

MINUTES

of the

40TH ANNUAL SESSION

of the

SALINE ASSOCIATION

of

FREE WILL BAPTISTS

Held With

PINE HILL CHURCH, LINCOLN COUNTY,

SEPTEMBER 4, 1936

.... OFFICERS

Elder J. E. White *Moderator*

L. I. Shelton *Clerk and Treasurer*

The Fortieth Annual meeting of the Saline Association of Free Will Baptists met with Pine Hill church in Lincoln County on September 4, 1936, at 9 A. M.

The body was called to order by the Moderator Elder J. E. White. Opening song, "Standing on the Promises of God." Scripture reading, Rom. 8th chapter. Prayer by Rev. R. M. Moore. Song, "Sweet Bye and Bye." Devotional service by Bro. J. E. White.

Next call for letters from different churches:

FREE HILL—Delegates, Bro. and Sister O. A. Ashcraft. Membership 30. No pastor.

OAK GROVE—Delegates, Bro. Bruce Walls, Bro. Roe Murry, Sister Lillen Reviere. Membership 45. Have a good Sunday School. Paid pastor \$100.00. Rev. R. M. Moore, pastor; Bro. Cleve Potts, clerk.

YORK TOWN—Delegates, Sister Birttie Cogbill, Sister Eva Tucker. Membership 54. Have good Sunday School. Paid pastor \$160.25. Pastor Rev. J. D. Coffman; Sister Eva Tucker, clerk.

PINE HILL—Delegates, Bro. Dallas Jones, Sister Lela Cook, Bro. Eugene Wynne. Membership 93. Good Sunday School and prayer meeting. Paid pastor \$78.98. Pastor Rev. J. D. Coffman, Hector, Ark.; Sister Jewell Granderson, clerk.

MACEDONIA—Delegates, Bro. Ben Thompson, Bro. Dial Barker, Sister Hazel Brown, Bro. Edward Parker, Sister J. E. White, Sister Alma Dyer, Sister Ella Dyer, Bro. Ray Thompson. Membership 226. Good Sunday School. Paid pastor \$90.12. Mission work \$37.50. Pastor Rev. J. E. White; Bro. Thomas H. Brown, clerk.

MT. PLEASANT—Delegates, Bro. E. H. Willis, Bro. Richard Campbell, Bro. Dirrel Smith, Bro. Rastus Bellott. Membership 101. Paid pastor \$66.00. Pastor Rev. R. M. Moore; Bro. Jim Meeks, clerk.

HARMONY—Delegates, Bro. L. I. Shelton, Bro. W. W. Clark, Bro. and Sister Joe Brown. Active members 75. Unactive members 168. Total 243. Good Sunday School and league. Paid pastor \$90.72. Pastor Rev. J. E. White; Ray Curry, clerk.

PLEASANT GROVE—Delegates, Bro. and Sister Monroe Funderburg, Sister Foy, Bro. Carl Jiters, Bro. and Sister Everett Nowlin, Bro. Edgar Flemister. Paid pastor \$100.12. Good Sunday School. Pastor Rev. R. M. Moore; Bro. Stanley Foy, clerk.

PINE GROVE—Delegates, Bro. and Sister John Ricks, Sister Jewel Gates. No pastor.

All letters were read and approved. Next elected Rev. J. E. White, Moderator; Rev. R. M. Moore, assistant Moderator; Bro. L. I. Shelton, clerk; Bro. Lewis Barker, assistant clerk.

Next Seating of all delegates. Song No. 13. Introductory sermon by Rev. W. P. White. Text Matt. 24:5. Concluded by Rev. J. E. White. Dismissed by Rev. J. D. Coffman. Dinner on ground.

AFTERNOON SERVICE

Song. Scripture reading by Rev. J. E. White. Prayer by Rev. J. D. Coffman. Song. Appointment of committees by Moderator
Night Service—Devotional Service by Rev. O. A. Ashcraft.
Preaching by Rev. J. D. Coffman.

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 5, 1936

Song No. 13. Scripture reading by Rev. J. E. White, Matt. 10th chapter. Prayer by Sister O. A. Ashcraft. Quartet by Leonard Doggett. Next electing pastors for mission work. The following were elected: Rev. J. R. Hartley, Rev. O. A. Ashcraft (for life), Rev. W. P. White.

