
MINUTES
Of The
POLK BAYOU ASSOCIATION
Of
FREE WILL BAPTISTS

Held With
Mt. Harmony Freewill Baptist Church
AT SAFFELL

LAWRENCE COUNTY, ARKANSAS

July 10, 1971

The 1972 session of the Association will be held with Allen's Chapel Free Will Baptist Church near Batesville, on Saturday before the second Sunday in July, beginning at 9:30 a. m.

MILLARD WILLIAMS, Moderator
Strawberry, Arkansas

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

MRS. MILLARD WILLIAMS, Clerk and Treasurer
Strawberry, Arkansas

MRS. HOOVER LEWIS, Assistant Clerk
430 Blossom Dr., Batesville, Arkansas

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OFFICERS

Moderator, Millard Williams ----- Strawberry
Ass't. Modreator, Rev. Ray Watkins ----- Route 2, Newport
Clerk and Treasurer, Mrs. Millard Williams ----- Strawberry
Ass't. Clerk, Mrs. Hoover Lewis ----- 430 Blossom Dr., Batesville

EXECUTIVE BOARD

Rev. Don Brewer, 5 years, 1976 ----- Newport
Rep. Gaylord Huckaba, 4 years, 1975 ----- Oil Trough
Rev. Bernard Roberts, 3 years, 1974 ----- Saffell
Rev. Hoover Lewis, 2 years, 1972 ----- 430 Blossom Dr., Batesville
Rev. J. W. Roach, 1 year, 1972 ----- Rt. 1, Box 175A, Batesville

ORDAINING COUNCIL

Rev. W. H. Doyle ----- Newport
Rev. Bernard Roberts ----- Saffell
Rev. Don Brewer ----- Newport

PROGRAM COMMITTEE

Allen's Chapel Church

MEMORIAL SPEAKER

Rev. Don Brewer

ALTERNATE SPEAKER

Rev. Bernard Roberts

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

- Allen's Chapel — Rev. J. W. Blanks, Batesville Rt., Salado.
Mrs. Ruth Leonard, Batesville Rt., Salado.
- Ballew's Chapel — Rev. Richard Bowers, Grubbs.
Mr. Glenn Odglen, Rt. 2, Box 393, Newport.
- Batesville First F. W. B. — Rev. Hoover Lewis, 430 Blossom Dr., Batesville.
Mrs. Vaughn Ruminer, 1970 Porter St., Batesville.
- Blackland Chapel — Rep. Jimmy Richardson, Newport Rt., Batesville.
Mrs. Mabel Huckaba, Oil Trough.
- Coffman —
Mrs. Irene Crider, Rt. 1 Box 250B, Hoxie.
- Island — Rev. W. H. Doyle, Route 3, Newport
Mrs. Eva Miller, Rt. 4, Box 319, Newport
- Macedonia — Rev. Lonnie Clark — Mt. Pleasant
Mrs. Charles F. Brooks, Sage
- Mt. Harmony — Rev. Bernard Roberts, Saffell
Mrs. Lorene Doyle, Strawberry
- Nwe Home — Rev. Owen Harvell, Melbourne
Mr. Kenny Morrison, Melbourne
- Newport First F.W.B. — Rev. Don Brewer, Newport
Mrs. Donna Woodruff, 1512 McLain, Newport
- Oakland — Rev. Gaylord Huckaba, Oil Trough
Dorothy Bible, Rt. 2, Bradford
- Oak Grove —
Mrs. Oma Smith, Rt. 1, Smihtville
- Pool's Chapel — Rev. J. W. Roach, Rt. 1, Box 175A, Batesville.
Mr. Laman Roach, Rt. 2, Box 174, Cave City.
- Tuckerman First F. W. B. — Rev. Ray Watkins, Rt. 2, Newport.
Mrs. Fay Vines, Tuckerman.
- Weaver's Chapel — Rev. Everette Barksdale, Salado.
Mrs. Lena Justice, Rt. 2 Box 157A, Batesville.

PROCEEDINGS

Saturday, July 10, 1971 — 9:30 a. m.

