

B. H. Davis

MINUTES
OF THE
FORTY SIXTH ANNUAL SESSION
OF THE
Social Band Association
of the Free Will Baptist

HELD

1920

With Love Divine Church, Minturn, Ark.,
August 14th, 15th and 16th, 1920. Next
Session will be held with Hopewell Church,
Reyno, Arkansas, on Saturday before the
Third Sunday in August, 1921.

ELD. W. T. SHOFFITT, Moderator.
J. E. RIGGS, Clerk.

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ORDER OF BUSINESS

1. Call to order by Moderator.
2. Election of Moderator and Clerk.
3. Call for Letters from Churches.
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 Freewill Baptist, met with Love Divine church, Minturn, Arkansas, August 14, 15 and 16, 1920.

The annual sermon was preached by Eld. G. W. Million, after which adjourned until 2:30 p. m.

SATURDAY EVENING SESSION

Met about 2:30. Singing and prayer by Eld. W. T. Shoffitt, after which proceeded with general business.

Call for letters from the several churches in the Association showed the following present: Grand View, Pleasant Valley, Eureka, New Hope, Sugar Tree Grove, Love Divine, Cedar Ridge, Liberty, Old Jackson, Hopewell, Denman, Union, Stony Point, Oak Grove and Warm Springs.

2. Called for petitionary letters; received two—Previtts Chapel and Oak Grove.

3. Proceeded to elect Moderator and Clerk for the ensuing year. Eld. W. T. Shoffitt was elected Moderator and J. E. Riggs, Clerk,

4. Moderator read rules of Decorum.

5. Called for corresponding letters; received none.

6. Moderator proceeded to appoint the several committees:

Divine Service—D. H. Clark, T. W. Wells, J. D. McKinney.

Arrangement of Business—Bro. Seamans, Bro. Carter, Perry Kincade, A. P. Johnson and Bro. Canady.

Obituary—G. W. Million, Wain Tucker and J. W. Tharp.

Finance—Riley Fowler, S. T. Birch and Bro. Songer.

7. Called for new business; nothing of import-

ance being before the Association the members enjoyed a five-minute devotional service, conducted by the Moderator.

SATURDAY NIGHT SERVICE

Met about 8:00 o'clock with singing and prayers, after which the stand was filled by Elds. W. T. Shoffitt and W. T. Sharp. 2 Kings 5:13.

11:00 O'CLOCK SERVICE SUNDAY

P. M. Witcher was ordained to the full work of the Ministry by the following Presbytery: Eld. W. T. Shoffitt, Moderator; D. N. Holder, W. T. Sharp, Elders; Dave Seamans and D. H. Clark, Deacons.

Preaching 11:30 by G. W. Million, from Ezra 8:21 and Prov. 22:28.

SUNDAY EVENING SERVICES

Met with singing and prayer by Eld. D. M. Holder. Preaching by Eld. D. M. Holder from John 2:6 and Luke 6:46.

MONDAY MORNING SERVICE

Met Monday morning with singing and prayer by Bro. Canady.

1. Moved and carried to make Bro. Cayenar a delegate from Stony Point.
2. Ministers examination heard and received.
3. Moved to change the name of D. C. King to D. C. Ring on our Records. Moved to put Eld. S. T. Birch and J. W. Tharp on the enrollment of the Ministers list.

6. The following resolution was adopted by the Association: To select a standing Presbytery composed of three ordained ministers whose duty it shall be to examine, and if found worthy to ordain all candidates to the ministry whose ordination has been previously recommended to them by some church to whom they shall have power to grant such, or credentials as they may see fit. And said Presbytery shall have full authority to investigate the character and teaching of any minister in the bounds of the Association and if they think said minister or ministers shall possess such traits of character or teachings as to render them unworthy of such ministerial papers or position as they are told, shall have such power and authority to take any, as many, or all the steps necessary to obtain said papers or to silence such minister. The action of said Presbytery shall subject to the challenge, setting aside or confirmation of the Association at its next annual meeting. Elds. G. W. Million, D. M. Holder, W. T. Shoffitt Presbyters moved to have Eld. S. T. Birch's credentials endorsed by the Association.

