



MINUTES
Of The
POLK BAYOU ASSOCIATION
Of
FREE WILL BAPTISTS
HELD WITH
First Free Will Baptist Church of Tuckerman
IN
TUCKERMAN, ARKANSAS
July 24, 1976

The next session of the Association will be held on Saturday before the fourth Sunday in July, 1977 beginning at 9:30 a.m. Place to be selected later.

REV. DALE PITTS, Moderator
Newport, Arkansas

REV. PETE REESER, Assistant Moderator
Cave City, Arkansas

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

MRS. ANN DOYLE, Assistant Clerk
Strawberry, Arkansas



OFFICERS

Moderator, Rev. Dale Pitts ----- Newport
Ass't. Moderator, Rev. Pete Reeser ----- Cave City
Clerk and Treasurer, Mrs. M. B. Williams ----- Strawberry
Assistant Clerk, Mrs. Ann Doyle ----- Strawberry

EXECUTIVE BOARD

Rev. Floyd Medlock, 5 years, 1981 ----- Rt. 2, Bradford
Rev. Pete Reeser, 4 years, 1980 ----- Cave City
Rev. Randy Scott, 3 years, 1979 ----- Tuckerman
Rev. J. W. Blanks, 2 years, 1978 ----- Rt. 5, Batesville
Rev. J. W. Roach, 1 year, 1977 ----- Rt. 1, Batesville

ORDAINING COUNCIL

Rev. J. W. Blanks ----- Rt. 5, Batesville
Rev. Randy Scott ----- Tuckerman
Rev. Floyd Medlock ----- Rt. 2, Bradford

PROGRAM COMMITTEE

The Officers

PASTOR AND CHURCH CLERKS OF POLK BAYOU ASSOCIATION

Allen's Chapel ----- Rev. J. W. Blanks, Rt. 5, Batesville
Mrs. Louise Cartwright, Locust Grove

Ballew's Chapel ----- Rev. Dale Pitts, Rt. 2, Box 435, Newport
Mr. Glen Odglen, Rt. 2, Box 393, Newport

Batesville First F.W.B. ---- Rev. Kenneth Faison, 430 Blossom Dr., Batesville
Mrs. Vaughn Ruminer, 1970 Porter St., Batesville

Blackland Chapel ----- Rev. Gaylord Huckaba, Oil Trough
Mrs. Mabel Huckaba, Oil Trough

Cave City First F.W.B. ----- Rev. Pete Reeser, Rt. 2, Cave City
Mrs. Glyndene Milligan, Rt. 2, Cave City

Coffman ----- Rev. J. W. Russell, 609 W. Gum St., Walnut Ridge
Mrs. Irene Crider, Rt. 1, Box 250 AB, Hoxie

Macedonia -----
Mrs. Hazel Hall, Rt. 1, Box 74, Mt. Pleasant

Mt. Harmony ----- Rev. David Waltrip, Saffell
Mrs. Lorene Doyle, Strawberry

New Home ----- Rev. Steve Trail, Mt. Pleasant
Mr. Kenneth Morrison, Melbourne

Newport First F.W.B. ----- Rev. Philip Ange, S. State St., Newport
Mrs. Donnie Woodruff, 1512 McLain, Newport

Oakland ----- Rev. Floyd Medlock, Rt. 2, Bradford
Mrs. Ellen Sturch, Rt. 2, Box 322, Bradford

Oak Grove ----- Rev. O. D. Winfrey, Rt. 1, Box 149C, Hoxie
Mrs. Connye Richey, P. O. Box 314, Lynn

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

PROCEEDINGS

The assembly was called together by congregational singing "When I See the Blood" and "Are You Washed In The Blood", directed by Ealem Doyle with Robbie Snelgrove, at the piano, who served as pianist all during the day.

Prayer offered by Rev. Floyd Medlock.

The moderator, Rev. Randy Scott read Isaiah 43:1-7 and gave comments on the "Fear Nots" in the Bible.

The ordained met at the altar for prayer which was led by Rev. Kenneth Faison and concluded by Horace Doyle.

The letters from the different churches were read and received and the delegates seated.

