

MINUTES

OF THE

FORTY-SECOND ANNUAL SESSION

OF THE

Social - Band - Baptist Association

HELD WITH

1916

Stony Point Church, Commencing Saturday, September 16th, 1916. Next Session will be held with Liberty Church, Sharum, Ark., on Saturday before the 3d Sunday in September, 1917.

ELD. D. M. HOLDER, Moderator
H. W. BLANKENSHIP, Clerk

MINUTES.

A goodly number of ministers, deacons and messengers of that part of the church of God, commonly known as Social Band Association, met with Stony Point church, Elevenpoints, Ark., Sept. 16, 1916.

SATURDAY MORNING SESSION.

The annual sermon was preached by Elds. D. M. Holder and W. T. Sharp. After which proceeded to regular business.

1. A call for church letters showed the following present, viz: Stony Point, Grandview, Sugar Tree Grove, Union Ridge, Warm Springs, New Hope, Eureka, Liberty, New Covenant, Old Jackson, Clear Lake, Pleasant Valley, Richwoods, Lone Oak, Zion Hill, Denman, Mt. Pleasant.

2. Letters of the several churchès read and received. Called for petitionary letters, received 2—Cedar Ridge, Bethel Chapel. Cedar Ridge church was organized by Eld. P. W. Thompson. Bethel Chapel church was organized by Eld. J. R. English.

3. Proceeded to elect moderator and clerk, which resulted in choice of Eld. D. M. Holder, moderator, and H. W. Blankenship, clerk.

Adjourned until 4:00 p. m.

SATURDAY AFTERNOON SESSION.

Came together about 4:15 with singing and prayer by Bro. Zack Minton.

4. Read rules of decorum.

5. The Moderator proceeded to appoint the several committees, as follows: On arrangement of business, Zack Minton, T. W. Wells, Warren Hullinger, S. V. Tracy.

On Finance—Geo. Williams, W. P. Brooks, Dan McKinney.

On Divine Service—Olen Thompson, John Hancock and Perry Kincaid.

On Literature—G. W. Williams, Joe Blansett and G. P. Johnson.

On Obituary—W. T. Sharp, T. C. Parrish, and F. Seamen.

6. Voted to appoint a new committee on credentials—D. M. Seaman, Alford Pride, Geo. Bristol, Hallie Jolly and W. T. Sharp, were appointed to constitute the same.

7. While committee on business were absent, we spent about 30 or 40 minutes in devotional service, led by Eld. G. W. Million.

8. Committee on business made a partial report.

9. The district financial agents made their report, and were retained for the next year.

10. The Moderator appointed Elds. G. W. Million, W. T. Sharp and W. T. Shoffit, deacons Perry Kincaid and John Hancock as presbytery to ordain brethren T. R. Bates, J. F. Barnes and D. F. Seaman to the deaconship.

11. Committee on divine service appointed Elds J. W. Tharp and J. R. English, to preach Saturday night and G. W. Million to preach Sunday at 11:00.

12. Prayer, by J. C. Carter. Adjourned until 8:00 Monday morning.

SATURDAY NIGHT SERVICE.

Opening with singing and prayer; preaching by Elds. J. W. Tharp and J. R. English. Text: Jer. 8:20.

SUNDAY MORNING SERVICE.

Opened with singing and prayer. Preaching by Eld. G. W. Million, "On Change of Heart." Ordinance service conducted by Eld. D. M. Holder and W. T. Sharp.

At noon a sumptuous dinner was spread by the good ladies present, and about 600 people partook of same. A general sociable time was manifested.

SUNDAY AFTERNOON SERVICE.

Preaching by Eld. W. T. Shoffit, after which more than 100 of God's people engaged in eating of the Lord's supper and washing of the saint's feet.

MONDAY MORNING SESSION.

13. Met about 8:15 with singing and prayer by T. C. Parrish.

14. Moved that we write Eld. Pridmore a letter in regard to admittance into the association.

15. Moved that the committee on business be appointed for the ensuing year. Moderator appointed brethren Zack Minton, G. W. Million, W. T. Shoffit, J. P. Kincaid and J. M. Cavenar to constitute same.

