
MINUTES
Of The
POLK BAYOU ASSOCIATION
Of
FREE WILL BAPTISTS

HELD WITH
New Home Free Will Baptist Church
NEAR CID

IZARD COUNTY, ARKANSAS

July 7, 1973

The 1974 session of the Association will be held with the Pool's Chapel Free Will Baptist Church near Cave City, Sharp County, Arkansas, on Saturday, before the second Sunday in July beginning at 9:30 a. m.

REV. HOOVER LEWIS, Moderator
430 Blossom Dr., Batesville, Ark.

REV. DON BREWER, Assistant Moderator
State St., Newport, Arkansas

MRS. MILLARD WILLIAMS, Clerk and Treasurer
Strawberry, Arkansas

MRS. ANN DOYLE, Assistant Clerk
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OFFICERS

Moderator, Rev. Hoover Lewis ----- 430 Blossom Dr., Batesville
Ass't. Moderator, Rev. Don Brewer ----- State St., Newport
Clerk and Treasurer, Mrs. Millard Williams ----- Strawberry
Ass't. Clerk, Mrs. Ann Doyle ----- Strawberry

EXECUTIVE BOARD

Rev. J. W. Blanks, 5 years, 1978 ----- Rt. 5, Batesville
Rev. J. W. Roach, 4 years, 1977 ----- Rt. 1, Box 175A, Batesville
Rev. Don Brewer, 3 years, 1976 ----- State St., Newport
Rev. Gaylord Huckaba, 2 years, 1975 ----- Oil Trough
Rev. Bernard Roberts, 1 year, 1974 ----- Saffell

ORDAINING COUNCIL

Rev. Don Brewer ----- State St., Newport
Rev. Terrell Holland ----- Grubbs
Rev. J. W. Blanks ----- Rt. 5, Batesville

PROGRAM COMMITTEE

Officers

MEMORIAL SPEAKER

Rev. Jimmy Richardson

ALTERNATE SPEAKER

Rev. Owen Harvell

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

Allen's Chapel — Rev. J. W. Blanks, Rt. 5, Batesville
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 Crider, Rt. 1 Box 250AB, Hoxie

Island — No Pastor
Mrs. Eva Miller, Rt. 4 Box 388, Newport

Macedonia — Rev. Lonnie Clark, Mt. Pleasant
Mrs. Hazel Hall, Mt. Pleasant

Mt. Harmony — Rev. Jerry Smith, Saffell
Mrs. Lorene Doyle, Strawberry

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

Newport — 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

Oak Grove — Rev. David Winfrey, Rt. 1, Hoxie
Mrs. Oma Smith, Rt. 1, Smithville

Pool's Chapel — Rev. J. W. Roach, Rt. 1 Box 175A, Batesville
Mr. Laman Roach, Rt. 1 Box 386, Cave City

Tuckerman First F.W.B. — Rev. Randy Scott, Tuckerman
Mrs. Fay Vines, P. O. Box 427, Tuckerman

Weaver's Chapel — No Report

PROCEEDINGS

Saturday, July 7, 1973 — 9:30 a. m.

Due to the absence of a moderator and the assistant moderator, Brother Millard Williams the moderator having passed away Nov. 7, 1972 and Rev. Ray Watkins the assistant moderator being unable to attend, the clerk Mrs. Millard Williams called the association into conference and asked permission of the body to appoint a moderator pro-tem. Permission was granted and she appointed Rev. Hoover Lewis. Rev. Lewis being obligated to conduct a funeral service in the afternoon and could only be there until noon received permission and appointed Rev. J. W. Blanks who served as moderator during this session of the association.

The singing by the congregation of "I'll Have a New Body" and "Amazing Grace" was directed by Gilmore Adkisson accompanied by Ann Doyle at the piano.

Rev. Hoover Lewis made remarks then read Matt. 16:13 and led in prayer. This scripture was one Jesus asked his disciples "Whom do men say that I the son of man am?"

The letters from the different churches were read and received and the delegates were seated by the right hand of Christian fellowship.

A motion was sustained that the Polk Bayou District Association accept the recommendation of the White River Quarterly Meeting in regards to the merging of the two bodies which would be called the Polk Bayou Association.

This carried unanimously.

At this time officers were elected for the next year.

Moderator — Rev. Hoover Lewis.

Assistant Moderator — Rev. Don Brewer.

Clerk and Treasurer — Mrs. Millard Williams.