Moved to be represented in the State Association by Messenger and Letter. The following were elected delegates: A. P. Johnson, Perry Kincade, Ed Canady, H. R. Fowler and T. W. Wells.

Moved to represent by Letter and Messenger to Polk Bayou Association; Bro. J. M. Cavenar was elected.

Moved to request Bro. English's church to surrender his credentials, and upon his refusal to do so to have same published.

Moved to send Eld. S. T. Birch to take care of the Warm Spring church.

Moved to receive Brother King as Messenger from Polk Bayou Association.

Moved to represent by Letter to Cave Spring Association.

The report of the committee on arrangements of business was held over till next annual meeting.

Called for report of several Ministers. (see report)

Received the reports submitted.

Moved that next annual meeting of Association be held with Hopewell church, Reyno, Ark. Eld. W. T. Shoffitt was selected to preach the introductory sermon,

Called for report of committee on finance. Report \$27 41.

Moved to extend our heartfelt thanks to the good people of Love Divine church for the kind hospitality they have shown us when in their midst.

Moved to have 500 Minutes printed and disposed of to the several churches of the Association.

Moved to adjourn until our next annual meeting.

ELDER W. T. SHOFFITT, Moderator
O'Kean, Arkansas.

J. E. RIGGS, Clerk

Delaplaine, Arkansas, R 1.

MESSENGER'S ENROLLMENT

Eureka—J. D. McKinney.
Pruett Chapel—Sister English.
Liberty—A. P. Johnson, J. E. Riggs and Ada Riggs.
Old Jackson—Sam Songer and wife.
Pleasant Valley—T. W. Wells.
Union—C. L. Rickey.
Grandview—H. R. Fowler and E. L. Duff.
Stony Point—Olen Thompson and J. M. Cavenar.
New Hope—J. C. Carter and Grace Million.
Denman—Walter Eveland.
Cedar Ridge—Chas. Crawford and Jess Slayton.
Warm Springs—By Letter.
Sugar Tree Grove—Flora Birch.
Love Divine—D. H. Clark.
Zion Hill—Represented by Deacon, no pastor.
Oak Grove—Represented by Pastor.

MINISTERS REPORT

Elder S. T. Birch—Served one church; traveled 100 miles; preached 30 sermons; witnessed 6 conversions, and baptized 7. Received from Sugar Tree, \$12.00; other sources \$7.50. Total 19.50.

W. T. Sharp—Served one church, received \$20.55.

D. M. Holder—Traveled 905 miles; preached a total of 93 sermons; officiated at 8 funerals; at Stony Point, preached 23 sermons, received \$77.75; Grandview, 26 sermons, received \$143.10; New Hope,

preached 17 sermons, received \$36.00; Liberty, preached 22 sermons, received \$78.24; other places, preached 5 sermons, received \$7.75. Total \$342.84.

D. C. Jones—Served two churches; preached 67 sermons; traveled 637 miles; witnessed 6 conversions; baptised 7; married 2 couples; received from Hope-well, \$60.45; Cedar Ridge, \$49.63; other sources, \$4.50. Total \$114.58.

G. W. Million—Solemnized several marriages; preached several funerals; served 4 churches; traveled 2,635 miles, necessary expenses \$80.00; received from Whitton \$200.00; Richwood \$32.75; Warm Springs, \$24.05; Kaufman, \$50.45. Total \$307.25.

Wayne Tucker—Traveled 359 miles; preached 64 sermons; witnessed 11 conversions; restored 3; baptized 5; officiated at 10 funerals; organized 1 church and 1 Sunday school; married two couples; pastored 2 churches; received from Oak Grove, \$26.42. Denman, \$9.02, other sources, \$7.75. Total \$43.19.

OBITUARY

We, the committee on Obituary beg leave to submit the following as our report:

We find that our kind and Omnipotent Father in His infinite wisdom has seen fit to call from our midst the following:

From Denman, one—Bro. Don McMullen.