The meeting was called to order by congregational singing directed by Horace Doyle with Ann Doyle at the piano, followed with prayer by the Moderator Millard Williams after which he read the Scripture from the "Sermon on the Mount" in Matthew 5:1-12.

The Moderator gave a few remarks then called the ordained to the altar for prayer which was opened by Rev. Obie Eagen and concluded by Rev. Richard Bowers.

Letters from the different churches were read by the clerk, Mrs. Williams, after which the delegates were recognized and seated by the assistant moderator Rev. Ray Watkins.

The assistant moderator also appointed the following committees.

Nominating —

Finance or Digest — Rev. Don Brewer, Harold Howard, Virgil Odglen.

Sunday Schools — Willa Jean Lewis, Jean Hightower, Robbie Snellgrove.

Temperance — Rev. Obie Eagen, Jewell Reynolds, Rev. Claude Harmon.

Obituaries — Jean Cash, Ann Doyle, Elaine Odglen.

Resolutions — Rev. Richard Bowres, Rev. J. W. Roach, Rev. Hoover Lewis,
Rev. Bernard Roberts, Rev. Gaylord Huckaba

In the absence of the assistant clerk, Mrs. Ruth Leonard, Mrs. Hoover Lewis was appointed to assist the clerk.

The Moderator read the By-Laws of the Association.

Rev. Hoover Lewis gave a report on the work of the district C. T. S. (Church Training Service). He emphasized the good of it and the need for more participation. The meetings are quarterly in March, June, September and December. He also explained the different contests and gave the ages for the participants of each contest — Sword Drill, Bible Bowl, and Tic Tac Toe.

Comments were made by Rev. Ray Watkins and Rev. Richard Bowers about combining the C. T. S. Convention and the Sunday Schools Convention but nothing definite was planned.

Mrs. Hoover Lewis gave some challenging remarks about the work of the Woman's Auxiliary. The importance of it and the need of more women

being involved. The need of supporting missions and doing benevolent work, even to our next-door neighbor.

It was announced that the new camp would be ready to have the state meeting there in August.

The Moderator announced that Rev. Gaylord Huckaba would bring the devotional in the afternoon session.

Intermission

11:00 A. M. DIVINE SERVICE

The service began with the congregation singing "Place Your Hand in the Nail Scarred Hand," directed by Elam Doyle with Ann Doyle at the piano.

Rev. and Mrs. Bernard Roberts rendered two special number in song, "He Touched Me" and "Just a Little While."

The assistant moderator introduced the speaker, Rev. Richard Bowers, who gave a very inspirational memorial message. Subject "What Shall I Answer Him?" using for (4) calls:

- (1) Call to Salvation — II Peter 3:9 and Rev. 22:17
- (2) Call to Service — Matt. 16:24
- (3) Call of Death — Hebrews 9:27
- (4) Call to Judgment — Hebrews 9:27.

Prayer by Rev. Bowers.

Rev. Hoover Lewis announced that the Lonnie Palmer family is living in Batesville and urged each church to support them during their furlough here.

The Palmers are missionaries to the Ivory Coast Africa and have served two (2) terms there.

Dismissal prayer and blessing on food was by Rev. Don Brewer.

Lunch was served at the church.

Afternoon Session — 1:15

The group was called together by singing "The Son Hath Made Me Free," directed by Virgil Ross with Ann Doyle accompanist.

A special number in song "Time Has Made a Change," by Mr. and Mrs. Horace Doyle and Ann.

Scripture I Thessalonians 1:8-10 by Rev. Gaylord Huckaba.

Prayer, Gilmore Adkisson.

Motion carried to grant Rev. Lowell Graham's request for a recommendation from Polk Bayou Association to Social Band Association as he was accepting work in that Association.

The Moderator urged each church to subscribe to Vision, the state paper.

Rev. Bernard Roberts and Rev. Richard Bowers gave a report of what had been accomplished at Horseshoe Bend in the investigation of the possibility of a Free Will Baptist Church there.

Rev. Ray Watkins gave a report on the Sunday School Convention and made some challenging remarks on Sunday School attendance.

