



MINUTES
Of The
POLK BAYOU ASSOCIATION
Of
FREE WILL BAPTISTS
Held With
Allen's Chapel Free Will Baptist Church
NEAR BATESVILLE
INDEPENDENCE COUNTY, ARKANSAS
JULY 13, 1968

The 1969 session of the Association will be held with Pool's Chapel Free Will Baptist Church near Cave City, on Saturday before the second Sunday in July, beginning at 9:00 a. m.

REV. J. W. BLANKS, Moderator
Batesville Route
Salado, Arkansas 72575

REV. RAY WATKINS, Assistant Moderator
Route 2, Newport, Arkansas 72112

MRS. M. B. WILLIAMS, Clerk and Treasurer
Strawberry, Arkansas 72469

MRS. GERALDINE JOHNSTON, Assistant Clerk
Batesville Route, Salado, Arkansas 72575





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OFFICERS

Moderator, Rev. J. W. Blanks ----- Batesville Route, Salado
Asst. Moderator, Rev. Ray Watkins ----- Rt. 2, Newport
Clerk & Treasurer, Mrs. M. B. Williams ----- Strawberry
Asst. Clerk, Mrs. Geraldine Johnston ----- Batesville Rt., Salado

EXECUTIVE BOARD

Rev. Hoover Lewis, 5 years, 1973 ----- 430 Blossom Dr., Batesville
Rev. J. W. Roach, 4 years, 1-72 ----- Rt. 1, Box 175A, Batesville
Rev. Billy Van Winkle, 3 years, 1971 ----- Grubbs
Rev. Owen Harvell, 2 years, 1970 ----- Melbourne
Rev. J. W. Blanks, 1 year, 1969 ----- Batesville Rt., Salado

ORDAINING COUNCIL

Rev. Clarence Campbell ----- 417 Elm St., Newport
Rev. Billy Van Winkle ----- Grubbs
Rev. J. W. Roach ----- Rt. 1, Box 175A, Batesville

PROGRAM COMMITTEE

Pool's Chapel Church

MEMORIAL SPEAKER

Rev. Ray Watkins — Newport

ALTERNATE

Rev. Hoover Lewis — Batesville

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

- 1 Allen Chapel — Rev. J. W. Blanks, Batesville Rt., Salado; Mrs. Opal Sturch, Batesville Rt., Salado.
- 2 Ballew's Chapel — Rev. Billy Van Winkle, Grubbs. Mr. Floyd Coleman, Rt. 2, Newport.
- 3 Batesville, First F. W. B. — Rev. Hoover Lewis, 430 Blossom Dr., Batesville. Mrs. Vaughn Ruminer, 1970 Porter, Batesville.
- 4 Bethel —
Mrs. Clara Tate, Melbourne.
- 5 Blackland Chapel — Rev. Billy Willhite, Rt. 2, Newport. Mrs. Mabel Huckaba, Oil Trough.
- 6 Coffman — Rev. Wayne House, Jonesboro. Mrs. Irene Crider, Rt. 1, Box 250 AB, Hoxie.
- 7 Island — Rev. W. H. Doyle, Rt. 3, Newport. Mrs. Eva Millre, Rt. 4, Box 318, Newport.
- 8 Macedonia — Rev. Lonnie Clark, Batesville, Gen. Del. Mrs. Hazel Hall, Mt. Pleasant.
9. Mt. Harmony — Rev. Bernard Roberts, Saffell, Mrs. Lorene Hall, Strawberry.
- 10 New Home — Rev. Owen Harvell, Meloburne. Miss Bethel Richardson, Melbourne.
- 11 Newport First F. W. B. — Rev. Clarence Campbell, 417 Elm, Newport. Mrs. Hugh Johnson, 1405 Fairway, Newport.
- 12 Oakland —
Mrs. Lorene Burrow, Rt. 2, Box 50, Bradford.
- 13 Oak Grove — Rev. Obie Eagan, Rt., Smithville. Mrs. Oma Smith, Rt. 1, Smithville.
- 14 Pool's Chapel — Rev. J. W. Roach, Rt. 1, Box 175A, Batesville. Mr. Laman Roach, Rt. 2, Box 174, Cave City.
- 15 Tuckerman First F. W. B. — Rev. Ray Watkins, Rt. 2, Newport. Mrs. Fay Vines, Rt. 1, Box 90, Tuckerman.