Old Jackson, one—Sister Martha Williams.

Eureka, three—Bro. Joseph Todd, and Sisters, Lucy Flannery and Nancy Gates.

Grandview, two—Bros. Elmer Duff and Wm. Cochran.

Union, one—Guston Shelton.

Stony Point, four—Sisters, Inez Golden, Susan Lee, Josie Hawkins and Annie Teel.

Twelve in all.

And we tender our heartfelt sympathies to the bereaved ones and we pray that our great and kind Father may grant to them such consolations as may be to their wellfare.

Faithfully submitted,

G. W. MILLION,

E. W. TUCKER,

J. W. THARP.

ASSOCIATIONAL LETTER

We, the disciples of Christ, commonly known as Freewill Baptists, worshipping at send greetings to 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 brothers to sit with you in your Godly deliberations, whom we pray you receive as worthy brothers with full power and authority to transact all legal business that may come before your honorable body, for the good of our church and Christianity in general, viz: Bro :
The statement of our church is as follows: Received

by experience, ; by letter, ; by recommendation, ; restored, ; dismissed by letter, ; excluded, ; died
Total membership, We have elected Elder to the pastoral care of our Church for the ensuing year; paid pastor,
Moderator.

Address Clerk.

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. 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 Association 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.

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

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 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 August.

ARTICLES OF FAITH

1. We believe that the scriptures of t and New Testaments are the infallible word and the only safe rule of faith and practice.—11 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; 1 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 who 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 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, Matt. 3:16; Rom. 6:4; Acts 8:38; Col. 2:12: The Supper, Matt. 26:27; Mark 14:22; Luke 22:19; I Cor. 11:23-26. Washing of Feet, St. John 13:1-17; I Tim. 5:10; I Peter 2:21.

We believe in the sanctity of the first day 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. 31:13; 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 2-8.

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 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, opened and closed by singing and prayer.

2. Only one person shall speak at a time. The speaker 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 reflection 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 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

Na Church	Contribution	Conversion	Restoration	Recommendation	Death	Withdrawal	Letter	Total Membership
Liberty	\$1 75							40
Eureka	1 50					15		66
Previtts Chapel	1 00							13
Old Jackson	1 50				1		1	23
Pleasant Valley	1 00				1			56
Denman	1 00							18
Hopewell	2 00							28
warm Springs	2 00							29
Love Divine	2 50							47
Sugar Tree	1 00							37
Cedar Ridge	1 00							13
Stony Point	2 41			1	4		1	95
Oak Grove	1 00			4				49
Grandview	2 25							40
Zion Hill	50							30
Union	1 00							
New Hope	3 00							

DIRECTORY

	PASTOR	CLERK AND POSTOFFICE
Eureka	W. T. Shoffitt	Myrtle Shipman, O'Kean, Ark.
Old Jackson	W. T. Sharp	Sam Songer, Imboden, Ark.
Prevlitts Chapel	Eld Newberry	Louise Tolson
Pleasant Valley	W. T. Sharp	T. W. Wells, Ravenlen Springs, Ark.
Denman	E. W. Tucker	Walter Eveland, Delaplaine, Ark.
Hopewell	D. C. Jones	Iva Lee, Reyno, Ark.
Cedar Ridge	D. C. Jones	E. Cox, Reyno, Ark.
Warm Springs	Eld. Witcher	W. P. Curtis, Warm Springs, Ark.
Sugar Tree	D. C. Jones	Mattie Hopper
Love Divine	G. W. Million	Margie Edwards, Alicia, Ark.
Zion Hill	No Pastor	Perry Kincade, Pocahontas, Ark.
Union	W. T. Sharp	O. L. Rickey, O'Kean, Ark.
Stony Point	D. M. Holder	A. O. Pendergrass, Elevenpoints, Ark.
Oak Grove	E. W. Tucker	Gusta Tucker, Leach Orchard, Ark.
Liberty	D. M. Holder	J. E. Riggs, Delaplaine, Ark.