Delegates and alternates were elected to the State Meeting, to be held at the Youth Camp at Conway on August 11-13, as follows:

Delegates	Alternates
Jean Cash	Alma Doyle
Opal Poole	Raymond Clark
Juanita Hastings	Elanie Odglen
Olene Huskey	Ralph Welch
Chester Bomer	Preston Coles

Local delegates from the different churches were accepted by the Association to attend the State Association meeting.

Allen's Chapel Church near Batesville was selected for the host church in 1972. Rev. Don Brewer was chosen for the memorial speaker.

Rev. Beranrd Roberts is alternate.

REPORTS OF COMMITTEES

Sunday Schools — We, your committee on Sunday Schools, encourage each member of our Sunday Schools to be individually responsible for himself and his family. Invite someone to attend church each Sunday.

If you accept an office in the Sunday School, feel responsible to be present every Sunday, or if you are unable to attend personally feel re-

sponsible to notify your substitute teacher in advance so that he, or she, can make necessary preparation to teach.

Don't wait until Sunday morning to do so. Each teacher appoint some one every Sunday to contact those who are absent.

We would encourage each church to sponsor a Teacher Training Course for their Sunday School officers and teachers.

Number of Sunday Schools	15
Enrollment	1182
Average Attendance	867

Willia Jean Lewis, Chairman
Jean Hightower,
Robbie Snellgrove.

Temperance Committee — We, your Temperance Committee believe and recommend that all church members should abstain from all worldly amusement and strong drink and live a life above reproach so the world may see and know that we are Christians as well as church members.

Obie Eagan, Chairman
Jewell Reynolds
Claude Harmon.

Obituaries — We, the Committee, find that God has called sixteen (16) of our brethren and sisters from the walks of life.

Allen's Chapel — Deacon Blain Richardson.

Ballew's Chapel — Deacon Earl Clark, Rev. Bea Woodruff, Mrs. Elvie Crotts,
Mr. Ollie Brown, Earl Crotts, Mrs. Notra Woodruff.

Batesville First F. W. B. — Mrs. Pearl Roach.

Mt. Harmony — J. C. Terry.

Newport First F. W. B. — Lon Coleman, Mrs. Maude Fletcher, Grace Elliott.

Oak Grove — Will Sharp, Dick Campbell.

Pool's Chapel — Ollie Welch.

Tuckerman First F. W. B. — Austin Cason.

Resolutions Committee — Be it resolved that we give the Mt. Harmony Church a vote of thanks for their hospitality.

Rev. Richard Bowers, Chairman
Rev. J. W. Roach
Rev. Hoover Lewis
Rev. Bernard Roberts
Rev. Gaylord Huckaba.

Finance — We the committee report as follows.

Spent for local causes

Pastors salaries -----	\$35,566.27
Evangelistic work -----	2,353.27
Building and repair -----	16,041.50
Literature -----	4,415.66
Other -----	11,616.47
Expenses and Minutes -----	83.00
TOTAL -----	\$70,076.17

Spnet for outside causes

Cooperative plan -----	\$ 3,156.45
Foreign Missions -----	1,930.82
Home Missions -----	1,531.33
Education -----	984.54
Associational Projects -----	175.00
State & National Projects -----	296.95
Other -----	157.67
To State Association -----	182.00
TOTAL -----	\$ 8,414.76

GRAND TOTAL ----- \$78,490.93

DIGEST COMMITTEE REPORT

Number of churches, 15; parsonages, 4; church membership, 1412; odrained ministers, 24; licensed minister, 1; ordained deasons, 50; C. T. S. enrollment, 508; average attendance, 317; nrollment in Woman's Auxiliary, 72; average attendance, 50; enrollmnt of Mastr's men, 19; average attendance 13; mid-week avrag attndanc, 203.

TREASURER'S REPORT

Balance on hand October 1970 -----	\$143.09
To Youth Camp Oct. 6, 1970 -----	50.00
Balance -----	\$ 93.09
Rec'd from churches in July 1971 -----	265.00
TOTAL -----	\$358.09

Expenditures in 1971

To Arkansas State Association	\$182.00
To Christian Supply Store	2.73
For postage	2.04
	\$186.77
\$358.09 minus \$186.77 equals	\$171.32
To Shirrell for Minutes	77.25
NEW BALANCE	\$\$\$94.07

ORDAINING COUNCIL REPORT

We the Board highly recommend that Brother Tommy Bible be licensed to preach the Gospel.