PROCEEDINGS

Saturday, July 13, 1968 — 9:30 a. m.

The Polk Bayou Association of Free Will Baptists met in regular annual session with the Allen's Chapel Free Will Baptist Church near Batesville.

With Sister Robbie Snellgrove at the piano, Brother Ernest Elms directed the congregation in singing "Amazing Grace". Brother B. A. Gibson led in prayer, then the congregation sang "O, I Want to See Him" and "Standing on the Promises."

Remarks by Moderator Rev. Hoover Lewis after which he read Acts 2:41-47. The ordained met in the altar for prayer which was led by Rev. Ray Watkins.

The letters from the different church were read by the clerk.

The ministers, deacons, and church clerks were recognized. The elected delegates were recognized and seated.

The appointment of the following committees by the assistant moderator M. B. Williams.

SUNDAY SCHOOLS—G. E. Richardson, Ruth Razer and Flossie Davis.

TEMPERANCE—Iva Adkisson, Pearl Gray and Regina Sharp.

CHURCH—Virgil Ross, Nina Carter, and Preston Coles.

OBITUARIES—Lorene Doyle, Gertie Doyle, Merle Anderson.

FINANCE—Elton Vines, Willia Jean Lewis, and Bessie Rutledge.

RESOLUTIONS—Ralph Welch, H. B. Dole, Murrell Scudder.

NOMINATING—Gerphus Huskey, Lewis Adkisson, Charles McLaughlin.

The song "Living By Faith" was directed by Brother Elms, with Ruth Leonard at the piano. Prayer by Rev. J. W. Roach.

Romans 11:34-36 and 12:1-2 was read by Rev. Clarence Campbell and a message on "God's Call To Service. Other scriptures used by Bro. Campbell were, Luke 1:74-75, II Cor. 8:10-14, and Romans 12:6-11.

RECESS

Divinre Service 11:00 a. m.

The assembly was called together by congregational singing led by Ernest Elms with Ruth Leonard as pianist.

"When We All Get to Heaven" and "The Good Old Gospel Ship" were sung, followed by a special number "He Cared That Much fo Me" by Rev. and Mrs. Bernard Roberts.

In the absence of the one selected, Rev. Terry Forrest, the alternate, Rev. Owen Harvell, brought the memorial mssag. H usd Ecclesiasts 12 and led in prayer. The subject of his mesage was "God's Final Call."

The pastor of the host church, Rev. J. W. Blanks, made the announcements concerning lunch. The benediction and the blessing on the food was given by Rev. W. H. Doyle.

NOON

1:15 p. m.

The afternoon session was called together with Virgil Ross directing the singing and Hope Van Winkle at the piano. Songs used were "The Son Hath Made Me Free" and "I Want to Know More Than I Know Now." Prayer led by Rev. W. H. Obarts. Scripture Col. 1:10-14 and devotional by Rev. Billy Van Winkle.

ELECTION OF OFFICERS

The Nominating Committee gave their report as follows:

For Moderator ----- Rev. J. W. Blanks
Assistant Moderator ----- Rev. Ray Watkins
Clerk and Treasurer ----- Mrs. M. B. Williams
Assistant Clerk ----- Mrs. Geraldine Johnston

Since there were no nominations from the floor these mentioned were elected unanimously.

Rev. Hoover Lewis, hetiring moderator, expressed his appreciation for the support given him during the years he had served as modeaator. He was elected in 1962.

Rev. Hoover Lewis was elected for a five (5) year term on the Executive Board. This vacancy was created by the expired term of M. B. Williams.

