
MINUTES
OF THE
Forty-Third Annual Session
OF THE
SOCIAL BAND BAPTIST
ASSOCIATION

Held with Liberty Church, Sharum, Ark.,
September 15, 16, 17, 1917. Next
Session will be held with Grand
View Church, Supply, Ark.,
on Saturday before the
Third Sunday in
Sept. 1918.

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

Order of Business

1. Call to order by moderator.
2. Call for letters from churches.
3. Election of moderator and clerk.
4. Read Rules of Decorum.
5. Appointment of committees on Divine Service, Finance, Obituary, Arrangement of Business.
6. Call for corresponding letters.
7. Call for petitionary letters.
8. Unfinished business.
9. New business.

MINUTES

Pursuant to adjournment, a goodly number of ministers, deacons and messengers of that part of the church of God, commonly known as the Social Band Association met with Liberty church, Sharum, Ark., Saturday, Sept. 15th, 1917.

The annual sermon was preached by Elders W. T. Sharp and D. M. Holder from Ps. 36:1, after which a general christian handshaking was enjoyed by all.

SATURDAY EVENING SESSION

Met about 2:30 with singlug, and prayer by moderator, after which proceeded to regular business.

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

2. Called for petitionary letters, two received, Peru Chapel and Hopewell. Peru Chapel, organized by Eld. J. R. English, and Hopewell organized by Elds. Newberry and English. The above letters

were read and messengers seated in the association.

3. Called for corresponding letters. Received W. M. Padgett as corresponding messenger from Polk-Bayou Association of Freewill Baptist.

4. Proceeded to elect a moderator and clerk, Elder D. M. Holder, moderator, and H. W. Blankenship, clerk, and were elected by acclamation. After this the moderator read rules of decorum and proceeded to appoint the several committees as follows:

Arrangement of Business—T. W. Wells, S. V. Tracy, Warren Hullinger, Jack Minton, G. B. Blalock.

Finance—H. R. Fowler, Hallie Jolly, J. E. Riggs

Obituary—J. F. Gates, T. S. Lawhon, A. P. Johnson.

Divine Service—Dan McKinney, J. T. Holland, Ben Armstrong.

While Business Committee was out, we spent about 40 minutes in testimonial service, which was enjoyed by all. Several testified that they had been in the service of God for 40 to 50 years. Committee returned and reported no business.

Committee on divine service appointed Elders W. M. Padgett and W. T. Sharp to preach Saturday night.

5. Moved that we adjourn till Monday morning at 8:00.

SUNDAY MORNING SERVICE

Elders D. M. Holder, H. F. Newberry, J. R. English, J. A. Eskridge and N. Y. Geary, and Deacons G. B. Blalock and A. J. Russell ordained D. C. Jones of Poynor, Mo., to the ministry. At 11 o'clock

Elder D. M. Holder preached a very interesting sermon, text, Ephesians 6:10, and was followed by Eld. James McGhee, the blind preacher, who preached the most sympathetic sermon ever heard at Liberty. The climax was reached when he requested that all the infants present be brought to him that he might kiss their little hands.

SUNDAY EVENING

Met at the old baptising place on Black River at 3:30, and attended to the ordinance of baptism, after which we met back at the church house and about 140 of God's people partook of the Lord's supper and washing of the saints feet.

MONDAY MORNING

Pursuant to adjournment, we met at 8 o'clock with singing and prayer by Jack Minton.

6. Moved that Elder Doyle be seated with us in council in the association.

7. Committee on Business reported two questions: First, A person takes membership in the church and continually refuses to be baptised, in such cases how should the church proceed? Ans. Exclude him from membership. Second, Is the church of Christ builded, or is it still building? Ans. Tabled until next association.

8. Moved that hereafter ministers be required to giye written report of their work.

9. Moved that the clerk have 500 minutes printed and distributed among the several churches.

10. The several committees reported and were discharged.

11. Moved that we send a representative to

Polk-Bayou association. W. P. Brooks and wife and W. T. Shoffit were chosen as representatives.

12. Moved and carried that we amend our constitution so as to read Freewill Baptist, instead of General Freewill Baptist.

13. Moved that we hold our next association with Grandview church at Supply, Elder G. W. Million to preach the annual sermon.

14. Resolved that we extend our heartfelt thanks to the good people of the Sharum neighborhood for the kind hospitality shown us while in their midst.

A revival had been going on at Liberty and a general good time was had throughout the entire session. Adjourned to meet with Grandview church at Supply, at 10 o'clock on Saturday before the third Sunday in Sept. 1918.

Elder D. M. Holder, Moderator,
Maynard, Ark.

H. W. Blankenship, Clerk,
Ravenden Springs, Ark.

MESSENGERS ENROLLMENT

Liberty—R. M. and A. P. Johnson, Drew Hal-
loway.

Eureka—Will Fuller, J. L. Ford, M. C. Dean.

New Covenant—T. W. Turner, J. T. Holland,
Will Barnes.

Richwoods—Jno. Webb, Lafe Auman, Jake
Horton and wife.

Stony Point—Jeff Cavenar and wife, Henry
Graham and wife.

Denman—Walter Eveland, Marvin Williams.

Clear Lake—H. F. Newberry, ——— Hogan.

Peru Chapel—Joe Carter.

Warm Springs—Jno. Pain, Chas. Kenner, Ed Holt.

Hopewell—Mrs. Iva Lee.

Old Jackson—W. Elliott and wife, Jeff Blalock.

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

Mt. Pleasant—Geo. Bristol and wife.

