
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 8, 1972

The 1973 session of the Association will be held with the New Home Free Will Baptist Church near Gid, Izard County, Arkansas, 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, Ark.

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. Moderator, 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. J. W. Roach, 5 years, 1977 ----- Rt. 1, Box 175A, Batesville
Rev. Don Brewer, 4 years, 1976 ----- State St., Newport
Rev. Gaylord Huckaba, 3 years, 1975 ----- Oil Trough
Rev. Bernard Roberts, 2 years, 1974 ----- Saffell
Rev. Hoover Lewis, 1 year, 1973 ----- 430 Blossom Dr., Batesville

ORDAINING COUNCIL

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

PROGRAM COMMITTEE

New Home Church

MEMORIAL SPEAKER

Rev. Terry Holland

ALTERNATE SPEAKER

Rev. Lonnie Clark

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

Allen's Chapel — Rev. J. W. Blanks, Batesville Rt., Salado.
Mrs. Louise Cartwright, Wolf Bayou.

Ballew's Chapel — Rev. Terrell Holland, Grubbs.
, Mr. Glen 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 — Rev. Jimmy Richardson, Batesville.
Mrs. Mabel Huckaba, Oil Trough.

Coffman — Rev. J. W. Russell, Walnut Ridge.
Mrs. Irene Cridler, Rt. 1, Box 250AB, Hoxie.

Island —
Mrs. Eva Miller, Rt. 4, Box 318, Newport.

Macedonia — Rev. Lonnie Clark, Mt. Pleasant.
Mr. Charles F. Brooks, Sage.

Mt. Harmony — Rev. Bernard Roberts, Saffell.
Mrs. Lorene Doyle, Strawberry.

New Home — Rev. Owen Harvell, Melbourne.
Mr. Kenneth Morrison, Melbourne.

Newport First F.W.B. — Rev. Don Brewer, State St., Newport.
Mrs. Donna Woodruff, 1512 McLain Newport.

Oakland — Rev. Morris Tucker, Rt. 2, Bradford.
Mrs. Ellen Sturch, Rt. 2 Box 322, Bradford.

Oka Grove — Rev. David Winfrey, Walnut Ridge.
Mrs. Oma Smith, Rt. 1, Smithville.

Pool's Chapel — Rev. J. W. Roach, Route 1, Batesville.
Mr. Laman Roach, Rt. 2, Box 174, Batesville.

Tuckerman First F. W. B. — Rev. Ray Watkins, Rt. 2, Newport.
Mrs. Fay Vines, P. O. Box 427, Tuckerman.

Weaver's Chapel — No Report.

PROCEEDINGS

Saturday, July 8, 1972 — 9:30 a. m.

The session began with congregational singing directed by Rev. J. W. Blanks with Mrs. Robbie Snelgrove at the piano. "Power In The Blood" and "Amazing Grace." After a few remarks by the moderator in which he stressed the need of fellowship and prayer he led the opening prayer.

The Moderator, Millard Williams read Matthew 6:9-13 in which is found the model prayer Christ gave to his disciples. After the reading Robert Gene Goad led in prayer.

The ordained met at the altar for prayer which was begun by Rev. H. A. Lewis and concluded by Rev. Ray Watkins.

The delegates were seated and committees were appointed by the Assistant Moderator Rev. Ray Watkins as follows:

Nominating—M. A. Scudder, Laman Hastings, Rev. Morris Tucker.

Finance—Rev. H. A. Lewis, Juanita Hastings, Jean Lau.

Temperance—Rev. Hoover Lewis, Rev. Lonnie Clark, Jim Haley.

Sunday Schools—Robbie Snelgrove, Sandra Sturch, Rev. Othaniel Safirt.

Obituaries—Almus Crider, Hazel Rowlett, Ethel Doyle.

Resolutions — Rev. J. W. Blanks, Troy Coles, Bill Townsley.

Intermission

11:00 A. M. DIVINE SERVICE

The assembly was called together by singing "Standing on the Promises" directed by M. A. Scudder. Prayer, Rev. Hoover Lewis.

The Assistant Moderator introduced the speaker, Rev. Don Brewer, who read Scripture from Revelation 14:12-13, then led in prayer before bringing the Memorial Message.

After the message the congregation sang "O How I Love Jesus" directed by M. A. Scudder with Sandra Sturch at the piano.

Rev. Lonnie Clark give the benediction and the blessing on the food.

Noon

1:15 P. M. SESSION

Opened with singing "When the Roll is Called Up Yonder." M. A. Scudder director, Ann Doyle, accompanist.

Prayer — Rev. O. Safirt.

