

Minutes of the
14th Annual Association
OF
The Church of Christ
Known as
Free Will Baptist

In the Saline District of Arkansas.

held with

Pilgrim's Rest Church.

In Lincoln County, on the 1st and
2nd days of September, 1910

Minutes

Minutes of the 14th Annual Association of the Church of Christ known as the Free Will Baptist, in the Saline Association in Arkansas held with Pilgrim's Rest Church in Lincoln County on the 1st and 2nd days of September 1910. Our Moderator, Bro. O. A. Ashcraft, being absent at 10 o'clock a. m., Bro. J. M. Patrick was chosen moderator pro tem to perfect the organization, after which prayer was offered by Bro. Patrick.

1st Order of business was enrolling the names of messengers from the different churches.

NAMES OF MESSENGERS

Pilgrim's Rest—W. L. Anderson, Wm. Smith, J. M. Zachary, J. R. Hartley, J. A. Brown, J. F. Brown.

Pine Hill—Mollie Railey, Susie Cook, J. D. Smith, W. S. Cook, C. A. Smith.

Philipi—W. P. Lunsford, J. P. Lunsford.

Free Hill—W. T. McKinney, J. M. Patrick, J. J. McDaniel.

Harmony—J. J. Nichols, J. N. Payte.

Macedonia—R. B. McClain, B. H. McLellan, Addie L. Bryant.

Gum Grove—J. T. Gates, G. W. Adair, Julia Adair, E. L. Parnell, M. C. Parnell, W. H. Golden.

Corrinth—Not represented.

Shiloh—Not represented.

2nd Order of business went into a permanent organization by electing officers for one year, which resulted in the choice of Bro. J. M. Patrick as Moderator and J. A. Brown as Clerk and Treasurer.

At this time the Association adjourned to meet at 2 p. m. Bro. J. M. Patrick filled the stand and preached the Introductory or Annual Sermon, Text, "The Way."

AFTERNOON SESSION

The Association met pursuant to adjournment and after prayer by the moderator proceeded to business.

3rd Called for the report of the different churches and the following churches responded by letter and delegates, Pilgrim's Rest, Pine Hill, Philipi, Free Hill, Harmony, Macedonia and Gum Grove.

Bros. J. R. Hartley, J. F. Brown and O. A. Ashcraft were appointed to visit Corrinth and Shiloh to see why they did not represent as they were in violation of Article No. 7 of our Constitution.

4th Called for petitionary letters. Received none. No corresponding letters.

5th Appointment of Committees.

On Divine Services, B. F. Herndon, W. L. Anderson, Wm. Smith and J. N. Payte.

On Temperance, Sister M. C. Parnell, Bros. J. F. Brown, J. J. McDaniel and R. B. McClain.

On Sabbath Schools, Bros. J. R. Hartley, W. S. Cook, Sisters Julia Adair, J. P. Lunsford and Addie L. Bryant,

On Obituaries, J. D. Smith, G. W. Adair and W. H. Golden.

On Credentials, J. E. Railey, J. J. Nichols and J. M. Zachary.

On Finance, E. L. Parnell, W. T. McKinney, and J. F. Brown.

At this time the Association adjourned until Friday morning at 8 o'clock. Prayer by J. J. McDaniel.

Bro. J. J. McDaniel preached to a large congregation at 8 o'clock p. m.

FRIDAY MORNING SESSION

The Association met pursuant to adjournment, opened by reading 111th division of the Psalms and prayer by the Moderator. The roll was called and a quorum being present proceeded to business by reading the minutes of the preceeding day.

By motion Bros. J. F. Brown and O. A. Ashcraft was appointed to solicit funds from the Shiloh Church for Association-al purposes.

6th Called for the report of Committees.

COMMITTEE ON TEMPERANCE

Asked leave to report a slight amendment on the report of the Committee on Temperance as reported in the Minutes of 1907 and ask that said report be reprinted with the amendment.