Sunday School Rally officers—Bro. Dallas Jones, president; Sister Bessie Moore, secretary. Rally to be held at Pine Hill church beginning at 9 o'clock on the 30th day of May.

Song No. 52. Memorial sermon by Rev. J. R. Hartley, text Cor. 1:15. Reading of obituaries, handshade. Dismissal by Rev. O. A. Ashcraft.

DINNER SERVED

Song by H. C. Dyer. Call for ministers' reports.

REPORT OF REV. W. P. WHITE, 1936

I have not preached very much this year. Help received, none; sermons unknown. I will go any place I am invited to go.

Rev. W. P. White

REPORT OF REV. J. E. WHITE, 1936

I have pastored three churches, namely Macedonia, Harmony and Mt. Zion. Miles traveled, 2320. Sermons preached, 91. Amount of money received, \$244.95. Funerals preached three. Married one couple. I ask the prayers of this entire body that I may ever live humble and do more in the future. Yours for Christ,

Rev. J. E. White

REPORT OF REV. J. R. HARTLEY, 1936

Brethren, I have put in about 4½ months since the last Association. Number of miles traveled not known. Number of sermons not known. Received \$2.10 above expenses. Brethren, pray for me that I may still be able to preach the gospel with more boldness.

Eld. J. R. Hartley

REPORT OF REV. R. M. MOORE, 1936

I have pastored five churches. Preached at two mission points. Preached 229 sermons. Received \$445.12. Pray for me.

Eld. R. M. Moore

REPORT OF REV. O. A. ASHCRAFT, 1936

Brethren, beg leave to report my work for this year: I have helped in two meetings, preached five funerals, married two couples, help received in foodstuff and money \$80.00. Pray for us two.

Rev. O. A. Ashcraft

Song by Bro. J. D. Coffman, "Jacob's Ladder."

Call for report of committees on CREDENTIALS: We, the committee find the following Bro. ministers to be in good standing:

Rev. J. R. Hartley, Rison, Ark.; Rev. W. P. White, Warren, Ark.; Rev. R. M. Moore, Star City, Ark.; Rev. J. E. White, Warren, Ark.; Rev. O. A. Ashcraft, Herbine, Ark.; Rev. Lee Parkman, New Edinburg, Ark.; Rev. W. H. Golden, Kingsland, Ark.; Rev. J. R. Rice, Warren, Ark.; Rev. J. C. Moring, England, Ark.; Rev. J. M. Estelle, Crossett, Ark.; Rev. H. P. McCellan (licensed), New Edinburg, Ark.

Dallas Jones,
Murry Funderburg,
W. W. Clark,
Earl Higgans,
H. C. Dyer,
Committee

NON REPRESENTED CHURCHES. We, the committee, find that all the churches are represented except two, Willoughby and Spring Hill. We dropped Willoughby from the roll for the present.

O. C. Blosengame,
Jewel Granderson,
Eugene Wynne,
Committee

COMMITTEE ON TEMPERANCE. We, your committee, make the following report: we find that drinking of strong drinks, beer and whiskey, is greater or more of it is used today than ever before by both men and women, right here in our midst in a Bible land. Please, let us as Freewill Baptists, use all our efforts in helping get this whiskey and beer out of our land. Let us ask our Brethren and Sisters to help us drive this beer and whiskey from our country.

Mrs. Alma Dyer,
G. C. Jones,
W. P. White,
Committee

We, the **SUNDAY SCHOOL COMMITTEE**, report that much good has been done for the churches through the Sunday School. There are seven active Sunday Schools in our Association. York Town has 70 enrolled, average attendance 65; Pleasant Grove 55 enrolled, average attendance 35; Macedonia has 50 enrolled, average attendance 35; Pine Hill 65 enrolled, average attendance 50; Oak Grove 45 enrolled, average attendance 30; Pleasant Valley 40 enrolled, average attendance 35; Harmony has 60 on roll, average attendance 45. We all use the Free Will Baptist literature. We, the committee, highly recommend the Sunday School Rally, and would like to see it go on.