16. Called for report of ministers, (see report).

17. Called for report of committee on obituaries, (see report).

18. The several committees reported and were discharged.

19. By request, the name of J. W. Tharp was dropped from the ministerial list.

20. Moved that we have 400 minutes printed and clerk superintend the work, pay for, and distribute same among the several churches and be paid for his services.

21. Moved that we have 5th Sunday meetings this year.

22. Voted to meet with Grandview church, Supply, Ark., on Friday night before the 5th Sunday in October, 1916, at which time the place of next meeting will be selected. Elds. W. T. Shoffit and N. Y. Gary were chosen to preach the introductory sermon. John R. Holt made a short lecture on "5th Sunday meetings," which was enjoyed by all present.

23. Moved that we grant Eld. J. C. Carter a letter of recommendation.

24. Moved that the committee on business prepare a program for the next association.

25. Moved that the next association be held with Liberty church, Sharum, Ark., Eld. W. T. Sharp to preach the annual sermon.

26. Resolved that we tender our heartfelt thanks to the good people of Stony Point for the kind hospitality shown us while in their midst. Adjourned to meet with Liberty at 10:00 o'clock a. m., on Saturday before the 3rd Sunday in September, 1917.

A revival had been going on at Stony Point and a general good time was had throughout the entire session.

Elder D. M. HOLDER, Moderator.

Maynard, Arkansas.

H. W. BLANKENSHIP, Clerk.

Ravenden Springs, Ark.

MESSENGER ENROLLMENT

Stony Point—James Blythe, Joseph Blansett, A. C. Pendergrass.

Grandview—L. C. Parrish, W. P. Johnson, H. C. Jolly.

Sugar Tree Grove—B. J. Patterson, Harvy Spires, Samuel Randolph.

Union Ridge—N. Y. Gary.

Warm Springs—J. C. Wooldridge, J. C. King, T. W. Paine.

New Hope—D. Pursful, B. F. Million, Kibler Million.

Eureka—J. A. Ford, Dan McKinney, Chas. Jones.

Liberty—A. P. Johnson, R. M. Johnson, J. M. Archer.

New Covenant— —Holland, — Ward, F. E. Roselott.

Old Jackson—Wiley Elliott, William Jones, Luther Craze.

Clear Lake—H. A. Shipman, Geo. Williams, Moren Mathews.

Pleasant Valley—H. W. Blankenship, T. W. Wells, S. V. Tracy.

Richwoods—D. D. Allison.

Lone Oak—Mrs. J. R. English, W. W. Tyler.

Zion Hill—Pete Swiner, Lou Crofoot.

Denman—Walter Eveland, M. V. Williams.

Mt. Pleasant—J. M. Baker, Geo. Bristol, John Bristol.

Cedar Ridge—Roy Barnes, Elmer Sison.

Bethel Chapel—Bob Land.

OBITUARY

We, your committee on Obituary, find that our kind and generous Heavenly Father has seen fit in

His Divine Wisdom to remove by death from our midst four of our worthy members.

Warm Springs 2, Grandview 1 and Eureka 1.

We are glad our loss is their eternal gain, and we tender our heartfelt sympathies to the bereaved ones.

N. Y. GARY, Chairman.

ANNUAL REPORT OF MINISTERS

Elder W. T. Sharp spent about 110 days in service. Married 3 couple. Baptised 7. Officiated at 8 funerals. Had care of 4 churches.

Pleasant Valley	Received	\$36.05
Clear Lake	“	6.40
Old Jackson	“	23.55
Pleasant Hill	“	7.75
Total		\$73.75

Elder J. R. English preached nearly every Saturday night and Sunday. Had care of 3 churches.

Zion Hill	Received	\$ 7.35
New Hope	“	8.00
Denman	“	13.50
Stony Point	“	7.50
Total		\$36.35

Married 4 couple, with 48 conversions. Baptised 13. Officiated at 6 funerals.

Elder W. T. Shoffit had care of 3 churches. Held 2 meetings with 30 conversions. Baptised 25.

Liberty	Received	\$32.00
Eureka	“	16.00
New Covenant	“	51.26
Total		\$99.26

Elder G. W. Million had care of 3 churches. Traveled about 500 miles, preached about 80 sermons. With 30 conversions.

