
Minutes
Of The
Polk Bayou Association
Of
Free Will Baptists

Held With
Newport First F. W. B. Church

State Street, Newport, Arkansas

SEPTEMBER 7, 1963

The 1964 session of the Association will be held with Ballew's Chapel Church near Grubbs, Jackson County, Arkansas, beginning at 9:00 a. m. Saturday before the second Sunday in September.

REV. HOOVER LEWIS, Moderator

Newport Route

Batesville, Arkansas

MRS. M. B. WILLIAMS, Clerk and Treasurer

Strawberry, Arkansas

OFFICERS

Moderator, Rev. Hoover Lewis Newport Rt., Batesville
Asst. Moderator, Rev. Grover Terry Grubbs
Clerk and Treasurer, Mrs. M. B. Williams Strawberry
Asst. Clerk, Mrs. Ruth Leonard Batesville Rt., Salado

EXECUTIVE BOARD

Deacon M. B. Williams, 5 year, 1968 Strawberry
Rev. J. W. Roach, 4 years, 1967 Rt. 1, Batesville
Rev. Ray Watkins, 3 years, 1966 Rt. 2, Newport
Rev. Willard C. Day, 2 years, 1965 1110 Malcolm Ave., Newport
Rev. Obie Eagan, 1 year, 1964 Walnut Ridge

ORDAINING COUNCIL

Rev. Obie Eagan Walnut Ridge
Rev. Jimmy Richardson Batesville
Rev. Hoover Lewis Newport Rt., Batesville

PROGRAM COMMITTEE

Ballew's Chapel Church

MEMORIAL SPEAKER

Rev. Willard C. Day

ALTERNATE

Rev. Hoover Lewis

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

ALLEN'S CHAPEL—Rev. J. W. Blanks, Batesville Rt., Salado;
Mrs. Opal Sturch, Batesville Rt., Salado.

BALLEW'S CHAPEL—Rev. Grover Terry, Grubbs; Mr. Raymond Clark, Rt. 1, Tuckerman.

BATESVILLE FIRST F. W. B.—Rev. Hoover Lewis, Newport Rt., Batesville; Mrs. Cleva Lesley, Rt. 2, Box 148, Batesville.

BETHEL—No information.

BLACKLAND—Rev. Billy D. Willhite, Rt. 2, Newport; Mrs. Mabel Huckaba, Oil Trough.

COFFMAN—Rev. Henry Obarts, 408 E. Speedway, Trumann; Wilma Oldham, 206 N.E. 4th St., Walnut Ridge.

ISLAND—Rev. W. H. Doyle, Newport; Mrs. Eva Miller, Rt. 4, Box 318, Newport.

MACEDONIA—Rev. J. W. Roach, Rt. 1, Batesville; Mrs. Vina Harvell, Mt. Pleasant.

MT. HARMONY—No pastor; Mrs. Lorene Doyle, Strawberry.

NEW HOME No. 2—Rev. Jimmy Richardson, Batesville; Mrs. Earle Sims, Mt. Pleasant.

NEWPORT FIRST F. W. B.—Rev. W. C. Day, 1110 Malcolm Ave., Newport; Mrs. Norma Johnson, 1405 Fairway St., Newport.

OAK GROVE—Rev. Obie Eagan, Walnut Ridge; Mrs. Pauline Richey, Smithville.

OAKLAND—Rev. Henry Obarts, 408 E. Speedway, Trumann; Mrs. Lorene Burrow, Rt. 2, Box 50, Bradford.

PINE HILL—Rev. H. A. Lewis, Newport Rt., Batesville; Mrs. Zelma Roach, Rt. 1, Box 178, Batesville.

POOL'S CHAPEL—Rev. Jimmy Richardson, Batesville; Mr. Laman Roach, Rt. 2, Box 174, Cave City.

TUCKERMAN FIRST F. W. B.—Rev. Ray Watkins, Rt. 2, Newport; Mrs. Fay Vines, Rt. 1, Box 90, Tuckerman.