The Assistant Moderator read I Thessalonians 1:5-8.

Rev. Terrell Holland gave the devotional from Rev. 3:20.

Prayer — Bro. Bert Gibson.

The Moderator read the By-Laws.

A motion was sustained that the Association issue cards of good standing for the ordained ministers of the Polk Bayou Association.

The treasurer gave a report which is found elsewhere.

Rev. Hoover Lewis, member of the State Sunday School Board, gave a report of a statewide Sunday School workshop for officers and teachers which was held at Atkins in May. Keith Kennemen was the guest speaker. He stated that to improve we should attend workshops, etc., and suggested that we have a district workshop.

Rev. J. W. Blanks gave a report on the youth camp. The number attending the week of the pre-teen camp was 283.

The week of the teen camp there were 272 in attendance.

Willa Jean Lewis gave a few remarks in behalf of Woman's Auxiliary work and announced the district meeting at the Batesville First F. W. B. Church on July 29.

The following delegates and alternates were elected to represent at the state meeting on August 16 18 at Conway.

Delegates

Johnny Cash
Preston Coles
Eva Miller
Jo Ann Holland
Delcia Blanks

Alternates

Jean Cash
Mirl Coles
Devoe Soden
Alma Doyle
Elaine Odglen

Ballew's Chapel Church sent a request that the Association accept their new pastor, Rev. Terrell Holland, into fellowship. Their request was granted and Rev. Holland was accepted into the Association.

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

New Home Church was selected for the host church in 1973.

Rev. Terrell Holland was chosen for the Memorial Speaker.

Rev. Lonnie Clark is alternate speaker.

REPORTS OF COMMITTEES

Sunday Schools — We, your committee find fourteen (14) Sunday Schools reported with an enrollment of ----- 1186
Average attendance ----- 936
which was a slight increase over last year.

Robbie Snelgrove, Chairman
Sandy Sturch
Othaniel Safirt

Temperance — We, your Temperance Committee, believe and recommend that all church members should abstain from all worldly amusements and strong drink and live a life soberly, righteously and separated from the world. That the world may see Christ in us.

Rev. Hoover Lewis
Rev. Lonnie Clark
Jim Haley

Obituaries — We, of the Obituaries Committee, find in His infinite wisdom has called from our Association eleven (11) of our members. He says in His word "Blessed be the dead who die in the Lord."

Allen's Chapel — Ann Thompson, Mrs. E. H. Hynes.

Blackland Chapel — Alfred Martin (Deacon)

Coffman — Mrs. Cassidy.

Macedonia — Mrs. Jean Clark.

Mt. Harmony — Mrs. Norma Louise Mullen

Pool's Chapel — Gilbert Smith.

Tuckerman — Frank Casteel and Edith Harbison,
Altha Binkley and Sallie Trentham.

Comm. Alvin Crider, Chairman
Ethel Doyle
Hazel Rowlett

Resolutions — Be is resolved that this body give a rising vote of thanks to the officers of this Association and to the Standing Boards, for the wonderful way in which this meeting has been conducted.

Also to the Allen's Chapel Church for their hospitality and the good food furnished.

We recommend that when possible, the statistics of the church letters be mimeographed by the Associational Clerk, and given to the members of the Associational body at the time when the church letters are read. When such information is available, the clerk will dispense with an oral report of these statistics.

Rev. J. W. Blanks, Chairman
Bill Townsley
Troy Coles

Finance Committee — We the committee report as follows:

Spent for local causes	
Pastors' salaries	\$38,091.00
Evangelistic work	2,763.00
Building and repair	18,759.00
Literature	5,574.00
Other	17,272.00
Minutes and expenses	84.00
TOTAL	\$82,543.00
Spent for outside causes	
Cooperative plan	\$ 4,127.00
Foreign Missions	3,384.00
Home Missions	678.00
Education	281.00
Associational Projects	382.00
State and National Projects	614.00
TOTAL	\$ 9,466.00
GRAND TOTAL	\$92,009.00

H. A. Lewis, Chairman
Juanita Hastings
Jean Lau

Digest Report — Number of churches 14; church membership 1,353; parsonages 4; ordained ministers 25; licensed minister 1; ordained deacons 50; enrollment in Sunday Schools 1,188; average attendance 969; C. T. S. enrollment 420; average attendance 375; enrollment of Woman's Auxiliaries 75; average attendance 41; enrollment of Master's Men 25; average attendance 19; mid-week service average attendance 258.

