

Mr. & Mrs. Fay Mann

MINUTES

FORTY-SEVENTH ANNUAL SESSION

of the

SALINE ASSOCIATION

of

FREE WILL BAPTISTS



Held With

MT. PLEASANT CHURCH

Ashley County

SEPTEMBER 3, 4, 5, 1943



Next Session will be held with Pleasant Valley Church,
Bradley County, Arkansas

Eld. Lewis Barker, ModeratorNew Edinburg, Ark.

S. L. Woodard, ClerkWarren, Ark.

PROCEEDINGS

Of the forty-seventh annual session of the Saline Association

The Association was composed of a large representation of Ministers, Deacons, Delegates, and visitors from all over the district. An interesting and harmonious atmosphere prevailed throughout the meeting.

The spiritual edification of the Association was very uplifting by J. E. McMahon, W. L. Estell, Eld. R. M. Moore, Eld. Stanton White, Eld. Lorton Calvert, a young Mr. Pennington, and Sister Ollie Sweeney and others who were in charge of the singing. Sister J. E. McMahon, the pianist, was ready and willing to do her part at the instrument at all times.

We will have to admit Mt. Pleasant Church and community did a real job in serving the noon and evening meal at the church ground. There was plenty of food served in the most appetizing manner.

FRIDAY MORNING SESSION

The Association was called to order at 10:00 A. M. by Moderator Eld. J. E. White. Class singing, Scripture reading and prayer, and a short devotional were actively engaged in just before the eleven o'clock service.

At eleven o'clock, the sermon was delivered in the person of Eld. J. M. Crouch. Introductory sermon, Scripture lesson Acts 20:16-28. Prayer, Eld. J. C. Moring. Text: "He that seeks to save his life loses it but if they lose their life for my sake shall find it." Song, "Sweet By-and-By." In a handshake by all, a promise was made to work as never before for Christ and his kingdom. The benediction was pronounced by Bro. Pennington.

FRIDAY AFTERNOON

The assembly was called together by class singing, directed by J. E. McMahon. Prayer, Dallas Jones.

The roll call of Associational letters was asked for. The following were presented and their delegates seated in conference by the right hand of fellowship:

PINE HILL—Leslie Wynn, Grace Williams, Merle Wynn, Mary Lee Williams, Lera Wynne, and Huston Morgan.

MT. PLEASANT—J. M. Gaught, S. R. Pennington and R. W. Estell.

WILLOUGHBY—Eld. D. A. Bryan, Eld. Lorton Calvert, and Sister Cora Parnell.

HARMONY—Clyde Taylor, Birdett Nichols, Will Hayes, and Sister Bessie Burks.

PLEASANT VALLEY—G. W. Doggett, Sister Pauline Woodward, and Sister Ollie Sweeney.

YORK TOWN—Alta Waters, and Sister R. M. Moore.

PLEASANT GROVE—Reed Golding, Roy Brown, Forest Myers, Sister Murry Funderburg, and Sister Foy.

UNION CHAPEL—Sister J. C. Moring, Bro. Tillie and Bro. Rogers.

MACEDONIA—T. H. Brown, H. O. Thompson, Sister Vivian Dyer.

OAK GROVE—J. E. McMahon, Sister J. E. McMahon, and Sister Margarette Owens.

SPRING HILL—By Letter.

Song: A good will and right hand of fellowship was given the new church, Union Chapel, and those enrolled from eleven different churches.

The election of permanent officers for the incoming year were Eld. Lewis Barker, Moderator; Eld. J. E. White, Assistant Moderator; S. L. Woodard, Clerk; J. E. McMahon, Reading Clerk; J. E. McMahon, Song Leader; H. C. Dyer, Assistant Leader. The clerk read the rules of order.

Eld. D. A. Bryan was elected evangelist for the incoming year.

The following committees were appointed by Moderator:

Pulpit Committee—M. C. Pennington, J. E. McMahon, F. M. Myers, Dallas Jones, and C. E. Reaves.

Temperance—Sis. Ollie Sweeney, Sis. Thelma Estell, and Sis. Iva Mae McClellan.

Statistics—Sis. Vivian Dyer, Sister Bonnie McKeney, Sister Iva Mae McClellan.

Resolution—Eld. J. C. Moring, Murry Funderburg and W. L. Estell.

Sunday School—Sister Ollie Sweeney, Sister Vivian Dyer, and Sister Eloise Foy.

Obituary—Sister Murry Funderburg, Eld. D. A. Bryan, and Earnest Ingram.

Non-Represented Churches—Eld. J. M. Crouch, Eld. Lorton Calvert, and W. W. Clark.