WEAVER'S CHAPEL—Rev. Austin Mullen, Newport Rt., Batesville; Mrs. Alene Milligan, Rte. 2, Batesville.

PROCEEDINGS

Saturday 9:00 A. M., September 7, 1963

The congregation was called together by singing "I'll Live On" directed by Deacon Horace Doyle, with Mrs. Hoover Lewis, pianist.

The moderator, Rev. Hoover Lewis, read St. John 1:1-28, followed with prayer by Rev. Grover Terry.

After remarks by the moderator, he declared conference and a motion was sustained to read and receive the letters and seat the delegates from the different churches. The delegates were seated, as is the usual custom, by the right hand of Christian fellowship.

After appointing the following committees the moderator read the by-laws.

SUNDAY SCHOOLS—Charles Wade, Mrs. Grover Terry, Hester Leslie.

FINANCE—Jay Roach, G. E. Richardson, Winford Davis.

OBITUARIES—Geraldine Johnston, Cleva Leslie, Earle Sims.

TEMPERANCE—M. B. Williams, Vina Harvell, Linda Doyle.

ELECTION OF OFFICERS

Moderator, Rev. Hoover Lewis, was re-elected by acclamation.

Assistant Moderator, Rev. Grover Terry, was newly elected by acclamation.

Clerk and Treasurer Mrs. M. B. Williams and Assistant Clerk Mrs. Ruth Leonard were re-elected by acclamation.

A motion was sustained to accept the resignation of Rev. Oris Doggett from the Executive Board.

A letter of resignation from the Executive Board and also from the Ordaining Council was read from Rev. H. A. Lewis. Motion was sustained to accept same.

Rev. Willard C. Day was elected to fill the vacancy of Rev. Oris Doggett on the Executive Board.

Rev. J. W. Roach was elected to fill the vacancy of Rev. H. A. Lewis, and Deacon M. B. Williams was re-elected for another 5 year term on the Executive Board.

Rev. Hoover Lewis was elected to fill the vacancy of Rev. H. A. Lewis on the Ordaining Council.

Prayer by Rev. Oris Doggett.

Recess

11:00 A. M. DIVINE SERVICE

The assembly was called together by singing directed by Rev. Ernest Elms with Mrs. Ruth Leonard, pianist.

Prayer by Rev. H. A. Lewis.

Rev. Obie Eagan read Phil. 1:20-23 and delivered the Memorial message. Followed by Christian handshake.

The benediction and thanks expressed for the food was by Bro. Oris Doggett. Lunch was served at the church.

Noon

1:15 P. M.

Singing directed by Rev. Ernest Elms.

Matt. 5:3-10 read by assistant moderator Rev. Grover Terry.

Prayer by Rev. Othaniel Safirt.

Rev. 14:13 and a short talk was given by Rev. Ray Watkins.

Rev. Oris Doggett gave a report on what they as a committee had learned about how Central Association and others had managed their Cooperative fund. They keep 40% of the fund in their local association treasury and send 60% to the state and national work.

Motion sustained to receive the report and discharge the committee.

NEW BUSINESS

Motion sustained for clerk to re-arrange the paragraphs of the Church Covenant in our local minutes to correspond with the Church Covenant in the Free Will Baptists Treatise of the National Association.

Motion sustained that each church request the Ordaining Council to examine a minister, from another association, in the first meeting of the quarterly conference or association after the calling of said minister as church pastor.

Motion sustained to send a letter of recommendation for Rev. Owen Harvell from Polk Bayou Association of Free Will Baptists to Cave Springs Association in Missouri where Bro. Harvell now resides.

Rev. Obie Eagan read the Constitution of Polk Bayou Association of Free Will Baptists since it had been revised by the Executive Board.

Motion and second to accept the Constitution as read since the revision carried.

DELEGATES TO ARKANSAS STATE ASSOCIATION

Delegates	Alternates
Hazel McCoy	Lena Clark
Gertie Doyle	Jeff Crafton
Mirl Cole	Stella Blanks
Olene Huskey	Amy Willmuth
Esther Watkins	Maude Fletcher

Reports from committees were read, received and committees discharged. Reports fund elsewhere.