We, your Committee, beg leave to submit for your consideration our report on intemperance: Intemperance is not only a hinderance to Christianity but to civilization. The Holy Bible tells us that strong drink is raging and that wine is mocking: then he that is overtaken with wine or strong drink is not wise. Noah, a man of God, was overcome with wine and brought shame on himself and a curse upon his grand son. See Gen. 9:20, Eph. 5:18, Lev. 10:9 and Hab. 2:15. Thus we see that intemperance and the saloon is the greatest bar to Christianity and the greatest curse to our nation of any and perhaps all of the evils of our nation combined. We do not know of one good syllable, one good word, nor even one good letter about the saloon except one letter and that is "let'er alone," for the saloon furnishes nothing but strong drink. It jingles the burglars keys, whets the assassins knife, lights the torch of the incendiary, fans the flame of anger, arouses the basest passion, instigates crime, provokes violence, disturbs order and foments strife, incites murders, fills our criminal dockets with debauchery and crowds jail houses with criminals; sends its victims to the gallows and their immortal souls to a devil's hell. It scorehes, blackens, burns and consumes everything it touches. It destroys health, happiness and homes; it fills prisons, poor-houses and penitentiaries; it causes struggle, strife and suicides as well as shame, sorrow and suffering; it is the author of misfortune, misery and murder as well as wretchedness, wickedness and woe and ends in degradation, death and damnation. It is the defier of God, the destroyer of man, the mother of misery, woe and death; it is the child of the devil, the parent of vice and its first born is death and its last born is despair. It is the

foul and filthy fount of shame, the source of crime and the destroyer of peace and happiness. If you would see its blighting and blasting, its deadening and damning work, look at the rivers of human tears and the agonies of broken hearts and the wretchedness of drunkards' homes. From the most reliable statistics that can be gathered from fifty to seventy-five per cent of the crimes before our courts come directly from liquor. Fifty per cent of the orphans in the orphanages are there from liquor. Fifty per cent of the paupers in our poorhouses are there from liquor, and an army of fifty thousand are going to their graves every year from liquor, and six hundred thousand more are fast following in their footsteps. One of every five of our young men are dropped in annually to make up this depleted army of drunkards and drinkers.

Save the boys! Oh save the boys from the curse of rum and ruin.

Respectfully submitted,

M. C. Parnell,	} Committee
R. B. McClain,	
J. F. Brown,	
J. J. McDaniel,	

At this time the Association adjourned for refreshments which were furnished on the ground. To meet at 2:00 p. m.

FRIDAY AFTERNOON SESSION

Come together by singing, and prayer by Bro. J. F. Brown, began the regular work by continuing the report of Committees.

REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON SABBATH SCHOOLS

We your committee on Sabbath Schools submit the following as our report, we find that there are but three Sabbath Schools in the Saline Association. We are sorry indeed to find this the case, and we earnestly recommend that each church in this Association go to work at once and organize a Sabbath School and endeavor to maintain the same, for God will call us into judgment to give an account of our stewardship here and then will we not be sorry for having done so little here toward bringing our little ones up in the nurture and admonition of the Lord.

Jesus said go into my vineyard and work and whatsoever is right that shall ye receive. Brethren and sisters in Christ Jesus, what are we doing for the Master, and what do you expect to receive in the end. Again he says: "Suffer little children to come unto me and forbid them not, for of such is the Kingdom of Heaven." Do you want your child saved? Do you want them to help to make up the mighty host that John, the revelator, speaks of and described as being as numberless as the sand of the sea? If so we should teach them the will of God concerning them, and we know of no better place to do this than in the Sabbath Schco'. There they are away from the contaminating influence of the world of drunkards and gamblers which is leading our boys astray, day by day, and step by step into heathenism. Oh! My God can we afford to sit still and see them going down! down!! down!!! into a drunkard's grave? Awake my brother, sister; see how many souls are going astray annually for the want of Scriptural training which can only be given successfully through the Sabbath School.

Go with the children into the Sabbath School and teach them what Jesus would have them know concerning the plan of life and salvation. Train them up in the way you would have them go, and when they are old they will not depart from it.