Finance—Murry Funderburg, Huston Morgan, and R. M. Jackson.

Credential—T. H. Brown, W. W. Clark and F. M. Myers.

Ten minute recess.

Saline Association will meet with Pleasant Valley Church, eight miles West of Warren, Ark., at 9 o'clock on Friday morning before the first Sunday in September, 1944.

Introductory sermon, Eld. J. E. White. Alternate, Eld. Loyd Williams.

Memorial Sermon, Eld. J. C. Moring. Alternate, Eld. J. M. Crouch.

Sunday School Rally Officials: S. L. Woodard, President; J. E. McMahon, Vice President; Eld. Lorton Calvert, Secretary; Eld. Stanton White, Song Leader; J. E. McMahon, Assistant Leader.

Willoughby Church will be the home of our next Sunday School Rally in 1944. It will be on the second fifth Sunday in 1944.

Reading of minutes and committee reports.

Five minute talks by young ministers, Eld. Lorton Calvert, Eld. A. W. Bost.

The business session adjourned until 10:00 A. M. Saturday morning.

Benediction, Bro. Murry Funderburg.

FRIDAY EVENING SESSION

The Friday evening service began at 7:00 o'clock with class singing, directed by Eld. Lorton Calvert, Eld. J. E. White, and Levie Pennington. Prayer, Eld. Lorton Calvert. Devotional, Bro. W. L. Estell. The congregation was very much uplifted by those who took part in speaking for the Lord.

The evening sermon was delivered in the person of Eld. D. A. Bryan. Scripture Lesson, First Cor. 10:1-13. Prayer, Eld. D. A. Bryan. Song. Text, "Rest for weary feet." A very interesting sermon.

Benediction by Eld. J. E. White.

SATURDAY MORNING SESSION

The resumption of business began at the stipulated time. Class singing, directed by Eld. J. E. White and W. L. Estell. Scripture

lesson, Matthew 24:1-14, reading by Moderator Lewis Barker. Prayer, Eld. J. M. Crouch. Class singing, directed by Eld. R. M. Moore, Eld. Lorton Calvert, and W. L. Estell. Ten minute recess for committee work.

SATURDAY ELEVEN O'CLOCK SERVICE

Called to worship by choir singing different numbers, followed by asking God's blessings upon the hearers in prayer, led by Eld. R. M. Moore. Scripture Reading, Job 14:1-18, by Eld. J. C. Moring. The memorial sermon was very ably delivered by Eld. J. C. Moring. Concluded by Eld. J. E. White. Song and a handshake to all Christians that hope to see the end of a Christian life.

Benediction by Eld. R. M. Moore.

SATURDAY AFTERNOON SESSION

Call to order by singing. Scripture reading. Prayer, Eld. Stanton White. Spring Hill's letter was read and accepted.

Resolution No. 1 read and accepted.

Be it resolved that each church in Saline Association this year send Macedonia Church ten dollars to be spent in taking care of the State Meeting. The Moderator appointed the deacons in each church to collect the ten dollars.

The ordaining council was appointed to investigate Eld. G. S. Jenkins' case.

Ministers Reports:

Eld. R. M. Moore, Eld. D. A. Bryan, and Eld. Lewis Barker made a verbal report.

Eld. J. M. Crouch preached fifty sermons, two funerals, baptised two, traveled 800 miles, received for my work \$91.80. Pray much for me.

Eld. J. M. Spikes preached thirty sermons, baptised one, married two couples, helped to set one church in order, received twenty dollars for my work. Pray for me.

Eld. J. E. White pastored three churches, witnessed 29 conversions, and received for my work \$859.25. Pray for me.

Eld. Lorton Calvert has seen many souls united with the Lord, number of sermons preached unknown, amount received \$80.00, traveled 2,350 miles. I desire your prayers.

Eld. Stanton White pastored one church, helped in two meetings, sermons preached unknown, received \$144.49 for my work, baptised three. I covet your prayers.

Eld. Lloyd Williams pastored one church, helped in one meeting, baptised two. Pray for me.

Eld. J. C. Moring pastored three churches, preached at one mission point, organized one church, received 37 into the church, baptised sixteen, received for my work \$385.04, preached three funerals. Pray for me.

The delegates to State meeting were selected as follows: J. T. Hollis, Forest Myers, Sister J. C. Moring, Sister Ollie Sweeney, and Sister Eva Tucker. Alternate, G. W. Doggett, A. L. Connell, and Sister Bessie Burks.

A suggestion was offered by Eld. J. E. White that all our delegates go next year to stay over until Sunday afternoon.

A five minute talk by Eld. D. A. Bryan.