The Association accepted the invitation to meet with the Ballew's Chapel Church in 1964 since there were no written requests for the meeting.

Rev. Willard C. Day was selected as Memorial speaker for 1964. Rev. Roover Lewis, alternate. "The Stone" was sung by Rev. and Mrs. Oris Doggett.

Conference adjourned to meet with Ballew's Chapel Church at 9 a. m. on Saturday before the second Sunday in September, 1964.

REPORTS OF COMMITTEES

Sunday Schools

We, the Sunday Schools Committee find that fifteen (15) churches reported Sunday Schools with an enrollment of 1,257. We gained fifty-three (53) since last year's report, only three and one-half (3½) average to each church.

We recommend that each church work harder for their Sunday School, striving to enlarge the enrollment this coming year. Also that last year's recommendation be carried out—the average attendance be listed on the report along with the enrollment.

Charles Wade, Chairman

Temperance

We, your committee wish to submit the following report. Realizing the terrible inroads that loose living and intoxicating beverages are having on people of America, we recommend that our churches go on record in obedience to Romans 12:2, and that all members renew their vow of the church covenant, promising to love and obey God in all things. To avoid all 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 provide things honest in the sight of all men.

M. B. Williams, Chairman

Finance

We, the committee, find that \$135.00 has been paid to the treasurer from the 16 different churches.

Jay Roach, Chairman

Obituaries

We, your committee, find that twelve (12) of our members have been called by death since our last meeting.

ALLEN'S CHAPEL—Donnie Dawson.

BALLEW'S CHAPEL—Mary Cantrell, Arden Watkins, Pat Welch, Jimmy Welch, Bob Smith and Mr. Crutcher.

BLACKLAND CHAPEL—Lena Fay Huckaba.

MT. HARMONY—Mrs. L. C. Doyle, Margarette Hanshaw.

OAK GROVE—H. H. Ring, minister, Garland Davis.

TREASURER'S REPORT

Received from churches	\$135.00
Balance from last year	6.49
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TOTAL	\$141.49

Expenditures

To Arkansas State Association toward expenses of State meeting	\$ 48.00
Toward printing of State Minutes	39.00
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.....	\$ 87.00
Balance on hand for printing Minutes of Polk Bayou Association	\$ 54.49

MINISTERS PRESENT

Henry Doyle	Newport
Grover Terry	Grubbs
Hoover Lewis	Newport Rt., Batesville
Obie Eagan	Walnut Ridge
Willard C. Day	1110 Malcolm Ave., Newport
Othaniel Safirt	Grubbs
Ray Watkins	Rt. 2, Newport
Oris Doggett	Saffell
H. A. Lewis	Newport Rt., Batesville
J. W. Roach	Rt. 1, Batesville
B. Woodruff	Newport
Ernest Elms	Oil Trough
Billy D. Willhite	Rt. 2, Newport
Licentiate Ronnie Blanks	F. W. B. Bible College, Nashville, Tennessee

MINISTERS BELONGING BUT NOT PRESENT

Everette Barksdale Wichita, Kansas
J. W. Blanks Batesville Rt., Salado
Donald Erwin address unknown
David Joslin 2049 Maple St., Batesville
Tommy Manuel Rt. 3, Batesville
Kenneth Manuel McHue Rt., Batesville
Austin Mullen Newport Rt., Batesville
Henry Obarts 408 E. Speedway, Trumann
Jimmy Richardson Batesville
John Riggs Rt. 2, Batesville
Coy Staggs Batesville Rt., Salado
Archie Warnick Hoxie
M. A. Wolfe Oklahoma

DEACONS PRESENT

H. C. Lewis, Lewis Adkisson, Jay Roach, Horace Doyle, Gerphus Huskey, Millard Williams, Virgil Odglen, A. T. Blanks, Sr., W. M. McCoy, Earl Clark, Ernest Elms, Otis Richey, C. A. Dobbs, Bob Huckaba.