W. H. Doyle, Chairman
Don Brewer
Bernadr Roberts.

Brother Bible was recommended to the Association for license by the Oakland Free Will Baptist Church where he is a member.

These reports were accepted and adopted.

ELECTION OF OFFICERS

The Nominating Committee gave their report as follows:

Moderator	Millard Williams
Assistant Moderator	Rev. Ray Watkins
Clerk and Treasurer	Mrs. Millard Williams
Assistant Clerk	Mrs. Hoover Lewis

Motion and second that these be elected by acclamation. Carried.

Rev. Don Brewer was elected for a five (5) year term on the Executive Board to fill the vacancy created by the expired term of Rev. Richard Bowers.

Announcements were made and a rising vote of thanks to the host church for the hospitality and the good food furnished.

Song — "Leaning on the Everlasting Arms."

Closing prayer by Rev. Henry Doyle.

MNIISTERS PRESENT

Ray Watkins	-----	Rt. 2, Newport
Hoover Lewis	-----	430 Blossom Dr., Batesville
W. H. Doyle	-----	Rt. 3, Newport
Lonnie Clark	-----	Gen. Del., Batesville
Don Brewer	-----	Newport
Richard Bowers	-----	Grubbs
Bernard Roberts	-----	Saffell
Gaylord Huckaba	-----	Oil Trough
Obie Eagan	-----	Saffell
Claude Harmon	-----	
Everette Barksdale	-----	Salado

MNIISTERS BELONGING — NOT PRESENT

Herman Lewis	-----	Batesville
Kenneth Manuel	-----	
Jimmy Richardson	-----	Batesville Rt., Salado
Ottis Richey	-----	
W. H. Obarts	-----	Rt. 4, Newport
Owen Harvell	-----	Melbourne
Billy Willhite	-----	Rt. 2, Newport
Herbert Crouch	-----	
J. W. Roach	-----	Rt. 1, Box 175A, Batesville
O. Safirt	-----	Grubbs
Ernest Elms	-----	Oil Trough
J. W. Blanks	-----	Batesville Rt., Salado
Archie Warnick	-----	Mt. Pleasant

DEACONS PRESENT

Virgil Odglen, Laman Hastings, Charles McLaughlin, Virgil Ross, Harold Howard, Horace Doyle, Gerphus Huskey, Millard Williams.

CHURCH CLERKS PRESENT

Mabel Huckaba, Lorene Doyle, Borothy Bible, Laman Roach, Lena Justice.

DELEGATES PRESENT

Allen's Chapel — Preston Coles, Margaret Presley, Mirl Coles.
Ballew's Chapel — Elaine Odglen, Stella Blanks, Judy Tubbs.

Batesville First — Altha Hall, Bertha Mullen, Willia Jean Lewis.
Blackland Chapel — Robbie Snellgrove, Gene Hightower, Dessie Huckaba.
Coffman — Jewell Reynolds.
Island — Gertie Doyle, Tippy Burrow.
Mt. Harmony — Regina Sharp, Ann Doyle, Florence Huskey.
New Home — Gilmore Adkisson, Iva Adkisson, Nina Mae Harvell.
Newport First — Mrs. Dobbs, Hazel Coleman, Ethel Doyle.
Oakland — Jackie Huckaba, Sandra Sturch, Tommy Bible.
Oak Grove — Gertha Eagan.
Pool's Chapel — Juanita Hastings.
Tuckerman First — Deno Sodon, Johnnie Cash, 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.

9. Arrangements shall be made to insure at least two sessions each day of each session of the Association.

10. The moderator shall announce just before adjournment who shall preach at the next meeting.

11. 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 give 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 of 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 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 Christian 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 Presidency 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 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; Thes. 1:8-9; Rev. 14:11; 21-18; Luke 16:23; II Cor. 5:10.

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 substances 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.