The clerk read a letter from an association in Alabama requesting a letter of recommendation for Rev. Hoover Lewis from Polk Bayou Association. This letter of recommendation was granted and mailed 3 days later.

A letter of recommendation from Central Western Missouri Association for Rev. Dale Pitts, was read and Rev. Pitts was accepted into the fellowship of Polk Bayou Association.

The moderator appointed the following committees:

Sunday Schools — Rev. Floyd Medlock, Linda Waltrip and Tippy Burrow.

Obituaries — Ona Lou Huskey, Bessie Cooper and Mirl Coles.

Temperance — Ethel Safirt, Freda Deason and Pearl Neece.

Resolutions — Rev. Dale Pitts, De Voe Sodon and Eddie Joe Johnston.

Recess

11 A.M. Divine Service

"Wherever He Leads I'll Go" "Power In The Blood" directed by Horace Doyle.

Rev. Randy Scott read the names of the 17 who had departed this life in the past year and gave comments about the rewards they receive who die in the Lord.

The moderator introduced the speaker Rev. David Waltrip who read Exodus 3:1-6 and Luke 19:46, offered prayer then brought the message and closed with prayer.

"When We All get to Heaven" was directed by Horace Doyle.

Dismissal prayer and blessing on the food was given by Rev. Kenneth Faison.

Noon

1:00 p. m.

J. A. Johnson led the congregation in singing "When the Roll is Called Up Yonder", and "Leaning on the Everlasting Arms."

Rev. Floyd Medlock read Matt. 25:13 and gave the devotion and prayer.

Under unfinished business — Rev. Medlock asked that the Ordaining Council meet to ordain Bro. Ed Sizemore as deacon as he had been questioned by the council in January this year and hadn't yet been ordained.

The following committee reports were given:

Sunday Schools — We, the committee find the number of Sunday Schools reporting was 15. Enrollment of 1673 average attendance 1186. This was an increase over last year's enrollment of 303 and the average attendance over last year was 97.

We recommend that all Sunday Schools have regular officers and teachers meetings to discuss problems and growth, and that we all visit those who are absent.

Rev. Floyd Medlock
Linda Waltrip
Tippy Burrow

Temperance — We, your committee, report as follows:

We, as Christians should be temperate in all things. Remember to abstain from all appearance of evil, pray without ceasing, live a clean dedicated life where we can be a witness for our Lord and Saviour and stay in the center if His will.

Freda Deason
Pearl Neece
Ethel Safirt

Obituaries — We, the committee, find that the Lord has called 17 members from our midst in the past year. Our loss is Heaven's gain. We find in St. John 14:1-3, "Let not your heart be troubled, ye believe in God", believe also in me. In my Father's house are many mansions, if it were not so, I would have told you. I go to prepare a place for you. And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again and receive you unto myself; that where I am there ye may be also.

Ona Lou Huskey
Bessie Cooper
Mirl Coles

The deceased

Allen's Chapel — Sallie Thomison — June Huckaba.

Ballew's Chapel — Willie Garrett

Batesville First — Faye McTigue — W. I. Bettis

Macedonia — Merle Walker — Nellie Hollowell

Mt. Harmony — Stella Howard — Clyde Coleman

Pool's Chapel — Ruby Haigwood

Tuckerman First — Ewing Dunn — Dean Merriweathers — James Cason —
William Acklin — Carol Hutson — Kermit Stoner

Weaver's Chapel — Rev. Lonnie Clark

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 the past year has been conducted.

(2) Also to Tuckerman First F.W.B. Church for their wonderful hospitality and the good food furnished.

Rev. Dale Pitts
De Voe Sodon
Eddie Johnston

Digest Report — Churches reported 14; Membership 1751, Sunday School enrollment, 1673; Average attendance 1186, C.T.S. enrollment 498; average attendance 387; Woman's Aux. enrollment 174; average attendance 105; Master's Men enrollment 98; average attendance 73; Midweek Service average attendance 448.

Delegates to the state meeting in August were elected.

Dwayne Jones — Preston Coles — Debbie Scott — Mabel Huckaba — Fay Faison.