CHURCH CLERKS PRESENT

Lorene Doyle, Cleva Lesley, Eva Miller, Earle Sims, Zelma Roach, Mabel Huckaba, Vina Harvell, Pauline Richey, Wilma Oldham.

DELEGATES PRESENT

ALLEN'S CHAPEL—Geraldine Johnston, Irene Haynie, Charles Wade.

BALLEW'S CHAPEL—Fannie Welch, Daisy Byrd, Mrs. Grover Terry.

BATESVILLE, FIRST CHURCH—Hester Lesley, Mona Greenfield.

BLACKLAND CHAPEL—Lillian Martin, Glen Chambliss, Des-sie Huckaba.

COFFMAN—Douglas Oldham.

ISLAND—Tempy Burrow, Neil Reid, Gertie Doyle.

MT. HARMONY—Lorena Crabtree, Jimmy Crabtree, Linda Doyle.

NEW HOME No. 2—G. E. Richardson, Abbie Adkisson, Bethel Richardson.

NEWPORT—Helen Day, Imogene Mantooth, Bessie Thomas.

OAK GROVE—Flossie Davis, Winford Davis.

OAKLAND—Claud Clark, Della Clark, Jessie Stanberry.

POOL'S CHAPEL—Opal Hawkins, Nina Jean Carter.

TUCKERMAN—Pearl Gray, Estelle Bradley, Esther Watkins.

MINISTERS' REPORTS

Since moving to Arkansas I have pastored one church witnessed two conversions, three re-dedications, accepted four into the church, traveled 27,500 miles and received \$3,260.00. Held one revival, helped in three funerals, and married one couple.

Previous to the move to Arkansas I pastored in Missouri, one church, "Grant Ave. Free Will Baptist Church," 1060 S. Grant Ave., Springfield, Missouri.

In Missouri our year began July 1, and ended June 30.

Grover Terry

It has been my privilege to pastor one church, half-time, preaching fifty-four sermons, witnessing four professions of faith and accepting four new members into the church. Attended two revivals at other churches, printed 2,000 pieces of literature, bulletins, programs, etc., and have given away quite a number of tracts. On account of ill health, I have missed two Associational meetings, some other appointments, and missed printing two editions of the Bulletin. One of the latter was caused by getting a finger in a skill saw.

Amount received from church services \$118.49. We desire your prayers, that we may get to do more in the coming year for the Master.

Austin Mullen

Pastored two churches half-time each, preached 102 sermons, baptized two, held six funerals, married four couples. Money received \$1,111.68.

Hoover Lewis

SPENT FOR LOCAL CHURCHES

Pastors' salaries	8	\$19,128.5
Evangelistic work		1,677.93
Building and repairs		24,568.07
Literature		2,080.07
Radio Programs, etc.		93.00
Miscellaneous		2,148.62
Other		1,721.33
TOTAL		\$31,048.33

SPENT FOR OUTSIDE CAUSES

Cooperative Plan		\$ 1,064.59
Foreign Missions		719.20
Home Missions		179.91
Education		100.00
Orphanage		62.00
Associational Projects		57.00
State and National Projects		139.80
Others		159.54
TOTAL		\$ 2,323.17

MEMBERSHIP

Resident	1,038
Non-Resident	554
TOTAL	1,592

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 all 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 faithfully to discharge our obligations in reference to the study of the scriptures, secret prayer, family devotions, and social worship; and by self-denial, faith, and good works endeavor to "grow in grace and the knowledge of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ."

We will not forsake the assembling of ourselves together for church conferences; public worship, and the observance of the ordinances 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.

We agree to accept Christian admonition and reproof with meekness, and to watch over one another in love, endeavoring to "keep the unity of the Spirit" in the 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 of the Gospel.

We will everywhere hold Christian principles 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.

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 the World, and may the God of Peace sanctify us wholly, and preserve us blameless unto the coming of our 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 1:7; 1 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; but 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 end 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 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. Ep. 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.