Richwoods, Bristow and Warm Springs, Received for services \$75.00.

Elder D. M. Holder served 4 churches, preached 111 sermons, with 30 conversions. Baptised 29.

Union Ridge Received ----- \$ 20.30

Grandview " ----- 32.90

Stony Point " ----- 33.28

Sugar Tree Grove " ----- 32.55

Total ----- \$119.03

Elder N. Y. Gary preached 7 sermons. Officiated at 5 funerals. Paid suppers of Ministry \$14.60.

Elder J. O. Carter had care of 1 church, preached about 25 sermons.

Mt. Pleasant Received ----- \$5.00

Elder J. W. Tharp preached nearly every Sunday. Held 1 meeting. With 7 conversions. Assisted in another meeting. Received \$25.00.

MINISTERIAL LIST

D. N. King ----- Warm Springs Ark.

D. M. Holder ----- Maynard, Ark.

W. T. Shoffit ----- O'Kean, Ark.

J. F. Gates ----- O'Kean, Ark.

J. H. Welker -----

W. T. Sharp ----- Frisbee, Ark.

G. W. Million ----- Pocahontas, Ark.

H. F. Newberry ----- Richwoods, Ark.

D. O. Ring ----- Portia, Ark.

Geo. N. Weeks ----- Elnora, Ark.

L. M. Buckner ----- Elnora, Ark.

C. M. Kildow ----- Ravenden Springs, Ark.

J. C. Carter ----- Ravenden Springs, Ark.

J. R. English ----- Pocahontas, Ark.

N. Y. Gary ----- Ponder, Mo.

J. R. Rosson ----- Ponder, Mo.

T. B. Hilton ----- Poplar Bluff, Mo.

LICENTIATES

J. D. Poynor ----- Maynard, Ark.

STATISTICAL TABLE.

NAME OF, CHURCH	Contributions	CHURCH MEMBERSHIP						Total Membership
		INCREASE			DECREASE			
		Conversions	Restoration	Recom'dtion	Deaths	Withdrawal	Letter	
Stony Point	2.05	25						86
Grandview	1.00	7			1	1		61
Sugar Tree Grove	1.90			2			1	30
Union Ridge								36
Warm Springs	1.08			2	1	13		137
New Hope	1.30	8	5	1		10		35
Eureka	2.00	5	5	1	1	1	1	110
Liberty	1.50	1						40
New Covenant	1.50	8		2				92
Old Jackson	1.00					1	2	57
Clear Lake	1.05	11		3				31
Pleasant Valley	.80	1		1			3	52
Richwoods	1.00							45
Lone Oak	1.35							38
Zion Hill	.75							23
Denman	1.00							31
Mt. Pleasant	.85							10
Cedar Ridge								25
Bethel Chapel								8

CHURCH DIRECTORY.

CHURCHES	PASTORS	CLERKS AND POSTOFFICE
Stony Point-----	D. M. Holder--	A. C. Pendergrass, Elevenpoints, Ark
Grandview-----	" "-----	E. L. Duff, Supply, Ark-----
Sugar Tree Grove--	" "-----	Mattie Hopper, Poynor. Mo-----
Union Ridge-----	-----	G. L. Agin, Poynor, Mo-----
Warm Springs-----	D. M. Holder--	Elba Bellah, Warm Springs, Ark--
New Hope-----	" "-----	B. H. Bates, Pocahontas, Ark-----
Eureka-----	W. T. Shoffit--	J. F. Gates, O'Kean, Ark-----
Liberty-----	G. W. Million--	J. E. Riggs, Sharum, Ark-----
New Covenant-----	W. T. Shoffit--	Zack Minton, Walnut Ridge, Ark--
Old Jackson-----	G. W. Million--	Warren Hullinger, Imboden, Ark--
Clear Lake-----	H. F. Newberry--	Ed Newberry, Walnut Ridge, Ark--
Pleasant Valley-----	W. T. Sharp--	H. W. Blankenship, Ravenden Sp'gs--
Richwoods-----	G. W. Million--	Thelmer Allison, Walnut Ridge, Ark
Lone Oak-----	H. F. Newberry--	W. W. Tyler, Manson, Ark-----
Zion Hill-----	G. W. Million--	Sam Smotherman, Pocahontas, Ark--
Denman-----	G. W. Million--	Walter Eveland, Delaplaine, Ark--
Mt. Pleasant-----	J. C. Carter-----	Jos. M. Baker, Ravenden, Ark-----
Cedar Ridge-----	P. W. Thompson	Celia Barnes, Noland, Ark-----
Bethel Chapel-----	J. R. English--	J. L. Webb, Pocahontas, Ark-----

