
MINUTES
Of The
POLK BAYOU ASSOCIATION
Of
FREE WILL BAPTISTS
HELD WITH
Allen's Chapel Church
Independence County
NEAR
BATESVILLE, ARKANSAS
July 9, 1977

The next session of the Association will be held on Saturday before the second Sunday in July, 1978 beginning at 9:30 a.m. Place to be selected later.

REV. DALE PITTS, Moderator
Newport, Arkansas

REV. DAVID WALTRIP, Assistant Moderator
Saffell, 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. David Waltrip ----- Saffell
Clerk and Treasurer, Mrs. M. B. Williams ----- Strawberry
Assistant Clerk, Mrs. Ann Doyle ----- Strawberry

EXECUTIVE BOARD

Rev. Jimmy Richardson, 5 years, 1982 ----- Batesville
Rev. Floyd Medlock, 4 years, 1981 ----- Bradford
Rev. Steve Trail, 3 years, 1980 ----- Mt. Pleasant
Rev. Randy Scott, 2 years, 1979 ----- Tuckerman
Rev. J. W. Blanks, 1 year, 1978 ----- Batesville

ORDAINING COUNCIL

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

PROGRAM COMMITTEE

The Officers

Churches -- Pastors and Church Clerk of Polk Bayou Ass'n.

1. Allen's Chapel ----- Rev. J. W. Blanks, Rt. 5, Batesville
Mrs. Louise Cartwright, Locust Grove
2. Ballew's Chapel ----- Rev. Dale Pitts, Rt. 2, Box 435, Newport
Mr. Glen Odglen, Rt. 2, Box 393, Newport
3. Batesville First F.W.B. -- Rev. Glenn Murray, 430 Blossom Dr., Batesville
Mrs. Vaughn Ruminer, 1970 Porter St., Batesville
4. Blackland Chapel ----- Rev. Gaylord Huckaba, Oil Trough
Mrs. Mabel Huckaba, Oil Trough
5. Cave City First F.W.B. Rev. Jimmy Richardson, Rt. 7, Box 425, Batesville
Mrs. Glyndene Milligan, Rt. 2, Box 2401, Cave City
6. Coffman ----- Rev. J. W. Russell, 609 W. Gum St., Walnut Ridge
Mrs. Irene Crider, Rt. 1, Box 250 AB, Hoxie
7. Macedonia -----
Mrs. Hazel Hall, Rt. 1, Box 74, Mt. Pleasant
8. Mt. Harmony ----- Rev. David Waltrip, Saffell
Mrs. Lorene Doyle, Strawberry
9. New Home ----- Rev. Steve Trail, Mt. Pleasant
Mr. Kenneth Morrison, Melbourne
10. Newport First F.W.B. -----
Mrs. Donnie Woodruff, 1512 McLain, Newport
11. Oakland ----- Rev. Floyd Medlock, Rt. 2, Bradford
Mrs. Ellen Sturch, Rt. 2, Box 322, Bradford
12. Oak Grove ----- Rev. Jim Surles, Rt. Pocahontas
Mrs. Connye Richey, P. O. Box 314, Lynn
13. Pool's Chapel ----- Rev. J. W. Roach, Rt. 1, Box 538, Batesville
Mr. Ernest Haigwood, P. O. Box 3743, Batesville
14. Tuckerman First F.W.B. ----- Rev. Randy Scott, Tuckerman
Mrs. Fay Vines, P. O. Box 427, Tuckerman
15. Weaver's Chapel ----- Rev. Jerry Taylor, Rt. 2, Batesville
Mrs. Billie Clark, Rt. 1, Box 175, Batesville

PROCEEDINGS

The service began at 9:30 a.m. with Rev. Kenneth Faison directing the congregation in "Power in the Blood," with Mrs. Pat Pitts at the piano. Prayer by Rev. David Waltrip.

The moderator, Rev. Dale Pitts read from the 5th chapter of II Corinthians and offered prayer. He said if we love Christ we will love and care for our fellowman. We will not be selfish nor be a stumbling block and will let the love of Christ rule in our hearts.

Prayer requests were made and the ordained met at the altar for prayer led by Rev. Randy Scott and concluded by Rev. David Joslin.

The church letters were read and the delegates seated.

The moderator chose Rev. J. W. Blanks to appoint the following committees.

Sunday Schools — Johnny Carter, Leona Brokaw and Hazel Coleman

Obituaries — Bessie Rutledge, Devoe Sodon and Lena Clark.

Temperance — Curt Billins, Ann Doyle and Glenda Milligan.

Attendance — Lorene Doyle, Irene Crider and Ernest Haigwood.

Resolutions — Anita Poe, Zelma Roach and Paul James.