Motion carried to adjourn the business session until we meet with Pleasant Valley Church, Bradley County, Arkansas, on Friday morning before the first Sunday in September, 1944. Song: Parting. handshake. Dismissed by Bro. W. L. Estell.

Report of Committee:

DIVINE SERVICE—We, the committee on Divine Service,

recommend Eld. D. A. Bryan Friday evening, devotional led by Bro. W. L. Estell. Saturday at eleven Eld. J. C. Moring. Saturday evening Eld. R. M. Moore. Sunday morning Eld. Stanton White, followed by Bro. Lloyd Williams. Saturday night Eld. Lorton Calvert conducted the devotional.

TEMPERANCE—We, your committee on Temperance, find since the repeal of the eighteenth amendment there are more evils caused by the effect of liquor. The Devil uses every means possible to mislead the Christian people. We favor the dry law and hope the time will come when we will see no effect on the human body caused by alcohol. Put God first and rely upon his service and influence. There is no reason why anyone should be tempted with such evil. As Christian people we better acquaint ourselves and watch our vote unless we fall into the same ditch. We pray to God that our nation become more temperant.

Ollie Sweeney, Chairman

FINANCE—We, your committee on Finance, have collected and turned over to the clerk seventy-eight dollars and twenty-seven cents for tent fund, state minute, Saline minute, and to help Macedonia take care of State meeting.

CREDENTIAL—We, your committee on Credential, find that all ministers are in good standing as far as we know, except G. S. Jenkins. We, your committee, ask that the Association investigate.

T. H. Brown, Chairman

OBITUARY—We, your committee on Obituary, find the death angel has visited and called from our midst, Bro. Will Harilston of Macedonia, Sister Amilia Johns of Harmony, Sister Viola Meeks and Bro. J. N. Adair of Mt. Pleasant, Sister Jinnie Guess of Pleasant Valley, and Pvt. Bro. Robert Brewster of Oak Grove. We express our sympathy for their loved ones, and hope our loss is Heaven's gain.

Eld. D. A. Bryan, Chairman

SUNDAY SCHOOL—We, the committee on Sabbath School, find the churches that are carrying on a Sunday School, are in much better condition in every way.

We recommend that parents go and take their children to Sunday School each Sunday and help with their presence to make their Sunday School a success.

We recognize the need of Sunday School in teaching the Scripture to the youth of our day. We think every church should have a Sunday School, because children would likely go some place and we think Sunday School is the best place for them. Give to the church and Sunday School your best and the best will come back to you.

Ollie Sweeney, Chairman

UNION AND NON-REPRESENTED CHURCHES—We, the committee on Union and Non-Represented Churches, find that all the churches are represented but one, Free Hill. The Zion Hope Church at England, Ark., is inactive, therefore we consider it disbanded. Our churches are in good standing and fellowship.

Eld. Lorton Calvert, Chairman

STATISTICAL—We, the committee on Statistic, beg leave the following report:

Pastorial Work	\$1,459.20
Help in Meeting	557.98
Home Mission	100.08

Expense of State Meeting Help	32.82
Church Property	10,000.00
Publication	94.45

Total	\$12,244.53
Received into the Church	84
Baptised	43
Dismissed	8
Died	6
Ministers	20
Total membership	1091
Number in the Sunday School	487
League membership	95
Taking church paper	22

SATURDAY EVENING

The congregation was called to order by a spirit filled song service led by Eld. Lorton Calvert, Eld. Stanton White, and Bro. Willie Estell. Prayer Eld. J. E. White. Devotional service led by Eld. Lorton Calvert. We were made to rejoice to see so many witnesses for Jesus. The evening sermon was delivered in the person of Eld. R. M. Moore. Scripture lesson, 2nd Timothy, 4th chapter, Text, First John 3:16.

Dismissed by Eld. D. A. Bryan.

SUNDAY MORNING

The Sunday morning service was called to worship by singing praises to God led by Bro. A. L. Hollis. Prayer Sister H. B. Lawler. The message was delivered by Eld. S. B. White and Eld. L. L. Williams. Scripture reading St. John 1:31-41, Subject, Finding the Lost Christ.

Dismissed by Bro. W. L. Estell.

Sunday evening spent in class singing.

ARTICLES OF FAITH

1. GOD—We believe in one true and living Triune God; composed of Father, Son, and Holy Ghost, equal in divine essence, purpose, power, and glory. St. John 1:1; 1st Cor. 8:6; 1 John 5:7; 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, completing the great plan of salvation; walked and talked with his disciples, publicly ascended up to Heaven, and that he will descend to gather his jewels home. Isaiah 9:6; St. John 1:14; Luke 7:26-28; 24:50-53; Math. 14:13-21; Mark 16:9-19; 15:22-41; Acts 1:9-12; 1st Thes. 4:13-18.