PETITIONARY LETTER

We, the Disciples of Christ, commonly known as General Freewill Baptists, worshipping at _____ do pray for admission into your honorable body by letter and messengers. After examining the Articles of Faith and Rules of Order of the Social Band Association we were covenanted together by Elders _____

Dear Brethren, after examination, if you find us orthodox, we pray you receive us. We send our beloved brothers to sit with you in Godly council, with authority to transact such business as may come before you. The state of church is as follows: Organized with _____ members; since that time received _____

Bro _____, clerk; Eld _____ Moderator. We have chosen Eld _____ to take care of our church next year. Contribution \$ _____

(Add more below if desired.)

CHURCH LETTER TO THE ASSOCIATION

We, the Disciples of Christ, commonly known as General Freewill Baptists, worshipping at _____ send greeting to the Ministers, Deacons and Messengers, composing Social Band Association, when convened with _____ Church. Very dear brethren, we anticipate with great joy the time when we shall meet you again by letter and messenger. We send our beloved broth-

ers to sit with you in your Godly deliberations, whom we pray you receive as worthy brothers, with full power and authority to transact all business that may come before your honorable body for the good of our church and Christianity in general, viz: Bros _____

and _____ The statistics of our church are as follows: Received by experience _____; by letter; _____; by recommendation _____; restored _____; dismissed by letter _____; excluded _____; died _____; total membership _____; contributions \$ _____

We have elected Elder _____ to the pastoral care of our church for the ensuing year.

Moderator.

Post office address

Church Clerk.

Post office address

CONSTITUTION

1. This Association, when properly organized, shall consist of a Moderator and a Clerk, who shall be chosen by the suffrage of the members present. The duty of the Moderator shall be to keep the Association in order, state questions fairly and take the vote thereon; to have the liberty of speech as other members, providing his seat be filled; to have no vote unless the Association be equally divided, in which case he shall have the deciding vote. The duty of the Clerk shall be to keep a fair record of all the proceedings of the Association.

2. This Association shall be composed of Ordained Ministers, Deacons, Licentiates, together with Messengers duly chosen by the several churches in our union and sent to represent them in this Association—said Messengers being members of some church within this Association whom the members judge best qualified for that purpose—who, on producing letters certifying to their appointment, shall be entitled to seats.

3. In the letters from the several churches shall be expressed their respective number of members in fellowship, and the number received, dismissed, excluded and died since the sitting of the last session of the Association.

4. No query shall be received by the Association from any church unless it has been acted on in said church and cannot be settled, in which case the Association shall take up the same and act on it.

5. Every church in the Association shall be entitled to a representation of Messengers not exceeding three.

6. Every motion made and seconded shall be acted on unless withdrawn by the mover.

7. The Association shall not have the power to lord it over God's heritage so as to infringe on any of the internal rights of the churches; nevertheless, we agree that the churches composing this Association shall stand in the relation to each other in this Association that individuals do to each other in the churches; that is to say, if a church trespass against a sister church, the church in-

jured shall try to reclaim them by gospel steps; if they cannot be reclaimed they shall be dropped from our union.

8. We agree to do all business by a majority of the members present.

9. Any church may be admitted into this Association by letter and Messengers. If, upon proper examination, it is found to be orthodox and orderly, such admission shall be manifested by the Moderator giving the right hand of fellowship to the delegates thereof.

10. This Association shall have power to sit as an advisory council; to give churches all necessary advice in matters of difficulty; to inquire into the cause of churches neglecting themselves in this Association; to appoint any members by and with his or their consent, to transact any business they may deem necessary; to invite any brethren in the ministry to a seat with the Association; to adjourn the Association to any time and place that may be thought necessary; to exclude from his seat any member who will not conform to the rules of decorum, and shall report his or their conduct to the church or churches from which he or they were Messengers.