Rev. Ray Watkins was selected for memorial speaker in 1969.

Rev. Hoover Lewis selected as alternate speaker.

The retiring moderator, Rev. Hoover Lewis, appointed the following to serve on the Ordaining Council, and recommended that they report at the end of the year, all work that had been done during the past year:

Rev. Clarence Campbell

Rev. Billy Van Winkle

Rev. J. W. Roach

Delegates to Arkansas State Association were elected by acclamation:

Mrs. Earle Sims

Mrs. Perlene Roberts

Mrs. Geraldine Johnston

Mrs. Estelle Bradley

Mrs. Hope Van Winkle

Alternates — Ralph Welch, Elton Vines, Mrs. Ann Robins, Mrs. Maggie McLoughlin, Mrs. Lorene Doyle.

Pool's Chapel Church was selected as the host church for July 1969 meeting.

The Ordaining Council reported they had found Rev. Bernard Roberts sound in doctrine, principle, and disciplines of Free Will Baptists, and recommended that he be received into the fellowship of this body and bid him and the Mt. Harmony F. W. B. Church God's speed.

The committee also met at the First Free Will Baptist Church of Batesville to examine Bro. Junior Edwards on April 11, 1968, for the purpose of granting a license to preach the Gospel for one year. The license was granted to Bro. Edwards.

Rev. J. W. Blanks, Chmn.

Rev. Ray Watkins

Rev. W. H. Doyle

REPORT OF COMMITTEES

Sunday Schools — We, the committee, wish to give the following report. We find that all the fifteen (15) churches reporting have Sunday Schools with an enrollment of 1237 which is a loss of nineteen (19) from last year.

G. E. Richardson, Chmn.

Ruth Razer

Mrs. Flossie Davis

Church Committee — We, the committee, find fifteen (15) churches represented by letter and delegates.

Total membership -----	1555
Resident members -----	1059
Non Resident members -----	496
Members received -----	100
Members dismissed -----	21
Members deceased -----	12

Virgil Ross, Chmn.
Mrs. Nina Jean Carter
Preston Coles

Resolutions Committee — Be it resolved that this body give a rising vote of thanks to the Allen's Chapel Church for their wonderful hospitality shown during this associational meeting.

Ralph Welch, Chmn.
H. B. Doyle
Murrell Scudder

Finance Committee — We, the committee, find that five (5) churches did not list any outside expenses, and two (2) did not list their total offerings received. We report the following:

Total offerings received by church ----- \$75396.00

Money spent for local causes:

Pastors' salaries -----	\$26579.00
Evangelistic work -----	1776.00
Other local purposes -----	50062.00
Total spent for local causes -----	078417.00

Spent for outside causes:

Foreign Missions -----	\$1497.00
Home Missions -----	246.00
Cooperative Fund -----	1919.00
Other outside causes -----	931.00
Total spent for outside causes -----	\$4593.00

Elton Vines, Chmn.
Mrs. Willia Jean Lewis
Mrs. Bessie Rutledge

Temperance Committee — We, the committee, report as follows: According to the Bible we believe Christians should be temperate in all things and abstain from the use or sale of any alcoholic beverages.

We also believe that we should not patronize any business that sells alcoholic beverages, such as cafes, grocery stores or drug stores.

Recognizing the fashions of the world are not designed with the Christian in mind, we trust that every concerned individual will be cautious about his or her manner of dress.

Mrs. Iva Adkisson, Chmn.
Mrs. Pearl Gray
Miss Regina Sharp

Obituaries Committees — We, your committee, find that God has called twelve of our brethren and sisters from the walk of life but believe our loss is heaven's gain. May each of us be ready to meet Him when we get the final call.