Mrs. Earl Higgans,
Mrs. Ellie Dyer,
Mrs. Eva Tucker,
Committee

We, the COMMITTEE ON DIVINE SERVICE, recommend Bro. R. M. Moore fill the stand tonight. Bro. J. D. Coffman to fill the stand tomorrow.

Otis Cook,
Earl Higgans,
W. A. Bryant,
Committee

RESOLUTIONS—I resolve that each church pay \$5.00 per year for the support of our old ministers, to be used as the Association deems it necessary.

Bro. Ed Bough

We, the committee, recommend this to the body.

H. C. Dyer,
O. A. Ashcraft,
W. W. Clark,
Committee

We, the COMMITTEE ON FINANCE, recommend each church to collect 5c per member for minute funds. Money to be sent to clerk by October 1.

Dallas Jones,
Murry Funderburg,
Lewis Barker,
Committee

Election of delegates to the State Association were: Bro. John E. Funderburg, Bro. and Sister J. L. Johnson, Sister Estelle, Bro. Silas Woodard, Bro. Homer Myers, Eld. J. E. White, Bro. Murry Funderburg, Deacon W. W. Clark, Bro. L. I. Shelton, Sister W. W. Clark, Sister Alice Ashcraft, Eld. J. R. Hartley, Eld. R. M. Moore, Bro. Walter Moore, Eld. J. C. Moning.

Association goes to Macedonia next to meet at 9 o'clock on Friday morning before the first Sunday in September. Introductory sermon to be preached by Rev. R. M. Moore. Memorial sermon by Rev. W. P. White.

CLERK STATEMENT

We have in treasury \$15.40 to pay for the printing of the Minutes and clerk hire.

L. I. Shelton, Clerk

ARTICLES OF FAITH

1. GOD—We believe in one true and living, Triune God; composed of the Father, Son and Holy Spirit, equal in divine essence, purpose, power and glory. St. John 1:1; 1 Cor. 8:6; St. John 10:30.

2. CHRIST—We believe that Jesus Christ is the Divine Son of God. Was with the Father and the Holy Spirit at the time of the creation, left the courts of Heaven and came to this earth: Took upon himself the form of humanity, sin excepted, by being born of the virgin Mary, manifested His power, was crucified, placed in Joseph's new tomb, arose from the dead the third day, com-

pleting the great plan of salvation, walked and talked with His disciples. Publicly ascended to Heaven, and that He will descend again to gather His jewels home. Isaiah 9:6; St. John 1:14; Luke 1:26-28; Matt. 14:13-21; Mark 16:9-9; Luke 24:50-53; Acts 1:9-12; Mark 15:22-41.

3. **HOLY SPIRIT**—We believe that the Holy Spirit has visited true believers in all ages and especially since the ascension of the SON back to the Father, and His coming on the day of Pentecost. Has taken up His office work among all nations of people, as a divine reprover, comforter and guide. Judges 6:34; 11:29; St. John 16:8-14; Isaiah 63:10-12; Eph. 4:30; Acts 8:17-20.

4. **THE BIBLE**—We believe the Bible which is composed of the Scriptures of the Old Testaments was given by inspiration of God is our waybill from earth to Heaven, and the only infallible rule of Faith and practice. 2 Peter 1:19-21; 2 Tim. 3:14-17; Daniel 10:21; Acts 1:11-17; Matt. 21:42.

5. **THE FALL OF MAN**—We believe that God created man good, gave him a just law by which he should be governed, with promise of reward for faithfulness and with penalties of punishment for disobedience. Gave man power of free moral agency to choose the right and reject the wrong. But our first parents heeded the voice of the great enemy of souls, voluntarily transgressed the law of God, fell with all their posterity, under the just penalty of the same, and were unable of their own power to extricate or save themselves from the great dilemma into which they had fallen. God gave to them the hope of salvation through the coming of Christ. Gen. 1:27; 2:16-17; Rom. 11:11-35; Psalms 37:23-24; 5:18.