ELECTION

Moderator ----- Rev. Dale Pitts

Assistant Moderator ----- Rev. Pete Reeser

Clerk and Treasurer ----- Mrs. M. B. Williams

Assistant Clerk ----- Mrs. Ann Doyle

Rev. Floyd Medlock was elected to a 5 year term on the Executive Board.

ORDAINING COUNCIL

Rev. J. W. Blanks, Rev. Randy Scott, Rev. Floyd Medlock.

Conference adjourned to meet with Oakland Church October 9, 1976.

Rev. Kenneth Faison was chosen as speaker. Rev. Phil Ange as alternate speaker.

Benediction by Rev. Dale Pitts

MINISTERS PRESENT

Rev. W. H. Doyle	Rt. 3, Newport
Rev. Kenneth Faison	430 Blossom Drive, Batesville
Rev. H. A. Lewis	Batesville
Rev. Floyd Medlock	Rt. 2, Bradford
Rev. Dale Pitts	Rt. 2, Newport
Rev. O. Safirt	Grubbs
Rev. Randy Scott	Tuckerman
Rev. David Waltrip	Saffell

MINISTERS BELONGING — NOT PRESENT

Rev. Philip Ange	S. State St., Newport
Rev. J. W. Blanks	Rt. 5, Batesville
Rev. Tommy Bible	Rt. 2, Bradford
Rev. Ernest Elms	
Rev. Gaylord Huckaba	Oil Trough
Rev. Kenneth Manuel	McHue
Rev. Henry Obarts	
Rev. David Pinkston	Portia
Rev. Jimmy Richardson	Batesville

Rev. Pete Reeser -----	Rt. 2, Cave City
Rev. J. W. Russell -----	609 W. Gum St., Walnut Ridge
Rev. J. W. Roach -----	Rt. 1, Batesville
Rev Ottis Richey -----	Smithville
Rev. Jerry Smith -----	Tennessee
Rev. Steve Trail -----	Mount Pleasant
Rev. Ray Watkins -----	Rt. 2, Newport
Rev. Archie Warnick -----	Mount Pleasant
Rev. Billy Willhite -----	Rt. 2, Newport

DEACONS PRESENT

Everette Neece	Alfred Myers
Horace Doyle	Charles McLaughlin
Gerphus Huskey	Bea Taylor
Wilson Sturch	

CHURCH CLERKS PRESENT

Irene Crider	Fay Vines
Lorene Doyle	Mabel Huckaba
Donnie M. Woodruff	

DELEGATES PRESENT

Allen's Chapel — Eddie Johnston, Preston Coles, Mirl Coles.

Ballew's Chapel — Ethel Safirt, Elsie Boyd.

Batesville First — Lillian Martin, Linda Waltrip, Berna Dene Walden.

Blackland Chapel — Freda Deason, Alma Rice, Dessie Huckaba.

Cave City First — Velvie Coles, Dwayne Jones.
 Coffman — Pearl Neece, Vella Russell.
 Mt. Harmony — Jerry Huskey, Ona Lou Huskey, Olene Huskey.
 Newport First — Bessie Cooper, Tippy Burrow, Raymond Williams.
 Oakland — Debbie Sizemore, Alan Smith, Buddy Padgett
 Pool's Chapel — Glenna Haigwood.
 Tuckerman — De Voe Sodon, J. A. Johnston, Elzie Foster.

FINANCIAL REPORT

Spent for Local Causes

Pastors Salaries	\$ 62,847.00
Evangelistic Work	4,832.00
Building and Repair	70,582.00
Literature	8,391.00
Other	46,893.00
TOTAL	\$193,545.00

Spent for Outside Causes

Cooperative Plan	\$ 7,028.00
Foreign Missions	5,750.00
Home Missions	4,415.00
Associational Projects	5,874.00
State and National Projects	812.00
Other	412.00
TOTAL	\$24,291.00

TREASURER'S REPORT

Balance on hand August 1, 1975 -----	\$ 197.75
Received from churches in October -----	70.00
Received from churches in January, 1976 -----	75.00
Offering in January -----	53.13
Received from churches in April -----	75.00
Offering in April -----	100.29
Received from Sunday School Convention in May -----	53.00
Received from churches in July -----	398.00
Offering in July -----	45.49
TOTAL -----	\$ 1,067.66