TREASURER'S REPORT

Balance on Hand	\$ 94.07
Letter forms and postage	2.51
Balance	91.56
Received from churches July 1972	266.00
TOTAL	\$357.56

Expenditures for 1972

To Arkansas State Association	\$182.00
To S. School Department, ministers cards	2.50
To Christian Supply Store, ordination blanks	1.37
\$357.56 minus \$185.87 equals	\$171.69
To Shirrell for Minutes	78.80
New Balance	\$ 92.89

ORDAINING COUNCIL REPORT

We the Board recommend that Bro. Terrell Holland be accepted into full fellowship with our Association, and that we send for a letter from Little Missouri River Association.

Rev. W. H. Doyle, Chairman
Rev. Bernard Roberts
Rev. Don Brewer

Woman's Auxiliary Report — The Polk Bayou District Woman's Auxiliary had an enrollment of sixty-six (66) at beginning of convention year July 1, 1971. With one auxiliary not reporting at the close of the year June 30, 1972 the district had an active membership of fifty-two (52). Although the number is small much was accomplished toward the support and teaching of missions. A total of \$695.90 was disbursed for mission endeavors, with a total value of \$759.75 non-cash contributions given to benevolent work, missionary provision closet, etc. The active membership of the four (4) remaining auxiliaries is looking forward to a greater year in uniting their efforts in enlisting women in

other churches in becoming "Co-Laborers Together With God" in trying to carry out the Great Commission.

Velda Tucker — Recording Secretary of
Polk Bayou District Woman's Auxiliary

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

Since there were no other nominations motion and second that these be elected by acclimation was made. Carried.

M. A. Scudder, Chairman
Laman Hastings
Rev. Morris Tucker

Since Rev. J. W. Roach's term on the Executive Board had expired a motion and second was made that he be re-elected for a five (5) year term on the board. Carried.

Business was adjourned and the congregation sang "If We Never Meet Again" directed by M. A. Scudder with Ann Doyle pianist.

Benedicton John Lau.

Ministers Present

Ray Watkins ----- Rt. 2, Newport
Hoover Lewis ----- 430 Blossom Dr., Batesville
W. H. Doyle ----- Rt. 3, Newport
Lonnie Clark ----- Mt. Pleasant
Don Brewer ----- State St., Newport
H. A. Lewis ----- Batesville
Bernard Roberts ----- Saffell
Terrell Holland ----- Grubbs
J. W. Blanks ----- Batesville Rt., Salado
O. Safirt ----- Grubbs

Morris Tucker ----- Rt. 2, Bradford
 Archie Warnick ----- Mt. Pleasant

Ministers Belonging — Not Present

Obie Eagan ----- Saffell
 Gaylord Huckaba ----- Oil Trough
 Jimmy Richardson ----- Batesville Rt., Salado
 Owen Harvell ----- Melbourne
 Kenneth Manuel -----
 Ottis Richey -----
 W. H. Obarts -----
 Billy Willhite -----
 J. W. Roach -----
 Ernest Elms -----
 Everette Barksdale -----

DEACONS PRESENT

John Lau, M. A. Scudder, Bill Townsley, Millard Williams, Horace Doyle,
 Wilson Sturch, Laman Hastings, Charles McLaughlin.

CHURCH CLERKS PRESENT

Irene Crider, Eva Miller, Lorene Doyle, Ellen Sturch.

DELEGATES PRESENT

Allen's Chapel — Jerry Taylor, Marilyn Taylor.
 Ballew's Chapel — Lewis Roberts.
 Batesville First — Bertha Mullen, Jean Lau, Willa Jean Lewis.
 Blackland Chapel — Mrs. Hugh Smith, Robbie Snelgrove, Dessie Huckaba.
 Coffman — Almus Crider.
 Island — Tippy Burrow, Gertie Doyle, Ann Miller.
 Macedonia—Glenna Fay Helms, Pearl Brooks, Larry Joe Simmons.
 Mt. Harmony — Alma Doyle, Ann Doyle, Robert Goad.
 New Home — Jim Haley.
 Newport — Ethel Doyle.
 Oakland — Sandra Sturch.
 Pool's Chapel — Troy Coles, Juanita Hastings.
 Tuckerman — Devoe Soden, Ruth Soden, Hazel Rowlett.

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 sermons 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 BUSNIESS 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, (g) Nominating.
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. Elect delegates to the State Association.
22. Call for report of different committees.
23. Call for someone to preach the memorial sermon.
24. Discharge all committees chosen for this season.
25. 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 O'd and New Testaments are the words of God, and the only infallible rule of faith and practice. II Timothy 42; 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 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 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. 1:8-21; 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 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 on y 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 scriptural 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.