3. HOLY SPIRIT—We believe the Holy Spirit has visited true believers in all ages, and especially since the ascension of the Son back to the Father, and its coming on the day of Pentecost. Has taken up its office work among all nations of people as a Divine Reprover, Comforter, and Guide. Judges 6:34, 11:29; St. John 16:18-14; Isaiah 63:10-12; Ephesians 4:30; Acts 8:17-20.

4. THE BIBLE—We believe the Bible, which is composed of the scriptures of the Old and New Testaments, was given by in-

spiration of God, is our waybill from earth to Heaven, and only infallible rule of faith and practice. II Peter 1:19-21; II Timothy 3:14-17; Daniel 10:21; Acts 1:16-17; Math. 24:14.

5. **THE FALL OF MAN**—We believe that God created man good, gave him a just law by which he should be governed, with promises 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 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; Romans 11:11-35; 5:18; Psalms 37:23-24.

6. **REDEMPTION, SALVATION, ADOPTION**—We believe that Jesus Christ, by his birth, death, burial, resurrection and ascension, paid the purchase price of the redemption of the whole human race, arranged a pardon for all who come to Him upon Gospel terms; and a law of adoption into the Kingdom of Heaven, and an eternal inheritance in the glorified Kingdom above. Hebrews 9:12; 1:3-4; Gal. 3:13; 4:4-5; Titus 2:14; St. John 3:16, Isa. 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 or God. John 3rd chapter; Math. 19:13-22; II 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. I Peter 1:9-25; 2:9, 24-25; Rev. 22:17.

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

10. **COMMUNION AND FEET WASHING**—We believe that the Lord's Supper and the washing of 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 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; I Cor. 11:20-29; St. John 13:1-18; Math. 26:26-29.

11. **THE SABBATH**—We believe that the Christian Sabbath should 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; Math. 28:1; 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 scripture with a full reliance upon Him He accompanies them in the person of the Holy Spirit to guide them in the 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; Math. 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 restitution of all things from every kindred, nation, tongue, and people. Eph. 3:16-21, 2:19-22; Heb. 12:22-23; I Peter 2:5; Acts 2:47; Math. 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. II Thes. 1:1; Acts 16:5; 20:28; III John 1:10; Math. 18:17; Rev. 1:4, 11-20; 2nd Cor. 8:18-19.

15. **PERSEVERANCE**—We believe that all true believers in Christ should persevere in divine grace, and in the knowledge of the truth that God's grace is sufficient to help them to overcome all the obstacles of life that all the combined force of the great enemy of souls on earth 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 willfully refuse or neglect to perform their duty they would backslide and if persistently continued would be eternally lost. II Cor. 9:10; II Peter 1:4-8; 1 Peter 2:2; Rom. 8:35-39; Apostasy; II Peter 1:8-9; I Cor. 10:1-13; Heb. 12:15-17, 6:1-6, 3:12, 1st John 5:16; I Tim. 4:1-2; St. John 15:1-7; Math. 12:31-32; Jude 1st chapter.

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

17. **SANCTIFICATION**—Sanctification is a work of God's grace, by which the soul is cleansed from all sin and wholly consecrated to Christ. It takes place in regeneration and the Christian can and should abide in this state to the end of life, constantly growing in the grace and knowledge of our Lord Jesus Christ. And the sanctification of the body (which is held under subjection) will take place in the resurrection. I Cor. 6:11; II Thes. 2:13; Heb. 12:14; Phil. 3:21; 1st Thes. 5:19-23; St. John 17:17-19; II Timothy 2:20-21.

18. **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. Philp. 1:23; Luke 23:43, 16:19-25; Rev. 6:9; Math. 10:28.

19. **THE RESURRECTION**—We believe in the resurrection of the dead, both of the righteous and wicked. When the resurrection shall take place the soul and body shall be reunited, the righteous shall be received into everlasting happiness to reign with God for-

ever; but the wicked shall go away into everlasting punishment. Math. 28:6; St. John 5:28-29; I Cor. 15:51-58.

20. JUDGMENT—We believe that there will be a great 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 everlasting happiness. II Thes. 1:4-9; Rev. 14:9-13, 20:12-13, 21:8; II Cor. 5; 10; Math. 12:36-37; 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 rise, 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 contains 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. Alternations 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; (j) Credential; (k) Statistics.

10. Report of Committees appointed at last Association, and other unfinished business.

11. Report of new committees.

12. New business.

13. Adjournment.