11. The Association possesses appellate jurisdiction in all cases of difficulty that may arise in the churches.

12. The Lord's Supper shall be administered at each annual Association.

13. Each annual Association shall be held on the Third Sunday in September.

ARTICLES OF FAITH.

1. We believe that the Scriptures of the Old and New Testaments are the infallible word of God, and the only safe rule of faith and practice---II Timothy, 3:16.17; II Peter, 1:20-21.

2. That there is but one living and true God, and in the Godhead or divine essence, Father, Son and Holy Ghost.---St. John 1:1; I John 5:7.

3. That we are fallen and depraved creatures, and cannot extricate ourselves from our fallen situation by any ability we possess by nature.---Rom. 8:7-20; Eph. 2:3.

4. Salvation, Regeneration, Sanctification and Redemption are by the life, death, resurrection, ascension, and intercession of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ.---Heb. 9:24; Eph. 4:9; Rev. 1:18.

5. We believe that he that shall endure to the end the same shall be saved.---Matthew 24:13; Rev. 2:10.

6. That the joys of the righteous and the punishment of the wicked shall be eternal.---Matthew 25:46.

7. We believe that Baptism and the Lord's Supper, and the washing of the saints' feet are ordinances of Jesus Christ appointed in the church, and none but true believers are proper subjects, and that the only true mode of Baptism is immersion. On Baptism—Matthew 3:16; Rom. 6:4; Acts 8:38; Col. 2:12. The Supper---Matthew 26-27; Mark 14:22; Luke 22:21; 1 Cor. 11:23 25. Washing of Feet ---St. John 13:14-17; I Tim. 5:10; I Peter 2:21.

8. We believe in the sanctity of the first day of the week, or Lord's Day, and it ought to be observed and spent in public or private worship of God, and on it we should abstain from our worldly concerns, except in cases of necessity or mercy. Ex. 31:15-16; Matthew 12:12.

9. We believe in the resurrection of the body, both the just and the unjust, but every one in his own order; those who have done good to the resurrection of life, and those who have done evil to the resurrection of damnation; and that God has appointed a day in which he will judge the world in righteousness by Jesus Christ. St. John 5:22-29; 1 Thes. 4:16; Dan. 12:2.

10. That it is our duty to be tender and affectionate to one another, and to study the happiness of the people of God in general, and to be singly engaged to promote the honor and glory of God. Gal. 6:10; I John 2:9.

11. We believe that Jesus Christ, by the grace of God, tasted death for every man, and that none can partake of His divine benefits only by repentance toward God and faith in the Lord Jesus Christ. (Infants and idiots excepted, they being included in the covenant of God's grace.) Acts 4:11-12; 10:43; Tim. 2:5-6; St. John 3:14-17; Rom. 5:13.

12. We believe that the Lord Jesus Christ is the door into the church, and that baptism is a duty in answer to a good conscience. St. John 10:7.

13. We believe that the Lord's people are one in Him, therefore should be one at His table. I Cor. 12:13; St. John 17:11.

RULES OF DECORUM.

1. The Association, when convened, shall be opened and closed by singing and prayer.

2. Only one person shall speak at a time, who shall rise to his feet and address the Moderator.

3. The person thus speaking shall not be interrupted in speech except by the Moderator, until he gets through, nor shall the Moderator interrupt him unless he break order.

4. The person shall adhere to the question and shall in no wise cast personal reflections on any person who may have spoken before him.

5. No person shall speak more than three times on the same subject without leave of the Association.

6. No person shall laugh or whisper in time of public speech.

7. Members shall address each other by the appellation of brother and brethren.

8. No member of this Association shall absent himself when the Association is sitting in conference, without leave of the Moderator.

9. The names of the Messengers of the Association shall be enrolled, and called as often as the Association thinks necessary.

10. No member shall speak longer than fifteen minutes at any one time, without leave of the Association.

11. Any member who shall knowingly break any of the rules shall be removed by the Moderator, according to the direction of the Association.