
Minutes
Of The
Polk Bayou Association
Of
Free Will Baptists
Held With
Ballew's Chapel Church

Near Grubbs, Arkansas

SEPTEMBER 12, 1964

The 1965 session of the Association will be held with Allen's Chapel Church near Salado, Independence 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

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OFFICERS

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

EXECUTIVE BOARD

Rev. J. W. Blanks, 5 years, 1969 Batesville Rt., Salado
Deacon M. B. Williams, 4 years, 1968 Strawberry
Rev. J. W. Roach, 3 years, 1967 Rte. 1, Batesville
Rev. Ray Watkins, 2 years, 1966 Rte. 2, Newport
Deacon Earl Clark, 1 year, 1965 Rte. 2, Newport

ORDAINING COUNCIL

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

PROGRAM COMMITTEE

Allen's Chapel Church

MEMORIAL SPEAKER

Rev. Ray Watkins

ALTERNATE

Rev. H. A. 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—Rev. Kenneth Manuel, McHue; Clara Tate, Melbourne.

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

COFFMAN—Rev. Lowell Graham, Hoxie; Wilma Oldham, Portia.

ISLAND—Rev. W. H. Doyle, Rt. 3, Newport; Mrs. Eva Miller, Rt. 4, Box 318, Newport.

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

MT. HARMONY—Rev. Lonnie Clark, 227 E. Carter St., Batesville; Mrs. Lorene Doyle, Strawberry.

NEW HOME—Rev. Lonnie Clark, 227 E. Carter St., Batesville; Mrs. Earle Sims, Mt. Pleasant.

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

OAK GROVE—Rev. Lowell Graham, Hoxie; Miss Olena Smith, Powhatan.

OAKLAND—Rev. Henry Obarts, Rt. 2, Box 50A, Bradford;
~~Mrs. Lorene Burrow, Rt. 2, Box 50, Bradford.~~

POOL'S CHAPEL—Rev. Jimmy Richardson, Batesville Rte., Salado; 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—No pastor.
Mrs. Alene Milligan, Rt. 2, Batesville.

PROCEEDINGS

Saturday, 9:00 a. m., September 12, 1964

The Polk Bayou Association met at the Ballew's Chapel Church near Grubbs, Arkansas, opened with congregational singing, led by Mrs. Helen Day and Sue Montgomery at the piano.

The Moderator, Rev. Hoover Lewis, read scripture I Timothy 3:14, then called the ordained to the altar for prayer which was led by Rev. Lonnie Clark.

Letters from the churches were read, accepted, and the delegates seated by right hand of fellowship.

The following committees were appointed:

SUNDAY SCHOOL—Hester Lesley, Geraldine Johnston, Lorene Doyle.

FINANCE—A. T. Blanks, M. B. Williams, G. E. Richardson.

OBITUARIES—Bessie Thomas, Eva Miller, Avanell Saffell.

TEMPERANCE—Rev. Lonnie Clark, Rev. Henry Obarts, Rev. J. W. Blanks.

ELECTION OF OFFICERS

Moderator, Rev. Hoover Lewis; Assistant Moderator, M. B. Williams; Clerk and Treasurer, Mrs. M. B. Williams; Assistant Clerk, Mrs. Ruth Leonard. All were elected by acclamation.

Rev. W. C. Day resigned from his position on the Executive Board due to the fact that he is leaving for Fort Smith, Arkansas. Deacon Earl Clark of Ballew's Chapel Church was elected to fill the unexpired term of Rev. Day.

Rev. J. W. Blanks was elected to the 5 year term on the board.

RECESS

11:00 a. m.—DIVINE SERVICE

Called to worship by singing led by Ralph Welch of Ballew's Chapel Church. Prayer by Rev. Henry Obarts. Special singing by the Teenage Senior choir of Ballew's Chapel Church

directed by Earl Clark, "Master the Tempest is Raging."

Another special, "Nailed to the Cross" by Robbie Snellgrove of Blackland Church, accompanied by Mrs. Helen Day at the piano.

The assistant moderator, Rev. Grover Terry, introduced the speaker, Rev. W. C. Day, who prayed, then read Rev. 14:13-14 and Proverbs 10:7. Then brought the memorial message in memory of the eleven members of the association who had passed away since the 1963 session of the association.