6. **REDEMPTION, SALVATION, ADOPTION**—We believe that Jesus Christ by His birth, death, burial, resurrection and ascension, paid the purchase price for the redemption of the whole human race, arranged a pardon for all who come upon Gospel terms; and a law of adoption into the kingdom of Heaven, and an eternal inheritance into the glorified kingdom above. Heb. 9:12; Gal. 3:13; 4:4-5; Titus 2:14; Heb. 1:4; St. John 3:16; Isaiah 45:22.

7. **CONDITIONS OF SALVATION**—We believe that all persons dying in infancy and all idiots are saved by the atoning merits of the Son of God without any act upon their part; that persons coming to the years of accountability, transgressing the law of God, must upon their part, exercise faith in Jesus Christ through repentance toward God, at the completion of which pardon takes place in the mind of the Father and by the Holy Spirit they pass through the ordeal of regeneration, are washed in the blood of the lamb and are planted in the Kingdom of Christ. John 3rd chapter; Matt. 19:13-22; 2 Cor. 7:10; Luke 18:16-17; St. John 4:11-16; Psalms 98:3.

8. **SALVATION FREE**—We believe that God desires the salvation of all; Christ died for all; the Gospel invites all; the Holy Spirit strives with all, and whosoever will may come and be saved upon the terms of the Gospel. 1 Peter 1:9-25; 2:9-25; Rev. 22:17.

9. BAPTISM—We believe that Christian baptism is the immersion of believers in water, in the name of the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit in which are represented the burial and resurrection of Christ; also represents our death to sin, and only those who have come under the Presbytery of the Elders are qualified to administer the same. Matt. 3:14-16; 3:5-6; 1 Peter 3:21; St. John 3:23; Acts 10:47; Matt. 28:19.

10. COMMUNION AND FEET WASHING—We believe that the Lord's Supper and the washing of the saints feet are ordinances of the Gospel of Christ; the Lord's Supper was instituted by our Saviour to commemorate His broken body and shed blood for the sins of the world, and to show our remembrance of Him till He comes. All Christians have a right to the Lord's supper and should be invited; "Let a man examine himself and so let him eat."

The washing of feet was instituted by our Lord at the same time that the supper was instituted as an act of humility to show our love for each other and both ordinances should be perpetuated by all Christians until His second coming. Luke 22:19-20; 1 Cor. 11:20-29; St. John 1:1-18; Matt. 26:26-29.

11. THE SABBATH—We believe that the Christian Sabbath be observed as a day of rest and for the worship of God; that we should abstain from all sinful amusements and secular employments, works of mercy and piety excepted. Exodus 20:11; 31:12-18; Deut. 5:12-15; Ezek. 20:12; Matt. 23:1; Luke 23:56; Acts 13:42-48; Mark 2:27.

12. CALL TO THE MINISTRY—We believe in a divine call of the ministry; that God in His goodness and power of grace, impresses His ministers with the burden of lost souls, to the extent that the call becomes irresistible with personal contentment; that when they yield to the call and exercise their native gifts according to the Scriptures, with a full reliance upon Him, accompanies them in the person of the Holy Spirit to guide them in way of truth and to bless their labors according to His purpose. Jonah 1:1; Jer. 1:5; Mark 3:14; Acts 1:22-26; Matt. 28:19.

13. THE INVISIBLE CHURCH—We believe that the Invisible or Spiritual Church is the redeemed in the aggregate, is the family of God, is composed of all true Christians of every congregation from righteous Abel to the resitutation of all things, from every kindred, nation, tongue and people. Eph. 3:16-21; Heb. 12:22-23; 1 Peter 2:5; Eph. 2:20-22; Acts 2:47; Matt. 16-18.

14. THE VISIBLE CHURCH—We believe that a visible Church of Christ is a congregation of faithful men and women having obtained fellowship with the Lord and with each other, agreeing to keep up a good discipline and doctrine according to the rules of the Gospel. 2 Thes. 1:1; Acts 16:5; 3 John 1:10; Matt. 18:17; Acts 20:28; Rev. 1:4-20.