The moderator introduced the guests at this time. Rev. David Joslin of Conway State Promotional secretary and treasurer. He gave a report on the increase in sales of literature and at the Bookstore and also the increase in giving to the different phases of the work state wide and nationally.

Rev. Bob Francis was introduced. He with his family will be going to St. Paul Minnesota as Home Missionaries.

Rev. Jerry Taylor offered prayer.

RECESS

11 A.M. Divine Service

The assembly was called together by singing "Victory in Jesus" and "Kneel at the Cross", directed by Rev. Kenneth Faison with Robin Richardson as pianist.

Prayer by Rev. Kenneth Manuel.

Offering of \$62.86 was given for the general fund.

The special music "More Than You Will Ever Know" was by Robin Richardson.

The speaker Rev. Ray Watkins was introduced and he gave a wonderful message on "Danger of Deception." He used the following scriptures: Eph. 4:24, Gen. 3:13, Rom. 7:11, Mark 4:19, Col. 2:8, I Cor 6:9, James 1:21 and

Heb. 12:1-2. We are more than our brother's keeper. We are his helper and lover. We need to strive to be vessels of honor.

NOON

1 P.M.

After the congregational number, "He Keeps Me Singing", Bro. Bob Francis read Acts 2:41, gave the devotional and led in prayer. Minutes of the last meeting were read and approved and the treasurer's report given which is found elsewhere.

The following committee reports were given:

Sunday Schools — We, the committee find that the number of Sunday Schools reporting was 15. The enrollment was 1,508 average attendance 1165. We suggest each Sunday School have a visitation program, have qualified teachers and the classes select their teacher.

John Carter
Leona Brokaw
Hazel Coleman

Temperance — As a christian person, living to please God, we recommend that we watch our daily activities, making sure our actions are pleasing to God, and a guide to our sinner friends.

Curt Billins
Ann Doyle
Glenda Milligan

Obituaries — We find the Lord has called 19 from our midst the last year. Our loss is heavens gain, "And I heard a voice from heaven saying unto me, "Write, Blessed are the dead which died in the Lord from henceforth". Yea, saith the Spirit, that they may rest from their labors; and their works do follow them." Rev. 14:13.

Bessie Rutledge
DeVoe Sodon
Lena Clark

The deceased — Allen's Chapel — Pauline Magouyrk, R. V. Thompson — Coy Hynes — Alfred Sherrill.

Ballew's Chapel — Hardy Williams, Mattie Crisher.

Batesville First — Billy Hall, Raymond Tipton, Bob Henley.

Coffman — Rebecca Gill, Melvin Guntharp.

Macedonia — Bert Gibson, deacon.

Mt. Harmony — Effie Crafton.

Newport First — Hugh Johnson, Howard Walker.

Pool's Chapel — Laman Roach, Church Clerk.

Tuckerman First — Lester Davis, Ronnie Sexton, M. T. Haner.

Resolutions — (1) Be it resolved that this body give a standing vote of thanks to the officers of this association and to the standing boards for the wonderful way in which the business of the association has been conducted the past year.

(2) Also the Coffman F.W.B. Church for their wonderful hospitality for our last quarterly meeting and the good food served.

(3) Be it also resolved that each and everyone in this congregation make a special effort to win some lost souls to the saving knowledge of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ.

Anita Poe
Zelma Roach
Paul James

Ordaining Council's Report:

We the Ordaining Council recommend that Bro. John L. Norris be received into the fellowship of our association from the Social Band Association to serve as a deacon in the Weaver's Chapel Church.

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

Digest Report — Churches reported 15.

Membership — 1688, Sunday School enrollment 1508

Average Attendance 1165, C. T. S. enrollment 532

Average Attendance, 394, Woman's Auxiliary enrollment 178

Average Attendance 113, Master's Men enrollment 99

Average attendance 71, Mid week service average attendance 440

DELEGATES TO STATE MEETING

Delcia Blanks, Judy Trail, Marilyn Taylor, Debbie Scott, Preston Coles.

A motion was sustained that the association give \$100.00 to the Paving Project at Conway, and \$100.00 to the Bob Francis account. Home missionary to St. Paul, Minnesota.

In the election of officers a motion was sustained to retain the moderator, clerk and treasurer and assistant clerk. Rev. David Waltrip was elected to fill the vacancy of assistant moderator.

Rev. Jimmy Richardson was elected to a five year term on the Executive Board. Rev. Steve Trail was elected for 3 years to fill the vacancy created when Bro. Pete Reeser resigned.

Rev. Randy Scott, Rev. J. W. Blanks and Rev. Floyd Medlock were retained to serve on the Ordaining Council.