Mrs. Lorene Doyle, Chmn.
Mrs. Gertie Doyle
Mrs. Merle Anderson

DECEASED:

Allen' Chapel — Claude Webster.
Ballew's Chapel — Author Ross.
Batesville First Church — Alfred Buie.
Coffman — Valra McCall and Mrs. Swartzlander.
New Home — Lela Dale and Fannie Furgeson.
Oak Grove — Joe Casper and Doc Blackwell.
Pool's Chapel — Lucinda Pool and Steva Reynolds.
Tuckerman First Church — Rosie Earls.

TREASURER'S REPORT

Received from fifteen churches July 1968	\$296.50
Balance in Treasury	112.73
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TOTAL	\$409.23

Expenditures

To Arkansas State Association for expenses,	
Minutes and letter forms	\$197.90
To Shirrell Printing Co. for Minutes	74.16
TOTAL SPENT	\$272.06
Balance in Treasury	\$137.17

MINISTERS PRESENT

J. W. Blanks	Batesville Rt., Salado
Clarence Campbell	417 Elm St., Newport
W. H. Doyle	Route 3, Newport
Ernest Elms	Oil Trough
Owen Harvell	Melbourne
H. A. Lewis	Batesville Rt., Salado
Hoover Lewis	830 Blossom Drive, Batesville
W. H. Obarts	Rt. 4, Newport
J. W. Roach	Rt. 1, Box 175A, Batesville
Bernard Roberts	Saffell
Billy Van Winkle	Grubbs
Ray Watkins	Rt. 1, Newport

MINISTERS BELONGING — Not Present

Lonnie Clark	Gen. Del., Batesville
Obie Eagan	Rte., Smithville
Terry Forrest	Nashville, Tenn.
Gaylord Huckaba	Oil Trough
Kenneth Manuel	Nashville, Tenn.
E. M. Phillips	Guion
Jimmy Richardson	Batesville Rt., Salado
O. Safirt	Grubbs
Bea Woodruff	R. R., Tuckerman
Billy Willhite	Rt. 2, Newport
Archie Warnick	Mt. Pleasant
J. M. Curl, licensed minister	U. S. Army

DEACONS PRESENT

Alfred Myers	B. A. Gibson
Laman Hastings	Gerphus Huskey
Lewis Adkisson	Millard Williams
Claude Anderson	Bill Townsley
Virgil Ross	Earl Clark
Horace Doyle	George Tubbs
Vick Rutledge	Charles McLaughlin
Wilson Sturch	Verlon Copeland

CHURCH CLERKS PRESENT

Mabel Huckaba, Hazel Hall, Lorene Doyle, Bethel Richardson, Laman Roach.

DELEGATES PRESENT

ALLEN'S CHAPEL — Raymond Campbell, Sharon Fullbright, Preston Coles.

BALLEW'S CHAPEL — Bonnie Brown, Ollie Brown, Elton Vines.

BATESVILLE FIRST CHURCH — Bertha Mullen, Willia Jean ewis.

BETHEL — Gilmore Adkisson.

BLACKLAND CHAPEL — Effie Winchester, Bessie Rutledge.

COFFMAN — Alvis Crider, Jewell Reynolds.

ISLAND — Frankie Obarts, Gertie Doyle, Tempy Burrow.

MACEDONIA — Clara Copeland, Myrl Anderson.

MT. HARMONY — Perlene Roberts, Regina Sharp, Ramona Polston.

NEW HOME — G. E. Richardson, Iva Adkisson, Earle Sims.

NEWPORT FIRST CHURCH — Georgia Rhodes.

OAK GROVE — Flossie Davis, Bill Treatenburg, Cora Campbell.

OAKLAND — Ruth Razer, Marsha Razer.

POOL'S CHAPEL — Lois Satterwhite, Nina Jean Carter, Annie Coles.

TUCKERMAN — Elam Doyle, Hollie Huskey, Pearl Gray.

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 membership present.

5. If any proposition or motion under debate contains two or more points, it shall be divided at the request of any member of 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 July.
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 letters.

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 and 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 yet 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 status 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. 1:8-21; 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. 8:16.

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 continued 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; 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 th 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 tha tis 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.