15. **PERSEVERANCE**—We believe that all true believers in Christ should persevere in divine grace, and in the knowledge of the truth, and that God's grace is sufficient to help them to overcome all the obstacles of life, and that all the combined forces of the great enemy of souls on earth and in hell (or in his eternal abode) are not able to pluck them from his hand so long as they walk in the path of duty; but those who sidestep and wilfully refuse or neglect to perform their duty they would backslide and if persistently continued would be eternally lost. Sec. 1:12; 2 Cor. 9:10; 2 Peter 1:4-8; 2 Peter 2:2; Rom. 8:35-39; Apostasy: 2 Peter 1:8-9; 1 Cor. 10:1-13; Heb. 12:15-17; 1 John 5:16; Heb. 6:1-6; 1 Tim. 4:1-2; Heb. 3:12; St. John 15:1-7; Matt. 12:31-32.

16. **CHRIST THE HEAD OF THE CHURCH**—We believe that Christ is the great Head of the Church, and that the government of the local church is with the body. Col. 1:18-19; Matt. 16:18; Heb. 12:23; Matt. 21:42; Eph. 1:22; Acts 16:4-5.

17. **SANCTIFICATION**—Sanctification is a work of God's grace, by which the soul is cleaned from all sin and wholly consecrated to Christ. It takes place in regeneration, and the Christians can and should abide in this state to end of life, constantly growing in the grace and the knowledge of our Lord Jesus Christ. 1 Cor. 6:11; 2 Thes. 2:13; Heb. 12:14; Phil. 3:21; 2 Thes. 5:9-23; St. John 17:17-19; 2 Tim. 2:20-21.

18. **THE RESURRECTION**—We believe in the resurrection of the dead, both of the righteous and the wicked. When the resurrection shall take place, the soul and body shall be united, the righteous shall be received into everlasting happiness to reign with God forever, but the wicked shall go away into everlasting punishment. Matt. 28:6; St. John 5:28-29; 1 Cor. 15:51-58.

19. **THE SOUL**—The soul is endless, hence does not die with the body, but immediately after death enters into a conscious state of happiness or misery, according to the spiritual character here possessed. Phil. 1:23; Luke 23:43; Rev. 6:9; Luke 16:19-25; Matt. 10:28.

20. **JUDGMENT**—We believe there will be a general, universal judgment, when all men shall be judged according to their works, whether they be good or bad, and that immediately thereafter the wicked shall enter into everlasting punishment, and the righteous into eternal happiness. 2 Thes. 1:4-9; Rev. 14:9-13; Luke 16:23; Rev. 21:8; 2 Cor. 5:10; Matt. 12:36-37; Rev. 20:12-13; Acts 17:31.

RULES OF ORDER

1. At every sitting of the Association, business shall be opened and concluded with a prayer.
2. Those who speak shall arise, address the Moderator, and personal reflections shall be avoided.
3. All motions made and seconded shall be open for discussion, but debate may be shut off at any time by a majority of the members of the Association.
4. If any proposition or motion under debate contain two or more points, it shall be divided at the request of any member and the vote taken separately.
5. Motions made and lost shall not be recorded on the Minutes, unless so ordered at the time.
6. No one shall speak more than once on the same subject without special leave from the body.
7. All questions shall be decided by a majority of the members present.
8. No member shall absent himself without leave of the Moderator.
9. At the future sessions of this Association arrangements shall be made so as to insure two sermons, or other devotional exercises which shall be equivalent thereto, during each day of the session, and that the chair announce just before adjournments who shall fill the stand at the next meeting.
10. Alterations may be made in these rules at any regular meeting of the Association.

ORDER OF BUSINESS

1. Introductory sermon.
2. Association called to order by Moderator, or in his absence the Clerk.
3. Letters from the Association of this Association called for, read and messengers invited to seats.
4. Right hand of fellowship.
5. Call for letters from newly organized Associations.
6. Corresponding Associations.
7. Election of permanent officers.
8. Reading Rules of Order and Minutes of last Association by Chairman or Clerk.
9. Appointment of the following Committees: (a) Resolutions; (b) Finance; (c) Arrangements of Preaching; (d) Temperance; (e) Sabbath Schools; (f) Obituaries; (g) Condition of Non-Represented Churches; (h) Union of Churches.
10. Report of Committees appointed at last Association, and other unfinished business.
11. Report of new committees.
12. New business.
13. Adjournment.