Assistant Clerk — Mrs. Ann Doyle.

These were elected unanimously.

The following were elected by acclamation to serve as Ordaining Council.

Rev. Don Brewer

Rev. Terrell Holland

Rev. J. W. Blanks.

Committees were appointed at this time by the clerk as follows:

Finance — Rev. Bernard Roberts, Everette Neece and Preston Coles.

Sunday Schools — Robbie Snellgrove, Jane Crabtree and Ethel Doyle.

Tempeance — Lorene Burrow, Irene Crider and Lorene Doyle.

Obituaries — Emily McDoniel, Hazel Rowlett and Gertie Doyle.

Resolutions — Rev. Don Brewer, Rev. Owen Harvell and Rev. Lonnie Clark.

Recess

11 a. m. Divine Service

The assembly was called together by singing directed by Horace Doyle with Ann Doyle at the piano. "Leaning on the Everlasting Arms," "Heaven's Jubilee," and "I'll Live in Glory" were the songs used.

The moderator Rev. J. W. Blanks introduced the speaker, Rev. Terrell Holland, pastor of Ballew's Chapel Church who brought the Memorial Message after reading Joshua 4:1-10 and prayer.

The prayer of benediction and blessing on the food for hte noon meal was offered by Bro. Jim Haley.

1:15 p. m.

The afternoon session began with congregational singing, directed by M. A. Scudder with Ann Doyle at the piano.

The moderator read Hebrews 12:1-2.

Prayer by Rev. Lonnie Clark.

Rev. Hoover Lewis' five year term on the Executive Board had expired and since he had been selected to serve as moderator and would be an ex-officio member of the board, Rev. J. W. Blanks was elected by acclamation for a five year term on the Executive Board.

The following delegates and alternates were elected to represent at the state meeting on August 14-16 at Conway.

Delegates

Inez Huckaba
Robbie Snellgrove
Merle Coles
Alma Doyle
Preston Coles

Alternates

Mary Brewer
Elanie Odglen

Pool's Chapel was selected as the host church in July 1974.

Rev. Jimmy Richardson will be the Memorial speaker. Rev. Owen Harvell as alternate.

A letter of recommendation was received by the clerk, Mrs. Williams in October 1972 from the Little Missouri River Association in regard to Rev. Terry Holland joining the Polk Bayou Association. Rev. Holland was accepted into the Polk Bayou Association in July 1972 and the clerk wrote to the Little Missouri River Association for a letter of recommendation.

REPORTS OF COMMITTEES

The reports from the different committees were given at this time, which were accepted and the committees discharged.

Sunday Schools — We the Sunday Schools Committee find that fourteen (14)

Sunday Schools reported an enrollment of 1290 with an average attendance of 976.

We urge each of you to be faithful in Sunday School and Church attendance and in all the services during the week. Contact all who are absent, also those who do not attend church and Sunday School elsewhere.

Robbie Snelgrove, Chairman
Jane Crabtree
Ethel Doyle

Temperance — We the Temperance Committee believe and recommend that all Christians should abstain from worldly pleasures and strong drink and live a sober and righteous life.

Lorene Burrow, Chairman
Irene Crider
Lorene Doyle

Obituaries — We of the Obituaries Committee find that God, in His infinite wisdom and love, has called from our association twenty-two (22) of our members. He says in His Word "Precious in the sight of the Lord is the death of his saints."

Emily McDoniel, Chairman
Hazel Rowlett
Gertie Doyle

Deceased

Allen's Chapel — Jim Prentice.

Ballew's Chapel — Tom Lambert, Fern Dawson.

Batesville First — Vernia Smith.

Coffman — Mabel Benn.

Macedonia — Dave Walker, Raymond Harvell.

Mt. Harmony — John Allen Clayton, Eugene Thompson, Sylvia Huskey,
Millard Williams Deacon).

Newport First — Ada Galbrath, Pleas Ripley, Bessie Henderson.

New Home — Olen Dale.

Oak Grove — Sherman Nickols, Dora Sharp, Gertie Mullen.

Pool's Chapel — Darlene Campbell, Roy McTiyue.

Tuckerman First — Parilee Wadley, Walter Koller.

Resolutions — (1) Be it 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.

(2) Also to the New Home Church for their hospitaliyt and the good
food furnished.