Respectfully submitted,

J. R. Hartley,	} Committee
W. S. Cook,	
Julia Adair,	
J. P. Lunsford,	

CREDENTIALS

We, your Committee on Credentials would most respectfully submit the following as our report: We find six ordained ministers in the Saline Association, viz:

- J. M. Patrick, Rowell, Arkansas.
 - J. R. Hartley, Ripley, Arkansas.
 - J. F. Brown, Ripley, Arkansas.
 - O. A. Ashcraft, Herbine, Arkansas.
 - J. J. Daniels, Herbine, Arkansas.
 - E. J. Graves, Orlando, Arkansas.
- We have three licentiates, viz:

We have three licentiates, viz:

Wm Hendon, McKinney, Arkansas.

James Taylor, Rye, Arkansas.

W. P. White, Star City, Arkansas.

All of whom, so far as your committee is able to ascertain are strong in the Free Will Baptist faith and practice and worthy members of the Saline Association. And your committee would recommend that each of them be given work in this Association that they might improve their talents and thus become of much usefulness in the ministry. Brethren the fields truly are white unto harvest and behold how few the laborers are.

J. M. Zachary,	} Committee
J. J. Nichols,	
J. E. Railey,	

REPORT ON OBITUARIES

We your Committee on Obituaries would respectfully submit the following as our report. We learn from the various churches that it has pleased the God of the Universe to call from the walks of the children of men since our last Association three of our beloved brethren, viz: J. P. McLellan from Macedonia; Reuben Roberts, of Philipi; Joe Crouch, of Gum Grove; and one sister---Brewster, of Harmony. All of whom, so far as your committee is able to learn, died in the hope of the blessed Immortality and good standing in the Free Will Baptist Church and we trust are now basking in the beautiful sun light of God, in the City of the New Jerusalem. In this we can realize that it is not all of life to live, nor all of death to die.

W. H. Golden,	} Committee
J. D. Smith,	
G. W. Adair,	

FINANCE

Your Committee on Finance would respectfully submit the following report of the finance coming through our hands from the different Churches in the Saline Association for the various purposes.

	For Min.	For Clerk	Del. Exp.
Pilgrim's Rest	\$2 50	\$1 50	\$2 50
Pine Hill	1 75	75	1 75
Philipi	50	15	50
Free Hill	1 50	30	1 50
Harmony	1 25	75	1 25
Macedonia	1 00	25	1 00
Gum Grove	1 25		1 25
Shiloh	2 25	30	25
Corrinth not represented			

We find our Treasurer's books are ballanced up in good shape and no funds on hand from our last Association and do now turn over the sum of money above mentioned for the various purposes to J. A. Brown, our present Treasurer, the total sum of \$26.00.

Respectfully submitted,

E. L. Parnell,
W. T. McKinney, } Committee
J. F. Brown.

Report received and Committee discharged.

MINISTERS REPORT

J. M. Patrick's Report. Brethren: I have served three churches this year as pastor, two in this and one in the Hamburg Association. Have preached at one Missionary point in this Association. Organized one church. Ordained one minister.

Respectfully,

J. M. Patrick.

J. R. Hartley's Report. I have pastored four churches, received into the church, seven. Have preached at two Missionary points.

J. R. Hartley.

O. A. Ashcraft's Report. I have pastored two churches. Received 32 members. Done some Missionary work. Helped to ordain one minister and two deacons.

O. A. Ashcraft.

J. J. McDaniel's Report. I have only been identified with the Free Will Baptist Church for a short time. I have one regular appointment and have assisted in several protracted meetings. Baptized eleven.

J. J. McDaniel.

STATISTICS

Name of Pastor	Name of Church	Rec'd			Dismiss'd.				Memb'ship		
		By Baptism	By Letter	Total	By Letter	Withdrawn	Died	Total	Males	Females	Total
J. R. Hartley	Pilgrim's Rest	3	4	7	0	0	0	0	19	35	54
	Pine Hill	0	1	1	0	0	0	0	9	26	35
O. A. Ashcraft	Philipi	7	7	14	0	5	1	6	11	12	23
	Free Hill	8	6	14	0	2	0	2	0	0	52
J. R. Hartley	Harmony	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	0	58
J. M. Patrick	Macedonia	2	2	4	0	2	1	3	19	24	43
	Gum Grove	0	2	2	0	0	1	1	10	15	25
J. R. Hartley	Shiloh not Rep.	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
No Pastor	Corrinth	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0

6th Order of Business. Called for questions for discussion. Received none.