Song, "After Death What Then" directed by Ralph Welch.

Benediction and blessing on the food expressed by Rev. Lonnie Clark.

NOON

Saturday—1:15 P. M.

Called together with singing directed by Ralph Welch. Prayer by H. A. Lewis. Special songs, "What Will I Leave Behind" and "Just For Me" rendered by Ballew's Chapel Church quartet, composed of Ralph Welch, Mr. and Mrs. Earl Clark and A. T. Blanks.

Henry Doyle gave the devotional, reading scripture from Psalm 19:1-4 and II Timothy 3:1-3 and Psalm 1.

Request from Weaver's Chapel Church was read, quote: "Our church has had a lot of confusion lately and we ask the association to straighten the church out."

Motion made to take into consideration this request and offer our assistance; seconded, carried.

Motion that the Executive Board handle the situation; seconded, carried. The Executive Board met immediately to make plans and set a date to meet with the Weaver's Chapel Church.

Rev. Grover Terry asked for a letter of recommendation from Polk Bayou Association to an Association in Missouri, since he was leaving here for Missouri in the near future. Request granted.

Ordaining Council asked that Rev. Lonnie Clark of New Hope Association and Rev. Lowell Graham of Social Band Association be accepted into the Polk Bayou Association. The request was granted.

Since no church had asked for the next meeting of the Association by request on letter—a motion was made to set aside the ruling for this particular session—that a written request be necessary to ask for the Associational meeting. Seconded, carried.

Rev. J. W. Blanks invited the Association to meet with the Allen's Chapel Church in September, 1965. The invitation was accepted.

DELEGATES TO THE ARKANSAS STATE ASSOCIATION

Delegates	Alternates
Mr. O. W. Boyd	Mrs. Bessie Thomas
Mr. Adrian Haigwood	Miss Ethel Doyle
Mrs. O. W. Boyd	Mrs. Ruth Leonard
Mr. Rucker Sims	Mrs. Alma Huskey
Mr. Ralph Welch	Mrs. Mae Waddill

Elected by acclamation.

Reports were read, accepted and the committees discharged.

Financial Committee gave a partial report—an offering of \$29.79 was given which completed their report.

The Moderator asked that it be recommended to the churches that each church give an offering to help toward the purchase of a car for the Calverys Missionaries to Japan, who are home on their second furlough.

A love offering of \$12.90 was given to the Calverys after dismissal.

Rev. Ray Watkins was selected to preach the Memorial message in 1965. Rev. H. A. Lewis is alternate.

REPORTS OF COMMITTEES

Sunday Schools

We the Sunday Schools Committee find that sixteen (16) churches reported Sunday Schools with an enrollment of 1,369. We feel this enrollment could be larger with more laborers going out into the harvest. With visitation and more personal work we might reach them.

Geraldine Johnston, Chairman
Hester Lesley, Lorene Doyle

Temperance

We your committee submit the following suggestion, that each Free Will Baptist use their privileges as a citizen of this country to vote against the sale of intoxicating beverages and to abstain from the use thereof.

We also recommend that each church in this Association take a strong stand against legalizing gambling in the state, and exercise the Christian duty to vote against it in the November General Election.

Lonnie Clark, Chairman
W. H. Obarts, J. W. Blanks

Finance

We your committee find that \$121.00 was sent in with the church letters and an offering of \$29.79 was given by the congregation making a total of \$150.79, which we have given to the treasurer.

A. T. Blanks, Chairman
M. B. Williams, G. E. Richardson

Obituaries

We your committee find that eleven (11) of our members have been called by death since we met last year.

Allen's Chapel—Mr. Ross Hughes, Mr. Ralph Johnston, Mr. Ralph Allen.

Mt. Harmony—Aunt Belle Doyle, age 95.
 Newport—Earl Cummins.
 Oak Grove—Mrs. Ara Richey.
 Oakland—Mrs. Jessie Stanberry, Mr. Ben Griffin.
 Tuckerman—Max Casteel.
 Weaver's Chapel—Rev. Austin Mullen, Mr. Abe Brokaw.