EXPENDITURES

To Riverside Graphics for Minutes, Oct., 1975 -----	\$ 120.25
Christian Supply Store, letter forms Jan., 1976 -----	2.57
Cave City Church District Project February -----	80.45
Newport Church Youth Banquet February -----	25.00
Postage — mailing Minutes February -----	7.50
Christian Supply Store letter forms March -----	.66
Batesville Church, Youth Rally April -----	25.00
Cave City Youth Rally January -----	25.00
Foreign Missions -----	100.29
Stamps and Envelopes April -----	3.00
To Rev. Ben Scott — Printing July -----	10.00
National Association Dues August -----	15.00
Arkansas Free Will Baptists August -----	280.00
TOTAL -----	\$ 694.72
Balance on hand August, 1976 -----	\$ 362.94

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 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 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.

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. **The Bible.** The Scriptures of the Old and New Testaments were given by inspiration of God, and are our infallible rule of faith and practice.

2. **God.** There is one living and true God, revealed in nature as the Creator, Preserver, and Righteous Governor of the universe; and in the Scriptures as Father, Son, and Holy Ghost; yet as one God, infinitely wise and good, whom all intelligent creatures are supremely to love, adore, and obey.

3. **Christ.** Christ is God manifest in the flesh; in His divine nature truly God, in His human nature truly man. The mediator between God and man, once crucified, He is now risen and glorified, and is our ever present Saviour and Lord.

4. **The Holy Spirit.** The Scriptures assign to the Holy Spirit and all the attributes of God.

5. **The Government of God.** God exercises a wise and benevolent providence over all beings and all things by maintaining the constitution and laws of nature. He also performs special acts, not otherwise provided for as the highest welfare of men requires.

6. **The Sinfulness of Man.** Man was created innocent, but by disobedience fell into a state of sin and condemnation. His posterity, therefore, inherit a fallen nature of such tendencies that all who come to years of accountability, sin and become guilty before God.

7. **The Work of Christ.** The Son of God by His incarnation, life, sufferings, death, and resurrection effected for all a redemption from sin that is full and free, and the ground of salvation by faith.

8. **The Terms of Salvation.** The conditions of salvation are: (a) Repentance or sincere sorrow for sin and hearty renunciation of it. (b) Faith or the unreserved committal of one's self to Christ as Saviour and Lord with purpose to love and obey Him in all things. In the exercise of saving faith, the soul is renewed by the Holy Spirit, freed from the dominion of sin, and becomes a child of God. (c) Continuance in faith and obedience until death.

9. **Election.** God determine from the beginning to save all who should comply with the conditions of salvation. Hence by faith in Christ men became His elect.

10. **Freedom of the Will.** The human will is free and self-controlled, having power to yield to the influence of the truth and the Spirit, or to resist them and perish.

11. **Salvation Free.** God desires the salvation of all, the Gospel invites all the Holy Spirit strives with all, and whosoever will may come and take of the water of life freely.

12. **Perseverance.** All believers in Christ, who through grace persevere in holiness to the end of life promise of eternal salvation.

13. **Gospel Ordinances.** Baptism, or the immersion of believers in water, and the Lord's Supper, are ordinances to be perpetuated under the Gospel. Feet Washing, an ordinance teaching humility of universal obligation, to be ministered to all true believers.

14. **Tithing.** God commanded tithes and offerings in the Old Testament; Jesus Christ endorsed it in the Gospel (Matthew 23:23), and the apostle Paul said, "Upon the first day of the week let every one of you lay by him in store, as God hath prospered him." (I Corinthians 16:2).

15. **The Christian Sabbath.** The divine law requires that one day in seven be set apart from secular employments and amusements for rest, worship, holy works and activities, and for personal communion with God.

16. **Resurrection, Judgment, and Final Retribution.** The Scriptures teach the resurrection of all men at the last day. They that have done good will come forth to the resurrection of life, and they that have done evil unto the resurrection of damnation; then the wicked will "go away into eternal punishment, but the righteous into eternal life."