7th Called for Resolutions.

Resolution No. 1. Be it resolved by this Association that we send a delegate to the State Association. By vote J. R. Hartley is elected delegate.

Resolution No. 2. Resolved that the next Annual Association meet with Macedonia Church, in Lee township, Cleveland county, near Mason P. O. By B. H. McLellan.

Resolution No. 3. Resolved that this Association extend to the Brothers and Sisters and the good people at Pilgrim's Rest, our hearty thanks for their kindness and the hospitality shown us during our stay with them, in this the 14th Annual Session of the Saline Association.

By W. H. Golden

By motion the Association adjourned to meet with Macedonia church at the Butler school house, in Lee township, Cleveland county, near Mason P. O. on Thursday before the 1st Sunday in September 1911 at 10 o'clock a. m.

Rev. J. F. Brown was appointed to preach the Annual Sermon closed by prayer by Bro. J. M. Patrick, after which the parting hand was taken and the Association closed with a great revival.

J. A. Brown,
Clerk and Treas.

J. M. Patrick,
Moderator.

LEADING PRINCIPLES OF WHAT WE BELIEVE.

1st. We believe that there is only one true and living God revealed to us—Father, Son and Holy Ghost.

2nd. We believe that the Scriptures comprising the Old and New Testament are the Word of God and the only correct rule of faith and practice.

3rd. We believe that man was created holy and good; but by transgression fell from the Holy State and became dead in sin.

4th. We believe that sinners are justified through faith in the blood of Jesus Christ.

5th. We believe in Baptism by burial only. That Baptism, the Lord's Supper and Foot Washing are ordinances of the church and instituted by our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.

6th. We believe in the second coming of Christ, the resurrection of the dead, the reward of the just and the punishment of the wicked.

CONSTITUTION OF ASSOCIATION.

Article 1. The Annual Association of the Church of Christ in the Saline District of Arkansas, shall be composed of the church officials, of Ministers of the Gospel of this church together with delegates sent from the different churches to represent them in Association. Delegates not to exceed three from for the first fifty members and one for each twenty-five additional or fraction thereof, whose names shall accompany the Association Letters as delegates.

Article 2. The Association when assembled for organization shall proceed to make the choice of a Moderator, Clerk and Treasurer by vote of the Association who shall hold their respective offices for one year. The Moderator shall preside in the chair during the Association meeting and preserve order. He shall see that the constitution and rules of the Association are strictly observed. He shall take opinion of the Association on all questions properly brought before it. The Clerk shall enroll the names of all delegates (including ministers and officials) from different churches, and make a proper and correct minute of the proceedings of the Association.

Article 3. Each Church shall be free and independent in matters of church government. But the Association may withdraw any church that departs from the principles of the New Testament Scriptures, as are recorded in the King James Translation. This body shall only be an advisory body.

Article 4. This Association declines any fellowship with any society or institution of men, of whatever name called, which is without authority from the Scriptures of divine truth. Nor will she knowingly correspond, or receive correspondence, from any Association which holds such in her correspondence.

Article 5. All matters of difficulty between churches, or in an individual church, that cannot, after due effort, be reconciled, shall be brought before the Annual Association for their deliberation. But she will not take cognizance of either of the above cases, unless due course of procedure shall have first been taken.

Article 6. Churches of our Faith who have no creeds, other than the King James Translation of the Holy Scriptures, and have accepted no other Church name than the Church of Christ, and practice the Ordinance of the Church as we do, may be admitted into our body by producing a letter, and by being represented in

person, according to Article (1) one of this Constitution, if found orthodox and orderly.