Bessie Thomas, Chairman
 Eva Miller, Avaneil Saffell

TREASURER'S REPORT

Received from churches	\$121.00
Offering	29.79
	\$150.79
TOTAL	\$150.79

Expenditures

To Arkansas State Association toward expenses of State meeting	\$42.00
Toward printing of State Minutes	36.00
To Treasurer	6.00
	\$84.00
TOTAL	\$84.00
Balance on hand for printing Minutes of Polk Bayou Association	\$66.79

MINISTERS PRESENT

H. A. Lewis, Batesville Rt., Salado.
 J. W. Blanks, Batesville Rt., Salado.
 Hoover Lewis, Newport Rt., Batesville.
 Henry Obarts, Rt. 2, Box 50A, Bradford.
 W. H. Doyle, Newport.
 Grover Terry, Grubbs.
 W. C. Day, Newport.
 Lowell Graham, Hoxie.
 Lonnie Clark, 227 E. Carter St., Batesville.
 B. Woodruff, Newport.
 Ray Watkins, Rt. 2, Newport.

Ministers Belonging But Not Present

Everette Barksdale, Wichita, Kansas.
Tommy Manuel, Rt. 3, Batesville.
Kenneth Manuel, McHue.
Jimmy Richardson, Batesville Rt., Salado.
John Riggs, Rt. 2, Batesville.
Coy Staggs, Batesville Rt., Salado.
Archie Warnick, Hoxie.
M. A. Wolfe, Oklahoma.
E. M. Phillips, Guion.
Obie Eagan, Smithville (Rt.)
Othaniel Safirt, Grubbs.
J. W. Roach, Rt. 1, Batesville.
Ernest Elms, Oil Trough.
Billy D. Willhite, Rt. 2, Newport.
Licentiate Ronnie Blanks, F.W.B. Bible College, Nashville,
Tennessee.

DEACONS PRESENT

Walter Adkisson, Louis Adkisson, Virgil Odglen, M. B. Williams, Earl Clark, W. N. McCoy, A. T. Blanks, Sr., Earl Morgan.

CHURCH CLERKS PRESENT

Eva Miller, Earle Sims, Lorene Doyle, Mabel Huckaba, Alene Milligan, Lorene Burrow.

DELEGATES PRESENT

ALLEN'S CHAPEL—Geraldine Johnston, Mirl Coles, Billie Jean Davis.
BALLEW'S CHAPEL—Elsie Boyd, Fannie Welch, Hazel McCoy.
BATESVILLE, FIRST CHURCH—Willia Jean Lewis, Hester Lesley, Bessie Lewis.
BLACKLAND—Robbie Snellgrove, Dessie Huckaba.
COFFMAN—R. F. Townsley.

ISLAND—Owen Burrow, Tempy Burrow, Gertie Doyle.
 MT. HARMONY—Linda Doyle, Avanell Saffell, Willodean Clayton.
 NEW HOME—Brenda Ruminer, G. E. Richardson, Rucker Sims.
 NEWPORT, FIRST CHURCH—Bessie Thomas, Helen Day.
 OAK GROVE—Flossie Davis.
 OAKLAND—Claude Clark.
 POOL'S CHAPEL—Nina Jean Carter, Johnny Carter.
 TUCKERMAN—Nellie Doss, Ola Webb, Pearl Gray.

SPENT FOR LOCAL CAUSES

Pastors' Salaries	\$18,565.81
Evangelistic work	1,630.47
Building and repair	7,542.06
Literature	1,716.39
Radio programs, etc.	407.77
Miscellaneous	3,436.32
Other	4,137.28
TOTAL.....	\$37,436.10

SPENT FOR OUTSIDE CAUSES

Cooperative Plan	\$860.78
Foreign Missions	212.25
Home Missions	78.14
Education	16.00
Orphanage	72.00
Associational Projects	49.50
State and National Projects	170.34
Other	95.35
TOTAL.....	\$1,554.36

MEMBERSHIP

Resident	1,105
Non-Resident	553
TOTAL.....	1,658

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 season.
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 appearances 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 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; 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. 4:15-16.

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.