville.
Hoover Lewis, Newport Rte.,
Batesville.
Coy Staggs, Batesville Rte.,
Salado.
Ray Watkins, Newport.
Archie Warnick, Hoxie.
J. W. Roach, R. 1, Batesville.

Ministers Absent

Everett Barksdale, Wichita,
Kansas.
Donald Erwin, Powhatan.
W. C. Keylon, Union.
Grady Linebaugh, Walnut
Ridge.
Austin Mullen, Newport Rte.,
Batesville.
Henry Obarts, Portian.
E. M. Phillips, Guion.
H. H. Ring.
John Riggs, R. 2, Batesville.
Othaniel Safirt, Newport.
B. Woodruff, Grubbs.
M. A. Wolfe, Oklahoma.

Deacons Present

Cleo Manuel, Millard Williams, B. A. Gibson, Steve Go-
forth, Gerald Harris, Jay Roach, Orville Satterwhite, W. N.
McCoy, Alfred Martin, Virgil Odglen, Jake Milligan, Ernest
Elms, Horace Doyle, Gerphus Huskey, Blan Richardson.

Church Clerks Present

Mrs. Vina Harell, Mrs. Lorene Burrow, Mr. Winford Da-
vis, Mrs. Eva Miller, Mrs. Earle Sims, Mr. Earl Morgan, Mrs.
Zelma Roach, Mrs. Opal Sturch, Mrs. Alene Milligan, Mrs.
Mabel Croom, Mrs. Mabel Huckaba, Mrs. Laman Hasting.

Church Membership

Allen's Chapel—Resident, 167; non-resident, 86.

Ballew's Chapel—Resident, 166; non-resident, 140.

Bethel—Resident, 24; non-resident, 14.

Blackland Chapel—50.

Coffman—Resident, 30; non-resident, 51.

Island—Resident, 39; non-resident, 49.

First F. W. B. Church of Newport—Resident, 112; non-resident, 3.

Macedonia—Resident, 35; non-resident, 25.

Mt. Harmony—Resident, 89; non-resident, 116.

New Home No. 2—Resident, 24; non-resident, 31.

Oak Grove—Resident, 45; non resident, 22.

Oakland—Resident, 44; non-resident, 10.

Pine Hill—Resident, 19; non-resident, 9.

Pool's Chapel—Resident 46; non-resident, 69.

Weaver's Chapel—45.

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 Saturday 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. Enrollment of ministers and deacons.
5. Call for letters from quarterly meetings belonging to the Association.
6. Call for letters from churches belonging to the Association.
7. Call for petitionary letter.
8. Letters read, received and delegates and church clerks given the right hand of fellowship.
9. Enrollment of delegates and clerks.
10. Clerk call the roll.
11. Elect a moderator.
12. Elect an assistant moderator.
13. Invite all visiting ministers and deacons to enroll.
14. Invite all Christians to take a seat in council.
15. Read the Constitution and By-Laws.
16. Appointment of the following committees: (a) Resolutions, (b) Finance, (c) Temperance, (d) Sunday School, (e) Obituary, (f) Ordination.
17. Call for report of outstanding committees.
18. Call for unfinished business.
19. Call for appeals from quarterly meetings & churches.
20. Call for Ordination of Ministers and Deacons.
21. Call for Ministers' written reports.
22. Elect delegates to the State Association.
23. Call for report of different committees.
24. Call for someone to preach the memorial sermon.
25. Discharge all committees chosen for this session.
26. 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, 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 School, 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; 3:16-7; 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 besides 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 development, so the new born babe in Christ requires spiritual food, that he may develop by gradual growth into full tature 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 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.

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