Article 7. The churches of this district shall faithfully represent them according to this Constitution by letter, giving the number received in the church from each source in separate columns, giving the number baptized, received by letter, dismissed by letter, withdrawn from, or died during the year.

Article 8. Should any church fail to represent herself more than twice in succession, this body shall then have the right to send solicitors to visit said church and inquire into the matter, and make a report to the next Association meeting. This article shall be construed to apply to ministers of the Gospel the same as to Churches, when they fail to represent themselves in the Association more than twice in succession, or send a report of their work.

Article 9. Should a Minister belong to any church in our (reformation) or district, depart from the faith or principles of doctrine of the New Testament Scriptures of the King James version, the Church shall deal with them as respects the exclusion of him and drawing in of credentials, provided she call two or more sister churches in the Association to assist her in the proceedings, and said churches when assembled in association may proceed to hear the charge and take action on exclusion and drawing in of credentials. And should application be made for restoration, the church should proceed in the like manner as in the exclusion and drawing in of credentials.

Article 10. There shall be a book provided by the Association for its sole use, in which shall be recorded all the proceedings of this Association, and the minutes of same shall be printed and sent out to the respective churches according to the amount sent in for the printing of minutes.

Article 11. The Association shall have rules to be governed by while in session, which shall not conflict with any article in this Constitution. Said rules, when adopted, may be amended from time to time by a majority of the members of Association present at any annual assembly of this Association.

Article 12. The Annual Association may amend or repeal any part of this Constitution at its annual meeting, provided two-thirds (2-3) of the churches in the district are represented in said association, and provided two-thirds (2-3) of the Ministers and Church Officials are present, and provided further that two-thirds (2-3) of the members present shall vote for said amendment or repeal.

Adopted unanimously.

Names of persons who voted for Constitution:

Eld. J. M. Patrick, Moderator; J. F. Brown, J. W. Veasey, R. E.; H. W. Wood, W. L. Cook, J. B. D. Williams, Clerk; J. R. Hartley, D. Busby, J. E. Railey, D. R. Smith, J. W. Clark; W. C. Davidson, O. A. Ashcraft, J. H. Meek, R. E.; J. D. Smith, R. E.; A. C. Rogers, J. A. Brown, R. E.; C. W. Raney.

RULES OF ASSOCIATION.

1st. The Moderator shall fill the Chair and preserve order in the Association.

2nd. The privilege and authority of the Moderator shall be respected by all members. Yet, he shall not be arbitrary in exercising them. He shall decide all questions of order and propriety. But the decision of the Association shall be binding on all parties.

3rd. The Moderator shall vote in no case unless the Association be equally divided, in such cases he shall cast the deciding vote. He shall have the privilege of speaking as any other member, provided he shall first call some one else to the chair.

4th. But one member shall speak at a time, who shall arise from his seat and address the Moderator. He shall not be interrupted, unless he departs from the subject or makes use of personal reflections. He shall not speak more than twice on any subject without permission of the Moderator, unless to explain.

5th. No member shall leave the house without permission from the Moderator.

6th. When a question is presented for discussion, it shall be written and handed to the Clerk and read. Then the person putting in such question, shall have the opening and concluding remarks, and the Moderator shall take the decision of Association on all questions.

7th. Motions, if seconded, must be considered unless withdrawn by the one making them.

8th. All resolutions must be written and handed to the Moderator, who shall read over them and hand them to the Clerk for public reading.

9th. All questions brought before the Association, shall be in writing, and none but Bible questions shall demand attention, and in no case will the Moderator receive a question that is not a Bible question. Questions must come through some member of the Association, or they will not be discussed.

Adopted unanimously.

PERMANENT ORDER OF BUSINESS.

1st. The house called to order by Moderator.

2nd. Enrolling names of messengers.

3rd. Organize by electing officers.

4th. Report of churches heard.

5th. Call for corresponding letters.

6th. Visiting brethren invited to take seats with us.

7th. Call for petitionary letters.

8th. Appointment of committees.

9th. Report of committees.

10th. Questions for discussion.

11th. Resolutions.