Conference adjourned to meet with Blackland Chapel Church on October 8, 1977. Rev. Jimmy Richardson was chosen as speaker. Rev. J. W. Blanks as alternate. Benediction by Rev. Jimmy Richardson.

MINISTERS PRESENT

Rev. Kenneth Faison ----- 430 Blossom Drive, Batesville
Rev. J. W. Blanks ----- Rt. 5, Batesville
Rev. H. A. Lewis ----- Batesville
Rev. Floyd Medlock ----- Rt. 2, Bradford
Rev. Dale Pitts ----- Rt. 2, Newport
Rev. J. W. Russell ----- 609 W. Gum St., Walnut Ridge
Rev. Randy Scott ----- Tuckerman
Rev. Kenneth Manuel ----- McHue
Rev. Steve Trail ----- Mount Pleasant
Rev. Jerry Taylor ----- Rt. 2, Batesville
Rev. Ray Watkins ----- Rt. 2, Newport
Rev. Jimmy Richardson ----- Rt. 7, Batesville
Rev. David Waltrip ----- Saffell

VISITING MINISTERS

Rev. Bob Francis — Home Missionary to St. Paul, Minn.; Rev. David Joslin — State Promotional director, Conway; Rev. Grady Linebaugh, Walnut Ridge, Social Band Ass'n.

Ministers belonging but not present

Rev. Philip Ange ----- South State St., Newport
Rev. Tommy Bible ----- Rt. 2, Bradford
Rev Ernest Elms -----
Rev. Gaylord Huckaba ----- Oil Trough
Rev. Henry Obarts -----
Rev. David Pinkston -----
Rev. J. W. Roach ----- Rt. 1, Batesville

Rev. Otis Richey----- Rt. 1, Smithville
 Rev. Archie Warnick ----- Mount Pleasant
 Rev. Billy Willhite ----- Rt. 2, Newport
 Rev. O. Safirt ----- Grubbs

DEACONS PRESENT

Horace Doyle, Charles McLaughlin, John Lau, George Snelgrove, Jay Roach.

Church Clerks Present

Lorene Doyle, Irene Crider, Ernest Haigwood.

Delegates Present

Allen's Chapel -- Melvin Magouyrk, Paul James, Preston Coles.

Ballew's Chapel -- Faye Cook, Lena Clark.

Batesville First -- Nen Freeman, Curt Billins, Lillian Martin.

Blackland Chapel -- Bessie Rutledge, Robbie Snelgrove.

Cave City First -- Sarah Harris, Glenda Milligan, Velvia Coles.

Coffman -- Vella Russell.

Mt. Harmony -- Linda Waltrip, Ann Doyle, Magie McLaughlin.

Newport First -- Hazel Coleman, Bessie Cooper, Tippy Burrow.

Oakland -- Anita Poe, Debbie Padgett, Linda Padgett.

Pool's Chapel -- Zelma Roach, Glenna Haigwood, Johnny Carter.

Tuckerman First -- Jim Boggs, Devoe Sodon, Debbie Scott.

Weaver's Chapel -- John Norris, Yvonne Norris, Leona Brokaw.

FINANCIAL REPORT

Spent for Local Causes

Pastors Salaries	\$ 73,130.00
Evangelistic Work	5,424.00
Building and Repair	60,286.00
Literature	6,505.00
Other	42,020.00
Total	\$187,365.00

Spent for Outside Causes

Cooperative Plan	\$ 8,310.00
Foreign Missions	10,060.00
Home Missions	4,076.00
Associational Projects	1,294.00
State and National Projects	477.00
Educational	1,190.00
Orphanage	50.00
Superannuation	120.00
Total	\$25,577.00

Grand Total \$212,941.00

TREASURER'S REPORT

Balance on hand August 1, 1976 -----	\$ 372.00
Dues from churches and offering in October -----	133.35
Special offering in November -----	407.00
Dues and offering in January, 1977 -----	141.73
Dues and offering in April -----	132.28
Yearly dues and offering in July -----	490.86
Total -----	\$1,677.22

EXPENDITURES

To Riverside Graphics for Minutes Sept., 1976 -----	\$ 132.61
To A.P.P.L.E. project in November -----	407.00
Stamps and envelopes -----	4.00
Ark. F.W.B. Paving project April, 1977 -----	200.00
To National Ass'n. for Ministers Cards, June -----	3.50
To Christian Supply Store for letter forms, June -----	2.81
Postage and envelopes -----	4.00
To Arkansas F.W.B. Associational expenses -----	315.00
To Bob Francis Home Missionary Account -----	100.00
To Paving Project in July -----	100.00
To Apple Project in October, 1976 -----	200.00
Total -----	\$1,468.92
 Balance on hand, August, 1977 -----	 \$ 208.30

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 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. **Preserverance.** 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."