Grandview—H. R. Fowler, Ernest Jones, Rosa Pride.

Sugar Tree Grove—D. C. Jones, Sam Griffin, Harvey Spares.

New Hope—Ambrose Million, Irving Sutton.

Lone Oak—Burley Thompson, Martha Hibbard, Molly Sifford.

Zion Hill—Sister Seamons.

Union—C. L. Rickey, M. M. Romines.

Bethel Chapel, Cedar Ridge, Reform, Union Ridge, Elnora, Pleasant Hill, Union Grove and Mt. Olive not represented.

OBITUARY

We, your committee on obituary, find that our kind and generous Heavenly Father has seen fit in His divine wisdom to remove from our midst by death, eight of our worthy members.

Stony Point—Sister Maggie Fike.

Eureka—Sisters Martha Fender, Sallie Martin.

Liberty—Sister James Archer.

Warm Springs—Bro. J. M. Flannigan, Sister Roxie Allen.

Pleasant Valley—Bro. James White.

Old Jackson—Sister Howard.

We are glad that our loss is their eternal gain,

and we tender our heartfelt sympathies to the bereaved ones.

J. F. Gates,
A. P. Johnson,
J. M. Cavener,
Committee.

MINISTERIAL LIST

D. N. King	Warm Springs, Ark.
D. M. Holder	Maynard, Ark.
W. T. Shoffitt	O'Kean, Ark.
J. F. Gates	O'Kean, Ark.
J. H. Walker	
W. T. Sharp	Frisbee, Ark.
G. W. Million	Pocahontas, Ark.
H. F. Newberry	Richwoods, Ark.
D. C. King	Portia, Ark.
Geo. W. Weeks	Portia, Ark.
L. M. Buckner	Elnora, Ark.
C. M. Kildow	Sloan, Ark.
J. R. English	Pocahontas, Ark.
N. Y. Geary	Poynor, Mo.
J. R. Rosson	Poynor, Mo.
T. B. Hilton	Poplar Bluff, Mo.
J. A. Eskridge	Richwoods, Ark.
D. C. Jones	Poynor, Mo.
J. D. Poynor, Licentiate	Maynard, Ark.

MINISTERS REPORT

Elder W. T. Shoffit—Preached 48 sermons, witnessed 12 conversions, traveled 276 miles, married 8 couples, attended 14 funerals, received \$58.41 for services.

Eld. G. W. Million—Served 5 churches, held 101 services, spent 107 days in service, traveled 965 miles, received 31 members into churches, preached 1 funeral, married 4 couples, received \$196.13 for work.

Elder H. F. Newberry—Preached 76 sermons, witnessed 39 professions, attended 8 funerals, married 5 couple, received \$29.50 for work.

Eld. J. R. English served 3 churches, preached 67 sermons, witnessed 22 professions, organized 2 churches, Hopewell and Peru Chapel, baptised 11, married 13 couples, preached 12 funerals, received \$68.10 for work.

Elder D. M. Holder—Served 7 churches, witnessed 13 professions, preached 153 sermons, baptised 18, traveled about 700 miles, received \$199.00 for work.

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. The duty of the clerk shall be to keep a fair record of 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 association and day of church meeting.

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 as-

sociation shall take up same and act upon 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 upon 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 same 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 injured 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 messenger. 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 messengers 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 why churches neglect to represent 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 at any time and place that may be thought necessary; to exclude from his seat any member who shall not conform to the Rules of Decorum, and shall report his or their conduct to the churches from which he or they were messengers.

11. This 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 3rd 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 Tim. 3:16-17. II Peter 1:20-21.

2. That there is but one living and true God, and in the God-head of 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.—Romans 8:7-20.

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

5. We believe that he shall endure to the end, the same shall be saved.—Matt. 24:13. Rev. 2:10.

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

7. We believe that baptism, the Lord's Supper and the washing of the saint's 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, Matt. 3:16; Rom. 6:4; Acts 8:38; Col. 2:12. The Supper, Matt. 26:27; Mark 14:22; Luke 22:19. 1 Cor. 11:23-24. Washing of feet, St. John 13:14-17; 1 Tim. 5:10, 1 Peter 2:21.

8. We believe in the sanctity of the first day 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 case of necessity or mercy.—Ex. 31:15-17, Deut. 5:12, Matt. 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 hath appointed a day in which he will judge the world in righteousness by Jesus Christ.—St. John 5:28-29, I 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.—Galatians 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 towards 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, 10:43; Tim. 2:5-6; St. John 3:14-17; I Cor 12:20-22; 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 15:11-21-22, Matt. 16:26-28.

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 speaking 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 member shall laugh or whisper in time of public speech.

7. Members shall address each other by the appellations of brother or 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 members of the association shall be enrolled and called over 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.

Statistical Table

Name of Church	Contribution	Membership						Total Membership
		Increase			Decrease			
		Conversion	Restoration	Recommendation	Death	Withdrawal	Letter	
Old Jackson	1 25	2		2	1	2		43
Grandview	2 00	10		4				71
Mt Pleasant	50							10
Eureka	2 00				2			119
Sugar Tree Grove	2 00			4				34
New Hope	1 50			1				37
Richwoods		4	1	2				51
Liberty	2 00	11	2	3	1			56
Warm Springs	3 00				2	2		136
Pleasant Valley	1 25	4	4		1	2		56
Lone Oak		9	1			2		
New Covenant	1 00	3						70
Denman	1 00	2	4					28
Peru Chapel	1 05							13
Clear Lake	1 00	8						40
Hopewell	50							17
Stony point	2 00	14			1	4		94