(3) Seeing that your Sunday Schools show an increase, both in attendance
and enrollment over the past year. Be it resolved that all Sunday
Schools put forth a greater effort to increase more this current year
than last year.

Don Brewer, Chairman
Owen Harvell
Lonnie Clark.

Finance — Since the clerk made mimeographed copies of the statistics of
the churches, there was no need of a financial report. The report is
given elsewhere.

Bernard Roberts, Chairman
Everette Neece
Preston Coles.

Digest Report — Number of churches 14; membership 1417; Sunday School enrollment 1290; average attendance 976; C.T.S. enrollment 516; average attendance 448; Woman's Auxiliary enrollment 66; average attendance 44; Master's Men enrollment 31; average attendance 23; Midweek Service average attendance 281; Ordained Ministers 24; Ordained Deacons 50; Parsonages 5.

FINANCIAL REPORT

Spent for Local Causes

Pastors' Salaries	\$ 40,733.00
Evangelistic Work	4,198.00
Building and Repairs	35,620.00
Literature	4,534.00
Other	26,643.00
TOTAL	\$108,944.00

Spent for Outside Causes

Cooperative Plan	\$ 3,696.00
Foreign Missions	5,698.00
Home Missions	1,371.00
Education	100.00
Associational Projects	111.00
Other	391.00
TOTAL	\$ 11,389.00
GRAND TOTAL	\$120,333.00

TREASURER'S REPORT

Balance on hand	\$ 92.89
Letter forms and postage	4.66
Balance	88.82
Received from churches in July 1973	275.00
Total	\$363.23
Expenditures for 1972	
To Arkansas State Association	\$182.00
To Shirrell for Minutes	83.42
Total	\$265.42
\$363.23 minus \$265.42	\$ 97.81

ORDAINING COUNCIL'S REPORT

We the Ordaining Council have examined Bro. Jim Haley and find him true to Free Will Baptist doctrine. We recommend that he be ordained as deacon. This to be arranged by the New Home Church at a later date.

Rev. Bernard Roberts, Chairman
Rev. Don Brewer
Rev. Henry Doyle

The clerk read a letter from Rev. Fred Warner challenging each association to give \$100.00 toward the purchasing of more stock for the bookstore.

Business was adjourned and Rev. Lonnie Clark prayed the Benediction.

Ministers Present

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	Rt. 5, Batesville
Morris Tucker	Rt. 2, Bradford
Owen Harvell	Melbourne
Archie Warnick	Mt. Pleasant

Ministers Belonging — Not Present

Ray Watkins	Rt. 2, Newport
O. Safirt	Grubbs
David Pinkston	Portia
Obie Eagan	Saffell
Gaylord Huckaba	Oil Trough
Jimmy Richardson	Batesville

Kenneth Manuel -----
 Ottis Richey ----- Smithville
 W. H. Obarts ----- Newport
 Billy Willhite ----- Newport
 J. W. Roach ----- Rt. 1 Box 175A, Batesville
 Ernest Elms -----
 Tommy Bible ----- Rt. 2 Bradford

DEACONS PRESENT

M. A. Scudder, Everette Neece, Horace Doyle

CHURCH CLERKS PRESENT

Mabel Huckaba, Lorene Doye, Irene Crider, Eva Miller, Hazel Hall,
 Kenneth Morrison, Laman Roach.

DELEGATES PRESENT

Allen's Chapel — Paul James, Mrs. Paul James, Preston Coles.
 Batesville First — Estel Walden, Bernadine Walden, Emily McDoniel.
 Blacktand Chapel — J. R. Rice, Alma Rice, Robbie Snellgrove.
 Coffman — Pearl Neece, Almus Crider
 Island — Gertie Doyle, Tippy Burrow
 Macedonia — Glenna Faye Helms, Pearl Brooks, Zella Craig.
 Mt. Harmony — Alma Doyle, Jane Crabtree, Linda Crabtree
 New Home — Gilmore Adkisson, Cleo Ruminer, Jim Haley.
 Newport First — Wes Whybrew, Jim Reynods, Ethel Doyle.
 Oakland — Lorene Burrow
 Pool's Chapel — Lois Roach
 Tuckerman — Andrew Rowlett, Hazel Rowlett, Earelm Doyle.

By LAWS

1. The Moderator or assistant moderator, and in tiher 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 be 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 hte 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 hsall 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 teh 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, (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.
32. 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 Old 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 persevere 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 them-

selves 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 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 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.